



## CIVIL WAR 150

**The Civil War 150 Exhibition Project** will continue into the summer and fall of 2014 at Emporia Public Library. The following programs were made available by a grant in conjunction with The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities; the Kansas Humanities Council, the Friends of the Emporia Public Library; and supported by LCHS Research Center, LCHS Museum, WAW Library Special Collections and Archives, and Community Theater of Emporia-Reader's Theater Group. All programs are free and open to the public.

### **The Border War: Kansas & Missouri**

**July 16, 2014; 6:30 p.m.**

**Large meeting Room  
Emporia Public Library**

**Presented by Darren Biggs**



Darren Biggs, a Civil War reenactor, will tell the story of Sean McCorkle, an Irish immigrant, who was brought to Kansas by Bostonites in the late 1850's. This was an effort to make Kansas "a free state" under the rules of the Kansas-Nebraska Act. The result was that pro- and anti-slavery elements flooded into Kansas with the goal of voting slavery up or down, leading to a bloody civil war. McCorkle joined the 8th Regiment Kansas Volunteer Infantry to fight in the war.

Mr. Biggs will share stories of being a Civil War reenactor, how he started and where his interests have led him.

### **Shared Stories of the Civil War: Reader's Theater**

The "Shared Stories of the Civil War: Reader's Theater" project features stories created from historical letters, diaries, newspaper articles, and other materials. These voices from history provide insight into how 19th century Americans living in Kansas and Missouri struggled to define the meaning of freedom during the Bleeding Kansas and Civil War years.

The Community Theater of Emporia-Reader's Theater Group will provide the dramatic presentations.

#### **Pledging Allegiance**

North or South? Union or Confederacy? The choices grew more complicated in the early months of the Civil War, especially for Missourians living along the border.

**August 20 6:30 p.m.**

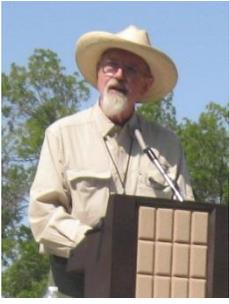
**Large meeting room**

Loren Pennington,  
Emporia State University Emeritus Professor of History  
will lead discussion following the performance.

These programs are made possible by Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area and the Kansas Humanities Council. FFNHA is a partnership of 41 counties in eastern Kansas and western Missouri dedicated to connecting the stories of settlement, the Border War and Enduring Struggle for Freedom in this area. KHC is a nonprofit organization promoting understanding of the history and ideas that shape our lives and strengthen our sense of community. For more information, visit [www.freedomsfrontier.org](http://www.freedomsfrontier.org) or [www.kansashumanities.org](http://www.kansashumanities.org).



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## The Santa Fe Trail and the Civil War

September 23, 2014; 6:30 p.m.

Large meeting room

Presented by Leo Oliva, Historian

During the Civil War, events at both ends of the Santa Fe Trail contributed to the war's outcome while another war in the middle—the Plains Indian Wars—grew in intensity and eventually resulted in removal of the Plains tribes from Kansas. This presentation introduces key conflicts along the Santa Fe Trail, including significant but largely forgotten battles in New Mexico and the period of accelerated conflict that ended with the destruction of Plains tribes as they had existed for over a century.

“The Santa Fe Trail and the Civil War” is part of the Kansas Humanities Council’s *Humanities* Speakers Bureau, featuring presentations and discussions that examine our shared human experience—our innovations, culture, heritage, and conflicts.

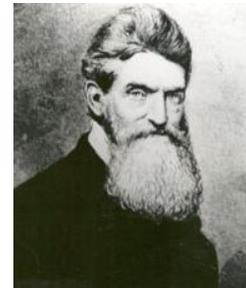
## "John Brown: Saint or Sinner"

October 16, 2014; 6:30 p.m.

Large meeting room

Presented by Grady Atwater

Site Administrator, John Brown Museum State Historic Site



John Brown is a symbol of an ideologically motivated activist and his abolitionist crusade still prompts debate over the morality of his actions in combatting proslavery forces in Kansas Territory and his Raid on Harpers Ferry, Virginia. Even today, Brown’s abolitionist crusade is utilized in the debate over the moral rectitude of ideologically motivated activism. “John Brown Saint or Sinner” will explore the beliefs that motivated John Brown’s abolitionist crusade and address often debated question of “Was John Brown a Saint or a Sinner?”

## CIVIL WAR 150 Traveling Exhibit Arrives Early in November, 2014.

The Civil War is the most transformative period in US history. Drawing upon letters, personal accounts, and images, *Civil War 150* invites Americans to understand how soldiers, presidents, freedmen, and families grappled with the end of slavery, the nature of democracy and citizenship, the human toll of civil war, and the role of a president in wartime.



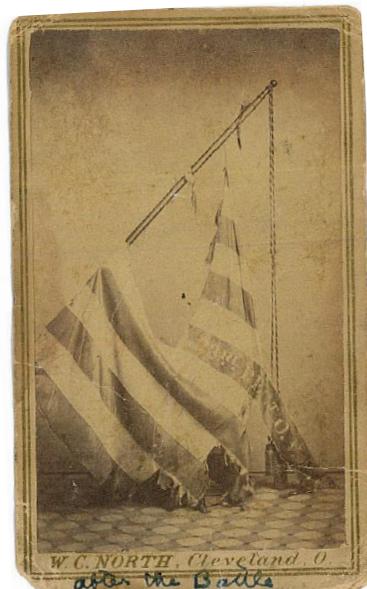
## “Kansas and the Civil War in American History and Memory”

November 10, 2014

5:30 pm Reception; 6:30 pm Program

Presented by Brian Craig Miller

As we move to celebrate the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War, most Americans will not think of the events in Kansas...unless, of course, you’re IN Kansas. Yet Kansas’ birthday coincides with the Civil War. Join us for a critical re-examination on how the Civil War affected the state of Kansas and why the Kansas struggles have been largely ignored in American history.



W.C. NORTH, Cleveland, O.  
after the Battle