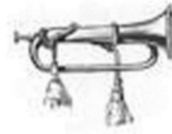




# BORDER



# BUGLE

Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City



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Civil War Round Table of  
Kansas City  
4125 NW Willow Drive  
Kansas City MO 64116

An IRC 501(c)(3)

Charitable Organization

Website- <http://cwrk.org/>

Join us on Facebook!

## 563rd Regular Meeting Wednesday, May 15, 2024

Milburn Golf and Country Club

7501 West 69th Street, Overland Park, KS 66204

Social hour begins at 5:00 p.m. and dinner is at 6:00 p.m. (note new time)

The meeting will include a plated dinner at a cost of \$34.00 per person.

Reservations are required in order to attend the dinner meeting.

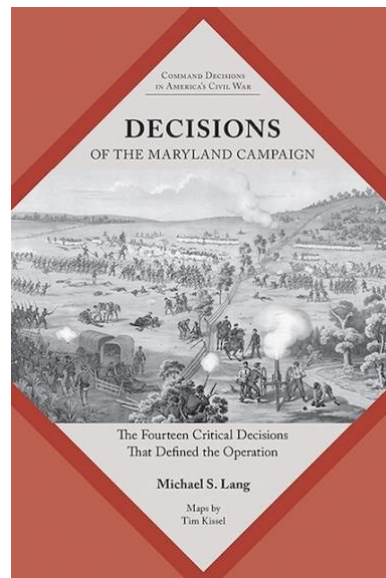
**Reservation Deadline: Tuesday, May 7th.**

**To make a dinner reservation, please contact Marlene Natoli:**

<mailto:marnatoli@att.net>

Phone: 913-764-1336

## May Program



Mr. Michael S. Lang will be giving a presentation titled: "The Enemy Are Crossing the Potomac in Force - The Critical Decisions of the Maryland Campaign." Mr. Lang will give an overview of the Command Decision of America's Civil War book series and what constitutes a Critical Decision. He will also discuss two of the most important decisions that impacted the campaign, the war, and the course of the history of the nation.

The 1862 Maryland Campaign is widely considered to be one of the most important turning points of the entire war. Robert E. Lee, on the heels of two successful campaigns in Virginia, faced off against George B. McClellan in a battle that has come to be known as the Bloodiest Day in American History.

## Dinner Meeting Reservations and Payments

- **A reservation is required in order to attend the dinner meeting. All reservations must be submitted to Marlene Natoli by Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>.** This will ensure that an accurate count can be submitted to the Milburn Country Club on Wednesday, one week ahead of the dinner meeting, as specified in our contract with the Country Club.
- Please e-mail or call **Marlene Natoli** each month if you are planning on attending. To make a reservation, contact Marlene at 913-764-1336 or e-mail her at <mailto:marnatoli@att.net> **Marlene said if you send her an e-mail and do not get confirmation back, then you do not have a reservation.**
- **The cost of a dinner is \$34.00 per person.** If you make a reservation, but are not able to attend the dinner meeting for any reason, you *must* contact **Marlene Natoli** by either phone or e-mail prior to the reservation deadline to cancel. You are responsible for the cost of your meal if you made a reservation, did not attend, and did not cancel before the deadline.
- You can pay for your meal at the dinner meeting or by mailing a check to **Dick Titterington**. Make check payable to the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City. Dick's mailing address is: 4125 NW Willow Drive, Kansas City MO 64116.
- You can also pay for your dinner using a credit or debit card. The Civil War Round Table of Kansas City is now accepting digital payments. This process is simple to use and secure. The Round Table uses the Square Digital Payment Processing System. Square charges the Round Table a fee for this service. The Round Table passes this fee on to its members who choose to use this service. The fees are slightly more if you pay online than paying in person at our dinner meetings. For more information or to see a schedule of the processing fees charged, visit our website [https://cwrk.org/digital\\_payments/](https://cwrk.org/digital_payments/)

## Dinner Menu

Milburn Golf and Country Club will serve the following meal at the May dinner meeting: Sautéed salmon with lemon butter sauce, rice pilaf, and vegetable medley. Dessert will be S'mores bread pudding. All dinners are served with house salad and Milburn house dressing, sliced bread, iced tea, water, and coffee.

Gluten free and vegetarian meals are available with advance notice. Please advise **Marlene Natoli** if you require a gluten free or vegetarian meal when making your reservation. Also, if you have a food allergy, Marlene requests that you **please be very specific** on what items you can't eat on that month's menu when making your dinner reservation.

## This Month's Speaker



**Mr. Michael S. Lang**

**Michael S. Lang** has worked as a manager for Federal Express for 38 years and is also a successful photographer. Capturing images of Civil War battlefields is one of his favorite subjects.

Born and raised in Denver, Colorado, Michael moved to Frisco, Texas, in 2017. As relative newcomers to the great state of Texas, he and his wife, Rebecca, have spent the last seven years exploring the state and learning about its unique and rich history, including sites related to the Civil War. Michael has loved history since a young boy and has been a student of the Civil War for just as long.

Michael is the author of two books already released, *Decisions at Antietam* and *Decisions of the Maryland Campaign*. His third manuscript, *Decisions of the Red River Campaign*, is set to be released in September 2024. These books are all part of the Command Decisions of America's Civil War series published by the University of Tennessee Press. The series has more than twenty titles in publication or set to be published. The Command Decisions series examines the critical decisions impacting the major campaigns and battles of the Civil War. Contributing authors include Matt Spruill, Larry Peterson, Dave Powell, Chris Mackowski, and Robert Tanner.

The 1862 Maryland Campaign is widely considered to be one of the most important turning points of the entire

war. Robert E. Lee, on the heels of two successful campaigns in Virginia, turned his army north. Near the sleepy town of Sharpsburg, Maryland, he would face off against George B. McClellan in a battle that has come to be known as the Bloodiest Day in American History.

Michael Lang's presentation titled "The Enemy Are Crossing the Potomac in Force - The Critical Decisions of the Maryland Campaign" will overview the Command Decision of America's Civil War book series and what constitutes a Critical Decision. He will also discuss two of the most important decisions that impacted the campaign, the war, and the course of the history of the nation.

### **Book: *Decisions of the Maryland Campaign***

The following summary of Michael Lang's book *Decisions of the Maryland Campaign* is from the Amazon website:

"The Maryland Campaign represented General Robert E. Lee's first invasion of the North. Opposing Lee was General George B. McClellan, who had just retreated from Lee's onslaught during the Seven Days Battles. While Lee and McClellan fought a preliminary battle at South Mountain, and a final engagement with Lee's rearguard at Shepherdstown as the Confederate Army withdrew across the Potomac, the full force of both armies would meet at Antietam, and the subsequent battle would prove to be the bloodiest single-day battle of the war.

"*Decisions of the Maryland Campaign* introduces readers to critical decisions made by Confederate and Union commanders throughout the campaign. Michael S. Lang examines the decisions that prefigured the action and shaped the contest as it unfolded. Rather than a linear history of the campaign, Lang's discussion of the critical decisions presents readers with a vivid blueprint of the campaign's developments. Exploring the critical decisions in this way allows the reader to progress from a sense of what happened in this campaign to why they happened as they did.

"Complete with maps and a guided tour, *Decisions of the Maryland Campaign* is an indispensable primer, and readers looking for a concise introduction to the campaign can tour this sacred ground—or read about it at their leisure—with key insights into the campaign and a deeper understanding of the Civil War itself.

"*Decisions of the Maryland Campaign* is Lang's second contribution and the thirteenth in a series of books that will explore the critical decisions of major campaigns and battles of the Civil War."

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### **Live Auction Book Sales**

We would like to thank Round Table member **Arnold Schofield** for managing the book sales each month. The money raised during the book sales helps the Round Table bring in nationally known speakers. Arnold will auction off the following Civil War books and print in May:

- *A Glorious Army: R. E. Lee's Triumph* by Jeffery D. Wert. Published in 2011. In excellent condition with dust jacket and mylar cover.
- *Chancellorsville* by Stephen W. Sears. Published in 1997. In excellent condition with dust jacket.
- *Official Records of the War of the Rebellion, Volume 25, Part I Reports: Chancellorsville.* Published by the National Historical Society in 1971. In mint condition.
- *Rebel Raider: The Life of General John H. Morgan* by James A. Ramage. Published in 1986. In very good condition.
- Framed print of Union General Nathaniel Lyon, who was killed at the Battle of Wilson's Creek on August 10, 1861. Dimensions including the wood frame are approximately 22" x 27".

### **Last Month's Program**



**Mr. Todd Mildfelt and Mr. David D. Schafer**

At our April dinner meeting, Civil War historians and authors **Mr. Todd Mildfelt** and **Mr. David D. Schafer** gave a very interesting presentation titled: "What made James Montgomery an Abolitionist of the Most Dangerous Kind?" James Montgomery was a radical abolitionist and the "original jayhawker" in pre-Civil War Kansas. During the war, Montgomery led a regiment of Black soldiers in the Department of the South. Attendance at the dinner meeting was 60.



## Upcoming Civil War Round Table Programs

Our monthly dinner meetings are typically held on the third Wednesday of each month. However, the December 2024 meeting will be held on the second Wednesday of the month.

- **June 19, 2024: Dr. Rebecca Jo Plant**, associate professor in History at the University of California, San Diego, will give a program about her book titled: *Of Age: Boy Soldiers and Military Power in the Civil War Era*.
- **July 17, 2024:** Round Table member **Arnold W. Schofield**, will be speaking about Colonel Charles R. Jennison's Jayhawkers, the 7<sup>th</sup> Kansas Cavalry.
- **August 21, 2024: Dr. Tai Edwards**, associate professor of history and director of the Kansas Studies Institute at Johnson County Community College will give a program titled: "The Civil War and Colonization of Indigenous Peoples."
- **September 18, 2024: Dr. Megan Bever**, associate professor of history and chair of the Social Sciences Department at Missouri Southern State University, will give a program titled: "At War with King Alcohol."
- **October 16, 2024: Dr. Thomas Curran** will be giving a program titled: "Women at War: Female Confederate Prisoners & Union Military Justice."
- **November 20, 2024: Dr. Mitchell Klingenberg** with the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, will give a program about Union General John Reynolds, who was killed on the first day at Gettysburg.
- **December 11, 2024:** This will be a musical program to celebrate the holidays.

## Upcoming Civil War Wednesdays Programs

The "Civil War Wednesdays" programs will be held on the third Wednesday of the month at the Westport Branch of the Kansas City Public Library, located at 118 Westport Road, Kansas City MO. The programs will start at 1:00 p.m. and end at approximately 2:00 p.m. There is no charge to attend these meetings at the library.

- **May 15, 2024: Lane Smith**, past president of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City, will be giving a program about Confederate President Jefferson Davis's capture, imprisonment and pending trial for treason.
- **June 19, 2024: No program.** The library will be closed because of the Juneteenth holiday.

- **July 17, 2024: Dan Smith**, chairman of the Monnett Battle of Westport Fund, will be giving a program describing life in Jackson County during the American Civil War.
- **August 21, 2024: Dennis Garstang**, past president of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City, will be giving a program titled "The Life and Times of General John Charles Frémont." Frémont was in command of the US Department of the West during the summer and fall of 1861.
- **September 18, 2024: Alisha Cole**, Westport Historical Society, will be giving a program about the role of the Harris-Kearney House and the Wornall House during the American Civil War. Find out what their owners and occupants were doing at the time of the war.
- **October 16, 2024: Dick Titterington**, treasurer of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City, will be giving a program titled: "Grant in Missouri: The Battle of Belmont." Ulysses S. Grant began his Civil War career as the colonel of volunteers in the 21st Illinois Infantry and was quickly deployed in Missouri in 1861. His last command in Missouri was the Battle of Belmont.
- **November 20, 2024: Dick Titterington**, treasurer of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City, will be giving a program titled: "The 1861 New Mexico Campaign: Valverde and Glorieta Pass." Confederates invaded the New Mexico Territory in 1861 and fought two battles against the Union defenders.

## Upcoming KU Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Programs

- **Mondays, June 3, 10, and 17, 2024, 10:00 a.m.-noon.** **Mr. Will Haynes** will be giving a series of programs titled: "Kansans and the Experience of Civil War, 1861-1865. These programs will be held at the KU Edwards Campus, 163 Regnier Hall, 12610 Quivira Road, Overland Park KS.
- **Friday, June 14, 2024, 1:00-2:30 p.m.** Round Table member **Dr. Dan Cudnik** will be giving a program titled: "A Forensic Study of Abraham Lincoln's Assassination." This program will be held at the KU Osher Institute, 1515 St. Andrews Drive, Lawrence KS.
- **Wednesdays, June 26, July 3, and July 10, 2024, 6:30-8:30 p.m.** **Dr. Ethan Rafuse** will be giving a series of programs titled: "The Life and Wars of Robert E. Lee." These programs will be held at the KU Leavenworth Campus, TownPlace Suites, 1001 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Leavenworth KS.

To register for the above programs visit the following website: <http://osher.ku.edu/>

## Next Executive Committee Meeting

The next meeting of the Round Table's Executive Committee will be held at 10:00 a.m. on June 8, 2024. The location of the meeting will be the Lenexa Library, located at 8778 Penrose, Lenexa City Center.

## Member News:

**Mike Epstein and Phil Griffin** have been dealing with some serious health issues. Please keep them in your prayers.

We would like to welcome the following new members:

- **Jeff Hill and Kris Downing** who live in Overland Park KS. Jeff is a returning member.
- **Lisa Mildfelt** who lives in Chanute KS. Lisa is the sister-in-law of Todd Mildfelt who spoke at our Round Table dinner meeting last month.
- **Marcia Hicklin** who lives in Lexington MO. Marcia is also a returning member.
- **Max Bowers** who lives in Lee's Summit MO. Max is a former history teacher.

**Arnold Schofield** gave a program about Jennison's Jayhawkers, the 7<sup>th</sup> Kansas Cavalry, on April 20<sup>th</sup> at the Fort Scott National Historic Park, during their annual Civil War encampment.

## American Revolution Experience

At the April dinner meeting, **Gary Nevius** announced that the "American Revolution Experience", a traveling exhibit by the American Battlefield Trust, will be shown at five locations in Kansas:

- Independence Historical Museum and Art Center, Independence KS, May 18-28, 2024.
- Crawford County Historical Museum, Pittsburg KS, May 28-June 7.
- Old Depot Museum, Ottawa KS, July 22-31.
- American Legion Leroy Hill Post 19, Gardner KS, August 1-9.
- Abilene Public Library, Abilene KS, August 19-27.

## Sergeant Major's Roar

The Sergeant Major's Roar column will resume in next month's *Border Bugle*.

## The Siege of Vicksburg, Mississippi

The population of Vicksburg in 1860 was 4,591 of which 1,402 were slaves and only 31 were free blacks. The population of Vicksburg in 2020 was 21,573.

According to President Abraham Lincoln, Vicksburg held the key to opening the Mississippi River and winning the war. The Union siege of the Confederate stronghold at Vicksburg lasted 47 days, from May 18 to July 4, 1863. General Grant's plan was to hold on until starvation forced the Confederates under General John C. Pemberton to surrender. By June 18, Grant's army was up to 77,000 men. Pemberton had no more than 30,000, all plagued by illness and malnutrition, and his supply of food and ammunition was strictly limited.

During the siege, many residents fled the city to avoid the shelling from Union gunboats, mortar scows, and field artillery. Some residents resorted to living in caves that were dug out of hillsides, which provided some protection from the shelling. An account of what it was like to live in Vicksburg during the siege is contained in a book titled *My Cave Life in Vicksburg* by Mary Loughborough, published in 1864.

Food was so short that the citizens of Vicksburg and the soldiers defending it were soon reduced to eating mule meat and pea bread. Medical supplies were almost non-existent. Water was so scarce that officers posted guards at wells to make sure none was wasted for purposes of cleanliness.

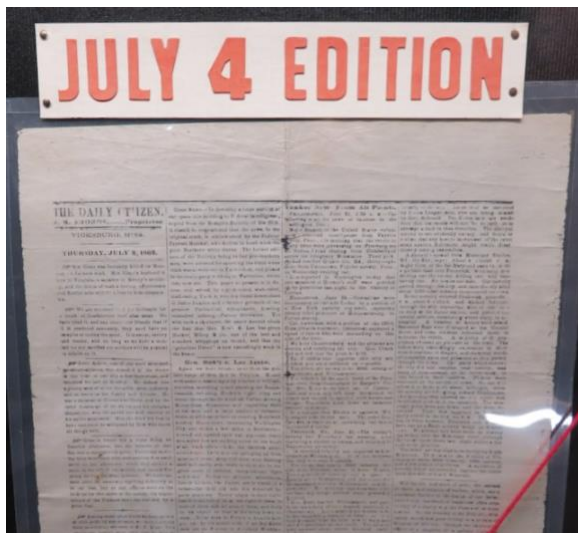
Confederate General Pemberton finally surrendered to Union General Grant on July 4, 1863. The terms of surrender stated that the Confederate soldiers were granted parole and had to promise not to take up arms against the United States. In addition to taking the city and capturing a garrison of 29,500 men, Grant's army seized a huge quantity of military stores. Among the property captured were 172 pieces of artillery, 38,000 artillery projectiles, 58,000 pounds of black powder, 50,000 rifles, and 600,000 rounds of ammunition. These were resources in men and materiel that the South could ill afford to lose.

During the siege, the Union Army suffered a total of 4,835 casualties (killed, wounded, and missing). Confederate casualties were 3,202. The defeat at the Battle of Gettysburg combined with the loss of Vicksburg in July of 1863 was a crushing blow for the Confederacy.

Following the surrender of Vicksburg to General Grant, the city did not officially celebrate Independence Day for another 82 years. On July 4, 1945 with World War II coming to a close, Vicksburg citizens, thankful for victory, decided to officially celebrate Independence Day for the first time since the Civil War. They tenaciously held to the past, however, billing the event as "The Carnival of the Confederacy."



## Vicksburg Newspaper Printed on Wallpaper



The following information is from the Old Court House Museum:

“During the siege of Vicksburg in 1863, the *Daily Citizen* newspaper was edited and published at Vicksburg by J. M. Swords during the Civil War. As newsprint became exhausted during the 47-day siege in 1863, Swords printed several issues on wallpaper. Each was a single sheet, four columns wide. The July 2, 1863 edition became famous when conquering Union forces discovered the type still set when the city fell on July 4. The Union troops replaced two-thirds of the last column with other matter already in type, added a note, and printed a new edition. (See below.) At least 30 reprints have been made and there are few genuine originals known to exist.”

### Confederate Note:

“On Dit. – That the great Ulysses – The Yankee Generalissimo, surnamed Grant – has expressed his intention of dining in Vicksburg on Sunday next, and celebrating the 4<sup>th</sup> of July by a grand dinner and so forth. When asked if he would invite General Joe Johnston to join, he said “No! for fear there will be a row at the table.” Ulysses must get into the city before he dines in it. The way to cook a rabbit is “first to catch the rabbit”, etc.”

### Yankee Reply:

“NOTE July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1863

“Two days bring about great changes. The banner of the Union floats above Vicksburg. General Grant has “Caught the rabbit”; he has dined in Vicksburg and he did bring his dinner with him. The “*Citizen*” lives to see it. For the last time it appears on “wall-paper.” No more will it eulogize the luxury of mule-meat and fricasseed kitten – urge Southern warriors to such diet never-more. This is the last wall-paper edition, and it, except this note, from the types as we found them. It will be valuable hereafter as a curiosity.”

## Photographs of Vicksburg, Mississippi



**The Old Court House Museum (completed in 1858).**



**Featherston-Magruder House (built in 1831, second floor added in 1850). Dr. Magruder treated victims of the 1853 Yellow Fever Outbreak in this house.**



**Balfour House (built in mid-1830's). Headquarters of Union Maj. Gen. J. B. McPherson after July 4, 1863.**





**Willis-Cowan House (built in 1835). Headquarters of Confederate General John C. Pemberton.**



**Vicksburg Civil War Museum, 1123 Washington Street.**



**John Lane House (built in 1830), 905 Crawford Street. Used as Headquarters of Confederate Brig. Gen. Stephen D. Lee during the siege.**



**9" Naval gun designed by John A. Dahlgren in the early 1840's and cast at the Fort Pitt Foundry in 1862. It weighs 9,200 lbs. and took a crew of 16 to man it.**



**Louisiana Monument located in the City Rose Garden. Dedicated June 1, 1887 to honor Confederate troops.**



**Old Depot Museum (formerly the Yazoo & Mississippi Valley Railroad Station). This is a post war structure.**



## Vicksburg Civil War Museum

The Vicksburg Civil War Museum is a 501(c)(3) non-profit entity that is located in downtown Vicksburg. They are committed to preserving and sharing our history with present and future generations. The museum has beautiful displays of Civil War documents, photographs, weapons, artillery shells, bullets, uniforms, models, artwork, etc. One of the displays featured glass bottles used to catch the tears of those mourning the loss of their loved ones. The museum also has a full-size display of a slave cabin with an adjacent strip of cotton.

Before touring the museum, visitors are requested to first read the museum's mission statement:

"The Vicksburg Civil War Museum thoroughly identifies with the institution of preserving history. Our museum is founded upon exactly the opposite idea of slavery. Our foundations are laid, its cornerstone rest upon the great truth of The Declaration of Independence "that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness." Our goal is NOT to EDUCATE YOU. Our aim is to INSPIRE YOU to want TO BECOME MORE EDUCATED.

"We will achieve this mission by challenging fundamental inaccuracies of our interpretations of history versus factual history which includes, but are not limited to the following:

1. Your personal interpretation of history does not change history.
2. Your correct or incorrect understanding of history does not change history.
3. Your being ashamed or filled with pride does not change history.
4. Your ancestor's reasons for fighting does not change the reason that the war happened, thus it does not change history.
5. No matter how eloquently you speak, history will always have the last word.

"MAKE SURE HISTORY SPEAKS FAVORABLY OF YOU."

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For more information regarding the Vicksburg Civil War Museum, go to their website: <http://www.vicksburgcivilwarmuseum.org/>

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Next month's *Border Bugle* will feature photographs from the Vicksburg National Military Park, "The Art Park of the South."



Artillery shells and cannon display in the Vicksburg Civil War Museum.



Slave cabin and cotton crop display in Vicksburg Civil War Museum. In 1860 Mississippi was the wealthiest state in the America because of cotton and because of slavery. Mississippi is now the poorest state in America.

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