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Scottsdale Civic Center Library
(Auditorium)

3839 N Drinkwater Blvd
Scottsdale AZ

3rd Tuesday of the month

September thru May

6:40 PM - 8:45 PM

\$35 Annual Dues (individual)

\$45 Annual Dues (family)

EVERYONE WELCOME

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JOHN HENNESSY

**First Manassas:
Legends, Lies and
History's Revisions**

February 16, 2016

6:40 PM

**Scottsdale Civic Center
Library
(Auditorium)**

John Hennessy is the author of dozens of articles and four books on history and preservation, including his recently revised, updated, and re-released *An End to Innocent: The First Battle of Manassas*, published by Stackpole Books in late 2015.

Mr. Hennessy started his National Park Service career at Manassas National Battlefield Park in the early 80's and is presently the Chief Historian at Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park.

To visit the Park:

<http://www.nps.gov/frsp/index.htm>

PHOTO SCRAPBOOK
COURTESY OF SCWRT MEMBERS

Stone Bridge

The original bridge was destroyed during the first battle of Manassas. Served as Union line of retreat for both battles.



Stone House

Served as a field hospital during first and second Manassas. There are a couple of cannon balls still lodged in the front of the house.

**photos by SCWRT member JOE RADLEY
and used with his permission



UPCOMING MEETINGS

March 15...Craig Symonds

Cutting the Gordian Knot: Abraham Lincoln & the Problem of Slavery in American History

April 19...S.C. "Sam" Gwynne

Stonewall Jackson: One of the Civil War's Great Transformations

May 17...Greg Biggs

The Question Was One of Supplies - The Logistics for William T. Sherman's Atlanta Campaign

Prescott Historic Tour

March 10, 2016

Arizona Territorial Beginnings

Scottsdale Historical Society Museum is offering a great tour starting at Sharlot Hall Museum, lunch at Hassayampa Hotel and then continuing on to Fort Whipple Museum while finishing at the historic Court House Plaza.

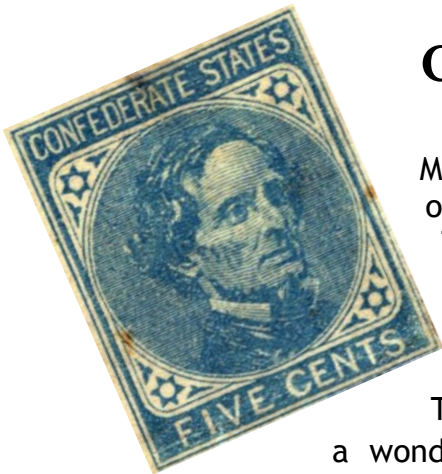
All inclusive price: \$95 with reservations closing February 5, 2016.

If interested, please send your check to
Scottsdale Historical Society Museum

PO Box 143

Scottsdale, AZ 85252

or call: 480-945-4499



CIVIL WAR MAIL BAG

My name is Brad Cox and I am a member of the Scottsdale Civil War Round Table. I thought I would take a few moments to sit down and write an article for *The Grapeshot*.



This past November, Howard Strouse did a wonderful job in his presentation of General Lew Wallace. Although I have enjoyed all the presentations, I was particularly excited about Lew Wallace. Lew Wallace has intertwined with many of my direct descendants who fought in the Civil War. I did some pretty extensive research on him.

First off, let me do an introduction of my family so it makes a little better sense of their involvement with Lew Wallace.

On my father's side, my great grandfather was Isaac S. Robinson who served with the 63rd Illinois Infantry Company I. Isaac had three other brothers (my great uncles): Andrew, 8th Illinois Infantry Company D; Elwood, 19th Ohio Infantry Company I; and Joseph, 104th Ohio Infantry Company B.

On my mother's side, my great grandfather was George Washington Shannon 45th Illinois Infantry Company F. George also had three brothers who served. Gilbert, 42nd Illinois Infantry Company K; Jacob, also in the 45th Illinois Infantry Company F; and Daniel, who I have not been able to locate at this time, still working on it.

I have always been a history nut (nerd) ever since I was very young. Over the years I studied the history of the Civil War with great interest. It wasn't until I received a genealogy book from my grandmother, Mary Agnes Cox, did I realize that side of the family and their participation in the conflict. Then I researched my mother's side and found more relatives who were engaged in the war. I began to immerse myself in trying to find out just what they did, where did they go? What did they experience? After I identified their regiments I was able to follow them. I researched every battle they were involved in. I found battlefield maps and was able to pinpoint their locations during the battle. I went to "The Making of America" at Cornell University and found every battlefield report from the division commanders down to the company commanders. All of the brothers fought in the western theater.

At the battle of Fort Donelson, Andrew Robinson was with the 1st Division, commanded by Brigadier General John A. McClernand, 1st Brigade commanded by Richard J Oglesby, company commander Lieutenant Colonel Frank L Rhoads.

George and Jacob Shannon were with the 2nd Brigade commanded by Colonel William H.L. Wallace and company commander John E Smith.

Brigadier General McClernand was positioned on the far right side of the defensive line. On February 15th 1862, Confederate Generals John B Floyd, Gideon J Pillow and Simon B Buckner decided to launch an attack known as "the Breakout" with the intent of reaching Nashville. This breakout hit McClernand and his division head on. Oglesby's brigade with Andrew's regiment took the brunt of this attack and many men were killed and wounded. Andrew died that day. George and Jacob's brigade did all they could to stem the onslaught but were forced into retreat. George received a bullet wound to the shoulder. When they thought it was going to be a total rout, Lew Wallace showed up with his 3rd Division and was able to repulse the attack. Buckner accepted an unconditional surrender the following day to U.S. Grant.

At the battle of Shiloh, George and Jacob were with McClernand again only now the brigade was commanded by Colonel C. Carroll Marsh. With Rhoads still the company commander, McClernand's division was positioned way out front, sandwiched between Prentiss and Sherman. On April 6th 1862, the whole front was driven back to Pittsburgh Landing. The 45th Illinois were able to escape the "Hornets Nest" where Prentiss and his 6th Division were captured. Lew Wallace and his division did not show up to the battlefield until 7 pm that evening. Also arriving to the battlefield was the Army of the Ohio commanded by Brigadier General Don Carlos Buell. Elwood Robinson was in this group. Elwood was with 5th division commanded by Brigadier General Thomas L Crittenden, 11th Brigade commanded by Brigadier General Jeremiah T Boyle, and company commander Colonel Samuel Beatty. On the morning of the 7th, Grant launched a counter attack and drove General Beauregard south towards Corinth. Elwood was positioned next to Lew Wallace during this push. George and Jacobs Company chased the Confederates to Fallen Timbers.

After the Battle of Shiloh, Lew Wallace was "shelved" from any further command of any major conflict and was assigned to duty at Cincinnati and its defenses from Confederate General Heth. Joseph Robinson was with the 104th Ohio Infantry and was assigned to garrison the pontoon bridge over the Ohio River where Lew Wallace had his headquarters.

Elwood Robinson would go on with Crittenden and see action at Stones River where he was wounded in the left arm. On September 19th 1863, while fighting at the Battle of Chickamauga, Elwood was captured. He was shipped via railroad to Richmond, Virginia; and detained at Belle Island until February 4th 1864. He was transferred to Andersonville Prison and was one of the first to step inside that hell hole. His prison number was 3679. Although I cannot find any records of him involved in the "Andersonville raiders", he certainly had some innovative ways to survive for he made it until the prison was closed on February 4th 1865, exactly one year. Elwood and a number of other prisoners boarded a train headed for Memphis in hopes of catching a ride on the "Sultana" back to Cairo Illinois. He was too late and there wasn't any more room for any additional troops. Lucky man.

I find it ironic that Lew Wallace would be on the tribunal that convicted the prison Commandant Henry Wirtz.

Lew Wallace died on February 15th 1905, the same day my grandmother Mary Agnes Robinson was born.

Thanks,

Brad Cox

SCWRT Member