

# Nashville Civil War Roundtable

Founded April, 2009 – Nashville, Tennessee

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

**April 18th, 2023 – Our 146th meeting!! We continue our thirteenth year.**

The next meeting of the Nashville (TN) Civil War Roundtable will be on Tuesday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 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 if you missed that. Without dues we cannot get speakers and programs so please support the Nashville CWRT.**

**Our Speaker and Topic** – *“Confederate Collections of the Tennessee State Museum”*

Commented [KB1]:

The Tennessee State Museum is a world class institution with amazing holdings in its collections. Of course, a central core of these is their Civil War collection consisting of Union artifacts but mostly Confederate since the state seceded from the Union in June 1861 and out thousands of men into the Confederate Army. The state also turned out numerous officers from colonel upwards to general ranks including Ben Cheatham, George Maney, Nathan Bedford Forrest, Gideon Pillow, Daniel Donelson and many more.

Thus, when the Tennessee Historical Society in the post-Civil War years began taking in artifacts, documents and more when the state museum began in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century many of those ended up in their collections. Our speaker this month, Chief Curator Richard Wright, will present a program in chronological order of many of these artifacts via a Power Point program.

Richard White, Chief Curator, manages the curatorial team, directs artifact acquisition and interpretation, engages with the public, and generally assists in the management and conservation of the collection. Richard has more than eight years of experience with the Tennessee State Museum, beginning in the Education Department before advancing to the Collections Department.

Richard is a native of Nashville and attended Hillwood Comprehensive High School. He holds a B.A. in History from Belmont University and a master's degree in History from Middle Tennessee State University. Richard serves on the executive board of the Nashville City Cemetery Association. He is a contributing author and series editor for Civil War Flags of Tennessee, a cooperative publication from the Tennessee State Museum and the University of

Tennessee Press. He is a contributing writer and editor for the Tennessee Historical Quarterly and is a 2022 graduate of the Tennessee Government Professionals Institute.

Please join us for this interesting program into some of the treasures held by the Tennessee State Museum. This will be a great peek into the museum's collections.

### **March 2023 meeting**

Jamie Gillum, an expert on the Battles of Spring Hill and Perryville, have a very elaborate and effective defense of his thesis about a house on the Perryville battlefield that influenced where some of the Confederate troops attacked. The Hafley Cabins were the ground zero area of the attack of the 16<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Infantry and supporting troops of Daniel Donelson's Brigade as well as the Tennessee troops of Maney's Brigade who arrived on Donelson's right. The reports of the pertinent officers mention these cabins and yet modern historian ignore them entirely as does the Perryville park for some reason. And yet the clear mention of them in the period accounts and their battlefield location alters the angle of attack by these two Confederate brigades that day to be further north than previously thought. Jamie's use of period Census data, period accounts and more helped make his case in the program. This is what history should be doing; making use of unused sources to better tell the story of an event thus giving us a better understanding of what really happened.

We really appreciate Jamie coming to speak to us – and we had a very good crowd for his program. Thanks Jamie!

### **FUTURE PROGRAMS:**

**May 2023** – Curt Fields/U.S. Grant historian – *“U.S. Grant in the Wilderness and After”*

**June 2023** -

**July 2023** – Walter Green, historian/author – *“The Nashville & Decatur Railroad in the Civil War”* – based on his recent book

**August 2023** – Jim Ogden, historian, Chickamauga-Chattanooga National Military Park – *“Rosecrans' Campaign For Chattanooga, 160th Anniversary”*

**September 2023** - Col. Ed Lowe (ret.) – *“James Longstreet's East Tennessee Campaign”* – based on his forthcoming book

**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!

### **CIVIL WAR NEWS AND EVENTS**

#### **Our Vice President Gary Burke Embarks on a New Career**

Gary has retired from his main job of many years and recently became one of the security guards at the Tennessee State Museum! What a fantastic place for Gary, a big history lover, to work and help protect. Good job Gary!

#### **American Battlefield Trust Working to Save Crucial Battlefields of the Civil War**

The ABT does a fine job of saving thousands upon thousands of acres of battlefield land from Revolutionary War through Civil War battlefields from development. This is done to protect hallowed ground where men fought, bled and died to create and save our nation. They depend on memberships and donations from concerned members of the public to fund these along with some Federal dollars and other sources. Later, land is donated either to the National Park Service or state parks or other organizations that protect and interpret these fields for the public for generations to come.

They have current campaigns to save 343 acres of land at these Western Theater battlefields:

Bentonville, NC; Brice's Crossroads, MS (they have helped save almost all of this battlefield); Chickamauga, GA; Shiloh, TN; and Wyse Fork in NC.

You can click on the link below to contribute to these western fields being preserved including maps of the sites and land to be preserved – and they have a matching program for this currently. If you donate \$54 or more you will get a free copy of their recent book of maps for Western Theater battles (their maps are terrific):

[https://www.battlefields.org/give/save-battlefields/save-343-acres-five-battlefields-four-states-across-western-theater?utm\\_campaign=email&utm\\_medium=ask&utm\\_source=031723&ms=email2lift230317&emci=e0b63e5f-b6c1-ed11-a8e0-00224832e811&emdi=18ca42a2-c9c4-ed11-a8e0-00224832e811&ceid=116338](https://www.battlefields.org/give/save-battlefields/save-343-acres-five-battlefields-four-states-across-western-theater?utm_campaign=email&utm_medium=ask&utm_source=031723&ms=email2lift230317&emci=e0b63e5f-b6c1-ed11-a8e0-00224832e811&emdi=18ca42a2-c9c4-ed11-a8e0-00224832e811&ceid=116338)

The Trust is also active in the Virginia theater with a concurrent campaign to save 820 acres of land there as well. Fields in this campaign include:

Mine Run, VA (702 acres!); Ream's Station (96 acres which will almost preserve that entire field); Boydton Plank Road (12 acres – the first land to be saved here); Dinwiddie Court House (8 acres- the first to be saved here) and the Petersburg Breakthrough (2 more acres). The link to the donation place is here:

[https://www.battlefields.org/give/save-battlefields/help-save-820-acres-five-virginia-battlefields?utm\\_campaign=email&utm\\_medium=ask&utm\\_source=040523&ms=email1230405&emci=794de8ed-cccc-ed11-a8e0-00224832e811&emdi=c018d698-b8d3-ed11-8e8b-00224832eb73&ceid=1163](https://www.battlefields.org/give/save-battlefields/help-save-820-acres-five-virginia-battlefields?utm_campaign=email&utm_medium=ask&utm_source=040523&ms=email1230405&emci=794de8ed-cccc-ed11-a8e0-00224832e811&emdi=c018d698-b8d3-ed11-8e8b-00224832eb73&ceid=1163)

### **Potential New Nashville CWRT Member Needs Rides to Our Meetings – Can Someone Please Help?**

Fellow Nashville CWRT members – I received this email and wanted to post it here to see if someone lives in her area and can pick her up and bring her back home for the meetings as she would like to join our ranks. I hope that someone can give her a ride to and from our meetings. As follows:

*I was active in the Toledo [Ohio] Civil War Round Table and Adjunct General [President] of the Greater Orlando [Florida] Civil War Roundtable.*

*I've only lived in Nashville a little over a year. I'd like to get involved in your group but I'm a little nervous about taking a bus and walking in the Edgehill area at night. I live in the Teachers' Tower on Abbott Martin Road in Green Hills. Is there someone in the group that I could ride with? It would be much appreciated.*

*My phone number for calls or texts is 419-704-2635. Email is - mwithkorosinski@gmail.com*

*Thanks.*

*Marilyn Witko Rosinski*

We were very happy to see Marilyn at last month's meeting and really hope that someone can chip in and help here attend future programs.

### **Belmont Mansion Tour with Myers Brown – Only Date Left**

Myers Brown is the director of the Belmont Mansion which was Union General Thomas Wood's Headquarters in the Battle of Nashville. In last month's newsletter Myers offered to take area CWRTs on a guided tour of the home. The only date now available is Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup>. We need to let him know if there is interest in going on this tour.

The Civil War at Belmont Mansion

Led by Belmont Mansion's Executive Director Myers Brown, this specialized tour focuses on the tumultuous era of the Civil War and the impact on the families, grounds, and structures of Belmont Mansion. Central to the story is the Tennessee Campaign of 1864 which culminated in the Battle of Nashville and saw Belmont serve as the headquarters of the Fourth Corps of the Federal Army. This exclusive tour is made available to CWRT members and also includes a copy of the publication, *Fourteen Days of Waiting: Belmont Mansion Before the Battle of Nashville*. Participants should dress appropriate to the weather as part of tour is out-of-doors.

Cost is \$35 per person and the book mentioned above is part of the package.

### **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**

President – Vacant. If you wish to run for this position please announce at the upcoming meeting.

Gary Burke - Vice President – [Escaped886@yahoo.com](mailto:Escaped886@yahoo.com)

Philip Duer – Treasurer and Preservation Liason – [pwduer@gmail.com](mailto:pwduer@gmail.com)

Greg Biggs - Program Chair – [Biggsq@charter.net](mailto:Biggsq@charter.net)

Krista Castillo – President Emeritus