



The Bushwhacker

April 2013

The Civil War Round Table of Saint Louis

“I Propose To Fight It Out”
by Harry Bulkeley



“I Propose To Fight It Out” is a one-man show presented by Harry Bulkeley as General Ulysses S. Grant. It opens with Grant working on his memoirs shortly before his death. He narrates episodes in Grant's life, changing uniforms as the story unfolds. Bulkeley says he tries to provide an insight into Grant as a man. “For too many people, General Grant has become a caricature. My presentation tries to explain more about the man himself. He was during his life perhaps the most admired living American of the 19th century. I want the audience to know why.”

Harry Bulkeley and his wife, Barbara, live in an old Victorian house a block and a half from where he was born in Galesburg IL. They have three daughters, and they recently have given them their first two grandchildren. Five years ago, he retired after seven years of law practice and twenty-four years as a Circuit Court judge. Galesburg was the site of the fifth Lincoln-Douglas debate, and he suspects that may have sparked his life-long interest in the Civil War. About fifteen years ago, he developed an interest in Grant. “I grew a beard for the first reenactment I ever attended – as a Confederate! When I got home, I was reading a biography of the general when I noticed the physical resemblance.” After portraying Grant at several national events, Bulkeley appeared as the title character in “Ulysses Grant: Warrior” for the PBS series *American Experience*. A few years later, he was in “Sherman’s March” on The History Channel. He recently completed a new film for the visitors’ center at the Shiloh National Military Park.

MEETING DATE: APRIL 24, 2013

ROYALE ORLEANS BANQUET CENTER, 2801 South Telegraph Road, 63125

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

Make reservations by APRIL 17. 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

May 22, 2013 – “Greyhounds: The First Iowa Infantry in the Wilson’s Creek Campaign” by Jeff Patrick, historian and author, NPS. Royale Orleans Banquet Center, 2801 Telegraph Road, 63125. Meal available.

2013 – 2014 Campaign

- September 25, 2013 – “Antietam” by Edward (Ed) Bonkemper III, author and book review editor
- October 23, 2013 – “Civil War Marines” by Dave Sullivan, historian
- December 4, 2013 – “Civil War in the Movies” by Brian Steel Wills, historian and director of Kennesaw Mountain Civil War Center
- January 2014 – TBA
- February 2014 – TBA
- March 26, 2014 – “Lincoln’s Tragic Admiral, The Life of Samuel Francis Du Pont” by Colonel Kevin J. Weddle (US ARMY Retired), Professor of Military Theory and Strategy, US Army War College
- April 23, 2014 – “Abraham Lincoln and the Press” by Harold Holzer
- May 2014 – TBA

A Note From Our President

Dear Friends,

The loyal Round Table members are to be commended for their patience and fortitude. Our unexpected transition from Two Hearts to Lutheran Hour Ministries to Royale Orleans has actually progressed quite smoothly – thanks to our officers and numerous volunteers.

Answer the muster call and invite your family, friends, and neighbors to our special presentation on April 24. Mr. Harry Bulkely will become Ulysses S. Grant before your very eyes. Attendance without buffet for students with valid student ID is free. Let us know if there are groups or organizations we can share our message with.

You'll love the Royale Orleans. Food was rated very successful 78.1%; successful 21.9%. Service was rated very successful 74.2%; successful 25.8% in our March meeting survey. Looking forward to seeing you and your guests!

Sincerely, Bill

Officers for the 2012-2013 Campaign

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Bushwhacker Editor – Walt Bittle
Assistant Editor – John Harris

Events of Interest

2013 – date still uncertain due to construction delays

Opening of the Missouri Civil War Museum

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

Now Through June 2, 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 August 31, 2013

Money, Mail and Memoria: Ephemera of the Civil War Era

Exhibit focusing on popular imagery including currency decorated with pictures, newspapers, sheet music, books, popular prints, and other media. Much of this neglected art of the Civil War era helps us better understand the political, social, and cultural climate of the period. University of Missouri-Columbia, Ellis Library, Corridor Gallery, Columbia Research Center, State Historical Society of Missouri. For information: <http://shs.umsystem.edu/art/exhibits/>

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.

April 21, 2013 . 1:00 pm and April 22, 10:30 am

The Sultana, the Titanic of the Mississippi

When the Sultana exploded in the early morning hours of April 27, 1865, nearly 2,000 Union soldiers were plunged into the waters of the Mississippi River. More than 1,500 men would never return home. Alicia Scott, a descendant of one of the Sultana survivors, shares the story of the Sultana's ill-fated journey into history. Free, AT&T Foundation Multipurpose Room, Missouri History Museum. For information: www.mohistory.org

April 30, 2013 . 10:30 am

Images of General Nathaniel Lyon and Civil War Memory: The Visual Legacy of a Once Iconic Missouri Unionist

Lecture by Dr. Joan Stack, State Historical Society of Missouri. Free, AT&T Foundation Multipurpose Room, Missouri History Museum. For information: www.mohistory.org

April 30, 2013 . 7:00 pm

Whose War Is It Anyway? George Caleb Bingham's General Order No. 11 and the Remembered Civil War in Missouri

Lecture by Dr. Joan Stack, State Historical Society of Missouri. Free, AT&T Foundation Multipurpose Room, Missouri History Museum. For information: www.mohistory.org

May 2, 2013 . 7:00 pm

The Civil War in Missouri: An Overview

Lecture by Professor Louis Gerteis, UMSL, on how Missouri's residents were affected by the Civil War. Free, AT&T Foundation Multipurpose Room, Missouri History Museum. For information: www.mohistory.org

May 3, 2013 . 9:30 am – 4:00 pm

Reflections on the Civil War in Missouri

Day long symposium featuring a wide range of Civil War topics including:

- "Taking Missouri Slavery to Court, White Masters and Black Slaves in the Era of Dred Scott" by Kenneth Winn
- "How They Fought" by William Winter
- "How We Remember the Civil War", Roundtable discussion with Jeff Meyer, Pam Sanfilippo, and Silvana Sidalli
- "The Battle of Athens, Missouri" by Jonathan K. Cooper-Wiele

Free, Lee Auditorium, Missouri History Museum. For information: www.mohistory.org

May 14, 2013 . 12:00 pm

Civil War Tech

Documentary film. At a time when the nation was divided, Civil War technology, including the machine gun and the first aircraft carrier, revolutionized the way war was waged. Free, AT&T Foundation Multipurpose Room, Missouri History Museum. For information: www.mohistory.org

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/>

June 8, 2013, 10:00 am – 11:30 am

Land Rich, Dirt Poor: Use of Land Records in Genealogical Research

Saint Louis Public Library Subject Specialist Tom Pearson discusses book, manuscript, microfilm, and Internet sources of information on records of land acquisition and transfers. Pre-registration recommended, but not required. 2nd Floor Training Room, Saint Louis Public Central Library. To register or for more info, e-mail tpearson@slpl.org

September 13, 9:00 am – September 15, 2013, 4:00 pm

150th Anniversary of the Battle of Marshall

Two battle recreations on part of the actual battlefield of Colonel Joe Shelby's running battle. Also planned are a confrontation at Saline County Courthouse and two-mile Parade of Flags to the battlefield, located at Marshall Indian Foothills Park. Also planned are a Ladies' Tea, an evening Country Dance at North Point Pavilion, and Sunday church service. All events are free and open to the general public. For information: www.battleofmarshall.org

September 26, 8:00 am – September 28, 2014, 5:00 pm

Reenactment of the Battle of Pilot Knob

The Battle of Pilot Knob marked the beginning of Sterling Price's 1864 invasion of Missouri. The reenactment will be held at Fort Davidson State Historic Site in Pilot Knob and will be open to the public each day at 8:00 a.m. For more information, contact the historic site at 573-546-3454.

Off The Wall

The Firing on Fort Sumter – Why?

Major Robert Anderson moved his small garrison (seventy-five soldiers, forty three civilians, and a brass band) from Fort Moultrie to Fort Sumter on December 26, 1860 – thus cutting himself off from communications with his own government. He understood his last instructions to mean generally “Don’t start anything”. So he just sat there, not knowing what to do – or what not to do. He didn’t even know enough to protect the ships sent to provision him.

On April 11, 1861, General Beauregard sent agents to seek the surrender of the fort. Anderson replied on paper that honor denied him that option. But orally, he confided to the agents that if the fort were not taken by force, his garrison would be starved out soon anyway. At that news, Beauregard decided that firing on the fort was absolutely necessary – not in a day or two, but NOW.

Beauregard knew that Federal ships, waiting just outside the range of his guns, could not reinforce or provision the fort. He suspected that within a few days, Anderson would “honorably” surrender his starving men. At that point, Confederate boats would transport the paroled prisoners to the waiting ships, and the siege of Fort Sumter would be over – its propaganda value almost nil.

Why did Beauregard and Davis decide they needed to conquer Fort Sumter, when a relatively peaceful solution was dropped in their laps?

They must have known that any attack would inflame the North into some kind of retaliatory action – or that they would have to repeat the performance at other positions still held by Federal forces. Were they trying to foment a war and needed a rallying point? Were they afraid the will of their people was wavering? What did they expect to gain?

Why did they put themselves in the position of aggressors? How did they justify the claim of the Confederacy that “we just want to be left alone”?

Why did Beauregard fire on Fort Sumter? What was he thinking?

Submitted by Walt Bittle

150 Years Ago – April 1863

- Apr 2 A mob demands bread from a supply wagon in Richmond, starting the so-called Bread Riot. The mob will loot other stores and is personally addressed by Jefferson Davis, who tosses the money from his pocket into the crowd. Police and soldiers eventually disperse the crowd. Richmond papers will not report the incident.
- Apr 5 After sailing from Washington, D. C. to Fredericksburg, Abraham Lincoln meets with Joe Hooker to discuss strategy in Virginia.
- Apr 7 A fleet of nine Union ironclads under the command of Samuel DuPont sails into Charleston Harbor and attacks Forts Moultrie and Sumter. Fort Sumter is visibly damaged, but the Confederate batteries from the shore heavily damage the Union ironclads and they are forced to withdraw. Naval occupation of the harbor is ruled out.
- Apr 11 Colonel Abel Streight [US] leaves Nashville, TN on a raid of Rome, GA
- Apr 12 Siege of Suffolk, VA. General James Longstreet surrounds Suffolk in southeastern Virginia
- Apr 13 Federal forces engage Fort Bisland in Bayou Teche, LA. Ambrose Burnside issues General Order 38 in which he states "*anyone found guilty of committing acts for the benefit of the enemies of our country will be subject to execution.*"
- Apr 14 Battle of Centreville, VA. Continuous roll printing press is developed by William Bullock in Pittsburgh. Union gunners destroy the *Queen of the West*
- Apr 16 Rear Admiral David Porter sends twelve vessels south on the Mississippi past Vicksburg. Although hit a number of times by Confederate gunners, the vessels suffer little serious damage.
- Apr 17 Colonel Benjamin Grierson [US] leaves La Grange, TN at the head of a 1,700 man cavalry column heading toward Mississippi to raid the state. Brigadier General John S. Marmaduke [CS] leaves Arkansas and enters Missouri on a raid.
- Apr 19 The Nebraska Territory Enabling Act, the first step in statehood, is signed into law.
- Apr 20 Lincoln proclaims that West Virginia will join the Union on June 20, 1863. Brigadier General Robert Hoke [CS] captures Plymouth, NC and the 2800-man Union garrison stationed there.
- Apr 22 Grant's forces south of Vicksburg are resupplied by Porter's fleet, which suffers heavy losses when transports and barges steamed by Confederate batteries. A comprehensive "tax-in-kind" plan is passed by the Confederate Senate. It requires ten percent of everything produced or grown to be given to the Confederate government.
- Apr 25 Mary Loudon, wife of Confederate spy, saboteur, and courier Robert Loudon, is arrested in St. Louis, the first in a series of arrests from among the women of Absalom Grimes' and Loudon's mail smuggling ring.
- Apr 27 Colonel Abel Streight leaves Tusculumbia, AL. Major General Simon Bolivar Buckner [CS] assumes command of the Department of East Tennessee.
- Apr 30 Forces of the Army of the Potomac set up camp in The Wilderness surrounding the Chancellor family home after crossing the Rappahannock River. Abel Streight [US] fights a pitched battle at Day's Gap, AL. About noon, Ulysses S. Grant begins crossing the Mississippi and landing US troops south of Vicksburg

Editorial Cartoon of the Month



Harper's, April, 18 1863

THE LETTER OF MARQUE

Postman Seward: (to old Mother Britannia):

"Letter of Marque from Mr. Lincoln – guess there's a Check in it."

Relations began to heat up between the Union and Britain. Many of the blockade runners sailing between Bermuda and the Bahamas and the Confederate ports were of British registry. Congress had threatened to enact a law giving letters of marquee to privateers allowing them to capture British ships in retaliation for the continuing construction of Confederate commerce raiders in British shipyards. Here Secretary of State Seward is presenting such a letter to Britannia who has been fanning the flames of rebellion with her bellows. Note the model of the *Alabama* above on the fireplace mantel.

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

March 2013 Trivia

1. Every regiment carried two sets of colors that identified the center of their line. What was the color of the National color of the Irish Brigade?

Red, white, and blue

2. What future US President was one of only two US Presidents to have served as an enlisted man, and who was eventually brevetted to Major for his actions at Antietam?

William McKinley, who enlisted as a Private and was promoted up the ranks because of his accomplishments. He was lastly promoted to Major and enjoyed being called "Major McKinley" when he was President. He braved enemy fire to bring hot rations to the starving 23rd Ohio at Antietam. He was brevetted for his actions in West Virginia and the Shenandoah Valley in 1864.

3. What was the Marching Song of the 7th US Cavalry, and what regiment adopted this song before the 7th Cavalry?

Garryowen was the traditional Irish marching song of the 69th New York Militia during the Civil War and was adopted by the 7th Cavalry in 1867. It was the favorite of Gen. George Armstrong Custer.

4. What were the major points of contention of the Molly Maguire's, who caused serious disruptions to the anthracite coal mines in Pennsylvania in 1862?

It was the low pay and harsh and prejudicial treatment of the Irish miners. When miners protested their conditions, they were drafted and sent to the Union Army. The Molly Maguire's were previously called "The Buckshots".

5. Who was the Irish Brigade veteran who became President of Notre Dame University in 1867?

Father William Corby C.S.C (Congregation of the Holy Cross) was the chaplain for the 88th NY Volunteer Infantry of the Irish Brigade. In 1893, Father Corby was nominated for the Medal of Honor by the men of his regiment.

6. Why is Gen. James McQueen McIntosh unique among this group of West Point stalwarts? George E. Pickett, Henry Heth, Laurence S. Baker and James M. McIntosh and George A. Custer.

All were notable generals during the Civil War (West Point class of '46, '47, '49, '51, Jun '61, respectively). All were last in their class, but McIntosh was the only one killed in action. Confederate General McIntosh was killed at Pea Ridge on 7 March 1862.

7. How many Union and Confederate Generals were Irish-born?

Twelve Union (plus 32 with war-end brevets) and six Confederate. CSA: William Montague Browne, Patrick Ronayne Cleburne, Joseph Finegan, James Hagan, Walter Paye Lane, and Patrick Theodore Moore. USA: Richard Busted, Patrick Edward Connor, Michael Corcoran, William Gamble, Richard Henry Jackson, Patrick Henry Jones, James Lawler Kiernan, Michael Kelly Lawler, Thomas Francis Meagher, James Shields, Thomas Alfred Smyth, and Thomas William Sweeny.

8. What did these Confederate Regiments have in common? Wheat's Louisiana Tigers, Cobb's 24th Georgia Volunteer Infantry, 10th Tennessee Infantry, the Charleston Irish Volunteers, the 33rd Virginia ("Jackson's rowdy Irishmen") and the 1st Virginia Infantry Battalion?

All attracted large numbers of Irish-Americans. Some units carried emerald green flags. Some had an Irish harp on the "Stars and Bars".