



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



418th REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY, February 23, 2010

Homestead Country Club

6510 Mission Road, Prairie Village, Kansas

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

Dinner-6:30p.m.

FEBRUARY 2010 SPEAKER

ARNOLD SCHOFIELD MILITARY JUSTICE

A young Union Soldier has been convicted of a war crime and has been sentenced to execution by firing squad. Today he sits in his 8 ft by 9 ft cell waiting that execution. However, the military court, in ordering the execution, does not have the authority to carry it out. The only authority to approve and carry out that execution is the President of the United States, Abraham Lincoln. What will be the President's decision? Join us at our February meeting for Arnold Sheffield's in depth and interesting presentation of Military Justice in the Civil War.

Please be sure that we have your reservation by Friday Feb 19. 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.

ATTENTION!!!

If your dues have not yet been paid, you will not be in our Roster for 2010, also, please consider getting the Border Bugle by e-mail in the form of a PDF file, the reader for the format is free and any computer can do it and it would save the club some money making it easier to help with preservation and getting good speakers.

MENU FOR FEBRUARY 2010;

Boston Bib Salad, Grilled Turkey
Medallions, Sweet Potatoes, Vegetables Sautee,
and Cheesecake w/Cherry Sauce.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

An Executive Committee meeting was held on Saturday, January 30. Subcommittees established were Membership, Awards, Tours, and Public Events and Education.

Each subcommittee is chaired by one of the presidents of the Round Table. We all understand that each of us have our own personal family schedules therefore trying to get each member to a scheduled meeting can sometimes be difficult however hopefully each subcommittee will be able to meet and report back to the Executive Committee at its next scheduled meeting at the Harris Kearney House, 10 AM, March 6th. As you can see by the subcommittees established that we are in hopes of advancing the agenda of the RT not only for the membership but also to try to expand its community awareness.

Programming

Feb: Arnold Schofield, Military Justice
March: Pres Abraham Lincoln

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 # 59-A

"Swift Justice"

Today, a BRIEF civilian or military criminal trial of 1 day or less is almost unheard of, but during the 19th Century "Swift Justice" often occurred in "Time of Peace" & in "Time of War." Combat by its' very nature is not conducive to the judicial process & during "Field Operations" in the Civil War, trials of guerrillas & bushwhackers no matter how brief, rarely occurred. If they managed to survive & were not killed shortly after they were captured or in the process of being captured, they were escorted, "behind the lines" where a military trial or court-martial could be conducted if their actions warranted one. Therefore, the following edited report that describes the pursuit, capture, trial & execution of (2) Confederate bushwhackers & the courtesies extended to them should be considered the EXCEPTION & NOT the Rule. Especially since all of these incidents occurred in Missouri where the KILLING of Bushwhackers & Guerrillas was the RULE & not the EXCEPTION! The complete report is located on Pages 856-858, Part I, Series I, Vol. 34 of the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion.

"Germantown, Mo., March 31, 1864.

Sir: For the information of the general commanding the District of Central Missouri, I have the honor to transmit, through your headquarters the following report. About 10 P.M. on March 26th, Mr. Short of Deepwater Township, Henry County, Mo., came to my headquarters & informed me that a party of BUSHWHACKERS were in his neighborhood menacing the citizens & committing the most outrageous acts of plunder, also threatening those who had enrolled for police duty at this station.

[PURSUIT]: I immediately dispatched (a detachment) under the command of Sergt. John W. Barkley, of my command, in pursuit. One of the BUSHWHACKERS had in the mean time been severely wounded by Mr. Archibald Colson, a citizen of the neighborhood. This enabled Sergt.

Barkley to overtake the band, who had taken their wounded Confederate with them.

[NIGHT FIGHT]: Barkley came upon them about 1 a.m. & ordered them to surrender; this their leader DEFIANTLY refused. They were strongly posted in the house of a citizen by the name of Matthew Dunn, against whom strong suspicion as an accomplice of the DESPERADOES rests. The leader gave his name as Capt. A. D. Jones, C.S. Army & told Barkley that he was able to defend himself, at the same time OPENING FIRE on Barkley's detachment that was promptly returned. A part of the band that had been plundering in the neighborhood now came DASHING up with WILD YELLS, FIRING RAPIDLY & SHOUTING to their comrades in the house to come out! This, the leader attempted to do, but as he opened the door, a VOLLEY of BULLETS from Barkley's men warned him that if he attempted to rush out, certain death would be the result. He accordingly retreated & a FIGHT WAS KEPT UP DURING THE NIGHT. Barkley not knowing what force might attack him from the outside [of his lines], sent to Johnstown for reinforcements, which were promptly sent by Capt. Galen G. Norton, 2nd Colorado Volunteers, Comdg. at that station, but the BUSHWHACKERS had surrendered before they arrived.

[CAPTURE]: about daylight, finding that they could not escape, the leader proposed to surrender on condition that they should be treated as PRISONERS of WAR! Barkley told them that if they could prove themselves CONFEDERATE soldiers they should be treated as such, but if they were BUSHWHACKERS, they must take the consequences, assuring them that they should have a fair trial, then they surrendered & were brought into camp.

They were dressed in Federal overcoats & equipped with U.S. arms (Remington Revolvers), accoutrements & a quantity of ammunition. On being brought to camp they were placed under strict guard; food was given them, of which the leader partook almost voraciously; the other fellow, who called himself Ratliff, was sullen & refused to eat. Neither would give any truthful answer to any question asked them.

[TRIAL]: After they had been allowed to rest for about 3 hours & the CITIZENS whom they had robbed had collected & identified an amount of property which Sergeant Barkley had captured in

their possession, I called on Capt. Norton, Capt. Deviny, Lieut. Atkinson, Lieut. Page & Sergt. John W. Barkley to TRY their CASE. The witnesses were duly sworn & identified the men as belonging to the band that had committed a number of OUTRAGES during the winter. Jones, the leader, made a shrewd defense until he found himself trapped, when he became bold & said that if the affair was to do over again he would have sent some of the squads to the lower regions [Hades], before he went there; at any rate, he said that "if he had to die, he had paid for his life nine times."

[COURTESIES]: They were allowed to write to their friends (submitting their letters for inspection) & were allowed to send their money & trinkets to their friends also.

[IDENTIFICATION]: It was only at the last moment that they made themselves known. The leader proved to be the NOTORIOUS Benton Gann, of La Fayette County, who has long commanded a MARAUDING BAND on the BORDER. The other was George Harold, of Cass County, one of Gann's men. They refused to give any useful information; said their trial had been fair & that THEY WERE NOT AFRAID TO DIE, which boast they made good.

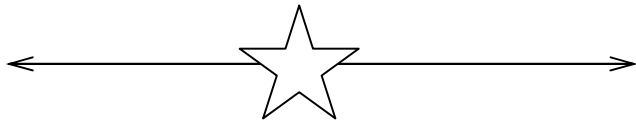
[EXECUTION]: They calmly walked to the grave, looked contemptuously on the detail [firing squad] assembled, said they were ready, quietly folded their arms, kneeled down & met death with a dauntlessness worthy a better cause. AT 10 a.m., MARCH 27TH, pursuant to the resolutions passed on (see evidenced & sentence enclosed) I HAD THEM EXECUTED!

[POSTSCRIPT]: The wounded man, who calls himself Jones, & who had received a number of BUCKSHOT in his body, I have sent to Clinton to be operated upon by Surgeon Hart. I think he will DIE. He is one of the most desperate men I have ever seen. He positively refuses to give any information & scowls on those who come near him. He ought to have been executed at once, but humanity revolts at the thought of executing any one so horribly mutilated as he is at present, BUT IF NOT ORDERED TO THE CONTARY, I SHALL EXECUTE HIM IF HE RECOVERS!

[COMMENDATION]: All praise is due Mr. Archibald Colson, Mr. Hibler & others who fought the desperadoes until Sergt. Barkley's detachment

arrived & his success was attributed to the gallant conduct of Mr. Colson, who shot down the man Jones, who, being so severely wounded, impeded the flight of his comrades, thus enabling Sergt. Barkley to overtake & capture them. Sergt. Barkley deserves the highest praise for the GALLANT MANNER in which he conducted the affair. Such men are justly entitled to the highest credit & should be PROMOTED for GALLANTRY. This achievement is one among the many acts of skill & bravery exhibited by Sergeant Barkley since he has been a member of my company. I would respectfully suggest that as testimonials of their bravery Sergeant Barkley & Mr. Colson each receive a revolver from those captured from Gann & party. The highest praise is due the loyal citizens of Deepwater Township for their assistance in ferreting out these LAWLESS BANDS. Mr. Short, who reported the MARAUDERS on March 26th, deserves great credit. The trial of Gann & Herold was informal, but was resorted to, to obtain the facts in the case. Please find the evidence enclosed. J.H. LITTLE, Capt. Co. E, 1st Cavalry, M.S.M.”

Pursuit, Battle & Capture, Trial, Sentence & Execution on March 27, 1864; all within 12 hours, now that was “SWIFT JUSTICE”!



2010 Local and Coming Events

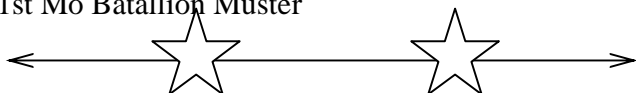
Feb 27 – St Louis – CW Swap Meet at Jefferson Barracks County Park

Feb 28 – St Louis – Sherman Day Ceremony at Calvary Cemetery. Did you know Genl Sherman and Dred Scott are both buried in this cemetery?

March 5-7 –Sikeston, MO, Reenactment

March 12-14 – Sibley, Mo Fort Osage Living History Weekend

March 19- 21 – Kansas City, Ks – NCOWS Convention and Show Nathan Boone Homestead – 1st Mo Batallion Muster



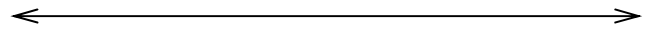
“It is better only sometimes to be right, than at all times to be wrong.” Abraham Lincoln



Bleeding Kansas 2010 Programs, Constitution Hall State Historic Site, Lecompton, Kansas.

Join us 2 p.m. Sundays January 31 – February 28, 2010, for our popular series. This series of talks and dramatic interpretations focuses on the violent conflict over slavery in Kansas Territory 1854-1861.

Don't forget the Kansas State Historical Society needs your help, they all do as do the National Parks, give if you can.



PRISONER OF WAR CAMPS

Lane Smith

The South had Andersonville, a well known reminder of prison camp hardships and deaths. The North had Camp Douglas, a prisoner of war camp in Chicago that also set records for prison mortality. Andersonville is the National Prisoner of War Historical Site, with white headstones for each of the 12,912 Union prisoners who died there with a 475 acre park and monuments erected by every Union State and the National Government. All of the main highways of South Georgia have directional signs to aid the tens of thousands who visit there every year.

Look north to Chicago and you will find at least 6,000 Confederate soldiers buried in a mass grave on one acre of land. There is one monument to these prisoners who died, erected in 1895 by Southerners and their friends in Chicago and the North, near the shore of Lake Michigan.

At the close of the war Andersonville and Camp Douglas both had earned the distinction of undisputed first place in mortality among the prisoner of war camps in their respective sections of the North and South.

The highest death rate occurred at Andersonville in August 1864 at 9%. Camp Douglas opened in Feb, 1862 and within a year the monthly mortality rate was at 10%.

It makes no difference where one's sympathies lie, the horrors of any prisoner of war camp during the Civil War were beyond our imagination. Words and pictures can describe it but unless and until one has experienced or seen it, it is beyond our imagination.

Harry Truman and the Civil War influence on his Political and Presidential Career

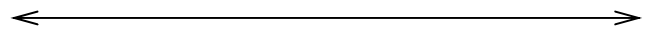
One has to understand Harry's background as part of his Civil War influence. His Grandfather Truman lived in Platte county and was a slave owner, Harry's father being born in 1851. Harry's maternal Grandfather was Salomon Young at present day Grandview. The Young family was Southern in its sympathies however both Salomon Young and Anderson Truman took the Oath of Loyalty to the Union in 1862. However there were three Young's that either joined the Confederate service or road with Quantrill. Apparently all three survived the war and as a youngster Harry loved to hear the stories of the Civil War from his uncles and other family members. However Harry's mother and grandmother Young were quite bitter toward the Union throughout their lives.

When elected to the Senate in 1934 and reelected in 1940, Harry was appointed as chair to a committee to investigate defense contracts. Having been a student himself of the Civil War one of the things he remembered studying was the Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War, a committee that attempted to make war policy, strategy, promotions of officers, etc, that was a constant thorn in the side of Pres Lincoln. This committee did not subordinate itself to the President. Robert E Lee, sometime after the war, made the statement that the Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War was worth two divisions to the Southern cause. One of the first things Harry did when appointed to this defense contracts committee was to dispatch an aide to the National Archives to study the JCCW and how they interfered with President Lincoln. Harry learned from this that his committee was to be subordinate to the President, to report to him his findings, however his was not to make policy or try to carry out procedures, that was up to the President.

He also learned how he wanted to treat a defeated enemy from that which he saw at the conclusion of the Civil War. Pres Johnson also became Pres shortly before the war was over and shortly after the new Presidential term and, according to Harry, wanted to let the South down easy. Harry also became Pres shortly after the new Presidential term and had studied how Pres Johnson dealt with the South after the war. He also saw the

results of the Versailles Treaty and its effects at the conclusion of WWI when the Allied powers wanted to punish Germany. Harry wanted to let Japan down easy and we are also familiar with the Marshall Plan for Europe.

One other thing that had a major impact was how he handled General MacArthur. Again, Harry recognized that MacArthur could be difficult to work with, he to liked making policy and strategy that was to be that of the Presidents. Harry again dispatched an aide to the National Archives to see how President Lincoln handled General McClellan, again a General that wanted to determine his own policy. As we know, both Generals were eventually fired by their Presidents.



Statue Marks Lincoln Visit

The Bronze is dedicated in Leavenworth, where the future president came to speak in 1859.

By Dawn Bormann
Kansas City Star

"If I went West, I think I would go to Kansas — to Leavenworth or Atchison. Both of them are, and will continue to be, fine growing places." — Abraham Lincoln

A band and dignitaries greeted Abraham Lincoln when he arrived in Leavenworth on Dec. 3, 1859.

His first and only trip to Kansas — the farthest he ventured west — has not been forgotten. Exactly 150 years later, historians and city leaders dedicated a bronze sculpture of one of the country's most beloved presidents.

The statue, at 100 N. Fifth St. in front of City Hall, was dedicated Thursday night as hundreds gathered around.

Lincoln's address in Leavenworth, hailed by current local leaders as his "first campaign speech," was similar to a more well-known version delivered months later at Cooper Union in New York City.

"We sort of heard it here first and he kind of tried it off on us first" said Carol Dark Ayres, who led the local effort to place the statue and is the author of "Lincoln and Kansas: Partnership for Freedom."

Lincoln went at the urging of a relative in Leavenworth.

"Of course, Leavenworth was the biggest town between; St. Louis and San Francisco. It was the place to be," Ayres said. "Kansas City didn't really exist as such."

Lincoln's visit came after the famous Lincoln-Douglas debates in which he said, "Kansas must be free." It was also before the world knew what a gifted orator Lincoln could be. He charmed the Leavenworth audience so much during his 1 ½ hour speech that they asked him to speak again days later.

For all of Lincoln's talent with speech, Ayres said, he wasn't exactly considered a distinguished-looking man — not yet, anyway. He had to borrow a coat from a newspaper reporter because he did not dress properly for the bitter cold ride in an open carriage.

But Ayres and others said it seemed clear that the trip to Kansas made an impression on Lincoln. Months later, someone asked Lincoln about a trip west. It was then that he recommended considering Kansas — Leavenworth or Atchison, to be specific.

The statue is designed to show the man who came to Leavenworth. It depicts a younger, more casual-

looking Lincoln than the serious figure often seen in history. He has no beard, and his overcoat doesn't fit quite right.

"I decided to depict him in the way that he was when he came to Kansas in 1859. At the time he did not have a beard. He was about 50 years old," said Overland Park artist Martin Leo Pyle. "At the time he wasn't a member of Congress. He had lost an election."

The nearly 9-foot-tall bronze cost \$50,000 and was financed with private donations. Leavenworth schoolchildren paid for the hat by collecting Lincolns — pennies and \$5 bills.

Pyle worked about 18 months on the statue, researching and sculpting it in Kansas City, Kan.

"He's such an interesting character and so important to the nation's history and also to Kansas history," Pyle said. "To devote that much time to one work of art was just a very positive experience. It was very time-consuming, but I enjoyed every minute of it."

To reach Dawn Bormann, call 816-234-7704 or send e-mail to dbormann@kcstar.com.

New Member: Jeanne Gilbert, Anyone with any information on her like address or phone number please contact Paul Gault, thanks.

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