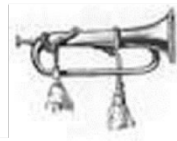




# BORDER



# BUGLE

Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City



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P.O. Box 6202

Shawnee Mission, KS

66206

An IRC 501(c)(3)

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## 523rd Regular Meeting

**Tuesday, December 17, 2019**

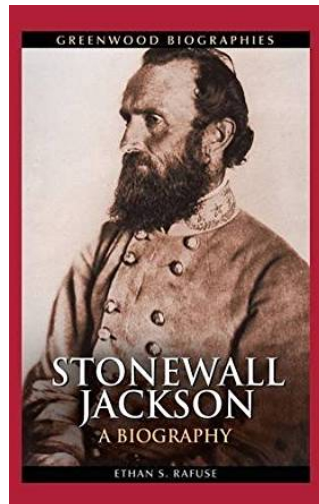
**Sunset Ballroom, 8th Floor, Holiday Inn & Suites**

8787 Reeder Rd., Overland Park, KS 66214

Social Hour - Cash Bar – 5:30 p.m.

Dinner - 6:30 p.m.

## December Speaker



**Dr. Ethan Rafuse** professor of military history at the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College in Fort Leavenworth KS will be speaking about Confederate General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson. Dr. Rafuse wrote a biography about Stonewall Jackson that was published in 2011.

Our dinner meeting this month will be held on the third Tuesday of December, due to the Christmas Holiday. So please make your dinner reservations early.

**Attendance requires a paid dinner reservation of \$29.00 per person.**

**Please be sure that Susan Keipp receives all dinner reservations by 12:00 noon on Thursday, December 12, 2019.** You can make a dinner reservation by calling Susan at 816-333-0025 or by e-mailing her at: <mailto:skeipp@kc.rr.com>

Due to problems with PayPal, Susan prefers that members pay for their meals either at the dinner meeting or by mailing her a check prior to the dinner meeting. If you choose to mail Susan a check, send to:

**Susan Keipp, 436 West 88th Terrace, Kansas City, MO 64114**

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

## Important Dinner Reservation Information

**Please note that the price for a dinner is \$29.00 per person. Dinner reservations are due to Susan Keipp by 12:00 noon on Thursday, December 12th.**

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 not show up at the dinner meeting without having made a dinner reservation. Last month, we had 62 people at our dinner meeting. However, six people showed up without a dinner reservation. As a result, the Holiday Inn staff had to scramble to fix enough meals for everyone in attendance. This slowed down the meal process. Please adhere to the reservation policy. If you are bringing any guests, you have to let Susan know prior to the dinner reservation deadline.

Payment for a dinner reservation is required regardless of whether or not you attend, unless the reservation is cancelled prior to the reservation deadline. Advance payment for a missed meeting will not carry over, but will be applied with the other payments to the meeting for which it was intended, since we have to pay the hotel for that meal, whether or not the person attends. A missed reservation made with payment that was to be made at the door will still require payment.

Thank you for your cooperation!

## 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.

Please let Susan know if you want a vegetarian meal or a gluten-free meal when you make your reservation

## Meet Our Speaker

**Ethan S. Rafuse** received his Ph.D. in history and political science from the University of Missouri-Kansas City and since 2005 has been a member of the faculty at the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, where he is a professor of military history. His published works include *Manassas: A Battlefield Guide*, *Stonewall Jackson: A Biography*, and *A Single Grand Victory: The First Campaign and Battle of Manassas*, as well as over 350 articles, essays, entries

in reference works, and reviews. In 2018-2019, Dr. Rafuse was the Charles Boal Ewing Distinguished Professor of History at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

Dr. Rafuse has given programs at several of our Civil War Round Table dinner meetings in the past and is an excellent speaker.



**December Speaker - Dr. Ethan S. Rafuse**

## 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. The books sales brought in over \$190 at the November dinner meeting. Arnold will auction the following Civil War books at the December dinner meeting:

- *The Civil War: State by State* by Chester G. Hern. Published by Blue Red Press, Devon, England in 2013. In mint condition with dust jacket and mylar cover.
- *Lee & His Generals* by Captain William P. Snow. Reprint of 1867 Edition. Published by Gramercy Press, New York, in 1996. In mint condition with dust jacket and mylar cover.
- *The Life and Travels of General Grant* by J. T. Headly. Published by Hubbard Brothers, Philadelphia PA in 1879. First Edition. In excellent condition.
- *Lamson of the Gettysburg: The Civil War Letters of Lt. Roswell H. Lamson, U.S. Navy* by

James M. and Patricia R. McPherson. Published by Oxford University Press, New York. In mint condition with dust jacket and mylar cover.

- *Green & His New York Troops at Gettysburg.* Published by J. B. Lyon & Company, State Printers, Albany NY in 1909. In mint condition.
- *Lee and Grant at Appomattox* by McKinley Kantor. "Landmark Book" published by Random House, New York in 1950. In excellent condition with dust jacket and mylar cover.
- *Rural Rhymes, Talks and Tales of Olden Times* by Martin Rice, Lone Jack MO. Published by Ramsey, Millet & Hudson, Kansas City in 1882. In very good condition.
- *Stonewall Jackson: The Man, the Soldier, & the Legend* by Dr. James I. Robertson. Published by MacMillan Publishing Company, New York in 1997. In mint condition.
- *Official Records of the War of the Rebellion, Series I, Volume 44.* Published by the National Historical Society, Harrisburg PA, 1971. Includes the Savannah Campaign of 1864. In mint condition.
- Plus, Arnold promises to have some Christmas surprises!

## Last Month's Program



At our dinner meeting held on November 26th, **Ms. Connie Langum**, Park Ranger and Historian at Wilson's Creek National Battlefield, gave a very interesting program titled: "The Battles of and for Newtonia, 1862 and 1864 to Today."

The first battle of Newtonia was fought on September 30, 1862. The battle pitted Union Brig. General James Blunt against Confederate Col. J.O. Shelby. Confederate forces numbered 4,000. Union forces numbered about 6,500. The 1862 battle was one of the very few Civil War encounters in which Native Americans fought on both sides. Southern forces had Choctaw, Cherokee, and Chickasaw soldiers, while other Cherokee soldiers fought with the North. The Confederate 1st Cherokee fought against Chief John Ross and his "Pin Indians" who were sympathetic to the Union. Ms. Langum said the Native Americans fought each other in hand-to-hand combat using traditional warfare: scalps, tomahawks, etc. A turning point in the battle occurred when the Native Americans got out of control. This was a relatively short engagement lasting about six hours. Today, the site includes 30-35 acres of the battlefield and the Matthew H. Ritchey Mansion, which served as headquarters for both Union and Confederate troops at different points.

The second battle of Newtonia was fought on October 28, 1864. The battle was a delaying action fought by Shelby to protect General Sterling Price's retreat to Arkansas. It was the last battle of the Civil War fought in Missouri. Price's objective was to take Missouri for the Confederacy. However, Price was an infantry commander, not a cavalry commander. Price failed miserably. He had too long of a wagon train. Shelby protected Price's flank and rear. Today, the 1864 battlefield is open cornfield.

Additional points made by Ms. Langum are as follows:

- You can read all about a battle, but until you walk the field, you do not know what those soldiers experienced.
- Newtonia is located in the southwest corner of Missouri. It was centrally located near lead mines. The population of Newtonia today is only about 200, which is less than it was during the 1860's. It is a very rural area.
- In 1993, a Civil War Sites Advisory Commission categorized about 2,000 battlefields as to what could be preserved versus what could not be preserved. The 1864 battlefield was on the Priority 1 list. The 1862 battlefield was on the Priority 2 list. Ms. Langum helped get grant money to preserve the battlefield. Originally there were 8.4 acres of donated land.
- In 1998, the Newtonia Battlefield Protection Association became a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. The Newtonia Battlefield Protection Association preserves and interprets the Matthew H. Ritchey home and the surrounding 1862 and 1864 battlefields. Most of



the land is in private hands. They do not own any property related to the 2nd battle of Newtonia.

- The Ritchey home was built in 1840 using slave labor. This 2-story house was used as a headquarters and field hospital during the battle. The Ritchey family and their slaves are buried in the Ritchey family cemetery. In 2005, ground-penetrating radar was used to uncover remnants of the African-American cemetery. Ms. Langum said you can be a caretaker, but you cannot own a cemetery.
- In 2003, the Newtonia Battlefield received \$146,050 from the U.S government to cover half of the cost of the property.
- In 2007, Rudy Farber donated \$90,000 to pay off the debt on the Ritchey mansion.
- The National Park Service conducted a Newtonia Battlefields Special Resource Study. Their report, dated January of 2013, concluded: "The National Park Service finds that the Newtonia Battlefields do not meet the criteria for establishing an independent unit of the National Park System and do not meet the established criteria for an addition to Wilson's Creek National Battlefield. No new federal ownership or management is proposed." Although, she served as an advisor on the study, Ms. Langum disagreed with the findings of the study because of the Native American involvement during the first battle. Senator Roy Blunt of Missouri is still pursuing this. Ms. Langum said her goal is to become the first superintendent at Newtonia.
- 30-35 acres of land are owned now. Ms. Langum would like to add another 5 acres. However, they have not been able to buy any more land, because it is prime cornfield. The current landowner owns over 100 acres. However, the owner is not willing to sell any of their land or allow the National Park Service to interpret the battlefield. Ms. Langum said conservation easements are only good if you have a willing landowner.

### Upcoming Speaker Schedule for 2020

- **January 28, 2020:** Dr. Harry S. Laver with the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College will be speaking about Union General Ulysses S. Grant.
- **February 25, 2020:** Round Table member **Arnold Schofield** will be speaking about "The Myth of Black Soldiers of the Confederacy."

- **March 24, 2020:** Dr. Jeff Gentsch, professor of history at West Alabama University, will be giving a program about the use of artillery at the battle of Shiloh.
- **April 28, 2020:** Dr. Chris Phillips will be giving a program about Missouri in the Civil War.
- **May 26, 2020:** Dr. Paul Kahan will be giving a program about his latest book: *The Presidency of Ulysses S. Grant*.
- **June 23, 2020:** Jeffery D. Wert from Centerville PA will be speaking about his new book titled: *Civil War Barons*.
- **July 28, 2020:** Matt Spruill will give a program about the battle of Chickamauga GA.
- **August 25, 2020:** David T. Dixon will be speaking about his new book titled: *The Lost Gettysburg Address*.
- **September 22, 2020:** Dennis E. Frye will be giving a program about Harpers Ferry.
- **October 27, 2020:** Judy Cook will be giving a program dressed in period attire titled: "Life on the Home Front."
- **November 17, 2020:** Wayne Motts, CEO of the National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg PA will be our speaker.
- **December 15, 2020:** Round Table member **Deb Buckner** will be giving a program about Libby Custer, wife of George Armstrong Custer.

### Please Renew Your Membership for 2020

Now is the time to renew your membership in the Civil War Round Table for next year. The membership dues go to pay for our speaker travel costs as well as our administrative expenses (office supplies, printing, postage, bank charges, website fees, corporate reports, plaques, name tags, etc.). Membership dues are the same for 2020 as they were for this year: \$35 per individual or \$55 per couple. Please submit your 2020 membership dues by December 31, 2019. You can pay **Susan Keipp** at an upcoming dinner meeting or else you can mail her a check. Thank you for being a member of the Round Table!

### We Are Looking for a New Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer

**Susan Keipp and Dennis Garstang** have faithfully served as treasurer and assistant treasurer of our Round Table since taking over for **Paul Gault** in April of 2015. Susan and Dennis would like to retire from their current positions. If you would be interested in serving the

Round Table in one of these two capacities, please let Susan, Dennis, or **Dan Dooley** know. Susan said she is willing to stay on until her replacement is trained. You do not have to be a CPA in order to do this job. Some experience with bookkeeping software or Excel spreadsheets would be beneficial.

## Member News

We would like to welcome the following new members:

- **Hether Belusky.** Hether has attended the last two dinner meetings and decided to join the Round Table at the Round Table meeting in November. See photo on page 7.
- **Sharon Blaine.** Sharon lives in Kansas City MO. Her 2nd great-grandfather served in the Union during the Civil War.
- **Kathy Thomas.** Kathy lives in Olathe KS.
- **Harry Wigner.** Harry lives in Prairie Village KS and is a friend of Round Table member **Gary Nevius.** Harry is an attorney for Lathrop Gage. Harry's great-grandfather, William J. Wigner, was a private in Company G of the 10th West Virginia Volunteers. William was wounded in the foot at the Second Battle of Kernstown VA in July of 1864.

Please introduce yourself to these new members at an upcoming dinner meeting and make them feel welcome.

**Susan Keipp** was in the hospital for a few days in November. We wish her full recovery and a return to good health.

**Peggy Wright** said she lived in the Matthew H. Ritchey House in Newtonia MO from 1960-1983. The house was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1978. Peggy sold the house for \$25,000. Since the house was considered to be historic, she could not modify the exterior. However, she could do anything she wanted to the interior. Peggy said the house was built in 1840, using bricks made by slaves and hardwood pine brought in from Arkansas.

**Gary Christy** sent the following link to an article about an actual giant that served in the Civil War: <https://www.wearethemighty.com/history/giant-served-civil-war>

Martin Van Buren Bates was 7'-11" tall and weighed 500 pounds! He served for the Confederacy in the 5th Kentucky Infantry. He was promoted to captain, severely wounded, captured, and imprisoned at Camp Chase in Ohio. While touring with the circus after the war, Bates married Anna Swan who was also 7'-11" tall.

## Civil War Trivia Questions

The following trivia questions are based on the book titled: *May I Quote You, General Lee? - Observations from the South's Great Leaders.* Identify the Confederate officers that made the following statements:

1. "There is Jackson standing like a stone wall. Let us determine to die here, and we will conquer."
2. "We shall attack at daylight tomorrow. I would fight them if they were a million."
3. "I did not come here for the purpose of surrendering my command."
4. "Up men, and to your posts! Don't forget today you are from Old Virginia."
5. "It is well that war is so terrible, else, men would learn to love it too much."
6. "Once you get them running, you can stay on top of them, and that way a small force can defeat a large one every time."
7. "War means fighting, and fighting means killing."
8. "Do your duty in all things. You cannot do more. You should never wish to do less."
9. "Colonel Walker, did it ever occur to you that General Jackson is crazy?"
10. "At present, I am not concerned with results. God's will ought to be our aim, and I am quite contented that His designs should be accomplished and not mine."

The answers are shown on page 6.

## Sergeant Major's Roar

### Battlefield Dispatches #439

### Christmas Bells

By Christmas Day in 1863, the Civil War had long since become a long war of attrition that was going to be waged to the bitter end and one side became the totally defeated vanquished foe. Gone were the days and thoughts of a short war where both sides would agree to peace and the United States and the Confederate States of America would live happily ever after! In spite of the war, Christmas was Christmas and was celebrated by both sides, especially on the home front where there was both joy and sorrow. Joy if the soldier far away from home was safe and sorrow if there was a vacant chair at the dinner table, which indicated the soldier was missing in action or had been killed in action.

In the home of Henry Wordsworth Longfellow in Cambridge, Massachusetts there was both joy and sorrow. Joy because his son who was severely wounded in the Battle of New Hope, Virginia had survived and sorrow because his wife had recently died. Then on Christmas Day, December 25, 1863, he heard the peeling of the church bells and wrote the following poem:

#### “Christmas Bells”

I heard the bells on Christmas Day  
Their old familiar carols play,  
And wild and sweet  
The words repeat  
Of peace on earth, good will to men!

And thought how, as the day had come,  
The belfries of Christendom  
Had rolled along  
The unbroken song  
Of peace on earth, good will to men!

Till ringing, singing on its way,  
The world revolved from night to day,  
A voice, a chime  
A chant sublime  
Of peace on earth good will to men!

Then from each black, accursed mouth  
The cannon thundered in the South,  
And with the sound  
The carols drowned  
Of peace on earth, good will to men!

It was as if an earthquake rent  
The hearthstones of a continent  
And made forlorn  
The households born  
Of peace on earth, good will to men!

And in despair I bowed my head;  
“There is no peace on earth”, I said;  
“For hate is strong,  
And mocks the song  
Of peace on earth, good will to men!”

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep;  
“God is not dead; nor doth He sleep!  
The Wrong shall fail,  
The Right prevail,  
Of peace on earth, good will to men!”

\*\*\*\*\*

Now then, “Christmas Bells” as a poem was not published until 1865, it was set to music in 1872 by John Baptiste Calkin, who was an English organist and the title was changed to: “I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day.” Thank you Henry Wordsworth Longfellow for one of our popular Christmas Carols that originated from your and our pain and suffering of our Civil War!

## Events Around Town

### Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

The December Membership Meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 11, 2019 at the Village Heights Community of Christ fellowship hall, located at 1009 Farview Drive, Independence MO. There will not be a meal. However, members are encouraged to bring their favorite Christmas goodies to share. **Jim Beckner** will be giving a program titled: “Civil War Santa.” If you have any questions, please call **Beverly Shaw** at 816-225-7944.

### Kansas City Posse of the Westerners

There will be a meeting of the Westerners group on Tuesday, December 10, 2019. The meeting 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. The cost is \$12.00 or less and non-members are welcome. Round Table member **Lane Smith** will be giving a program titled: “The Dalton Boys.” For more information, call **Deb Buckner** at 913-338-5689 or **Dennis Garstang** at 816-569-1180.

## Answers to the Civil War Trivia Questions

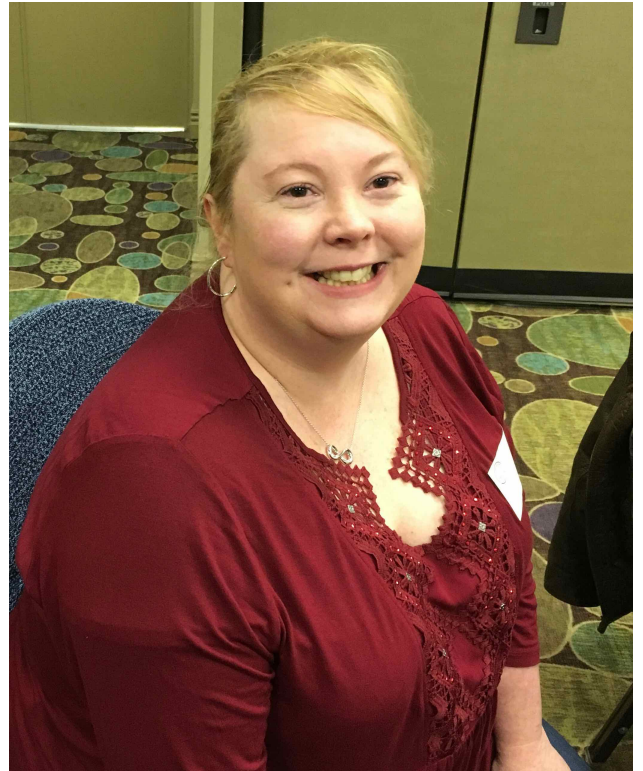
1. Bernard E. Bee, First Battle of Manassas, 1861.
2. Albert Sidney Johnston, Shiloh 1862.
3. Nathan B. Forrest, Fort Donelson 1862.
4. George Pickett, Gettysburg, 1863.
5. Robert E. Lee, Fredericksburg VA 1862.
6. Stonewall Jackson.
7. Nathan B. Forrest.
8. Robert E. Lee.
9. Dick Ewell.
10. Robert E. Lee, 1861.



## Photos from the November Dinner Meeting



**Paul Gault, who served many years as treasurer of our Round Table.**



**Hether Belusky, who is the newest member of our Round Table. Welcome Hether!**



**Roger Stanton, who has been a big supporter of our live auction book sales.**



**Ron Basel and guest Liz Hackworth. Liz teaches third grade in the Shawnee Mission School District.**





**Speaker Connie Langum and her husband Rick.**



**Round Table President Dan Dooley discussing the history of Thanksgiving.**

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

