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

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402th REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, May 22, 2007 Homestead Country Club

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

MAY SPEAKER ANTHONY WASKIE

Andy teaches languages at Temple University. For more years than he can count, he has reenacted General George Meade at Gettysburg, and he is the founder of the Meade Society in Philadelphia. Truly, Andy is the epicenter of the Civil War community in Pennsylvania, an area that has so many links to the Kansas/Missouri border. "John Geary in Kansas."

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Wear your period costume and bring some unwanted books, have a great meal and visit with close friends, it's our May meeting of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City.

BOOK FAIR!!!

Silent Auction, your opportunity to get some great books at great prices and help the CWRTKC and The Monnett Battle of Westport Fund. Thank you.

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

Born and raised in Bloomsburg, Columbia Dr. Waskie County, Pennsylvania., German/Russian major, History minor in college at Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania, and studied abroad in his junior semester at Salzburg, Austria; Waskie also studied at the University of Marburg, Germany; and received a government scholarship to study Slavic Linguistics at Charles University, Prague (Czech Republic). He received an M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from New York University. He had experience with the U.S. State Department as a Foreign Service officer; and saw duty with the U.S. Army Reserves specializing in language interrogation and interpretation. Andy became a teacher of languages and history at Pennsbury School District in Bucks County and spent 31 vears there as teacher, curriculum supervisor and Department Head.

Retiring in 1999 from public education, Andy is now a professor at Temple University. He also served as an adjunct professor at Rider University/Westminster Campus and Holy Family University in Philadelphia and Bucks County, teaching Civil War history in the Civil War Institute that he helped to found.

Andy is a Civil War historian, published author and extremely active in Civil War history, research and preservation. He is a specialist on the life and career of Gen. George Meade whom he portrays in a "1st person" style Living-History performance.

Andy also is knowledgeable on the history of Philadelphia and does history tours there. As a tour director since 1982, he enjoys principally history orientated touring and travel.

He has traveled extensively both here and abroad, speaks several languages and possesses (four) 4 university degrees.

Dr. Waskie has received a number of prestigious awards and recognition for his teaching and history oriented projects; and serves on a number of Boards of historical organizations (including: Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) Civil War Museum & Library, Philadelphia; Laurel Hill Cemetery: Frankford Historical Society. Philadelphia; Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association (G.B.P.A.), of which he was elected Vice President, etc..) and maintains active memberships in a variety of historical societies, including: Historical Society of Pennsylvania; etc.. He is a member of a number of Civil War Round Tables, and helped to found: Union League CWRT, Philadelphia; Camp Olden CWRT, Trenton, NJ;

Bucks County CWRT, Doylestown, PA; G.A.R. CWRT, Philadelphia; Delaware Valley CWRT, Philadelphia.

Active with the Philadelphia Consortium for Civil War History, he is part of the group seeking to promote the access to Civil War History in the city of Philadelphia; and the foundation of the new Civil War & Underground Railroad Museum of Philadelphia, for which he serves on the Advisory Board. He is a charter member of the Philadelphia Civil War History Consortium. He was elected to membership in the Union League of Philadelphia in 2003.

He is the founder and current president of the General Meade Society of Philadelphia, an organization that seeks to promote the services and contributions of the noble hero of Gettysburg.

Presently, Dr.Waskie is engaged in researching and writing the Regimental History of the 110th Penna. Volunteers. He has completed a new book on the Washington Brigade of Philadelphia, First Volunteers to the Front. He has also collaborated on a Guide Book for Civil War Sites in Philadelphia with his colleague, Dr. Rick Sauers.

He was a founder of the A.M.A.R.T. (Association of Mid-Atlantic Civil War Round Tables) Collaborative and has served on the Planning Committee since 1994, and acted as Chair of the 1998 Symposium. In 2004, he was moderator of the symposium at Princeton University. He has also lectured at many of the conferences.

An active participant and founding member in the 'Civil War Home Front' Project at Temple University, a Civil War & Emancipation Studies Center.

Dr. Waskie has served as historical consultant to a number of TV, movie and video documentary and museum projects. Dr. Waskie has also created a Web Forum on Civil War History & Philadelphia for discussion, debate, and information sharing. He also helped to found the 'Philadelphia Historic Cemeteries Consortium. He has appeared nation-wide and presented in a number of prestigious locales and to many organizations, including: Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.; National Archives, Washington, D.C.; U.S. Air Force Academy; U.S. Military Academy; Union League of Philadelphia; U.S. Congress; Penna. State House of Representatives in the State Capitol; National Park Service; many Civil War Round

Tables; Historical Organizations; many colleges & universities: Temple University; Princeton University; Bloomsburg University; Air Force Academy; West Point USMA; Lotos Literary Club of NYC where he is an honored member; etc. http://isc.temple.edu/awaskie/.

MENU FOR MAY 2007

House Salad w/Ranch Dressing, Smoked BBQ'd Brisket, Cheesy Potatoes, Cole Slaw, and Chocolate Mousse

SPEAKERS FOR 2007-

Summer Sessions.

June - Matt Mathews, "Redlegs"
July - Blair Tarr, "TBD" possibly flags in KSHS
August - Robert Wandel (or designee) G.A.R. and
S.U.V.

September 25; Tom Perry. Tom is the founder of the JEB Stuart Birthplace Preservation Trust. He studied under our good friend Bud Robertson at Virginia Tech, and has donated his extensive collection of research on Jeb and his family to the Center for Civil War Studies at that university. "Jeb Stuart in Kansas."

October 23; Robert Krick. Bob's reputation as historian at the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania Courthouse Battlefield is well known to the Civil War community. Topic to be announced.

November 27; Fred Chiaventone. Fred is retired from the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, having taught nearly every upper level officer serving now in Iraq and Afghanistan. His novel of the Little Bighorn, *A Road We Do Not Know*, was nominated for the Pulitzer. Fred's most recent manuscript, Gone to Kingdom, is based on the guerilla warfare in Kansas and Missouri. "Military Lessons from the Civil War."



BATTLEFIELD DISPATCHES

Battlefield Dispatches # 48

"Deadly Winter Ambush"

In his 1863 Annual Report of the Military Activities in the Department of the Missouri, General-In-Chief of the Union Armies, General Henry W.

Halleck, accurately described the most common type of "ENEMY" in Missouri that raised havoc against the "Billy Yanks" throughout the entire Civil War as follows:

" A large part of the military force in the Department of the Missouri has been employed during the past year in repelling raids & in repressing GUERRILLA BANDS of robbers & murders who have come within our lines or BEEN ORGANIZED IN THE COUNTRY. Most of these bands are NOT AUTHORIZED BELLIGERENTS Regular Confederate Soldiers] under the laws of war, but [are] simply OUTLAWS from civilized society." [Note: Here in retrospect, I disagree with the good General Halleck, as I am sure anyone then & today, who is of the "Southern Persuasion" did & does. All of the "Guerrilla Bands" were not UNAUTHORIZED BELLIGERENTS. but many were & these included "Missourians" who were southern sympathizers, scoundrels, bushwhackers & outlaws who did not care who they robbed or killed. Their allegiance was to no "Flag", but to their own personal gain & profit. Kansas was of course not without sin because it had it's own redlegs, jayhawkers & outlaws!] "It is exceedingly difficult to ERDADICATE these bands, inasmuch as the inhabitants of the country, sometimes from disloyalty & sometimes FROM FEAR, afford them SUBSISTENCE & CONCEALMENT. They usually hide themselves in the woods & being well [armed &] mounted, move rapidly from one point to another, supplying themselves by the way of provisions & fresh horses. They ROB & MURDER wherever they go."

The following "DEADLY WINTER AMBUSH" was a victory for the Confederate "Foxes", however the town & citizens of Columbus, Missouri suffered severe repercussions & reprisals from this ambush by the Union "Hounds" from Kansas.

"Headquarters, Camp Johnson, Morristown, Mo., Jan. 13, 1862.

[To] Maj. Gen. David Hunter, Commanding Dept. of Kansas.

Sir: On the 5th instant a party of 12 "UNION" citizens of Johnson County, Missouri, mounted on horses & armed with shot guns came into camp & informed me that a force of 300 rebels, under command of Colonel Elliott were committing depredations upon Union men & asking assistance from me to aid or protect them in moving their families to KANSAS. I ordered Major Herrick with 200 men to proceed to Holden, Johnson County & capture Colonel Elliott & also to put down all REBEL BANDS he met on the way & [to]

protect Union men. Major Herrick took 4 days rations; found no enemy in force on the route – indeed the country seemed desolate & deserted by the men.

On the 9th [of January] Captain Merriman was sent with 50 men to Columbus, [Mo.]. The people of Columbus informed him there was NO ENEMY in that vicinity; but on his return about a half a mile south of the town, was FIRED ON FROM AMBUSH by Colonel Elliott, who had secreted his men in the BUSH & 5 of our men were killed. Captain Merriman was forced to RETREAT. He was soon joined by Captain Utt, of Company A, with 50 more men. They scoured the BUSH for miles around, but found no ENEMY, they having deserted their camp, which was found by our men located in a rocky ravine.

The next day, Captain Swoyer of co. B, left camp at Holden & searched the country of the Blackwater as far north as Chapel Hill & learned that Colonel Elliott had reached a point within 10 miles of Lexington. Captain Swoyer returned next day to camp at Holden.

Captain Merriman, on the day of the attack on him, BURNED the TOWN of COLUMBUS, having learned it was a RENDEZVOUS of Colonel Elliott & the people of the town HAVING DECOYED HIM INTO AMBUSH! Maj. Herrick remained at Holden until the 12th & then returned to Camp Johnson. 50 or 60 UNION families availed themselves of the opportunity to move out with him. Maj. Herrick also captured 60 head of horses, mules & cattle & young stock belonging to men who fired upon Maj. Hough & those who were with Col. Elliot & brought them to camp.

Respectfully Yours,

D. R. Anthony

Lieut. Col., Cmdg., 1st Kansas Cavalry.

To be continued with more DEADLY AMBUSHES in Missouri for the balance of the Civil War!



CIVIL WAR TRIVIA

11) General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson spent many pre-war years as a professor of artillery tactics at the Virginia Military Institute in Lexington, but he was not an effective teacher. Students nicknamed him "Tom Fool," and one even challenged him to a duel. Professor Jackson would spend countless hours writing his lectures and then memorizing them for class. If a student asked him a question, he would merely mentally rewind his lecture to the section that contained the explanation and then recite his "answer" from that point forward. This

practice certainly discouraged follow-ups—and inquisitiveness in general.

12) Parker's Crossroads National Battlefield, located on 1-40, exit 108, halfway between Memphis and Nashville, 20630 Highway 22 North, Parker's Crossroads, Tennessee 38388. (731) 968-5533.



2007 BORDER WAR FORUM

Shawnee Indian Mission State Historic Site and the Monnett Battle of Westport Fund present the 2007 Border War Forum, a provocative and engaging look at the 1854-1865 period in Kansas and Missouri history.

May 24, 2007: "American Indians in the Civil War" presented by Alisha M. Cole, Site Administrator, Shawnee Indian Mission State Historic Site, Fairway, Kansas and Grinter Place State Historic Site, Kansas City, Kansas

June 28, 2007: ."Ebony Warriors March to Glory, Role of African-American Troops in the Civil War with special emphasis on Missouri and Kansas" presented by Arnold Schofield, Site Administrator, Mine Creek Battlefield State Historic Site and Marais des Cygnes State Historic Site, Pleasanton, Kansas

Homestead Country Club 6510 Mission Rd., Prairie Village, KS 66208 Social Hour-Cash Bar-6:00 p.m. Dinner-6:30 p.m.

Attendance requires a paid dinner reservation.

Reservation with required payment of \$23.00 per person per event to: Betty Ergovich, 23414 West 54th Street, Shawnee Mission, KS 66226-2709. Checks to be made payable to Monnett Fund. For more information, please contact Alisha Cole at 931-262-0867.

Tom & Deb Goodrich are putting together a busy tour season. Beginning May 5 & 6, with van tours to Richmond and Missouri City, and tours on Fort Leavenworth on May 19 and 20, nearly every other weekend is an opportunity for good history, good food, and good fun. All tours are priced at \$60 each and each tour is limited to 10 people, so sign up early. Email Deb for more info: etalgoodrich@aol.com, (mailto:etalgoodrich@aol.com).

May 17, 2007 The Round Table is also sponsoring a speaker at the Truman Library, 500 W. US 24 Hwy.,

Independence, MO on Thursday, May 17, 2007. John Dillingham will be speaking about "Alexander Doniphan, Citizen Soldier" at 7 p.m. Regular admission prices for the Library are \$7 for adults, \$3.00 for young people 6-18 years, \$5 for seniors 62 and up, and children under 6 are free.

The Library is open before the talk and afterwards until 9 p.m. to see the regular exhibits and the special exhibit called Treasures of the Presidents, which highlights the historical collections of the nation's presidential libraries. On display will be ornate gifts from heads-of-state, simple hand-made tokens of appreciation from ordinary people, documents that shaped the course of history, and personal letters from the presidents.



pin whut you keep hawgs in—a hawg pin.
pen place with bars where they send
you for makin' corn squeezin'
without a label on the bottle.
poke (a bag) "don't buy a pig in a poke."
Pea-pickers folks from Dixie

rot (or all-rot) (O. K.) (shore) sech as "it's all-rot with me."
rat cheer (not there) (Here) like "lay it Rat Cheer".

stow (a place that sells stuff) such as "while I'm gone, mind the stow, but don't play with the cash register.

show (1) Yeah man, (2) Yes, "show ah'l

shore Same as show.

Sprang when the buds wobble sweet

thud whut comes after 2nd, as "this only my thud mint julep" taw (tar) like "tawheel".

tin-sin-stow (5 & 10) "Les go in the tinsin-stow"

varmit a pesky 2 or 4 legged pest-thang

XYZ

yawl (1) not me, you, as "yawl" come to
see me."

FORTRESS MONROE, VA.

Can We? Should We? And How Can We Make Fort Monroe A National Park?

Can we afford a National Park at Fort Monroe? Yes. All of the forts acreage is public land. We can defray much, if not all, of the cost of a park's operation with revenues generated by leasing historic houses and other properties for residences or compatible enterprises, such as offices, inns, restaurants, and cultural and educational organizations.

Should we accept the argument that new private homes on Fort Monroe are better for Hampton and the region's economy than a national park? No. A national park will produce far more economic benefits. As a national park, Fort Monroe will promote tourism, contribute to high-quality development in Hampton communities adjacent to the park and enhance the quality of life in Hampton and Hampton Roads. And the park itself will generate economic activity through residents living and businesses operating on the fort property.

How can we make Fort Monroe a national park? Begin by asking your political leaders, locally, in Richmond and in Washington, to support Congress authorizing a feasibility study for a Fort Monroe National Park.

The history and unique resources at Fort Monroe can be preserved and shared for the generations to come if it becomes a national park. Help us establish Fort Monroe, Virginia, as our country's next national park. Visit CFMNP.org to learn more.

Fort Monroe is also known informally as **Freedom's Fortress**, because it was the site of a dramatic and pivotal chapter in the history of African-Americans and our country.

Early in the Civil War, three men took a dramatic risk. Frank Baker, Sheppard Mallory and James Townsend escaped from slavery and asked for sanctuary at the Union Army's Fort Monroe.

Sanctuary was granted but not out of natural justice. Under slavery era laws, these human beings were merely property, so the men were' deemed contraband of war.

Still, they were no longer slaves. Tens of thousands more "Contrabands" followed Baker, Mallory and Townsend. Eventually thousands of African-Americans labored and fought for the Union contributing crucially to victory.

The Contrabands' seizure of their own (freedom was the war's first mass freedom incident. It led to slavery's disintegration and transformed a civil war into a war for freedom.

That is why University of Pennsylvania! historian Robert F. Engs, author of *Freedom's First Generation*, says that Fort Monroe, "Freedom's Fortress," is "...where freedom for all Americans *truly* began."



UNION CEMETERY 150TH ANNIVERSARY

Celebrating how Union Cemetery links Kansas City's past to the promise of its future. Friday, June 8 and Saturday June 9, 2007, Union Cemetery, 227 E. 28th Terrace, KC, MO. 64108. (Located just East of Main ST., 28th and Grand Blvd.) Friday, 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Guided Tours. "Voices from the past: Historical Epitaphs." Guided tour by lantern light to gravesites of early citizens who contributed to Kansas City. Epitaphs will be read by actors portraying the individual buried tat the site. Civil War encampment set-up. Saturday, June 9th, 9:00 a.m. Civil War Encampment opens. Period dressed soldiers will re-enact a historical camp. 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Commemoration ceremony, government officials and historical societies gather to give tribute to the historical significance of Union Cemetery. Time line from Revolutionary War to Vietnam wars will be represented by period dress soldiers. From 11:30 on there are many family activities including "Grave

rubbings." The cemetery will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information e-mail: uchskc@yahoo.com or go to www.kcmo.org/parks. Look under museums and attractions. (816) 472-4990.

HERITAGE DAYS; WAVERLY, MISSOURI

Your presence is requested at the re-enactment of the wedding of **Joseph Orville Shelby** to **Elizabeth Nancy Shelby** on Sunday, July 22, 2007 at 2:00 p.m. at the Warren House Lawn, Waverly, MO. Reception and Ball to follow. Events to proceed the wedding on Saturday, July 21, 2007, Country Fare, Food & Craft Booths, Entertainment. 10:00 a.m. to Dark both days. Community Worship Service Sunday, July 22, 2007 10:00 a.m. Historic Presbyterian Church.

AMERICAN CIVIL WAR HISTORY COMES ALIVE THIS SUMMER IN HISTORIC CORYDON, INDIANA. July 7-8, 2007. Morgan's Raid, a military ball, historical re-enactments and the Battle of Corydon on the original battle site, which is now Hayswood Nature Preserve in Corydon, IN. The original battle was sparked when 450 Home Guard tried to stop the famed raid by John Hunt Morgan and his men numbering 2400 as they marched through Ohio and southern Indiana. Amy Weirick, (614) 848-8380 or amy@weirickCommunications.com.





Jefferson Davis' Prison Cell at Fort Monroe



