



# 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



## 420<sup>th</sup> REGULAR MEETING

**TUESDAY, April 27, 2010**

**Homestead Country Club**

6510 Mission Road, Prairie Village, Kansas

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

Dinner-6:30p.m.

## APRIL 2010 SPEAKER CONFEDERATE PRESIDENT JEFFERSON DAVIS

The war is over, the South is defeated. One of the most outstanding statesmen of the United States during the first 60 years of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Pres Davis sacrificed everything to defend the South's position regarding the rights and conservative interpretation of the Constitution. Against staggering odds he led the South and held it together in the bloody War Between the States. The President will explain the noble if failed southern effort to save the constitution from destruction at the hands of the Yankees. He will explain how the southern way of life and the rights of peaceful loyal Americans were trampled and destroyed by northern aggression. He will further discuss the war effort, his leadership and his relationship and issues with his generals.

Join us at our April meeting as President Davis will give an in-depth defense of the Southern cause.

***Please be sure that we have your reservation by Friday Apr. 23. Return reservation in the enclosed envelope with required payment of \$25.00 per person to; Paul Gault, 7118 N Congress Ave., Kansas City, MO 64152.***

If you have questions or your payment is unavoidably tardy, please contact Assistant Treasurer Betty Ergovich at 913 441-6462.

**Attendance requires a paid dinner reservation.**

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

### Programming

**April:** President Jefferson Davis

**May:** Author Greg Clemmer presents "Old Allegheny Johnson.", Silent Book Auction

**Summer** Programming, June, July, August, (no meals) We will be moving the summer programs to the Kansas City Public Library at 4801 Main St. in Kansas City, MO where there is no charge for the use of a meeting room. At the country club, we have to pay \$175.00 per session, with three sessions, that's \$525.00 with no food and limited beverage. No brainer there.

**September:** Author Tom Lafinere: Civil War Cass County

**October:** Tentative, Frederick Douglas

**November:** Jim Beckner, The Old Confederate Homes

**December:** To be determined & Silent Book Auction

### Tours

Col Jack Brookes will host a tour of Ft Leavenworth in July for our RT members and others who would like to attend. More from Col Brookes in this issue. The RT will also sponsor a Mine Creek tour in October. We certainly hope that many of you will be able to attend. More to follow on that tour later in the season. However, if you feel you would not be able to make our Oct tour, the CWRT of Western Mo will host that same Mine Creek tour on May 15th. See their web site for this and other tours they may sponsor.

### Lee's Last Hurrah

Five years after the war the beloved former general set out on a sentimental journey through the Southland. His journey would take him through many communities and states as far south as Palatka, Florida. Lee was practically worshiped by those who were able to see him during this trip and Lee was deeply moved by this reception. "Crowds came. Wounded old soldiers, servants, and working men" came out to see the old General. One such was a child, 13 year old from Columbia SC. He would later become a president of Princeton Univ, and Gov of New Jersey. His name was Woodrow

Wilson, later to become President of the United States.

### MENU FOR APRIL 2010;

Caesar Salad, Grilled Mahi Mahi, Orange Rice, Chef's choice of Vegetables, and Chocolate Mousse

### TRIVIA

Who was the last Civil War soldier to retire as a general?

### Name Tags

If you are in need of a name tag please notify Jack Brooks at 913-648-2517. There is a small price for the tag and Jack can discuss that with you.

### *"The Sargeant Major's Roar"*

Battlefield Dispatches #154

### **"Execution by Hanging"**

During the Civil War, military justice for committing capital crimes such as murder, rape & desertion in the face of the enemy was execution by hanging or by a firing squad. This of course was true for soldiers of both the Blue & the Gray. There was also another form of justice that preceded and occurred after the Civil War and that was "Vigilante Justice". In time of war, this form of justice was perpetrated together or separately by civilians & soldiers. For this to occur, the crime had to be so heinous or the individual who committed it so bad that no one could or would wait for the slow moving wheels of justice to arrive at a verdict. Such was the case & fate of one John F. Bolin who was a famous or infamous, depending on your perspective, "Bushwhacker" in southeast Missouri. John F. Bolin was a member & perhaps leader of the "Bolin Gang" that was "Bad to the Bone" and had terrorized the "Union" towns & citizens of extreme southeast Missouri from the beginning of the Civil War to his capture & "EXECUTION BY HANGING" on February 6, 1864. The "Bolin Band" was also very successful in attacking "Union" supply trains, garrisons & killing Blue Belly Billy Yanks which is what they were supposed to do & did.

The following is the brief account of the capture & Vigilante Justice that John F. Bolin received on February 6, 1864. All of the documents are located on Pages 243, 244, 248,253 & 254 in Vol. 34, Part 2 Correspondence of the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion.

“Cape Girardeau, [Mo.]; February 4, 1864.

General Fisk,

Commanding:

A detachment from my regiment yesterday attacked the “Bolin Gang” on Halcolm Island. Our force was under Captain Shibley. They killed 7 men & captured 8 & among them “Bolin” himself. We have him sure. They were on this side foraging. He took 15 wagons of corn, mostly citizens & 13 horses. They report that McRae is preparing to cross with 400 men & attack Bloomfield. They will be welcomed. None of our force were killed.

J.B. ROGERS,

Colonel, Commanding.”

“Cape Girardeau, February 4, 1864.

General Fisk,

Commanding:

Bolin is on the way here tied. Shall I shoot him without trial or try him by a drum-head court martial & muster him out? [Then kill him?]

J.B. ROGERS,

Colonel, Commanding.”

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“Headquarters Saint Louis District,  
Saint Louis, February 4, 1864.

Col. J. B. Rogers,

Cape Girardeau, Mo.:

I congratulate the “Bolin” catchers. How many “Bolin’s” are there in Southeast Missouri? McRae will wish that he had not come to Bloomfield, should he make a pilgrimage to Stoddard County.

CLINTON B. FISK,

Brigadier-General.”

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“Cape Girardeau, February 4, 1864.

General Fisk,

Commanding:

The capture of Bolin was a mistake. No one knew the FIEND until he was brought in & RECOGNIZED by CITIZENS. We are ready to rectify all such mistakes. There are three of the Bolins. We do not fear McRae.

J. B. ROGERS,

Colonel Commanding.”

“Cape Girardeau, February 5, 1864.

General Fisk,

Commanding:

We have Lieut. John F. Bolin here in irons. He commanded at the Round Pond Massacre; is guilty of many COLD-BLOODED MURDERS of citizens. Let me convene the commission & try him here, as all the witnesses are here. The FEELING here is intense against his being sent away from here for trial.

What shall be done with the prisoners captured with Bolin? They claim to be regular soldiers in the rebel army. There are 7 of them.

J. B. Rogers

Colonel Commanding.”

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“Headquarters Saint Louis District  
Saint Louis, February 5, 1864.

Col. J. B. Rogers,

Cape Girardeau, Mo.:

Let Bolin’s men be tried by the [military] commission. If they are regular soldiers of the rebel army they will be able to show it. They are undoubtedly guerrillas. CLINTON B. FISK,  
Brigadier General.”

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“Cape Girardeau, Mo., February 6, 1864.

General Fisk:

I regret [Note: I am sure not very much] to report that at a late hour last night a large crowd of soldiers & citizens took the prisoner, John F. Bolin, from the custody of the guard & HUNG him. All was done by most of the officers that could be done to prevent it, but without success. No force could be used, owing to the fact that no symptom of their intention was manifested until too late & nearly all the AVAILABLE FORCE was ENGAGED in the ACT!

J. B. ROGERS,

Colonel, Commanding.

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“Headquarters, Saint Louis District,  
Saint Louis, February 6, 1864.

Col. J. B. Rogers,

Cape Girardeau, Mo.:

It will hardly be necessary to give “Bolin” a trial.

CLINTON B. FISK,

Brigadier General

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“Cape Girardeau, Mo., February 6, 1864.

General Fisk,

Commanding:

While I think the hanging of Bolin just, I regret that it was done by violence, without trial. Your telegram to me will be misunderstood as WINKING at it. I apprehend [believe there will be] further violence. I will be obliged if you will GIVE ME A REPRIMAND or a hint to allow no more violence, so I may the better be able to restrain my men.

J. B. ROGERS  
Colonel, Commanding.”

[NOTE: Please remember that this incident of “Vigilante Justice” was perpetrated by “Union” Missouri Soldiers & Citizens against a Missouri “Bushwhacker”. So it is no surprise that Col. Rogers asked for help from his commanding officer in an attempt to prevent this type of execution from happening again.]

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“Headquarters Saint Louis District,  
Saint Louis, February 6, 1864

Col. J. B. Rogers,  
Cape Girardeau:

I much regret that you failed to restrain your men from the unlawful proceedings resulting in the HANGING of Bolin. Such acts of violence demoralize both soldiers & citizens. Take prompt & decisive steps to restrain further violence toward the prisoners yet in custody. I would prefer that NO SUCH VILLIANS be taken prisoner [in other words kill them rather than taking them as prisoners], but after they have been captured & imprisoned within our lines, law & order & the well being of the community imperatively demand that they receive a proper trial & be punished for their crimes in the manner prescribed by law.

CLINTON B. FISK,  
Brigadier General.”

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Now then, it is not known whether Bolin’s men were ever tried by a military commission. Did they escape to fight another day or were they held as prisoners of war for the duration of the war? What is known, is that Lieut. John F. Bolin was EXECUTED by HANGING as a result of “Vigilante Justice”, other Bolin’s continued to fight as Confederate guerrillas and the war went on!

## 2010 LOCAL AND COMING EVENTS

**April 24-25** - Plattsburg, MO., -Reenactment. 146th Anniversary of the Battle of Plattsburg, MO Saturday and Sunday, April 24 - 25, 2010 – 1:00

p.m. Reenactments Perkins Park, Plattsburg, MO. Quilt show, storytelling-local history, 1800’s period ball with live music, Sunday worship service. For more info go to <http://webstarts.com/1864plattsburg> or call Bev McCulloch at (816) 370-2532.

**April 24** - Historic Sibley Cemetery Tours Saturday, 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Fort Osage National Historic Landmark, Sibley, MO. A presentation at the Education Center will talk about the oldest cemetery in Jackson County and some of its notable interments such as Zenus Leonard, an early mountain man, followed by a guided tour of the Sibley Cemetery. Adults - \$7, Youth - \$4, Seniors - \$3.

**April 24** - Dedication of Fort Sand Springs Marker (Marshfield, MO), Saturday, 1:30 p.m. Conklin Substation, corner of 38 Highway and Timber Ridge Road (8 Miles NW of Marshfield, MO). Mary Whitney Phelps Tent No. 22 of the Daughters of Union Veterans will dedicate a marker to soldiers of the Civil War. In case of rain: Timber Ridge Baptist Church.

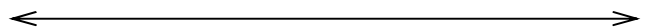
**April 23-25** – Keokuk, IA., -Reenactment

**May 14-16** – Harrisonville, MO – Kids Club meeting- for all re-enactors under 15 years of age. Call 816-380-4396 for information.

**May 14-16** – Newtonia, MO.- Filming of Newtonia Documentary.

**May 15** - MINE CREEK BATTLEFIELD TOUR Saturday, May 15, 2010 - The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri is offering a guided bus tour to the Battle of Mine Creek near Pleasonton, Kansas on Saturday May 15, 2010. The bus will have two pickup points—one at the Blue & Grey Book Shoppe, 106 E. Walnut, Independence, Missouri, at 9 am and another at the Battle of Westport Museum at the main entrance of Swope Park in Kansas City, Missouri, at 10 am. The cost is \$30 for all day to pay for transportation and admittance fees with a fast food lunch on your own, or you can bring a brown bag. Estimated time of return is 4:30 pm at Swope Park and 5 pm in Independence.

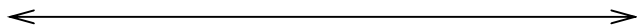
Reservations may be made by sending a check payable to “CWRTWM,” 17313 E. 51 Ter. Ct., Independence, MO 64055. The cost is \$30 per person with lunch on your own. Please include a contact phone number and whether you will join the tour in Independence or Swope Park in Kansas City. In order to reserve a touring bus, we must have reservations by April 20, 2010. For more information call Beverly Shaw at 816 225-7944.



**August 12-14 2011** – Springfield, Missouri. Wilson's Creek Reenactment Planned for 2011 The Wilson's Creek National Battlefield Foundation has begun planning a maximum-effort Civil War reenactment to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Wilson's Creek. The reenactment will take place during the weekend of August 12-14, 2011.

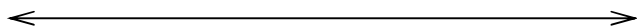
Excitement is already building for the Civil War sesquicentennial, and as the second major battle of the war, Wilson's Creek compels a great deal of attention in the reenactment community. The Western Division of the Blue-Gray Alliance, a reenactor organization, will help design battle scenarios and handle all military aspects of the reenactment.

Due to the high level of interest, the Blue-Gray Alliance anticipates that this will be a well-attended event, with more than 3,000 reenactors and huge crowds of spectators. Although a location has not yet been selected, it will be held as close to Wilson's Creek National Battlefield as possible. Watch for more details and updates on the Foundation web site at [www.wilsonscreek.com](http://www.wilsonscreek.com).



## **NEW MEMBERS.....**

**John C. Purtell**, 4051 E. Dardenelle Pl., Springfield, MO 65809; phone 417-882-8787; email [jc\\_pd@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jc_pd@sbcglobal.net).



## **Death of a CWRTKC Member**

It is with a sad heart that I must inform you that long-time CWRTKC member Loren Lundy passed away on Wednesday March 17. Loren was 100 years old. He had participated in the Kansas City Saint Patrick's Day Parade with his Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp. He had a wonderful time as he waved out the window to the crowds of people lining the streets. After the parade we all went back to the Harris-Kearney House. Loren asked to use the restroom so I helped him from the car and supported him as we walked to the house. Inside the house he collapsed. We called 911 and they arrived within three minutes. He was transported to St. Luke's Hospital where he was pronounced dead. The doctor told me that his heart simply worn out and stopped.

There will be a Memorial Service for Loren on Saturday April 17th. It will be a Newcomer's Funeral Home at 112th and Metcalf at 2:00 p.m. Family and friends are invited to attend.

Spike.

## **FORT LEAVENWORTH TOUR PLANNED**

Due to the unavailability of the "Harvey Girls" Restaurant for our group tour of the Fort and City of Ft. Leavenworth on June 19, the next available date will be Saturday, July 24.

The tour schedule is as follows: 09:30-10:30 Frontier Army Museum, Ft. Leavenworth, 10:30-11:30 Guided tour of Ft. Leavenworth, 11:45-12:45 lunch with "Harvey Girls" at Riverfront Community Center housed in the renovated 1888 Union Depot. Speciality of the restaurant, sliced beef brisket will be served.

The barbershop quartet, "The Possum Holler Four" (in convict outfits), will sing for us.

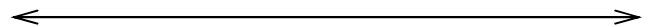
1:00-3:00pm Guided tour of the C. W. Parker Carousel Museum to include a ride on a restored 1913 wooden carousel. A most interesting museum.

3:13-4:15 Guided tour of the Carroll Mansion- a beautiful Victorian mansion. After the Carroll mansion, we head for home.

Cost to include all tours, tips and lunch is \$30.00. Checks should be made out to the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City and mailed to our treasurer, Paul Gault at 7118 N. Congress Ave, Kansas City, MO 64152.

If any member needs additional information, please call Jack Brooks at 913-648-2517 who is the tour director.

P.S. Jack, I can read your writing just fine!



## **FEES WAIVED AT WILSON'S CREEK NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD DURING "NATIONAL PARK WEEK"**

National Parks Director, Jonathan Jarvis, has announced that National Park Week will take place from April 17th to April 25th, 2010. Entrance fees, at all National Park areas, will be waived for the entire period, including Wilson's Creek National Battlefield.

"National parks preserve our heritage, promote recreational experiences, and provide places of quiet refuge," said National Park Service Director Jon Jarvis. "Most people live within a short drive of a national park so I encourage everyone to spend some time enjoying America's Great Outdoors during National Park Week."

Wilson's Creek National Battlefield will waive the usual \$5.00 per individual or \$10.00 per vehicle entrance fee for the entire period of time. According to Supt. Hillmer, "the fees being waived



will provide a wonderful opportunity for all Americans to visit National Parks, especially Wilson's Creek National Battlefield".

**TRIVIA ANSWER** He was 9 year old "Johnny Shiloh", also known as the Drummer Boy of Chickamauga. John Clem would remain in the Army until 1915 when he would retire as a major general.

## School board taps Civil War Generals for elementary names

By Amy Brant – Republic Monitor  
Published: Wednesday, March 24, 2010 12:20 AM CDT

John Schofield, Ben McCulloch, Nathaniel Lyon and Sterling Price — Republic School Board members have decided to capitalize on a unique aspect of the Republic area when renaming its schools next year-tying into the Wilson's Creek National Battlefield.

Each new kindergarten through fifth grade elementary school will be named after a general from the Civil War battle that occurred on Aug. 10, 1860, at Wilson's Creek.

According to Superintendent Vern Minor, the current E-I building will become Schofield Elementary; the current E-II building will be McCulloch Elementary; E-III will be Lyon

Elementary; and the building that is the current middle school will become the fourth elementary school, and will be Price Elementary.

Minor said the board made its decision after several other ideas were considered, and then a lottery was held with the administrators of each building, who drew the name for his/her building.

Once the transitions are complete, Wilson's Creek National Battlefield will be providing a plaque for each building, which will highlight the accomplishments of each individual.

There was some concern that there wouldn't be enough generals involved in the Civil War at Wilson's Creek to provide names for future school growth, but Minor said there are.

### New Building Names

Listed below are the new building names. Wilson's Creek National Battlefield will be providing a plaque for each building which highlights the accomplishments of each individual.

- E1 = Schofield Elementary
- E2 = McCulloch Elementary
- E3 = Lyon Elementary
- E4 = Price Elementary



If you missed last month, you missed a good one, Photos courtesy of Tony Kostusik

