

BORDER

Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City



476th Regular Meeting Tuesday, January 26, 2016

Sunset Ballroom, 8th Floor, Holiday Inn

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

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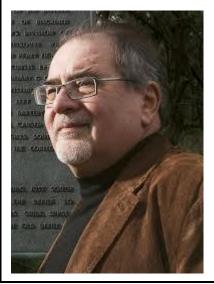
myrtlewarbler@gmail.com

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

An IRC 501(c)(3) Charitable Organization

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

January Speaker



Darryl Levings, retired editor/senior writer for the Kansas City Star, on "Newspapers in this Area during the Civil War"

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*.

Attendance requires a paid dinner reservation.

Please be sure **Susan Keipp** receives all reservations by **12 noon on Friday January 22**, **2015** along with payment of \$27.00 per person. Mail to:

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

Report any necessary adjustments to Susan at 816-333-0025 by 12 noon on the Friday before the Tuesday meeting.

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

The Executive Committee of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City is pleased to announce that **Dan Smith** will be presented the *Steve Treaster Preservation Award* for his outstanding work related to preservation of the Byram's Ford Big Blue Battlefield site.

The Civil War Preservation Award was established in 2001. Criteria used to decide which individual(s) or groups (organization, company, etc.) will receive this award is as follows:

- Recipient(s) must be a member of the Round Table or their work must clearly contribute to the same goals of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City.
- A substantial effort of time, talent, and money must be contributed to the goals of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City and/or the Monnett Battle of Westport Fund, Inc.
- 3. The contributions must relate to the future preservation of Civil War history, historical sites, or military history or the history of the organization.
- 4. Preservation of ground, artifacts, books and materials, accounterments, buildings, weaponry, clothing, speech, likeness, etc. must be toward a permanent goal.

In January 2002, past president of the Round Table, **Steve Treaster** was presented the first Civil War Preservation Award. Steve had been a leader in preservation efforts. In February 2002, the name of the award was changed to the Steve Treaster Civil War Preservation Award. The most recent recipients of the award were **Jack Brooks**, **Orvis Fitts**, and **Arnold Schofield** in 2012.

Dan's efforts entailed fund raising for land acquisition and demolition of then-standing buildings and the clearing and maintenance of the Byram's Ford Big Blue Battlefield site. Furthermore, his time and efforts were expended in education of local and state officials in the importance of this Civil War Preservation. The early and on-going efforts put forth by Dan, result in the public being able to enjoy and learn more about Civil War history in the Kansas City area.

Dan's outstanding work regarding battlefield preservation includes the following:

- Provided leadership as Chairman of the Board of the Monnett Battle of Westport Fund.
- Prepared the Interpretive and Development Plan for the Byram's Ford Big Blue Battlefield site in 2002.
- Launched the Saving Kansas City's Battlefield initiative in 2006.

- Established the Battle of Westport Visitor Center and Museum, which opened in October of 2008.
- Commemorated the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Westport in October of 2014.

Dan has been a long-time member of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City. He served as president of the Round Table in 1980 and 2005. Dan received the Round Table's Valiant Service Award in 1992. He has also been a speaker at several of our Round Table dinner meetings.

Please join me in congratulating **Dan Smith** for this honor.

-- Dave Pattison

Executive Committee Meeting

There will be a meeting of the Executive Committee at 10:00 am on Saturday, February 6, 2016. The meeting will be held at Don Bates' office located at: Reece Nichols, 7600 State Line, Prairie Village KS 66208

2016 Membership Renewal Reminder

CWRT members need to submit their 2016 membership renewal dues. The membership dues allow us to bring in speakers from out of town. The dues for 2016 are the same as last year: \$30 per individual or \$45 per couple. Please complete the attached form and return with payment to: Dennis Garstang.

Or do what I do and renew using a credit/debit card on the website, http://cwrtkc.org/membership_payment.

Meet Our Speaker

Darryl Levings is a Missouri native, whose great uncle, Flavius Shortridge, rode with Colonel Porter and died in the Alton prison camp for it. Darryl joined the Yankee Air Force and served in Northwest Pakistan. Misdirected from further NSA work just in time, he gained two degrees and a wife at the University of Missouri School of Journalism, where his feelings toward Kansas jelled nicely.

Over his 40 years at The Kansas City Star, Darryl has been Jefferson City correspondent, city editor, national editor, war editor, business editor, and when he retired last spring was editor and senior writer in the FYI department, which gave him wide access to the now-closed Sunday Star Magazine. His stories there delved deeply into topics from oysters to magicians, but history was always his seductive muse.

Editing many nationally awarded projects, he shared a piece of the Pulitzer prize for the coverage of the Hyatt hotel disaster, which he reported in part from the last hanging skywalk.

He edited a month-long newspaper series on the Oregon Trail, and similarly in 2011 directed the newspaper's Civil War coverage, both re-published as Star books. About the same time, he finished "Saddle the

Pale Horse," a historical novel (he preferred "novel history" but his editors didn't buy it) about the Price raid of 1864 and Battle of Westport.

Currently, he is laboring in the mines of fiction, a three-story collection of murder mysteries solved by a very real Kansas City policeman, Lafayette Alonzo Tillman, the only African American on the force in 1904.

The Sergeant Major's Book Auction

Arnold Schofield will auction two books at the meeting.

"John Brown's Body", Stephen Vincent Benet, 1948 Special Edition, Illustrated by John Steuart Curry (14 Commissioned Paintings), Intro., Douglas Southall Freeman Excellent Condition.

"Gideon Welles, Lincoln's Navy Department", Richard S. West Jr. 1943, Bobbs-Merrill Co., NY. DJ, 1STEd., Exc. Condition.

Dinner Menu

Chicken Picatta: Lightly breaded chicken breast sautéed with capers and sun-dried tomatoes in a light lemon cream sauce. Served with garlic whipped potatoes and chef's choice of vegetable. 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>2016</u> menu selections.

Future Programs

Visit our website to see the list of Scheduled Meetings.

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: The 1st Kansas Colored, the Civil War's First African American Combat Unit.*

March 22, 2016: Civil War Round Table member James Speicher will present a program titled: "The H. L. Hunley and Her Crews." The H. L. Hunley was a Confederate submarine that became the first submarine to sink an enemy warship. Mr. Speicher will recount the fascinating and tragic stories of the historic vessel and the lost souls who served her.

April 26, 2016: Civil War Round Table member **Arnold Schofield** will present a program titled: "Gardens of Stone." Mr. Schofield will discuss the burial of our Blue and Gray Patriots, with a special focus on the National Cemetery System.

May 24, 2016: Dr. Ethan Rafuse, from the US Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth KS, will be will be speaking about Union General Joseph Hooker. The title of his talk is: "Fighting Joe Hooker."

June 28, 2016: speaker tbd

July 26, 2016: Robert Walz, from the US Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth KS, will be our speaker. The title of his talk is: "Railroads During the Civil War." According to Mr. Walz, the north did not have that much initial advantage in railroads (especially in the areas where the war was being fought), but managed its assets far better than did the south. In many respects, the south used railroads better tactically than the north initially (First Bull Run), but the north was far better strategically.

August 23, 2016: Civil War Round Table member Bill Quatman will discuss his book titled: A Young General and the Fall of Richmond: The Life and Career of Godfrey Weitzel.

September 27, 2016: Col. Kevin Weddle, PhD (Professor of Military Theory and Strategy at the US Army War College, Carlisle Barracks PA) will be speaking about his biography on Union Rear Admiral Samuel Francis Du Pont titled: Lincoln's Tragic Admiral: the Life of Samuel Francis Du Pont.

October 25, 2016: Round Table member Arnold Schofield will present a program titled: "The Frontier Guard." Arnold's talk will be based on James P. Muehlberger's book: The 116: The True Story of Abraham Lincoln's Lost Guard.

November 15, 2016: speaker tbd December 20, 2016: speaker tbd

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 <u>Civil War Round</u> Table of Kansas City website.

Check out the Round Table's Facebook page, and make sure you "like" the page.

Civil War Round Table of Kansas City Facebook Page

December Meeting Photos

Link to our website for more photos from the December



Speaker Tom Rafiner and Round Table president Dave Pattison.



Round Table member Austin C. Turney peruses Civil War books that were for sale during the silent auction.

Sergeant Major's Roar

Battlefield Dispatches No. 386 "Thieving Scoundrels"

Scoundrel by definition according to Mr. Webster is defined as, a "rascal or villain" and to be sure there were plenty of SCOUNDRELS in Kansas & Missouri during the Civil War. In fact the enemy whoever it was be they loyal to the Union or allies of the Guerrillas they were all probably defined as scoundrels by the opposition. They also would be labeled thieves & murderers by the opposition and the title of this column was used to describe the enemy Guerrillas which are mentioned in the following report. This report is located in Series I, Vol. 34, Part I; Reports of the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion on Pages 144 & 145 and is as follows:

Charleston, Mo., February 17, 1864

Colonel: On the evening of the 15th I learned that there were some GUERRILLAS lurking about the country west or southwest of town. I sent out a detachment of 20 men with 2 guides and ordered them to take two different roads hoping that one or the other would come upon them. Corporal Philliber with 10 men surrounded the house where two of the SCOUNDRELS lived, named Vernon. Having searched the house several times before unsuccessfully they did not much expect to find them; 5 of them got to the house a little before the others and were fired upon by 4 GUERRILLAS from the house and E. C. Edwards was KILLED AND Henry P. Bronson was mortally wounded (since died). The Rebels then dashed out and took to the brush close by and a desperate fight of some minutes took place and the Rebels were repulsed until my men took care of the dead and wounded; they thought that 1 or 2 of the Rebels were KILLED, but the brush was so thick they could not tell for certain.

One of my men came in for help and I sent Lieutenant Calvert with 15 men and 4 or 5 armed citizens immediately to their rescue. When he [they] arrived there it was dark. Edwards and Bronson were put into a wagon and brought into town. The remainder went to watch for the SCOUNDRELS when they were fired on from an ambush and Corporal Thomas M. Philliber and a citizen named Hughes were severely wounded and perhaps will die. They were put in a wagon and the whole party came back, not

knowing how much injury was inflicted upon the enemy, it being impossible to do anything with them in the brush.

I then started yesterday morning with 20 men and a few citizens and gave the country a through scouring, brush and all. I found 4 horses tied in the thick brush back of Vernon's house, 2 of them saddled ready to mount. I felt sure that I would find them there, but did not. I BURNED the HOUSE and ALL the BUILDINGS on the place and today have the REBEL CITIZENS (their connection) hauling in a lot of corn there that was on the place.

The WIFE of one of the SCOUNDRELS told my men when they first rode up that there was no one in the house, which I suppose caused them to be more careless than they would have been. I HAVE ORDERED HER TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY. If it was not for the name of the thing, I WOULD SHOOT HER FOR SURE; for SHE MURDERED those men.

I INTEND to BURN EVERY HOUSE that I find that HARBORS THEM, BUT I THINK THAT THEY SLEEP MOSTLY IN THE WOODS. We found a hat all covered with blood near where we found the horses. There are not a great many of these SCOUNDRELS here, but they are desperate fellows and will FIGHT to the DEATH!

Thus three of the best and bravest men in my Company are sacrificed by the hands of "THIEVING SCOUNDRELS", who will not come out and fight openly. I WILL AVENGE THEIR DEATH!

I am, Colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. EWING, Captain, Commanding.

P.S. The mail starts out in the morning, the first opportunity I have had to report. Henry p. Bronson's fine mare and J. Van Osdol's grey mare got loose in the fracas and I think have gone to the Cape [Girardeau].; if so, please let me know ,as he requested his mare sent home.

Now then, deception by women, soldiers and guerrillas of the Blue & the Gray was common place throughout the Civil War. This occurred frequently in the friendly and enemy territory in eastern Kansas & throughout Missouri and of Course the War Went On!



Events around Town

Check out the Round Table's <u>Google Calendar of</u> events on the website.

Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

Meets at 7:00 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month in a new location, Village Heights Community of Christ Church, 1009 Farview Drive, Independence, MO. Call Beverly Shaw at 816 225-7944 for details. 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 Perkins Restaurant, 3939 S. Bolger Drive, Independence, MO (across from Walmart).

- January 20, 2016--Lane Smith will be giving a presentation about the Battle of Vicksburg.
- February 17, 2016--Jennifer Kerr will speak about the history of the Masonic College in Lexington and the part it played in the battle.
- March 16, 2016--Ralph Monaco will speak about Order #11 with details about some of the people directly involved.
- April 20, 2016--James Speicher will present "What it was like to be a Civil War soldier."

Beyond the above we are also scheduling the following:

- July 20, 2016--Laura Mielke, a professor at K.U., who will talk about antebellum and Civil War plays.
- September 21, 2016--Mary Ellen McVicker, a historian from Boonville, will speak about George Caleb Bingham, covering both his life and his art.
- December 21, 2016--We will once again enjoy the music of Dave Para and Cathy Barton for our Christmas dinner.

The other dates will be filled in later.

Kansas City Posse of the Westerners

February 9 Meeting: Author Chery Holtman will speak at the February 9th Westerners meeting about the man said to have started the Civil War in Missouri. The Westerners meet 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.

More Photos from December's Meeting



Lindsey Foat from KCPT with Round Table member Sylvia Stucky.



Speaker Tom Rafiner and his wife Nancy. Tom did an outstanding job presenting the "Burnt District."



Tom Rafiner brought copies of his books for sale at the dinner meeting.



Round Table secretary Judy Smith and her husband Gerald Smith. Judy provided the table decorations for our dinner meeting.



Round Table members Lane Smith, Suzee Oberg, and Dave Pattison.



Round Table members Fannie Wroebel and Sylvia Stucky.



On January 11, 1865, the Missouri State Convention delegates voted 60 to 4 to adopt the emancipation ordinance. After receiving word of the convention's vote, Governor Fletcher issued an emancipation proclamation later that same day.

"That hereafter in this State there shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except in punishment of crime, whereof the party shall be duly convicted; and all persons held to service or labor as slaves, are hereby declared free."

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



