



The Scout's Report

Knoxville Civil War Roundtable
P. O. Box 313
Knoxville, Tennessee 37901
KCWRT Website:
<http://www.discoveret.org/kcwrt/>

VOLUME XXVI

MARCH, 2010

NO. 9

Tuesday, Mar. 9, 2010
Buffet at 7:00 PM
Speaker at 8:00 PM
Dinner & Speech
\$15.00 Members
\$17.00 (Non-members)
Speech Only
\$3.00 Members
\$5.00 (Non-members)
RESERVATIONS ARE
REQUIRED FOR DINNER
AND MUST BE MADE BY
11AM, MONDAY, MAR 8
CALL (865) 671-9001 (PLEASE
LEAVE MESSAGE)

MENU:
Beef Tips over Noodles
Grilled Chicken
Garden Salad
Green Beans
Oven Roasted Potatoes
Rolls
Beverages
Assorted Desserts
Location:
Bearden Banquet Hall
5804 Kingston Pike

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GALVANIZED YANKEES: THE FIRST UNITED STATES VOLUNTEER INFANTRY REGIMENT

As the Second Battle of Bull Run was raging in Virginia, vengeful Santee Sioux war parties were burning, pillaging, and killing hundreds of settlers along the Minnesota-Dakota-Iowa frontier. Horrified residents clamored for military action, but President Abraham Lincoln and Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton were hard pressed to keep troops on the battle lines in the South. They met the desperate need for additional manpower in December 1863 by permitting the recruitment of Confederate prisoners of war into the Union army, beginning under Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler at Point Lookout Prison in Maryland. Distrusting the enlisted prisoners of war, Maj. Gen. Ulysses Grant sent them to Maj. Gen. John Pope, commanding the Department of the Northwest, to garrison western forts and to protect the overland trails.

Designated the "First United States Volunteer Infantry Regiment" by General Butler, these Confederate prisoners of war were enlisted between January and June 1864 with the understanding that they would face their former comrades on the battlefield in the East. General Grant's orders, however, sent half of them to the Minnesota frontier and half to Dakota Territory. The Dakota Battalion garrisoned Fort Rice on the Upper Missouri, where they assisted travelers, fought Native raiders, supervised Indian traders, and gathered reconnaissance for their district commander, Brig. Gen. Alfred Sully. Severely suffering from subzero temperatures; debilitating diseases; and inadequate equipment, food, and supplies, the Dakota Battalion of the First U.S. Volunteers faithfully manned their posts and served their country until they were mustered out in November 1865. As one of their officers commented, they were "the first fruits of a reunited people."



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Since our last CW tour was several years ago, it's time to have another one. My initial plan was for a two-day tour into Kentucky either last fall or now, when the leaves are off the trees to allow for better visibility. That may have been too ambitious. I currently think the best approach is a single day of touring by driving up I-75 caravan style to take in the 1862 Kentucky battlefields at first Mill Springs and then Richmond (KY). It's been over 20 years since my one and only visit to Mill Springs, and I have never been to Richmond since it's a relatively new battlefield park. I'm choosing a tentative date of Saturday, May 22nd, the weekend prior to Memorial Day weekend. More details later.

Here's the latest news of RT members' activities and CW happenings in our area from a recent scouting report:

- 1) Joan Markel gave an excellent talk last Sunday, February 21st, at the McClung Museum on how the CW affected the citizenry of Knoxville.
- 2) Steve Dean's new documentary film on CW events in Knoxville called "Holding the High Ground" will air on WBIR-TV 10 on March 27th at 8:30 p.m.
- 3) A recent picture in the News Sentinel shows Bob Greer visiting Long Drug Store. If you look closely, you will see the KCWRT logo on his shirt! Nothing like free advertising!
- 4) Lee Petry recently donated a variety of CW video tapes, DVDs, and audio books to our CW Media Loan Program. Thanks Lee!
- 5) Articles about Legacy Parks Foundation's recent purchase of 70 acres of the River Bluff Wildlife Area and their efforts to buy 22 acres of Ft. Stanley property got great coverage with articles appearing in the Knoxville News Sentinel, Metro Pulse, Farragut Press, and the Civil War News.
- 6) Congrats and Happy Birthday to first time visitor Terri Maples who last month won one of the Lincoln books since we met on her birthday. Also, welcome husband Rod Maples.

One administrative matter. The RT membership roster was recently distributed to members who receive the The Scout's Report on line. For all others, the membership list may be picked up at the March RT meeting.

I had to do some reading recently to find out exactly what a "Galvanized Yankee" was, a unique topic to be covered by our March speaker. Did you know that probably the most famous Galvanized Yankee was Henry Morton Stanley who traveled into the deep jungles of Africa to ask the immortal question, "Dr. Livingstone, I presume?"

Norman Shaw, President

KCWRT NEWS



The Lincoln
SYMPOSIUM
"And the war came."
Lincoln's America

Endorsed by the
Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission

LINCOLN
BICENTENNIAL
1809-2009

APRIL 15-17, 2010
Abraham Lincoln Library and Museum
Harrogate, Tennessee
www.lmunet.edu/museum/index.html

UPCOMING SPEAKERS 2010

March 9--Dr. Michele Butts, Professor, Austin Peay State University, "The Galvanized Yankees: Confederate Prisoners Of War in Blue"

April 13--Paul Taylor, Historian/author, "Orlando M. Poe: Civil War & Great Lakes Engineer"

May 11---Thomas Flagel, Columbia State Community College, "Appomattox: The Place of Lee's Surrender and a National Resurrection"

June 8--Bruce Allardice, Historian/author, Topic TBA

July 13--Jim Lewis, Historian at Stones River NMP, "The History of the Orphan Brigade"

August 10--Jeffry Wert, Historian/author, Topic TBA

September 14--Wiley Sword, Historian/author, Topic TBA

October 12--Frank O'Reilly, Historian Fredericksburg/Spotsylvania NMP, Topic TBA

November 9--Edwin C. Bearss, Chief Historian Emeritus NPS, Topic TBA

December 14--James H. Ogden, Chief Historian Chickamauga/Chattanooga NMP, Topic TBA

MEET DR. MICHÈLE BUTTS



A native of Clarksville, Dr. Michèle Butts grew up in the “shadow” of Fort Donelson and received her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in History from Austin Peay State University. She received her Ph.D. in History from the University of New Mexico, directed by Dr. Paul Andrew Hutton and Dr. Richard Ellis. Her book, *Galvanized Yankees on the Upper Missouri: The Face of Loyalty* published by the University Press of Colorado in 2003, allowed her to blend her three scholarly interests: the Civil War, the American West, and Native American History. Dr. Butts is a Professor of History at Austin Peay State University, and has taught in Kentucky as well as New Mexico.

KNOX HERITAGE ANNOUNCES PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST FOR 2010 ART & ARCHITECTURE TOUR

Knox Heritage announces a contest for photographers living in the greater Knoxville area, giving them the opportunity to participate in the nonprofit organization’s popular annual event, the Art & Architecture Tour.

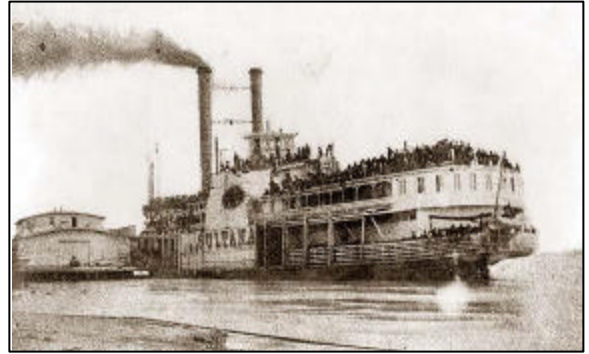
Professional and amateur photographers aged 16 or older and living in Knox County or any of the surrounding eight counties are eligible to submit photos of historic buildings located in Downtown North, an area including sections of Broadway, North Central Street, Old Gray Cemetery, Emory Place, and portions of historic neighborhoods Old North Knoxville and Fourth & Gill. The exact boundaries of the area included in the contest, as well as complete photography submission guidelines, can be found at <http://www.knoxheritage.org/> or by calling the office at 865-523-8008.

Submissions must be received by Knox Heritage by April 2, 2010. Winners will be notified in mid-April and then publicly announced at the tour. Winning photographs will constitute the tour route for the fourth Art & Architecture Tour, held on May 14, 2010. The tour will be led by Jack Neely and Bob Whetsel, and a reception before the tour will be held at Ironwood Studios. More information about the tour will be announced soon.

SULTANA REUNION--Chattanooga, TN, April 23rd and 24th

--submitted by Norman Shaw

The 23rd Sultana Reunion will be held this year in Chattanooga, TN, on Friday and Saturday, April 23rd and 24th. Several hundred Union soldiers captured at the Battles of Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, and Missionary Ridge in 1863 ended up on the overloaded, ill fated *Sultana* steamship when it exploded in the middle of the Mississippi River on April 27, 1865, resulting in the worst maritime disaster in American history with the loss of 1,800 souls.



Anyone interested may attend all or any part of our reunion. One attraction might be the day long tour of CW sites at the battles mentioned above for only \$10.00 per person. We are very fortunate to have as our tour guide Jim Ogden, Chief Historian of the Chick./Chatt. National Military Park.

Contact me at shawclan4@bellsouth.net if you would like more information or plan to attend.

A RED LETTER DAY FOR FARRAGUT!

And I'm not talking about the budget. Mark your calendars: April 30, May 1 & 2.

The town of Farragut is constructing a pavilion near the Town Hall, which will soon contain a seven-foot statue of Civil War Admiral David G. Farragut, namesake of the town. As most of you know, Farragut was born nearby. To compliment the statue, the town has secured a 9-inch Dahlgren gun from the USS Hartford, Farragut's flagship at Mobile Bay. It was on this ship that Farragut is said to have commanded his crew, "Damn the torpedoes; full speed ahead." The massive Dahlgren weighs 9,000 pounds and has a range of nearly two miles. The Hartford gun and an 8-inch muzzle-loading gun from the USS Independence are on permanent loan from the U. S. Naval Historical Center. As a young naval officer, Farragut sailed on the Independence in the Mediterranean in 1815. These guns will flank the impressive statue of Admiral Farragut, which will be dedicated on Sunday, May 2.

On April 30 & May 1, there will be Civil War living history programs. Mark your calendars and watch for more details in next month's newsletter!

-----Dot Kelly

Thanks to member Bob Linsell for data.

FROM THE ARCHIVES-submitted by Norman Shaw

Many of us have visited Hazen's Monument at Stones River Battlefield in Murfreesboro, TN. Built only a few months after the battle was fought during the final days of 1862, it is arguably the oldest CW monument in existence. It bears the name of then Col. William Hazen whose men repulsed repeated Confederate attacks against them in the Round Forest. Hazen became a general and was involved in many fights during the remainder of the Civil War.

Back in the 1990s, I was visiting Hazen's Monument one day when I noticed just across the boundary wall a headstone on private property facing the Monument with the inscription of "William Holland, Sgt., Co. I, 111th Regt, U. S. Cld. Inf.", a black regiment. It was obvious to me that Mr. Holland wanted to be buried on his property as close as possible to his fellow Union soldiers.



I couldn't help but wonder if Holland's heirs still owned the parcel abutting Hazen's Monument and, if so, why had the National Park Service (NPS) not purchased the land since the existing house was deserted and in a deteriorated state. To make this part short, an attempt by the NPS to acquire Holland's parcel from his descendants several years earlier had failed with the Park then losing contact with them. Armed with this information, I returned to Murfreesboro a few weeks later to search Holland's title on my own time to see if I could locate a living heir. Happily, I was successful (believe it or not I found one of the heirs by simply looking for her name in the Nashville phone book!) and in 2001 the NPS bought Holland's parcel for permanent inclusion in Stones River Battlefield and forever preserving his final resting place.

Now, for the rest of the story! I was excited to learn recently that last month Jim Lewis, Park Ranger for Stones River (he's our RT's July speaker), gave a talk to the Middle Tenn. CWRT, of which he is a member, about no other than William Holland! Since I knew nothing about Holland's CW service, I asked Jim if he could send me some information on Holland. Surprisingly, Jim directed me to the Stones River web site (www.nps.gov/stri/historyculture/holland.htm), which provides all of Holland's interesting, but somewhat sketchy, CW experience and later civilian life.

But, for the best part, I made a most exciting discovery when I learned that Holland had a *Sultana* connection! His regiment, the 111th USCT, was part of the Union forces that garrisoned the fort at Sulfur Branch Trestle in northern Alabama, which surrendered to Nathan Bedford Forrest during his fall 1864 railroad raid. Many of the white soldiers in the fort, including the U. S. 3rd Tenn. Cavalry from the Knoxville area, after surviving months as POWs, became passengers on the ill fated *Sultana* steamship when it exploded in the middle of the Mississippi River in the early hours of April 27, 1865, taking the lives of 1,800 souls--America's worst maritime disaster!

THE INCOME TAX DURING THE WAR

Thanks to George Furis, Ed., The Courier, CWRT of Central Florida

The Civil War represented a watershed moment in the history of American taxation. In order to help pay for the rising costs of the Civil War, the United States Congress passed an income tax in 1862. The Internal Revenue Act of July 1, 1862 passed a number of new war-related taxes, including income tax that went into effect on September 1, 1862.

The income tax only applied to people who had incomes of more than \$600 per year. Many people were able to elude the tax altogether. For instance, a second lieutenant in the Union Army was paid only \$45 a month, or \$540 a year. The original tax rate was three percent of the income above \$600. The three percent range went up to \$10,000. The rate was five percent of the income over \$10,000. Deductions were allowed for such expenses as rent, repairs, insurance, freight charges and employee wages. After 1864, the income of Federal employees was also exempted. In 1864, the rates were adjusted to taking five percent of annual income from \$600 to \$5,000 and 10 percent of any income over \$5,000.

In addition, the Act placed excise taxes on just about everything, including sin and luxury items like liquor, tobacco, gold watches, pianofortes and similar parlor musical instruments, carriages, yachts, billiard tables, and jewelry. It taxed patent medicines and newspaper advertisements. It imposed license taxes on practically every profession or service except the clergy. It instituted stamp taxes, (Apparently Congress forgot the Stamp Act passed by the British Parliament that started an uprising in the colonies.) on all legal documents. Telegrams and playing cards, value added taxes on manufactured goods and processed meats, inheritance taxes, axes on gross receipts of corporations, banks, and insurance companies, as well as taxes on dividends or interest they paid to investors.

To administer these excise taxes, along with the tariff system, the Internal Revenue Act also created a Bureau of Internal Revenue, whose first commissioner, George Boutwell, described it as “the largest Government department ever organized.” There were also taxes on manufacturers of articles that came under the new tax laws. A glance at some 1863 Philadelphia record pages notes residents paying a six percent tax for bonnets, boots, shoes, furniture, horseshoes, medicines, locks, tin-ware, brushes, photograph albums and other products made within the assessment period. A cigar maker was charged \$11 for making 1,100 cigars.

The Confederates enjoyed one of the lightest tax burdens. Local or state governments assessed all obligations. The hastily assembled Confederate government lacked the bureaucratic infrastructure to levy or collect internal taxes. Its citizens possessed neither a tradition of compliance nor a means to remit payment. Land and slaves comprised the bulk of southern capital and liquid forms of wealth like specie or paper currency were hard to come by in a predominantly agrarian region.

Efforts to raise war revenue through various methods of taxation proved ineffective. The Confederate Congress enacted a minor tariff in 1861, but it contributed only \$3.5 million in four years. That same year, Congress implemented a small direct tax (0.5 percent) on real and personal property. However, the government in Richmond was forced to rely on the individual states to collect the levy. Reprising the scenario played out during the Revolutionary War, most states did not collect the tax at all, preferring to meet their quota by borrowing money or printing state notes to cover it.

THE SCOUT'S REPORT

For Knowledge, Commemoration, and Preservation of Our Civil War Heritage

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The Knoxville Civil War Roundtable welcomes any person who has an interest in the American Civil War. New members are always welcome.

For more information, please call 865-671-9001. Or check out our website at:
<http://www.discoveret.org/kcwrt>

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