



# The Border Star

Official publication of the Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri, Inc.

May 1999

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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**

**Next Meeting - May 12<sup>th</sup>, 1999**

Truman High School - Library  
3301 S. Noland Road  
Independence, Missouri



**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

**Program:** "Wild & Weird - Footnotes on  
Western History, 1854-1879

**Presenter:** Tom Goodrich, as collected from his various books  
on area C.W. history - Bloody Dawn, War To The Knife,  
Black Flag, etc.

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**Refreshments provided**

## LITTLE BLUE BATTLEFIELD TOUR

May 8, 1999

Tours begin at 10:30 am, 1:00 pm, 3:30 pm  
and begins at the 859 Jail, Truman Road & Main St., Independence.

**COST: \$1.00**

By Reservation Only - Call Christina Leakey 325-7424

This tour is a co-operative project of the Independence Heritage  
Commission and the Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri, Inc.

## Tour includes stops at....

Little Blue Park Battlefield Plaque  
Five Confederate Generals Meeting Site  
Moonlight's Position on Blue Mills Road  
Shelby's Hospital Site & Soldiers Burial Site  
Shelby's Second Charge & Federals Defense Line

22 Page Booklet with Maps, Battle details and other data... \$5  
125th Anniversary Battle of Westport Booklets... \$5 or \$9 for the pair



## Tom Goodrich

Presents

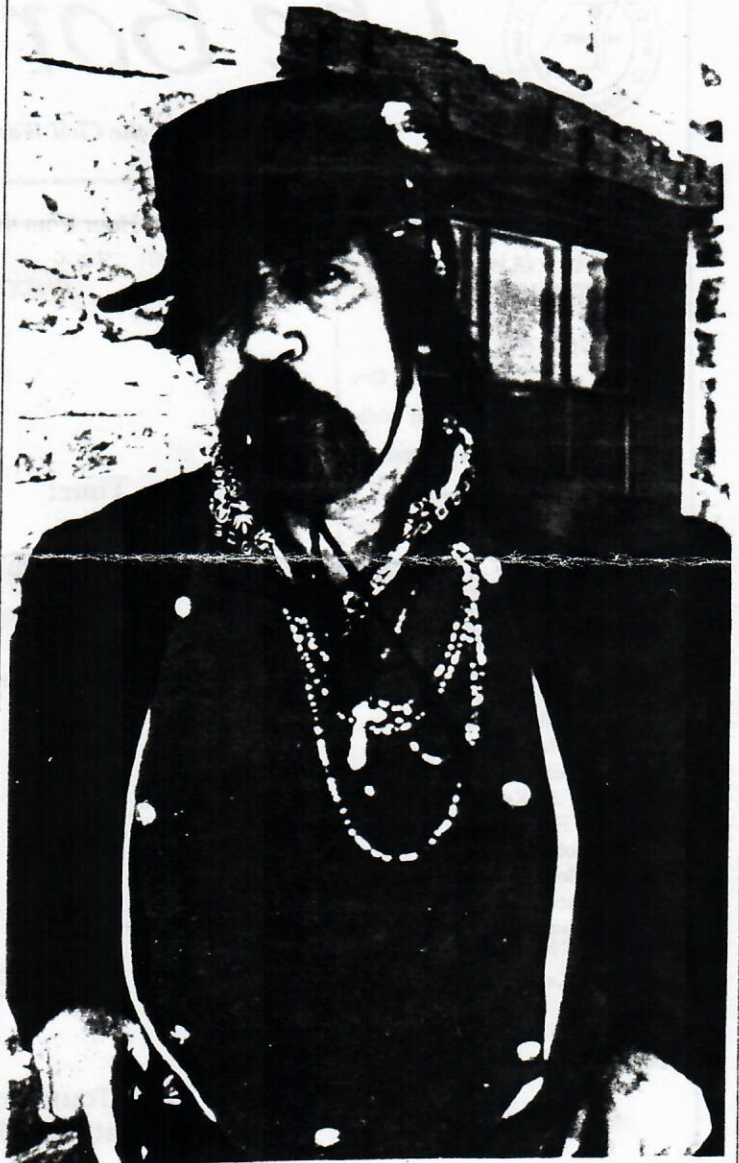
### "Wild & Weird - Footnotes on Western History, 1854-1879

Tom Goodrich is not new to the CWRT-WMo as he was a guest speaker a few years ago, when he presented "Bloody Dawn". The following bibliography tells a little about this author and his credits. Tom will have some of his books available for sale and autographing. **Don't Miss This Meeting!**

Born in Lawrence (the Free-State capital of Kansas), raised in nearby Lecompton (the Pro-Slavery capital), now living near Topeka (the current capital), a love of history came early and easily to Tom. After graduating from Washburn University in 1973 with a BA in history, he traveled extensively at home and abroad, painting watercolors for a living. In 1991, his first book, *Bloody Dawn—the Story of the Lawrence Massacre*, was published. Four years later came *Black Flag—Guerrilla Warfare on the Western Border, 1861-1865*. This was followed by *Scalp Dance—Indian Warfare on the High Plains, 1865-1879* (1997), *War to the Knife—Bleeding Kansas, 1854-1861* (1998), and *Bloody Bill Anderson—The Short, Savage Life of a Civil War Guerrilla* (1998). All five were selections of either the History Book Club, Military Book Club (main selection), or Doubleday Book Club.

History, to Tom, is extremely exciting. He intends on writing it that way. He doesn't plan on boring anyone. Happily, most readers and reviewers have favored this approach. "Spellbinding!" wrote *Library Journal* of *Bloody Dawn*. "War at its worst. A well-written book," added the *Washington Times* of *Black Flag*. "As grippingly exciting as anything you have ever read." Praised 1993 Lincoln Prize winner, *Albert Castel*, of *Scalp Dance*.

As a guest on numerous live programs, his approach is similar to that of writing: shoot straight, add color, and never allow the listener time to change channels. Tom has been a repeat guest on a number of stations, including WCTU-New Jersey, KSFO-San Francisco, KMBZ—Kansas City, and WIBW—Topeka.



Tom is currently completing a volume that graphically details the last months of World War II in Europe. The book will chronicle some of the greatest - and least known - atrocities in world history.

## Bates City Tour

Sixteen people took part in the Bates City Tour on May 1. The group visited the Nellie Brown House, West Point Cemetery, and the Sharon Cemetery, which sits on the County line. It was purportedly used as a dumping ground by Federal troops. The Butler Cemetery, site of the Shelby family plot and gravesite of Jennison's son is in this cemetery.

Sonny Wells, tour guide, also pointed out the place on the Butler Square where the stockade used to be and where Slater was executed on Christmas Eve. Many other sites were noted such as a trip through Oak Hill Cemetery which contains "Dead Man's Cane", a one and a half block where executed Southern sympathizers were buried—there are no markers.

Special thanks to Sonny for sharing his knowledge and time in another well-planned tour!

## Ride With the Devil

This Autumn, "Ride With the Devil" will be released in theaters throughout America. This movie filmed onsite in the Jackson County area recounts the lives of two fictional Bushwhackers who rode with Quantrill. The grand climax will be the Lawrence Massacre.

Several CWRT-WMo members know of or personally had contact with some of the "extras" used and provided some props used in this movie. Look for its opening in the KC area!



## Schedule of Events

### May

- 8 **Civil War Battlefield Tour** - Begins in front of 1859 Jail at 10:30am, 1:00pm & 3pm -- **Cost \$1.00** - Contact Christina Leakey/325-7424
- "Wind the Clock" Walking Tour Every Half Hour from the east side of the Courthouse - A guided tour of historic architecture on the Independence Square
- "The Life and Times of Bess Truman" - Presented by Debbie Parsons, JCHS Education Director
- 12 **CWRTWMO Meeting - 7 PM** - Truman High School Library - 3301 S. Noland Rd. **Program:** "Wild & Weird Footnotes on Western History, 1854-1879" - **Presentor:** Tom Goodrich
- 13 **Designers' Showhouse - 5:00p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** 55<sup>th</sup> & Ward Parkway (Still need volunteers - Contact Bev Shaw)
- 14-15 **Flint Knap-In - Fort Osage - 9:00am - 4:30 pm.**  
**Admission:** \$3/adults - \$2/youth & Srs. - under 5 free  
Skilled artisans from across the nation will gather at Fort Osage to practice their craft. One of the largest events of its kind in the US. Some items will be for sale.
- 19 **Board Meeting - 7 PM** - Truman Campus, Rm. 101
- 22 **Medal of Honor Gravesite Tour - Visit 14 Medal of Honor gravesites.** (See details below)
- 29-31 **Grand Opening - Pamplin Historical Park - Petersburg, VA** (See details in next column)

### June

- 5 **Settler's Day at Shoal Creek History Site, KC North (MO)**

- 26-27 **Bullwhacker Days at Mahaffie**



### July

- 14 **Picnic - Lone Jack Historic Site & Museum**

### Aug.

- 11 **Michael N. Ingrisano, Jr. - "An Artilleryman's War"**  
Meeting in Judge Scofield's Court Room in Court House on Indep. Square - Refreshments in JCHS Archives

## Medal of Honor Tour - May 22

This tour will visit all 14 grave sites. Story of each soldier's heroism will be told and his Medal of Honor Citation will be read. **Cost:** \$15/person. Depart 8:30 a.m. Truman High School, 3301 S. Noland Rd., Indep. **Bring sack lunch -- iced tea and soda provided.** **For more information call 628-9910.** This is a cooperative project of the Medal of Honor Historical Society, Inc. and the CWRT-WM.

## Museum for a Soldier Grand Opening - May 29-31

May 29-31 marks the grand opening of Pamplin Historical Park in Petersburg, Virginia, and its National Museum of the Civil War Soldier.

The complex sits on the battlefield where Union forces broke through Confederate lines a few days before the surrender at Appomattox Courthouse. Through the latest technologies, the museum shows what life was like for the 3 million soldiers who served. One exhibit even places you in a Civil War battle. For more information call (804) 861-2408 or toll free 1-877-726-7546 or Web site

[www.pamplinpark.org](http://www.pamplinpark.org).

Source: May - Midwest Living Magazine

## Confederate Prisoners buried at Ft. Scott, Kansas, National Cemetery

Bristow, Fountain - Pvt., Co. G, Marmaduke's Esc't  
D: 11/9/64  
Franklin, Joel - D: 3-11-64  
Harris, J.C.M. - Pvt, Shank's Mo. Regt. - D: 11-4-64  
LaBree, Peter A.J. - Pvt., Co. I, Perkin's Mo. Regt.  
D: 11-17-64  
Mullins, Patrick - Pvt., Chornes, Douglass' Tex. Regt. -  
D: 1-19-64  
Page, Joseph A.W. - Pvt., Co. A, McGehee's Ark. Cav.  
D: 10-20-64  
Price, Jay - D: 11-4-64  
Safford, Hiram - Pvt., Baber's Ark. Regt. - D: 11-22-64  
Springer, G. - D: 2-15-63  
Teague, J. - D: 11-4-64  
Thomas, Lewis - Pvt., Co. C, 4<sup>th</sup> Ala. Cav. - D: 11-5-64  
Tucker, Wm. - Pvt., Co. A, Gordon's Mo. Cav. - D: 11-4-64  
Wells, Thomas F. - Pvt. Co. E, 14<sup>th</sup> Mo. Cav. - D: 11-12-64

This list from July 2, 1939 of Confederate Prisoners buried at Fort Scott was supplied by Ed Tyree, Nat'l Cemetery Office, Leavenworth, Kansas, on 30 June 1983.

Note: Possibility Springer's date should be 1864 not 1863, which would make Mullins the first to die at the prison and Springer the second.

Ad... Letter says "graves are marked with usual regulation type of headstone used for marking Civil War Soldiers graves, except... with C.S.A. on the face."

The stones were placed in 1939, after Congress passed a law in 1935 allowing for the VA to place markers on Confederate graves in National Cemeteries. Typical Federal Veterans markers were used with C.S.A. on the face. The peaked top style of Confederate markers were not used until after 1951.

Source: Compiled by Sonny Wells



## Letter from a Soldier

This is the second letter written by John Craft to his sister, Mary Craft Dowden. This letter is typed from a copy of the original letter. The copy was faded and hard to read but this is transcribed as accurately as possible.

Dec. 26<sup>th</sup>/1863  
Camp Near Springfield/West Va.

My Dear Sister Mary

I Received your very kind letter off the 21<sup>st</sup> this evening and was very glad to here from you as I had almost give up all hopes. Well I am Still enjoying good health I was sorry to here that you had sutch bad health Just what I expected to here. But I am glad to here that you recrutaed your health again I hope you may remain so. As you have been Sick enough in your Life time Mary you are very excusable for not writing sooner. I was sorry to here of your sad newes but the people will die off at home and the soldiers have to die in the battlefield. Your stating that you expected to stay at your old plase. I would advise you stay if your Like your plase. Which I expet you do. Well If I am so Lucky as to get through this wicket rebellion I expect to stay at home, but a few weeks for I never got a Long so fine at home as I did since I am a way from home. I had a strong notion to re in List as a vetern for three years Longer and I told our parents so when I was at home and they dont want me to inlist again and so I hardly will but they are recruting every day in our regt. We have no war newes worth mentioning and poor hopes of the war soon being over. Mary your stating the regt. Or Batalion where Charles belongs to would be discharged I have no doubt but they are glad of the chance. But I am a feared that some of them will be drafter a gain before Long Mary I would like to see you very mutch but I expect we want see each other before our time expires. Dear sister pleas I Let me know if you heared of our sisters in the west Lately I wrote to them when I was at home. I Received no Letter from home since I come back but I Received one from Peter (?) Cermon him stating that they were all well and getting a Long fine but the sent of girls is nearly run out as well as boyes in our naberhood we could not rase as muth as a party when I was at home this is a bout all for the present as I dont know of anything importend Hoping to here from you soon or gess I would not have wrote this evening but to morrow I will be on picket (?) day. After I wont feell for writing.



I expect you will get tired reading before you read the half of this as this rather poor writing I hope I may be excused if you should here of our Regt. Having moved Direct where you direted your last Letter and the Letter will follow the Regt/

Still Remain Your true Brother until death Mary Craft. John Craft

**Editor's Note:** Vera Lyne of Oak Hill, Kansas provided the above copy of a daguerreotype of her g-grandmother's brother. Her g-grandmother was Mary Craft Dowden and she settled in the Kansas City area. Again, much appreciation to Vera Lyne for sharing photos and letters with us.

## Relive Civil War

by Claudia Mandell

(Memories in Missouri - Cappers June 30, 1998)

A church-like hush greets visitors as they pass through the double doors of the Civil War Museum in Carthage, Missouri. The museum vividly tells the story of the Civil War in Missouri, the Battle of Carthage and the Missouri border wars. Many residents of the era had moved from southern states, but there were numerous Union sympathizers living in the state. Slaveholders to the south, in Arkansas, wanted Missouri to be a slave state, while Kansas, to the west, pressured for abolition. The result: bloody skirmishes and constant strife for the people of Missouri.

Period clothing, murals and videos help tell the story of war in Missouri. A large diorama shows the lay of the land in 1861, and visitors can easily envision both Union and Confederate troop positions and advancements to the Battle of Carthage, July 5, 1861.

Display cases exhibit artifacts from the period including firearms, a box of musket caps, homemade canteens and a knife, possible made from farm tools.

Other displays demonstrate the part Native Americans and Afro-Americans played in the Civil War in Missouri. Information about an attack on the 1<sup>st</sup> Kansas Colored Infantry Regiment near Joplin, Missouri, is displayed. Local Missouri and borderland soldiers and guerrillas, who became outlaws are also shown. Visitors will recognize the names of William Quantrill, Jesse James, Cole Younger, Belle Star and Thomas Livingston.

Submitted by Art Kelley