

# BORDER STAR

Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City



# 541st Regular Meeting Wednesday, July 20, 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 a mask at our dinner meetings is optional.

Reservation Deadline: 12:00 noon on Wednesday, July 13th.

To make a reservation, please contact Susan Keipp:

skeipp@kc.rr.com

Phone: 816-333-0025

### July Program



Mr. A. Wilson Greene will be giving a program about the Petersburg Campaign titled: "The Good, The Bad, and the Really Ugly: Leaders and Leadership in the Petersburg Campaign."

Mr. Greene served most recently as the director of the Pamplin Historical Park Museum at Petersburg VA. He is currently writing a three-volume treatise on the Petersburg Campaign for the University of North Carolina Press.

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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://cwrtkc.org/
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#### **Dinner Meeting Reservation Policy**

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 email 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.

#### **Dinner Menu**

Milburn Golf and Country Club will serve the following meal at the July dinner meeting: Mediterranean Chicken Roulade, potatoes au gratin, and roasted carrots. Dessert will be Chocolate Gateau.

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

**Mr. A. Wilson Greene** is a Civil War historian, author, and retired museum director. He will be giving a program about the Petersburg Campaign titled: "The Good, The Bad, and the Really Ugly: Leaders and Leadership in the Petersburg Campaign."

The Petersburg Campaign (June 1864-April 1865) may be the least understood of all the major Civil War operations. One explanation may be that so many of the generals, particularly at the division and brigade levels, are relatively unknown.

Mr. Greene's talk will examine some three dozen general officers, the famous and the not-so-famous, who fought at Petersburg, and offer a brief analysis of their personalities, appearances, leadership skills, and contributions to the 292 days of combat at Petersburg. Mr. Greene prepared this illustrated program to present at the Vince Dooley Leadership Seminar at Kennesaw State University. We are honored to be the first Round Table in the Nation to hear this fascinating talk.

Mr. Greene's career has been prolific and prodigious as a public historian of the Civil War. He served sixteen years as the founder and Executive Director of the Pamplin Historical Park and the National Museum of the Civil War Soldier in Petersburg VA, retiring in 2017. Before heading the Pamplin Park, he first spent sixteen years in the National Park Service.



Mr. A. Wilson Greene leading a Civil War History tour in 2008 (photo courtesy of Wikipedia).

Mr. Greene then was the founding Executive Director of the Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites (APCWS), which later became the Civil War Trust. As the head of the APCWS, he was instrumental in advocating for the preservation of the Battle of Westport, particularly raising funds with our Monnett Battle of Westport Fund to acquire the Byram's Ford Historic District in 1992.

Mr. Greene holds a Masters degree in History. He studied under Professor T. Harry Williams at Louisiana State University. He is the author of numerous publications and books, including a trilogy on the Petersburg Campaign, which is in progress. The first volume, titled: <u>A Campaign of Giants: From the Crossing of the James to the Battle of the Crater</u>, was published by the University of North Carolina Press in 2019. The appearance of Volume 2 is imminent. His other books and works include:

- Antietam: Essays on the 1862 Maryland Campaign, Kent University Press, 1989.
- Struggle for the Shenandoah: Essays on the 1864 Valley Campaign, Kent University Press, 1991,
- <u>National Geographic Guide to the Civil War</u>
   <u>National Battlefield Parks</u>, National Geographic Society, 1992 and 2011.
- <u>The Second Battle of Manassas</u>, Eastern National Parks Association, 1995 and 2016.
- The Final Battles of the Petersburg Campaign: <u>Breaking the Backbone of the Rebellion</u>, University of Tennessee Press, 2000 and 2012.
- Whatever You Resolve to Be: Essays on Stonewall Jackson, University of Tennessee Press, 2005.
- <u>Civil War Petersburg: Confederate City in the Crucible of War</u>, University of Virginia Press 2006.

#### **Live Auction Book Sales**

We would like to thank Round Table member **Arnold Schofield** for managing the book sales each month. At the June dinner meeting, the book sales brought in a total of \$178 for the Round Table. Arnold will auction off the following Civil War books in July:

- Gettysburg by Kevin J. Dougherty; Metro Books Publishing Company, New York, 2013. In excellent condition with dust jacket.
- <u>Vicksburg 1863: Grant Clears the Mississippi</u> by Alan Hankinson; Praeger Military History Series; Osprey Publishing Company, Oxford, England, 2004. In excellent condition.
- Gettysburg 1863: High Tide of the Confederacy by Carl Smith; Praeger Military History Series; Osprey Publishing Company, Oxford, England, 2004. In excellent condition.
- <u>Triumph and Defeat: The Vicksburg Campaign</u> <u>Volume I</u> by T. J. Winschel; Savas Publishing Company, 1999. In excellent condition with dust jacket.
- Triumph and Defeat: The Vicksburg Campaign Volume II by T. J. Winschel; Savas Publishing Company, 2006. In excellent condition with dust jacket.
- Atlas to the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion; Reprint of the Original 1891 Atlas; Random House Publishing Company, 1983. In excellent condition with dust jacket.

#### **Civil War Book Donations**

Thanks to the generous donations of Civil War books by our Round Table members, we have not had to purchase any books for the book table or the live auction book sales this year. We would especially like to thank **Bob Macoubrie** and **Dennis Garstang** for their generous donations of Civil War books.

Arnold Schofield said he currently has a surplus of Civil War books and he has run out of room in his garage to store any more books! Therefore, Arnold requests that Round Table members not bring any more Civil War books to the dinner meetings until after the first of the year.

If it is absolutely necessary for you to dispose of your Civil War books, please contact Arnold or **Don Bates**. Otherwise, wait until the first of the year to donate your books. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

#### **Last Month's Program**



At our dinner meeting on June 15th, **Mr. Gary Jenkins**, former Intelligence Unit detective with the Kansas City Police Department, gave a very interesting presentation titled: "Freedom Seekers: Stories from the Western Underground Railroad."

Mr. Jenkins told how Kansas abolitionists established a series of safe houses from Kansas, north through Nebraska, Iowa, Illinois and around Lake Michigan, to Detroit and across to safety in Ontario, Canada.

Mr. Jenkins discussed the regional issues relating to antebellum slavery and the antislavery movement that helped shape the western Underground Railroad. Slaves, with the help of stationmasters and conductors, had to dodge professional slave catchers, federal marshals, and slaveholders on a grueling thousand-mile journey to freedom. The Kansas/Missouri political conditions created the opportunity for the perhaps less known escape route along the western frontier.

#### **Upcoming CWRT-KC Programs and Speakers**

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).

- 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.
- Wednesday, November 16, 2022: Round Table member Dr. Daniel Cudnik will give a program titled: "A Forensic Study of the Lincoln Assassination."
- Wednesday, December 14, 2022: The program will either be a speaker from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College or we will have a holiday program featuring Christmas music from the Civil War era.
- Wednesday, January 18, 2023: Dr. Ethan Rafuse will be speaking about Robert E. Lee and the fall of the Confederacy. Dr. Rafuse has written a book on this subject.
- Wednesday, February 15, 2023: In honor of Black History Month, Arnold Schofield will be speaking about the 2nd Kansas Colored Infantry.
- Wednesday, March 15, 2023: Dr. Harry S. Laver with the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College will be our speaker. The tentative title of his presentation is "Learning the Art of Joint Operations: General U.S. Grant and Rear Admiral Andrew H. Foote."
- Wednesday, April 19, 2023: Dr. Bill Piston will be speaking about a book that he and Tom Sweeney co-authored containing photographs of Missourians in the Civil War.
- Wednesday, May 17, 2023: Ms. Alisha Cole will be speaking about Clara Barton, who was a hospital nurse during the Civil War, and who founded the American Red Cross.

# Upcoming Programs at the Battle of Westport Visitor Center and Museum

The Battle of Westport Visitor Center and Museum is continuing to offer a series of Civil War related presentations as part of Civil War Wednesdays at the Harris-Kearney House (4000 Baltimore Avenue, Kansas City MO). The Harris-Kearney House will be open from 11:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for Civil War Wednesdays.

The following programs are scheduled to begin at 1:00 p.m. The cost to attend is \$6.00 per person, per program.

- July 13, 2022: Dan Smith will give a program titled: "Blacks in Blue at the Battle of Westport."
- **August 17, 2022: Dick Titterington** will be speaking about Order Number 11.
- September 14, 2022: Alisha Cole and Jennie Thalheimer will give a program about Civil War Medicine.
- October 19, 2022: Dick Titterington will give a program titled: "Civilian Life in Jackson County during the Civil War."
- November 9, 2022: Jeremiah Thalheimer will be speaking about Marines in the Civil War (tie in with The United States Marine Corps birthday on November 10th).

#### **Member News**

We would like to welcome the following new members: Rhonda Cooksey, Ed Gault, Bruce and Charlene Gordon, Dr. Bruce and Barbara Graham, and John Portillo. Ed Gault is the son of long-time member Paul Gault. Bruce and Charlene Gordon live in Leawood KS. Dr. Bruce and Barbara Graham live in Shawnee KS. John Portillo recently moved to Overland Park KS from California.

**Don Bates** had surgery to remove one of his kidneys on May 23rd. The surgery was successful and Don came home from the hospital the following afternoon. Don said the tumor was as large as the kidney. Fortunately, the tumor was non-malignant based on the results of the biopsy. We are very thankful that Don is doing better and was able to attend our dinner meeting on June 15th.

**Susan Keipp** said she had to go to the doctor on June 10th. One of the pins in her left hand came loose and she had to have surgery two weeks later to reinstall the pin. Susan said it should take another two weeks to heal.

Marlene Natoli reports that she will have knee replacement surgery the middle of July. We pray that Marlene's surgery is successful, she heals quickly, and her rehab goes well.

#### Sergeant Major's Roar

#### **Battlefield Dispatches #712**

#### **Successful Scouts and Scouting**

During the Civil War a single word often had two distinctly different meanings of which the word "Scout" is an excellent example. To begin with, a "scout" being used as a noun often referred to an individual who was a loyal civilian or Union soldier, who was familiar with and went alone into enemy territory to acquire information on Confederate guerrillas or their camps. Because this was a precarious and dangerous mission, a scout was paid very well, often in the amount of \$2.00 or \$3.00 per day, which amounted to \$60.00 or \$90.00 for thirty days. This is in comparison to \$13.00 a month, which was the normal monthly wage of a Union soldier. A scout was normally dressed similar to that of the Confederate guerrillas and was armed in a similar way, with two or three revolvers and or a sawed-off shotgun. After completing his mission or missions, the scout reported the information he acquired to his commanding officer and a follow up mission was organized based on the said information.

The follow-up mission was often described as going on a "scout" or patrol to "Seek and Destroy" the enemy guerrillas, their camps, rendezvous points, or houses of their civilian "southern" supporters. Very often the most successful "scouts" consisted of a small number of 15-20 Union soldiers, who were dressed in civilian clothes and armed like the guerrillas.

The following after action reports describe two successful "Scouts or Scouting Parties" and are located in Volume 8 of the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion on Pages 658 and 659.

"Headquarters District of Central Missouri, Jefferson City, Mo. April 3, 1862. [To] Captain N. H. McLean, Assistant Adjutant General, Saint Louis, Mo.

Captain: I have the honor to report, for the information of the Major-General commanding, that official communications from Col. Fritz Henry Warren, First Iowa Cavalry, bearing the date Clinton, Mo., March 30, 1862, have been received, announcing the arrival of two of his "SCOUTING PARTIES." One brought in 15 prisoners, 5 horses, 1 secession ambulance, 2 wagons, and 2 yoke of oxen belonging to Price's army. Two Rebels were wounded; 1 fatally. The second detachment

mentioned returned with 4 prisoners, 3 horses, and 1 mule. One of our soldiers, Kelley, a gallant boy of Company K, is badly wounded in the ankle and thigh.

At that date, Colonel Warren also had two other detachments out. He seems to be following up the guerrillas, of whom there are many in that quarter, with commendable energy.

I am Captain, Very Respectfully, Your Obedient Servant,

JAS. TOTTEN,

Brigadier General, commanding District."

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"Headquarters District of Central Missouri, Jefferson City, Mo. April 10, 1862. [To] Captain N. H. McLean, Assistant Adjutant General, Saint Louis, Mo.

Captain: I have the honor to report for the information of the Major General commanding the Department, that I have been advised by Colonel Fitz Henry Warren of the capture of 15 more prisoners, one a Rebel Lieutenant, and the recovery of a herd of cattle jayhawked (stolen) near Clinton some time ago. Also, a letter of the next date (7<sup>th</sup>) announces the return of another "SCOUTING PARTY", with 4 prisoners, with horses and sidearms (revolvers) of each. One of these latter, Mr. Beasley, the Oath of Allegiance taken only the previous week and when taken denied most solemnly having any arms or ammunition, but a search of the premises revealed one revolver, one double-barreled shotgun, and one rifle with buckshot and powder.

Very Respectfully, Your Obedient Servant,

JAS. TOTTEN,

Brigadier General, Commanding District"

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Now then, it is not known how many "scouts" or patrols succeeded or failed in their Seek and Destroy missions. However, the Union forces continued to employ individual "Scouts" to gather information on the enemy and conducted "Scouting Patrols" in pursuit of the enemy guerrillas or "bushwhackers" as the war went on.