



# BORDER

# BUGLE



Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

## EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

### President

*Lane Smith*

### First Vice-President

*Alisha Cole*

### Second Vice-President

*Larry Coleman*

### Treasurer

*Paul Gault*

### Assistant Treasurer

*Betty Ergovich*

### Corresponding Secretary

*Diane Hinshaw*

### Recording Secretary

*Judy Smith*

### Preservation Director

*Arnold Schofield*

### Board of Directors

*Don Bates Sr.*

*Don Bates Jr.*

*Brian Lawson*

### Past Presidents

*Howard Mann*

*Jack Brooks*

*James Speicher*

### Chairman of Board

### Monnett Battle of

### Westport Fund

### (Ex-Officio)

*Daniel L. Smith*

### Sargeant at Arms

*Don Bates Sr.*

### Chaplain

*Rev. David B. Holloway*

### Historian

*Betty Ergovich*

### Border Bugle Editor

*Michael J. Epstein*

[cwrtkc@att.net](mailto:cwrtkc@att.net)

Civil War Round Table of  
Kansas City  
P.O. Box 2602  
Shawnee Mission, KS  
66206  
An IRC 501(c)(3)  
Charitable Organization



## 424<sup>th</sup> REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY, November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010

**Homestead Country Club**

6510 Mission Road, Prairie Village, Kansas

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

Dinner-6:30p.m.

## NOVEMBER 2010 SPEAKER

## JIM BECKNER

## “THE OLD CONFEDERATE HOMES”

An Old Soldier's Home is a military veteran's retirement home, nursing home, or hospital, or sometimes even an institution for the care of the widows and orphans of a nation's soldiers, sailors and marines, etc.

Caring for the disabled and elderly, and the widows and orphans of the men who died in the war became a concern even before the Civil War ended.

Large veteran organizations like the Grand Army of the Republic and the United Confederate Veterans eventually also worked for the creation of federal and state homes to care for disabled or elderly veterans.

Eleven states had two or more veteran's homes in operation at the same time (two of which also had a federal home). The first of 16 Confederate Homes was opened in 1881 in Georgetown, Kentucky. Confederate Soldiers Homes were supported entirely by subscribers, or by their state with no funds from the federal government against which the Confederacy had fought.

*Cont. on page 4*

**Please be sure that we have your reservation by Friday Nov. 12. 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.**

## SPEAKERS 2010

**November:** Jim Beckner, The Old Confederate Homes

**December:** To be determined & Silent Book Auction

## MENU FOR NOVEMBER 2010;

Squash Soup, Pork Cutlet with Mushroom Sauce, Sauteed Potatoes, Steamed Broccoli, Apple Crisp or Cobbler with Ice Cream

## 2010/2011 LOCAL

### AND COMING EVENTS

**November 26-27**, Friday - Saturday, 6 - 9 p.m. Christmas 1856 at the Harris-Kearney House Entertain your Thanksgiving guests with a Holiday Candlelight Tour of Kansas City's oldest brick residence. Visit Col. John and Henrietta Harris at their home on Christmas Eve 1856 as they welcome friends and family from far and near. Many of the townsfolk of Westport will also be enjoying the hospitality of the evening. Join the holiday preparations as you learn about Christmas traditions on the frontier. Tours begin every 15 minutes and refreshments will be served Call 816-561-1821 or 913-648-0952 for more information or to make reservations. Admission is \$7.00 for non members, \$4.00 for non member students.

Discount tickets available for members. Westport Historical Society 4000 Baltimore, Kansas City, MO 64111 Web site: [www.westporthistorical.com](http://www.westporthistorical.com)

**December 3-5, 2010** – Prairie Grove, Ar., Reenactment

**May 13-15, 2011** – Carthage, Mo., Re-enactment

**June 18-19, 2011** – Booneville, Mo., Re-enactment

**August 12-14 2011** – Springfield, Missouri. Wilson's Creek Re-enactment Planned for 2011 The Wilson's Creek National Battlefield Foundation has begun planning a maximum-effort Civil War reenactment to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Wilson's Creek. The reenactment will take place during the weekend of August 12-14, 2011.

Excitement is already building for the Civil War sesquicentennial, and as the second major battle of the war, Wilson's Creek compels a great deal of attention in the reenactment community. The Western

Division of the Blue-Gray Alliance, a re-enactor organization, will help design battle scenarios and handle all military aspects of the reenactment.

Due to the high level of interest, the Blue-Gray Alliance anticipates that this will be a well-attended event, with more than 3,000 re-enactors and huge crowds of spectators. Although a location has not yet been selected, it will be held as close to Wilson's Creek National Battlefield as possible. Watch for more details and updates on the Foundation web site at [www.wilsonscreek.com](http://www.wilsonscreek.com).

**Sept. 16-18, 2011** – Lexington, Mo., Reenactment

**October 1-2, 2011** – Leasburg, Mo., Battle of Morristown near Harrisonville, Reenactment



## LIBRARY DONATION

Recently, the KCCWRT received a donation of a large personal Civil War Library from an anonymous benefactor. Therefore we will be able to offer a small selection for a silent auction at each of our regular meetings from September – May. Members are still encouraged to bring donations of Civil War and related books to the regular large silent book auctions at the December and May meetings. If there are any questions please do not hesitate to contact Arnold Schofield.

---

## NEW MEMBERS

No New Members this month.

---

## “The Sargeant Major’s Roar”

Battlefield Dispatches # 93

## “Thanksgiving: A Day to Remember”

Traditionally, the fourth Thursday of November is celebrated as a day national of Thanksgiving. For most folks, it is a holiday which centers around a large family gathering & dinner. It is also a day of remembering distant family members who cannot be at home or who are now remembered as part of one's family history.

Thanksgiving is normally associated with our 17th Century Colonial History that includes the Pilgrims; Plymouth, Massachusetts, friendly Indians, and a happy shared dinner, feast or meal. How much of this is true, remains open to question. The pilgrims were thankful to be alive, having survived a perilous journey across the Atlantic Ocean in a tiny vessel, a few months of bare

existence and the friendship & some food from some friendly Indians. By today's definition, the 1<sup>st</sup> Thanksgiving was not much of a Holiday as we celebrate it today.

It wasn't until our Civil War in 1863 that the last Thursday (normally the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday) of November was declared by the following Presidential Proclamation to be a national day of "Thanksgiving."

"By the President of the United States: a Proclamation:

In the midst of a civil war of unequalled magnitude and severity, which has sometimes seemed to foreign states to invite and to provoke their aggression, peace has been preserved with all nations, order has been maintained, the laws have been respected & obeyed & harmony has prevailed everywhere, except in the theater of military conflict, while that theater has been greatly contracted by the advancing armies & navies of the Union.....

...I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States & those who are at sea & those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart & observe the last Thursday of November next as a day of thanksgiving & praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens.

Abraham Lincoln,  
President of the United States"

Many of the words used by President Lincoln in his proclamation of "Thanksgiving" are appropriate & applicable today as they were then. Especially, "those who are sojourning in foreign lands" for we have civilians & military personnel in United States ARMY, NAVY, MARINE CORPS, COAST GUARD & AIR FORCE who are stationed throughout the world defending the opportunity for those of us at home to enjoy the 390<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 1<sup>st</sup> Thanksgiving & the 147<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of President Lincoln's Proclamation! Therefore, for both of these anniversaries, our armed forces veterans and those currently serving on active duty both here in the United States and "sojourning in foreign lands" we should be always and forever thankful!



## ATTENTION

In keeping with the spirit of a Round Table being "a meeting of peers for discussion and exchange of views," I would like to propose that the summer sessions of the CWRT of KC be an opportunity for members to share and discuss their personal research and areas of interest. A member would make an informal presentation which would be followed by questions and discussion. The presenting member would also provide a written piece of his/her presentation to be posted on the CWRT of KC website to contribute to the body of knowledge of everyone about the Border War/Civil War era.

If you are interested in sharing your research without CWRT, please contact Lane Smith or Alisha Cole.  
Thank you.

Alisha Moore Cole  
First Vice President  
Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

## WINTER HOURS OF OPERATION ANNOUNCED FOR WILSON'S CREEK NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Winter hours of operation for Wilson's Creek National Battlefield were announced today by Superintendent T. John Hillmer, Jr. Hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. for the Tour Road, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. for the Visitor Center, and 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. for the Museum and will go into effect beginning Sunday, October 24, 2010.

An entry permit of \$5.00 per adult or \$10.00 per family is required for all persons using the battlefield including walkers, joggers and bicyclists. Entering or remaining in the battlefield during other times is not permitted. Additional information can be found on the internet at [www.nps.gov/wicr](http://www.nps.gov/wicr).

Administered by the National Park Service, Wilson's Creek National Battlefield preserves the site of the first major engagement of the Civil War in the West. The site is considered to be one of the best-preserved battlefields in the National Park System. The battlefield is located 10-miles southwest of Springfield, Missouri at the intersection of Highway ZZ and Farm Road 182.

More information can be obtained by calling (417) 732-2662.

Angela R. Pirotte  
Administrative Assistant  
Wilson's Creek National Battlefield

---

## JIM BECKNER

Everyone in our round table probably knows who Jim Beckner is, or you've heard him speak somewhere as a preacher or seen him fight as a soldier in the Confederate Army. Jim's been doing reenacting for 30 years along with his lovely wife Judy. Recently, Jim won the State of Missouri Governor's Exemplary Community Achievement Award, given to him personally by Gov. Jay Nixon for teaching Missouri History with passion, love and accuracy, particularly that of the of the Border War-Civil War era.

Jim will talk about how the home came about and a little about each of the 16 homes including the one we have so close to us in Higginsville, Missouri right outside of Lexington, MO. Don't miss it, along with Arnold Schofield, Jim is my other favorite speaker.



## THE CIVIL WAR IN MISSOURI

On the eve of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the war, Missouri is preparing to commemorate the milestone with authentic re-enactments

Two familiar armies once again will check their ammo and weapons they form battle lines opposite each other during several bloody engagements in Missouri over the next four years. But there will be no double-time forced marches to the front, at their muster points in SUVs and pickups, and they'll change from their workaday clothing into their battle gear well before taking the field.

The combatants will be thousands of Civil War re-enactors who wear the uniforms of Union and Confederate soldiers. Other participants may dress as field surgeons, nurses, wives, children and all the other camp followers during the Civil War.

As the official commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the start of the Civil War approaches, numerous events are being planned at well-known battle sites east of the Mississippi River, where many consider the war to have been fought. Only two states-Virginia

and Tennessee-had more than the 1,100 battles and engagements in Missouri, and few other states had the amount of bloody internal strife among its citizens not in uniform following the April 10, 1861, commencement of hostilities.

## BEGIN IN ST. LOUIS

The first significant event of 2011 is a re-enactment of the Camp Jackson Affair in which Union Capt. Nathaniel Lyon and his primarily German militiamen from St. Louis captured more than 600 state militiamen, many of whom had Confederate leanings. As prisoners were marched to the city center, violence broke out between an unruly crowd and Lyon's militiamen. Some of the prisoners and several members of the mob were either killed or wounded by Lyon's troops.

Named for Missouri Gov. Claiborne Jackson, a Confederate sympathizer who appointed like-minded officers in the militia, the camp was located near what is now the campus of St. Louis University, but the re-enactment will be held at Jefferson Barracks in south St. Louis County in late April or early May next year. Additional information was not available at press time.

## AN EPIC EVENT

The largest re-enactment next year will take place near Wilson's Creek National Battlefield in Springfield. Somewhere between 3,000 and 5,000 re-enactors, including about 30 cannon crews, will take part in the event, which is scheduled for Aug. 12-14 and is expected to draw as many as 80,000 spectators.

The battle, also known as the Battle of Oak Hills, was the war's second major battle following the First Battle of Bull Run. With the death of Lyon, who had been appointed a brigadier general by that time, it also was the first battle in which a general died in combat. Wilson's Creek also is noteworthy for its ferocity, with 2,539 casualties split almost evenly between the 12,000 Confederate troops and 5,400 Union soldiers who fought.

Joe Way of the Blue-Gray Alliance, a group of re-enactors organized under several divisions, already has visited the site where the battle will be held on leased land about a quarter mile from the actual battlefield, which under federal restrictions, cannot be used for a re-enactment. But the proximity to the battlefield means the topography is similar and will enable authentic "scripted" re-enactments of important parts of the battle, including a confrontation involving a cornfield that will be grown just for the event.

Way, a major general in Cleburne's Division of re-enactors, will command the Confederate forces in the battle and will be opposed by re-enactors in the 1st Federal Division at Wilson's Creek. Participants show up early enough to have their roles explained, said Way, 62.

But to keep the ring of authenticity, most will only be told what to do and where to go by couriers as the battle unfolds.

Way, of Pensacola, Fla., said re-enactors register online and will come to Springfield from all over the country for the same reasons he does: "It's for the spectators' enjoyment and for the kids, to let them get a feel for history. It's all for the benefit of history."

#### **MORE MISSOURI BATTLES**

Other battle re-enactments scheduled for 2011 include:

- The Battle of Carthage, also known as the Battle of Dry Fork (May 14-15), in which nearly 4,000 members of the Confederate Home Guard and another 2,000 unarmed troops faced off with 1,100 federal troops, fought an artillery duel and a running battle that flowed through the city's streets during the retreat on Union troops. Organizers hope to cordon off several city blocks to re-enact the street fighting. The actual battle took place on July 5, 1861.

- The First Battle of Boonville (June 17-19) is a relatively minor skirmish in which federal troops led by Lyon routed about 500 members of the Confederate Home Guard.

- The First Battle of Lexington, also known as the Battle of the Hemp Bales, (Sept. 16-18), in which about 12,500

Missouri State Guardsmen and 3,500 federal troops traded blows, resulting in about 250 casualties. The federals were forced to surrender, as well as take a tongue-lashing from Gov. Jackson before being paroled.

Other notable engagements are planned for 2014. The Battle of Pilot Knob (also known as the Battle of Fort Davidson) will be on Sept. 27 and 28. At Pilot Knob, something less than 1,000 Union troops held off nearly 12,000 Confederates before blowing up the powder magazine and escaping into the night with less than 200 casualties to the 1,000 or more suffered by the enemy. The re-enactment will be Oct. 24-26, 2014 on part of the original battlefield, some of which is being purchased and will have buildings on it cleared for the battle.

#### **HISTORICAL SITES AND EXHIBITS**

The historical 1905 Post Exchange & Gymnasium Building at Jefferson Barracks will be the site of the Missouri Civil War Museum and the Missouri Civil War Studies Center ([www.mcwm.org](http://www.mcwm.org)). A 16,000-square-foot museum and 6,000-square-foot library are expected to open on April 12, 2011.

The bitterness and severity of the war in Missouri will be addressed at length in "The Civil War in Missouri," opening Nov. 12, 2011, for a 16-month run at the Missouri History Museum in St. Louis' Forest Park. The comprehensive exhibit will be loaded with

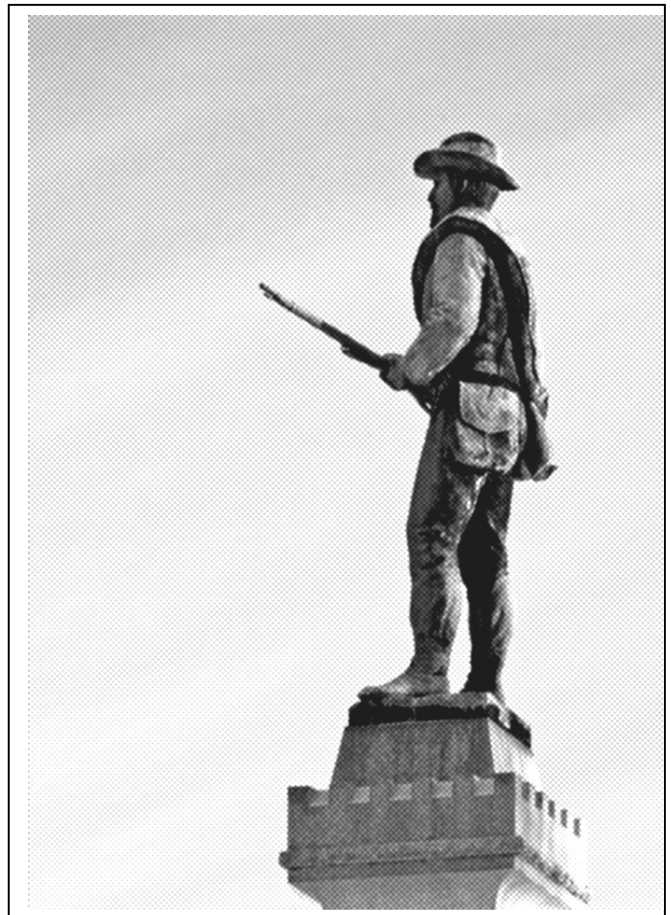
compelling images, artifacts and an explanation of Missouri's role before and during the war, including the guerilla warfare along its western border.

While visiting St. Louis, see Civil War-related sites, such as the Old Courthouse to learn about its role in the Dred Scott case and White Haven at the Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site. Kansas City area sites include the Lone Jack Civil War Battlefield Museum, located about 40 minutes from downtown. Union Cemetery, the city's oldest, is the resting place for many Civil War soldiers.

A Web site ([www.mocivilwar150.com](http://www.mocivilwar150.com)) that ultimately will serve as a clearinghouse for all Civil War-related activities in Missouri is in development and is expected to be launched soon by the Missouri Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission, a 10-member panel appointed by Gov. Jay Nixon, said Debra Lee, strategic planner for the Missouri Division of Tourism.

"We hope news of upcoming events at Civil War sites in Missouri will get to the national stage so that people will visit one or more of these places in the next four years," said Ted Hillmer, superintendent of Wilson's Creek National Battlefield and a commission member. •

*Randy Cosby is a contributor from St. Louis.*



## 2011 MEMBERSHIP DUES 2011

The Membership Dues for 2011 remain the same as last year. As you are aware, it is our annual dues that cover expenses associated with obtaining quality speakers, principally for transportation and lodging, as well as for the mailing and printing costs of the Board Bugle and Annual Roster. Dues for 2011 may be paid at any time prior to December 31, 2010. Observing this deadline will insure timely distribution of our Annual Roster. You may remit these separately, or include them with your November or December dinner reservations. Please complete the form below to insure that we have the correct information for the roster.

### 2011 CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE OF KANSAS CITY DUES

Dues deadline is December 31, 2011  
\$30 per year (individual)\* \$45 per year (couple)  
Payable to the Civil War Round Table

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Individual Name*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*spouse (if Couple Membership)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Address*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*City, State, ZIP*

(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
*Phone*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*email*

***Please circle if you wish to have the your Border Bugle sent to you via the internet and help us save cost: Yes or No***

\* Non-resident memberships are \$10, which covers receiving the Border Bugle.

**Mail to: Paul Gault, 7118 N. Congress Ave., Kansas City, MO 64152-2948**

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

