



BORDER

BUGLE

Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

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Civil War Round Table of
Kansas City
P.O. Box 2602
Shawnee Mission, KS
66206
An IRC 501(c)(3)
Charitable Organization



421th REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, May 25, 2010

Homestead Country Club

6510 Mission Road, Prairie Village, Kansas

Social Hour-Cash Bar-6:00p.m.

Dinner-6:30p.m.

MAY 2010 SPEAKER

GREG CLEMMER

“OLD ALLEGHANY JOHNSON”

Douglas Southall Freeman found General Edward Johnson “a curious, uncouth and strangely fascinating man”. Stonewall Jackson biographer Bud Robertson wrote that Johnson “boasted a strong personality and loud voice that commanded attention where physical good looks did not.”

This Virginian was a first cousin – twice removed – of Thomas Jefferson. He earned two brevet promotions for extraordinary bravery during the Mexican War. During the Civil War he commanded troops in Jackson’s early Valley Campaign, a division at Gettysburg and at Spotsylvania in addition to many other engagements. Stonewall praised his “high qualities as a soldier,” General Ewell called him “brave almost to a fault.” Robert E Lee pleaded for Richmond to press “any prospect” for Johnson’s exchange after capture by the enemy. However an artillerist who followed Johnson into battle may have said it best, “No bolder soldier ever donned the Southern Gray, or followed the storm-tossed colors of the immortal Lee” than did General Edward Johnson.

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**Please be sure that we have your reservation by Friday May 21. Return reservation
in the enclosed envelope with required payment of \$25.00 per person to;
Paul Gault, 7118 N Congress Ave., Kansas City, MO 64152.**

If you have questions or your payment is unavoidably tardy, please contact
Assistant Treasurer Betty Ergovich at 913 441-6462.

Attendance requires a paid dinner reservation.

ABOUT OUR SPEAKER.....

Greg Clemmer is a native of Virginia, a graduate of Virginia Tech and holds a Master of Arts in Military History. A former president of the Montgomery County (MD) Civil War Roundtable, Greg served two terms on the county's Historic Preservation Commission. His Confederate ancestry numbers 14 including members of Armistead's and the Stonewall brigades. His recently released biography, *Old Allegheny: The Life and Wars of General Edward Johnson*, won the 2005 Douglas Southall Freeman Book Prize as the book of highest merit published in Southern history for that year. Greg was recommended to us by the Civil War Roundtable of Clarksville, Tn.

TRIVIA

What Confederate General was assassinated at his HQ's ?

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

REMINDER: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Executive Committee meeting scheduled for May 22, 10 AM, at the Harris Kearney house. The meeting is open to all membership.

Programming

May: Author Greg Clemmer presents "Old Allegheny Johnson.", Silent Book Auction

Summer Programs, June, July, August, (no meals) **We will be moving the summer programs to the Kansas City Public Library at 4801 Main St. in Kansas City, MO** where there is no charge for the use of a meeting room. At the country club, we have to pay \$175.00 per session, with three sessions, that's \$525.00 with no food and limited beverage.

June: Arnold Schofield

July: Diane Burke: Prof of History at UMKC

August: Open

September: Author Tom Lafinere: Civil War Cass County

October: Frederick Douglas

November: Jim Beckner, The Old Confederate Homes
December: To be determined & Silent Book Auction

MANY THANKS

As the membership knows our April speaker, Pres Jeff Davis, was unable to attend our meeting. He was delayed at the Reno NV airport and simply was not able to arrive here on time. He was able to speak to the CWRT of St. Louis on the following evening and I received emails from them indicating how disappointed they were for us that we could not hear his presentation. They indicated at the conclusion of his presentation he received a standing ovation. So he must have been good. I would hope that someday in the future we could get him back here as my talking with him by phone he was very disappointed that he could not be here.

Many thanks go to Jim Beckner and Howard Mann who, at 5:00 that Tues, put together a program for us that evening.

NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD CLEANUP

On April 10th I drove to Mine Creek and met Arnold at the museum. Col Spike showed up with several of the SCV boys and Arnold assigned them some trees to cut down between the museum and the Confederate monument and some other general cleanup. Don Bates Jr and I were assigned to work on a big tree east of the museum and on some cedar trees near the pond. We worked for several hours before we called it a day.

BOOK REVIEW

It is not often that one of our own publishes a book, and very rarely does one come across a work aimed at an artillery battalion. Col Jim Speicher published recently "The Sumter Flying Artillery". Composed of five batteries that were served mostly by men of Sumter County, Georgia the 11th Battalion of Georgia Light Artillery was formally organized in early 1862 fighting as part of Lee's Army of Northern Virginia from the Seven Days battles and beyond. The narrative begins with an organizational summary accompanied by biographical sketches of the major figures involved in raising the battalion. The text recounts the military events, with personal accounts from dairies, letters, and memoirs incorporated. The volume is well stocked with maps, photos, and

reproduced artwork, drawings and documents. Congratulations to Col Spike for a well written and well received publication.

MENU FOR MAY 2010;

Lettuce Salad Deluxe, Flat Iron Steak, Au Gratin Potatoes, Baby Sweet Carrots and Cherry Pie w/Whipped Cream.

Name Tags

If you are in need of a name tag please notify Jack Brooks at 913-648-2517. There is a small price for the tag and Jack can discuss that with you.

2010 LOCAL AND COMING EVENTS

May 22, 2010 – Kansas City, MO., - Celebrate the Ladies of Westport and Early Kansas City at the 1855 Harris-Kearney House, 4000 Baltimore, Kansas City, MO. 11:00 – 4:00pm. The 1855 Harris-Kearney House invites you to meet some of the famous and infamous ladies of Old West Port and Early Kansas City. Hear their stories of joy, love, family, heartache, and survival. Join Annie Chambers, Mary Francis Ward, Hattie Kearney, Sarah Candler Coats, Aunt Minerva, Berenice Chouteau, and others for Pall Mall (early croquet) on the lawn, tea on the veranda, children's games, music and much more. The event is free, but donations are appreciated. For more information, please call, 816-561-1821 or 913-231-6749.

E-mail: westporthistorical@gmail.com,

Website: www.westporthistorical.com

June 5-6, 2010 – Baldwin City, KS., - “Dawn at Black Jack Battle Reenactment”.

June 5-6, 2010 – Higginsville, MO., - Confederate Memorial Day

June 12-13, 2010 – Bolivar/Greenfield, MO -“Battle of Hulston Mills”.

June 12-13, 2010 – Nevada, MO., - “Bushwacker Days”.

June 12-13, 2010 – Holden, MO., - Battle Reenactment.

June 19-20, 2010 – Wilson’s Creek, MO., - (Father’s Day), NPS Living History (Sigel’s Germans)

June 25-27, 2010 – Lecompton, KS., - Lecompton “Territorial Days”.

July 10-11, 2010 – Carthage, MO., - Living History (Sigel’s Germans)

August 13-15, 2010 – Lone Jack, MO., - Battle of Lone Jack Commemoration.

September 18-19, 2010 – Wilson’s Creek, MO., - NPS Moonlight Tour

September 18-19, 2010 – Blue Springs, MO., - “Thunder on the Border” Living History.

August 12-14 2011 – Springfield, Missouri. Wilson's Creek Reeriactment Planned for 2011 The Wilson's Creek National Battlefield Foundation has begun planning a maximum-effort Civil War reenactment to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Wilson's Creek. The reenactment will take place during the weekend of August 12-14, 2011.

Excitement is already building for the Civil War sesquicentennial, and as the second major battle of the war, Wilson's Creek compels a great deal of attention in the reenactment community. The Western Division of the Blue-Gray Alliance, a reenactor organization, will help design battle scenarios and handle all military aspects of the reenactment.

Due to the high level of interest, the Blue-Gray Alliance anticipates that this will be a well-attendedevent, with more than 3,000 reenactors and huge crowds of spectators. Although a location has not yet been selected, it will be held as close to Wilson's Creek National Battlefield as possible. Watch for more details and updates on the Foundation web site at www.wilsonscreek.com.

August 15-21, 2010 – Lawrence, KS., “Civil War On The Border”.



HARRIS KEARNEY HOUSE CALENDAR

June 19 thru June 30 - “Free at Last” National Exhibit

June 19 - Confederate States Weekend Living History – Period Music

July 3 - US of A Weekend, Living History and Period Music

July 17 - Music Concert on the Veranda

***FREE AT LAST: A History of the Abolition of Slavery in America* Exhibition Presented at the Westport Historical Society**

Kansas City, MO (May 1, 2010)—The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History’s national touring panel exhibition, *FREE AT LAST: A History of the Abolition of Slavery in America*, visits the Westport Historical Society and Harris-Kearney

House Museum, 4000 Baltimore, Kansas City, Missouri, June 5-25, 2010. The exhibition draws visitors into an interaction with the history of the abolition movement through the end of slavery, offering the chance to consider racism in America today through the lens of its complex historical event.

FREE AT LAST: A History of the Abolition of Slavery in America investigates the question of how slavery in America developed into an institution, and how it came to be condemned as it divided the nation during the Civil War. Visitors can explore an early fragment of Abraham Lincoln's "House Divided" speech, letters by abolitionists and slaves, and personal letters from soldiers who fought in the Civil War. Views of these rare documents, previously unavailable to the public nationally, are accompanied by photographs, broadsides, and other images, give a rare opportunity for adults and youth alike to experience the abolition of slavery and contemplate the challenging legacy of slavery in America.



FREE AT LAST: A History of the Abolition of Slavery in America focuses on the Founding Era, Slave Resistance, Slavery and the Law, Abolition, Abraham Lincoln and Emancipation, and African

Americans in the Civil War. Curated by David Brion Davis, Sterling Professor of History at Yale University, and James Oliver Horton, Benjamin Banneker Professor of American Studies at George Washington University, this national touring exhibition is made possible by funding from the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, New York City, with additional support from Park University's Program of History and Phi Alpha Theta Chapter, Zeta Omicron.

The exhibition will be available for viewing Wednesdays-Saturdays from 1 PM-4 PM. Admission will be \$5.00 per person. Group tours may be arranged by contacting the Westport Historical Society at westporthistorical@gmail.com or (816)-561-1821.

TOURS

The RT will sponsor a Mine Creek tour in October. We certainly hope that many of you will be able to attend. More to follow on that tour later in the season.

FORT LEAVENWORTH TOUR PLANNED

Due to the unavailability of the "Harvey Girls" Restaurant for our group tour of the Fort and City of Ft. Leavenworth on June 19, the next available date will be Saturday, July 24.

The tour schedule is as follows: 09:30-10:30 Frontier Army Museum, Ft. Leavenworth, 10:30-11:30 Guided tour of Ft. Leavenworth, 11:45-12:45 lunch with "Harvey Girls" at Riverfront Community Center housed in the renovated 1888 Union Depot. Specialty of the restaurant, sliced beef brisket will be served.

The barbershop quartet, "The Possum Holler Four" (in convict outfits), will sing for us.

1:00-3:00pm Guided tour of the C. W. Parker Carousel Museum to include a ride on a restored 1913 wooden carousel. A most interesting museum.

3:13-4:15 Guided tour of the Carroll Mansion—a beautiful Victorian mansion. After the Carroll mansion, we head for home.

Cost to include all tours, tips and lunch is \$30.00. Checks should be made out to the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City and mailed to our treasurer, Paul Gault at 7118 N. Congress Ave, Kansas City, MO 64152.

If any member needs additional information, please call Jack Brooks at 913-648-2517 who is the tour director.

SENATOR WEBB INTRODUCES BILL TO ESTABLISH US CIVIL WAR SESQUICENTENNIAL COMMISSION

United States Senators Jim Webb (D-VA) and Mary L. Landrieu (D-LA) introduced the Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission Act of 2009 on October 22 to establish a Commission to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. The legislation has been referred to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee of which Senator Landrieu is a member. "As someone with ancestors who fought on both sides of the American Civil War, its 150th Anniversary has personal significance," said Senator Webb. "It is important that all Americans are aware of the many sacrifices made by soldiers and civilians alike, for which we emerged a stronger, more diverse and free nation. The intention of this commission is to ensure the proper recognition of the sesquicentennial, building upon previous legislative efforts to support education and commemoration of this turning point in American history." Consisting of 25 members from government, business and academia, this commission will develop and carry out programs to ensure suitable national observance of the anniversary. The commission will work together with state and local governments, as well as various organizations, to assist with commemoration activities and ensure that remembrance occurs at every level*. Last week, Senator Webb secured the full \$9 million in funding he requested for the Civil War Battlefield Preservation Program (CWPP) through the FY 2010 Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act. The legislation, passed in the Senate, now goes to the President to be signed into law. Webb has been a leader in the Senate on a number of measures to protect and expand Virginia's battlefields and national parks, provide federal designations for historic sites, and to maintain current landmarks. In 2007, he introduced the Civil War Battlefield Preservation Act in the Senate to reauthorize the program for another 5 years. The measure was included in the Omnibus Public Lands Bill of 2008, and signed into law by President Obama in March 2009. * Editor's note: The next step is for the legislation to be marked up and passed out of committee.

TRIVIA ANSWER Well folks, it doesn't always pay to mess around. General Earl Van Dorn at Spring Hill, Ten on May 7, 1863 when a disgruntled husband shot and killed Van Dorn for having an affair with his wife.

COMMITTEE SUGGESTS REENACTMENT IN CARTHAGE

By John Hacker
Carthage Press Tue Feb 02, 2010, 11:36 PM CST
CARTHAGE, Mo. –

The committee planning Carthage's remembrance of the 150th anniversary of the battle that started the Civil War is thinking of holding a reenactment of the battle in Carthage and around the square instead of out in a rural field where reenactments are normally held. Carthage City Administrator Tom Short told the City Council's Public Services Committee about a proposal from the Battle of Carthage Sesquicentennial Committee to possibly hold a reenactment in the city around the square instead of out in the country. Short said Wendi Douglas, Carthage Convention and Visitors Bureau director, talked to Council Member Bill Welch and Short about the idea just to see if city council members would be open to it. It would be one of the first times a Civil War reenactment was held in a community instead of in a rural setting. Council members on the committee expressed some reservations but they didn't rule out the idea. "She just wanted to feel the city out on how the city feels about it and I just thought I'd bring it to this committee to see if anyone had any real heartburn about it," Short said. "We'll make sure all the I's are dotted and T's are Battle of Carthage crossed about having liability insurance, but if anyone has any problem with having some type of reenactment involving the square they wanted to know." The Sesquicentennial committee is in the early stages of planning an event for May of 2011. The committee has searched for rural areas outside the city but has had difficulty finding a property owner that would grant permission for a reenactment on his or her property. A reenactment would cause significant damage to the bare ground of a rural field, rendering it unusable for several weeks after the event. Committee member and Jasper County Records Center Director Steve Weldon suggested that holding the reenactment in the city would provide a unique chance to show residents and guests up close what the battle was like as it passed through historic Carthage. Routes for soldiers to travel through

Carthage would be carefully planned and closely monitored. The Battle of Carthage happened on July 5, 1861 when approximately 1,100 Union soldiers, under the command of Col. Franz Sigel, marched up what is now called Civil War Road north of Carthage and met more than 6,000 Missouri State Guard troops under the command of Gov. Claiborne Jackson about five miles north of Carthage near the spot where Civil War Road ends at Baseline Road. Sigel's soldiers fought a running battle with the State Guard forces as they retreated back down the road and through Carthage. The soldiers continued fighting as they passed through Carthage, including a shootout on the Carthage Square. As night fell, the Union soldiers fought one last delaying action near the spot where they had camped that morning where the current Battle of Carthage State Historic Site is located, then retreated to Sarcoxie, leaving Carthage in Missouri State Guard hands. Casualties were light, with 13 Union soldiers being killed along with 12 State Guard troops. Wounded were 31 Union soldiers and 64 State Guard soldiers.

THE WAR PRAYER, BY MARK TWAIN

"O Lord our Father, our young patriots, idols of our hearts, go forth to battle--be Thou near them!

With them --in spirit--we also go forth from the sweet peace of our beloved firesides to smite the foe. O Lord our God, help us to tear their soldiers to bloody shreds with our shells; help us to cover their smiling fields with the pale forms of their patriot dead; help us to drown the thunder of the guns with shrieks of their wounded, writhing in pain; help us to lay waste their humble homes with hurricanes of fire; help us to wring the hearts of their unoffending widows with unavailing grief; help us to turn them out roofless with their little children to wander unfriended the wastes of their desolated land in rags and hunger and thirst, sports of the sun flames of summer and the icy winds of winter, broken in spirit, worn with travail, imploring Thee for the refuge of the grave and denied it--for our sakes who adore Thee, Lord, blast their hopes, blight their lives, protract their bitter pilgrimage, make heavy their steps, water their way with tears, stain the white snow with the blood of their wounded feet! We ask it, in the spirit of love, of Him Who is the Source of Love, and Who is the ever-faithful refuge and friend of all that are sore beset and seek His aid with humble and contrite hearts. Amen."

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