

BORDER



BUGLE

Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City



505th Regular Meeting Tuesday, June 26, 2018

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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Border Bugle Editor

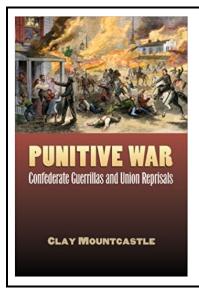
Dave Pattison

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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/
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June Speaker

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. We would like to thank **Dan Smith** for scheduling Dr. Mountcastle. It should be a very interesting program.

Attendance requires a paid dinner reservation.

Please be sure that **Susan Keipp** receives all reservations by **12:00 noon on Thursday**, **June 21, 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, 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, June 21st

Make Your Dinner Reservations Early

Please note that dinner reservations are due by 12:00 noon on Thursday, June 21st. Late reservations will not be accepted. By contract, we must turn in our headcount three business days prior to the dinner meeting. The Holiday Inn has to order and prepare enough food and set the tables based on our headcount. Please do your part to make our treasurer's job go as smoothly as possible. Thank you!

Dinner Menu

Salmon Filet – Salmon baked with a honey, lemon and dill glaze, served on a bed of almond rice pilaf, with herb roasted russet potatoes and chef's choice of vegetable, salad, bread, chef's choice of dessert, coffee, iced tea, and water. If you prefer not to have salmon for dinner, we recommend the gluten-free meal which features baked chicken as the entree.

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



Dr. Clay Mountcastle

In his presentation, **Dr. Clay Mountcastle** will discuss the subject of his book, *Punitive War: Confederate Guerillas and Union Reprisals* (University of Kansas Press, 2009) and the story behind it. He will also share his thoughts on the topic of guerrilla warfare as it relates to the Civil War.

Through widespread and relentless surprise attacks and ambushes, Confederate guerrillas drove Union soldiers and their leaders to desperation. Confederate cavalrymen engaged in hit-and-run tactics; autonomous partisan rangers preyed on Federal railroads, telegraph lines, and supply wagons; and civilian bushwhackers waylaid Union pickets. Together, all of these actions persuaded the Union to wage an increasingly punitive war.

Drawing upon the guerilla attacks and Federal responses over a broad range of operational theatres, Dr. Mountcastle presents a new look at the complex nature of guerrilla warfare in the Civil War and the Union Army's calculated response to it. As the problem grew throughout the South, Union commanders were ultimately convinced to adopt retaliatory measures that challenged the sensibilities of even the most hardened soldiers.

Showing how much of the impetus for Federal retaliation originated from the bottom up, starting in the western theater in 1861, he describes how it became the most influential factor in convincing Union generals, especially Grant and Sherman, that the war needed to be extended to include civilians and their property. The result was a level of destructiveness that has been downplayed by other scholars-despite the evidence of executions and incidents of entire towns being burned to the ground. By 1864, punitive action had evolved into such a powerful and decisive force that it produced what has been called "a warfare of frightfulness."

Although guerrilla activity deviled the Union until the end, the Union's response ultimately proved a significant factor in persuading leaders like General R. E. Lee to halt guerilla activities and ultimately to surrender rather than pursue an insurgency. Dr. Mountcastle will also discuss the provocative questions about the relationship between guerrilla and conventional warfare in any conflict.

Dr. Mountcastle is a 1994 graduate of the Virginia Military Institute and holds a Masters and PhD in History from Duke University. He served as an officer and historian in the U. S. Army for more than two decades. His military service took him to Germany, South Korea and Iraq and on assignments with the 82nd Airborne Division, US Army 5th Corps and US Army Special Operations Command.

Dr. Mountcastle taught military history at West Point and led the development of the military history curriculum at the U. S. Army Combat Studies Institute at

Fort Leavenworth. More recently, he served as the Professor of Military History at the University of Washington in Seattle and as an Assistant Professor of Military History at the U. S. Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Lee, Virginia. Following his retirement from active duty with the U. S. Army, he returned to the Old Dominion and was appointed Director of the Virginia War Memorial in Richmond in June 2016.

He and his wife, Dr. Sally Mountcastle, and their three children live in Chesterfield County, Virginia.

The Sergeant Major's Book Sales and Auction

We would 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 June dinner meeting:

- A Glorious Army: R. E. Lee's Triumph, 1862-1865; by Jeffery D. Wert; Simon & Schuster, New York, 2011; 1st Edition. In excellent condition with dust jacket and mylar cover.
- George B. McClellan, The Young Napoleon; by Stephen W. Sears; Ticknor & Fields Publishing Company, New York, 1988; 1st Edition. In excellent condition with dust jacket and mylar cover.
- Publications of the Kansas State Historical Society, Embracing Recollections of Early Days in Kansas, Volume II; by Shalor Winchell Eldridge; Kansas State Printing Plant; Topeka KS, 1920. In excellent condition.
- Kansas Historical Collection, Series of Essays 1854-1864; 1st Edition; in good condition
- Missouri Sketch Book; by Clifton C. Edom; Lucas Brothers Publishing Company; Columbia, MO, 1963; 1st Edition. In mint condition, with dust jacket and mylar cover.

Last Month's Program

At our dinner meeting on May 22nd, **Dr. Phillip R. Kemmerly**, Professor Emeritus and geologist gave a very interesting program titled: "Shiloh Controversies." Dr. Kemmerly discussed three controversies about Shiloh, all related to the effects of the flood on the Tennessee River at the time of the battle. The main points of Dr. Kemmerly's talk are as follows:

 General Ulysses S. Grant was late getting to the battlefield. Dr. Kemmerly calculated that General Grant was not able to get from the Cherry Mansion in Savannah TN to Pittsburg Landing until about 9:30 a.m. By comparing the

- velocity of the Tennessee River at flood stage versus the velocity of the steamboat transporting General Grant, Dr. Kemmerly calculated that it would have taken General Grant 1.9 hours to reach Pittsburg Landing.
- General Lew Wallace's Division did not dawdle on the way to the battlefield. General Grant told Wallace to wait at Crump's Landing until he received further orders, before advancing to the battlefield. Wallace received the order at 11:30 a.m. and his men began their march from Stony Lonesome at noon. However, due to a miscommunication, Wallace chose the Shunpike as his route of advance, rather than the River Road as Grant claimed he intended. Grant sent several messengers to find out what was keeping Once advised of the position of Wallace. Grant's retreating army, Wallace had to countermarch and then proceed down a crossover road. The horrible condition of this road and the difficulty in crossing flooded Snake Creek, severely hampered Wallace's advance to the battlefield. Wallace's Division did not reach the battlefield until after sundown. approximately 6:45 p.m. Grant never forgave Wallace for his failure to reach the battlefield on the first day. However, Wallace's men had marched as quickly as they could have given the conditions.
- The Union gunboats Tyler and Lexington were instrumental in stopping the Confederate assault on Grant's last line of defense at the end of the first day of battle. Confederate General Chalmers' Mississippi brigade had to cross a flooded Dill Branch and then climb up a very steep ravine in order to attack Grant's last line. The Confederate troops came under heavy fire from the Union gunboats and artillery and were pinned down below the lip of the ravine. Dr. Kemmerly believes that had Chalmers' attack been successful, Grant's army would have had to surrender. However, the Confederates were completely exhausted and fought-out by the end of the first day of battle. Grant's army was also beginning to be reinforced by General Buell's Army of the Ohio.

We would like to thank **Reverend Dave Holloway** for scheduling Dr. Kemmerly to speak to our Round Table and for picking him up at the airport. We would also like to thank **Dennis Garstang and his wife Mimi** for spending the day with Dr. Kemmerly and his wife. Dennis and Mimi also brought the speaker and his wife to the dinner meeting and took them back to the hotel. Dr. Kemmerly was very appreciative of your hospitality.



Dr. Phillip R. Kemmerly, who spoke at our dinner meeting on May 22, 2018

Upcoming Speaker Schedule

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: 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. This program was originally scheduled for March of 2018 and had to be rescheduled.

Member News

We would like to welcome new members **Rick and Suzanne Manfredi**, who live in Peculiar MO. Rick's interest is the Civil War in central Missouri. His greatgreat-grandfather was shot by a firing squad, in front of the Huston Tavern at Arrowrock MO, for not giving up his nephew, who burned the Saline County Courthouse. We would also like to welcome back members **Troy Claycamp** and **John Kussman**.

We are sorry to report that **Purd Wright** fell and broke his kneecap. His wife, Peggy, said she did not think Purd would need surgery and he is undergoing physical therapy. **Bob Macoubrie** had a nasty fall during the bus trip to Glagow MO and cut his left eyebrow and right hand. Bob was transported by ambulance to Fitzgibbon Hospital in Marshall MO in order to get stitched up. He also had a bad headache.

Sam Rabicoff is interested in selling his stamp collection. He started collecting stamps when he was a teenager and stopped, then resumed collecting in later years. If you are interested or need more information or know of someone who may be interested please e-mail Sam at: mailto:sam.rabicoff@gmail.com

Monnett Battle of Westport Fund Meeting

Dan Smith reports the following: "The Monnett Battle of Westport Fund will be holding its annual meeting on **Saturday**, **June 23 at 10:00 a.m.** The meeting will be held at the Battle of Westport Museum and Visitor Center located at 6601 Swope Parkway, Kansas City MO. We will be reviewing the status of current and future projects that the Fund is conducting. The meeting is open to all members of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City. See you on the 23rd for an interesting discussion."

CWRT Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee of the Civil War Round Table will meet at **10:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 30**. 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. One of the main items on the agenda will be programs and speakers for 2019.

Civil War Bus Trip to Glasgow MO

Members of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City went on a bus trip to Glasgow MO on Saturday, May 12th. Glasgow is the site of a Civil War battle fought in 1864 when Confederate troops bombarded the Union forces holding the town. The Union force was outnumbered and eventually forced to surrender.

Highlights of the tour included the following stops:

- A restroom break at the Glasgow Lewis and Clark Visitor Center.
- The Rolling Pin Bakery for pastries and cookies.
- A tour of St. Mary's Catholic Church.
- Lunch at Beckett's Restaurant.
- A visit to the Benjamin W. Lewis Library (constructed in 1866). The library featured a flag made by women of Glasgow in 1861 of material from their dresses. The flag was presented to ex-governor Sterling Price.

We would like to thank J. Y. Miller of Glasgow MO for being our tour guide and Round Table members Gary Nevius and Father Richard Frank for their help in planning and coordinating this bus trip.

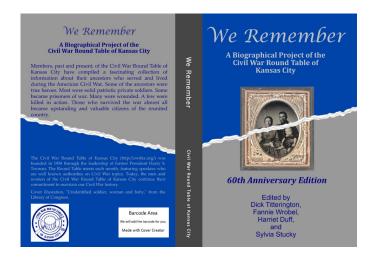


Round Table members Roger Stanton, Don Bates, and Ray Borden standing in front of the Rolling Pin Bakery in Glasgow MO.

We Remember, 60th Anniversary Edition

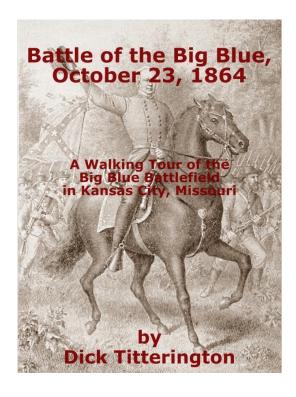
The following is an update on the <u>We Remember</u>, 60th Anniversary Edition from Round Table member **Dick Titterington**: "We were able to resolve the issue raised by CreateSpace about the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City owning the rights to publish We Remember, 60th Anniversary Edition. We have placed the order for books and will bring them to the June 26 dinner meeting. Please come to the meeting, pay for, and pick up any copies you have pre-ordered." The preorder price is \$10.00 per copy, payable when you get your book.

We would like to thank **Dick Titterington**, **Fannie Wrobel**, **Harriet Duff**, **and Sylvia Stucky** for their hard work and dedication required to get this book published. You all did a fabulous job!



Battle of the Big Blue, October 23, 1864

Dick Titterington has recently published a new book, Battle of the Big Blue, October 23, 1864: A Walking Tour of the Big Blue Battlefield in Kansas City, Missouri. This walking tour is a self-guided tour of the Big Blue Battlefield near Swope Park. The walking tour is broken into two geographical areas separated by the Blue River. You will drive to the first stop in each area, which is a starting point for a number of walking tour stops. There are a total of 22 tour stops in the tour. The books sells for \$15. Dick will bring a number of copies to the June 26th meeting. The book is also for sale at the Battle of Westport Museum and as a paperback or Kindle eBook through Amazon. If you buy the book at the dinner meeting or the museum, every single dollar goes to help continued efforts to restore the Big Blue Battlefield.



Sergeant Major's Roar

Battlefield Dispatches #515

Skyrockets, Refugees, & Battlefield Dead

All of the subjects in the title of this column were prominent in the Civil War and for that matter in any war. Very often the bright light and sound of artillery fire, especially at night, reminded soldiers of skyrockets and aerial bombs from a 4th of July celebration. The following description of refugees and battlefield dead was recorded by Albert R. Greene of the Ninth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, in his memoir that was published in Vol. XIV of the 1915-1918 Kansas Collections.

"I tried to keep awake, but the monotony of the slow march through the dark woods finally got the better of my resolution and [while riding on horseback] went SOUND ASLEEP! At sunrise we halted and when I woke up to see several regiments in line or forming a line, in a wheat field filled of dead and girdled trees, as is the custom of clearing land in that country with a forest all around. Our regiment was formed in line and on our right was a battery and beyond this were more troops mostly infantry. Here we waited for several hours while occasional shots were heard far to the southeast, as the pickets were engaged. About 11 o'clock we heard heavy firing off to the northeast and instantly the whole brigade moved back down the mountain side up which we had come until the open country was reached and then turned to the right in the direction of the fighting which proved to be at PRAIRIE GROVE, six miles further to the eastward. Here the cavalry halted for a while and the infantry and several batteries passed us on the double quick and disappeared in a belt of woods to the front. Other cavalry joined us and then we moved forward a distance of a couple of miles or more and formed a line of battle and waited and waited

"More troops passed us on the way to the battle and we expected momentarily to be ordered in; but the order never came! The warm Sunday afternoon wore away in jokes and conjectures and as evening came on, the sound increased and became a steady roar. The [battlefield] was covered with a dense cloud of smoke that was incessantly punctured by bursting shells and as darkness fell, the course of these was indicated by the tracks of fire that crossed and re-crossed from side to side. They resembled "SKYROCKETS"AT A FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION! Gradually the firing became fainter and fainter and then ceased altogether.

"Shortly after this, we formed into a column and countermarched to Rhea's Mill where we found

everything in the greatest confusion. The camp was full of REFUGEES, black and white and all in hysterics. Presently it was explained by a report that our army had been licked and that we were going to retreat. Details were set to building hundreds of huge camp fires on the hillside, as it was told to us, to deceive the enemy into the belief that large reinforcements had arrived. To show the necessity for this, we were pointed to the sheen of light against the sky, which hung over the camp of the enemy at Prairie Grove. It never occurred to us that the enemy might be resorting to the same kind of ruse. Other details were set to work to unload a number of wagons for the accommodation of the REFUGEES and the camp fires were stimulated by boxes of bacon, crackers (hard-tack), molasses, pickles, sacks of rice and barrels of beans; the self-same good supplies that we had with so much care guarded all the way from Fort Scott.

"Then the civilian accessions were loaded into the wagons, the trail strung out, and we were off to Fayetteville, fifteen miles to the northeast. When our escort had assumed some sort of order, the Orderly Sergeants were sent along the column to tell the boys our Army had gotten the best of the fight so far, but that both armies were bivouacked [camped] on the field to resume the battle at daylight and that we were getting the train out of the way so that our cavalry brigade could be used in pursuit when the Confederates retreated. This made us feel better. Our course lay to the rear of the Union line and north of the battleground about half a mile.

"The morning of December 8th found our company bunched up in a muddy lane in the Illinois River bottom. It isn't much of a river, but it has bottom enough for the Mississippi. Before we got out of there, a detachment of cavalry came back and said that the head of the train was at Fayetteville and that there was no danger and that we might as well go back to the [Prairie Grove] battle ground. This we did and spent several hours watching BURIAL DETAILS of both armies gathering up the DEAD and putting the bodies in trenches. Little white flags on sticks were seen in different places and the soldiers of both armies seemed friendly enough to be comrades.

"Up to that time, I was of the opinion that our own boys had in moments of extreme vocation called our officers all the bad names in the dictionary, but the "Johnnies" had a larger vocabulary of epithets. At the time, I took this contingent as a fair sample of the sentiments prevailing in the Confederate Army; but when I knew more about war, I learned that burial details are made from the most loyal troops in a command to guard against the possibility of desertions. If therefore, these men were the loyal, conservative, and forbearing selections from the force, I wonder what the ordinary men of the rank and file would say.

"What shocked me was the calloused indifference the men displayed towards their late comrades in putting them in the ground. Trenches had been opened in the clay flinty soil to a depth of not more than two feet and about six and a half feet in width. Into these the bodies were tossed with about as much consideration that sacks of potatoes would have received and then sometimes after their coats had been wrapped over them and sometimes without, the clay and gravel was shoveled on and the job was complete. We saw many feet protruding from the ground where there had not been enough earth to put on to cover them. I am speaking now of the Confederates. A little more concern was shown by our own troops, but over against the most heartless act of the enemy may be placed the ferocity of a detail sent to bury the dead of Herron's first line, who filled a well on the bank of the river with dead bodies.

"Union officers were riding over the same field, some of them moved to tears at the scenes around them. This was a cornfield from which our foragers had been scared a few days before by the alarm from Cane Hill. The women and boys left at home had raised a good crop for

"It was the expectation of the Union troops that the battle would be renewed the following morning, but Hindman secured an armistice until the afternoon to "bury the dead and take care of the wounded", but he violated his flag of truce to precipitate his retreat, muffling his cannon wheels and sneaking away in the night!"

Now then, citizens of both the north and south were not prepared for the gigantic amount of death, approximately 750,000, that was incurred in the Civil War and that does not include the unknown amount of civilians who died in that conflict. Both sides were simply unprepared for this and the ritual of death and dying was changed forever in the United States and, of course, the War Went On!

Civil War Round Table of Kansas City History

The Civil War Preservation Award was established by the Executive Committee of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City in 2001. 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. Steve died on February 12, 2002, following a courageous battle with cancer. In February 2002, the name of the award was changed to the Steve Treaster Civil War Preservation Award.

The following obituary appeared in the *Kansas City Star* on February 14, 2002:

Steven D. Treaster

Steven D. Treaster, 50, Shawnee KS died peacefully at his home, Tuesday, February 12, 2002, following a courageous battle against cancer. Services will be 1 p.m. Saturday, February 16, at Southminster Presbyterian Church, 6306 Roe Ave., Prairie Village KS; burial at Old Monticello Cemetery, followed by a reception at the home of A.L. and Susan Summerlin. Visitation from 5-8 p.m. Friday at Amos Family Funeral Home, 10901 Johnson Drive, Shawnee KS.

Steve was born June 10, 1951, at Beloit KS, the son of Carol Mercer Treaster and Darrell Treaster. He was a graduate of Buhler High School and the University of Kansas School of Law. He established a private law practice in Johnson County in 1983, and, as a trial lawyer, specialized in workers compensation. He was a member of the Kansas Bar Association and the Kansas Trial Lawyers Association.

He married Toni Wood on October 24, 1981, and their three boys were the light of his life. Steve was passionate about family stories, Civil War history, good books and battlefield preservation. Recently he was awarded the first Steve Treaster Preservation Award by the Civil War Round Table. He was a past president of the Round Table and was a longtime chairman of the Monnett Fund. He was a past board member for the Johnson County Historical Museum. He also was an elder at Southminster.

Steve is survived by his wife, Toni and three sons, Alex, 16, Grant, 14, and Nicholas, 8, all of the home; parents, Darrell and Shirley Treaster, Pomona KS. He was preceded in death by his mother, Carol Treaster and Grandparents, L.W. and Martha Ann Mercer, Pretty Prairie KS and Ralph and Beryl Treaster, Beloit KS.

The family suggests contributions to the church or the Battle of Westport Fund, care of the funeral home. Steve's friends at Gates, Biles, Shields and Ryan have created an Educational Fund for Steve's children, 10990 Quivira, Overland Park KS.

As members of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City and the Monnett Battle of Westport Fund, we stand on the shoulders of giants like Steve Treaster. He was truly a leader in battlefield preservation.

Events Around Town and Locally

Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

The June 2018 Picnic and Membership Meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 13, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. There will be an indoor picnic at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Village Heights Community of Christ, Fellowship Hall, located at 1009 Farview Drive, Independence, MO. The picnic will be potluck, with the Round Table providing fried chicken and drinks. Everyone else can bring a dish to share. The program will be a "Show and Tell" – Members can share Civil War family history, memorabilia, or what they have been reading. 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 June 12, 2018. The meeting will be held at the Golden Corral restaurant (near the Home Depot), 8800 NW Skyview Avenue, Kansas City MO 64154. Alisha Cole will give a presentation on Laura Ingalls Wilder. 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

Battle of Lexington State Historic Site

There will be two Civil War programs at the Battle of Lexington State Historic Site in Lexington MO: On Saturday, June 23 at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. there will be a program titled: "The death of Archie Clements." On Saturday September 8 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. there will be a program titled "Civil War in Missouri."

New Civil War Books

Paul Kahan has recently published a book titled: The Presidency of Ulysses S. Grant: Preserving the Civil War's Legacy. You might remember that Paul Kahan gave a presentation at our dinner meeting in November of 2016 about his book titled: Amiable Scoundrel: Simon Cameron, Lincoln's Scandalous Secretary of War.

Charles Frazier, author of <u>Cold Mountain</u>, has written a new book about Varina Howell Davis, the wife of Confederate President Jefferson Davis. The title of his book is: *Varina*.



