

# BORDER



# BUGLE

Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

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myrtlewarbler@gmail.com

Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

P.O. Box 6202

**Shawnee Mission, KS** 

66206

An IRC 501(c)(3) Charitable Organization

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# 465<sup>th</sup> REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY, Feb 24, 2015

Sunset Room, 8th Floor, Holiday Inn

8787 Reeder Rd., Overland Park, KS 66214

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

Dinner - 6:30 p.m.

# February Speaker Harold Holzer "Lincoln and the Power of the Press"

**Harold Holzer**, one of the country's leading authorities on Abraham Lincoln and the political culture of the Civil War era, serves as chairman of the Lincoln Bicentennial Foundation. He has authored, coauthored, and edited forty-two books, including *Emancipating Lincoln*, *Lincoln at Cooper Union*, and three award-winning books for young readers: *Father Abraham: Lincoln and His Sons*, *The President Is Shot!*, and *Abraham Lincoln*, *the Writer*. His awards include the Lincoln Prize and the National Humanities Medal. He lives in New York City.

Mr. Holzer will be speaking about his new book, *Lincoln and the Power of the Press: The War for Public Opinion*. This book sheds new light on the long-ignored intersection of press and politics in the age of Abraham Lincoln. The book examines Lincoln's lifelong career as a dabbler in journalism, his efforts to win loyalty from pro-Whig and pro-Republican journals over the years, his use of political patronage to secure and maintain press support, and his Administration's much debated use of censorship and suppression to minimize press dissent during the Civil War.

At the dinner meeting, **Lane Smith** will present **Harold Holzer** with the **Harry S. Truman Award**, the Round Table's highest award.

#### Attendance requires a paid dinner reservation.

Please be sure our Interim Treasurer receives all reservations by Friday February 20, 2015 along with payment of \$27.00 per person. Mail to:

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

Holiday Inn's deadline for reservation changes is the preceding Friday afternoon, so promptly report any necessary adjustments to Paul at 816-741-2962 or 816-522-8021

Use your credit card at our website, <a href="http://www.cwrtkc.org">http://www.cwrtkc.org</a> and hit the <a href="Meeting & Event">Meeting & Event</a> 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 Paul an email so he will not miss your reservation. <a href="mailto:pgault@sbcglobal.net">pgault@sbcglobal.net</a>.

# A Message from Your President

The Civil War Round Table of Kansas City began in 1958. Former **President Harry S. Truman** was one of the founders. The highest honor that our Round Table can bestow was named in honor of President Truman. The Harry S. Truman Award was established by the Executive Committee of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City in 1959 and was first presented to noted Civil War historian and author, **Bruce Catton**. Other recipients of the award include **Ed Bearss**, **Dr. James Robertson**, **Jr.**, **Dr. Howard Monnett**, **Glenn Tucker**, **Dr. James McPherson**, **Robert Krick**, **William C. Davis**, **Wiley Sword**, and **James Lighthizer**.

The criteria considered in the selection process for the Harry S. Truman Award includes ...

- 1. A significant contribution to the dissemination and preservation of Civil War military history;
- 2. A distinguished scholar and author of Civil War military history;
- Promoted and/or organized an important project related to the knowledge and understanding of Civil War military history; and
- 4. Participated in the selection, development, or preservation of historic Civil War military sites.

A candidate must qualify in one or more of the above categories. The Truman Award cannot be presented at a time interval of less than one year. It shall be awarded at the discretion of the Executive Committee, based on appropriate time periods and candidate qualifications.

The Harry S. Truman award was last presented to **Chief Glenna J. Wallace** in November of 2011. During our Executive Committee meeting held on September 8, 2012, it was decided to present the Harry S. Truman award to Lincoln historian and author, **Harold Holzer**.

Mr. Holzer has written or edited 42 books on Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War era. Mr. Holzer is a Roger Hertog Fellow at the New-York Historical Society and has earned many honors, including the National Humanities Medal. Mr. Holzer's latest book is *Lincoln and the Power of the Press: The War for Public Opinion* (2014). His



previous books include *Lincoln at Cooper Union* (2004), *Lincoln President-Elect* (2008), and *The Civil War in 50 Objects* (2013).

Mr. Holzer is very deserving of the Harry S. Truman Award and we are pleased to present him with this award at our dinner meeting on February 24, 2015. It should be an exciting evening and I hope you all can be there.

# **Dave Pattison**

# Speaker's Book on Sale at Meeting

Barnes & Noble will have copies of **Harold Holzer**'s latest book: *Lincoln and the Power of the Press, the War for Public Opinion* available for purchase, at the dinner meeting on February 24th. You can also purchase a copy of Mr. Holzer's book ahead of time and bring it with you to the meeting. Mr. Holzer will sign copies of his book after his presentation.

# **Dinner Menu for February 2015**

**Lasagna:** Italian sausage, ricotta, mozzarella and shredded Parmesan cheeses layered between pasta, covered with marinara sauce and mozzarella. Served with garlic bread and Italian green beans. Served with a house salad, freshly baked bread with herbed butter, chef's choice of dessert, coffee, iced tea & water.

**The Bar is Back!** The Holiday Inn & Suites apologizes for the mix-up regarding the bar last month. A bar will be set up at all of our future dinner meetings from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. To go boxes for leftovers will be provided for those that request it.

# **Treasurer Positions Filled!**

**Susan Keipp** has volunteered to serve as our new treasurer. Susan is an accountant, so she has good experience working with numbers and spreadsheets. Paul Gault will help mentor Susan on her new assignment. Best wishes, Susan!

**Dennis Garstang**, former president of the Civil War Round Table, has volunteered to serve as assistant treasurer. Dennis will help Susan at the sign-in table during our monthly dinner meetings. Thank you, Dennis!

### **Rare Book Auction!**

Beginning at the February meeting, the Round Table will be offering special editions of rare books. There will be one book featured at each meeting. These will be first editions, special editions, out of print, and/or hard to find books.

This month's book is a **Souvenir Edition** of *Notes of a Private* by John Milton Hubbard, Company E, 7th Tennessee Regiment, Forrest's Cavalry Corps, C.S.A. This book was published in 1911 in St. Louis by Nixon Jones Printing Company. This book is in excellent condition.

Preview this book's contents on the Internet Archive.

To give you an idea of its value, a slightly different "Memorial Edition," in poorer condition, is currently being offered for sale through Amazon for \$104

# The Round Table's Website

**Dick Titterington**, editor of the Border Bugle, is in the process of upgrading our website, <u>cwrtkc.org</u>. If you have any Civil War related stories or photographs that you would like to post on the website, please contact Dick.

# **Promote the Round Table!**

We are all ambassadors for the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City. Let everyone know how great we are.

**Dick Titterington** has ordered Civil War Round Table bookmarks, which provide information regarding our Round Table that can be used for promotional purposes. You will be able to pick the bookmarks up at the sign-in table as soon as they are available.

**Dennis Garstang** has Civil War Round Table business cards available for members. Pick them up at the sign-in table prior to our dinner meetings.

# Future Programs, 2015 - 2016

March 24, 2015: Appomattox Courthouse. Civil War Round Table member Lane Smith, along with Randy Durbin, will present a two-part play about Appomattox. Part 1 of the play is titled: "April 9, 1865 - Road to Appomattox." Part 2 of the play is titled: "April 10, 1865 - Road from Appomattox." Lane will portray General Lee and Randy will portray General Grant.

April 28, 2015: Troy Strahan and his son, Liam, will be giving a first person presentation on Abraham Lincoln and Todd Lincoln. Troy and Liam will re-enact the famous photo of Abraham Lincoln and Todd Lincoln looking at a book together. Using this scene, Abraham and Todd Lincoln will be discussing famous people and the events that took place near the end of the Civil War.

May 26, 2015: Daniel Weinberg, owner of the Abraham Lincoln Book Shop in Chicago, IL, will be speaking about his book titled: *Lincoln's Assassins: Their Trial and Execution*.

**June 23, 2015:** Civil War Round Table member **Arnold Schofield** will be speaking about the *Battle of Palmito Ranch, Texas*, which took place on May 13, 1865. This was the last battle of the Civil War and involved U.S. Colored Troops.

July 28, 2015: Dr. Terry L. Beckenbaugh of the US Army Command and General Staff College will be speaking about the Grand Review of the Armies. The Grand Review of the Armies was a military procession and celebration in Washington D.C. on May 23 and 24, 1865 following the close of the Civil War.

August 25, 2015: Beth Foulk of Genealogy Decoded has agreed to speak about Civil War women and their organizations. The title of her talk is "Up Close & Personal."

**September 22, 2015:** Civil War Round Table member **Chip Buckner** will present a program about his great-grandfather, Confederate General Simon Bolivar Buckner. General Buckner also served as the 30<sup>th</sup> governor of Kentucky (1887-1891).

October 27, 2015: Dr. Diane Mutti-Burke, professor of history at UMKC, will speak about the book that she co-authored with Dr. Jonathan Earle titled: *Bleeding Kansas, Bleeding Missouri: The Long Civil War on the Border*.

**November 17, 2015: Eric Wittenberg**, an attorney from Ohio, will be speaking about the Battle of Brandy Station. He has written several books on the Civil War, including cavalry officers and battles. Eric's latest book is titled: *The Battle of Brandy Station*.

**December 15, 2015:** Civil War Round Table member **Tom Rafiner** will be speaking about his latest book titled: *Cinders and Silence, A Chronicle of Missouri's Burnt District, 1854-1870.* 

**January 26, 2016: Darryl Levings**, editor and columnist with the Kansas City Star, will be speaking about "*Newspapers in this Area during the Civil War*" Mr. Levings is the author of the book, *Saddle the Pale Horse*.

**February 23, 2016**: **Ian Spurgeon** will be speaking about the 1st Kansas Colored Infantry. Mr. Spurgeon's latest book is titled: *Soldiers in the Army of Freedom*.

#### **2015 Bus Tour Planned**

We are planning to have a bus trip to the Mine Creek Battlefield on October 24, 2015. Tour stops will include Trading Post, the Mine Creek Battlefield, and the Fort Scott National Historic Site. More details regarding the bus tour will be provided in the coming months.



"The Sergeant Major's Roar"

Battlefield Dispatches #412 (cont'd)

# Wheels, Wagons, Horses & Mules

The following article published in the Leavenworth Conservative on January 11, 1863 describes the huge Quartermaster Department in Fort Scott:

# **Military Business at Fort Scott**

"The Fort Scott bulletin publishes a statement which gives the reader some notion of the immense amount of business done at Fort Scott. We copy it below, only regretting that it is not more complete.

"In the Quartermaster's Department we find there are eight clerks employed in the office, chief of whom are Capt. Brooks & Col. Willets. These gentlemen have a thorough knowledge of the business and perform their duties to the satisfaction of all concerned. The clerks are employed from 8 to 10 hours each day, Sunday not always excepted. It frequently happens that little or no time is allowed to anyone in the department for devotional exercises on the first day of the week. Next in order comes the Military Storekeeper, the Master of Transportation, the Master Mechanic and the Forage and Corral Masters.

"The business of transportation is under the immediate management of Mr. Hugh Kirkendall, a gentleman thoroughly acquainted with this branch of the Department and having had several years' experience in it at Fort Leavenworth and other Posts. He is eminently qualified for the position which he holds. There are employed in

this branch 458 men, viz: 14 Wagon masters, 14 Assistants, 350 Teamsters, 40 Herders, and 40 laborers. There are also 350 Wagons, a like number of mule teams, consisting of six mules to the team, making a total of 2,200 MULES! Fourteen of these teams are used for the ordinary transportation at the Post. The remainder are employed in transporting supplies to the Army of the Frontier [in the Indian Territory & northwestern Arkansas] & from Leavenworth to here. Besides the mules there are 400 head of HORSES.

"It requires considerable forage to feed all this stock. According to Army Regulations each horse is allowed 14 pounds of HAY and 12 pounds of CORN; each mule 14 pounds of HAY and 9 pounds of CORN each day, making a total daily issue of 36,300 pounds of HAY and 24,000 pounds of CORN to stock in the Quartermaster's Department alone. Besides the above amount, there is an immense quantity of forage issued to the troops stationed at the Post.

"One WAGON and three BLACKSMITH SHOPS employing 20 BLACKSMITHS and 4 WAGON MAKERS, are kept running to REPAIR WAGONS, SHOE HORSES AND MULES, etc. There is also one CARPENTER SHOP employing 10 CARPENTERS and one HARNESS SHOP employing four HARNESSMAKERS. We find, upon adding up, that a force of 506 MEN is required to perform all the labor requisite in Captain M. H. Insley's Department.

"The amount of money expended every month by Capt. Insley in paying for labor, buying wood, coal, hay, corn and defraying incidental expenses will average at least \$30,000 [equals \$600,000 plus in 2015] – a large sum, but small in comparison to the expenditures in other Departments.

"The above items relating to the Quartermaster's Department will give our citizens an idea of the business done here by the government through the agency of Capt. Insley. We will now turn to the Commissary Department under Capt. Hammer. Four clerks are constantly employed in the office, chief of whom are Mr. Henry McKee and Mr. John w. Wright. These gentlemen have a thorough knowledge of the duties of their positions and perform them in a manner that would reflect credit upon men having more experience in the business.

"We can only give an average of the amount of provisions issued by the commissary Department during any one month. As near as we can ascertain it is about as follows:

"Flour 250,000 lbs., Bacon, 80,000 lbs.; sugar, 50,000 lbs.; Beans 80,000 lbs.; Vinegar 4,000 gals.; Salt, 12,000 lbs.; Rice, 15,000 lbs.; Hard Bread 30,000 lbs.; Coffee, 20,000 lbs.; Soap, 5,000 lbs.; Candles, 3,500 lbs.. Besides the above, desiccated vegetables, dried apples and hams are issued; also a small quantity of WHISKEY for SANITARY [MEDICINAL] purposes."

Now then, Fort Scott certainly became an economic boomtown in the Civil War and its key logistical location enabled "Union" Forts, Camps and Armies in southwestern Missouri, northwest Arkansas and the Indian Territory to be successfully supplied with the necessary articles of war.

Also, the normal carrying capacity of a standard six mule freight wagon was 2,000 pounds which on a good day and on a good road could travel 12-24 miles. Therefore, in the year ending on June 30, 1863 the 8,106,501 pounds of military supplies that were transported from Fort Leavenworth to Fort Scott in various supply trains totaling approximately 4,053 wagons which traveled 12-24 miles per day depending on the road conditions, and of course the War Went On!



# **Member News**

# New Member Spotlight

Everyone please be sure to welcome our new member, Stephanie R. Gustave, to the Round Table. Stephanie lives in Lawrence, Kansas. Stephanie has always had an interest in history, particularly in learning about the personalities of those who participated. Her maternal grandfather's uncle was Orange Jackson, who served in Company B, Sixth Illinois Cavalry Regiment.

# Past President Orvis N. Fitts

Long-time Civil War Round Table member, **Orvis N. Fitts** has moved into an assisted living facility. He is donating three boxes of Civil War books to the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City. Orvis was president of the Civil War Round Table in 1983 and was awarded the Steve Treaster Civil War Preservation Award in 2012 and the Valiant Service Award in 1986 and 1998. Orvis is also a member of the Monnett Fund and was instrumental in the reclamation and preservation of the Big Blue Battlefield, Byram's Ford site. Thank you, Orvis for your generosity!

# New Book by Bill Quatman

Round Table member Bill Quatman has a new book being published this month by the Ohio University Press. Its title is *Young General and the Fall of Richmond: The Life and Career of Godfrey Weitzel*. Godfrey Weitzel (1835–1884) is perhaps the least known of all the Union generals. His military career brought him into the orbit of such well-known personages as Lee, Beauregard, Butler, Farragut, Porter, Grant, and Lincoln. Weitzel quickly rose through the ranks and became the commander of the Twenty-Fifth Corps, the Union Army's only all-black unit.

#### **Events around Town**

# Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

Meets at 7:00 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month at the Villages of Jackson Creek (lower level), 3980-A South Jackson Drive, Independence, MO. Check their Calendar (<a href="http://www.cwrtwm.org">http://www.cwrtwm.org</a>) to verify the date, location and find out about the next program topic. Visitors are always welcome!

# Kansas City Posse of the Westerners

Round Table member **Arnold Schofield** will present a program on "*Early Kansas Cattle Trails: 1840-1860*", Tuesday, March 10, 6:00 p.m. at the Golden Corral restaurant, 8800 NW Skyview Avenue, Kansas City, Mo. We'll dine from the buffet menu; no reservations are required and all are welcome to join us. For additional information, contact Dennis Garstang at 816-569-1180 or mailto:dgarstang@kc.rr.com.

# Bleeding Kansas 2015 Series

A series of talks and dramatic interpretations on the violent conflict over the slavery issue in Kansas Territory 1854 – 1861. Held from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. on Sunday at Constitution Hall State Historic Site, 319 Elmore, Lecompton, KS. Check out this website for topics.

 $\frac{http://kshs.org/event/constitution-hall-bleeding-kansas-}{2015\text{-series}/18992}$ 

#### Blacks in Blue

Round Table member **Joe Louis Mattox** will present "Blacks in Blue, the story of the African-American soldier in the Union Army." on Saturday, February 28, 2015, 1:00 p.m. at the Wornall House, 6115 Wornall Road, Kansas City, MO. Cost is \$5.00 or buy a Black History Month ticket for \$8.00 to hear this program and the February 21 program on "150 Years of African American Funeral History in K.C." at the Majors Barn, 8201 State Line Road, Kansas City, MO at 1:30 p.m. For more info, go to <a href="https://www.wornallmajors.org/experience/events/">https://www.wornallmajors.org/experience/events/</a>.

#### Dateline: 1861

# Missouri State Conbention

Claiborne Fox Jackson was elected governor of Missouri in August 1860. Lincoln's election in November convinced Jackson war was coming and Missouri would leave the Union. In his inaugural address on January 3, 1861, Governor Jackson called for a State Convention so "the people at large [can] determine for themselves what is to be the ultimate action of the State."

The General Assembly responded quickly to Governor Jackson's request and passed "An Act to Provide for Calling a State Convention" on January 21, 1861. The act directed the Governor to hold delegate elections on February 18, 1861. Once elected, the delegates would assemble in Jefferson City on February 28, 1861.

"[The elected delegates will] consider ... existing relations between the Government of the United States, the people and Governments of the different States, and the Government and people of the State of Missouri; and ... adopt such measures for vindicating the sovereignty of the State and the protection of its institutions."

Before the delegate elections were held, six states joined South Carolina in leaving the Union and together they formed the Confederate States of America on February 4, 1861. The delegate election was just two weeks away. Governor Claiborne Fox Jackson and Lieutenant-Governor Thomas C. Reynolds were certain a State convention would pass an ordinance of secession. They eagerly awaited the results of the election.

Three political parties put forth candidates in the election for convention delegates. There was a Secessionist party, a Conditional Unionist party and an Unconditional Unionist party. Conditional Unionists believed in the United States of America, but would stand by the Southern States, if the Federal Government used military force to preserve the Union. When Missouri's delegate election results came in, pro-Secessionists in the state were dismayed to find that not a single one of their candidates had been elected. The State had overwhelmingly voted against secession. Missouri Governor Claiborne Fox Jackson was stunned by the results of the election for delegates to the Missouri State Convention.

Thomas L. Snead, editor of The Evening Bulletin, a pro-Southern St. Louis newspaper, at the beginning of 1861 and later aide to Governor Jackson, wrote about the results of the election for Delegates to the Missouri State Convention.

"The election passed off quietly. Not a single avowed Secessionist was chosen. In St. Louis the Unconditional Union candidates were elected by over 5,000 majority, and the State declared against secession by a majority of 80,000. The result was a surprise to everyone, and a bitter disappointment to the South."

In March, convention delegates approved the following resolution:

"Resolved, That at present there is no adequate cause to impel Missouri to dissolve her connection with the Federal Union, but on the contrary she will labor for such an adjustment of existing troubles as will secure the peace, as well as the rights and equality of all the States."

Much to Governor Jackson's chagrin, Missouri had decided against seceding from the Union.

February is African American History Month. Although not completely organized at the time, the First Kansas Colored Infantry Regiment played a key role in the Skirmish at Island Mound in Missouri on October 29, 1862. This was the first known combat role by an African American regiment during the Civil War. Okay, this is not the First Kansas Colored, but couldn't have looked that much different.



Company E, 4th U.S. Colored Infantry, at Fort Lincoln.

Photo from negative: glass, wet collodion, courtesy of the Library of Congress.

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



