



# BORDER

# BUGLE

Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City



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### Border Bugle Editor

*Michael J. Epstein*

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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

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

**TUESDAY, Dec 15, 2009**

**Homestead Country Club**

6510 Mission Road, Prairie Village, Kansas

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

Dinner-6:30p.m.

## December 2009 Meeting

Great food, a silent book auction, one of the highlights of the year, great company, vignettes, and good cheer. Happy Holidays from the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City and the Monnett Battle of Westport Fund.

**Please be sure that we have your reservation by Friday Dec. 11. Return reservation in the enclosed envelope with required payment of \$22.00 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.**

# 2010 PROGRAMMING

## MENU FOR DECEMBER. 2009;

Caesar Salad, London Broil, Twice Baked Potatoes, Green Beans Almandine, and Pecan Pie w/Chocolate Bourbon Sauce.

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### The National Archives at Kansas City

is one of 13 facilities nationwide where the public has access to Federal archival records. Serving the Central Plains Region, the archives holds records from the states of Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota. Explore the region's history and your own by discovering our exhibit galleries and programs or delving into our research rooms. This large, state-of-the-art facility houses 60 million pages of historical records as far back as 1815 that provide unique evidence of the impact of Federal policies and programs in the Midwestern states. The National Archives at Kansas City serves educators, genealogists, historians, journalists, lawyers, students and others who are researching historical information. We are very excited about our first two exhibits:

**It's Big! (75th Anniversary of National Archives and Records Administration),** May 22, 2009-January 23, 2010 This exhibit features big documents, big ideas, big personalities, and big events from our region. Documents, maps, and photographs from the archives holdings tell stories of human and historical interest.

**The Kansas-Nebraska Act,** May 30 2009-December 31, 2009. This exhibit will center on the Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854 and will focus on the act's impact on the region, its role in the "Bleeding Kansas" conflict, and how it affected national sentiment on the slavery question. The original document will be borrowed from Washington, D.C. for a maximum of 3 months; after that time, a reproduction will be used.

**Hours & Admission Exhibit Gallery hours:** Tues.-Sat, 9:00am - 5:00pm, **Research hours:** Tues.-Sat., 8:00am - 4:00pm. 400 W. Pershing Road, Kansas city, MO. 64108.

**The Kansas City Store at the National Archives hours:** Tues.-Sat., 10:00am- 4:00 pm Hours subject to change due to special programs and weather. Please check our website for current hours. To receive news about forthcoming events and programs, please visit our website: [www.archives.gov/central-plains/kansas-city/](http://www.archives.gov/central-plains/kansas-city/)

We are pleased about our programming for the coming year. We feel we have a diverse group to present to the Round Table including, authors, historians and presenters.

Our January 26<sup>th</sup> speaker will be Stephen Douglas who is campaigning for the Senate in 1858.

February is our own historian Arnold Schofield with the little studied subject of Military Justice.

March and April will be Pres Abraham Lincoln and Pres Jefferson Davis respectively.

Author Gregg Clemmer, the biographer of Confederate Gen Edward "Old Allegheny" Johnson, who has been highly recommended as a speaker from the Clarksville, TN CWRT, will be our May speaker.

We always find local history very interesting. Our Sept speaker is Tom Rafiner, a local historian from Parkville, who has done an in-depth study, and has published a book, of Cass County including census records of that county both before and after the Civil War, where did they go after Oder #11, who returned to the county and when?

We're still working on Oct however our Nov speaker is our own historian Jim Beckner "Who inhabited the Old Confederate homes, how many homes were there and whatever happened to those old Confederate homes?"

The year should be both entertaining and informative.



### NEW MEMBERS.....

**David Pattison,** 3904 W. 102nd Street, Overland Park KS 66207-3611, Phone 913-341-4381



### New Officers for 2010

The JANUARY Round Table meeting will be on January 26, 2010 at our regular time.

The roster listing of officers, etc. should read:

President	Lane Smith
1st V. P.	Alisha Co
2nd V.P.	Judy Smith
Treasurer	Paul Gault



Asst. Treasurer	Betty Ergovich
Recording Secy.	Sylvia Stucky
Corresponding Secy.	Diane Hinshaw
Preservation Dir.	Arnold Schofield
Board of Directors	Don Bates, Sr. Don Bates, Jr. Brian Lawson
Past Presidents	Howard Mann Deb Goodrich James Speicher
Sgt. At Arms	Don Bates, Sr.
Chaplain	Rev. David B. Holloway
Historian	Betty Ergovich
Border Bugle Ed.	Michael J. Epstein
Monnett Battle of Westport Fund	Dan Smith. Chairman (Ex-Officio)

## Christmas During the Civil War

As the war dragged on, deprivation replaced bounteous repasts and familiar faces were missing from the family dinner table. Soldiers used to "bringing in the tree" and caroling in church were instead scavenging for firewood and singing drinking songs around the campfire. And so the holiday celebration most associated with family and home was a contradiction. It was a joyful, sad, religious, boisterous, and subdued event.

**Corporal J. C. Williams, Co. B, 14th Vermont Infantry, December 25, 1862:** *"This is Christmas, and my mind wanders back to that home made lonesome by my absence, while far away from the peace and quietude of civil life to undergo the hardships of the camp, and may be the battle field. I think of the many lives that are endangered, and hope that the time will soon come when peace, with its innumerable blessings, shall once more restore our country to happiness and prosperity."*

**Gilbert J. Barton, Company I of Charlotte, recorded some of the hardships of camp that day:** *"Dec 25th Christmas. Had hard Tack soaked in cold water and then fried in pork Greece [sic]. Fried in a canteen, split into[sic] by putting into the fire & melting the sodder[sic] off. We pick them up on the field left by other soldiers, also had coffee & pork. Ordered up at 5 this morning with guns ready, as it is reported that there are 400 Rebel Cavalry not far off prowling around. Foggy morning."*

**Robert Gould Shaw, then a 2nd lieutenant in the 2d Massachusetts Infantry, writes in 1861, about guard duty near Frederick, MD. He would later earn fame as the commander of the heroic African American unit, the 54th Massachusetts.** *"It is Christmas morning and I hope a happy and merry one for you all, though it looks so stormy for our poor country, one can hardly be in merry humor."*

**On December 24, 1861, Captain Robert Goldthwaite Carter of the 22nd Mass. Vol. Inf. 4th U.S. Cavalry wrote:** *"Christmas Eve, and I am on duty as officer of the day, but I am not on duty to-morrow. As much as I desire to see you all, I would not leave my company alone...I give my company a Christmas dinner to-morrow, consisting of turkey, oysters, pies, apples, etc.; no liquors."*

**John H. Brinton, a Major and Surgeon U.S.V. wrote:** *"During the days preceding Christmas, I received some boxes from home, full of nice comfortable things, and the letter which came to me at that time, you may be sure, made me feel homesick. On Christmas night, I left for St. Louis as my teeth were troubling me, and greatly in need of the services of a dentist. I was fortunate in finding a good one, and in a day or two the necessary repairs were made."*

**From the diary of Private Robert A. Moore, a Confederate soldier: Tuesday, Dec 24th, 1861, camp near Swan's...** *"This is Christmas Eve but seems but little like it to me"* **Wednesday, Dec. 25th, 1861, camp near Swan's...** *"This is Christmas & and very dull Christmas it has been to me. Had an egg-nog to-night but did not enjoy it much as we had no ladies to share it with us."*