



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

Website- <http://cwrtkc.org/>



450th REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY, November 19, 2013

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

NOVEMBER SPEAKER MAJ. KEVIN N. KNAPP “MILITARY BALLOONING DURING THE CIVIL WAR”

Balloons were used for surveillance and reconnaissance during the Civil War by the Union Army from 1861 through 1863 and by Confederate Army in 1862. The North made over 3,000 ascensions with seven balloons and the South made less than 10 ascensions with two. Years after the war the famous Artillery Officer and observer in the Confederate's second balloon, E.P. Alexander wrote, "I never understood why the enemy abandoned the use of military balloons...Even if the observer never saw anything, they would have been worth all they cost for the annoyance and delays they caused us in trying to keep our movement out of sight." In this presentation you will learn about the first air to ground telegraph, the first field hydrogen generators, the first air directed artillery fire, the first air craft carrier, the first time two opposing forces had aircraft in the air at the same time, and the beginning of U.S. Military Aviation.

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Attendance requires a paid dinner reservation.

*Please be sure our Treasurer receives all reservations by Friday, Nov. 15, 2013
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.

November Speaker; Maj. Kevin N. Knapp cont'

Kevin Knapp is a retired Army Officer, former professional hot air balloon pilot and Board member of the Balloon Federation of America, and Civil War Balloon Corps enthusiast. He has owned and operated the modern "Army" Balloon since 1993 and shares oral and living history as Thaddeus S. C. Lowe, Chief Aeronaut, of the Army of the Potomac's Balloon Corps. In 2006 Kevin was the co-pilot for the winning team of the America's Challenge Gas Balloon Race flying from Albuquerque, New Mexico to Citra, Florida-1,478 miles in 60 hours and 45 minutes. Most recently, Kevin operated the Command Center for Jonathan Trappe's attempt to cross the Atlantic flying a Cluster Balloon System.

Kevin Knapp's portrayal of Thaddeus Lowe has been featured at the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum, the National Civil War Museum, by the US National Park Service Civil War defense of Washington, Fort Ward, and Gaines Mill Battlefield, as well as the cities of Fairfax, Falls Church, Gloucester, Manassas, Yorktown, Fredericksburg, and Chancellorsville, Virginia's Civil War Sesquicentennial Committees. Knapp was also featured in the History Channel's "Man, Moment, and Machine's" segment on Civil War Ballooning called "Lincoln's Spy Machine."

SPEAKERS 2013

December 17: Dr. Michael E. Monaco, "Civil War Medicine"

MENU FOR NOVEMBER 2013

Tomato Basil Soup, Sliced Beef Brisket with Bordelaise Sauce, Baked Potato with Cheese and Sour Cream, Green Bean Casserole, and Double Layer Chocolate Cake.

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.

Battle of Westport Visitors Center and Museum

Dear Members of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City:

The Monnett Battle of Westport Fund is hosting a wonderful exhibit at the Battle of Westport Visitor Center and Museum called "A State Divided: The Civil War in Missouri." In conjunction with it, we will have a new exhibit on the Battle of Westport and a Hands – on – History room.

The Museum is extending its season to accommodate this special exhibit from the Missouri History Museum and the Missouri Humanities Council. We will be open on Saturdays from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. from October 26 – December 22, 2013. Other times available by appointment so if Saturdays don't work for you, just call or email and we will be happy to open for you. The Grand Opening will be on Saturday, November 2, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

There will also be special programs on many of the Saturdays. "Weapons of Conflict," "Masonry and the Underground Railroad," "Jackson County in Wartime," and "Fiddle Music during the Civil War in Missouri," are among the programs scheduled. For more information, check the museum's website at www.battleofwestport1864.org.

If you would like to be a part of this special exhibit and programming, we are still looking for volunteers. Please contact Alisha Cole at 816-550-6895 or amcole2@mac.com

"The Sergeant Major's Roar"

Battlefield Dispatches #380

"Another Treacherous Woman"

During the Civil War, women of Missouri; be they loyal or disloyal to the "Union" had to be creative, smart & quick witted if they expected to survive the ravages of war. However, as the war progressed being creative, smart or quick witted was often not good enough to protect their homes, especially if those of the "southern Persuasion" lived in a rural area & were suspected of or were caught protecting or supplying the Confederate guerrillas or bushwhackers. If this were true, normally the house & farm buildings would all be burned to the ground. The incident describes an exception to this way of waging war and this report is located on Pages 761-762 in Series I,

Volume 22, Part I Reports in the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion.

“Headquarters
Neosho, Mo., November 29, 1863.

Sir: For the information of the Commanding General, I report the success of a Scout taken by me with 20 men to Jasper County. Having learned, a few days previous to my starting out, of 10 or BUSHWHACKERS harboring on Turkey Creek, in Jasper County, about 20 miles from this place (the weather being very cold), I thought it would be a good time to catch them and I started.

I proceeded on my route about 9 miles, on to the waters of Shoal Creek and discovered a light in the thick brush and in the direction that I knew that the light did not come from any house and I knew that it must be the campfire of the guerrillas. I then dismounted my men, leaving a small force with the horses and I with the remainder started on foot, proceeding very cautiously to within 200 yards and then halted. I sent Lieutenant John R. Kelso to reconnoiter and ascertain the force of the enemy and their situation. Lieutenant Kelso reported that they had a tent and from the best of his knowledge, there were only 3. I then, with Lieutenant Kelso and 3 men, owing to the dense thicket we had to penetrate, we thought we could slip up and surprise with a small force better than a large one. Knowing if there were more Rebels than we expected, the remaining portion of the men under my command were in easy striking distance. We arrived at the appointed place, the signal was given and we fired, KILLING 2 of them, that being all that were there at that time. Their names were Martin Levacy, of Lawrence County and Woods, given name not known.

It was about 10 o'clock of the night and we pushed on for Turkey Creek and arrived at one of the places. When within about a quarter mile of the house, we again dismounted and moved stealthily onward toward the house which we succeeded in surrounding before being discovered. I immediately hailed the inmates of the house and demanded a surrender of all men and arms that were in the house. After some little delay, occasioned, I suppose in secreting one of their tribe under the floor of the house, after they had him put away decently, they concluded to surrender and commenced handing out their arms through the window. The “WOMAN” that handed out the arms stated that there was only one man in the house. We went in and arrested him and started. I noticed a FINE BLACK OVERCOAT in the house and mistrusted that there must be another somewhere. After I had got about 40 yards from the house, I turned back and asked the “LADY IF THERE WAS NOT ANOTHER MAN SOMEWHERE ABOUT THE HOUSE!” She replied that if there was she could not help it. I then SNATCHED up a FIRE-

BRAND [flaming torch] and was going to dash it under the floor and a poor SECESSIA came crawling out, saying, “Here is my arms, I am your prisoner.” I should have killed him then, but we were close to the rendezvous of another party and I did not want to raise any alarm, although he justly deserves death, as there are a good many Union citizens in this portion of the State that are knowing to his JAYHAWKING [robbing] and shooting at good Union men; in fact from the story of loyal citizens round this place, he is a perfect DEPERADO; his name is Dempster Lindsay, formerly of Jasper County, of this state.

We then proceeded toward another house. Before getting to the place, we again dismounted and surrounded the house, as before hailing in the same manner. After there was a light made in the house, they commenced handing out their arms. One of the Rebels was up stairs and was going to jump out of the window, but was deterred by two of my men shooting at him, which alarmed some others that were near, who made their escape. We captured 3 Rebels at this place and recaptured a Federal soldier taken prisoner by the same party. He belongs, he says, to the 14th Kansas Cavalry, Company I. he was left, sick, by a [supply] train passing down. We succeeded in capturing all his arms, excepting a revolver, together with his horse and equipments. The alarm being raised and knowing that the band was broken up for that time, we started back to camp, with 5 Rebel prisoners, 1 Federal soldier and 6 horses belonging to the prisoners we captured. The prisoners are all men of desperate character, being GUERRILLAS that have infested and been a TERROR to all LOYAL CITIZENS of the Southwest.

I subscribe myself, your obedient servant,

MILTON BURCH,

Captain, Commanding Detachment, 8th
Missouri State Militia Cavalry.”

Now then, why didn't Captain Burch burn the house of the treacherous “rebel” woman to the ground & kill the bushwhacker that he captured hiding under the floor? Because, as he stated “we were close to the rendezvous of another party [of the enemy] & I did not want to raise any alarm”! Therefore, he took the guerrilla who was in hiding prisoner and did not burn the house and of Course the War Went On!

Kevin Knapp



THANK YOU!

Don Bates e-mailed me the other night and reminded me and all of us to extend a huge thank you to our one and only Arnold Schofield who not only drives all the way from Fort Scott each month to join us for the monthly meetings but steps up to the plate when we need a speaker at the last minute and hauls around hundreds of pounds of books back and forth to each meeting, so if you get a chance, shake his hand and say, "Thank you Arnold."

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Steve Jolly needs some expertise identifying some Civil War cannon balls as to their authenticity if you have the knowledge. He can be reached at ribsey@sbcglobal.net. Thank you!

COMING EVENTS.....

Westport Historical Society

The 1855 Harris-Kearney House

Gangsters and Flappers Are Coming To Westport This Holiday Season

The annual 1855 Harris-Kearney House Museum Holiday Candlelight Tour is back with a new twist on November 30. This year's theme is Christmas Eve 1922, and the prominent residents of Kansas City will be gathering at a secret Speakeasy in Westport from 6-9 pm. Make friends with Tom Pendergast, Julia Kearney Wornall, Walt Disney, the Mayor, the Police Chief, and other guests for a personal invitation to their Holiday Speakeasy. Adults 16+ only. Tours will begin every 15 minutes. Price of admittance is \$10, and will include a candlelight tour, cocktails, refreshments, and a small stack of fun chips. Additional fun chips will be available for purchase. Cash only, please. Call 816-561-1821 for more information, or to make reservations. Discount tickets are available for Westport Historical Society members and the military.

Travel Back In Time By Candlelight To Christmas 1922

Celebrate Christmas Eve in 1922 Westport on November 29. From 6-9 pm at the 1855 Harris-Kearney House Museum, prominent residents from Westport and Kansas City history will gather to celebrate the holiday and give thanks for the successful events of that year. This family-friendly event will include a tour of the gaily decorated mansion by candlelight, a visit with Julia Kearney Wornall, Joan Crawford, Walt Disney, and other friends. Make a Christmas decoration, enjoy period games, and much more. Tours begin every 15

minutes and refreshments will be served. Call 816-561-1821 for more information, or to make reservations. Admission is \$8.00 for adults and \$5.00 for students. Cash only, please. Children under 5 are admitted free. Discount tickets are available for Westport Historical Society members and the military.

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, westporthistorical@gmail.com, or find us on Facebook.



Happy 171st Anniversary to Abraham and Mary Lincoln!

On this date in 1842, Abraham Lincoln and Mary Todd were married by the Rev. Charles Dresser in the home of Mary's sister, Elizabeth Edwards.

Mary's wedding ring was buried with her in 1882. The inscription read, "A.L. to Mary, Nov. 4, 1842. Love is Eternal."

These photographs of the Lincolns were taken separately in 1847 and later combined and colorized.

Exhibit: Arrow Rock's African-American History

Now through November 23, 2013. Harris-Kearney House, 4000 Baltimore, Kansas City, MO. Wed.-Sat. from 1-5 pm. On loan from Arrow Rock State Historic Site "Giving Voice to an Unheard Past." Through the use of census records, documents, and oral histories, the lives of descendants from slavery are traced as they purchased their own homes, built churches, lodges, and schools.

Exhibit: Guerrillas in Our Midst

Now through December 29, 2013. Central Library, 14 W. 10th St., Kansas City, MO. Drawings and Photographs from the Missouri Valley Special Collections.

1850s Town Hall Political Meeting

First Sunday of the month from Nov. 3, 2013-May 4, 2014 at 2 pm. The Lecompton Reenactors acting troupe will portray the famous Kansans of the period as they express their feelings on the issue of slavery in Kansas. Constitution Hall State Historic Site, 319 Elmore, Lecompton KS.

Gettysburg: The Most Important Event of 1863?

Tuesday, November 19, 2013—6:30 pm. Central Library, 14 W. 10th St., Kansas City, MO. Four historians from the U. S. Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth will talk about the impact of Gettysburg on the Civil War. RSVP to 816 701-3400.

Smithville, Missouri and the Civil War (Civil War Study Group)

Wednesday, November 20, 2013—7 pm. Southview

Manor Apartments, 2600 A Hub Drive, Independence, MO. Frank Justus, curator of the Smithville Museum , will talk about Smithville and the Civil War.

Civil War Santa

Saturday, November 30, 2013—2 pm. Red Bridge Library, 11140 Locust St., Kansas City, MO. Jim Two Crows, dressed as the Thomas Nast Santa, explains how the Civil War changed Christmas from being an adult holiday to a children's holiday. RSVP to 816 942-1780.

1850s Town Hall Political Meeting

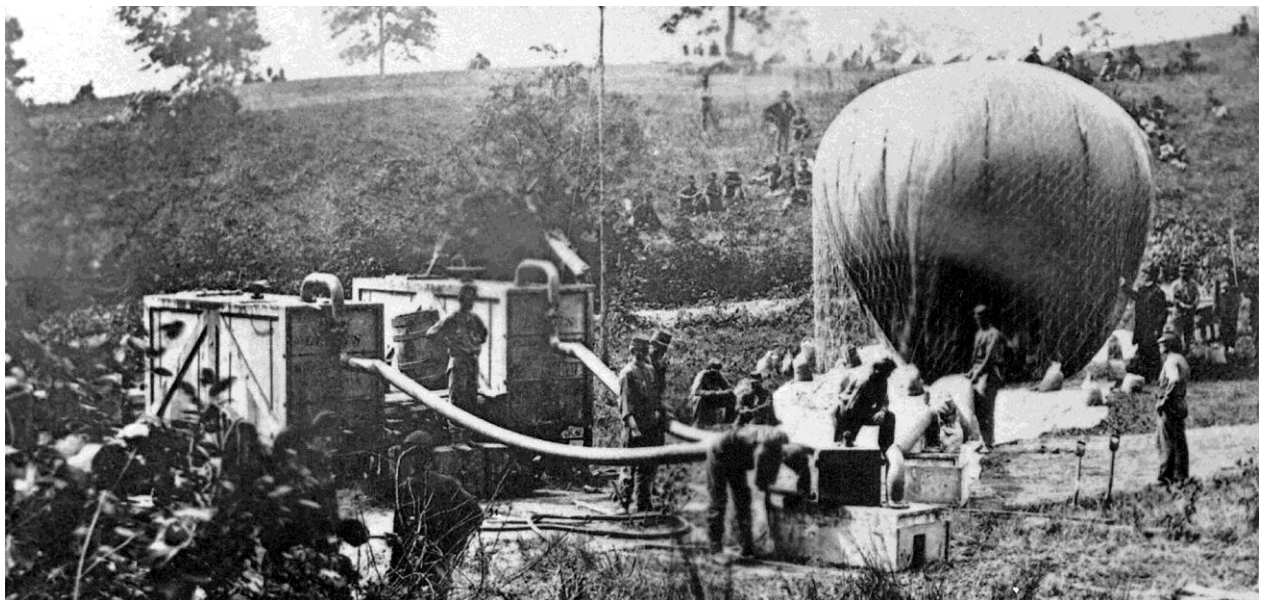
Sunday, December 1, 2013—2 pm. Constitution Hall State Historic Site, 319 Elmore, Lecompton, KS. The Lecompton Reenactors will portray famous Kansans and their feelings on slavery in Kansas.

Candlelight Tours of Fort Scott, Kansas

Friday and Saturday, December 6-7, 2013—Friday night begins at 6:30 pm and runs every 15 minutes until 9 p.m. Saturday begins at 5 p. m. until 9 p.m. with a break at 7:15 p. m. Advance reservations required by calling (620) 223-0310. Fort Scott National Historic Site. \$8 tickets for those age 6 and above.

Posse of the Westerners

Tuesday, December 10, 2013—6 pm—Dinner. \$25. Golden Ox, 1600 Genessee Street, Kansas City, MO. Bill Hicks: Octave Chanute, the builder of the Hannibal Bridge, mentor to the Wright Brothers, namesake of Chanute, Kansas. For dinner reservations call Ann Schultis at (816) 456-0669.



2014 MEMBERSHIP DUES 2014

The Membership Dues for 2014 remain the same as last year. As you are aware, it is our annual dues that cover expenses associated with obtaining quality speakers, principally for transportation and lodging, as well as for costs of the Border Bugle and Annual Directory.

Please complete the form below to insure that we have the correct information for the membership directory.

2014 CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE OF KANSAS CITY DUES

Dues deadline is December 31, 2013

\$30 per year (individual)* \$45 per year (couple)

Payable to the Civil War Round Table

Individual Name

spouse (if Couple Membership)

Address

City, State, ZIP

(_____)_____
Phone

IMPORTANT *email*

* Non-resident memberships are \$10, which covers receiving the Border Bugle.

Mail to: Paul Gault, 7118 N. Congress Ave., Kansas City, MO 64152-2948

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

