

# The Jefferson Barracks Gazette



January 2013

The Official Newsletter of the Friends of Jefferson Barracks

Volume 25 Issue 1

<i>Table of Contents</i>	
March General Meeting	Page 1
Civil War Part 6	Pages 2-3
Rose's Gang	Pages 4-5
Upcoming Events	Page 6

## ***Friends of Jefferson Barracks***

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## **ELECTION NOTICE—GENERAL MEETING THURSDAY MARCH 21, 2013 (7:00 PM) JEFFERSON BARRACKS PARK VISITORS CENTER**

The Board of Directors of the Friends of Jefferson Barracks nominate the following persons as regular board members for the term of service as indicated by their respective names.

<u>Nominated Name</u>	<u>Term of Office</u>
Dennis B. Mertz	March 2013--March 2016
Al Benedick	March 2013--March 2016
John Chapman	March 2013--March 2016

The election for regular Board Members will be held at the General Meeting on March 21, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Jefferson Barracks Park Visitors Center. The persons so elected will take their places at the April, 2013 Board of Directors Meeting.

The following member of the Friends of Jefferson Barracks is nominated as Alternate Member of the Board of Directors for a three-year term from March 2013 to March 2016.

Bonnie Lorenz	March 2013--March 2016
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The following persons are nominated for one-year teams for the indicated offices of the Board of Directors for a year of service from April 2013 to April 2014:

President	Patricia Galanos
Vice President	Dennis Mertz
Secretary	Patty Crocker
Treasurer	Wayne Winters

If anyone is interested in serving on the board, contact a Board Member. Any interested parties must be in good standing as members of the Friends.

After a short business meeting, our speaker will be William Reynolds. Mr. Reynolds will present a program about the Reynolds family/circus, including a brief biographical sketch concerning how they joined the circus. Mr. Reynolds also plays baritone trombone in the Independent Silver Band.

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.

# Missouri, Saint Louis, Jefferson Barracks and the Civil War, Part VI

By Marc E. Kollbaum, Curator, Jefferson Barracks Historic Park

*(Continued from previous newsletter)*

As the previous segment in the last newsletter ended, Confederate forces had just defeated General Lyon's Federal forces at the Battle of Wilson's Creek on August 10, 1861. The 13<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, commanded by William T. Sherman, had begun organization at Jefferson Barracks and other Missouri volunteer troops rendezvoused at the Post.

On September 7, Lt. Colonel Sidney Burbank took command of Jefferson Barracks after serving on detached service at the Arsenal. Brigadier General Samuel Curtis, who had been in command at Jefferson Barracks, moved to Camp Benton as commanding officer. A total of 46 officers and 242 enlisted men made up the garrison at Jefferson Barracks. The 13<sup>th</sup> Infantry consisted of 37 officers (many of whom remained on recruiting duty in Missouri, Iowa, Illinois, Ohio, and Minnesota) and 127 enlisted men. The Osage Rifles made up the next largest contingent at the Post with 3 officers and 76 enlisted men. The 1<sup>st</sup> Missouri Cavalry, commanded by Colonel Frank Blair, Jr., with 30 officers and 958 enlisted men, and the Kane County Cavalry, with 3 officers and 96 enlisted men, transferred to Camp Benton during the month.

The Quartermaster Department employed several civilians at Jefferson Barracks. Their salaries ranged from \$50 per month for a forage master to \$25 per month for two teamsters and a hostler.

During October, the 13<sup>th</sup> Infantry began to organize companies. Company A consisted of 3 officers and 71 enlisted men while the remainder of the 13<sup>th</sup> Infantry had 38 officers and 112 enlisted men. Colonel Sherman still commanded the Department of the Cumberland and Captain Philip Sheridan had not yet reported from Oregon. A total of 49 officers and 298 enlisted men made up the garrison.

Col. Frank Blair, Jr. had been placed in arrest at Jefferson Barracks for unnamed reasons, but rejoined his unit at Camp Benton on October 7. The *Missouri Democrat* stated that "Col. Blair's chief offense is the writing of certain letters to the President, members of the cabinet, and other leading parties in Washington City, complaining, among other things, of the inefficiency and incompetency of Gen. Fremont, speaking disrespectfully of him, and asking his removal from the Department of the West."

In the field, Confederate Generals Price and McCulloch parted company after their victory at Wilson's Creek with McCulloch returning to Arkansas. Price occupied Springfield until August 25, then moved through Missouri to Bolivar, Warrenton, and finally Lexington. His forces had their first encounter with Colonel John A. Mulligan's pickets on September 12. Price proceeded to lay siege to Lexington.

Mulligan had about 3,000 men defending Lexington, among them his Illinois "Irish Brigade." Mulligan faced Price, whose troops maintained a vast superiority in numbers. Mulligan appealed to Fremont for re-enforcements and once again Fremont failed to send help. Due to the Confederates' superior numbers and the use of rolling hemp bales as a moving armor, Mulligan simply could not hold out. Price stated in his report that he lost only 25 killed and 72 wounded, but captured about 3,500 soldiers including over one hundred officers. In addition, Price reported capturing five pieces of artillery and two mortars, over 3,000 stand of infantry arms and 750 horses.

Mulligan was exchanged on November 25, 1861, and took command of Camp Douglas, where many Confederates from the Mississippi campaigns were incarcerated. He was killed at the battle of Winchester in 1864.

Gen. Fremont heard numerous complaints regarding his inactivity both during Wilson's Creek and Lexington, but explained that the men intended for Lyon had, at the last minute, been sent to Cairo when that important river fortress had been menaced, and the troops selected to be sent to Mulligan's aid had to be sent to Gen. Grant at Paducah.

Fremont decided that he had to act. After making all the necessary preparations, Fremont took the field. He reached Jefferson City on September 26, 1861, and established Camp Lillie, named after his eldest daughter. Other units made camps at Tipton and Sedalia so that if the need arose they could be gathered together in a short amount of time. At last, Fremont was on the move.

Learning that Union forces were concentrating to surround him, Gen. Price left Lexington shortly after his victory. To slow pursuit, he had all bridges across the Osage River destroyed. Price lost no time in his retreat and soon reached Springfield. This was the primary point at which Fremont had been aiming.

Fremont had received intelligence that Springfield was not heavily guarded. As a result, he sent Major Charles Zagonyi, commanding Fremont's bodyguard, on a reconnaissance expedition. Zagonyi was to feel out the enemy and take Springfield, if possible.

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## Missouri, Saint Louis, Jefferson Barracks and the Civil War, Part VI

By Marc E. Kollbaum, Curator, Jefferson Barracks Historic Park

*Continued from previous page)*

Estimates of the number of Price's force that occupied Springfield on October 25, 1861, range from 800 to 2,000. It certainly was more than Zagonyi's force of 150 to 300. Despite the disparity in numbers, Major Zagonyi decided to attack. His first charge forced the Confederates to break and retreat in disorder. He then made a second charge that took the city.

Gen. Fremont marched into Springfield after Zagonyi's capture of the city, full of optimism about his future. After all, Gen. Price had been forced to retreat to Neosho where Governor Jackson's state government was in session, and Gen. Fremont fully expected "to pounce on him." But before Fremont could make his next move, he was removed from command.

On August 30, 1861, Gen. Fremont had placed the entire State under martial law, as he had done previously in Saint Louis. Included in Fremont's declaration of martial law was the following statement: "The property, real and personal, of all persons in the State of Missouri who shall take up arms against the United States, or who shall be directly proven to have taken active part with their enemies in the field, is declared to be confiscated to the public use, and their slaves, if any they have, are hereby declared free men." On the same day Provost-Marshal McKinstry issued Order No. 107, which prohibited any individual from leaving Saint Louis city or county without receiving a special permit. President Lincoln admonished Fremont for going too far and ordered him to withdraw the section on freeing slaves. Fremont refused to honor Lincoln's order, and on November 6, the President relieved Fremont of his command of the Western Department. General David Hunter replaced Fremont.

When Fremont returned to Saint Louis, he was enthusiastically received and was given a handsome, jewel-encrusted sword. He was transferred to another part of the country, where he served until June 26, 1862. At that time he again asked for a different appointment rather than serve under Gen. John Pope. The new appointment never came and Fremont sat out the remainder of the war.

In Saint Louis in early August, Gen. Fremont decided to form a camp of instruction capable of accommodating 20,000 men. A.G. Ogden received instructions to make a thorough survey of the lands west of the city from Bellefontaine Cemetery to the Arsenal, for the purpose of selecting a suitable location. Ogden selected a tract consisting of 150 acres owned by Colonel John O'Fallon, immediately west of the Fair Grounds. O'Fallon offered to give the government the use of the land for one year for the nominal fee of \$150. Fremont accepted the offer and had a crew of workmen start grading the land to make it perfectly level and constructing new barracks and stables. The barracks, constructed in five rows, were each 740 feet in length and 40 feet wide. Each 70-foot section of the barracks could accommodate 100 men.

On September 18, General Samuel Curtis, in General Order No. 4, directed that the barracks should be known as "Camp of Instruction, Benton Barracks," and added that troops were to be stationed at this post "especially to recruit, organize and drill."

By order of the War Department, General Henry H. Halleck was transferred from California on November 9 and placed in command of the Department of the Missouri, which included the states of Missouri, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Arkansas and a portion of Kentucky, with headquarters in Saint Louis. Halleck arrived in Saint Louis on November 10 and moved into the Planter's Hotel. Major General Hunter transferred to the Department of Kansas, relinquishing command to Halleck on November 19.

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Information for Part VI has been taken from the Jefferson Barracks Post Returns, the *History of St. Louis City and County* by J. Thomas Scharf, *Lion of the Valley* by James Neal Primm, and *Missouri Sketch Book* by Clifton C. Edom.

*To be continued...*

## Rose's Gang

By Jeff Germer

Have you ever noticed the F4E Phantom II on display at the Main Gate of the Jefferson Barracks National Guard Base? I've always liked the aggressive "nose down" look of the F4 and the distinctive tail with the traditional tail fin but canted horizontal planes. The JB Phantom sports a Vietnam-style camouflage paint scheme with a set of "tigers teeth" painted just below the nose. Just above the "teeth" is nose art that reads "Rose's Gang".

During one of my visits to see Virginia Todd, AFNG Ret., who works at the Jefferson Barracks National Guard base, we happened to discuss the F4E Phantom display and I asked what "Rose's Gang" referred to. Ginnie indicated that it was the original name of the plane of the crew to which JB's F4 is dedicated. A few days later Ginnie emailed me a copy of the June 7th, 2003 plane dedication ceremony and an internet article about Major Charles F. Morley.



(Left: Capt. Thomas C. Daffron; Right: 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Charles F. Morley)

The original crew of "Rose's Gang" was Captain Thomas C. Daffron (Pilot), from Pinckneyville, IL, and 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant Charles F. Morley (Navigator), from Warrensburg, MO. Capt. Daffron and 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Morley were attached to the 557th Tactical Fighter Squadron at Cam Ranh Bay, South Vietnam. On the night of February 18, 1970, they were assigned a night bombing mission over the Ho Chi Minh Trail in Laos. The "Trail" served as North Vietnam's main supply artery into South Vietnam by taking advantage of Laos' "neutral status". During the mission anti-aircraft fire hit their plane and later a fireball was "seen on the ground" by separate observers which was presumed to be the downed aircraft (F4C, Tail # 7671). Observers reportedly saw "no parachutes and heard no emergency radio beacons." Due to the sketchy nature of the reports, the U.S. Air Force concluded that there was no clear evidence whether the crew ejected safely or not.

Both crew members were then listed by the U.S. Air Force as Missing-In-Action for 29 years. In August of 1999, their remains were finally positively identified, via DNA testing, by the U.S. Army Central Identification Laboratory in Hawaii. Both men had finally "come home".

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## Rose's Gang

By Jeff Germer

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The path to identification started in 1993, some 23 years after “Rose’s Gang” went down, when a joint U.S./Laotian Team, led by the Joint Task Force-Full Accounting, interviewed several villagers in Khammouan province. These villagers provided details about an airplane crash site nearby and led the Team to the location. The wreck and pilot-related items were identified as consistent with an F4 aircraft. In 1995, a second Joint Team excavated the crash site. The second Team recovered human remains and crew-related items including both pilots’ survival kits.

On what would have been Capt. Daffron’s 56th birthday (September 25, 1999), the Pinckneyville native’s remains were interred in the Sunset Memorial Cemetery. Major Morley (who was promoted while considered MIA) was interred in Arlington National Cemetery in 1999. Both men were honored by their hometowns in separate ways. The Pinckneyville, IL American Legion named its post in Daffron’s honor while Warrensburg, MO built a memorial for Morley at the local high school, and dedicated a scholarship in his honor.

On June 7th, 2003, the 157th Air Operations Group, Missouri National Guard dedicated the refurbished plane to Capt. Daffron and Major Morley. Prior to the dedication, Guard volunteers painstakingly restored the aging plane. During the restoration process, someone suggested dedicating the plane to a crew that had flown in one. A National Guardsman at that time, Dan Crafton, suggested honoring Capt. Daffron and Maj. Morley as the original crew of “Rose’s Gang”. So where did the plane get its name?

Guardsman Crafton just happened to be friends with John Daffron, the brother of Thomas Daffron. John Daffron related a story to Crafton about when Tom, John, and several Daffron family members ran out of gas while coming home one night from a Christmas celebration. Dressed in clean white shirts, the men walked up the road in search of fuel. When they finally found a man who was willing to help, he told them he had first thought they were all part of a gang. Rose Daffron was the name of the boys’ mother, and they laughed about being in “Rose’s Gang” that night.

So the next time you’re driving past the Base take the time to remember two men who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country. It’s fitting that we remember them.



*Taken from the Fall 2012 issue of the Second Rangers newsletter. Reprinted with permission.*

## Upcoming Events

### **GENERAL MEETING AT JEFFERSON BARRACKS, Thursday March 21, 7:00 p.m.**

**Trivia Night at Jefferson Barracks Park**, Saturday January 26

Doors open at 6:00 p.m.; questions begin at 7:00 p.m. Call 314-544-6224 for information.

**War of 1812 Exhibit at General Daniel Bissell House**

Located at 10225 Bellefontaine Road, St. Louis, MO 63137. Call 314-615-5270 for tour times and price.

**History of Jefferson Barracks Army Post Exhibit**, Re-opens February 6

Powder Magazine Museum at Jefferson Barracks Park. Wednesday-Sunday, 12:00-4:00 p.m.

Free admission; donations gratefully accepted.

**The United States Navy in World War I and World War II**, February 6 through November 3

Old Ordnance Room Museum at Jefferson Barracks Park, Wednesday-Sunday, 12:00-4:00 p.m.

Free admission; donations gratefully accepted.

**Open House Sunday February 10, 12:00-4:00 p.m.** Light refreshments will be served.

**Second Rangers Training Weekend at Jefferson Barracks Park**, Saturday March 16, 7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Watch and learn while the Second Ranger Battalion of St. Louis prepares their troops for World War II

Weekend. The "camp of instruction" for new recruits includes learning to drill, march, clean a rifle, set up

tents and muster up for chow. Free admission. Call 314-544-6224 for information.

**World War II Weekend at Jefferson Barracks Park**, Friday April 26 - Sunday April 28

Free admission. Call 314-544-6224 for information.

**Canteen Dance at Grant Shelter at Jefferson Barracks Park**, Saturday April 27

\$10 in advance, \$15 at the door. Tables must be reserved in advance. Music by Michael Lacy and his New Orleans Swing Band. Doors open at 5:00 p.m.; music starts at 7:00 p.m.. Food is available for purchase.

**Walk Through Time at Jefferson Barracks**, Saturday May 18, 10:00-3:00

Visit various historic military camps and listen to historians describe their uniforms, equipment, and what life

was like from the French and Indian War through the Vietnam conflict. The complete journey will last

approximately 2 hours. Free admission; advance registration is required. Call 314-544-6224 for information.

**Swap Meet at General Daniel Bissell House**, Saturday-Sunday June 1-2, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Free admission. Seller must register in advance; \$20 for exhibit space.

**History Hayrides at Fort Belle Fontaine**, Sunday June 9, 10:00 a.m., 12:30 p.m., and 2:30 p.m.

\$7 per person. Call 314-544-6224 for information.

*For more information on these and other events, see our website: [www.friendsofjeffersonbarracks.com](http://www.friendsofjeffersonbarracks.com) or call 314-544-6224.*

**DON'T FORGET THE GENERAL MEETING ON THURSDAY MARCH 21  
7:00 p.m. in the Visitors Center**