



★ *The Border Star* ★

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

November – December 2021

The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

2021 Officers

President ----- Mike Calvert
1st V.P. ----- Pat Gradwohl
2nd V.P. ----- Terry Chronister
Secretary ----- Karen Wells
Treasurer ----- Beverly Shaw
Historian ----- Joyce Gillespie

Board Members

Michael Clay Denise Irminger
Bill Irminger Barb Wormington
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

I have been enjoying a lot of music lately. I find myself in my library on my computer looking at Spotify, Pandora and Amazon music searching for old and new tunes to pass the time with. Trying to find artists like Coleman Hawkins, John Coltrane, Art Pepper, Beegie Adair, Lester Young and Zoot Sims just to name a few. What a world we live in. I can think about a musician and with a few clicks I have him in concert in my own home. Music has always been an important part of my life. As I normally do when I begin to write this missive, I try to relate it to the Civil War. This led me to wonder what music was popular during the war. This is what I found.

For the Union Army:

- Battle Cry of Freedom
- May God Save the Union
- John Brown's Body (The Battle Hymn of the Republic)
- Rally 'Round the Flag (by the way sung by Moonlight's 11th Kansas at the Battle of Little Blue)

For the Confederate Army:

- God Save the South
- God Will Defend the Right
- The Rebel Soldier
- Dixie

Popular to both:

- Lorena
- Aura Lea
- The Vacant Chair
- Tramp, Tramp, Tramp
- Tenting on the Old Camp Ground

Music was important to the soldier. It made the march easier, provided entertainment, brought remembrances of home and kept morale up during the most horrendous of situations. Music woke the soldier in the morning, called him to eat, called him to arms, sent him into battle, sent him to bed and was played at his burial--that last reference being to "Taps".

President's Letter continued on next page...

President's Letter continued from page 1...

In July 1862, U.S. General Daniel Butterfield and his brigade were recuperating after the Seven Days Battles near Richmond. Not happy with the standard bugle call for going to sleep Butterfield reworked the existing call into a melody he thought more suitable. Private Oliver Wilcox Norton the brigade bugler played it causing buglers from other units to become interested. The simple 24 note melody spread throughout the Union and Confederate armies. Soon the tune began to be played at military funerals. The name "Taps," most likely explanation is that it comes from the fact that prior to Butterfield's bugle call, the lights-out call was followed by three drum beats, dubbed the "Drum Taps," as well as "The Taps" and then simply "Taps." When Butterfield's call replaced the drum beats, soldiers referred to it as "Taps," although this was an unofficial name. Butterfield's bugle call was officially known as "Extinguish Lights" in American military manuals until 1891.

Ref: www.history.com

Just a personal note, I cannot hear "Taps" without getting emotional and misty-eyed.

Since this is my last letter of the year, I want to thank everyone for your support and understanding. Things have not happened the way we want. I know we all wish to be able to meet in person. Let me assure you that I and the Board are working hard to make that happen. Until that time, please join our meetings virtually. Please stay safe. So looking forward to being together again. Happy Holidays to all.

~ Mike Calvert, President
Civil War Roundtable of Western Missouri

CWRTWM Calendar

Sunday, November 7, 2021 – Daylight Saving Time Ends (Set clock back one hour).

November 2021 Annual Membership Meeting
Wednesday, November 10, 2021 – 7:00 p.m., Silver Heart Inn, 1114 S. Noland Road, Independence, MO. Lane Smith: "The Trial of Jefferson Davis." Lane is Davis' defense attorney as the U.S. Government puts him on trial.

Parking is available in the lot owned by Abundant Life Church on 23rd Street just west of Noland Road. Take the sidewalk to Noland and turn left (north) to the antebellum home owned by Perry and Melanie Johnson.
FACE MASKS ARE REQUESTED.

The Silver Heart Inn is also called the Stone-Gamble House. It was built about 1856 and was formerly located on South Main Street, one block away. It was the home of Napoleon Bonaparte Stone called "Homeland."

In addition to the program and refreshments, we will also have a short business meeting with the election of officers and board members. You may also pay dues for 2022. Family dues are \$35, Single dues are \$25, and a subscription to the *Border Star* newsletter is \$10. The bi-monthly *Border Star* is included with dues.

We will not have a December 2021 membership meeting or virtual meeting. We look forward to presenting Zoom speakers in 2022 until we find a suitable location.

Other History Events

Clay County Archives Annual Meeting
Saturday, November 6, 2021 – 9:00 a.m. 210 E. Franklin, Liberty, MO. Refreshments and business meeting for election of officers. Presentation by Kathleen Bird: Two Shots by a Stranger based on an 1866 double homicide in Clay County.

Clay County Archives is the repository for our Round Table Collection of Books, including a complete set of the ORs (Official Records of the Civil War).

Election Day at Missouri Town 1855
Saturday, November 6, 2021 – 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. 8010 East Park Road, Lee's Summit, MO (near Lake Jacomo). Thousands of Missouri men crossed the border into Kansas to protest votes in the territory's elections. Pull up a seat at the Missouri Town 1855 tavern and experience the days leading up to the elections that helped spark the Civil War. Adults – \$7, Youth and Seniors – \$4.

Posse of the Westerners
Tuesday, November 9, 2021 – 6:00 p.m. Golden Corral, 8800 N. Skyview Ave., Kansas City, MO. Erin Pouppirt: "Native American Traditions."

Independence, MO Walking Tour
Saturday, November 13, 2021 – 10:00 a.m. "Urban Renewal and Its Impact on Our Built Environment."

Less than 2 miles but good walking shoes advised. Rain or shine. Free. Gather in front of the National Park Service Visitors Center at Truman Road and Main Street.

Two Magnificent Mansions at Arrow Rock, MO

Saturday, November 13, 2021 – 1:00 p.m. \$30 per person to tour Prairie Park and Oak Grove, located within a 20-minute drive from Arrow Rock, MO. No children permitted under 12. Tickets must be purchased in advance by calling the Friends of Arrow Rock at (660) 837-3231. Prairie Park is the antebellum home of William Sappington, son of quinine doctor John Sappington, and Oak Grove has an important Civil War story to tell and is home to 5 original Bingham portraits.

Mid-Missouri Civil War Round Table

Monday, November 15, 2021 – 7:00 p.m. Virtual Meeting via Zoom. Dave Poche: “Hiram Berdan and the U. S. Sharpshooters.” Zoom invitation will be sent later by E-Mail.

Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

Tuesday, November 16, 2021 – Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$32. Milburn Golf and Country Club, 7501 W. 69th Street, Overland Park, KS. William Garrett Piston: Confederate Major General John S. Marmaduke’s Campaign in Missouri in 1863.” Reservations required by Noon, November 10, 2021. Please send an E-Mail to marnatoli@att.net.

Independence Civil War Study Group

Wednesday, November 17, 2021 – 7:00 p.m. Perkins Restaurant, 3939 S. Bolger Drive, Independence, MO (across from Walmart). Gregg Higginbotham: “Rifles and Muskets of the Civil War.”

Christmas House Tours in Independence, MO

Friday, November 26, 2021-December 30, 2021 (Closed December 23-25, 2021). Monday-Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Sunday 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Cost is \$10.

Bingham-Waggoner Estate, 313 W. Pacific Avenue. Vaile Mansion, 1500 N. Liberty Street.

A Christmas Celebration at Missouri Town 1855

Saturday, December 4, 2021 – 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. 8010 East Park Road, Lee’s Summit, MO (near Lake Jacomo). Warm up by the fire, help

decorate the historic houses, join carolers, and meet Belsnickle, St. Nick’s assistant. Adults – \$7. Youth and Seniors – \$4.

Candlelight Tour of Fort Osage

Saturday, December 11, 2021 – 4:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. Fort Osage National Historic Landmark, 107 Osage, Sibley, MO. Experience the holidays and celebrate at the Fort in the early 19th century. Interpreters will bring the season to life during this guided candlelight tour. Enjoy seasonal beverages, snacks, and other holiday-themed activities in the Education Center before or after your tour. The first tour will begin at 4:30 p.m. with tours continuing every 20 minutes until 9:10 p.m. Please dress for the weather and wear comfortable walking shoes. Cost is \$10. Advance reservations are recommended as tickets are limited. Go to www.makeyourdayhere.com/Event-Calendar/Candlelight-Tour-of-FortOsage.

Posse of the Westerners

Tuesday, December 14, 2021 – 6:00 p.m. Dinner at the Golden Corral, 8800 N. Skyview Ave., Kansas City, MO. Erin Pouppirt: “A Cowboy Christmas.”

Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

Tuesday, December 14, 2021 – Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$32. Milburn Golf and Country Club, 7501 W. 69th Street, Overland Park, KS. Deb Buckner: “Christmas on the Plains,” Stories from later in Libbie Custer’s life based on events in Kansas and Dakota Territory. Reservations required by Noon, December 8, 2021. Please send reservations to marnatoli@att.net.

News about Members and Friends

We want to send our condolences to the family of **Florence Ester “Flo” Hawley** who died on October 17, 2021. For 30 years she was co-director of the Steamboat Arabia in the River Market of Kansas City, MO. She was preceded in death by her husband Harland “Bob” Hawley and son Greg Hawley. The Hawley family helped locate, excavate, and display artifacts from the Arabia.

We also send our condolences to the family and friends of **Colonel James L. Speicher** who died on September 11, 2021. He was a former President of the Kansas City Round Table and also presented programs. Some of you may also be the recipient of some of his Civil War magazine collection which we made available at our meetings.

The Civil War community also lost award-winning historian **Stephen B. Oates** on August 26, 2021. He wrote biographies of Abraham Lincoln, Nat Turner, and John Brown as well as serving as a key consultant on filmmaker Ken Burns' 1990 documentary "The Civil War."

We would like to congratulate several women who recently were honored as "Women of Distinction" in Eastern Jackson County. **Stephanie Rohr** is President-Elect of the Jackson County Historical Society who will transition into that role in 2023. She has a master's degree in history and has worked as an Archivist at the National Archives and the Truman Library. Currently the historical society's main objective is a campaign to restore portions of the 1859 Jail. It will also begin the process of hiring an Executive Director, Archivist, and Educational Director.

Also honored was **Sandra O. Dougherty**, a long-serving guide and member of the Vaile Victorian Society. In preparing for her role as a tour guide, she studied original documents left in the 31-room historic home. She says, "It's just satisfying to me to keep it opened so other people can look at it and get an idea of history. If you don't take care of your history, it will disappear."

The Chicago and Alton Depot Museum in Independence recently spotlighted one of their tour guides, **Joyce Gillespie**, our Historian. She has also been a guide at the Vaile Mansion, the Bingham-Waggoner Estate, and the 1859 Jail. Joyce is retired from Human Resources at the U. S. Department of Defense where she taught training courses for 10 years in Europe for the Army and in Japan for the Navy and Marine Corps. Joyce also suggested a tour of Elmwood Cemetery for our Round Table which was enjoyed by 28 people on Oct. 16, 2021.

There are some new murals to enjoy on the Independence Square. Two of them are on Maple Avenue just east of Main Street. A Truman mural is on the wall of the Three Trails Brewery and a trails mural is on the wall of Ophelia's restaurant. They are 8-by-32 feet and are the creation of Kansas City artist Daniel Brewer. Also known as ARCY, he was commissioned by Austin

Conley to put "The Buck Stops here" mural on the north side of 206 N. Liberty.

Election of Officers and Board Members

The following members are willing to serve as officers and Board Members in 2022. Because of COVID we were not able to have an Annual Meeting in 2020, but we hope you will vote on November 10, 2021.

President: Mike Calvert
1st Vice President (Programs): Pat Gradwohl
2nd Vice President (Membership): Terry Chronister
Secretary: Karen Wells
Treasurer: Beverly Shaw
Historian: Joyce Gillespie
Border Star Editor: Dennis Myers
Board Members:
Mike Clay
Bill Irminger
Denise Irminger
Denis Wormington
Barbara Wormington

If you would like to serve on the board, please call Beverly Shaw at (816) 225-7944 or E-Mail her at bevjoshaw@hotmail.com so that you can be added to the list of nominees. Board meetings are usually held via Zoom.

Missouri Bicentennial Stamp

It is only recently that Beverly has been able to buy the Missouri Bicentennial Stamp showing Bollinger Mill located in Burfordville in the southeast part of Missouri west of Cape Girardeau and Jackson. Construction on the mill and dam on the Whitewater River began in 1800 following settlement in the area of a group of North Carolina families led by George Frederick Bollinger. Bollinger later served as a state senator in Missouri's first General Assembly.

The mill was originally built with logs but was rebuilt in stone in 1825. That foundation is still visible in the present day – the only thing that survived Union forces burning the mill down during the Civil War to keep flour and meat produced from the water-powered grinding of grain from falling into rebel hands. The brick structure visitors see today was completed in 1867.

