

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



403rd REGULAR MEETING WEDNESDAY, May 28, 2008 Meadowbrook Country Club 91st Street and Nall Ave., Prairie Village, Kansas

Social Hour-Cash Bar-6:00p.m. Dinner-6:30p.m.

MAY 2008 LOUIS KRAFT

Louis Kraft became interested in the West in the 1970s; in particular he became interested in people who didn't speak the same language but who were able to work out their differences without killing each other. To understand these people and the land they inhabited, he immersed himself in their struggle for survival. In the mid-1980s he began writing and lecturing about them. **THE FINAL SHOWDOWN** (Walker and Company, 1992) explores racial relations in 1867 Kansas; **CUSTER AND THE CHEYENNE: GEORGE ARMSTRONG CUSTER'S WINTER CAMPAIGN ON**

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VERY SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS, IF YOU READ NOTHING ELSE, READ THIS

Please make note of the change in dates from Tuesday, May 27th to Wednesday, May 28th. Also the location has changed for this month only!!! It will be held at Meadowbrook Country Club at 9101 Nall Ave., that's 91st and Nall Ave. in Prairie Village, not much further than Homestead for most of us. They were gracious enough to allow us this night on such short notice. The meal will be 25.00 this month also. Please don't forget the *book fair* and *period clothing*!

Please be sure that we have your reservation by Friday May 23. Return reservation In the enclosed envelope with required payment of \$25.00 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.

THE SOUTHERN PLAINS (Upton and Sons, 1995) follows Custer's 1868–1869 winter campaign on the Southern Plains; and GATEWOOD & GERONIMO (University of New Mexico Press, 2000) examines the relationship between the two pre-eminent warriors of the last Apache war. Not finished with Gatewood, Kraft pieced together and edited the lieutenant's aborted attempt to write about his years walking among the Apaches--LT. CHARLES GATEWOOD & HIS APACHE WARS MEMOIR (University of Nebraska Press, 2005).

Although Kraft had written plays earlier in his career, he had shied away from the format until 2002 when his one-man historical drama on Cheyenne Indian agent Edward Wynkoop premiered in Kansas. It has since played in California and Colorado (*AN EVENING WITH NED WYNKOOP* has evolved into *NED WYNKOOP: A MATTER OF CONSCIENCE*).

Kraft continues to research, write, and lecture about Custer, Gatewood, and Wynkoop, as well swashbuckling actor Errol Flynn. He is currently under contract with the University of Oklahoma Press to deliver a manuscript on Wynkoop's Indian years in December 2007. Other projects include a full-length play that deals with Wynkoop's stormy relationship with the Cheyennes during the 1860s and a book on Flynn and his working relationship with actress Olivia de Havilland.

Kraft lives in North Hollywood, California, and spends all his free time with the ladies in his life: sweetheart and best friend Diane Moon and daughter Marissa Kraft.

SPEAKERS FOR 2008

I'm afraid we don't have all the particulars on the 2008 speakers as of yet.

May 27; Louis Kraft, 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; Lane Smith, "Thru The Eyes of Lee, Lee at Gettysburg."

August 26; Jackie Roberts, Cass County Civil War historian and Cass Co. Civil War Round Table

MENU FOR MAY 2008;

Garden salad, Chicken Piccata, Chef's choice Vegestable, Strawberry Short CakeHmm-Hmm Good!

COMING EVENTS.....

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.

May means wearing your period costumes or uniforms. You'll see someone from the Revolutionary War to a 1840 Dragoon and Civil War soldiers and ladies. ALSO!!! It's the Silent Auction Book Sale benefiting the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City and The Monnett Battle of Westport Fund. So wear your period clothes and bring your money belts, and old books, you can't lose out.



BATTLEFIELD DISPATCHES #65

"BUSHWHACKER BURNINGS"

Traditionally, in the study of the Civil War, this particular war has been described as the last civilized war & first modern war. For many years books indicated that for the first few years of the war both sides refrained from conducting "Total War" or waging war against civilians that included the destruction of homes, barns, crops and associated civilian property. This may have been true back "East" or east of the Mississippi River for a short time, but here in eastern Kansas & Missouri "Total War" was conducted from the very beginning of the declared war in 1861. Of course the trial by fire on the border started here in 1856 so the citizens in this part of the country had a five year head start & were exposed to the BURNING of civilian homes, barns & towns throughout the entire Civil War.

The following after action report describes the BURNING of 11 homes "inhabited by bushwhacker families" by soldiers of the 9th Ks. Vol. Cavalry Regiment in the Spring of 1863. This of course was & is not surprising, but by doing so the commanding officer recognized that he now was faced with a bunch of homeless civilians for which he offered an interesting solution. The report is located on Pages 318-319 of Series I, Vol. 22, Part I Reports of the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion.

"Paola, [Ks.], May 11, 1863.

Sir: I have the honor to report that, on the 3rd inst., I left camp with small detachments from Companies A, D, E, F & K of this regiment, for a scout in Cass & Bates Counties, I scoured Cass County & found no enemy; then turned into Bates County & when about 10 miles north of Butler received your letter of instructions, dated Fort Leavenworth, ____, 1863; also your letter dated fort Leavenworth, May 5 directing Company D, Captain Charles F. Coleman to move his company from Rockville to Butler, Mo., which was immediately complied with. I moved on to the Osage [River], intending to cross Hog Island, but found the river to

high & did not cross; then turned east & on the morning of the 8th on Double Branches, found a gang of bushwhackers under Jackman & Marchbanks, Quantrill having left on the night of the 6th inst. for Henry County, Missouri with 40 men. We found Jackman & Marchbanks with about 20 men who fled by ones & twos & escaped except 7, who were reported killed by my soldiers. I found rapidly filling [the] county BUSHWHACKERS' FAMILIES who are returning from the South under the impression that [Confederate Major General Sterling] Price, is coming up & had again taken possession with their stock. This stream, called double Branches, is their rendezvous & has been since the outbreak of this rebellion; but four loyal families live on it & they are doubtful. About fifty or sixty families inhabit that country bordering on that stream. I notified them to leave & go south of the Arkansas River. A great part of them positively refused. [Comment: That shouldn't of came as any surprise because they were being asked to abandon their homes!] I BURNED ELEVEN HOUSES, inhabited by BUSHWHACKER FAMILIES & DROVE OFF ALL THE STOCK except that belonging to the reported loyal persons. We broke up 4 camps of bushwhackers & pursued them to the eastern side of Bates County. I think for the present no danger need be apprehended from that quarter. I will keep a close watch, for I am satisfied they intend to organize a force somewhere in that country; I think in Henry County.

The stock we took consists of a few yoke of oxen [2 0xen = a yoke], mares & colts, young horses one & two year old cows & calves & young cattle; in all about 350 head; also about 300 sheep. I believe it all to be the property of the bushwhackers & rebel sympathizers. In view of the fact that pasture is scarce at Kansas City & plenty here & the stock [is] the kind our Kansas farmers would like to buy & some of it may be proved away [have been stolen], I respectfully ask for an order that will authorize the sale of it at this place.

Permit me to ask the question, How am I to send the <u>REBEL SYMPATHIZERS & FEMALE REBELS</u>, who are plentiful where I have been for the last ten days [in Cass & Bates Counties], south of the Arkansas River, particularly those who have NO WAY TO GO? I can see no way except to gather them all up & send them in a Government

[wagon] train & reimburse the Government by selling their stock.

Company C, Captain John E. Stewart has not yet reported at Olathe. Scouting parties are constantly moving from the different counties. Can I have your consent to go into the counties of Henry & Saline on our next scout [mission], if I find no enemy in the border counties or if they run into those counties?

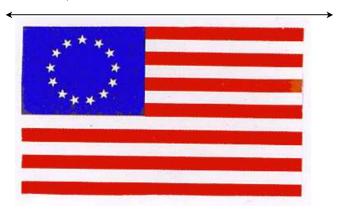
I am, sir, respectfully, your obedient servant, E. Lynde, Colonel Commanding."

It is not known & it is doubtful that Col. Lynde suggestion of using a "Government Wagon Train" to transport the "REBEL SYMPATHIZERS [civilians] & FEMALE REBELS south of the Arkansas river" was ever implemented, but it did become common practice to sell their confiscated livestock. The BUSHWHACKER BURNINGS & displacement of SOUTHERN SYMPATHIZERS continued unabated in Missouri throughout the entire Civil War.

NEW MEMBERS:

Craig Sundell, 1530 Learnard Ave., Lawrence KS 66004, 785 841-7970

Maryann Smith, 11408 W. 109th St. Overland Park, Ks 66210, 913-491-0145



ELIZABETH DUNCAN PORTER (1750 - 1845)

You are cordially invited to attend a ceremony honoring one of Kansas City, Missouri's rare links to the American Revolution-Elizabeth Duncan Porter.

On Saturday, May 24th the Major Isaac Sadler-La Belle Vue Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution will dedicate a marker honoring Elizabeth Porter. The ceremony will be held at historic Union Cemetery (227 East 28th Terrace, Kansas City, Missouri) and begin promptly at 1:30 p.m.

Elizabeth Porter and her family were among 129 persons taken captive on June 26, 1780 at Martin's Station on Stoner Creek, near present-day Paris, Kentucky. The fall of Martin's Station occurred during a raid by the British and their Indian allies in an attempt to destroy many of the settlements in the land which would come to be known as "the dark and bloody ground."

The prisoners of Martin's Station were joined by 250 prisoners who had survived a massacre at nearby Ruddell's Station and forced to make a grueling 350-mile, five-and-a-half-week march to the British stronghold at Detroit. Elizabeth and her immediate family remained prisoners of the British until early November 1782.

Questions regarding the event should be directed to:

Louanne White 3004 NE 56th Tarrace Gladstone, MO 64119-2319 (816) 413-0902 email: ed327@yahoo.com

The descendants of Elizabeth Porter hope you are able to join us and learn more about this remarkable woman.

Gil Bergman, Great-g-g-grandson Of Elizabeth Porter

Dear Friends,

I thought you might be interested to know that the Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri is suggesting that Gov. Matt Blunt appoint Jim Beckner from the Kansas City area as a member of the new commission that is being appointed to oversee the 150th anniversary of the Civil War.

Sincerely, Beverly Shaw, Treasurer 816 478-7648

MISSOURI IN THE CIVIL WAR

There is a new book out called: "Guide to Missouri Confederate Units, 1861-1865." A comprehensive resource describing the sizty-nine artillery, cavalry and infantry units in Missouri, as well as their precedent units and those that failed to complete their organization. Provides concise narrative and lists field grade officers for battalions and regiments, companies, and company commanders, and places of origin for each company

when known, along with supplemental and unit bibliographies. \$34.95 cloth, 290 pages, 978-1-55728-870-7. To order call 800-626-0090, and mention promo number 706. Prices do not include shipping.

GOOD NEWS CONCERNING BEAUVOIR!

There will be private guided van tours of the grounds that the public normally does not get to see. These tours focus on what transpired during the storm, happenings during the recovery period, and the master rebuilding plan currently in progress.

Groups of up to ten people can be accommodated during each tour. These tours are about an hour in duration, must be pre-booked with gift shop personnel prior to the tour, and are a combined riding and walking tour. They are available at a \$9.00 charge for adults and a \$5.00 charge for school-aged children. You may make arrangements for your tour by telephoning (228) 388-4400.

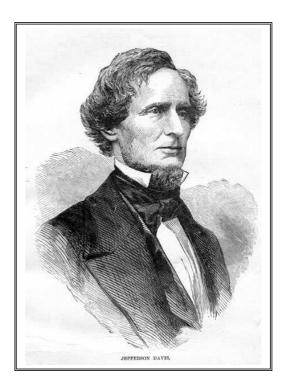
The Grand Opening Ceremony for the Beauvoir House on June 3 will include refreshments served on the grounds as well as guided tours of the house.

The Acting Director of Beauvoir, Rick Forte, has reported that over 85% of the roofing is complete, that window units have been installed, plaster work on the front porch is finished, and that over 90% of the painting on the outside of the house is complete.

He states, moreover, that blueprints of the Jefferson Davis Library and Museum have been approved and that bids have been solicited.

Thanks to the generosity of several Sons of Confederate Veterans, three used but low-mileage vehicles have also been donated to Beauvoir. These vehicles replace those destroyed by Hurricane Katrina.

If you would like to become a part of this effort to restore Beauvoir for future generations to remember and enjoy, kindly forward your contribution to Friends of Beauvoir, 2244 Beach Blvd., Biloxi, MS 39531.



CIVIL WAR TRIVIA

- 36) The confederate States of America had a constitution, government, and a capital in less than three months after Lincoln's election. By contrast, the Second Continental Congress took nearly 2 years to write the Constitution and organize the government.
- 37) On December 20, 1860, South Carolina became the first state to secede. The legislature's vote was 169 for secession, 0 opposed.
- 38) In less than two months, the six Deep South states seceded from the Union. Mississippi left on January 9th, Florida on the 10th, Alabama on the 11th, Georgia on the 19th, Louisiana on the 26th, and Texas on February 1st.
- 39) Alabama played an important role in the creation of the Confederacy in 1861. Montgomery became it's first capital. The Confederate soldiers relied on ironworks from Alabama throughout the war. Although no major fighting on land in the state, Fort Morgan (in Gulf Shores), which was a major defense of Mobile Bay until it fell in August 1864, is now a National Historic Landmark.
- 41) Tennessean's attitude changed on April 14, 1861, when Lincoln called upon state governments to provide 75,000 troops to invade the Deep South. Tennessee's quota was to be two regiments.

Nathan Bedford Forest was among the leaders of the pro-Union forces in Tennessee's first vote on the subject of secession, February 9, 1861. Tennessee legislature approved a military league with the Confederacy on May 7, 1861. However, voters in the state did not approve it until a month later.

- 43) When the state of Tennessee seceded, Scott County protested and voted to form the Free and Independent State of Scott.
- 44) Virginia voted to secede from the United States in 1861. However, the states two pre-war forts-Fort Monroe and Fort Wool (then called Fort Calhoun)-always remained in Union hands.
- 45) The American flag is known as the "Stars and Stripes," while the first national Confederate flag was known as the "Stars and Bars."
- 46) Among Confederates, the "Bonnie Blue Flag" was a popular marching song that told the story of the order in which the states seceded from the Union. The song was based on the flag of the same name, which was first used by secessionists. The flag consisted of a simple rectangular field of dark blue with a single star in the exact center. Several Southern states briefly adopted this design for their state flag immediately after seceding but before joining the Confederacy.

- 47) Soon after the first Battle of Manassas, there was a need for a new battle flag due to the similarity of the designs of the State and Bars and the Stars and Stripes. A flag for field service was created by P.G.T. Beauregard. Within a year, it became the battle flag for all the Confederate armies and was used throughout the war.
- 48) Even though there were 13 stars on the Confederate flag, there were only 11 Confederate Virginia, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, states: Tennessee, Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, and North Carolina.. The other two stars were for Missouri and Kentucky. Though the technically remained in Union, they were considered "sister states" by Confederates and furnished many thousands of Southern troops. Both elected Confederate governors and other officials.
- 49) North Carolina was the last state to successfully join the Confederacy-May 1861. Even though it was a slave state, it did not have the enormous plantations and large black populations of the Deep South. Both Kentucky and Missouri took quasi-official actions to join the Confederacy.

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



