

The Civil War Round Table of St. Charles



William Quantrill and a young Jesse James

Next Meeting June 2, 2026

William C. Quantrill: Father of post-Civil War Banditry

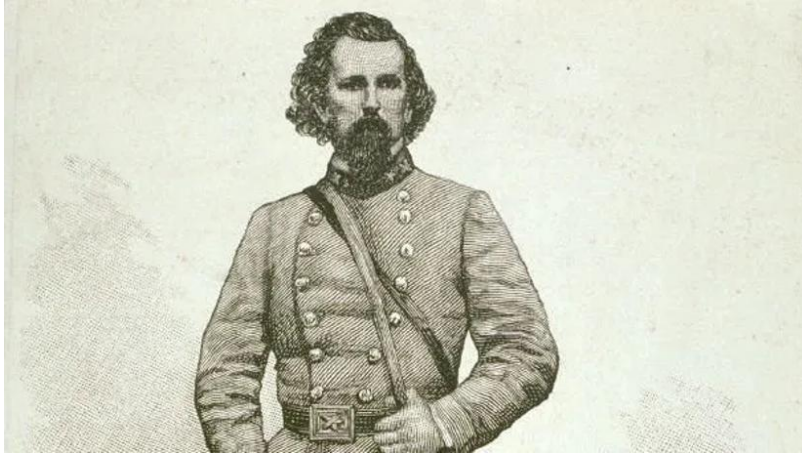
----- DR. LOFTIN WOODIAL

During the American Civil War, Captain William C Quantrill commanded a band of Confederate irregulars who wreaked death and destruction throughout the Missouri and Kansas borders. Tactical and technical perfection were trademarks of his organization. Prior to the war, Quantrill was a schoolteacher in Ohio. Several of Quantrill's men continued to hone their skills, maintained these deviant behaviors, and channeled them into post-war career banditry; e.g., James Robert Cummins, the James Brothers (Jesse and Frank), and the Younger Brothers (Cole, Bob, and Jim). Just as a teacher motivates his students to adopt specific standards of academic and social behavior, did Quantrill's pedagogical skill set propel his subordinates into deviant careers? This interdisciplinary research design employs historical context analysis, psychological evaluation of motivation in a running text, and the application of criminological theory.

Greetings, Civil War Enthusiasts

This month, we have the first of two presentations about Confederate officers: William Clarke Quantrill and Lloyd Tilghman. The two could not have been more different. Quantrill came from a humble background and was a northerner by birth. He did not join an organized Confederate unit during the war but instead chose his own brand of service as a leader of guerrilla bands in the trans-Mississippi. Lloyd Tilghman was born into an aristocratic Maryland family and received an appointment to the United States Military Academy. During the war, Tilghman served in the Western Theater and rose to the rank of brigadier general. Where Tilghman had formal military training and Mexican War experience, Quantrill had none. Nevertheless, both men became successful commanders in their own right, and each has a compelling story that adds to our understanding of the Civil War.

June 2026 Newsletter



General Lloyd Tilghman

July Presentation

Steve Tesson

Lloyd Tilghman was a Confederate brigadier general best known for his heroic defense of Fort Henry, Tennessee. Born in Maryland, he graduated from West Point in 1836 and briefly served in the U.S. Army before becoming a civil engineer involved in railroad and canal construction across the South. At the start of the Civil War, Tilghman joined the Confederacy and was promoted to brigadier general in 1861. He commanded Fort Henry on the Tennessee River when Union gunboats attacked in February 1862. Realizing the fort could not hold, he evacuated most of his troops to Fort Donelson and stayed behind with a small force to delay the Union advance before surrendering. After being exchanged, Tilghman returned to service in Mississippi, where he commanded Confederate forces defending against Grant's drive toward Vicksburg. We plan to visit General Tilghman's home in Paducah, Kentucky, during our 2027 spring tour of southern Illinois, western Kentucky, and southeast Missouri.

Who we are

We are a group of Civil War enthusiasts who meet monthly to hear a presentation and share our interests in the Civil War. There are no dues and no registration; just show up to our meetings.

Our Meetings

We meet on the first Tuesday of each month at the Kathryn Linnemann Library, 2323 Elm Street in St. Charles.

Missouri Blog

Want to learn more about the Civil War in Missouri? Visit The Civil War in Missouri Blog:

<https://:historynutt.net/blog>

Little Round Table

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 Cafe, 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 pzalom@aol.com. Their next meeting is on Thursday, June 4.

June 2026 Newsletter

CWRT St. Charles YouTube Channel

Please visit our YouTube channel. We have videos from most of our presentations from the past two years, plus several outings. Our YouTube commander, Captain Greg Waters, has been posting videos of our recent tour of the Wilson's Creek battlefield. We now have 52 subscribers. Upcoming releases include:

May 21: The Battle of Springfield Tour
June 4: Tom Raifner, General Orders #11
June 18: Dorris Keeven-Franks, Perouque Creek Fort
July 9: Lofton Woodiel, William Quantrill
July 23: Steve Tesson, General Lloyd Tilghman
August 6: Nick Sacco, The Camp Jackson Affair

When you visit our YouTube channel, please hit like and subscribe; it really helps our algorithm.

The Civil War Round Table of St. Charles YouTube channel is:

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

Also, please visit our website and follow us on Facebook. Links and contact information can be found on the following page along with our 2026 agenda.



CWRT Congress

If you're interested in what other Civil War Round Table groups are doing, visit the Civil War Round Table Congress website.

www.cwrtcongress.org/

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>

The National Park Service is seeking public input on the future of Civil War forts in the DC area. If you would like to provide input, follow the link below.

<https://www.nps.gov/cwdw/learn/news/management-plan-ea-2026.htm>

I've attached a potential CWRT logo I created this week. Let me know what you think.

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 Irwinz

March 28-29: Outing-Wilson's Creek and The Battle of Springfield Tours

April 7: General Orders #11-Tom Rafiner

May 5: Peruque Creek Fort-Dorris Keeven Franke

June 2: William Quintrill-Dr. Loftin Woodiel

July 7: General Lloyd Tilghman, CSA-Steve Tesson

August 4: The Camp Jackson Affair-Nick Sacco

September 1: The End of the Civil War-Doug Gifford

October 6: The Prairie Grove Campaign-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:
historynutt@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>

CWRT St. Charles Website: <https://cwrtsc.org/>

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