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Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City



468th Regular Meeting **Tuesday, May 26, 2015**

Sunset Room, 8th Floor, Holiday Inn

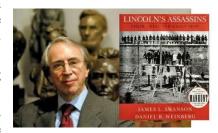
8787 Reeder Rd., Overland Park, KS 66214 Social Hour - Cash Bar - 5:30p.m. Dinner - 6:30p.m.

May Speaker Daniel Weinberg "Lincoln's Assassins: Their Trial and Execution"

Daniel Weinberg, owner of the Abraham

Find out more about our speaker by reading Daniel Weinberg's bio on our website.

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



Lincoln Book Shop in Chicago, IL, will be speaking about his book titled: Lincoln's Assassins: Their Trial and Execution.

Fund (Ex-Officio) Daniel L. Smith

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Betty Ergovich

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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/ Join us on Facebook!

Attendance requires a paid dinner reservation.

Note: Paul Gault has transitioned reservation handling to our new treasurer, Susan Keipp.

Please be sure **Susan Keipp** receives all reservations by noon on Friday May 22, 2015 along with payment of \$27.00 per person. Mail to:

Susan Keipp, 436 W. 88th Ter Kansas City, MO 64114-2912

Holiday Inn's deadline for reservation changes is the preceding Friday afternoon, so promptly report any necessary adjustments to Susan at 816-333-0025.

Use your debit/credit card at our website, http://www.cwrtkc.org. Go to Dinner Reservation under 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 Susan an email so she will not miss your reservation. skeipp@kc.rr.com.

A Message from Your President

One of my favorite things to do is visit sites related to the Civil War. Besides Civil War battlefields, there are numerous National or State historic sites related to the Civil War. At the end of last month, I visited Galena IL, which is where General Ulysses S. Grant lived before and after the Civil War. Galena is a small town, located 409 miles from Kansas City, in the northwest corner of Illinois. Galena is a popular tourist destination, hosting well over one million visitors each year. There are plenty of shops, restaurants, hotels, historic sites and museums. The highlights of my visit include:

- Ulysses S. Grant Home State Historic Site. This Italianate home was presented to General Grant upon his return from the Civil War in 1865
- Galena History Museum, which is where Thomas Nast's famous painting of the surrender at Appomattox, "Peace in Union," is exhibited.
- DeSoto House Hotel, which is where Abraham Lincoln and Stephen Douglas gave speeches to the citizens of Galena in 1856 and 1858. This hotel also served as the presidential campaign headquarters for Ulysses S. Grant in 1868.
- Grant Park, which has a statue of President Grant that was dedicated in 1891. There is also a Blakely Rifle or cannon that was used in the bombardment of Fort Sumter on April 12, 1861.

Photographs of Civil War related sites in Galena, Illinois are included on our website under <u>Civil War Site</u> Photos.

Our speaker for the Civil War Round Table dinner meeting on May 26th is **Daniel Weinberg**, owner of the Abraham Lincoln Book Store in Chicago IL. Whenever we have a speaker come in from out of town, we ask if they would be interested in visiting a local museum, such as the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum, the Arabia Steamboat Museum, or the <u>National World War I Museum</u>. Mr. Weinberg said he would like to visit the <u>National World War I Museum</u>, since this is the centennial of the First World War. If you have not been to this museum, I encourage you to do so. It is well worth the visit.

-- Dave Pattison

Annual May Silent Book Auction

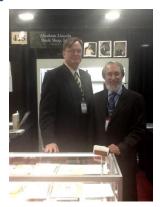
It's fitting that Daniel Weinberg, owner of the Abraham Lincoln Book Store, is our May speaker since May is always our big Silent Book Auction.

Although there are some books for sale at every meeting, May is one of our big events to raise money for the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City and the Monnett Battle of Westport Fund.

We strongly encourage everyone to donate books for this event. It's a great way to discover new books and help the Round Table at the same time.

Meet Our Speaker for May

Daniel R. Weinberg has been president and sole owner of the Abraham Lincoln Book Shop, Inc. since 1984, having previously been co-owner from 1971. Since 1933, the firm has had international reputation as experts in the buying, selling, appraising, and authentication of artistic, historical, and museum artifacts. The shop has conducted appraisals for libraries, museums, banks, insurance companies, and private collectors.



Daniel R. Weinberg (right) with Bjorn Skaptason at the Abraham Lincoln Book Shop

Mr. Weinberg is a member of numerous historical

societies and associations. Currently, Mr. Weinberg is Executive Vice President of the Professional Autograph Dealer's Association, and a Trustee of Lincoln College, Lincoln, Illinois. He sits on the board of the following organizations: Abraham Lincoln Association; Lincoln Forum; The Civil War Round Table (Chicago; past president); Professional Autograph Dealers Association (Executive Vice President); the Lincoln Group of Wisconsin; and the Lincoln Group of Illinois (past-president).

Mr. Weinberg has appeared on both C-Span and the History Channel. Mr. Weinberg pursued his undergraduate work, in history, at Temple University, Philadelphia, and his graduate work, in the same field, at New York University at Washington Square.

Lincoln's Assassins: Their Trial and Execution

If you wish to have Mr. Weinberg autograph a copy of his book, you will need to obtain a copy of it prior to the meeting.

Use this link to purchase a copy directly from Amazon.

Dinner Menu for May 2015

English Cut Broil: Slices of marinated flank steak. Served with garlic mashed potatoes and steamed vegetables. 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 Sergeant Major's Book Auction

Two books on the topic of Lincoln's assassination will be auctioned off by the Sergeant Major.

- 1. The Life of Dr. Samuel A. Mudd, a biography edited by his Daughter Nettie Mudd, Neal Publishing co., New York & Washington, 1906 and Privately Published & Autographed by Grandson Richard D. Mudd, M. D., Saginaw, Michigan, 1962. A rare edition with an estimated value of \$75 \$100.
- 2. When Lincoln Died: The Assassination, Funeral Journey, The Pursuit & Trial of the Conspirators by Ralph Borreson, Published by Appleton Century, New York, 1965.

The Round Table's Website

Embedded throughout our emailed newsletter are links to the website. Just click on those links and find out what great information is available on the website.

Check out *Member News* on the <u>Home page</u> currently featuring **Ed Bearss**.

We're very excited about the <u>Mystery Photo</u>. 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.

We are introducing a new feature to the website, <u>Civil</u> <u>War Site Photos</u>! Dave Pattison visited Galena, Illinois and brought back some photos. <u>Click on this link to see</u>.

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.

Each week, Dick Titterington posts a list of articles from around the internet to the <u>Articles Blog</u> of the website.

We conducted a survey of our members to find out how they used the website. For more information, check out the <u>detailed website survey results</u> on our website.

Round Table members **Mike Epstein** and **Ron Basel** are working together to take the organization's Facebook page to another level. Why don't you check it out? Make sure you "like" the page.

Civil War Round Table of Kansas City Facebook Page

Future Programs in 2015

Visit our website to see the list of Scheduled Meetings.

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 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.*

Events around Town

Many more events on our website.

Saturdays at the Museum

When: May 23, 2015, 10:00 a.m.

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

Jim Rehard, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources historian, will screen the video documentary, The Battle of Island Mound.

Here's a link where you can view the video's trailer.
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!

Independence Civil War Study Group

Meets every third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Courthouse Exchange, a restaurant across from the Historic Truman Courthouse in Independence. The address of the Courthouse Exchange is 113 W. Lexington Avenue, Independence, MO. <u>Topics listed on our website</u>.

Kansas City Posse of the Westerners

Harold Dellinger, president of the William Clarke Quantrill Society will be talking about the reunions of Quantrill men which began in the late 1800's and continued until 1929. Tuesday, June 9, 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 nonmembers are welcome. For more information, see **Deborah Buckner** or **Dennis Garstang** or call (816) 569-1180.

Kansas City Public Library

Effect of Order No. 11 – Tom Rafiner, 2:00 pm, Sunday, May 17, 2015.

Why the North Won the War – Dr. Ethan S. Rafuse and Dr. Terry L. Beckenbaugh, U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, 6:30 pm, Tuesday, May 26, 2015.

April Meeting Photos

<u>Link to our website for more photos of Troy and Liam</u> Strahan





The Sergeant Major's Roar

Battlefield Dispatches #419

Assassination

This past Tuesday, April 14, 2015 Tuesday, was the 150th Anniversary of the ASSASINATION of PRESIDENT ABRAHMA LINCOLN, which occurred on April 14, 1865 and was a cataclysmic day of infamy in the history of the United States. Much has been written

about this event, however, the focus of this column is how and what the citizens and soldiers stationed in eastern Kansas learned of this tragedy. The How, was by the "Talking Wire" or telegraph and a description of what happened was printed in the local newspapers within 48 hours. Unfortunately, copies of the April 1865 Fort Scott Monitor are not known to exist so the following articles are from the April 16th edition of the "Leavenworth Daily Conservative".

THE LATEST TELEGRAPH
APPALLING NEWS
PRESIDENT LINCOLN
MURDERED
Secretary Seward is Stabbed
The REBELS Showing Themselves
Assassins
J. WILKES BOOTH the MURDERER
of the President
The President's Body
Removed to the White House

War Department, Washington, April 15, 1:30 A.M. To Major General Dix:

Last evening about 9:30 P. M., at Ford's Theater the President while sitting in his private box with Mrs. Lincoln, Mrs. Harris and Major Rathburne, was shot by an assassin who suddenly entered the box and approached the President. The assassin then leaped upon the stage, brandishing a large dagger or knife and made his escape in the rear of the theater.

The pistol shot entered the back of the President's head and penetrated nearly through the head. The wound is mortal. The President has been insensible ever since it [the wound] was inflicted and is now about dying.

About the same hour an assassin, whether the same or not, is unknown, entered Mr. Seward's apartments and under the pretense of having a prescription, was shown to the Secretary's sick chamber The assassin immediately rushed to the bed and inflicted two or three stabs in the throat and two in the face of Mr. Seward. It is hopped the wounds may not prove mortal. The apprehension is that they will prove fatal. The nurse alarmed Mr. Fred Seward who was in an adjoining room and who hastened to the door of his father's room where he met the assassin who inflicted upon him one or more dangerous wounds. The recovery of Fred Steward is doubtful.

It is not probable the PRESIDENT will LIVE through the NIGHT!

General Grant and his wife were advertised to be at the theater last evening, but he started for Burlington, [New Jersey] at six o'clock last evening.

At a cabinet meeting at which General Grant was present the object of the fate of the country on a prospect of a speedy peace was discussed. The President was very cheerful and hopeful and spoke very kindly of General [Robert E.] Lee and others and the Confederacy and the establishment of a Government in Virginia.

All members of the Cabinet, except Mr. Seward, are now in attendance upon the President.

I have seen Mr. Seward, but he and Fred are both unconscious.

E. M. STANTON, Secretary of War

Washington, April 15.

The Star Extra says that at 7:20 a.m. the President breathed his last, closing his eyes as if falling asleep and his countenance assuming an expression of calm serenity. There was no indication of pain and it was not known that he was dead until the gradual deceasing respiration ceased altogether.

The Rev. Dr. Gurley of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church immediately on its being ascertained that life had extinguished knelt at the bedside and offered an impressive prayer which was responded to by all present. Dr. Gurley then proceeded to the front parlor, where Mrs. Lincoln, Capt. Robert Lincoln, Mrs. John hay and others were in waiting when he again offered a prayer of consolation of the family.

The President's body was removed from the private residence opposite Ford's theater at 9:30 A.M. in a hearse wrapped in an American flag, escorted by a small guard of Cavalry. Gen. Auger and others followed on foot and a dense crowd accompanied the remains to the White House. None but the household and personal friends of the President were allowed to enter the grounds. Among others were Senator Yates and Representative Farnsworth. The body is being embalmed with a view to removal to Illinois.

The assassin of President Lincoln left behind him his hat and a spur. The hat was picked up in the President's box and identified by parties to which it has been shown as one belonging to the desperate man and accurately described by other parties not allowed to see it before describing it. The spur was dropped upon the stage and that has also been identified as one procured at a stable where the same man hired a horse in the evening.

Two gentlemen went to the Secretary of War to appraise him of the attack on President Lincoln, met at the residence of the former a man muffled in a cloak, who when accosted hastened away. It had been Mr. Stanton's intention to accompany Mr. Lincoln to the theater and occupy the same box, but the pressure of business prevented it. Therefore, it seems evident that the aim of the plotters was to paralyze the country by at once striking down the head and arm of the government.

As soon as the events were announced in the streets, Supt. Richards and his assistants were at work to discover the assassin. In a few moments the telegraph had aroused the whole police force in the city. Mayor Walleck and several members of the city government were soon on the spot and every precaution was taken to preserve order.

Circular War Department, Provost Marshal General's Office April 15, 9:45 A.M. It is believed that the assassins of the President and Secretary Seward are attempting to escape to Canada; you will make a careful and through examination of all persons attempting to cross from the United States to Canada and will arrest all such persons.

The most vigilant scrutiny on your part and force at your disposal is demanded. A description of the parties supposed to be implicated in the murder will be telegraphed to you today, but in the meantime be active in preventing the crossing of any suspicious

By order of the Secretary of War, (signed) N. S. Jeffers Brevet. Brig. Gen. A. P. M. G.

Washington, April 15.

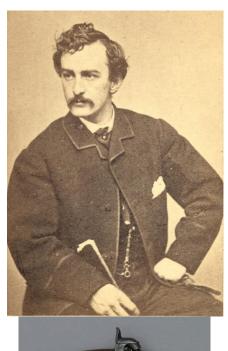
At an early hour this morning the Honorable E. M. Stanton sent an official communication to Vice President Johnson, stating that in the consequence of the sudden and unexpected death of the Chief Magistrate, his inauguration should take place as soon as possible and requesting him to state the place and hour at which the ceremony should be performed. Mr. Johnson at once replied that it would be agreeable to him to have the proceedings at his rooms in the Kirkwood House as soon as the arrangements could be perfected.

Chief Justice Chase was informed of the fact and repaired to the appointed place along with other official parties. At 11 o'clock the oath of office was administered by the Chief Justice in the usual solemn and impressive manner. Mr. Johnson received the kind expressions of the gentlemen by whom he was surrounded. He expressed his appreciation of the great responsibility so suddenly devolved upon him and made a brief speech, in which he said: "The duties of the Office are mine. I will perform them. The consequences are with God."

Andrew Johnson was sworn into the office as President of the United States by Chief Justice Chase today at 11 A.M. Secretary McCulloch, Attorney General Speed and others were present. He remarked, "The duties are mine and I will perform them trusting in God."

Now then, it wasn't long before the conspirators and assassin of President Lincoln were captured or killed. On or before April 17, 1865, less than 3 days after the assassination, 8 of the conspirators were captured and eventually tried and found guilty by a military tribunal. George Atzerodt, David Herald, Lewis Powell and Mary Surratt were executed by hanging on July 6, 1865. Samuel Arnold, Michael O' Laughlin and Dr. Samuel Mudd were sentenced to Life in Prison and Edman Spangler was sentenced to six years in prison. The assassin, John Wilkes Booth was mortally wounded and died on April 26, 1865 while resisting arrest by Union soldiers on a farm in southern Maryland.







Jon Wilkes Booth and the derringer he used to assassinate Lincoln.

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



