



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

395th REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, October 24, 2006

Homestead Country Club

6510 Mission Road, Prairie Village, Kansas

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

Dinner-6:30p.m.

OCTOBER SPEAKER

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.

Commander's Call

James L. "Spike" Speicher

Here we are again getting ready for another wonderful meeting. And believe me the October meeting is one that you do not want to miss. We have the great pleasure of having Dr. Richard Sommers, PhD., as our speaker. Dr. Sommers is from the U.S. Army Military History Institute in Carlisle, Pennsylvania and is an extremely well known authority on the War Between the States. He is the author of the acclaimed book *Richmond Redeemed*, which is the ultimate history of the siege of Petersburg.

Cont' on page 2

**Please be sure that we have your reservation by Friday Oct 20. 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.

Dr. Sommers will be speaking on "The Generalship of Grant and Lee at Petersburg". This should prove to be an interesting comparison of those two adversaries. Please come to the meeting and meet Dr. Sommers. I'm sure you will enjoy his presentation.

As my year as your president for the Round Table begins to wind down I want you to know how honored I have been to serve you. I hope you feel that I have provided interesting and enjoyable programs for you. Soon you will be receiving notices for renewal of your membership in this great organization. I hope all of you will stay on as members to enjoy the coming year. Our incoming president, Deb Goodrich, has lined up some outstanding speakers. The list of 2007 speakers appears later in this newsletter. So be sure to renew your CWRTKC membership.

Don't forget that we will be having our annual book sale at the December meeting. But in order for that to be successful we need books. Please go through your home libraries and see if there are one or two books you can spare to donate to the book sale. We can use all we can get and they don't necessarily have to be about the War Between the States, although those are our favorites. Bring them to any meeting and give them to Arnold Schofield or myself and we will take it from there. We do appreciate your support for our fund-raiser.

I hope to see all of you on Tuesday October 24th.

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

September 2006

UPCOMING SPEAKERS:

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 OCTOBER 24, 2006:

House salad with red bell pepper Italian dressing, Pot roast with vegetables and parsley potatoes, warm apple cobbler with vanilla ice cream



BATTLEFIELD DISPATCHES

Battlefield Dispatches #5

Kansas: "The Great Soldier State"

On April 1, 1866, the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) was established in Decatur, Illinois. By the late 19th Century the GAR became the largest organization of "Union" Civil War Veterans in the United States. During the late 1870s and early 1880s Kansas was known as "The Great Soldier State" because more members of the Grand Army of the Republic moved to and resettled in Kansas than in any other state. Most of the cities and towns in Kansas had (1) or more "GAR" Posts. In 1894, there were (6) "GAR" Posts located in the Linn County and (4) Posts in Bourbon County. The "Posts" in Linn County were located in the towns of Pleasanton: Jewell Post No. 3, La Cygne: Robert B. Mitchell Post No. 170, Goodrich: James M. Arthur Post No. 300, Mound City: Montgomery Post No. 33, Blue Mound: R.B. Burleigh Post No. 264 and Prescott: Osterhaus Post No. 485. The Bourbon County



“GAR Posts” were located as follows: Bronson: Bronson Post No. 482, Uniontown: James Montgomery Post No. 154, Fort Scott: William H. Lytle Post No. 32 and Fort Scott: Sgt. Richard Steele Post No. 486.

The Sgt. Richard Steel Post was one of the (6) “African American” GAR Posts in Kansas. The other “African American GAR” Posts were located and named as follows:

Kansas City, Ks.: Sumner Post No. 10, Lawrence: Sam Walker Post No. 365, Leavenworth: Shaw Post No. 208, Atchison: W.H. Grimes Post No. 236 and Topeka: Fort Pillow Post No. 321. Also, if a town did not have a large enough African American population to support an independent “Black GAR” Post, the local post would often be intergrated as were GAR Posts in Wichita, Ottawa, Dodge City, Ellis, Hill City and Dighton, Kansas.

In order for a new “Post” to become a member of the GAR: Department of Kansas, it had to be enrolled (mustered in) by a GAR Officer in good standing. The following letter from Commander F. A. Lyon of the W.H Lytle Post in Fort Scott indicates that the Sgt. Richard Steele Post No. [486] was enrolled in the GAR Department of Kansas on July 22, 1893:

“Fort Scott, Kansas
July 22, 1893.

Hon. A. B. Campbell
A.A.G. Dept. of Ks. GAR
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Sir and Comrade,

I have the honor to forward the Muster roll of Charter Members of Sgt. Richard Steele Post No. [486], Dept. of Kansas GAR. I have performed the duties assigned to me in Special Order No. 17 and duly mustered the above Post with 22 Charter Members on the 21st Day of July 1893.

Respectfully Submitted,
Yours in Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,
F. A. Lyon, Cmdg.”

Today, “The Sons of Union Veterans”, a national organization, the “SUV”, Department of Kansas and the “SUV” Mine Creek Camp No. 6 at Mine Creek Battlefield SHS near Pleasanton are perpetuating the legacy, traditions and heritage of the Grand Army of the Republic. Any descendent of an Honorably Discharged Union Veteran who is interested in joining the “Sons of Union Veterans” or the associated “Women’s Relief Corps” is encouraged to contact Arnold W. Schofield at 1-913-352-8890.



Wornall House Museum; October Exhibit: “Remembering the Battle of Westport, October 3- November 17. 816-444-1858.

Wornall House Museum; Saturday, October 28, 2006. Civil War Encampment commemorating the Battle of Westport.



A TALE OF TWO CANNONS A 10-POUNDER PARROTT RIFLE AND A 12-POUNDER SMOOTHBORE NAPOLEON

by Orvis N. Fitts

Part 2 of 2

Steve Treaster became Chairman, and Dan Smith became President of the Monnett Fund. Both had been a past president of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City. Tragically, Steve Treaster died in February 2002. Dan Smith took over as Chairman.

An updated and revised interpretive plan for the Big Blue Battlefield was prepared by Dan Smith in 2002. This plan also called for a replica artillery piece to be placed near Marker-17A, Pratt’s Artillery. An application for a grant of \$28,500 from the Public Improvement Advisory Council was approved in 2003. The funds were to be used for further interpretation of the battlefield including the purchase of a static artillery piece to be placed at the site of Marker-17A. A 12-pounder replica Smoothbore Napoleon field artillery piece was purchased. The tube came from the South Bend Replicas Foundry in South Bend, Indiana, and the gun carriage came from the Paulson Brothers Foundry, Clear Lake, Wisconsin. The Dietrich 10-pounder Parrott rifled tube and also the gun carriage came from these same companies. A static replica artillery piece cannot be fired. The tube is drilled out only part way down. Parks and Recreation handled the installation at the site on Bloody Hill. On 22 July 2006, an impressive dedication ceremony was conducted.

The 10-Pounder Rifled Parrott Field Artillery

Patented in 1861 by Robert P. Parrott, superintendent of the West Point Foundry, Cold Spring, New York. It is easily identified by the wrought iron reinforcing band around the breech. While it reinforced the breech, a number of Parrotts burst in front of the band. A later 1863 model increased the bore diameter from 2.9 inches to a 3.0 inch bore. Tube material is iron, length of tube is 78 inches, weight of tube is 890 lbs., powder charge 1 lb., projectile 10 lbs., and range at 5

degree elevation is 2,000 yards. Also, there was a 20-pounder Parrott field artillery piece developed. The Confederates produced their own copies of the Parrott.

The 12-Pounder Smoothbore Napoleon Field Artillery

This artillery piece was developed in France in the 1850's and was named for Emperor Napoleon III. It was designed to fire shot, shell, case shot, and canister. It was called the "workhorse" of Civil War artillery, and used for long-range dueling and against onrushing infantry. General Robert E. Lee wrote to the Confederate Secretary of War, "the best guns for field



10-Pounder Parrott Rifle, Loose Park

service are the 12-pounder Napoleons, the 10-pounder Parrotts, and the 3-inch rifles". In July 1863, Napoleons comprised 39% of the field artillery of both the Union Army of the Potomac and the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia. An interesting statistic! For the Union - 142 of 360, and for the Confederate states - 107 of 272. Napoleons produced in the North had a tube muzzle swell while those produced in the South had a straight tube. Our replica Confederate Napoleon on Bloody Hill has a muzzle swell. It must have been captured from the Federals. Tube material is bronze, length of tube is 66 inches, weight of tube is 1,277 lbs., projectile 12 lbs., powder charge 2.5 lbs., and range at 5 degree elevation is 1,619 yards.

Reference: Cannons - An Introduction to Civil War Artillery by Dean S. Thomas, Fourth Printing October 1988.

Our two cannons represent Confederate batteries. I would hope we could put a replica 12-pounder Mountain howitzer in the immediate Byram's Ford area. This would represent Lieutenant Barker's Union battery in action on 22 October 1864, when the Union forces under Colonel Charles Jennison defended the ford.

Orvis N. Fitts

Former Chariman of the Board Monnett Battle of Westport Fund, August 2006



HARRIS HOUSE CANDLELIGHT TOUR

The first annual Holiday Candlelight Tour of the Harris House is scheduled for Wed. November 15 and Fri. and Sat. November 17 and 18. Hours for the tour are 5:30 to 8:30 each evening. Join the Harris Family and their friends as they prepare for the 1856 Holiday Season. Observe the holiday scenes in each room of the house and enjoy the festivities. Tickets are \$5.00 for adults, \$3.00 for seniors and students. Tickets for the tour may be purchased in advance or on the days of the tour at the Harris House or at Pryde's Old Westport.

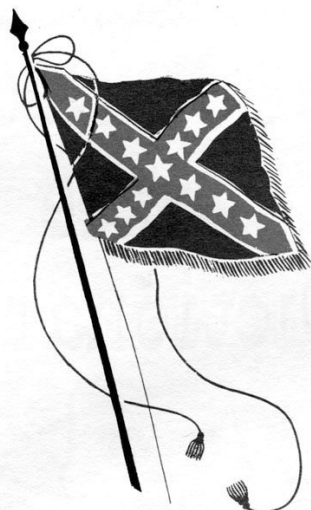
The Westport Historical Society is proud to announce that the tour will be held in conjunction with the Holiday Open House at Pryde's Old Westport. Open house hours at Pryde's will be from 10:00am until 8:30pm on Wednesday November 15. 40% of purchases made on that day will be donated to two different charities. For more information on the Candlelight Tour, please call 816-561-1821 and for information on Pryde's Holiday Open House, please call 816-531-5588.

BET YOU DIDN'T KNOW...

Ladies wore corsets, which would lace up in the front A proper and dignified woman . as in "straight laced". . . wore a tightly tied lace.

NEW MEMBERS...

Janice Day, 8301 W. 91st Street, Overland Park, KS 66212, Phone 913 642-6004 email jdayop@hotmail.com
Herb Ziegler, Jr., P.O. Box 6663, Leawood, KS 66206, Phone 913-381-2596 email: Herbzig@webtv.net



This book has been set by hand with old second hand type by especially trained Barbary Apes. Printed on converted wine presses with paper furnished by the now defunct Confederate Currency Printing Co., Brooklyn, N. Y.

For Extra Copies Write
Confederate Air Corps
Re-Activated, Box 6
Roanoke, Virginia

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Roanoke, Virginia

A Dixie Dictionary and Guide Book

(A REBEL'S REFERENCE BOOK)

Being a collection of useless knowledge for both Yankees and Rebels, for true enlightenment of Dixie Doings and Southern Sayin's.

Thanks is given to the Rebels; living and the ones who look like they're dead, who have made this book possible.

This book is dedicated to you for your good taste, foe-site and down right good judgement in buyin' this little old book!

Churchill, Camp No. 4, Lawrence, KS, SUV-Kansas Department is raising funds to repair the Civil War Veterans Monument in Pioneer Cemetery (located on Univ of Kansas property) in Lawrence, KS. The Lawrence SUV Camp No. 4 has obtained funds to replace a plaque dedicated to "Unknown Civil War Soldiers" buried in Pioneer Cemetery on the monument in Pioneer Cemetery that was dedicated in 1906 by the Lawrence, KS GAR unit and later stolen from the monument in 1910. The monument is in bad need of repair and SUV Camp No. 4 hopes to raise funds to repair the monument prior to our "plaque rededication" on Veterans Day 2006.

The estimated cost of the monument repair is between \$1,800 and \$2,000. SUV Camp No. 4 has raised approximately \$200 to date to repair the

monument that the "rededicated plaque" will be mounted. Anyone wishing to make a contribution for the Civil War monument repair can do so by sending donations payable to "Sgt. Samuel J. Churchill - SUV Camp No. 4" to Robert Wandel, SUV Camp No. Treasurer, 2731 Bonanza Street, Lawrence, KS 66046-5137. Thanks for your consideration and any assistance in this effort and please record "Pioneer Cemetery Monument Repair" on any contributions submitted.

Camp No. 4 SUV meets monthly every third Thursday at the Watkins Museum on Mass. Street in Lawrence, KS. Most meetings have a guest speaker speaking on US Civil War topics. The formal meeting starts at 7:00 PM with guest speaker starting approximately at 7:30 PM. The general public is welcome and encouraged to attend and as always SUV Camp No. 4 is looking for new members.

Alan Van Loenen, Commander
Sgt. Samuel J. Churchill Camp No. 4
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Department of Kansas
E-mail: avanloen@kumc.edu

A FAVOR TO ASK...

A little background..... About a year ago we approached the KU Endowment association about clearing out some juniper bushes around the monument so it could be seen. We discovered about the same time from an old newspaper article that the plaque had been missing for some time. We raised money for the Plaque and are currently in the process of getting it re-cast.

In July they removed the juniper bushes.... As you can see from the picture putting the plaque on it would be like putting lipstick on a pig..... So with Endowments permission we are raising money to restore it. This is the 100 anniversary of the dedication by the GAR (actually in July) which why we are pushing to get it done this year..... Thanks.....

September 123, 2006

As Commander of the Lawrence Camp No. 4 of the Sons of Union Veterans (SUV) I want to all parties that have an interest in the U.S. Civil War know about our SUV Camp fund raising project. Sgt. Samuel J.

SPEAKERS FOR 2007- TIME TO THINK ABOUT PAYING THOSE DUES!

January 23; Scott Porter, Team leader, Command General Staff School, Ft. Leavenworth. Scott is the author of numerous scholarly articles on the Civil War. Ask him about Doc Jennison, one of his more recent areas of study. "Battle of Camden Port".

February 27; Robt. Lee Hodge filmmaker, reenactor, activist for preservation of Civil War Battlefields. Though he lives in Washington, D.C., Rob is a partner in the Kansas City company Wideawake Films. Their stunning documentary on Bleeding Kansas, "Bad Blood", will air on KCPT in March. Many CWRT members may recognize Rob's face from the best selling *Confederates in the Attic* by Tony Horowitz. "Civil War and Cinema."

March 27; Thomas G. Smith. For many years, Tom was the director of Industrial Light and Magic, the visual effects arm of George Lucas's film company. He worked on many Hollywood blockbusters including *Gods and Generals*, *Indiana Jones*, and *Star Wars*. He realized through an aunt that he had an ancestor at Baxter Springs, KS massacre, and subsequently wrote a novel about William Clark's brief life. "My Ancestor at Baxter Springs."

April 23; John Sellers. John is the Civil War and Lincoln specialist at the Library of Congress, and serves on the National Bicentennial Committee. Like Ed Bearss, anything John chooses to speak on is interesting. Topic to be announced.

May 22; Anthony Waske. 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."

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."

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