

BORDER STATE

Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City



542nd Regular Meeting Wednesday, August 17, 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, August 10th.

To make a dinner reservation, please contact Susan Keipp:

skeipp@kc.rr.com Phone: 816-333-0025

August Program



Mr. Jeffrey L. Patrick, museum curator at Wilson's Creek National Battlefield, will give a program about the Battle of Wilson's Creek that was fought on August 10, 1861.

Mr. Patrick authored a book titled: <u>Campaign for Wilson's Creek: The Fight for Missouri Begins</u> (Vol. 28, Civil War Campaigns and Commanders Series).

Mr. Patrick last spoke to our Round Table at the dinner meeting in May of 2019.

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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 August dinner meeting: Italian sausage lasagna and asparagus with garlic bread. Dessert will be Tiramisu.

All dinners are served with house salad with Milburn house dressing, sliced bread, iced tea, water, and coffee.

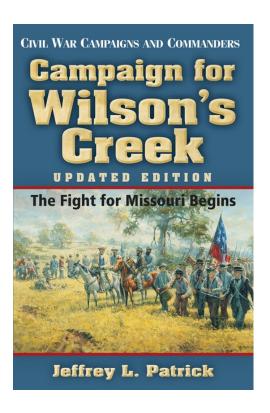
Gluten free and vegetarian meals are available with advance notice. Please advise **Susan Keipp** if you require a gluten free or vegetarian meal when making your reservation.

Meet Our Speaker

Mr. Jeffrey L. Patrick began working for the National Park Service in 1992, and is currently the museum curator at Wilson's Creek National Battlefield in Republic, Missouri. He holds a Master of Arts Degree in History from Purdue University. He is the author or editor of a number of books and articles on American military history. His latest work, <u>A Machine-Gunner in France: The Memoirs of Ward Schrantz</u>, 35th <u>Division</u>, 1917-1919, was published in 2019 by the University of North Texas Press.

At the August dinner meeting, Mr. Patrick will give a program about the Battle of Wilson's Creek, that was fought near Springfield MO on August 10, 1861.

Mr. Patrick authored a book titled: <u>Campaign for Wilson's Creek: The Fight for Missouri Begins (Civil War Campaigns and Commanders Series)</u>. This book was published in 2011.



Book: Campaign for Wilson's Creek: The Fight for Missouri Begins

The following summary of Mr. Patrick's book is from the Amazon website:

"In early 1861, most Missourians hoped they could remain neutral in the upcoming conflict between North and South. In fact, a popularly elected state convention voted in March of that year that "no adequate cause" existed to compel Missouri to leave the Union. Instead, Missourians saw themselves as ideologically centered between the radical notions of abolition and secession.

"By that summer, however, the situation had deteriorated dramatically. Because of the actions of politicians and soldiers such as Missouri Governor Claiborne Jackson and Union General Nathaniel Lyon, Missourians found themselves forced to take sides.

"Campaign for Wilson's Creek is a fascinating story of high-stakes military gambles, aggressive leadership, and lost opportunities. It is also a tale of unique military units, untried but determined commanders, colorful volunteers, and professional soldiers. The first major campaign of the Civil War west of the Mississippi River guaranteed that Missourians would be engaged in a long, cruel civil war within the larger, national struggle."

Live Auction Book Sales

We would like to thank Round Table member **Arnold Schofield** for managing the book sales each month. Arnold will auction off the following Civil War books in August:

- War on the Waters by James M. McPherson; University of North Carolina Press, 2012. In excellent condition with dust jacket.
- <u>The Civil War: An Illustrated History</u>, 150th Anniversary Tribute, Time Life Books, published in 2011. Introduction by Jeff Shaara. In excellent condition with dust jacket.
- Shades of Blue and Gray by Herman Hattaway; University of Missouri Press, 1997. In near mint condition with dust jacket and mylar cover.
- Echoes of Glory: Arms & Equipment of the Confederacy; Time Life Books, 1991. In excellent condition

Last Month's Program

The speaker at our dinner meeting on July 20th was Mr. A. Wilson Greene, Civil War historian, author, and retired museum director. Mr. Greene gave an excellent presentation 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 examined some three dozen general officers, the famous and the not-so-famous, who fought at Petersburg, and offered 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 were very 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.

Following the program, Dan Smith, Chairman of the Board of the Monnett Battle of Westport Fund, presented Mr. Greene with our Round Table's highest honor, the Harry S. Truman Award.



July Speaker, Mr. A. Wilson Greene



Dan Smith (right) presenting Mr. Greene with the Round Table's Harry S. Truman Award

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, 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.
- Wednesday, June 21, 2023: Dr. Isaias McCaffery, professor of history at Independence Community College, will give a program titled: "Last Stand at Rebel Creek: The Osage as Union Allies in Civil War Kansas.
- Wednesday, July 19, 2023: Speaker to be determined,
- Wednesday, August 16, 2023: Wayne Motts,
 President and CEO of the Gettysburg
 Foundation, will be giving a program about
 General George A. Custer at Gettysburg and in
 Kansas.
- Wednseday, September 20, 2023: Douglas Waller, veteran CIA correspondant, will be giving a program about President Lincoln's spies.

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.

- 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 new member **Chuck LaRose**, who lives in Pleasant Hill MO.

Susan Keipp said she will not be able to attend the dinner meeting in September. She will be traveling to Germany, France, and Switzerland, in order to do some genealogy research. We wish her safe travels and a successful trip.

On July 12th, **George Leff** reported that he had to spend a few days in the hospital mending a long ago broken foot.

On July 24th, **Jim Tucker** said his wife broke a bone in her foot and can hardly get around. Jim had to miss a trip with the Westerners group, in order to stay home and take care of his wife.

Marlene Natoli said that she had left knee replacement surgery on July 19th. She is recovering and is currently having rehab therapy at her house. Marlene hopes to be able to attend the dinner meeting in September.

Remembering Robert James Voelker, Sr.



Jim Voelker (photo taken October 23, 2018)

Jim Voelker, a long-time member of our Round Table passed away on July 4th at the age of 76. Funeral Mass was held on July 8th at Holy Spirit Catholic Church and burial was at Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Raytown MO.

According to his obituary, Jim was born on May 15, 1946 in Kansas City MO. He graduated from De LaSalle High School in 1964 and from Rockhurst University in 1969. He worked for the Kansas City MO school district as a history teacher and coach for both boys and girls sports for 45 years. He was a member of the Holy Spirit Catholic Church for 35 years. Through Jim's involvement and leadership in high school, youth sports, and Boy Scouts, he had a profound impact on many young people's lives and development.

Jim was preceded in death by his wife of 39 years, Paula Voelker. Jim and his wife had two sons and a daughter and three grandchildren. Jim will be greatly missed by his family as well as the members of our Round Table.

Sergeant Major's Roar

Battlefield dispatches #713 Horses and Mules Needed

During the Civil War, one of the constant, consistent needs of both the Union and Confederate forces was the replacement of "Horses and Mules" because of their high attrition rate of killed and unserviceable animals. More than 1,000,000 horses and mules died in the Civil War, being killed in combat, dying of disease, and being over worked. By 1864, the need for artillery and cavalry

horses and mules to pull supply wagons and ambulances reached a crisis east of the Mississippi River. Therefore, the Union, because of its huge number of Missouri Mules and Horses, turned to the Show-Me-State to help reduce the latter crisis back East. To do so, the Commanding officer of the Saint Louis District requested that the field quartermasters send any horses or mules that could be spared to Saint Louis for shipment east. Eventually, the shipped horses or mules would be replaced by buying more horses and mules from the private sector. By 1864, broke or trained horses and mules were selling for \$100 to \$135 dollars each.

The following correspondence describes the number of "Missouri" horses and mules that were shipped to Nashville, Tennessee and Cairo, Illinois prior to May 1, 1864. All of this correspondence is located in Vol. 34. Part III of the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion, on Pages 270-271 and 283.

"Office Chief Quartermaster, Dept. of the Missouri. Saint Louis, April 23, 1864.

[To] Maj. Gen. W. S. Rosecrans, Commanding Department of the Missouri:

General: I have the honor to report that 1,520 mules can be spared for Nashville from the means of transportation in use in this Department. A larger number cannot be spared at present, unless the small Posts remote from the principal depots in the Department be broken up (closed or abandoned). Of the above number it will be necessary to replace at least 1,000 mules as speedily as possible, after the demand for Nashville is supplied. Enclosed please find the statement of the stations from which the mules have been drawn.

Statement of mules for Nashville to be shipped prior to May 1,1864, from Saint Louis Depot:

-	
•	Captain Grimes, Assistant Quartermaster, will
	furnish1,000 mules
•	Captain Hippie, Assistant Quartermaster, Cape
	Girardeau90 mules
•	Captain Case, Kansas City100 mules
•	Captain Flanigan, Sedalia18 mules
•	Captain Chapman18 mules
•	12th Missouri and 13th Illinois (St.
	Louis)
•	Major Wilmot, Macon City68 mules
•	Captain George R. Dyer, Pilot Knob100 mules
•	Total
•	Number already shipped1,428 mules
•	Artillery horses shipped to Nashville and Cairo
	from February 1, 18641,460 horses

W. MYERS, Colonel and Chief Ouartermaster."

"Headquarters Saint Louis District Saint Louis, April 23,1864.

[To] Commanding Officer, Pilot Knob,

I understood from Colonel Myers that there was no urgent need of the horses now. If transportation is insufficient, after sending the MULES up, you may put a company of infantry at Fredericktown and withdraw the company of cavalry now there and one or two companies of infantry at Patterson, in place of as many cavalry withdrawn. The outposts can thus be more easily supplied, until the mules withdrawn are replaced. If you have been supplying the company at Saint Genevieve with forage rations hauled from pilot Knob, notify the Commanding Officer there to require for his supplies, which can be shipped by STEAMBOAT.

Thomas Ewing Jr., Brigadier General

"Headquarters Saint Louis District, Saint Louis, April 23,1864.

[To] Commanding Officer, Cape Girardeau:

Colonel Myers informs me that there is urgent need for all the MULES under Captain Hippie's control, which can be spared for a few weeks. He will then replace them. You will do all in your power to meet his order by reducing the number required to the lowest possible figure. To accomplish this, cannot the commands of Charleston and Dallas buy forage in the adjacent country? If so, let it be done.

Thomas Ewing Jr., Brigadier General."

"Saint Louis, April 25,1864 [To] Lieutenant General Grant:

Colonel Myers reports that 1,520 MULES can be spared from the Department of Transportation. Many of them must be replaced as soon as the wants at Nashville are supplied. In ten days from April 21, Colonel Myers will have shipped to Nashville 4,000 MULES and 600 ARTILLERY HORSES.

W. S. Rosecrans, Major General."

Now then, it appears that the need for moving mules and horses to the East continued for another year as the war went on!

Wilson's Creek National Battlefield Visitors Center and Museum

The following writeup is courtesy of the Springfield MO Convention and Visitors Bureau:

"The history of the first major Civil War Battle fought west of the Mississippi River hasn't changed, but the Wilson's Creek National Battlefield Visitors Center and Museum near Springfield now shares the story in a fresh and insightful ways following an 18-month renovation. Unveiled last spring [May 29, 2021], the \$3.5 million project added approximately 1,800 square feet of new exhibit space to help showcase the park's extensive collection of Civil War artifacts, including an impressive array of edged weapons and firearms. Among the many relics now on display is the original "Lyon bed", where the body of the first Union general to die during the Civil War, Nathaniel Lyon, was laid after he was killed in the battle of Wilson's Creek. New interactive and virtual displays give visitors the chance to watch historical weapons demonstrations and digitally view fragile artifacts and other items in storage. Visitors can learn more about he battle on a 5-mile road tour with eight interpretive stops. Fees are \$20 per vehicle, \$10 for those walking or bicycling into the park; (417) 732-2662; nps.gov/wicr."

Round Table members **Gary Nevius and Arnold Schofield** visited the renovated Wilson's Creek National Battlefield Visitors Center and Museum and said it was well-worth the visit.