



The Scout's Report

Knoxville Civil War Roundtable
P. O. Box 52232
Knoxville, TN 37950-2232
Website: kcwrt.org

VOLUME XLIII

APRIL 2026

NO. 10

KCWRT MEETING

TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2026

****Buffet at 6:30 PM****

****Speaker at 7:30 PM****

Dinner & Presentation

\$22.00 Members

\$25.00 Non-members

Presentation Only

\$8.00 Members

\$10.00 Non-members

**DINNER RESERVATIONS
MUST BE MADE OR
CANCELED BY 11 AM,
FRIDAY, APRIL 10TH
CALL (865) 671-9001 AND
LEAVE A MESSAGE**

MENU

Baked Ham

Turkey

Green Beans

Whipped Potatoes

Garden Salad

Beverages

Assorted desserts

LOCATION

**Bearden Banquet Hall
5806 Kingston Pike**

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THE GRAND REVIEW

DISCOVERIES AND EXPLORATIONS IN CIVIL WAR PHOTOGRAPHY



The American Civil War was the most photographed conflict of the 19th century. Images were widely copied and distributed to the public via newspapers, prints, and cartes de visite. Roughly 70% of the war's documentary photography taken in the field was shot with a stereo camera which produced 3-dimensional images that could be viewed on a stereoscope, a forerunner of the view master that enthralled many of us as kids. Come join us as Bob Zeller, co-founder and president of The Center for Civil War Photography, our April speaker, takes us on a tour of Civil War photography via his fascinating visual presentation "The Grand Review".

The Grand Review features the latest discoveries and revelations of the war's amazing images. The visual treasures taken by the war's photographers continue to reveal themselves by way of discoveries of previously unknown images as well as by exciting new ways to look at known images including photos showing movement. Believe it or not, Civil War motion pictures exist – created from four images taken in quick

succession that capture wagons, ships and other scenes in motion. The Grand Review is a “greatest hits” of Civil War photo discovery that will include a transition from 2-D to 3-D to show the photos in the way they were originally taken and meant to be seen. Wearing 3-D glasses, you will feel as if you can literally step into the tableaux of some of the most famous photographs of the war. Many, reproduced directly from original glass-plate negatives, provide unmatched clarity.

Whether you’re a Civil War buff or a photography enthusiast, you won’t want to miss Bob Zeller as he shows us the best of this new photo history scholarship in a most compelling way.

Welcome to the KCWRT, Bob Zeller!



Bob Zeller, co-founder and president of The Center for Civil War Photography, is one of the country’s leading authorities on the imagery of the Civil War. He is the author of several ground-breaking books in the field, including *The Blue and Gray in Black and White: A History of Civil War Photography* (Praeger, 2005), the first narrative history about the war’s photographers, what they did and why they did it. Zeller pioneered the modern presentation of stereoscopic Civil War photography with *The Civil War in Depth* (Chronicle Books, 1997), the first 3-D photo history of the war, and *The Civil War in Depth Volume II* (Chronicle Books, 2000).

A writer, journalist and historian, Zeller spent 25 years in newspaper journalism, specializing in investigative reporting and later working as a motorsports beat writer covering NASCAR. He has authored or co-authored 20 books, including his latest, *Fighting the Second Civil War: A History of Battlefield Preservation and the Emergence of the Civil War Trust* (The Civil War Trust, 2017).

A native of Washington, D.C., Zeller grew up in Hyattsville, Md. He has been presenting 3-D slide show lectures of original Civil War photographs since 1997. Images from his Civil War photography collection were featured at the Smithsonian’s National Portrait Gallery exhibitions on Mathew Brady in 1997-98 and Alexander Gardner in 2016, as well as in his own one-man exhibition at the Southeast Museum of Photography in 1995.

Bob lives on Lake Norman, N.C. with his wife, Ann. They have two grown children, Sara and Jesse.





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Remember when President George H. W. Bush talked about the “vision thing”? According to Political Dictionary that was the “term he used to describe his struggle to articulate a clear and compelling vision for his presidency.” Maybe I’ll have better luck but that’s what I’m planning on doing at our April membership meeting. Since my phrase for the Roundtable is “we’re all in this together” I hope as many of you as possible show up to listen as I articulate what I see as the path forward starting in the next fiscal year and beyond in what I call Vision 2028.

And it’s not just to listen. I also want you to think about what I present and talk to our board members about it, whether that be positive or negative. I’m rooting for positive, but I’ll settle for any feedback. Why? Because the board members are going to vote on what you see presented in June in order to implement the actions at the start of the Fiscal Year 2027 this July. The intent of all of this is to refine the policies and practices in FY 27 so that it’s fully functional by FY 28. So, all Members have between April and June 1 to provide feedback to the board.

We’ll also put the presentation on our website (kcwrt.org) for you to refer to in order to refresh your memory between now and June. I’m asking all of you to take this seriously as I think it’s in the best long-term interests of our Roundtable to keep it on the path we’ve already started down together. Fiscal solvency, increased resilience and a broader appeal to a variety of audiences is going to serve us well over the long haul, and while we’re in good shape now, we have to plan for the future. So, please, if at all possible, come to April’s membership meeting.



Patrick Schroeder

And while we’re on the subject of membership meetings, March’s gathering was one for the record books. Our guest, Patrick Schroeder, talked about the myths related to Lee’s surrender at Appomattox. Without using PowerPoint slides he went over all the inaccuracies that have weaved their way into being accepted as fact and then dismantled them. It was an engaging talk and many members agreed because for the first time since I’ve been a member, approximately 20 people stayed to talk to him after the presentation. Our members voted with their feet, to use an expression, and they voted their approval.

Those are the kind of speakers we get through the hard work of our program director, Jim Doncaster, and that we intend to provide, not only this year, but in 2027 and beyond. That’s part of the “vision thing” we’ll be talking about in April.

Timothy D. Vane, President KCWRT

TRAVELOGUE #2

The Battle of Picacho Peak

Civil War history in the Wild West? While traveling to Arizona in March to catch some spring training baseball, my wife Valerie and I were able to visit the location of the battle fought furthest West in the War Between the States. The battle (actually a small skirmish) was significant because even though the Confederate unit engaged drove a Union column back and killed its commander, Lt. James Barrett, it was unable to force the Federal's to quit the campaign and return to California from whence it came. Ultimately Confederate units retreated to Tucson before eventually abandoning the Arizona territory all together and returning to Texas. The Confederate objective had been to seize goldfields in Colorado Territory and extend their presence to the west coast. Alas, the South's hopes for an empire stretching to the Pacific were dashed in an inhospitable, barren, hot, arid, and rattlesnake infested landscape in April of 1862 by a few Union Cavalymen in a largely forgotten stretch of desert 50 miles southeast of Phoenix. The park, which covers over 3,700 acres, has a small memorial trail dedicated to the battle with some signage. Other than interstate 10 nearby a time traveler from 1862 would not notice any appreciable difference in the landscape between then and now. Numbers engaged and losses: Union 13 men/3 killed, 3 wounded Confederate 10 men/1 killed, 4 wounded, 3 captured.

Josh Antras, Director at Large



Note: We're now accepting submissions for the Travelogue. Please send both the story and pictures to kcwrt1865@gmail.com. You're limited to four images. Stories will be processed in the order they are received so please be patient.

ODD FELLOWS CEMETERY WORK SESSION



From left Brian Burroughs, Jim Doncaster, Tim Vane, Tammie Burroughs, Taylor Jones and Tim Dake with a felled tree at Odd Fellows Cemetery



Taylor Jones, Brian Burroughs and Jim Doncaster right a headstone



Jim Doncaster cleans a USCT headstone at Odd Fellows Cemetery



Angela and Taylor Jones with Katherine Ambroziak, Jim Doncaster and Tim Dake take on break at Odd Fellows

BETHEL CEMETERY WORK SESSION



A Rotary Club volunteer trimming a tree



JROTC cadets from South Doyle High School



**Park Day at Fort Dickerson will be on
Thursday, April 23rd from 9 a.m. until noon.
We'll be spreading mulch and getting the fort
ready for its annual Park Day Participation.
Please bring garden tool and gloves. Snack
and drinks will be provided. If you have any
questions, contact Brian at
bburroughs@charter.net
865-300-2356**

Join us for the first annual Bearden History Fair!
Join the fun! Come and meet Marcus Bearden!

APRIL 18, 2026
10 AM – 4 PM

at
Central Baptist Bearden

Local Musicians

Food and Games

Vendors

Guest Speakers:

Dr. Christopher Magra
University of TN

Jack Neely
Knoxville History Project

Amy Mays Emert
Friends of Cavett Station

Local Bearden Historians



Hosted by Friends of Cavett Station
For more information, email beardenhistoryfair@gmail.com!

Please join us for the first annual Bearden History Fair! The fair will be held on April 18, 2026, from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., at Central Baptist Bearden. In our history tent, Dr. Christopher Magra from the University of Tennessee, Jack Neely from the Knoxville History Project, and Amy Mays Emert from Friends of Cavett Station will discuss historical topics including the Declaration of Independence, the history of the Bearden community, and Alexander Cavett and the history of Cavett's Station. Representatives from local historic house museums will discuss their homes and upcoming events, and longtime Bearden residents will reflect on the changes the community has seen throughout the years. We will also have a reenactor of Marcus DeLafayette Bearden giving his autobiography and greeting people at the fair. In addition to the history presentations, we will have food trucks, games for children, prizes, and craft and nonprofit vendor booths.

We hope to see you at the fair!

THE KNOXVILLE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE 2026-2027 SPEAKERS SERIES

May 12, 2026 — Bennett Parten, Historian & Author, *“Somewhere Toward Freedom - Sherman's March and the Story of America's Largest Emancipation”*

June 9, 2026 — Sean Michael Chick, Historian & Author, *“Only the Flag of the Union Greet the Sky: Northern generals and the Just Cause”*



July 2026 Speaker:
Leslie Goddard

July 14, 2026 — Leslie Goddard, Playwright & Actor, *“Clara Barton”*

August 11, 2026 — Steve Nash, *“Between Slavery and the Want of Railroads: Reconstruction in Western North Carolina.”*

September 15, 2026 — Lesley Gordon, Historian & Author, *“Cowardice and Combat in the American Civil War”*



September 2026 Speaker:
Lesley Gordon

November 10, 2026 — Brian Wills, Historian & Author, *“George Thomas: The Rock of Chickamauga”*



December 2026 Speaker:
Jim Ogden

December 15, 2026 — Jim Ogden, Chief Historian, Chickamauga & Chattanooga NMP, *“‘Fighting Joe’ Hooker and the Battle Above the Clouds”*

January 12, 2027 — Jim Stovall, Historian & Author, *“The Dissenting South”*



January 2027 Speaker:
Jim Stovall

February 9, 2027 — TBD

March 9, 2027 — David Powell, Historian & Author, *“The Atlanta Campaign”*

April 13, 2027 — Brian Kowell, Historian, *“The Magnificent Seven: Pook's Turtles in the Civil War”*

March Program Attendance

The March meeting had 84 attendees (65 dinners and 19 lectures only); \$160 in pictures sales, \$25 in silent auction, \$165 in coin sales and books sales brought in \$50.

— Bill Nicolai, serving as Treasurer

**Director of Membership
Knoxville Civil War Roundtable
P.O. Box 52232
Knoxville, TN 37950-2232**

(Mail Application to the above address or turn in at Monthly Meeting – 2nd Tuesday each month at Bearden Banquet Hall, 5806 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN; 6:30 pm Buffet, 7:15 Business Meeting, 7:30 pm Speaker)
(Knoxville Civil War Roundtable Website: <https://kcwrtorg.wordpress.com/>)
Facebook page is: <https://www.facebook.com/Knoxville-Civil-War-Roundtable-117118935033706/>
Membership year is by fiscal year (1 July – 30 June)

Membership Application

Name _____ Phone (H) _____ (W) _____

Mailing Address _____

E-mail addresses you want monthly Scout's Report and other KCWRT information sent to:

Name you want to be called on nametag (i.e., first name, middle name, or nickname) _____

Type Membership: Individual (\$25) ☐; Family (\$40) ☐ (List additional family members at bottom)
Sustaining (\$50) ☐; Supporting (\$100) ☐; Sponsoring (\$500) ☐;
Any additional donation is welcome and will help with KCWR Programs: \$ _____

Occupation _____ Employer _____

Year Joined _____ Where did you first hear of KCWRT? _____

Do you have ancestors who served in the Civil War? (Yes, No, Unknown) _____

Major Civil War interests (to be used in the Roster to network with members with similar interests.
Indicate specifically, if possible, a particular battle, person, unit or other interest).

Hobbies/Clubs other than the Civil War: _____

Field Trips: I am _____, am not _____ interested in field trips. If you are, for how many days?
1 day _____, 2 days _____, 4 to 7 days _____. Suggestions for field trip sites: _____

Area(s) of expertise I would be willing to share with KCWRT _____

Volunteers always needed! I would be willing to volunteer in the following areas: _____

Suggestions or comments to improve the KCWRT _____

Additional Information for Family Membership. List the following below (use back if necessary):

Names, additional mailing addresses, additional email addresses, and names for nametag.

The Scout's Report of the Knoxville Civil War Roundtable

KCWRT is a non-partisan, non-profit, educational forum for promotion of knowledge, commemoration, and preservation of our American Civil War heritage. Meetings are always open and visitors are always welcome.

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Director of Programming

Jim Doncaster

jdoncaster1@msn.com

The Knoxville Civil War Roundtable welcomes any person who has an interest in the American Civil War.

New Members are always welcome.

For more information, call 865-671-9001, visit our website at kcwrt.org, or email us: kcwrt1865@gmail.com



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