

The Jefferson Barracks Gazette



June 2012

The Official Newsletter of the Friends of Jefferson Barracks

Volume 24 Issue 2

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General Meeting June 21 in the Visitors Center at 7:00 PM

Our speaker for the June General Meeting is Gretchen Shoemaker, a Lead Preservation Technician at the National Archives Center in St. Louis. Her topic will be document preservation programs and the effort to restore and preserve records damaged in the 1973 fire.

MARCH GENERAL MEETING AND ELECTION

At the March meeting, members were treated to an interesting and entertaining presentation by Daniel Waugh on the history of gangs in St. Louis beginning in the Prohibition Era and continuing through WWII. The presentation was based upon research for his books, *Egan's Rats* and *Gangs of St. Louis*, as well as several published articles.

Pat Galanos gave a brief report on Friends/Park activities since the beginning of the year: the Swap Meet in January, an interesting event even if you're not a collector of military memorabilia; the Adult Easter Egg Hunt in March, a fun event for all; and the WWII Weekend in April with exciting reenactments, interesting displays, and a Canteen Dance on Saturday.

The following members were elected to three-year terms on the Board of Directors (March 2012 – March 2015):

Pat Galanos;
Patty Crocker;
Rich Pisoni;
Michael Conner.

Wayne Winters was elected to complete the remaining two years (March 2012 – March 2014) of the term vacated by the passing of Lucy Neumann.

Mary Nowak was elected to a three-year term (March 2012 – March 2015) as an Alternate Member to the Board of Directors.

The following members were elected to one-year terms (April 2012 – April 2013) as officers of the Board of Directors:

Pat Galanos - President
Dennis Mertz - Vice-President
Patty Crocker - Secretary
Wayne Winters - Treasurer

The Friends of Jefferson Barracks is a 501(c) 3 organization and a part of the St Louis County Historic Sites Foundation. Membership in the Friends of Jefferson Barracks is open to all interested individuals, organizations, and corporations. Questions and comments concerning the Friends of Jefferson Barracks or any item in this newsletter should be directed to Friends of Jefferson Barracks, 345 North Road, St. Louis, MO 63125-4259. The Friends of Jefferson Barracks, St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation, and the editorial staff of this newsletter assume no responsibility for the accuracy of items submitted for publication. The Jefferson Barracks Gazette, published quarterly for our members, is the official publication of the Friends of Jefferson Barracks.

Recent Events

On February 25, the Swap Meet was held at the General Grant Shelter.

Approximately 185 vendors participated in the event.

Thanks to Mike Pierce for organizing the event!



The adult Easter Egg Hunt was March 30-31.

Based at the Leuthauser Shelter, both hunts were well-attended and a good time was had by all.

This year, a first for the egg hunt - a marriage proposal! (She said yes!!!!)



On April 14, the Walk Through Time event was held in conjunction with the upcoming opening of the Great Rivers Greenway walking trail.

Several costumed re-enactors gave presentations of time periods including the Civil War era, World War I, World War II, and present-day military.

Pictured to the right is Micah, who was reenacting as a woman war correspondent of World War II.



Recent Events (cont.)



A canteen dance was held at the Grant Shelter on April 28 as part of the annual World War II Weekend at Jefferson Barracks.

In spite of the threatening weather, it was a thoroughly enjoyable event.

The Michael Lacey orchestra played everyone's favorite tunes from the 1940s, and didn't miss a beat all night.

Thanks to all who attended, those who volunteered, and the reenactors who make the weekend so educational and enjoyable.

On June 2, several teams "Scavenged Through the Night" at Jefferson Barracks.

June 17 saw Esley Hamilton and NiNi Harris sign their new book, *St. Louis Parks*, in the Visitors Center.

Again, thanks to all who came out to play!

**The Friends of Jefferson Barracks
Gift Shop**

***St. Louis Parks*, the new book by NiNi Harris and Esley Hamilton, is now available in the gift shop. The price is \$35.00; members of the Friends of Jefferson Barracks receive a 10% discount.**

**The Gift Shop in the Visitors Center is open
Noon to 4:00 PM, Wednesday through Sunday.**

**If you are interested in volunteering in the gift shop,
please contact Pat Galanos at 314 544-5714.**

Missouri, St. Louis, Jefferson Barracks and the Civil War, Part III

By Marc E. Kollbaum

(Continued from previous newsletter)

The bloodshed at Camp Jackson on May 10, 1861 brought on a panic throughout Saint Louis on May 11. Rumors spread that the German-immigrant Home Guards were going to sack the city. Doors and shutters were closed and bolted. Citizens called upon General Harney to disarm the Germans, but Harney explained that the regiments of Home Guards were United States Volunteers, accepted under the call made by President Lincoln. Their guns had been issued according to regulation and Harney could not take them away. Harney issued a proclamation that declared that there was no danger. He also sent detachments of troops to give the citizens reassurance that everything was okay. Despite these actions, thousands of St. Louisans hastily packed their essentials and moved to the western suburbs or crossed the river into Illinois. By Monday morning things seemed to have settled down and the people who had fled the city only a day earlier could be seen moving back into their homes.

Union men, shocked by the bloodshed at Camp Jackson, were divided on the question of whether or not the move made by Lyon was justifiable. One delegation went to Washington to urge the removal of Lyon and another to urge his retention. Every member of the Committee of Public Safety signed its report of the Camp Jackson affair supporting Lyon's actions. Lyon soon was appointed brigadier general of volunteers.

In Jefferson City the legislature had been debating a military bill since January. On May 10 Governor Jackson came into the representatives chamber and announced that Camp Jackson had been captured. "In an instant," said Thomas Snead, "all resistance gave way, and within 15 minutes the bill had passed both houses and was awaiting the governor's signature."

Late that night an alarm was given by ringing the city's church bells. After the legislature had assembled, Governor Jackson announced that, "two of Mr. Blair's regiments were on the way to the capital." About midnight an act was passed authorizing "the governor to take such measures as he might deem necessary or proper to repel invasion or put down rebellion." Jackson sent armed men to hold the Missouri Pacific Railway bridges over the Osage and Gasconade Rivers. One of the groups exceeded their orders however, and set fire to the bridge over the Osage.

The military bill established a division for each congressional district with a brigadier general in command of each division. Alexander W. Doniphan, the famous "Xenophan" Doniphan of the march across the plains to New Mexico, was offered one of these commissions, but declined and remained a Union man. The divisions of the Missouri State Guard (as it was called) were organized as follows: First Division - M. Jeff Thompson; Second Division - Thomas A. Harris; Third Division - M.L. Clark; Fourth Division - William Y. Slack; Fifth Division - A.E. Steen; Sixth Division - M.M. Parsons; Seventh Division - J.H. McBride; Eighth Division - James L. Rains.

The generals were ordered to enroll men fit for military duty and to drill them. The generals were well chosen as Parsons, Clark, and Slack had been in the Mexican War. The ultimate purpose of the State Guard was well understood by the men who organized it. Parsons later became a major general in the Confederate Army and Clark, Slack, Steen, and Rains became brigadier generals.

(continued on next page)

Missouri, St. Louis, Jefferson Barracks and the Civil War, Part III

By Marc E. Kollbaum

(Continued from previous page)

A good example of the difficult decisions that many young men in Missouri and throughout the country had to make is that of John S. Marmaduke. Marmaduke, a young second lieutenant in the U.S. Army, was stationed at Fort Laramie in April 1861 and like many other men had to decide under which government he wanted to serve. He came home and talked it over with his father, a Virginian, slaveholder and former governor. The elder Marmaduke was strongly against secession. According to a family member the elder Marmaduke said “John, there can be but one result. You will sacrifice your profession. Secession will fail. Slavery will be abolished. But you must decide for yourself, following your own convictions.” John did decide and resigned his commission in the U.S. Army and organized a regiment under the military bill.

Second Lt. John S. Marmaduke was only one of many U.S. Army officers who made the decision to resign their commissions and take up arms for the Confederacy. For some it was an easily-made decision, but for many others this decision did not come so easily. There were more than 75 U.S. Army officers who had served at Jefferson Barracks at some point before the outbreak of the Civil War who made the decision to resign their commissions and take up arms against their former comrades. Among the more famous is Robert E. Lee, who served at Jefferson Barracks during the mid-1830s and again in 1855 as lieutenant colonel of the 2nd Cavalry. In fact, Lee commanded Jefferson Barracks for several months in 1855. The colonel of the 2nd Cavalry, Albert Sidney Johnston, also served at Jefferson Barracks. Other former Jefferson Barracks officers to wear the stars of a Confederate Army general were Joseph Johnston, Braxton Bragg, John Bell Hood, Simon B. Buckner, James Longstreet, George E. Pickett, JEB Stuart, William J. Hardee, and Louis Armistead, to name just a few. Of course, we cannot forget that the president of the Confederate States of America, Jefferson Davis, served at Jefferson Barracks upon graduation from West Point in 1828.

During May and early June of 1861 activity records at Jefferson Barracks do not exhibit all the excitement that was going on all around it. Major Nathaniel C. Macrae, 3rd Infantry, commanded a small garrison that consisted of only three other officers, fifty-five artillery and general service recruits, and 17 enlisted men. An indication that bigger things were ahead can be gleaned from the May 28 letter sent by Headquarters Department of the West, which ordered a regiment of Missouri volunteers to take station at Jefferson Barracks.

In the next installment we'll take a look at the Price-Harney Agreement, the beginning of the fighting in Missouri and the growth and usage of Jefferson Barracks during the remainder of 1861 and early 1862.



Friends of Jefferson Barracks
345 North Road
St. Louis, Mo 63125-4259

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Upcoming Events
Mark Your Calendars

JB Blast

July 3, 2012 @ 7:00 PM

Historic Hayrides

July 15 @ 12:30 and 2:00 PM

Civil War Symposium

August 25 and 26
Programs are free;
donations are accepted.

Living History Hayrides

September 8 and 9

See our website for more information.

To volunteer for any activity,
call (314) 544-5714 or
email pagalanos@gmail.com.
Your help is appreciated!

The Friends of Jefferson Barracks
www.friendsofjeffersonbarracks.com

St. Louis County Parks
www.stlouisco.com

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Thank you for
your support of
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