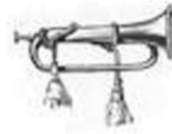




# BORDER



# 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!

## 584th Regular Meeting Wednesday, March 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.

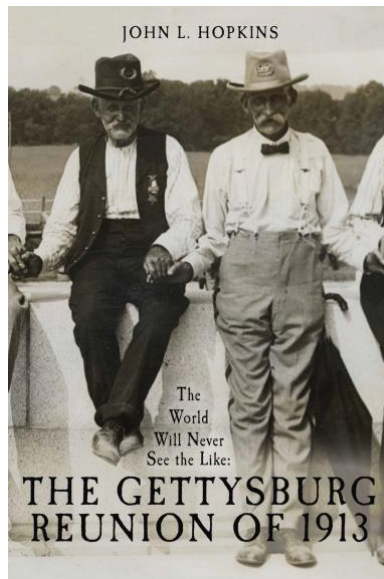
**Reservation Deadline: Tuesday, March 10th.**

**To make a dinner reservation, please contact Marlene Natoli:**

<mailto:marnatoli@att.net>

Phone: 913-764-1336

## March Program



At our dinner meeting on March 18<sup>th</sup>, Author **Mr. John L. Hopkins** will give a program about his book titled: *The World Will Never See the Like: The Gettysburg Reunion of 1913*. *The Wall Street Journal* called his book “a compelling, poignant, and sometimes heartbreaking account of the biggest gathering of the Blue and Gray since the Civil War.” It’s a story of 53,000 old comrades and former foes reunited and of the tension, even half a century later, between competing narratives of reconciliation and remembrance.

Mr. Hopkins is a retired communication and public relations professional with more than three decades of experience in higher education, nonprofit, and agency settings.

## 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, March 10<sup>th</sup>.** 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/](https://cwrtkc.org/digital_payments/)

## Dinner Menu

Milburn Golf and Country Club will serve the following meal at the March dinner meeting: Italian sausage lasagna and asparagus with garlic bread. 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. John L. Hopkins**

At our dinner meeting on March 18<sup>th</sup>, Author **Mr. John L. Hopkins** will give a program about his book titled: *The World Will Never See the Like: The Gettysburg Reunion of 1913*. *The Wall Street Journal* called his book "a compelling, poignant, and sometimes heartbreaking account of the biggest gathering of the Blue and Gray since the Civil War." It's a story of 53,000 old comrades and former foes reunited and of the tension, even half a century later, between competing narratives of reconciliation and remembrance.

Mr. Hopkins is a retired communication and public relations professional with more than three decades of experience in higher education, nonprofit, and agency settings. He was born and raised in New York City, earned a bachelor's degree from Williams College, and was transplanted with his family to the Midwest 30 years ago. This is his first book.

## Book: *The Gettysburg Reunion of 1913*

The following text is from the Amazon Books website:

"In this groundbreaking study, author John L. Hopkins deftly examines the reunion through the lens of the veterans within the context of society, politics, and the

national mood at the time." — Scott L. Mingus Sr., author of *Flames Beyond Gettysburg* and co-author of *If We Are Striking for Pennsylvania, Vols. 1 and 2*

"The largest gathering of Union and Confederate veterans ever held was front-page news throughout the country. "[It] will be talked about and written about as long as the American people boast of the dauntless courage of Gettysburg," declared a woman who accompanied her father to the reunion. But as the years passed, the memorable event was all but forgotten. John Hopkins's *The World Will Never See the Like: The Gettysburg Reunion of 1913* goes a long way toward making sure the world will remember. The 1913 Gettysburg reunion is a story of 53,000 old comrades and former foes reunited, and of the tension, even half a century later, between competing narratives of reconciliation and remembrance.

"For seven days the old soldiers lived under canvas in stifling heat on a 280-acre encampment run by the U.S. Army. They swapped stories, debated still-simmering controversies about the battle, and fed tall tales to gullible reporters. On July 3, the aging survivors of Pickett's Division and the Philadelphia Brigade shook hands across the wall on Cemetery Ridge in the reunion's climactic photo op.

"Some of the battle's leading personalities attended, including Union III Corps commander Dan Sickles, who at 92 was still eager to explain to anyone who would listen the indispensable role he claimed to have played in the Union victory. Also present was Helen Dortch Longstreet, the widow of Confederate Lt. Gen. James Longstreet, who devoted her life and considerable energies to defending the reputation of her general. Both wrote articles from the reunion that were syndicated in newspapers across the country. There was even a cameo appearance by a young and as-yet unknown cavalry officer named George S. Patton Jr.

"Hopkins fills his marvelous account with detail from the letters, diaries, and published accounts of Union and Confederate veterans, the extensive archival records of the reunion's organizers, and the daily stories filed by the scores of reporters who covered it. *The World Will Never See the Like* offers the first full story of this extraordinary event's genesis and planning, the obstacles overcome on the way to making it a reality, its place in the larger narrative of sectional reunion and reconciliation, and the individual stories of the veterans who attended. Every reader interested in Gettysburg will find this a welcome addition to their library."

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## Last Month's Program



February Speaker Mr. Eric Smallwood



Free-State Army Volunteers, Lawrence KS, 1855

At our dinner meeting on February 18<sup>th</sup>, **Mr. Eric Smallwood** gave a very interesting presentation titled: "Suffer and be Strong", The Wakarusa War of 1855. 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. Attendance at the dinner meeting was 51.

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.

From Wikipedia: “The Wakarusa War was an armed standoff that took place in the Kansas Territory during November and December 1855. It is often cited by historians as the first instance of violence during the "Bleeding Kansas" conflict between anti-slavery and pro-slavery factions in the region.

“The incident took place in Douglas County, centered on the Wakarusa River Valley and the town of Lawrence, where the opposing militias confronted each other for the first time. At the behest of Territorial Governor Wilson Shannon, the two sides eventually agreed to a truce, but it was short-lived, and widespread violence resumed the following spring.”

Eric said Lawrence is the Mecca of Civil War history in the Kansas Territory. The Wakarusa War started in Douglas County in November 1855. By 1855, the United States had fought the War with Mexico and had obtained a lot of territory. The big question was: Will slavery extend into the new territory? Politically, Kansas was the testing ground for Popular Sovereignty. Will Kansas be a slave state or a free state?

From May 1854 to May 1855 people come into Kansas Territory (Eric said probably less than 15,000). Eastern tribes had settled here. Towns were established based on political leaning. Eric said when things got too tense, the Wakarusa War relaxed the tension.

Missouri senator David Rice Atchison was a prominent pro-slavery activist and border ruffian. There was anti-slavery tension and pro-slavery complaints. The pro-slavery Law and Order Party was founded in September 1855. The Free State Party was also founded in September 1855.

The Topeka Constitution was a pro-freedom, anti-slavery governing document that was drafted by Free-State settlers in Kansas Territory. It was ratified in December 1855. However, Eric said it was never actually legal. It didn't allow Blacks or slavery. It was based on economics, not morality. Slavery added competition to the lower white classes and immigrants.

Things came to a head in November 1855. The Wakarusa War actually started over a land dispute known as the “Hickory Point Incident.”

Pro-slavery units came into Kansas. Dr. Charles Robinson organized a committee of peace to defend the town of Lawrence and de-escalate tension. The Pro-Slavery Army or Kansas Territory Militia had 1,000 to 1,500 men at the peak of the conflict. Volunteers came from several counties in Kansas Territory and Missouri, including the cities of Kansas City, Westport, and Independence. The pro-slavery camp was located in the Wakarusa River bottoms near Lawrence.

Free-State Army volunteers came from the towns of Lawrence, Topeka, Wakarusa, Osawatimie, etc. They numbered 600-800 men at most. They were citizen soldiers armed with 1832 short artillery swords, volcanic revolvers, and Model 1853 Sharps rifles. The Sharps rifles made the Missourians afraid to do anything.

The Free State Hotel in Lawrence was made of stone and concrete. It was like a fort. There were other forts constructed in Lawrence as well. The Pro-Slavery Army surrounded the forts and began a siege of Lawrence, which lasted only one week, from December 1-8, 1855. On December 7, James H. Lane drafted a treaty along with Dr. Charles Robinson and Wilson Shannon. The treaty was signed by the Pro-slavery and the Free-State representatives on December 9, 1855, thus ending the Wakarusa War. However, what will keep this conflict from happening again? The official militia was made up of both pro-slavery and anti-slavery men.

### 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.

- **April 8, 2026:** Round Table member **Arnold Schofield** will give a program titled: “Remembering Women Warriors.” His talk will feature women such as Mrs. Elizabeth Van Lew, a Union spy that lived in Richmond during the Civil War.
- **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:** **Dr. Harry Laver** with the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College is the proposed speaker. His topic is to be determined.
- **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: Mr. Ron Coddington** will be speaking about Civil War photography. He is a Civil War historian, author, and editor.

## Remembering Monet Kietzman



We are very sorry to report that a long-time member of our Round Table, **Monet Kietzman**, passed away on February 21st. The following obituary is from the Porter Funeral Home:

“Monet Luree Kietzman of Lenexa passed away on Saturday, February 21, 2026 at her home. She was 68 years old.

“Monet was born on December 5, 1957 in Sapulpa, Oklahoma to Albert and Nancy Bellinger (Black). She attended Kansas State University where she earned her bachelor’s degree in social work in 1980. She spent most of her career as an underwriter and retired from Sunlife Financial in 2025.

“She was the proud mother of two sons that she loved unconditionally. From ear aches to baseball practice and snuggles to scouts, Monet showed up for her sons no matter what. They took many family road trips and she supported them in pursuing their multiple individual interests. When those sons grew up and got married, she embraced her daughters-in-law with equal devotion.

“Monet was an avid genealogist and a leader in multiple historical groups. She loved to read and learn and enjoy a good TV series, even more so if those activities were historically based. A rebel at heart, she loved rock music and concerts. She also enjoyed traveling, giving presents, and a fountain Diet Coke. Monet was a devoted Catholic, who spent her last few years with St. Joseph parish. She demonstrated her commitment to her faith through Bible and catechism studies, midnight adoration slots, and attending All School Mass with her grandchildren. In her retirement, she was looking forward to being able to increase this involvement.

“Monet truly came into her own when she became a grandmother. Her life centered around her grandchildren, Ezri and Louis, who called her Gigi. She took them to school and activities, hosted many a sleepover, and spoiled with the best of them. Monet’s family was the most important thing to her and she would do anything for them. They are all incredibly fortunate to be recipients of such love and dedication.

“Monet is survived by her sons Ian (Brianna) Kietzman of Kansas City and Dane (Frankie) Kietzman of Shawnee, their father, Randy Kietzman, and her grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her parents, her brother Steve Bellinger and her lifelong friend, Cindy Trupka.

“The visitation will be Monday, March 2 from 10-11am followed by Funeral Mass at 11am at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 11311 Johnson Drive, Shawnee, KS. Memorial contributions in Monet’s name are welcome to the St. Joseph Generations Campaign or the Gift of Adoption Fund.”

Please keep Monet’s family in your prayers.

## Member News and Announcements

**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 87<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Deb Buckner** wants to remind everyone that the dinner meetings in April and May will not be held on the third Wednesday of the month. Due to scheduling conflicts with Milburn Country Club, our dinner meeting

in April will be held on Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>. The dinner meeting in May will be held on Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup>.

## Sergeant Major's Roar

### Executive Committee Meeting on February 7<sup>th</sup>

Round Table President **Deb Buckner** announced that the Round Table's Executive Committee met on Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at the Lenexa City Center branch of Johnson County Library. The following are some items resulting from the meeting:

- **Dick Titterington** presented his treasurer's report dated February 5, 2026. As of February 5<sup>th</sup>, a total of 82 members had paid their membership dues for 2026.
- **Dick Titterington** said as a result of our \$1,000 donation to the American Battlefield Trust, the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City retains its Regimental Color Bearer status with the American Battlefield Trust.
- **Jordan Buckner** will begin assisting **Marlene Natoli** at the check-in table at our dinner meetings.
- **Gary Nevius** updated the speakers list for 2026. He has asked Dr. Harry Laver to speak in June to replace Ms. Kellie Gormly. Mr. Ron Coddington has been confirmed as the speaker in December.
- **Deb Buckner** said our Round Table needs more of a presence on social media. If anyone is interested in helping out on this effort, please let Dab know. Deb recommended reaching out to the Kansas City Public Library and the World War I Museum to see if we can come up with some ideas for partnering with them.

### 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.

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### Battlefield Dispatches #719

#### Perfect Dare-Devs with Shotguns or Revolvers!

During the Civil War, especially in Missouri, Confederate Guerrillas, or as they were commonly called BUSHWHACKERS, waged a very successful war against the occupying Union or Federal Forces. There were a number of reasons for this and the title of this column describes two of the most important reasons for their success: First, they were normally expert Horsemen, who were mounted on exceptionally good quality horses that were very fast. Because of this, they could be and were often "Dare-Devs" who would appear to be reckless in their surprise, spontaneous attacks, which they were not and then they would disappear rapidly into the brush from whence they came, as if they were "Gray Ghosts." Second, they were very well armed with "sawed-off" or short Shotguns and/or multiple Six-Shot Revolvers. This increased fire power was very effective and deadly in close mounted, hand-to-hand combat with the Union forces, that were usually armed with one revolver and a carbine.

The following correspondence describes the presence of and potential reaction to Confederate Bushwhackers in the District of North Missouri in the spring of 1864. It is located in Vol. 34, part III, Correspondence of the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion on Pages 642 and 659.

"Danville, Missouri; May 17, 1864.

[To] General C. B. Fisk,

Commanding District of North Missouri

General:

I have the honor to report that on yesterday, the 16<sup>th</sup>, a stranger of a Rebel appearance came to the house of D. W. Baker, who lives seven miles east of Danville, Montgomery County, Mo., and demanded something to eat, which was given him. He then asked the way to Moore's Mill, which is in Callaway County. He then went out to the farm and asked the contrabands the way to Hermann and went in that direction.

On the 15<sup>th</sup>, a party of four men, dressed in Federal uniforms went to the house of one Tatum, six miles north of New Florence, in said County and robbed him and his wife of all the money in their possession. Tatum is a Rebel and they claimed to be Federals. And also, on the

15<sup>th</sup>, a party of eight, armed Rebels crossed the Missouri River at Coal Creek, about three miles west of Hermann, coming in this side and made their way in the direction of Portland. They are said to be "PERFECT DARE-DEVILS." And also, on the night of the 14<sup>th</sup>, a horse was stolen from one James Craig, who lives in the southwest part of Montgomery County. He [Craig] traced his horse to near Williamsburg, a Rebel town in Callaway County.

The most observing Union men of this County [Montgomery] think that the REBELS are endeavoring to organize themselves somewhere in Callaway or the southwest part of this county, in such a manner as will oppose the forces now distributed over the County and ROB and KILL Union men and thereby intimidate us in the coming election. It is thought that they are already spotting [identifying] members of the "Union League of America" in this County and especially in this town [Danville]. The records of the county are here and could easily be consumed by fire. Rebels would like to have their bonds [for loyal behavior] destroyed. They are almost all well-ARMED, either with SHOTGUNS or REVOLVERS!

General, I respectfully, but earnestly, recommend an Independent Organization of some kind, say 100 for 100 days, for this county and permission for the Loyal men as Militia, to disarm all the Rebels in this County. It is proper to state that many of the Enrolled Missouri Militia, under the last enrollment, are disloyal. If such arms and authority is given us, we will use them judiciously, but not conservatively.

I have the honor to be Your Most Obedient Servant,

L. A. THOMPSON,  
President Danville Council of the U. L. of A. for the State of Missouri."

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"Hdqrs., Eighth Sub-District of North Missouri,  
Office of the Assistant Provost-Marshal,  
Fulton, Mo., May 18, 1864.

[To] Major James F. Dwight,  
Provost-Marshal, District of North Missouri,  
Saint Joseph, Mo.

Major:

I have the honor to report to you that I have made a requisition on Major Leonard, at Fayette, Mo., for a force sufficient to break up the BUSHWHACKER BANDS in

this Sub-District. The forces here are out scouting day and night, but they are not sufficient to do much, as their number is so small. They consist of 47 men of Company L, Ninth Missouri State Militia Cavalry, Capt. T. L. Campbell Commanding. Fifteen of these men are not mounted and are, in consequence thereof, only serviceable for Post duty. The balance of the Company is on detached service which leaves only 32 men for actual service, which force is entirely too small to do the scouting required.

The men of this Company are all very good and willing for all duty and are, in my humble judgment, at the right place, as good as many of them are recruits in this County and are well acquainted with all the roads and localities in this County. I would most respectfully ask your aid to have the rest of this company sent here. There are between 40 and 50 men of the Enrolled Missouri Militia in this county, all of them good, loyal men and in fact the only men who enrolled this year for active duty. If they could be called into service under Lieutenant David M. Dunlap here, I have no doubt that we would not only take care of this sub-district, but also break up all these MARAUDERS and bring at least a large portion of them to justice, as we would have a vast advantage in having men who are FAMILIAR WITH ALL THE BY-ROADS AND EVERY HIDING PLACE, as well as all DISLOYAL PERSONS in the sub-district where the BUSHWHACKERS generally get their SUPPLIES AND PROVISIONS.

I have the honor to be, Major, Very Respectfully, Your Obedient Servant,

CHARLES D. LUDWIG,  
Assistant Provost-Marshal"

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Now then, by 1863 and for the duration of the Civil War, the Union troops in Missouri for the most part AND with the help of knowledgeable civilians, learned of some but not all of the BY-WAYS, TRAILS, HIDING PLACES, AND SAFE HOUSES of the" Bushwhackers." However, the enemy guerrillas continued to be very successful and were still "Perfect Dare-Devils" who were mounted on fast horses and were armed to the teeth with "Shotguns and Revolvers" as the war went on.

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## Shelby's Battle Flag Returns to Missouri

by Dick Titterington

Back in June 2024, I delivered a Civil War Round Table program titled: "The First Lost Cause: Confederate Missourians Exiled in Mexico."

During this program, I described what happened when Brig. General Jo Shelby's group crossed from Texas into Mexico. At that time, the group ceremoniously buried Shelby's battle flag in the Rio Grande River. Colonel Alonzo Slayback even wrote a poem, "The Burial of Shelby's Flag" to commemorate the event.<sup>1</sup>

One member of Slayback's company was sixteen-year-old Pvt. Jarrett Todd. Todd was born in Platte County, Missouri in 1849. Todd did not stay in Mexico very long. If you believe his family's story, Todd passed through Piedras Negrasso and was able to retrieve the flag. In 1938, Todd's family donated this flag (54" square) to the Oklahoma Historical Society. It was on display with the caption: "This flag of C.S. General Joseph O. Shelby was never surrendered."<sup>2</sup>

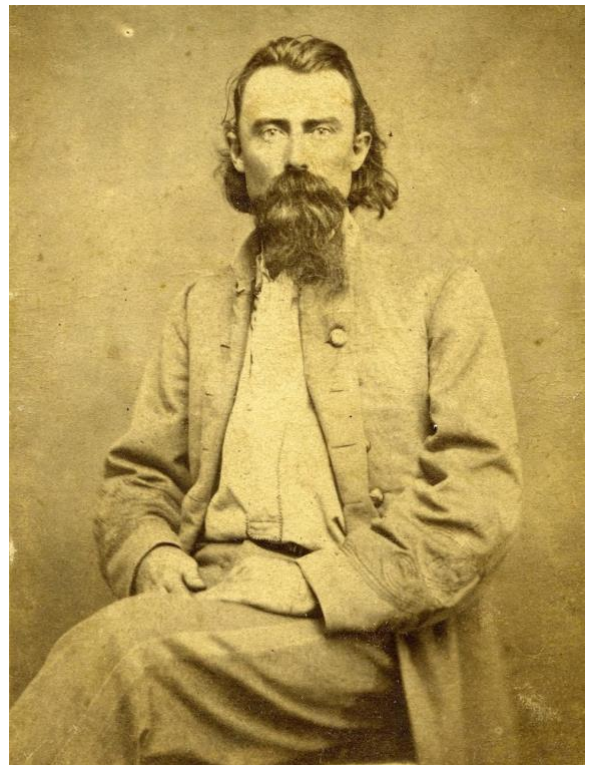
In 2025, the Missouri State Museum collaborated with the Oklahoma Historical Society to return this flag to Missouri. I received this photo of the flag from Tiffany Patterson, director of the Missouri State Museum. The museum is in the process of obtaining vendor quotes to restore the flag so that it may be put on display.

<sup>1</sup> Slayback, Alonzo W. *A Memorial Volume, Being Selections in Poetry and Prose*. J. H. Chambers & Co., 1883, 139–142.

<sup>2</sup> Dedmond, *The Flags of Civil War Missouri*, 97–100.



Photo of Shelby's Battle Flag that was sent to Dick Titterington by Tiffany Patterson.



Carte de Viste of Joseph O. Shelby courtesy of Wilson's Creek National Battlefield.

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A cropped photo of an oil painting, "Shelby at the Rio Grande," by Bruce Marshall.