



The Bushwhacker

February 2011

The Civil War Round Table of Saint Louis

“The Border Ruffian Conspiracy”

Professor Nicole Etcheson

Nicole Etcheson is the Alexander M. Bracken Professor of History at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana. Her 2004 book, *“Bleeding Kansas: Contested Liberty in the Civil War Era”*, was a monthly selection of the History Book Club. She is also the author of *“The Emerging Midwest: Upland Southerners and the Political Culture of the Old Northwest, 1787-1861”* (1996). In addition, she has written numerous articles on the political culture of the Midwest, as well as on the controversy in Kansas Territory. Her latest effort, a book about the Union home front in Indiana during the Civil War, received a National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Fellowship in 2004.

Ms Etcheson’s presentation, “The Border Ruffian Conspiracy,” will discuss pro-slavery activities in Kansas Territory and Missouri. Northerners interpreted proslavery actions as a “conspiracy” and stigmatized the pro-slavery men as “border ruffians” or frontier rowdies when, in fact, they were some of the leading men of Missouri. The pro-slavery men viewed their activities as natural and even necessary forms of self-defense. The pro-slavery party felt they were upholding law and order against the lawless actions of anti-slavery settlers.

MEETING DATE: FEBRUARY 23, 2011

MEAL SERVED AT 6:30 pm

TWO HEARTS ON LINDBERGH BLVD NEAR GRAVOIS

Doors open around 5:30 pm

MAKE DINNER RESERVATIONS by FEBRUARY 16

Let us know if you are eating

Please reserve via our Web Site at

<http://civilwarstlouis.org/main/>

or call Gary Scheel at 314-623-2062

Bushwhacker deadline: Three weeks prior to each meeting. Please submit items of interest to Walt Bittle waltb50@centurytel.net OR John Harris ce342@swbell.net.

Upcoming Speakers

- March 23, 2011 – Mark Plummer, Professor Emeritus, Illinois State University, “*The Sterling Price Raid Into Missouri and Kansas, Autumn 1864*”
- April 27, 2010 – Peter Cozzens, Historian/Author, “*General John Rawlins: Right Hand to Greatness*”
- May 25, 2010 – Earl J. Hess, Historian/Author, “*Soldier Life in the Trenches at Petersburg*”

A Note From Our President

Recently, while chatting with a local member of the academic community, I was asked why so many people are interested in the American Civil War. It was an honest question. After reactively mentioning my sixteen-year old 5th Massachusetts grandfather, I reminded him that the Civil War, as terrible as it was, was the final event in the founding structure of our country that was knowingly postponed in 1787 in order to accomplish what could be accomplished at that time. I was thus reminded of how very important it is for us to help 21st Century Americans know and *understand* their country’s history that may not have been included in the classroom.

We had another well-attended meeting on January 26. Close to 110, including seven who came after dinner for the speaker’s presentation. Vice President Bill Jackson will host the February 23 meeting, since I’ll be away. Let’s hope winter gives us a break that week. Enough!

I am increasingly awed by members who do so much to enable our meetings. . . such things as name tags, speaker gifts, AV equipment, flags, raffle items, registration and keeping the books, speaker recruitment, hosting and recording, and of course providing the facility with advance attendance figures. It is a humbling experience to be associated with such capable and dedicated people.

Phil Baker

Thank You From Secretary Paul Hauser

I want to thank member, Gene Dorenkamp, for all his time and effort in producing the plaques for our monthly speakers and outgoing presidents. Gene takes the time to purchase native Missouri walnut for his material. He works the material, paints the plaques, and attaches the cannons in his home workshop. The finished plaque is a real keepsake with a personal touch for its recipients. Gene Dorenkamp is a perfect example of the many unknown volunteers who contribute to the ongoing success of the Civil War Round Table of St. Louis. Thank you to Gene and all our behind-the-scenes volunteers.

Officers, 2010 - 2011

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Bushwhacker Editor – Walt Bittle
Assistant Editor – John Harris

Events of Interest

February 18, 2011, 1:00 – 2:00 pm

“The Crimes of This Guilty Land”: Captain John Brown’s Assault on Slavery

Tom Pearson discusses print, microfilm, manuscript, and Internet sources on John Brown, the man who led a war against pro-slavery men in Kansas, and then led an ill-fated assault on Harper’s Ferry in Virginia (now West Virginia) at the Schlafly Branch of the St. Louis City Library. Pre-registration recommended, but not required. To register or for more information: tpearson@slpl.org.

February 24, 2011, 7:00 – 8:00 pm

Black Codes and Fugitive Slave Laws

Tom Pearson discusses the numerous restrictions placed on slaves and free black persons in the antebellum and post-Civil War periods at the Buder Branch of the St. Louis City Library. Pre-registration recommended, but not required. To register or for more information: tpearson@slpl.org.

February 27, 2011

Sherman Day

Annual Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War commemoration at the grave of William Tecumseh Sherman in Calvary Cemetery in St. Louis. For more information: www.mocivilwar150.com/event/448

April 12, 2011

Opening of the Missouri Civil War Museum

For more information: <http://mcwm.org>.

April 16 - 17, 2011

Battle of Kirksville Reenactment – Harris, MO

For more information: www.mocivilwar150.com/event/561.

April 29, 2011 – May 1, 2011

Camp Jackson: A Tipping Point

This event will be held at Jefferson Barracks and will depict events that took place in Missouri in 1861. Saturday will include a scripted reenactment of the Missouri Volunteer Militia's encampment known as Camp Jackson in early May, 1861. Sunday will include a full battle reenactment of M. Jeff Thompson’s 1861 operations in eastern Missouri.

For more information: <http://sites.google.com/site/campjacksonboy/campjacksonguidelines> or www.mocivilwar150.com/event/505.

April 30, 2011

Freedom’s Gateway: St. Louis in the Civil War Tour

Visit *Camp Jackson: A Tipping Point* at Jefferson Barracks, the new Missouri Civil War Museum, the Campbell House Museum, and the Missouri History Museum. Tour leader: Linda Koenig. Lunch included. For pricing, reservations, and more information call (314) 361-9017 or www.mohistory.org.

May 10, 2011 – June 1, 2014

Civil War Missouri: A House Dividing

"Civil War Missouri: A House Dividing" is an exhibit within the Missouri State Museum, located on the first floor of the State Capitol building in Jefferson City, Missouri. The exhibit will include: "Slavery's Echoes," "Hands-On Civil War", and Civil War Cannon Diorama.

For more information: www.mocivilwar150.com/event/274.

May 14 - 15, 2011

Battle of Carthage Reenactment

Downtown Carthage, Missouri. For more information: www.mocivilwar150.com/event/521.

June 17 - 19, 2011

First Battle of Boonville Reenactment

18000 Rocheport Road, Boonville, Missouri.

For more information: www.mocivilwar150.com/event/547.

July 16 - 17, 2011

Battle of Wentzville Reenactment

On July 15, 1861, four companies of the 2nd Missouri Infantry and two companies of the 8th Missouri Infantry left St. Louis by train heading west on the North Missouri Railroad Line to Mexico, Missouri. Their mission was to join forces with Col. Franz Sigel. Upon arriving in Wentzville, the soldiers ate supper. After departing Wentzville, approximately three miles west of town, the train was attacked. The soldiers left the train to fight, but the attackers could not be found. The train returned to Wentzville, where the wounded were treated at the Wentzville Hotel. This reenactment will commemorate the skirmish that took place on July 15, 1861. For more information, contact Emmett Taylor at 636-332-5782 or email eptaylor@mac.com or visit www.mocivilwar150.com.

August 6 - 7, 2011

Battle of Athens Reenactment

Battle of Athens State Historic Site, Revere, Missouri. For more information:

www.mocivilwar150.com/event/202.

August 12 - 14, 2011

Wilson's Creek Reenactment 2011

The Wilson's Creek National Battlefield Foundation is planning a maximum-effort Civil War reenactment to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the Battle of Wilson's Creek. Watch for more details and updates on the Wilson's Creek National Battlefield Foundation web site at

www.wilsonscreek.com or www.mocivilwar150.com/event/35

September 17 - 18, 2011

Battle of Lexington Reenactment

Battle of Lexington State Historic Site, downtown Lexington, Missouri and Big River Ranch, Lexington, Missouri. For more information: www.mocivilwar150.com/event/200.

November 12, 2011

Civil War St. Louis Tour

Visit the opening of "The Civil War in Missouri" exhibit at the Missouri History Museum, the Mercantile Library, Alton Cemetery, and the Elijah Lovejoy Monument. Tour leaders: William Winters and Pam Sanfilippo. Lunch included. For pricing, reservations, and more information call (314) 361-9017 or visit www.mohistory.org.

November 12, 2011 – March 16, 2013

The Civil War in Missouri

The Missouri History Museum will have a comprehensive exhibit exploring the complexities of the Civil War in Missouri. For more information visit www.mohistory.org.

Publications

General Price's Raid

Roundtable member, Walt Busch, has created a book with articles from the *Missouri Democrat* that deal with General Price's Raid. It is in a three ring binder and has 475 pages with an additional 23 pages of photos and maps. The price for this book is \$29.95. There is also a CD that has the same information as the book, but includes bonus articles from the *Missouri Republican* and archives at Fort Davidson Historic Site. The price for the CD is \$20.00. The price for the book and the CD is \$40.00. For more information contact Walt Busch at webusch@hotmail.com

Other News

Missouri Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission

A website that ultimately will serve as a clearinghouse for all Civil War-related activities in Missouri is up and running – www.mocivilwar150.com

More Sesquicentennial News

Len Eagleburger of the Civil War Round Table of the Ozarks is coordinating interesting newspaper and magazine articles about Civil War topics into a weekly newsletter. If you are not already on his e-mail list, you can join by contacting him at leneagleburger@sbcglobal.net.

Off The Wall

THE TEGETHOFF NAVY REVOLVER

My boss, Jim Tegethoff, asked me if I'd ever heard of a Civil War era revolver manufactured in Carondelet, Missouri, and bearing the name of his ancestor, William Tegethoff. Jim had been contacted by Mr. Frank Graves, who owned such a pistol, and who was doing research for an article that he published in the January/February 2010 edition of "The Gun Report".

With the expiration of Samuel Colt's patent, and anticipating the coming of the Civil War, arms manufacturers sprang up around the country, including the firm of Shawk & McLanahan starting in Carondelet in 1858. William Tegethoff (anglicized from Franz Wilhelm Tegethoff when he emigrated from Germany arriving in New Orleans in 1850) was a partner in this revolver-making enterprise. He is listed in the St. Louis directory of 1857 as living in the same block as the Hawken shop, suggesting that he was probably associated with the Hawken shop as a gunsmith. The earliest versions of these revolvers are marked only "Wm. Tegethoff". William headed out to the Placerville gold fields around 1858 or 1859. The firm was dissolved around 1860 or 1861.

William Tegethoff returned to St. Louis, where he lived until he died in 1890 at the age of 65. It is believed that fewer than 100 Shawk & McLanahan Navy Colts were manufactured [the highest known serial number is 32, with only 8 known to exist, and with only two of those (serial numbers 1 and 2) bearing the Wm. Tegethoff mark].

Submitted by John Harris

150 Years Ago – February 1861

Feb 2	Captain Nathaniel Lyon arrives for duty at St. Louis Arsenal.
Feb 13	New state law bans “unauthorized militias”.
Feb 18	Delegates to Missouri secession convention elected. No avowed secessionists elected.
Feb 23	Texas secedes (joining SC, MS, FL, AL, GA, and LA).
Feb 28	Convention meets in Jefferson City, but soon adjourns to Mercantile Hall in St. Louis.

Source: Civil War St. Louis website (www.civilwarstlouis.com)

Off The Shelf

THE BATTLE OF BLACKWELL

by John Hampton Hollingsworth, 2007

Blackwell Station, on the Iron Mountain Railroad in Jefferson County, is near the railroad bridge across Big River. This book, written by a local historian (although “not a work of scholarship”), provides a very readable narrative of the conditions in Southeast Missouri during the early phases of the Civil War and M. Jeff Thompson’s move toward St. Louis in October 1861. Thompson left Picketon, Missouri (modern-day Bell City) on October 12, arriving at Blackwell Station (46 miles from St. Louis) before dawn on October 15. The bridge was defended by Company E of the 33rd Illinois Infantry Volunteers, led by Captain Isaac H. Elliott. Thompson’s men of the 1st Division of the Missouri State Guard surrounded and captured the bridge, losing two men killed and two wounded. The 33rd Illinois lost one man killed and seven wounded. The prisoners were paroled before Thompson moved on to Fredericktown. A short book and a good easy read.

Submitted by John Harris

FROM BATTLEFIELDS RISING - How the Civil War Transformed American Literature

by Randall Fuller (Associate Professor of English, Drury University), 2011

In the mid-19th century, leading writers played an important role in helping America imagine itself and develop its belief traditions. Understandably, it tended to relate to progress upward from the Revolution. The outbreak of war in 1861 greatly influenced the writings of Emerson, Whitman, Melville, Hawthorne and others, who were forced to try to find meaning in the increasingly anguishing and brutal struggle. Whitman’s poetry and prose were greatly deepened by his years ministering to wounded and dying soldiers. A comparison of two photos of him – one in 1855 and the other seven years later, is stunning. His elegies following Lincoln’s death mark his change from early life brashness. Hawthorne was increasingly silenced by the effect of reading military reports and talking with soldiers. Emerson, the optimist, saw his literary role as helping lead “molten change” on the model of the world’s great volcanoes. Melville once harbored, later unrealized, hopes of becoming the contemporary American Shakespeare. After Shiloh, growing disaffected by Emerson’s justifying the war’s slaughter on “moral grounds”, he included the poem, “Shiloh, a Requiem” among his works in 1862. Emily Dickinson’s rivers of poems and Julia Ward Howe’s inspired new words to “John Brown’s Body” were major contributions to shaping the public mood. At the conclusion of the Northern victory, Emerson commented that “New England now includes the South and west”. (!)

A very readable book (224 pages) that effectively portrays the Civil War’s impact on 19th century American literature and, as well, the horrors of battle.

Submitted by Philip Baker

Editorial Cartoon of the Month

STRONG'S DIME CARICATURES.—No. 2.



Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1861, by T. W. STRONG, in the Clerk's Office of the District Court for the Southern District of New York.

LITTLE BO-PEEP AND HER FOOLISH SHEEP.

*"Little Bo-peep, she lost her sheep,
And didn't know where to find 'em;*

*Let 'em alone, and they'll all come home,
With their tails hanging down behind 'em."*

PUBLISHED BY T. W. STRONG, 98 NASSAU ST., N. Y.

Little Bo-Peep (Columbia, with the eagle at her side) says, "Sic 'em Buck! Sic 'em! I wish poor old Hickory was alive. He'd bring 'em back in no time."

One of the wolves in the background says, "If we can only get them separated from the flock, we can pick their bones at our leisure."

Two of the sheep that have fled are labeled S.C. and Ga. Virginia and Kansas have not yet left the flock, while the sheep dog "Old Buck" (Buchanan) is too frightened to help and "Hickory" (Andrew Jackson) lies dead.

The rhyme reads,

*"Little Bo-peep, she lost her sheep,
And didn't know where to find 'em,
Let 'em alone, and they'll all come home,
With their tails hanging down behind 'em."*

During this campaign, *Bushwhacker* will include a cartoon that was published 150 years ago (to the month) reflecting editorial comment on current events, thanks to the efforts of member Bob Schultz who has created **Political Cartoons of the American Civil War**, a 52-page book of contemporary cartoons from many sources accompanied by a Powerpoint® disc suitable for presentations to organizations or in school settings to supplement conventional study materials on the Civil War. Available to members for \$10 each (see Bob Schultz at the next meeting) or for \$14.95 postage paid.

Contact waltb50@centurytel.net for further details.

St. Louis Civil War Round Table

January 2011 Trivia

1. John Bell Hood was horribly wounded twice – losing a leg and use of an arm. Which arm and which leg? In what battles were they lost?
He lost his right leg at Chickamauga and the use of his left arm at Gettysburg.
2. What Federal trans-Mississippi General was transferred to Virginia due to his erratic performance on the battlefield?
Franz Sigel after Pea Ridge. There are numerous examples of generals being sent west, but this is a rare example of the reverse.
3. Although the Declaration of Paris of 1856 abolished privateering worldwide, why did the United States and the Confederate States continue to issue Letters of Marque?
The USA did not sign the Declaration. It felt that it was a useful and necessary tactic, and was used heavily during the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812.
4. What was a “Sherman Sentinel”?
The chimney on a burned-out southern plantation house.
5. What qualified a military unit to be called a “legion”?
An organization that included infantry, artillery, and cavalry. It is the modern counterpart of a “combat team”.
6. What was the claim to fame of Johnny Fry of Bourbon KY, who was killed at the Battle of Baxter Springs KS on 6 October 1863 by Quantrill’s Raiders?
He was the first westbound Pony Express rider out of St. Joseph MO.
7. What was the critical logistical implication of the Trent Affair that motivated President Lincoln to accede to Britain’s demand for an apology?
Because the only major commercial source of sodium nitrate was in India, England effectively controlled the ability of the United States to make gunpowder. Gunpowder was also critically in demand for mining gold and silver (financing the war) and coal mining (required by the Navy).
8. Who was Juliet Opie Hopkins, and what is unique about her funeral?
The only female Confederate Medal of Honor awardee, she is buried in Arlington in the plot of her Union Veteran son-in-law, Col. R.B. Ayres. In attendance were Joe Wheeler and Joe E. Johnston. She is occasionally referred to as the “Florence Nightingale of the Confederacy”. Her MOH award is based on her nursing actions at Seven Pines where, though wounded in the left leg, she kept on tending wounded.
9. How many regiments was the State of Missouri asked to send to support the Union putdown of the Confederate Secession?
Four

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Brochures

Members are still placing our brochures in libraries, community centers, historic areas, and the like. Given the sheer breadth of the territory from which our members come, more volunteers to help in this effort are most welcome. There will be a supply of brochures at all our meetings.