



BATTLE OF
NASHVILLE
TRUST

February 2026 News

Message from the President

Greetings from Shy's Hill! We hope that you and your families were not too terribly affected by the ice storm. Fortunately, the damage from falling trees and limbs on the hill is not as bad as what most of Nashville experienced. That said, we'll still need some help cutting and hauling off debris over the coming weeks.

We continue to be very excited about the work that we are doing here at the Trust, and we greatly appreciate your help and support. Next week, our board will have an important planning meeting as we adopt several strategic changes to help us as we grow. We'll update you with those changes once we have officially made them. Please continue to keep your eyes and ears open as to properties that may be coming available for purchase if it is in the battlefield footprint.

I would like to ask that you help us spread the news about what we

are doing here and the impact that we are having on preservation and interpretation. We need more folks to be aware of the work that we are doing.

Thank you for your support.

Bobby Whitson

President

Important Trust News

Support our Mission for Preservation

The Trust's mission is to preserve and protect the battlefields of Nashville. Join our efforts to protect our history by contacting Governor Bill Lee and your local legislators. Attached here is a letter which is ready for you to send to our legislators for support.

The Tennessee Civil War Sites Preservation Fund is vital to our efforts, so your help is greatly appreciated.

[Click Here For Support Letter](#)



Nashville Civil War Roundtable

February 10, 2026– Our 175th meeting!!

We continue our sixteenth year!

The next meeting of the Nashville (TN) Civil War Roundtable will be on **Tuesday, February 10th, 2026** - back at Fort Negley Visitors Center, a unit of Metro Parks Nashville. This is located at 1100 Fort Negley Blvd. off I-65 just south of downtown between 4th Avenue South and 8th 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 as they are welcome.

Please note the meeting location for February, the earlier date due to Fort Negley's schedule and a holiday on the 17th and the starting time!!!!

February's program- “What’s in the Ground Does Not Lie: How Metal Detecting Helps Us Validate What We Think We know”

Presented by BONT President, Bobby Whitson

Civil War relic hunters can be reviled and praised for what they do. The worst violate private property without asking, don't fill in dug holes, etc. while the best are driven by the love of what historical artifacts they can find and what those artifacts do to begin, tell or complete a story. As a professional archaeologist will state, ground evidence never lies. Indeed, artifacts in the ground can confirm what types of shells were used by certain batteries, what infantry unit and from what state fought or camped there based on buttons,

belt plates and dropped rounds. Stories and legends get passed down from generation to generation, soldier's accounts of a battle site sometimes are inaccurate with the passage of time; what's in the ground either validates the stories we thought we knew or creates a new story that should be told.

Our speaker this month is Bobby Whitson, president of the Battle of Nashville Trust. Whitson is a graduate of Montgomery Bell Academy in Nashville and Furman University in South Carolina. He is an 8th generation Tennessean belonging to a First Family of Tennessee. Whitson is a 25-year Sports and Entertainment technology veteran/entrepreneur helping teams, leagues, and athletic departments manage their data more efficiently and effectively.

He documents everything that he finds, does research why he found it there, and then either validates what he thought he knew or identifies a new page of history which leads to more research. His relic room pales in comparison to those that have been doing this for decades, but he has been fortunate to find some excellent artifacts and, more importantly, confirm certain "known" facts while identifying previously unknown and valuable historic information. We will discuss items found on the field at Nashville as well as on fields and campsites in other middle Tennessee areas.

Please make plans to join us for this fascinating and sure to be fun program.

[Click here for Nashville CWRT Newsletter](#)



Forgotten Stories of Black Civil War Surgeons

from Jill L. Newmark's book, *Without Concealment, Without Compromise*

Sunday, Feb. 15 at 4:30 pm at Belmont Mansion

The author will discuss how these men challenged racial stereotypes of the era and the crucial role they played in redefining freedom and patriotism.



Event is free, advanced registration required
Visit: belmontmansion.com/events

Event sponsored by



Civil War News and Events

Forgotten Stories of Black Civil War Surgeons

The Civil War saw the first wide-spread enlistment of Black soldiers in the U.S. Army, however the amazing story of these fourteen Black Civil War surgeons has been relatively unknown until recently. Jill Newmark is now bringing their story to light with her book, *Without Concealment, Without Compromise: The Courageous Lives of Black Civil War Surgeons*.

Thanks to a grant from the Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area, Belmont Mansion will host Jill Newmark for a lecture and book signing on **February 15, 2026**. Newmark will discuss how these men managed to get medical degrees and army commissions in an era of racial bias and bigotry that largely prohibited both. Newmark is the former Curator of the National Medical Library, Institutes for Health. This is the first time she has lectured in Nashville. Do not miss this opportunity to learn more about this inspirational story of Black Civil War surgeons.

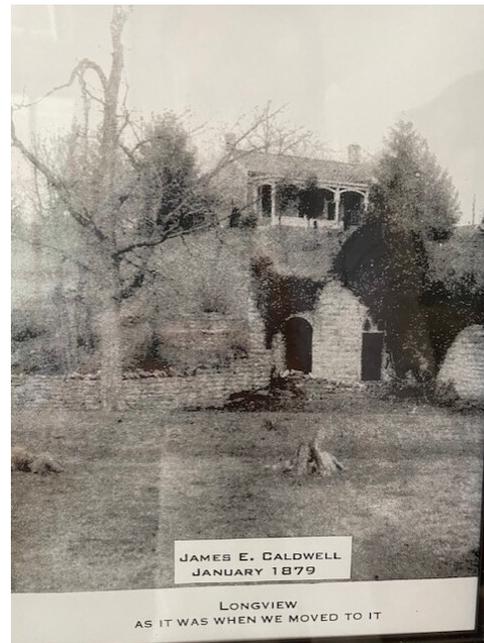
This event is free, but reservations are required

[Link to Event](#)

Leafy Lots

This photograph is the property held by the Norvells, who were direct relatives of John Sevier, the first governor of Tennessee. This home was a part of a property built between 1860-1864 and was destroyed during the Battle of Nashville in 1864. It is described as “Hood's Waste,” as referenced in newspaper

articles and even the 1893 will of Laura Jane Sevier. The home is located on Caldwell Lane overlooking Franklin Pike, and is currently owned by Lipscomb University. The Longview Mansion remains on this property and is on the National Register of Historic Places.



Help us preserve the Battle of Nashville Battlefields

As Nashville is growing, more and more of the battlefields are being taken and built upon. Help us preserve our nation's history through your efforts. This would not be possible without your help. Please renew your dues and donate to help our preservation efforts at <https://www.battleofnashvilletrust.org/>.

Renew Your Membership

Just a reminder to make sure that you renew your Battle of Nashville Trust membership when it expires. Dues are \$50 per

family, \$25 for veterans, and free for students, and with the membership comes 2 tickets for a tour of Travellers Rest and a minié ball. This membership also covers your attendance at the Nashville Civil War Roundtable. If you are not sure when it expires send an email to bobby@bigboardsports.com and we will check for you. You can also renew on our website at battleofnashvilletrust.org.

www.battleofnashvilletrust.org

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