



The Bushwhacker March 2010

Civil War Round Table of
Saint Louis Newsletter

March Meeting

“ABE LINCOLN”

President elect Abraham Lincoln will meet you as his train departs Springfield IL on Feb. 11, 1861, enroute to Washington City for his inauguration. Facing the greatest crisis of our nation, you'll see the scene through his eyes, his fears and hopes. He'll speak of assassination threats, our founding fathers, inauguration, emancipation, and his vision for a transformed USA.

John Voehl as Abraham Lincoln



Presenter & Historian:

Active since 1996, providing nearly 400 presentations and appearances in 19 states

Education:

Bachelor of Arts from University of California at Santa Barbara in 1975. Continually expanding personal working knowledge of the life of Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War.

Professional Associations:

Life Member of the Association of Lincoln Presenters (ALP) since 1977- a national organization; Charter Member of Victorian Society of Colorado Springs, Colorado

Family

Happily married for 36 years, 4 adult children and 4 grandchildren.

**MEETING DATE: MARCH 24TH, 2010
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 MARCH 10

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

A Note from our President

Attention all members of the Saint Louis Civil War Round Table! Written requests for charitable donations not already sent for this campaign need to be presented in writing to me at our March meeting on Wednesday, March 24, 2010. This is our final deadline, and we will not consider any requests after the meeting. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. William Jackson

Recognizing the Passing

By now everyone should be aware of the passing of Christine Petton. The St. Louis Civil War Round Table made a donation to the DeGreeff Hospice house in her memory.

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.

Upcoming Speakers

- 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

February Meeting

Our February 24th speaker was Bruce Nichols. Bruce has already published the first two volumes of *Guerilla Warfare in Civil War Missouri* (1862 and 1863) and is currently working on the third and final volume (1864 – 1865). His presentation on “The Hidden War in St. Louis” was extremely informative and interesting. It focused on St. Louis in the 1860’s, The St. Louis Area Military Prisons, Notable Prison *Escapes*, and other Secret Southern Activity in the St. Louis Area.

From The Shelf

General Sterling Price and the Confederacy

Online review taken from <http://cwba.blogspot.com/search/label/Reviews%20-%20Theater%20-%20Trans%20Mississippi>

Missouri's Lieutenant Governor at the start of the Civil War, First Name? Reynolds ascended to the top post with the untimely death of Claiborne Fox Jackson in December 1862. In what would be an essentially ceremonial political position, Reynolds served as "governor" for the rest of the war. Composed in exile in Mexico City in 1867, his Price manuscript, edited by Robert G. Schultz and published for the first time under the title **General Sterling Price and the Confederacy**, is in the possession of the Missouri Historical Society. The manuscript concerns itself with “setting the record straight” about the Civil War career of the antagonizing figure Sterling Price. However, with Price's unexpected demise so soon after the war ended, the project was abandoned, unfortunately just at the point of onset of the controversial 1864 Price Raid into Missouri, a lamentable circumstance for future historians.

Not surprisingly, Reynolds's account is completely one-sided. Somewhat defensive in tone, he constantly reminds the reader of his own personal friendship and regard toward Price (especially early on in their working relationship) and prides himself on his willingness to overlook slights, a kindness and measure of respect that was evidently not returned. Unfortunately, the governor did not accompany Price in the field in 1863, so his information about the disastrous Helena and Little Rock campaigns is necessarily secondhand.

A common thread throughout the manuscript is that of doubts about Price's Confederate loyalties, exacerbated by the apparent sweetheart deal given to one of the general's sons, a Missouri State Guard officer who was allowed to take the oath of allegiance and return to lucrative private pursuits in Missouri, unmolested by federal authorities. One wishes that Schultz had elaborated on these events and charges in more detail in his notes, attempting to separate fact from fiction according to information available today. That would have made for highly interesting reading.

In form and style, Reynolds was not a gifted writer (to put it kindly), and Schultz bases his new book upon Dr. Cyrus A. Peterson's transcribed version of Reynolds' now quite fragile manuscript, which strove to make readable what was essentially a continuous narrative without standard punctuation or paragraph breaks. Schultz inserts his own chapter breaks (by date), as well as bracketed notations within the text. His endnotes are very helpful in providing background information for persons, places, and events mentioned in the manuscript.

The edited Price manuscript runs 120 pages, but Schultz further enhanced the value of his book by including 136 pages of additional documentation. A small portion of this material is composed of Reynolds' correspondence (reports and letters) earlier compiled by Dr. Peterson. The rest is Schultz's compilation of a series of documents pertaining specifically to the 1864 Price Raid, a helpful attempt to at least partially fill in the yawning gap created by the unfinished manuscript. These documents are composed of correspondence contained in the Official Records, a court of inquiry transcription, and a collection of newspaper letters to the editor with responses. A final appendix lists Missouri senators and representatives to the

Confederate Congress.

Usefully edited and supported by a wealth of additional documentation, *General Sterling Price and the Confederacy* is an important addition to our knowledge and understanding of a pair of prominent Confederate figures from the Trans-Mississippi theater. Editor Robert G. Schultz and his publisher are richly deserving of praise for bringing this long neglected manuscript to the attention of the public, and for according it such an impressive and expansive presentation.

Calendar of Events of Interest

April 5, 2010

United Daughters of the Confederacy meets the first Monday of the month at the Gatesworth on I-170 at Delmar. For more information please contact Sheri Horton @ 314-775-9969

April 7, 2010

The History Department at Saint Louis University is pleased to launch an annual lecture series in honor of the distinguished career of the late **John Francis Bannon, S.J.** We hope that you will join us at the inaugural lecture, at **4:00, Wednesday, 7 April 2010**, in the Sinquefeld State Room of DuBourg Hall. The lecture is free and open to the public, and parking is available at the Laclede Street Garage

For 34 years (1939-1973), Father Bannon served Saint Louis University as a devoted professor, influential mentor, and prolific writer. In addition to being a leading scholar of the North American Borderlands, Father Bannon was a public intellectual with an abiding commitment to education in its broadest sense. Honoring the example he set, the John Francis Bannon, S.J. Lecture will bring to SLU a scholar whose work reaches beyond the academy and speaks to issues in early American history of broad public interest.

This first year, the Bannon Lecture will be given by **Stephen Berry, of the University of Georgia.** Professor Berry is the author or editor of four books, including his latest: **House of Abraham: Lincoln & the Todds, A Family Divided By War**. His talk will reveal the fates of members of this intriguing family and explore the Todds' impact on Abraham Lincoln's experiences during and interpretation of the Civil War. Ceremony will start at 2 p.m.

April 25, 2010

Humorist, satirist, and chronicler of humankind, Mark Twain wove tales with wit, wisdom and the sharp bite of social criticism. As part of Missouri annual statewide reading program in celebration of the Mark Twain Centennial, Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site will host George Frein as Mark Twain on Sunday, April 25, 2010, at 1:00 p.m. Mark Twain and Ulysses S. Grant became friends in the 1870s, and it was Twain's publishing company that published Grant's Memoirs. Written while Grant was fighting against the cancer that would take his life on July 23, 1885, the Memoirs became the biggest best seller of the time, providing Mrs. Grant with royalties of nearly \$500,000. Come and learn more about Grant and Twain's relationship, and hear Mark Twain discuss his perspectives on 19th century life!

Education Opportunity

I teach seventh grade social studies at Nipher Middle School and we are gearing up for a two month study of the Civil War. I would love to tap in to the expertise of Round Table members if they are willing to share with my seventh graders. Delete sentence. I would dearly love for someone who is a reenactor to set up camp on the field behind our school – or come to school in uniform and talk to students (or both). Florence Borman, Seventh Grade Social Studies Teacher, Nipher Middle School 700 S. Kirkwood Rd. Kirkwood, MO 63122 florence.borman@kirkwoodschoools.org
314-213-6100 ext. 8252