

The Border Star

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

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THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE OF WESTERN MISSOURI INC.

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1998

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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.

July - Annual Picnic
September - Cemetery Tour
December - Christmas Party

**Visitors Always
Welcome**

Tim's corner:



Tim is in the process of moving and we all know what a job that can be trying to balance many tasks at one time. Tim, we look forward to your article in the next issue of the newsletter.

Congratulations on your new home and Good Luck in your moving endeavor!



Approximately 35 members attended the annual picnic held at Pitcher Cemetery on July 8th. Kathy Touhey led a tour of the Pitcher Cemetery, pointing out many interesting points, such as the tombstone placed by the S.A.R (Sons of the Revolution) on Ledstone Noland's grave.

Kathy also shared several tidbits of information explaining that the soil in a wooded area increases by about 1/4 of an inch each year. This was the main reason it took so much effort to locate the prairie stones on additional graves in the cemetery. Kathy and her volunteers probed with iron rods to locate several stones and then carefully dug them up to reset them.

Kathy is to be commended on her outstanding efforts in the restoration of this historical site. There is a walking trail, shelter house, ample parking, and soon to be installed water fountain in the park area.

The music provided by John and Dianne Lehman enhanced the evening's events.

Two of Quantrill's guerrillas (Kevin Wells and Benny Gibson) appeared fully attired in the same outfits worn during the raid on Lawrence in the newly filmed movie Ride With the Devil. Kevin Wells rode his horse Zach, and Benny Gibson rode Shadow. They answered many questions about the different aspects of their clothing and horse equipment.

Plan ahead for next year's picnic...always held in July!

Our next meeting is Wednesday, August 12th at 7:00 p.m. at the old fire house at Truman Road and North Main. The program will be presented by Ken Apschnikat on Preservation of the Manassas Battlefield.

Hope to see you there!



Abe & the Babe '99

Plans for the 1999 visit by Max and Donna Daniels, in their roles as Abe and Mary Lincoln, are nearly complete. In addition to being in our area for the Wyandotte Days Event, they will be here on the Monday and Tuesday following to do some school programs.

The Monday, October 18th programs will be at the Shawnee-Missions Schools. Tuesday, October 19th at 9:30 a.m. will be at Valley Park School, site of the Living History encampment last May. The 1:00 p.m. program will be at Bryant School in Independence. The 3:00 p.m. time is open.

The March 14-19, 1999 tour will include programs in several area schools which have not been visited by the Lincolns in previous years.

The 1999 Schedule is as follows.....

Sunday, March 14th, 6:30 p.m. at Liberty Christian Church - This program will be one most adults have not seen before, the "Log Cabin" program, which is normally seen only by 2nd through 5th grade students.

This will be the only evening program which will be close to most of our Round Table members and the program is very unique. If there is one program on the 1999 agenda which should be considered, it would be this one.

The Church is located at 427 East Kansas in liberty. This is four blocks east of the Square, at the corner of Kansas and Lincoln streets. Reception to follow. Park in back lot.

Monday, March 15th - We will be at schools in the *Atchison, Kansas*, area with an evening program, possibly at Benedictine College.

Tuesday, March 16th - Will be at schools at *Fort Leavenworth* with an evening program at Eisenhower Auditorium.

Wednesday, March 17th - Will be at *Fort Riley, Kansas*. Two schools in the afternoon with an Officer's Reception at 1700 (5 PM) at the Calvary Museum and an evening program at 1930 (7:30 PM) on post.

Thursday, March 18th - The Lincolns' will do programs at two *North Kansas City* area schools and an evening program for the *Clardy School PTO*.

Friday, March 19th - We will be doing two programs in the Independence School District in the morning, two programs in the Liberty School District in the afternoon and we will be the guests of honor at a reception that evening.

Submitted by Sonny Wells

Schedule of Events

September

- 4-7 **Santa-Cali-Gon Days**
Independence Square
- 9 **CWRTWMo Meeting - 7 PM**
Union Cemetery Tour - Just East of 28th & Main
- 12-13 **Civil War Re-enactment**
Cassville, Missouri
- 16 **Board Meeting - 7 PM**
Truman Campus, Rm 101
- 18-20 **Jesse James Days**
Kearney, Missouri

October

- 2-4 **Re-enactment**
Nebraska City, Nebraska
- 14 **CWRTWMo Meeting - 7 PM**
Library at Truman High School - 3301 S. Noland Rd.
- 16-18 **Re-enactment**
Wyandotte County Park - 126th & State Avenue
- 21 **Board Meeting - 7 PM**
Truman Campus, Rm. 101
- 24 **Lexington Tour**
Tim Cox is arranging

Upcoming Programs

Wednesday, August 12th, 7 PM

Ken Apschnikat, a National Park Service employee, will speak on the Preservation of the Manassas Battlefield.

Ken was stationed at Manassas during the preservation and should have a lot to share with us.

It is not often that we get such close up information on the efforts to save Civil War Battlefields.

Meet at the old fire station, Truman Road and North Main.

Wednesday, September 9th, 7 PM

A walking tour of Civil War Notables buried at Union Cemetery just South of Crown Center.

Over 550 Union Veterans are buried here as well as 30 some Confederates including one who was in Pickett's Brigade at Gettysburg.

**Who was Addison Maderia and what is his secret?
Find out on the tour!**

BATTLES OF INDEPENDENCE and LONE JACK

Upcoming Event in Lone Jack

*13th Commemoration
of the
Battle of Lone Jack
August 15th & 16th, 1998*

Festivities for both days include a parade on Saturday, area music groups performing, a living history encampment, and special children's activities.

The museum will also be open during selected hours and is sponsoring a raffle for a queen size antique design quilt at \$1 per chance.

The following are excerpts from articles submitted by Faye Dennison
Lone Jack Museum-Battlefield Volunteer

1907 Commemoration of the Battle of Lone Jack

An estimated 2500 persons attended the picnic at Russell's Grove located two miles west on 150 HWY. Among the guests, were Union veteran W.L. Roney, 67, and Confederate veteran Greenville Johnson, who reminisced about the Battle in which both of them fought 45 years earlier, according to the Times.

"I was a corporal with Colonel Emory Foster", said Roney, who arrived in Lone Jack with the artillery

1907 (Cont'd)...

battalion on the evening of the 15th. That night he was sent out on picket duty. "Out there I noticed that a light flared up for a minute off to the north, but I didn't think enough of it to report it that night." "But I guess there were rebels there, all right." "Twaren't any of our men, said Johnson, who served under Colonel Upton Hayes. Must have been Cockrell's."

"Me and Frank Hardin were the last men to take the battery," Johnson said.

"We left it on the field", Roney said.

"Yes, but you were trying to sneak off with it when we chased you away."

50th Anniversary of the Battle of Lone Jack published August 12, 1912

In a letter to The Journal in 1912, Mr. Roney was quoted as saying:

"The battle of Lone Jack, August 16, 1862, was the most severe of all the engagements I was in. I was in the Westport fight, which by comparison, was a tame affair. Forty-seven years ago, I crossed the Missouri and Kansas line on the Westport battleground and ever since have been a citizen of Kansas."

Andersonville, Georgia, Historic Fair First Full Weekend in October October 3 and 4

This Historic Fair will feature...

Confederate and Union Encampments
Old Time Craftsmen at Work
Mock Civil War Battles
Dealers in Arts, Crafts, Antiques & Collectibles

For further information contact
Andersonville Guild, 912-924-2558

A Site to See !!

Andersonville....

During the Civil War days, the village of Andersonville near the end of the Southwestern Railroad, was the terminal where 45,000 Federal prisoners of war arrived by rail during 1864 and early 1865. The prisoners left the train at Andersonville and were marched the one-fourth mile to Camp Sumter (Andersonville Civil War Prison) where many languished for more than a year and where 13,000 perished.

The village became the supply center for the prison, all necessary supplies being shipped by rail to that point.

Captain Henry Wirz, keeper of Andersonville Prison, had his office in the village.

This editor and her husband visited this historic site last winter and found it to be a moving experience, especially "Providence Spring".

BATTLES OF INDEPENDENCE and LONE JACK

Article from 1936 Newspaper

Battles of Independence and Lone Jack Fought 74 Years Ago

Eyewitness Describes Civil War Fight Which Began at Court-house Square.

Seventy-four years ago two of the fiercest skirmishes of the Civil war were fought in Jackson county, one known as the battle of Independence on August 10, 1862; and the other the battle of Lone Jack, six days later on August 16.

Three hundred bedraggled but determined Confederate soldiers marched along the eastern outskirts of Independence toward the little town in the quiet dawn of August 10 of the second year of the war between the states. Within an hour the cracking of squirrel rifles brought frightened residents running from their beds, for the Southern soldiers had met about 500 soldiers of the Union army under command of Col. James T. Buell, who had been gathering in Independence since the latter part of July and were stationed strategically for such an attack.

According to John Head, 84 years old, Independence, who was an eye witness of the Independence battle, the Confederates went into Independence about 4 o'clock along the old Blue Springs road. They disposed of the pickets and marched through the town to the public square unheralded. They were unaware though that Col. Buell's headquarters was in the McCoy Bank building, part of which is still a part of the old Jackson County Bank building at the southwest corner of the square; and that a company of home guards was stationed directly across the street from headquarters.

Troops Surprised.

The Southern troops believed the entire Union camp was in what is now Swope's pasture southwest of the square and were surprised when they were fired on as they passed the two buildings. Kit Chies was the first mortally wounded. There were other casualties but the Confederates resolutely kept marching until they reached South Pleasant street three blocks from the square and turned south to Swope's pasture. They turned west down what is now West Walnut street.

The Federals were barricaded behind a rock fence which extended a quarter of a mile. The Union forces immediately opened fire. The Confederates answered and as the fire became hotter sought shelter in gullies and behind trees.

The skirmish became a sniping melee. Part of the Confederate force, about 50 men, crept back south of the square. Mr. Head said, to the rear of Buell's headquarters and secreted themselves in a building on the present site of the First National Bank building. Here they had full view of Buell and his men. Firing became heavier, members of both sides being picked off.

Raise White Flag.

Then came the coup of the Confederates. A small, squat frame building next to Buell's headquarters, was set on fire. Buell realized he and his men were trapped and would be burned or shot if they ran into the street. The Federal colonel put up a white flag and Independence was surrendered to the Southerners. When the Union soldiers in Swope's pasture saw the white flag waving, they too surrendered. Holes may be seen today where bullets penetrated the old bank building wall.

Mr. Head, then only 10 years old, visited the scene of the battle with his mother immediately after the surrender. He tells of seeing numerous dead on both sides lying by the rock wall. Many horses were killed also. The wounded were cared for at the Beckam homestead and in buildings on the public square. Wagon loads of bodies were hauled to the cemetery.

There were no quarters in which to keep the Union soldiers and they were paroled quickly. Independence was held by the Confederates until next day when they retreated to Lone Jack, where a battle was fought on August 16.

Monument on Site.

A tall shaft stands today about the center of the spot on which the battle of Lone Jack was fought and at the head of two long graves trenches, one in which Confederate dead were buried and the other in which bodies of Federals were put. The monument was placed there years ago by public subscription and is but a few feet from the place a giant jack oak stood, from which the village derived its name.

The battle of Lone Jack was the result of the convergence of all Confederate forces in Jackson county on the village held by Federals. Colonel Hughes, Colonel Quantrell and Colonel Hays united forces for the battle of Independence. Colonel Hughes was killed and his command passed to Col. Gideon Thompson of Clay county and Colonel Hays. Other Confederates came in from the South under the command of Colonels Cockrell, Tracy, Hunter, Jackman and Lewis.

Reinforcements Sent.

On learning Thompson and Hays were between Lone Jack and Independence, Colonel Totten, commander of the Federal post at Lexington sent Maj. Emory Foster and 800 men to cut them off from their reinforcements from the south. Col. Fitz Henry Warren was ordered from Clinton to aid Foster. The main force arrived at Lone Jack about 8 o'clock at night.

As he went through the village Foster opened fire on Tracy's and Coffee's troops. The Confederates retreated west. Foster returned to the village. Word was sent to Quantrell, Thompson and Hays and all forces with Cockrell's united and arrived at daylight within a mile and a half of the town. They dismounted and went to the attack on foot.

Brother Against Brother.

Lying in fields the Confederates were within shooting distance as Union soldiers were feeding their horses and getting breakfast. A volley announced the Confederates' presence. The Federals were taken by surprise, but soon recovered.

It was Missourian against Missourian, neighbor against neighbor and brother against brother. Hours passed and the conflict continued, with both parties nearly exhausted. Shortly after 10 a. m. the Federals who were left spiked the cannon, drew them off a short distance, gathered the horses together and retreated to Lexington. Part of the Union dead and wounded were removed in wagons and carriages sent from Lexington - and from Lexington they were sent in boats to Jefferson City, but many dead of both sides were buried beside the giant jack oak tree. Most of the Union soldiers' bodies were removed in 1867 and buried at Leavenworth.

One woman died in the Lone Jack battle. She was Mrs. B. B. Cave, wife of a hotel owner. The hotel was set on fire and Mrs. Cave with her several children fled. They got out of the Union lines into a corn field, where they crouched. Soon one of the children demanded attention and the young mother raising herself to pacify him, was shot. Thirteen stores and homes were burned during the battle.