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Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

P.O. Box 6202

Shawnee Mission, KS

66206

An IRC 501(c)(3)

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Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City



455th REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY, April 22, 2014

Homestead Country Club

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

APRIL SPEAKER SAM GILL "CONFEDERATE GENERAL JO SHELBY'S RAID"

I earned my B.A. in History from UMKC, with 27 hours toward my Masters (interrupted by the draft in 1968). Since then I have had articles published on the Civil War and other topics in such magazines as *The Humanist, Civil War Times Illustrated, Military History, Campaigns*, and *The Skeptical Inquirer*.

For fifteen years, I taught an adult education course in logic and critical thinking, called "Unsolved Mysteries and Extraordinary Phenomena" at Johnson County Community College. Additional sessions were given at Penn Valley, Longview, and the UMKC Communiversity. I was featured for this course in the Kansas City *Star Magazine*, and have appeared as principal guest on local TV and radio talk shows numerous times with Walt Bodine, Mike Murphy, and others.

I have often been a speaker on American history and related topics before church, school, civic, historical and hobby groups, including the Civil War Round Table, Junior League, John Knox Village, SAR, Lions Club, Kiwanis, Rotary, SCV, KC Posse of Westerners and Mensa. I was selected by the New Ulm, MN, Chamber of Commerce to speak at their 2000th anniversary commemoration of the massacre of Continued on Page 2

Attendance requires a paid dinner reservation.

Please be sure our Treasurer receives all reservations by Friday, April 18, 2014 along with payment of \$26.00 per person. Mail to:

Paul Gault, 7118 N. Congress Ave., Kansas City, MO 64152

Homestead's deadline for reservation changes is the following Monday afternoon, so promptly report any necessary adjustments to Paul at 816-741-2962 or 816-522-8021.

If unable to reach him, call Assistant Treasurer Howard Mann at 816-932-5663.

Continued from Page 1, April Speaker, Sam Gill.....

the Roman Legions in the Teutoburg Forest in September, 2009, a presentation which appeared on local TV and was attended by about 500 people.

I conduct a Battle of Westport auto tour, and have given 20-30 minute talks on:

Experiencing the Civil War, 1861-65 Quantrill's Raid on Lawrence, 1863 Jo Shelby Raids Missouri, 1863 The War of 1812 at Sea The Fall of the Alamo, 1836 The Custer Massacre, 1876 Air Raid, Pearl Harbor, 1941 Ishi, the Last Native American, 1911

My latest project is "Black Regiments in the Civil War". This is a poignant story, the bare truth of which is as heroic and inspiring as any in US history. "Black Regiments" runs over an hour, and important segments of it are set in the KC area. For all of these presentations I provide a diorama, or visual aids, plus music, etc. All my talks are interactive, and include audience participation.

SPEAKERS 2014

- * May 27, 2014: Mark Christ The 1864 Camden Expedition and the Battle of Poison Spring, Arkansas.
- * June 24, 2014: Don Bates, Sr. Grant's 45-Day Overland Campaign, Wilderness to Cold Harbor
- * July 22, 2014: Barbara Justice, Park Ranger, Battle of Monocacy
- * August 26, 2014: Robert Jones Battle of Mobile Bay
- * September 23, 2014: Walter Busch Battle of Pilot Knob, Missouri.
- * October 28, 2014: Dan Smith Battle of Westport.
- * November 18, 2014: Arnold Schofield Aftermath of Westport (Price's retreat to Texas).
- * December 16, 2014: Dr. Ethan Rafuse Sherman's March to The Sea.

ATTENTION!!!

As Dennis announced at the January dinner meeting, we will no longer be able to meet at the Homestead Country Club after April of this year. Starting on May 27, 2014, we will be meeting at the Meadowbrook Country Club, located at 9101 Nall Avenue, Prairie Village KS 66207.

Dinner meetings will be year-round once we move to Meadowbrook!

ATTENTION!!!

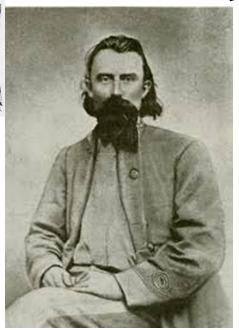
We have a new service for you, if you want to charge it to your credit card. To use this service go to our web site http://www.cwrtkc.org and hit the Meeting & Event tab fill out the reservation form and then make your payment in the box to the left on that page through PAYPAL If you are using this service please send me an email so I will not miss your reservation.



MENU FOR APRIL 2014

Chopped Iceberg Lettuce, Mushrooms, Egg, Tomato, Cheese, Salad w/Ranch Dressing, Tilapia with Buerre Monte, Roasted Potatoes, Julienne Vegetables, and Lemon Pie.





General Joseph Orville Shelby C.S.A.

BATTLE OF WESTPORT

BOW 150 MEETING SCHEDULE 2014

We meet every third Wednesday, 7pm, at the Battle of Westport Museum in Swope Park unless otherwise notified by e-mail. As we get closer to our October event there may be more added to the schedule. We hope that you can make many of them. The list of dates is below. The first few months of 2014 will be critical for us for supporting our reenactment event October 24-26, 2014. If anyone can come forward to assist in fund-raising it would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks,

George Vesel

Meeting dates - May 21, Jun 18, Jul 16, Aug 20, Sep17, & Oct 15. <u>battleofwestport150@gmail.com</u>

"The Sergeant Major's Roar"

Battlefield Dispatches #391

"A Traveled Track"

A Traveled Track

Throughout Missouri, during the civil War, the Confederate Guerrillas or "Bushwhackers (if one is of the northern persuasion) consistently eluded their Yankee pursuers. In fact they, the Bushwhackers, just seemed to disappear into the brush after a long or short chase. Disappearing into the brush was not by chance, because western & central Missouri were honeycombed with numerous secret paths or trails which were often called runways, flyways or traveled tracks that were used by the enemy guerrillas. The following is a description of an unsuccessful "Union" scout or patrol in search the guerrillas and it is located in Series I, Vol. 34, Part III Correspondence, of the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion on Pages 93 – 95.

Snibar Station, Mo., April 8, 1864.

[To] Captain Thomas Moses Jr.,

Second Colorado Cavalry, Commanding Detachment:

Captain: I have the honor to report that in obedience to your instructions I left Snibar Station with 1 Sergeant, 1 Corporal & 16 privates on April 5, 1864 at & a.m. & proceeded to a point 3 miles northeast of Lone jack & on the farm of one Scott deployed the men in squads of 3 & scouted the brush thoroughly from that point to the house of Jemima Johnson, which is situated at the junction of the county lines of Jackson, LaFayette & Johnson Counties, finding nothing of importance. From Johnson I scouted again in the same order through very heavy brush toward Round Prairie; found many tracks of unshod horses & one or two cold camps & at a point about 1 mile east of Round Prairie, in a deep hollow, I found a camp evidently left but a short time; found canteens, plates, knives, butternut clothing & halters together with some U. S. Cavalry Clothing.

The parties who had occupied the camp had a number of animals & had taken forage from Smith's farm, near there. A house within 200 yards of the camp was occupied by an old woman named Plunkett & two other women, whose names were Martin & _____. The outhouses were full of meat & every evidence was seen of its being a place where BUSHWHACKERS were HARBORED, for which purpose it is very conveniently situated. I was totally unable to glean any information from the women; the younger women were very indignant at the house being searched. This house should

be well watched. From this point scouted through the brush to round prairie, when the command came together, meeting a scouting party of Captain Burris' Company, Missouri State Militia. Being near night, marched to the farm of Robert Moore, in Clay Township, La Fayette County & there went into camp at sunset

April 6: Broke camp at sunrise & scouted through the brush to the house of Judge Grey. Surrounded & searched the house; every trace that men had secreted in the hayloft the night before; was informed that Grey was at Lexington, under arrest. Elicited nothing further. Proceeded to Napoleon, Mo., in search of one Potts; searched every house in town; finally heard of his whereabouts & found him on a farm near Harris' place, on the Lexington Road, about 3 miles from Napoleon. He has a pass to reside in La Fayette & Jackson Counties. This man is strongly suspected of harboring BUSHWHACKERS. He expresses disloyal sentiments & in my opinion should not be allowed to live in Jackson County, as his antecedents all point to the fact of his being a disloyal man. From there scouted through the brush at & near Bone Hill, toward evening sending Sergeant Leslie with 7 men through the brush toward Pink Hill; found three camps, evidently lately occupied; went into camp near Seminary at sunset. Plenty of forage in this section of the country. The men scouted this day part of the time on foot.

April 7: Broke cap at sunrise; took the brush at Pink Hill & scouted southeast. The men deployed over a space of 1 ½ miles, a part of the time on foot; found many TRACES & TRACKS of GUERRILLAS there is evidently "A TRAVELED TRACK" for them to cross the frontier of the county; found also there old camps, clothing, &c. Party rendezvoused at Lick Skillet; scouted thence through the brush to Round Prairie, coming in on the opposite side from where we entered it the day before; visited again the Plunkett house near the large camp; DOGS GAVE THE ALARM before we were within 1,000 yards of the house; surrounded & entered the house & outbuildings; found a third of the meat before reported had been taken away; ORDERED THE DOGS TO BE SHOT! The house is a very suspicious place & should be well watched. Scouted through the brush for a circle of a mile, then started for a point of timber near & to the eastward of Lone Jack. Scouted through it thoroughly & went into camp at dark. Many people without permits are living about this point on the edge of the two counties.

April 8: Broke camp at daylight, scouted through the brush & at 11 o'clock came out on the prairie 4 miles from Pleasant Hill. Being out of rations, went into Pleasant Hill to get breakfast for the men & forage for the horses; left at 12 m., & came by the most direct course through the prairie & brush to this Station arriving at 1 p.m. the command has traveled in all on the

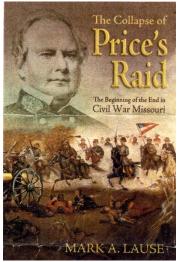
SCOUT about 90 MILES & the brush has been thoroughly searched on the course of the march. The country in about round Prairie, Grey's & Bone Hill is full of signs of the GUERRILLAS & they evidently have a crossing place on the Missouri River near Napoleon.

I am Captain, with great respect, your obedient servant,

ALBER L. GOODING

2nd Lieut., Co. H, 2nd Colorado Cavalry, Commanding Detachment. "

Now then, even though this "Union" patrol of 90 miles did not locate & kill any Bushwhackers, it "Showed the Flag" deep in Bushwhacker country and put many civilian supporters of the guerrillas on notice that they were indeed being watched. A number of enemy trails & a Traveled Track were also discovered as sites for potential ambushes & of Course the War Went on!



BOOK REVIEW

"The Collapse of Price's Raid, The Beginning of the End in Civil War Missouri" By Mark A. Lause

As the Civil War was drawing to a close, former Missouri governor Sterling Price led his army on one last desperate campaign to retake his home state for

the Confederacy, part of a broader effort to tilt the upcoming 1864 Union elections against Abraham Lincoln and the Republicans. In *The Collapse of Price's Raid: The Beginning of the End in Civil War Missouri*, Mark A. Lause examines the complex political and social context of what became known as "Price's Raid," the final significant Southern operation west of the Mississippi River.

The success of the Confederates would be measured by how long they could avoid returning south to spend a hungry winter among the picked-over fields of southwestern Arkansas and northeastern Texas. As Price moved from Pilot Knob to Boonville, the Raid brutalized and alienated the people it supposedly wished to liberate. With Union cavalry pushing out of Jefferson City, the Confederates took Boonville, Glasgow, and Sedalia in their stride, and fostered a wave of attacks across northern Missouri by guerrillas and organizations

of new recruits. With the Missouri River to their north and the ravaged farmlands to their south, Price's men continued west.

At Lexington, Confederates began encountering a second Federal army newly raised in Kansas under General Samuel R. Curtis. A running battle from the Little Blue through Independence to the Big Blue marked the first of three days of battle in the area of Kansas City, as the two Federal armies squeezed the Confederate forces between them. Despite a self-congratulatory victory, Union forces failed to capture the very vulnerable army of Price, which escaped down the Kansas line.

The follow-up to *Price's Lost Campaign: The* 1864 Invasion of Missouri, Lause's **The Collapse of Price's Raid** is a must-have for any reader interested in the Civil War or in Missouri state history. 312 Pages, Cloth, \$32.95

HARPER'S WEEKLY

SATURDAY, April 30, 1864

April 20, 1864 By Private Miles O'Reilly.

Three years ago today,
We raised our hands to heaven,
And on the rolls of muster
Our names were thirty-seven;
There were just a thousand bayonets,
And the swords were thirty-seven,
As we took the oath of service
With our right hands raised to heaven.

Oh 'twas a gallant day.

In memory still adored,
That day of our sun-bright nuptials,
With the musket and the sword!
Shrill rang the fifes, the bugles blared,
And beneath a cloudless heaven
Twinkled a thousand bayonets,
And the swords were thirty-seven.

Of the thousand stalwart bayonets
Two hundred march today;
Hundreds lie in Virginia swamps,
And hundreds in Maryland clay;
And other hundreds, less happy drag
Their shattered limbs around,
And envy the deep, long blessed sleep
Of the battle-field's holy ground.

For the swords-one night, a week ago,
The remnant, just eleven,
Gathered around a banqueting board
With seats for thirty-seven;

There were two limped in on crutches,
And two had each but a hand
To pour the wine and raise the cup
As we toasted "Our flag and land!"

And the room seemed filled with whispers
As we looked at the vacant seats,
And with choking throats, we pushed aside
The rich but untasted meats;
Then in silence we brimmed our glasses,
As we rose up-just eleven,
And bowed as we drank to the loved and the dead
Who had made us thirty-seven!



The Confederate Memorial in Forest Hill Cemetery on Troost in K.C., MO. Surrounding the memorial are Confederate graves including that of Confederate General Joseph O. Shelby.

General Shelby was well known as well as well liked by his men and was known as the JEB Stuart of the West.

I imagine that Sam's talk will be about the amazing raid that General Shelby and his "Iron Brigade" wrought on the state of Missouri killing over 1,000 Union forces and covering 1500 miles, all in the state of

Missouri from September 22 to November 3, 1863. This got him promoted to Brigadier General.

In June 1865, rather than surrender, Shelby and approximately 1,000 of his remaining troops rode south to Mexico. For their determination not to surrender, they were immortalized as the "undefeated". A later verse appended to the angry post-war Confederate anthem, "The Unreconstructed Rebel" commemorates the defiance of Shelby and his men:

"I won't be reconstructed, I'm better now than then, And for a carpetbagger, I do not give a damn. So it's forward to the frontier, soon as I can go, I'll fix me up a weapon and start for Mexico."

Shelby returned to Missouri in 1867 and resumed farming. In 1883, Shelby was a critical witness for fellow ex-Confederate Frank James at James' trial. He was appointed the U.S. Marshall for the Western District of Missouri in 1893, and retained this position until his death in 1897. He died in Adrian, Missouri, and is buried of course at Forest Hill Cemetery, Kansas City.

BATTLE OF WESTPORT 150 COMMEMORATION

Plans are underway for the Commemoration of the Battle of Westport in October, 2014. There will be a series of lead-up events beginning in early 2014, creating excitement, building anticipation, and educating our community about this important event in our shared past. A website is being finalized and will be launched soon along with a Facebook page.

A committee has been formed, chaired by George Vesel, to plan the Commemoration. The committee is meeting monthly at the Harris-Kearney House in Westport. If you would like to become involved, contact George Vesel at 816-797-9452 or BattleofWestport150@gmail.com.

Look for monthly updates in the Border Bugle and be sure to "Like" us on Facebook.

COMING EVENTS IN OUR AREA

And for more, be sure to take your Border Bugle by e-mail!!!

"A Cemetery Stroll Into the Past" will take place Saturday, April 26th, from 4 to 7 p.m. in Weston's historic Laurel Hills Cemetery. Re-enactors in period costume will stand by "their" graves and give short first person monologues about individuals buried there which includes Union and Confederate soldiers as well as slaves. This event is part of Platte County's 175th birthday celebration and is sponsored by Weston

Community Theatre. Admission is free but donations will be gratefully accepted.

Fort Scott Civil War Encampment

Saturday and Sunday, April 12-13, 2014. 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m.on Sat. and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday. Fort Scott National Historic Site, Old Fort Blvd., Fort Scott, KS. Sights and soundsof the Civil War as re-enactors recreate the activities of the Union Army and civilians of Fort Scott in 1864. Free.

Independence Civil War Study Group

Wednesday, April 16, 2014—7 p.m. Southview Manor Apartments, 2600A Hub Drive, Independence, MO. Mike Calvert: St. Louis and the Civil War.

Civil War at Sea

Thursday, April 17, 2014—6:30 p.m. Central Library, 14 W. 10th St., Kansas City, MO. James L. Speicher: The <u>H. L. Hunley and Her Crews</u>. To RSVP call 816 701-3407.

Trivia Night and Silent Auction-Clay County

Thursday, April 17, 2014—6:30-8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for the quilt raffle to benefit the Clay County Museum. To be held at the Shoal Creek Golf Club, 8905 Shoal Creek Parkway, Kansas City, MO. Tables of 8. Reserve seats by April 14 by calling 816 792-2854. Pay at the door.

The Big Divide

Thursday, April 17, 2014—6:30 p.m. National Archives, 400 W. Pershing Road, Kansas City, MO. Aaron Barnhart and Diane Eickhoff will talk about their book <u>The Big Divide</u>, the story of Kansas and Missouri during the Civil War. To RSVP call 816 268-8010.

<u>Defying Slavery: The Enduring Struggle for Freedom</u> Thursday, April 17, 2014—7 p.m. Midwest Genealogy Center, 3440 S. Lee's Summit Rd., Independence, MO. Diane Mutti Burke, author of <u>On Slavery's Border</u>, will discuss the heroic story of how African Americans resisted slavery. To RSVP call 816 252-7228.

Civil War Oratorio—Columbia, MO.

Thursday, April 24, 2014—7 p.m. Jesse Auditorium, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO. Combining music, pictures, and text from the period, this work by Stefan Freund and performed by the Columbia Civic Orchestra, will provide an overview of events in Missouri during the Civil War. Tickets may be purchased at the door or go to www.cco.missouri.org. General admission is \$15.

Historic Laurel Hills Cemetery Stroll-Platte County, MO Saturday, April 26, 2014—4-7 p.m. Weston, MO. Reenactors will stand by "their graves" and give a brief monologue. Union and Confederate soldiers along with slaves are buried there. Free but donations welcome.



HARPER'S WEEKLY APRIL 2, 1864

THE PRESIDENT'S "PLEDGE."

It has been stated in many quarters that Mr. Lincoln, in his inaugural address, pledged himself to one term only; and one of the orators at the meeting of General Fremont's friends, said that the President ought to understand that this pledge would be rigidly exacted of him. But it is a curious and interesting fact that Mr. Lincoln made no such pledge in his inaugural speech. He alluded to the point but twice.

Speaking of his predecessors and their administration of the government he said: "I now enter upon the same task, for the brief Constitutional term of four years, under great and peculiar difficulties."

And toward the close of the address he said that the people had given their public servants but little power for mischief, and had with equal wisdom "provided for the return of that little to their own hands at very short intervals;" and that while the people retain their virtue and vigilance no administration "can very seriously injure the Government in the short space of four years."

This is all Mr. Lincoln said in his inaugural address in regard to the term of the Presidency. How is it possible to torture from such words a "pledge" to serve one term only? And what is meant by " rigidly exacting" the performance of his pledge?

KC ARTIST BRAD ULTICAN EXHIBITS ART AT 1855 HARRIS-KEARNEY HOUSE MUSEUM

Brad Ultican returns to display his artwork in the upstairs gallery of the 1855 Harris-Kearney House Museum. The museum is proud to have previously hosted this talented local artist in 2013. Brad's work was so well-liked that he was asked to do another show in April 2014. His art features classic American scenes in pencil drawings and etchings. A free grand showing will be held on April 5. Museum hours on that day will be extended to 11 am-6 pm. Refreshments will be provided.

Brad strives to create unique perspectives into the culture, nature, and aesthetics of good ol' Americana. Beautiful and impressive, his scenes range from high detail "folk realism" graphite pencil drawings and hand printed etchings, to digital photography of distinct American scenes taken while on various trips around our great country. He continues to develop his techniques as he studies the etchings of master artists such as Rembrandt and Albrecht Durer.

This exhibit will be open for viewing from April 1–30, during regular museum hours, Wednesday through Saturday from 1–5 pm. Admission to the exhibit is free.

About Brad Ultican

Interested in drawing from a very early age, Brad Ultican began by drawing anything from cartoons and caricatures to realist landscapes and detail drawings. Many of his drawings are inspired by his photography. He draws inspiration from our own Kansas City, as well as New York, St. Louis, Chicago, and San Francisco. He has also photographed in many famous national parks such as Yosemite, Yellowstone, Glacier, and Badlands. After years of developing techniques and creating works, he launched this website and began selling at art fairs throughout the Midwest in 2011. Recently, his work has been displayed at both the Plaza and Westport Art Fairs. Visit Brad's website to see more examples of his art at http://www.bruprints.com/

About the 1855 Harris-Kearney House Museum and the Westport Historical Society

Located at 4000 Baltimore, in Kansas City, MO, the 1855 Harris-Kearney House is the oldest remaining residence in Kansas City. The house was built by the Harris family in 1855, and is now a museum owned and operated by the Westport Historical Society. The WHS was founded in 1956 to promote, preserve, and foster public interest in the significant history of Westport, Missouri, the Town of Kansas, and Missouri, as well as their founders.

The 1855 Harris-Kearney House Museum is open for tours Wednesday-Saturday, from 1-5pm. For more information, visit our website, www.westporthistorical.com. Contact us at 816-561-1821, or email us: westporthistorical@gmail.com. Like and follow us on Facebook.