

BORDER STAR

Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City



577th Regular Meeting Wednesday, August 20, 2025

Milburn Golf and Country Club 7501 West 69th Street, Overland Park, KS 66204 Social hour begins at 5:00 p.m. and dinner is at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting will include a plated dinner at a cost of \$35.00 per person. Reservations are required in order to attend the dinner meeting.

Reservation Deadline: Tuesday, August 12th.

To make a dinner reservation, please contact Marlene Natoli:

mailto:marnatoli@att.net
Phone: 913-764-1336

August Program

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Civil War Round Table of Kansas City 4125 NW Willow Drive Kansas City MO 64116

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Website- http://cwrtkc.org/
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At our dinner meeting on August 20th, Civil War Round Table member and historian **Arnold W. Schofield** will give a program titled: "A Brief History of Jennison's Jayhawkers or the 7th Kansas Volunteer Cavalry."

The 7th Kansas Volunteer Cavalry was organized at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas on October 28, 1861. It mustered in for three years under the command of Colonel Charles R. Jennison. The 7th Kansas Cavalry mustered out of service at Fort Leavenworth on September 29, 1865.

Colonel Jennison served as leader of the Jayhawker militias until being dishonorably discharged for murder and robbery.

Dinner Meeting Reservations and Payments

- A reservation is required in order to attend the dinner meeting. All reservations must be submitted to Marlene Natoli by Tuesday, August 12th. This will ensure that an accurate count can be submitted to the Milburn Country Club on Wednesday, one week ahead of the dinner meeting, as specified in our contract with the Country Club.
- Please e-mail or call Marlene if you are planning on attending. To make a reservation, call Marlene at 913-764-1336 or e-mail her at mailto:marnatoli@att.net If you send Marlene an e-mail and do not get confirmation back, then you do not have a reservation.
- Please note that the cost of a dinner is \$35.00 per person. If you make a reservation, but are not able to attend the dinner meeting for any reason, you *must* contact Marlene Natoli by either phone or e-mail prior to the reservation deadline to cancel. You are responsible for the cost of your meal if you made a reservation, did not attend, and did not cancel before the deadline.
- You can pay for your meal at the dinner meeting or by mailing a check to **Dick Titterington**.
 Make check payable to the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City. Dick's mailing address is: 4125 NW Willow Drive, Kansas City MO 64116.
- You can also pay for your dinner using a credit or debit card. The Civil War Round Table of Kansas City is now accepting digital payments. This process is simple to use and secure. The Round Table uses the Square Digital Payment Processing System. Square charges the Round Table a fee for this service. The Round Table passes this fee on to its members who choose to use this service. The fees are slightly more if you pay online than paying in person at our dinner meetings. For more information or to see a schedule of the processing fees charged, visit our website https://cwrtkc.org/digital_payments/

Dinner Menu

Milburn Golf and Country Club will serve the following meal at the August dinner meeting: Beef medallions with demi sauce, asparagus, and potatoes au gratin. Dessert will be chocolate mousse. All dinners are served with house salad and Milburn house dressing, sliced bread, iced tea, water, and coffee.

Gluten free and vegetarian meals are available with advance notice. Please advise **Marlene Natoli** if you require a gluten free or vegetarian meal when making your reservation. Also, if you have a food allergy,

Marlene requests that you please be very specific on what items you can't eat on that month's menu when making your dinner reservation.

This Month's Speaker



Arnold Schofield and his wife Clara at the Dinner meeting on July 17, 2024.

Arnold W. Schofield is a retired Public Historian with 50 years of public service. He was born and raised in the small village of Newton Upper Falls, Massachusetts, attended college on the GI Bill, and received a degree in United States History. His Public Service includes:

- 6 years in the US Army.
- 10 years as a civilian with the Department of Defense.
- 33 years with the National Park Service.
- 7 years with the Kansas Historical Society, as Superintendent of the Mine Creek Battlefield State Historic Site.

Arnold's National Park Service career included tours of duty at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, the Blue Ridge Parkway, and Fort Scott National Historic Site. While at Fort Scott he was the Site Historian and Cultural Resource Specialist.

Arnold is a recognized lecturer throughout the Midwest on Westward Expansion, the Permanent Indian Frontier, and Bleeding Kansas and the Civil War. Two of his special interests include the roles of the American Indians and African Americans in the Civil War.

Arnold has been involved with Civil War Battlefield Preservation for more than 40 years and is co-founder of the Mine Creek Battlefield Foundation, which has raised more than one million dollars, purchased 326 acres of prime battlefield land, reprinted the only book on the Battle of Mine Creek, assisted in the production of a video on the battle by Curtis Productions, and produced a

brochure on Price's 1864 Campaign in Missouri and Kansas.

Arnold served as president of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City in 2003. He received the Steve Treaster Civil War Preservation Award in 2012 and the Valiant Service Award in 2009 and again in 2016. Arnold currently serves as Director of Preservation for the Round Table.

Arnold and his wife Clara live in Fort Scott KS. Arnold also writes a column for the *Fort Scott Tribune*.

Last Month's Program



July Speaker Mr. A. Wilson Greene

At our dinner meeting on July 16th, Mr. A. Wilson "Wil" Greene gave an excellent presentation titled: "The Beefsteak Raid, September 1864." He addressed this episode in his recently released book, <u>A Campaign of Giants: The Battle for Petersburg, Volume 2</u>. Attendance at the dinner was 50.

By the fall of 1864, Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia suffered from a shortage of just about everything, not the least of which was protein for the soldiers. Southern farms and the Confederacy's deteriorating railroad system simply could not provide enough meat to sustain the army. Confederate General Wade Hampton and an intrepid scout found a way to solve that problem. The Federals maintained a huge cattle herd along the banks of the James River to provide fresh beef to Grant's armies around Petersburg. General Hampton,

recently promoted to command all of Lee's cavalry, designed an elaborate plan to reach the cattle corral and abscond with nearly 2,500 beeves.

The major concerns that the Confederates had in planning the raid were:

- What route do the raiders take?
- How do they defeat and capture the Union guards?
- How do the raiders and cattle get back?

The raid began on September 14, 1864. Major General W.H.F. Lee's Division protected the Confederates' left flank and Brigadier General Dearing's cavalry brigade guarded the right flank. The Confederates' main attack began during the pre-dawn hours of September 16th, led by Brigadier General Rosser's brigade, along with men from Young's and Dunovant's brigades under Colonel Miller. By 8:00 a.m. on September 16th, the captured herd was moving and was taken into Petersburg on September 18th. There was not enough forage to feed the cattle, so they had to be butchered. The result was enough beef to feed Lee's army for about one month.

The raid was an incredible logistical feat for the Confederates. The Confederates also did a great job in combat. General Hampton proved to be the equal of General J.E.B. Stuart. The Confederates captured 2,468 cattle, 304 Union prisoners, and numerous wagons. Confederate casualties were ten killed, 47 wounded, and four missing. General Lee was delighted with the results of the raid.

In closing, Mr. Greene said the raid was sheer gall by the Confederates. The raid didn't really affect the overall Petersburg campaign. However, it served as a wakeup call for the Union. General Grant ordered his base at City Point surrounded by six Union forts and the Union Army extended their lines.

Upcoming Civil War Round Table Programs

Our monthly dinner meetings are typically held on the third Wednesday of each month except for December which will be the second Wednesday of the month.

- September 17, 2025: Round Table member Dr. David Meyers will be giving a program about Civil War Medicine.
- October 15, 2025: Joseph D. Ricci will be giving a program titled: "Lessons of the Civil War are Still Relevant Today."
- Novmember 19, 2025: David N. Duncan, President of the American Battlefield Trust, will be giving a program about Battlefield Preservation.
- **December 10, 2025: David Von Drehle** will be giving a program about his book titled: *Rise to*

<u>Greatness – Abraham Lincoln and America's</u> <u>Most Perilous Year.</u>

- January 21, 2026: Ralph Monaco will give a program titled: "Scattered to the Four Winds, General Order No. 11 and Martial Law in Jackson County MO, 1863."
- **February 18, 2026: Eric Smallwood** will be give a program about the Wakarusa War.
- March 18, 2026: John Hopkins will give a program about the Battle of Gettysburg 50th Anniversary Reunion in 1913.
- April 15, 2026: Dr. Chris Mackowski, Editorin-chief and co-founder of Emerging Civil War will be our speaker.
- May 20, 2026: Dr. Brian Matthew Jordan will be our speaker. His topics are: "Final Resting Places: Reflections on the Meaning of Civil War Graves" and "More Than an Eagle on the Button: Black Lives beyond the Battlefield."
- June 17, 2026: Kellie Gormley will give a program titled: "Cease Firing! Life and Death at Swope Manor (an inn in downtown Gettysburg)."
- July 15, 2026: Round Table member Dick Titterington will give a program titled "Gunpowder Girls: Tragedy at Civil War Armament Factories."
- August 19, 2026: James Hessler will give a program about the dispute between Union Generals George Meade and Daniel Sickles over command of the Union troops at the Peach Orchard during the second day at the Battle of Gettysburg.
- September 16, 2026: Robert J. Amsler, Jr. will give a program about railroads during the Civil War and their use as both strategic and tactical assets.
- October 21, 2026: David Jackson will give a program titled: "Lockdown: Outlaws, Lawmen, and Frontier Justice in Jackson County MO."

UMKC Course on Missouri's Civil War

Dick Titterington will be offering a third SPARK course titled: "Missouri's Civil War 1861-1864." The classes will start on Wednesday, September 17th at 1:30 p.m. and run for six weeks. Topics covered include Jennison's Jayhawkers, Grant in Missouri, the Battles of Independence and Lone Jack, Eads' Ironclads, Marmaduke's Cavalry Raids, Quantrill's 1863 Lawrence Raid, Order Number 11, Shelby's Great Raid, Blacks in Blue, the Paw Paw Rebellion, and Enslaved Missourians' Struggle for Freedom. You can sign up by visiting the following website: https://lifelongspark.org/

Chris Cotten Receives the Steve Treaster Civil War Preservation Award



Round Table Members Chris Cotten and Dan Smith

At our dinner meeting on July 16th, **Dan Smith**, Chairman of the Battle of Westport Fund, presented **Chris Cotten** with the prestigious Steve Treaster Civil War Preservation Award. Chris is Parks and Recreation Director for the city of Kansas City MO. He has supported battlefield preservation efforts, including the addition of ten historic markers interpreting the Byram's Ford Battlefield of the Battle of Westport last fall.

The Steve Treaster Civil War Preservation Award

The Steve Treaster Civil War Preservation Award was established in 2001. Criteria used to decide which individual(s) or groups (organization, company, etc.) will receive this award is as follows:

- Recipient(s) must be a member of the Round Table or their work must clearly contribute to the same goals of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City.
- 2. A substantial effort of time, talent, and money must be contributed to the goals of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City and/or the Monnet Battle of Westport Fund, Inc.
- 3. The contributions must relate to the future preservation of Civil War history, historical sites, or military history or the history of the organization.
- 4. Preservation of ground, artifacts, books and materials, accouterments, buildings, weaponry, clothing, speech, likeness, etc. must be toward a permanent goal.

In January 2002, past president of the Round Table, **Steve Treaster** was presented the first Civil War Preservation Award. Steve had been a leader in preservation efforts. Steve died on February 12, 2002, following a courageous battle with cancer. In February 2002, the name of the award was changed to the Steve Treaster Civil War Preservation Award.

The Civil War Round Table of Kansas City promotes the study and interpretation of our Civil War heritage and is dedicated to the preservation of historic Civil War sites. Round Table member **Dan Smith** received the Steve Treaster Civil War Preservation Award in January of 2016.

Drop-in History: Civil War Day at the John Wornall House Museum

The John Wornall House Museum, located at 6115 Wornall Road, Kansas City MO 64113, is offering a free event on Saturday, August 16, 2025 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. This drop-in event invites you to interact with re-enactors who will share about the everyday life of a soldier. Get a close-up look at period medical instruments, battle artifacts, and hear accounts from the Wornall family. Hear how wounded soldiers were treated in the very rooms where they were cared for and feel the weight of history come alive. Guided tours are 1:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m., and 3:00 p.m.

Member News

We would like to welcome new member **Tripp McMillan**. Tripp is a Master Electrician and lives in Olathe KS. He has numerous ancestors that served in the Confederacy from Georgia.

Sergeant Major Arnold Schofield was not able to attend the dinner meeting on July 16th because his granddaughter was participating in a livestock show that night. We look forward to Arnold's program this month.

We would like to thank our president **Gary Nevius** for doing an outstanding job of lining up speakers for our monthly dinner meetings. We have had many excellent speakers and programs over the past several years.

We would like to thank **Father Dave Holloway** for his thoughtful prayers before dinner. When Dave has been out of town, we are grateful to have had **Father Richard Frank** lead us in prayer.

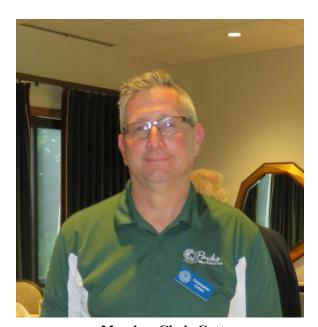
We would like to thank **Marlene Natoli** for doing an outstanding job handling all of the dinner reservations, checking everyone in at the meetings, and coordinating with Milburn CC. Marlene has been great to work with.

We would also like to thank **Dick Titterington** for doing an outstanding job as treasurer. That job is a lot of work and Dick is also great to work with.

Photographs from the July Dinner Meeting



Round Table President Gary Nevius and our speaker Mr. Wil Greene



Member Chris Cotten



Members Debbi Roy and Barbara Cordts



Member Joanne Cagle



Members Jim Borthwick and Blair Tarr



Members Harriet Duff, Sandy Ackerson, and Ron Mills



Members Ford and Christine Maurer



Members Dan Turner, Bruce Schall, and Les Thierolf



Members Marilyn and Dave Pattison

Sergeant Major's Roar

Battlefield Dispatches #812

Shot, Shell, Spherical Case, & Canister

The title of this column identifies the four major artillery ammunitions used by both the Union and Confederate forces in the Civil War and are described as follows. "Shot" was a solid iron cannon ball that was used against attacking infantry and counter battery fire to destroy or disable enemy artillery batteries. "Shell" and "Spherical Case" were hollow cannon balls filled with gunpowder and 5, 10, or longer timed fuses that caused them to explode after discharge over and raining fragments or shrapnel over and on the attacking enemy. "Canister" was basically an anti-personnel ammunition that consisted of iron balls in a tin canister that when fired was like a shotgun blast that could and did obliterate attacking infantry. The following after action reports describe the use of all of these types of artillery ammunition in the Battle of Prairie Grove, Arkansas on December 7, 1862 and are located in Vol. 22 of the official Records of the War of the Rebellion on Pages 96, 99-100.

[To]: "Lieut. S. K. Cross, Acting Adjutant, Second Kansas Cavalry; Headquarters Hopkins Battery, Rhea's Mills, Ark., December 10, 1862

Sir: I respectfully submit the following report of the part taken by the battery under my command in the Battle of Prairie Grove, Ark., on December 7, 1862 and the skirmishing preceding that action.

Having been ordered into position in an open field on the left of the first Division, I opened fire with "SHOT and SHELL" on the enemy, occupying a position on a densely wooded rise on the ground, and drove him back. At this time, the only support for my battery was a detachment of dismounted cavalry, not exceeding 25 men under the command of Lieutenant B. B. Mitchell of the Second Kansas Cavalry. Shortly afterward, the enemy again advanced in greater force, moving obliquely along our front, threatening our left flank. In conjunction with Rabb's Battery, which was some distance on my right, I opened a heavy fire again upon the enemy and was supported by a Regiment of Iowa Troops, which had been driven back by the advancing enemy column.

The enemy appeared to be massing his forces for a charge and just at sunset, moved impetuously forward, but by well-directed and rapid discharges of "SPHERICAL

CASE and CANISTER" their advance was checked and the battery slowly retired, firing with prolongs [thick, long ropes used to pull the cannon by hand], attached. Night coming on, firing ceased and the troops bivouacked [camped] on the field. The next morning, it was known that the enemy had fallen back. By good fortune, there were no casualties in my command.

Respectfully, Your Obedient Servant,

H. HOPKINS,

Captain Second Kansas Cavalry, Commanding Battery."

[To]: "Colonel William F. Cloud, Commanding Third Brigade, Army of the Frontier. Hdqrs. Second Battery, Indiana Volunteers, Camp at Rhea's Mills, Ark., December 10, 1862.

Sir: I have the honor to make the following report of the part my command took in the late engagement of Prairie Grove.

On the morning of the 7th instant, we were in position on the Boston Mountains, south of Cane Hill, expecting an attack from the enemy, as our pickets [guards] were engaged. About 10 a. m., I received orders from you to fall back towards Rhea's Mills. Our Brigade arrived within a mile of Rhea's Mills about 2 p. m., when heavy firing was heard about 4 miles to our right, upon the Fayetteville Road. You immediately ordered me to take the advance of the third brigade and proceed rapidly to the scene of action. I marched across the country a distance of 3 miles, where we came upon the enemy stationed in force, upon a commanding hill covered with timber.

By your order, I brought my battery into position in a meadow and immediately opened fire upon the batteries of the enemy. Lieutenant Tenney's Battery was placed in position upon my right and Captain Hopkin's Battery on my left and rear. Our infantry and cavalry were posted in supporting distance to the rear. In less than half an hour, the Rebel Batteries were silenced.

The Twentieth Iowa Regiment of Colonel W. McE. Dye's Brigade advanced into the wood upon my left, but after fifteen minutes of firing, was driven back when I opened upon the enemy, firing shells over the heads of the Twentieth Iowa. In a few minutes, our infantry drove the Rebels to the edge of the wood, when I again, by your order, opened fire upon them. A heavy musketry fire was then brought to bear upon my command. I answered with "CANISTER"! For fifteen minutes, my men stood firm, firing their pieces [cannon] with terrible precision,

making roads in the ranks of the enemy, which were quickly filled by fresh men from their rear. Three times they advanced in heavy loss. Finding that we were too near the wood, you ordered me to fire, retiring a distance of 100 yards. The order was successfully complied with, notwithstanding that several men had been wounded and horses killed and disabled.

In our new position, by your order, I threw several shells into a straw pile, near the edge of the timber, around which large bodies of the enemy swarmed. The straw soon ignited and again we opened with 'CANISTER" for about fifteen minutes. My guns were worked [fired] rapidly making sad havoc in the ranks of the enemy, who retreated to the wood. I gave them a few shells as a parting salute, when darkness closed upon us and we rested upon the field. In about two hours, we removed to a better position, where we rested for the night.

During the heat of the engagement, five companies of the eleventh Kansas Infantry, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Moonlight, stood manfully at their posts and when it appeared that the enemy were about to charge upon me, rushed forward and assisted in driving the enemy back.

I need hardly report to you that every officer, non-commissioned officer, and private of my command behaved manfully during the whole engagement. Sergeant G. B. Sink, when two of his men were wounded, took the Company Colors [flag] and still superintended his piece, while bearing aloft the Stars and Stripes. Corporal Samuel Mullen and Private J. Warren Dibble were severely wounded early in the engagement, yet remained at their posts until its close. I had 4 horses killed, 5 badly wounded, and 7 slightly wounded. The carriages of the battery bear marks of the storm of bullets and buckshot poured upon us.

I am, most Respectfully, Your Obedient Servant,

JOHN W. RABB,

Captain, Commanding Second Battery Indiana Volunteers."

Now then, artillery and the use thereof has been described as the "King of Battle" because of its immediate and instant destruction of an attacking enemy. This was especially true and apparent during the Civil War, when it was used effectively by both sides as the war went on!