



The Bushwhacker

March 2011

The Civil War Round Table of Saint Louis

*The Sterling Price Raid into Missouri and
Kansas, Autumn 1864*

Professor Emeritus, Mark Plummer

Illinois State University Professor Mark Plummer says that Sterling Price's Raid into Missouri and Kansas, in the autumn of 1864, was more than a raid, with over 30,000 soldiers involved at Westport. His interest in the topic is displayed in his first book *Frontier Governor: Samuel J. Crawford of Kansas* (University Press of Kansas 1971), and in his articles "The Battle of Mine Creek, in the Great Price Raid" (*Military Review*, September 1975), and "Missouri and Kansas and the Capture of General Marmaduke" (*Missouri Historical Quarterly*, October 1964). Professor Plummer's other books are *Robert G. Ingersoll: Peoria's Pagan Politician* (Western Illinois Monograph Series, 1985) and *Lincoln's Rail-Splitter: Governor Richard J. Oglesby* (University of Illinois Press, 2001). His list of other publications (chapters, parts of books, and articles) is too long to reproduce with many of them related to the topics of his three books.

Professor Plummer grew up in Seneca, Missouri, attended the University of Missouri for a couple of years, and later took his Ph.D. at the University of Kansas. (We naturally wonder who he roots for at the "Border War" games.)

MEETING DATE: MARCH 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 MARCH 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

- 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

I want to thank Bill Jackson for filling in at the February 23 meeting that featured a great presentation by Ball State Professor Nicole Etcheson, according to feedback received. We look forward to March 23 and its speaker, Illinois State's Mark Plummer.

Also ahead, in the month of April, is the scheduled opening of the St. Louis Civil War Museum at Jefferson Barracks. April 12, of course, will mark the 150th anniversary of the “Fort Sumpter” affair. (And yes, it was erroneously spelled “Sumpter” by most publications of the day. It took some time before “Sumter” found its way into print.)

I've recently noticed people reading "books" on those electronic devices, and I just read of an elementary school that is switching to them. Seems to me that avoiding the heavy burdens of turning pages and keeping real books on the shelf may be overbalanced by the possible downside of access only to books that are downloadable on one's computer. I'm probably being unduly alarmed, but there is, or should be, due diligence in helping people, young and old, read about their history. I look forward to becoming better educated on the subject and, it is hoped, assured that "book-books" will survive.

See you on March 23!

Phil Baker

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February Meeting Recap

At the February meeting, we were introduced to a variety of plots, conspiracies, and dastardly deeds engaged in by a variety of ruffians and/or protectors of law and order. Professor Etcheson was dynamic, animated, and well organized as she led us through time and space, recounting the events surrounding the Kansas-Missouri Border Wars of the 1850's (and into the 1860's). Our thanks go out to Professor Etcheson for making the trek to Missouri to share her expertise.

Events of Interest

Through June 5, 2011

The Civil War in Missouri

Free exhibit at the Old Ordnance Room at Jefferson Barracks Park, Wednesday through Sunday, 12 Noon to 4:00 pm. For more information, call (314) 544-6224.

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 4 - 5, 2011

Civil War Roundtable of the Ozarks Conference

Bi-annual conference in Springfield, MO. Watch <http://cwrtozarks.tripod.com> for additional information as it becomes available.

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.

Final Election Results – December 1, 1860

Four candidates were in contention for the Presidency on November 6, 1860: Former Vice-President John C. Breckenridge of Kentucky, well-known Senator Stephen Douglas of Illinois, little-known Abraham Lincoln of Illinois, and even-lesser-known former Senator John Bell of Tennessee – an election obviously dominated by Western interests, but revolving around the fate of the South and her “particular institutions”.

The candidate of the Northern Democrats, Stephen Douglas, was supported by *The Missouri Republican*. His Republican opposition was Abraham Lincoln, backed by *The Daily Democrat*, another St. Louis paper.

Lincoln carried the City of St. Louis and County of St. Louis with a 700 vote margin. Douglas, however carried the State of Missouri, and Lincoln could only manage a fourth-place finish. Lincoln eventually carried eighteen Northern states with only 39% of the popular vote and 180 electoral votes – three times the electoral votes of the other three candidates combined.

The election of 1860 is the only one in history in which there were four candidates, all of whom were from states that bordered the Mississippi River.

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.

150 Years Ago – March 1861

- March 4 Abraham Lincoln inaugurated 16th President of the United States. Near-riot at Minute Men headquarters as secessionist flag sewn by Arthur C. McCoy's wife, Louisa Gibson McCoy, flies defiantly at Berthold Mansion.
- March 22 Convention adjourns subject to call of the chair. Final report determines "That at present there is no adequate cause to impel Missouri to dissolve her connection with the Federal Union."

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

Off The Shelf

Fields of Honor – Pivotal Battles of the Civil War (2006)

By Edwin C. Bearss, Historian Emeritus, National Park Service

I sincerely hope you have been lucky enough to make the acquaintance of Ed Bearss, the quintessential historian of our time. If not, drop everything and book one of his tours.

This book is a transcription of Ed's more-than-fascinating oral presentations on selected battlefields of the Civil War. Through the printed page, you can almost imagine his stentorian voice and bombastic style as he leads tours across the field – describing the people, the situation, and the overall effect of each. It's a little disconcerting to read a narrative that flips back and forth from present tense to past tense, but you get used to it rather quickly. A couple of examples of his conversational style:

- Speaking of John Geary: *“He is – at least in his mind – the savior of Culp’s Hill at Gettysburg. I, however, think he is exaggerating there, don’t you?”*
- And of Chattanooga: *“If you were teaching terrain appreciation, you would fail the Union leadership here, particularly Sherman and Baldy Smith”*

This is a book you absolutely must have.

Submitted by Walt Bittle

Off The Wall

Who Do You Think You Are?

There's a fairly new TV show that features celebrities researching their roots. A recent episode featured Vanessa Williams' discovery of two great-great-grandfathers on her father's side. David Carll of New York joined the Union army, received a \$300 bounty, and bought land in Oyster Bay, New York before going off with the 26th USCT and fighting at the “Battle of Bloody Bridge” in South Carolina. William A. Fields was one of the first African American legislators in the Tennessee House of Representatives (1885 – 1886) during reconstruction. From the end of reconstruction (around 1888 or 1890) until 1965, there were no African-Americans in the Tennessee legislature. I found the story of her search for her ancestors to be an interesting story.

I've also found a number of Missouri Confederate ancestors. The search is as interesting as the ancestors. I found a third cousin (twice removed) that has the two letters that my great-great grandfather wrote to his wife from Alton prison and discovered this same relative mentioned in a diary that my wife won as a raffle prize at one of our meetings. I've received research assistance from sources ranging from relatives to authors to libraries to archives, but have still been unable to determine how he died near Little Rock, Arkansas around August of 1863 and where he is buried.

What about your story? You may not be a celebrity either, but I'll bet the stories of your searches for your Civil War ancestors are probably just as interesting. Do you have a story to share?

Submitted by John Harris

Brochures

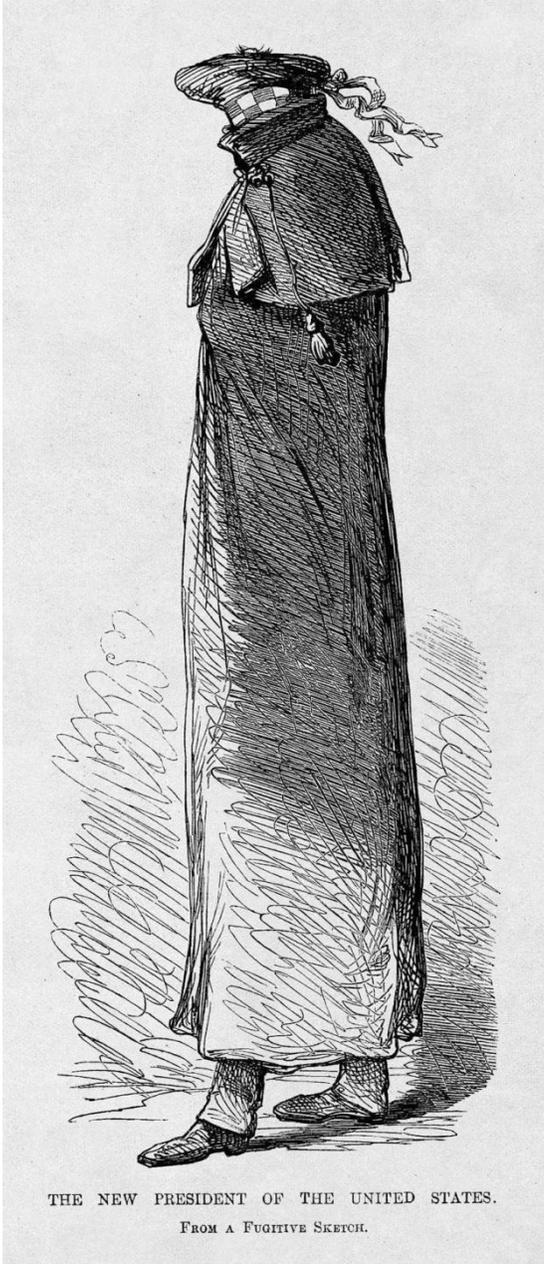
Members are still placing our brochures in libraries, community centers, historic areas, and the like. Given the sheer breadth of the territory from which our members come, more volunteers to help in this effort are most welcome. There will be a supply of brochures at all our meetings.

Editorial Cartoon of the Month

March, 1861.

The New President of the United States

From a Fugitive Sketch.



Vanity Fair was published in New York, but generally took a dim view of Abraham Lincoln and his election. This image refers to the manner in which Lincoln arrived in Washington.

News was received of a plot to attack Lincoln as he was changing trains in Baltimore. Lincoln's schedule was changed to an earlier, night train. Lincoln was supposedly bundled up by his bodyguards, Allan Pinkerton and Ward Hill Lamon, and his horse-drawn sleeping car transferred between the President Street and Camden Street Stations.

This "secretive" arrival of Lincoln was widely derided in the North and South. Above left is a cartoon from *Vanity Fair*, March 9, 1861. Below right is another cartoon from *Harper's Weekly* also of March 9, 1861. Whether or not there was an assassination plan in effect remains a question, but it is sure that Baltimore was a hotbed of unrest over Lincoln's election since Maryland was a Slave State.



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

February 2011 Trivia

1. What is the significance of the Webster-Ashburton Treaty of 1842?

It ended the slave trade on the high seas and was enforced by the US and Great Britain.

2. What are the following famous for in relation to the Civil War?

Denmark Vesey: **Led slave revolt 14 July 1822 (Bastille Day) in Charleston SC. Was hung along with 34 others. There were 15 significant slave rebellions in the Americas up to and including John Brown's raid. The largest was in 1811 near New Orleans, where several hundred slaves marched 20 miles burning plantations and sugar mills armed only with hand tools.**

Preston Brooks: **US Representative from Edgefield SC, who caned Sen. Charles Sumner from Massachusetts in the Senate.**

Toussaint L'Ouverture: **Led slave rebellion in St. Dominique (Haiti). Resulted in freedom from France. Some say the slaves made a pact with the devil if he would help secure freedom, and that is why Haiti is so poor today.**

Major John Emerson: **Purchased Dred and Harriet Scott in 1832 and took them to Fort Snelling, Minnesota and to Illinois, both of which were free states.**

Eliza Irene Sanford: **Married Major Emerson and inherited the Scotts upon his death. She was the owner whom they sued for their freedom, hence the Scott vs. Sandford decision. The name on the legal case is a misspelling caused by a legal clerk.**

3. What was the unusual heritage of one of William C. Quantrill's best scouts, John Noland?

He was a free African-American who joined Quantrill because he hated the way his family was treated at the hands of the Jayhawkers.

4. What do these items have in common: two pairs of spectacles, a lens polisher, a watch fob, a pocketknife, a linen handkerchief, and a brown leather wallet with some newspaper clippings and a Confederate \$5 bill?

These were the contents of Lincoln's pockets when he was shot at Ford's Theater.

5. What was the only unit to have served both the South and the North during the Civil War?

The Louisiana Native Guards, formed from free Blacks and mulattoes from New Orleans. The South would not permit the unit into battle. When New Orleans was occupied by the Union, they were reconstituted as the Corps D'Afrique, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Regiments of Native Guards. They served with distinction under Banks at Port Hudson.

6. Of the approximately 125,000 commissioned officers in the US volunteer army during the Civil War, how many were of African-American heritage?

One hundred eleven.

7. How was the bombardment of Charleston SC in 1863 by General Gilmore legal under the rules of war covering protection of innocent civilians?

Charleston was a city fortified and garrisoned. The docks were points of entry for munitions.