

Civil War Round Table of St. Charles March 2026 Newsletter

On Tuesday, March 3, authors Vicki and Jim Erwin will present a program based on their new book, **Ulysses & Julia Grant's Missouri Love Story**. The couple will discuss the early lives of Julia and Ulysses Grant, their courtship, their years in Missouri, and how that time shaped their future together.

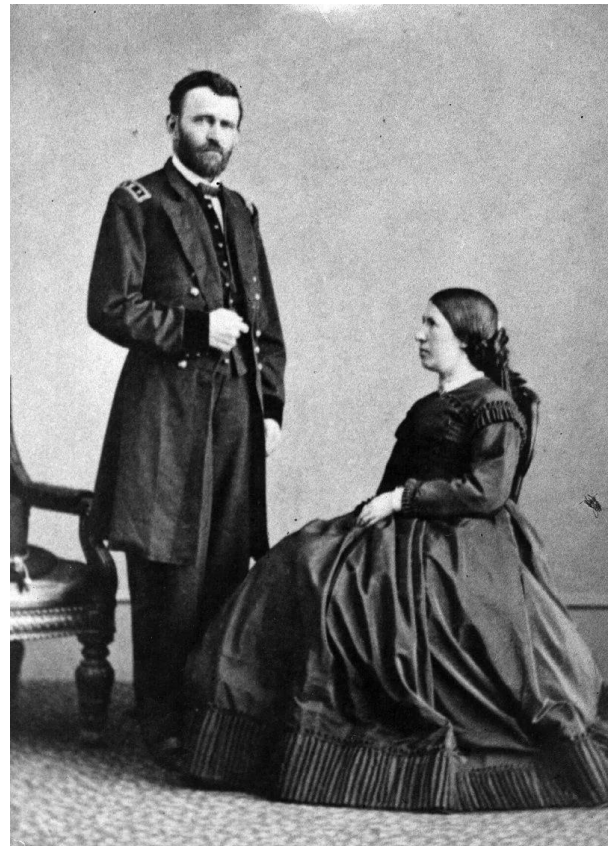
When a young officer newly graduated from West Point met the eldest daughter of a gruff Missouri slaveowner, farmer, and land speculator, it was love at first sight. Ulysses Grant and Julia Dent courted at her family farm, White Haven, until he was called away to fight in the Mexican-American War. Secretly engaged, Ulysses wrote tender letters to Julia between daring exploits in battle. Upon his return, they were married.

Ulysses' military career soon stagnated, and after a difficult period of separation while he was stationed on the West Coast, he resigned his commission to join Julia at White Haven—before returning to service during the Civil War.

Hopefully the Erwins will bring copies of their books for purchase, so please bring cash.

On Tuesday, April 7, author Tom Raifner will present a program on General Orders No. 11, one of the most controversial directives of the Civil War. Following the guerrilla attack on Lawrence, Kansas, in August 1863—led by William Quantrill—Brigadier General Thomas Ewing, of Pilot Knob fame, ordered the depopulation of several counties along the Missouri-Kansas border. Ewing's objective was to deny guerrillas support from the pro-Southern civilian population that aided the bushwhackers.

The severity of General Orders No. 11 and the manner of its enforcement alienated vast numbers of civilians and caused tremendous hardship. The region soon became known as the "Burnt District," and many families never returned to their destroyed farms. Ewing emerged as one of the most hated Union officers in Missouri.



We now have our own web page, thanks to Dorris Keeven-Franke, who created the Civil War Round Table of St. Charles County website. Check out the website for upcoming events and to see what we've been up to in the past.

<https://cwrtsec.org/>

We meet at the Kathryn Linnemann Library, 2323 Elm Street in St. Charles,
where presentations begin at 6:00 p.m.

The Fry's Lyon Foundation, 1861 Missouri Speaks Facebook page posts "This day in Missouri" Civil War articles. Check out their site for interesting posts about Missouri's Civil War history:
<https://www.facebook.com/1861MissouriSpeaks>

We have more articles on the Civil War in Missouri blog.
<https://historynutt.net/blog>

We were informed in December by the Kathryn Linnemann Library staff that, due to a change in library operating hours, we must adjust the start time of our meetings. Beginning January 6, all meetings will start at 6:00 p.m.

I have received much positive feedback from Greg's presentation about John A. Logan last month. The video is available on our YouTube channel at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FnUyxazkJ6M>

Our channel continues to grow, and several additional presentations are now available. If you missed a meeting or would like to revisit a program, I encourage you to explore the full selection of videos on our page.

Please remember to **Like and Subscribe**, as this greatly improves our visibility in search results. Feel free to share the link to our YouTube channel and website with anyone who may be interested.

Special thanks to **Greg and Daniel Waters** for managing and updating our channel.

Civil War Round Table of St. Charles County – YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/@CWRTSCC>

In addition to their formal monthly meetings, the Civil War Round Table of St. Louis hosts a small informal discussion group for more intimate conversations about the Civil War. The group meets at **11:00 a.m.** at the **Hearth Room Café**, 265 Lamp and Lantern Village, in Town and Country. They typically gather on the **first Thursday of each month.**

If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Paula at pzalar@aol.com.

Steve Tesson and I attend these meetings, and they are always engaging and informative. This month, the meeting will be held on **Thursday, March 5.**

If you're interested in what other Civil War Round Tables are up to, check out the Civil War Round Table Congress website.

<https://www.cwrtcongress.org/>

Tentative 2026 Agenda

~~January 6: The Missouri State Guard-Doug Gifford~~
~~February 3: General John A. Logan of Illinois-Greg Waters~~
March 3: The Romance of Julia and Ulysses Grant in St. Louis-Jim Irwin
March 28-29: Outing-Wilson's Creek and The Battle of Springfield Tours
April 7: General Orders #11-Tom Raifner
May 5: -Peruque Creek Fort-Dorris Keeven Franke
May 9: Outing-Civil War Weapons Firing
June 2: The Prairie Grove Campaign-Doug Gifford
July 7: General Lloyd Tilghman CSA-Layne Chartrand
August 4: -The End of the Civil War-Doug Gifford
September 1:The Vicksburg Campaign Part 1-Doug Gifford
October 6: The Vicksburg Campaign Part 2-Doug Gifford
October 17: Outing-Tour of Jefferson Barracks and the MO Civil War Museum
November 3: The Battle of Perryville, Kentucky-Greg Waters
December 1: Cookies, Cocoa, and a Documentary; Shiloh Firey Trial

If you have questions, comments, or suggestions, or would like to volunteer to present, contact Doug at historynut@hotmail.com or (636) 290-0710.

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064540790434>

YouTube page: Civil War Roundtable of St. Charles County - YouTube

or

<https://www.youtube.com/@CWRTSCC>

Website: <https://cwrtsc.org/>

Missouri in the Civil War Blog: <https://historynut.net/blog>