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BUGLE



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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/>

Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

**Time to Renew
your
Membership for
2013!**



443rd REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, December 18, 2012

Homestead Country Club

6510 Mission Road, Prairie Village, Kansas

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

Dinner-6:30p.m.

DECEMBER SPEAKER

DR. TERRY BECKENBAUGH

**"A VERY BLOODY MESS: THE BATTLE OF
STONE'S RIVER"**

Dr. Terry Beckenbaugh received his BA and MA in History from Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania in 1989 and 1993, respectively. He earned his Ph.D. from the University of Arkansas-Fayetteville in 2002, where his research focused on Major General Samuel Curtis Ryan and the Civil War in the Trans-Mississippi. Dr. Beckenbaugh taught for four years at McNeese State University in Lake Charles, Louisiana before moving to Washington, D.C. where he worked at the U.S. Army Center for Military History (CMH), and then moved to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas where he worked as a historian at the Combat Studies Institute. He is currently working on a book, tentatively titled, *Pragmatic Abolitionists: Contrabands, Samuel Ryan Curtis and the Army of the Southwest in the White River Campaign in Arkansas, 1862*. This study examines the bottom up process of how runaway slaves convinced many Federal soldiers that emancipation and hard war were the only ways to defeat the Confederacy. Continued on Page 2

NOTE: DINNERS ARE NOW \$26.00 PER PERSON, THANK YOU!

Attendance requires a paid dinner reservation.

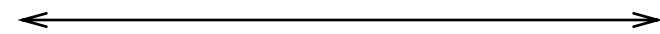
*Please be sure our Treasurer receives all reservations by Friday, Dec. 14,
along with payment of \$26.00 per person. Mail to:*

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 Mary Vorsten at 816-333-0494.

Terry Beckenbaugh continued.. The impact of runaway slaves on whites and the destruction of their property used to aid the rebellion had a devastating impact on Southern morale long before it became official Federal policy. Thus, the White River campaign proved to be an experiment in hard war and emancipation before the release of the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation.



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Your elected officers for the year 2013 are:

Dennis Garstang-President
1st Vice President-Dennis Pattison
2nd Vice President-Simon Bolivar (Chip) Buckner
Treasurer-Paul Gault
Asst. Treasurer-Howard Mann
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Les Thierolf - 2013 Term ending
Dave Schafer - 2014 Term ending
Don Bates, Sr. - 2015 Term ending
Appointed Officers
Chairman of the Board - Battle of Westport Fund -
Daniel Smith -(Ex-Officio)
Sergeant at Arms-Lane Smith
Chaplain-Rev. David L. Holloway
Border Bugle Editor-Michael J. Epstein

DVB, Sr.



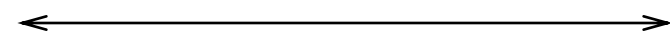
SPEAKERS 2013

January 22: Dave Schafer - James Montgomery
February 26: James Speicher – Robert E. Lee
March 26: Frank O'Reilly – Chancellorsville
April 23: Harold Holzer – T.B.A.
May 28: Matt Spruill – Gettysburg

Summer Sessions

June 25: Lane Smith – Vicksburg
July 23: Open
August 27: Open

September 24: Glen Roberts – Chickamauga
October 22: Arnold Schofield - Baxter Springs, KS
November 19: Kevin Knapp – Civil War Balloon Corps
December 17: Open



MENU FOR DECEMBER 2012

Caesar Salad, London Broil with Mushroom Sauce, Twice Baked Potato, Green Beans Almandine
Pecan Pie with Chocolate Bourbon Sauce.

“The Sergeant Major’s Roar”

Battlefield Dispatches #345

“Lunettes & Fortifications”

During the Civil War, in the winter of 1862, it was decided that the southern approach to Fort Scott was the most vulnerable to attack and that it should be fortified to protect & defend the town and the vast amount of “Union” supplies located there. This was necessary because the “Southern & Southeastern approaches to the town contained the most roads and topographically the land flattened out and the defensive advantage of the high ground where the town was surrounded by the Marmaton River and “Spring Branch” {Buck Run} had disappeared. Therefore, because the Headquarters staff at Fort Scott did not include a “Combat Engineer”, Captain William Hoelcke from Fort Leavenworth was assigned to design the defenses of Fort Scott. By the end of January 1863, Captain Hoelcke had completed a map which included a series of Rifle Pits & 4 Lunettes that protected the “Southern” and “Western” approaches to Fort Scott. The Rifle Pits were considered to be the first line of defense and were located in front of the lunettes. Eventually each lunette contained one or more 24 Pound Siege Guns (cannon) and a sub-surface magazine for the storage of ammunition. The blockhouses were used as living space or quarters for the troops assigned to each lunette. The lunettes could be defended by soldiers firing from and protected by the palisade or stockade wall that surrounded each lunette.

In the Civil War a “Lunette” was a military fortification with two protecting faces with two parallel flanks for a total of four sides. The four lunettes were identified locally as “Forts” and were described as follows:

Lunette #1, Fort Lincoln: Located at the location of West Fourth & Heylman overlooking the Marmaton River and protecting the western approach to Fort Scott. No physical description of this lunette is known to exist.

Lunette #2, Fort Henning: Consisted of an octagonal log blockhouse, 14 feet in diameter, 15 feet high, 2 floors, weather boarded, shingle roof, enclosed by a log palisade[stockade], 342 feet long, 9 feet high 6 ½ above ground, inches thick. This lunette was located where the Post Office is today on National Avenue and extended as far south and

includes all of the area of Memorial Hall. This was the largest of the four lunettes and it protected the southwestern approach to Fort Scott.

Lunette #3, Fort Blair: Consisted of a square log blockhouse 1 by 1 feet, 15 feet high, 2 floors, weather boarded , shingle roof , enclosed by a 326 foot palisade, 9 feet high (6 ½ feet above ground and inches thick. Fort Blair was located between what is now 1st & 2nd Street on the west side of Scott Avenue and protected the southern approach to Fort Scott.

Lunette #4, Fort Insley: Consisted of a double rectangular log blockhouse, 32 by 20 mfeet, 15 feet high, 2 floors, weather boarded, shingle roof, enclosed by a log palisade 32 feet long, 9 feet high (6 ½ feet above ground) and 6 inches thick. Fort Insley was located near the point on the bluff immediately north of Officer's Row of the 1842 – 1853 Fort on an area known as “Red Hill”. It was named so because it consisted of “Red Clay” which was used in the 20th Century to produce millions of Fort Scott Brick that subsequently destroyed the site of Fort Insley.

In early March of 1863 the following Special Order was issued in reference to the construction of the fortifications at Fort Scott:

“Headquarters, District of Kansas
Fort Leavenworth, March 11, 1863

Special Order No. 47

First Lieutenant C. H. Haynes, 6th Reg. Ks. Vol. Cavalry is hereby detailed on Engineer duty and will report to Captain W. Hoelcke, A. D. C. superintending the erection of the fortifications at Fort Scott, Kansas.

Lieutenant Haynes, is hereby ordered to assume command of fortifications now being erected at Fort Scott, Kansas under the plans and specifications furnished him with the order consisting of Fort Insley, Fort Henning and Fort Blair. And also to take charge of and account for all government stores [property] being used in said construction and turnedover to him at this time.

By Order of General J. G. Blunt,
Commanding”

The above blockhouses were completed and after a years' time, Col. Charles Blair, the commanding officer at Fort Scott, submitted the following report & description of Fort's Henning & Blair. This report is located on Page 89 in Series I, Vol. 34 of the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion:

“Headquarters

Fort Scott, Kansas, January 15, 1864.

To: Lieut. J. M. Hadley

Act. Assist. Adjutant Gen., District of the Border, Kansas City, Mo.

Lieutenant: In reply to yours of the 13th instant, I have the honor to state:

First, that there is a line of rifle pits southeast , south and southwest of this place, extending about a fourth of a mile and connecting with ravines , which, by opening into the Marmaton River bottom, completely encircles the town.

Second: There are two lunettes, field-works, inside this line and distant about 300 yards from same on the South and Southwest of the town, which command the heights from the northeast clear around to the southwest. They are formed of earth and fascines and are substantial and well constructed, having been superintended by a competent engineer.

The one to the Southwest is named “Lunette Henning” and has platforms for four guns and a subterranean magazine for ammunition. There are two 24-pounder siege guns in position on platforms and are in excellent condition. “Lunette Blair”, to the south, is a smaller work, having platforms for but three guns and a subterranean magazine. There are also two 24-pounders in position here in admirable condition.

These works are in the State of Kansas, to defend Fort Scott, the lunettes forming the inner line and are respectively on the Cato [now National Avenue] and the Military Roads [now Scott Avenue]. The name of the officer immediately in charge of these fortifications is Captain George J. Clark, company e, fourteenth Kansas Cavalry, acting Ordinance Officer of the Post and the Post-office address of the station is Fort Scott, Kansas.

I have the honor to be, Lieutenant, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHARLES W. BLAIR
Colonel, Commanding Post.”

Now then, these strong fortifications were probably one of the main reasons that Fort Scott was never attacked by Confederate forces or guerrillas by way of the southern approach to the town for the balance of the Civil War. After the war ended, the U. S. War Department was demobilizing the war effort by selling surplus property and structures at public auctions. This was the fate of the blockhouses that were known as Fort Lincoln, Henning, Insley and Blair as they were sold in late 1865 and early 1866. Today, a reconstructed Fort Blair is the lone survivor of the four blockhouses that defended Fort Scott during the Civil War and it is located on Skubitz Plaza. Next weeks' column will focus on the various fates of these blockhouses and the preservation of the lone survivor, "Fort Blair"!



NEW MEMBERS.....

Mary Traylor, 1704 Jefferson, Kansas City, MO. 64108, 816-471-4911, traylorm200@yahoo.com

Otie B. Thomas, 2021 Maple Rd. Ft. Scott, KS 66701, otie@att.net

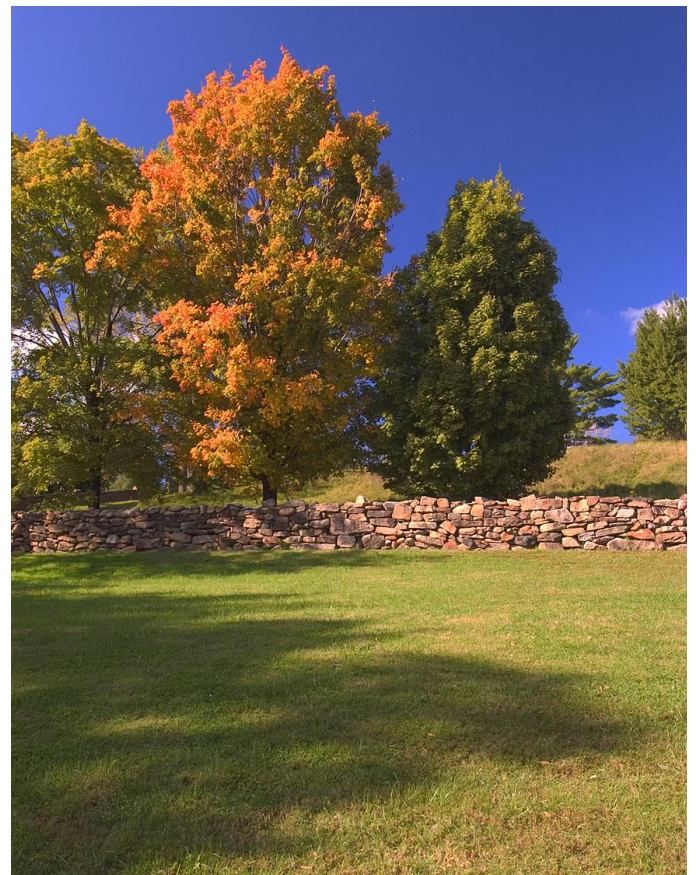


Reenactment of the Battle of Prairie Grove, Arkansas , December 7, 1998 on the original battlefield land. Photo, Mike Epstein

THE BATTLE OF PRAIRIE GROVE

December 7, 1862

Hoping to destroy Brig. Gen. Francis Herron's and Brig. Gen. James Blunt's divisions before they joined forces, Confederate Maj. Gen. Thomas C. Hindman placed his large force between the two Union divisions, turning on Herron first and routing his cavalry. As Hindman pursued the cavalry, he met Herron's infantry which pushed him back. The Rebels then established their line of battle on a wooded high ridge northeast of Prairie Grove Church. After the failure of two Federal assaults, a spirited artillery duel kept the opposing forces from gaining any advantage. Hearing the cannon fire from Herron's fight, Blunt moved his division toward the sound of the fighting and assailed the Confederate left flank. Hindman parried Blunt's advance but was unable to halt any further aggression by Hindman. Though the battle ended as a stalemate, nightfall saw Hindman's force retreating to Van Buren establishing Federal control of northwest Arkansas.



Battle of Fredericksburg, Marye's Heights,, Stone Wall, Sunken Road behind wall. Hillis House beyond and to the right. Photo: Mike Epstein.



In the meantime, Burnside's "diversion" against veteran Confederate soldiers behind a stone wall produced a similar number of casualties but most of these were suffered by the Union troops. Wave after wave of Federal soldiers marched forth to take the heights, but each was met with devastating rifle and artillery fire from the nearly impregnable Confederate positions. Confederate artillerist Edward Porter Alexander's earlier claim that "a chicken could not live on that field" proved to be entirely prophetic this bloody day.

City Dock, where Burnside laid his pontoon boats across the Rappahannock River to get into Fredericksburg. Chatham Mansion lay on the other side. Photo by Mike Epstein.

As darkness fell on a battlefield strewn with dead and wounded, it was abundantly clear that a signal Confederate victory was at hand. The Army of the Potomac had suffered nearly 13,300 casualties, nearly two-thirds of them in front of Marye's Heights. By comparison, Lee's army had suffered some 4,500 losses. Robert E. Lee, watching the great Confederate victory unfolding from his hilltop command post exclaimed, "It is well that war is so terrible, or we should grow too fond of it."

Roughly six weeks after the Battle of Fredericksburg, President Lincoln removed Burnside from command of the Army of the Potomac.

THE BATTLE OF FREDERICKSBURG

December 11-15, 1862

The Battle of Fredericksburg, fought December 11-15, 1862, was one of the largest and deadliest of the Civil War. It featured the first major opposed river crossing in American military history. Union and Confederate troops fought in the streets of Fredericksburg, the Civil War's first urban combat. And with nearly 200,000 combatants, no other Civil War battle featured a larger concentration of soldiers.

Burnside's plan at Fredericksburg was to use the nearly 60,000 men in Maj. Gen. William B. Franklin's Left Grand Division to crush Lee's southern flank on Prospect Hill while the rest of his army held Longstreet and the Confederate First Corps in position at Marye's Heights. The Union army's main assault against Stonewall Jackson produced initial success and held the promise of destroying the Confederate right, but lack of reinforcements and Jackson's powerful counterattack stymied the effort. Both sides suffered heavy losses (totaling 9,000 in killed, wounded and missing) with no real change in the strategic situation.



Chatham Mansion or "Lacy House" was Irwin McDowell's Headquarters across the Rappahannock from Fredericksburg. Photo by Mike Epstein.

2013 MEMBERSHIP DUES 2013

The Membership Dues for 2013 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.

2013 CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE OF KANSAS CITY DUES

Dues deadline is December 31, 2012

\$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

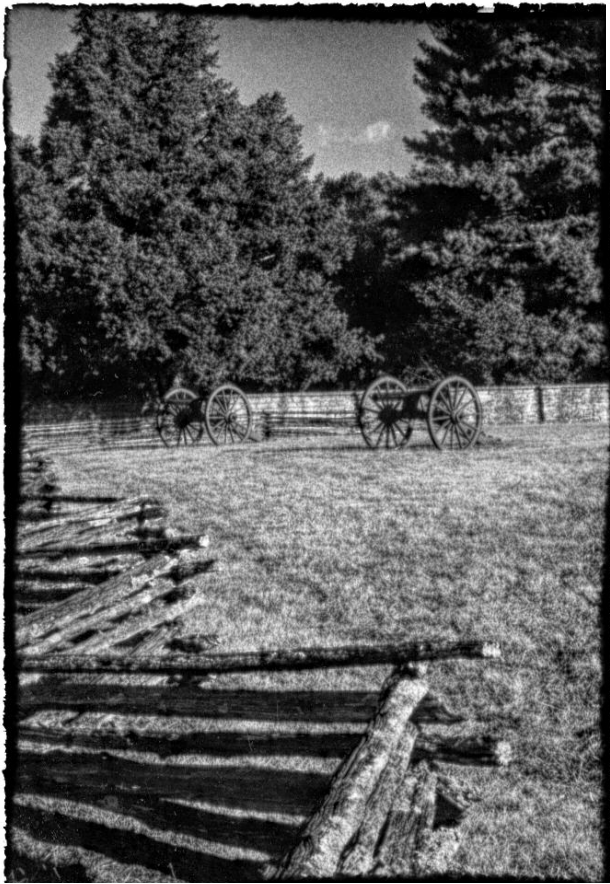
IMPORTANT *email*

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

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

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

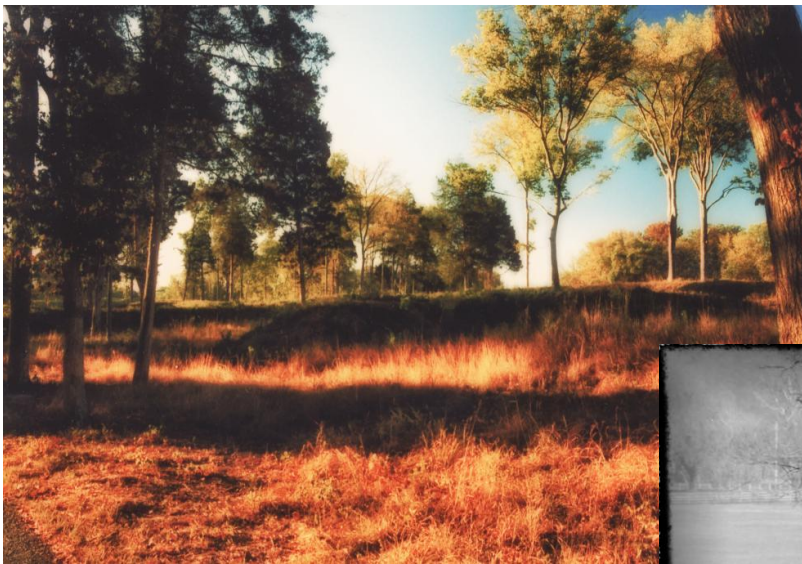




Battle of Stone's River Dec
31, 1862-Jan. 2, 1863



Battlefield of the Battle of Prairie
Grove, Dec. 7 1862.



Reenactment of the Battle of Prairie
Grove, Dec. 7, 1998 on the original
battlefield ground in Prairie Grove,
Arkansas.



Battlefield Stone's River, TN.,
Dec. 31, 182-Jan. 2, 1863.



Battle of Prairie Grove, Ar, Dec. 7, 1862.
Re-enactment, Dec. 7, 1998.



Battle of Fredericksburg,, Dec. 11-15, 1862. National Cemetery, Marye's Heights, Washington Artillery Line, CSA.



Battle of Stone's River, Dec. 31, 1862-Jan. 2, 1863. Lunette, Ft. Rosecrans and National Cemetery.

