



The Border Star

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THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE OF WESTERN MISSOURI INC.

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1999

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ANNUAL DUES

Individual 15.00
Family 22.50
Student (Under 21) 5.00

MEETINGS

The second Wednesday of
the month at 7:00 p.m.
in Truman H.S. Library
July - Annual Picnic
September - Cemetery Tour
December - Christmas Party

Visitors Welcome

The Vice Pres says.....

Sitting at home watching some ridiculous late night show I began to think about the hidden talents that are within our members.

Oh sure, we all know that Lucky fixes up and restores old clocks and Dean Mitchell makes neat little mantle clocks, but I think a few of you became aware of another hidden talent at the last picnic.

Working with a scout troop in Liberty and the Parks & Rec people in Kearney, one of us has built over 200 bird houses, all primed and ready to hang, and is still building. They even have the nails in them.

Some of Richard's bird houses have even been put up along the new jogging path in liberty and will soon be on the river path in Kearney.

Richard has donated his time, cost of materials, and he even delivers. Need a nice little bird house? I know who to call.

Did you know that Terry McConnell is very well versed on the Spencer Rifle? If you think not, ask him the toughest thing you know about them.

Can you name the two sisters who are exceptionally good at making cookies when their turn comes around? I can!

Have you ever seen a Medal of Honor Memorial Dedication Ceremony? Most of you know I, accompanied by Karen, have officiated at over 60 such ceremonies. But a new person has been helping out lately.

This lady was one of the flower ladies at the dedication in Warrensburg and was a member of the presentation staff at the one in Winfield, Kansas.

She will also be working with us when we dedicate a marker at the previously unmarked grave of Isaac James in Union City, Indiana on August 8.

James was one of the first over the parapets at the final assault on Fort Gregg on the final day of the Siege of Petersburg, April 2, 1865. He captured a Confederate flag bearer and his stand of colors. He was one of 17 to be awarded a Medal on May 10, 1865, all for capturing enemy colors.

She can tell you it is very different when you are part of the presentation staff as opposed to just placing the flowers. Right Bonnie?

And did you know Faye is working on a grant application to help expand the History program at Lone Jack School! Way to go Faye!

I could go on and on, but for now I will just say to keep your eyes and ears open. The talent runs deep within our ranks.

Next Meeting - August 11, 1999

"An Artilleryman's War"

presented by Michael Ingrisano, Author

The meeting will be held in Judge Scofield's Court Room on the Second Floor of the Independence Court House on the Independence Square. The courtroom can only be accessed by stairs. Meeting time is 7:00 p.m.

A book signing will take place in the Jackson County Archives on the first floor of the Court House. Members of the CWRT will receive a 10% discount on Michael Ingrisano's books as well as any other books in the bookstore.

Refreshments will be served on the first floor!

PRESERVATION

The following article appeared in *The Civil War Round Table Digest*, published by Civil War Round Table Associates/Jerry L. Russell, National Chairman. The article in the March/April *Digest* states as follows:

"IN A BLATANT DISPLAY of defiance and arrogance, the Secretary of Interior and the Superintendent of Gettysburg NMP announced the approval of a controversial, proposed General management Plan for the battlefield on June 17, despite a last-minute letter from Rep. James V. Hansen (R-UT), chairman of the House Subcommittee on National Parks, asking them to delay the announcement pending further study.

Our concern is not only that the GMP calls for the construction of a privately-owned commercial visitor center/mall inside the boundaries of the national battlefield, its defiant release also jeopardizes an already-fragile relationship with the Congress of the United States which is not noted for its generosity when it comes to funding for Civil War battlefields.

Please write your House Member (c/o House of Representatives, Washington DC 205115) and ask him/her to encourage Congressman Hansen and Congressman George Miller (D-CA) to continue in their efforts to stop this commercial development proposal. (Send copies to your U.S. Senators if possible.)"

* * * * *

WANTED

A position is still open on the CWRT Board for a recording secretary. Interested applicants should contact Tim Cox or Sonny Wells.

SPEAKING OF NEWS ARTICLES



Archaeologists find crew of 1860s sub

4 men's remains recovered in dig beneath stadium

The Associated Press

CHARLESTON, S.C. — Archaeologists dug beneath a football stadium for a month and found the remains of 27 Confederate soldiers, including four thought to be the first crew members on the Hunley, the first submarine to sink an enemy warship.

"The mission is accomplished," state Sen. Glenn McConnell said Tuesday. "We have the Hunley crew."

The Hunley, which was made of old locomotive boilers and operated by hand cranks, made history in February 1864 when it sank the Union blockade ship Housatonic.

It never returned, sinking with its nine-man crew. The ship was found a few miles off the South Carolina shore in 1995 and is scheduled to be raised in 2001.

Its original crew of five was lost in 1863, when the sub sank at its moorings. They were buried in a sailors' cemetery, but because of a

clerical error, their headstones were removed and their remains were left behind.

In 1947, The Citadel's Memorial Stadium, later renamed Johnson Hagood Stadium, was built on the site.

Last month, archaeologists and volunteers began working 12-hour days to recover the remains from 5 feet under the stands and a room used by a school booster club.

Jon Leader, deputy state archaeologist, said the remains of four Hunley crewmen were found in oversized coffins. The bodies, bloated after the victims drowned, had to be dismembered to remove them from the narrow submarine.

The whereabouts of the remains of a fifth crewman is a puzzle.

Six years ago, 13 Confederate dead were found under the stadium parking lot. Some of them may have been members of the Hunley's second crew, who also died aboard the sub before its mission.

The original Hunley crew will be reinterred next spring after a period military procession through Charleston's historic district, McConnell said. A similar procession was featured in the TNT cable network movie "The Hunley," which had its premiere this month.

Editor's note: The above article appeared recently in the *Kansas City Star*. It is published here for those CWRT members who may have missed it.

Schedule of Events

August

- 11 7 PM - Michael N. Ingrisano, Jr. - "An Artilleryman's War" - Meeting in Judge Scofield's Court Room in the Court House on Indep. Square - Book signing to follow
- 14-15 LONE JACK 137TH Commemorative Celebration
- 10 AM - Was it Murder - the Swope Family deaths of 1909 - Debra Parson, JCHS Educational Director - JCHS Archives - Independence Square Courthouse
- 1:30 PM - Music of the Midwest - A variety of songs of American Traditions - Harry N. Langdon, Retired Professor of Theater and Music - 1859 Jail, 217 N. Main, Indep.
- 18 7 PM Board Meeting - Truman Campus, Rm. 101

September

- 8 7 PM - Cemetery Tour (Lobb and Thompson)
See details in next column.
- 11 Old Settlers Days Parade - Olathe, KS
- 15 7 PM Board Meeting - Truman Campus, Rm. 101

October

- 13 7 PM - Bingham Waggoner House - 313 W. Pacific
Program: George Caleb Bingham & Order #11
Presenter: Tim Cox
- 16-17 Wyandott Days at Wyandotte County Park
Bonner Springs, KS
- 20 7 PM Board Meeting - Truman Campus, Rm. 101
- 23-24 Battle of Plattsburg - 135th Anniversary Reenactment
Battles on Sat. and Sun. Ladies Tea and Fashion Show,
1800s Ball w/Period Music, Church Services. Ph: 816-370-2532 for information.

Meet the Author!

Michael N. Ingrisano Jr., Author of *An Artilleryman's War*. This book focuses on the regulars of the 2nd U.S. Artillery Regiment in peace and at war as shown by the eleven-year military career of Gus Dey, a Prussian immigrant. The book sheds light on the role of the artillery in the Regular U.S. Army before and during the Civil War. A book discussion will be held upstairs in the courtroom at 7 p.m., followed by a book signing in the Archives (Room 103). CWRT members receive a 10% discount on all books in the bookstore.

Refreshments will be served in the hallway on the first floor.

BITS N' PIECES

September Cemetery Tour

This time we will be visiting two off-the-beaten path sites in eastern Jackson County.

First will be Lobb Cemetery, site of some recent vandalism, and then the old cemetery on Creason Road, where parking will be a problem.

There is a lot to learn at the Creason Road site. You have probably driven by it many times. Even though it sits right along side the road it is barely visible. The road graders have actually graded away some of the stones which used to mark the graves.

Plans are to gather at a parking lot in East Independence and car pool to the sites. The fewer cars the better. More details in the next Newsletter.

Bingham Waggoner Special Exhibit

Within the safe shelter of your home you have heard gunshots all night, but that's not unusual. Suddenly, there's a knock at the door. When you open the door will you receive a friend or a bullet?

To commemorate the Battle of the Little Blue and the Second Battle of Independence, the Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri cordially invites the public to the Bingham Waggoner Estate, 313 W. Pacific, Independence, MO, during the month of October.

Through artifacts, memorabilia and printed material you will relive the War of the Rebellion in Western Missouri. Discover what it was like to have a war fought at your doorstep. Find out what it meant to live under Order No. 11. Be able to answer the question, what is a "trime"?

CWRT members who have artifacts and memorabilia to put on display are urged to contact Mike Calvert, 836-1013. Items may/may not be used depending on available space.

Mid-Continent Library Programs

- Aug. 11 - Tales of Jesse James - Edgerton Branch
2:00 p.m. - 404 Frank Steet - Call 790-3569
- Aug. 12 - Tales of Jesse James - Platte City Branch
7:00 p.m. - 412 Main - Call 858-2322
- Aug. 17 - Tales of Jesse James - Buckner Branch
2:00 p.m. - 19 E. Jefferson - Call 650-3212

Caring Thoughts ...

Richard Abbot's wife is recovering from surgery. We wish her a speedy recovery

A G.A.R Gentleman



This photo of John B. Jones in full GAR attire is a fine example of the uniforms worn by members of that organization.

John B. Jones was born September 27, 1833 in Brooke County, Virginia (now West Virginia) He died March 15, 1915 and is buried at Woodlawn Cemetery, Independence, Mis-souri.

He came to Lafayette County, Missouri in November 1858. John married Ada R. Anderson of Roanoke, Missouri (?) and had no children. He did have three nieces.

He joined the 71st E.M.M. - 5th Prov. E.M.M. (Calvary), and later joined 45th MO Vol. Infantry. John mustered out as 1st Sgt.

In 1883 John joined the G.A.R.

(This photo was taken by Peterson Studio, Higginsville, Missouri - date unknown).

Do You Know...?

what two states never seceded via any mechanism provided by a "regular" government?

Answer: (1) Missouri, Convention rejected secession March 9, 1861; Convention reconvened in July 1861 and declared offices of governor and legislature vacant; rump legislature, meeting in Neosho, passed Ordinance of Secession October 31, 1861 and requested admission to CSA. Missouri admitted to CSA November 18, 1861.

(2) Kentucky, southern sympathizers called for convention October 1861, Convention passed Ordinance of Secession November 18, 1861. Kentucky admitted to the CSA December 10, 1861.

Sources: W. L. Buenger, *Secession and the Union in Texas* (1984)