

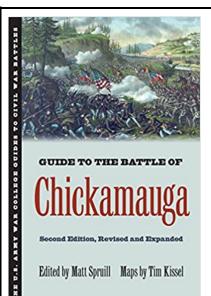
**EXECUTIVE OFFICERS** 





Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

Due to the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic, the CWRT dinner meeting scheduled for July 28, 2020 has been cancelled. Our monthly dinner meetings will resume when it is safe to do so.



## July Speaker

Civil War historian and author **Matt Spruill** from Littleton CO was scheduled to speak about the Battle of Chickamauga. However, Matt requested to cancel his program. Not only was he concerned about traveling (flying) and being in large groups, but his wife has cancer and her immune system is compromised. Matt said she cannot travel and he needs to be home with her. We are hoping to reschedule Matt's program for 2022.

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Civil War Round Table of Kansas City P.O. Box 6202 Overland Park, KS 66207

An IRC 501(c)(3) Charitable Organization Website- <u>http://cwrtkc.org/</u> Join us on Facebook!

#### Letter from our Round Table's President

The following letter was issued to members of our Round Table on June 23, 2020:

#### Dear Round Table Members:

These are troubled times. Changes in social behavior are sweeping the country and the world. There are few aspects of our daily lives that have not been affected, or continue to be affected. Some of these changes will be permanent, altering how we interact with each other from now on.

News regarding the pandemic in our area contains mixed messages. While the vast majority of cases have been confined to congregate living facilities such as nursing homes or prisons, there are still cases being reported across the region, in some areas at a growing rate. We are still being advised to remain at home if at all possible, and to wear masks when out in public. Gatherings in a confined setting are still being discouraged.

I think it is safe to say that we all yearn for the day when we can reconvene, share a meal and conversation, and learn more about our shared past. While there are those among our group who are urging that day to be soon, others are more apprehensive about close contact. Striking a balance is difficult. In discussions with the hotel, we did confirm that they could set up the downstairs room with chairs only, spread them out to allow proper distancing, and we could meet for a speaker only, with no social hour, dinner, book sales, or auction. That alternative would allow us to meet, but even with that, some among us were not comfortable with that level of interaction. Consequently, we have decided to cancel the July meeting of our Round Table with the hope and expectation that things will be sufficiently improved in August to meet in some format.

I know this decision will disappoint some, while others will nod their head in agreement. Such is the time we live in. Agreement on almost anything is difficult. This particular decision was made easier by reminding ourselves that our main concern is the safety of our members, and our meetings are not "essential" to our wellbeing. We will meet again, hopefully in August, and hopefully with no apprehension or anxiety.

Until we do meet again, please stay safe, show common sense, good judgment and patience. Finish those books you have been meaning to get to, explore YouTube for historical offerings, check out CSPAN for presentations on the Civil War, and stay in touch with each other. We look forward to seeing all of you.

Regards,

Dan Dooley President Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

### **This Month's Program Cancelled**



Matt Spruill is a retired U.S. Army colonel and a former Gettysburg Licensed Battlefield Guide. He has a BA in History from The Citadel and a MA in History from the University of Missouri. A graduate of the U.S. Army Command and Staff College and the U.S. Army War College, he was also on the faculty of both. For the last three decades, Matt has been studying, researching, writing, and speaking on the Civil War. He is the author of nine Civil War books and three revised second editions. Three of his books are part of the University of Tennessee Press' prestigious series "Command Decisions in the American Civil War." Matt conducts tours, historical seminars, and staff rides at Gettysburg, Antietam, Second Manassas, Seven Days, Stones River, Chickamauga, and Chattanooga. He and his wife, Kathy, live in Littleton, CO.

The following is a summary of Mr. Spruill's book titled: <u>Guide to the Battle of Chickamauga (U.S. Army</u> <u>War College Guides to Civil War Battles)</u> from the Amazon website:

Not far from Chattanooga in northern Georgia, the Confederacy won one of its most decisive battles at Chickamauga. This guide uses firsthand accounts to illustrate how this skirmish, only two days long, turned into the second-bloodiest battle of the Civil War with over 34,000 Union and Confederate soldiers killed, wounded, or captured.

The U.S. Army War College Guides to Civil War Battles series was developed for "staff rides" on key battlefields by military professionals. Evewitness accounts by battle participants make these guides invaluable resources for visitors to the national military parks and armchair strategists alike who want a greater understanding of five of the most devastating yet influential years in our nation's history. This is an onthe-ground guide with explicit directions to points of interest and maps-illustrating the action and showing the details of troop position, roads, rivers, elevations, and tree lines as they were more than 150 years agothat help bring the battle to life. In the field, these guides can be used to re-create each battle's setting and proportions, giving the reader a sense of the tension and fear each soldier must have felt as he faced his enemy.

## **Upcoming Speaker Schedule for 2020-2021**

- August 25, 2020: David T. Dixon was scheduled to speak about his new book titled: <u>*The Lost Gettysburg Address.*</u> This program has been cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic.
- September 22, 2020: Dennis E. Frye is scheduled to give a program about Harpers Ferry. However, it is likely that this program will also be cancelled.
- October 27, 2020: Judy Cook is scheduled to give 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 is scheduled to be our speaker.
- **December 15, 2020:** Round Table member **Deb Buckner** is scheduled to give a program about Libby Custer, wife of George Armstrong Custer.
- January 26, 2021: Dr. Harry Laver with the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth will be our speaker. He will give a program about the relationship between General Ulysses S. Grant and General Robert E. Lee.

- **February 23, 2021: James S. Martin**, Dean of Academics at the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth will be our speaker. He will give a program titled: "Black Military Heroes of the Civil War."
- March 23, 2021: Dr. Jeff Gentsch, Professor of Military History at the University of West Alabama will give a program titled: "The Battle of Shiloh and the Evolution of Artillery, 1861-1870."
- April 27, 2021: Dr. Chris Phillips will give a program about Missouri in the Civil War.
- May 25, 2021: Jeffry D. Wert from Centerville PA will be speaking about his new book titled: <u>Civil War Barons</u>.
- June 22, 2021: Teresa Roane, archivist for the United Daughters of the Confederacy in Richmond VA, will be out speaker. She will address the role of minorities in the logistical operations of the Confederate Army.
- July 27, 2021: Ron Coddington, publisher of *Military Images*, a full color magazine published quarterly, will be our speaker. He will present photographic images of the Civil War.
- August 24, 2021: Dr. Ginette Aley, Professor of History at Kansas State University, will give a program about the Civil War on the home front. She has co-edited a book titled: <u>Union</u> <u>Heartland: The Midwestern Home Front during</u> <u>the Civil War.</u>
- September 28, 2021: Dr. Joseph M. Beilein Jr., assistant professor of history at Penn State University, Erie PA will be our speaker. He will be speaking about bushwhackers in Missouri. Dr. Beilein is the author of the book titled: Bushwhackers: Guerrilla Warfare, Manhood, and the Household in Civil War Missouri.
- October 26, 2021: Dr. Paul Kahan will give a program about his book titled: <u>The Presidency</u> of Ulysses S. Grant.
- November 16, 2021: Speaker to be determined.
- December 21, 2021: Arnold Schofield will be discussing the book written by Robert E. May titled: <u>Yuletide in Dixie: Slavery, Christmas, and Southern Memory.</u>

## Remembering Edward C. ("Bud") Price II

Round Table member Bud Price passed away on June 30, 2020. He was 77 years old. Bud and his wife Carol joined the Round Table in 2015. They were married in 1973 in Kansas City and have three sons and two grandchildren. Bud graduated from the University of Arizona with a bachelor degree in Business and Finance. Bud worked for City National Bank and the Hanna Rubber Company. In 1974, Bud purchased Colonial Patterns and was joined by Carol and two of his sons. Bud served on the Board of American Bank and the River Market Area Development Corporation. He was a devout member of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. Bud also enjoyed golfing and was a member of the Kansas City Country Club. A live, virtual funeral service was held on July 8th. Bud will be greatly missed by all those who knew and loved him.



Carol and Bud Price at the Civil War Round Table diner meeting held on December 18, 2018.

#### We Still Need Another Assistant Treasurer

Susan Keipp has done an excellent job as treasurer of our Round Table, since taking over for Paul Gault in April of 2015. Due to other commitments, Susan would like to cut back on her workload as treasurer. We are looking for two people to serve as assistant treasurers. Sam Rabicoff has volunteered to be one of the assistant treasurers. He has been helping Susan by collecting money from the Civil War book sales. Susan also needs someone to take dinner reservations, coordinate with the Holiday Inn, and manage the sign-in table during the dinner meetings. Susan has offered to continue doing the bookkeeping and handing all of our corporate paperwork. If you would be interested in serving with Sam as one of the co-assistant treasurers, please let Susan, Sam, or Dan Dooley know.

#### **Member News**

**Suzee Oberg** has been dealing with some serious health issues. Please continue to keep Suzee in your prayers.

In regard to last month's Civil War Trivia questions, **Gary Nevius** pointed out that the Enfield rifle-musket fired a 0.577 caliber minie ball. That is the second time one of our members has discovered an error in the book 2,000 Questions and Answers About the Civil War. Thank you Gary.

**Gary Christy** sent the following links to some interesting articles:

• "Why Buffalo Soldiers Served Among the Nation's First Park Rangers."

https://www.history.com/news/buffalo-soldiersnational-parks-rangers

• "How Slavery Persisted in New England Until the 19th Century"

https://www.history.com/news/slavery-newengland-rhode-island

### **Civil War Trivia Questions**

The following trivia questions are based on the book titled: <u>2,000 Questions and Answers About the Civil</u> <u>War</u> and the chapter titled: "War on the Water: Salt and Fresh." The answers to the trivia questions are shown on page 6.

- 1. The loyalty of what Union naval officer was questioned because of his southern roots?
- 2. What was the result of the famed duel between the *Monitor* and the *Virginia (Merrimack)*?
- 3. Cmdr. Franklin Buchanan, C.S.N., commander of the CSS *Virginia*, has previously held what "first" position in the U.S. Navy?
- 4. What early action by Lincoln was considered illegal under international law?
- 5. Who was the first to propose that Union forces gain control of the Mississippi River in order to cut the Confederacy in two?
- 6. What Federal rear admiral was responsible for the Mississippi River operations in 1863?
- 7. What was the first major victory by combined land and water forces of the Union?
- 8. Where was the famous CSS *Alabama* constructed?
- 9. From what commonplace equipment was the Confederate submarine *H. L. Hunley* built?
- 10. What provided the power by which the submarine *H. L. Hunley* was propelled?

### Sergeant Major's Roar

### Battlefield Dispatches #623 Notorious Bushwhacker and Horse Thief

During the Civil War "Bushwhackers/Guerillas" in Missouri were very elusive and difficult to capture. In fact, if they were caught in the act of destroying or plundering property, they were often killed on the spot. In 1862, when the war was a little more than a year old, the Union forces in Missouri would often capture suspected guerrillas only to have some escape to fight another day, rather than be paroled. Also, very often "Union" patrols would be commanded by noncommissioned officers such as a Corporal or Sergeant, because of the lack of regular officers. The following after action report describes the capture of a number of suspected guerrillas and the subsequent escape of a few. It is located in <u>Volume 13 of the Official Records of the</u> War of the Rebellion on Pages 164 -166.

[To:] "Major James H. Steger,A.A. G. Southwest Division,Missouri State Militia.

Camp John M. Schofield, July 25,1862.

Major: I have the honor of reporting to you the results of a scout [patrol] commanded by me in the southern parts of Polk and Dallas Counties.

By order of Brigadier General Brown, I took command of a detachment of 50 men from Companies B, C, E, and H of the Fourteenth Regiment Cavalry, Missouri State Militia and about 5 o'clock on the evening of the 19<sup>th</sup> instant marched in the direction of Buffalo. About 10 o'clock at night, we reached Pomme de Terre, 17 miles north of Springfield. Here we were overtaken by a shower of rain. Sheltering ourselves as well as we could beneath the thick foliage of the trees, we awaited the close of the shower. After waiting about an hour the rain ceased.

I then divided my command into three parties. The first (consisting of 15 men) I placed under the command of Sergeant Pleasant Smith, of Company C and sent into the Highfield neighborhood; the second party (consisting of 13 men) I placed under the command of Sergeant John M. Baxter of Company H and sent into the Mayfield neighborhood. In command of the third party, I marched to Pleasant Hope in Polk County. As I supposed that the rain would drive the BUSHWHACKING REBELS into their houses, I gave

orders to surround the houses silently and then seize such Rebels as might be found in them. This plan succeeded well, some being taken at almost every house.

After traveling all night, meeting with some exciting and amusing adventures, running a good deal of risk, the three parties met according to agreement at Mose Bennett's, 8 miles south of Buffalo. My party had taken 17 prisoners, Sergeant Smith's 15, and Sergeant Baxter's five, including one Lieutenant. After examining the prisoners I released 17 upon their Parole of Honor that they would, within ten days, report themselves to some officer authorized to administer the Oath of Allegiance to the United States. The remaining 20 I had guarded till morning of the 21<sup>st</sup>, when I sent them to Springfield, in charge of Sergeant Smith.

After sending out a few scouts, I marched with the rest of my command to Buffalo, where we rested till the morning of the 22<sup>nd</sup>. My scouts brought in a number of prisoners, all of whom I released upon their taking the Oath of Allegiance except five, whom I sent to Springfield in charge of three Privates. I then sent out Sergeant Baxter with a small party to try and catch Capt. Thomas Lofton and his gang. With the rest of my command I marched in as public a manner as possible toward Springfield, intending, however, to turn back in the night and scour the country again in small parties. This I did, but with only partial success, a few of the Rebels who had escaped on the first night having returned.

By agreement, we met on the morning of the 23<sup>rd</sup> to rest and feed about a mile below Ben Better's on the Pomme de Terre, where we found great quantities of corn concealed. All the parties having come in except that commanded by Sergeant Baxter, I marched for camp where I arrived at sunset, bringing one more prisoner, having released several where we stopped to feed.

No casualty occurred to any of my command with the exception of Joseph C. Powell, Private in company H, who accidently shot himself through the left hand, inflicting a dangerous wound.

Sergeant Baxter sent a message to me to let me know that he had discovered Lofton and his gang and wished more men, Lofton's force being superior to his own. This messenger did not reach me until had arrived in camp and given up my command. I therefore sent an order for him to come in immediately. He obeyed promptly, traveling all night. He reports a skirmish with some "<u>NOTORIOUS BUSHWHACKERS</u>" with whom I am well acquainted and whom he found in arms. He KILLED one by the name of Arnold; another by the name of Greene was taken prisoner, but broke away and made his escape, badly wounded. It is thought, as he was seen to fall forward at three different shots. Greene's escape is quite unfortunate, as he is a "<u>NOTORIOUS HORSE THIEF</u>", as well as a Rebel and has broken from prison twice and made his escape. One other prisoner (Isham Case) made his escape. Two others were brought in and I have sent them to the Provost-Marshal. These make 28 that we have brought to Springfield. Some of these are DANGEROUS and BAD MEN and would be no discredit to the Alton Prison [in western Illinois].

This expedition occupied four days, during which time some portions of the command traveled 150 miles, sometimes over bad roads; sometimes without any road at all. We suffered from hunger, but no one was heard to complain. The men showed an alacrity that would do credit to veteran soldiers. After two days and a night of toil, without sleep, not a man objected to standing guard when required to do so. With such men under my command I always consider success certain.

The indefatigable enterprise of Sergeant Baxter deserves special praise. He merits a better position than he now occupies.

Sergeants Gammon and Smith also showed themselves to be able officers and brave men. They will make their mark yet in the world.

In regard to the Rebels inhabiting portions of the country that I visited, they seem quite sanguine in the hope that the great Rebel Army of the South will drive General Curtis back and overrun the country. I did not succeed in discovering any secret organization. Yet, I believe such do exist and that companies are prepared to rise up, as by magic in one night, whenever a suitable opportunity presents itself. I observed some local nuisances, but these I have reported to the Provost-Marshal.

These, Major are the principal facts that I have to communicate. Therefore, I will close by subscribing myself, most respectfully, your obedient servant.

JOHN R. KELSO,

FIRST Lieutenant, Co. H, 14<sup>th</sup> Cav. Regt., Mo. State Militia."

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Now then, as the war continued the act of capturing and making prisoners of guerrillas/bushwhackers became less and they were often killed on the spot rather than making them prisoners. One might suppose that this killing would be a deterrent and discourage others from becoming guerrillas, but such was not the case as their numbers continued to increase and, of course, the War Went On!

## **Answers to Civil War Trivia Questions**

- 1. Admiral David G. Farragut, who was born in Tennessee.
- 2. A four-hour fight ended in a draw.
- 3. First superintendent of the U.S. Naval Academy, so he was called the "Father of Annapolis."
- 4. Blockade of southern ports.
- 5. General Winfield Scott, U.S. Army.
- 6. David D. Porter.
- 7. Capture of Island No. 10 in the Mississippi River
- 8. Liverpool, England
- 9. A steam boiler, cut and tapered.
- 10. Her crew of eight seamen, using hand cranks.

## **Gifts to the American Battlefield Trust**

In the Spring 2020 issue of the American Battlefield Trust's *Hallowed Ground* magazine, Round Table members **Father Richard W. Frank** and **Gary Nevius** are listed as members of the Honor Guard Legacy Giving Society. These are members who have chosen to make a legacy gift to the American Battlefield Trust.

We received a very nice letter of thanks from the American Battlefield Trust, for our Round Table's contribution to their battlefield preservation efforts. A copy of the letter is included on page 7 of this newsletter. Part of our stated purpose is to foster preservation efforts, which we do on both a local and national level. If you would like to contribute to these efforts, you can send your tax-deductible check (made out to the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City) to Susan Keipp and mark it "preservation." These contributions will be aggregated and periodically sent to the American Battlefield Trust from the Round Table. When we begin to meet again, cash contributions of any amount can be made at the door.



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\* Chairman Emeritus

June 25, 2020

CWRT of Kansas City 436 W 88<sup>th</sup> Ter Kansas City, MO 64114-2912

Dear Fellow Preservationists,

Thank you four times over for you recent, wonderful contribution to save key battlefield acres at Cedar Creek, Cedar Mountain, Sailor's Creek and Ware Bottom Church. Because of your generosity, we are making major headway in preserving even more land at each of these critical Virginia sites, building upon previous successes, and ensuring that future generations will have access to the land where major stories of the Civil War unfolded. Thank you, my friend!

Each of the four properties we are targeting witnessed important, dramatic moments in the war, and each of them will help visitors forge a richer, more meaningful connection to our nation's past. Your contribution of \$560.00 (received on 4/16/2020) ensures that students, young and old, will have the opportunity to deepen their understanding of what it means to be an American. What's more, <u>you</u> took advantage of well-timed matching opportunity, *turning every one of your dollars into 40 more!* An impressive move for preservation!

Throughout Virginia, we continue to see increasing levels of development that directly threaten our nation's battlefields. Thanks to you, we can defend America's history against these threats, ensuring that future generations have the chance to learn in these tremendous outdoor classrooms.

You have already done so much to save key acres in Virginia and around the country, and now you are doing even more to protect our American history by laying the groundwork for future preservation victories. I am honored to be doing this important work shoulder to shoulder with you, Fellow Preservationists.

Thank you for all you do to save our hallowed ground!

'Til the battle is won,

Jim Lighthizer President

Pursuant to IRS Code requirements for the substantiation of charitable contributions, no goods or services were provided in exchange for this gift. The Trust's federal tax ID number is 54-1426643. Please retain this letter as your receipt for tax purposes. Thank you!

AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD TRUST CIVIL WAR TRUST REVOLUTIONARY WAR TRUST 1156 15th Street NW, Suite 900, Washington, DC 20005 | phone: 202-367-1861 | email: info@battlefields.org 1140 Professional Court, Hagerstown, MD 21740 | phone: 301-665-1400 | email: membership@battlefields.org



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AVING AMERICA BATTLEFIELDS



Statue of General Ulysses S. Grant, Fort Leavenworth KS

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



Statue of President Ulysses S. Grant, Galena IL



