

# Nashville Civil War Roundtable

Founded April, 2009 – Nashville, Tennessee

Visit our web site: [www.nashvillecivilwarroundtable.wordpress.com](http://www.nashvillecivilwarroundtable.wordpress.com)

**August 16th, 2022 – Our 141st meeting!! We continue our thirteenth year.**

The next meeting of the Nashville (TN) Civil War Roundtable will be on Tuesday, JAugust 16th, 2022, in the visitor's center of Ft. Negley Park, a unit of Metro Parks, Nashville, TN. This is located off I-65 just south of downtown between 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue South and 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue South on Edgehill Avenue/Chestnut Avenue. Take Exit 81, Wedgewood Avenue, off I-65 and follow the signs to the Science Museum.

The meeting begins at 7:00 PM and is always open to the public. Members please bring a friend or two – new recruits are always welcomed.

**July is our fiscal year so please plan on paying your membership dues at this meeting. Without dues we cannot get speakers and programs so please support the Nashville CWRT.**

**Our Speaker and Topic –** *"The Battle Of Stones River: A Reappraisal"*

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The December 1862/early January 1863 Battle of Stones River, fought about 35 miles southeast of Nashville, was a crucial engagement of the Civil War. The Union victory helped offset the debacle of Fredericksburg in Virginia fought a couple weeks earlier. The political aspect of the victory helped add much needed credibility to the Emancipation Proclamation which took effect on January 1, 1863 during the final day of Stones River.

Several books on the battle have been written along with biographies of Union commander William S. Rosecrans and Confederate commander Braxton Bragg that have added greatly to our knowledge of the events in this battle and time frame. And yet new material and interpretations arise and this program is no exception.

Our speaker this month, in a return engagement offers this concept: "Everybody knows what happened during the Battle of Stones River. The facts are not in dispute. Of that there is no question. After decades of reflecting on those facts, I have concluded that the narrative commonly associated with those facts is profoundly flawed. I believe you will never think about the Battle of Stones River the same way again."

Our speaker this month is Rhea Cole of Murfreesboro, Tennessee. He has been a living history volunteer at Stones River NB since 1994. During that time, Rhea has participated in cannon firing programs at every black powder venue from Wilson's Creek, MO to Bristol, England. As a result, he has discussed just about every aspect of Civil War history with a wide spectrum of amateur & professional historians. On his own, he has invested decades into studying the Signal Corps, Sanitary Commission & logistics.

We hope you will join us for what promises to be a fresh look at a major Tennessee battle.

### **Last Month's meeting**

We had one of the best programs in the history of the Nashville CWRT when John Banks came and presented "The People of the Battle of Antietam." One of the most pivotal battles of the Civil War, the Union strategic victory being enough for Abraham Lincoln to issue the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation, it remains to today America's bloodiest day. The key focus of the program was the focus on officers and men of both sides and their roles in the battle; where they fought, where they were wounded and where they died. A wonderful Power Point with excellent images supported the program and John told the stories of these people. The Ken Burns Civil War series was successful because it focused on the people behind the events and John Banks' excellent program did the same. We sure thank John for coming to speak to us.

### **FUTURE PROGRAMS:**

**September 2022** – Andy Blair, Traveler's Rest/historian – "*Flags Under Fire: A History of the Signal Corps in the Civil War*"

**October 2022** – David Mowery, author/historian – "*Cincinnati in the Civil War*" (based on his recent book)

**November 2022** - Dr. James Byrd, professor/historian, Vanderbilt University – "*A Holy Baptism of Fire and Blood: The Bible and the American Civil War*"

**January 2023** – Mark Zimmerman, historian/author – "*Fortress Nashville*"

**2023** - John Cashion, historian/author – "*Paducah, KY in the Civil War*"

**Some of our speakers are authors and bring books to sell at our meetings. Please support them by buying their books.**

**MEMBERS AND DUES** – Due to Covid our fiscal year needed to change to the month when we first started back to regular meetings – so our fiscal year is now July. Please plan on taking care of your membership renewals at this meeting. The annual dues structure for the Nashville CWRT is as follows:

Single membership - \$20

Family - \$30

Military – Active duty and Veterans - \$15

Military Family – Active duty and Veterans - \$25

Student - \$10

Senior (age 60 plus) - \$15

Senior couple - \$20

**Your dues for the 2022-2022 fiscal year will be due at this meeting if you have not paid as yet! Please plan on paying them at that month's meeting if you have not already.**

**PLEASE PLAN ON PAYING YOUR DUES THIS MONTH SO WE CAN KEEP BRINGING IN GREAT SPEAKERS AND HELP SAVE CIVIL WAR SITES. If you cannot make a meeting then please drop off your check at Fort Negley.**

**BOTTOM LINE FOLKS – without your dues we do not have programs so please support the efforts of the Nashville CWRT.**

When your dues are paid you will be issued a new name badge with the fiscal year on it. If you do not have a name badge then you are not current.

Our dues go to paying for speakers as well as donations for Civil War preservation causes especially those of a local nature. Please be sure to pay your dues so we can offer the best programs possible for you! We also utilize donated items for sales each month to help add to the treasury. If you have something you would like to donate for these auctions, please bring them to the meetings. Books, art, or anything Civil War, works very well. Thanks very much to all of you who have made such donations!

#### **The American Battlefield Trust Continues to Buy and Preserve Hallowed Ground**

The American Battlefield Trust carries on its campaign of saving battlefield land from modern development. A recent tract has come available on the slopes of Lookout Mountain where an old motel, long closed, remains along a tract of original roadbed around the nose of the mountain. Union troops moved over this property in the Battle of Lookout Mountain. You can find the details of this property on their web site at - <https://www.battlefields.org/>

Also – they have an online petition that you can sign to help protect the Wyse Fork Battlefield in North Carolina which was fought in 1865 as part of Sherman's Campaign. This petition is designed to resist the expansion of the roadway which would eat up more battlefield land including where Union troops fought.

#### **BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS!!!! A Large Selection of Books Still Available at the Nashville CWRT This Month!**

We appreciate those of you who bought from this great book selection last month! The CWRT needs funds to keep getting in speakers and the book sales go towards that so thank you! The prices for these great books are 50 per cent off or more off retail prices so there's some great deals here for your library! Please keep buying and supporting your CWRT! We sold a good number of books last month - thank you to those that supported our CWRT!

#### **NASHVILLE CWRT OFFICERS**

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