



BORDER



BUGLE

Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

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456th REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, May 27, 2014

Meadowbrook Country Club

9101 Nall Ave., Prairie Village, Kansas 66207

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

Dinner - 6:30p.m.

MAY SPEAKER MARK CHRIST

"THE 1864 CAMDEN EXPEDITION & THE BATTLE OF POISON SPRINGS, AR."

Mark Christ is community outreach director for the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, an agency of the Department of Arkansas Heritage. He joined the AHPP in 1990 after eight years as a professional journalist. A 1982 graduate of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, he received his Master's degree in 2000 from the University of Oklahoma. The Civil War Trust awarded him the 2013 State Preservation Leadership Award. He is a member of the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission, serves as chairman of the board of directors of the Arkansas Humanities Council and is a former member of the board of trustees of the Arkansas Historical Association. He has written and edited several books, including "Rugged and Sublime" *The Civil War in Arkansas*, *Sentinels of History: Reflections on Arkansas Properties Listed on the National Register of Historic Places*, which won an Award of Merit from the American Association for State and Local History, "Getting Used To Being Shot At": *The Spence Family Civil War Letters*, "All Cut to Pieces and Gone to Hell": *The Civil War, Race Relations and the Battle of Poison Spring*, "The Earth Shook and Trees Trembled": *Civil War Arkansas 1863-1864*, "The Die is Cast: Arkansas Goes to War, 1861,"

Cont. on Page 2

Attendance requires a paid dinner reservation.

Please be sure our Treasurer receives all reservations by Tuesday, May 20, 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, May Speaker, Mark Christ.....



and *Civil War Arkansas, 1863: The Battle for a State*, which won the 2010 Douglas Southall Freeman Award and the 2013 Booker Worthen Literary Prize, "*This Day We Marched Again*": *A Union Soldier's Account of War in Arkansas and the Trans-Mississippi Region* and "*I Do Wish This Cruel War Was Over*": *First*

Person Accounts of Civil War Arkansas from the Arkansas Historical Quarterly.

SPEAKERS 2014

- * **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!!!

We are now meeting at Meadowbrook Country Club, located at 9101 Nall Avenue, Prairie Village KS 66207.

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

We Now Take Your Credit Card!

We have a new service for you, if you want to charge your dinner reservation to your credit card.

To use this service go to our web site <http://www.cwrk.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. pgault@sbcglobal.net.

MENU FOR MAY 2014

Arugula & Spinach Salad w/Dried Cherry, Apple Chips, Almond, Goat Cheese Fritter & Caramelized Onion Vinaigrette w/Asst. of rolls. Herb

Crusted Chicken Breast w/Midwest Wild Rice, Grilled Vegetables & White Wine Butter Sauce, and Mini Chocolate Pot de Crème.

BATTLE OF WESTPORT

BOW 150 MEETING SCHEDULES 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, Sep 17, & Oct 15. battleofwestport150@gmail.com.



Battlefield Dispatches #394

"Bravest of The Brave"

During the Civil War four "Union" soldiers were awarded the Medal of Honor for bravery in combat in eastern Kansas. Private George Pond of Company C, 3rd Wisconsin Cavalry received his Medal of Honor for bravery in combat during a skirmish near Drywood Ks. / Missouri on May 15, 1864. After the war Pvt. Pond lived in Fort Scott for the balance of his life and along with his brother, Homer Pond is buried in Evergreen Cemetery. The following is Pvt. Pond's Medal of Honor Citation and the after action report that describes the skirmish which resulted in Pvt. Pond being nominated for & receiving his Medal of Honor.

OFFICIAL CITATION:

"For extraordinary heroism on May 15, 1864, while serving with Company c, 3rd Wisconsin Cavalry, in action at Drywood, Kansas. With two companions, Private pond attacked a greatly superior force of guerrillas, routed them and rescued several prisoners."

The official correspondence & after action report describing this combat is published on Pages 936 & 937 in Series I, Vol. 34, Part I, Reports on the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion.

"Fort Scott, Kansas, May 16, 1864.

[To] Brig. Gen. T. J. McKean,

Paola, Kansas;

At 3 o'clock this morning 60 BUSHWHACKERS were 12 miles southeast of here, robbing & plundering the inhabitants. I got the news at a quarter before 5 & by 5 o'clock had troops out in all directions to try to cut them off. As we got a good start I hope to have some account of them by tomorrow.

CHARLES W. BLAIR
Colonel Commanding First Brigade"

"Hdqrs. First Brigade, District of Southern Kansas
Fort Scott, Kansas, May 16, 1864.

Captain: I have the honor to inform you for the information of the commanding general, that last night a raid was made upon Drywood, south & southeast of this, by about 60 guerrillas, under one Capt. Henry Taylor, formerly Sheriff of Vernon County, Mo., of which I have already notified the general by telegraph. The outpost of Morris' Mill, held by Company C, 3rd Wisconsin Cavalry, is reduced to less than 20 men, by the absence of the major portion of same on furlough as veteran volunteers, so that they cannot have the same facilities for acquiring early information of the enemies movements which they had formerly. Notwithstanding this, they learned of the raid soon after the first house was plundered & supposing it to be a small party, but 5 men was sent out in pursuit. It was easy enough to follow the track by the plundered houses, all of which they had despoiled of everything, in all cases taking the men prisoners & carrying them along with the party. By the time they reached the house of Mr. Ury, 12 miles southeast of Fort Scott, they had 8 prisoners. Young Ury was formerly a Scout in my employ & they had a particular spite against him. At this place they got 3 more prisoners, the two Urys and a young man named Williams & about \$600 in money. They had discussed the propriety of killing the prisoners on the spot, but finally determined to take them off some distance to be sure they were safe.

Of the 5 men of Company C who had started in pursuit, 2 had gone back to camp to notify the others of the extent of the force & the other 3 came up just as the bushwhackers were coming out of Mr. Urys' gate with their prisoners; without pausing a moment these 3 men dashed gallantly forward until within 20 paces of the whole company, firing as rapidly as possible & causing such an excitement among the enemy that the diversion allowed all the prisoners to escape, Ury, the scout, knocking down one of the rebels who stood next to him with a stick of wood he had hastily gathered from a pile near his

feet. At the first alarm the bushwhackers had fired at the prisoners, but the tumult was so great that none were hurt except the elder Ury, who was shot through the thigh & is in a fair way to recover. The younger Ury pushed straight for the camp of Company C, got 5 fresh men & is now on their trail. I have thought this gallant act of these 3 men of Company C deserves special mention as their conduct undoubtedly saved the lives of all of the prisoners & I therefore respectfully call your attention to it. Their names are Serjts. O. H. CRPENTER & Elwin Webber & PRIVATE "GEORGE F. POND", Co. C, 3rd Wisconsin Cavalry. I have about 200 men in pursuit in different parties who will give a good account of the enemy if they catch them & who will catch them if it can be done.

Very Respectfully, Your Obedient Servant,
CHARLES W. BLAIR,
Colonel Commanding, Fort Scott"

[To] "Brig. Gen. T. J. McKean,
Headquarters, First Brigade,
District of Southern Kansas,
Fort Scott, Kansas, May 17, 1864.

My troops followed the BUSHWHACKERS 50 miles, by which time they had all scattered each in his own direction & further pursuit was useless. WE killed 5 & wounded quite a number, having but 2 of our men wounded. They were pushed so hard that I don't think the same party will make a similar attempt soon. Great Credit is due my Adjutant, Lieut. W. H. Hewett, who accompanied the pursuing party & Captains Hurd & Norton, for the promptness, vigor & efficiency of the pursuit. The troops were on the march within in 15 minutes after I received the news. They are now on their return.

CHARLES W. BLAIR,
Colonel, Commanding First Brigade"

Now then, Pvt. George Pond was honorably discharged from the Union Army in 1865 and he & his brother Homer who also served in the 3rd Wisconsin Cavalry lived in Fort Scott for the rest of their lives. Both brothers were active members of the local Grand Army of the Republic Post, were successful business men and are buried in Evergreen Cemetery.

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, to plan the Commemoration. The committee is meeting monthly at the Harris-Kearney House in Westport. If you would like to become involved go to BattleofWestport150@gmail.com.

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

NEW MEMBER.....

Mark Duncan, 1616 Sleepy Hollow Cr. Olathe, KS 66062, 913-393-2853, mark_duncan@sbcglobal.net.

MAY 1864

Harper's Weekly, May 28, 1864

THE DEAD HEROES.

The friends of the heroes who have fallen in the late battles in the East and West need no assurance of the universal sympathy with which the whole nation mourns with them, for they see and hear every where the tokens of a common sorrow. Death for the country makes the citizen especially the country's child, and it is not a private but a public grief which now solemnizes the land. Every one of those brave men, officers and soldiers, died that all our homes may be happy and all our liberties secure. Smitten by a foe who took arms not because any right or liberty of his had been endangered, but only that he might endanger the rights and liberties of others, the dead of these battles of ours have a sweet and holy memory; for they have saved more than their country, they have befriended human nature. "Wherefore," says Pericles in his discourse over the Peloponnesian dead, "to the parents of the dead, as many of, them as are here among you, I will not offer condolence so much as consolation..... For while collectively they gave the country their lives, individually they received that renown which never grows old, and the most distinguished tomb they could have; not so much that in which they are laid as that in which their glory is left behind them, to be everlastingly recorded on every occasion for doing so, either by word or deed, that may from time to time present itself."

But this universal public and private grief sees something else than blood and suffering in the great field of national glory. It will leave to those who burn orphan asylums; who ferociously slaughter the most innocent men, women, and children; who have no tear for the living death of millions, and no sigh for the awful massacres of Pillow and Wagner, to call themselves "peace" men, and to affect regret at the horrors of war. Why they should deplore the loss of life, who would willingly sell all that makes life honorable, will be always a question. Vultures and snakes will take one view of a field on which the battle of national regeneration has been fought j God and good men another.

On the 17th of June, 1775, Joseph Warren, a young man who had everything to live for, who might have had ease and quiet and "peace," if he had only counseled submission and compromise with the great British empire instead of advising a silly struggle of Yankee farmers with the trained troops of Great Britain, "after discharging his duty in the Committee of Safety resolved to take part in the battle. He was entreated by Elbridge Gerry," says Bancroft, "not thus to expose his life. 'It is pleasant and becoming to die for one's country,' was his answer." At two o'clock he crossed Bunker Hill alone with a musket in his hand. The foolish farmers were fighting instead of sending commissioners to the enemy to propose compromise. They fought until they had spent all their ammunition. They fought until they were forced back. They lost 145 killed and 304 wounded; and "just at the moment of the retreat fell Joseph Warren, the last in the trenches." Did he die as the fool dieth? No, no; he died as all our brave and dear ones in the late battles, East and West, and in all the battles of this war, have died." Sorrow could now no more come nigh him, and he went to dwell in men's memories with Hampden." It is true of Warren. It is true of every faithful brother of his who has now fallen 5 and it is not his wounds, his blood, his suffering, that we see, but his immortal heroism the cause which it trips to secure.

What the President said upon the field of Gettysburg in that speech, whose rare felicity not Pericles nor any orator ever equaled, is said by every faithful American heart as it contemplates the battlefields of the last fortnight in Virginia and Georgia; "It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain—that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom, and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.



"Rebel Atrocities" Harper's Weekly, May 21, 1864

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.

Lunch 'n Learn-The 2nd Battle of Independence

Wednesday, May 14, 2014—Noon. Truman Memorial Building, 416 W. Maple Ave., Independence, MO. Mike Calvert will tell the story of Union and Confederate soldiers fighting on the streets of Independence as they met on Oct. 22, 1864 between the Battle of the Little Blue and the Battle of Westport. Bring your brown bag lunch and enjoy a drink and dessert at no charge.

Memorial Day at Union Cemetery

Saturday, May 24, 2014—11 a.m. Ceremony at the flag pole in the middle of the cemetery, 227 E. 28th Terrace, Kansas City, MO. Participants will be Cub and Boy Scouts, Civil War re-enactors, and others. Refreshments will be served at the Sexton's Cottage. The grounds will be open from 8 a.m.- 6 p.m. on May 24, from 1-5 p.m. on May 25, and from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on May 26. Scouts will place flags at the graves of veterans on May 24 and have a short ceremony honoring Nathaniel Gwynne, a Medal of Honor recipient before the ceremony at 11 a.m.

Outstanding Women of Missouri. Now through May 31, 2014. Fort Osage Education Center at 107 Osage St., Sibley, MO. Exhibit is free but tours of the Fort are \$7 for Adults, \$4 for ages 5-13, \$3 for ages 62 and older, and free for children 4 and under. The Exhibit features such women as Susan Blow, an educator who recognized the importance of early childhood education and opened the first successful public kindergarten in America here in Missouri. Learn of the tenacity of Marie Watkins Oliver, the Missouri woman who designed the Missouri State flag, twice. From authors to astronauts, first lady, or lady Buffalo Soldier, Missouri has been

home to some amazing women. Hours are 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tues.-Sun.

The Cavalry of the American Civil War

Thursday, May 15, 2014—6:30 p.m. Central Library, 14 W. 10th St., Kansas City, MO. Louis Di Marco of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth examines the role of mounted combat. RSVP to 816 701-3407.

New Museum in an Old Building

Friday, May 16, 2014—Noon. Bring your sack lunch to The National Frontier Trails Museum, 318 West Pacific, Independence, MO to hear about how the Gates Flour Mill was adapted to house a modern museum of trail history and learn about plans for the redevelopment of the museum and its campus.

Confederate Spring Muster

Saturday, May 17, 2014—10 a.m.-5 p.m. Shoal Creek Living History Museum in Hodge Park north of the River. From I-435 take Hwy. 152 east. Go ½ mile and turn north (left) on to Shoal Creek Parkway. Then an immediate left on to Barry Road. Go west on Barry to the entrance of Robert H. Hodge Park. Follow the road past the golf course driving range and up the hill to the iron gate entrance. Visit an American Civil War encampment with eight infantries with about 100 soldiers. See how Missouri soldiers lived, watch them run drills, and hear the roar of the musketry. Free.

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



On May 8, we celebrated the birthday of our 33rd President and area celebrity, Harry S. Truman born in Lamar, Missouri.

Harry S. Truman was the final running mate of President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1944, Truman succeeded to the presidency on April 12, 1945, when Roosevelt died after months of declining health.

A decision that's still controversial today with some was whether or not to use Nuclear power in ending WWII, the consensus is you couldn't find a soldier that would not agree with the President that that was the best decision, it shortened the war and saved lives in the long run, but there is always another side.

Harry S. Truman then ran his successful campaign against Dewey and won his first full term as President and got us involved in Korea which didn't go so well. His most unpopular action was the firing of Douglas McArthur even though he had the backing of many including Eleanor Roosevelt.

He had quite a political career in the state of Missouri after his Presidency and died in Kansas City, Missouri in Dec. 26, 1972. He and his wife Bess are both buried in the Library's Courtyard in Independence.

He was also instrumental in the founding of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City in 1958.

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