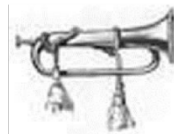




BORDER



BUGLE

Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City



496th Regular Meeting

Tuesday, September 26, 2017

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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Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

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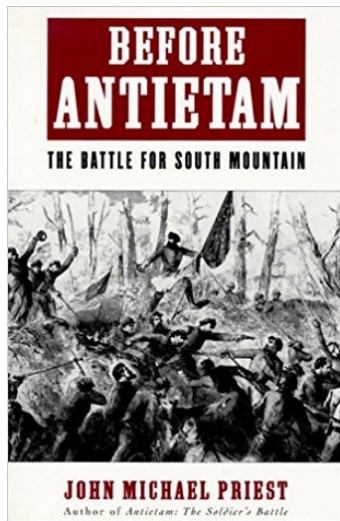
An IRC 501(c)(3)

Charitable Organization

Website- <http://cwrk.org/>

Join us on Facebook!

September Speaker



John Michael (Mike) Priest will be speaking about the Battle of South Mountain, which was the prelude to Antietam. Mr. Priest is a Civil War historian/author and a tour guide at Antietam National Battlefield. **He will bring copies of his book for sale at the dinner meeting.**

The Battle of South Mountain was critical to the survival of General Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia. Lee had divided his army and then tried to hold off the Union Army at three South Mountain passes, in order to be able to reunite his divided forces.

Attendance requires a paid dinner reservation.

Please be sure that **Susan Keipp** receives all reservations by **12:00 noon on Thursday, September 21, 2017** along with payment of \$27.00 per person. Mail to:

Susan Keipp, 436 W 88th Terrace, Kansas City, MO 64114

Report any necessary adjustments by calling Susan at 816-333-0025 or e-mailing her at: skeipp@kc.rr.com by 12:00 noon on the Thursday before the Tuesday meeting.

Use your debit/credit card at our website, <http://www.cwrk.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 that he will not miss your reservation. mailto:skeipp@kc.rr.com

Reservation Deadline: 12:00 noon, Sept. 21st

Important Reservation Information

We would like to thank our Assistant Treasurer, **Dennis Garstang**, for doing an outstanding job filling in for Susan Keipp, while she was on vacation in Scotland last month. Thank you also to all of our members, who attended the August dinner meeting, for getting their reservations in on time and helping the reservation process go smoothly.

Please note that if you make a reservation and are not able to attend the dinner meeting, you are still responsible for the cost of the dinner. We have to pay the Holiday Inn based on the number of reservations that we turn in. Also, please do not show up at the dinner meeting without making a reservation. If you do, we cannot guarantee that you will be served a meal.

Dinner Menu

London Broil – Slices of marinated flank steak, served with garlic mashed potatoes and chef's choice of vegetable, salad, bread, chef's choice of dessert, coffee, iced tea, and water.

The Holiday Inn has advised they can provide the following three 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 indicated they cannot provide a low-carb meal.

Meet Our Speaker



Mr. John Michael Priest

John Michael Priest is a retired high school history teacher. He has been interested in Civil War history since an early age. He is a graduate of Loyola College in Baltimore and Hood College in Frederick, Maryland, and has written extensively about the Civil War.

Mr. Priest's many books include: *Antietam: The Soldiers' Battle* (1989); *Before Antietam: The Battle for South Mountain* (1992); *Nowhere to Run: The Wilderness, May 4th & 5th, 1864* (1995); *Victory Without Triumph: The Wilderness, May 6th & 7th, 1864* (1996); and *Into the Fight: Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg* (1998).

Praised by legendary historian Edwin C. Bearss as the "Ernie Pyle" of the Civil War soldier, Mr. Priest appeared on the Discovery Channel's "Unsolved History: Pickett's Charge" (2002), and is one of the historical consultants for the forthcoming miniseries titled: "To Appomattox."

Mr. Priest's newest work, *Stand to It and Give Them Hell!*, chronicles the fighting on July 2, 1863 from Cemetery Ridge to Little Round Top, from the perspectives of the soldiers who fought the battle.

Overview of the Book: *Before Antietam: The Battle for South Mountain*

The following is a summary of John Michael Priest's book from the Amazon website:

"Civil War buffs and scholars quickly recognize the dates of September 16-18, 1862 as the period marking the bloodiest battle of the entire campaign - Antietam. But until now, the ten days prior to that event have remained in relative obscurity. In *Before Antietam*, John Michael Priest offers the first book-length, tactical exploration of the Maryland campaign and the Battles of South Mountain, describing the decisive events leading up to the famous battle and elevating them from mere footnote status to a matter of military record.

"Chronicling Robert E. Lee's turnabout from defensive maneuvers to full scale Confederate invasion into Maryland, Priest demonstrates how this tactical change brought about a series of engagements near Sharpsburg, Maryland that came to be known as "The Battle of South Mountain", in which the Federal and Confederate forces struggled fiercely over Union territory. It was here that George B. McClellan, the new Northern commander, led his Army of the Potomac to its first victory over Lee in a furious action that produced one of the war's few successful bayonet charges. Written from the perspective of the front line combatants (and civilian observers), the book recounts the Confederate invasion and the Federal pursuit into Sharpsburg that set the stage for Antietam. From September 5-15, a total of twenty-five skirmishes and three pitched battles were fought.

"Priest provides graphic descriptions of the terrible conditions surrounding these events and so thoroughly enters into the common soldier's viewpoint that military history quickly gives way to gritty realism. He vividly shows that, had Robert E. Lee not been bested at the gaps along South Mountain, there would have been no Antietam. Lee's decision to make a stand along Antietam Creek was a point of pride -- he had never been "whipped" before and would not return to Virginia defeated. That decision was a fateful one, since the sparring and fighting drove him into an untenable position that became his downfall. Priest's revealing narrative establishes that, at this stage of the Civil War, the Federal cavalry was better equipped and just as well trained as the Confederate cavalry, thereby settling a point of debate among historians.

"Scholars and Civil War buffs alike will applaud the efforts of John Michael Priest in bringing us the means to view those devastating encounters from a true military perspective."

The Sergeant Major's Book Auction

Arnold Schofield will auction the following books at the September dinner meeting:

1861 The Civil War Awakening by Adam Goodheart; Alfred A. Knopf Publishing Company, New York, 2011; in mint condition with dust jacket.

A Carolinian Goes to War: Memoir of Brig. Gen. Arthur M. Manigault, C. S. A.; University of South Carolina Press, 1983; 1st Edition; in excellent condition, with dust jacket.

Pennsylvania at Antietam: Dedication of Pennsylvania Monuments; Harrisburg Publishing Company, 1906; 1st Edition; in excellent condition; no dust jacket.

Rebel Raider: The Life of Confederate General John Hunt Morgan; by James A. Ramage; University of Kentucky Press, 1986; 1st Edition; in very good condition, with dust jacket.

Last Month's Program

At our dinner meeting on August 22nd, **Richard T. Gillespie** gave a very interesting program titled: "Hunting the Gray Ghost, Finding John S. Mosby on the Potomac Frontier." Colonel John Singleton Mosby C.S.A. commanded the 43rd Battalion, 1st Virginia Cavalry. This unit became known as "Mosby's Rangers" or "Mosby's Raiders." Colonel Mosby was a charismatic and daring cavalry leader.

Mr. Gillespie said he was delighted to speak to our group and appreciated the warm welcome. He said he would join our Round Table if he lived closer to Kansas City.



Round Table Member Arnold Schofield conducted the live book auction and introduced the speaker.



Speaker, Richard T. Gillespie

Upcoming Speaker Schedule

October 24, 2017: Dr. Kyle S. Sinisi, Professor of History at The Citadel, will be speaking about his book titled: *The Last Hurrah, Sterling Price's Missouri Expedition of 1864*, that was published in July of 2015.

November 28, 2017: **Dr. John T. Kuehn**, the William A. Stofft Chair of Historical Research at the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, will be speaking about Gideon Welles, Gus Fox, and the U. S. Naval Blockade.

December 19, 2017: Round Table members **Herschel and Jacque Stroud** will give a presentation titled: "Abe and Mary, a Family Portrait." This talk is based on the book written by Harold Holzer and Robert Neely, regarding the Lincoln's family photograph album, which they kept in the White House. The album was lost until 1985, rediscovered, and Holzer and Neely produced their book on the album titled: *The Lincoln Family Album*. Herschel and Jacque will appear in period dress, but not as Abe and Mary, but as Herschel and Jacque, commenting on the book and its ramifications.

January 23, 2018: **Dr. Ethan Rafuse** of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, will give a program about Lincoln's Secretary of War, Edwin Stanton.

February 27, 2018: February is Black History Month. Round Table member **Arnold Schofield** will be speaking about the Kansas Independent Colored Light Artillery.

March 27, 2018: March is Women's History Month. **Aaron Barnhart and Diane Eickhoff** will be giving a program about women soldiers in the Civil War.

April 24, 2018: **Eric Wittenberg**, an attorney from Ohio, will be speaking about his book titled: *The Battle of Brandy Station*. Mr. Wittenberg last spoke to our Round Table in November of 2015.

May 22, 2018: Speaker to be determined.

June 26, 2018: **Dr. Clay Mountcastle** will speak on the topic of "Punitive War." This was the subject of his book by that title, published by the University of Kansas Press in 2009, as part of its modern military series. The talk will focus on the interplay of the Confederate insurgency and guerilla operations in the several theaters of the war and the Federal response to the insurgency.

July 24, 2018: **Bill McFarland**, who lives near Topeka KS, will be contacted to speak about his new book titled: *Keep the Flag to the Front: The Story of the Eighth Kansas Volunteer Infantry*.

August 28, 2018: **Dr. Leo Oliva** will give a program about soldiers on the Santa Fe Trail in the Civil War and Fort Larned KS.

September 25, 2018: **Dennis E. Frye**, Chief Historian at Harpers Ferry National Historic Park, will be giving a program titled: "McClellan and Lee: A New Perspective."

Member News

We would like to welcome back **Blair Tarr** of Topeka KS. Blair has been a member of the Round Table for many years and served as president of the Round Table in 2004. We currently have 113 members in the Round Table.

Phil Baker and his wife are moving to Blaine, Minnesota. At our August dinner meeting, Phil said they have sold their home in Leavenworth KS and are closing on their new home in Blaine MN on September 22nd. Sadly, the August dinner meeting was Phil's last as a member of the Round Table. Phil said: "So long to all the wonderful people I've shared good times with over the last two years!" Phil said he hopes to keep in contact with the "Best Round Table in the USA!"

Thank you, Phil! You will be greatly missed. Best wishes on your move to Minnesota.

Lane Smith will be giving a presentation as Confederate General Robert E. Lee at the Overland Park Historical Society Meeting. The meeting will be held at the Overland Park Lutheran Church, 7810 W 79th Street, at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 9, 2017.

Don Bates is offering some of his Civil War books for sale to our members. All of his books are hardcover and are in excellent condition, with dust jackets and protective covers. Some of Don's books have been signed by the authors. If interested, please contact Don.

Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee of the Civil War Round Table will meet at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 21, 2017. The meeting will be held at **Don Bates'** office, located at 7600 State Line Road, Prairie Village KS 66208. All current members of the Round Table are invited to attend.

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 [Civil War Round 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](#)

Sergeant Major's Roar

Battlefield Dispatches #479

Old Monitors

Very often, when researching a given subject unrelated discoveries are made. Such was the case while researching a historic bridge in Bourbon County and, no, the subject of this column is not about older issues of the

Fort Scott Daily Monitor. The title of this column refers to the continued use of “Ironclad” ships such as the “Monitor” which became famous during its engagement with the Merrimac, formerly the CSS Virginia, during the Civil War. After the Civil War, many of the U. S. Navy’s single and double turreted “Monitors” were decommissioned and placed in a mothball fleet in the League Island Navy Yard near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The second half of the 19th Century was when iron and steel ships were replacing the wooden warriors of the sea. Therefore, it made perfect sense for the U. S. Navy to keep many of the Civil War ironclads for future use, if necessary. That necessity became a reality in 1898, thirty-three years after the conclusion of the Civil War in 1865, when the United States was preparing for what became the Spanish American War. It was then that the “Old Monitors” would be used for coastal defense of the eastern harbors and southern approaches to the United States, such as Key West, Florida. The following articles about the “Old Monitors” are from the front page of the March 24th and 27th editions of the *Fort Scott Daily Monitor*.

Thursday, March 24, 1898, Page 1:

OLD MONITORS NEEDED

Secretary Long Orders Vessels Used In The War to be Commissioned!

Washington, March 23: The Navy Department took the most decisive step toward the defensive preparation for the emergency that has been made since the squadron was centered at Key West. The orders to bring into service EIGHT SINGLE TURRETED MONITORS USED DURING THE CIVIL WAR for service as coast defense ships. They have been lying for some time at the League Island Navy Yard at Philadelphia, [Pa.].

Simultaneously with the issue of these orders to the old single turreted monitors, Secretary Long also ordered the modern DOUBLE-TURRETED MONITOR “TERROR” from New York, where she had been stationed to Key West. This last move takes from New York what has thus far been regarded as her chief vessel reliance for harbor defense and the Monitors “Nahant” and “Jason” will now supply the place of the “Terror”. While there is a vast difference between the old and new types of these peculiar naval engines, yet they are essentially the same and naval officers say that it is a great mistake to believe the effectiveness of the old monitors is passed.

Sunday, March 27, 1898, Page 1:

TAKEN FROM ANNAPOLIS

Naval Academy Draw on for Officers

Adding to the Fleets

Navy Department Issues Orders Assigning

Commanders to the Monitors.

**The fly Squadron will not be
ready until the end of the week.**

Rushing the War Work!

Washington, March 26: The Navy Department issued order today placing officers in command of a number of the single turreted monitors which have recently been called into service. These naval officers will be first in command of the several monitors and will be aided by officers and men from the Naval Militia of Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey and elsewhere. The monitors are still at the League Island Navy Yard being outfitted as rapidly as possible and reports received at the Navy Department indicate that they will be ready to proceed in from ten days to two weeks.

“The commanders of the various monitors above referred to are drawn from the faculty of the United States naval Academy at Annapolis, [Md.] and from steel inspection, as the emergency is such that these officers can be better utilized for active sea service than for educational work and for inspection.

Now then, this is the extent of the information discovered concerning the use of “Old Monitors” from the Civil War for coastal defense, during the Spanish American War to date. The fact that they were being “outfitted” does not necessarily mean that they were all actually deployed to the eastern ports. However, it appears that the “Terror” was in active service and was deployed south to Key West and that the “Nahant” & “Jason” were used in place of the “Terror” to protect New York Harbor. If additional information is discovered concerning these Old Monitors it will be featured in future columns as the Search Goes On!

Civil War Round Table of Kansas City History

The Civil War Round Table of Kansas City has a rich and interesting history. Oftentimes, our speakers, new members, and guests are surprised to learn that our Round Table was founded in 1958 by former president Harry S. Truman and his dentist, Dr. Bert Maybee. Dr. Maybee also served as a private in Truman's artillery battery during World War I. Dr. Maybee was elected the first president of the Round Table in 1958.

The following article appeared in the *Kansas City Star* on February 13, 1958:

HEADS HISTORY GROUP

Dr. Bert Maybee Elected by Civil War Students

Dr. Bert E. Maybee, 1007 West Sixty-ninth Street Terrace, has been elected president of the new Kansas City Civil War Round Table.

Harry S. Truman is honorary chairperson.

"The purpose of the organization is to increase and stimulate interest in the military history of the United States, particularly the Civil War," Maybee explained. "This will be accomplished through exchange of ideas, discussion, reviewing literature about the Civil War period and talks by recognized experts on the various phases of the war.

Other officers are:

Fred Riley, 7421 Main Street, vice president; William Pence, 2904 West Seventy-first Street, secretary; and Arthur Beyer, 5515 Fairway Road, Johnson County, treasurer.

The organization will meet at 6:30 o'clock February 25 at the Hotel Bellerive (located at Armour and Warwick boulevards in Kansas City MO).

The following article appeared in the *Kansas City Times* on Wednesday, February 26, 1958:

CIVIL WAR FORCES JOIN ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION GROUP ORGANIZES

Descendants of Confederate and Union Armies Will Study Battle Sites

Fifty men intent on learning more about one of America's great military conflicts organized themselves into a discussion group last night at the Hotel Bellerive.

Some called it the Civil War, others the War Between the States. The majority were of Confederate ancestry, quite a few were Unionists, some were neutrals.

Dr. Bert E. Maybee, 1007 West Sixty-ninth Street Terrace, organizer of the group, said it would be called the Kansas City Civil War Roundtable. He was elected president.

Other officers:

Fred Riley, 7421 Main, vice president; William Pence, 2904 West Seventy-first, Prairie Village, secretary; and Arthur K. Beyer, 5515 Fairway, Fairway, treasurer.

Maybee said there are about 60 Civil War roundtables in the nation, the central one at Washington. There is no national organization, however. Each club operates independently, he said.

He said the purpose was to afford those interested in the war a chance to get together, take field trips to battle sites, and hear speeches by authorities.

The group included Maj. John L. Buckley, professor of military science and tactics for the city school system; Col. Lester Wikoff, administrator at Wentworth Academy, Lexington Mo., and president of a group restoring the Lexington battleground, and James R. Fuchs, an archivist at the Truman Library.

The group will meet the fourth Tuesday of each month, Maybee said.

Wouldn't it have been fun to be present at the first meeting of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City? It is interesting to note that the purpose of our Round Table and the night that we hold our meetings has not changed after almost 60 years as an organization.

The Civil War Round Table presented Dr. Maybee with the Harry S. Truman Award in 1970.

Events Around Town

Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri will hold its Wednesday, September 13th meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Heights Community of Christ Church, 1009 Farview Drive, Independence MO. The program will feature David W. Jackson, who will be speaking about his book titled: *Born a Slave: Rediscovering Arthur Jackson's African-American Heritage*.

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.

Kansas City Posse of the Westerners

The Tuesday, September 12th meeting of the K.C. Westerners will feature Robert Jones, who will be giving a program titled: "Death Valley Ghost Towns." The Westerners meet at the Golden Corral restaurant (near the Home Depot), 8800 NW Skyview Avenue, Kansas City, Mo. 64154. Dinner is at 6:00 p.m. from the buffet menu. Cost is \$12.00 or less and non-members are welcome. For more information, see **Deb Buckner** or **Dennis Garstang** or call (816) 569-1180.



Union Major General Jesse L. Reno

Known as a "soldier's soldier" who fought alongside his men, General Reno was killed while commanding a corps at Fox's Gap during the Battle of South Mountain on September 14, 1862 (photos and text courtesy of Wikipedia).



**Reno Monument at Fox's Gap,
South Mountain Battlefield**



Fox's Gap at the Battle of South Mountain MD, September 14, 1862

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

