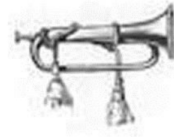




# BORDER BUGLE



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!

## 546th Regular Meeting Wednesday, December 14, 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.

**Reservation Deadline: 12:00 noon on Wednesday, December 7th.**

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

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

Phone: 816-333-0025

## December Program



At our dinner meeting on December 14th, the program will be the "Dickens Carolers in Concert." The Dickens Carolers are Kansas City's premiere professional Christmas Caroling company, who will celebrate their 39th season of holiday caroling in 2022!

Brad Zimmerman, founder and manager, employs over 50 performers from all walks of life. The Dickens Carolers are costumed in beautiful turn-of-the-century attire and add a festive spark to any holiday gathering.

This should be a fun holiday program, so please come and enjoy the evening. We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy Hanukkah.

## 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 this month, 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.

## Dinner Menu

Milburn Golf and Country Club will serve the following meal at the December dinner meeting: Oven roasted prime rib, winter vegetable medley, and dauphinoise potatoes au gratin. Dessert will be brownie and peppermint ice cream.

All dinners are served with house salad and 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.

## December Program: "Dickens Carolers in Concert"

The Dickens Carolers, Kansas City's premiere professional Christmas Caroling company, will celebrate their 39th season of holiday caroling in 2022! Brad Zimmerman, founder and manager, employs over 50 performers from all walks of life. The Dickens Carolers are costumed in beautiful turn-of-the-century attire and add a festive spark to any holiday gathering. Last season the carolers shared their musical cheer at over 250 holiday parties, merchant associations and area businesses. This seasonal business began 39 years ago with four singers and one merchant contract. Through word of mouth, advertising, and hard work, Brad

Zimmerman has guided the Dickens Carolers to national recognition. In December 1990, the Dickens Carolers appeared on "Good Morning, America" and in 1993, they were chosen as the welcoming entertainment for Sarah Ferguson, the Duchess of York. The voices of the Dickens Carolers have been compared to those of heavenly angels.



December Program - The Dickens Carolers

## 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, lithographs, and collectible plates in December:

- *Cavalryman of the Lost Cause: A Biography of J.E.B. Stuart*, by Jeffrey Wert, 2008. In excellent condition, with dust jacket.
- *The Civil War on the Border* (2 volumes) by Wiley Britton, 1990 reprint of 1899 edition. In excellent condition.

- *Lincoln: An Illustrated Biography*, by Philip B. Kunhardt, Jr., 1992. In excellent condition with dust jacket.
- *Civil War St. Louis*, by Louis S. Gerteis, 2001. In excellent condition with dust jacket.
- Four (4) Lithographs:
  - Kansas Delaware Indians.
  - National Flags and Navy Pennant in color.
  - George A. Custer and J.E.B. Stuart, cavalry.
  - Stonewall Jackson.
- Four (4) Civil War Collectible Plates:
  - Robert E. Lee.
  - Stonewall Jackson.
  - Joshua L. Chamberlin.
  - George A. Custer.

### Last Month's Program



**November Speaker Dr. Daniel B. Cudnik**

At our dinner meeting on November 16th, Round Table member, **Dr. Daniel B. Cudnik** gave a very interesting program titled: "A Forensic Study of the Lincoln Assassination." Dr. Cudnik viewed Lincoln's assassination through a medical lens. He discussed what happened before the crime, what happened during the crime, and what happened after the crime.

Dr. Cudnik's presentation began with Lee's surrender on April 9, 1865 and covered the events leading to the murder of the President. Following the fatal shot by John Wilkes Booth on April 14th, Lincoln was taken to Dr. Peterson's house across the street from Ford's Theatre. There, President Lincoln was given what was then considered cutting-edge medical treatment. A

young surgeon, Dr. Charles A. Leale, who was familiar with wounds and wound care, rendered the following aid:

- Checked Lincoln's vital signs.
- Cleared Lincoln's airway and gave him mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.
- Gave Lincoln artificial respiration by lifting Lincoln's arms.
- Further examined Lincoln.
- Performed digital probe of Lincoln's head wound. Episodic probing improved Lincoln's blood pressure and pulse, which prolonged Lincoln's life.

Treatment of gunshot wounds in 1865 was vastly different than it is today:

- Louis Pasteur and Robert Koch discovered that certain germs cause certain diseases in 1872-1882.
- X-rays were discovered in 1895.
- Blood groups were discovered in 1901, which then allowed blood transfusions.
- Penicillin was discovered in 1928. No antibiotics were available in 1865.
- Sulfa, an antibacterial drug, was discovered in 1932.

President Lincoln succumbed to his head wound on the morning of April 15th and was transported to the White House for an autopsy, which was performed by two pathologists: Dr. J. Janvier Woodward and Dr. Edward Curtis. Dr. Cudnik discussed the autopsy findings in great detail. The 0.44 caliber bullet went through the left side of Lincoln's skull and caused a great deal of bone and brain injury. Based on the region of the brain that was damaged, Lincoln probably would have been blind and had loss of sensation and loss of motor functions if he had lived.

The aftermath of the assassination was also discussed. John Wilkes Booth fled to Garrett's Farm on April 24th and hid in a tobacco barn. The Union troops wanted to capture Booth. However, Boston Corbet, one of the Union soldiers, shot Booth in order to keep him from shooting at the Union troops. The bullet went through Booth's neck bones and severed his spinal chord. Booth died on the morning of April 25th.

Dr. Cudnik also discussed Major Henry Rathbone's tragic life and Boston Corbet's descent into insanity. Major Rathbone and Clara Harris, who were engaged to be married, were sitting with President and Mrs. Lincoln when the President was shot. Booth stabbed Rathbone in the arm in order to escape. Rathbone became very depressed over Lincoln's assassination and thought maybe he could have prevented it. Rathbone killed his wife in 1883. He was declared insane and died in 1911.



## Upcoming Civil War Round Table Programs and Speakers

Our monthly dinner meetings are typically held on the third Wednesday of each month. However, the meetings in December of 2022 and 2023 will be held on the second Wednesday of the month. Also, the February 2023 meeting will be held on the third Thursday of the month.

- **Wednesday, January 18, 2023: Ms. Angela Riotto** will be giving a program titled: "Prisoners of War in the Civil War."
- **Thursday, February 16, 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 the role of women during the Civil War.
- **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:** Round Table member **Rick Manfredi** will be giving a program titled: "Did Missouri Secede?"
- **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.
- **Wednesday, September 20, 2023: Douglas Waller**, veteran CIA correspondent, will be giving a program about President Lincoln's Union spies.
- **Wednesday, October 18, 2023: Dr. Ethan S. Rafuse** will be speaking about Robert E. Lee and the fall of the Confederacy. Dr. Rafuse has written a book on this subject.
- **Wednesday, November 15, 2023:** The speaker will be **Dr. Kristen Epps**, professor of history at

Kansas State University. The title of her program will be "Slavery on the Periphery."

- **Wednesday, December 13, 2023: Dr. Diane Mutti-Burke**, professor of history at UMKC, will be giving a program about refugees in the Civil War.

## New and Used Clothing Donations Requested

The Civil War Round Table is partnering with the Milburn Golf and Country Club to donate new and used clothing for the needy in the Kansas City area. The following is some information regarding this donation request from our treasurer **Susan Keipp**:

"Dear Members of the Round Table:

"The cold weather is upon us and in the spirit of the Season we will be collecting clothing items for our needy, disabled, and homeless veterans in the Greater Kansas City area. Recipients will include: St. Michael's Veterans Center, the Community Services League (begun by Bess Truman), and the Disabled American Veterans.

"Please bring all items to our scheduled dinner meeting on December 14th. Holly and the Milburn Golf and Country Club have graciously offered to help with this by setting up a collection table and bagging all donations.

"Please tell your friends. All donations are appreciated. The following is a list of the items requested:

- New and used coats.
- New and used pants.
- New and used sweat shirts.
- New and used tube socks.

Please call me if you have any questions.

"Kindly,

Susan Keipp, Treasurer  
(816-333-0025)"

## Please Renew Your Membership for 2023

Now is the time to renew your membership in the Civil War Round Table for 2023. The membership dues for next year are the same as they were for this year: \$35.00 per individual or \$55.00 per couple. The membership dues go to pay for our speakers' travel costs and honorariums, as well as our administrative expenses (Internet fees, corporate fees, printing and postage, name tags, award plaques, etc.).

## In Remembrance

Round Table member **John C. Byram, Jr.** died on Sunday, October 30th at St. Luke's hospital from complications of polycythemia vera, a condition he had lived with for over ten years. He was 80 years old.

John was born in 1942 in Atchison KS. His family moved to Kansas City when he was three years old. John earned his Bachelor's degree from the University of Kansas and then joined the Army Reserves. He started his career in the mortgage banking business. Thereafter he became a commercial real estate appraiser. John ultimately pursued and expanded the family business in commercial real estate by managing, assembling, and developing commercial properties.

John leaves behind his wife, Joyce, of 53 years, their four children, and their grandchildren. He will be greatly missed by his family and friends.

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**Judge James F. Davis** passed away on Sunday, November 13th, surrounded by family, after succumbing to injuries sustained in an accident. He was 74 years old. Judge Davis served as president of our Round Table in 1984.

Jim was born in 1948 in Kansas City KS. He attended the University of Kansas and earned his Bachelor's degree, MBA, and Juris Doctorate making law review during law school. He was a partner with Lewis Rice & Fingersh LLC and then served as a Kansas District Court judge for 26 years in Johnson County. Jim served as a platoon leader in the United States Army during the Vietnam War.

Jim is survived by his wife, Gwen, of 35 years, his four children, and ten grandchildren. He will be greatly missed by his family, friends, and associates.

## The Sergeant Major's Roar

### Battlefield Dispatches #470 General Lee & Santa Claus

In 1867, the Civil War had been over for two years and the southern states were in the process of recovering and rebuilding from the devastation it had created. Much was beginning to be written about the war in both the north and south and a small book titled: *General Lee and Santa Claus* was published before Christmas in 1867. It was an attempt, and no doubt succeeded, in restoring the southern children's belief in Santa Claus, because he had not delivered any gifts to them during the four years of the war. Mrs. Louise Clack was the author

of this book and in the following letter to General Lee, three little girls asked him to answer the following question: "Please tell us whether Santa Claus loves the little rebel children, for we think he doesn't because he did not come to see us for four Christmas Eves."

"Dear General Lee,

We think you are the goodest man that ever lived and our Auntie says you will go right straight to heaven when you die; so we want to ask you a question, for we know the truth about it and we know that you always speak the truth.

Please tell us whether Santa Claus loves little Rebel children, for we think he don't because he did not come to see us for four Christmas Eves. Auntie thinks you would not let him cross the lines and we don't know how to find out unless we write and ask you. We all love you dearly and want to send something, but we have not anything nice enough. We lost all our toys in the war. Birdie wants to send you one of our little white kittens – the one with black ears – but Auntie thinks maybe you don't like kittens.

We say little prayers for you every night, dear General Lee and ask God to make you ever so happy.

Please let us know about Santa Claus as soon as you can. We want to know for something very, very, very particular, but we can't tell even you why until Christmas time, so please excuse us.

Your Little Friends,  
Lutie, Birdie, and Minnie"

This letter was sent the following day and in about a week this answer was received:

"My Dear Little Friends,

I was very glad to receive your kind letter and to know by it that I have the good wishes and prayers of three innocent little girls named Lutie, Birdie, and Minnie.

I am very glad that you wrote about Santa Claus, for I am able to tell you all about him. I can assure you he is one of the best friends that the little Southern Girls have. You will understand this when I explain to you the reason for his not coming to see you for four years.

The first Christmas Eve of the war I was walking up and down in the camp ground when I thought I heard a singular noise above my head and on looking to find out from whence it came, I saw the queerest, funniest looking little old fellow riding along in a sleigh through the air. On closer inspection, he proved to be Santa Claus.

“Halt, Halt!” I said, but at this the funny fellow laughed and did not seem inclined to obey, so again I cried “Halt!” And he drove down to my side with a sleigh full of toys.

I was very sorry for him when I saw the disappointed expression of his face when I told him he could go no further South and when he exclaimed, “Oh what will my little Southern children do?” I felt sorry for I love little children to be happy and especially at Christmas. But one thing I was certain, I knew my little friends would prefer me to do my duty rather than have all the toys in the world. So I said, “Santa Claus, take every one of the toys you have back as far as Baltimore, sell them and with the money you get buy medicines, bandages, ointment and delicacies for our sick and wounded men. Do it quickly and it will be all right with the children.” Then Santa Claus sprang into his sleigh and putting his hand to his hat in true military style said, “I obey orders, General” and away he went.

Long before morning he came sweeping down into camp again with not only everything I had ordered, but with many other things that our poor soldiers needed. And every Christmas he took the toy money and did the same thing and the soldiers and I blessed him for he clothed and fed many a poor soul who otherwise would have been cold and hungry.

Now, do you not consider him a good friend, I hold him in high respect and trust that you will always do the same.

I should be pleased to hear from you again my dear little girls and I want you ever to consider me,

Your True Friend,  
General Lee”

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Now then, General Lee’s answer to "Lutie, Birdie, and Minnie" would have been a typical expression of his love for the children of the south and his veterans. Mrs. Clack’s little book for her “Little Southern Friends” was one many publications that helped the folks of the south adjust to their new life and world that evolved after the Civil War. In a way, her book was a premonition of the famous letter that was written in 1897 by the editor of the New York Sun newspaper, who responded to a little girl’s request and said: “Yes Virginia, there is a Santa Claus.” Therefore, Thank You Mrs. Clack for another wonderful Christmas Story and wishing everyone a very MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY HOLIDAYS.