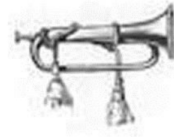




BORDER BUGLE



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
Website- <http://cwrk.org/>
Join us on Facebook!

535th Regular Meeting Wednesday, January 19, 2022

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 wearing masks at the dinner meeting is optional. See page two.

Reservation Deadline: 12:00 noon on Thursday, January 13th.

To make a reservation, please contact Susan Keipp:

skeipp@kc.rr.com

Phone: 816-333-0025

January Program



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.

Dr. Laver was originally scheduled to give this program at our Round Table dinner meeting in January of 2021. However, that meeting was cancelled due to COVID.

Dr. Laver previously spoke about General Grant at our Round Table dinner meeting on January 28, 2020.

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 Thursday 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**
- 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.

Masks Are Optional at the Dinner Meetings

As announced by president Dan Dooley at the November dinner meeting, masks will be optional going forward. Due to the rise in COVID cases in the Kansas City area, members are encouraged to wear masks at the dinner meetings.

Dinner Menu

Milburn Golf and Country Club will serve the following meal at the January dinner meeting: Pork tenderloin medallions, apple cider reduction, asparagus, and roasted potatoes. Dessert will be lemon Italian cake. 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. Harry S. Laver was Professor of History and Political Science at Southeastern Louisiana University and is a Fulbright Scholar awardee. He received a BA in zoology from the University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill in 1983, an MA in history from the University of North Carolina - Charlotte in 1992, and a PhD in history

from the University of Kentucky in 1998. Dr. Laver has authored the following books:

- *The Leadership of Ulysses S. Grant: A General Who Will Fight.*
- *The Art of Command: Military Leadership from George Washington to Colin Powell.*



Dr. Laver spoke about General U. S. Grant at our Round Table Dinner Meeting on January 28, 2020.

Live Auction Book Sales

We would like to thank Round Table member **Arnold Schofield** for managing the book sales each month. At the January dinner meeting, Arnold will auction the following Civil War books:

- *Challenges of Command in the Civil War* by Richard J. Summers; Savas Beatie Publishing Company, 2018. In mint condition, with dust jacket and mylar cover.
- *Robert E. Lee: A Biography* by Emory M. Thomas; W. W. Norton & Company, 1995. First Edition. In mint condition with dust jacket.
- *Grant (A biography)* by Ron Chernow; Penguin Press, 2017. Signed First Edition. In mint condition, with dust jacket and mylar cover.
- *Robert E. Lee and the Fall of the Confederacy 1863-1865* by Ethan S. Rafuse; Rowman & Littlefield Publishing Company, 2008. In mint condition with dust jacket.

- *Battle of Wills: U. S. Grant, Robert E. Lee and the Last Year of the Civil War* by David A. Johnson; Prometheus Books, 2016. In mint condition with dust jacket and mylar cover.

Last Month's Program



Deb Buckner portrayed Libbie Custer

At our dinner meeting on December 14, 2021, Round Table member **Deb Buckner** gave a first person presentation as Elizabeth "Libbie" Custer (1842-1933), wife of Brevet Major General George Armstrong Custer. The title of Deb's program was: "A Christmas on the Plains." It was based on events in Kansas and the Dakota Territory, but involved General Custer and Captain George Yates. A few of the stories that Deb shared are as follows:

- On the post, wives sewed clothing for their husbands. This included smoking jackets, slippers, etc.
- Libbie repaired an old campaign cap of General Custer's and used gold thread to sew a 7th Cavalry insignia on the cap.
- Libbie loved auctions. She bought a large bowl at auction that was later used as a punch bowl for parties on the post.
- One year for Christmas, the soldiers tried to find a tree to decorate. They sent out riders in all directions to try and find a Christmas tree. However, there were no trees within 40 miles of the post!
- Married couples on the post typically went caroling on Christmas. The women decorated their plain black dresses with colorful ribbons. They also held dances to celebrate Christmas.

- Post kitchens were not designed for women to cook meals in. This was very frustrating for the women.
- Drinking water was kept in a barrel that was covered with wood. Water for other uses was kept in barrels that were not covered. This exposed the water to wind-blown dirt and weeds.
- George and Tom Custer liked to eat onion sandwiches, which of course gave the men bad breath.
- After General Custer was killed at the Battle of Little Big Horn in 1876, Libbie was in financial need because of General Custer's debts.
- Libbie moved to New York, where she sought work in order to supplement her small widow's pension.
- Libbie became a writer and wrote three books: *Boots and Saddles* (1885), *Tenting on the Plains* (1887), and *Following the Guidon* (1890).

Libbie Custer died in 1933, a few days before her 91st birthday. She never had any children and she never remarried.

Upcoming Speaker Schedule

- **Wednesday, February 16, 2022:** Round Table member **Arnold Schofield** will be speaking about the First Kansas Colored.
- **Wednesday, March 16, 2022:** Round Table member **Todd Stettner** will be giving a program titled: "Soldiers, Sailors & Spies: Jews in the Civil War." Todd will discuss stories of the 6,000-7,000 Jewish soldiers who served with the Union and the 2,000-3,000 who served with the Confederacy. There are many interesting facets about this including the first Jewish chaplains, Grant's expulsion of the Jews in the Western Theatre, six Jews who won the Medal of Honor and some prominent Confederate Jewish ladies who were spies.
- **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. Due to other schedule commitments, Mr. Frye's program will be conducted via Zoom during the September dinner meeting.
- **Wednesday, October 19, 2022: Ms. Judy Cook** will give a program titled: "War on the Home Front."

In 2022, our monthly dinner meetings will be held on the third Wednesday of each month, except for the December dinner meeting, which will be held on the second Wednesday of the month (December 14th).

New President of the Round Table



Changing of the guard: Incoming President of the Round Table Father Dave Holloway (left) and outgoing President Dan Dooley (right).

Father Dave Holloway will serve as president of the Round Table in 2022 and 2023. Dave has served as chaplain of our Round Table for many years and always does an outstanding job giving the invocations during the dinner meetings. To thank outgoing president **Dan Dooley** for his service to the Round Table, Father Dave presented Dan with the Valiant Service Award. Dan has the distinction of being the only president of the Round Table who has served for three years (2019-2021) and has also served during a pandemic! Thank you Dan for your outstanding leadership.



President Dan Dooley received the Valiant Service Award at the dinner meeting on December 14th.

Executive Committee Meeting February 5th

President **Dave Holloway** said the next Executive Committee meeting will be held on Saturday, February 5th at 10:00 a.m. The meeting will be held at the Overland Park Chamber of Commerce building, located in the Corporate Woods Office Park at 9001 West 110th Street, Overland Park KS 66201. All current members of the Round Table are invited to attend.

Please Renew Your Membership for 2022

Please renew your membership in the Round Table for 2022. The membership dues go to pay for our speakers' travel costs, our administrative expenses, and contributions for Civil War battlefield preservation. Membership dues for next year are the same as they were for this year: \$35 for an individual or \$55 for a couple. There are currently 113 members in the Round Table. Thank you for supporting the Round Table.

Member Name Tags

Susan Keipp requests that any members who do not have a name tag, please contact Susan, so that she can order the new name tags and have them available at the next dinner meeting. This includes any new members and any members who have lost their name tags.

Member News

We would like to welcome the following new members: **Lane Bartram, Paul and Betty Allen, and Joyce Gillespie**. Lane lives in Overland Park KS and joined our Round Table in November. Paul and Betty Allen live in Blue Springs MO and joined at the dinner meeting in December. They are friends of Round Table member Jim Tucker. Joyce also joined at the dinner meeting in December. She lives in Raytown MO.

We would like to welcome back former members **Ford and Christine Maurer**. Ford had surgery to remove two melanomas on January 5th.

Herschel and Jacque Stroud were not able to attend the December dinner meeting, because Jacque's back is still bothering her. Last fall, Jacque had been dealing with hip and leg pain, which limited her mobility.

Dr. Dan Cudnik said **Ken Hayob** has taken a turn for the worse and is very depressed. Ken has been moved to Advanced Healthcare of Overland Park, 4700 Indian Creek Parkway, Overland Park KS 66207. At the December dinner meeting, **Susan Keipp** passed around several get-well cards for Ken that members signed.

Bob Macoubrie said his wife has chronic myeloid leukemia (CML) and has been receiving chemotherapy at Overland Park Regional Medical Center. Bob and his wife are in the process of downsizing and he has been donating a number of his Civil War books to the Round Table.

At the December dinner meeting, **Mike Epstein** said he had recently fallen off a wall and fractured his skull. Thankfully, Mike is doing better.

Roger Stanton's wife Judy said he is no longer able to attend our dinner meetings because Roger cannot get into or out of a car. Judy said Roger can still read, but it is hard for him to concentrate. She said Roger has a large collection of Civil War books. If there is a member of our Round Table that would really like to have one of the books that Roger successfully bid on, they can contact Judy and make arrangements to come and get it. Judy also said Roger has a little car that was used in the Shriners parades that they are willing to give away.

Susan Keipp is having surgery on her left hand and wrist on January 17th and will be in a cast for three months. Susan is left-handed and doesn't know what she will be able to do or when.

According to the American Battlefield Trust's Fall 2021 edition of their magazine *Hallowed Ground*, Round Table members **Father Richard Frank and Gary Nevius** are Division Color Bearers. Thank you both for supporting American battlefield preservation.

Remembering Al Boggs, Jr.

We are sorry to report that **Al Boggs, Jr.** a long-time member of the Round Table, died on December 19th. Al was 96 years old. Al was most recently a member of the Round Table in 2010 when our dinner meetings were held at the Homestead Country Club.

According to Al's obituary in the *Kansas City Star* on December 26th, he was born in Dermott, Arkansas and attended high school in Little Rock. He aspired to be a Presbyterian minister and attended Davidson College.

Al completed naval officer training during World War II and earned a degree in mechanical engineering from Rice University. He earned an MBA degree from Harvard University in 1949. Al built up the Lynn Elliott Company of Kansas City, his own sales engineering company, where he worked until the age of 83. Al loved history and was an avid tennis player.

A memorial service for Al was held at the Village Presbyterian Church on December 30, 2021.

In Remembrance

Since this is the start of a new year, we would like to pause and remember all of those members of our Round Table who have passed away during the last seven years:

- Orvis Fitts (June 18, 2015).
- Margaret Webb (January 23, 2016).
- Diane Hinshaw (September 17, 2016).
- Ruth Turney (October 9, 2016).
- Sylvia Gault (October 11, 2016)
- Joe Louis Mattox (March 20, 2017).
- Charles Kopke (September 29, 2017).
- Michael Legg (October 4, 2017).
- Betty Ergovich (October 22, 2018).
- Purd Wright (November 22, 2018).
- Scott Richart (June 17, 2019).
- John Coleton (June 25, 2019).
- Jack Brooks (January 13, 2020).
- Bud Price (June 30, 2020).
- John Jenks (October 28, 2020).
- Ralph Beckwith (April 19, 2021).
- James Speicher (September 11, 2021).
- Al Boggs, Jr. (December 19, 2021).

In addition to the above, several members have lost their spouses, including **Don Bates, Ray Borden, John Dillingham, and Steve Harris**. At some point each of us will no longer be able to attend a Civil War Round Table dinner meeting. We should cherish the opportunities that we have to learn more about history and enjoy the company of friends who share similar interests.

Updated Battle of Westport Website Rollout

Dick Titterington sent us the following update regarding the Battle of Westport website:

"The Monnett Battle of Westport Fund is pleased to announce the rollout of an updated Battle of Westport website. The URL is the same, battleofwestport.org. The new website will feature a regularly updated blog, so everyone can stay up to date with ongoing battlefield preservation and interpretation efforts. The website will also allow everyone to schedule guided battlefield tours and expert presentations. Check it out."

The following is a QR Code that will take you to the website:



Sergeant Major's Roar

Battlefield Dispatches #698

Forever Free

January 1, 2022 was the 159th Anniversary of the issuance of one of the most significant documents in the history of the United States and the Civil War. Ever since this proclamation was made public on January 1, 1863 it has become known as the "EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION!" This brief document contains only 728 words, and by designating "ALL PERSONS HELD AS SLAVES" within the states or parts of states in rebellion against the United States as "FOREVER FREE" permanently changed the direction of the Civil War. From this date forward, the Civil War from the northern or Union perspective was not only to PRESERVE THE UNION of the United States, but also to ABOLISH SLAVERY in the United States. This document was not spontaneous. On July 22, 1862, more than two months before it was completed and six months before it was issued, President Lincoln informed his cabinet that he intended to issue an Emancipation Proclamation, of which the following is a transcript:

"January 1, 1863

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Whereas, on the twenty-second day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two, a proclamation was issued by the President of the United States, containing among other things, the following to wit:

"That on the first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, ALL PERSONS HELD AS SLAVES within any State or designated part of a State, the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the United States, shall be then and henceforward, and "FOREVER FREE"; and the Executive Government of the United States, including the military and naval authority thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of such persons and will do no act or acts to repress such persons, or any of them, in any efforts they may make for their actual freedom.

"That the Executive will, on the first day of January aforesaid, by proclamation, designate the States and parts of States, if any, in which the people thereof, respectfully, shall then be in rebellion against the United States; and the fact that any State, or the people thereof, shall on that day be in, in good faith, represented in the congress of the United States by members chosen thereto at elections wherein a majority of qualified voters of such state shall have participated, shall, in the absence of strong countervailing testimony, be deemed conclusive evidence that such State and the people thereof, are not then in rebellion against the United States."

Now, therefore I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, by virtue of the power invested in me vested as Commander-in-Chief, of the Army and Navy of the United States in time of actual armed rebellion against the authority and government of the United States, and as a fit and necessary war measure for suppressing said rebellion do, on this first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and in accordance with my purpose so to do publicly proclaimed for the full period of one hundred days, from the day first above mentioned, order and designate the States and parts of States wherein the people thereof respectively, are this day in rebellion against the United States, the following to wit:

Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, (except the Parishes of St. Bernard, Plaquemines, Jefferson, St. John, St. Charles St. James Ascension, Assumption, Terrebonne, Lafourche, St. Mary, St. Martin and Orleans including the City of New Orleans) Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Virginia,

(except the forty-eight counties designated as West Virginia and also the counties of Berkley, Accomack, Northampton, Elizabeth City, York, Princess Ann and Norfolk, including the cities of Norfolk and Portsmouth), and which excepted parts, are for the present, left precisely as if this proclamation were not issued.

And by virtue of the power and for the purpose aforesaid, I do order and declare that all persons held as SLAVES within said designated States and parts of States, are and henceforward SHALL BE FREE; and that the Executive Government of the United States including the military and naval authorities thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of said persons.

And I hereby enjoin the people so declared to be free to abstain from all violence, unless in necessary self-defense; and I recommend to them that, in all cases when allowed, they labor faithfully for reasonable wages.

And I further declare and make known, that such persons of suitable condition, will be received into the armed service of the United States to garrisons forts, positions, stations and other places and to man vessels of all sorts in said service.

And upon this act, sincerely believed to be an act of justice, warranted by the Constitution, upon military necessity, I invoke the considerate judgment of mankind and the gracious favor of Almighty God.

In witness 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 first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the eighty- seventh.

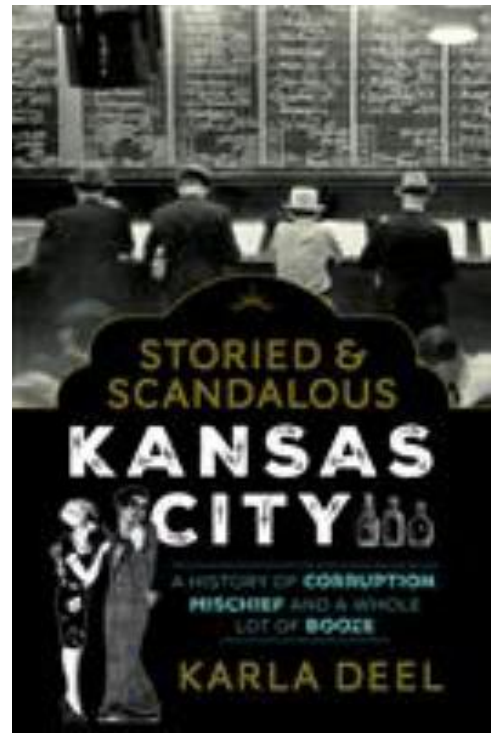
By the President ABRAHAM LINCOLN

WILLIAM H. SEWARD, Secretary of State"

Now then, there were then and there are probably still today some individuals who believe that this written proclamation was the wrong thing to have done. This document was the "pathfinder" for the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments to our Constitution that completely abolished slavery in the United States, gave citizenship to thousands of African Americans and gave them the right to vote! However, if it were not done, even if the Civil War eventually ended the way it did, we as a country would not be the "Land of the Free and Home of the Brave" which we are today.

Storied and Scandalous Kansas City

Round Table member Mike Epstein sent the following article from the book: *Storied and Scandalous Kansas City, A History of Corruption, Mischief and a Whole Lot of Booze* by Karla Deel, 2019.



The following is an excerpt from pages 32-34 and is used by permission of the author:

There was also the very sinister selling of humans. The slave trade was welcomed and nurtured by proslavery enthusiast A. G. Boone and general store wonder. Slaves were held in the general stores basement until they were auctioned off nearby. Prominent businessman, Confederate sympathizer, and the man heralded as the first to plat and develop Westport, John C. McCoy also owned slaves and also promoted slavery. His contemporary James H. McGee, the first American to settle in the area, owned three child slaves when he arrived.

By 1819, slavery spread to nearly all the inhabitants of Missouri and was most profitable along the river, where hemp and tobacco were grown. The beginnings of Kansas City were a result of the forced labor of black men brought to force. Slaves were the ones who dug the city up and out from the banks of the Missouri River and unloaded goods from steamboats for trade in Westport.

In 1850, the state of Missouri's population was 683,044 and was comprised of 592,004 whites, 2,618 free blacks and 87,422 black slaves (equaling 13% of the state's population). By 1860, the number of slaves rose to 114,931. Jackson County's slave population reached

3,944 in 1860, split between 736 slave owners. It was so common to own slaves in those days that only the impoverished did not.

On June 3, 1854, residents of Westport gathered in a meeting, whose sole purpose was to protect their rights to slavery at a local proslavery lodge. In essence, it was a political rally against the surrounding free states. Advertisements for Westport stores included the "sale of negroes." One such ad found in the *Kansas City Enterprise* on December 15, 1855, declared: "I have five lively young fellows for sale. Call on Meders, Northrop, & Chick, Kansas City, MO.

The Battle of Westport, October 23, 1864, saw 29,000 men fight against each other near the Harris Hotel, 9,000 of whom fought as Confederates under Sterling Price and 20,000 as Federals under Samuel Curtis. This was the largest land battle fought west of the Mississippi, and upon its end, 1,000 men lay dead and several thousand others wounded.

The war devastated the developing communities within Kansas City, evidenced by 52,000 fewer people voting in 1864 compared to 1860. Populations decreased; businesses were ruined; properties were destroyed; and families were displaced; slaves fled their owners and homesteads in large quantities to avoid the violence of the war. Some western Missouri counties lost nearly a quarter of their slaves.

On January 21, 1865, Missouri decreed its freedom from slavery. It only took thirteen more days for the Thirteenth Amendment to find its way to the federal Constitution. This new era was greatly celebrated, as discussed in an article written on its centennial anniversary and published by the *Kansas City Times*:

"Kansas City last night was ablaze with glory over the inauguration of Freedom in Missouri. The city was illuminated at an early hour....the finest of all Hammerslough's fine block on the corner of Main and Third Streets, which was brightly lighted from top to bottom and made a magnificent display. Many private residences were illuminated, and Kansas City from her valleys and heights reflected a thousand brilliant beams in honor of the auspicious occasion."

But it was not entirely a smooth transition. Freed slaves banded together to protect themselves from angry bushwhackers who did not think twice about harassing or even killing any of them. After emancipation, some wondered if newly freed slave families would occupy the abandoned farmsteads they remained in the countryside in the wake of General Order No. 11. In 1870, 149 black families lived in or very near Westport but still toiled in menial labor jobs. Though free from the agony of slavery, newly emancipated black residents suffered greatly from discrimination, evident in Missouri's 1875 Constitution, which stated in no uncertain terms that blacks and whites were to be separate: live separately, eat separately, marry separately, exist separately. When union workers signed yellow-dog contracts agreeing to abstain from unionizing, each signature also carried the hushed vow that the worker would quit before working with a black man.
