

BORDER STAR

Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City



567th Regular Meeting Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Milburn Golf and Country Club 7501 West 69th Street, Overland Park, KS 66204 Social hour begins at 5:00 p.m. and dinner is at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting will include a plated dinner at a cost of \$34.00 per person. Reservations are required in order to attend the dinner meeting.

Reservation Deadline: Tuesday, September 10th.

To make a dinner reservation, please contact Marlene Natoli:

mailto:marnatoli@att.net
Phone: 913-764-1336

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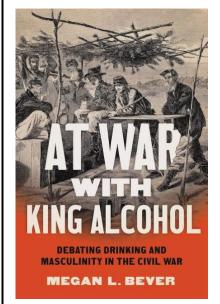
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Civil War Round Table of Kansas City 4125 NW Willow Drive Kansas City MO 64116

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September Program



Dr. Megan L. Bever, associate professor of history and chair of the Social Sciences Department at Missouri Southern State University will be giving a program titled: "At War with King Alcohol: Civil War Soldiers Debate Drinking."

Soldiers in the Civil War drank liquor and myriad debates ensued over whether or not troops could drink and be patriotic men. These conversations over drinking, intermingled with discussions of class, race, and ethnicity, and soldiers and civilians argued – with each other and among themselves. Did service to one's country during a time of war require sobriety? Americans disagreed.

Dinner Meeting Reservations and Payments

- A reservation is required in order to attend the dinner meeting. All reservations must be submitted to Marlene Natoli by Tuesday, September 10th. This will ensure that an accurate count can be submitted to the Milburn Country Club on Wednesday, one week ahead of the dinner meeting, as specified in our contract with the Country Club.
- Please e-mail or call Marlene if you are planning on attending. To make a reservation, call Marlene at 913-764-1336 or e-mail her at mailto:marnatoli@att.net If you send Marlene an e-mail and do not get confirmation back, then you do not have a reservation.
- The cost of a dinner is \$34.00 per person. If you make a reservation, but are not able to attend the dinner meeting for any reason, you *must* contact **Marlene Natoli** by either phone or e-mail prior to the reservation deadline to cancel. You are responsible for the cost of your meal if you made a reservation, did not attend, and did not cancel before the deadline.
- You can pay for your meal at the dinner meeting or by mailing a check to **Dick Titterington**.
 Make check payable to the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City. Dick's mailing address is: 4125 NW Willow Drive, Kansas City MO 64116.
- You can also pay for your dinner using a credit or debit card. The Civil War Round Table of Kansas City is now accepting digital payments. This process is simple to use and secure. The Round Table uses the Square Digital Payment Processing System. Square charges the Round Table a fee for this service. The Round Table passes this fee on to its members who choose to use this service. The fees are slightly more if you pay online than paying in person at our dinner meetings. For more information or to see a schedule of the processing fees charged, visit our website https://cwrtkc.org/digital_payments/

Dinner Menu

Milburn Golf and Country Club will serve the following meal at the September dinner meeting: Chili Glaze Salmon with rice pilaf and asparagus. Dessert will be Caramel Butterscotch Cake. 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 **Marlene Natoli** if you require a gluten free or vegetarian meal when making your reservation. Also, if you have a food allergy,

Marlene requests that you **please be very specific** on what items you can't eat on that month's menu when making your dinner reservation.

This Month's Speaker



Dr. Megan L. Bever is associate professor of history and chair of the Social Sciences Department at Missouri Southern State University. She also serves as Vice President of the Sherwood-Rader Farm Civil War Park. She is author of <u>At War with King Alcohol: Debating Drinking and Masculinity in the Civil War</u> (2022) and coeditor of <u>American Discord: The Republic and Its People in the Civil War Era</u> (2020) and <u>The Historian behind the History</u> (2014). She is currently co-editing a collection on substances during the Civil War.

Dr. Bever's Book: At War with King Alcohol

The following text is from the Amazon website:

"Liquor was essential to military culture as well as healthcare regimens in both the Union and Confederate armies. But its widespread use and misuse caused severe disruptions as unruly drunken soldiers and officers stumbled down roads and through towns, colliding with civilians. The problems surrounding liquor prompted debates among military officials, soldiers, and civilians as to what constituted acceptable drinking. While Americans never could agree on precisely when it was appropriate to make or drink alcohol, one consensus emerged: the wasteful manufacture and reckless consumption of spirits during a time of civil war was so unpatriotic that it sometimes bordered on disloyalty.

"Using an array of sources - temperance periodicals, soldiers' accounts, legislative proceedings, and military records – **Dr. Megan L. Bever** explores the relationship between war, the practical realities of drinking alcohol, and temperance sentiment within the United States. Her insightful conclusions promise to shed new light on our understanding of soldiers' and veterans' lives, civilmilitary relations, and the complicated relationship between drinking, morality, and masculinity."

Last Month's Program



August Speaker – Dr. Tai Edwards

At our dinner meeting on August 21st, **Dr. Tai Edwards**, associate professor of history and director of the Kansas Studies Institute at Johnson County Community College gave an excellent program titled: "The U.S. Civil War and Colonization of Indigenous Nations." She discussed how the Indigenous peoples were horribly mistreated and taken advantage of by the United States during the Civil War. Attendance at the August dinner meeting was 65.

Her Bio: Dr. Edwards' scholarship focuses on colonization, Indigenous peoples, gender, and disease. Her book: <u>Osage Women and Empire: Gender and Power</u> was published by the University Press of Kansas in 2018. As Kansas Studies Institute director, she has collaborated on numerous projects including Quindaro Ruins preservation, collecting veterans' oral histories, rematriation of a sacred grandfather rock to the Kaw Nation, and she is currently a co-PI on a National Endowment for the Humanities grant with K-State colleagues to annotate and contextualize the treaties that

dispossessed the Kaw Nation of their lands that now make up the state of Kansas.

The following is a summary of Dr. Edwards' presentation:

- <u>Indigenous peoples</u>: "Peoples or nations who take their tribal identities as members of the human species from the landscapes and seascapes that give them their unique and tribal cultures."
- Colonialism: When a power exploits a "lesser" power and uses the "lesser" power's resources to strengthen and enrich the "greater" power and deny resources to the Indigenous peoples.
- President Lincoln's Indian Policy:
 - > Indian system and corruption.
 - ➤ Concentration policy: Concentrating all Indian tribes in the nation on as few as three to five reservations.
 - > Colonizing Indigenous nations and their resources.
- "Western" Resources and Sustaining the War:
 - Homestead Act of 1862: Provided 160 acres to heads of households after five years of "improvement." The goal was to attract eastern lower-classes to western territories and produce goods beneficial to the U.S. economy and war effort. In reality, most of the land went to speculators; cattle, mining, logging operations; and railroad companies.
 - Pacific Railway Act of 1862: This act determined the 32nd parallel as the transcontinental railroad and telegraph route. It provided government bonds to fund the project and land grants to two railroad companies to build it. This secured government use of the telegraph and railroad lines central to war mobilization and economic growth.
- Three major examples of the genocide of Indigenous peoples during the Civil War:
 - > The Dakota War/Santee Uprising.
 - > The Navajo Long Walk and Imprisonment.
 - ➤ The Sand Creek Massacre on November 29, 1864.
- Dr. Edwards said she teaches her students that war is expensive in terms of money and people and that wars have unintended consequences. She said the Civil War ended slavery, but the war also resulted in the genocide of Indigenous peoples.
- Indigenous peoples based their identity and culture on a specific place. To lose that place, was more than just losing the property. They lost their ancestral homes. Genocide involved expelling, ethnic cleansing, and destroying the Indigenous peoples' culture.

Upcoming Civil War Round Table Programs

Our monthly dinner meetings are typically held on the third Wednesday of each month. However, the December 2024 meeting will be held on the second Wednesday of the month.

- October 16, 2024: Dr. Thomas Curran will be giving a program titled: "Rebel Women and Union Military Justice: The Case of Drucilla Sappington."
- November 20, 2024: Dr. Mitchell Klingenberg with the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, will give a program about Union General John Reynolds, who was killed on the first day at Gettysburg.
- **December 11, 2024:** This will be a musical program to celebrate the holidays.
- January 15, 2025: Chris Kolakowski will be speaking about his new book titled: <u>Tenth Army Commander: The World War II Diary of Simon Boliver Buckner</u>, Jr.
- February 19, 2025: Sergeant Major Arnold Schofield will be our speaker.
- March 19, 2025: David Cannon will be speaking about Josiah Bushnell Grinnell and the Iowa Underground Railroad.
- April 16, 2025: Round Table member Todd Stettner will be giving a program about Judah Benjamin, who served as a U.S. Senator from Lousiana and who served as Attorney General, Secretary of War, and Secretary of State for the Confederacy.
- May 21, 2025: Speaker to be determined.
- June 18, 2025: Dr. Joseph Beilein, Jr. will be giving a program titled: "A Man By Any Other Name: Quantrill."
- **July 16, 2025: A. Wilson Greene** will be giving a program about the Petersburg VA Campaign.

Upcoming Civil War Wednesdays Programs

The "Civil War Wednesdays" programs will be held on the third Wednesday of the month at the Westport Branch of the Kansas City Public Library, located at 118 Westport Road, Kansas City MO. The programs will start at 1:00 p.m. and end at approximately 2:00 p.m. There is no charge to attend these meetings at the library.

• September 18, 2024: Alisha Cole, with the Westport Historical Society, will be giving a program about the role of the Harris-Kearney House and the Wornall House during the American Civil War. Find out what their owners and occupants were doing at the time of the war.

- October 16, 2024: Dick Titterington, treasurer of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City, will be giving a program titled: "Grant in Missouri: The Battle of Belmont." Ulysses S. Grant began his Civil War career as the colonel of volunteers in the 21st Illinois Infantry and was quickly deployed in Missouri in 1861. His last command in Missouri was the Battle of Belmont.
- November 20, 2024: Dick Titterington will be giving a program titled: "The 1861 New Mexico Campaign: Valverde and Glorieta Pass." Confederates invaded the New Mexico Territory in 1861 and fought two battles against the Union defenders.

Member News:

We would like to welcome returning member **Richard McPherson** who lives in Leawood KS. He was a member of our Round Table back in 2021. Richard has two 2x great-grandfathers that fought for the Union, one with the Missouri Home Guard and the other with the Kansas Cavalry. He has another great-grandfather that fought with the 2nd Mississippi for the Confederacy. He is a distant relative of Union General James B. McPherson, Commander of the Army of the Tennessee. Richard is a current member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV) and Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW).

Arnold Schofield said he will have back surgery the middle of September. He will than undergo two weeks of rehab. Arnold and Clara have moved into a smaller house in the country.

Christine Maurer said her husband **Ford** had cancer treatments for melanoma, which left him with Type I diabetes. Ford has a blood sugar monitor that gives him a warning, so that he can automatically inject insulin when needed.

Marlene Natoli recently went on a vacation with her sister. They visited Cape Cod and Gettysburg. She said they had a great trip.

Lane Smith and Randy Durbin gave a performance of their three-part play titled: "Lee and Grant at Appomattox" on August 3rd at the Mine Creek Civil War Battlefield State Historical Site near Pleasanton KS. See photos on Page 6.

Lane Smith also participated in the William and Mary Bosley grave marker dedication service on August 15th at the Ellis KS Cemetery. William Bosley served in the Confederacy and was buried next to his wife in an unmarked grave. See article and photograph on page 7.

Casualties of War Symposium

At the August dinner meeting, **Gary Nevius** announced that the Casualties of War Symposium, held on August 17th at the Truman Library, was a success. A total of 50 people attended the symposium, including 10 or 11 members of our Round Table. Round Table members **Dan Smith and Dick Titterington** were two of the speakers. Some of the programs were recorded by C-Span. Gary said next year there will be another Disorder on the Border Symposium in Lawrence KS. The main topic will be the Underground Railroad.

Honoring Our Members Who Are Veterans

The following is a message from our president, **Gary Nevius** to members of the Round Table:

"Dear Members of the Round Table:

"We have heard from a number of you regarding your military service experience. We know that there are more of you out there. Please let us know of your military service, the military service of a spouse or the military service of a close relative (parent, son or daughter only). We need this information by the October 16 dinner meeting.

"Please email your information to Gary Nevius at: jhawk1863@gmail.com

"Please provide the following information: Your Name, Name of Veteran, Relationship, Service Branch, Years of Service, War or Theater of Service.

"If you prefer to provide this information at the next dinner meeting, there will be a sheet at the welcome table for your convenience. Those not responding by October 16 will not be recognized in November.

"Thank you for participating and THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!"

Photographs from the August Dinner Meeting



Marlene Natoli and Gary Nevius staffing the check-in table.



Member Joyce Gillespie



Members Jan Pringle and Larry Goldsmith



Member Nancy Overacker and her friend Debbie Mishler from Texas



Returning Member Rick McPherson



New Member Bill Stilley

Lee and Grant at Appomattox

Dr. Dan Falvey sent the following e-mail to **Lane Smith and Randy Durbin** on August 7th:

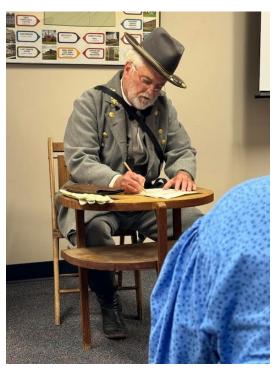
"Hey Randy and Lane,

"I've been wanting to see your Grant/Lee reenactment since I joined the CWRKC, and finally had my chance last Saturday! I hadn't been to Mine Creek, so it was nice that I could be there for the encampment, demos, museum, etc., but your performance was what I drove down there for, and I was certainly glad that I did!

"You both did masterful jobs of holding your audience through all three scenes, and, at least as far as I could tell, never floundered over any of your lines throughout the entire performance! As importantly, you WERE Grant and Lee from the moment you said your first lines, assuming their identities beautifully and never breaking out of character!

"I learned a lot, and thoroughly enjoyed your performance, so thanks! I look forward to seeing you both at future CWRKC meetings, and would recommend your re-enactment to any member who hasn't already seen it!

Regards, Dr. Dan Falvey"



Lane Smith as General R. E. Lee



Randy Durbin as General U.S. Grant

William and Mary Bosley Dedication Service

Lane Smith e-mailed the following information on August 16th:

William R Bosley was born in 1839 in present day West Virginia. At the beginning of the Civil War, he immediately cast his lot with the Confederacy. He was involved in many skirmishes and battles of that war, was captured late in that war as a prisoner of war and was also exchanged. By 1863 he was assigned to Co B, 62nd Virginia Mounted Infantry and was with Imboden's cavalry brigade during the Gettysburg Campaign.

On Dec 8,1867 Bosley married Mary Ann Washburn of Illinois and moved to Ellis KS in 1879. According to newspaper articles both contributed to the community in many ways. William was active managing his own peach orchard, active in local churches, in the Democratic Party, and was also elected a judge. Mary was active in the Women's Relief Corp, for Mary's brother was a Union soldier and died in captivity in 1863.

The heart of an old soldier never changes or dies. On May 13,1898, as the city of Ellis was sending off nine of its own to serve in the Spanish American War, it is recorded that Bosley made the statement that "if the boys needed any help 3,000,000 old soldiers who wore the blue and the gray stood ready to follow them to the field".

Bosley was friends and neighbors with many who wore the blue and was invited to attend many of the blue boy functions and meetings, often times being asked to speak at their meetings.

Mary was the first to pass, dying in 1921, followed by William the following year. Both were buried in the Ellis cemetery in unmarked graves and those graves remained unmarked until 2024.

Mark Terry of Mill Creek WA was born in 1954. At a young age, Mark became interested in the Civil War and was curious if anyone in his family tree had served in that conflict. In 1986 Mark found a resource that encouraged him to seek familiar information. He was to discover that the brother, William Bosley, of his 2x great-grandmother, Ada Bosley, had served in the Confederate forces. Further research found that this 3x great uncle had lived and was buried in an unmarked grave in Ellis KS. Having had previous experience working with the Veterans Administration (VA) on grave markers, Mark contacted the VA about this Confederate family member and was to discover that he was qualified to receive a VA marker. With all the proper documentation Mark ordered the marker for his 3x great uncle and also a marker for Mary.

Recently Mark contacted both local chapters of the SCV and the SUVCW about arranging a dedication service at the Ellis cemetery. SUVCW Department Commander Conrad Fisher, Past Department Commander Rocky Bartlow, and SCV member Lane Smith attended

a dedication service on August 15, 2024. A ceremony was held to honor both William and Mary with their new, beautiful inscribed markers. Several members of the Ellis community were in attendance to celebrate the markers and to honor the service of both William as a Confederate soldier and Mary in the Women's Relief Corp, a marker long overdue for each of these veterans.



Conrad Fisher, Lane Smith, and Rocky Bartlow attending the Bosley Dedication Service

Sergeant Major's Roar

Battlefield Dispatches #801

Southbound to Somewhere

During the Civil War, it was common practice for the "rank and file" troops or soldiers not to know where they were marching to or what their final destination was. One of the main reasons this was done was to protect the troop movement from being learned by spies or sympathizing civilians, who would share the acquired information with the enemy. Such was the case, in early June of 1862, of the Second Battalion of the 3rd Wisconsin Cavalry Regiment, consisting Companies "C", "F", "I" and "M", which were comprised of approximately 400 troopers stationed at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. Orderly Sergeant Charles W. Porter of Company F maintained an extensive personal journal from 1862–1865 and the following entries describe the movement of his 2nd Battalion from Fort Leavenworth "Southbound to Somewhere!"

Sunday, June 8, 1862:

There are reports that our camp will soon be for other troops to occupy, as we are destined to do more active duties soon at some other points, "Where, I Do Not Know." The day is warm.

Tuesday, June 10, 1862:

Today was one of unusual activity with us, for we had orders this morning to prepare for our departure on the morrow. So, we were busy in making necessary preparations.

Wednesday, June 11, 1862:

The Second Battalion, to which I belong, which was composed of Companies "C", "F", "I", and "M" commanded by Major Benjamin S. Henning, was at an early hour in readiness to move and soon the Major ordered us forward. We passed through [Leavenworth] City and made a short halt. At 11 o'clock, the command was again in put motion in a "Southern" direction. We continued our journey 12 miles and camped at 4 o'clock p.m. The day was hot and dusty. There was the usual country and farm scenery on our route today.

Thursday, June 12, 1862:

This morning early, at the sound of reveille, the camp was soon astir, preparing our journey. At 7 o'clock we were again on our way. Our march today was not so hot and dusty as yesterday. We are now journeying over "Bleeding Kansas!" Not many farms on our route today, our march was over extensive prairies. We arrived at the Kansas River at 3 ½ o'clock p.m. Were ferried [probably at Grinter's Ferry near Edwardsville] over and passed through Desoto and camped a half mile south of the place. I suppose that we marched 20 miles today.

Friday, June 13, 1862:

Everything being ready to resume our march, at 7 o'clock we were again on the move. We marched <u>20 miles</u> over a large prairie destitute of water, both horses and men suffered for want of it. After journeying two miles farther, we found water and camped. Nothing transpired to enliven our journey today. The day was hot and dusty.

Saturday, June 14, 1862:

This morning at the usual hour, our command was again in motion. At 10 o'clock we passed through the town of Marysville. At 11 o'clock a.m. we passed through the town of Paola. Our route was by many farms today, some prairie and timber and plenty of water. I was Acting Adjutant today for Major Daniel Wright was throttled by the Major [Henning] for refusing to do his duty. We camped at Twin Springs. Hot and Dusty today. Marched 25 miles.

Sunday, June 15, 1862:

At 7 o'clock this morning we again were on the move. Soon after starting, we passed through the town of Paris [in Linn County], at 10 o'clock, passed through Woneka, at 1 o'clock we passed through Mound City, which was a small place. Our route was through some good farming country, though we had a hot and dusty march. We camped at 3 o'clock after a march of 25 miles.

Monday, June 16, 1862:

This morning at 6 o'clock, we continued our journey. We passed a few farms today. More timber today than seen on our journey. This forenoon was cool and cloudy. At 11 0'clock a.m. we camped 1 ½ miles north of Fort Scott, Kansas. We <u>marched 16 miles today</u>. We put up our tents for the first time since we left Fort Leavenworth. Rain this evening.

Tuesday, June 17, 1862:

This morning at 8 o'clock our Battalion came out on Dress Parade, after which we had a general wash day, for our clothes were full of dust from our recent march. We had some rain last night and today was quite hot.

Wednesday, June 18, 1862:

There was nothing unusual in camp this forenoon. After dinner [the noon meal] we packed our tents and baggage and moved, [1½ miles], to Fort Scott and located our camp. Henry Mankee, a member of my Company, was taken sick and sent to the hospital. We got our camp fixed up in good shape. Major Henning was assigned to the Command of the Fort which was located on the south side of the Marmaton River. The day was quite hot."

Now then, this particular "journey to somewhere" ended in Fort Scott for the 2nd Battalion of the 3rd Kansas Vol. Cavalry and for the balance of the war, a battalion of this regiment would be stationed in and around Fort Scott. Accordingly, this battalion traveled 118 miles from Fort Leavenworth to Fort Scott via the shortest, most direct route, over the good road of which the modern analog is Kansas highway 7. The other main road south from Fort Leavenworth was the original "Military Road" which went a bit further east through what is now Kansas City and south closer to the Missouri-Kansas state line and was more dangerous to travel on. However, both of these roads remained open and functioned as major civilian and military highways, as the War Went On.