



★ *The Border Star* ★

Official Publication of the Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri
"Studying the Border War and Beyond"

September – October 2021

The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

2021 Officers

President ----- Mike Calvert
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Denis Wormington

Border Star Editor

Dennis Myers

Meetings

2nd Wednesday of each month, 7:00 pm
Via Zoom until further notice
See instructions in this newsletter

Visitors Always Welcome!

Annual Dues

Individual ----- 25.00
Family ----- 35.00
Student (under 21) ----- 5.00
Newsletter Only (no meetings) 10.00

For Information

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President's Letter

Most of you are aware that during my working career as a project manager I spent a lot of time out of town. I was in Houston, TX for 6 months, Atlanta, GA for 2 months, Front Royal, VA for 9 months and Boston, MA for 18 months to name some of the places. Looking back, I would have to admit that I did enjoy the opportunity these stays afforded me to visit and explore the local history sites. I could spend hours (some of you would say I already have) recounting my adventures. But that is not what this writing is about. This story is not about the "going to" but the "coming to."

I want you to ask yourself: when you returned to your starting point, how did you know you were there? Specifically, how did you know you were home? I can hear you saying, I was at my house. I know we know when we are home because of a dwelling, but what tells you, you are in the right place? Is it a street, a tree or a statue? My touchstone for being home is two buildings. The Jackson County Independence Courthouse and the H.S. Truman Home. The next time you are out and about look back towards the Independence Square, if the atmospheric conditions are favorable and you have line of sight, you will see the Courthouse bell tower from as far away as 8 miles. When I returned home from my travels, that bell tower always meant just 8 miles to home. Returning home when I came to the intersection of Truman Road and Delaware Street, and saw the Truman Home, I knew I was 2 blocks from home. Being close to home was and is always a warm feeling. As I was writing this, I began to think of the Civil War soldiers who returned home.

The numbers are approximate, but statistics will say that 3 million soldiers served and 800,000 died during the Civil War. Quick math says that 2.2 million soldiers returned to their home after the war ended. I wonder what they used to mark their being home. Probably not much different than you and I today. What would happen if their landmark wasn't there? We know that the probability was very small of returning to a war-ravaged hometown and finding your landmark. Your home may be destroyed. Your family no longer there or near there. How would you react? Would you give up or start and continue your search until you found home? With all that you held in your heart that made you survive gone, do you or can you ever find home again? Just something to ponder. Returning home never grows old.

~ Mike Calvert, President
Civil War Roundtable of Western Missouri

CWRTWM Calendar

September 2021 Membership Meeting

Wednesday, September 8, 2021 – 7:00 p.m. Waterfall Park, 4501 S. Bass Pro Drive, Independence, MO. Accessible from Highway 291 and 40 Highway. From 291 S. take the 40 Highway exit and turn west. At the light turn north on to Bass Pro Drive. At the round-a-bout continue all the way north to go around the Bass Pro Shop until the road turns south. You will come to a round-a-bout which you should follow to your left and then an immediate right into the parking lot. We may be able to use the large pavilion or a smaller table. Please bring your own chairs in case someone else has rented the pavilion.

Program: Gregg Higginbotham will be portraying Frank James.

If you want to see the waterfall before it gets dark, instead of turning into the parking lot, you can drive south on Bluff Drive which will be a one-way drive to take you up the hill on which the waterfall is located. After viewing, you can continue on E. Bluff Drive until it intersects with Bass Pro Drive at a round-a-bout. Continue to the left and go north on Bass Pro Drive to circle the Bass Pro Shop again until you come to the park round-a-bout. To leave the park, exit the parking lot and keep to your left to take Bluff Drive south to intersect with Bass Pro Drive at the round-a-bout. Take a right to go back to 40 Highway. Waterfall Park can also be accessed from Lee's Summit Road by taking Bass Pro Drive east. It is across from the south Adair Park entrance (Girls' Softball Park).

No October 2021 Membership Meeting

Saturday, October 16, 2021 – 10:00 a.m. – Noon

No Wednesday night meeting in October. Instead we will have a guided tour of Elmwood Cemetery on Saturday morning. Elmwood is located at 4900 E. Truman Road in Kansas City, MO. Park at the Armour Memorial Chapel which looks like a small church and pull off far enough that other cars can get by. This will be a walking tour on paved roads and grass so be prepared for wet conditions. We will have the tour rain or shine unless there are severe conditions. If in doubt, you can call Beverly Shaw at (816) 225-7944. You should bring your own drinking water, and there is a restroom in the cemetery office. We will be accepting donations for the upkeep of this historic cemetery. In order to provide earphones for all the participants, we are asking you to RSVP to Beverly Shaw at (816) 225-7944 or by E-mail at bevjshaw@hotmail.com.

Other History Events

Santa Fe National Historic Trail – 200th Anniversary

Saturday and Sunday, September 4-5, 2021 – 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Fort Osage National Historic Site, 107 Osage Street, Sibley, MO. 11:00 a.m. – “George Sibley Back from the Past.” 1:00 p.m. – “History of Fort Osage.” 2:00 p.m. – “Will the Real William Becknell Please Step Forward” by Craig Crease. 3:00 p.m. – “George Sibley Back from the Past.” Ongoing reenacting by the American Mountain Men Association and the Arrow Rock Stock and Trade Company. Adults-\$8. Seniors-\$4. Youth age 5-13-\$4. Under 5-Free.

Independence, MO Walking Tours

Saturday, September 11, 2021 – 10:00 a.m. “A Look Back at Independence: 1921.” Less than two miles, but good walking shoes recommended. Rain or Shine. Free. Gather in front of the National Park Service Visitors Center at Truman Road and Main Street.

Raytown Festival of the Trails

Saturday, September 11, 2021 – 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Celebrations of the 200th anniversary of the Santa Fe Trail at historic sites in Raytown such as the Raytown Historical Society, Cave Spring, and the Rice-Tremonti House. Get your map at the Raytown Chamber of Commerce, 5909 Raytown Trafficway, Raytown, MO.

Pickin' on the Front Porch Bluegrass Concert

Saturday, September 11, 2021—7:00 p.m. Atkins-Johnson Farm, 4109 NE Pleasant Valley Road, Gladstone, MO. Bring a lawn chair and enjoy a free evening of music under the stars.

Posse of the Westerners

Tuesday, September 14, 2021 – 6:00 p.m. Golden Corral, 8800 N. Skyview Ave., Kansas City, MO. Robert Jones: “101 Railroad Songs” (singing and talking about the origins of the songs.)

Brown Bag Program at Shawnee Indian Mission

Wednesday, September 15, 2021 – Noon. Bring your own Lunch. Speaker at 12:30 p.m. East Building at the Shawnee Indian Mission, 3403 W. 53rd Street, Fairway, KS. Father Porter: “The History of St. Agnes Catholic Church and its relationship to the Roe Sisters and the Shawnee Indian Mission.” Masks are required. Please RSVP to Ken Cook at KenCook66103@gmail.com for seating.

Independence Civil War Study Group

Wednesday, September 15, 2021 – 7:00 p.m. Perkins Restaurant, 3939 S. Bolger Drive, Independence, MO (across from Walmart). Chris Fritsche: “Battle of Lexington.”

Third Thursday at the Clay County Museum

Thursday, September 16, 2021 – 7:00 p.m. Clay County Museum, 14 N. Main Street, Liberty, MO. Discussion of the series of three guide books published by the Clay County Historical Society: A Self-guided Tour of Historic Clay County Missouri (books and CDs).

200 Years of Commerce, Conflict and Culture

Saturday, September 18, 2021 – 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Trailside Center, 99th and Holmes, Kansas City, MO. Commemorating the Bicentennial of the Santa Fe Trail with music from the Prairie Dulcimer Club, exhibits including period quilts, and historical speakers including Col. Alexander Majors. Free.

Battle of Island Mound Commemoration

Saturday, September 18, 2021 – 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Battle of Island Mound State Historic Site, 4837 NW County Road 1002, Butler, MO. First Civil War battle where Black soldiers engaged in combat. Live stage performances of Buffalo Soldiers and a first person presentation by Lt. Patrick Minor. Living history walking tour featuring a rope-making demonstration, bison program, and a Missouri German carpenter's display. Free.

Big Shoal Country Fair

Saturday, September 18, 2021 – 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Atkins-Johnson Farm, 4109 NE Pleasant Valley Road, Gladstone, MO. Music, crafts, food, and demonstrations. Admission is free for the fair and museum, but some activities may require a fee. Kids zone activities are \$10 per child. U-pick pumpkins available for sale.

Book Launch for R.L.Y. Peyton by Tom Rafiner

Saturday, September 18, 2021 – 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Chamber of Commerce Building on the Harrisonville Square, 106 S. Independence Street, Harrisonville, MO. Author Tom Rafiner will be present to talk about Peyton and his Cass County connections. 11:30 a.m. – Munch and Mingle. Noon – Tom talks about R.L.Y. Peyton, An American Journey, 1824-1863. 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. – Book purchase and signing.

Mid-Missouri Civil War Round Table

Monday, September 20, 2021 – 7:00 p.m. Virtual Meeting via Zoom. Gene McArtor: "The Gray Ghost – John S. Mosby." Zoom invitation sent later by E-mail.

Friends of the Missouri State Archives

In person at the James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center, 600 W. Main Street, Jefferson City, MO or streaming on Facebook Live (www.facebook.com/Missouristatearchives/live). Thursday, September 23, 2021 – 7:00 p.m. Dr. William S. Belko – "Contesting the

Constitution: Congress Debates The Missouri Crisis, 1819-1821."

The Road to Santa Fe – KCPT 19 Kansas City, MO

Friday, September 24, 2021 – 8:00 p.m. local. 90-minute documentary highlighting the Santa Fe Trail during its Bicentennial. Kansas City Public Television – Ch. 19.

Rededication of Osage Village State Historic Site

Saturday, September 25, 2021 – 10:00 a.m. Ten new panels giving the history of a Native American village of perhaps 2,000 people living in 200 lodges. Archaeological study in the 1940s and added to the National Register of Historical Places in 1971. Located in Vernon County. Take I-49 to Exit 107. County Road M to 2300 Road at Walker, MO.

Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

Tuesday, September 28, 2021 – Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$32. Milburn Golf and Country Club, 7501 W. 69th Street, Overland Park, KS. Dr. Joseph M. Bellein: "Bushwhackers: Guerrilla Warfare, Manhood, and the Household in Civil War Missouri." Reservations required by Noon, September 22, 2021. E-mail to marnatoli@att.net.

Researching Your Civil War Soldier-Zoom Presentation

Wednesday, September 29, 2021 – 2:00 p.m. Presenter is the Midwest Genealogy Center of the Mid-Continent Public Library. Discover the resources you will need to find your ancestors. Registration closes at Noon on September 28th. You will be sent a Zoom access code the day of the program. To register go to www.mymcpl.org/events/70122/researching-Your-Civil-War-Soldier-Zoom.

Bus Tour of the Santa Fe / Oregon-California Trail Sites

Saturday, October 2, 2021 – 9:30 a.m. Kaw Point parking lot, 1403 Fairfax Trafficway, Kansas City, KS. All passengers must be vaccinated for COVID-19. Ross Marshall will give a narrated bus tour which includes a box lunch and snacks. \$50. Reservations no later than September 24th by check to Gateway Chapter, 2203 Goff Avenue, St. Joseph, MO 64505. Reservation form can be obtained from Beverly Shaw (816 225-7944).

45th Annual Fall Festival of Arts, Crafts, and Music

Missouri Town - Saturday and Sunday, October 2 & 3, 2021 – Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Sunday – 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Missouri Town-1855, 8010 East Park Road, Lee's Summit, MO (near Lake Jacomo). Explore the sights and sounds of the harvest season. Historic interpreters, artisans, musicians, and crafters. \$10 – Car. \$20 – Bus or Van.

Second Saturday Autumn Architecture Tours-

Independence, MO – Saturday, September 9, 2021 – 10:00 a.m. Meet at the National Park Service Center at Truman Road and Main Street. “Independence Square Merchants of the 1840’s.” Less than two miles, but please wear walking shoes. Rain or Shine. Free.

Posse of the Westerners

Tuesday, October 12, 2021 – 6:00 p.m. Dinner at the Golden Corral, 8800 N. Skyview Ave., Kansas City, MO. Deb Buckner: “John Mackay, The Bonanza King.”

Mid-Missouri Civil War Round Table-Zoom Meeting

Monday, October 18, 2021 – 7:00 p.m. Bill Voight: “Price’s 1864 Raid at Jefferson City.” Zoom invitation will be sent later via E-mail.

Independence Civil War Study Group

Wednesday, October 20, 2021 – 7:00 p.m. Perkins Restaurant, 3939 S. Bolger Drive, Independence, MO (across from Wal-Mart). Mike Bergman: “Civil War Ghosts.”

Clay County Third Thursday

Thursday, October 21, 2021. Trivia Night at the Belvoir Winery, 1325 Odd Fellows Road, Liberty, MO. For further information, please call the Clay County Museum at (816) 792-1849.

Arts of the Capitol-Virtual Tour

Thursday, October 21, 2021 – 7:00 p.m. Explore the paintings, sculptures, and the architecture of the Missouri State Capitol in Jefferson City, MO. Presented by Dr. Sarah S. Jones, Missouri State Parks. Register at www.mymcpl.org/events/70289/arts-missouri-capitol-zoom.

Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

Tuesday, October 26, 2021 – Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$32. Milburn Golf and Country Club, 7501 W. 69th Street, Overland Park, KS. Dr. Paul Kahan: The Presidency of Ulysses S. Grant. Reservations required by Noon, October 20, 2021. E-mail marnatoli@att.net.

News about Members and Friends

We were sorry to hear that **Scot Kelley**, age 60, died on August 4, 2021. Scot was the son of our late board member, Art Kelley. Scot was the owner of an antebellum home in Independence that the Round Table visited many years ago. We send our condolences to his stepmother, **Sharon Kelley** and other members of the family. Sharon was able to join us for the trip to the James Farm in August and brought her friend, **Niel Johnson**, a Harry Truman interpreter.

The Bingham-Waggoner Estate is announcing a price increase for its one-and-a-half-hour guided tour for one

of the most outstanding historic sites in Missouri. The tours will now be \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 16 Thursday – Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Sunday. These tours begin on the hour and the last one starts at 3:00 p.m. It is located at 313 W. Pacific, Independence, MO. Tours by reservation can also be arranged for Mon. – Wed.

You may be interested in helping the **Confederate Memorial Friends Association, Inc.** in Higginsville, MO to help promote the positive image of this State Historic Site. They are the group that sponsors the Confederate Memorial Day ceremonies the first Saturday of June. The dues are only \$10 per year or you can pay for multiple years. You can make your check payable to CMFA, Inc. and mail to P. O. Box 332, Higginsville, MO 64037.

Steve Hatcher has long been our website manager, but he would be glad to share some of his duties with other volunteers who have an interest in the ongoing success of the Round Table and have some computer skills. It would involve updating the calendar of events which are published in the *Border Star*. You can email Steve at 2TWAers@gmail.com.

For those of you who are interested in Missouri history, there’s a new book about the 25th governor of Missouri, **Meredith Miles Marmaduke**, called “To Make a Fortune in Missouri” by Lee M. Cullimore. It is available from the Friends of Arrow Rock or from MissouriLife.com for \$24.99.

Sarah and Alec Poff have moved from Blue Springs to Ashland, MO near Jefferson City but will be coming back to this area for speaking engagements and to visit family and friends. Sarah is kind enough to add our Round Table calendar to our Facebook page.

Congratulations to the **Watkins Museum of History** in Lawrence, KS for receiving a recent donation of \$75,000 in memory of Daisy Viola Kramer Koenig who grew up in Douglas County, KS. They will be updating the spaces dedicated to archival collections and public research. They will suspend public research on September 1, 2021 and resume sometime in 2022.

Another Civil War study organization is the **William Clarke Quantrill Society** (WCQS) which is interested in the Border Wars, battles, fights, and scraps that Quantrill and his men were involved in. They do research, write articles and books, and sponsor tours. Annual dues are \$20 and can be mailed to WCQS, P. O. Box 1853, Blue Springs, MO 64013.

