

BORDER



Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City



466th Regular Meeting **Tuesday, Mar 24, 2015**

Sunset Room, 8th Floor, Holiday Inn

8787 Reeder Rd., Overland Park, KS 66214 Social Hour - Cash Bar - 5:30p.m. Dinner - 6:30p.m.

March Speakers Lane Smith and Randy Durbin "Appomattox Courthouse"

Civil War Round Table member Lane Smith, along with Randy Durbin, will present a two-act play about Appomattox. Lane portrays General Robert E. Lee and Randy portrays General Ulysses S. Grant.

Act 1 of the play is titled: "April 9, 1865 – The Road to Appomattox."

Act 2 of the play is titled: "April 10, 1865 – The Road from Appomattox."

Take your imagination back to April, 1865. You will find yourself at the evening headquarters tents of General Ulysses S. Grant and General Robert E Lee on roads moving west from Petersburg, Virginia, You will witness the final surrender of General Lee at the McLean House in Appomattox Courthouse, Virginia, and you will find yourself in a pasture between the lines of the two armies witnessing a conversation between Generals Grant and Lee the following day.

Join us for an evening of entertainment and education as we conclude the sesquicentennial of the American Civil War.

Attendance requires a paid dinner reservation.

Please be sure our **Paul Gault** receives all reservations by noon on Friday March 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, http://www.cwrtkc.org and hit the Meetings 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. pgault@sbcglobal.net.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

President

Dave Pattison

First Vice-President

Simon Bolivar (Chip)

Buckner

Second Vice-President

Ron Basel

Treasurer

Susan K. Keipp

Asst Treasurer

Dennis Garstang

Corresponding Secretary

& Recording Secretary Judy Smith

Preservation Director

Arnold Schofield

Board of Directors

Don Bates Sr.

Sylvia Stucky

Les Thierolf

Past Presidents

Lane Smith

Don Bates, Sr.

Dennis Garstang

Chairman of Board

Monnett Battle of Westport

Fund (Ex-Officio)

Daniel L. Smith

Sergeant at Arms

Lane Smith

Chaplain

Rev. David L. Holloway

Historian

Betty Ergovich

Border Bugle Editor

Dick Titterington

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**

Website- http://cwrtkc.org/ Join us on Facebook!

A Message from Your President

It was exciting to see so many visitors at our last two dinner meetings this year. Having Lincoln historian, Harold Holzer, as our February speaker was certainly a big draw. One of the best ways to increase our membership in the Round Table is to invite your friends, business associates, neighbors, and family members to attend one of our dinner meetings. I think many of us decided to join the Round Table because someone invited us to attend a dinner meeting. Charles Kopke invited me to attend my first Civil War Round Table meeting back in 1989. Later, **Dan Smith** took me to one of the summer meetings. In 2009, Arnold Schofield called and invited me to join the Round Table. I am glad I did. Had these members not invited me to attend a dinner meeting or invited me to join the Round Table, I would have missed out on the opportunity to learn more about the Civil War and meet a lot of wonderful people. I encourage you to invite people that you know, who are interested in the Civil War, to attend one of our dinner meetings and to join the Round Table.

Our Border Bugle editor, **Dick Titterington**, has done an outstanding job improving our website, <u>cwrtkc.org</u>. Dick has also issued the 2015 Civil War Round Table of Kansas City Member Directory. We currently have 108 members in the Round Table. Our membership is made up of 75 men and 33 women. Seventy-one members live in Kansas, 36 live in Missouri, and 1 lives in California. Sixty-eight of our current members were members in 2010. According to our former treasurer, **Paul Gault**, attendance at our dinner meetings in 2014 ranged from 47 to 61, with an average attendance of 55. Attendance at the **Harold Holzer** program was 72.

The membership subcommittee of the Round Table met at **Don Bates**' office on Saturday, March 7, 2015 to discuss ways to increase our membership. A number of good ideas were presented and discussed. If you have any suggestions that you would like us to consider, please let us know. We are all ambassadors for the Round Table. Thank you for your interest and participation in the Round Table!

-- Dave Pattison

The March Program and Speakers

Take your imagination back to April, 1865. You will find yourself at the evening headquarters tents of General Ulysses S. Grant and General Robert E Lee on roads moving west from Petersburg, Virginia. You will witness the final surrender of General Lee at the McLean House in Appomattox Courthouse, Virginia. Then you will find yourself in a pasture between the lines of the two armies witnessing a conversation between Generals Grant and Lee the following day.

It's been 4 long years of war and nine months of siege operations in and around Petersburg, Virginia. On April 2, 1865, General Grant's Army of the Potomac is able to break the lines of General Robert E Lee's Army of Northern Virginia in the trenches surrounding Petersburg, Virginia.

General Lee's army begins a retreat west in hopes of being able to join forces with General Joe Johnston now commanding Confederate forces in North Carolina. The plan would be to defeat Sherman in North Carolina with their combined forces and then return to Virginia to confront General Grant.

However, General Grant chases Lee west and after five days of continual fighting and movement, General Grant decides to open dialogue with General Lee in hopes of convincing him it is time to surrender his army.

In a three scene play, **Randy Durbin** portrays General Grant and **Lane Smith** portrays General Lee in "Appomattox Courthouse." Scene one is the dialogue between the two commanders taking place April 7 and April 8 on the road to Appomattox. Scene two is in the McLean House at Appomattox Courthouse, Virginia on April 9. Scene three is on the road from Appomattox, depicting an informal meeting between Grant and Lee on April 10 in a pasture between the lines of the two armies. Grant attempts to convince Lee to use his influence to persuade the other Confederate armies to surrender.

Randy Durbin – Randy Durbin was born and raised in Chautauqua and Elk Counties, Kansas. He graduated from Moline High School in 1972. After graduation, Randy attended Kansas State University, graduating in 1976.

Randy has been employed in banking since college graduation. He is currently an Executive Vice President with the Kansas State Bank in Overbrook, Kansas.

Randy and his wife, Nancy, have two children, Nathan and Grant (deceased), and three granddaughters, Hayley, Morgan and Carley.

Lane Smith – Lane Smith is very familiar to the Round Table, serving as its President in 2010 and 2011. Lane currently serves as its Sergeant at Arms.

Lane was born in Detroit, Michigan. His family moved to Missouri where Lane grew up, graduating from high school in Ridgeway, Missouri. He graduated from Northwest Missouri State University in 1966.

Lane worked in the insurance industry before retiring in 2006. He has been married to his wife, Anne, since 1974 and has three sons and one grandson.

Lane is also a current member of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and Sons of Confederate Veterans of the Civil War. Lane Smith frequently portrays Confederate General Robert E. Lee, most recently at the Battle of Westport 150 Commemoration.

Dinner Menu for March 2015

Classic Crock Pot Roast: Slow-roasted beef with carrots, onions, and celery. Served with roasted new potatoes and special house gravy. Served with a house salad, freshly baked bread with herbed butter, chef's choice of dessert, coffee, iced tea & water.

The Holiday Inn & Suites has advised they can provide the following 3 options for dinner:

- The main entree meal as selected by the Civil War Round Table.
- A vegetarian meal as determined by the chef.
- A gluten-free meal as determined by the chef.

The Holiday Inn & Suites indicated they cannot provide a low-carb meal.

Check out the Round Table's website for the <u>2015</u> menu selections.

The Round Table's Website

Dick Titterington, editor of the Border Bugle, is in the process of upgrading our website, <u>cwrtkc.org</u>. We expect the website to be more informative and simpler to navigate.

The website's **Home Page** has a number of new additions.

There's **Member News** discussing Round Table member, Fannie Smith, who was featured in a recent Kansas City Star article. This will change from time to time with news about other members.

Look for **Next Meeting** with buttons to press to find out **More Info**, **RSVP** to make a dinner reservation, and **Menu** to see what's for dinner.

We're very excited about the **Mystery Photo**. See if you can figure out who is pictured in the mystery photo. **Do you have a mystery photo that will stump the Round Table's members? Let Dick Titterington know.**

Then there is **News Item** which will feature an item of interest to the Round Table membership.

There is a new menu item called, **Articles**. From time to time, Dick will post new articles of interest to Round Table members. There is an <u>article about our November speaker, Eric J. Wittenberg</u>. Check it out.

There is a new menu item called **Events**, which will highlight events sponsored by the Round Table and **Events Around Town**, which may be of interest to our members. Space limitations do not allow us to include all the events in The Border Bugle so check the website frequently.

If you have any Civil War related stories or photographs that you would like to post on the website, please contact Dick Titterington.

Future Programs in 2015

April 28, 2015: Troy Strahan and his son, Liam, will be giving a first person presentation on Abraham Lincoln and Tad Lincoln. Troy and Liam will re-enact the famous photo of Abraham Lincoln and Tad Lincoln looking at a book together. Using this scene, Abraham and Tad 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 greatgrandfather, Confederate General Simon Bolivar Buckner. General Buckner also served as the 30th 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.*

The Sergeant Major's Book Auction

In keeping with the spirit of the March program, two books about Lee and Grant will be auctioned off by the Sergeant Major.

- 1. *Lee and Grant* by Gene Smith. Published in 1984 by McGraw Hill Book Company. Excellent condition with original mint dust jacket.
- 2. The Generals: Ulysses S. Grant and Robert E. Lee by Nancy & Dwight Anderson. Published in 1988 by Alfred A. Knopf. Excellent condition with very good dust jacket.

The highest bid gets the first book, and the second highest bid gets the second book.

We understand that 20th Century books with dust jackets can increase the value from 75 to 90% depending on condition of the jacket & book.

Battle of Westport Visitor Center and Museum

Civil War Lecture Series

When: April – October 2015, 2nd and 4th Saturdays, 10:00 a.m.

Where: Battle of Westport Visitor Center and Museum, 6601 Swope Parkway, Kansas City, MO

The Battle of Westport Visitor Center is pleased to announce a new lecture series about the people, places and events which happened in Missouri, Kansas and Arkansas during the American Civil War period in the 19th Century. Each lecture is scheduled to last approximately 90 minutes.

Join us as friends of the Battle of Westport Museum share what they have learned about these tumultuous times. There is no charge to attend, but the Monnett Battle of Westport Fund would appreciate any donation you care to give.

For more information, visit the Round Table's website.



"The Sergeant Major's Roar"

Battlefield Dispatches #417 Exterminate This Gang

During the Civil War in the early spring of 1865 the Union forces in Missouri were bracing for another year of combat with the elusive Bushwhacker (Confederate Guerrillas) in Missouri. Little did both sides know that the Civil War would officially end in early April of "65," so one of the continued Union goals was to eradicate or exterminate the enemy guerrillas. This goal was never completely achieved, but it was relentlessly pursued during the remaining months of the war and is described in the following correspondence. All of the letters are located on Pages 1231, 1239 and 1257 in Series I, vol. 48, Part I Correspondence, of the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion.

Headquarters District of North Missouri, Macon, Missouri, March 21, 1865. General D. M. Draper, Mexico, Missouri,

General: it seems a burning shame that JIM JACKSON and COMPANY are permitted to roam leisurely through Boone, Randolph, Howard and Chariton counties, SHOOTING, and HANGING CITIZENS. Can you not organize half a dozen scouts and follow the VILLAIN until he is DEAD? I know it is not an easy thing to do, but if with the force we now have and the limited number



Clinton B. Fisk

BUSHWHACKERS yet on duty and before the leaves come out we can't EXTERMINATE THIS GANG, what will become of us when the BUSHWHACKING CAMPAIGN fairly opens? I am fearful the Ninth are too indolent; too little inclined to pitch into hard work or hard fighting. Stir up their pure minds. Don't allow them to rot away at Posts or to spend their time foraging. Let their supplies be furnished from here and keep every able bodied soldier in the brush.

I have ordered Captain Reed to move from Brunswick to Salisbury where he can devote the remainder of his term of service to the vigorous muster out [killing] of his BUSHWHACKING neighbors. You can keep at least 200 men on the constant move. A scout sent out for a few hours or a day and night accomplish but little. Occupy and possess the Perche Hills Country back and forth until the FRIENDS of JIM JACKSON wish he would DIE to relieve them of the presence of your troops.

Very Respectfully, Your Obedient Servant, CLINTON B. FISK, Brigadier General.

Headquarters District of North Missouri, Macon, Missouri; March 22, 1865.

Major J. W. Barnes,

Assistant Adjutant General, Department of the Missouri.

Major: I have the honor to report but with slight exception all is quiet in this district. What troops I have are kept busily employed scouting through the river counties. JIM JACKSON and COMPANY are roaming through Boone, Callaway and Howard Counties. They are chiefly engaged in PLUNDERING and MURDERING NEGROS! They have hung two Negros in Boone and one in Callaway County within the last few days. I have 200 men on the move day and night after the FIENDS. We have killed two of the gang of late. It seems strange, I know, that this VILLAIN should go so long without being caught, but did the General commanding know the country and the people as well as JIM JACKSON does,

he would discover how it is that a small party can elude the strictest vigilance.

ľm now organizing JIM **JACKSON** EXTERMINATING CORPS and hope to muster out a few of the rascals by that means. A few brave, determined soldiers stimulated by private rewards offered by citizens go into the Blackfoot Country tomorrow, sworn not to return without the head of the monster in a charger. The volunteer militia companies being organized under the Governor's Order No. 3 are in some localities progressing very well, but in others only moderately. The volunteer force of the District is very small and altogether too limited for the safety of the public property, thoroughfares and appointments and the duty of KILLLING BUSHWHACKERS required at my hands. The people generally in that portion of the district south of the Hannibal and Saint Joseph Railroad are apprehensive of more serious trouble than they have ever experienced before and I can but advise the most thorough preparation for trouble there by ensuring quiet. The civil authorities are generally endeavoring to discharge their duty. I have advised judges that I am simply their aide-de-camp; that we will catch and guard thieves if necessary, while they must try and punish. We don't mean to have BUSHWHACKERS brought in for trial at all.

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

CLINTON B. FISK,

Brigadier General.

Headquarters District of North Missouri, Macon, Mo., March 25, 1865. James E. Yeatman, Esq.

Law Commissioner, Saint Louis, Mo.

Dear Sir: I have yours of the 22nd instant and will cheerfully do all that I can to restore the family circle of the Monroe County Freedwomen. SLAVERY DIES HARD! I hear its expiring agonies and witness its contortions in death in every quarter of my district. In Boone, Howard, Randolph and Callaway counties the Emancipation Ordinance has caused disruption of society equal to anything I saw in



James E. Yeatman

Arkansas or Mississippi in the year 1863. I blush for my race when I discover the wicked barbarity of late masters and mistresses of the recently freed persons of the counties heretofore named.

I have no doubt but that the MONSTER JIM JACKSON is instigated by the late slave owners to hang

or shoot every Negro he can find absent from the old plantations. Some few have driven their Black People away from them with nothing to eat or scarcely to wear. The consequence is, between Jim Jackson and his collaborators among the first families, the poor Blacks are rapidly concentrating in the towns, especially the garrisoned places. My hands and heart are full. I am finding homes for them in Northwest Missouri, Kansas, Illinois and Iowa. There is much sickness and suffering among them and many need help. Is there any fund that you can appropriate a small sum from to aid me in the deportation of the families I can't provide for in Missouri? I am retaining all in Missouri that I can get work for in quiet localities. We ought not to spare a single pound of our industrial element. We need to import rather than deport manual labor. I hope the waters will soon grow still and Missouri in peace be permitted to pursue her way in the golden path of freedom and empire. It looks well all around the rapidly contracting lines. Sherman's conquering legions are marching on and redemption draweth high. All hail the Republic.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CLINTON. B. FISK,

Brigadier General.

Now then, it is not known if Jim Jackson and his gang were ever exterminated, but General Fisk continued to have his troops pursue Jackson. It is also evident by the last letter that General Fisk was concerned with assisting the former slaves the best that he could with the limited means at his disposal and of course the War Went On.

Editor's Note: Per the <u>Civil War Monitor</u>, Jim Jackson was killed in June 1865 as he was trying to escape into Illinois.



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 (http://www.cwrtwm.org) to verify the date, location and find out about the next program topic. Visitors are always welcome!

Kansas City Posse of the Westerners

Larry Nokes takes a nostalgic look at the era of "The Singing Cowboys" with a focus on Roy Rogers and Dale Evans, Tuesday, April 14, at the Golden Corral restaurant (near the Home Depot), 8800 NW Skyview Avenue, Kansas City, Mo. 64154. Dinner at 6 p.m. from the buffet menu. Cost is \$12 or less and non-members are welcome. For more information, see **Deborah Buckner** or **Dennis Garstang** or call (816) 569-1180.



General Robert E. Lee dropped in at the Battle of Westport 150 Commemoration.

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



