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

401st REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, March 25, 2008

Homestead Country Club

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

MARCH 2008 TIM RUES

"James H. Lane and his relationship with Abraham Lincoln."

Tim Rues is a re-enactor and curator at the Territorial Capitol in Lecompton. He is part of the Bleeding Kansas re-enactors.

Whether he's joining a group of re-enactors simulating conflicts from our past or working at his job as site administrator at Constitution Hall in Lecompton, Tim Rues enjoys educating others about the Territorial Period in Kansas history.

Tim was one of the founding members of the Territorial Kansas Heritage Alliance, which held its first meetings in Constitution Hall, opening them to anyone who might be so inclined.

Please be sure that we have your reservation by Friday Mar. 21. 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.

SPEAKERS FOR 2008

I'm afraid we don't have all the particulars on the 2008 speakers as of yet due to circumstances beyond our control, so I will give you what I've got. Mike.

March 25; Tim Rues portraying Jim Lane and his relationship with Abraham Lincoln.

April 22; Sandy Bernard, subject to be announced.

May 27; To be announced. 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; To be Announced

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 MARCH 2008;

Iceberg Lettuce, Mushrooms, Egg, Tomato, Red Onion Salad with Choice of Dressing, Shrimp, Scallops and Chicken in a Cream Sauce with Pasta, Julienne Vegetables, Berry Cobbler with Ice Cream

COMING EVENTS

March 28, 29 & 30: "The Burning of Dayton," Civil War re-enactment in Cass, County. Go to www.burningdayton.com for more information.

April 3-4: Missouri Conference of History, Columbia, Mo.

April 13-14: "Spring Muster" at Fort Scott National Historic Site. Civil War camp, re-enactors.

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 Renactment, 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 #59

"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.

[<u>CAPTURE</u>]: 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), accourrements & 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"!





This might solve the mystery. Who the heck was KILROY?? KILROY WAS HERE!

In 1946, the American Transit Association, through its radio program, "Speak to America," sponsored a nationwide contest to find the REAL Kilroy, offering a prize of a real trolley car to the person who could prove himself to be the genuine article.

Almost 40 men stepped forward to make that claim, but only James Kilroy from Halifax, Massachusetts had evidence of his identity. Kilroy was a 46-year old shipyard worker during the war. He worked as a checker at the Fore River Shipyard in Quincy. His job was to go around and check on the number of rivets completed. Riveters were on piecework and got paid by the rivet. Kilroy would count a block of rivets and put a check mark in semi-waxed lumber chalk, so the rivets wouldn't be counted twice. When Kilro y went off duty, the riveters would erase the mark. Later on, an off-shift inspector would come through and count the rivets a second time, resulting in double pay for the riveters.

One day Kilroy's boss called him into his office. The foreman was upset about all the wages being paid to riveters, and asked him to investigate. It was then that he realized what had been going on. The tight spaces he had to crawl in to check the rivets didn't lend themselves to lugging around a paint can and brush, so Kilroy decided to stick with the waxy chalk.

He continued to put his checkmark on each job he inspected, but added KILROY WAS HERE in king-sized letters next to the check, and eventually added the sketch of the chap with the long nose peering over the fence and that became part of the Kilroy message. Once he did that, the riveters stopped trying to wipe away his marks.

Ordinarily the rivets and chalk marks would have been covered up with paint. With war on, however, ships were leaving the Quincy Yard so fast that there wasn't time to paint them. As a result, Kilroy's inspection "trademark" was seen by

thousands of servicemen who boarded the troopships the yard produced.

His message apparently rang a bell with the servicemen, because they picked it up and spread it all over Europe and the South Pacific. Before the war's end, "Kilroy" had been here, there, and everywhere on the long haul to Berlin and Tokyo.

To the unfortunate troops outbound in those ships, however, he was a complete mystery; all they knew for sure was that some jerk named Kilroy had "been there first." As a joke, U.S. servicemen began placing the graffiti wherever they landed, claiming it was already there when they arrived. Kilroy became the U.S. super-GI who had always "already been" wherever GIs went. It became a challenge to place the logo in the most unlikely places imaginable (it is said to be atop Mt. Everest, the Statue of Liberty, the underside of the Arch De Triumphe, and even scrawled in the dust on the moon.

And as the war went on, the legend grew. Underwater demolition teams routinely sneaked ashore on Japanese-held islands in the Pacific to map the terrain for the coming invasions by U.S. troops (and thus, presumably, were the first GI's there). On one occasion, however, they reported seeing enemy troops painting over the Kilroy logo!

In 1945, an outhouse was built for the exclusive use of Roosevelt!, Stalin, and Churchill at the Potsdam conference. The first person inside was Stalin, who emerged and asked his aide (in Russian), "Who is Kilroy?".

To help prove his authenticity in 1946, James Kilroy brought along officials from the shipyard and some of the riveters. He won the trolley car, which he < BR>gave it to his nine children as a Christmas gift and set it up as a playhouse in the Kilroy front yard in Halifax, Massachusetts.

So now You Know!

A Note from Beverly Shaw.....

I thought you all would be interested in the link below which takes you to some images from Lincoln's 2nd inauguration which were recently discovered. It just goes to show that we don't know everything yet.

http://www.cnn.com/2008/US/01/16/lincoln.inauguration/index.html?eref=rss mostpopular.

From Wilson's Creek National Battlefield Foundation...... Ken Burns to read the 90second introduction to the new interpretive film that Wide Awake Productions is making for Wilson's Creek National Battlefield Foundation. What a feather in their cap! Congratulations.



The Burning of Dayton, Missouri Tragedies on the Missouri/Kansas Border

During the summer of 1861, the Federal Government authorized the formation of Volunteer Kansas Companies: James Lane, Charles K. "Doc" Jennison and James Montgomery were given command. Missouri won put into a difficult position resulting in divided allegiance. To counteract Union attacks on Missouri, the men of Southern sympathy such as Quant- rill, Anderson, Thrailkill, the lounger's and the James' organized to assist the Missouri Confederates. What began as an effort to protect their families and property turned into the most horrific event the people of Missouri ever witnessed. Missourian's and their land suffered for many years following the Civil War.

Volumes have been written about the Civil War but little had been written about the important little town of Dayton Missouri, located in extreme Southern Cass County. Dayton sits on the Cass/Bates County line, bordered by the Grand River. During the Civil War, the Dayton Crossing was one of the few places to cross the Grand River, and was the scene of many skirmishes.

The town of Dayton began in 1857 and by I860 there were 47 businesses, homes and buildings in the thriving little town. It was a major North/South route for Confederates and Confederate recruiters as well as a major route for Jayhawkers & Union troops into Missouri. The people of the Dayton area saw more than their share of indignities during this period of history, although until recently their story went untold.

The worst of these atrocities happened oil January I, 1862 while the Missouri State Guards were recruiting at the mercantile store in Dayton. When word of the recruiting reached the Kansas

leader Jennison, he immediately sent his Jayhawkers, with Daniel Anthony in charge, to make an expedition from Morristown, Missouri (near present day Freeman, MO in Cass County) to Rose Hill in Johnson County, Missouri, by way of Dayton Crossing. The Jayhawkers burned the town of Dayton and Columbus on their way. Anthony, his two hundred men and a twelve-pound howitzer came into the town of Dayton and burned forty-six houses and buildings. There was only one home left standing in the town, that home belonged to u Union man. The home is still standing.

CIVIL WAR TRIVIA

- 29) Lincoln and his family resided in Willard's Hotel (14th and E Streets) in Washington, D.C., prior to the inauguration.
- 30) Written by Daniel D. Emmett in 1859 to advertise minstrel shows, the tune "Dixie" became an overnight sensation around the nation. The song later became the unofficial national anthem of the Confederacy. Surprisingly, Emmett was not from the South. He was a native of Ohio and wrote the song in New York City.

- 31) Robert Anderson commanded Fort Moultrie in Charleston, South Carolina, during the Revolutionary War. His son, also named Robert Anderson, was commander of the fort subsequent to the outbreak of the Civil War.
- 32) Abraham Lincoln received the 1860 nomination for President at the Republican Convention in Chicago. Oddly, he was not present to accept the honor-an unimaginable occurrence today, but the normal practice then.
- 33) Many modern-day medical professionals believe that President Lincoln may have suffered from Marfan Syndrome, a hereditary condition resulting in bone elongatio0n and malformations in the cardiovascular system and eyes.
- 34) In the election of 1860, Abraham Lincoln did not win one Southern district and did not receive any votes in many districts because he was not on the ballot.
- 35) During the War, the North had many illustrated periodicals, while the South lacked in this area. Therefore, few pictures were made of Confederate social activities during this period. The Southern artists who recorded the war concentrated on military aspects. Luckily, many Southern women kept diaries of the events of the era.

