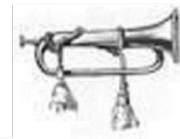




BORDER



BUGLE

Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City



499th Regular Meeting

Tuesday, December 19, 2017

Sunset Ballroom, 8th Floor, Holiday Inn & Suites

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

P.O. Box 6202

Shawnee Mission, KS
66206

An IRC 501(c)(3)
Charitable Organization

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

Join us on Facebook!



December Speakers

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, not as Abe and Mary, but as Herschel and Jacque, commenting on the book and its ramifications.

Attendance requires a paid dinner reservation.

Please be sure that **Susan Keipp** receives all reservations by **12:00 noon on Thursday, December 14, 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 dinner 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 that he will not miss your reservation. mailto:skeipp@kc.rr.com

Reservation Deadline: 12:00 noon, Dec. 14th

Important Reservation Information

Our dinner meeting this month will be held on the third Tuesday in December, so as not to interfere with the week of Christmas. Please make sure to get your dinner reservations in early. Our treasurer, **Susan Keipp** reported that several people tried to make reservations for the November dinner meeting after the reservation deadline. Please help Susan and the Holiday Inn staff by adhering to the reservation deadline.

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.

The cost of the dinners goes to pay the Holiday Inn for our meals, service charge, room rental, bartender, and audio/visual equipment.

Dinner Menu

Chicken Alfredo – Grilled chicken breast served atop penne pasta with a rich alfredo sauce 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 Speakers



Round Table members Herschel and Jacque Stroud

Herschel and Jacque Stroud were destined to have an interest in mid-19th century history. They met on a blind date, on December 5, 1949, at the Eldridge Hotel in Lawrence KS, a place many feel is the most historic corner in all of Kansas (it keeps burning down). During the first three years of their marriage, Herschel and Jacque lived within walking distance of the Chicago Historical Society, which was full of Lincoln and Civil War relics.

Herschel was a doctor of optometry in the United States Air Force before he was a doctor of dental surgery. The eye clinic of Chicago College of Optometry was in the large carriage house of Robert Lincoln's home. The adjacent student dormitory was Robert Lincoln's mansion, all near Lincoln Park, Chicago.

The Stroud's interest in President Lincoln began when they had to memorize the Gettysburg Address in grade school in Peabody KS and Carthage MO. Fortunately, there were only 272 words to recite.

For the past thirty years, the Strouds have actively studied, experienced, and talked about life during the Civil War. They have lectured on Civil War medicine from coast to coast, touring five years on the associated clubs circuit, and appearing at museums, round tables, medical meetings, schools, and civic organizations. They have slept on the ground in cornfields, eaten hardtack with weevils, shared chiggers and ticks, and shed blood on some of the most famous Civil War battlefields in the nation.

Herschel and Jacque have presented papers on Civil War medicine nationally, including the Civil War Institute at Gettysburg College PA; the Society of Civil War Surgeons annual meetings in St. Louis, Chattanooga, and other cities; plus the National Museum of Civil War Medicine conferences in Frederick and Baltimore MD.

In 2004, Kansas Governor Kathleen Sebelius appointed Herschel as Kansas' liaison to the National Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission (ALBC). Since then, the Strouds have attended ALBC national meetings at the Library of Congress in Washington DC, and Louisville KY, as well as other cities. They have visited every city and place where Abraham Lincoln once lived and all but one of the places where Mary Todd Lincoln lived.

The Strouds have multiple personalities, mostly of dead people. In their presentations, each of them has a number of other wives and husbands. However, they all have the same faces. For this month's program, the Strouds are simply Jacque and Herschel.

Herschel and Jacque have been Civil War re-enactors and members of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City since the early 1990s. It is a bi-sectional (or mixed)

marriage. Herschel's great-grandfather in the Vandalia IL area made cabinetry for Lincoln when he was practicing law. His great-uncle rode with Grierson's Cavalry. Herschel's grandmother and her husband came to Kansas in the early 1880s in a covered wagon. They were true blue all the way.

Jacque, on the other hand, came from Confederate roots in Carthage MO. She was born in Kendrick House, the only home left standing at the end of the war. It is now a living history museum. Jacque's father had a gray Civil War uniform hanging in the closet. Yet, her parents admired and respected Abraham Lincoln, right alongside Robert E. Lee.



Jacque and Herschel Stroud in Period Dress
(This photo was taken in the Kansas State House.)

Bring Your Books for the Silent Book Auction

December is one of the months when we ask members of the Round Table to donate Civil War books for the silent auction. This helps to raise money for the Round Table, so that we are able to pay for the travel costs for our speakers coming in from out of town. Please bring any books that you wish to donate.

The Sergeant Major's Book Sales and Auction

Arnold Schofield will have a Holiday Book Sale table at the December dinner meeting. There will be a set price indicated on each book. Members can purchase books for the set price indicated.

Arnold will also conduct a live auction for the following books at the December dinner meeting:

Gun & Gospel: Reverend H. D. Fisher; 1902, 4th Edition; Hudson & Kimberly Publishing Co., Kansas City MO. In excellent condition.

Gone with the Wind: Margret Mitchel, BOXED 60th ANNIVERSARY EDITION; 1996; Scribner Publishing Co., New York NY. In mint condition.

United States Christian Commission for the Army & Navy; FIRST ANNUAL REPORT - February 1863: Original, Philadelphia PA. In fair/good condition.

Topsy – Turvy: Civil War & Southern Children: Anya Jabour; 2010; Ivan R. Dee Publishing Co., Chicago IL. In excellent condition.

Two Volumes: *War Songs*: George Root, Henry C. Work, and Walter Kittredge, Boston MA; J. Knight Publishing Co.; 1890. In excellent condition.

Poems & Songs of the Civil War: Lois Hill; Gramacy Books Publishing Co., Avenel NJ; 1990. In excellent condition.

Anecdotes and Incidents of the Rebellion; Frazar Kirkland, J. H. Mason Publishing Co., Saint Louis MO; 1889. In good condition.

One coloring book of *Civil War Uniforms* and three booklets of *Paper Soldiers*. In excellent condition.

The Peacemakers: Firearms of the 19th Century: A Photographic Essay; R. L. Wilson; Cartwell Books, New York NY; 2004. In excellent condition.

If you are interested in bidding on one or more of the above books, but are not able to attend the dinner meeting, please e-mail your bid to Arnold Schofield <mailto:arnoldschofield42@gmail.com> prior to the dinner meeting.

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](#)

Last Month's Program



**Speaker Dr. John T. Kuehn and
Round Table President Chip Buckner**

At our dinner meeting on November 28th, **Dr. John Kuehn** gave an excellent presentation titled: "Gideon Welles, Gus Fox, and the U.S. Naval Blockade." The following are some key points that Dr. Kuehn made during the program:

- The "Anaconda Plan" was developed by General Winfield Scott and was an excellent plan.
- At the start of the Civil War, the Union Navy only had a total of 42 ships in active service.
- In 1861, about 10 percent of the ships that tried to get through the blockade were intercepted.
- Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Gustavus Fox decided that only steam-powered ships would be built for the U.S. Navy from then on.
- The cotton embargo by the Confederacy was a huge mistake. The Confederacy lost valuable income and the embargo did not harm England or the United States.
- The Union capture of New Orleans in 1862 was a disaster for the Confederacy because it allowed the Union to control the Mississippi River.

- The Union had a difficult time capturing the Southern ports of Wilmington NC and Charleston SC. It took the combined efforts of the U.S. Army and Navy to capture these ports.
- At the end of the Civil War, the Union Navy had 471 ships. It was the second largest navy in the world, after the British Royal Navy. Today, the U.S. Navy has 281 ships.
- The Confederate Navy achieved their greatest success through the commerce raiders CSS Alabama, CSS Florida, and CSS Shenandoah.
- The Civil War brought about innovations such as the ironclad USS Monitor and the submarine CSS Hunley. Mines were also used.
- The genius of President Abraham Lincoln was that he put the right people in the right jobs.
- 1864 was a crucial year for the Union, because if Lincoln was not re-elected, there might have been a negotiated peace with the Confederacy.
- General Grant was the Union's most successful general in terms of being able to coordinate the combined army and naval operations.

Upcoming Speaker Schedule

January 23, 2018: **Dr. Ethan Rafuse** of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth KS, 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 speaking 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."

October 23, 2018: Speaker to be determined.

November 27, 2018: Thomas Bogar will give a program titled: "Backstage at the Lincoln Assassination."

December 18, 2018: Speaker to be determined.

Please Renew Your Membership in the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City for 2018

It is time to renew your membership in the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City for the calendar year 2018. Membership dues are the same as they have been for past several years: \$30.00 per individual or \$45.00 per couple. The membership dues go to pay for our speaker travel expenses, as well as our administration costs (website fees, corporation fees, post office box rental, postage, printing, etc.). Please submit your membership renewal form and membership fees to our treasurer, **Susan Keipp**, by December 31, 2017.

We have a great list of speakers lined up so far for 2018. The January dinner meeting will be the 500th regular meeting of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City. In February, we will celebrate the 60th anniversary of the founding of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City by former president Harry S. Truman and his dentist, Dr. Bert Maybee. The first meeting of the Round Table took place at the Hotel Bellerive in Kansas City MO on February 25, 1958.

In 2018, we plan to present the Harry S. Truman Award to one of our speakers, who is a distinguished Civil War author and historian. We also plan to present the Valiant Service Award to two of our long-time Round Table members. We will be issuing the book: *We Remember Again*, which contains articles written by members of the Round Table regarding their Civil War ancestors. A Civil War bus trip to Glasgow MO is being considered for the spring of 2018.

Sergeant Major's Roar

Battlefield Dispatches #470

General Lee & Santa Claus

In 1867, the Civil War had been over for two years and the southern states were in the process of recovering and rebuilding from the devastation it had created. Much was beginning to be written about the war in both

the north and south and a small book titled: *General Lee and Santa Claus* was published before Christmas in 1867. It was an attempt, and no doubt succeeded, in restoring the southern children's belief in Santa Claus, because he had not delivered any gifts to them during the four years of the war. Mrs. Louise Clack was the author of this book and in the following letter to General Lee, three little girls asked him to answer the following question:

"Please tell us whether Santa Claus loves the little rebel children, for we think he doesn't because he did not come to see us for four Christmas Eves."

"Dear General Lee,

We think you are the goodest man that ever lived and our Auntie says you will go right straight to heaven when you die; so we want to ask you a question, for we know the truth about it and we know that you always speak the truth.

Please tell us whether Santa Claus loves little Rebel children, for we think he don't because he did not come to see us for four Christmas Eves. Auntie thinks you would not let him cross the lines and we don't know how to find out unless we write and ask you. We all love you dearly and want to send something, but we have not anything nice enough. We lost all our toys in the war. Birdie wants to send you one of our little white kittens – the one with black ears – but Auntie thinks maybe you don't like kittens.

We say little prayers for you every night, dear General Lee and ask God to make you ever so happy.

Please let us know about Santa Claus as soon as you can. We want to know for something very, very, very particular, but we can't tell even you why until Christmas time, so please excuse us.

Your Little Friends,

Lutie, Birdie, and Minnie"

This letter was sent the following day and in about a week this answer was received:

"My Dear Little Friends,

I was very glad to receive your kind letter and to know by it that I have the good wishes and prayers of three innocent little girls named Lutie, Birdie and Minnie.

I am very glad that you wrote about Santa Claus, for I am able to tell you all about him. I can assure you he is one of the best friends that the little Southern Girls have. You will understand this when I explain to you the reason for his not coming to see you for four years.

The first Christmas Eve of the war I was walking up and down in the camp ground when I thought I heard a singular noise above my head and on looking to find out from whence it came, I saw the queerest, funniest looking little old fellow riding along in a sleigh through the air. On closer inspection, he proved to be Santa Claus.

"Halt, Halt!" I said, but at this the funny fellow laughed and did not seem inclined to obey, so again I cried "Halt!" And he drove down to my side with a sleigh full of toys.

I was very sorry for him when I saw the disappointed expression of his face when I told him he could go no further South and when he exclaimed, "Oh what will my little Southern children do?" I felt sorry for I love little children to be happy and especially at Christmas. But one thing I was certain, I knew my little friends would prefer me to do my duty rather than have all the toys in the world. So I said, "Santa Claus, take every one of the toys you have back as far as Baltimore, sell them and with the money you get buy medicines, bandages, ointment and delicacies for our sick and wounded men. Do it quickly and it will be all right with the children." Then Santa Claus sprang into his sleigh and putting his hand to his hat in true military style said, "I obey orders, General" and away he went.

Long before morning he came sweeping down into camp again with not only everything I had ordered, but with many other things that our poor soldiers needed. And every Christmas he took the toy money and did the same thing and the soldiers and I blessed him for he clothed and fed many a poor soul who otherwise would have been cold and hungry.

Now, do you not consider him a good friend, I hold him in high respect and trust that you will always do the same.

I should be pleased to hear from you again my dear little girls and I want you ever to consider me,

Your True Friend,
General Lee"

Now then, General Lee's answer to "Lutie, Birdie, and Minnie" would have been a typical expression of his love for the children of the south and his veterans. Mrs. Clack's little book for her "Little Southern Friends" was one many publications that helped the folks of the south adjust to their new life and world that evolved after the Civil War. In a way, her book was a premonition of the famous letter that was written in 1897 by the editor of the New York Sun newspaper, who responded to a little girl's request and said: "Yes Virginia, there is a Santa Claus." Therefore, Thank You Mrs. Clack for another

wonderful Christmas Story and wishing everyone a very MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY HOLIDAYS.

Events Around Town

Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

December 2017 Holiday Luncheon and Speaker: The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri would like to invite you to a special program presented by Alicia Scott called "Remember the Sultana." She is a great-granddaughter of Wesley Lee, one of the lucky survivors of the explosion of the steamboat Sultana on April 27, 1865.

The program will be given at 1:00 p.m. at the Loose Park Garden Center, 5200 Pennsylvania, Kansas City MO on Saturday, December 2, 2017. You are welcome to come at noon to share a potluck luncheon with the Round Table and the Union Cemetery Historical Society by bringing a dish to share.

Early in the morning hours of April 27, 1865 the steamboat Sultana exploded and sent hundreds of Union soldiers into the cold, dark, flood-swollen waters of the Mississippi. For many, this would be the tragic end to months of hell as prisoners of war in either Andersonville or Cahaba. For others it would mean that, even though they had survived incarceration in the prison camps and the explosion of the boat's boilers, they would face the rest of their life disabled by a senseless act of greed on the part of the boat's captain. Based out of St. Louis, the boat was owned in part by Captain Jay Cass Mason, also of St. Louis.

This program is presented in cooperation with the Missouri Humanities Council.

If you have any questions, call **Beverly Shaw** at 816 225-7944.

Kansas City Posse of the Westerners

The Kansas City Posse of the Westerners typically meets the second Tuesday of the month. The meetings are held 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, call **Deb Buckner** at 913-338-5689 or **Dennis Garstang** at 816-569-1180.

Civil War Round Table of Kansas City History

Did you know that in 1992, some members of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City decided to start another Round Table, which became known as the Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri?

The following article appeared in the Kansas City Star on December 7, 1992:

Civil War Followers Secede Missourians Oppose Kansas, Country Club

Could this be the rumblings of a modern border war?

Two Missouri men, citing a distinction between Jackson County's working class and well-to-do Johnson Countians, are beginning a Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri.

Both sides deny it's a partisan split. Yet Jonathan Linn, a founder of the new Missouri group, said Harry S. Truman, who was instrumental in starting the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City, "would be rolling over in his grave if he knew they were meeting over there (in Kansas)." Jack Brooks, a past president of the Kansas City Round Table who lives in Leawood, responds emphatically.

"Oh, bull!" he said. "Truman wasn't that parochial!" Round tables are designed to promote historical education, preservation, and interest in the Civil War. Linn, of Independence, and Sonny Wells, of Liberty, will hold an organizational meeting for their new group at 7 p.m. Wednesday at the Trails West branch of the Kansas City Library at 11401 E. 23rd St. in Independence.

The group will focus on the border war in Western Missouri. It also hopes to put together a guidebook of Civil War related sites in and around Independence, where it will be based.

The Round Table of Kansas City, founded in 1958, met in Kansas City until 1983.

Brooks said the organization then "got so big they had to leave Missouri." The next stop: Homestead Country Club, 6510 Mission Road in Prairie Village.

The group recently increased its annual dues from \$20 to \$25 per person, and its meeting meal price from \$12 to \$14. In addition, the group's officers recently requested their predominantly male membership to wear shirt and tie and women to dress appropriately for dinner meetings.

"We are not trying to start a war here," Wells said. "These people in Johnson County are our friends. It's just that people are catching onto the idea of not paying \$12 for a \$5 meal and not wearing a suit and tie.

"We want to be a working man's group, and you don't have to wear a three-piece suit and have a \$50,000 pension. We want to get into the Civil War. We don't want to get into politics." Linn described his departure from the Johnson County group as a "class separation." "You have a bunch of rich people who have turned the Kansas City Round Table into a round table of doctors and lawyers." Linn said he thinks the Kansas City Round Table's members are predominantly upper-level income, and Wells thinks they mostly are Johnson County residents.

Tex Imboden, Kansas City Round Table president, lives in Lenexa and said he wouldn't call the group high-brow.

"I am barely middle income," he said. The 1992 membership roster shows 124 Kansas members, 101 Missouri members and six from other states or outside the country.

Kansas City Round Table officials acknowledged their members include lawyers, doctors, dentists, and bankers but denied that the group is exclusive.

"Anyone can join," Brooks said. "If they live on the Kansas side that is not their fault. When I joined I went to meetings in Missouri and I didn't think, 'Why was I going across the state line?'" Imboden said the majority of Johnson County members are not overly affluent.

"We have some wealthy members. But they live on the other side of the line," he said, referring to Jackson County.

Imboden and Brooks defended the dress code but added they aren't suggesting a suit, but rather a sport jacket and tie.

Earlier, Imboden said some members showed up wearing whatever they had worn to work.

"Looking like bums!" he said.

And Brooks reasoned: "It's a country club. You are not eating at Wendy's." Brooks also lashed at the media for writing about the issue.

"I don't think the paper is where these things should be resolved," he said.

Jerry Russell, national chairman of the Civil War Round Table Associates in Little Rock, Ark., said he recommended to Wells a few years ago that he start another round table north of the river. The associates group is an umbrella to about 200 round tables across the nation.

"I think it's great what they are doing, and I will do anything I can to help," he said of the new group. "This other stuff is unfortunate." Russell praised the Kansas City Round Table, saying it is a leader in preservation and brings in top historians as speakers.

Brooks was surprised to learn of the issues raised by Wells and Linn. He said he doesn't think they ever approached the Kansas City group with their concerns.

"What puzzles me is I have been a member since 1982 and twice president and I have not seen anything verbal or written from anyone who has been disgruntled," he said.

But, Linn is one member who will not renew his membership in 1993.

"Hopefully they will not look at us as a bunch of renegades," he said.

A few editorial comments regarding the above article:

The Civil War Round Table of Kansas City and the Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri have a good relationship. They send us a copy of their monthly newsletter and we send them a copy of ours. We were honored to have three members of the Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri, including their president Mike Calvert, attend our dinner meeting in October. Members of the Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri are always welcome to attend our monthly dinner meetings and we are always welcome to attend their monthly meetings.

The Civil War Round Table of Kansas City does not have a dress code. Several members like to dress up for the dinners, but casual attire is also okay. The important thing is to come to the dinner meetings to learn about the Civil War and enjoy being with friends and meeting new people.

One of the traditions of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City is to have a plated meal served prior to the program. That tradition was started in 1958 and continues to this day. We believe that it is good to have fellowship and conversation around the dinner table. You can attend programs on the Civil War at the Kansas City Public Library, but you really don't get a chance to know the people that you sit next to. At the Round Table dinner meetings, you can get to know someone at your table that has the same love of history that you do.

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

The Civil War Round Table of Kansas City originally held their meetings at the Hotel Bellerive in Kansas City MO. The location of the meetings was later changed to the Homestead Country Club, then to the Leawood Country Club, back to the Homestead Country Club, then to the Meadowbrook Country Club, and finally to the Holiday Inn & Suites in November of 2014. We had to move our meetings from the Homestead County Club and the Meadowbrook Country Club because they closed. We currently have a contract with the Holiday Inn & Suites that runs through 2018.

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City, we wish you all a Merry Christmas and a wonderful Holiday Season!

