

The Grapeshot

Newsletter

April 2026



The Scottsdale Civil War Roundtable

Welcomes

Lynn Herman

presenting

The New Mexico Campaign and Glorieta Pass

Scottsdale Civic Center
Library

Copper Auditorium

Tuesday, April 21, 2026

6:00 pm

Doors open at 5:00 pm
for social hour, meet the speaker,
book sale, and Civil War Video

Join the meeting on YouTube:

<https://youtube.com/live/xE0xympdjvg?feature=share>

Follow us on [Facebook](#)

Scottsdale Civil War Roundtable. Inc.

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

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About Our Speaker

Lynn Herman



Scottsdale Civil War Roundtable is pleased to welcome Lynn Herman, speaking on “The New Mexico Campaign & Glorieta Pass.” This 1862 campaign was the Confederacy’s attempt to conquer the Southwest, including the occupation of Tucson, and a century later served as the basis for the famous film *The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly*.

Lynn Herman is a well-known public historian on the Civil War, appearing on C-Span History TV, BBC, and at many Civil War Roundtables, as well as serving as president of the Central Pennsylvania Civil War Roundtable. Mr. Herman is also a reenactor. From 1982 to 2006 he represented Pennsylvania’s 77th District in the State House of Representatives.

Tuesday, April 21, 2026 at 6:00 PM

Join the meeting on YouTube:

<https://youtube.com/live/xE0xympdjvg?feature=share>

Scottsdale Civil War Round Table Speakers & Programs September 2025 -May 2026

April 21 - Lynn Herman, "The New Mexico Campaign & Glorieta Pass"

May 19 - Neil Chatelain, "Treasure & Empire in the Civil War"

SCOTTSDALE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE SPEAKERS & PROGRAMS SEPT. 2026- MAY 2027

Sept. 15 Cecily Zander, "Second Bull Run"

Oct. 20 Nicole Etches, "Bleeding Kansas: Contested Liberty in the Civil War"

Nov. 17 Mark Graber, "Secession & the Constitution"

Dec. 15 Alex Rossino, "The Prequel to Special Order 191 & Antietam"

Jan. 13 Megan Kate Nelson, "The Three Cornered War: The Union, the Confederacy, and Native Peoples in the fight for the West"

Feb. 16 Steven Smith, "Music in the Civil War"

March 16 David Connon, "Iowa Confederates"

April 20 Floyd Gray, "Civil War Origins of the Buffalo Soldiers"

May 18 Shelby Harriet, "Forbidden, Hidden, and Forgotten: Women Soldiers of the Civil War"

GENTLE REMINDER

*For those of you attending events in the library auditorium,
please remember to turn off your phones and
keep voices down during the presentation. Thanks!*

Letter from our President

Mark Stoler



We are near the time of year when the Board decides on Civil War preservation donations to be made on behalf of the Roundtable. If you have any suggestions please contact Roundtable Vice-President Richard Cox at praecipe101@msn.com. As a reminder, over the past decade the Roundtable has made almost \$50,000 in donations which, with matching multipliers, has enabled the purchase of parcels valued at \$2.5 million. To our knowledge, Scottsdale is the largest preservation contributor of any Roundtable.

The Roundtable is planning another day-long bus excursion for January 23, 2027. The theme will be 19th Century Tucson & The Civil War, with guided tours of the Presidio and Fort Lowell and a luncheon talk on Tucson during the Civil War. More details to follow.

You can find the 2026-27 season speaker schedule elsewhere in this issue. It includes speakers on Second Bull Run, Bloody Kansas, the run up to Antietam, and the Buffalo Soldiers and their origins in the Civil War. In addition, we have confirmed that Curt Fields will be returning as U.S. Grant on January 18, 2028.

For the second year, I served as a judge for the National History Day competition. With all of our concerns about history education in the schools, it was rewarding so see some very thoughtful and creative exhibits by young students. We will offer sign up opportunities for next year's competition.

We are looking for someone to assist with the YouTube Livestream and be available in the event Tom Merrill cannot make a meeting. If you are interested please contact me at stolerscwr@gmail.com or speak with me or other Board members at one of our meetings.

NOTICE: CHANGE OF LOCATION!

ROUNDTABLE MEETINGS FOR 2026-27 SEASON

The Scottsdale Civic Center Library Auditorium will be unavailable to the Roundtable from September 2026 through January of 2027. During those months, Roundtable meetings will be held in the auditorium of the Mustang Branch of the Scottsdale Library System. Starting time for our meetings remains unchanged.

The Mustang Library is located at 10101 N 90th St in Scottsdale, just south of Shea Blvd, and has ample free parking available.

The location is very close to the 101 and is easily accessed from the north using the Shea exit and from the south via the 90th St/Pima Rd exit. For members in North Scottsdale and North Phoenix the drive to Mustang is a few minutes shorter than to Civic Center. For our East Valley members, though Mustang is further north on the 101, the driving time should be about the same as the Civic Center because Mustang is so close to the 101. For those in central Scottsdale and Phoenix or in Paradise Valley it will probably be a few minutes longer drive.

We apologize for the inconvenience and will continue to provide you with reminders and more details as September approaches.

2025-2026 Roundtable Officers, Board & Committees Officers

President: Mark Stoler (203)645-1387; stolerscwr@gmail.com
Vice President: Richard Cox
Treasurer: Bruce Washburn
Secretary: Hal Bliss

(All Officers serve until 6/1/2027)

Board Members

Tom Merrill, John Taylor, Pat Toftoy (until 6/1/26)

Elise Moore, Jim Payne, Cheri Stegall (until 6/1/27)

Committees

Program:	John Taylor, Cheri Stegall
Grapeshot:	Richard Cox
Greeters:	Jim Payne
History:	Richard Cox
News Media:	Jim Payne
Event Support & YouTube:	Tom Merrill
Book Sale:	Pat Toftoy
Membership:	Mark Stoler, Cheri Stegall
Travel & Tours:	Elise Moore
Grapeshot Editor:	Barbara Ray
Database Management:	John Machir

Photos from March meeting



All photos: Members enjoying the social hour before the meeting and March speaker Roseann Bacha-Garza



The Fighting McCooks

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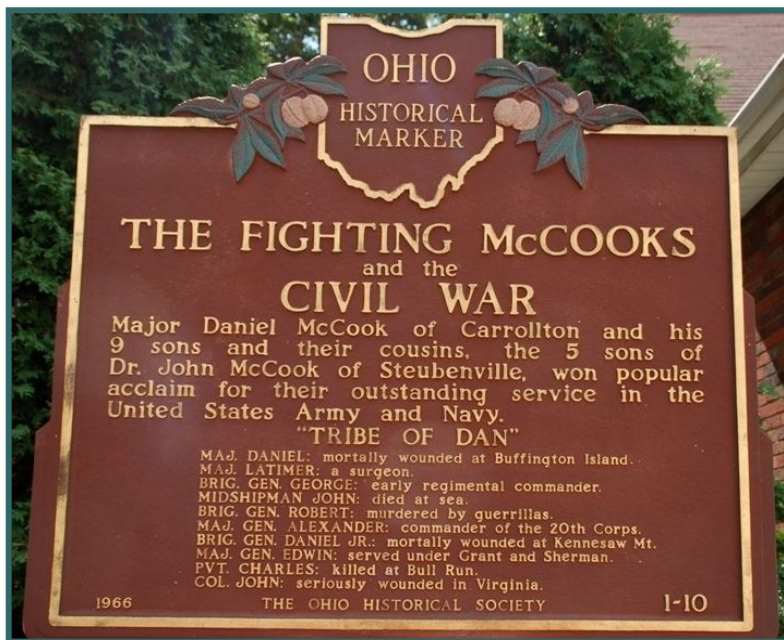
Few states were as pivotal to the Union victory in the Civil War as Ohio. The state sent 320,000 soldiers to the cause, among them generals Ulysses S. Grant, William Tecumseh Sherman, Philip Sheridan, and future presidents Rutherford B. Hayes, James Garfield, and William McKinley. After the luminaries, however, comes one Ohio family that contributed more of its flesh and blood than any other family in the Union.

Known as “The Fighting McCooks,” Daniel and John McCook and thirteen of their sons as well as numerous other family members served in the Union Army, making their family one of the most prolific in American military history. Six of the McCooks reached the rank of brigadier general or higher. Several family members were killed in action or died from their wounds. Following the war, several members reached high political office, including governorships and diplomatic posts.

Daniel and John were the sons of George McCook, a Pennsylvanian and a veteran of the Whiskey Rebellion who had immigrated from Ireland. As young adults Daniel moved his family to Carrollton, Ohio, and John raised his family in Steubenville.

Daniel, the elder brother, was sixty-two when the war started. He volunteered to be an army paymaster. He was killed during John Hunt Morgan’s raid, the largest battle to take place in Ohio. Nine of his sons joined the military, most becoming officers. Three from the “Tribe of Dan” (as they came to be called) died in combat.

Dan’s oldest son, Latimer McCook, joined as an infantry officer and fought in Sherman’s March to the Sea. Though wounded twice, he survived the war. George Wythe McCook was already a former attorney general of Ohio and a veteran of the Mexican War. He led the 157th Ohio Infantry. After the war, he ran for governor and lost.



Robert Latimer McCook, one of the middle sons, raised his own infantry regiment and led them into combat. Transferred to the Army of the Ohio, he led troops in an attack in Alabama and was killed in action.

Alexander McCook spent his entire career in the U.S. Army. A graduate of West Point, he was a veteran of the Indian Wars and the Mexican War. He fought in the First Battle of Bull Run, Nashville, Shiloh, and Chickamauga. He survived and stayed in the Army after the war ended.

Daniel McCook, Jr. also became a Union general. A former law partner of William Tecumseh Sherman, he was a brigade commander. Sherman directed McCook to lead a frontal attack on Confederate positions on Kennesaw Mountain. McCook died in the assault.

Edwin Stanton McCook graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy and also raised his own infantry regiment. He joined his brothers in Sherman’s March to the Sea and fought at Vicksburg, Chattanooga, and Atlanta.

John James, Daniel’s youngest son, was a first lieutenant and fought with his brother Edwin Stanton at Chattanooga. Both brothers survived the war.

Charles Morris McCook was the only brother to enlist as a private in the Union Army. He died aged eighteen at First Bull Run.

John McCook and his five sons were known as the “Tribe of John.” All of them survived the war. John’s eldest son Edward joined a regiment of cavalry in Indiana and led them throughout the war, being promoted from lieutenant to brigadier general in three years. Just after becoming a lawyer, Anson McCook joined the Union Army – twice. He fought under Sherman in the Atlanta Campaign and was discharged when his term of service ended. He was later called to serve under Philip Sheridan in the Shenandoah Valley and once again put on the uniform.

Roderick McCook was the only member of the family to serve in the Navy during the war. He served on vessels capturing slave ships before the war started. During the war, he harassed Confederate shipping and naval forces in South Carolina and Virginia on board a newly commissioned iron-clad.

Other members of the McCook clan served in the military but did not fight. George McCook and his son George Jr. were doctors. Father and son served as volunteer army surgeons throughout the war and took no pay for their services. Henry and John James McCook were Presbyterian chaplains in infantry regiments.

(This article has been largely adapted from the “We Are the Mighty” military history website.)

Dick Cox is SCWRT Vice President and Chair of the History Committee.

SEE ORIGINAL CIVIL WAR DOCUMENTS & ARTIFACTS AT A NEW MUSEUM IN CAREFREE

by Mark Stoler

I recently visited the newly opened RH Crossland Foundation Sports & Historical Documents Museum in Carefree, and discovered it has an incredible collection of original historical documents, photos, artifacts, and newspapers, with a large collection of Civil War related materials, including signed documents by Robert E Lee, Abraham Lincoln, Joshua Chamberlain, George Pickett, Stonewall Jackson, George Meade, Nathan Bedford Forrest, and Jeb Stuart.

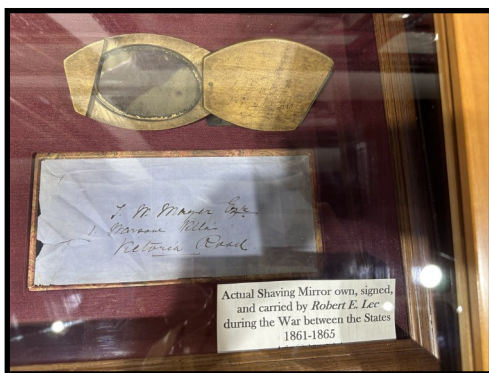
In addition to the Civil War, the collection includes documents from the Revolutionary War period, antebellum America, gunfighters from the Old West, as well as an extensive amount of 20th century material, including the sinking of the Titanic and the First and Second World Wars. You can even see John Glenn's EKG from his orbital flight.

The museum also houses a large collection of sports memorabilia, with a focus on baseball, so if you love the game and its history it is worth a visit for that alone.

Museum founder Rusty Crossland, who began assembling the collection 40 years ago, gave me a tour. Rusty and his wife, Andrea, run the museum and have established a very welcoming atmosphere.

My thanks to Roundtable member Steve Steinhauser who alerted me to the existence of the museum. It's a real surprise having such an amazing collection so close by.

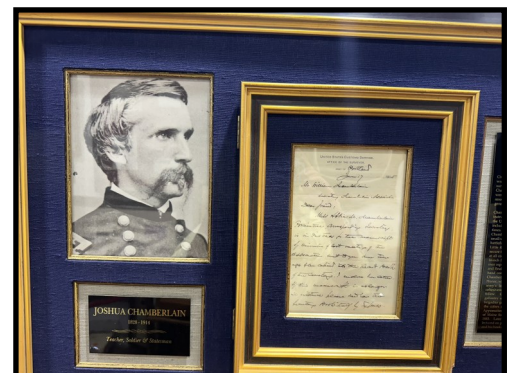
The museum is open from 10-4 on Saturday and Sunday. Admission is free and it is located at 37555 N Hum Rd, Suite 101 in Carefree Town Center.



Robert E. Lee's shaving mirror



*Museum founder
Rusty Crossland*



Letter from Joshua Chamberlain

THIS MONTH IN CIVIL WAR HISTORY

April 16, 1862. President Lincoln signs the District of Columbia Compensated Emancipation Act, freeing approximately 3,100 slaves residing in the District. Slaveholders receive \$300 for each emancipated enslaved person.



District of Columbia enslaved people

April 2026 Trivia Questions

1. What was Confederate General J. E. B. “Jeb” Stuart’s full name?
2. Who was the author of the famous poem “Barbara Frietsche” about the fictitious meeting between Stonewall Jackson and the 94 year-old Union patriot lady in Frederick, Maryland?
3. Which two battlefields have the term “Bloody Angle” applied to part of their engagements?
4. Who was the Union brigadier general who led the 3rd Brigade, 1st Division, V Corps in the Peninsula Campaign and was wounded at Gaines Mill, but is better known for a non-battlefield contribution to the Army?

Answers on final page

Tours and Trips

Welcome to the new Tours and Trips section of the Grapeshot! Elise Moore, chairman of the Tours and Trips committee, welcomes your recommendations for excursions that might be interesting to our membership. Click here to email Elise: elisemoore7@gmail.com

The inaugural recommendation is this Williamsburg and Yorktown Campaign Tour operated by the Kenosha Civil War Museum.

OCT
18-21

Bus Trip: Williamsburg and Yorktown Tour **Sunday, October 18 – Wednesday, October 21, 2026**

In celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, the Kenosha Civil War Museum invites you to join us on a three and half day tour of the Civil War, Revolutionary War, and early America sites of Williamsburg, Yorktown, and Fortress Monroe, Virginia. Our group will explore the historic locations connected to the dramatic conclusion of the Revolutionary War, General McClellan's Peninsular Campaign, the Seven Days Battles near Richmond, the USS Monitor Center and "Freedom's Fortress" at Ft. Monroe. The Civil War Museum has arranged for unique access to the sites as well as outstanding historians and authors to guide us on our explorations. Zach Pittard from Pamplin Park and John Quarstein of the USS Monitor Center will join us as guides for portions of the tour.

Itinerary, pricing, and registration details can be found by following this link:

<https://museums.kenosha.org/civil-war-museum-programs-events/bus-tour#1677861502330-fd660ce5-f26b>

HISTORY DISCUSSION GROUP TOPICS SET FOR 2025-26

LOCATION AND MEETING TIMES

SCWRT's History Discussion Group is an informal monthly get-together for Civil War buffs in the greater Phoenix area to discuss topics in Civil War history.

We meet at the Wildflower Bread Co. in the Seville Shopping Center, at the northeast corner of Indian Bend and Scottsdale Roads. The McCormick Stillman Room, which is a partitioned meeting room at the back of the restaurant, has been reserved for us.

Our meetings start at 6:00 p.m. and end at 7:30 p.m. There is ample parking in the shopping center parking lot. In exchange for the Wildflower's hospitality, we encourage but don't require attendees to buy some food and beverages from the restaurant before our meetings.

Everyone – members, non-members, family, friends, and visitors – are welcome. We're casual and have lots of fun talking about history! Come and check us out!

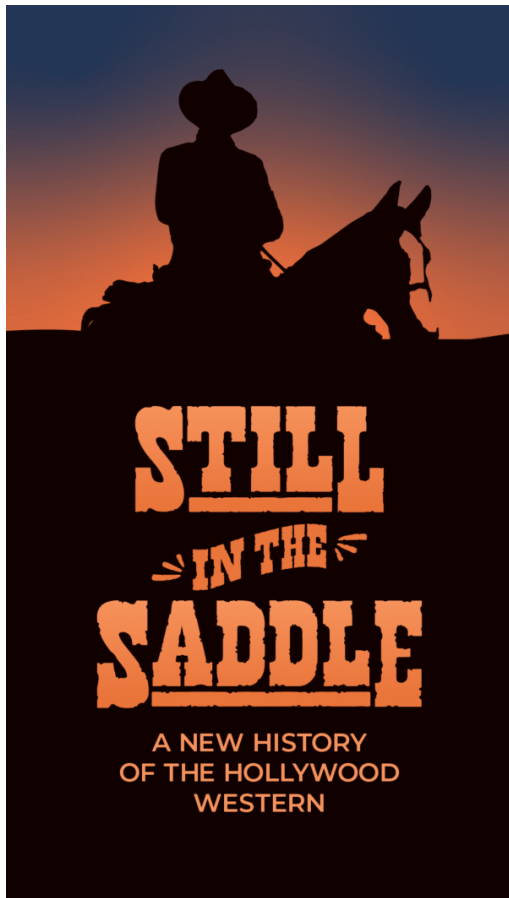
The following is our schedule and list of topics for the coming season:

4/30/26 Films about the Civil War: Which are the best?

NO MEETING IN MAY



Western Spirit: Scottsdale's Museum of the West



January 29 — December 31, 2026

The Western You Think You Know? Think Again. Step into the real story of the Hollywood Western — the films that reshaped America.

In the 1940s and 50s, the Western dominated American cinema. But by the mid-1960s, audiences were shifting, production slowed, and critics predicted the genre's demise. They said the Western was dead. They were wrong.

Still in the Saddle: A New History of the Hollywood Western tells the dramatic story of the Western's unexpected rebirth from the late 1960s through the 1990s. During a time of social unrest, political turmoil, and economic uncertainty filmmakers reinvented the genre, creating competing visions of the Old West that reflected a rapidly changing America.

Museum Hours

Mondays—Saturdays:

9:30 am—5 pm

Sundays: 11 a.m.—5 p.m.

Extended Thursdays:

(Nov-Apr) 9:30 am—8 pm

Closed Mondays (May 20-Sept 15)

Docent-led guided tours daily

11:20 a.m.

FREE with Museum admission

Featuring iconic films such as *True Grit*, *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*, *The Wild Bunch*, *Little Big Man*, and *The Outlaw Josey Wales*, the exhibition immerses visitors in the era through screen-worn costumes, dozens of vintage movie posters, film stills, and dramatic clip reels.

Six themed sections, each exploring a distinct dimension of the genre's evolution from portrayals of Indigenous people, to the rise of new kinds of heroes, to the iconic legacies of John Wayne, Clint Eastwood.

What's Going On at Neighboring Roundtables?

TUCSON 2025/2026

- April 3** Bob Consigli "Capt. Frances Lowell"
- May 1** Dr. Christopher Oakley Prof at NC "Placing the Platform: Using 3D Technology to Pinpoint Lincoln at Gettysburg" (Zoom)

SUN CITY WEST AND SURPRISE 2025-26

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LEADER</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>
April 7	Tom Gergen	Statesmen of the Lost Cause, Part II
May 5	Bill Andrews	The U.S. Camel Corps

Scottsdale Civil War Round Table Membership Form

Please Join Us!

Your membership enables the SCWRT to donate towards civil war preservation projects and attract the best Civil War experts from around the country to speak at our meetings, from September to May! Please fill out this form and return it with your check payable to Scottsdale Civil War Roundtable. Mailing address:

Scottsdale Civil War Roundtable

7349 N. Via Paseo Del Sur, Ste 515-274

Scottsdale, AZ 85258

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

Student Membership (no charge)

Active Duty Military (no charge)

Lifetime (\$500) \$ _____

Individual Annual (\$35) \$ _____

Family Annual (\$45) \$ _____

Additional donation \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

The Scottsdale Civil War Roundtable is an Arizona non-profit corporation and a U.S. 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization.

Website: www.scottsdalecwr.org

All members receive our monthly publication, The Grapeshot, from Sept-May

Follow us on Facebook at Scottsdale Civil War Roundtable

Other Online Opportunities

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

[2026 Lectures | CWRT Congress](#)

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

www.cwrtcongress.org › [videos](#) › [grant.html](#)

YouTube Channel for CWRT Congress includes 40+ recorded past talks:

[CWRT Congress - YouTube](#)

From Chambersburg Civil War Seminars and Tours

For schedule and registration www.civilwarseminars.org/lectures

See Your Round Table Online

Watch past speakers on our YouTube Channel

[Scottsdale Civil War Roundtable - YouTube](#)

Visit our website: [Scottsdale Civil War Roundtable - SCWRT Home](#)

Follow us on Facebook: [Facebook](#)

Gary Gallagher presents a series of 48 lectures entitled “The American Civil War.”

Available on Audible as part of [The Great Courses](#).

Chris Mackowski hosts [The Emerging Civil War Podcast](#). New episodes on Tuesdays.

Find articles by **Gary Dorris** on his blog at alincolnbygadorris.com.

April 2026 Trivia Answers

1. James Ewell Brown Stuart
2. John Greenleaf Whittier
3. Gettysburg and Spotsylvania Court House
4. Daniel Butterfield, who composed "Taps."