



June 2012

# ★ *The Border Star* ★

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

*THIS MONTH IN THE WAR:* In the Peninsular Campaign of the Eastern Theater in June 1862, Confederate General J.E.B. Stuart made a flamboyant move do reconnaissance of the Federal positions on the Peninsula. Using a force of cavalry and artillery over several days he rode completely around McClellan's Union army force. This undermined the morale of the Federals who feel threatened by a seemingly larger force than actually exists. It came to be known as Stuart's First Ride Around McClellan. It disturbed supply and communication networks and encouraged the Southerners who had been suffering numerous defeats and invasions.

## The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

### 2012 Officers

President ----- Mike Calvert  
1<sup>st</sup> V.P. ----- Pat Gradwohl  
2<sup>nd</sup> V.P. ----- Art Kelley  
Secretary ----- Karen Wells  
Treasurer ----- Beverly Shaw  
Historian ----- Barbara Hughes

### Board Members

Delbert Coin Karen Coin  
Terry Chronister Barbara Hughes  
Don Moorehead Kathy Moorehead  
Steve Olson Carol Olson  
Liz Murphy Terry McConnell

### The Border Star Editor

Dennis Myers  
12800 E. 48<sup>th</sup> Street S.  
Independence, MO 64055  
(816) 769-6490

### Meetings

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month  
7:00 p.m.

Villages of Jackson Creek  
3980-A S. Jackson Drive  
(lower level)

Independence, Missouri

**Visitors Always Welcome!**

### Annual Dues

Individual ----- 20.00  
Family ----- 30.00  
Student (under 21) ----- 5.00  
Newsletter Only (no meetings) 10.00

### For Information

Mike Calvert ----- (816) 898-2603  
Beverly Shaw ----- (816) 225-7944  
Patricia Gradwohl ---- (816) 781-8871

### Mailing Address

CWRTWM  
P.O. Box 3019  
Independence, MO 64055

\*\*\*\* NEW Website \*\*\*\*

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

## ACTIVITIES DURING OUR 20<sup>TH</sup> YEAR

The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri was organized in December of 1992 by Harold "Sonny" Wells so we will be celebrating our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary later this year. We have just completed our first Antebellum Homes Tour in Independence in observance of Historic Preservation Month and the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Civil War.

Pat Gradwohl and Beverly Shaw, co-chairs, want to thank the membership and friends who contributed to this very enjoyable project on May 19-20, 2012. We estimate that about 200 people visited the five homes during the weekend and that we cleared about \$890 to use in erecting more battlefield markers for the Battle of the Little Blue, Oct. 21, 1864, in eastern Jackson County.

We keep hearing the phrase, "If we do this again," to indicate that we enjoyed what we accomplished but see room for improvement. We definitely need to start earlier to procure the homes on tour so that our publicity can be better distributed and pre-sale ticket sales can be improved.

Nothing of this magnitude can be executed without the help of many people. As always when you start listing people, you are bound to miss someone so we sincerely apologize in advance. First of all, our homeowners were delightful to work with and were an inspiration for those of you who always thought, "I'd like to own an antebellum home." It turns out that usually the home owns you. Jason White, the owner with his wife Joyce of the Smallwood Noland House at 1024 S. Forest, said that at first he thought Pat and Beverly were such nice people when they came to interview him. Once he got wind of all the projects Joyce had in mind for him before the tour, he changed his mind. There was a whole lot of painting going on at the Smallwood Noland House (including a critique of the color chosen) and at the Lewis Jones House at 104 W. Elizabeth. The houses ran the gamut of not being lived in for a couple of years (the Flournoy-Wallace House at 825 N. Main St.) to just being moved into (the Napoleon Bonaparte Stone-Gamble House at 1114 S. Noland Road). Continued below...

## Use of Keypad at Villages of Jackson Creek

Our meeting room is in the Fitness Center on the lower level of the far east wing with the number "3980A" above the entrance. If the inside sliding door is secured, use the keypad on the right to enter 1207\* and stand in front of the door to activate. If there is a problem, call Beverly at (816) 225-7944 (cell). To exit the building, use the keypad to the left of the sliding door and enter 1207\*. Stand directly in front of the door to activate. Please do not try to force the door but instead call Beverly at (816) 225-7944 for assistance.

## **CWRTWM Calendar**

### June 2012 Membership Meeting

Wednesday, June 13, 2012 – 7:00 p.m.

Villages of Jackson Creek (lower level), 3980-A S. Jackson Drive, Independence, MO. Barbara Hughes will impersonate Elizabeth Pilcher who was a survivor of the Battle of Lone Jack. (Barbara will reprise this program on June 19 at 10 am at the Midwest Genealogy Center).

No Board Meeting in June 2012.

## **Other Civil War Events**

### Fairview Cemetery Walking Tour

Saturday, June 2, 2012 – 10:00 a.m., Fairview Cemetery, stone arch on Strader Street, Liberty, MO. Established in 1857 and has many prominent burials such as Alexander Doniphan and Henry Routt.

### National Trails Day-Kansas City, MO

Saturday, June 2, 2012 – 11:00 a.m., Blue River Athletic Fields, I-435 & Blue River Road. Walk to the Blue River Bridge (approx. 1.4 mile) for a brief dedication. Can return or explore rest of trail.

### Kingston, MO Civil War Reenactment

June 2-3, 2012. Check their website.

### Raytown: Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow

Monday, June 4, 2012 – 10:00 a.m. Raytown Historical Society, 9705 E. 63rd Street, Raytown, MO. Narration and Pictures. Public welcome to Ambassador's Meeting.

### Son of a Bandit!

Saturday, June 9, 2012 – 1:00 p.m. Truman Memorial Building, 416 W. Maple, Independence, MO. Retrial of Jesse E. James (A/K/A Jesse Jr.) Tickets - \$10.

### Screening of "Freedom Seekers" Film

Saturday, June 9, 2012 – 2:00 p.m. Westport Library, 118 Westport Road, Kansas City, MO. Q & A to follow with filmmaker Gary Jenkins.

### Son of a Bandit!

Sunday, June 10, 2012 – 2:00 p.m. William Jewell College, Gano Chapel, Liberty, MO. Retrial of Jesse E. James (A/K/A Jesse Jr.) \$10

### Cass County Civil War Round Table Picnic

City Swimming Pool, Harrisonville, MO. Food and Drink furnished. Tuesday, June 12, 2012.

### Freedom's Frontier Meeting

Thursday, June 14, 2012 – 10:00 a.m. Remington Nature Center, St. Joseph, MO.

### Sons of Confederate Veterans

Thursday, June 14, 2012 – 7:00 p.m. Courthouse Exchange Restaurant, Independence, MO. No speaker. Visitors welcome.

### Grandview Historical Society

Saturday, June 16, 2012 – 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social. Call Judy Beckner for details at (816) 322-3736.

### Sheffield Cemetery Benefit

Sunday, June 17, 2012 – 7:00 p.m. White Theater, 5801 W. 115th Street, Overland Park, KS. Ed Asner will be portraying FDR. General admission is \$36.

### Independence Civil War Study Group

Wednesday, June 20, 2012 – 7:00 p.m. Courthouse Exchange Restaurant - Independence, MO. Mike Bergman: The Dred Scott Case.

### National Insulator Association Show

June 23-24, 2012 – Exhibition Hours. Holiday Inn KCI Expo Center. \$3 admission. Paul Lutz will have a display of insulators made during the Civil War and before. Historical handout. Highlights will be those found in Richmond, VA melted by fire as the city was torched by its own.

### Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

Tuesday, June 26, 2012 – 7:00 p.m. (No dinner). Plaza Library, 4801 Main, Kansas City, MO. Don Bates: Missouri's Mystery Massacres."

## **ACTIVITIES DURING OUR 20TH YEAR (continued...)**

The problem we thought we might have with parking at the Flournoy House at 1034 Lexington across the street from the Community of Christ auditorium where back to back graduations were being held Sunday afternoon turned out fine. Maybe it was the suggestion that we might bring the cannon over if there was a disagreement about parking. Yes, ladies and gentlemen, we had a cannon on display at the Smallwood Noland House on Saturday afternoon with Jim Beckner present to educate the public about its use. An added bonus was that the cannon's owner, Kirk, also brought his own reenactors. Jason White was joshing with Mike Calvert about being willing to have his house on tour if he could have a cannon—and we called his bluff.

A house tour always requires many volunteers and the fact that we had five houses and a church multiplied the number needed. Members of the Round Table who made the tours so enjoyable were Barbara Hughes (holding forth at the Flournoy House both days with the assistance of caretaker Charlie Robison and Bill and Annette Curtis who once saved the house from demolition by taking it apart brick by brick and moving it; Mike Calvert who worked at the Smallwood Noland House and also sold tickets at his Lunch 'n Learn talk; Terry Chronister and Pat Racki who won the prize as best dressed volunteers

(Terry is a Napoleon devotee who wore his Napoleon tie and pin on Sunday at the Napoleon Bonaparte Stone House); Linda Stevenson who turned out to have a gift for gab while giving tours; Terry McConnell who sold tickets at the Blue & Grey Book Shoppe and acted as a liaison for a potential tour taker who wanted to ride with someone; Liz Murphy who shared her considerable tour guide skills honed at the James Farm; Don and Kathy Moorehead who acted as hosts at the Flournoy-Wallace House; Beverly Powell who generously printed 50 copies of the Kritser House history (in color), located at 115 E. Walnut, near the Blue & Grey Book Shoppe, to add to our "Bonus Windshield Tour;" Karen Wells who organized the refreshments at the Methodist Church; Carol and Steve Olson who assisted Karen and also gave tours at the church; Vicki and Cassie Nave who handled the church on Sunday afternoon; and Sharon Snyder who is also an antebellum home owner who allowed the planning committee to meet at her home to get the project launched.

Some non-members who generously shared their time and expertise with us from Clay County were Dean and Carol Tyler. Pat has made many friends during the time she has worked on the Clay County Homes Tour and enlisted Joyce Pecora to help us. Diane Cotton, a friend of Steve and Carol Olson, has helped us twice at the Symphony Designers' Showhouse and also at the Flournoy-Wallace House during the tour. We really appreciated the reenacting family who served at two different houses in costume.

We would not have such a successful monetary outcome if not for our underwriters and donors. The Missouri-Kansas Border War Network gave us a \$300 grant which paid for the liability insurance policy for the two-day event and Past to Present (a firm owned by Audrey Elder and Liana Twente who were recently honored as the recipients of the Hickman Award for Historic Preservation by the City of Independence) which paid for our display ad in the weekend Examiner. Underwriting was provided by Corporate CopyPrint who discounted

their services for the color brochures used for publicity and for weekend reference guides.

We had wonderful support from the Tourism Dept. of the City of Independence who listed our event on the calendar for Historic Preservation Month and displayed our brochures at City Hall. Our posters were on display at the National Frontier Trails Museum, the Bingham-Waggoner Estate, and the Antique Shop on the Square. They also brought us into the digital age with Tweets and Facebook notices. Ted Stillwell did double duty by using our event as a tagline for his historical column in the *Examiner* and allowing us to use the Blue & Grey Book Shoppe to sell tickets during the weekend. Betty Key, co-owner of the Blue & Grey, kindly provided credit card sales and the services of her employee during the week. Free publicity was provided by the *Examiner* by featuring an interview with Pat Gradwohl in the weekend edition when she answered "5 Questions" about the homes tour. Steve Hatcher provided information on our own website for the homes tour. Other historical groups were very helpful in sharing information about our tour with their members: the Heritage League, the Missouri-Kansas Border War Network, Freedom's Frontier and WindingRiver.com. Special thanks to the Jackson County Historical Society for sharing its vertical file on residential properties in Independence, to Bill Curtis for the use of his book *The Truman Neighborhood*, to the First United Methodist Church for sharing its history book, to Ted Stillwell for his many historical columns in the *Examiner* which we used as sources for locating the owners of historic properties, to Wendy Shay (former preservation officer for the City of Independence who enlisted the help of Sharon Snyder and Mike Calvert to write a list of antebellum properties which we referred to often), to Past to Present for the history of the Stone-Gamble House, and to the home owners who shared their private archival material including the abstract for the Flournoy-Wallace Home lent by Linda Weber.

Supplies for the tour were generously loaned from the Clay County Historical Homes Tour so that we had booties for each house and baskets to store them and professional signs to install at each house. Thanks to Beverly and Pat for bringing extra folding chairs and TV trays for the workers.

As you can see, this was not a one-woman show, but it certainly would not have occurred without the idea from Pat Gradwohl and her many visits from Liberty to Independence. We're glad it's not a toll bridge across the Missouri River because she personally visited each location many times. Beverly Shaw cracked the whip on the budget and thanks everyone who contributed ideas and time. Let's do it again sometime!



## Kritser House

The home is indicative of a style of American mid-Victorian frontier architecture familiar to middle-class residents of west-central Missouri during the years of the western migration and Santa Fe trade. Martin Kritser moved from Kentucky to the Independence area in 1838, where he was a merchant until he accumulated enough wealth to purchase substantial farm holdings in southern Jackson County.

In 1846, Kritser traveled to Santa Fe, returning in February 1847. He purchased the property on which the house stands that same year from Harry and Bersheba Younger (parents of Cole Younger). He probably built the house shortly after acquiring the lot and lived there with his wife and nine children (the last two of whom were born in Missouri). He sold the property in 1858 to local blacksmith David Moore.

After the Civil War, the Wyandotte, Kansas City, and Northwestern Railway Company acquired a right-of-way through the property, cutting it into smaller sections. At the time the house was home to Patrick and Margaret McCarthy. Mr. McCarthy owned a saloon on the Independence Square. Legend records that Mrs. McCarthy held the railroad negotiators at bay with a shotgun until her husband could return from the Square to conclude the negotiation. Although possibly apocryphal, this story clearly illustrates the general feelings of western settlers toward railroad companies and their acquisition of lands in the years following the Civil War. This might have been particularly evident in western Missouri, where most citizens had been southern sympathizers and railroads were associated with the north.



**Program:**  
**John Dillingham...**  
**his family roots in Clay County**

**Join us!**

**Clay County Museum and Historical Society  
Annual Picnic, Program, and  
Silent Auction**

**Mt. Gilead Church, Kearney, Missouri  
June 3, 2012**

**Schedule of Events:**

**10:30 a.m. – Silent Auction**

**11:00 a.m. – Church Service (nondenominational)**

**12:00 p.m. – Barbecue lunch – **RSVP to Vivie Tison****

****816-628-5032 by June 1** - \$15.00 - Pay at door**

**or mail check to CCM&HS, 14 N. Main St.,  
Liberty, MO 64068**

**1:00 p.m. – Program: John Dillingham**

**Auction Winners will be announced at the  
conclusion of the program**



**Mt. Gilead Church**  
**(2 miles west of Kearney on Plattsburg Road)**

# James Farm Annual Reunion

**Friday June 8 through Sunday June 10, 2012**

The Friends of the James Farm Annual Reunion is almost here and we haven't heard from you yet! Don't miss this historic event!

RSVP at [http://www.jessejames.org/fojf\\_reunion](http://www.jessejames.org/fojf_reunion)

**Featured events include:**

**Friday - June 8 – 6:00-8:00 - Friday night reception** at the Jesse James Bank Museum, 103 Water Street, Liberty, MO 64068. Hors d'oeuvres catered by Fancy Fare. Book signing of *Son of a Bandit*, by author Ralph Monaco.

**Saturday - June 9 – 8:30 - registration for shoot**, Jesse James Farm and Museum, 21219 Jesse James Farm, Kearney, MO 64060

**9:00-11:30 – Old West Revolver Shoot** (registration at 8:00)

**11:30-12:30 - Joe Belein, Jr., lecturer, "The Guerilla Shirt: The Killer Style of a Young Man,"** Visitor's Center Theatre, Jesse James Farm, Kearney, MO 64060

**12:30 - Lunch at the farm**, catered by Fancy Fare

**1:00-4:00 - Great Jesse James Bus Tour:** Battles of Fredericksburg and Frank James Museum, Missouri City, MO, tour guide, Scott Cole; museum curator, Jay Jackson

**5:00 - Annual business meeting**, election of officers, 2012 budget, presentation of gift to the Farm

**6:00 - Dinner**, catered by Fancy Fare

**6:30-7:30 - Music, Betse Ellis**, fiddle, front porch of the Jesse James Farm

**Sunday - June 10 – William Jewell College, Gano Chapel, 2:00-4:00. Re-enactment of 1899 trial of Jesse James, Jr.** by Ralph Monaco and cast; sale of book, *Son of a Bandit*. Tickets to trial re-enactment, \$10.

**Reunion cost for all events:** \$40

**Individual event costs:** \$15 shoot; \$5 lunch; \$10 bus tour; \$10 dinner

RSVP online at [http://www.jessejames.org/fojf\\_reunion](http://www.jessejames.org/fojf_reunion) and pay at the event or send confirmation and \$ to Friends of the James Farm, P.O. Box 404, Liberty, MO 64069.