

The Grapeshot

Newsletter

October 2021



This month's guest presenter:

Don't miss our exciting presentation "The Victor of Gettysburg: George Gordon Meade & The Civil War" by Dr. Jennifer Murray.

Presented through
Zoom
October 19, 2021,
6 pm

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Scottsdale Civil War Roundtable. Inc.

501 (C) (3) non profit Corporation , Founded 1978

About Our Speaker

On October 19, Dr. Jennifer Murray returns to the Scottsdale Roundtable to speak on “The Victor of Gettysburg: George Gordon Meade & The Civil War”. General Meade, the subject of Murray’s upcoming biography, commanded the Army of the Potomac for longer than any other commander but his legacy is now obscured by others deeply embedded into the Civil War narrative - Grant, Sherman, Sheridan, Lee, Jackson. Dr. Murray will explore George Meade’s role and influence in the Civil War from his start as a brigade commander to leading the Army of the Potomac.

Dr. Murray is a military historian, specializing in the Civil War, at Oklahoma State University. Last season she spoke to the Roundtable on her book, “On A Great Battlefield: The Making, Management, and Memory of Gettysburg Military Park”. Dr. Murray also worked as a seasonal interpretive park ranger at Gettysburg for nine summers.

Zoom Meeting Information

Topic: October 2021 Scottsdale Roundtable Meeting

Time: Oct 19, 2021, 06:00 PM Arizona

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84374388211?pwd=Z2VTdnErUEFENU1QTlBDK0w0dHI2Zz09>

Meeting ID: 843 7438 8211

Passcode: 437175

SCOTTSDALE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE SPEAKERS 2021

All meetings at 6 pm on dates below and via Zoom until further notice.

October 19 - Jennifer Murray, “The Victor: George Gordon Meade & The Civil War”

November 16 - Caroline Newhall, “Black Prisoners of War In The Confederacy”

December 14 - Larry Daniel, “Why The Army of Tennessee Failed”

January 18 - Lorien Foote, “Retaliation: Bushwhackers, Guerrillas, and Prisoners”

February 15 - Caroline Janney, “Ends of War: The Army of Northern Virginia Goes Home”

March 15 - Eric Wittenberg, “Holding The Line On the River of Death: Union Cavalry at Chickamauga”

April 19 - Jim Hessler, “How Dan Sickles Declared Himself The Hero of Gettysburg”

May 17 - Elizabeth Parnicza - “Stonewall Jackson’s Last Map”

UPDATE FROM SCOTTSDALE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE

From: John Bamberl

On October 1, I will be stepping down as President of the Roundtable. I have been on our board for 12 years and have proudly served as your President for the last 8 years. We have been very fortunate to have organized a very hard working and dedicated board.

However, I am not stepping away from the Roundtable and will be taking on the new role of President Emeritus in which I will still remain on the Board, serving on committees and as our liaison with the Civil War Round Table Congress.

Our new President will be Mark Stoler who has been Program Chair and VP. Taking on Program Chair responsibilities is David Ward whose experience running Civil War tours and knowledge of Civil War speakers and authors will serve us well going forward. Our new Vice-President is Dick Cox who has run our History Discussion Group (which we hope to restart later in the 2021-22 season).

The remainder of our Board members and officers remain the same with the exception of David Smith, who is leaving the Board but will remain an Advisor, and the return as a Board member of Don Swanson, our former Program Chair.

From: Mark Stoler

On behalf of all of us, our thanks to John for his tireless efforts to grow the Roundtable and ensure its continued vitality, and my thanks to him as a mentor and friend. Today our Roundtable has an outstanding reputation with Civil War historians making it easy to recruit speakers and, thanks to your contributions, we've been able to make substantial donations to battlefield preservation.

Four years ago, after first meeting John and, to my surprise, ending up as Program Chair (John is *very* persuasive, as many of you know) I certainly didn't anticipate taking on this new role. My thanks to the Board for its confidence and I'll work hard to build on the legacy established by John and his predecessors, and to meet the expectations of our members.

Like everyone else I look forward to resuming our monthly meetings at the Civic Center Library (now planned for December) and to meeting more of you. In the meantime, if you have comments, questions etc. my email is relots@gmail.com and phone 203-645-1387.

Officers & Organization

Officers/Board Members

President: Mark Stoler (203-645-1387) (relots@gmail.com)

President Emeritus: Dr John Bamberl (480-699-5844)

Vice President: Richard Cox

Secretary & Parliamentarian: Hal Bliss

Treasurer: Michael Harris

Program Chair: David Ward

Board Members (thru 5/2022): Tom Merrill, Jo Roberts, David Ward

Board Members (thru 5/2023): Shelly Dudley, Don Swanson, Cal Thompson

Committees

Book Table: Cal Thompson

Grapeshot: Jo Roberts, Richard Cox, David Ward

Greeters: John Bamberl

History: Richard Cox

Media: Shelly Dudley

Social Media: John Bamberl, Mark Stoler

Student Outreach: Tom Merrill

Webmaster: Marc Echeveste

Dues:

\$35 Individual; \$45 Family

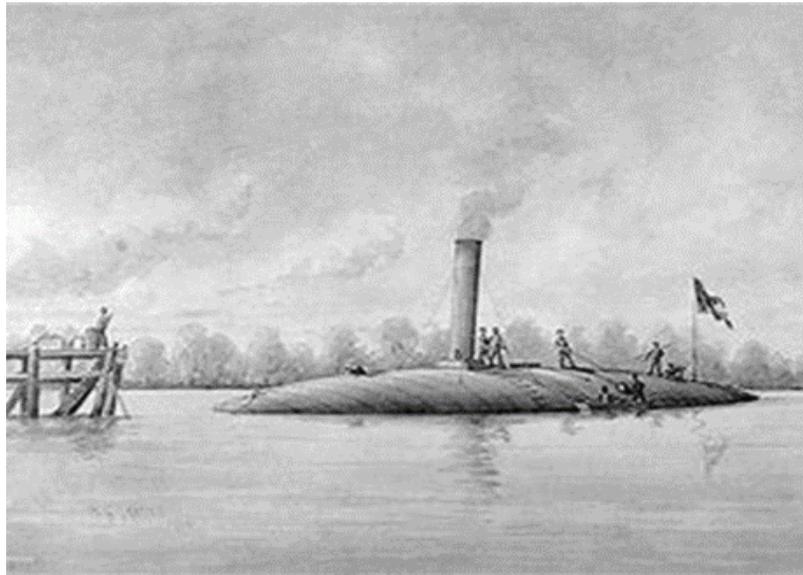
Website: www.scottsdalecwr.org

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SCWRT #274
7359 N Via Paseo Del Sur, Suite 515
Scottsdale AZ 85258-3749
e-mail: scottsdalecwr@gmail.com

THIS MONTH IN CIVIL WAR HISTORY

October 12, 1861. At Head of Passes, Louisiana, on the Mississippi, the CSS *Manassas* leads an attack on Union warships. She is a steam powered ram covered with 1 inch of iron plate and is the first ironclad to be used in the war.



Trivia Questions

1. By what nickname was General William T. Sherman known by his inner circle?
2. Which commander did Major General Richard S. Ewell call “crack-brained”?
3. How did Confederate Brigadier General William Smith get the nickname “Extra Billy”?

Answers on page 19.

Scottsdale Civil War Round Table

Membership

Please Join Us!

Your membership enables SCWRT to help with battlefield preservation and attract the best Civil War experts from around the country as keynote speakers at our meetings, September thru May! Please fill out this form and return it with your check payable to Scottsdale Civil War Roundtable. Mail to this address:

Scottsdale Civil War Roundtable

#274 7349 N. Via Paseo Del Sur Ste 515 Scottsdale, AZ 85258-3749

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, & Zip _____

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Student Membership (no charge)	----
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Additional contribution of \$ _____	

100% of your contribution (minus expenses) goes to battlefield preservation.

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

*Our monthly newsletter "The Grapeshot" will be emailed to you.

Scottsdale Civil War Roundtable is approved by the IRS as a 501 c (3) non-profit organization. Contributions are tax deductible for federal and state income tax returns. Check with your tax consultant.

www.scottsdalecwrt.org

Scottsdale Civil War Roundtable

480/699-5844

Meet the CWRT Congress

By Mike Movius, Founder and President

With the loss of nearly 70 Civil War Round Tables (CWRTs) in the past decade, it became abundantly clear that the movement that once boasted close to 500 CWRTs worldwide was in jeopardy. In 2016, Mike Movius, the president of the Puget Sound CWRT wanted to understand how that could be prevented. From that humble beginning, the CWRT Congress was born.

Since that time, we have held conferences in Centreville, VA, Harrisburg, PA and St. Louis, MO. Our conferences seek to inform CWRT members about practices that have proven successful in the areas of program development, fundraising, preservation, marketing, recruitment, governance, culture, partnerships and a host of other organization development areas. We also encourage networking with one another to better understand how CWRTs can succeed.

CWRT Congress does not have memberships. We do not charge dues of any kind. We are a registered 501(c)3 and rely on voluntary donations of those who want the CWRT movement to thrive. We are all about CWRT sustainability. Our motto is *Improvement through Education and Networking*. Our website is loaded with proven practices that CWRTs and their leaders should consider. www.cwrtcongress.org/proven.html

When the pandemic hit in the first quarter of 2020, we knew that CWRTs were going to be unable to meet for some time. Our fear was this was an existential threat as members would lose interest and that CWRTs would fail. So, we began to offer free, online Civil War lectures. The response has been overwhelming. Speakers have donated their time and talents because they believe in the movement. Watch them at www.cwrtcongress.org/videos.html

Reservations for upcoming events can be made at www.cwrtcongress.org/speaker.html We also have a living historian series called "Fridays with Grant" by Dr. Curt Fields www.cwrtcongress.org/grant.html

Our 2021 conference will be held in the Philadelphia area September 17-19. We have a great lineup that includes workshops on board organization, member retention, mission statements, the new normal, newsletter improvement, managing organizational change, changing organizational culture, meaningful partnerships, writing press releases, the sister CWRT connection, succession planning and targeted recruitment. Registration opens in July and we hope to meet you there.



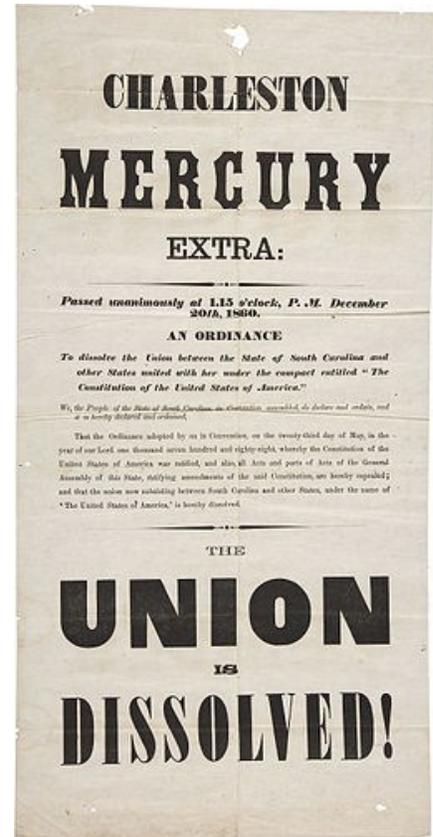
THE PERSONAL LIBERTY LAWS AND THE COMING OF THE WAR

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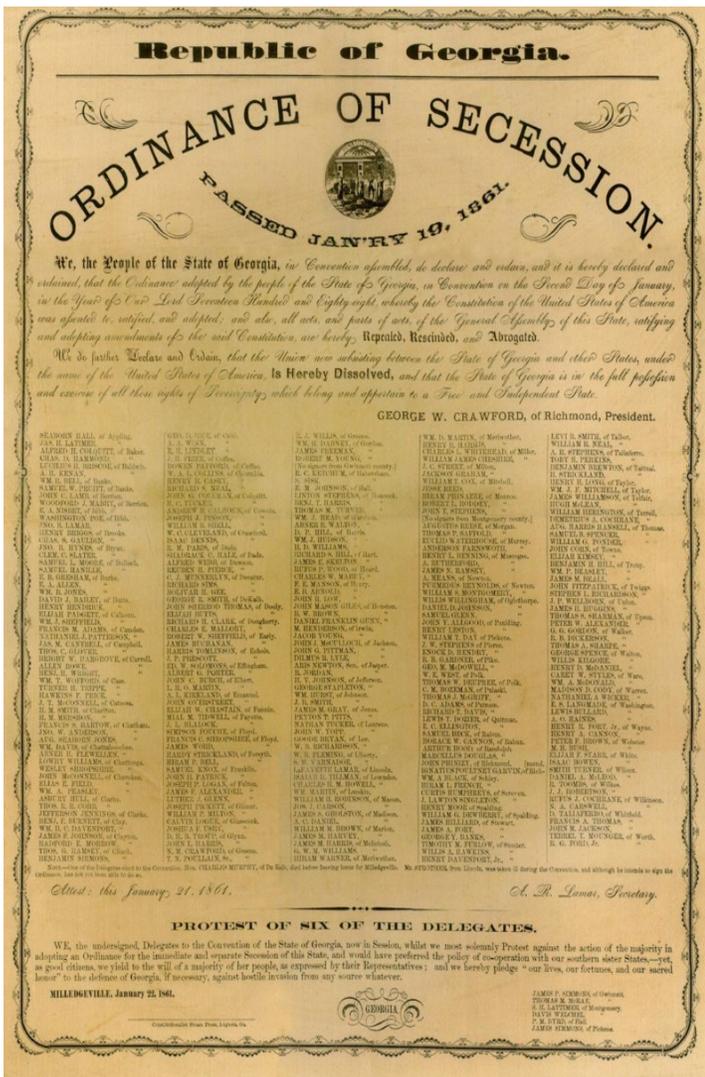
THE PERSONAL LIBERTY LAWS AND THE COMING OF THE WAR

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One by one, as the southern states left the Union, they adopted “ordinances of secession.” Most of the ordinances were pithy one-page statements, simply proclaiming that their states’ ties with the federal union were legally severed.



But four of the states -- South Carolina, Georgia, Mississippi and Texas -- went farther. Embarking on what many southerners believed to be a “second American revolution,” they knew they were making history. To ensure that their fellow citizens, other southern states and the people of the North would have no doubt about their reasons for leaving the Union, these four states added “declaration of causes” to their ordinances, echoing the words of the Declaration of Independence that “a decent respect to the opinions of mankind require that they declare the causes which impel them to the separation.”



Though not as elegant as Jefferson's Declaration, the "declaration of causes" documents laid out in fine detail the grievances the southern states had against the federal government and the northern states as their justifications for secession.

Some of the issues were economic. The southern states had long hated the federal tariff on imports, which they believed protected northern industries, did nothing for southern agriculture and made imported goods more expensive. (Despite the fact that, in 1860, tariff duties accounted for over 80% of the federal government's revenue.)

But most of their grievances centered on northern attitudes toward the South's peculiar institution. All the declarations noted Northern hostility to the

spread of slavery into the federal territories as well as their fears that the newly elected "Black Republican" Lincoln administration intended to interfere with slavery where it already existed.

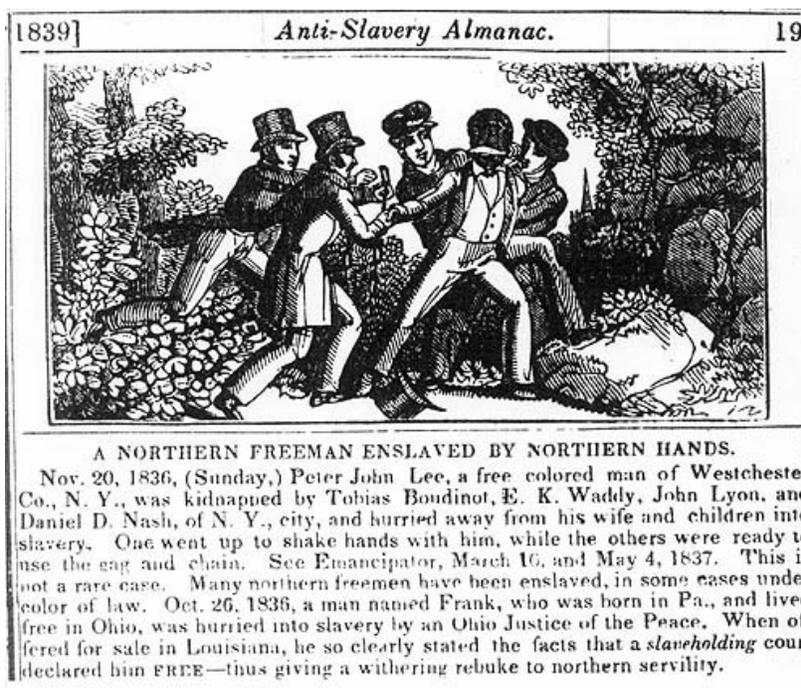
But there was one issue that vexed the southern states more than any other, and it had nothing to do with the federal government. Dated December 24, 1860, the South Carolina Declaration of the Immediate Causes which Induce and Justify Secession stated that:

" . . . We assert that fourteen of the States have deliberately refused, for years past, to fulfill their constitutional obligations, and we refer to their own statutes as proof . . ."

What South Carolina and the other seceding states were complaining about was what came to be known as “personal liberty laws.” Enacted between 1780 and 1859, these state laws (adopted by 14 northern states) protected African Americans from kidnapping and from being claimed and sent back to their masters as fugitive slaves.

By the 1820s, all states north of the Mason-Dixon line had either abolished slavery outright or had provided for gradual emancipation. That meant that many legally-free blacks lived in the North. Kidnapping of free blacks by slave traders was a significant problem, especially in port cities where several such persons lived.

The story of Solomon Northrup is a case in point. He was a farmer and professional violinist from New York State. In 1841, he was offered a traveling musician’s job in Washington, D.C. (where slavery was still legal). There a slave trader drugged, kidnapped and sold him as a slave into the deep South. Many years later, after family and friends arranged for his release, he wrote a memoir of his experiences, “Twelve Years a Slave,” which in 2013 became an Academy Award-winning movie.



But the most controversial aspect of the personal liberty laws had to do with runaway slaves. The Fugitive Slave Clause of the federal Constitution required that slaves escaping to another state had to be delivered back to their owners. The federal Fugitive Slave Law of 1793 prescribed procedures for claiming the rights to fugitives and rendering them back to servitude.

As historian H. Robert Baker writes, personal liberty laws evolved over time and fell into four distinctive periods. From 1780 to 1820, anti-kidnapping laws protected free blacks and regulated fugitive slave reclamations. In theory, anti-kidnapping laws protected state residents and fugitive slave regulations applied to non-residents. The courts were used to sort out the claims concerning the status of African Americans pursued by slaveholders.

From 1820 until 1842, the growing strength of the abolitionist movement fueled the creation of a new type of personal liberty law. These laws defined kidnapping as removing any person from the state and in some cases forbade the issuance of certificates of removal by state officers under the 1793 federal law. These provisions made fugitive slave rendition virtually impossible.

A New York trial court in 1834 held for the first time that state personal liberty laws were unconstitutional. In 1842, the U.S. Supreme Court in the case of *Prigg v. Pennsylvania* also held the personal liberty laws to be unconstitutional. However, Justice Joseph Story (significantly, a Massachusetts jurist) gave a nod to the anti-slavery forces by stating that nothing in the Constitution nor the 1793 law required a state to assist in the enforcement of the fugitive slave laws. Consequently, starting in 1843, new state personal liberty laws forbade state officers from participating in the enforcement of fugitive slave reclamation, including using state jails in the process.

As part of the Compromise of 1850, Congress passed a new and stricter Fugitive Slave Act, empowering federal courts to appoint commissioners to enforce the act and forbidding state courts and officers from interfering.

With the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Act in 1854 (allowing those states to decide whether they would be slave states or free), a new level of defiance to the fugitive slave laws emerged. These new laws imposed fines and jail terms on anyone seizing a person not subsequently shown to be a slave, requiring anyone seized to be brought before a state court for a hearing and setting onerous evidentiary requirements on a slaveholder claiming a fugitive slave.

In 1859, the U.S. Supreme Court in *Ableman v. Booth* once again held that the Fugitive Slave Law was constitutional and any state laws contravening it were null and void. But the Court's ruling had little effect on abolitionists who continued to use state laws to thwart the return of escaped slaves.

Southerners were correct that the Northern states had interfered with and violated their rights under the Constitution. But the abolitionists and their supporters believed they were answerable to a "higher law" that transcended a national legal regime that had been corrupted by evil compromises with the slave power. One of the great anomalies concerning this issue was a role reversal making Southerners, long associated with states' rights, now insisting that the Constitution and federal law were supreme to state law, while Northerners, long suspicious of Southern demands for local control, were now clamoring that local sovereignty and protecting the safety of their own residents should take precedence.

As the 1860s approached, it appeared that compromise on this issue was impossible. Professor Andrew Delbanco sums up the situation well when he states:

"It is too much to say the dispute over fugitive slaves was the cause of the Civil War, but it makes sense to say that it launched the final acceleration to national estrangement. It converted erstwhile conservatives . . . to abolitionism . . . It helped push the South toward a final break and prepared the way for Northern acceptance of Civil War"

Dick Cox is vice president of the SCWRT and chairman of the Roundtable's History Committee.

Story of the Little Red Schoolhouse

The completion of the Little Red Schoolhouse in 1909 established a key threshold for the fledgling community of Scottsdale. The previous school building was a small board-and-batten building that was typical of many small communities in the frontier West that often disappeared into the scrub as economic booms became busts and people moved on. Standing tall on the edge of the small township (the Titus house was taller but was way out into the countryside), the new brick schoolhouse represented permanence and a commitment to the ongoing future of the community. It quickly became the center of community life as well as the education center for the local youth. The dedication 100 years ago was one of the last events in Scottsdale that our founding father Winfield Scott took part in before he passed away a few months after.

This building served as the key education and community facility until the mid to late 1920s when Scottsdale High School (a block to the north) and Lolo-ma Elementary School (two blocks to the southwest) were completed. After World War II the building's role as a school ended and it began to serve various roles in the community. During the late 1950s and into the early 1960s it was the location of the city library. Flooding plagued the building even in those days and after one major thunderstorm the books that had been placed in the basement level were laid out on Main Street in front of the building to dry in the sun.

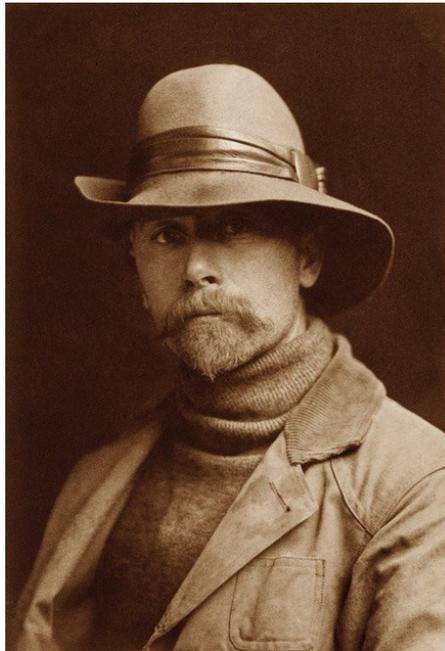
In the late 1960s there was consideration by the city of tearing down the Little Red Schoolhouse, but the Scottsdale Chamber of Commerce ultimately came to the rescue after many residents in the city raised a strong voice for saving the building. The Chamber used the building as its headquarters after a major renovation for nearly 20 years before outgrowing the space and moving into a commercial building next door.

When the Chamber moved out there was a community drive spurred by the Scottsdale Historical Museum to allow the museum to occupy the Little Red Schoolhouse. The museum moved in during 1991 and has occupied the building ever since. As a museum, the building has hosted foreign and domestic visitors, school children and members of the community. The Museum serves as a key component of the Old Town area of Downtown Scottsdale. The Museum has displays and collections of Scottsdale memorabilia, photographs, yearbooks, newspaper articles, and so on that symbolizes the dynamic growth and change of Scottsdale over its past 120 years.

Donald Hadder Sr.

Director, Scottsdale Historical Society

***Light and Legacy: The Art and Techniques of Edward S. Curtis,*
at *Western Spirit: Scottsdale's Museum of the West***



Western Spirit: Scottsdale's Museum of the West is proud to announce *Light and Legacy: The Art and Techniques of Edward S. Curtis*, an unparalleled exhibition celebrating the life and works of photographer, ethnographer, and adventurer Edward Curtis. Spanning three decades, Edward Curtis traveled the land west of the Mississippi from Arizona to the High Arctic, visiting over 80 Indigenous Peoples and creating thousands of images, audio recordings, and the earliest motion pictures of Native Americans, all while making tremendous contributions to the art and science of photography. Curtis's 20 volume publication, *The North American Indian*, remains unmatched in American ethnographic annals for its scope, depth, empathy, and artistry.

To give a brief background, in the late 1890s, Edward S. Curtis (1868-1952) saw a way to use his talent as a photographer to help Indigenous Peoples preserve and maintain their cultures and traditions. Curtis's endeavor was encouraged by ethnographic and environmental luminaries like George Bird Grinnell and Gifford Pinchot, and enjoyed the public blessing of President Theodore Roosevelt. In 1907, he would secure financial backing from financier J. Pierpont Morgan. For three decades, Curtis traveled the length and breadth of the American West, Western Canada, and Alaska, taking thousands of photographs of Native Americans. Postcards, illustrated magazine articles, books for young readers, lecture series, a "musicale," and the very first feature-length film with an all-Indigenous cast, *In the Land of the Head-Hunters* (1914), would spring from his tireless creative mind.

Curtis's project—what would become the 20 volumes of *The North American Indian*—would become the most ambitious ethnographic enterprise ever undertaken in the United States—and it would cost him nearly everything: his health, marriage, celebrity, and, in the end, all rights to his life's work. Edward Curtis would recede into obscurity until the 1970's, when the fruits of his labors would come to light once more in a Boston bookstore warehouse.

Drawn predominantly from The Peterson Family Collection, *Light and Legacy: The Art and Techniques of Edward S. Curtis* is co-curated by noted collector and Museum Trustee Tim Peterson with Tricia Loscher, Assistant Director for Collections, Exhibitions and Research at Scottsdale's Museum of the West. *Light and Legacy: The Art and Techniques of Edward S. Curtis* will offer museum guests an opportunity to view one of the largest collection of Curtis material with a breadth and depth rarely presented in a single exhibition.



On display will be a set of *The North American Indian*, a lavish, richly illustrated publication devoted to the more than 80 different Native American Peoples Curtis visited, often on numerous occasions. Photogravures, original copper plates from which the photogravures were printed, and goldtones—a process Curtis perfected—also known as orotones, or Curt-tones, will be on display as will original photographs, including platinum prints, silver bromides, silver gelatins, cyanotypes, and glass plate negatives. Visitors will hear recordings of Indigenous music and languages that were recorded by Curtis and his field team. These recordings are an enduring part of his ethnological data for *The North American Indian* and have contributed greatly to the renewed interest in reviving Native languages. A section of the exhibition will concentrate on the artist's contributions to the science of photography, including bottles of the types of chemicals he employed, descriptions of the various methods of making prints, and a camera of the vintage and type he favored.

Light and Legacy: The Art and Techniques of Edward S. Curtis is made possible with generous sponsorship from The Peterson Family; the Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust: Charles F., Jennifer E., and John U. Sands; Theodore “Ted” Stephan; Scottsdale Art Auction; True West Magazine: Ken Amoroso & Bob Boze Bell; and the City of Scottsdale and its Tourism Development Commission.

The exhibition opens on October 19, 2021 and runs through April 30, 2023. Book your visit today!

James D. Balestrieri,
Communications Manager
Western Spirit: Scottsdale's Museum of the West

Trivia Answers

1. "Cump."
2. Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson
3. Before the war, he operated a mail coach service between Washington D.C. and Milledgeville, Georgia. He frequently got extra payments from the Post Office Department for the mileage covered.

Other Opportunities via Zoom

A series of free lectures on **Wednesdays hosted by the Civil War Round Table Congress (CWRTC)**. Check out their website for topics and to register.

<https://www.cwrtcongress.org/speaker.html>

CWRT Congress Fridays With U.S. Grant for a special series with Dr. Curt Fields.

To register (free)

<https://www.cwrtcongress.org/grant.html>

YouTube Channel for CWRT Congress includes 40+ recorded past talks: https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=cwrt+congress

From Chambersburg Civil War Seminars and Tours

Zoom presentations 15th and 30th of every month. Nationally known speakers. \$5 per registration

For schedule and registration

<https://www.civilwarseminars.org/lectures>