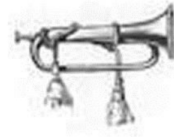




# BORDER BUGLE



Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City



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Civil War Round Table of  
Kansas City  
436 West 88th Terrace  
Kansas City MO 64114

An IRC 501(c)(3)  
Charitable Organization  
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## 533rd Regular Meeting

**Tuesday, November 16, 2021**

**Milburn Golf and Country Club**

**7501 West 69th Street, Overland Park, KS 66204**

**Social hour begins at 5:30 p.m. and dinner is at 6:30 p.m.**

This meeting will include a plated dinner at a cost of \$32.00 per person. Reservations are required in order to attend the dinner meeting. Please note that members are asked to wear masks at the dinner meeting. See page two.

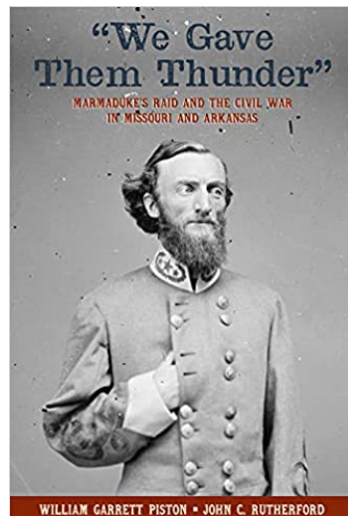
**Reservation Deadline: 12:00 noon on Wednesday, November 10th.**

**To make a reservation, please contact Susan Keipp:**

[skeipp@kc.rr.com](mailto:skeipp@kc.rr.com)

Phone: 816-333-0025

## November Program



**Dr. William Garrett Piston** will be giving a program will give a program about Confederate Major General John S. Marmaduke's campaign in Missouri in 1863, based on Dr. Piston's latest book titled: *"We Gave Them Thunder": Marmaduke's Raid and the Civil War in Missouri and Arkansas.*

Dr. Piston is Professor Emeritus of history at Missouri State University. He earned his PhD in 1982 from the University of South Carolina. Dr. Piston previously spoke at our Round Table dinner meeting in April of 2019.

Please join us for what should be a very interesting program.

## November 11th is Veterans Day

We would like to thank all of our brave men and women who have served in the armed forces of the United States. Thank you for serving our country and defending our freedoms!

## Important Reservation Information

The following is our Civil War Round Table's reservation policy:

- A reservation is required in order to attend the dinner meeting. Anyone who attends without a dinner reservation may not be seated, depending on the number of possible no-shows.
- Reservations are required by 12:00 noon on the Wednesday prior to the dinner meeting, in order to ensure that Milburn Country Club has an accurate count for meal preparation and staffing. To make a reservation, please contact our treasurer **Susan Keipp** at 816-333-0025 or by e-mail at [skeipp@kc.rr.com](mailto:skeipp@kc.rr.com)
- The cost of a dinner is \$32.00 per person. If you make a reservation, but are not able to attend the dinner meeting for any reason, you *must* contact Susan Keipp by either phone or e-mail prior to the reservation deadline to cancel. Meals are prepared based on reservations and the Round Table must pay for meals whether or not they are served. You could be responsible for your meal if you made a reservation, did not attend, and did not cancel before the deadline.

## Precautions Necessary due to COVID

Members are asked to please wear masks as they enter the building and to wear them "unless they are actively eating or drinking." Members are also asked to put masks on after dinner and leave them on until they leave the building. There will be fewer place settings at each of the tables, to allow for social distancing.

## Dinner Menu

Milburn Golf and Country Club will serve the following meal at the November dinner meeting: Turkey breast, mashed potatoes, bread stuffing, giblet gravy and green beans. Dessert will be pumpkin pie. All dinners are served with house salad with Milburn house dressing, sliced bread, iced tea, water, and coffee.

Gluten free and vegetarian meals are available with advance notice. Please advise **Susan Keipp** if you require a gluten free or vegetarian meal when making your reservation.

## Meet Our Speaker



**Dr. William Garrett Piston**

**Dr. William Garrett Piston** retired from the Department of History at Missouri State University in 1987, having taught courses on the Civil War and American military history for twenty-nine years. He received his doctorate from the University of South Carolina in 1982, where he studied under Thomas L. Connelly, a noted biographer of Robert E. Lee and scholar of the Lost Cause.

Dr. Piston's first book, *Lee's Tarnished Lieutenant: James Longstreet and His Place in Southern History*, examines the scapegoating of Lee's second-in-command by postwar writers anxious to enshrine Lee's memory.

Since moving to Springfield MO, Piston has focused on the Trans-Mississippi and is best known as the co-author of *Wilson's Creek: The Second Battle of the Civil War and the Men Who Fought It*.

Dr. Piston's latest book, which he co-authored with John C. Rutherford, is titled: *"We Gave Them Thunder": Marmaduke's Raid and the Civil War in Missouri and Arkansas*. It was published in 2021.

In 2010, Dr. Piston received the Missouri History Book Award, presented by the State Historical Society of Missouri for *Portraits of Conflict: A Photographic History of Missouri in the Civil War*.

## Live Auction Book Sales

We would like to thank Round Table member **Arnold Schofield** for managing the book sales each month. The money raised helps to pay our speakers' travel costs. At the November dinner meeting, Arnold will auction the following Civil War books:

- *Portraits of Riverboats* by William C. Davis. Published in 2001. In excellent condition, with dust jacket.
- *Faces of the Civil War Navies* by Ron Coddington, our July speaker. In mint condition with dust jacket and mylar cover.
- *Colt Revolver* by Jeffery Richardson. In mint condition, with dust jacket and original cellophane covering.
- *Joseph E. Johnston C.S.A., A Different Valor*. In mint condition, with dust jacket and mylar cover.

## Last Month's Program



**Dr. Paul Kahan**

At our dinner meeting held on October 26, 2021, **Dr. Paul Kahan** gave an outstanding presentation about his latest book titled: *The Presidency of Ulysses S. Grant: Preserving the Civil War's Legacy*. The meeting was well attended and Dr. Kahan was a very dynamic speaker.

The following are some key points made by Dr. Kahan during his presentation:

- On December 5, 1876, President Grant issued his eighth and final address to Congress. In reviewing his tenure as president, Grant said: "Mistakes have been made, but the failures have been errors of judgment, and not of intent."
- There have been a lot of great books written about Grant recently. However, the authors typically give short shrift to Grant's presidency. Grant's memoirs ended in 1865 and did not cover his presidency or Reconstruction.
- Grant is typically viewed as a great Civil War general but a mediocre president, whose presidency was marred by scandals.
- Grant was a very popular presidential candidate in 1868, but the south couldn't vote. The Republican Party was still coalescing. They had a shared hatred of slave power. The Republicans chose Grant as their candidate in response to Andrew Johnson's policies.
- As president, Grant saw himself as protecting and preserving the sacrifices that his men made on the battlefield. Grant still saw himself as a general.
- Grant suffered from self-delusion. He believed that he could be above politics and the presidency was a non-political position. However, the presidency is a political office.
- Grant wanted to do big things while he was in office: finish Reconstruction, improve relations with Native Americans, and improve relations with Great Britain (who sold ships to the Confederacy during the Civil War).
- The 1871 Treaty of Washington was ratified in order to resolve issues with Great Britain. This laid the groundwork for international arbitration. The Department of Justice was created in order to destroy the KKK. This was an aggressive use of Federal power.
- Grant alienated Charles Sumner, who was a passionate advocate for abolitionism. Sumner thought he was the moral core of the Republican Party. However, Grant knew that Sumner wouldn't do what he wanted him to, so Grant replaced Sumner on the Foreign Relations Committee with Simon Cameron. This was a brutal political move. Sumner was furious.
- Grant had to deal with the Panic of 1873, which was a financial crisis. The Panic was caused by the demonetization of silver. Silver miners couldn't sell their silver and the railroads



couldn't charge money to transport the silver. Railroad bonds dropped in value. Congress screwed up the economy. This caused a depression that was worse than the depression of the 1930's. Twenty-five percent of the workers were out of work.

- In 1874, the Democrats won control of the House for the first time since 1860. The Democrats had investigative powers, which eroded support for president Grant. The Democrats did this by drips: a scandal here and a scandal there. Grant didn't want to believe that he had been poorly served by his supporters. Grant left the presidency under a cloud of scandal.
- In 1885 Grant wrote his memoirs. Civil War veterans began having reunions in the late 1800's. The reunions attempted to obscure the definition of what the Civil War was all about. If the war was about slavery, it made for a difficult reconciliation.
- Some thought Reconstruction was a mistake, that Blacks were not ready for self-government. However, Reconstruction led to incredible advances for Blacks. Grant was blamed for the advances made during Reconstruction. Then during the Civil Rights movement in the 1960's, Grant was blamed because Reconstruction did not go far enough.
- Grant's private papers were not published until the 1960's. However, other key people's private papers were published much earlier. Grant's enemies wrote about how bad Grant was. In the late 1900's people started writing books about Grant. Blank spaces were filled in with what we thought we knew about Grant.
- In conclusion, Dr. Kahan said Grant was not an Abraham Lincoln, but he was not as bad as James Buchanan.

## Upcoming Speaker Schedule

- **Tuesday, December 14, 2021:** Round Table member **Deb Buckner** will give a program about Libbie Custer. Deb will tell stories from later in Libbie's life in a talk titled: "Christmas on the Plains." It is based on events in Kansas and Dakota Territory, but involves General Custer and Captain George Yates.
- **Wednesday, January 19, 2022:** **Dr. Harry S. Laver** with the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College will be speaking about the relationship between Union General Ulysses S. Grant and Confederate General Robert E. Lee.

- **Wednesday, February 16, 2022:** Round Table member **Arnold Schofield** will be speaking about the First Kansas Colored.
- **Wednesday, March 16, 2022:** Speaker to be determined.
- **Wednesday, April 20, 2022:** **Matt Spruill** will be speaking about the Battle of Chickamauga.
- **Wednesday, May 18, 2022:** **Dr. Christian McWhirter**, Lincoln Scholar, Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library, will be our speaker. Dr. McWhirter has edited the Lincoln papers and will be speaking most likely on the Gettysburg address.
- **Wednesday, June 15, 2022:** **Mr. Jeffry D. Wert** from Centerville PA will be speaking about his new book titled: *Civil War Barons*.
- **Wednesday, July 20, 2022:** **Mr. A. Wilson Greene** will be speaking about the Petersburg Campaign. He served most recently as the director of the Pamplin Historical Park Museum at Petersburg. He is currently writing a three-volume treatise on the Petersburg Campaign for the University of North Carolina Press.
- **Wednesday, August 17, 2022:** **Mr. Jeff Patrick** will give a program about the Battle of Wilson's Creek.
- **Wednesday, September 21, 2022:** **Mr. Dennis E. Frye** will give a program about Harper's Ferry WV.
- **Wednesday, October 19, 2022:** **Ms. Judy Cook** will give a program titled: "War on the Home Front."

Beginning in 2022, our monthly dinner meetings will be held on the third Wednesday of each month.

## Proposed Slate of Officers for 2022

At the dinner meeting on October 26th, **Dan Dooley** presented the following slate of officers for 2022:

- President: Father Dave Holloway.
- First Vice President: Gary Nevius.
- Second Vice-President: Dick Titterington.
- Treasurer: Susan Keipp.
- Secretary: Judy Smith.
- Director of Preservation: Arnold Schofield.
- Board of Directors: Blair Tarr to replace Sylvia Stuckey, who is rotating off of the Board.

If you have any additional nominations for officers, please e-mail Dan Dooley at <mailto:dandooley1861@gmail.com>. Members attending the November dinner meeting will be asked to vote on the proposed slate of officers for 2022.

## Photos from the October Dinner Meeting



**Round Table President Dan Dooley speaking about Confederate General Albert Sidney Johnston, the highest ranking officer killed during the Civil War.**



**Sergeant Major Arnold Schofield conducting live book auction and assisted by Don Bates.**

## Civil War Book Sale in November

**Dan Dooley** announced there will be a major book sale at the dinner meeting on November 16th. A separate table will be set up to display all of the books and **Arnold Schofield** will price the books accordingly. Please bring your money and buy some books to support the Round Table.

## Sergeant Major's Roar

### **Battlefield Dispatches #640 270 Words**

November 19 1863 is now considered to be a special day in the Civil War and literary history of the United States. For on that day, 158 years ago, in a small rural Pennsylvania town, there was the dedication of a military cemetery, which would be designated as one of our National Cemeteries. It was on that day, which was cloudy, rainy, and cold, that thousands of folks gathered to dedicate a portion of ground for and that included the reburial of the remains of more than 700 Union soldiers, who were killed in the Battle of Gettysburg, which was one of the most significant battles of the Civil War. The keynote or featured speaker was the Honorable Edward Everett, who was reputed to be the finest Orator in the country. The dedication was originally scheduled for October 23, but since Mr. Everett was not available on that day, the dedication was rescheduled for November 19<sup>th</sup>. Also, as an afterthought, since it was the dedication of a "Union" military cemetery on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, President Abraham Lincoln was invited to attend and share a few remarks after Mr. Everett's keynote speech.

Because of his busy schedule, President Lincoln did not decide to go to Gettysburg until Tuesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>. His first secretary, John G. Nicolay, remembered that the President started but did not finish writing his remarks in the White House on the evening of the 17<sup>th</sup>, the day before he started on his journey to Gettysburg on November 18<sup>th</sup>. The President and his party traveled to and from Gettysburg on a "Special Train" which included the luxurious passenger car of Mr. John W. Garrett, who was the President of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. After the war was over, a story which has become a legend is that President Lincoln finished his remarks on a scrap of paper while riding the train on the way to Gettysburg. However, it is now believed that the President finished his remarks in his hotel room in Gettysburg on the night of November 18<sup>th</sup> and not while traveling on the train.

The President's remarks now known as the "Gettysburg Address" contained only 270 WORDS and it is considered to be one of the most significant speeches in our history and is as follows:

"Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Now we are engaged in a great Civil War, testing whether that nation or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a

portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate - we can not consecrate - we can not hallow - this ground. Brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us - that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to the cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion - that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain - that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom - and that the government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

Abraham Lincoln,  
November 19, 1863."

\*\*\*\*\*

It is interesting to note that on November 19, 1863, the Honorable Everett's speech lasted for more than TWO HOURS and that Mr. Everett indicated after his speech that he had to cut it short because he did not have enough time to finish it. Also, some days before he gave his speech, it was widely published in the major northern newspapers and contained many thousands of words.

In contrast to Mr. Everett's speech, President Lincoln's "Gettysburg Address" only contained 270 Words and only required approximately 3 MINUTES to present! In retrospect, one of the most ironic and amazing lines in this address is: "The World will little note, nor long remember what we say hear, but it can never forget what they did here". Before the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, the "Gettysburg Address" became part of the pantheon of great American speeches and is still studied and remembered here and in many countries around the world, while Mr. Everett's speech has largely been forgotten and relegated to the dusty pages of history.

As a historian, other significant speeches that come to mind are Patrick Henry's "Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death", President F. D. Roosevelt's "We have Nothing to Fear, but Fear Itself", President J. F. Kennedy's "Ask not what the Country can do for You, but rather what You can do for the Country", and the most recent of these, Dr. Martin Luther's "I have A Dream" Speech. Hopefully, all of these speeches and the "Gettysburg Address" will continue to be respected, studied, and

learned from now and by future generations as cornerstones of American History.

## **Battlefield Dispatches #692** **A National Day of Thanksgiving**

Thursday, November 25, 2021 will be the 158<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our first National Day of Thanksgiving, which was established as a result of a proclamation signed by President Abraham Lincoln on October 3, 1863. The proclamation designated a National Thanksgiving Day to be celebrated on the final Thursday in November. However, before this date "Thanksgiving" had been celebrated on a variety of days in November. President George Washington was the first president to declare a special day of "Thanksgiving" in 1789 and he was followed by President Madison in 1814. A day of Thanksgiving was annually appointed by the Governor of New York in 1817 and by 1858 "Thanksgiving Proclamations" were issued by the governors of 25 states and two territories.

During the Civil War, many Union and Confederate units celebrated Thanksgiving with special dinners, the number of which was increased by the Union troops after President Lincoln's proclamation. The following are some of the highlights of his proclamation:

"The year that is drawing towards its close has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and beautiful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever watchful providence of Almighty God.

Needful diversions of wealth and strength from the peaceful industry to the national defense have not arrested the plough, the borders of our settlements, and the mines, as well of iron and coal as of the precious metals, have yielded even more abundantly than heretofore. Population has steadily increased, notwithstanding the waste that has been made in the camp, the siege, and the battlefield and the country rejoicing in the consciousness of augmented strength and vigor, is permitted to expect continuance of years, with large increase of freedom.

No human counsel hath devised nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy.



It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently, and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and voice by the whole American People. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father who dwells in the Heavens. And I recommend to his tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners, or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty Hand to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore it as soon as may be consistent with the divine purposes to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility and Union.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington, this third day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty three and of the Independence of the United States the eighty- eighth.

Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States"

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Now then, "Thanksgiving" is traditionally a wonderful family holiday. However, let us not forget to remember those folks who have lost a loved one or who have a family member serving in our armed forces and cannot be home for the holidays. Today, each branch of our military services will continue the tradition of providing "Thanksgiving Dinner" for our soldiers, sailors, marines, coast guard, and air force personnel. However, it will not be the same as being home with their families. Thank you one and all and here's hoping you have the best Thanksgiving possible.

### **Book: *Witness to History***

Round Table member **Bill Buckner** highly recommends the book titled: *Witness to History: Reflections of a Cold War Soldier* (2011) by Robert R. Ulin.

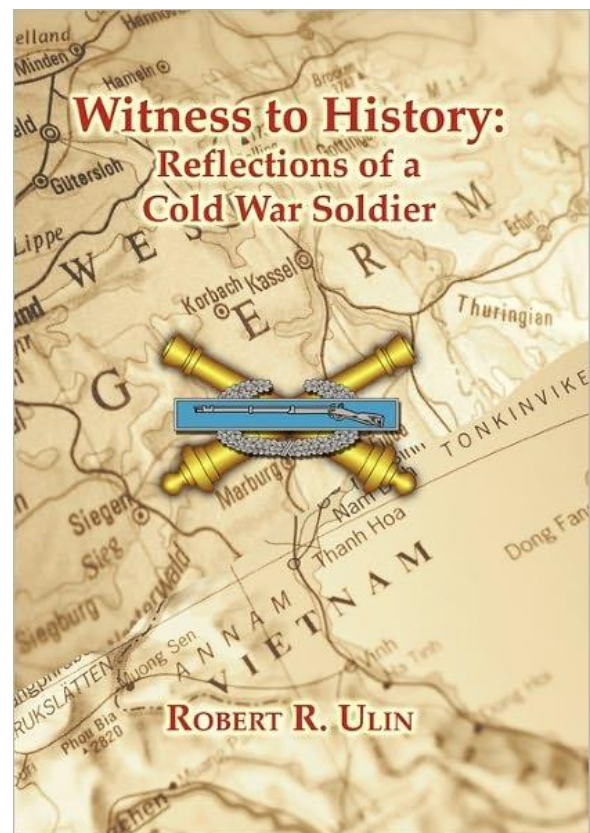
### **About this Book:**

The following summary is from the Barnes & Noble website: This book is a first person account of military service during the Cold War in Europe from the erection to the destruction of the Berlin Wall. It is also about combat in Vietnam as an artilleryman in the Central Highlands and as an infantry advisor in the Mekong Delta. The author participated in the investigation of a fragging incident that killed an NCO, he put down an attempted mutiny and directed the first artillery counter-

battery attack on Soviet artillery manned by North Vietnamese regulars in the tri-border area of Vietnam-Laos, Cambodia, and Vietnam. He worked with the CIA in the Mekong Delta of Vietnam managing the Phoenix Program while assigned to Tam Binh District, where he met the legendary John Paul Vann and hosted visits by Sir Robert Thompson, the British guerrilla warfare expert and John Erlichman, advisor to President Richard Nixon.

Between tours of duty in Vietnam, he returned to Germany with a Pershing Missile unit that experienced severe discipline problems including drugs, assault, and attempted murder. This book is about a thirty-three year military career from private to colonel, during a particularly difficult time for the US Army. He served in Germany, Vietnam, and Belgium and conducted missions in Africa.

While in Belgium he served at the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE), the American Embassy and finally NATO headquarters. The author participated in a NATO Summit attended by President Reagan and Prime Minister Thatcher and completed his career on the faculty of the Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, where he participated in the first uniformed visit to Warsaw, Prague, and Budapest following the demise of the Warsaw Pact.



## About the Author:

Bill Buckner said Colonel Ulin was awarded the Medal of Honor and was nominated for three Purple Hearts. The following text is from Colonel Ulin's website:

**Robert R. Ulin**, Colonel, U.S. Army Retired is a thirty-year veteran of the Army having served in Combat in Vietnam for two years and in Europe for 17 years.

Since retiring from the Army in 1992, Colonel Ulin has remained active in national security affairs. He developed and led many national and domestic security projects for the Army and private sector in Europe and the United States. In August 2003, he developed and facilitated the Kansas Homeland Security Conference attended by 285 participants from 23 states. He worked in project and program management and business development with TRW and L-3 GSI and retired from the private sector as Vice President for Government Services of a Kansas City- based information technology firm.

Colonel Ulin is a published author with chapters in two books on European security policy and numerous articles and book reviews in U.S. and European professional journals. He earned a Masters Degree in Middle Eastern History from the University of Kansas and a Masters Degree in International Relations from Boston University. He is a graduate of a national security executive management program at the John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University.

Colonel Ulin is currently the CEO of the Command and General Staff College Foundation, Inc., an Adjunct Professor of National Security Affairs, U.S. Army Command and General Staff College; a member of the Kansas Governor's Military Council, a member of Kansas Senator Pat Roberts' Homeland Security Task Force of the Advisory Committee on Science and Technology; a member of the Board of Directors for the Kansas City FBI Citizens Academy Alumni Association; a Trustee of the Liberty Memorial Museum Association, Kansas City, MO; and State President for Kansas, Association of the United States Army.

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