



The Bushwhacker

November/December 2012

The Civil War Round Table of Saint Louis

*The Iron Brigade in Civil War and Memory:
The Black Hats from Bull Run
to Appomattox and Thereafter*
by Lance J. Herdegen



The Iron Brigade is known for its remarkable stand on the first day at Gettysburg, but its illustrious history from Gettysburg to Appomattox Court House is largely overlooked. Made up of the 2nd, 6th, 7th Wisconsin, 19th Indiana and 24th Michigan, it was the only all-Western infantry organization serving in the Eastern Theater. The “Black Hat Brigade” (named for their distinctive felt dress hat) took part in the fighting at Gainesville, Second Bull Run, South Mountain (where George B. McClellan claimed he gave them their “Iron Brigade” moniker), Antietam, Fredericksburg, and Chancellorsville. At Gettysburg on July 1, the brigade saved the high ground west of town that proved decisive in the Union victory but was nearly destroyed in the process. Some of the regiments fought on through the Wilderness to Petersburg and Appomattox.

Lance J. Herdegen will look at the full four-year history of the unit, its accomplishments, and how it is remembered today. He is an author and Chair of the Wisconsin Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission. His latest work is *“The Iron Brigade in Civil War and Memory: The Black Hats from Bull Run to Appomattox and Thereafter”* (2012). His previous book, *“Those Damned Black Hats: The Iron Brigade in the Gettysburg Campaign”* (2010) won an Army Historical Foundation Distinguished Writing Award. Lance is former Director of the Institute for Civil War Studies at Carroll University and presently works as historical consultant for the Civil War Museum of the Upper Middle West at Kenosha, Wisconsin. He previously worked for the United Press International (UPI) news service covering politics and civil rights. He is past president of the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee and a member of the Milwaukee Press Club Hall of Fame and lives in Walworth County, Wisconsin.

MEETING DATE: DECEMBER 5, 2012

LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES BUILDING, 660 Mason Ridge Center Drive, 63141

Doors open at 6:30 pm; Meeting at 7:00 pm; Speaker at 7:30 pm

Table seating – snacks, coffee, and soft drinks provided

Make reservations by NOVEMBER 21. Please reserve via our Web Site at <http://civilwarstlouis.org/main/> or call Lee Steuby at 314-439-5149

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

2012 – 2013 Campaign

- January 23, 2013 – “The Civil War in Film” by Diane Mutti-Burke, Professor of History, UMKC
Location: Lutheran Hour Ministries Building, 660 Mason Ridge Center Drive. Doors open at 6:30 pm; meeting at 7:00 pm; speaker at 7:30 pm. Theater style seating (no food or drink).
- February 27, 2013 – “One Man’s Story of the Civil War” by Tim Heggemeier, CWRT St Louis
Location: Lutheran Hour Ministries Building, 660 Mason Ridge Center Drive. Doors open at 6:30 pm; meeting at 7:00 pm; speaker at 7:30 pm. Table seating, snacks and soft drinks provided
- March 27, 2013 – “The Battle of South Mountain” by Tom Clemens, historian and author
Location: Royale Orleans Banquet Center, 2801 Telegraph Road, 63125, meal available
- April 24, 2013 – “Abraham Lincoln” by Harold Holzer, historian and author
Location: Royale Orleans Banquet Center, 2801 Telegraph Road, 63125, meal available
- May 22, 2013 – “The Battle of Wilson’s Creek” by Jeff Patrick, historian and author, NPS
Location: Royale Orleans Banquet Center, 2801 Telegraph Road, 63125, meal available

A Note From Our President

Dear Friends,

I think you may agree that “*The only constant in life is change*”. So, after more than a decade of meeting at Two Hearts Banquet Center, it has been sold, and we will move on to explore other venues and meeting styles.

Thanks are due to our Planning/Research team for reacting positively to our meeting challenge. Phil Baker (team leader), Bob and Sue Katsev, and especially Treasurer Curt Wittbracht quickly went into action. Curt arranged for our December, January, and February meetings to be held at his organization’s meeting room.

Our December 5th meeting will be at the Lutheran Hour Ministries building, 660 Mason Ridge Center Drive, 63141. That is the north outer road of I-64/40 just east of the Mason Road exit. This building has a silver metal exterior and is just east of the AAA headquarters (ample free parking). There will be table seating – **snacks / soft drinks / coffee only** will be provided. Doors open at 6:30, meeting at 7:00, speaker at 7:30. Attendance cost is \$5 for members and \$10 for non-members. The speaker will be Lance J. Herdegen on the topic of “The Iron Brigade.” Please join us and bring a guest.

Curt Wittbracht also worked with Melissa Bohlmann, his group’s meeting planner, to arrange for our March, April, and May 2013 meetings to be held at the Royale Orleans Banquet Center, 2801 Telegraph Road, Saint Louis MO 63125. Same meeting schedule and speakers – similar buffet dinner service and costs as we had at Two Hearts.

Thanks are due to Tour/Trips team, Doug Gifford (team leader), Bill Winter, Jack Powell, and Mike Scully for all their work on the very successful Pilot Knob tour.

Our thanks also go to all of our volunteer team members who are busy working to make this a memorable campaign. Please consider volunteering to help in any way you can to increase our fellowship and sharing of our interest in Civil War history. And please visit our website (www.civilwarstlouis.org).

Sincerely, Bill

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

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

Now Through June 2013

The World of James Yeatman: A Vision of Art, Commerce, and Politics in Early St. Louis

Round Table board member Michael Schroepel reports that the Saint Louis Mercantile Library has an exhibit focusing on Yeatman's work with the Freedmen's Bureau and the Western Sanitary Exhibition. For information: <http://www.umsl.edu/mercantile/Events/yeatman%20Exhibition.html>

Now Through June 2013

Through His Eyes: The Civil War Experiences of W. A. W Vaughan

Round Table board member Michael Schroepel reports that the Saint Louis Mercantile Library has an exhibit based on the diary of Missouri State Guard (and later Confederate) soldier W. A. W. Vaughan that he kept from spring 1861 until early 1862. The exhibit is accompanied by Edwin Forbes illustrations and some artifacts including a rifle and minie balls. No information could be found on the library's website.

Now Through June 1, 2014

Civil War Missouri: A House Dividing

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

May 29 – June 2, 2013

Civil War Trust Conference – Unvexed to the Sea: The Vicksburg Campaign

Jackson, Mississippi. For information: <http://www.civilwar.org/aboutus/events/annual-conference/>

Off The Shelf

The Civil War in Missouri, A Military History

by Professor Louis S. Gerteis, 2012

UMSL Professor of History Louis S Gerteis' latest book is "a work of traditional military history: it focuses on strategy, tactics, and terrain; on the organization, movement, and deployment of troops; and on the victories and defeats experienced by armies in the field" and shows the Civil War in Missouri as more than guerilla warfare, border fights, and unorganized skirmishes. This highly readable 208 page account of the conventional battles fought within our borders looks at the key conventional battles waged in the state (Missouri's 29 "principal battles" ranks third behind Virginia's 123 and Tennessee's 38).

I particularly liked two elements of Professor Gerteis' style in this book. First, he provided brief biographical summaries of those discussed directly in the text rather than in buried footnotes. These are not, of course, complete, detailed biographies of the individuals but provide sufficient information to place them in context. Second, I appreciated the way he handled controversial issues by providing the evidence without forcing his own conclusions. Two examples are who fired first at Camp Jackson (page 25) and reports of Federal wounded being "shot or bayoneted" by the rebels at Wilson's Creek (pages 72 - 73).

I noticed a minor error in the name of Colonel Franklin Seldon Robertson (given as Frank Robinson, page 124). Robertson, along with most of the 3rd Infantry Regiment, 6th Division, Missouri State Guard, was captured on the Blackwater River on December 19, 1861. I probably would not have noticed except that Robertson was in Alton Prison at the same time that my great-great-grandfather was there, and after being sent to Vicksburg for exchange, they both enlisted in the 8th Missouri Infantry Battalion, CSA at "Camp Horsehead", Arkansas.

Most of you know that I'm never satisfied with the maps provided, but in this case there are at least sufficient maps of the portions of Missouri under consideration showing towns, rivers, and rail lines to keep you geographically oriented. More detailed maps of battle areas, similar to the one provided for the Battle of Lexington, would have been a nice addition, as well as a map showing the Divisions of the Missouri State Guard. If you haven't been able to tell already, I highly recommend this book.

Submitted by John Harris

Off The Wall

"Your First Allegiance"

Inspired by Chapter One, *The Civil War in Missouri, A Military History* by Louis S Gerteis

After Nathaniel Lyon declared war on the State, Missouri Governor Claiborne Fox Jackson implored "*Fellow citizens, all our efforts toward conciliation have failed. Military despotism*" has "*usurped the powers of the Federal Government,*" and their "*minions*" have invaded Missouri. It was Jackson's obligation to call for fifty thousand men to rally to the defense of the state. "*Your first allegiance is due to your own State.*" "*You are under no obligation whatever to obey the unconstitutional edicts of the military despotism which has enthroned itself at Washington.*" "*Rise then and drive out ignominiously the invaders.*" It's hard to understand today the idea of allegiance to your state above allegiance to the Federal Government, but in mid-nineteenth century America, many shared that belief. The perception of the Federal Government invading the State must have been a significant motivation for many Missourians to answer the Governor's call and rally behind him and General Price to "*drive out ignominiously the invaders*". Which would you have chosen?

Submitted by John Harris

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150 Years Ago – November - December 1862

Nov 7 Battle of Clark's Mill (Vera Cruz), MO
Nov 28 Battle of Cane Hill, AR
Dec 7 Battle of Prairie Grove, AR
Dec 7 MO Governor Claiborne Fox Jackson dies in Little Rock, Arkansas. Lt. Governor Thomas C. Reynolds becomes Confederate governor-in-exile of Missouri
Dec 7 Battle of Hartsville, TN
Dec 13 Battle of Fredericksburg, VA
Dec 14 Battle of Kinston, NC
Dec 16 Battle of White Hall, NC
Dec 17 Battle of Goldsboro Bridge, NC
Dec 19 Battle of Jackson, TN
Dec 26 – 29 Battle of Chickasaw Bayou, MS
Dec 31 Battle of Parker's Cross Roads, TN
Dec 31 – Jan 2 Battle of Stones River (2nd Battle of Murfreesboro), TN

New Raffle Procedures for December

In our annual survey, our members indicated that the raffle should be less intrusive and time consuming. Therefore, we are continuing to improve this new procedure and hope you will find it fun.

When you purchase your raffle tickets, you will receive matching tickets. Keep one ticket, and place the matching ticket in the container next to the prize you would like to win. Make sure to keep the matching numbered ticket to claim your prize if it is chosen.

During dinner, a "white board" will be placed in front of the room listing the prizes and the last three digits of each of the winning tickets. The winning numbers will be announced and the prizes can be picked up during the break before the presentation.

Condolences

Members of the Round Table were saddened by the death of long-time member Rolland Haun. Our condolences to the family.

Editorial Cartoon of the Month



“MARYLAND, MY MARYLAND!!”

Harper's, November 1, 1862

Confederate Liberator: “We come to free you all, my friend, from the Iron Heel of Lincoln and his hordes! We take nothing without paying for it! Your hour of freedom has come. Be Happy! Be Happy!”

Devoted Secesh: “Yes! Oh yes! Our feelings and all that sort of thing, are with you. But good gracious! Haven't you got a Green Back or two? How the d___ am I going to fill up again with this trash!!”

Many Maryland residents supported the Confederacy, at least in their hearts, if not openly. But upon the appearance of Confederate soldiers, confiscating goods and paying with Confederate money, many Marylanders were not so sure. Even this early in the war, Confederate paper money had depreciated in value.

Member Bob Schultz has created ***Political Cartoons of the American Civil War***, a 52-page book of contemporary cartoons from many sources. Available to members for \$10 each (see Bob Schultz at the next meeting) or for \$14.95 postage paid. Contact waltb50@charter.net for further details.

Civil War Round Table of St. Louis

October 2012 Trivia

1. Who was the first commander of the Confederate Army of the Potomac?
 - a. George Brinton McClellan
 - b. Robert Edward Lee
 - c. Pierre Gustave Toutant Beauregard**
 - d. Ambrose Everett Burnside

2. Out of 16,000 enlisted men in the US Army in 1861, how many defected to fight for the Confederacy?
 - a. 200
 - b. 16 – more than 300 Officers defected.**
 - c. 409
 - d. 2500

3. What Confederate Trans-Mississippi general named his favorite horse after Alexander the Great's famous steed Bucephalus?
 - a. John Charles Fremont
 - b. William Clarke Quantrill
 - c. Sterling Price**
 - d. John Sappington Marmaduke

4. What prominent Union general was the illegitimate son of a French mural painter?
 - a. Samuel Curtis
 - b. John Charles Frémont**
 - c. Thomas Ewing
 - d. John McNeil

5. Why was the city of New Orleans so vulnerable to the guns of the Union fleet when Farragut demanded the city be surrendered?
The Mississippi River was in flood stage, so the ships were above the levee and could fire down into the city.

6. What other major Civil War battles were operationally affected by flooded river levels?
Shiloh and Ft. Henry – the Tennessee in flood stage. Forts Jackson and St Phillip – the Mississippi in flood stage. Peninsula, (Seven Days) – the Chickahominy in flood stage. Balls Bluff – the Potomac in flood stage. Red River in low stage – caused major problems for the Union fleet in descending the river. (There may be more)

7. Which of these Confederate generals was sent by Louisiana Governor Moore to then Brevet Major Joseph A. Haskins, commander of the Baton Rouge arsenal, with a request to surrender to state forces?
 - a. David Twiggs
 - b. PGT Beauregard
 - c. Richard Taylor
 - d. Braxton Bragg**

8. Who became President first, Abraham Lincoln or Jefferson Davis?
Jefferson Davis was inaugurated on 18 Feb 1861; Lincoln on 4 Mar 1861.