Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

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Civil War Round Table Of Kansas City P. O. Box 6202 Shawnee Mission, KS 66206 A IRC 501(c)(3) charitable organization

**BORDER BUGLE EDITOR** 

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### 383<sup>rd</sup> REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 2005 Homestead Country Club

6510 Mission Road, Prairie Village, Kansas Social Hour-Cash Bar-6:00p.m. Dinner-6:30p.m.

### Edwin C. Bearss on "Steele's Camden Expedition"

The Civil War Round Table of Kansas City is greatly honored to have Edwin C. Bearss favor us with a presentation this month. Selecting a topic for our speaker was difficult only because his depth of knowledge of the Civil War is without peer. He could address on any topic. We asked that he speak about Steele's Camden Expedition because it took place in the Trans-Mississippi theatre in April of 1864.

In the spring of 1864, one of the Union command's objectives was to capture the Confederate army's western headquarters at Shreveport, in the northwest corner of Louisiana. Two Union forces were ordered to converge on this prosperous, market town. General Nathaniel Banks, commander of the Department of the Gulf, sent his army northwest from New Orleans, up the Mississippi River to the Red River on the Red River Campaign. Meanwhile, the troops of Major General Frederick Steele's Third Division of the Seventh Army Corps moved south from their headquarters at Little Rock, Arkansas on the second half of this effort, the Camden Expedition. Less than 200 miles separated the two Union armies as they attempted to concentrate on Shreveport.

Steele's Expedition from Little Rock met with a daunting series of set backs from nearly the moment it left Little Rock. Weather, terrain and lack of supplies doomed Steele's men to a disastrous six weeks slog in the mud. In its wake, he lost men and materiel to the beleaguered Confederates.

\*\*Cont. on Page 7\*\*

Please be sure that we have your reservation by April 22. Return reservation in the enclosed envelope with required payment of \$20.00 per person.

If you have questions or your payment is unavoidably tardy, please contact either Treasurer Paul Gault at 816-741-2962 or Assistant Treasurer Betty Ergovich at 913 441-6462.

Attendance requires a paid dinner reservation.

# NEW SITE ADMINISTRATOR TO JOIN MINE CREEK BATTLEFIELD

Arnold W. Schofield has been hired as the site administrator for Mine Creek Battlefield State Historic Site. He will begin work March 8, 2005, after his retirement from Fort Scott National Historic Site.

Schofield served 25 years at Fort Scott as senior historian, cultural resource specialist, and interpreter. Before coming to Kansas in 1980, he was stationed as a cultural historian with the National Park Service on the Blue Ridge Parkway and at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park in West Virginia, completing 42 years of federal service.

The subject of "Bleeding Kansas" and the Civil War has interested Schofield for many years. He has been actively involved in battlefield preservation since 1964. He is eager to begin the new assignment at Mine Creek. "Preserving, protecting, and interpreting the largest Civil War battle and battlefield in Kansas is a wonderful and exciting challenge," Schofield said. "For Kansas and historians, these are exciting times with the sesquicentennial of "Bleeding Kansas" and the Civil War from 2004 -2015. It is going to be a fascinating decade!"

Schofield was born and raised in the small New England village of Newton Upper Falls, Massachusetts. He was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army. While working for the Department of Defense, he received a degree in history in 1972. He is married to Clara Martens Schofield, who is the director of Social Services at the Sisters of Mercy Hospital. They have one son, Austin William.

Mine Creek Battlefield State Historic Site is located two miles south of Pleasanton on K-54, 913-352-8890. Mine Creek is one of 16 state historic sites administered by the Kansas State Historical Society, headquartered at 6425 SW Sixth Avenue, Topeka, KS 66615; 785-272-8681; TTY 785-272-8683; www.kshs.org.



Due to an error beyond my computers control of me, I'm going to reprint Orvis' story from the beginning, which was originally 3 paragraphs longer. My apologies. Mike.

### MINE CREEK BATTLEFIELD STATE HISTORIC SITE

### "THE UNTOLD STORY"

by Orvis N. Fitts

Part 1

With the showing on the History Channel on 15 November 2004 of the Battle of Mine Creek as the "Lost Battle of the Civil War", the national television audience became aware of what happened on the Kansas prairie in the Civil War on 25 October 1864. What could not be told was how the Mine Creek Battlefield State Historic Site came to be owned and interpreted with a visitor center by the Kansas State Historical Society. That story needs to be told.

In 1864 the battle was fought on privately owned farmland. Nineteen years after the battle was fought, Union veterans gathered for their first reunion on 24 and 25 October 1883 at Pleasanton, Kansas. The reunion was held under the auspices of Jewell Post No. 3, Grand Army of the Republic, Department of Kansas. Subsequent reunions were also held, and the veterans with others attempted to have a state park created on the battlefield. Their efforts were not successful.

Twenty-six years later, John Eby, a farmer, while plowing the soil near Mine Creek, unearthed the skull and bones of a Confederate soldier who had been buried in a shallow grave. The remains were given a proper burial. Also, a rusted bayonet and musket were found on the same farm. In 1904, an artillery shell was dug out of the banks of Mine Creek. Today, it is on display at the Linn County Historical Society Museum in Pleasanton.

At the junction of Highways 69 and 52 near the battlefield, a monument was dedicated in October 1940 to commemorate the Battle of Mine Creek. Present at the ceremony was 94-year-old Union veteran, A. L. McMurphy, the only known survivor of the battle. He was a boy of 15 at that time and had participated in the cavalry charge against the Confederate battle line. Today the monument is not there, and what happened to it is not known. The Kansas State Historical Society and the State Department of Transportation in 1964, the centennial year of the battle, erected battlefield historical markers at a roadside park on Highway 69 about a half-mile south of the intersection with Highway 52. There were two markers - one Union and one Confederate. Today those markers are also gone. Likely, the work of despicable vandals.

In 1968 the Linn County Historical Society was organized. Bill Wilson, postmaster at Mound City, whose wife had an ancestor that fought at Mine Creek, was the first president. The second president in 1972 was Dan Smith, who lived in Pleasanton, and at that time a student at the University of Kansas. The Linn County Historical Museum was built in Pleasanton and opened in 1973 during the time Dan Smith was president of the Society. In later years, Dan Smith became a prominent attorney with a law practice in Overland Park. He also was a president of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City and chairman of the Monnett Battle of Westport Fund. Dan again became president of the Round Table in 2005.

Lumir F. Buresh, a wounded and decorated veteran of WWII and a past president of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City, spent twelve years researching the Battle of Mine Creek. Buresh was also Chairman of the Monnett Battle of Westport Fund, which he and Larry Phister had conceived and organized to raise funds and purchase historical markers for a thirty-two mile self-guided automobile tour of the Battle of Westport in Kansas City. He became involved with the Linn County Historical Society in their common objective to preserve the battlefield and place it on the National Register of Historic Places. Based on the research of both Dan Smith and Lumir Buresh the Society prepared a nomination of the battle site for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. It was sent to the Kansas State Historical Society where it was approved and forwarded to the United States Department of the Interior. The nomination was limited to 160 acres, as other adjacent landowners would not consent to the nomination. In 1973, the Mine Creek Battlefield was placed on the National Register of Historic Places. The National Park Service gave landmark status to the battlefield. A bronze plaque was placed at the roadside park on Highway 69 in recognition of this status

In late 1972, 40 acres of the battle site south of the creek was for sale. Bernard West, a board member of the Linn County Historical Society, paid for a purchase option and then purchased the property until public funding could be arranged. Dan Smith on behalf of the Society in 1973 presented a proposal to the Linn County Commissioners, John Rees, Willis Wilcox, and Frankie Noel, to form a park board and acquire the 40-acre site as a public park. His proposal was approved and a tax levy was adopted to purchase the

site. At a cost of \$30,000, Linn County acquired the initial 40 acres of the battlefield in 1974.

Also, in 1973 Buresh, Smith, and other members of the Society completed negotiations with the owners to sell an adjacent 80 acres of the battlefield. Mrs. Anna Mary Crawford, the new president of the Linn County Historical Society, and Lumir Buresh requested the assistance of Senator Robert Talkington of Iola, Kansas to introduce legislation in the Kansas Senate for the creation and acquisition of the battlefield as a state historic site. Through the efforts of Senator Talkington, Representatives Jim Cubit, and Nyle Miller, the Kansas Legislature passed legislation creating the Mine Creek Battlefield site and funding of \$50,000 to acquire the 80 acre tract in April 1974. The acreage became state property on 27 February 1975 for a cost of \$43,500.

In 1975, the Linn County Commissioners donated and transferred title of the initial 40-acre tract to the State of Kansas as the future Mine Creek Battlefield State Historic Site. Later a kiosk with a battlefield map plus interpretive information, and including a parking area was constructed by the Kansas State Historical Society on this initial 40-acre tract. The Mine Creek Battlefield State Historic Site began with the initial 40 acres and the 80 acres acquired in 1975 for a total area of 120 acres.

After twelve years of research by Lumir Buresh, his book "October 25<sup>th</sup> and the Battle of Mine Creek" was published in 1977. To date, it is the only definitive account of the battle ever written. His research involved trips to the National Archives in Washington D.C., numerous trips to Mine Creek to survey the battlefield, trips to Iowa and other state archives to obtain data on troops that had participated in the battle. Dan Smith, Lumir Buresh's friend and cohort, was the book's editor. The publication of this book did much to stimulate interest in the Battle of Mine Creek and promote the preservation and interpretation of the battle site.

There is a Lumir F. Buresh commemorative plaque in the Mine Creek visitor center placed there by the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City. At the time of his death in 1986, he was legally blind. He is interred in the National Cemetery at the Veteran's Administration in Leavenworth, Kansas.

Mrs. Crawford, Lumir Buresh, and Dan Smith continued their efforts to persuade owners of another adjacent 160-acre farm north of the creek to sell their

property to the state. It was in 1978 the owners' consent was finally obtained. Senator Robert Talkington was again asked by Smith and Buresh to secure the necessary funding, and \$70,000 was appropriated by the Kansas Legislature to purchase the 160 acres. Linn County Commissioners also approved an additional \$30,000 that was needed to purchase the property. The property was acquired by the State of Kansas in 1980. The site contained a farmhouse, barn, outbuildings, three stock ponds, fences, and hedgerows. Farming continued on the site until October 1989. The Mine Creek Battlefield now consisted of 280 acres.

A metal footbridge was placed across Mine Creek that made access possible between the 120 acres south of Mine Creek to the 160 acres north of the creek. A series of unimproved walking trails with several culverts and temporary interpretive markers were also put in place. This was done by the Kansas State Historical Society.

At the instigation of Buresh and Smith, the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City contracted with Betty Gentry, Superintendent of the Pea Ridge National Military Park in Northwest Arkansas, to prepare a "Proposed Development Plan for Mine Creek Historical Park, Kansas". The completed plan was presented to the Kansas State Historical Society in 1980. Only portions of this plan were incorporated in a later plan prepared by the Kansas State Historical Society.

Ola May Earnest became the president of the Linn County Historical Society in January 1980. Under her leadership, the museum building was expanded three times and included a genealogy library. She initiated a research genealogy project of many of the Union veterans who fought at Mine Creek. Today, Ola May continues as the President of the Linn County Historical Society.

During the 1980s there was no further development at the Mine Creek Battlefield. The kiosk fell into disrepair, the parking area became overgrown with weeds, the temporary historical markers had disappeared, the trails were not maintained, and the area was closed to the public. Efforts by the Linn County Historical Society and the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City to promote development and interpret the battlefield were futile. No action was taken by the State Legislature to appropriate funds and the battlefield had a low priority status with the Kansas State Historical Society.

In early 1989, the battlefield was given Tree Farm status by the Kansas Tree Farm Committee affiliated with the American Tree Farm system. The designation meant assistance in improving and managing the trees including nature and walking trails. Forestry specialists from the Kansas State University Extension Service were to make periodic visits to recommend procedures. In reality, the designation was meaningless as nothing ever happened.

A Battle of Mine Creek committee of members from the Civil War Round Table and Linn County Historical Society led by Dan Smith met with Senator Gus Bogina of the State Legislature in December 1988. With the support of Senator Bogina and meetings with other Legislative committees, the 1989 Legislature appropriated \$35,000 to begin development of the battlefield. The Mine Creek committee had requested \$120,000.

The year 1989 was the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the battle, and the Linn County Historical Society supported by the Civil War Round Table sponsored a reenactment of the battle. Due to scheduling problems, the event was held on 10 and 11 November rather than 25 October, which was the actual date of the battle. Labor from the Osawatomie Correctional Facility was used to remove fences, hedgerows, brush, and trees before the battle reenactment which took place on the actual battlefield. The two-day event was attended by an estimated 8,000 people. In March 1990, the Linn County Historical Society received the top award for promoting the battle reenactment at the Southeast Kansas Tourism Region Exposition in Parsons, Kansas.

Dr. Bill Lees, Archeologist from the Kansas State Historical Society, began an archeological survey of the battlefield in 1989. This survey developed into a three-year project and covered about 725 acres of both state and privately owned land. Approximately 1,000 artifacts were recovered including Minie balls, gun parts, a canteen, uniform buttons, military insignia, and artillery shell fragments. In earlier years, it is known many artifacts had been taken by persons exploring the battlefield. Based on the survey by Dr. Lees, the area covered by the battle was greatly expanded beyond the 280 acres of state owned land. This result was to have positive consequences in later years.

The Linn County Historical Society in February of 1990 organized a Friends of Mine Creek support group. The first president was Dan Smith, now an attorney in Overland Park. Over the years, various types of events were held to raise funds, promote the battlefield, and attract new members.

A television crew from KCPT, Channel 19 in Kansas City visited the battlefield in August 1990. Several interviews were held, areas of the battlefield were filmed including artifacts from the battle on display in the Linn County Historical Museum. The Mine Creek film was to be shown locally following an eleven-hour National PBS series titled "The Civil War" broadcast 23-27 September.



## SPECIAL EVENTS IN LEXINGTON, MO.

May Day Tea; May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2005 from 1:00pm-4:00pm, Celebrate Spring with tea and Victorian desserts at the Anderson House. Admission is free! Patrolling Western Missouri; May 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, 2005 10:00am-3:00pm each day. The Holmes Brigade will reenact camp life at the Union Garrison during the Civil War. Most of their efforts were to capture border ruffians like William Quantrill and Bloody Bill Anderson. Activities include drilling, cannon and gunfire. Anderson House paid tours will be given.



# NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC AND CIVIL WAR PRESERVATION TRUST

## HIGHLIGHT PLIGHT OF HALLOWED BATTLEGROUNDS

The latest edition of the world-renowned magazine dramatically reveals the plight of America's Civil War battlegrounds. s(Washington, D.C., 3/15/2005) - National Geographic magazine draws a bead on the urgency of preserving America's Civil War history in its April 2005 edition. In "Civil War Battlefields:

Saving the Landscapes of America's Deadliest War," writer Adam Goodheart and photographer Michael Melford explain how urban sprawl and development are overtaking our nation's Civil War battlegrounds.

Jim Lighthizer, President of Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT), was impressed with the article, noting: "Nothing reveals the plight of our remaining Civil War battlefields better than images of those sites today. National Geographic's pictures, combined with Adam Goodheart's riveting tale of history and sprawl, make a powerful argument for battlefield preservation."

Lighthizer is among the several preservationists quoted in the article. At one point in the story, the author describes Lighthizer as a combination of Robert E. Lee and Ulysses S. Grant - two of the Civil War's most legendary commanders.

Of the 10,000 battles and skirmishes fought during the Civil War, 383 battlefields were deemed worthy of protection by the Congressionally appointed Civil War Sites Advisory Commission in 1993. Through the efforts of CWPT and other organizations, many of these battlefields have been saved in the past decade. CWPT fears that, without quick action, the 200,000 acres of hallowed ground that remain in private hands may be irretrievably lost to developers within the next twenty years.

"The blockbuster story by National Geographic is what we need to shed light on the severe problems facing our Civil War battlefields," Lighthizer further remarked. "More men and women lost their lives or were injured on these battlefields than in any other American war. We hope that all Americans who value our history will join us to save this blood-soaked land."

The magazine's parent organization, the National Geographic Society, will join CWPT to unveil the story at a Capitol Hill reception for Senators, Members of Congress and their staffs on Wednesday, March 16.

CWPT is a 70,000-member nonprofit battlefield preservation organization headquartered in Washington, D.C. Its mission is to preserve our nation's endangered Civil War sites and promote appreciation of these hallowed grounds. CWPT's website is www.civilwar.org.

### COMPANY OFFERS TO SELL LAND NEAR CIVIL WAR BATTLEFIELD TO NATIONAL PARK

By Tim O'Neil 3/17/2005

### St. Louis Post-Dispatch (MO)

The company that wants to build a large residential development next to a Civil War battlefield near Springfield, Mo., offered Thursday to sell 155 acres to the National Park Service.

Missouri Partners Inc. made the offer in a letter to Ted Hillmer, superintendent of Wilson's Creek National Battlefield. The park, just east of Republic, Mo., is the site of a clash on Aug. 10, 1861, that was the second major battle of the Civil War.

"This is a big step," Hillmer said of the offer. "It is good that we have communication going on. Our attorneys will be looking at this."

Missouri Partners wants to build almost 2,500 homes on a 2,240-acre tract, known as Terrell Creek, that runs west from the park and straddles Christian and Greene counties. Defenders of the park, including Roseann Blunt, the mother of Gov. Matt Blunt, warn that approaching development is threatening the 1,750-acre battlefield.

The 155 acres are across Highway ZZ from the battlefield. Missouri Partners had wanted to build houses along ZZ, but Hillmer argued the area has historical significance as a Confederate campground and an escape route for a retreating Union column.

Last year, U.S. Rep. Roy Blunt, R-Mo. and former husband of Roseann Blunt, won passage of a law allowing the park to expand into six areas, including the 155-acre tract.

The letter from Steve Redford, president of Missouri Partners, lists a price of \$17,000 an acre, minus a \$5,000 per-acre company donation, for a cost of \$1.8 million, Hillmer said. He said the Park Service will respond.

The Christian County Planning and Zoning Commission is to hold a public hearing on the project on May 2. All but 220 acres of it are in Christian County. Greene County has approved the company's plan for 520 homes.

Redford, 54, of Branson, founded Missouri Partners in 1993 and has developed homes and resorts. In that year, he pleaded guilty in federal court of bankruptcy fraud and of attempted influence of a public official.

In the latter offense, Redford bought a condominium project from a group that included then-Attorney General William Webster to influence state action on one of Redford's business. He received three years' probation.

Webster pleaded guilty that same year of public corruption and was sentenced to two years in prison.

In a statement Thursday, Redford said, "I made a mistake, I owned up to it and paid the price for it. ... I hope that you and everyone will consider the Terrell Creek development on the matters presently at hand and leave the past in the past."

#### IN RELATED NEWS:

### From the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Sunday October 3, 2004, the 6 areas mentioned.

A bill is pending in Congress to allow the National Park Service to acquire six parcels of land, restoring Wilson's Creek to its original battlefield acreage. Those parcels are:

**20 acres** that includes Gen Thomas Sweeney's Museum of Civil War History, considered one of the most complete private collections in existence.

**160 acres** that includes the hilltop where Col. Franz Sigel began bombarding the Confederate encampment.

**150 acres** encompassing the ridge that was the core combat area and later became known as "Bloody Hill"

**200 acres** that includes Guinn Farm, the site of a skirmish between a portion of Sigel's retreating forces and the Missouri State Guard; as well as Telegraph Road, which was critical for transportation and communication, linking southwest Missouri with St. Louis to the north and Arkansas and Fort Smith to the south.

**25 acres** encompassing the approach of union forces under Brig. Gen. Nathaniel Lyon, and the site of the first shots fired when his advance troops clashed with Southern foragers.

**60 acres** that includes the rallying point for Louisiana and Arkansas forces that retreated after fighting, and nearly overwhelming, advancing Union infantry in the opening stages of the battle.



Category: Scenic beauty of a Civil War Site, this is in The Wilderness National Battlefield Park, October, 2004, not a winner! Oh well.





Major General Frederick Steele

From Page 1

The planned pincers failed movement materialize and Steele's 10.000 column of men suffered terrible losses in a of battles with series Confederate forces led by Maj. Gen. Sterling Price and Gen. Edmund Kirby Smith.

General Price

commander of the Confederate District of Arkansas was initially badly out-manned; he had only five brigades of cavalry totaling 3,200 troopers with which to block Steele's advance upon Shreveport. However, at the battles of Elkin's Ferry, Prairie d'Ane, Price's men harassed and slowed the Federals advance to a crawl. After General Banks had been forced to withdraw in Louisiana, the Confederate forces swelled to 12,000 men. The Federal Expedition reeled from one assault to another at Poison Springs, Marks' Mills and Jenkins Ferry. Steele's battered command returned to Little Rock on May 3.

Ed Bearss needs no introduction. He is a living legend in his own time. Mr. Bearss retired on September 30, 1995 after 40 years with the National Park Service and almost 50 years of federal service. For years he served as the Chief Historian of the

National Park Service and now holds the position of Chief Historian emeritus.

He has been hailed as the "Homer of the Civil War." His battlefield tours for the Smithsonian Institution, National Geographic Society, National Trust for Historic Preservation and Civil War Roundtables are renowned for their detail. color and

clarity.

Jim As Lighthizer, president of the Civil War Preservation Trust recently stated, "Ed Bearss is the most valuable living treasure that students of the Civil War have." His encyclopedic



knowledge is legendary. He is the author of *The Vicksburg Campaign* trilogy, *Steele's Retreat From Camden & The Battle of Jenkins Ferry*, *Rebel Victory at Vicksburg*, *Decision in Mississippi*, *Sinking of an Ironclad*, and numerous other books and publications including more than a hundred historical articles in scholarly journals.

He has just completed a new work which will be released by the National Geographic Society in October 2005 entitled *Fields of Honor: Pivotal Battles of the Civil War*. The book collects and expands on his widely popular battlefield tours and details twenty of the "war's most significant battles in lively, detailed prose." This book will stand as an important reference for generations to come.

A native of the Big Sky Country of Montana, Mr. Bearss was reared within a bicycle ride of the Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument. During World War II he served with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Marine Raider Battalion and 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Division in the invasion of Guadalcanal and New Britain. He was badly wounded by machine-gun fire on January 2, 1944 and spent 26 months in various hospitals.

He studied at Georgetown University and received a BS degree in Foreign Service in 1949. He wrote his thesis on Pat Cleburne and in 1955 received his MA from Indiana University.

### COMINGEVENTS

April 16,17, Kansas Reenactment. 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Civil War on the Border at the 1865 Mahaffie Stagecoach Stop & Farm Historic Site, Olathe. Afternoon battles, raids on Mahaffie home, daily fashion shows, sutlers, period music, interpretive activities, Saturday evening meal & dance. New competitions with cash & merchandise prizes for military and civilian impressions & camps, cash bounties for all branches for registration by Feb. 18. For info, Tim Talbott, site manager, (913) 971-5111, <a href="mailto:ttalbott@olatheks.org">ttalbott@olatheks.org</a>.

**April 16,17.** Civil War Encampment. Enjoy a weekend of Civil War history as the Union army reoccupies Fort Scott. Period music, living history demonstrations and portrayals. Fort Scott National Historic Site. 800-245-3678.

Civil War Education Association and The American History Forum and a past speaker of the Round Table, David Hinze, The leading presenters of American History Seminars, Symposia and Tours. They have many things going on year round, for more information and some really nice battlefield tours, contact them at; <a href="https://www.cwea.net">www.cwea.net</a>.

### PEA RIDGE PAINTINGS

Carthage, Mo.—Artist Andy Thomas of Maze Studio has completed 10 paintings depicting the Battle of Pea Ridge in Arkansas. They will be used in the wayside replacement project at Pea Ridge National Military Park. It is expected that the old 1963 wayside panels will be replaced with the new ones by early 2006.

Civil War Round Table of Kansas City P. O. Box 6202 Shawnee Mission, Kansas 66206 Thomas says the paintings document the battle, from the digging of trenches in early 1862 to the charge on March 8, and sites such as Van Dorn's headquarters. The paintings are available for exhibition and can be seen at <a href="https://www.andythomas.com">www.andythomas.com</a>.

**Kansas "Save The Flags" Conservation Project**, Kansas State Historical Society Inc. 6425 SW 6<sup>th</sup> Ave., Topeka, KS 66615-1099. The ongoing project is raising funds for the conservation of approximately 80 flags and banners, mostly from Kansas civil War and Spanish American War regiments. Also included are flags from the Bleeding Kansas era and Confederate flags.

Costs of conservation very with the condition of the flags. Donations go directly toward flag conservation. In past years, a storage cabinet has been purchased and 27 flags have been conserved.

Additional information, including an on-line tour of the 2002 special exhibit, "Keep the Flag to the Front: Battle Flags of Kansas," can be found on the historical society's web site.

For information: Museum Curator Blair D. Tarr, (785) 272-8681 x427; e-mail: <u>btarr@kshs.org</u>; www.kshs.org.

### IMPORTANT:

Those of you who are receiving this via e-mail, remember, you do not have a self addressed envelope anymore, you must still send your reservation in to: Paul H. Gault, 7118 N. Congress Ave., Kansas City, MO 64152-2948, these reservations need to be in to him by the date on page one at the bottom. Thank you!



