

The Jefferson Barracks Gazette



August 2012

The Official Newsletter of the Friends of Jefferson Barracks

Volume 24 Issue 3

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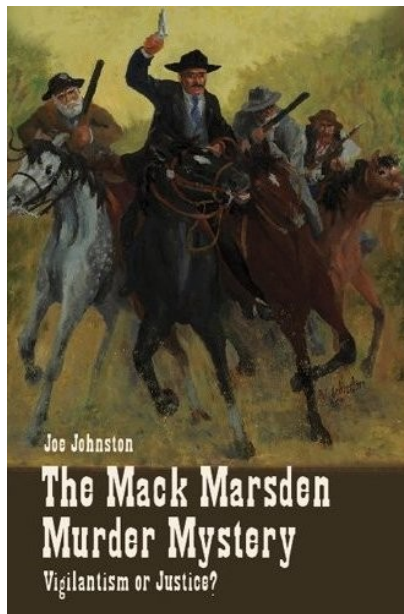
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General Meeting August 16 in the Visitors Center at 7:00 PM

The speaker for the August General Meeting is Joe Johnston, author of *The Mack Marsden Murder Mystery: Vigilantism or Justice?*

One of the last “bad men” in Missouri was Mack Marsden, and for more than 3 years he was suspected of every major crime in Jefferson County. Although the newspapers labeled him a desperado, he was tried only once and never convicted of any wrongdoing. When he was ambushed, shotgunned, and left dying on a dusty road, the life and death of Mack Marsden got even more mysterious. Who murdered him? And if Mack was not the desperado behind all those crimes, who was? All available resources, including oral histories, were mined for the clues that answer those questions and more. This narrative nonfiction book is a true mystery that bears striking parallels to the life of another Missourian—Jesse James—and is as thrilling as any of the more famous tales of the Old West.



Johnston will also make the genealogical connection between Mack Marsden and the Gamache family that gave the land for Jefferson Barracks.

This award-winning book will be available for purchase and signing.

A short business meeting will precede the presentation and light refreshments will be served.

Hope to see you there!

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.

Scout Projects



The Lewis & Clark Overlook has been renovated as part of a combined Girl Scout Gold Award project and Boy Scout Eagle Scout project. Brush has been cleared, the handrails have been painted, lighting and benches have been replaced, and a clear view to the Mississippi River has been restored. The overlook is located to the south of the Veteran's Memorial Amphitheater.

Many thanks to all who worked so hard on this project! Well done!



South County Gets Community and Aquatic Center

Residents of South County will be splashing and socializing in a new recreation and aquatic center by 2014. Planning began immediately after St. Louis County Executive Charlie A. Dooley announced he had formulated a plan to fund the \$12 million construction project. The community was invited to view a scale model of the Lemay Community and Aquatic Center at its official unveiling on May 16, 2012 at Hancock Place Elementary School.

"I'm excited to get this moving, because it is going to provide so much enjoyment to residents of all ages in South County," said County Executive Dooley. "We spent a lot of time in this process listening to citizens, and what we heard over and over is that a community and aquatic center is tops on their list."

The center will feature a family-friendly aquatic center with a zero-entry leisure pool, lazy river and lap pool. Inside, residents can utilize the workout facilities, indoor track, and community gathering space.

"It's been a long time coming, and I think the people in Lemay are going to be really proud of this and happy about it," said Ben Kelly, a local resident and member of the Lemay Community Center Advisory Committee.

Residents chose the amenities and design through a two-year planning process that included extensive surveys and town hall meetings. Construction will begin early 2013.

Upcoming Events

Civil War Symposium, Saturday August 25, 9:00am-3:00pm and Sunday August 26, 10:00am-3:00pm
Program will be held in the Visitors Center at Jefferson Barracks Park and is open to everyone. Free admission, but donations are appreciated. Refreshments available at reasonable prices.

Freedom River Walk, Saturday September 8, 9:00am-Noon
Begins at the South Trail Head on Hancock Road. Walk starts at 9:00 a.m. Ceremony at 10:00 a.m.

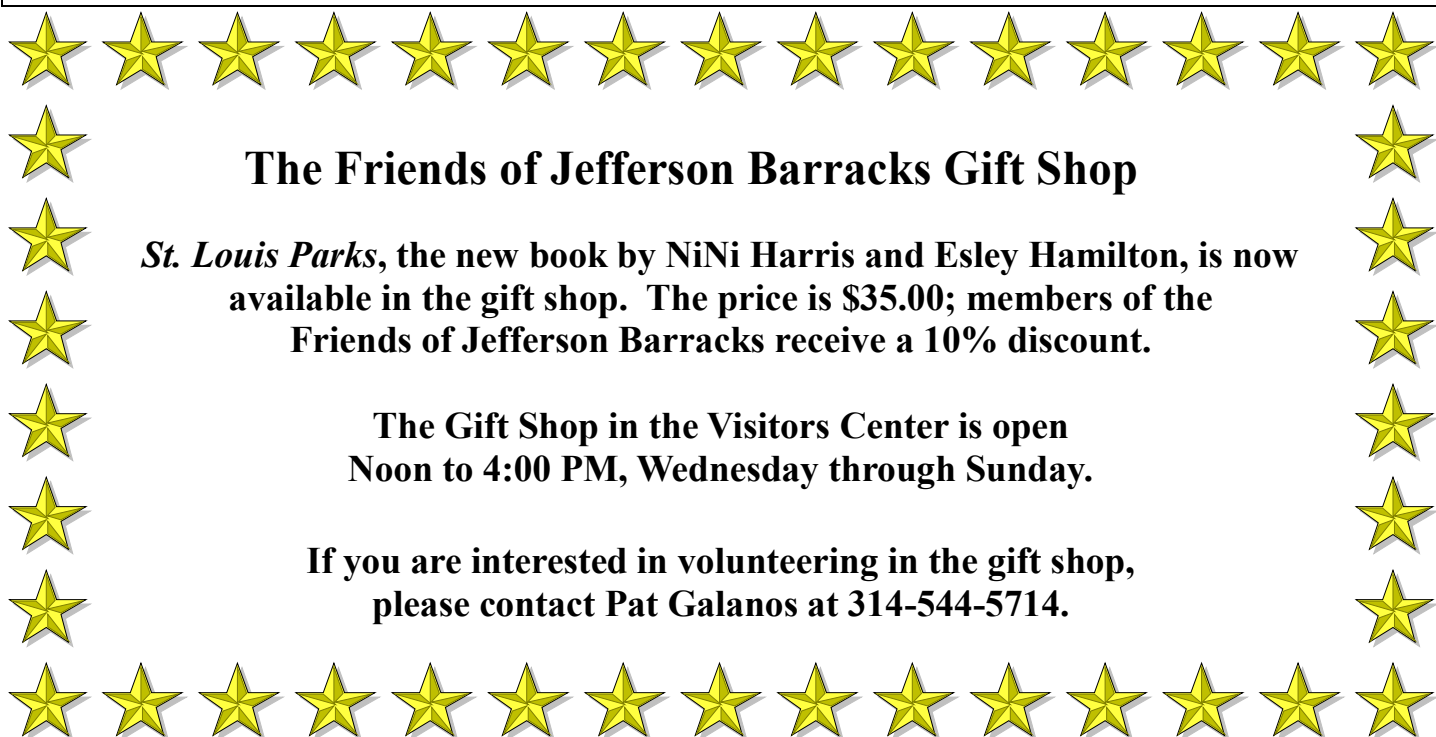
Living History Hayrides, Saturday September 8 and Sunday September 9
Saturday: 10:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m.; Sunday: 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. Price is \$7.00 per person.
For more information or to register, call (314) 544-6224 or email mkollbaum @ stlouisco.com.

World War I: The Forgotten War, Saturday September 22, 9:30am-Noon
This seminar is led by Marc Kollbaum. The lecture/discussion portion of the class is held in the park Visitors Center, followed by a brief tour of the JB Museum. Fee is \$25.00, with a discounted fee for those 60 or older.
Program is offered through St. Louis Community College at Meramec.
Registration options: By phone (314-984-7777), in person (at the Meramec Continuing Education office), or online at www.stlcc.edu.

JB Blast, Friday October 5, 6:30pm
This event (rescheduled) will take place at the Veterans Memorial Amphitheater. Music starts at 6:30 p.m. with a fireworks display after the concert. Free admission.

Car Show, Sunday October 7
This event has been canceled due to ill health of the organizer.

For more information on these and other events, see our website: www.friendsofjeffersonbarracks.com
or call 314-544-6224.



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 IV

By Marc E. Kollbaum

(Continued from previous newsletter)

General William Harney returned to St. Louis from his eventful trip to Washington D.C. and resumed his command of the Western Department on May 12, 1861. The recent events at Camp Jackson had caused rioting and demonstrations throughout the city. Although many Union men in St. Louis looked at Harney suspiciously due to his southern heritage, Harney promptly endorsed the capture of Camp Jackson and denounced the new military bill passed by Governor Jackson and the Missouri legislature in Jefferson City. Pushed by Jackson, this bill essentially made every able-bodied man in the state a member of the state militia.

Sterling Price took command of the state militia after Camp Jackson. Price favored secession but doubted that he could hold the state for the Confederacy without the help of outside Confederate forces. With this in mind, Price set about trying to forestall any confrontation with Union forces until he had time to train the state militia, and outside forces had time to make their way to Missouri.

In an effort to accomplish his goal, Price arranged to meet with General Harney on May 20 at the Planter's House Hotel in St. Louis. Harney still believed that he could maintain peace in Missouri and agreed to limit federal troops to St. Louis and St. Louis County in return for Price's guarantee to maintain order in the remainder of the state. Price also agreed to resist any outside forces from entering the state. As a result of this agreement, Harney issued orders on May 27 for the withdrawal of federal troops from the suburbs, and by May 29 all federal outlying encampments had been abandoned.

Harney's actions certainly appear to be naive. He made the agreement with Price and ordered the troop withdrawals while the state guard continued to drill in the western part of the state, the Confederate flag was flying over the governor's mansion, and Confederate troops had been reported to be massing near the southern border of the state. In St. Louis, Colonel Franz Sigel's regiment remained at the St. Louis Arsenal. Colonel Boernstein's regiment, which had been stationed near the St. Louis Reservoir and at Bissell's Point to stop river boat traffic, was ordered to Jefferson Barracks. Harney ordered that all river traffic on the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers in the St. Louis area were to be allowed free transit.

By June 1, 1861, there were also five regiments of Home Guards – about 5,000 men - in the city: one regiment at Jaeger's Garden, one at Turner's Hall, one at Ulrig's Cave, one at Soulard Market and one at Fourteenth and Chambers Street. There were also 400 regulars commanded by Captain James Totten in the city.

Shortly thereafter, Totten became very involved with Missouri Volunteer troops. He was appointed to major in the First Missouri Artillery on August 19, 1861; to lieutenant colonel on September 1, 1861; and to brigadier general of Missouri state militia on February 10, 1862. Totten served in this position until June 15, 1865. He was awarded brevet ranks in the Army for meritorious service in action at Booneville, Missouri; the Battle of Wilson's Creek; and the Siege of Mobile.

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

(Continued from previous page)

The Committee of Public Safety in St. Louis, supported by Montgomery Blair, pressed President Lincoln for the removal of General Harney. Lincoln forwarded a dismissal notice to Frank Blair, with the instruction that he was to deliver the notice only if he found the dismissal of Harney to be absolutely necessary. At the same time, Captain Nathaniel Lyon of the 2nd Infantry was brevetted to brigadier general of volunteers, in command of the Missouri Volunteers (Home Guard). Of course Blair found Harney's removal to be necessary, and Lyon took command of the Western Department of the Army on May 30.

In order to delay any confrontation, Governor Jackson and General Price asked Lyon for another conference. Although Lyon did not want to meet with them, he agreed to the meeting in order to placate the conservative Union elements in St. Louis.

After several hours of discussion, Lyon abruptly ended the meeting with the following declaration: "Rather than to concede to the State of Missouri the right to demand that my government shall not enlist troops within her limits, or bring troops into the state whenever it pleases, or move its troops at its own will into, out of, or through the state; rather than to concede for one single instant the right to dictate to my government in any matter, however unimportant, I would see you ... and every man, woman and child in the state dead and buried....This means war! In an hour one of my officers will call for you and conduct you out of my lines." That said, Lyon stomped out of the room, leaving Governor Jackson, the other state officials, and even Frank Blair in stunned silence. When they recovered their composure, the state officials shook hands with Blair and headed for Jefferson City as fast as the Pacific Railroad could get them there. Jackson then called for 50,000 militiamen, then packed up and headed for Booneville, which was thought to be more easily defended.

Within 40 hours, Lyon occupied Jefferson City with 2,000 men. By June 14, Lyon occupied Booneville after a brief skirmish, ending Price's hopes of controlling the Missouri River. Jackson and the state guard were forced to retreat southward.

In compliance with orders issued on July 3, 1861, General John C. Fremont was appointed to command the Western Department. He assumed command on July 25.

Life at Jefferson Barracks remained relatively quiet during May and June of 1861. Major Nathaniel Macrae remained in command of a small garrison, which consisted of two other officers and 72 enlisted men during May and 69 enlisted men during June. On July 27, the First Missouri Volunteer Regiment was ordered to Jefferson Barracks to be mustered into federal service. The next day, Lt. Colonel Sidney Burbank assumed the duty of superintendent of mustering in St. Louis. By August 1861, activities at Jefferson Barracks changed markedly with 72 officers and 1,202 men listed on the rolls.

Information for Part IV was taken from the Jefferson Barracks Post Returns, *A History of St. Louis City and County* by J. Thomas Scharf, *Lion of the Valley* by James Neal Primm, and *Harper's Pictorial History of the Civil War*.

To be continued...



Friends of Jefferson Barracks
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Upcoming Events
Mark Your Calendars

Civil War Symposium
August 25 and 26

Living History Hayrides
September 8 and 9

World War I: The Forgotten War
September 22

JB Blast
October 5

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

The Official Newsletter
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Thank you for
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