



# *The Bushwhacker*

September 2012

## The Civil War Round Table of Saint Louis

*“The Capture of New Orleans – April 1862”  
by Dale Phillips*



From the moment the Civil War began, the principle objectives of the Union war effort, as part of the Anaconda Plan, were to blockade southern ports of entry and capture the Mississippi River Valley. Both these elements come into play when we look at the Union approach to the city of New Orleans. A great deal of attention has always been given to the Union advance and the Confederate defense of the upper Mississippi Valley. Only a small amount of attention has been given to the story of what took place at the mouth of the river and in the lower delta. This presentation will look at the April 1862 capture of New Orleans, the largest city in the Confederacy, and its implications to the Confederate cause, featuring the battle itself and the running past Forts Jackson and St. Philip by the fleet of David Farragut. Mr. Phillips will explain the Confederate attempts to defend the city despite a lack of support from the government in Richmond, and the Confederate attempt to defend the lower river, including the little known effort to construct a River Defense Fleet anchored by what would have been the most powerful ironclads the Confederacy would ever try to construct, the powerful CSS Louisiana and Mississippi.

Dale Phillips earned his BA degree in American History from York College of Pennsylvania in 1978. He began working for the National Park Service as an interpreter at Gettysburg in 1976; served as a law enforcement ranger for the Army Corps of Engineers at Lake Shelbyville, IL; an interpretive ranger at Fort Sumter, Charleston, SC; supervisory park ranger/historian at Chickamauga/Chattanooga National Military Park; unit manager of the Chalmette (Battle of New Orleans site) Unit of Jean Lafitte National Historical Park; unit manager of the Acadian Unit of Jean Lafitte; superintendent of the George Rogers Clark National Historical Park; and currently as superintendent of the Lincoln Home National Historic Site in Springfield, IL. He has written numerous articles on U.S. military history for various publications and also works as a guide/lecturer for the Delta Queen Steamboat Company, Civil War Round Tables, and other history touring organizations with expertise from the colonial period (French and Indian War) through the American Civil War.

**MEETING DATE: SEPTEMBER 26, 2012**

**TWO HEARTS BANQUET CENTER ON LINDBERGH BLVD. NEAR GRAVOIS**

**Doors open at 5:30 pm; Meal served at 6:30; Presentation at 7:30**

**Make reservations by SEPTEMBER 12 and 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@charter.net](mailto:waltb50@charter.net) or John Harris [ce342@swbell.net](mailto:ce342@swbell.net)**

## *2012 – 2013 Campaign*

- October 24, 2012 - “The Battle of Ball’s Bluff” by Jim Morgan, historian
- December 5, 2012 - “Iron Brigade” by Lance J. Herdegen, historian and author
- January 23, 2013 - “The Civil War in Film” by Diane Mutti-Burke, Professor of History, UMKC
- February 27, 2013 - “One Man’s Story of the Civil War” by Tim Heggemeier, CWRT St Louis
- March 27, 2013 – “The Battle of South Mountain” by Tom Clemens, historian and author
- April 24, 2013 - “Abraham Lincoln” by Harold Holzer, historian and author
- May 22, 2013 – “The Battle of Wilson’s Creek” by Jeff Patrick, historian and author, NPS

### *A Note From Our President*

Dear Friends,

We welcome you and invite you to join us as we “*Celebrate 55 Historic Years*” of our Civil War Round Table bringing “History to Life”. We are listening to our fellow members who have indicated in our surveys that it is important to increase membership, offer special events and tours, and streamline the meeting format. Special events and tours are being added to our 2012-13 campaign of interesting and informative speakers/presenters.

Our first successful special event, at the Missouri History Museum on August 23, was attended by more than 35 members and their guests. This was an excellent opportunity to introduce our Round Table to prospective members and for current members to enjoy an outstanding portrayal of Confederate prison life and death in St. Louis’ Gratiot Prison. Enlightening and entertaining presentations were given by our members Bill Winter and John Nischwitz. Several participants took a guided tour of the MHM Civil War exhibit. Displays of artifacts that were found with a metal detector and also original newspaper accounts of the Battle of Gettysburg were shown. The meeting was rated as **very successful** by one-third and **successful** by two-thirds of survey respondents to date.

We are planning to have a Civil War tour in late October and a special event in early November. More details and information will follow, as well as plans for other 2013 events. You will also see how we have made changes in our format regarding the business section, the raffle, and the Q & A to streamline our meeting.

Your elected leaders are listening to you, and this is all possible thanks to the energy and efforts of your fellow members who have volunteered to work to make our Round Table the best and most inclusive it can be. You will hear at our September meeting who these wonderful people are, and you will be invited to join them in making a significant difference in the quality of our Round Table.

Please consider volunteering to help in any way you can to increase our fellowship and sharing of our interest in Civil War history.

Sincerely, Bill Jackson

Jim McCarthy, a long-time member, passed away on Sunday, August 26.  
His son, Tim, assures us that “ . . . *he truly enjoyed the community and fellowship of the Civil War Round Table*”.

## *Officers for the 2012-2013 Campaign*

President – Bill Jackson  
Vice President – Gloria Grouzos  
Secretary – Murnai Winter  
Asst. Secretary – Ed Rataj  
Treasurer – Curt Wittbracht  
Asst. Treasurer – Larry Lapinski  
Board Member – Bob Katsev  
Board Member – John Mullen  
Board Member – Barry Rinderknecht

Board Member – Greg Wolk  
Board Member – Phil Baker  
Board Member – Vince Heier  
Board Member – Mike Scully  
Board Member – Curtis Fears  
Board Member – Michael Schroeppel  
Bushwhacker Editor – Walt Bittle  
Assistant Editor – John Harris

## *Celebrate “55 Historic Years”*

The Civil War Round Table of St. Louis was founded in 1957, in anticipation of the Centennial to be celebrated from 1961 to 1965. During the last *55 Historic Years*, the Round Table has been an active participant in preserving history and creating memories.

It's fairly certain that none of the current members were there at the founding, but many have been members for quite a long time. We are asking people to rustle around in their gray matter and come up with long buried memories of activities related to the Round Table and/or the Civil War in general. What information do you have about the founding or the early days of the Round Table? When and why did you join?

What is your favorite memory of a Civil War-related vacation, tour, program, historian, and/or book? What has served as an inspiration for your continuing study of the Civil War and its effects on general American History? Who or what did you encounter along the way that whetted your appetite for even more learning?

Please submit your stories and anecdotes for inclusion in a future issue of the *Bushwhacker*.

## *Feedback From A Visitor*

As a first time visitor, I at first had some expectations and fears of what I was going to hear/see at the Civil War Roundtable. In this day and age, especially in education, the Confederate States of America always seems to be vilified by the media and academia while the Federal Government can simply do no wrong. I was soon relieved to find out that this was not the outlook of the Civil War Roundtable.

We were treated to an excellent dramatic interpretation of the life of one Absalom Carlisle Grimes, who showed the savagery and grace of the Union prison in St. Louis' Mound City. Bill Winters spoke on the courage of the 1<sup>st</sup> Missouri Infantry of CSA, telling the tales of actual men living actual soldiers' lives. I was very welcome to see mentioned how both sides of the conflict had their angels and demons. The slide show by John Nischwitz was very informative, and even the layman can appreciate the lengths he went to gather his vast amounts of pictorial information.

All in all, I would recommend the Roundtable to anyone with a love of history, but more importantly, a love of historical truth.

Contributed by Jason M. Heeren

## *Events of Interest*

*2012 – date still uncertain due to construction delays*

### **Opening of the Missouri Civil War Museum**

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

*Now Through November 4, 2012*

### **The Civil War in the West Exhibit, Old Ordnance Room, Jefferson Barracks Park**

Artifacts, equipment, and text panels explaining the war in the West featuring the battles of Shiloh, Vicksburg, Corinth, Nashville, Chickamauga, etc. Uniforms, equipment, and other artifacts. Free admission; \$2 suggested donation. For information: [www.stlouisco.com/parks/jb](http://www.stlouisco.com/parks/jb)

*Now Through March 16, 2013*

### **The Civil War in Missouri**

Comprehensive exhibit exploring the complexities of the Civil War in Missouri at the Missouri History Museum. For information: [www.mohistory.org](http://www.mohistory.org)

*Now Through June 1, 2014*

### **Civil War Missouri: A House Dividing**

Artifacts and documents about the stories of everyday Missourians. Daily 8:00 am – 5:00 pm except Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Years, and Easter. Missouri State Capitol Museum, 201 W. Capitol, Jefferson City, MO.

*September 13 - 15, 2012*

### **150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Marshall, Marshall, MO**

For information: [www.mocivilwar150.com](http://www.mocivilwar150.com)

*September 15 - 16, 2012*

### **Battle of Monday Hollow Re-enactment, Linn Creek, MO**

For information: [www.mocivilwar150.com](http://www.mocivilwar150.com)

*September 17, October 1, 15 and 29, 2012, 10:15 am - Noon*

### **The Civil War: A Lecture Series**

Biweekly, multi-part class designed by local historian Bonnie Vega specifically for the senior audience. Seating limited. Missouri History Museum, AT&T Foundation Multipurpose Room. Free, but reservations required. Call (314) 984-7777.

*September 22 - 23, 2012*

### **Civil War Days 2012, Hermann, MO**

For information: [www.mocivilwar150.com](http://www.mocivilwar150.com)

*September 22 - 23, 2012*

### **Civil War Encampment “Martial Law and Bushwhackers”, Arrow Rock, MO**

For information: [www.mocivilwar150.com](http://www.mocivilwar150.com)

*October 6, 2012, 10:30 am – 12:30 pm*

### **Dakota Sioux Uprising of 1862**

Saint Louis Community College continuing education class offered by Tim Pinnick. \$19. Call (314) 984-7777 to register. Missouri History Museum, Schnucks Learning Center. For class description: [www.mohistory.org](http://www.mohistory.org)

*October 11 - 19, 2012*

***South Mountain Expeditions Missouri Tour***

Highlights include: the St. Louis Gateway Arch; the Dred Scott Decision; the Harry S. Truman Library & Museum; the start of the Lewis & Clark Expedition, Santa Fe, and the Pony Express; Mark Twain's birthplace; Churchill's "Iron Curtain" speech; the WWI Museum in Kansas City; the Steamboat Arabia; and the Civil War battles of Wilson's Creek and Pea Ridge. \$3,150 per person (double occupancy). For information: <http://www.smountainexpeditions.com/>

*October 14, 2012, Noon – 5:00 pm*

***A Death in the Family: Death & Mourning in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century***

Chatillon-DeMenil Mansion, Exhibits featuring Victorian embalming & funeral practices, postmortem photography, mourning clothing & customs, hair-work jewelry, gravestone rubbings & many other death related artifacts from the Victorian Era. \$10 per guest, Tarot card readings \$5. For information: <http://www.demenil.org>

*October 16, 2012, 11:00 am*

***An Artist Confronts Slavery, the Civil War and Civil Liberties***

An examination by Dr. Joan Stack, curator of art collections at the State Historical Society of Missouri, of George Caleb Bingham's "General Order No. 11" on the differences between the two versions painted in 1866 and 1870. Missouri History Museum, AT&T Foundation Multipurpose Room. Free. For information: [www.mohistory.org](http://www.mohistory.org)

*October 16, 2012, 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm*

***The Battle of Antietam***

Saint Louis Community College continuing education class offered by Wynn Ward. \$19. Call (314) 984-7777 to register. Missouri History Museum, Schnucks Learning Center. For class description: [www.mohistory.org](http://www.mohistory.org)

*October 16, 2012, 7:00 pm*

***An Artist Confronts Slavery, the Civil War and Civil Liberties***

An examination by Dr. Joan Stack, curator of art collections at the State Historical Society of Missouri, of the Civil War as George Caleb Bingham lived it. Missouri History Museum, AT&T Foundation Multipurpose Room. Free. For information: [www.mohistory.org](http://www.mohistory.org)

*October 26 - 28, 2012*

***Battle of Island Mound State Historic Site Dedication, Butler, MO***

For information: [www.mocivilwar150.com](http://www.mocivilwar150.com)

*November 3, 2012, 10:30 am – 12:30 pm*

***The Battle of Pea Ridge, Arkansas***

Saint Louis Community College continuing education class offered by Wynn Ward. \$19. Call (314) 984-7777 to register. Missouri History Museum, AT&T Foundation Multipurpose Room. For class description: [www.mohistory.org](http://www.mohistory.org)

*Kudos*

***"Captain Joseph Boyce and the 1<sup>st</sup> Missouri Infantry"***, authored and edited by our own William C. Winter and published by the Missouri History Museum received the American Association for State and Local History's Award of Merit, one of 59 national awards given by AASLH this year for people, projects, exhibits, books, and organizations.

Well done!

## *150 Years Ago – September 1862*

Sept 1	Battle of Chantilly, VA
Sept 12 – 15	Battle of Harpers Ferry, (West) VA
Sept 14 – 17	Battle of Munfordville, KY
Sept 14	Battle of South Mountain, MD
Sept 17	Battle of Antietam, MD
Sept 19 – 20	Battle of Shepherdstown, (West), VA
Sept 19	Battle of luka, MS
Sept 23	Battle of Wood Lake, MN
Sept 24	1 <sup>st</sup> Battle of Sabine Pass, TX
Sept 30	1 <sup>st</sup> Battle of Newtonia, MO

### *Off The Shelf*

*Midnight Rising: John Brown and the Raid That Sparked the Civil War*  
by Tony Horwitz, 2011

This is the latest effort from Tony Horwitz, author of the acclaimed *Confederates in the Attic*.

In 1859, the fifty-nine year old John Brown and twenty-one fellow members of the “Provisional Army of the United States” seized the Federal armory and arsenal at Harpers Ferry. Their intent was to incite a slave uprising, with hopes of ending the “peculiar institution”. Troops under the command of Robert E. Lee quickly ended Brown’s revolt. Most of the raiders were killed in action or captured and subsequently hanged. John Brown was among the latter.

The dramatic events at Harpers Ferry are told in a riveting manner, but this is not all the author has for us. The book is also a vividly detailed biography. We are treated to a view of the family history that contributed to John Brown’s strongly held moral and religious convictions. John Brown as family man is part of the author’s word picture of this complex individual. We also meet John Brown the businessman.

The historical narrative takes us to John Brown’s days in “Bleeding Kansas.” Then it’s off across the country as Brown looks for men, money, and weapons for his next adventure. We are provided with details about Brown’s meetings with such noted people as Harriet Tubman and Frederick Douglass. There are also the obscure people: the “secret Six,” as Brown’s core financial backers were known, and the cross-section of American society that comprised the raiders and other supporters.

No consideration of John Brown would be complete without a look at some issues that continue to vex us: Is violence in the name of justice ever justified? When do citizens have the right to defy their government? Is one’s God, one’s individual conscience, or one’s society the final moral arbiter?

Then there is the matter of exactly what kind of man was John Brown: deluded fanatic, terrorist, abolitionist hero? Horwitz leaves these weighty questions to the reader’s judgment.

This was the first book-length treatment of John Brown and the Harpers Ferry Raid that this reviewer has read. Gone is my previously “cardboard” image of the man as merely some deranged lunatic. I have also gained a fuller appreciation of the times in which Brown lived. Horwitz’s smoothly flowing writing style has much to do with my feeling about this remarkable book.

Submitted by Mke Schroeppel

## *Fresh Information Added to Files at Shiloh National Military Park*



On May 4, Park Ranger Charlie Spearman (at right) accepted a special collection of bound papers from Gerald Perschbacher of St. Louis, Missouri relating to two of his German-American ancestors who fought at the Battle of Shiloh 150 years ago. Park Supervisor Ashley Berry arranged the meeting. What is unique is that the set of papers, drawn from Federal service and pension files, traces two cousins by the same name, Fritz G. Perschbacher, who served simultaneously in Company G of the 43<sup>rd</sup> Illinois Infantry and were engaged in the heart of the battle under Col. Julius Raith.

One of those “Fritz’s” had served at the Camp Jackson Affair in St. Louis in early 1861 and was in the Battle of Wilson’s Creek under Col. Franz Sigel.

Regarding Shiloh, “. . . had it not been for the wounding of Col. Raith, my ancestors and their companions may not have fallen back from the field, but may have taken temporary refuge in the hotly contested Hornets’ Nest very close to where they were fighting – which was a deathtrap. They could have been killed or surrendered,” says Perschbacher, who had two other ancestors with the same surname who fought in other units for the Union Cause. All survived the war. However, one of the Shiloh ancestors sustained a foot wound in that battle.

Photo courtesy of Curt Wittbracht & Gerald Perschbacher

## *Select Confederate Records Digitization Project*

The Archives I Reference Section of the National Archives is undertaking an in-house digitization project in honor of the Civil War sesquicentennial. During the course of the next five years or so, the 2,750 volumes comprising the Collected Record Books of Various Executive, Legislative, and Judicial Offices of the Confederate States of America, 1860-1865, will be digitized and uploaded in batches to the Archival Research Catalog (ARC). Each volume will have its own unique ARC Identifier Number. Digitization of the Collected Record Books is a collaborative venture, with multiple offices at both Archives I and Archives II working together to accomplish this ambitious effort. The “chapter-volume” team consists of staff from the following offices: Archival Operations – Washington, DC (RD-DC); Conservation Branch (RXC); Digitization Services Branch (IDS); and Online Public Access Branch (IOO). DeAnne Blanton, RD-DC (AI), is Project Lead.

To take a look at the first fourteen volumes uploaded to ARC, click here:

<http://arcweb.archives.gov/arc/action/ExternalIDSearch?searchExpression=rg%20109%20chapter%20volume>

Submitted by Gloria Grouzos

## *Editorial Cartoon of the Month*



*Harper's September 27, 1862.*

### THE "INVASION" OF THE NORTH

(Old Quaker Lady of Maryland, anticipating the seizure of her House by Lee's Troops, puts out a Washing Stand as a desirable preliminary step thereto. The Rebel Scouts mistake the – to them – Strange Apparatus for an Infernal Machine and Skedaddle.)

OLD Lady (to retreating Rebel), *"If thou wants my House, Friend, thou may'st have it; but, oh! Do wash thyself before entering in."*

This cartoon continues the northern "picture" of Confederate Soldiers as uncouth, uneducated and unwashed. Other cartoons from Harper's and other northern publications tried to perpetuate the same stereotype.

Member Bob Schultz 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@charter.net](mailto:waltb50@charter.net) for further details.

# Civil War Round Table of St. Louis

May 2012 Trivia

1. What emotional song was played simultaneously by bands of both sides on the eve of the Battle of Murfreesboro on 30 December 1862?

**Home Sweet Home, melody by Sir Henry Bishop and lyrics by John Howard Payne. The song was published in 1823.**

2. Who painted the emotional oil on canvas entitled “*Order No. 11*” depicting the forced evacuation of Missouri families from the Missouri Counties of Bates, Cass, Vernon, and Jackson by Gen. Thomas Ewing?

**George Caleb Bingham, who called the order “an act of imbecility” and vowed to make Ewing “infamous by pen and brush”, which he did in 1868.**

3. In Margaret Mitchell’s timeless novel “*Gone With the Wind*”, Rhett Butler is portrayed as a hero in what 1864 battle? [Note: this reference was left out of the movie!!]

**On page 573, Butler “fought barefoot in the snow at Franklin”, Tennessee.**

4. Steven Crane’s classic 1895 novel, *The Red Badge of Courage*, was set in what eastern theater battle?

**Chancellorsville – and the main character is Henry Fleming.**

5. What famous French impressionist painted the oil on canvas entitled *The Battle of Cherbourg* in 1864? What is the popular name of the battle that was depicted?

**Edouard Manet (1832-1883) in 1864. The Battle of the Kearsarge and the Alabama.**

6. In the book *Anna and the King of Siam* and the movie *The King and I*, what classic story was featured as a play put on by the King’s children?

**Uncle Tom’s Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe, published in 1852.**

7. Who wrote the epic poem *John Brown’s Body*, published in 1928?

**Stephen Vincent Benet. The poem, based on knowledgeable sources, is over 330 pages long.**

8. What famous American poet served as a hospital orderly and nurse during the Civil War from 1862 to 1865?

**Walt Whitman, who published *Memoranda During the War* in 1865 and *Drum Taps*, which included *The Bivouac’s Fitful Flame*, *Come up from the Fields Father*, *O Captain! My Captain!*, and others.**

9. What classic author went on scouting rides so he could get an appreciation of a soldier’s life?

**Herman Melville – before he wrote *Battle Pieces* and *Aspects of War*.**

10. The subject of the *Burial of Latane´* became a prominent “Lost Cause” symbol due to the 1864 oil painting by William D. Washington and the 1862 poem by John Reuben Thompson. Who was Captain William Latane´, the subject of the painting and poem?

**Captain William Latane´, 9<sup>th</sup> Virginia Cavalry, was the only casualty of Stuart’s first ride around Gen. McClellan on the Peninsula. He was killed at Old Church in Hanover County, Virginia. Latane´ was buried by women because all the white men were away in the service of the South. White children and slaves looked on as Mrs. Willoughby Newton read the service.**

11. Where are the only two existing Civil War panoramas today?

**They are the Gettysburg Cyclorama (27-by-359-foot) at Gettysburg National Military Park and the Atlanta Cyclorama (42-by-358-foot) in Grant Park in Atlanta, GA.**

12. What great literary classic was popularly read in Confederate camps and was the stimulus of the self-applied name the soldiers gave to the Army of Northern Virginia, “Lee’s Miserables”?

**Victor Hugo’s *Les Misérables*, published in 1862.**

# Civil War Round Table of St. Louis 2012 - 2013 Enlistment

(Please print clearly)

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

City\_\_\_\_\_State\_\_\_\_\_Zip\_\_\_\_\_

Email\_\_\_\_\_

Send Bushwhacker by Email\_\_\_\_\_ or U S Mail\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone\_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone\_\_\_\_\_

Yearly Dues (check one)

Individual \$35 \_\_\_\_\_

Family \$50 \_\_\_\_\_

Student \$10 \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to CWRT St Louis and mail to:

CWRT St. Louis  
P O Box 220982  
St. Louis MO 63122

OR

Submit payment to Murnai Winter, Secretary, at the next meeting.