



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 6202
Shawnee Mission, KS
66206
An IRC 501(c)(3)
Charitable Organization



428th REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, March 22, 2011

Homestead Country Club

6510 Mission Road, Prairie Village, Kansas

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

Dinner-6:30p.m.

MARCH SPEAKER

PATRICIA MOSS

“GEORGE CALEB BINGHAM
AND ORDER NO. 11”

Nationally recognized George Caleb Bingham expert Patricia Moss, known as the “Bingham Lady”, will present, “George Caleb Bingham and Order No. 11: an artistic and historic perspective. The program will show how events of the Civil War betrayed Bingham’s most closely held beliefs and how he poured the best of his artistic training into his painting of Order No. 11.

Opening March 10 at the Truman Library and Museum, 500 W. U.S. 24 Hwy. will be a selection of Bingham’s work on loan from art museums and collectors. The highlight will be the 6’ x 8’ masterpiece, “Order No. 11, Martial Law.” Bingham’s most famous painting, on loan from the State Historical Society of Missouri. Painted in 1870, the scene shows the tragic enforcement of an order of martial law issued by Union commander Thomas Ewing following the raid on Lawrence, Kansas by Quantrill’s raiders. Ewing used the law to weaken support for guerilla forces by partially evacuating and burning five counties, including Jackson. The exhibit continues through September 9 and is free with museum admission.

*Please be sure that we have your reservation by Friday Mar. 18. 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.

BATTLE OF CARTHAGE TOUR

April 30, 2011: Why this battle: Missouri was an important state for both the North and the South. No state was more hotly contested in 1861 than Missouri which had more than twice as many incidents of violence that year than any other state. Was Missouri a neutral state? Who were the primary players and what sparked the campaign that led to this battle and the abandonment of neutrality?

Who were the soldiers that participated in this battle and what were their commitments? What was the importance to the outcome of the battle? The impact of this campaign and battle determined the future path that Missouri would take. The battle was fought on July 5, 1861. This being the sesquicentennial of that battle it only seemed appropriate that this is the time to study and review the major impact of this battle. Join us on that tour for a very informative tour of Missouri and that battle, a tour that will be hosted by Roundtable members. Even though the Burnt District occurred after this battle our first stop will be at that monument in Harrisonville with our second stop at the Bushwhacker Museum in Nevada before we begin the tour on Civil War Road at Carthage and conclude at the Civil War museum of Carthage. Our tour guide will be Steve Weldon, the battlefield historian for the Battle of Carthage. Official registration for this tour will begin at the Feb 22nd meeting and the tour is open to all organizations and the public.

SPEAKERS 2011

Mar 22: Patricia Moss, Patricia Moss Art and Family History Services, *"George Caleb Bingham and Order No. 11"*

Apr 26: Alicia Scott, Community Outreach Coordinator, Kendallwood Hospice, *"The Sultana"*

May 24: Joseph K Houts, Jr., Vice President, Community Development Center, Commerce Bank, St. Joseph, MO *"Medicine and the Founding of the Sanitation Commission"*

SUMMER SESSIONS:

Jun 28: John Hilmer: Superintendent of Wilson's Creek

July 26: Dan Smith: Civil War History of Jackson County

Aug 23: Col. James Speicher: "The H. L. Hunley"

Sep 27: Glenda J. Wallace, Chief, Eastern Band of The Shawnee, "American Indians and The Civil War"

Oct 25: Arnold Schofield, *"Thunder in the Valleys"*

Nov 22: Doug Mischler as: *"Jefferson Davis"*

Dec 27: Dave Para and Cathy Barton Para *"Music of the Civil War"* & Silent Book Auction

CIVIL WAR SYMPOSIUM WITH DAVID BLIGHT

"Lasting Legacies of the Civil War," a symposium featuring Dr. David Blight, Dr. Dwight Pitcaithley, Jim Denny, and Arnold Schofield will be held at the North Independence Library on Saturday, March 26, 2011, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. The event is free and reservations are recommended. It is being sponsored by the Mid-Continent Public Library System, the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City, and the Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site.

Dr. David Blight will present: "Has Civil War Memory Divided or United Americans Over 150 Years?" He is a professor of history at Yale University and is the author and editor of several books including *Race and Reunion: The Civil War in American Memory* and *Beyond the Battlefield: Race, Memory, and the American Civil War*.

Dr. Dwight Pitcaithley will present: "Missouri's Secession Convention and the Great Slavery Question." He is a former chief historian of the National Park Service.

Jim Denney will present: "Bleeding Missouri." He is retired from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources and is the author of *The Civil War's First Blood: Missouri, 1854-1861*.

The Round Table's own Arnold Schofield will present: "Origins, Animosities, and Legacies of the Kansas/Missouri Border Wars: 1856-1865 and Beyond." He is the Site Administrator at the Mine Creek Battlefield State Historic Site. The North Independence Library is located at 317 West US Highway 24 in Independence. For reservations, call the Center at (816) 252-0950 or at <http://www.mymcpl.org>.

The program will also be presented on Sunday, March 27, 2011, at the Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site in Topeka, Kansas.

2011 LOCAL AND COMING EVENTS

March 27, 2011 - On March 27, 2011, a member of the Round Table, Joe Louis Mattox, will be speaking at the Plaza Library at 4801 Main St., KCMO. The program is at 2 p.m. and free. For reservations call 816-701-3407. He will present the story of the U.S. Colored Troops, especially the ones who fought for the Union at the Battle of Island Mound in Bates County, MO. and in the Battle of Westport.

April 16, 2011 - Westport Historical Society, 1855 Harris-Kearney House – Westport Antique Quilt Show. April 19, 2011 – Executive Committee Meeting, time and place to be announced.

April 28-30, 2011 - The Civil War in The American West, The Eighth Fort Robinson History Conference. Fort Robinson State Park, Crawford, Nebraska.

Sponsored by the Nebraska State Historical Society and the Nebraska Games and Parks Commission. For information call 402-471 3272

April 30, 2011 – Bus Tour: “Battle of Carthage, Mo.” More information to come in next month’s Border Bugle or see Lane Smith

April 30, 2011 - Have you ever wanted to attend a formal ball ala Gone with the Wind? Now is your chance! Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Majors request your presence at a ball held at their home. This is an interactive performance event and you will get to participate in everything from the dances themselves (don’t worry, we will help you!) to the pie auction or the right to lead the grand march (a popular Civil War tradition). It will be fun for the whole family.

Time: 7pm – 10pm (you may come and go as you please)

Where: At the Alexander Majors Historic House, 8201 State Line Road

Cost: \$15 per person includes a dessert buffet and three hours of entertainment (bring extra money to bid on pies, the chance to lead the Grand March, and for other fun extras) Dress: No dress code! Come in period or modern attire. Important: You must buy a ticket ahead of time by calling 816-444-1858 or emailing Kandice@wornallhouse.org. We expect this event to sell out, so get your tickets early!

May 13-15, 2011 – Carthage, Mo., Sesquicentennial Battle of Carthage Re-enactment. Saturday Battle will be in downtown Carthage, street to street. Saturday night dance. Other activities will be scheduled. We are pleased and excited to inform you that the Sunday Battle will be a reenactor only battle on a 1,000 acre.

pristine site.

fighting (as happened in the actual 1861 battle).

June 17-19, 2011 – Booneville, Mo., Re-enactment.

MENU FOR MARCH

Irish Potato Soup, Horseradish Encrusted Salmon, Au Gratin Potatoes, Vegetable Medley, Irish Creme Brulee.

NEW MEMBERS

Rudolf Wrobel, 12725 W. 55th Terrace, Shawnee, KS 66216, 913-631-5131, rwrobel@kc.rr.com

Frannie K. Smith, 12725 W. 55th Terrace, Shawnee, KS 66216, 913-631-5131

Douglas R. Cubbison, 3225 Grand Ave. Leavenworth, KS 66048, 913-250-6136,

doug@stonefortconsulting.com

Renewal: **Dwight Sutherland Jr.**, 3601 W. 64th St., Mission Hills, KS 66208, 913-384-1418, dsutherlandkc@yahoo.com

LARGE BOOK COLLECTION DONATION

"Frances Gunnels, Jay Gunnels widow kindly donated Jay's collection of 523 Civil War Books to the CWRTKC to sell at the meetings. The money raised by these sales is to allow us to have funds to bring in future speakers. Fran said that of all of the organizations to which Jay belonged, the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City was his favorite. Although not a founding member of the Round Table, Jay did become a member during the year it was founded. Thank you Frances Gunnels!

“The Sargeant Major’s Roar”

Battlefield Dispatches #125

“Hardshell Preaching, Good Whiskey & Guerrilla Warfare”

Without a doubt, many of the Confederate Guerrillas in Missouri attended church on Sunday & on this particular Sabbath it was not a wise thing to do because the fighting did not stop on Sunday and for a few “bushwhackers” this was the last church service they attended. Both of the following after action reports are located on Pages 65-67 in Vol. 41, Part I of the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion.

“Warrensburg, July 14, 1864.

I have the honor to report that a detachment of Major Houts’ scouting party, commanded by Captain Henslee, killed 5 guerrillas at a church near Wellington on Sunday last, among them the notorious Wilhite, who has been engaged in robbing the mails & people in La Fayette County. Wilhite led the party who attacked Judge Ryland & his son & was repulsed a short time since & is the man who wounded Captain Ewing, of the citizens guards. The party of guerrillas were attending church & fired upon Captain Henslee’s advance guard from the windows, when a general exchange of shots took place in the midst of citizens, women & children & yet while Wilhite had 28 balls [bullets] through him & in him & another guerrilla 18, no person but the guerrillas was hit by our men. We had 1 man wounded & 2 horses killed. The GUERRILLAS, PEOPLE & PRIEST seemed to be WORSHIPPING together as INNOCENT LAMBS.

E. B. Brown
Brigadier General”

“Hdqrs. 7th Cavalry, Missouri State Militia,
Camp Grover, near Warrensburg, Mo., July 14, 1864.

Captain, I have the honor to report that in obedience to orders received through sub-district headquarters, on the night of the 9th instant I sent Major Houts of my command with 150 men, northwest of this place, with instructions to scout the country thoroughly. They went 25 miles & then turning north struck the Missouri River at Wellington. In this march, they discovered abundant signs of the presence of guerrillas. This country is a safe covert [haven] for these outlaws! It is a complete jungle & a perfect solitude, the adjacent country to the Sni [River] affording forage & rations. Arriving at Wellington about 10 a.m. on Sunday morning, Major Houts learned from a contraband that 2 guerrillas had been in this town that morning & her opinion was they had gone to a church – Warder’s Church – distant 2 miles. Where a HARDSHELL was in the habit of PREACHING to the “Brushers” [Bushwhackers] the un-searchable riches of “GOOD WHISKEY & GUERRILLA WARFARE.” The major, with accustomed promptness, at once detached about 50 men, under the command of the intrepid & cool-headed Captain Henslee, Company L & sent him to this church. The force approached very stealthily. It is situated on a high eminence, a bluff overlooking the Sni River. The command had to reach the church by a narrow road, having to cross a bridge within 20 paces of the building & ascend a very abrupt bank. The captain took the precaution to send forward Sergeant Brassfield with 6 men, with instructions to dash as all hazards over this bridge up the hill & passing the church to occupy a position beyond, with a view of intercepting fugitives & at the same time, by attracting the attention of the congregation to make a diversion in favor of the main column. The guerrillas were then 7 or 8 in number, besides some outpost pickets on the Lexington road. The cry of “Feds”! “Feds” thundered from the audience & the worthy pastor, who was in the midst of a fervent supplication, found his flock greatly demoralized & concluded it wasn’t worth while to pray any longer under the circumstances. The guerrillas were on the alert, some at their horses, some in the church & one, who was to be married – perhaps that very day- to the pastor’s daughter was standing at the window making love to his inamorata. The guerrillas as quick as thought saw their peril & with drawn revolvers they began earnest work, with a nerve & determination worthy of a better cause. The WOMEN & CHILDREN SCREAMED WITH TERROR & RUSHING WILDLY from the CHURCH, EXHIBITED A METHOD IN THEIR MADNESS BY THROWING THEMSELVES IN FRONT OF THE REBEL OUTLAWS! Captain H, whose presence of mind is equaled only by his gallantry,

rode out & commanded the women to “SQUAT”! They obeyed the summons & the WORK OF DEATH WENT BRAVELY ON! 5 Bushwhackers were killed outright, the 6th mortally wounded & 1 or 2, despite all vigilance, made their escape amid the furor & confusion. Wilhite & Estes were numbered among the slain. These were noted DESPERATE FELLOWS & their crimes are as BLACK & INFAMOUS AS THEY ARE NUMEROUS! Two of the enemy’s horses were killed & some wounded. Two horses & equipments were captured by us & 5 or 6 Colt Navy Revolvers. One man, Corporal Cozad, Company L, was wounded in the heel & left at Lexington. One horse & equipments lost belonging to Private James D. Barnes, company D.

Justice to merit requires me to mention the names of Privates John T. Anderson, Company L & James D. Barnes, Company D. Anderson was one of the advance who passed by the church. He received 3 shots through his clothes, one knocking the skin off his nose & striking the pistol in his hand. He rode right in the midst of the scoundrels & with great coolness & precision shot right & left, emptying 12 barrels [Note: Anderson probably was armed with 2 six shot revolvers] & loading 4 more, all the while directing the movements of other soldiers around him. Anderson was badly wounded a year ago in a “hand to hand fight” with Livingston, in Southwest Missouri. Barnes, discovering one of the bushwhackers making his escape, singled him out, charged on him, discharging his rifle [Note: the 7th Mo. Vol. Cav. was armed with Austrian Loranze Rifles, not carbines.], flung it aside & with drawn pistol [revolver], spurred forward, chasing for half a mile the rebel who was firing back at him; Barnes holding his fire until he drew up on his game, was just in the act of shooting at short range when his horse fell headlong, precipitating the rider [Barnes] over his head with a fearful fall. The horse recovered & ran away with the guerrilla, carrying equipments &c., all of which was the private property of the soldier & is lost. Barnes is a mere boy and quite small, but is as bold & dashing a trooper as ever looked an enemy in the face.

From Wellington, Major Houts scoured the country to Lexington, from there to Columbus, Johnson County. Here he ran into 6 or 7 guerrillas who fled at first fire & being well mounted & our horses greatly jaded, they outran us & escaped. The command returned to camp yesterday, 13th instant. Number of miles traveled 175.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. F. PHILIPS

Colonel, 7th Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.”

Now, to use modern terminology, that was quite a “FIREFIGHT”, because then & now, church was

attended, but in WAR, Sunday was & is not a day of peace & rest and of Course the War Went On!



MONNETT BATTLE OF WESTPORT FUND

Lumir Buresh was President of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City in 1975. He was a disabled WWII decorated veteran and is now deceased. Lumir was a scholar of Civil War history and the author of the book "October 25 and the Battle of Mine Creek". He had spent years researching both the Battle of Mine Creek and the Battle of Westport.

The concept for the Monnett Battle of Westport Fund was that of Lumir Buresh. On 5 December 1975, The Fund was chartered as Missouri not-for-profit Corporation. It was named in honor of Howard N. Monnett, a past president of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City. Howard Monnett was the author of the book "Action Before Westport-1864". He is now deceased. The purpose of the fund was to educate, commemorate, and interpret sites and battlefields associated with the Battle of Westport. Tax exempt status as a 501(C) (3) Charitable corporation was approved in 1978.

Also, in 1978 after a fund raising campaign, the first Battle of Westport historical narrative marker was placed at Westport Road and Pennsylvania. It was the start of a self guided 32 mile automobile tour of the battle. Subsequently, a total of 20 historical narrative battle markers were in place to augment 5 previous markers placed by the Native Sons of Kansas City and the Jackson County Historical Society. In July 1980, the final historical marker was placed just off 63rd street near Elmwood. For a number of years, the Monnett Fund co-sponsored with the Westport Historical Society an all-day Battle of Westport guided bus tour.

The final action during the Battle of Westport took place in the area of what is now Loose Park on 23 October 1864. At the south end of Loose Park near 55th street, the Fund has placed a large battle map, a replica 10-pounder Parrott artillery piece, and eight historical narrative battle markers. This site was one of our dismount stops from the bus on our then all day bus tour of the Battle of Westport.

In 1980 and continuing in later years, the Fund began to acquire property in what was then the Byram's Ford Industrial Park north of the intersection of 63rd Street and Manchester Trafficway. This area includes historic Byram's Ford and the Big Blue Battlefield

where fighting took place on 22-23 October 1864 during the Battle of Westport. Byram's Ford was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1989. A 10-pounder Parrott replica artillery piece has been placed on Bloody Hill where a Confederate battery was in action. The Fund by deed on 25 April 1995 donated and conveyed to the City of Kansas City, MO. Parks and Recreation Department, all of the property then owned to be developed and interpreted as the Byram's Ford Big Blue Battlefield Historic Site.

Under the leadership of the Funds current chairman, Dan Smith, significant progress has been made in the development and interpretation of the Big Blue Battlefield. This includes the on-going acquisition and destruction of at least two buildings. Eventually, from Bloody Hill to Byram's Ford, there will be an open vista of meadow land seeded with buffalo grass almost like it was in 1864.

The most recent project of the Monnett Fund was the establishment of a Battle of Westport Civil War Museum. It is located in Swope Park at the interpretive Building near the entrance to the Park. The narratives and exhibits depict events that occurred during the battle. Arrangements were made with the city of Kansas City for a nominal rental fee to cover the cost of utilities. It is staffed by volunteers, but the museum is closed during the winter months. The museum was developed under the guidance of Chairman Dan Smith.

The Monnet Fund operates under the aegis of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City. The Funds officers and members are also Round Table members. There are no dues. Any person who is a member in good standing of the Round Table can be a member of the Monnett Fund. All it takes is a dedication to the previous stated purpose and goals of the Monnett Battle of Westport Fund.

CDR Orvis N. Fitts, USNR (RET)
Past Chairman



NAME TAGS

Temporary name tags will be available at the registration table for visitors and for members without permanent name tags. Members who wish to order permanent name tags will find forms available at the registration desk at the January and February meetings. Cost is \$12.50 each. Name tags will be ordered after the February meeting and can be picked up at the registration desk at the March meeting.



BOOK LIST

The Civil War Round Table is creating a list of favorite and recommended books to be posted on our website and shared with others (like museums and libraries) wishing to build a reading list for their patrons. Please send your selections, including title and author, to Alisha Cole at amcole2@mac.com.

SPEAKER'S BUREAU

With the arrival of the Civil War Sesquicentennial, the demand for speakers on the Civil War will be tremendous. Our Round Table is compiling a list of speakers, their contact information, and their topic(s) for area libraries, schools, and organizations. It will also be posted on our website. If you are interested, please send your name, information for contact and introduction, fees, and a description of your topic(s) to Alisha Cole at amcole2@mac.com.

"Interested in the Old West?" The Kansas City Posse of the Westerners International meets monthly on the 2nd Tuesday at the Golden Ox Steak House for a delicious dinner and an Old West talk.

For more info contact Dennis Garstang at 816-569-1180 or dgarstang@kc.rr.com

Civil War Round Table of Kansas City
P.O. Box 6202
Shawnee Mission, KS 66206-0202

Thanking you in advance, I remain
Respectfully
Dennis Garstang



Letter From the Editor...

Well, it's been coming for a year or two and it's hard to do after being given the Valiant Service Award by the Round Table just last year, but I'm getting burned out on doing the Border Bugle after 11 years and need a break, a long break. So, I'm asking you budding reporters and typists to come forward and volunteer to pick up the reins for me. I would like to retire after the January Newsletter of 2012, I might even do the Roster for 2012, but that's it. I really appreciate all the kind words and support I've been given for all these years, and I won't say it wasn't fun, but I hear the odd sound of an old Volkswagen exhaust system calling my name and they need help again and I want to do something for the Vintage VW Club of America again and I can't do both. I know you understand. So please, let me or Lane, or Alisha or someone know you're interested, it's not hard, you can use my format if you want, or try something completely new. I'll show how I do it. Thank you so much for letting me be your editor.

Sincerely
Mike Epstein

