

The Grapeshot

Newsletter

December 2022



This month's presenter:

Jeff Hunt

The Scottsdale Civil War Roundtable welcomes Jeff Hunt as he presents "Meade and Lee After Gettysburg: Climax of the Gettysburg Campaign."



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Scottsdale Civic
Center
Library Auditorium
December 13, 2022,
5 pm

Scottsdale Civil War Roundtable. Inc.

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

Also on Zoom

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About Our Speaker

Jeffrey William Hunt is the Director of the Texas Military Forces Museum at Camp Mabry in Austin, Texas, which is the official museum of the Texas National Guard, and an Adjunct Professor of History at Austin Community College, where he has taught since 1988. Prior to taking the post at the Texas Military Forces Museum in 2007, he was the Curator of Collections and Director of the Living History Program at the Admiral Nimitz National Museum of the Pacific War in Fredericksburg, Texas for 11 years. He holds a Bachelors Degree in Government and a Masters Degree in History, both from the University of Texas at Austin. In 2013, Mr. Hunt was appointed an honorary Admiral in the Texas Navy by Governor Rick Perry, in recognition of his efforts to tell the story the Texas Navy during the period of the Texas Revolution and Republic.

He is a veteran reenactor, with 35 years of experience conducting, participating in and hosting a wide variety of events ranging from the War of 1812 through the Vietnam War.

Mr. Hunt is the author of

The Last Battle of the Civil War: Palmetto Ranch (University of Texas Press, 2002)

Meade and Lee After Gettysburg: The Forgotten Final Stage of the Gettysburg Campaign: From Falling Waters to Culpeper Court House (Savas Beatie, 2017, named Eastern Theater Book of the Year by Civil War Books & Authors; Winner of the Gettysburg Civil War Round Table Distinguished Book Award 201)

Meade and Lee at Bristoe Station: The Problems of Command and Strategy After Gettysburg: From Brandy Station to the Buckland Races, August 1 to October 31, 1863 (Savas Beatie 2019)

Meade and Lee at Rappahannock Station: The Army of the Potomac's First Post-Gettysburg Offensive: From Kelly's Ford to the Rapidan, October 21 to November 21, 1863 (Savas Beatie 2021)

He is also a contributor to the

Essential Civil War Curriculum,

The Revised Handbook of Texas

Topic: Scottsdale Civil War Roundtable, Dec 2022
Time: Dec 13, 2022 05:00 PM Arizona

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85776666048?pwd=aG1VMqeAbFwnZD07R84KQbUU8ZaC3Q.1>

Meeting ID: 857 7666 6048
Passcode: 374195

Scottsdale Civil War Round Table
Speakers & Programs December 2022-May 2023

December 13	Jeff Hunt “Meade and Lee After Gettysburg: Climax of the Gettysburg Campaign”
January 17	Terry Winschel "Edwin C. Bearss: An Historian's Tribute”
February 21	Fay Yarbrough “Choctaw Confederates: The American Civil War in Indian Country”
March 21	Eric Wittenberg “Holding the Line on the River of Death: Union Cavalry at Chickamauga”
April 18	Lesley Gordon “‘A Badge of Conspicuous Gallantry’: Allegations of Cowardice in a Civil War Regiment”
May 16	Garry Adelman “Battlefield Preservation Extravaganza: People, Politics, Parcels, and Progress”

All events at 5 PM in the Scottsdale Civic Center Library Auditorium and available simultaneously on Zoom.

If attending in person, you can come as early as 4 PM to meet our speaker, fellow members, and browse the book sale.

President's Letter



We're all looking forward to our January 17 meeting celebrating the life of Ed Bearss with our speaker, Terry Winschel, retired Chief Historian at Vicksburg. The Roundtable is planning some special touches for that meeting. For the first time, the American Battlefield Trust is carrying the announcement of a Scottsdale Roundtable event and promoting it on social media; you can find it here; <https://www.battlefields.org/events/celebration-life-ed-bearss>. Invite your friends!

Changes have been made to our website so that you can now renew Roundtable memberships, or join for the first time, using a credit card. Go to the Roundtable website <https://www.scottsdalecwr.org/> and click on the Membership tab on the upper right. It works like the Amazon shopping cart.

We still have around 45 tickets available for the Ben Butler play at which Roundtable members will, after the show, have the unique opportunity to meet with the cast and director. Hoping to see you at the Don Bluth *Front Row Theatre* in Scottsdale next May 20. See the article in this issue for more details.

With the end of the year approaching, for those of you interested in making donations to the Roundtable and who also have to take Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from an IRA, you can distribute funds directly from your IRA to a 501(c)(3) nonprofit with no federal income tax consequences. Please consult with your accountant or tax advisor for further details.

Mark Stoler
stolerscwr@gmail.com
203-645-1387

Officers & Organization

Officers / Board Members

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

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

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Book Table: Cal Thompson

Grapeshot: Richard Cox

Greeters: John Bamberl

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News Media: Shelly Dudley

Membership: Mark Stoler

Social Media: John Bamberl

Student Outreach: Tom Merrill

Libraries Liaison: Pat Toftoy

Dues:

\$35 Individual; \$45 Family; \$500 Lifetime; Students & Active Military Service - Free

Website: www.scottsdalecwrt.org

Mailing Address:

Scottsdale Civil War Roundtable
7359 N Via Paseo Del Sur, Ste 515-274
Scottsdale AZ 85258



Grapeshot Editor
Barbara Ray

I am honored that Mark and Richard offered me the responsibility of editing the monthly Grapeshot for the Scottsdale Civil War Roundtable. This edition is my second newsletter, so please bear with me as I polish my skills to present you with a wellspring of information, facts and trivia.

Growing up in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, Civil War history surrounded me every day. From the Battle of Stones River (or the Battle of Murfreesboro, depending on your side), the Battle of Franklin just down the road a-piece, to the Battle of Nashville; from passing the Stones River Cemetery on the way to school or driving on Old Fort Parkway named for Fortress Rosecrans, where bullets and uniform buttons can still be found. Civil War history abounds in Middle Tennessee.

Oddly enough, my family history isn't southern. Both of my parents were from Pennsylvania, and my father, John, was a proud Son of the Union through both of his grandfathers. William M. Ray (1830 - 1879) was a private in Company F of the 74th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers and James S. Moore (1832 –1912) was a private in Company K of the 67th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers.

Thank you to Richard for including a trivia question last month about the Battle of the Bands.

The Modern Battlefield Preservation Movement

As part of its 10th Anniversary Series, Emerging Civil War recently published *Civil War Monuments and Memory*, a collection of essays edited by Jon Tracey and Chris Mackowski, exploring “some of the ways people monumented and memorialized the war - and how those markers have impacted our understanding of it”.

Among the essays is *The Birth of the Battlefield Preservation Movement* by Mary Koik. In light of the preservation donations made by the Scottsdale Roundtable on behalf of its members, we thought some essay excerpts on the recent history of the movement would be of interest. These extracts are reprinted with permission from Chris Mackowski.

“. . . credit for a call to create a comprehensive preservation organization goes to one man: Don Pfan, a young Park Service historian . . . On April 22, 1987, he wrote a letter of introduction to Brian Pohanka, who had been recommended to Pfan by his mentor, [Robert] Krick. Those two single spaced pages are the fountainhead of the modern battlefield preservation movement.

The first general membership meeting was held on July 18, 1987 and the group named itself the Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites . . . The group scored its first victory in October 1988, accepting donation of the high ground known as the Coaling at Port Republic. By 1990., APCWS had saved more than 600 acres across eight sites.

Creation of the new organization was certainly timely; Volume 1, Issue 1 of a membership newsletter entitled *Hallowed Ground* focused heavily on a major development threat at Stuart’s Hill on the Manassas Battlefield.

In November 1990, Congress created the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission, tasking it with studying the war’s significant battlefields and creating an objective way to rank them by historic impact, preservation status, and impending threats. The commission’s ultimate report, although slim, is easily the most important document in modern battlefield preservation. In order for a property to be eligible for federal grant funding, it must be at one of the 384 battlefields included in the report . . .

Driven by Ken Burn’s documentary miniseries, *The Civil War*, interest in the era soared. A second private preservation group, the American Battlefield Protection Foundation, later renamed the Civil War Trust, was found in May 1991 and two months later the National Park Service announced a new bureau, the American Battlefield Protection Program, to spearhead preservation efforts and distribute grants to help the growing number of local nonprofit organizations plan preservation activities.

Throughout the 1990s, the two national preservation groups worked in parallel - sometimes in partnership, but sometimes in conflict. Each had major preservation achievements to its credit, but

ultimately both also fell victim to financial problems that made continued independent operation untenable. Despite vastly different corporate personalities, after much consideration and debate so intense it bordered on strife, the two boards reached the decision to merge in November 1999.

If the merger itself was contentious, its outcome has proven beyond reproach. Looking back on the decision, some 15 years later, NPS chief historian emeritus Ed Bearss quipped that it may have been a shotgun wedding, but it's the most important wedding he'd ever seen.

The new Civil War Preservation Trust [CWPT] inherited a strong legacy . . . [t]his was compounded by a major victory when long-term federal lobbying efforts paid off and Congress authorized a matching grant program administered by the American Battlefield Protection Program . . .

With the ability to leverage private donations 1-to-1 against the government matching source, acquisition opportunities skyrocketed - not just for CWPT, but for what was quickly becoming a strong network of regional and local preservation groups as well. Organization like the Central Virginia Battlefield Trust [to which the Scottsdale Roundtable donated earlier this year] and Georgia Battlefields Association also pursued land acquisition projects, sometimes enlisting the national organization as a partner and other times operating fully independently . . . Many of these groups benefited from planning grants distributed by NPS' American Battlefield Protection Program - 620 projects have been funded through 2019 - and CWPT stood ready to assist all such efforts with technical expertise.

Another growing trend in the preservation community is not to stop once the land is brought but to see it well-interpreted . . . and its landscape returned to its wartime appearance.

. . . the greatest examples of this type of work came out of Franklin, Tennessee . . . beginning in 2005, preservations began undoing that damage, buying up parcels a single acre at a time - and at high prices, located as they are in the center of the bustling city - and tearing down building, ripping up parking lots, and otherwise creating a battlefield park from scratch. [The Scottsdale Roundtable contributed \$5,000 on a 25-to-1 match towards the Franklin project.]

[In 2018 came] the announcement of the creation of an umbrella organization, the American Battlefield Trust, under which the Civil War Trust and the Revolutionary War Trust would operate as land protection arms.

Given the number of battlefields from each war and the relatively smaller scale of the ones from the earlier conflicts, Civil War sites will always remain the bulk of this work. But preservationists have proven they understand that all of these sites are hallowed ground and should be respected in memory of the brave men who struggled there.”

There is much more of interest in the essay and the entire book, which we recommend.

Women Soldiers, North and South (Article 118)

By Gary Dorris, Scottsdale Roundtable Member

"I could only thank God that I was free and could go forward and I was not obliged to stay at home and weep." - Sarah Edwards Seelye

In July of 1863, a Union burial detail at Gettysburg found the body of a woman in a Confederate private's uniform. She had no identification, and so she was buried in a mass grave like so many others at that battle; and we will never know who she was. But she was not the first, nor would she be the last woman to die fighting for her chosen side in the Civil War.

Neither North or South permitted women to join their Armed Forces, however, there were several hundred women who disguised themselves as men and joined either the Confederate or Union Army in units which engaged in battles. Of course, there were several thousand other women who served as nurses and caregivers; however those who joined active military forces were a special breed and had to be deceptive to serve. The best known of these "imposters" is probably Loreta Janeta Velazquez, who wrote a best-selling memoir and was even depicted in several early western movies. Most historians, however, doubt that all of the exploits in her autobiography actually occurred and some, including a recent biographer, believe she was a total fraud.

But more on her later.

However, that un-identified female soldier who was found dead at Gettysburg, was one of many who really fought, and in that case died, in battles of the Civil War. Since so many young boys of 15-16 enlisted, it was relatively easy for a woman to disguise herself as a young man and mix in with the many other smaller, smooth faced, soldiers. Because these women had to assume false identities, it is impossible to know how many really served, but estimates range from 400-750. Unlike Loreta Velazquez, most ended their service after they were discovered, some after being wounded, and never sought to publish a memoir or accept speaking engagements. One reason many kept their service secret after the War was that, in the 19th century, they may have been falsely labeled as a prostitute and, unfortunately, some were. The women named in this article are only known today because historians researched letters which they had written, interviews they gave to home-town newspapers after the war, military arrest records (after all it was a crime to enlist under a false name and certainly a crime if it was a woman), and in a few cases, records of their capture as a prisoner of war.

But why did they enlist? Some joined to be with a loved one, others for the adventure, and for some who were very poor, it was a matter of food and shelter. But for others, they believed it was their patriotic duty.

Sarah Emma Edmonds (she married J.C. Seelye in 1868, after the war) was one of those who enlisted as a duty to her Country. She was an ardent Unionist, opposed slavery, and had already made her own way in the world. She would often disguise herself as a man under the alias of Franklin Thompson to earn a living as a street peddler of Bibles and household utensils (a job she could not get as a woman). When the Civil War broke out, she enlisted as Franklin Thompson in a Michigan unit. She served as a soldier until injured when thrown from her wounded horse. Fear of discovery, and the punishment that might bring, led her to discard her disguise. She then introduced herself to an unsuspecting officer

under her real name and he agreed that she could serve as a courier. Her exploits became known, not because she wrote a memoir or sought recognition, but because she later wanted to clear Franklin Thompson's name. Unknown to her, until after the war, the soldier, Franklin Thompson (actually her in disguise), had been listed in the official records as a deserter, a capital crime with no statute of limitations. Therefore, Thompson was a wanted man! When she learned of the desertion charge, Sarah waged a ten-year battle with the War Department, whose senior officers denied that she could have fooled so many Commanders (or other soldiers, for that matter). Further, some thought she may have actually harbored Thompson knowing he was a deserter; also a serious crime for which some believed she should be charged! As her petition with the Army turned contentious, she then turned to Congress for assistance and finally, after two more years, the record was corrected by an act of Congress. Then, in a last gesture to irritate the Army, she applied for a pension for her service and, finally the Army bureaucracy gave up the fight, her request was granted.



Sarah Emma Edmonds (Seelye) 1841 – 1898

Sarah wrote of her decision to enlist as a man, *"I could only thank God that I was free and could go forward and I was not obliged to stay at home and weep."*

But Sarah is only one example of these remarkable women! Following are a few of the other women who went to war and whose service was documented.

Margaret Catherine Murphy disguised herself as a man and enlisted in an Ohio unit as Joseph Davidson. But Margaret could not win for losing! When her unit commander discovered that she was a woman, he suspected that she was a Confederate spy and she was arrested and imprisoned. After a brief trial, she was exiled to the South where she was captured by the Confederates and, in an ironic twist, was suspected by that side of being a spy. She was sent back across Union lines by her Confederate captors and arrested again. She remained in a Union prison until the war ended. Some might say that, without bad luck, Margaret would have had no luck at all.

Mary Ellen Wise joined an Indiana regiment and was wounded at the Battle of Lookout Mountain, after which her identity was discovered. She still wanted to be of some service, as well as to avoid prison, and became a nurse in a hospital in Louisville. She did not write a memoir, but a Washington newspaper publisher heard about her and, in 1874, wrote a serialized version titled “Brave Soldier Girl”

Emily Frank was severely wounded at the Battle of Lookout Mountain and doctors discovered that she was a woman. Her injuries would prove fatal, but while dying, she dictated a poignant letter to her parents.

Jennie Hodgers, who fought as Albert Cashier, enlisted in Illinois and fought throughout the Civil War without being discovered. She evidently chose to continue living as a man and applied for and received an army pension. Years later, her true identity was discovered by the staff at a nursing home and they kept her secret until she died.

Mary and Mollie Bell, whose aliases were Tom Baker and Bob Morgan, were two cousins who served in the Confederate army. They were arrested after confessing their real identities to their commander and imprisoned until near the end of the War.

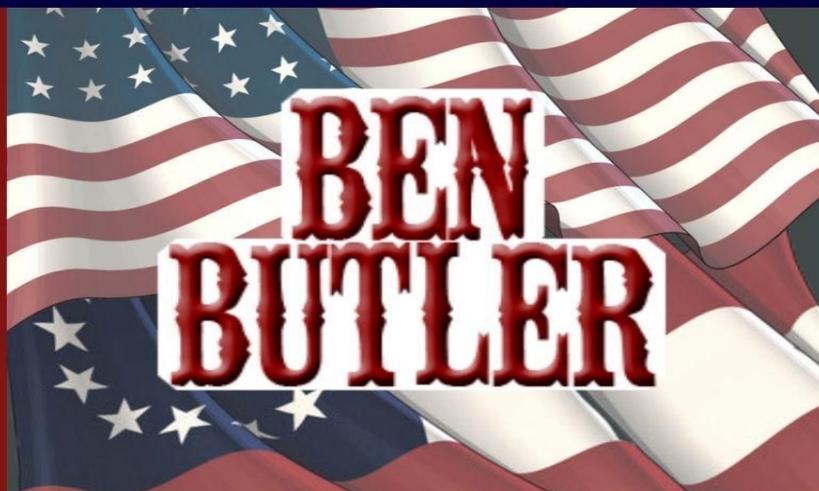
Melverina Peppercorn, enlisted in the Confederate army alongside her twin brother, Alexander, in 1862. After Alexander was wounded, Melverina admitted her true identity and was allowed to serve as Alexander’s nurse in the hospital.

Frances Clayton enlisted under the name of Jack Williams, in a Missouri unit. Her real identity was discovered after she was wounded in the Battle of Shiloh, and she was discharged as Jack Williams and sent home in 1863.

Mary Galloway was from Maryland and enlisted to stay close to her fiancée. Both were wounded at the Battle of Antietam and her real identity was discovered by Clara Barton, a famous nurse and later founder of the American Red Cross. Mary made a full recovery and returned home, in the meantime, Clara Barton helped reunite Galloway with her future husband by locating him in a Washington hospital and arranging for his transfer back home.

Sarah Rosetta Wakeman, enlisted in a New York regiment as Lyons Wakeman. She died of an unknown illness in 1864 and was buried as Lyons Wakeman. Her identity was revealed after her parents published her letters describing her military service. Her grave has two stones, one for Sarah and one for Lyons.

SHARP. WITTY. CAPTIVATING.



SATURDAY, MAY 20, 2023 AT 2 PM

by Richard Strand

Directed by Lee Cooley

When an escaped slave shows up at Fort Monroe demanding sanctuary, Union General Benjamin Butler faces an impossible moral and legal dilemma that could alter the course of the Civil War and U.S. history. Sharply comic, a battle of wit and word play. Completely captivating!

DON BLUTH
Front Row
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BOX OFFICE 480-314-0841
8989 E VIA LINDA | SCOTTSDALE AZ 85258

JOIN FELLOW ROUNDTABLE MEMBERS FOR A UNIQUE THEATER EXPERIENCE!

Someone wrote a play about General Benjamin Butler? A play described as sharp and witty? A play performed by theater groups across America to glowing reviews? Surely, you must be joking! But it's true, and Scottsdale Roundtable members have a unique chance to experience it themselves.

In May and June of 2023 the Don Bluth *Front Row* Theatre in Scottsdale will be presenting *Ben Butler*. We've arranged with the Theatre for the matinee show on Saturday, May 20 to be available exclusively to the Roundtable and tickets, normally \$30, will be discounted to \$25. In addition, at the end of the performance, cast members and the directors will come back out to answer questions and engage with us, something only being done for our group.

The play is about the incident early in the war, when escaped slaves entered the Union lines at Fort Monroe, presenting General Butler and the Federal government with the question of what to do?

To buy tickets, follow the directions below and click on this link: https://app.arts-people.com/index.php?perf_special=618466, which will take you directly to the theatre's website and this specific performance. You should also have recently received an email from us with the same information.

SCOTTSDALE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE

**Private Group Performance
& Post-Show Talkback with Company**

**SATURDAY, MAY 20 at 2 PM
Group Discount Tickets \$25**

1. **Go to special private ticketing page**
2. **Select Adult Ticket Type & Choose
Seats - Continue to Cart Check Out**
3. **At Cart Sign Up for an Account**
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After you select seats you will need to set up an account and password.
The discount code is only entered in the last step, so you will see the \$30 charge until then.

It's called the Front Row Theatre because it only has 74 seats, so get your tickets soon.

Look forward to seeing you there.

HISTORY DISCUSSION GROUP MEETINGS

Please join us for a relaxed and informal conversation at the Roundtable's History Discussion Group meetings. All are welcome, including non-members. Our discussions tend to center around a topic the previous week's speaker has presented. These are participant-led discussions, not lectures, facilitated by a Roundtable member. You can add your comments, thoughts, questions or just listen. It's always fun and interesting and sometimes goes off in unexpected directions.

Location:

Scottsdale Civic Center Library

SHC Program Room (on the right side of the Scottsdale Heritage Connection (SHC) Room on the main floor of the library. Just ask at the front desk if you have trouble finding the Program Room.

Here is the schedule for the remainder of the year with this season's topics:

No meeting in December

January 24: Annual Trivia Contest

February 29: American Indians in the Civil War

March 29: General Discussion on the Battle of Chickamauga

April 25: How did the Union and the Confederate Armies Deal with Desertion, Bounty-Jumping and other disciplinary infractions?

No meeting in May

Hope to see you there!

THIS MONTH IN CIVIL WAR HISTORY

December 12, 1862. On the Yazoo River, the USS *Cairo* is sunk by two torpedoes (mines), the first ship to be lost this way in combat.

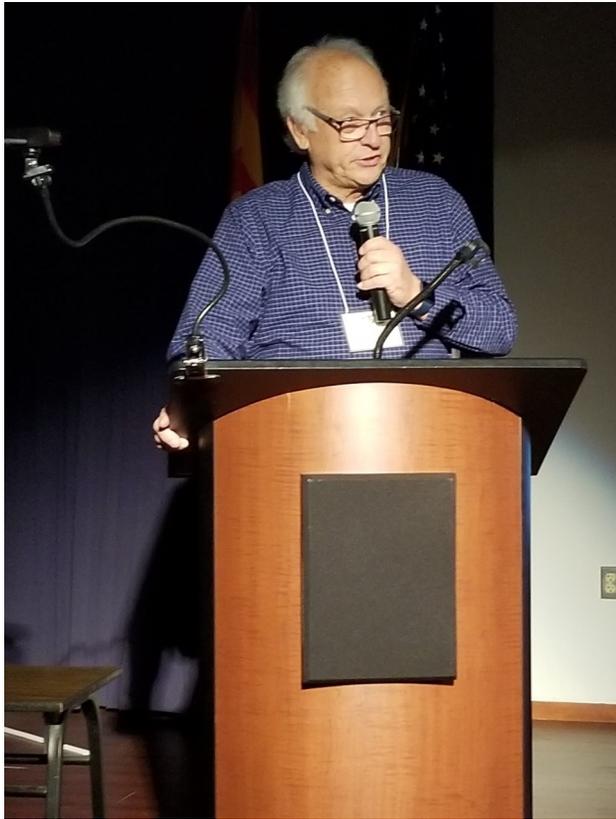


USS Cairo

December 2022 Trivia Questions

1. If “buck and ball” was three buckshot behind a regular musket ball commonly used in Confederate .69 caliber muskets, what was “buck and gag”?
2. Who was credited with saying at the First Battle of Bull Run (Manassas), “There stands Jackson like a stone wall.”?
3. When was the last Confederate battle flag hauled down?
4. In what battle was Union general Phillip Kearney killed?

Answers at the End



Board member Don Swanson
introducing our November speaker

Student greeters from
Cesar Chavez High School



Monthly meeting of our sister roundtable in Sun City West



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: _____

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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.scottsdalecwrt.org

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

Follow us on Facebook at Scottsdale Civil War Roundtable

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>

December 2022 Trivia Answers

1. A common form of punishment. A soldier was gagged, his hands tied together, his knees drawn up and feet tied, his elbows slipped over his knees, and then a rod was placed beneath his knees and over his elbows.
2. Brig. Gen. Barnard E. Bee of Georgia
3. November 6, 1865, in Liverpool, England, when the CCS *Shenandoah* surrendered to British authorities. The *Shenandoah* while at sea failed to receive news of the Confederate surrender and continued to destroy Union shipping for several more months. Her captain was afraid to surrender to Union officials for fear of being tried as a pirate.
4. The Battle of Chantilly, Virginia, September 1, 1862.