



BORDER

BUGLE

Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City



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Civil War Round Table of

Kansas City

P.O. Box 2602

Shawnee Mission, KS

66206

An IRC 501(c)(3)

Charitable Organization

402st REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, April 22, 2008

Homestead Country Club

6510 Mission Road, Prairie Village, Kansas

Social Hour-Cash Bar-6:00p.m.

Dinner-6:30p.m.

APRIL 2008

SANDY BARNARD

"Where Custer Fell: Photographs of the
Little Bighorn Battlefield Then and Now."

Sandy Barnard, a journalist and non-fiction writer for nearly 40 years, specializes in researching the Civil War and the Plains Indian wars. He is well-known for his research and writing on the Battle of the Little Bighorn, the career of Lt. Col. George Armstrong Custer, and the men of the 7th U.S. Cavalry who served with him or followed him. Barnard is especially recognized for his expertise on newspaper reporter Mark H. Kellogg, killed with Custer at the Little Bighorn; First Sgt. John Ryan, a prominent Little Bighorn survivor; and Major Joel H. Elliott, a key 7th Cavalry officer in the 1860s. In the 1980s, Barnard assisted the National Park Service with media relations during archeological projects at then-Custer Battlefield National Monument.

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**Please be sure that we have your reservation by Friday Apr. 18. Return reservation
In the enclosed envelope with required payment of \$20.00 per person to;
Paul Gault, 7118 N. Congress Ave., K.C. Mo. 64152.**

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.

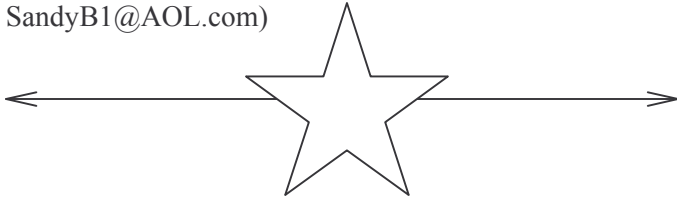
Attendance requires a paid dinner reservation.

His publications include *Where Custer Fell*, a study of historic photographs of the Little Bighorn Battlefield in collaboration with James S. Brust and Brian C. Pohanka that was published in 2005. His own most recent book, published in 2004, is the third edition of *Digging Into Custer's Last Stand*, which first appeared in 1986. His other books include:

- *Campaigning with the Irish Brigade: Pvt. John Ryan, 28th Massachusetts;*
- *Ten Years with Custer, a 7th Cavalryman's Memoirs*, which received the John M. Carroll Book of the Year Award from the Little Bighorn Associates in 2002;
- *Custer's First Sergeant John Ryan;*
- *I Go With Custer, The Life and Death of Reporter Mark Kellogg;*
- *Shovels & Speculation, Archeologists Hunt Custer;*
- *Speaking About Custer.*

For 19 years, he has been the editor of the annual *Greasy Grass* magazine published by the Custer Battlefield Historical & Museum Association. A U.S. Army veteran who received the Bronze Star Medal while serving as an intelligence officer in Vietnam in 1968-1969, Barnard holds degrees from Boston College and the University of Missouri School of Journalism. A retired journalism professor at Indiana State University, he lives in Wake Forest, N.C., where he operates AST Press and Rare Books.

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SPEAKERS FOR 2008

I'm afraid we don't have all the particulars on the 2008 speakers as of yet.

April 22; Sandy Bernard, "Where Custer Fell: Photographs of the Little Bighorn Battlefield Then and Now."

May 27; Louis Kraft, We will have another silent book auction.

Summer; No meals in the three summer meetings, but they have always been good, try to make one or three!

June 24; Col. (Ret) Edwin Kennedy will be speaking on "Civil War Horses."

July 22; We have a few choices!!! All good!

August 26; Jackie Roberts, Cass County Civil War historian and Cass Co. Civil War Round Table member will s on "The Burning of Dayton."



MENU FOR APRIL 2008;

Spinach and Arugula Salad with Tomatoes, Nuts, Goat Cheese and Sherry Vinaigrette, Stuffed Chicken, Roulade Buttered Herb Potatoes, Petite Green Beans Almondine, Brownie Sundae, Vanilla Ice Cream and Chocolate Sauce



COMING EVENTS.....

April 17-20: "War in The Ozarks: Trans-Mississippi and Missouri." Civil War Preservation Trust Annual Conference, Springfield, Missouri.

April 19-20: Mahaffie Station, Civil War Re-enactment, 12th Annual Event, Olathe Kansas.

May 16, 17, & 18, 2008: "Stand of Colors," the Missouri//Kansas Campaign of 1864. Kansas City, Mo., Civil War Battles will come to life next year in the metro area. The Kansas City Rotary Club announced that the largest Civil War Reenactment ever staged in the metro area will be held next May.

The event called "Stand of Colors," will be a fundraiser for the Rotary's youth camp.

More than 1200 re-enactors are expected to take part in battles on 400 acres at the Jerry Smith Farm Park at 139th and Holmes Road in Kansas City, Missouri. The "Battle of Westport" will be one of the campaigns that will be re-created.

"There are a lot of Junior High students in the metropolitan area who spend their years studying the Civil War. We are going to bring it to life for them via this re-enactment," said Rotary Club President Chuck Vogt Jr.

Check it all out on the World Wide Web at:
<http://standofcolors.com/index.asp>.

June 28-29: Waverly, Missouri Civil War Festival, Waverly, Mo.



BATTLEFIELD DISPATCHES #61

"Foxes & Jayhawkers Killed & Captured"

In the Spring of 1862, the Union Forces in Missouri and Kansas were waging a frustrating war against the cunning Confederate Foxes (guerrillas) and the murderous Kansas Jayhawkers (outlaws & redlegs). Violent incidents involving these culprits were especially common and more prevalent along or near the border of Kansas and Missouri. The following after action reports describe the pursuit of the Chief Confederate Fox, Capt. William Clark Quantrill; the killing & capture of some of his men and the killing of some Kansas Jayhawkers in Missouri along the Marais-des-Cygnés River. Both reports are on Pages 57-58 & 63 in Series I, Vol. 13 of the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion.

“Headquarters District of Central Missouri, Jefferson City, Mo., April 19, 1862.

Captain: I have the honor to state that I have received official reports from Lieut. Colonel E. B. Brown, commanding Jackson & Cass Counties, to the effect that at daylight on the morning of the 14th of April a detachment of the 1st Missouri Cavalry, under Lieut. Nash, attacked Quantrill near the Santa Fe Road and 12 miles from Independence, [Mo.], killing 4, wounding 4 and taking 5 prisoners. The report also states that our troops captured all of the horses, arms [weapons], accouterments and most of the clothing of the OUTLAWS!

JAS. TOTTEN, Brig.-Gen., Cmdg., District.”

“Headquarters, Independence, Mo., April 16, 1862.

Captain: Having through my scouts [normally civilians hired as guides] tracked Quantrill for the past 5 days, I received information last night that gave promise of making a successful ATTACK on his BAND! After making arrangements with one of the scouts to meet the command at Ray Point with reliable information as to his movements, I ordered Lieut. G.W. Nash, with 30 men of the 1st Missouri cavalry to move to that point at Midnight, and be governed in his preparations by the information he received there. The night was dark and a heavy thunderstorm raged until 4 o'clock in the morning, effectually concealing the movements of the command. At daylight it reached a small, old log house, 2 miles from any traveled road and about 12 miles from here, in the direction of Santa Fe, where Quantrill was housed. He was completely surprised, and Lieut. Nash charged on his farm as they were flying to the brush, about 20 rods from the brush, killing 4, wounding 4 and capturing 5 prisoners, all the horses, accouterments, most of their arms and clothing, most of Quantrill's men running off barefooted and coatless. Lieut. Nash, for his

perseverance in pursuing Quantrill and his bravery in the charge, deserves especial notice of the commanding general.

E.B. BROWN, Lieut. Colonel, Commanding.”

“Headquarters District of Central Missouri, Jefferson City, Mo., April 16, 1864.

Captain: I have the honor to report that communications from Col. Fitz Henry Warren, 1st Iowa Cavalry, commanding Sub-District of Bates, Henry, Saint Clair and Vernon counties, headquarters at Butler, have been received, announcing [the] result of two scouts [patrols] under Captains Chase & Caldwell. The former brought 15 prisoners, some of them VERY BAD MEN; the latter assisted by Captain Leffingwell's Company, from Clinton, 34 prisoners. One of the JAYHAWKERS was KILLED by a rifle shot in attempting an escape. One of our men was captured but retaken, after being robbed of his horse, saddle, arms and clothes except for shirt & drawers. Most of these MEN are of the WORST [KIND] & OUGHT to be SHOT or HUNG! The whole wooded country of the Marais-des-Cygnés, Osage and their tributaries is FULL of THEM! These scouts took place on the Marais-des-Cygnés and Elk Fork Rivers.

JAS. TOTTEN, Brig. Gen., Cmdg. District.”

The Chief Confederate Fox managed to escape again to fight another day, but the war was over for a few of his men and some Jayhawkers.



Missouri Life Magazine

The Round Table (Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri) had a special opportunity to place an ad in the spring issue of *Missouri Life* to let everyone know of our Battle of the Little Blue and Battle of Westport tours on May 10, 2008. We will be giving more details next month, but if you have not yet taken the guided bus tours, please put this on your calendar. Even if you have taken the tours before, we plan to make some new stops this year. The Battle of the Little Blue starts from the Old Blake at 9:00 a.m. and returns there at noon for lunch on your own or brown bag. The Battle of Westport tour starts at 1:00 p.m. from the Old Blake and returns at 5:00 p.m. The price for members is

\$10.00 for morning and \$10.00 for afternoon, (\$15.00 for non-members) and will include explanatory booklets and maps.

The following weekend, May 17-18, 2008 you have the opportunity to see a world class reenactment of the Battle of Westport at the the Jerry Smith Farm at 139th and Holmes.

Missouri Life has published a new softcover book called *The Civil War's First Blood, Missouri, 1854-1861* by James Denny and John Bradbury.



“Fate Of Unknown Slave Remains Entangled In Battle Between City And Descendants Of Slave Owners”

Domnick Hadley, Olathe CALL Staff Writer

The bones are talking.

And archaeologist Jimmy Johnson, Warren Watkins and a slew of Platte county residents hear them loud and clear. The bones tell the stories of descendants who once occupied an area dubbed Little Dixie, a hemp producing community that trailed the upper south and northwestern corners of Missouri.

The descendants, mainly white land owners, migrated from southern slave states including Virginia, Kentucky and Tennessee in search of cheap and fertile land, according to historical accounts.

But more important than the circumstances in which they arrived, now, is the history they left behind. A history which includes the lives of thousands of African American slaves.

Johnson, Watkins, and descendants of the land owners are in a fight with city government to halt development on tracts of land where four known homestead cemeteries exist.

Also at issue, are the unknown remains that Johnson and Watkins contend are those of slaves and Native Americans buried on the acreage. Officials with Kansas City Aviation department are seeking a court order to relocate remains from the cemeteries to a site near Tiffany Springs Park. The graves would be moved to make way for future expansion of the Kansas City International Airport and KCI Motorsports Park, a high performance motor sports country club racetrack for high performance motor sport racing.

According to Assistant City Attorney Melody Cockrell, the unknown remains -- those of the slaves and Native Americans -- are no longer an issue. Lack of evidence from a previous dig commissioned by Johnson erased the unknown remains from the initial petition, she said.

Having no factual information, we removed the allegations of any slave remains being found, Ms. Cockrell said. There is nothing for the court to do at this point. But Robert Shaw, the court appointed attorney representing the known and unknown remains, along with Johnson and Watkins, argue otherwise. And, they are taking steps they believe are necessary to ensure that the history of all descendants, slaves and slave owners, remain undisturbed.

The Beginning Johnson's road to discovery began in the mid 1980s. As a child, Johnson's grandmother would recount stories of his great grandfather, George Washington -- a slave in Platte County, Mo.

Washington was a slave of the Miller farm, a hemp farm located in the southeastern regions of Platte county. Washington, lured by hopes of freedom, crossed the frozen Missouri River in 1862 to Quindaro, Kas.

Following his escape, he joined the First Kansas Colored Volunteer Infantry Regiment to fight for the union during the Civil War. Those stories fueled a quest to uncover the history his grandmother had once vividly described to him. That quest led him to the historical archives in Platte county in search for anything he could find about his great grandfather. I remember my grandmother telling me that George Washington didn't cross the Potomac, he crossed the frozen Missouri river, Johnson said. This was the most interesting story I ever heard in my life. In the mid-1980s, I said, wait a minute. If he was a slave in Platte county, I'm an archaeologist . . . maybe I can find where he was manumitted -- where he was a slave. Johnson's quest for knowledge proved successful. His research revealed Washington's slave owner was Jesse Miller, the husband of Margaret Waller -- who originally migrated from Virginia with her first husband, Lewis. According to Johnson's research, 1-year-old Washington was gifted to the Waller's as a wedding present. He was then taken by wagon train to Platte County, where the Waller's eventually settled. Her husband died and later remarried, Jesse Miller, and ownership transferred to him. With that information in his possession, Johnson traveled to Platte county in search of his roots.

Guided by local historian Shirley Kimsey, he tracked down Miller's closest descendant, Gordon

Miller. They met and became great friends. He still had those sentiments, he said. He called me colored and Negro. I understand that I was the first black man to ever walk in his house. This was hard core. So, after a rocky relationship we developed to be real, real good friends, Johnson continued. He melded and I melded and I felt like his younger brother. Miller and his brother would take Johnson out into the woods to the land which had once housed the old hemp farm. The two originally had hopes of publishing a book together. However, Miller died of a heart attack a couple of years after they met. That didn't stop Johnson's quest for knowledge. Miller's son, Olin, was more than willing to assist Johnson in his search. Johnson applied for grant money through the Missouri Department of Natural Resources to perform historical research on what he dubbed the peculiar institution of slavery in Platte county. The research, of both archival and physical artifacts, was eye opening for Johnson. More than 114,509 slaves lived in Missouri in the 1860s. Of those, 5,972 slaves lived in Platte county between 1840-1860, valued at more than \$2.3 million, according to Census records.

Johnson also found that slavery in Missouri was not as brutal as its deep southern counterparts -- except for probable evidence suggesting that Miller chained slaves in the root cellar to prevent their escape. Slavery in northwest Missouri was entirely different, he said. It was smaller. George probably called his slave master by his first name and vice versa. We found bones of a lot of small game which led me to believe that some of these slaves were probably running around there shooting small game with mussel loading rifles. However, slaves did escape. Johnson then compiled a 60-page report detailing his findings, a report that he dedicated to his grandmother and friend, Gordon Miller.

The Middle In 2007, several years after Johnson's report was released, officials with the city's Aviation department filed a petition to exhume the cemeteries occupying a stretch of land slated for the motorsport park. The white locals are in an uproar, Johnson recalled of their sentiments toward building a race park over their ancestor's graves. Miller contacted the Bruce R. Watkins Cultural center and was transferred to Warren Watkins, who began the search for other slave descendants believed to be buried on the grounds. The court granted Watkins and Johnson permission to conduct a dig for slave remains. Although they didn't find any remains, both Watkins and Johnson believe more effort is necessary to properly locate the unknown. The city's contention is that there are (no slaves), which is bull crap, Johnson said. Ten thousand black slaves just don't die and ascend to heaven bones and all. The End?

The issue on whether or not the city has grounds to relocate the existing cemeteries remains in limbo. Platte County Judge Abe Shafer ordered both parties to submit recommendations by April 1, which he will consider for his ruling. Ms. Cockrell says the slave remains are no longer a point of contention, because of their removal from the original petition. However, if any slave remains were found in the course of digging, she says the city would have to stall the project to determine how they would be handled. Nothing was found, Ms. Cockrell said. Mr. Johnson determined that nothing was found. (Our archaeologist) has said that sometimes in his experience slaves or other people would be found on the perimeter of known cemeteries. We would have to stop and identify (those remains if found). All that's theoretical at this point. However, Shaw plans to present recommendations for the known and unknown to remain undisturbed. You are not going to find everyone, Shaw said. I am going to ask that certain precautions are taken to give the best opportunity for them to be found and treated with respect.

And in the middle of the battle are Watkins and Johnson, who have their own ideas of how the issue should be resolved. Johnson's recommendations include the launching of an advanced search using computerized ground penetrating radar. He also recommends that the city contract with the University of Kansas to extract and store DNA material for future identification and place the site on the state and national Registry of Historical Places -- protecting it from future development. Watkins has also filed a motion to set aside any ruling rendered, in hopes of moving the case to federal court. But no matter what decision is made, Johnson and Watkins won't go down without a fight. This is a golden opportunity, Johnson said. The unknown are all around them (land owners) and they are screaming yeah we're here -- oh yeah, those bones are talking. (It's) a golden opportunity to get black, white and red, and tell their whole stories just the way it happened. We hear our relatives talking to us, Watkins said. We are not going to stop, they were worth it. If you've got both sides trying to make it right, it's a common goal. We've already come together, but who are we fighting? The city of Kansas City, Watkins continued. On one side, the city of Kansas City gives funds to Black Archives to preserve black historical things. But on the other end, they are trying to deny they even existed. There's something wrong with that.



Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area

On the editorial page of the *Kansas City Star* on February 24, 2008, the following article appeared

under the byline "Opening a door to our past."

Guess what portion of the country this statement was used to describe. "This is the caldron in which the Civil War boiled."

Yes, right here: Missouri and the territory that eventually became the state of Kansas.

The comment, made decades ago in an Eastern newspaper, points to the historic significance of this region in the development of the United States before and after the Civil War.

Educating people to more thoroughly understand that history is the goal of a dedicated group of people behind the region's designation as the Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area.

In October, 2006, Congress designated 41 counties in Kansas and Missouri as a national heritage area. The distinction means federal money should eventually be available to help tell the story of eastern Kansas and western Missouri.

The lands will remain in private ownership, but historic sites on them may be developed for educational purposes, tourism and economic growth. Significant and interlocking pieces of the region's story will be explored: slavery, abolition, forced migrations of Native tribes, settler immigration, the Santa Fe and Oregon Trails and, in later years, the racial issues raised in the Brown vs. Board of Education case.

Many present-day residents recognize famous names such as John Brown, Carrie Nation, Jesse James and William Clarke Quantrill.

But much can be accomplished by this effort to link those stories - perhaps in maps and interactive exhibits - so more people will realize how local history helped shape the nation.

Go to www.FreedomsFrontier.org for more information.

John Brown, The Opera

The Lyric Opera of Kansas City, Missouri will present the world premiere of a new opera called "John Brown" on May 3, 5, 7, 9, and 11 at the Lyric Opera Theatre at 1029 Central. It traces his career from the conflict in Kansas in 1855 to his hanging at Harpers Ferry. Beverly Shaw has brochures for ordering tickets which start at \$17. Pat Gradwohl has found an inexpensive way to attend the opera and that is to serve as an usher. Ask her for details.

Many of our members have seen the John Brown statue near the Quindaro ruins in Kansas City, Kansas. It is pictured in our "Monuments" book, and we have taken trips there before. The February 24, 2008 issue of the *Star Magazine* had an extensive article about the Jackson Jubilee Singers and the Western University that stands in ruins around the statue.

Thank you to the C.W.R.T. of The Ozarks and the C.W.R.T of Western Missouri for allowing me to borrow (steal) some articles



Photos by Mike Epstein, Little Big Horn Reenactment, June, 1999, Hardin, Montana.

