BORDER BUGLE

Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

Civil War Round Table of Kansas City
4125 NW Willow Drive
Kansas City MO 64116
An IRC 501(c)(3) Charitable Organization
Website- http://cwrtkc.org/
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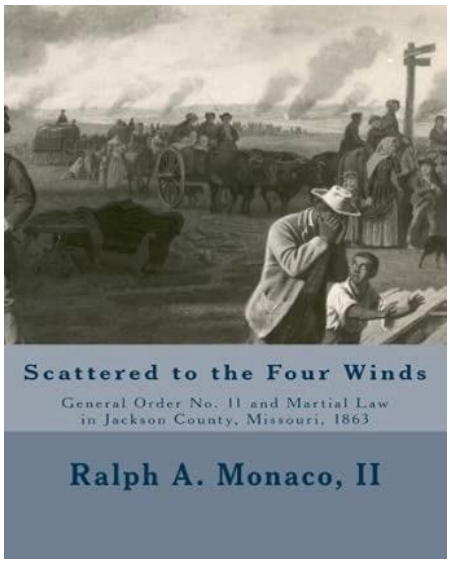
582nd Regular Meeting
Wednesday, January 21, 2026

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, January 13th.
To make a dinner reservation, please contact Marlene Natoli:
mailto:marnatoli@att.net
Phone: 913-764-1336

January Program



At our dinner meeting on January 21st, **Mr. Ralph A. Monaco II** will give a program about his book titled: *Scattered to the Four Winds: General Order No. 11 and Martial Law in Jackson County Missouri, 1863.*

Mr. Monaco is a practicing attorney with the Kansas City law firm of Monaco, Sanders, Gotfredson, Racine & Barber, L.C. Mr. Monaco is a former member of the Missouri House of Representatives, where he served as Chairman of the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Monaco is currently serving as President of the Jackson County Historical Society ("JSHS").

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, January 13th.** 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 January dinner meeting: Mediterranean Chicken Roulade with lemon basil sauce, asparagus, and roasted potatoes. Dessert will be the Chef's choice. 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

Mr. Ralph A. Monaco, II is a lifelong resident of Raytown, Missouri. He graduated from Rockhurst College in 1978, summa cum laude, with double majors in history and political science, and he earned his juris doctorate degree from the U.M.K.C. School of Law in 1981. He is a practicing attorney with the Kansas City law firm of Monaco, Sanders, Gotfredson, Racine & Barber, L.C. Mr. Monaco is a former member of the Missouri House of Representatives, where he served as Chairman of the Judiciary Committee. Prior to serving in the Missouri House, Mr. Monaco served as President of the Raytown School Board.

Mr. Monaco is currently serving as President of the Jackson County Historical Society ("JSHS"). For nearly twenty-five years, he has been actively involved in public speaking and historical living history. His first-person portrayals of such 19th Century historical figures as Edgar Allan Poe, George Caleb Bingham (artist and statesman), Col. Thomas Hutton Swope (noted philanthropist and purported murder victim), James Slover (Frank James' defense attorney), and Abram Comingo (Independence mayor, lawyer, and Provost Marshal during the Civil War and a U.S. Congressman) has received wide-ranging acclaim.

Mr. Monaco has written six non-fiction books:

- *The Strange Story of Colonel Swope & Dr. Hyde (2010)*
- *Son of a Bandit: Jesse James & The Leeds Gang (2012)*
- *Blood on the Streets: The Civil War Comes to Jackson County, Missouri, August 1861 (2012)*
- *Scattered to the Fourt Winds: General Order No. 11 and Martial Law in Jackson County Missouri, 1863 (2013)*
- *Last Hand at Park Manor (2015)*
- *The Bandit Rides Again: Jesse James, Whiskeyhead Ryan, and the Glndale Train Robbery (2017)*

Book: *Scattered to the Four Winds: General Order No. 11 and Martial Law in Jackson County Missouri, 1863*

The following text is from the Amazon Books website:

"The Civil War in Missouri, and particularly in Jackson County, was an "uncivil affair" that climaxed during the summer of 1863 with "Order No. 11," one of the most drastic military measures ever imposed upon a civilian population in American History to that date. This sesquicentennial publication commemorates that 1863 event, which is rarely mentioned in U.S. history books.

"From the adoption of the Kansas-Nebraska Act on May 30, 1854, through the imposition of martial law on August 25, 1863, Jackson County experienced almost persistent turmoil, toil and tribulation. This book attempts to weave the story of those who directly or indirectly issued, enforced, opposed, or experienced "Order No. 11." It considers the sensitive balance between the police powers of United States to preserve and protect the country against the fundamental substantive civil rights of its citizens, which are ever-present in today's modern American society faced with national and international terrorism.

"When William Quantrill and his guerrillas raided Lawrence, Kansas, leaving some two hundred people dead, the Federal government took drastic measures. The retaliatory sanctions imposed would prove to touch the heart and soul of everyone, loyal or disloyal. "Order No. 11" was a military war measure imposed against everyone, especially women, children, and the elderly - or to use today's nomenclature, a war against non-combatants. The supporters of Order No. 11 insisted it was issued out of military necessity, while its antagonists considered it the greatest deprivation of civil rights ever witnessed in the United States.

"*Scattered to the Four Winds* tells the true stories of those victimized by the Civil War along the borders of Missouri and Kansas. This is the story of Order No. 11 - Martial Law in Jackson County."

Last Month's Program

At our dinner meeting on December 10th, **Mr. David Von Drehle** gave an excellent presentation about his book titled: *Rise to Greatness: Abraham Lincoln and America's Most Perilous Year*. Attendance at the December meeting was 59.

Some of the key points that Mr. Von Drehle made during his presentation are as follows:

Prior to becoming president, Lincoln had been senior partner of a law firm. He had no experience to lead a nation. No one in history ever had to preserve a democratic republic during a crisis. On January 1, 1863, Lincoln signs the Emancipation Proclamation. That is what he was most proud of. His name would not be forgotten. He has a temple in America's most honored and celebrated space, Washington D.C.

Mr. Von Drehle discussed three key takeaways from his book:

- Author David McCullough said no one lives in the past. Everyone is living in the present. We have to understand people in their present and not as we would second guess the past. By the end of the Civil War, the North was dramatically superior in every way: military, money,

production, etc. At the beginning of the war, people thought the Union cause was hopeless. The Confederacy comprised a larger area than the area of Europe that was conquered by Napoleon. The Union captured more land.

- The South was the Saudi Arabia of the day. They had a chokehold on the cotton industry. The South produced over one-half of the cotton in the world. Some thought it was a certainty that European powers would recognize the Confederacy and open up the cotton market.
- No Union army was ready to take on the task of defeating the Confederacy. The Union army only had 16,000 men and most of them were in California. The Union army was mostly volunteers. However, they did have junior officers from the Mexican-American war. At the beginning of the war, Grant said he wasn't capable of leading 1,000 men, much less 20,000. At the end of the war, Grant led the largest army the world had ever seen.

In 1862, people were genuinely worried about General McClellan taking over for Lincoln. His cabinet was worried about a military Coup. Lincoln was a minority president and McClellan was a majority general. After Antietam, Lincoln finally had the clout to fire McClellan.

With the horrors of war, why couldn't the Union just let the Confederacy go and compromise with them? The country had been trying to compromise since the very beginning: Banning slavery in the north, the Missouri Compromise of 1820, the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850, the Kansas/Nebraska Act of 1854, Kansas statehood in 1861. The country couldn't compromise.

Lincoln believed the future of the U.S. was not going to be a North and a South. Otherwise, the U.S. was going to end up like Europe: tiny countries fighting over rivers. Lincoln understood that despite all of our shortcomings, people in America could make something of themselves.

Lincoln thought if we can just save the nation and grow as we had been growing, by 1930 the U.S. would be the wealthiest and most powerful country in the world and would have a higher standard of living than ever before. That was his vision.

In January 1862, Lincoln realizes he doesn't have a plan or a strategy to conduct the war. Lincoln then goes to the library and checks out all of the books on military science. Lincoln figured out the way that the North was going to win the war. The South has a long border, with fewer soldiers than the North. Therefore, the North needed to attack in multiple places at the same time. That is exactly how the North won the war.

Lincoln began thinking about emancipation in the summer of 1862. Lincoln had believed in gradual emancipation with compensation for slave owners. Lincoln wanted to engineer a step-by-step plan until he gets to military emancipation. However, the Confederacy was implacable on this issue. They were fighting to win the war. After Antietam, Lincoln decided to issue the Emancipation Proclamation. Lincoln told his cabinet that he made a promise to God that if the North won at Antietam, he would issue the Emancipation Proclamation, and he would not be moved off of his promise.

Upcoming Civil War Round Table Programs

Our monthly dinner meetings are typically held on the third Wednesday of each month. However, the dinner meetings in April and May had to be rescheduled due to a scheduling conflict at Milburn Country Club.

- **February 18, 2026: Eric Smallwood** will 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 8, 2026:** The speaker will be Round Table member **Arnold Schofield.**
- **May 27, 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: Dr. Chris Mackowski**, Editor-in-chief and co-founder of Emerging Civil War will give a program titled: "The Last Days of Stonewall Jackson."
- **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."

Member News and Announcements

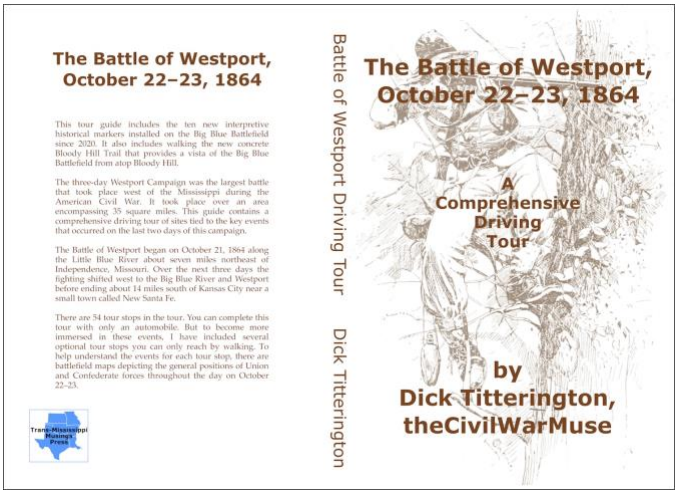
Arnold Schofield said he has been selected for an Honor Flight. He will fly Southwest Airlines to Baltimore/Washington International Airport and visit Fort McHenry while in Baltimore. Congratulations Arnold and thank you for your service!

At the December dinner meeting, **Gary Nevius** announced that the estate of **Edwin D. Shutt II** donated $3,000 to the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City. Ed passed away on March 20th. He was a long-time member, president, and supporter of our Round Table.

Treasurer **Dick Titterington** said the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City made a donation to the Monnett Battle of Westport Fund in memory of former member **George Leff**, who passed away on October 14th.

Dick Titterinton will teach another SPARK class at UMKC titled: "Price's 1864 Missouri Invasion: The End of the Civil War in Missouri." The classes will be held on Wednesdays from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. from January 14 to February 18, 2026. There will be an optional field trip to the Big Blue Battlefield on February 25th. See additional information on Page 8.

Dick Titterington has also published a new book titled: *The Battle of Westport, October 22-23, 1864, A Comprehensive Driving Tour*.



Please Renew Your Membership for 2026

If you have not yet renewed your membership in the Civil War Round Table for 2026, we hope that you will do so. The membership dues for 2026 are the same as they were for last year: $40 per individual, $60 per couple, or $20 per non-resident of Kansas or Missouri.

Our annual membership dues cover expenses associated with obtaining quality speakers, primarily for transportation and lodging. The dues also cover administration expenses such as website service fees, bank charges, corporate reports and returns, office supplies, postage, award plaques, name tags, etc.

Please mail your dues payment to our treasurer, **Dick Titterington**, 4125 NW Willow Drive, Kansas City MO 64116, or you can pay him at an upcoming dinner meeting.

Meet Our New President, Deb Buckner

We are pleased that **Deb Buckner** will serve as President of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City in 2026-2027. Deb's interest in the Civil War began as a child hearing stories of her great-great-grandfather, William Hisaw, who served in the Confederate army as a member of Company G, Eighth Missouri Infantry. He and his father, Frederick Hisaw, who had traveled from Tennessee to settle in Barry County, Missouri, went together to enlist in the Confederate Army, though the elder Hisaw was deemed too old for service.

At age 15, after seeing Errol Flynn and Olivia de Havilland in the movie: *They Died with Their Boots On*, Deb set out on a quest to learn all she could about General George Armstrong Custer, beginning with the three books authored by the General's widow, Elizabeth Bacon Custer. Two years later, after seeing Julie Harris portray Emily Dickinson in the one-woman show, *The Belle of Amherst*, Deb decided it would be fun to do something similar about Mrs. Custer.

Years went by occupied by high school debate, college, completion of a Master's degree in Public Administration, and earning a law degree. However, the Custer library continued to grow, even when there was no time to read the acquired books. Work in the Missouri Attorney General's Office led to a meeting with a handsome colleague of important Confederate ancestry, who was willing to accept her admiration for a "Yankee general."

Several years of occupying the "parents' bench", while two Buckner children had Taekwondo lessons, gave the opportunity to read all those Custer books. Ebay purchases added to the library and led to an acquaintance

with husband-and-wife historians who sent Deb an 1870s reproduction dress that, Cinderella-like, was a perfect fit. With the stories, the dress, and the time, the 17-year-old's dream of portraying Libbie Custer became a reality at age 44, the same age Libbie was when she became a much-requested lecturer after publication of her first book. Deb has addressed various women's clubs and historical organizations, including the Civil War Round Table, through the past 22 years.

Deb and her husband, **Simon B. "Chip" Buckner, IV**, along with Chip's father, **William Buckner**, joined the Round Table in the early 2000s, and daughter, **Jordan Buckner**, concerned about news of Civil War monuments being destroyed, later joined as well. Chip is a past president of the Round Table (2017-2018).

Deb looks forward to serving this organization and continuing its long tradition of hosting interesting speakers to preserve and promote this important chapter of our nation's history. Thank you, Deb!

Sergeant Major's Roar

Battlefield Dispatches #717
Straight, Smooth & Level

During the Civil War, one of the most difficult challenges facing the Union and Confederate armies was the continuous timely transportation of troops, and all of the supplies and material over established secure routes that were necessary to wage successful campaigns. In Missouri and Kansas there were three major routes of transportation, two were overland and one was by water. Most of the time the primary destination of these routes was south to supply Fort Smith, Arkansas and Fort Gibson in the eastern part of the Indian Territory, which is now the state of Oklahoma, both of which were on the north bank of the Arkansas River. The water route using steamboats on the Missouri, Mississippi, and Arkansas Rivers was seasonal and was often closed in the winter because of ice flows and portions of the rivers being frozen solid. The major overland route in Missouri was along the "Wire Road" which was so named because the telegraph lines were adjacent to the road which extended from Saint Louis to Rolla, Springfield, and Fayetteville, Arkansas, eventually reaching Forts Smith and Gibson.

This route became a very difficult to traverse because it went across the Ozark Mountains in Missouri and the Boston Mountains in northwest Arkansas. The safest and easiest of these routes was the "Old Military Road" in eastern Kansas which went approximately 275 miles from Fort Leavenworth to Fort Scott and points south, along the Missouri border, to Fort Gibson, Indian Territory. Then a spur road went along the north bank of the Arkansas River to Fort Smith. Major General Samuel R. Curtis, who was the "Union" Commanding Officer of the Department of Kansas at Fort Leavenworth, described this road as being "Straight, Smooth, and Level." The following is part of a report from General Curtis that includes his recommendation on supplying Forts Gibson and Smith and is located in Vol. 34, Part iii of the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion on Pages 466 -467.

"Headquarters Department of Kansas
May 5, 1864.

[To: Brigadier General L. C. Hunt, Inspecting Officer:

In conformity to your request of yesterday I submit immediate replies to your inquiries, in numerical order you have presented them, with a design to present further details as soon as I can procure reports from my proper staff officers.

…. Third. Fort Gibson, not now in my command, should, in my judgment, be the main depot for supplies sufficient for a chain of posts along the Upper Arkansas River and in this view should have a year's supply for 10,000 men concentrated there as soon as possible.

Such a supply requires the combine facilities of WATER and Land communication. The occasional brief period of river navigation on the Arkansas River should be used to the utmost extent possible, because while this navigation continues, it is much more commodious and economical than any other. But it is so precarious, do the very best you can that it is not adequate and cannot be depended upon. There only remains, then, a choice of overland routes; One from [Saint Louis], Rolla via of Springfield and Fayetteville, through Missouri; the other from this place, Fort Leavenworth, through to Fort Scott to Fort Gibson. I have campaigned through both lines and greatly prefer the latter, because First, you have the "Old Military Road", [Straight], Smooth, and Level", instead of the rough, mountainous road through Missouri and Arkansas; Second, the Kansas route is through prairie, where you are less liable to BUSHWHACKERS than you are through the timber lands of Missouri and Arkansas, Third, the greater advantage of the Kansas route has grass for forage, abounding everywhere and convenient for stock [horses] and mules, summer and winter, instead of the country supplies that have now been exhausted on the Missouri route and are not likely to be reproduced in such quantities as to be depended upon. Besides the country on the Kansas route, as far as Fort Scott, affords supplies of corn, wheat, and flour and even beyond in the Indian country, facilities for raising crops are greater than they are on the Missouri route.

Yet, I would not entirely abandon the Missouri route, for in order to preserve the military possession and police of a country, you must have interior Posts [camps] and such Posts had better be in lines for their own protection and the occasional movement of [supply] trains over them is a support and security to the surrounding country. Interior Posts may be made, supported by block-houses or redoubts and both lines therefore, in my judgment, desirable to preserve and support the several lines of operation by the Arkansas, through Missouri and through Kansas, not only to supply Fort Gibson and Fort Smith and its dependencies, but especially to maintain the occupation and cultivation of the country.

I believe, General, I have covered the whole ground of your inquiries. I hope your personal attention will be earnestly applied to every topic, for I think the progress of the general conquest of the rebellion requires a cautious distribution of interior elements of power, in the rear as well as in the front and I have therefore presented my views fully to the heads of Departments at Washington, where I hope you will submit your views after a personal examination of the various topics.

In conclusion, General, I ask your special regard for this State of Kansas, which has sent forth more than its full proportion of troops and suffered most in the burning, devastating, and murderous ravages of Civil War and contrast the very limited force in this State and in front of this State, with other States, so as to convince the Lieutenant General [U. S. Grant] of the necessity of more, not less, material force in this command and I hope your inspection, General, will also induce you to favor my efforts to get the militia of Kansas organized, armed and equipped so they can avoid the disasters of former years and move down, if occasion offers, against her foes that muster in force in her uncovered front on the waters of the Red River.

S. R. CURTIS,

Major General, Comdg. the Dept. of Kansas."

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Now then, all three of these transportation routes continued to be used for the remainder of the Civil War. There was another reason that the Old Military Road was the safest and most reliable of the three described routes. It was because, beginning late in 1862 and by the end of 1863 a series of "Union" Posts were established in Kansas along the Missouri/Kansas border at approximately every 12 miles from Kansas City south to Baxter Springs. The purpose of these "Posts" was twofold: First: they were to protect Kansas from raids by the Missouri guerrillas and to stop Kansas civilian "Jayhawkers" from conducting raids into Missouri and Second: because they were for the most part along the "Old Military Road" they protected the supply line along that road. Was this protection a hundred percent successful? No, it was not. But most of the "Union" supply trains that were attacked were attacked south of Baxter Springs in the Indian Territory, as the War Went On.

Photographs from the December Dinner Meeting

Clara and Arnold Schofield

Chrstine and Ford Maurer

Jordan, Deb, and Chip Buckner

Former Presidents Sandy Ackerson and Harriet Duff

Price's 1864 Missouri Invasion: The End of the Civil War in Missouri

Instructor: **Dick Titterington**, aka: theCivilWarMuse

SPARK, 4747 Troost Ave, Kansas City, MO 64110

Wednesdays, January14 through February 18, 2026 (6 weeks), 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

February 25, 2026 will be a field trip to the Big Blue Battlefield.

In the fall of 1864, former Missouri Governor Sterling Price, now a Confederate major general, invaded Missouri with 12,000 cavalry. When the Confederates reached northwestern Jackson County, they were confronted by two Union armies. For three days, they fought seven times during the Westport Campaign, right here in our backyard. In this class, you'll find out if General Price achieved the invasion's objectives. You'll learn about how the Union winning the war in Missouri changed the state in dramatic ways. You'll learn about heroes, villains, and war's cruelties.

The first six weeks will be classroom lectures on the campus of UMKC. These lectures are also available via Zoom.

Sign up at the SPARK website: **https://lifelongspark.org/**

List of topics:

- "This May Seem a Wild Plan"
- Pilot Knob
- Jefferson City/Boonville/Glasgow/Sedalia
- Advance on Westport/2d Lexington
- October 21, 1864: Battle of the Little Blue River
- October 22, 1864: Byram's Ford 1
- October 22, 1864: Mockbee Farm
- October 22, 1864: Second Independence
- October 23, 1864: Byram's Ford 2
- October 23, 1864: Brush Creek
- Retreat/Mine Creek
- Reconstruction in Missouri
- Optional: Field Trip to the Big Blue Battlefield

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