



BORDER

BUGLE

Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City



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Michael Epstein

(913) 831-6225

cwrthc@kc.rr.com

Civil War Round Table
Of Kansas City

P. O. Box 6202

Shawnee Mission, KS 66206

An IRC 501(c)(3) charitable
organization

393th REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, May 23, 2006

Homestead Country Club

6510 Mission Road, Prairie Village, Kansas

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

Dinner-6:30p.m.

MAY SPEAKER

MR. JIM BECKNER

Mr. Jim Beckner, member of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City. Mr. Beckner's presentation "**Missouri Guerillas in Virginia.**" Jim will portray Charles Woodson as if it were May 23rd, 1895. Mr. Woodson will tell his life story emphasizing his Civil War years as a Missourian in Virginia fighting as a Confederate soldier/guerilla.

Commander's Call

James L. "Spike" Speicher

Our 392nd meeting is history. Our guest speaker, Dr. Loren Humphrey, provided an interesting commentary on the importance of the war in northeast Missouri and the effect it had on the overall outcome of the war.

I hope everyone is ready for an exciting, fun-filled meeting. Our May meeting is shaping up to be one of our best ever. Our speaker will be the ever-popular Jim Beckner with a presentation entitled "Missouri

Cont' on page 2

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

Guerrillas in Virginia". Jim has given me a quick synopsis of his talk and it is going to be really interesting.

May is also our annual book silent auction. These have always been a great fund-raiser for us. To be successful we need books - so please go through your libraries and pick out three or four good books that you don't need anymore and bring them to the meeting and donate them to the auction. Remember that we don't do car washes and bake sales but we do a book auction so please support the Round Table and donate a few books. Don't forget to bring your checkbook to the meeting.

And then, as if a good speaker and a good fund-raiser aren't enough, May is also "Wear Your Civil War Uniform/Period Civilian Attire" month. This ALWAYS makes for a colorful meeting and you even get a chance to stand up and tell whom you are portraying. I urge everyone who has such a uniform/civilian attire to participate in the fun for the enjoyment of all. Don't forget your cameras.

This will be our last regular meeting before we break for the summer sessions. In June, July, and August we have our abbreviated meetings - no dinner but coffee, tea and water are available. There is no charge for attending these sessions so please plan to attend. In September we will go back to our regular meeting format and we will have the pleasure of hearing Mr. Greg Biggs. His presentation, "Tactical Perfection: Nathan Bedford Forrest at Brice's Crossroads", should prove to be extremely interesting to all.

If you have any comments, ideas, or concerns the contact information for me is: home- 913.962.9986; work- 816.512.8727; and e-mail colspike@hotmail.com.

Deo Vindice.

Spike

2006



UPCOMING SPEAKERS:

May 23- Mr. Jim Beckner, member of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City. Mr. Beckner's presentation "**Missouri Guerillas in Virginia**." Jim will portray Charles Woodson as if it were May 23rd, 1895. Mr. Woodson will tell his life story emphasizing his Civil War years as a Missourian in Virginia fighting as a Confederate soldier/guerilla.

June July and August are Summer Sessions To Be Announced...

September 26- Mr. Greg Biggs, former associate editor of "*Blue and Gray*" magazine. Mr. Biggs' presentation on "**Tactical Perfection: Nathan Bedford Forrest at Brice's Crossroads**" will look at what many historians consider to be a tactically perfect battle in the Civil War.

October 24- Dr. Richard Sommers, United States Army Military History Institute at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania. Dr. Sommers is the author of the acclaimed book *Richmond Redeemed*, which is the definitive work on the Siege of Petersburg. As the leading authority on that siege, Dr. Sommers' presentation will focus on that nine-month period.

November 28- Mr. Bill Quatman, member of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City. Mr. Quatman's presentation on "**The Fall of Richmond**" will be discussed from the viewpoint of Union General Godfrey Weitzel, who was in Richmond at the time. General Weitzel is a direct ancestor of Mr. Quatman.

December 19- Christmas meeting with entertainment.

MENU FOR APRIL 25, 2006:

House Salad With Ranch Dressing, BBQ Brisket With BBQ Sauce, Cheesy Potatoes, Cole Slaw, and Flour-less Chocolate Cake!



BATTLEFIELD DISPATCHES

"Battle of Mine Creek"
(Pvt. P.H. Steele, Co. K, 3rd Iowa Cav.)

I. Source / Location:

A. Original: Library of Congress
Washington, D.C. "National

Tribune” Newspaper Column,
Thursday, January 6, 1898.

- B. Xeroxed Copy: Mine Creek
Battlefield SHS, Ks. 20485 Ks. Hwy.
52; Pleasanton, Ks. 66075,
Reference: National Tribune
Notebook Vol. I, Edited: Arnold W.
Schofield, 12/24/05. Superintendent:
Mine creek Battlefield SHS.
Note: Complete set of the National
Tribune Newspaper is located in the
Houston Library @ Wilson’s Creek
National Battlefield, Republic,
Missouri.

II. Introduction:

The National Tribune Newspaper was published in Washington, D.C. from 1877 – the 1940’s and encouraged Veterans of the Civil War to submit their memories of that war to the newspaper for publication. This column has been edited to only include the author’s description of his participation in the Battle of Mine Creek that has also been identified in various memoirs and official U.S. Army Reports as the Battle of the Osage. Brackets were not part of the original column and have been used to identify the editor’s commentary or to clarify a particular word.

III. Newspaper Column:

“GALLANT TROOPERS
A 3RD Iowa Cav. Veteran Tells of the
Battle of the Osage

Editor National Tribune: Reading in your estimable paper so many accounts of incidents of war times, I felt like I wanted to say a little in reference to the 3rd Iowa Cavalry, of which I was a member, in Co. K for four years.

I read recently a communication from Comrade S. M. Reeves, 13th Mo. Cav., about the Battle of the Osage, where he says they captured Gen. Marmaduke and a thousand prisoners.

I know something about that fight, as it was there I got a rebel ball in my leg that made me a cripple for life. I say the regiments that took part in that fight were the

3d and 4th Iowa Cav., 10th and 4th Mo. Cav. and the 7th Ind. Cav. The charge was led by Lieut. Colonel Benteen, 10th Mo. Cav. When our line was formed, one single line, it did not cover the front of the line of the enemy, who had 12 guns [Artillery] in his center. We had no guns [Artillery] and his men [were] four lines deep, supporting his guns.

The Battle of the Osage was, without doubt, the most brilliant cavalry charge in the history of the [Civil] War. Not a ditch, tree, stump or fence on the open plain; a single line charging four lines with 12 cannon in its center, and the one line of the charging column not covering the front of the enemy. [Benteen’s Brigade consisting of approximately 1,250 troopers led the Union charge and was followed closely on it’s right by approximately 1,250 troopers of Colonel John Phillips Brigade of Missouri State Mounted Militia.]

The 3rd Iowa Cav. held the left center and with it’s proverbial “Yankee Cheer” dashed on the lines of the enemy. It was a scene worth going miles to see.

The result of battle was a complete rout of Gen. Marmaduke’s division; the General himself, Gen Cabell, four Colonels and about 800 others taken prisoners.

As to who captured Gen. Marmaduke there is no doubt. He surrendered to Private Jas. Dunlavy, Co. D. 3rd Iowa Cav., and Gen. Cabell gave himself up to Sergeant Cavalry Young, Co. L of the same regiment. Both the captors had medals [Congressional Medals of Honor] awarded them by Congress.

The 3rd Iowa Cav. went into that charge with less than 300 men and lost 33. [Each Union Regiment was severely under strength during the Battle of Mine Creek and each regiment contained from 200 – 250 soldiers.] To the other regiments who took part in this memorable charge too much praise cannot be accorded and with a leader who had less courage and magnetism than Lieut. Colonel F[rederick] W. Benteen, of the gallant old 10th Mo. Cav., the whole thing would have been a lamentable failure.

I do not write this with a view to bolster up the reputation of the 3rd Iowa Cav.; it does not need it; it’s history is written all over the southwest and written in the blood of as good and brave men as ever drew saber in defense of American Liberty.”

[“The Ultimate Sacrifice”]

[The following paragraph appears to be an afterthought by the author (Pvt. Steele), however it is a horrific example of how a graphic incident of war was seared into his memory, never to be forgotten. This type of memory is one that most, if not all COMBAT VETERANS of all the WARS & CONFLICTS carry and haunt them forever. THANK YOU (It Can Never be

Said Enough) to all of the COMBAT VETERANS & THEIR FAMILIES for defending & protecting the FREEDOMS we as a nation enjoy everyday!]

“One thing in connection with this fight I must say and then I will close. Co. D, 3rd Iowa Cav., came directly in front of the rebel battery [cannons] and just as our lines struck the battery private R. A. Buzzard, Co. D, had his horse shot. He got on his feet and jumped on one of the guns [cannon]. He swung his revolver over his head and at that moment received a ball [bullet] through his heart and fell dead, with his arms locked around the cannon. P. H. Steele, Co. K, 3rd Iowa Cav., Manhattan, Colorado.”

COMING EVENTS....

Please make note, this is the last newsletter until September, if there is something you want to go to, make note of it now!

May 19-21, 2006: Civil War Reenactment, Maximum Effort, Jefferson City, Missouri.

May 20, 2006: Pottawatomie Massacre Day, learn about John Brown, tours, re-enactments, and traditional games, Lane Fairgrounds near Ottawa, Ks, call 785-242-1411 or www.visitottawakansas.com online.

May 20, 2006: Marais des Cygnes Massacre Commemoration. A commemoration of the massacre at Marais des Cygnes will be held at the Mine Creek Battlefield State Historic Site near Pleasanton, Kansas. Call 913-352-8890 for details.

May 21, 2006: John Wornall House presents; “Civil War on the Missouri-Kansas Border”. Author Donald L. Gilmore will be signing copies of his new book Civil War on the Missouri-Kansas Border on May 21 at 2:00pm. There will be an re-enactment on the lawn with soldiers in full uniform from the Sons of Confederate Veterans Major Thomas J. Key Camp #1920. 6115 Wornall Rd., Kansas City, Mo 64113. 816-361-1858, www.wornallhouse.org.

May 27-28, 2006: Civil War Reenactment in Wentzville, MO.

June 3, 2006: Higginsville Confederate Celebration, 1:00pm.

June 3, 2006: “Border Disorder” Civil War on the Western Border, Prairie State Park, Liberal, MO (417) 843-6711. Life was uncertain living in Missouri’s western border during the Civil War. Experience this life first hand as re-enactors help you understand the struggles of the time period. Participants should dress for the weather and to hike approximately one mile through

the prairie. This program is not recommended for young children, and reservations are required.

June 6-10, 2006: “Heritage Days”, Battle of Lexington State Historic Site, Lexington, MO, (660) 259-4654. Living history activities will be going on throughout the week.

June 9-10, 2006: St. Louis, Mo. SUV State Reunion.

June 10, 2006: A Music jamboree at the Ray House featuring local groups and individuals playing traditional Ozark music. Refreshments typical of the 1860’s (popcorn and lemonade) will be served to visitors. Each group will play for approximately 1 hour. \$3.00 per person or \$5.00 per carload will apply. Wilson’s Creek National Battlefield Park, Republic, Mo. (417) 732-2662.

June 23-25, 2006: Cole Camp Civil War Reenactment.

June 24-25, 2006: “Territorial Days” Celebrate Lecompton’s storied past with tours, crafts, a carnival, pioneer skills, demonstrations and historic museum exhibits. The Battle of Ft. Titus will be reenacted each day. Call 785-887-6148.

June 25-July 1, 2006: Civil War Institute at Gettysburg College presents; “Civil War Medicine”. For more information write Civil War Institute at Gettysburg College, Campus Box 435, Gettysburg College, Gettysburg, PA 17325.

August 5-6, 2006: “Battle of Athens” Annual Celebration, Battle of Athens State Historic Site, Revere (660) 877-3871: Civil War Re-enactors will provide activities that will include military drills, demonstrations, period music, political speeches and recruiting activities. Period craftsmen will demonstrate and sell their wares. Food and refreshment vendors will have some Civil War period foods as well as modern. The Thomas-Benning House and other historic homes will be open for free tours. Saturday evening musical entertainment will be at the Athens shelter house.

August 6, 2006: “Battles and Trails”, Civil War memorabilia will be displayed along with Bleeding Kansas exhibits in Old Jefferson Town in Oskaloosa. Call 785-246-3236 or 1-800-896-3198 or click on the web site www.visitjeffcounty.com.

August 13-21, 2006: “Civil War on the Western Frontier”. Living history events focus on historic Lawrence during the early Territorial days and Civil War. Events include tours, lectures, re-enactments and more. Call 1-800-LAW-KANS (1-800-529-5267) or visit www.visitlawrence.com.

PROJECT BLUE RIVER RESCUE:

The 15th year celebration. In 2005, PBRR celebrated its 15th year. Nineteen clean-up sites, including 24 sections on a 20-mile stretch of river, were tackled, including

dumps at Byram's Ford, a local historic Civil War battlefield. In addition, volunteers from Missouri River Relief, Inc. (Stream Team 1,875) partnered to clean up the confluence of the Blue and Missouri Rivers. More than 800 volunteers participated in removing more than 200 tons of trash, 14 cars and 1200 tires.

According to Orvis (Fitts), who sent me this article, someone already dumped another load of tires near the entrance to the Ford. Thanks a lot buddy!!! And thank you Orvis for the article.



A little bit about Jim: Our speaker tonight is Jim Beckner. He has belonged to this round table since 1981. He has held every office in the round table at one time or another. A former educator he has a Masters Degree from Central Missouri State University. He is active in 12 historical organizations and regularly gives speeches in the two-state area. Preservation, genealogy, postcards and matchbook collecting, Nebraska football, reenacting, church and family keep him busy. He is currently trying to produce a post Civil War movie, "Shiloh Sharps".

WEBMASTER FOUND!

Thank you so much for volunteering. Our new webmaster is Dick Hodgman. It's a work in progress, but he's having so much fun, it's up and running so go for a test-drive and let him know what you think. It's interactive, you can upload your own images, so have some fun. <http://www.cwrtkc.org/index.html>.

DID YOU KNOW?

Early politicians required feedback from the public to determine what the people considered important. Since there were no telephones, TV's or radios, the politicians sent their assistants to local taverns, pubs, and bars. They were told to "go sip some ale" and listen to people's conversations and political concerns.

Many assistants were dispatched at different times. "You go sip here" and "You go sip there." The two words "go sip" were eventually combined when referring to the local opinion and, thus we have the term "gossip."

THE MILITARY BOOK CLUB

We've all received the flyers to become a member of the club, I was one once, that's how I have more books then I could ever read, and the darnedest thing is, I'll buy more!!! There's a new one out I haven't seen called "The American Civil War, 365 Days" by Margaret E. Wagner.

It says, "Now that the Library of Congress has opened it's vast archive of images, artifacts and memories, the daily portrait of the Civil War is complete." 522 illustrations (253 color), 752 pages. Publisher's price is only \$29.95.

I apologize for not getting this in last month's newsletter and I know not all of you can attend the meetings, so here it is again, and our condolences go out to Bob and his family

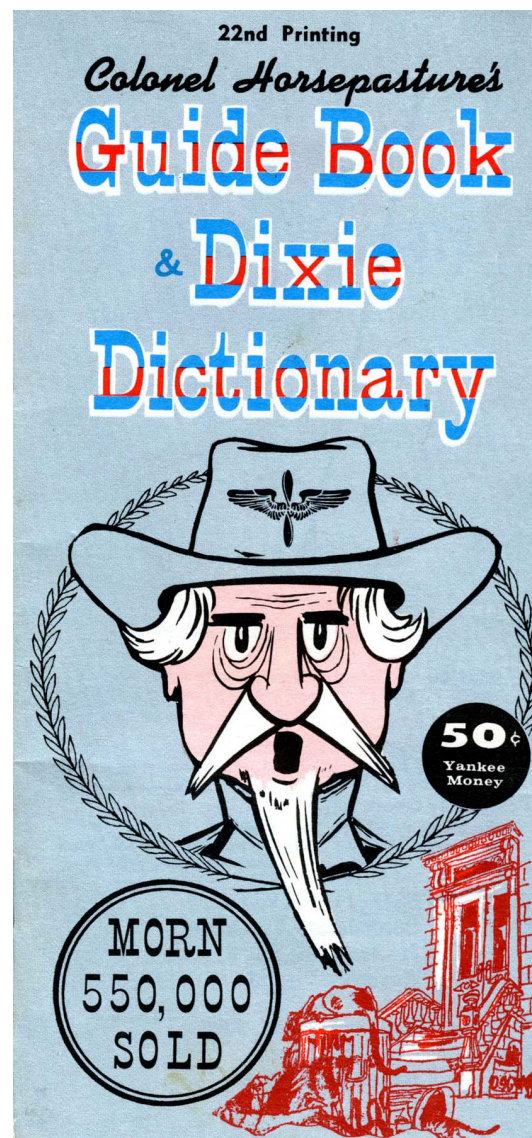
Wednesday, March 22, 2006 7:44 PM

To: Paul Gault

Subject: Re: CWRT Dinner Reminder
Paul,

I haven't had an opportunity to contact anyone at the Round Table but please know that my wife Lois Kennedy passed away Sunday March 19. If you would be so kind as to let others at the Round Table know I would be grateful.

Thank you, Bob Kennedy



This is a little something I found at an antique show some months ago in Lenexa, there's one person that always has some interesting paper items and this is the one for this year. She even only wanted to charge me the cover price of .50cents, but I gave her a dollar it was so fun. So for the next year or so or however long it takes, I will be putting in a page or two a newsletter, this is a hoot, to offense meant to you southerners.
Mike.



Frederick W. Benteen as Senior Captain 7th Cavalry,
late 1880s. *From the Mike Epstein Collection.*



B O O K F A I R

*The Sargeant-Major says: Don't forget the
Book Fair and to wear your period clothing!*

Civil War Round Table of Kansas City
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Shawnee Mission, KS 66206

