



The Bushwhacker

Civil War Round Table of
Saint Louis Newsletter

January 27th Guest Speaker
STEVE DASOVICH

Steve Dasovich, Ph.D. is an adjunct faculty member for the Renaissance Program in Education. His expertise is archaeology. He received his Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of Missouri-Columbia, Missouri. He teaches a science cognate course, Community Based Science Adventures.

A Note from our President William Jackson

On behalf of your board I would extend best wishes for a healthy, prosperous, Happy New Year!

Bill Jackson, President

CWRT Raffle

The St. Louis Civil War Round Table is selling raffle chances for the print "The Battle of Wilson's Creek" by Andy Thomas. The tickets are \$5 each, and we are limiting the amount of tickets to 130. The print will be raffled off when either all the tickets are sold or the May meeting of the 2009-2010 Campaign, whichever comes first. The limited edition print, #22 of 450, was donated by Paul Hauser.

**MEETING DATE: JANUARY 27, MEAL SERVED AT
6:30p.m. at TWO HEARTS ON LINDBERGH BLVD
NEAR GRAVOIS. Doors are open around 5:30 p.m.**

**Please make RESERVATIONS BY
JANUARY 13**

**Let us know if you are eating.
Please reserve via our Web Site at
<http://civilwarstlouis.org/main/>
Or reply to the e-mail sent to you
or Call Gary at 314-623-2062**

UPCOMING SPEAKERS

January 27, Steve Dasovich, "Civil War Archeology in the Arcadia Valley"

February 24, Bruce Nichols, author, "Guerrilla Warfare in Civil War Missouri" Vol. 1, 2
"The Hidden War in the St. Louis Area"

March 24, John Voehl, "Abe Lincoln"

April 28, Doug Mishler, Reno Nevada, "Jefferson Davis"

May 26, Greg Clemmer. author of "Old Allegheny and Valor in Gray", speaking on
Edward "Allegheny" Johnson



*The Civil War Round Table
of St. Louis*

The Civil War Round Table of Saint Louis LOGO WEAR

Polo Shirts with the Round Table full- color logo are available in sizes S to XXL and come in a variety of colors.

Denim Shirts with the Round Table full- color logo are available in sizes S - XXXL.

Ball caps also available.

To order your LogoWear, see Terry Hammer at the next meeting. Please complete the following and make your check payable to CWRT Saint Louis.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

EMAIL _____ PHONE _____

POLO LOGO WEAR SHIRTS

Size _____ (S - XL are \$37.50 Each) Color _____ Quantity _____

Size _____ (XXL is \$39.50 Each) Color _____ Quantity _____

DENIM LOGO WEAR SHIRTS

Size _____ (S - XL \$35 Each, XXL \$36.50 Each and XXXL \$38.00 Each)

BALL CAPS

One size fits all, \$20 each. Quantity _____

DECEMBER MEETING

At our December meeting we were privileged to hear one of our members Bob Schultz give a presentation on his newest book, "General Sterling Price and the Confederacy." It was a very interesting presentation. Author Bob Schultz used the diary of Confederate Thomas Reynolds who did not regard General Price with any affection. It is Bob's theory that the reason that the diary ended in 1867 was because of the death of General Price and there was no need for Governor Reynolds to proceed with the information in it about the failures of General Price.

FROM THE SHELF

Jeff Shaara's Gods and Generals, a "prequel" to Michael Shaara's Killer Angels

I am re-reading Gods and Generals (great title). The first time was immediately after publication, 1996. Me being new to the subject, as well as fairly new to the CWRT, it was still appreciated at the time. Later the film, Gods and Generals (again, great title) was released and was much anticipated by civil war enthusiasts including myself. Re-enactors in CW costume greeted moviegoers and I was impressed. This feeling was not to last. Jeff Daniels was not convincing as a younger, slimmer, Chamberlain than he was in the Gettysburg film, and R Duvall not up to the Lee portrayal, in my opinion. The Chamberlain "speech" too, too, too lengthy (but hey, the guy did teach rhetoric). The beginning was great, with the regimental flags flying during the credits, the resounding military music; I was impressed and set for a dynamite movie about a subject I'm "into". Alas, two of the people we were with left to sit in a different theater. I stayed and did enjoy it because of the subject; however felt it would not do well in receipts.

The film, Gettysburg, fared much better; even though the attacking Confederate forces did not look "lean and mean"; the well-fed re-enactors were probably not noticed by the general audience. (I know now that the producers of Cold Mountain went to the Balkan area and hired the Rumanian army to play the Confederates in the movie.)

Back to the book. Jeff Shaara's portrayal of the feature characters is really memorable, like Killer Angels, and I am finding an enjoyment in reading it that I did not the first time. As far as the verbiage not being documented, I believe there is much historical documentation that some poetic license was used.

If you haven't read either of these books, they are worth your time.

Happy reading!!

Murnai Winter

Book Review by Walt Bittle

Military Ballooning During The Early Civil War

by F. Stansbury Haydon (The Johns Hopkins University Press)

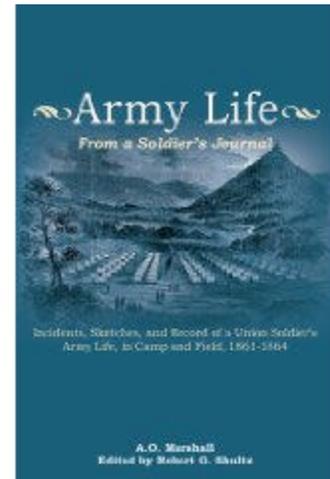
This book was copyrighted in 1941, updated in 1968, and reissued in 2000. It is a fascinating account of "what might have been", had the art and science of ballooning not been so primitive. The author obviously did extensive research, and the book is footnoted as well as indexed.

This well-written book covers one of the lesser known aspects of the time period generally, and its minimal effect on the war specifically. Because ballooning was so primitive, its practitioners were rarely given a chance to prove their effectiveness in actual combat situations. The balloon corps was relegated to civilian status, and at times they had to beg, borrow, and steal military supplies and personnel just to stay aloft.

I think we can all picture situations later in the war when an observation balloon might have saved the day, but unfortunately, there were none.

"ARMY LIFE: From a Soldier's Journal"

First published in 1884, Albert O. Marshall's memoir of his service with the 33rd Illinois Infantry (the "Normal Regiment") is an account certainly worthy of a new annotated edition. Army Life: From a Soldier's Journal, Incidents, Sketches, and Record of Union Soldier's Army Life, in Camp and Field, 1861-1864, edited by Missouri historian Robert G. Schultz (University of Arkansas Press, 2009), documents an unusual wartime journey. The 33rd was an Illinois regiment that spent nearly all of its active service in the Trans-Mississippi theater [in Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas]. It also participated in the Vicksburg Campaign.



The richness and detail of Marshall's writing (especially that of military events), compiled in 1880 using a range of other documents, and is atypical of memoirs written from the perspective of private Civil War soldiers. The author recounts the usual experiences of camp life and interactions with the local populace, but what sets his memoir apart are his minute accounts of his regiment's involvement in a number of military campaigns. Trans-Mississippi researchers will appreciate Marshall's history of his unit's movements and fighting in SE Missouri in 1861, NE Arkansas in 1862 (specifically the battle of Cache River), and operations on the Texas coast (Matagorda Island) in 1863-1864.

Though relatively few in number, editor Robert Schultz's annotations of the text perform a valuable function in providing extensive background material, source discussions, and correctives. In addition to some photographs of key figures, Schultz also gathered a pretty good set of previously published maps to orient the reader. A full bibliography and a good index round out the volume. This new edition of Army Life is an admirable addition to the Trans-Mississippi Civil War literature, and is deserving of an even wider readership. (Taken from an internet site)

Calendar of Events of Interest

TRIVIA NIGHT/FUND RAISER FOR THE CHATILLON-DEMENIL HOUSE

Please join us on Saturday February 13, 2010 at St. Wenceslaus Parish Hall at 3014 Oregon Ave., St. Louis MO 63118 for an evening of trivia! Cost is \$20 per person, 8 people to a table. Come alone, come with 1 or 2 friends, come with a bunch of friends, just come! Don't think you have to fill a table to attend! Doors open at 6:30pm, trivia starts at 7pm. All proceeds from this event go to the historic Chatillon-DeMenil House. For more information or to make your reservation, please call CWRT member Edna Dieterle at 314-892-6175.