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Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

506th Regular Meeting

Tuesday, July 24, 2018

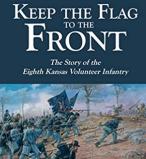
Sunset Ballroom, 8th Floor, Holiday Inn & Suites



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



July Speaker

Bill McFarland, who lives in Topeka KS, will be speaking about his book titled: <u>Keep the Flag to the</u> <u>Front: The Story of the Eighth Kansas Volunteer</u> <u>Infantry</u>.

We would like to thank **Arnold Schofield** for scheduling Mr. McFarland. Arnold said There are not very many histories of Kansas regiment units during the Civil War. Mr. McFarland may come dressed as an officer in the Eighth Kansas Volunteer Infantry. This should be a very interesting program.

by Bill McFarland

Attendance requires a paid dinner reservation.

Please be sure that Susan Keipp receives all reservations by 12:00 noon on Thursday, July 19, 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, July 19th

Make Your Dinner Reservations Early

Please note that dinner reservations are due by 12:00 noon on Thursday, July 19th. 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

Chicken De la Cruz – Sautéed chicken in a roasted pepper, cream and tequila sauce, served with Ranch whipped 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. Bill McFarland

Bill McFarland is a native of Kansas. His interest in the Civil War may have begun with a family legend that claims that one of his ancestors founded the town of Gettysburg PA. Mr. McFarland is descended from men who served in Union regiments from Iowa, Pennsylvania, Indiana and Nebraska. Other ancestors ran a station on the Underground Railroad in Ohio.

Mr. McFarland did his undergraduate work in Geneva College in Pennsylvania and Washburn University in Topeka, majoring in history and secondary education. He holds a Masters degree from Emporia State University and has taught in the public school system for over 30 years. He lives in Topeka KS.

Mr. McFarland has been a Civil War re-enactor for more than 15 years and belongs to a unit that portrays the 8th Kansas Infantry. He has spoken on many occasions on men's experiences in the 8th Kansas Infantry.

2015 Kansas Master Teacher Award Winner

The following article about Mr. McFarland is from the Emporia State University website:

Bill McFarland, 2015 Kansas Master Teacher Seventh-Grade Social Studies Teacher Washburn Rural Middle School USD 437 Auburn Washburn

After nearly 40 years in the classroom, Bill McFarland has a concise teaching philosophy. "In a nutshell," he wrote, "my philosophy of teaching is know your stuff, be enthusiastic, treat everyone with respect, be flexible and have fun."

And McFarland is committed to sharing his philosophy and experience with future teachers. He has supervised more than a dozen student teachers and scores of education majors have observed his classroom. "I have learned from great educators and hope to pass on the very best I have to offer," states McFarland.

McFarland earned a bachelor's degree in history and education from Washburn University in 1977 and a master's degree in educational administration from Emporia State University in 1986. His entire career has been in the Auburn Washburn school district, teaching at Auburn Junior High, Auburn Middle School and Jay Shideler Middle School before moving to Washburn Rural Middle School in 1990. He teaches seventh-grade Kansas history and geography. He is a former football coach and currently is a wrestling coach.

Parents and former students tell of McFarland's ability to bring history alive in class. A Civil War reenactor, McFarland wears his uniform to class and brings in relics to share.

"He knows more about history than anyone I know," wrote a former student. "He uses this tremendous knowledge to enhance his teaching. He does not just teach the basics, but he includes incredible stories and pictures." Many of these stories come from McFarland's dedication to research. During his summers, he spends time at the National Archives and Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., as well as Gettysburg and other Civil War battlefields in the eastern United States.

Some of McFarland's students create projects for History Day competition even after they leave his class. "Last year at National History Day in Washington, D.C., he surprised me by coming to watch my presentation," a former student wrote.

McFarland's love of history and sharing it with others extends beyond the classroom. Author of the book <u>Keep the Flag to the Front, The Story of the 8th</u> <u>Kansas Volunteer Infantry</u>, McFarland is a frequent guest at civic organizations and other classrooms besides his own.

"Mr. McFarland has touched the hearts and minds of countless students. ... My life has been enhanced on an academic and personal level due to Mr. McFarland's passion, devotion and love for history and teaching," writes a former student. "I am so honored to have had him as a teacher."

Keep the Flag to the Front: The Story of the Eighth Kansas Volunteer Infantry

The Amazon website has the following description of Mr. McFarland's book that was published in 2008:

"A riveting new biography about the American Civil War, <u>Keep the Flag to the Front</u> documents a longoverlooked topic of this war: the history of one regiment, the Eighth Volunteer Infantry in Kansas. The story behind the 8th Kansas is one that could be a novel; and the research done by author Bill McFarland is amazing in its detail. Plus McFarland tracked down photographs that have never been published. The book includes over 140 photographs and illustrations, including nearly 60 images of the men who served in the regiment.

"The 8th Kansas Volunteer Infantry, known as the Kansas Greyhounds, was organized in 1861 as a Home Guard unit but was soon ordered east. Ironically, when it was mustered out in January of 1866, this regiment that had been recruited with the guarantee that it would serve solely within the boundaries of Kansas, had traveled 10,750 miles! The 8th skirmished with forces led by the notorious guerrilla William Quantrill. It participated in such battles as Perryville, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, the Atlanta Campaign, and Nashville. It was also the last Kansas regiment to be discharged after the war ended."

Mr. McFarland plans to bring 12 copies of his book to sell at the dinner meeting on July 24th.

The Sergeant Major's Book Sales and Auction

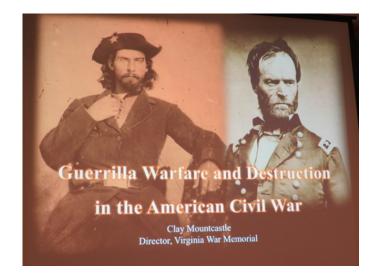
We would like to thank **Arnold Schofield** for doing an outstanding job of raising money for the Round Table through his live auction and silent auction book sales. Arnold will auction the following books at the July dinner meeting:

- <u>Soldiers Blue & Gray</u>; by James I. Robertson, Jr.; University of South Carolina Press, Columbia SC, 1988; 1st Edition. In excellent condition, with dust jacket.
- <u>The Vicksburg Campaign, April 1862 July</u> <u>1863;</u> by David Martin; Combined Books Publishing Company, Conshohocken PA, 1994; In excellent condition, with dust jacket.
- <u>Grant Wins the War: Decision at Vicksburg;</u> by James Arnold; John Wiley & Sons, New York NY, 1997; 1st Edition. In excellent condition, with dust jacket.
- <u>Robert E. Lee: A Biography;</u> Emory M. Thomas; W & W Norton & Co.; New York NY, 1997; In excellent condition, with dust jacket.

Last Month's Program



At our dinner meeting on June 26th, **Dr. Clay Mountcastle** spoke 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 focused on the role of the Confederate insurgency and guerilla operations in the several theaters of the war and the Federal response to the insurgency.



The key points of Dr. Mountcastle's talk were:

- 1. The Civil War's "guerilla problem" was both widespread and influential.
- 2. The Union's response of "Punitive War" was more significant than most histories have recorded.
- 3. Understanding both helps to understand the true depth and complexity of the American Civil War.

The Guerilla Problem: During the Civil War, there was a level of violence occurring in many small towns. Neighbors were shooting at neighbors and at occupying Union forces. However, the Confederate resistance was unorganized and decentralized. Resistance sprung up grass-roots fashion and was hard to define. It was basically armed, violent resistance.

Punitive War: The Union responded militarily in order to punish local civilians. Union troops occupying areas should have expected that people would be unhappy and would resist because that is what happened during the Mexican War.

Dr. Mountcastle said General Thomas Ewing's General Order No. 11 really got his attention. In 1863, the Union Army forced the evacuation of rural areas in four counties in western Missouri (Jackson, Cass, Bates, and Vernon). A total of 5,000 to 10,000 people were sent packing and their farms were burned.

How effective was Punitive War? Dr. Mountcastle said in some cases it worked and in some cases it didn't. He said the destructiveness was a big deal in 19th Century America. Union soldiers forcing people out of their homes and killing livestock before winter was a big deal.

Dr. Mountcastle said guerilla warfare shaped how the Civil War was conducted. It affected the outcome of the war as fought by Union Generals Grant and Sherman. At the end of his presentation, Dr. Mountcastle discussed what he thought about removal of Confederate monuments. He is Director of the Virginia War Memorial in Richmond VA, which honors veterans serving after World War II. Dr. Mountcastle is responsible for memory and memorialization. He said memorialization is exceedingly political. That is not a bad thing, but people should make an informed decision. It is an opportunity to study this issue. Dr. Mountcastle said, as a historian, the idea of a statue being removed from a public space scares him. Statues are valuable because they spark discussion. In his opinion, statues should not be removed without discussion.



Dan Smith introduced the speaker at our dinner meeting on June 26th. Dan serves as Chairman of the Monnett Battle of Westport Fund.

Upcoming Speaker Schedule

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> <u>The Sixteen Critical Decisions that Define the Battle</u>.

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 are sorry to report that **Steve Harris'** wife Helen Carmen Harris passed away. Her funeral service was held on Saturday, July 7th at St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church, 4313 S. W. State Route 7, Blue Springs, MO. Steve has been a member of the Round Table for many years and had been taking care of his wife. Please keep Steve and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

We were glad to see some of our injured members at our dinner meeting on June 26th. Arnold Schofield fell and broke his right forearm in five places on May 22nd. Arnold will get his cast off on July 11th and then will have physical therapy. Purd Wright fell and broke his kneecap. However, Purd did not need to have surgery and appears to be doing well. Bob Macoubrie had a bad fall during the bus trip to Glagow MO on May 12th. He cut his left eyebrow and right hand and fractured his forehead. Bob had to get stitches and suffered a headache for about two weeks. Bob looked much better and was in good spirits at the dinner meeting.

Dick Titterington's wife has retired and they are going to be moving back east in April of 2019. Dick said he will be taking over administration of the website when **Ron Basel** becomes president of the Round Table.

Gary Nevius has purchased a house near Orlando FL and will be spending a lot of his time there in the future.

Don Bates, his son Don Bates, Jr., and his granddaughter Andrea were honored prior to the Royals baseball game on June 16th. Don and his family have been season ticket holders for 50 years. Congratulations Don!

CWRT Executive Committee Meeting

There will be a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Civil War Round Table immediately prior to the dinner meeting on **Tuesday**, **July 24th at 5:30 p.m.** The purpose of the meeting is to discuss speakers for next year and possible venues for our future dinner meetings.

We Remember, 60th Anniversary Edition

Dick Titterington would like to remind everyone who didn't get their copy of the book to come to July 24th dinner meeting and pick up their copy. The preorder price is \$10.00 per copy, payable when you get your book.

The Story, Retribution of Arrow Rock

New Round Table member **Rick Manfredi** has written a book about the Civil War titled: <u>*The Story,*</u> <u>*Retribution of Arrow Rock.*</u> The following is a write-up prepared by Rick regarding his book:

"At our June 26th dinner meeting, we heard Dr. Clay Mountcastle speak about his book, "*Punitive War*." That work is about the Confederate insurgency and guerilla operations in several states and the Federal response during the Civil War.

"I finished a book this year, <u>The Story, Retribution of</u> <u>Arrow Rock</u>, which cites this punitive war in Missouri upon specific Confederate Partisan Rangers and specific southern citizens and the response by officers of the Department of Missouri. Those Confederates and southern people just happen to be my ancestors.

"The main characters in my book are my great-great grandfather, Marshall Durrett Piper, his son Alonzo Piper, his nephew John W. Piper and the man that executed him, Lt. Col. Bazel F. Lazear of the 1st Missouri Militia Cavalry.

"In writing, I strove to put the reader in the time and place of each of these individuals, so you would know them, their motives, and desires.

"My grandmother first told this true story to me in 1961. Since then, I have gathered many more facts, which completed her story.

"The book is often not pretty, as both Confederates and Federals committed terrible acts against the other side. The lesson learned from this dark period in our history is: civil wars must be avoided at all costs.

"I will be doing my second book signing in Marshall MO on August 4, 2018. It also is being sold by the State of Missouri at the Arrow Rock Historic Site in Arrow Rock MO."

Sergeant Major's Roar

Battlefield Dispatches #516 In and out of Hospital

One of the worst things that could happen to a Civil War soldier was to end up in a hospital, because he often died from disease or a serious battle wound and ended up leaving in a coffin. Corporal Albert R. Greene of the Ninth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry was one of the lucky troopers, who survived an extended stay in a Union Hospital in the early winter of 1862 in northwestern Arkansas, and lived to fight another day. The following is his description of his stay in the hospital and return to his Company, which was published in his memoir in *Volume XIV, 1915-1918 in the Kansas Historical Collections.*

"Our brigade returned to its old camp at Rhea's Mill [in Northwest Arkansas] and remained there until the end of December 1862. From the 9^{th} to the 20^{th} of December, I was sick in the regimental hospital, where

after good care for a week, I was able to sit up for a few hours. My nurse, a Sister of Charity, brought me some chicken broth for a Christmas dinner and raised me up to see a magnolia tree in full bloom just outside of the window. This was the first tree of the kind I had ever seen. The next day, a detail from our regiment came over with an ambulance and orders for all who were able to ride a horse, to turn out. Corporal Moore (son of the man who died at Bower's Mils, Mo.) commanded the detail from our company and had brought my horse. That settled it for me. The sight of "Lanterwasser" made me strong. He had been given the best of care during my absence and was fat and saucy. The hospital attendants protested loudly at our going, but we turned out a squad of a dozen or so not withstanding. To show my complete recovery, I insisted on riding my own horse, while the orders were for us to ride in the ambulance. In the act of mounting, I went up on one side and became dizzv and came down on the other. Then I got in the ambulance, but insisted on leading "Lanterwasser" and, for that purpose, I sat on the back end, where he could put his head in to be caressed. I think he was as glad to see me, as I was to see him.

"When we got to camp, the boys with one accord characterized me as all the known varieties of a fool for leaving the hospital. However, the officers of the Company praised me for coming and that helped a whole lot. And right there came in a touch of nature that showed the essence of comradeship. I was given the best of the food and the boys tried to outdo each other in caring for me. My "bunky", Hi Rothrock, got a chicken, as soldiers will, and cooked it for me and before bedtime I began to feel fit for a trip at hand, for Hindman did not come to us, we were going to him.

"From my diary I quote: "December 27. Reveille at 3:30 and two hours later we were strung out on the march for Cane Hill and for the south. At Cane Hill we visited the Confederate hospital and saw cots full of wounded men. Crossed the ridge of the Boston Mountains and camped at the foot. Good roads today and grand mountain scenery. Learned since our occupation of this part of the country a number of men have enlisted in the Union army. Twenty loyal Arkansans in and around Cane Hill enlisted in the Ninth Kansas.

"December 28, Sunday. Formed a junction with Herron's division at Lee's Creek. He has been camped at Prairie Grove since the fight and marched from there down the "Wire Road" to this place. Blunts' Division was given the advance, as he is the senior officer. The Second Kansas Cavalry, with a couple of mountain howitzers [cannons], is in the advance. And the Ninth is next. Company A is in advance of the regiment. The valley of Lee's Creek is comparatively straight south, but the stream winds from one side to the other all the way down. If a string of unraveled yarn were placed on a table and the other string laid straight across the many curves, one could have an idea of the course of this stream, the straight string representing our road. We crossed it thirty seven times today. The winter rains have swelled it until it is a river about forty vards in width and at no ford less in depth than up to the bellies of the horses. In making one crossing, the infantry had to hold their guns at arm's length above their heads, with their cartridge belts slung over them, the water being up to their armpits. As the current is very swift, some of the soldiers were swept off their feet and came near drowning. Others climbed on the ambulances, but the mounted officers beat them off with the flat of their sabers. The united command is reported to have 9,000 men, of which eight regiments are infantry. Soon I can see what number of poor boys suffered in this icy water today. Of course the cavalry and artillery crossed without difficulty. At nine o'clock the Second Kansas captured the enemy's pickets [guards] and from then on we rode in at a trot and much of the time at a gallop. At last we came to a place where the creek turns off into Indian Territory and from there we had a better road and got ahead faster.

"At eleven o'clock we heard cannonading and our Colonel turned his horse and rode back at a gallop, shouting at the top of his voice, "They're at it, they're at it!" Its ludicrousness struck us all at the same time and was greeted with roars of laughter, interspersed with impertinent questions, such, for instance, as, "Where are you going, this is not Newtonia!" Then we heard a volley of musketry to the right and soon after saw the enemy in line, backing out of their camps and firing as they retreated. The Colonel not having returned from notifying his regiment that a battle was on, Captain Earl ordered our Company, "On right into line" and we formed a line at a gallop, jumped our horses over a low rail fence and tore across an open field toward the [enemy's] camp. The companies following supposed that the order was for the regiment and formed similarly on our right and a company of Indian scouts on the right of them. Soon the woods were full of mounted men as well as the little field through which we had come. A few shots were fired and the Indians raised the yell and it was all over. Any soldier will remember how much faster the outer flank is required to move than the pivot in making such a formation as ours. Those of us who were nearest the pivot in this case were spurring our horses to do their best and the flank was simply flying.

"In that part of the field there was a big log over which the horses had to leap! One of our sergeants was over there and, hearing a yell of laughter, I looked to see what it was about. He had cleared the log, but was without his forage cap and he was lying on his horse's neck holding on with both hands. He was without a headpiece for the day." Now then, Corporal Greene was very fortunate to survive his extended stay in his Regimental Hospital and he did indeed fight for another and many days and, Of Course, the War Went On!

Civil War Round Table of Kansas City History

We currently have 109 members in the Round Table. **Dan Smith** and **Don Bates** are the longest tenured members of the Round Table. Did you know that there are 23 current members who were members back in 2001? They are as follows:

- Sandy Ackerson (president in 1994)
- Don Bates, Sr. (president in 2002 and 2012)
- Jo Anna Dale
- Harriet Duff (president in 1997)
- Mike Epstein
- Paul Gault
- Steve Harris
- Bob Macoubrie
- Arnold Schofield (president in 2003)
- John Showalter
- Lindsey Shull
- Ed Shutt (president in 1986 and 2001)
- Dan Smith (president in 1980 and 2005)
- Gerald and Judy Smith
- Herschel and Jacque Stroud
- Blair Tarr (president in 2004)
- Les Thierolf (president in 1998)
- Austin H. Turney
- Mary Vorsten
- Purd and Margaret Wright

Thank you for your long-time support of our Round Table! You made this a great organization to be a part of. During the dinner meeting on June 26th, Dr. Mountcastle thanked us for preserving history. He said this type of community is vital, in order to keep history in the forefront of our minds.

The Round Table's Website

Embedded throughout our emailed newsletter are links to the website. Just click on those links and find out what great information is available on the <u>Civil War</u> 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

Events Around Town

Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

On Wednesday, July 11, 2018, Denis Worthington will be speaking about "The Confederate Navy: Success or Failure?"

On Wednesday, August 8, 2018, Barbara Hughes will be speaking about "The Harris and Lobb Families of Blue Springs MO.

The meetings will be held at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Heights Community of Christ, Fellowship Hall, located at 1009 Farview Drive, Independence, MO.

The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri is also planning a weekend trip to Pea Ridge Battlefield on Saturday and Sunday, October 6-7, 2018.

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

Kansas City Posse of the Westerners

On Tuesday July 10, 2018, Terry Elliott will be speaking on "Oklahoma Outlaws - A Trail of Connections."

On Tuesday, August 14, 2018, Ken Johnson will be speaking on "Post Traders - 1868-1890."

The meetings will be held at the Golden Corral restaurant (located 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.

Historical Society of Lee's Summit

On Friday, August 3, 2018, Dr. Ann Raab, professor at UMKC, will be speaking on "Archaeology of General Order No. 11: Loss and Recovery in Bates County." Meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. at the museum located at 220 SW Main St., Lee's Summit MO.

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



