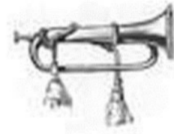




BORDER



BUGLE

Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City



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Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

4125 NW Willow Drive

Kansas City MO 64116

An IRC 501(c)(3)

Charitable Organization

Website- <http://cwrk.org/>

Join us on Facebook!

583rd Regular Meeting Wednesday, February 18, 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, February 10th.

To make a dinner reservation, please contact Marlene Natoli:

<mailto:marnatoli@att.net>

Phone: 913-764-1336

February Program



At our dinner meeting on February 18th, **Mr. Eric Smallwood**, Site Administrator of the Constitution Hall State Historic Site in LeCompton KS, will be our speaker. The title of his program is: "Suffer and Be Strong", The Wakarusa War of 1855.

Though it was nearly bloodless, the "Wakarusa War", as it would come to be known, was a dark omen of things to come for the next decade of American history, and was where many of the leading figures of Bleeding Kansas began to gain their fame.

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, February 10th.** 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://cwrtrkc.org/digital_payments/

Dinner Menu

Milburn Golf and Country Club will serve the following meal at the February dinner meeting: Sautéed salmon with lemon butter sauce, rice pilaf, and vegetable medley. 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. Eric Smallwood

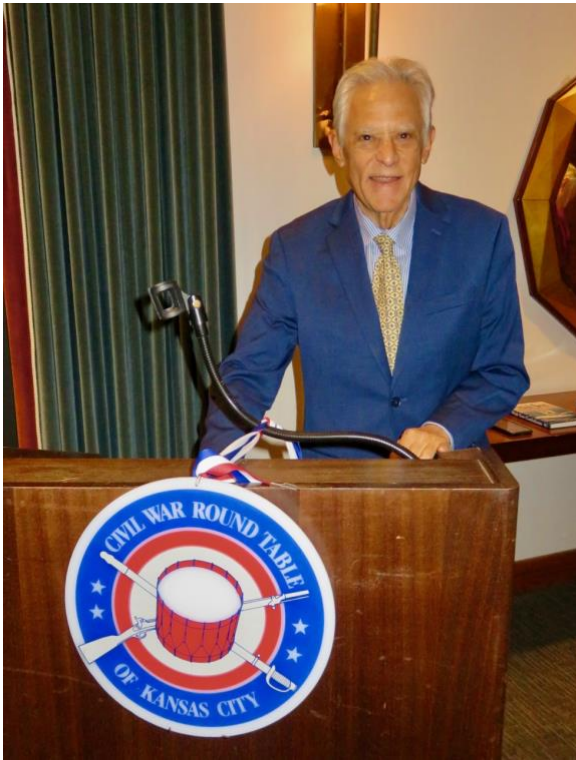
Originally from West Virginia, **Mr. Eric Smallwood** has been a student of the American Civil War from a young age. His interest and passion for the complexities of the era have taken him to sites and museums in several states over the years, including Gettysburg PA, where he lived for three years, working as a guide and assistant for carriage and horseback tours, and apprenticing with several historians and authors, all while pursuing the goal of becoming a licensed battlefield guide.

Life, however, has an interesting way of changing goals, and Eric found himself in northern New Mexico in 2019, working for the National Scouting Museum. There, he fell in love with the fascinating history of the American West and has lived west of the Mississippi ever since. Moving to Lawrence KS in 2022, after a year working for the National Park Service at Bent's Old Fort, his focus has shifted toward the events of Bleeding Kansas and the larger buildup of conflicts and emotions that caused nationwide war to erupt in 1861. Today, Eric is employed by the Kansas Historical Society as Site Administrator of Constitution Hall State Historic Site in Lecompton KS, where the infamous Lecompton Constitution was drafted in 1857.

The title of Eric's program is: "Suffer and Be Strong", The Wakarusa War of 1855. Five years before South Carolina seceded from the Union, military units of

northern and southern Americans faced off against one another on the field of battle over the political issue of slavery for the first time, in the opening act of what we now call "Bleeding Kansas". Though it was nearly bloodless, the "Wakarusa War", as it would come to be known, was a dark omen of things to come for the next decade of American history, and was where many of the leading figures of Bleeding Kansas began to gain their fame.

Last Month's Program



January Speaker, Mr. Ralph A. Monaco, II

At our dinner meeting on January 21st, **Mr. Ralph A. Monaco II** gave a very interesting program about his book titled: *Scattered to the Four Winds: General Order No. 11 and Martial Law in Jackson County Missouri, 1863*. Attendance at the dinner meeting was 64.

Mr. Monaco said the springboard that started the Civil War was the Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854. The Act repealed the Missouri Compromise of 1820 and created the territories of Kansas and Nebraska. In his opinion, slavery and economics blend together as the cause of the Civil War. The Confederate constitution was all about slavery. The Kansas-Nebraska Act was also about railroads. The transcontinental railroad was going to go through Nebraska. It was decided that the area from Nebraska to the end of the Louisiana Purchase territory was going to be free. Since Kansas was next to Missouri, it was thought that Kansas would be a slave state. However, the Kansas-Nebraska Act left the issue of

slavery in Kansas to be decided on the basis of popular sovereignty. Bad blood between the north and the south permeated long before Fort Sumter.

Order No. 11 was issued by Union General Thomas Ewing, Jr. on August 25, 1863. It forced the evacuation of residents from the rural areas in western Missouri (Jackson, Cass, Bates, and the northern part of Vernon Counties). They had to leave in 15 days. However, residents of Kansas City, Westport, and Independence MO did not have to leave. Mr. Monaco said Order No. 11 was the worst violation of civil rights in the United States up until the internment of Japanese-Americans during World War II.

Quantrill decided to attack Lawrence KS on August 21, 1863 because of everything that had gone on before. It was not in response to the collapse of the Union prison that killed several pro-southern women on August 13, 1863. In fact, the rallying cry of the Confederate raiders at Lawrence was: "Remember Osceola!" Order No. 11 was issued in response to Quantrill's raid on Lawrence. It was an effort to suppress Bushwhackers in the region.

According to the 1860 U.S. Census, there were approximately 40,000 people living in the affected counties. It is not known how many people were required to leave their homes in 1863 or how many people returned to their homes after the Civil War ended in 1865.

Mr. Monaco said Order No. 11 was a military war measure imposed against everyone, loyal or disloyal. It especially impacted women, senior citizens, the disabled, and children. It was a war on civilians. They even put up signs that said: "If you are entering our county because of Order No. 11, don't enter." After the war, people returned to find their home burned to the ground, leaving only a chimney. Mr. Monaco said his book was written based on the lives of the following six people:

- Brigadier General James Lane: Leader of the Kansas Jayhawkers during the Bleeding Kansas period and a U.S. Senator (1861-1866).
- George Caleb Bingham: Landscape artist. One of the most important American artists of the 19th Century. Bingham did not like General Ewing.
- William Clarke Quantrill, Confederate guerrilla leader. Led raid on Lawrence, Kansas.
- Major General John Schofield: Commander of the U.S. Army Department of Missouri (May 24, 1863 to January 30, 1864).
- Abraham Comingo: Two term mayor of Independence MO. Elected to the Missouri Convention and voted not to secede.
- Brigadier General Thomas Ewing, Jr: He issued the infamous General Order No. 11.



George Caleb Bingham's painting of Union General Ewing's General Order No. 11 being carried out.



Thomas C. Lea, III painting "Back Home, April 1865"

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 scheduling conflicts at Milburn Country Club.

- **March 18, 2026:** **John Hopkins** will give a program about the Battle of Gettysburg 50th Anniversary Reunion in 1913.
- **April 8, 2026:** Round Table member **Arnold Schofield** will give a program titled: "Remembering Women Warriors."
- **May 27, 2026:** **Dr. Brian M. 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 of 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."
- **November 18, 2026:** **Jeff Kluever** will give a program about U.S. Colored Troops at the Battle of New Market VA.
- **December 9, 2026:** Round Table member **Dick Titterington** will be our speaker. Topic to be determined.

Member News and Announcements

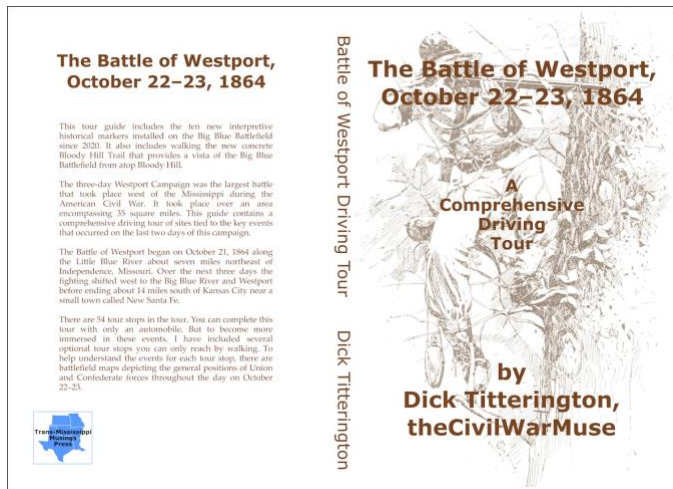
We would like to welcome new members **Michael Foster** and his wife **Elena Wahbeh**, who live in Leawood KS. Mike is a real estate broker with Foster & Associates, Inc. He heard about our Round Table from a friend.

Dr. Dan Cudnik welcomed another great-grandchild to his family. Theo Hastin was born to Samuel and Kayla Hastin on December 11, 2025. Dan now has ten great-grandchildren. Congratulations Dan!

February is Black History Month. **Dan Smith** will be giving a program titled: "Black in Blue at the Battle of Westport." Dan will be speaking about the Black soldiers who participated in the Battle of Westport. His talk will be presented at the Plaza branch of the Kansas City Public Library at 6:00 p.m. on February 18, 2026 (which is the same night as our CWRT dinner meeting). The link to the library program is: <https://kclibrary.org/events/black-union-soldiers-and-fight-freedom>. Dan's presentation may be available on YouTube (youtube.com/kclibrary).

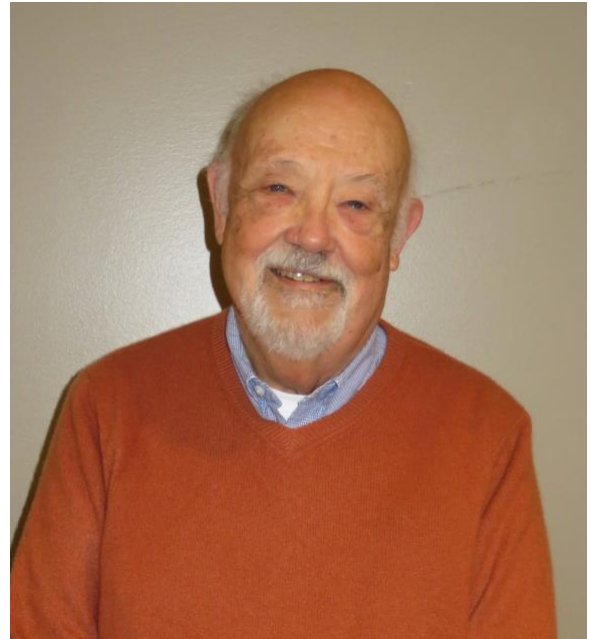
Dick Titterington said the Johnson County Library has scheduled the 2026 Genealogy Day Open House & Resource Fair for March 28, 2026, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. This event will take place at the Central Resource Library located at 9875 W 87th Street, Overland Park KS 66212. The Civil War Round Table of Kansas City has been invited to have an information booth at this event. **Dick Titterington** and **Liz Edmundson** have volunteered to staff our booth and answer any questions that the attendees may have about our organization or about researching their ancestors that served during the Civil War.

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



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 First Vice-President, Blair Hosford



American Battlefield Trust

Todd Stettner wants our members to know that the American Battlefield Trust is requesting donations to save 141 acres of battlefield land at Wilson's Creek, Shiloh, and Bentonville. The total purchase price is \$3,216,000. However, they only need to raise another \$170,500 to secure these acres. The five acres at Wilson's Creek will be the first private land saved at Bloody Hill, where Union Brigadier General Nathaniel Lyon was killed trying to rally his outnumbered troops on August 10, 1861. Lyon was the first Union general killed during the Civil War.

Executive Committee Meeting February 7th

Round Table President **Deb Buckner** announced that there will be a meeting of the Round Table's Executive Committee at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 7, 2026. The meeting will be held at the Lenexa branch of the Johnson County Library, 9875 W. 8th Street, Lenexa, KS 66212.

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.

We are pleased that **Blair Hosford** is serving as the First Vice-President of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City in 2026-2027. Blair provided the following biographical information:

"I was born in Houston, Texas, but was only there very shortly, as my father soon went into the Navy in WWII. I then lived with my mother and grandparents in an apartment on the Country Club Plaza, until my father returned from overseas in 1946. We then moved to Johnson County, where I have lived ever since.

"I met my wife Lyn during my undergraduate college days at KU, as her brother was a pledge in a fraternity I was in at KU. I went over with her brother to see the new puppy the family had and as the saying goes the rest is history. Last year we celebrated our 59th wedding anniversary. I might add that Lyn has also been with me on several battlefield excursions and tours with the American Battlefield Trust.

"I attended the University of Kansas in Lawrence and received a B.A. Degree in history and political science and then attended KU Law School where I received a J.D. degree. My first full-time job after graduating law school was for UMB Bank, handling wills and trust, but the bulk of my career was with the engineering firm of Black & Veatch, where initially I handled regulatory and environmental requirements and permitting for coal-fired power plants and industrial facilities. In later years, I was

also involved in health and safety, risk management, contracts, insurance, and construction litigation. I finished up my working life as a Deputy General Counsel for the Missouri Public Service Commission, and lastly as Corporate Counsel for Terracon, Inc., a geotechnical engineering, environmental, and construction testing firm.

“My interest in history started in high school when I took a summer school course taught like a college lecture course. My main interest in college actually was European history from about 1900 to 1939, with an emphasis on Russian History during the period just before and after World War I. My Civil War interest really developed later, when I realized that I had two great, great grandfathers that fought in the war - on my father’s side for the Union (William Blair) and on my mother’s side for the Confederacy (Jeremiah Cravens). William Blair was wounded and captured at Shiloh and was exchanged, but he died of his wounds. He is buried at the National Cemetery in Nashville. Jeremiah Cravens fought all over the area of Missouri and Arkansas and was at the battles of Pea Ridge, Lone Jack, Lexington, Independence, Westport, and Mine Creek and managed to survive the war.

“I don’t recall exactly what year I became interested in the Civil War Round Table, but a friend of mine suggested that we should attend. The meetings were still at the Homestead Country Club at that time, and I have been attending regularly since that first meeting. I am also a Color Bearer with the American Battlefield Trust.”

Thank you, Blair for serving the Round Table!

Sergeant Major's Roar

Battlefield Dispatches #718 Revenge

During the Civil War, acts of Revenge were commonplace in the Guerrilla War in Missouri, Arkansas, Kansas, and the eastern Indian Territory, which is now Oklahoma. One of the main reasons for this, especially in Missouri, was that the citizens and families were divided in their loyalty and ended up fighting each other. The Confederate guerrillas were constantly waging war against the Union or Federal forces, that were comprised of citizens who were loyal the United States. Therefore, for the most part, the war in Missouri was conducted by Missourians killing Missourians. The Confederate guerrillas had a network of family connections from farm to farm, which often spread across the country for three or four miles or more. This network often included many isolated farm houses, which were in fact safe houses where they could find shelter, food, arms, ammunition,

and perhaps the most important information concerning the whereabouts and movement of the enemy.

The following letters describe the Union attack on a Confederate safe house and the subsequent “Revenge” taken by the guerrillas three days later and are located in Vol. 34, Part III of the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion on Pages 624 -625 and 719 -720.

“Headquarters Station,
Snibar, Jackson County, Mo.,
May 19, 1864.

[To] Lieut. E. L. Berthould,
Acting Assistant Adjutant General,
Kansas City, Mo.

Lieutenant:

I have the honor herewith to make the following report of a scouting party sent out from this Station on the 17th instant, consisting of one Sergeant, three Corporals and 17 men, they being dismounted and had the following instructions.

First, to divide into small squads and not let the people living in the vicinity know that they were Federal troops and to further the DISGUISE, they were instructed if they saw fit to visit any HOUSE not to carry their carbines, but leave them with a reserve.

On the morning of the 18th, while passing through a dense thicket about three miles south of Blue Springs and a half a mile east of the east fork of the Blue River, they discovered a HOUSE inhabited. The Sergeant in command with a Corporal and 3 men, with instructions to pass themselves off as “BUSHWHACKERS” (the men leaving their carbines with the main party) and try to ascertain where some of their party were. When within about 20 yards of the HOUSE and in the act of getting over the fence, one of the children came to the door and said, “Here are some Federals”, whereupon they heard a general scattering in the HOUSE and two men ran out the back door. Our men ran around the HOUSE and fired some 12 shots, just as they were going into the brush, and are quite positive that they wounded one man. The HOUSE proved to belong to Mrs. Charlotte Hopkins. There were also living with her two daughters and one daughter-in-law, Mrs. Mary Ann Hopkins. The last named says her husband is now in the Southern Army, she thinks in Texas.

Mrs. Charlotte Hopkins says that her husband is in Illinois, but does not know in what part of the State, which I am satisfied is all false, for the following reasons: On the night of the 26th of April last, when the guerrillas were reported in force near Chapel Hill, there were three men

came to one Mr. Lewis and said that they were deserters from the Rebel Army, had lost their horses near Lone Jack; they also said that when they left to go South, their families were living near Independence and wished to get home and not be seen by the Federals.

Two of them gave their names as Hopkins. Mr. Lewis recognized them and knew that to be their name. Mr. Lewis gave me the following description of the men. The elder Hopkins was rather short; hair grayish, a little inclined to dark and about fifty-five years of age. The younger Hopkins, a tall man, about 6 feet; perhaps 6 feet 2 inches; black hair and black eyes. The other person, name not known, about twenty years of age; sandy hair and dark eyes. The Mrs. Hopkins have given me a description of their husbands and it corresponds with the description I had of them exactly. Mrs. Mary Ann Hopkins says she has a brother in the Southern Army – name Tucker. Gave me his description and it corresponds with the unknown name mentioned above.

In searching the HOUSE my men found a double-handful of rifled musket caps of the best quality. They also found tracks of the women in the bottom below the HOUSE in the direction the Bushwhackers ran; also found where the bushwhackers mounted their horses, a short distance from the HOUSE and as our party was on foot, they could continue the chase no farther. I sent the prisoners under guard to Kansas City, as I have not the men to guard them here.

I am perfectly well satisfied that the BUSHWHACKERS are harbored by a majority of the people now living in this vicinity, though they generally deny it, but it is impossible for BUSHWHACKERS to live here unless some persons give them food.

I am, Lieutenant, Very Respectfully, Your Obedient Servant,

THOS. MOSES, Jr.,
Captain, Commanding Station”

P.S. Also, when my men were firing on the Bushwhackers, one of the children said, ”They will kill my Pa.”

THOS. MOSES Jr.,
Captain, Commanding Station.”

Revenge

“Headquarters Station,
Snibar Station, Missouri;
May 22, 1864.

[To] Lieut. E. L. Berthould,
Actg. Assistant Adjutant General;
Kansas City, Mo.

Lieutenant:

I have the honor to inform you that the missing men in the fight yesterday have arrived at Independence. Corporal Sowell, one of the missing, was very badly wounded. Private Means escaped unhurt. Lost two horses, which the Bushwhackers took; one wounded, which I think will die and six mules. My scouts sent out today report that the guerrillas divided up into small squads and have gone in every direction; some have gone into LaFayette County, but I have not enough men to keep the country thoroughly scouted, men in camp having been on Guard Duty for the last forty-eight hours.

Allow me to state that I am certain this attack was made to “REVENGE” the arrest of the HOPKINS FAMILY! If they are allowed to go at large, will you please inform me of that fact? I think every person harbors [hides and helps] Bushwhackers that are settled in this portion of the country. We find horse tracks in the brush near the houses, they (the Bushwhackers) always going to the houses on foot. I shall endeavor to get even soon.

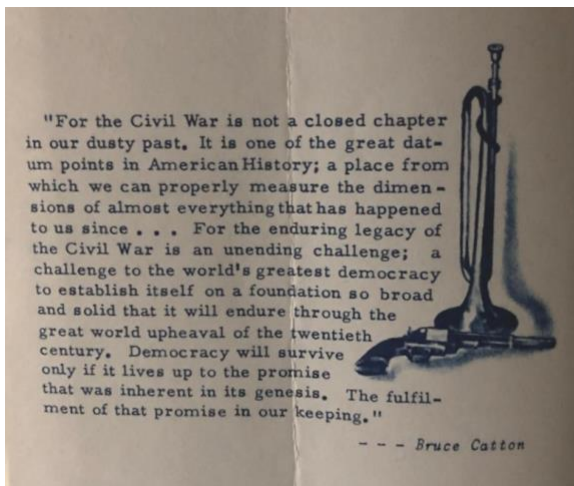
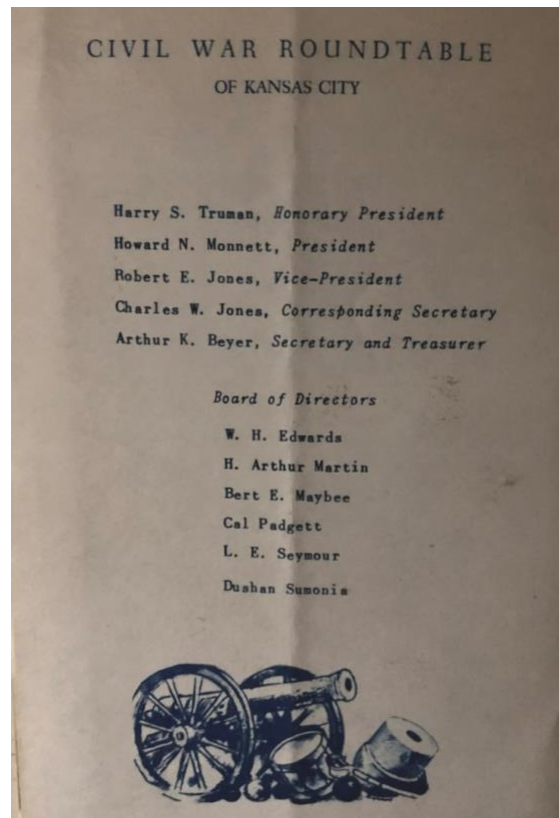
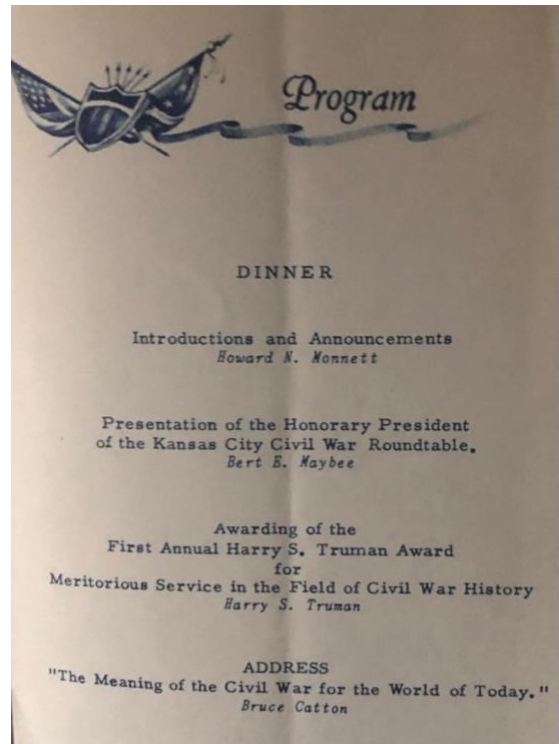
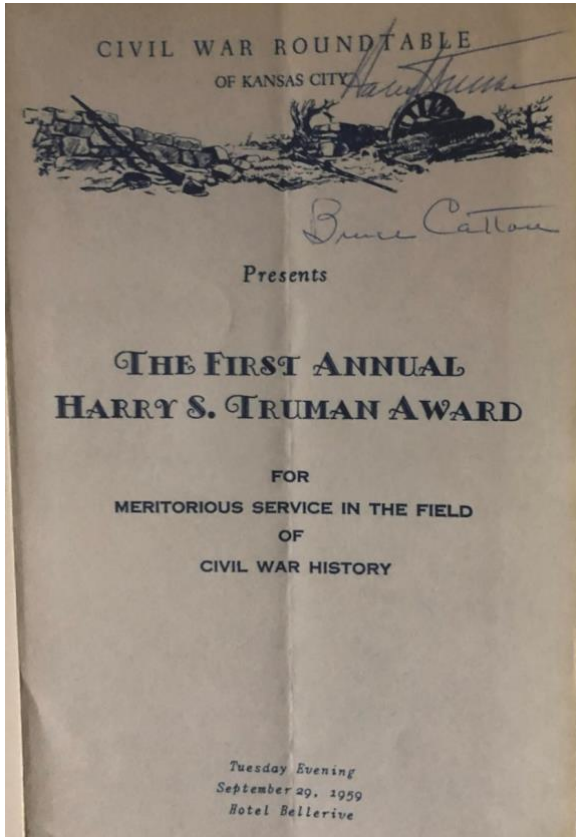
I am Sir, Very Respectfully, Your Obedient Servant,

THOS. MOSES Jr.,
Captain, Commanding Station.”

Now then, it would appear that the revenge of the Bushwhackers this time, was delayed a few days, but it did occur. Apparently, Captain Moses by his own words “to get even soon” was intent on revenging this recent attack by the Bushwhackers and the bitter war of Revenge, Retaliation, and Retribution continued throughout Missouri unabated. In addition to this, the family feuds between former Pro-Union and Pro-Confederate citizens and the killing of each did not end when the Civil War ended in 1865. The continued violence in Missouri after 1865 would be one of the local regional repercussions of the Civil War until the late 19th Century, as the war went on.

The First Annual Harry S. Truman Award

In going through some old Civil War Round Table of Kansas City files, **Dick Titterington** found a program from the dinner meeting held on September 29, 1959. The program is titled: "The First Annual Harry S. Truman Award for Meritorious Service in the Field of Civil War History." The award was presented by former President Truman to Civil War author and historian Bruce Catton at the Hotel Bellerive in Kansas City MO. The title of Mr. Catton's program that night was: "The Meaning of the Civil War for the World of Today." The program was signed by both President Truman and Bruce Catton.



An article in the *Kansas City Star* said 300 Round Table members and guests attended the dinner meeting. Bruce Catton told his audience: "What divided the people a century ago matters little now. What united them matters now and forever. It is a magnificent heritage." He received a standing ovation.