



The Bushwhacker

April 2011

The Civil War Round Table of Saint Louis

General John Rawlins: Right Hand to Greatness

Peter Cozzens

Who was Major General John A. Rawlins, and what role did he play as Chief of Staff to General Ulysses S. Grant? Because there is no modern biography of Rawlins, he remains an elusive figure. Was he, as Maj. Gen. James H. Wilson later said, “a living and speaking conscience” to Grant? Did he keep Grant sober, as many during the war speculated? And what contribution did he make to Union strategy? Why did Grant say after Vicksburg that Rawlins was the one indispensable officer in his army? Peter Cozzens will explore these questions and others as he addresses the life and military service of John A. Rawlins, who joined Grant’s staff in August 1861 when Grant received his first star, and remained with him until the end of the war. Cozzens’ conclusions may surprise you.

Peter Cozzens, a Foreign Service Officer with the Department of State, is the author of sixteen critically acclaimed books on the American Civil War and the Indian Wars of the American West. All of his books have been selections of the Book of the Month Club, History Book Club, and/or the Military Book Club. “*This Terrible Sound: The Battle of Chickamauga*” and “*The Shipwreck of Their Hopes: The Battles for Chattanooga*” were both Main Selections of the History Book Club and were chosen by *Civil War Magazine* as two of the 100 greatest works ever written on the conflict. His other Civil War titles include “*Shenandoah 1862: Stonewall Jackson's Valley Campaign*”, “*No Better Place to Die: The Battle of Stones River*”, “*The Darkest Days of the War: Iuka and Corinth*”, “*The Military Memoirs of General John Pope*”, “*General John Pope: A Life For the Nation*”, and “*Battles and Leaders of the Civil War: Volumes 5 & 6*”. Cozzens is a frequent speaker nationwide and has also appeared on “*Book TV*” and on the PBS series “*History Detectives*”.

MEETING DATE: APRIL 27, 2011

MEAL SERVED AT 6:30 pm

TWO HEARTS ON LINDBERGH BLVD NEAR GRAVOIS.

Doors open around 5:30 pm

MAKE DINNER RESERVATIONS BY APRIL 20

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

- May 25, 2010 – Earl J. Hess, Historian/Author, “*Soldier Life in the Trenches at Petersburg*”

A Note From Our President

A while back, Vice President Bill Jackson initiated the post-meeting member survey which generates feedback on elements from both a positive and negative view. These, as we know, relate to the food, the speaker, other program items, and the pace and length of the event. As a former professional market researcher, I view the survey as an alert system that makes good sense. It certainly helps guide thinking on what matters to us as attendees.

The survey does something else important. It asks us to check our levels of interest in getting involved, or further involved, in the various offices and tasks of the organization. This eases the year-end oh-my-gosh factor regarding who will step up to run things next year. More importantly, it is a way for us to be inclusive. Happily, the CWRT of St. Louis is blessed with: 1) a variety of well-defined volunteer offices and tasks, so that nobody (certainly not the President) gets overburdened and, 2) a remarkable array of member skills and abilities. If you checked an interest in getting involved, but you haven't yet been contacted, blame me. Meanwhile, don't hesitate to bang on the table, demonstrate in the street, or whatever works for you.

See you on April 27. Maybe it won't even be snowing!

Phil Baker

Officers, 2010 - 2011

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Bushwhacker Editor – Walt Bittle
Assistant Editor – John Harris

March Meeting Recap

The well-attended meeting of March 23 was another exciting learning opportunity. After the regular raffles and the grueling trivia session, Professor Plummer took us through the less-than-successful Sterling Price raid of Autumn, 1864. Our thanks go out to the professor for making the trek here from Illinois State University to enlighten us.

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.

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: (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, including the ensuing "massacre". 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, 2011

Civil War Book Sale

The Chatillon-DeMenil House was built between 1861 and 1863. The bars on the first-floor windows were installed when the house was built, out of fear of pillaging troops from either side. Dr. DeMenil was the editor of an abolitionist newspaper, and his wife (Emily Sophie Choteau DeMenil, a Southern sympathizer) was descended from the founding family of St. Louis. A genuine Civil War relic, and always in need of funds, the house is seeking donations for its annual Book Sale, especially Civil War-related books and collectibles. Please bring donations to the April meeting or contact Edna Dieterle at 314-892-6175. And don't forget to attend the sale on May 14.

May 14 - 15, 2011

Battle of Carthage Reenactment

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

June 4, 2011, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Missouri Confederate Memorial Day

Confederate Veterans Home Park. Higginsville, MO. Meetings of Confederate Heritage groups in the morning, and a Memorial Service for 800 buried in the cemetery in the afternoon.

June 17 - 19, 2011

First Battle of Boonville Reenactment

18000 Rocheport Road, Boonville, MO. 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. This reenactment will commemorate the running skirmish that took place on that day in 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, MO. 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 near 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.

Publications

General Price's Raid

Round Table 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

Len Eagleburger of the Civil War Round Table of the Ozarks is coordinating newspaper and magazine articles about Civil War topics into a weekly newsletter. You can join his distribution list at leneagleburger@sbcglobal.net. A website that ultimately will serve as a clearinghouse for all Civil War-related activities in Missouri is up and running at www.mocivilwar150.com

Turner Classic Movies will broadcast thirty-four Civil War films, uncut and without commercials, every Monday and Wednesday through April. Check your local listings for times.

150 Years Ago – April 1861

- April 12-14 Confederate troops open an artillery barrage against Fort Sumter, South Carolina, still in Federal hands. Major Anderson, commanding the Federal garrison, agrees to surrender the fort on April 13. Federal troops evacuate on April 14.
- April 15 President Lincoln calls for 75,000 volunteers for 90 days to put down the rebellion. Missouri's quota is four regiments.
- April 17 Governor Claiborne Jackson refuses the Federal government Missouri's regiments, saying, "*Your requisition, in my judgment, is illegal, unconstitutional, and revolutionary in its objects, inhuman and diabolical, and cannot be complied with.*"
- April 26 Captain James H. Stokes transfers all the excess arms at the St. Louis Arsenal to Illinois in the steamer City of Alton

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

Off The Shelf

Confederate "Tales of the War" in the Tran-Mississippi, Part One: 1861 – Unwritten Chapters of the Civil War West of the River, Volume VII (2010), by Michael E. Banasik (editor)

Anyone interested in the Civil War in the Trans-Mississippi Theater needs to discover Camp Pope Bookshop's "Unwritten Chapters" series edited by Michael Banasik. Mr. Banasik has assembled original diaries and newspaper articles and published them along with extensive footnotes for clarification. (When Mr. Banasik made his presentation on Newtonia to our Round Table he donated Volume III as a raffle prize and my wife won. It contained a reference to my great-great grandfather that would have been totally missed without the footnote.) Banasik's latest effort is based on a series of articles published in the *Missouri Republican* between 1885 and 1887 dealing with 1861 events including the battles of Camp Jackson, Dug Springs, Wilson's Creek, Zagonyi's Charge, Belmont, Salem and Mount Zion Church as well as Missouri's early dealings with Jefferson Davis and the Confederacy. The extensive footnotes provide clarification of unclear or disputed facts. I also found the added biographical information on the individuals helpful. I would have liked to see the battles of Lexington, Big River Bridge and Fredericktown included, but this is still a great read.

Submitted by John Harris

Off The Wall

Civil War Dolls

An interesting article came out from the Associated Press in October 2010 entitled, "*Civil War Dolls May Have Been Used To Smuggle Drugs*". There is suspicion that two dolls which had been donated to Richmond's Museum of the Confederacy from two different families, one in 1923 and one in 1976, may have had quinine or morphine stuffed into their hollow heads and upper bodies when they were shipped from Europe to Southern ports during the Civil War years. During the Union imposed blockades, even if a ship was boarded and searched, odds were good that no one would think to check inside a doll for such smuggled drugs which were desperately needed and so difficult to come by for Southerners during the war. X-rays of the 2 to 3 feet long dolls taken at VCU Medical Center confirm that there was enough hollow area inside of them to hold the powdered quinine and morphine which could be pressed into pills when it reached Southern ports, and then be used to treat malaria victims and wounded soldiers. One doll has a gash in the back of her bonneted head and the other doll has evidence of having been stitched back together, presumably after their precious contents had been removed. Forensic testing may be in the dolls' futures to check for any traces of the drugs. These dolls deserve a resounding "Huzzah!" for their service to the Cause!

Submitted by Edna Dieterle

There's an APP for That

Ah, the wonders of modern technology! We're in the 21st century, but we still have a number of members, including my wife, who don't have e-mail. My wife doesn't even know how to turn my computer on. Most of us have at least become somewhat comfortable "surfing the web" to find information that we used to look up in reference books. And some, like my daughter, download entire books to their "readers".

And then there's the cell phone. I know at least one member who doesn't even have a basic cell phone. I used mine (basic cell phone) this summer to listen to a Civil War walking tour as I climbed the hill from the parking lot to the Civil War Fort near Boonsboro, Kentucky, pressing station numbers as I reached successive interpretive markers. So, I was deluded into thinking I was getting fairly "hi-tech" and along comes the I-phone and its applications (APPs). Do you leave every meeting wishing there were more trivia questions to confound you? There's an app for that – four of them actually. Want to make realistic musket sounds? There's an app for that, too. Longing for some tenets of wisdom from Honest Abe or Robert E. Lee – you can find their quotes and speeches with the simple swipe of your fingertip. There's a game that allows you to slip behind enemy lines, blow up key targets, and try your best to escape to fight another day – perhaps the closest many of us will ever get to being modern-day Bushwhackers. Can't get to sleep tonight without knowing what an "Arkansas Toothpick" is? You guessed it, there's an app for that. There are official travel guides for key states and cities, battle field guides for key sites, a Civil War photo album, and an app that will give you a Civil War event for every day of the year. Want to compare military figures and settle with your friends once and for all who had the superior battle strategy? Yup, there's an app for that too – well, two of them. You can recount Gettysburg, tour the tiny hamlet of Winchester, Kentucky, and show your GPS exactly where in the McDonald's parking lot that important battle once took place.

According to Santayana, those who do not remember history are doomed to repeat it. Maybe they just need an I-phone. Can you hear me now?

Submitted by John Harris (with help from Erin)

Editorial Cartoon of the Month
March/April, 1861
Professor Lincoln in His Great Feat of Balancing

On the left, Abraham Lincoln is drawn as a circus or music hall performer balancing two items, the dove of peace and Fort Sumter. The ringmaster is a variation on the character *Punch* (or Punchinello) that was taken from the Punch and Judy puppet shows and was also used as the title for the English humor magazine, *Punch*.

At the right is a typical image from the British *Punch* of the period as drawn by the great cartoonist for *Punch*, John Tenniel. *Vanity Fair* began publication in New York in 1860 and ceased publication in 1863. It is not related to either of two publications of the same name that were also published in New York in later years.



Vanity Fair, March 23, 1861

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
March 2011 Trivia

1. Who was the avid secessionist attorney who was the Lt. Governor when Missouri Gov. Claiborne Fox Jackson died in office? He assumed the title of Governor, but never served a day in Jefferson City.
Thomas C. Reynolds
2. CMDR John Preble, Senior Officer blockading Mobile in Sep 62, had his name stricken from the rolls and was banished from the service by order of President Lincoln for allowing the CSS Florida to sail past and into Mobile. What action did Sec of the Navy Welles take in regard to this judgment?
Because he believed the judgment too harsh, he recommended reinstatement, due in part because Preble's grandfather was Edward Preble, a hero in the war with the Barbary Pirates, and whose stature was a role model for a generation of Naval Officers.
3. Confederate Navy Secretary Mallory sent James D. Bulloch to England to obtain warships for the Confederacy. Who was Bulloch's nephew, who later became US President?
Theodore Roosevelt
4. What was the meaning of the French term "Guerre de course"?
War on Commerce, which included issuing Letters of Marque for privateers.
5. Who was Maj. Absalom C. Grimes, and for what is he known?
He was a Confederate mail carrier from St. Louis who carried mail to Price's army. He was known as an escape artist, having escaped from St. Louis' Gratiot Street Prison.
6. How did President Lincoln react to the civilian trials of the seventy-three (73) captured black soldiers from the 54th Mass.? South Carolina Governor Bonham directed they be treated as slaves in rebellion, which was in effect a death sentence.
Lincoln promised to execute one Confederate soldier for each of the captives executed. He demanded they be treated as prisoners of war – and they were.
7. Fort D, one of the four built at Cape Girardeau, Missouri, was constructed in 1861 by Union troops under the command of a Captain, who later became famous as the first to successfully navigate the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon. Who was this famous one-armed explorer?
John Wesley Powell, Captain of Battery F, 2nd Illinois Light Artillery. Fort D was the largest and most important river defense position in the region.
8. What was a "news walker"?
A soldier who went from group to group after a day's fighting to exchange information and news of the day's action. These self-appointed reporters were trying to determine the prospects for the next days.
9. What was the name of the Irish secret society of coal miners in West Virginia and Pennsylvania who actively opposed the draft?
Molly Maguires
10. What is the distinction held by the CSS Fingal, an 800-ton iron-hulled screw steamer on its arrival at Savannah, Georgia, on 14 November 1861?
It brought the largest single-trip delivery of entirely military material into the Confederacy during the war. The cargo, valued at \$250,000, included 11,000 rifles – as well as pistols, swords, sabers, ammunition, four cannon, seven tons of shells, leather, medicines, clothing, blankets, and more.
11. What are the four categories of Civil War artillery fuses?
Time fuses, Percussion fuses, Concussion fuses, and Combination Fuses (Time and Percussion)
12. What qualified a military unit to be called a "legion"?
It had an organization that included infantry, artillery, and cavalry units. It was the modern-day equivalent of a "combat team".