#### **VOLUME 44, No. 3**

#### **FEBRUARY 2001**

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Menu for March 27, 2001 Meeting, Salad, Bar-B-Que Brisket of Beef, Texas Potatoes, and Green Beans. 347<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting Tuesday, March 27, 2001 Social: 6:00pm Dinner: 6:30pm Leawood Country Club 8901 Sagamore, Leawood, KS (89<sup>th</sup> Street east of Lee Blvd) cash bar – dinner \$18.00

# Featured March Speaker Orvis Fitts

## "General James Gillpatrick Blunt; A Doctor in Uniform"

I'm sure the entire round table is with me when I say that I'm proud to be a member of this select group of preservationists, especially the likes of our March speaker, Orvis N. Fitts. His accomplishments in preserving and educating on the Battle of Westport goes beyond most do.

Orvis was born is Belmond, Wright County, Iowa, (that's how the muster reports were in the Civil War). He attended Olaf College in Northfield, Minn., and has a B.A. in History and Economics.

During the big one, WWII, Orvis was a naval aviator in the Southwest Pacific theatre and retired 1, July, 1964 as a Lieutenant Commander, after which he worked for Amoco Oil Co. as a Senior Staff Employee Relations Representative and retired after 34 years of service. Since then, he has been an Associate Financial Consultant for Shearson Lehman Hutton, Inc., and Personal Financial Management Division part time from 1983-1986.

He's been involved as past President of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City, the Westport Historical Society, and the Heart of America Chapter of the Retired Officers Association. The past Chairman of the Board of the Monnett Battle of Westport Fund, Inc. He's also a past Director of Archives at Polling Hills Presbyterian Church.

Orvis is a member of quite a few historical and military organizations unfortunately too many to list.

**NOTICE:** This will be the LAST issue of the Border Bugle sent to those that have not paid their membership for 2001. If you are not sure whether you have renewed your membership, you can check with David Landes or Paul Gault at the check in table at the March meeting. If you are unable to attend the March meeting, please call David (816) 246-5447 or Paul (816) 741-2962. They have the up to date roster on membership renewal. Thanks. David.



#### **MINISTRUM** RESERVATIONS

Reservations must be received by FRIDAY, March 23, 2001

Mail to: Dave Landes 1409 SW 9<sup>th</sup> St Lee's Summit, MO 64081

The price of the dinner is \$18.00. Make checks payable to: *The Civil War Round Table of Kansas City (CWRTKC)*. Please note any special dietary needs with your reservation.

#### **EMERGENCY ONLY**

Call: Dave Landes 816/246-5447 or as an alternative number ONLY, call Paul Gault at 741-2962. DO NOT leave duplicate reservations at both numbers. The Round Table is billed for all meals prepared. Members will be charged for reservations not cancelled by the Friday before the meeting.

#### GRANT TO HELP RESTORE SITE IN LECOMPTON

The Lecompton Historical Society has received a \$10,000 grant from the Douglas County Community Foundation.

Paul Bahnmaier, the historical society's president, said the grant will be used to continue rehabilitation efforts at the old Democratic headquarters in Lecompton, pictured here. He said he appreciated the foundation's generosity because more than 80 agencies

requested \$1.6 million but only \$200,00 was disbursed.

## Bleeding Kansas, Territorial Counties;

This is the last in a series of talks on the violent conflict over the slavery issue in Kansas Territory, 1854-1861.

March 25, 2001, "Lykins (Miami) County: Preachers and Politics" by John Nichols, Miami County Historical Society.

Constitution Hall State Historic Site in Lecompton Kansas. Sunday, 2:00pm, Free Admission.

Civil War Education Association (CWEA) presents upcoming tours and events. Contact CWEA at 800-298-1861 or email <a href="mailto:cwea@mnsinc.com">cwea@mnsinc.com</a> for more information.

Mar 22-24, 2001 – The Irish in the American Civil War: A Symposium and The Irish at Antietam: A Field Tour. Hagerstown, MD

Mar 24, 2001 - How to conduct Civil War Research: An in-depth Workshop

**April 6-8**, Wilson's Creek national Battlefield presents, "1861 Storm Over The Land", A symposium. Springfield, MO. For information, call 417/732-2662, or e-mail <a href="wicrnb@hotmail.com">wicrnb@hotmail.com</a> or visit our website at: <a href="www.nps.gov/wicr">www.nps.gov/wicr</a>. April 7th banquet speaker is Mr. Robin Reed, Executive Director of The Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond, VA. His subject, "Robert E. Lee: The Man and the Soldier".

#### **Upcoming Speakers in 2001:**

March: Orvis Fitts: "The Life of General James Gillpatrick Blunt, a Doctor in Uniform."

April: Ed Shutt: "The Post War Saga of Leading Civil War Figures"
May: Mike Lawson: "England's Fascination with the American Civil War"

#### **Upcoming Events 2001 and beyond...**

**April 5-8,** 23<sup>rd</sup> Confederate Historical given by Ed Bearss. Contact Jim Beckner for more info.

April 21-22, Mahaffie House in Olathe, Kansas

**June 21-24,** 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of the Little Big Horn. Tour and reenactment. Contact Jim Beckner for more information.

**June 22-24**, Battle of Maysville, Wichita, Kansas. Contact is John Beck, (316) 942-2690, <ironclad61@aol.com.

Aug 4-5, Battle of Glasgow, MO (1861 and 1864). Contact Norman Rohlfing, 660-248-3483. Amenities.

Sept. 22-23, Battle of Pilot Knob, MO. All amenities. Contact Terry Cadenbach, 4mocav@usmo.com

Oct. 19-20, Battle of Marshall, MO. Contact Scott Hughes.

# Flags for Black Regiments on display

By STEVE FRY The Capital-Journal

The battle flag that flew at the front of the 2nd Kansas Colored Infantry regiment when it fought at Jenkins Ferry, Ark., in the Civil War has been unfurled after more than 100 years.

The dark blue silk flag went on display last week at the Kansas State Historical Society just inside the door to the main gallery of the Kansas Museum of History, 6425 S.W. 6th. The flag is one of six from black regiments that the Kansas State Historical Society has, and all have been conserved. Kansas has one of the larger concentrations of flags from

black Civil War regiment, said Blair Tarr, museum curator. Besides the 2nd Regiment's flag, the museum has the regiment's national flag, which is the American flag, and the regimental and national flags from the 1st Kansas Colored Infantry regiment, Tarr said.

The 2nd's flag is a little larger than the standard 6-foot by 6 ½ foot regimental flag. After it was conserved by **Textile** Preservation Associates Sharpsburg, Md., it was pressurepacked between thick batting and glass treated to cut down ultraviolet rays, then mounted in a heavy aluminum frame. The total cost was \$16,000, Tarr said.

"It's been quite a challenge," Tarr said. "They've been furled for over 100 years."

After the Civil War, the 2nd's flag was turned over to the Kansas adjutant general on July 4, 1866, with about 42 other flags. Perhaps the regiment's best-known action was at Jenkins Ferry on April 30, 1864, several days after Confederates slaughtered wounded and captured soldiers of the 1st Kansas Colored Infantry at Poison Springs, Ark. At Jenkins Ferry, the 2nd successfully charged a Confederate artillery battery, yelling, "Remember Poison Springs!" Tarr said.

The conservation of the 2nd's flag is part of the "Save the Flags!" program to stabilize the museum's collection offlags from the Civil War, Border Wars and Spanish-American War.

Stave Fry can be reached at (785) 295-1206 or sfry@cjonline.com

Dear Friend:



In reviewing an 1889 report of the Adjutant General of Kansas there was mention of a need to procure muster rolls of Kansas' soldiers, and one of the units for which such roll was needed was the "Missouri Home Guards, Companies F,G, H, and 1; commanded by Captains A. Thomas, C. Lovejoy, B.

F. Simpson, and C. Hill. Raised in Johnson, Douglas and Miami counties. Organized in fall of 1861, and mustered out February, 1862."

Further research has revealed that the Missouri Home Guards were Colonel Andrew Nugent's (or Newgent's) regiment; it appears to have been raised in Cass county. The Kansas companies had attached themselves to Newgent's regiment, and then in December, 1861 the governor of Kansas attached these four companies to the then-forming 2d Kansas Cavalry.

In early 1862 Nugent raised the Second Battalion Cavalry, Missouri State Militia; his regiment must have been disbanded by then.

I have found practically nothing regarding Nugent's regiment other than a brief mention if the <u>Official Records.</u> I would like to add this unit to the ones already listed on the home page of the Museum of the Kansas National Guard.

Could you insert a brief query in your newsletter for anyone having information on this regiment to contact me? Bryce.

**HELP;** The only written history of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City is a short double spaced 4 page highlight. I would like to write a more comprehensive story on the round table and need your help with memoirs, stories, pictures, any memory you might have. Write it down and send it to me or e-mail me with whatever you might have. An example of what I would like to know is, does anyone have a list of the charter members? Mail to: David Landes, 1409 SW 9<sup>th</sup> St., Lee's Summit, Mo. 64081 or e-mail me at: rejabr@juno.com. Thanks, David.

**F.Y.I.,** Wednesday, March 14, The Wyandotte County Geneaological Society will hold it's monthly meeting open to the public. The program is titled; "Black Confederates, Our fForgotten Heroes" by retired Colonel Edward Kennedy. The meeting is held at the Eisenhower Recreation Center at 10:00am at 2901 North 72nd St., Kansas City, KS. For more info., call Ed Shutt at 913-342-9556.

*F.Y.I.*, The President and Mrs. Lincoln, featuring Max and Donna Daniels, a one act drama, "President Lincoln's Last Night in the White House". Join the Lincoln's on Wednesday, March 14, 2001 at 7:00pm at West Wyandotte Library, 1737 No. 82<sup>nd</sup> St., Kansas City, KS. Open to the public. For more info call, 913-371-2828

The Border Bugle
The Civil War Round Table of Kansas City
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