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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 2602

Shawnee Mission, KS

66206

An IRC 501(c)(3)

Charitable Organization



404th REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, Sept. 23, 2008

Homestead Country Club

6510 Mission Road, Prairie Village, Kansas

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

Dinner-6:30p.m.

NOTE:

New Price
for meals;
\$22.00 per
person.

SEPTEMBER 2008

MARK DUNKELMAN

“Gettysburg’s Unknown Soldier”

He and his wife, Annette, live in Providence, RI, where he is president of the CWRT. A prolific author, he has penned many articles and books, including *War's Relentless Hand: Twelve Tales of Civil War Soldiers* and *Gettysburg's Unknown Soldier: The Life, Death and Celebrity of Amos Humiston*. He is also an accomplished artist, and painted a mural at the Gettysburg Battlefield which depicts his ancestor's regiment, the 154th New York. Mark writes: "My interest in the 154th New York began during my childhood in the 1950s, when I learned that my great-grandfather, John Langhans, served in the regiment. I soon discovered that the 154th's legacy was neglected — a situation I determined to change. During decades of research I have contacted more than 1,000 descendants of members of the regiment, who have graciously allowed me access to more than 1,600 wartime letters, a score of diaries and accounts, 200 portraits, and other material. I have used these primary sources to write several books and numerous articles on various aspects of 154th New York history."

Please be sure that we have your reservation by Friday Sept. 19. Return reservation

In the enclosed envelope with required payment of \$22.00 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.

SPEAKERS FOR 2008 AND BEYOND.....

September 23, Mark Dunkelman: “Gettysburg’s Unknown Soldier.”

October 28, Michael Burlingame: “Can anything new be said of Lincoln.” Retired professor **Michael Burlingame** is the most devoted researcher of our 16th president and has written several books examining his life, including *The Inner World of Abraham Lincoln*. His topic for our CWRT is "Can Anything New Be Said of Lincoln." Michael's latest work, *Abraham Lincoln: A Life* will be published November 14 and is the first multi-volume biography of Abraham Lincoln to be published in decades. Incorporating the field notes of earlier biographers, along with decades of research in multiple manuscript archives and long-neglected newspapers, this remarkable work will both alter and reinforce current understanding of America's sixteenth president.

Published to coincide with the 200th anniversary of Lincoln's birth, this landmark publication establishes Burlingame as the most assiduous Lincoln biographer of recent memory and brings Lincoln alive to modern readers as never before.

November 18 (tentative date): Multi-Emmy-Award film-maker, **Shane Seley:** Shane will be showing the video his company, Wideawake Films, just finished for the Wilson's Creek Battlefield and he will discuss the process of telling history in film. Shane, a Kansan, now lives with his wife and children in Liberty, Missouri. He has worked with Bill Kurtis on productions for A & E, and has produced film for AT&T, CBS Sports, Sprint, Jiffy Lube, and most importantly, the Civil War Preservation Trust. Shane and his partners, Ed Leydecker and Robert Lee Hodge, are at work on a sequel to KCPT's *Bad Blood* which characterized the Bleeding Kansas era.

December 5-6, Wornall House, Annual Candlelight Tour.

December 16, (tentative date): In addition to musical entertainment, the Christmas meeting will feature a couple of special guests and door prizes. You won't want to miss our last meeting of the

year. It will be the capstone of a truly wonderful year. Have Some Fun and the don't forget to bring your wallets and purses, it's the Silent Book Auction to raise money for the CWRTKC and The Monnett Battle of Westport Fund.

2009

January 27, Connie Slaughter Langham, “Wilson’s Creek.”

February 24, Bill Quatman, “General Godfrey Weitzel.”

March 24, Ron Hawkins: “General Longstreet.”

April 28, William L. Shea, “Generals Hindman or Genl Curtis.”

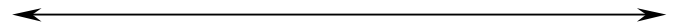
May 26, Lauren Cook Wike: “They Fought Like Demons.”

September 22, Howard Mann: “Tragedy on the St. Joseph & Hannibal RR.”

October 27, Dave Metheneys: “John Brown.”

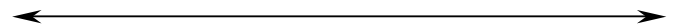
November 24, Orvis Fitts: To Be Announced

December, Book sale and Holiday Dinner



MENU FOR SEPT. 2008;

Homestead salad greens with tomatoes, cucumbers, carrots, cabbage and choice of dressing, Grilled Mahi Mahi Fillet with Tropical Fruit Salsa, Grilled Vegetables, Orange Rice, and Strawberry Shortcake.



COMING EVENTS.....

September 20, “Battle Over the Dead.” Battle of Lexington State Historic Site, 1101 Delaware, Lexington, MO. Skirmish at Machpelah Cemetery. Fee. Prior to the Battle of Lexington, Missouri, there was a skirmish in the local cemetery. Re-enactors will re-create that event on September 20th from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Machpelah Cemetery.

Visitors will be taken from the Battle of Lexington State Historic Site to the cemetery for the battle scenario and then surgeons in the field will tend to the wounded. Visitors will then be returned to the state historic site at 1101 Delaware, Lexington, Missouri.

September 20, “Freedom Festival,” 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. John Brown Memorial Park, 10th & Main,

Osawatomie, KS. Re-enactment of the Battle of Osawatomie. The Freedom Festival features a re-enactment of the Battle of Osawatomie on the actual battlefield, reenactments of incidents during the Border War, a Civil War encampment, frontier craft demonstrations, and first person narratives of historical figures from Territorial Kansas and the Civil War. In addition the event at the John Brown Memorial Park at 10th and Main Streets in Osawatomie, Kansas, will have children's activities, live music, a craft fair, and food vendors. Hours are 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. on September 20, 2008.

September 27, Wilson's Creek National Battlefield, "**National Public Lands Day**," no entrance fee.

October 4, "**Moonlight Tour**," Wilson's Creek National Battlefield.

October 11, Quantrill's Society Annual Reunion, American Legion Hall, Oak Grove, MO. 816-883-7715. Presentation of first Don Hale award going to Jim Beckner.

October 11-12, Battle of Island Mound--black soldier statue unveiling in Butler, Missouri.

I will be preaching at the Fairgrounds in Butler, Missouri, as part of a community-wide celebration commemorating the AMEN SOCIETY'S historic unveiling of a statue to the First Kansas Colored Volunteer Infantry's victory at the Battle of Island Mound, Missouri on October 28-29, 1862.? The celebration will span October 11-12, 2008.

This was the first battle involving black troops in the Civil War, predating that of the Massachusetts 54th Infantry or any other more well-known regiment.? The life-sized cast iron statue will be mounted on the town square of Butler, Bates County Missouri.

My sermon will be only one component of a week-end long celebration, which will feature a visit to the presumptive battle site, speakers such as Congressmen Emanuel Cleaver and Ike Skelton, a parade, choirs, the unveiling itself, and a community meal.

October 17-18, 24-25, Haunted Wornall House Tours

October 18-19, 2009, The Monnett Battle of Westport Fund will have a grand opening of the **Battle of Westport Visitors' Center and Museum** on Oct 18 and 19, 2008.

To organize and prepare, we need YOU! We are having a planning meeting on Tues. June 10 at 6:30pm at the visitors' center located at 6601

Swope Parkway. Please bring your calendars (so we can set deadlines) and all of your ideas.

Some possible ideas are to have reenactors, displays, cannons, guns, flags, campfires, a dance, a period fashion show, a dinner, and ??????????.

If you know of someone who's name is not on the address list who would like to come to the meeting, please bring them along!

Please let us know if you can attend.

Thanks so much for your support!

Dan & Alana

(Editor's note, the dates in this are old, but I'm sure they can still use your help)

October 25: 175th Birthday Celebration for Westport.

November 15: 150th Anniversary of the Wornall House.

November 28 and 29: The 3rd Annual Holiday Candlelight Tour of the Harris-Kearney House.



BATTLEFIELD DISPATCHES #84

"POLITICAL DONNYBROOK"

No, this column has not gone political, nor will it ever be so! However, as has been mentioned before, politics, be it local or national go hand in hand with fighting a war any war. Currently, the presidential candidates are vying for their party's nomination for next years' presidential election. In the fall of 1864, at the same time the Civil War was being waged another presidential campaign was being conducted. President & Republican Abraham Lincoln was running against the "Democratic Peace Candidate", former "Union" General George B. McClellan and what a campaign it was. The political rhetoric and violence that occurred during it & 19th Century Politics as a rule, make the political campaigns of today seem very meek & mild!

Mr. Webster defines "DONNYBROOK" as
A ROUGH, ROWDY FIGHT OR FREE FOR ALL

and indeed there was a DONNYBROOK involving soldiers & civilians in St. Louis, Missouri on September 16, 1864.

The following reports of this DONNYBROOK have been edited & the full text is located on Pages 225-228 of Series I, Vol. 41, Part III Correspondence of the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion. The 1st report is very bias as it is a letter from the Secretary of the Missouri Democratic Central Committee objecting to the havoc & destruction perpetrated by “Union” Republican soldiers. The second report is from an objective “Union” officer who has determined what actually happened.

“Headquarters Saint Louis District,
Saint Louis, September 25, 1864.
Respectfully returned & attention invited to enclosed report of Col. J.H. Baker, commanding post.
Thomas Ewing, Jr., Brigadier
General”

“Saint Louis, Sept. 16, 1864.
Maj. Gen. W. S. Rosecrans,
Commanding Dept. of the Missouri:
Dear Sir: We call your attention as commander of this department to a second OUTRAGE upon the right of the people peaceably to assemble for a discussion of public affairs, perpetrated by MUTINOUS & LAWLESS SOLDIERS in front of the Lindell Hotel on Thursday night. Before the meeting of the 6th Ward [Democratic] McClellan Club had organized, BEFORE A WORD HAD BEEN SAID, SOLDIERS assembled for the express purpose of BREAKING UP the meeting upon the sidewalk opposite the HOTEL at which you have your quarters, SHOUTING FOR ABE LINCOLN, DAMNING McCLELLAN, & doing everything to PROVOKE a breach of the peace, that they might have some excuse for a RIOT! While the undersigned & Mr. D. B. Killian were absent at Col. Baker’s headquarters to procure an officer to REMOVE these LAWLESS SOLDIERS, the meeting was BROKEN UP by the soldiers THROWING STONES at the stand and the people there assembled & even at the balcony of the hotel in which LADIES WERE STANDING. The SOLDIERS then rushed upon the [SPEAKERS] STAND, DESTROYED THE TRANSPARENCIES, A LOCOMOTIVE

HEADLIGHT & SEIZED & CARRIED OFF THE U.S. flag placed upon the stand. The flag was carried to the quarters of the soldiers upon 6th street between Washington Avenue and Saint Charles. An officer of the army is said to have been engaged in this OUTRAGE. Mr. Daniel G. Taylor says that the flag was taken down this officer who had his uniform & belt on. Then Adjutant Colonel Baker came over with Mr. Killian & myself & saw this flag carried to the soldier’s quarters. Many of these soldiers could be identified. The undersigned heard one of the soldiers say, “The general cannot control us, he has tried that once before” & another ASSERTED their RIGHT TO BREAK UP ALL SUCH MEETINGS! Application had been made the POLICE & an extra force was on the ground, but it was too small. Application for protection was, we believe, made to yourself for protection against the soldiers under your command, which had been promised. Relying upon these assurances the MEETING ASSEMBLED; everything was QUIET & ORDERLY; NO TAUNTS WERE MADE; NOTHING WAS DONE TO EXCITE these MUTINEERS & RIOTERS! But in violation of their SWORN DUTY, in violation of the ARTICLES of WAR & LAW OF THIS STATE, these RIOTERS ASSEMBLED & BROKE UP THE MEETING. If this thing is persisted in, if soldiers, assembled without authority as LAWLESS MOBS, are permitted to thus act, we shall soon have ABSOLUTE ANARCHY & each man must protect himself & people must assemble prepared to defend their rights against lawless violence. As peaceable citizens, as law-abiding men, we desire to exhaust all peaceable means known to the law to PROTECT OUR RIGHTS, We appeal, therefore, to you to see that these RIOTERS are ARRESTED & punished according to the RULES & ARTICLES of WAR. We ask further that SOLDIERS be kept away from all political meetings unless stationed there as guards & that other such measures be taken as may be necessary to secure to the people peaceable assemblies for the discussion of public affairs. We also request that measures be taken throughout the State [of Missouri] to keep soldiers away from political assemblies. A SOLDIER HAS NO BUSINESS to debate the policy of his superiors.

In behalf of Missouri Democratic Central Committee.

CHAS. C. WHITTELSEY,

Secretary.”

[Note: Now lets see what the Union officer had to say!]

“Headquarters Post of Saint Louis,
St. Louis, Mo. Sept. 25, 1864.

Sir: I have encountered serious difficulties in identifying the parties [who committed the outrages], from the fact that soldiers, as is well known to every officer in the service, generally make it a POINT of HONOR to befriend each other, while citizens in the dusk of the evening were unable to distinguish one soldier from another! About 90 soldiers in all have been arrested and examined under oath. A careful examination of the testimony, together with the above statements, leads me to conclude that IF they did participate in the RIOT they did so from the impulse of the moment & not from preconcerted arrangement.

I must, however, here call special attention to the testimony of Sgt. Henderson of the 6th Mo. Cav., who states that his battalion officers had in camp COUNSELED & ADVISED [their men in] BREAKING UP of MEETINGS such as the DEMOCRATS had previously held in St. Louis, on the ground that they were DISLOYAL! Sgt. Henderson further affirms that he does know of men belonging to his regiment who did participate in the riot by throwing stones, BUT DECLINES at present to give their names, [A CLASSIC “BOND of SILENCE]. Attention is respectfully invited to the statement of Pvt. Harris of Co. B, 10th Ks. who affirms that he was standing among the soldiers opposite the Lindell Hotel & that the FIRST STONES CAST came from the crown which HURRAHED FOR McCLELLAN. Though this is doubtless true, yet it is equally true that the soldiers standing thereabouts HAD STONES IN THEIR HANDS BEFORE THIS, evidently awaiting a FAVORABLE MOMENT TO THROW THEM. From the great mass of testimony taken from men who were upon the ground, IT IS EXTRAORDINARY THAT THE GUILTY PARTIES CANNOT BE IDENTIFIED! It is evident that SGT. HENDERSON KNOWS SUFFICIENT [information] TO GIVE A CLUE TO THE WHOLE AFFAIR. However, in what manner he is to be compelled to give the information is for my superior officers to direct.

I desire here to remark that the evidence clearly shows that CITIZENS as well as SOLDIERS participated in the OUTRAGES. So far as the throwing of stones was concerned there were evidently AS MANY CITIZENS SO ENGAGED AS SOLDIERS.

I have taken such measures as have insured PEACE & GOOD ORDER at all meetings held subsequent to those above mentioned. I have given the matter my personal attention, having been present at the meetings. Various members of the Democratic committee have assured me that they were very satisfied that their future gatherings under the ample arrangements I have made would be unmolested. I also take the opportunity of assuring the Major-General commanding that such measures had been taken as to secure PEACE & GOOD ORDER at future political meetings in this city.

J.H. BAKER

Colonel 10th Minnesota Infantry, Cmdg.
Post.”

There is no evidence that any of the soldiers or citizens who participated in this POLITICAL DONNYBROOK were ever disciplined or punished. What is known is that the majority of Union soldiers voted for Lincoln & Lincoln defeated McClellan by a landslide!



Dear Civil War Round Table of Kansas City,

My name is Bjorn Skaptason and I am contacting you from the Abraham Lincoln Book Shop in Chicago. The Book Shop provides our customers the ability to join us for live online book signings through our new media page, www.VirtualBookSigning.net. I have attached a press release describing what we do. Please feel free to include it in your newsletter.

Virtual Book Signings:

**A New Source for Signed First Edition Books
about Lincoln and the Civil War.**

Chicago – Abraham Lincoln was deeply interested in innovation. “*Improvements,*” he said, “are the result of *observation, reflection* and *experiment.*”

The mutual problem of publishers, booksellers, and booklovers of Civil War literature is the expense and inefficiency of in-store book-

signings. The dwindling number of people willing to travel to various author signings and stand in line has made sending authors around the country less feasible.

A proven new answer is **Virtual Book Signing™**: The At-Home Interactive Book Signing Experience [VBS]. Without leaving home, anyone can now attend an author's talk, then ask a question of the author and order a book. The book is signed in front of them, live via streaming video, on the Internet, and is sent out for delivery.

In 2005 the Abraham Lincoln Book Shop in Chicago successfully launched a new web site, www.VirtualBookSigning.net, which features true book-signings, with an audience watching the author and purchasing books, just as the customer is accustomed. The difference is they we have "globalized" the process. The virtual book signing offers authors, publishers, and customers a combination of the best aspects of a book signing, a television interview, and YouTube. The Internet viewer sees the author speak to people present at our shop, and watches as they receive their signed books.

They then become part of the signing by ordering online and then watching as their own books are signed, often with the author's acknowledgement on air.

The Bicentennial celebrations of Lincoln's birth (2009) and the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War directly behind (2011-15) there will create a deluge of writing about Lincoln and the Civil War. Virtual Book Signing offers readers a chance to access the best of these titles, obtain signed first editions, and meet the authors.

Since the debut event featuring Doris Kearns's Goodwin's A Team of Rivals in November, 2005, VBS has hosted over two dozen leading authors in the field, including Wiley Sword, James Swanson, Edwin C. Bearss, Gordon Rhea, Elizabeth Brown Pryor, Gabor Boritt, Michael Beschloss, Douglas L. Wilson, Harold Holzer, Julie Fenster, Timothy B. Smith and Gary Joiner. In 2008 VBS will feature Gerry Prokopowicz, William Lee Miller, Gary Gallagher, Peter Cozzens, and many other excellent Civil War scholars.

Civil War Round Table of Kansas City
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