

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

404th REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, October 23, 2007 Homestead Country Club

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

OCTOBER SPEAKER BOBBY KRICK

"STONEWALL JACKSON AND THE SEVEN DAYS BATTLES"

The Richmond campaign of April-July 1862 ranks as one of the most important military operations of the first years of the American Civil War. Key political, diplomatic, social, and military issues were at stake as Robert E. Lee and George B. McClellan faced off on the peninsula between the York and James Rivers. The climactic clash came on June 26-July 1 in what became known as the Seven Days battles, when Lee, newly appointed as commander of the Confederate forces, aggressively attacked the Union army. Casualties for the entire campaign exceeded 50,000, more than 35,000 of whom fell during the Seven Days.

Bobby Krick has lived or worked on Civil War battlefields almost continuously since 1972. He grew up on the Chancellorsville battlefield near Fredericksburg, and graduated from Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg with a degree in history. Battlefield in Montana, and Manassas Battlefield.

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

Since 1991 he has been an historian on the staff at Richmond National Battlefield Park. Mr. Krick is widely published on Civil War topics. His first book was a unit history, The Fortieth Virginia Infantry. In 2003 the University of North Carolina Press published his biographical register of the Army of Northern Virginia's staff officers Staff Officers in Gray. He is now at work on a study of the Battle of Gaines's Mill.



MENU FOR OCT 2007

Spinach Salad with Tomatoes, Rainbow Trout Muniere with Parsley Butter, Parmesan Risotto, Braised Provencal Vegetables, Lemon Meringue Pie.

SPEAKERS FOR 2007-

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."

December 18; Have Some Fun and the Silent Book Auction to raise money for the CWRTKC and The Monnett Battle of Westport Fund.



CIVIL WAR TRIVIA

- 16) As Secretary of War during the Pierce administration, Jefferson Davis also tried to introduce camels into the military. He believed that these animals would prove useful in the deserts of the Southwest.
- 17) Abolitionists were the radial forces that desired slavery to be abolished completely. Most abolitionists lived in the North; however, most Northerners were not abolitionists. Racisim did not exist in the North as well as the South. New York City mobs killed more than 100 blacks during the riots there is July 1863.

- 18) William Lloyd Garrison, a staunch abolitionist, became coeditor of The Liberator, a newspaper, fist published in 1831 that called for the immediate emancipation of all slaves.
- 19) Every Southern state except South Carolina had troops fighting for both the North and South.



COMING EVENTS AND INTERESTING THINGS...

Oct. 20: Civil War at the Wornall House. Visit the museum on Oct. 20 for a special day commerating the Civil War in Missouri. There will be two units encamped on the lawn, one Union and one Confederate. While they re-enact the lives of soldiers, Mr. Deryl P. Sellmeyer will join us for a lecture over his new book "Jo Shelby's Iron Brigade."

Mr. Sellmeyer is a descendent of a Shelby's Brigade member and a lifelong resident of Kansas City, Mo. The lecture will begin at 2 p.m. followed by a question and answer session and book signing. There is no cost to attend the encampment or the lecture.

This will be a busy weekend as Haunted Wornall happens on Friday and Saturday.

Nov. 9, 2007: 9th Annual Blue and Grey Banquet, speaker is Bill Kurtis, TV producer and actor.

The Ninth Annual Blue and Gray Banquet and Auction will be held at the beautiful Liberty Theater in downtown Fort 5cott on Friday, November 9th. Our special guest speaker will be noted Television Producer and actor, Bill Kurtis. Mr. Kurtis will be speaking on the making of "Lost Battle of the Civil War" which was produced for the History Channel in 2004. Many Civil War authorities and reenactors helped with the project which focused on the Battle of Mine Creek and Fort Scott.

Tickets for the banquet are now available and are \$25 each. The gathering will begin at 6:30 with the posting of the colors and dinner at-7:00. The everpopular auction will be administered by auctioneer Marty Read, assisted by our own Arnold Schofield. Auction items may be donated to the Mine Creek Battlefield Foundation and should be Civil War-related. Books should be in "new" condition. The auction serves as one of the main fund-raising events for the foundation.

Copies of "The Lost Battle of the Civil War in DVD format will be available for purchase at the banquet. We will also update our guests as to the status of the Mine

Creek Battlefield and some exciting plans for the future. Attending the Blue and Gray is a great way to show your support for the Mine Creek Battlefield and its foundation

Nov. 16-17: "The Civil War West of the Mississippi." A conference sponsored by the Civil War Round Table of the Ozarks. Clarion Hotel, 3333 S. Glenstone, Springfield, Missouri. http://history.missouristate.edu/wgpiston/TransMissConf home.htm.

The Civil War was a defining event in the history of the United States. The issues, the conflict, the brutality, and the personalities of this great conflict continue to fascinate us to this day. The public is invited to join the Civil War Round Table of the Ozarks as they

examine "The Civil War West of the Mississippi" in a twoday seminar on Friday evening, November 16th, and Saturday, November



17th, at the Clarion Hotel, 3333 S. Glen-stone, Springfield, Missouri. Discounted room rates are available for those attending the seminar.

The program will feature many noted speakers, including M. Jane Johans-son, author of Peculiar Honor: The 28th Texas Cavalry, William L. Shea, author of Pea Ridge: Civil War Campaign in the West, William Garrett Piston, author of Wilson's Creek: The Second Battle of the Civil War, D. L. Clark, author of A Bright Tragic Thing - The Great Gainesville Hangings, Carl H. Moneyhon, author of The Impact of the Civil War and Reconstruction on Arkansas: Persistence in the Midst of Ruin, and Christopher Phillips, author of . Damned Yankee: The Life of General Nathaniel Lyon.

The cost to pre-register is just \$20.00 for Friday evening's dinner, which will include door prizes and music provided by "The Back Porch Players." Following Dinner, Christopher Phillips will present a program on the Union's First Fallen General, Nathaniel Lyon. For \$50.00 one may pre-register for both the Friday night dinner and the sessions all day Saturday with lunch included. After October 31st, the cost will be \$20.00 for Friday night, \$40.00 for Saturday, or \$60.00 for the whole weekend. An exhibit area for vendors will be open for browsing both days.

For more information about the seminar and registration, please call Steve Buffat at (417) 862-1772 or email him at sjbuffat@sbcglobal.net. You can also reach Tom Debo at (870) 426-2513 or email him at debo@cofo.edu.



WESTPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY FALL CALENDAR

Battle of Westport Visitors Center: Opens Oct 1 in Swope Park SIC Building

Fall Open House: Sun. October 14, 1:00pm to 4:00pm, Harris-Kearnev House

Exhibit--143rd Anniversary Commemoration of the Battle of Westport:

Sat. October 20 through Sat. October 27, Harris-Kearney House

Priests of Pallas Ball: Fri. October 26, 7:00pm, Union Station

Society Quarterly Meeting and Dinner: Thurs. November 8, guest speaker is Award-winning Journalist, Bill Kurtis; call 816-561-1821 for tickets

Holiday Candlelight Tour: Wed. November 14, Fri. November 16,

Sat. November 17, 5:30 to 8:30, Harris-Kearney House Harris-Kearney House Museum: Tues. and Thurs. 11:00am to 3:00pm

Sat.10:00am to 4:00pm Wed. and Fri. by appointment: 816-561-1821

CALL: 816-561-1821 for information on any of the listed events.

April 17-20, 2008: "War in The Ozarks: Trans-Mississippi and Missouri." Civil War Preservation Trust



Reenacting the Missouri Kansas Campaigns of 1864

Annual Conference, Springfield, Missouri 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.

BATTLEFIELD NEWS:

2 Sites Selected For Civil War Markers In Marshall, Organizers Seek 1 More

Thursday, September 6, 2007, By SHEENA BUTLER/Intern and KATHY FAIRCHILD/Staff Writer

The Marshall Civil War Heritage Committee has received permission to post Civil War markers at two locations in Marshall as part of a statewide project preparing for the 150th anniversary of the Civil War in 2011.

The markers will be posted at Murrell Library at Missouri Valley College and Ridge Park Cemetery near Indian Foothills Park.

Tim Baumann, project leader and professor of archaeology at Missouri Valley College, is one of several professors and historians the Missouri Civil War Heritage Foundation contacted in its effort to locate and preserve Civil War sites throughout Missouri.

The Missouri Civil War Heritage Foundation is a non-profit organization developing a statewide Civil War trail that will emphasize Missouri's significance in the war.

A major goal of the plan is to attract tourists and provide an educational aspect to tourism activities in Missouri. Initial plans for the trail, which would consist of posted signs, excluded Marshall altogether.

"We, myself and a few other historians, argued that the trail needed to come through Marshall," said Baumann

Baumann and the committee requested a grant from Marshall's Tourism Committee to fund the project. Receiving the grant was the first step, getting permission to put up the signs at strategic points in Marshall, the next.

The three sites: MVC's Murrell Library, the Ridge Park Cemetery near an existing Civil War memorial and the northeast corner of the Saline County Courthouse, were selected because the committee felt these sites hold some significance in telling the story of the Civil War.

"We were denied permission to actually put a marker at the county courthouse so we have to find an alternative location for that third sign," said Baumann. The Commission denied the request on the grounds there are already three monuments on the courthouse grounds, two in honor of veterans and one marking the Santa Fe Trail.

In addition, the Commission pointed to the Tree Resource Improvement and Maintenance program

(TRIM) established in 2004 to improve the overall look of the courthouse grounds.

Northern District Commissioner Norvelle Brown said there are other markers at Foothills Park regarding the area's Civil War involvement, and emphasized the commission is in support of the overall project.

Baumann hopes to add three markers to complete a circular trail throughout Marshall that would be convenient for self-guided tours.

"There is already one Civil War marker up that the state parks posted in 2001 (in Indian Foothills Park)," Baumann said. "So what we're trying to do is add three more and make a circular trail so the starting point would be the Saline County Historical Society."

The miniature trail would link up to the larger, statewide trail and allow Marshall to be included in the statewide project.

There is no specific date for the completion of the project but Baumann hopes to have the signs finished by spring 2008 so ground breaking can begin at the strategic locations.

"We don't want to do all the signs in one day; we'd like to spread it out over six months to a year," he said.

The committee is still exploring alternatives to the county courthouse location.

Comment from Beverly Shaw with the Civil War Round Table of western Missouri; I am forwarding a newspaper article about battlefield markers that are to be erected at Marshall, Missouri so that they can be included on the statewide Civil War trail that is being planned by Missouri Civil War Heritage Foundation. The initial "trail" that I have seen in their literature does not seem to include the Independence/Kansas City area either. As you may know, the Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri has pledged \$4,000 to erect two new Civil War markers in Eastern Jackson County and a committee from the Independence Heritage Commission is supposed to be raising other private funds to fund two more. The Independence Young Matrons has given \$500 for the signs, and the money is on deposit with the Truman Heartland Trust. The actual ordering of the tablet style signs has been put on hold until more money can be raised. The City of Independence is also preparing a new brochure to highlight its Civil War history. It seems to me that this brochure and the Driving Tour brochure that the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City has been using for years should also be a part of the Civil War Trail. I think that the respective presidents of the two Round Tables should put a concerted effort into pulling our markers into a cohesive "trail" and work with the Missouri Civil War Heritage Foundation to make sure it's part of the Missouri Trail.

BATTLEFIELD RECEIVES FUNDS FROM BEARSS BRIGADE

Thanks to the recognition of Ed Bearss and the people who make up his "Brigade", the Mine Creek Battlefield has received nearly \$6,000, which will be placed in a trail maintenance and enhancement fund. This fund will be available to do repair work on bridges on the various trails, clear trails of limbs, and gravel low-lying areas. We also hope to begin placing trailside exhibits along the recently developed interpretive trail.

Ed Bearss,, former Chief Historian for the National Park Service and well-known battlefield guide and author, has a group of people that gather each year in Arlington, Virginia to celebrate his birthday. Each year Ed designates one battlefield or other project to receive their donations. This year, 2007, he designated the Mine Creek Battlefield. On June 22, Arnold Schofield, representing the Mine Creek Battlefield, received his recognition and the brigade's donations at the Milton Hotel in Arlington.

The Board of Directors of the Mine Creek Foundation voted to accept the donations and to designate the funds for battlefield trails. That is in recognition of Ed Bearss' emphasis on getting out on the battlefields to better understand the battles. Ed is now in his early 80's and can out walk most of the tours he leads. Ed has brought tours to Mine Creek Battlefield on three different occasions and was instrumental in pointing out the need for a trail that would go to Mine Creek and the ford from the visitor's center, as the new interpretive trail does. We wish to sincerely thank Ed Bearss for his recognition of Mine Creek Battlefield and to let him know, how much we value him as a friend.



RECALLS THE CIVIL WAR.

From the Kansas City Times, Monday, October 2, 1939

"Of all the wars that men have fought, in their hard pilgrimage, none was more noble than the great Civil War. in America nearly eighty years ago. Both sides fought with the high conviction, and the war was long and hard. All the heroism of the South could not redeem their cause from the stain of slavery, just as all the courage and skill, which the Germans always show in war, will not free them from the reproach of Nazi-ism with its Intolerance and brutality.

"We may take, good heart from what happened in America in those famous days of the nineteenth century.

"We may be sure that the world will roll forward into broader destinies.

"We may remember the words of old John Bright, after the American Civil War was over, when he said to an audience of English working-folk: 'At last after the smoke of the battlefield had cleared away, the horrid shape which had cast its shadow over the whole continent had vanished and was gone forever."

I Have Been To The Holy Grail Of Battlefields And Have Seen The Light.

Two weeks ago I had an opportunity to visit Gettysburg for the second time. The first time I visited it was in September during the middle of the week and I practically had the place to myself. Not so this time. It was a Friday afternoon, 10 days after the battle anniversary, and to top it off the weekend of National Motorcycle Week. Needless to say there were cars and people everywhere and I was not happy. As I stood at the visitor's center and bought two books on the Trans-Mississippi Theater it drew on my befuddled mind that I was standing not only on hallowed ground, but on a gold mine. The amount of money being exchanged before my very eyes was unbelievable. I was witnessing the zenith of what experts have come to call "heritage tourism." Studies have determined that Gettysburg visitors provide annually, nearly \$ 12 million in state taxes, over \$5 million in local taxes and \$121,080,000 in visitor expenditures*. Now I admit that Gettysburg is the battlefield to visit so what about another one that might compare favorably to, let's say the Little Blue Battlefield.

I pick Wilson's Creek, Missouri*.

- 1. 69 Jobs supported
- 2. 1,456 visitors needed to support one job
- 3. \$217,000 annual State government revenue
- 4. \$144,000 annual local government revenue
- 5. \$3,121,000 annual visitor expenditures

I know that's a lot of statistics and I only use them to make this point. The preservation of battlefields gives back to the community. The Little Blue Battlefield has been recognized as one of the top 10 endangered historic sites in Missouri and as one of the top 25 endangered historic battlefields in the United States. We now have a grant from the National Park Service to write the National Registry of Historic Places Nomination. Let's make the emphasis on what we do as a group to be the preservation of the Little Blue Battlefield. When someone says that building houses on the land is a better than saving it, bring up the statistics and ask them how many houses would vou need to build in order to put that much money back into the local economy? Here's just a little extra; most of that money is from out of town visitors. I haven't even touched on quality of life enhancement, environmental issues or

historic value. Our goal won't be easy to obtain and it won't happen overnight, but, if we don't make the effort....(I can't finish that sentence).

Heritage tourism, it pays!

*Statistics are from "Blue, Gray and Green; How Saving Civil War Battlefields Makes \$\$\$ and Sense" a study commissioned by the Civil War Preservation Trust

Mike Calvert, President

The Civil War Roundtable of Western Missouri

NEW MEMBER: Michael L. Smith, 21095 W. 118 Ter., Olathe, KS 66061, 913 780-0904, email, michaelsmith5044@comcast.net.

In the article about the August Summer Session, I noted that the link was down for the GAR Monuments and Memorials in Kansas. The direct link for now is: http://www.rmtci.com/CWMM KS/KS-Memorials.html.

This may change in the near future, but you should always be able to connect to this site through the Kansas Sons of Union Veterans website: http://suvcwks.org/

Blair Tarr

P.S. One other note that I don't think was in the Border Bugle, this month or recently. The July issue of North & South Magazine (catching up on my summer reading) has an article by David D. Schafer entitled, "Border State Son: Harry S. Truman and the War Between the States." I mention it because it does briefly mention Truman's role as a founder of the Round Table and being its first speaker. Dave, who is now working for the National Park Service at the Washita Battlefield in Oklahoma, worked at the Truman Home in the mid-90s and if I remember correctly, was a member of the Round Table. That issue may not be still at the bookstores, so maybe at some point I can violate copyright law and make a few copies for those who might not have seen it.

