



The Border Star

Official Monthly Publication of the Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

• **Founded 12-9-1992**

• **Incorporated 5-12-1993**

"Studying the Border War and Beyond"

April 2009

The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

2009 Officers

President ----- Mike Calvert
1st V.P. ----- Pat Gradwohl
2nd V.P. ----- Art Kelley
Secretary ----- Karen Wells
Treasurer ----- Beverly Shaw
Historian ----- Paul Tate

Board Members

Delbert Coin Karen Coin
Sharon Kelley Barbara Hughes
Don Moorehead Kathy Moorehead
Steve Olson Carol Olson
Terry McConnell

The Border Star Editor

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

Meetings

2nd 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 ----- 15.00
Family ----- 25.00
Student (under 21) ----- 5.00
Newsletter Only (no meetings) ----- 10.00

For Information

Mike Calvert ----- 836-1013
Beverly Shaw ----- 225-7944
Art Kelley ----- 373-4101

Mailing Address

C.W.R.T. of Western Missouri
P. O. Box 3019
Independence, MO 64055

Website

www.orgsites.com/mo/cwrt



The bombardment of Fort Sumter on April 12, 1861 was the opening engagement of the American Civil War. The countdown to the 150th Anniversary on April 12, 2011 is just 734 days away, as of the date of our next Round Table meeting on April 8th.

I was given an unexpected gift last month at our monthly meeting. Don Moorehead handed me the 1961 National Geographic that commemorated the 100th anniversary of the American Civil War. Thanks Don! I look forward to many hours of pleasurable reading and studying what was being said 48 years ago about the Civil War. This is a double good thing because Don has provided me an opportunity to compare what was published in 1961 to the National Geographic on the Civil War published in 2005. That's the subject for a future newsletter.

I do an unusual thing when I read magazines and the Sunday newspaper. I always read all the advertisements first. It's a habit I developed a long time ago. Remember when you were a child and you could hardly wait until the Christmas Wish Book was delivered. Remember how you looked through and made up your Christmas list. I think that's where the habit started and I'm still looking to see what's for sale and making a list.

As I was looking at the advertisements there were two in particular that stopped my "list making" in mid-list. The first advertised the Battle of Lexington Missouri and the second, Independence Missouri and Harry Truman.

The ad for the Battle of Lexington tells just enough of the battle story to pique your interest and also advertises that there will be a reenactment soon. The ad featuring Truman touts the fact that Jack Benny is producing a TV show about the library. How many of you remember seeing that show? The rest of the advertisement was about Missouri's other tourist sites.

Here's my point: I don't remember in recent history seeing in any national magazine advertisements about Missouri let alone the Civil War in Missouri or for that matter Jackson County or Independence. Now granted, I don't read them all, but I do see my fair share. There have been some, I'm sure, in magazines such as Midwest Traveler or Southern Living. If there has been more please point them out. How can we expect people to know about our history if we don't get the word out? Is it the belief that our history can't compete with the big guys in the east? Is our history not history enough? Is it that our history is not interesting? Is our history too new? Do we have too much history?

As you can see I have a lot of questions but no answers. I'll make this an open invitation to anyone who wants to discuss this issue to please contact me and let's get some people together to talk about and do something about getting our history story told.

Just a reminder that April's meeting is going to be fantastic. We will meet at the new Genealogy Library and our guest speaker is Cheryl Harness renowned author/illustrator of children's history books. She will not only bring her knowledge but also original illustrations for her books.

Also, April 4th is National Park Day. Remember my tree tussle at Antietam? Well, here is my invitation for you to join me at the Lone Jack Battlefield for clean up duty. Look for the article in this edition of the Border Star. See you there!

Mike Calvert, President

The Civil War Roundtable of Western Missouri

CWRTWMO Calendar

April Meeting

Wednesday, April 8, 2009 – 7:00 p.m.

Midwest Genealogy Center, 3440 S. Lee's Summit Road, Independence, MO.

Cheryl Harness: "Creating Books for Young Time-Travelers." Viewing of Lincoln Exhibit – "Abraham Lincoln, Self-Made in America." Free and open to the public. See article and map.

April Meeting of MO/KS Border War Network

Wednesday, April 15, 2009 – 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

Midwest Genealogy Center, 3440 S. Lee's Summit Road, Independence, MO. Monthly business meeting, viewing of Lincoln Exhibit, lunch and presentation by Barbara Hughes on researching first person history. Reservations required for \$6 box lunch by calling Beverly Shaw at (816) 225-7944. Open to all Round Table members.

Tour to Boonville, Missouri

Saturday, April 25, 2009 – 9:30 a.m. in Boonville. Allow about 1½ hours to travel to Boonville by car. Meet at Thespian Hall at 522 Main St., Boonville, MO to meet our guide. Cost is \$25 for Boonville ham lunch and all admittance fees. Deadline is April 20th by sending a check to CWRTWMO, 17313 E. 51st Terr. Ct., Independence, MO 64055 or by calling Beverly Shaw at (816) 225-7944.

Battle of the Little Blue Tour

Saturday, May 16, 2009 – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon
Bus tour starts at the Blue & Grey Book Shoppe, 106 E. Walnut, Independence, MO. See article and brochure.

Battle of Westport Tour

Saturday, May 16, 2009 – 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Bus tour starts at the Blue & Grey Book Shoppe, 106 E. Walnut, Independence, MO. See article and brochure.

Tour to Springfield, Illinois

September 18 - 20, 2009. Leave at 4:00 p.m. on Friday evening for a weekend trip to Lincoln sites. Prices and details to follow.

Other Events

Through April 19, 2009

Alexander II and Abraham Lincoln Exhibit at Union Station. Tickets are \$9.50 each or \$6.00 for groups of 15 or more. Call (816) 460-2020 or go to www.unionstation.org.

National "Park Day" Cleanup at Lone Jack

Saturday, April 4, 2009 – 9:00 a.m.

Lone Jack Civil War Battlefield, 301 S. Bynum Road, Lone Jack, Missouri. Bring gloves, rakes, etc. for grounds cleanup and museum cleaning and painting. Lunch will be provided. See article.

Harry Truman Talks Art in Arrow Rock

Saturday, April 4, 2009 – 10:00 a.m.

Arrow Rock State Historic Site Visitor Center, (14 miles north of I-70 at exit 98 on U.S. Hwy. 41). Raymond Starzman portrays Harry Truman as he talks art and politics: "Picturing History: Art and the American Presidency" especially the work of Missouri Artists George Caleb Bingham and Thomas Hart Benton.

Wornall House Unveiling of Lee Teter Painting

Saturday, April 4, 2009 – 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

John Wornall House Museum, 6115 Wornall Road, Kansas City, MO. Reception for unveiling of Civil War painting and sale of prints to benefit the Caldwell County reenactment June 5-7, 2009 in Kingston, MO.

Shoal Creek Reenactment

Saturday, April 4, 2009 – 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 5, 2009 – 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Battles at 2:00 p.m. each day. \$10 for adults and ages 11 and under are free. Shoal Creek Living History Museum in Hodge Park, 7000 NE Barry Road, Kansas City, MO (2 miles west of Liberty, north of 152 Highway and west of Shoal Creek Parkway.) See article.

Blue Springs Historical Society Exhibit

Sundays April 5-May 24, 2009 – 2:00 pm–5:00 pm
Dillingham-Lewis House Museum, 101 S. 15th Street, Blue Springs MO. "Steam Engines and Doodlebugs: The Railroad and Blue Springs." Authentic models of trains that serviced the area from 1879-1960 from the collection of Armin Schannuth, railroad historian. Donations requested.

Ray County Museum – April and May 2009

Wednesdays – Saturdays – 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
901 Royale St., Richmond, MO (Hwy. 210 east to “T” exit. North to Royle Street, west about 6 blocks). Special collection of Jesse James tintypes and photos from the private collection of Greg Ellison of Rogersville, MO. Free.

Civil War Round Table of Cass County

Tuesday, April 14, 2009 – 7:00 p.m.
Adrian, MO. Steve Kirk: “Sul Ross’ 6th Texas Cavalry” (first fought Indians in Arkansas Indian Territory and then sent east for the rest of the war). For details call Jim Beckner at (816) 322-3736.

St. Joseph Days of Civil War

Saturday, April 18, 2009 – 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, April 19, 2009 – 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Battle reenactment at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday and at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday. St. Joseph Nature Center and Terribles Casino Property. Combination Civil War battle reenactment and living history. For information, visit www.stjomo-civilwar.com.

Bates County Living History & Family Fun Day

Saturday, April 25, 2009 – 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Bates County Museum, 802 Elks Drive, Butler, MO. Free admission of all outside events on the grounds. Normal admission to tour the Museum. Historical interpretation, exhibits and games for kids. See article.

Keokuk, Iowa Civil War Reenactment

Saturday, April 25, 2009 – 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, April 26, 2009 – 7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Reenactment of Battle of Wilson’s Creek on Saturday at 3:00 p.m. Battle of Pea Ridge-Day 2, on Sunday at 2:30 p.m. Musical performances, military ball, children’s activities, medicine show. Visit; www.keokukiowatourism.org/civilwarschedule.

The Burnt District Monument Dedication

Sunday, April 26, 2009 – 1:30 p.m.
Grounds of the Cass County Justice Center, U.S. Highway 71 and Highway 2, Harrisonville, MO. Monument of hand-cut native limestone, four interpretive panels, and a memorial brick plaza commemorate the suffering which almost every family in western Missouri endured during the Civil War years. Also see the Civil War murals on the Harrisonville Square.

Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

Tuesday, April 28, 2009 – Dinner at 6:30 p.m.
Homestead Country Club, 6510 Mission Road, Prairie Village, KS. Cost is \$22 per person. For Reservations call Paul Gault at (816) 741-2962. Program: William L. Shea, “General Hindman or General Curtis.”

Vibrant Jackson County History

Thursday, April 30, 2009 – 7:00 p.m.
South Independence Branch of Mid-Continent Library, 13700 E. 35th Street, Independence, MO. “How Jackson County’s History Relates to American History.” (From Trails West to the Truman years). Registration required at (816) 461-2050.

Cape Girardeau, Missouri Encampment

Saturday and Sunday, May 2 and 3, 2009
During the Civil War, Fort D protected the city of Cape Girardeau. Again the guns will roar and the Union flag will fly over the original earthen walls. Civil War encampment featuring living history, food, live music and live cannon fire. Free. For information, visit www.visitmo.com/listing.

Guided Bus Tours by Ross Marshall

* Saturday, May 2, 2009 – 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Starting from 7th and Pennsylvania, K.C., MO, along the Lewis and Clark Trail east to Miami, Waverly, Lexington, Napoleon, Van Meter State Park, and Ft. Osage. Cost is \$45 including lunch.

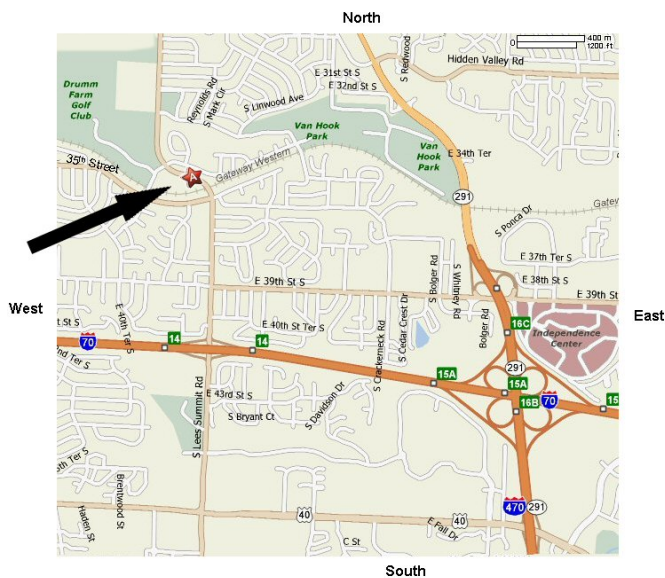
* Saturday, May 16, 2009 – 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Starting from Main and Truman, Independence, MO. Along the Santa Fe Trail markers, original ruts, historic sites. Discussion of Lewis and Clark, early Missouri history, and Civil War history. Cost is \$35. Lunch on your own in Lexington followed by guided tour from Roger Slusher (Round Table speaker in March).

* Saturday, June 6, 2009 – 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Starting from Main and Truman, Independence, MO. Original Santa Fe Trail in Jackson County through Ft. Osage, Blue Springs, Grandview, John Bartleson family graves, 151st Street crossing of Big Blue River, 9-Mile State Line survey point at 79th St., and Sibley Survey crossing of Big Blue River in Swope Park. \$45 includes lunch at Western Sizzler in Grandview.

For reservations to any of his guided bus tour events, please call Ross Marshall at (913) 262-6445 or E-Mail him at rossmarshall@mindspring.com.

Cheryl Harness – Creating Books for Young Time-Travelers

We are honored to have nationally known writer and illustrator Cheryl Harness speak to our April 8, 2009 Round Table meeting at the Midwest Genealogy Center (see map below). This is a special meeting for us to invite the public to share our interest in Civil War topics and to see the traveling exhibit “Abraham Lincoln, Self-Made in America.” We will be back at our usual meeting place at the Villages of Jackson Creek in May 2009.



Midwest Genealogy Center
3440 S. Lee's Summit Road, Independence, MO

Cheryl will discuss how she went about researching, writing, drawing, and painting her books *Young Abe Lincoln* (National Geographic, 1996), *Abe Lincoln Goes to Washington* (National Geographic, 1997), and *Ghosts of the Civil War* (Simon & Schuster, 2002). She will also bring many original watercolors done to illustrate her books. Cheryl will also have books for sale and will be glad to autograph them for you. Her titles are also available at Barnes & Noble.

The March 10, 2009 issue of *The Examiner* (Independence, MO) had a front page article called “Harness-ing her Creativity” about Cheryl’s latest project, a hand-drawn comic book biography of President Harry Truman. She says, “I look at it as a

spoonful of sugar to help the history go down. They all tend to layer the information.” You can get copies at her website www.cherylharness.com. Cheryl is a resident of Independence, Missouri and hopes to have some of the proceeds go toward fundraising to renovate the Independence Square Courthouse. Incidentally, if you have not visited the Independence Square recently, you will have a shock when you see that the patio and walls around the Courthouse have been removed and the second phase of restoration has begun to return the grounds to their original 1933 design. The First Battle of Independence marker is now in storage during the renovations which should add 70 parking spaces on the Square.

Battle of the Little Blue/Westport Tour

As a part of Historic Preservation Month (May 2009) in Independence, the Round Table will again offer a morning and an afternoon tour on Saturday, May 16, 2009 (see brochure). We hope that if you as a member have not taken the tour yourself, you will take advantage of a special discounted rate of \$10 for the morning tour and \$10 for the afternoon tour with lunch on your own. However if you can't be with us, please pass the brochure along to someone else who would be interested in seeing the actual locations for the Battle of the Little Blue and the Battle of Westport which took place in October, 1864, as a part of the last raid on Missouri by Confederate General Sterling Price. We hope to have at least one of our new "low profile" markers erected for viewing on May 16th.

Congratulations to Lone Jack Battlefield

The Civil War Preservation Trust recently issued its annual *History Under Siege* report of the 10 most endangered battlefields and 15 most at risk sites. The Lone Jack Battlefield was included in the 15 most at risk sites and the only site in Missouri. The 3½ acre battlefield site of the museum and cemetery is owned by Jackson County and operated by the Lone Jack Historical Society. It is surrounded on three sides by residential and commercial property and on the fourth side by commercially zoned property for sale.

On Saturday, April 4th, we have an opportunity to participate in Park Day, a nationwide event sponsored by the Civil War Preservation Trust and

the History Channel in conjunction with *Take Pride in America*. It is a day for volunteers to come and help reverse the wear and tear on these sites. Mike Calvert was working in West Virginia last year at this time and went to a battlefield in the Eastern Theatre to help plant trees. He says he had a few sore muscles but also a good feeling of having helped keep America's Civil War heritage alive and well. We can do the same at Lone Jack!

History Comes Alive at Shoal Creek

Families can enjoy affordable fun by stepping back in time to see a forgotten Missouri come to life at the Shoal Creek Living History Museum. Started in 1975, the museum is a gathering of 20 authentic buildings and is dedicated to the preservation and interpretation of Missouri's early history and architecture. As an added bonus there will be two Civil War reenactments – the Raid on the Liberty Arsenal on Saturday, April 4th at 2:00 p.m. and the Battle of Blue Mills Landing on Sunday, April 5th, at 2:00 p.m. Visit authentic camps, watch narrated drills, talk with soldiers, enjoy an 1860's fashion show and Victorian tea as well as a dance open to the public at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday. For more information call (816) 792-2655 or visit www.kcmo.org/parks.nsf/web/museums.

Bates County Living History & Family Fun Day

The Bates County museum grounds at Butler, Missouri, will come alive with historical interpretations and exhibits on Saturday, April 25th. Some of the presenters are the Osage Valley Vigilantes (gun safety for kids and a gunfight at 1:00 p.m.), Missouri Freetrapper showing leather and beadwork, 10th Missouri Infantry and cannon (camp life and artillery display), women's clothing from the 1800s, a one-room school house in session, spinners and weavers, stonecutter, two Confederate cavalymen and their horses, Papinville museum exhibit, Civil War medicine, and games for kids. Modern-day crafters and merchandise, food and drinks will be for sale. For information, please visit www.home.earthlink.net/bcmuseum.

Lincoln Memorabilia Still Surfacing

On March 11, 2009 it was reported in the Kansas City *Star* that the National Museum of History confirmed that there is a hidden Civil War message

engraved inside Abraham Lincoln's pocket watch. It reads "April 13-1861. Fort Sumpter (sic) was attacked by the rebels on the above date. J. Dillon."

In that same issue a New York photography collector says he has identified a photograph of President Lincoln standing in front of the White House not long before his assassination in 1865. It came from an album belonging to a descendant of General Grant.

Golden Spike Driven Near Chillicothe, Missouri

David Hardy, railroad historian and member of the Round Table, recently spoke to us about the Hannibal & St. Joseph Railroad which was the first to cross Missouri. He was recently a speaker at the 150th anniversary of the driving of the Golden Spike on February 13, 1859. Other members who attended on February 14, 2009, were Pat Gradwohl and Carol and Steve Olson. David was kind enough to share the article from the Chillicothe *Constitution-Tribune*:

"The romance of boating is gone, now. In Hannibal the steamboatman is no longer a god. The youth don't talk river slang any more. Their pride is apparently railways." ~Mark Twain

"Joseph Robidoux, the founding father of St. Joseph, drove the final 'golden spike' that frosty morning at 7:00 a.m. near the town of Cream Ridge, Missouri" just north of the Chillicothe municipal airport a half-mile east of country road 151 where nothing remains but an old iron fence around where an elaborate marker with a bronze plaque once stood. The raised rail bed, however, is still very evident and stretches east to west. A replica of the marker is displayed at the Grand River Historical Society museum. The original is now the property of the Galesburg (IL) Railroad Museum but was brought to Chillicothe for the 150th anniversary.

In 1859, St. Joseph was the second largest town behind only St. Louis. Hannibal was the third largest. The Hannibal & St. Joseph Railroad is most famous for delivering the first letter to the Pony Express on April 3, 1860, from a railway post office car pulled behind the locomotive. It was also

the route taken by Abraham Lincoln who traveled to Council Bluffs, Iowa, to give a speech.

The line ran from Hannibal west through such towns as Palmyra, Macon, Brookfield, Laclede, Chillicothe, Cameron, Osborn, and Easton before arriving in St. Joseph. The completion of the railroad was met with a great celebration on February 22, 1859. The entire 9,000 people who lived in St. Joseph put together a big parade marked by lavish dinners and speeches extolling the bright future of the Queen City of the Frontier. There was a solemn ceremony to pour a bucket of Mississippi River water into the Missouri River to note the commingling of the two great rivers.

The Kansas City & Cameron Railroad was completed on November 30, 1867 to link Kansas City (via ferry service to Harlem, MO). July 4, 1869 marked an eventful and historic moment in Kansas City history with the completion of the first bridge to cross the Missouri River called appropriately enough the Hannibal Bridge. The fledgling community on the south side of the Missouri River had beaten all of her older and larger rivals for dominance of the Missouri River Valley area. (Charles Esmonde Kearney, son-in-law of John Harris of Westport, was instrumental in the construction of the bridge.) Soon all of the other railroads were trying to get their lines into Kansas City. The old Hannibal Bridge was replaced in 1917 by a new railroad bridge that is still in use today just east of the Broadway Bridge in Kansas City, Missouri.

“Maryland, My Maryland”

The Kansas City *Star* carried a story on March 25, 2009, about the effort of some Maryland lawmakers to find a way to scrub “Northern scum” – and a few other sensitive pre-Civil War phrases – from the official state song. “Maryland, My Maryland,” set to the tune of the traditional tune of “O, Tannenbaum,” was written in 1861 and adopted as the state song in 1939. Its warlike language was originally a poem by James Ryder Randall that doubled as a call to arms. One suggestion is that the words be replaced by a poem by John T. White in 1894 describing the state’s natural beauty.

Randall’s poem called for Maryland to secede from the Union at a time before the Civil War when

Maryland residents sympathized with the Confederacy. The song begins with a hostile reference to President Abraham Lincoln who brought troops through Baltimore en route to protect Washington: “The despot’s heel is on thy shore, Maryland! His torch is at thy temple, Maryland!” It ends with a call for the state to stand up to the Union: “She is not dead, nor deaf, nor dumb – Huzza! She spurns the Northern scum! She breathes! She burns! She’ll come! Maryland! My Maryland.”

Historical Resources Abound in Our Area

The National Archives and Records

Administration-Central Plains Region has made its move from Bannister Road to 400 W. Pershing Road, Kansas City, MO near Union Station. There will be a formal Dedication on Friday, May 22nd at 10:00 a.m. and a History and Genealogical Society Fair on Saturday, May 23, 2009 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and our Round Table has been invited to host a table. David Jackson of the Jackson County Archives has written a column for the Kansas City *Star* on March 11, 2009 and for the *Examiner* about the wonderful treasures in our branch of the National Archives.

Also on March 11, 2009 the Kansas City *Star* featured an interview with Charlotte Belger, president of the **Raytown Historical Society**. The Raytown museum is located at 9705 E. 63rd Street in Raytown, Missouri and has a website at www.raytownhistoricalsociety.org.

Congratulations to the **Friends of the National Frontier Trails Museum** who were awarded a \$6,209 grant to support a “rolling classroom” called “Mes Amis les Habitants.” Exploring Missouri’s French Heritage. It will provide educators in-depth learning experiences on June 12-14, 2009 as they visit sites at Ste. Genevieve, Cahokia Mounds, and the French Mine Country.

The **Missouri Alliance for Historic Preservation** has chosen Independence, Missouri, to host the 2009 statewide conference in November 2009. Wendy Shay, Historic Preservation Manager for Independence, says that preservationists will take part in seminars, lectures and group meetings. Mike Calvert has offered the service of the Round Table for programs or tours.

Roberta “Poo” Coker is the new chairman of the board of directors of the Truman Heartland Community Foundation and was interviewed in the March 17th issue of the *Examiner*. The Sonny Wells Little Blue Battlefield Commission was the recipient of a grant from the Truman Foundation to help erect two battlefield markers.

The **Independence, Missouri historic sites** open for the season on April 1, 2009. Combo tickets may be purchased to tour all the sites through October 31st for \$16. For additional information call Independence Tourism at (816) 325-7111 or visit www.visitindependenece.com.

Congratulations to **Chuck Townsend** and the Speaks Family Legacy Chapels for receiving honorable mention in the International Cemetery, Cremation and Funeral Association’s 2008 Keeping It Personal awards.

Wounded Lions

July of 1864, Richard “Dick” Yeager was in hiding with a head wound received during his attack upon the enemy at Arrowrock, MO. Yanks discovered him and quickly ended his chances of recovery. Yeager, my distant cousin, was one of those young “lions” who fought against the house burning, looting and murdering Unionists of Missouri.

A new book is available that details some of the provocations that led young Missouri men to stake their lives against the vast power of the U.S. government. *Guerrillas and Other Curiosities, Bud, Donnie & Me* by Samuel Anderson Pence was edited by my friend Harold Dellinger. The author of the book was a blood relative to Bud and Donnie Pence who both served under Quantrill. Sam Pence also personally knew some of the survivors of those dark days during our War for Southern Independence.

The Pence family lived near the James family in Kearney, Clay County, Missouri. Bud and Donnie were the author’s great uncles. They were close in age to Frank and Jesse James. There are dozens of interlocking family connections between those men who chose to ride with Quantrill. These complex relationships were often formed first in the state of Kentucky. In the early 1800s Kentuckians moved to

Missouri and their blood fertilized the soil of Missouri during and even after the War ended.

The author wrote his manuscript on a manual typewriter during the 1950s and completed it about 1960. We are fortunate that the author’s own grandson, Daniel M. Pence, was willing to take the time and effort to get the manuscript published.

The first part of the book describes various events and outrages which occurred and led the Southerners to rise up against their oppressors and become guerrillas or young “lions.” There is naturally valuable material in this book about the Pence boys that only a relative would know. The last part of the book is a biography of some of Quantrill’s men.

Bob, Joseph and Ike Hall joined up with Quantrill and this quote from the book may explain why young men chose to struggle for freedom due to these outrages against Southern families. On Page 209: “The parents, Joseph Hall and wife, of these three guerrillas were living in Cass County, MO, 15 miles south of Kansas City, MO when Red Legs under Jennison forced Mrs. Hall to set fire to her own home.”

On Page 32: “These Southern guerrillas had the uniqueness in their military structure in that an individual could withdraw at any time they pleased, even a group could separate and elect a leader and start on their own. The organization was under no obligation as to furnishing food, clothing, arms, horses or medical aid whatsoever. Your bitterness toward the bigoted Northerner oppressors was such that the opportunity to fight them repaid everything.”

Also on Page 32: “If you were wounded and incapacitated, a guerrilla friend, if available, would take you to a Guerilla Hospital which was no building built by human hands but by Mother Nature... There would be near where you were placed, a spring or brook which enabled you to obtain a dip of water when your feverish condition particularly demanded. You were concealed as cleverly as experienced hands were able to do. You were left with some food, your guns and ammunition were handy and woe to the enemy who came within shooting distance.”

Abe Haller experienced the savagery of the Feds. On Page 210: "He is also said to have been shot from ambush on the Sni-a-Bar River in Eastern Jackson County, MO and while wounded and in hiding on the Texas prairie also in the same part of Jackson County, he was found by 72 Feds who shot him 11 times, then scalped him and cut off his ears. Haller wounded 5 of his attackers."

My cousin Richard Yeager was not the first wounded "lion" to be hunted down in a hospital in the bush while sleeping upon the damp earth without a doctor or nurse to aid him.

On Page 93: "It was not permitted at that time to bury dead Guerillas."

For proof of black participation, read the biographical data on Page 232: "Probably the Negro John Noland who was a faithful message carrier for members of Quantrill's force."

The book, *Guerrillas and Other Curiosities* contains 302 pages with two pages of illustrations. It was published by Two Trails Publishing, Independence, Missouri in 2008. The ISBN number is 13978192931132. Copies are available from Harold Dellinger for \$26.00 which includes postage. His telephone number is (816) 241-5315 and his website is www.HaroldsBookStore.com.

Bud and Donnie Pence lived their lives as both outlaws and lawmen. After the War ended they married Samuels sisters and lived the balance of their lives in the village of Samuels, Kentucky, as productive citizens. Today their graves are located not far from that village. Their markers are in need of repair and I plan to organize a work day this spring to repair and right their markers.

Due to 140 years of maligned reporting by the victors, these young men who took a stand continue to be thought of as common thieves and criminals. Most of the guerrillas who followed the banner of Quantrill had little choice, because the Confederate forces in Missouri were scarce and greatly outnumbered. The majority of these youngsters would have become farmers, merchants, blacksmiths or preachers given their heritage, but spilling blood became the only work open to a Southerner in Missouri during the War.

When I first saw a photograph of that magnificent statue of the Wounded Lion of Lucerne at Higginsville, Missouri, in the Confederate cemetery I

could not understand the true meaning, but now it is obvious. Missouri's "wounded lions" were not given a chance to recover from their battle wounds and even simple humanitarians were not allowed to bury them. This reign of terror was directed by the "war criminals" in Washington City.

Nancy Hitt – 2009

hunleyhitt@earthlink.net

A Sunday in God-Years

A review of poet Michelle Boisseau's new book, *A Sunday in God-Years*, was written by Donna Seaman in the March 8, 2009, issue of the Kansas City *Star*. Ms. Boisseau is a prize-winning poet and professor of English at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. She is also associate editor of BkMK Press. Her current book of poems reflect her ardor for historical research and the element of time logged as human history, time captured in our DNA, and the deep time of fossils and stones.

An example is the "ragged chunk of limestone" the poet removes from a wall in northern Kentucky, a notched, half-billion year old rock she imagines in the hands of the slave who placed it there, one gesture of forced labor in a world where slaves "felled trees, broke sod, and cut the stone for foundations they couldn't own."

Why is Boisseau, a white woman who grew up in Ohio, so steeped in the tragedy of slavery? One bitter fruit of her genealogical inquiry was a newspaper notice printed in 1834 offering a \$20 reward for a runaway slave named Gibson. It was signed by a Virginia slave owner named Peter F. Boisseau, the poet's great-great grandfather.

Wet Plate Collodion and the Civil War

A lecture, discussion and demonstration of the Wet Plate Collodion photographic process by Steve Wilson will be presented Thursday, April 9, 2009, 7:00 p.m. at the Trailside Center, 9901 Holmes Road, Kansas City, MO.

The William Clarke Quantrill Society

The William Clark Quantrill Society is a non-profit corporation dedicated to the study of the Civil War on the Missouri-Kansas border with emphasis on the lives of Quantrill, his men, his supporters, his adversaries and the resulting historical record. For information visit; www.geocities.com/quantrillsoc or send an E-mail to wcqsociety@aol.com.