



July 2026 News

Message from the President

Summer is upon us here in Middle Tennessee, which means the temperatures are going up and staying hot -- very unlike the weather that confronted the Soldiers who fought in the Battle of Nashville in December, 1864. Back then it was a cold and icy week before the onset of the fighting. As for me, I'll take the heat over the cold!

Here at the BONT, we are taking advantage of the warmer weather to get out to our sites and plan for a better future of historical preservation. One component of our ongoing organizational transformation of the Trust is the creation of a new Vision that describes our aspirations:

The Battle of Nashville Trust is the Campaign and Battle of Nashville's preeminent, world-class non-profit historical preservation organization. The BONT aggressively seeks opportunities to acquire and preserve battle-related property in the

form of land, structures, artifacts, and documents to maintain and interpret the story of the Battle in accurate, engaging, and responsible ways. As historical stewards of the Battle, the BONT honors the men and women, free and enslaved, combatant and noncombatant, that served and fought in both Armies as well as those who lived in Civil War-era Tennessee, by safeguarding and promoting the memory and record of the Battle for today's public and enabling the further study and understanding by future generations of Americans.

Our Vision describes our best selves, the Trust that we are recreating. Foremost we have decided that we must be a world-class, nationally prominent nonprofit historical preservation organization. That is a high bar, but one we believe worthy of your support. We aim to preserve the land over which the Battle of Nashville was fought, which is not easy -- nor inexpensive -- in the heart of metro Nashville where the battlefield lies. But acquiring the land is not enough; we must interpret it through great signage and visual displays, and it must be accessible in the form of trails and even parking spots. In the years ahead we plan also to curate and display artifacts, both objects saved on the battlefield itself, as well as documents and photographs, to tell the story of the Battle to visitors.

Today we are the inheritors of the bloody contest waged along the roads and hills around Nashville. Even though Nashville today is a booming, bustling city, the past can still talk to us. At the BONT we want to make space for those memories to return to us, to listen to the voices of those who lived in Civil War Tennessee. When we save our shared history, we preserve our identity as citizens of our great American republic.

Of course, believing in ourselves and communicating our Vision is only the first part of the journey. Translating Vision into Action is the work to be done, and there is much work ahead! Next month I will share our new Mission Statement and describe how our Mission is leading to new initiatives by the Trust. Come join us.



Nashville Civil War Roundtable

July 21st, 2026– Our 180th meeting!!

We continue our sixteenth year!

The next meeting of the Nashville (TN) Civil War Roundtable will be on **Tuesday, July 21st, 2026** - at the Belle Meade Historic Site and Winery. Located at 5025 Harding Pike, Nashville, TN 37205. There is parking by the mansion.

Cocktails will be provided before the meeting at **5:30pm!**

The meeting begins at **7:00 PM** and meetings are always open to the public. Members, please bring a friend or two as they are welcome!

July's Program

“Civil War Spies”

Presented by Steven Currie

Espionage is age-old in human history but especially in military history. Agents from one nation would be sent to an enemy nation to find out the secrets of that nation and report back to the nation the spy was working for. This included diplomatic, military and industrial espionage, all of which continues today. Spies were a large part of the Civil War. They listened while generals and other officers made plans for battle. They invented secret codes to communicate with their handlers and other spies. Several slaves were spies for both the Union and the Confederates. Some were famous and some were infamous, while others were hidden in the shadows. Some were put in prison, and some were convicted of spying and were hung. This month's program is about the varied and sometimes hair-raising stories of some of the Civil War spies.

Our speaker this month is our own Steven Currie of Clarksville. Steven Currie spent his career developing software and managing software systems. He is now retired and lives with his wife and three cats in Woodlawn, TN. He has had a lifelong interest in history, starting in grade school with Greek and Roman history. One Christmas when he was a child, he received a Civil War board game where the players could be the general for the North or the South. That sparked an interest in the Civil War. Steven has been able to visit the battlefields at Stones River, Lookout Mountain and Chickamauga. He is a member of the Clarksville Civil War Roundtable and has been for several years.

Please make plans to join us for this fascinating program.

[Click Here for Nashville CWRT Newsletter](#)

Exciting News for the Trust

Battle of Nashville Trust supporters, thank you for your continued support of our efforts to honor the service of those that fought here at Nashville in December of 1864! We are excited to share the news that we have the opportunity to buy an additional 1.2 acres of land on Shy's Hill adjacent to our current trail head that leads to the Summit from Benton Smith Rd. Your gift to support this effort would be greatly appreciated!

Important Matching Alert

Every dollar donated toward the new site helps BONT qualify for a significant matching fund that will greatly increase our ability to make this vital purchase! "

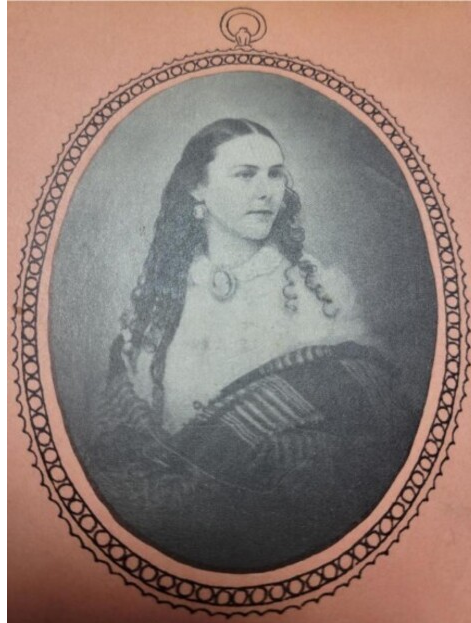
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Article of the Month

"The Beaus of Maggie Lindsley"

This article dives into a journal of the illustrious journey of Maggie Lindsley who is a vivacious 24 year old girl from Tennessee. "The

Beaus of Maggie Lindsley" reflects the memories of young Maggie who grew up in a pro-Union family during occupied Nashville. and her travels to Washington DC at the end of the Civil War.



[Click Here for the Article](#)

Civil War News & Events

***JOIN THE CWRT
CONGRESS FOR OUR
2026
SUSTAINABILITY
CONFERENCE!***

Join the CWRT Congress for the 2026 Sustainability Conference held in Petersburg, Virginia on August 28-30th. This event will give visitors unique first hand experiences through tours of historical sites, presentations, and key note speakers.



[Link to More Information about the Conference](#)

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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