



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

410th REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, March 24, 2009

Homestead Country Club

6510 Mission Road, Prairie Village, Kansas

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

Dinner-6:30p.m.

MARCH 2009 SPEAKER

RON HAWKINS

Lt. General James Longstreet C.S.A.

We have studied all the great authors, read their books, we have libraries both public and private full of their publications, magazine articles etc, and studied the great campaigns, battles and leaders. The only resource we no longer have is the generation itself that participated in that great war. As the old saying goes, we can no longer hear it "directly from the horses mouth".

Or can we?

It is March, 1864. The greatest battles of the war thus far were fought this past year. In the Western theatre the year started with the conclusion of the Battle of Stones River, continued with the Vicksburg campaign and battles, and many other incidents that occurred in that theatre this past year. In the East, Chancellorsville, the Gettysburg campaign and battle.

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Please be sure that we have your reservation by Friday March. 20. Return reservation in the enclosed envelope with required payment of \$22.00 per person to; Paul Gault, 7118 N. Congress Ave., K.C. Mo. 64152.

If you have questions or your payment is unavoidably tardy, please contact either Treasurer Paul Gault at 816-741-2962 or Assistant Treasurer Betty Ergovich at 913 441-6462.

Attendance requires a paid dinner reservation.

After Gettysburg the First Corp, Army of Northern Virginia is detached and sent to northern Georgia where it delivers the 'hammer blow' that resulted in the great Confederate victory at Chicamauga. That corp is again detached and sent to the eastern Tennessee campaign.

We are now in western Virginia at the winter quarters of that First Corp, Army of Northern Virginia. Lt General James Longstreet is a busy commander, caring for his troops, corresponding with other military officers and political figures, planning the campaign for the coming summer.

It is evening. Even though he is extremely busy, Genl' Longstreet has been kind enough to grant us a short interview. "Directly from the horse mouth"

We introduce you to Lt General James Longstreet.

SPEAKERS FOR 2009

March 24, Ron Hawkins: "General Longstreet."

April 28, William L. Shea, "Generals Hindman or Genl Curtis."

May 28, (Thursday), Lauren Cook Wike: "They Fought Like Demons.", Silent Book Fair, and wear your period clothing

September 22, Howard Mann: "Tragedy on the St. Joseph & Hannibal RR."

October 27, Dave Metheneys: "John Brown."

November 17, Orvis Fitts: "Arlington National Cemetery"

December 15, Silent Auction, Book sale and Vignettes with Dinner.

MENU FOR MARCH, 2009;

Spinach and Arugula with Montrachet Chevre, Sweet Spicy Pecans, Grape Tomatoes, Sherry Vinaigrette, Pork Piccata, Whipped Potatoes, Asparagus, and Chocolate Mousse.

COMING EVENTS.....

Museum of History, Topeka

This special exhibit runs January 29 -July 26, 2009, and commemorates the bicentennial of Abraham Lincoln's birth and the sesquicentennial of his visit to Kansas. Artifacts and images tell the story of his political career, from the Lincoln-Douglas debates through his assassination. Items in the exhibit include Lincoln presidential campaign medals and pins, an "Admit Me Free" flag used in the 1860 campaign, and a blood-stained piece of a theatre program from the night Lincoln was shot, ksks.org/exhibits/current/upcoming.htm.

The Reel Civil War: The Civil War in the Cinema will be presented at the 13th annual Civil War Seminar at Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia, on March 27 - 28, 2009. For more information go to www.liberty.edu/index.
Tuesday, February 24, 2009 - Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Through April 19, 2009

Alexander II and Abraham Lincoln Exhibit at Union Station. Tickets are \$9.50 each or \$6.00 for groups of 15 or more. Call 816-460-2020 or go to www.unionstation.org.



True Tales of the Tenth Kansas Infantry By Howard Mann Part Three

The Joys of Jayhawking: Words from the Perpetrator's Mouths

2. Foraging and Starvation

Another aspect of Jayhawking was similar to soldiers, north and south, all over. The Brigade was outfitted at a minimum and food and transportation required supplement. During forays into Missouri, Lane's men often perceived supporters of the Union as being abused and suppressed.

Lieutenant Moore noted: "*Our boys press what we need for transportation, mules, horses, wagons, etc. confiscating Secesh property & paying Union men for theirs. A great many Negroe Slaves are nightly running away from their masters & joining the Brigade. I fear wrong means are sometimes used to obtain these slaves by some members of the Brigade.*"

Sergeant Thrasher focused on feeding the marching infantry soldiers: *"I shot 2 porkers, fine fat fellows and another of our boys assisted a corpulent Gobbler to cease to be, while a third levied to the tune of ½ doz on the nearest poultry yard. While congratulating ourselves on our success in replenishing our larder and indulging in visions of fat living for the next night, another Jayhawker awaited with beaming countenance and more genius and good taste than the rest, precipitated himself in our midst actually groaning beneath his load of honey, aye honey. You may be sure he was duly appreciated and heartily cheered."*

Lieutenant Trego foraged in the desolate country between Carthage, Missouri and Fort Scott: *"This was a rough trip having no tents or wagons but laying right down in the big grass wet dew and eating when we could find something to eat. One morning we pulled up some potatoes and roasted them for breakfast. Some of the boys had broiled chicken. I tried the hind leg of a hen that was pulled off of about twenty eggs that were nearly ready to hatch. It didn't eat very well because it wasn't warmed quite thro."*

3. Military Strategy

Jayhawking was also seen as being officially sponsored by commanding officers and communicated throughout the commands as official policy. While not totally absent from the armies of the east, sanctioned looting and burning was not widespread until Sherman's celebrated March through Georgia in 1864. Lane's men supported this perceived policy although some decried the results.

Captain James S. Williams, Lieutenant Trego's commanding officer, led a raid on Ball's Mill to break up assembling Missouri State Guards: *"We made another trip down the Osage to Ball's Mill, came near having a fight, the rebels, numbering three hundred to our one hundred and forty, placed themselves in attitude for fight but a few shots of shell thrown among them to burst, caused them to speedily decamp. We suffered no damage except that Capt Williams had his horse shot under him. That old stamping ground of the rebels Ball's Mill was burned together with a fine covered bridge over the Little Osage."*

Lane's Brigade were vilified most often for the burning of Osceola, Missouri on September 20, 1861 while following in the wake of Price's Missouri State Guard as they invested Lexington.

Lieutenant Trego noted: *"All who were fit for duty, five days ago, went to Osceola. They returned yesterday, having had a little brush with the enemy, scattered them, took the town, obtained all the horses, mules, wagons and niggers; loaded the wagons with valuables from the numerous well supplied stores, and then set fire to the infernal town. It was burned to the ground."*

Lieutenant Trego claimed he was not present being occupied at camp: *"I remained in camp to meet Simp and Ellwood and deliver to them some contraband property taken at Morristown and which the Captain and myself drew after appraisalment. I sent up a better buggy than the one Lyman got, for which I pay Gov. \$35. I send to-day a lot of Merinos, velvet, barred muslins, calicos, shoes &c most of which is to be distributed among those who are unable to buy. There are about a dozen plaid shawls of various sizes."*

Lieutenant Moore, Fifth Kansas Cavalry, passed through Osceola on October 20, 1861, one month to the day after being burned to the ground by Lane's Brigade: *"It was terrible but it was deemed a military necessity else all this immense stores of goods would fall into the hands of the enemy & be used by them in aid of the rebellion... I regret that so many private homes were destroyed & question an immense sacrifice of property, but such is the fate of war."*

Sergeant Luther Thrasher, Third Kansas, participated in a foray to Butler then Pappinsville, Missouri to clean out rebel bushwhackers. Butler was known as a haven for rebel insurgents: *"Having duly replenished the inner man, the order to burn the town was issued. The soldiers were allowed to secure what property they needed from the deserted buildings before the fire was communicated to the buildings. The houses which were inhabited were spared. When the fire burst forth from 20 buildings simultaneously the scene was fearfully grand. Tis a painful necessity to thus sacrifice thousands of dollars worth of property almost instantly, but such is war."*

Lieutenant Moore also noted when suspected southern supporters were hoarding goods as northern supporters went without: *"Parson Fisher preached today in camp & afterwards went to Ritchies house, the owner of the mill & found a lot of goods secreted. They were distributed among the needy union people about here."*

In December 1861 Lieutenant Moore reflected on the recent burning of Butler and Papinsville, Missouri by Lane's Brigade as a military stratagem: *"It was done by Col. Montgomery's order. This was a bold move in the face of Price's Army at Osceola. They returned with a great no. of union families, who are fleeing the country. Also a good deal of stock."*

4. Criminal Behavior

Despite the motivations to plunder the Missourians, there are frequent references to Jayhawking as criminal practice. By the end of 1861, Lane's Brigade would convene a general court martial against fifteen soldiers for criminal behavior in winter camp in Kansas. The presiding justice would be Lieutenant Henry Miles Moore of Leavenworth. While the effectiveness of the proceedings was diluted by the lack of executive support, several officers would resign. During the same period additional pressure caused Brigadier General James H. Lane to make several public statements admonishing Jayhawking *without his orders*.

Before he joined Lane's Brigade, Henry Miles Moore experienced Kansas Jayhawking in his home town: *"The Conservative contains an article today, slightly treasonable, I should say. It justifies the late Jayhawking in this city. Says it was right & defies the law & officers generally."*

One description of Lane's Brigade provided a very unfavorable depiction: *"They were nearly naked, and minus shoes and hats in many cases. They were not armed, but a number of them had hams of meat on their backs, which they no doubt had stolen from some man's meat house on the road. These are the kind of men that Lane's Brigade is to be composed of – thieves, cut-throats, and midnight robbers."*

During the fall of 1861, Moore observed one Third Kansas cavalryman committing a crime: *"I caused a man from Capt Williams Co. to be arrested this P.M. for robbing a poor widdow's (sic) house. I hope to God he will be hung."*

5. Punishment

Some serious and not-so-serious efforts were made to curtail Jayhawking. Either because of the effectiveness of the practice, the extension of acceptance by the officers on one hand with an official denial by officers on the other, or the

continuance of what motivated Kansas soldiers made Jayhawking a practice that would define Kansas in the Civil War.

Prior to the battle of Wilson's Creek, Major Sturgis earned eternal enmity with his Kansas contingent at Clinton, Missouri on July 4, 1861: *"...members of the First Kansas "robbed or plundered all, or nearly so, the farmers within a circle of five miles from the camp" (Clinton, Missouri, July 4, 1861) "eight to ten men from Captain Walker's Scott's Guards were caught, Sturgis held them under guard... the miscreants were receiving fifty lashes apiece while tied across a gun carriage... the flogging was done with a large black snake whip, giving each from forty-five to seventy-five lashes, the blood flowing halfway to their knees."*

Even Lane, Kansas' Grim Chieftain, paid political homage to halting his brigade's reputation for plunder. Lieutenant Moore noted in November 1861: *"The Gen has issued an order forbidding all Jayhawking in future without an order from headquarters."*

The first winter of the war saw Lane's Brigade attempting to deal with acts conducted since the formation of the brigade: *"On January 20, 1862, for example, at Fort Defiance, Kansas, the army court-martialed many men and officers of the Third and Fifth Kansas Cavalry regiments. Fifteen enlisted men were convicted of stealing horses, mules, buggies, and revolvers. They were fined, had their pay stopped for sixty days, and reduced in rank. In his own defense at his court-martial, Private Micajar Sawyer testified, "I stole the horse because they all said we would get no pay... I thought I must obey my officers whatever they told me to do." Several officers were cashiered, including Captain John D. Stewart, the object of a petition called for his dismissal by sixty soldiers who reported that he had regularly collected and sold confiscated property and that he was frequently drunk on duty. Concerning one incident involving another officer on the night of November 20, 1861, one soldier was asked, "Did you consider Capt. {Eli} Snider in a proper condition to take charge of the squad of skirmishers that night?" The soldier replied, "I did not" He was so much under the influence of liquor that he made a fool of himself and his squad.*

One soldier surmised why Jayhawking was not punished. *"Montgomery never countenanced*

plundering, though much of it was done by his men, and he realized that to restrain them would lose to him their services. But he did think it perfectly legitimate to live off the enemy when their depredations made it necessary to oust them.”

The Northern armies of the east and western theatres of operation soon followed suit to Lane’s practices. Some in the spirit of abolitionism, some as retribution, some for foraging as Union armies penetrated further south and away from logistical support, and some, as exemplified by General William T. Sherman, as the strategy that would end the war.

¹ Fellman, Michael. *Inside War: The Guerrilla Conflict in Missouri in the American Civil War*, pages 34 – 35.
¹ Palmer, Henry E. “The Black-Flag Character of War on the Border.”, Collections of the Kansas State Historical Society, Volume IX, pages 457 – 458.
¹ *Freeman at 100*. Pages 6 – 7.
¹ “The Black-Flag Character of War”, page 456
¹ “Letters of Joseph H. Trego, 1857-1864”, Kansas Historical Quarterly, Volume 36, 1951. page 293.
¹ *H. Miles Moore Diary*, Beineke Manuscript Collection, Yale University Library. Entry of *October 25*, 1861.
¹ *Luther Thrasher Diary*, Tenth Kansas Letter Book, National Archives, entry of Dec. 12, 1861, Tuesday.
¹ *H. Miles Moore Diary*, entry Oct. 15, 1861.
¹ *Luther Thrasher Diary*, entry “Dec. 12, 1861, Tuesday.
¹ “Letters of Joseph H. Trego, 1857-1864”, page 291.
¹ “Letters of Joseph H. Trego, 1857-1864”, page 292.
¹ “Letters of Joseph H. Trego, 1857-1864”, page 295
¹ “Letters of Joseph H. Trego, 1857-1864”, page 295
¹ *H. Miles Moore Diary*, October 20, 1861
¹ *Luther Thrasher Diary*, entry of *Dec. 12, 1861, Tuesday*.
¹ *H. Miles Moore Diary*, October 25, 1861
¹ *H. Miles Moore Diary*, December 15, 1861
¹ *H. Miles Moore Diary*, September 15, 1861
¹ Goodrich, Thomas. *Black Flag: Guerilla Warfare on the Western Border, 1861 – 1865*. page 16.
¹ *H. Miles Moore Diary*, October 20, 1861
¹ Piston, William Garrett and Hatcher III, Richard W. *Wilson’s Creek*, page 70 – 71.
¹ *H. Miles Moore Diary*, November 21, 1861
¹ Fellman, Michael. *Inside War*, pages 157 - 159.
¹ “Historic Linn: It’s First Settlement”, Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. XVI, 1923 – 1925. Kansas State Historical Society. Page 629.



Once again it’s my duty to bring you bad news: H. Jay Gunnels Jr., one of the earliest members of the round table and past President in 1971, has passed

away. Here is a reprint from the Kansas City Star from Saturday, February 28, 2009.

H. Jay Gunnels Jr., 86, of Fairway, Kansas, died in Friday, Feb. 27, 2009 of complications of Parkinson’s Disease. He was the only child of Henry J. and Marie (Peterson) Gunnels, born November 1, 1922 at Paola, KS. Cremation Memorial service will be 3:00p.m. on Monday, March 2nd at Second Presbyterian Church, 318 E. 55th Street (55th and Oak), Kansas City, MO. 64113.

He was a retired attorney, after 54 years of practice. He was a member of both the Missouri Bar (admitted 1949). He was admitted before the U.S. Supreme Court, 8th and 10th U.S.D. Courts of Appeal and U.S. Internal Revenue and U.S. Interstate Commerce Commission. He held Senior Councilor, status of both bars.

He was a graduate in 1944 of the school of Business, University of Kansas and the School of Law, University of Missouri at Kansas City 1948. Member of the Greater Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association of Kansas City. Member of the tax and probate law committees of both Kansas and Missouri Bars and member of Johnson and Wyandotte County Bar Associations.

Mr. Gunnels was a life member of Phi Delta Professional Law Fraternity, serving as President of the Greater Kansas City Thomas Hart Benton Alumni Chapter and Nationally as District Justice for District 7.

He served as member, Treasurer and President of the Johnson County Library Board, Fairway Republican Committee 12 terms and was appointed Chairman of the U.S. Bi-Centennial Commission for Johnson County. Life member of the Native Sons of Kansas.

Member of the Advertising and Sales Executive Club and received their Member of the Year Award in 1968; received the Johnson County Service Award from the County Board of Commissioners in 1975. Also a life member of the Kansas City Chapter of the Sons of the Revolution.

He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Francis; son, Mark A. Gunnels of Kansas City, Mo; daughter, Janet L. Gunnels of Prairie Village, KS, and granddaughter, Jennifer Richeson. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions to the Memorial Fund at Second Presbyterian Church or charity of their choices.

Arrangements by D.W. Newcomer and Son's, Overland Park Chapel, 8201 Metcalf, Overland Park, Kansas.



Ancestor of the Month

Amos Hamilton Black
Union, Corporal, Co. A., 3rd Kansas
Volunteers?Co. C.,
Ancestor of Sharyl Lee Keller Wright

My great-great grandfather Amos H. Black was born 24 October 1838 in Granville, Licking County, Ohio. His enlistment certificate states that he was a farmer in Kansas Territory. He was 22 years, 9 months when he enlisted.

He was enrolled originally in Co., A., 3rd Kansas Volunteers, and on 24 July 1861 he is listed as "joined for duty and enrolled" at Mound City, Kansas Territory when this unit became Co. C, 10th Regiment Kansas Infantry. His unit was consolidated with the 2nd and 4th Regiments to become the 10th Kansas Infantry Volunteers. He was listed as a corporal. The regiment

was headquartered at Elm Springs, Arkansas, and was commanded by Major H. H. Williams. The company muster roll for July to December 1861 states that he was "due soldier's milage (sic) of 65 miles." In the muster roll of September and October 1863 his pay was reduced \$0.44 that pay period for "loss of canteen."

He was discharged from the 10th Kansas Infantry, commanded by Wm. Wear, under Capt. George D. Brookes, on 20 August 1864 at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, because of the expiration of his 3-year term of enlistment. I have located no record of him in actual combat. According to family stories he participated at Westport Landing. However, his enlistment was expired at the time of the Battle of Westport, 21-23 October 1864. His Declaration for Invalid Pension, issued 1891, declares: "... That he is physically unable to earn a support by reason of injury in right arm and right leg, and weakness in legs...that he has not been in the military or naval service subsequently to August 20, 1864 the date of his discharge."

After the war Amos H. Black formed in Carlyle, Alien County, Kansas. There he married Sarah Motheral on 17 September 1865. Later they moved to a farm in Summit Township, 2¹/₂ miles east of Butler, Bates County, Missouri. He died in Butler in 1924.

Civil War Round Table of Kansas City
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