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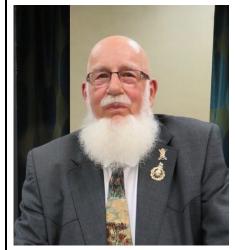
Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City



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

An IRC 501(c)(3) Charitable Organization

Website- <u>http://cwrtkc.org/</u> Join us on Facebook! 502nd Regular Meeting Tuesday, March 27, 2018 Sunset Ballroom, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, Holiday Inn & Suites 8787 Reeder Rd., Overland Park, KS 66214 Social Hour - Cash Bar – 5:30p.m. Dinner - 6:30p.m.



# **March Speaker**

March is Women's History Month. Civil War Round Table member, Arnold Schofield will be speaking about the "Ladies of Espionage", which is based on Arnold's research and will focus on six to eight women, who were Union spies in Missouri during the Civil War, and their subsequent reports.

Aaron Barnhart and Diane Eickhoff, who were originally scheduled to speak this month, have been rescheduled to speak in December of this year.

# Attendance requires a paid dinner reservation.

Please be sure that **Susan Keipp** receives all reservations by **12:00** noon on Thursday, March 22, 2018 along with payment of **\$28.00** 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, <u>http://www.cwrtkc.org.</u> Go to <u>Dinner Reservation</u> 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. <u>mailto:skeipp@kc.rr.com</u>

# Reservation Deadline: 12:00 noon, Mar. 22nd

#### **Important Reservation Information**

At our Executive Committee meeting held on October 21, 2017, it was decided to raise the price of our dinners to \$28.00 per person beginning in 2018. The cost of the dinners goes to pay the Holiday Inn for our meals, service charge, room rental, bartender, and audio/visual equipment.

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**

**Chicken Marsala** – Sautéed chicken breast in a marsala wine and mushroom sauce, served over pasta, with 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.

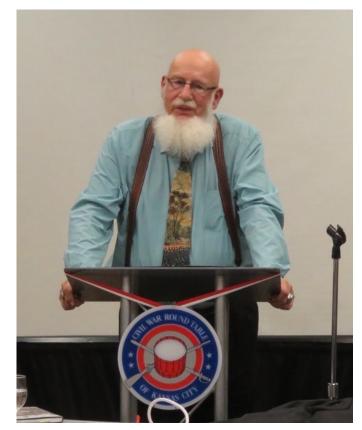
## **Meet Our Speaker**

**Sergeant Major Arnold W. Schofield** returns as our speaker again this month. Arnold has graciously offered to give the program, since the originally scheduled speakers had to be rescheduled. Thank you Arnold!

Arnold is a retired Public Historian with 50 years of public service. He was born and raised in the small village of Newton Upper Falls, Massachusetts, attended college on the GI Bill, and received a degree in United States History. His Public Service includes:

- 6 years in the US Army,
- 10 years as a civilian with the Department of Defense,
- 33 years with the National Park Service, and
- 7 years with the Kansas Historical Society, as Superintendent of the Mine Creek Battlefield State Historic Site.

His National Park Service career included tours of duty at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, the Blue Ridge Parkway, and Fort Scott National Historic Site.



Arnold Schofield speaking at the CWRT dinner meeting held on February 27, 2018

While at Fort Scott he was the Site Historian and Cultural Resource Specialist.

Arnold is a recognized lecturer throughout the Midwest on Westward Expansion, the Permanent Indian Frontier, and Bleeding Kansas and the Civil War. Two of his special interests include the roles of the American Indians and African Americans in the Civil War.

Arnold has been involved with Civil War Battlefield Preservation for more than 40 years and is co-founder of the Mine Creek Battlefield Foundation, which has raised more than one million dollars, purchased 326 acres of prime battlefield land, reprinted the only book on the Battle of Mine Creek, assisted in the production of a video on the battle by Curtis Productions, and produced a brochure on Price's 1864 Campaign in Missouri and Kansas.

Arnold served as president of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City in 2003. He received the Steve Treaster Civil War Preservation Award in 2012 and the Valiant Service Award in 2009 and again in 2016. Arnold currently serves as Preservation Director for the Round Table.

Arnold and his wife Clara have one son, named Austin. They live in Fort Scott KS. Arnold also writes a column for the Fort Scott Tribune.

# The Sergeant Major's Book Sales and Auction

We would also like to thank **Arnold Schofield** for doing an outstanding job of raising money for the Round Table through his live auction and silent auction book sales. Arnold will auction the following books at the March dinner meeting:

<u>A Faithful Heart: The Journals of Emmala Reed,</u> <u>1865 – 1866</u> from Anderson South Carolina; Edited by Robert T. Oliver; University of South Carolina Press, 2004; First Edition; In excellent condition, with dust jacket.

<u>A City Laid Waste: the Capture, Sack and</u> <u>Destruction of Columbia, South Carolina</u>, by William Gilmore Simms, newspaper editor; Edited by David Aiken; University of South Carolina Press, 2005; In mint condition with dust jacket.

Lincoln's Boys: John Hay, John Nicolay, & The War for Lincoln's Image; by Joshua Zeitz; Viking/Penguin Group Press, 2014; In excellent condition with dust jacket.

*Battle Cry of Freedom: the Civil War Era*; by James McPherson; Oxford University Press, 1988; First Edition; In mint condition with dust jacket and mylar wrap.

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 <u>mailto:arnoldschofield42@gmail.com</u> prior to the dinner meeting.

#### **CWRT of KC's 60th Anniversary Celebration**

At the dinner meeting on February 27th, the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City celebrated our 60th anniversary. It was a fun evening and we have received very positive feedback. Highlights of the evening are as follows:

- Judy Smith brought two sheet cakes that were decorated in honor of our 60th anniversary.
  Dennis Garstang brought an 1864 cavalry saber that he used to perform the ceremonial cutting of the cakes.
- In honor of Black History month, **Dan Dooley** brought some very interesting historical documents including an 1821 slave transaction in Alabama, an 1838 publication titled "Letters on American Slavery", an 1863 music sheet celebrating the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation, and an 1886 land record signed by Frederick Douglass.
- **Don Bates** brought copies of the souvenir program from the dinner meeting celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City in February of 1983. Don said he joined the Round Table in 1979 and recalled

one memorable meeting held at the Bellerive Hotel in Kansas City MO. Don said the speaker that night was not very interesting. The audience paid more attention to a large cockroach crawling across the drapes behind the speaker than they did to the speaker.

• Don Bates presented Round Table member Lane Smith with the Valiant Service Award. Lane served as president of the Round Table in 2010-2011 and currently serves as the Sergeant at Arms. Lane has been a speaker at several of our CWRT meetings and has been instrumental in lining up speakers over the years. Congratulations Lane! Well deserved!



Judy Smith brought two 60th Anniversary cakes.



Dennis Garstang performing the ceremonial first cut.



Don Bates presenting Lane Smith with the Valiant Service Award.

#### Last Month's Program

Arnold Schofield gave a very interesting talk about the Independent Light Artillery Colored and specifically about the African-American officers that led this unit: Captain Hezekiah Ford Douglas, 1st Lieutenant William Dominick Mathews, and 2nd Lieutenant Patrick Henry Minor. This 220-man battery was formed in June of 1864 and fought at the battles of the Big Blue and Westport. This unit had no desertions and was honorably discharged following the Civil War.

For more information, Arnold recommended reading *The Sable Arm: Black Troops in the Union Army, 1861-1865* by Dr. Dudley Taylor Cornish. Dr. Cornish said the use of black troops commanded by black officers was a great experiment. These units were done away with after the Civil War. However, these units were maybe ahead of their time. Dr. Cornish said these units were, in a way, passing the torch to future black units commanded by black officers.

#### **Upcoming Speaker Schedule**

**April 24, 2018:** Civil War Round Table member **Hibberd V. Kline III** will be speaking about the Confederate Navy.

May 22, 2018: Dr. Phillip R. Kemmerly, Professor Emeritus and geologist will be giving a program titled: "Shiloh Controversies." Dr. Kemmerly will discuss three controversies about Shiloh, all related to the effects of the flooding on the Tennessee River at the time of the battle.

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: <u>Keep the Flag to the Front: The Story of the Eighth</u> 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: Matt Spruill** will be speaking about his new book titled: <u>Decisions at Stones River:</u> The Sixteen Critical Decisions that Define the Battle.

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

**December 18, 2018:** Aaron Barnhart and Diane **Eickhoff** will be giving a program about women soldiers in the Civil War.

#### **Civil War Round Table Membership for 2018**

Thank you for renewing your membership in the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City! We currently have a total of 104 members. The 2018 Member Directory will be issued later this month.

If you have not renewed your membership and would still like to do so, please submit your membership dues to our treasurer, **Susan Keipp**. 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.).

# Update on the <u>We Remember Again</u> Book

**Dick Titterington** provided the following update on the <u>We Remember Again</u> book: **Sylvia Stucky** and her fellow editors have decided to merge the 1996 edition bios with the 2017 submissions and publish a second edition of <u>We Remember</u>. We anticipate publishing the book toward the end of May 2018. Members are encouraged to pre-order copies of the book, in order to obtain copies at 60% off the list price. We expect this special member price will be \$10.00 per copy. Dennis Garstang has agreed to be the point of contact for preorders. Dennis can be contacted at <u>dgarstang@kc.rr.com</u> or at <u>816-569-1180</u> or at 6005 NW 103rd Street, Kansas City MO 64154. Depending on the editorial schedule, members will be able to pay for and get their copies at either the May or June dinner meetings.

### Information on the Bus Trip to Glasgow MO

The Civil War Round Table of Kansas City is planning a bus trip to Glasgow MO this spring. Round Table member **Gary Nevius** is coordinating this effort.

The bus trip is scheduled for Saturday, May 12, 2018, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The cost of the bus trip is \$35.00 per person, not including lunch. Lunch will be at a local Glasgow restaurant. The bus trip is limited to the first 40 people that sign up and pay.

**J. Y. Miller** of Glasgow MO will be our tour guide. You may remember that J. Y. was the speaker at our dinner meeting in October of 2016 and gave an excellent program about the Battle of Glasgow MO.

If you have already signed up or would like to go on this bus trip, please mail your check to **Susan Keipp** at 436 W 88th Terrace, Kansas City MO 64114.

#### **Member News**

We would like to welcome new members **Dale and Pam Barnum**. They live in Ozawkie KS, located west of Perry Lake. Dale's great-grandfather served in the 139th Illinois Infantry.

**Sylvia Stucky** reports that she had a total hip replacement in early March. She hopes to attend the March dinner meeting, but if not, she will be back in April. We pray that Sylvia has a speedy recovery.

**Dennis Garstang, Dave Holloway, and Dave Pattison** traveled to Surprise AZ this month to see the Kansas City Royals in Spring Training. Warm weather, sunshine, and baseball!

## Sergeant Major's Roar

#### **Battlefield Dispatches #509**

#### **Chaotic Bedlam**

During war, there are often unintended consequences of various happenings and this was true during the Civil War. The following are several unintended consequences of a series of happenings in Fort Scott KS that Private Albert R. Greene of Company A of the Ninth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry witnessed and participated in. He recorded all of these happenings in his memoir that was published in <u>Vol. XIV</u> <u>1915 – 1918</u> <u>Edition of the Kansas Collections</u>, which are as follows:

"Fort Scott had always been one of the show places in my memory and especially the old barracks and officer's quarters, where many notables in American History had served and I spent many an hour in wandering through the old halls and conjuring up the scenes of revelry that once made the rafters ring. Then too, its rehabilitation [during the Civil War] and present activity appealed to a young soldier who dreamed of greater martial honors that should eclipse its former glory. Great undertakings were in progress [in the spring of 1862]. Immense siege guns, hauled from Fort Leavenworth by means of ten yoke of oxen, were being dragged up Wall Street to their positions on the hill and hundreds of men were tearing up the sod and piling up earthworks, over which the same guns were to hurl forth defiance to the foe.

"Already our company had taken a humble part in the moral uplift of the new order. A troop of strolling players, the leading lady of which was a girl who was to become the mother of a variety of actresses of international fame, set up their tent near our camp and nightly gave performances, which proved to be wanton for even the morals of soldiers, whereupon the guy ropes [holding up the tent] were cut and the canvas came down on the heads of the gay caperers, just as the villain still pursued her.

"Also, one of our men who had a strangely scattering and unreliable vision, in a laudable ambition to shoot the lights out of a nude figure in a saloon, warbled over to the "barkeep" and killed him instead. At the trial, upon his solemn assertion that he didn't go to do it, he was let off with three days in the guardhouse. Thus ever the right came uppermost and the truth was "marching on!"

Now for the Chaotic Bedlam:

"Out on the prairie to the south of town was the drill ground. At the sides and on the crest of the hills beyond, regiments and batteries were encamped, but the open country for a mile or so was kept for the daily drilling of the troops. One day it was given out our Company was going out there to drill and then we learned that it was to be a SABER DRILL! Now I have never liked the SABER particularly and liked it even less at that time. It is an unhealthy thing to walk or alongside of, if a man has any respect for his legs and on a horse, it is positively dangerous. I got along quite well, however, in the "right cut against infantry" and the "left cut against infantry", but when it came to the "Rear Moulinet" [circular cut] I didn't do so well. At the first pass of the thing behind my back, I ripped my overcoat, which was rolled up there. The true soldier must always have his overcoat along, even in the dog days [of August], if he is only riding his horse to water. The next time old LANTERWASSER [his horse "Lots-of-Water"] nearly leaped out of his hide. I think that I must have disturbed his hindquarters. When it came to the "Front Moulinet" it was no better. I watched the officers do it and they told us to do exactly as they did. They could make that old cheese knife spin like a circular saw all around them, but it was no go with me. My first attempt came near cutting off the right ear of my esteemed traveling

companion, who gave such a lurch to the rear that I was nearly unhorsed. The officers said it was for the purpose of limbering up our wrists. Maybe so! I never got that far. I was quite satisfied to quit when I had limbered up my horse. Also, the horse seemed to consider our efforts quite sufficient.

"But every sacrifice in a good cause has its compensations and we got ours when it came to the SABER CHARGE!

"To adequately comprehend the situation one should remember that the assembling of several THOUSAND soldiers at a small town is an event for the whole community. I am satisfied that the farmers for miles around Fort Scott neglected their hauling and other farm work just to come to town and watch those soldiers drill. It was getting late in the season and they ought to have been home getting ready for winter, but they put it off to see the fun. They came in wagons and buggies, on horseback and on foot and brought their wives and children along. The drill ground was their favorite rendezvous and any good day there were scores of them there from early to late.

"When our company had gone out and had gone through the saber practice, there were our friends and their kindred to enjoy it and applaud. The company being in line, the order "Forward March" was given and the line started the horses at a walk. Then the order came, "Trot", and a few of the nearer of the spectators began to turn their vehicles to widen the space between the oncoming soldiers and themselves. They had hardly done this when the order to "Gallop" came and almost instantly thereafter the command to "CHARGE"! I need not describe what happened. Fortunately there were NO CASUALTIES, but it is an old saving that one might as well be killed as scared to death. My, what a mix up it was! MEN FLAILING THEIR PLOW HORSES WITH HICKORY GADS, WOMEN SCREAMING TO BEAT THE BAND, CHILDREN SPILLING OUT OF THE FEW RIGS AND RUNNING FOR DEAR LIFE, BROOD MARES CALLING FRANTICALLY FOR THEIR COLTS, SHEEPSKIN SADDLES FLYING IN THE AIR, END GATES AND CUSHIONS AND STORE BUNDLES SCATTERED OVER THE PLAIN and indifferent to all this WRECKAGE and DISMAY, while Company A, Ninth Kansas Cavalry reorganized itself and was marching from the field in a column of fours!"

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Now then, many of the VOLUNTEER SOLDIERS of Company A were unskilled horsemen still being trained. So, it was not unusual for them to lose control of their horses at a gallop during a saber charge, which they obviously did in ending their mounted drill. As to the spectators, they probably shouldn't have been there anyway, but they were and they suffered the unintended consequences of CHAOTIC BEDLAM and, of course, the War Went On!

## **Civil War Round Table of Kansas City History**

The following article appeared in the Kansas City Star on June 1, 1996:

# A Civil Discussion: More than a century has passed, but the Civil War continues to fascinate KC and the nation

#### By Shirl Kasper, Staff Writer

Some say it's the most studied of all American history subjects. The Civil War. Rockhurst High School teacher Tim Westcott says he read somewhere that 110,000 books had been written on the subject. Just this week the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City added another to the pile, a 240-pager called <u>We Remember</u>. In it, Round Table members wrote up the stories of their Civil War ancestors, then compiled them.

Genealogy is big in America, and so is the Civil War. So many history buffs have joined the Kansas City Round Table in recent years that membership has soared to nearly 250. That's double what it was just seven years ago. So many people are turning out for the Round Table's monthly dinner meetings that the organization recently had to move to larger quarters at the Leawood Country Club.

Members get together one Tuesday every month to socialize and listen to guest speakers. At one recent meeting the great-grandson of Confederate General J.E.B. Stuart himself flew in from Virginia and took the podium after members finished their brisket and green beans. "We had more than 200 at that meeting," said Westcott, who is Round Table president.

Interest in the Civil War is so great today that another recent speaker, Ted Alexander, historian at Antietam National Battlefield in Maryland, calls it a subculture, right up there with pro-football and Elvis. "It's been growing in the past two decades," Alexander said. He sees more and more people touring Antietam. He sees more and more people buying Civil War magazines. They're buying Civil War prints and Civil War books. They're watching Civil War movies such as Glory and Gettysburg, and tuning in to the Ken Burns "Civil War" series on public television.

More and more people are dressing up in period costume and re-enacting Civil War battles. And membership in Civil War Round Tables is growing in other cities, just as it is here. In St. Louis, membership has mushroomed to 210, up from 80 just a few years ago. Nationally, the number of Round Tables themselves has boomed, from a low of about 60 in the Vietnam era to 250 today. The Confederacy is especially hot, according to a recent report in the Raleigh (N.C.) News & Observer. The newspaper said membership has soared in the last 10 years in groups such as the Sons of Confederate Veterans and the Military Order of the Stars and Bars.

"This interest in the Civil War is just amazing," said James Robertson, a history professor who teaches the largest Civil War course in the country, at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg. "It's just running wild, and I don't see it breaking any time soon." The big question is why? Why all the interest in the Civil War?

In a telephone interview, Robertson said it all started during the Civil War Centennial in the 1960s. Then along came the nation's 1976 Bicentennial, which attracted more people to history. Others point to a much broader fascination with genealogy. Others say the 1990 PBS "Civil War" series is responsible. Still others say the Civil War is fascinating in and of itself. It has bold personalities, intriguing military strategy and emotional drama: brother against brother, cause against cause.

"And it's amazing," said Jerry Russell, national chairman of the umbrella group, Civil War Round Table Associates, "how many issues that were in the Civil War are still going on today." The power of the federal government, for instance. And race relations, of course.

Although the Civil War ended 131 years ago, it remains a quagmire of issues and emotions. The Confederate flag still rages at the center of controversy, a glaring reminder of slavery and oppression to some; a symbol of heritage and heroism to others. Issues remain so touchy that historian James McPherson, the acclaimed author of Battle Cry of Freedom, said he learned a long time ago that to write about the Civil War is to incur people's anger. "That goes with the territory," McPherson said in a telephone interview.

Just last year the Kansas Department of Transportation removed a historical marker near Lecompton KS, because language depicting Lecompton as a "slavery capital" was deemed offensive.

Questions about the Civil War's place in modern America can have a real edge to them. In fact, questions get so deep that they have become the subject of recent scholarship. At Harvard University, lecturer Jim Cullen addresses them in his 1995 book, <u>The Civil War in</u> <u>Popular Culture: A Reusable Past</u>. Cullen theorizes that the Civil War has become white America's version of multiculturalism.

"Here is our heritage," Cullen said white people were saying. "Here is where we're from. This is what defines us." In a time of increasing diversity, there is unease among the majority in the United States - the European-Americans. There is fear, Cullen says, that events near and dear to the majority's heart - such as the Civil War will become less relevant. Thus, things such as Civil War re-enactments become a ritual whereby the majority reassures itself that it, too, has a past.

The Civil War becomes a banner around which millions can rally, Cullen writes, "a point of reference that can shore up a center than fears it may not hold." Perhaps growing interest in Civil War Round Tables and Civil War re-enacting is analogous, McPherson said, to how membership in Daughters of the American Revolution grew early in the 20th century at a time of heavy immigration. "They felt overwhelmed, so they asserted their Revolutionary heritage," he said.

McPherson said Cullen's theory may help explain another curious phenomenon - the lack of African-American members of Civil War Round Tables. Kansas City has no black members. Neither does St. Louis. The Round Table of Arkansas, in Little Rock, has one black member, Ronnie Nichols, who tried to explain. "Some have called it a white man's war," Nichols said of the lack of interest. African-Americans, he said, view the Civil War period as a very hurtful time, and many want nothing to do with it. Nichols said he thought black interest would grow as scholarship focused more and more on the contributions of African-Americans. He noted that more than 185,000 black soldiers served in the Union Army, including his great-great-uncle, Aaron Hurvey.

President Harry S. Truman, whose mother's girlhood home was pillaged by Union soldiers, helped found the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City in 1958. For many years the Round Table remained a men's-only club. Coats and ties still are required for men, and membership remains predominantly male (70 percent), although more women are beginning to join. Two years ago a woman was president and another is in line. Cecilia Kinsella, one of five women on the 15-member executive committee, said the changing membership simply reflected how more and more women were pursuing things that interested them.

Besides the social aspects, the Round Table works to preserve Civil War battlefields. It worked for years to acquire land at Byram's Ford, near Swope Park and now is working to preserve the Newtonia battlefield, a pristine site in southwestern Missouri.

Members take their Civil War history seriously, but have fun ribbing one another about their sympathies, North or South. At one dinner meeting, some blue candles on the table were enough to elicit wry humor from a Southerner in the crowd. Teased that he was sitting by the Yankee candles, he said: "Well! Notice they're burning." Members are divided about 50-50 in their sympathies, said Westcott, who has an avid interest in the war, though he has no Civil War ancestors. One need not have a soldier ancestor to join the Round Table, although it is estimated that 100 million Americans, if they traced their ancestry, would discover that they did. Sometimes, loyalties spill to both sides of the border, as they do with Round Table member Matt Myers, 17, who has a Union ancestor from Kansas and a Confederate ancestor from South Carolina - the famous Wade Hampton, a brigadier general whose biography spills across three pages in the Encyclopedia of the Confederacy. "He had 3,000 slaves," Myers said.

Hampton, who may have been the richest man in the South when the war began in 1861, was wounded at Gettysburg in 1863, and by 1865 had lost two sons and seen his plantation burned to the ground. To understand the Hampton story is to understand much about the lasting legacy of the Civil War. "The South was completely destroyed," McPherson said. Nationally there was enormous loss of life - 2 percent of the population, which today would equate to 5 million people.

In the defeated South, a kind of nostalgia grew up for the world people had lost. Southern generals such as Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson and J.E.B. Stuart almost became icons, their story told in the heroic tradition of an outnumbered band of men who fought till the end. "The war was a defining point in national thinking," McPherson said. "It went deep into the consciousness of American society and of the American people." And slavery? "The great sore point of American life." Although a lot of Southerners would like to deny the ugly parts of it, McPherson said they could not be denied. At the Kansas City Round Table, Westcott said members cannot change history or expect modern ideas of political correctness to apply to the 1860s. "You try to improve on the past," he said, "and you just march forward."

#### **Events Around Town**

## Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

The next Membership meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 11, 2018. The meeting will be held at the Village Heights Community of Christ Fellowship Hall, 1009 Farview Drive, Independence MO. Harold Dellinger and Jimmy Hunsucker will give a program titled: "Why Did the Quantrill Reunions Take Place at Wallace Grove in Independence?" 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 will meet on Tuesday April 10, 2018. The meeting will be 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 P.O. Box 6202 Shawnee Mission, Kansas 66206-0202



