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.meets @

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

www.scottsdalecwrt.org

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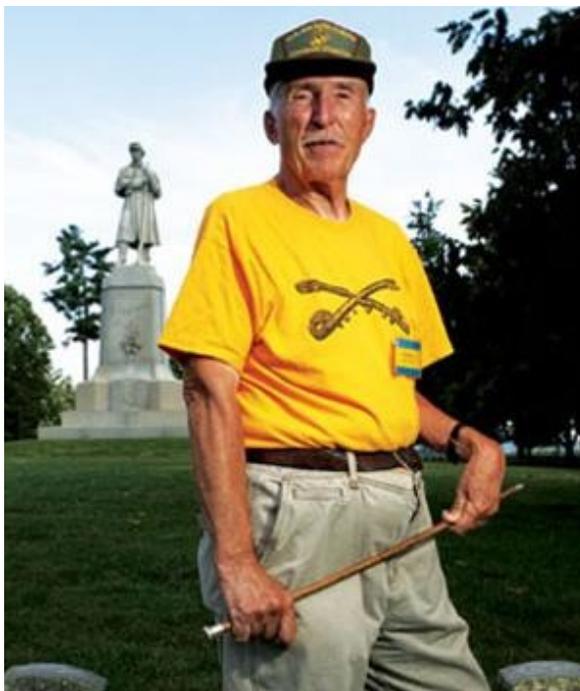
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ED BEARSS

**ANOTHER
EVENING WITH
ED BEARSS: YOUR
QUESTIONS
ANSWERED**

January 19, 2016

6:40 PM

**Scottsdale Civic Center
Library
(Auditorium)**

How fortunate is the Scottsdale Civil War Round Table to have the pleasure of the U.S. Park Historian, Emeritus and the foremost Civil War historian on the planet, back for another answer and question session!

“The Civil War Walking Encyclopedia”... better known as Ed Bearss is always a must attend meeting. This U.S. Marine Corps veteran of World War II is a speaker much in demand and has a busy schedule leading tours of historic battlefields. The Civil War Trust created the Edwin C. Bearss Lifetime Achievement Award for achievements in historic preservation and made him the first recipient in 2001. Don't miss this legend!

PHOTO SCRAPBOOK COURTESY OF SCWRT MEMBERS

Illinois Memorial Monument

Featuring 47 steps leading up the the entrance, one for each day of the siege of Vicksburg. The monument was modeled after the Roman Pantheon.



Shirley House

During the siege it served as headquarters for the 45th Illinois Infantry. This is the only wartime structure still standing in the park.

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



UPCOMING MEETINGS

February 16...John Hennessy
First Manassas: Legends, Lies, and History's Revisions

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

Websites for further education:

SCWRT Member Bill Haskell wrote in wanting to share some really cool websites he discovered while reading Winston Groom's *Shiloh, 1862*. Maybe we can get him to do a book review on it in the future??

Anyway, he is recommending MOLLUS (Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States). This organization flourished in every Northern state after the war and to which former Union officers read or presented "papers" recounting their wartime experiences. Delve into their website for some great information.

<http://www.suvcw.org/mollus/mollus.htm>

Bill also recommends the "*Southern Historical Society Papers*". Founded by Confederate Major General Dabney H. Maury in 1868-1869, it was a public organization documenting Southern military and civilian viewpoints comprising 52 volumes. Just Google "*Southern Historical Society Papers*" and lots of websites pop up.

CIVIL WAR MAIL BAG



\$5,000+

Mary and Mike Abroe
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Mrs. Peggy Beattie
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Honor of Clark "Bud" Hall
Mr. David Seuss
Col. Allen E. Weh
LtCol John P. Zebelean, III
Mr. Allan J. Zellnock

E-mail with pictures that President Bamberl received from Clark "Bud" Hall thanking SCWRT for the donation made to Brandy Station:

"I was recently up on Fleetwood for the ribbon-cutting ceremony that heralded a restored Fleetwood Hill. While there, I saw the new marker that recorded the names of the individuals and groups which contributed to Fleetwood's revival, and to my pleasant amazement I learned for the first time that your esteemed Scottsdale CWRT's generous contribution was conveyed in my name!

John, I can't tell how much I am honored to be singled out by you good folks in this regard.. Please accept my deep appreciation for this signal honor and kindly convey my considerable gratitude to all your members for their enormous generosity in helping to preserve the Brandy Station Battlefield.

As you may know, we now have an interpretive trail on Fleetwood (eight markers) and it was my pleasure to craft the text for these terrific signs. So, I am of course anxious to show it all off to you, and you (and others) must come to Brandy Station for a personalized tour.. I am available to you folks at anytime..

With my warm and appreciative best wishes... Bud"

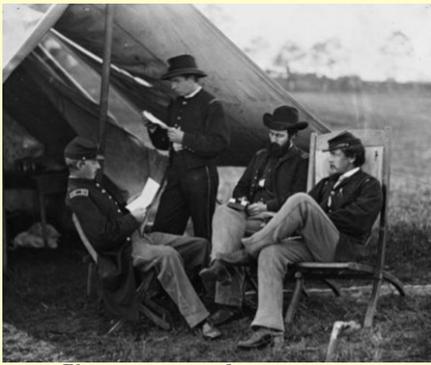


Photo courtesy of www.nps.gov

WHY MEMBERS THINK IT IS IMPORTANT TO STUDY THE CIVIL WAR

Importance of the Civil War

Daniel Tumolo
SCWRT Member

At the November meeting of the Scottsdale Civil War Round Table, President John Bamberl asked the members to think about why we are interested in learning about the Civil War. As a former High School and Community College American History teacher I can think of numerous answers. As you might imagine the typical American History course is a very full curriculum.

Students need to study many events, issues and movements, which helped to shape our nation. Everything from why Europeans first made their voyages of discovery to the consequences of the attack on 9/11 and a lot in between has to be covered.

In order to cover it all in one year, a teacher has to concentrate on the most important events in our history. So we talk about and concentrate on the “turning points” in our story. Certainly, the Civil War is paramount in telling the story of the development of the United States. To what extent were we, in fact, the “United States” prior to the Civil War? A good argument could be made that we were not fully united, because of various social, political and economic differences between the various sections of the country. Many Americans thought of themselves first as citizens of a particular state, rather than a citizen of the nation.

Due to the shortness of time, one school year, and the vast scope of the topic, U.S. History from the Colonial Period to the present day, I concentrated on the causes and results of the Civil War. When teaching the Civil War, I spent very little time on the major battles or military leaders. My class time was spent on examining the major causes which led the nation to war with itself and even more time discussing how the nation changed as a result of this earth shattering event.

Herein lays the true importance of the Civil War. Americans need to understand that nothing was the same in the nation after the Civil War. All of our social, political and economic institutions were changed for ever more, as a result of this national war. Likewise, no individual or family, directly or indirectly, remained unscathed by this national event. The historic path of the United States was altered (for good or bad) as a result of the Civil War. The relationship between government and citizen was irrefutably altered. How citizens viewed their role in the democracy was also impacted.

Knowing more about the Civil War and its causes and aftermath helps to better understand issues which have been and continue to be part and parcel of our national fabric. One of these issues is States’ Rights. Recently (November 19, 2015) the New York Times reported on the Syrian refugee issue and how various state’s are reacting to allowing some of these people to resettle in the United States. The brief excerpt below illustrates the ongoing debate.

“Gov. Dannel P. Malloy of Connecticut on Wednesday personally welcomed a refugee family from Syria who had been diverted from Indianapolis to New Haven. Meanwhile in New Jersey, Gov. Chris Christie, a Republican, sent a letter to President Obama saying he was directing his state’s Department of Human Services not to participate in the resettlement of Syrian refugees.

On Wednesday, the fate of Syrian refugees in the United States fully erupted into a fight over states’ rights, even though governors and other local officials hold no legal authority in the federal program that was authorized by the 1980 Refugee Act. More than 30 governors have come out in recent days to say that their states will not accept refugees from Syria, even as Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo of New York and Governor Malloy, both Democrats, remained staunch in their commitment to take refugees.”

In order for citizens’ today to fully understand this issue, background knowledge of States’ Rights is essential. This would naturally lead to a discussion of our Federal System of government. What is Federalism? Why do we have Federalism? How does it work? To what extent did States’ Rights help cause the Civil War? What role does Federalism play in our nation today? And so forth.

The Civil War was a true turning point in our history and, as such, is still affecting us today. A full understanding of the causes, events, personalities and results of the war is essential for a better understanding of who we are today. As citizens of a democracy, I believe it is vital to know the forces which brought us to where we are today. This is why I’m involved in the Scottsdale Civil War Round Table.