



The Scout's Report

Knoxville Civil War Roundtable

P. O. Box 52232

Knoxville, TN 37950-2232

KCWRT Website:

www.kcwrt.org

VOLUME XXXII

JUNE, 2016

NO. 12

Tuesday, JUNE 14, 2016
 Buffet at 7:00 PM
 Speaker at 8:00 PM
 Dinner & Speech
 \$15.00 Members
 \$17.00 (Non-members)
 Speech Only
 \$3.00 Members
 \$5.00 (Non-members)
**RESERVATIONS FOR
 BUFFET ARE REQUIRED
 AND MUST BE MADE OR
 CANCELED BY 11AM
 MONDAY, JUNE 13
 CALL (865) 671-9001
 AND LEAVE MESSAGE**

MENU:
 Roast Beef w/ Gravy
 Lemon Pepper Chicken
 Whipped Potatoes
 Mixed Steam Vegetables
 Garden Salad
 Rolls
 Beverages
 Assorted Desserts
LOCATION:
 Bearden Banquet Hall
 5806 Kingston Pike

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CHAMP FERGUSON STILL LIVES

In the fall of 1865, as the nation was struggling to bind up its wounds and put the bloodiest war in its history behind it, the United States Army executed two ex-Confederates for war crimes. One was Henry Wirz, the unfortunate former commandant of Andersonville Prison. The other was the notorious Champ Ferguson.

In a talk based on his award-winning book, *Confederate Outlaw: Champ Ferguson and the Civil War in Appalachia*, Brian McKnight will discuss the actions of Confederate guerilla Champ Ferguson that led to his conviction for the "murder" of 53 citizens of Kentucky and Tennessee during the Civil War. Long remembered as the most unforgiving and inglorious warrior of the Confederacy, some historians dismiss Ferguson as simply a cold-blooded killer. But McKnight maintains that Ferguson, with an Old Testament mentality, fought the war on his own terms.

Ferguson believed that friends were friends and enemies were enemies--no middle ground existed. Ferguson killed prewar comrades and longtime adversaries without regret, even knowing that he might one day face his own Union scout brother in battle.

Ferguson's partisan popularity led to widespread rumors of his last-minute escape from the gallows, and over time the borderland terrorist emerged as a folk hero for many southerners. Numerous authors resurrected and romanticized his story, and Hollywood used Ferguson's life to create the role played by Clint Eastwood in "The Outlaw Josey Wales."

Come join us as Brian McKnight separates myth from reality, places Ferguson's actions in context, and sets the record straight once and for all.



President's Message – June 2016

Speaker Meeting Attendance

At the May meeting we had 58 diners of whom 5 were non-members. We also had 36 civil war buffs for the lecture only and 6 of those were non-members.

Please be sure to make your reservation for the June 14 meeting by calling in your dinner reservations before 11 am on Monday, June 13. We are saddened to hear of Bud Robertson's speaking cancellation due to a recent elbow injury. We wish him a speedy recovery and look to have him back as a speaker soon. In the meantime, we thank Brian McKnight for filling in on short notice and we look forward to an informative presentation."

Passing the Baton:

My three years as president of the KCWRT voluntarily comes to an end on June 30. However, I remain on the board as the immediate past president. I appreciate your support over these years and thank you for it. It has truly been a humbling and rewarding experience for me to represent you throughout our community. Leadership will now be in the very capable hands of John Stegner. Please give him your support (think volunteering to do stuff) to an even greater degree than that which you gave to me.

It has been a distinct honor and pleasure to represent such a wonderful growing organization during these three years. We have enjoyed many noteworthy accomplishments together. I am not personally responsible for most of them; it has always been a group effort. I'd like to recount some of the most significant in this, my final President's Message.

The KCWRT is a well-known regional organization and the public shows interest in us by their attendance at our meetings and events. The significant growth of our membership, now well over 200, during the preceding three years is due in no small measure to the strength of our speaker program led by Dot Kelly for many years and continuing with Jim Doncaster. This is what attracts the public to our group. Publicity through the local media certainly helps to attract new members. Our promotions directors have been wonderful in what they have done and continue doing. The best publicity is you telling your friends and neighbors about us. The tenacity of Jerry Patterson in following up with membership renewal reminders and in turning visitors into new members has born tremendous fruit.

I was extremely proud to lead our organization through the sesquicentennial year of 2015. The events throughout the year resulted in several speaking opportunities which again publicized our group. Dot Kelly receiving the first Fred Prouty Preservation Award at the Sesquicentennial Blue & Gray Dinner in May garnered additional notoriety for the KCWRT. Many of our members attended this noteworthy event.

As part of the sesquicentennial events, the KCWRT dedicated a plaque affixed to the front of the Lamar House (now the Bijou Theatre) recounting the death of General William P. Sanders in that building in November 1863.

This was a major accomplishment for the KCWRT working together with the theatre board and adds significantly to the recognition of Civil War history in downtown Knoxville. The attendance of both the city mayor and the county mayor at the dedication ceremony highlighted the importance of this commemoration. The participation of the KCWRT in the development and rewriting of the tourism map and brochure of civil war Knoxville corrected previous errors and added significant information. This map, with credit to the KCWRT, will be distributed through the tourism office for many years to come.

DEATH OF GENERAL WILLIAM P. SANDERS NOVEMBER 19, 1863

U.S. General William P. Sanders died in the bridal suite of this building which was the Lamar House hotel at the time of the Civil War. On the previous afternoon Sanders was mortally wounded as his cavalry fought on Kingston Road, delaying the Confederate forces advancing against Knoxville. General Sanders was a West Point classmate and personal friend of Captain Orlando Poe who designed and supervised construction of the defenses of Knoxville. His funeral took place the night of the 19th with his casket being carried to the site of the Second Presbyterian Church on Market Street where Sanders was buried. In attendance were Commanding General Ambrose Burnside, Captain Poe, staff officers, Sue Boyd, her mother, a minister, and a small number of musicians and soldiers. Five days later, General Burnside announced his death and named Fort Sanders in his honor. Today General Sanders rests in the military cemetery in Chattanooga.

Placed by the Knoxville Civil War Roundtable and
the Bijou Theatre Board of Directors, May 2, 2015

Several of our members are historians and we present programs and talks throughout the area to local schools, churches, and civic organizations, all of which further our educational mission and increase our visibility. Our annual participation in the East Tennessee Historical Society History Fair every August (mark your calendar this year for August 20) and our three day Fort Dickerson Weekend (this year October 22-23) with the Friday school day and two public weekend days emphasize the importance of Knoxville's civil war heritage. We were fortunate to be invited to appear on a local afternoon television show to publicize the Weekend. Three of us were interviewed. Two cleanup days at Fort Dickerson (spring and fall) allow our members and local teens to perform some honest work for the benefit of the citizens of Knoxville.

December 2015 saw two memorable events take place at the speaker meeting. We honored Dot Kelly with a certificate announcing an annual grant to be known as the Dot Kelly Civil War Preservation Grant. This grant, to be awarded for a worthy civil war preservation project in Knoxville, is "in grateful appreciation of her tireless dedication to Civil War preservation" in Knoxville. At the same meeting, Jim Ogden, who has spoken to our Roundtable for approximately 35 years, was bestowed an honorary life membership in the KCWRT. Both awards were surprises to these longtime friends and historians. In attendance to celebrate these special awards were nine past presidents of the KCWRT and Chere Henderson, Executive Director of the East Tennessee Historical Society.



Let me end with a commercial. We need more help from our membership with those activities mentioned above. We have too many of the same folks repeatedly volunteering for these events. I know our membership is generally older and some of our members are simply unable to assist. I strongly encourage our younger and our able-bodied members to participate in one or two community events each year. It is enormously rewarding to share your knowledge with the public including the school-age youngsters. As a member interested in our civil war heritage, I encourage you to share your interest. **The future success of the KCWRT depends on the participation of our membership.** Don't wait for someone to ask you, please volunteer as you are able. We are also always seeking members to serve as officers on the board. Make your intentions known to one of our board members so we can tap your skills.

Thank you again for your support over the past three years and I will continue to see you at meetings and events.

Dennis D. Urban, President

**THE KNOXVILLE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE
2016 SPEAKERS SERIES**

June 14--- Brian D. McKnight, UV Wise Prof/Historian/Author, "Champ Ferguson Still Lives"

July 12---John Marszalek, Miss. State Prof/Author, "Sherman: A Soldier's Passion for Order"

August 9---Richard McMurry, Historian/Author, "General Johnston and the Atlanta Campaign"

September 13---Gordon Rhea, Author/Historian, "Cold Harbor"

October 11---Frank O'Reilly, NPS Historian/Author, "Lee after the War"

*****November 15---Ed Bearss, Chief Historian Emeritus/Author, "Custer at the Little Bighorn"*****

December 13---Jim Ogden, Historian Chickamauga/Chattanooga NMP, "The Great Locomotive Chase"

*****SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT*****

DUE TO THE UPCOMING PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION HELD TUESDAY NOVEMBER 8 2016, THE KNOXVILLE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE HAS MOVED THE NOVEMBER MEETING ONE WEEK LATER, TO TUESDAY NOVEMBER 15, 2016. MARK YOUR CALENDARS!! YOU DO NOT WANT TO MISS ED BEARSS!!



**KNOXVILLE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE
SLATE OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS FOR 2016-2017**

President: John Stegner

Vice President: Steve Dean

Secretary: Mary Morse

Treasurer: Gene Akers

Immediate Past President: Dennis Urban

Director of Community Activities: Tom Wright

Director of Membership: Jerry Patterson

Director of Preservation: Jim Stovall

Director of Promotions: Stan Sech

Director of Programming: Jim Doncaster

Director of Internet & Technology: Cyndy Cox

Newsletter Editor: Laura Reagan

Director at Large: Trent D. Laviano

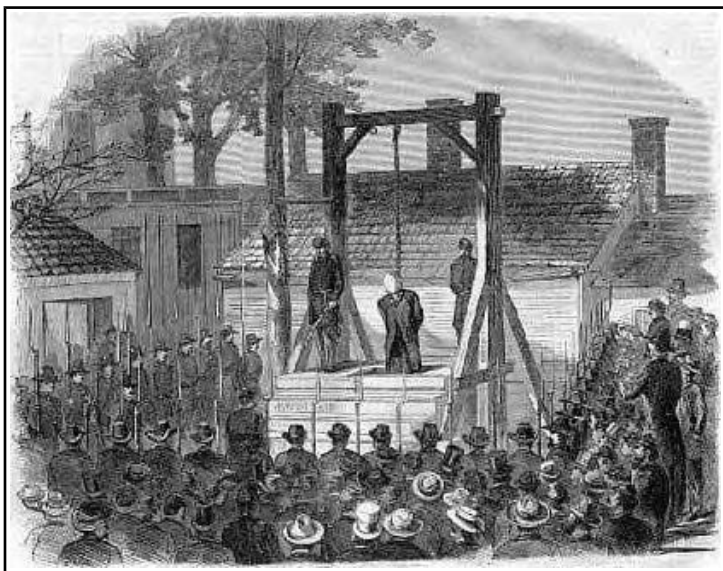
Director at Large: Eric Wayland

WELCOME TO KNOXVILLE, BRIAN MCKNIGHT

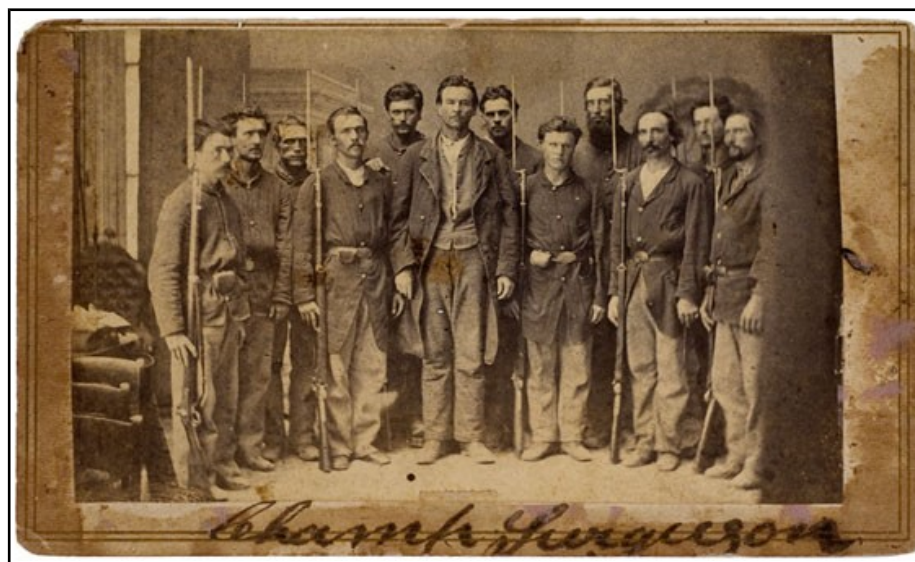
Brian McKnight is Professor of History and a Founding Director of the Center for Appalachian Studies at University of Virginia-Wise. He is a specialist in contested and coerced loyalties and is the author of *Contested Borderland: The Civil War in Appalachian Kentucky and Virginia*, which won the James I. Robertson Literary Award, and *Confederate Outlaw: Champ Ferguson and the Civil War in Appalachia*, which won the Tennessee Library Award for best book in Tennessee history. His most recent book is titled *"We Fight For Peace": The Story of Twenty-Three American Soldiers, Prisoners of War, and Turncoats in the Korean War*. His other writings have been featured in the *New York Times* and his work on Korean War prisoners of war was profiled in the *New Yorker*.



Brian is currently at work on a volume of writings on guerrilla warfare in the Civil War and is coauthoring with Gary Robert Matthews a biography of Confederate General Simon Bolivar Buckner.



Brian grew up in Virginia's westernmost county and received his undergraduate degree from UVa-Wise and his Ph.D., from Mississippi State University. When he is not teaching or researching, he is usually on his farm planting fruit trees, building fences, and keeping bees.



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

ANNUAL DUES NOTICE

To: Members and supporters of Knoxville Civil War Roundtable
From: Membership Chairman
Date: June 2016

Thanks to each one of you for being a member and supporter of our Roundtable. We had a good year with tremendous programs plus good fellowship at our monthly meetings. Everyone should always feel free to share with a Board Member any suggestions to improve KCWRT.

During the 2015-2016 fiscal year our Roundtable membership reached over 200 persons with numerous guests attending our meetings. Thanks to each of you for your support and attendance at our meetings. Thanks also to all our officers and volunteers for their service during the year.

The Roundtable encourages your continued support for our new fiscal year, starting July 1, 2016 and ending on June 30, 2017.

1. All members' dues are due and payable starting July 1, 2016.
2. We operate on a "bare-bones" or "shoe string" budget. Our monthly speakers speak free, but the Roundtable reimburses them for their expenses (travel, meals, motel). If you feel that you can, please step-up to a higher level of dues to help us with all our many activities undertaken throughout the year. Any donations will be very helpful to support all of our many programs.
- 3. Please make your dues payments by a check separate from the monthly dinner expenses. Please mail your check to the address at the top of the page or bring it to one of our monthly meetings. Monthly meetings are always the second Tuesday of each month except for November 2016. Since election day falls on the second Tuesday of Nov 2016, the monthly meeting will be on the third Tuesday, Nov 15, 2016.**
4. Enclosed find a Membership Application with a personal interest section. Please complete this form to update your current interests, address, and contact info. We use this information to keep our roster current and to develop programs to benefit our members. If there is no change from information previously provided, write "no change" and your name on the form.
5. Thank you for helping to recruit new members and guests. Please continue this help. We welcome guests at our monthly meetings and at all our activities.
6. We hope you will consider helping one of the officers or committees for the new fiscal year. Contact any Board Member for info if you would like to help.
7. Please note: Paid Members receive the "Scout's Report" and the \$2.00 discount for our monthly meetings (both the lecture only and the buffet plus lecture).

Thanks again for your support of KCWRT for the coming fiscal year. Please return the Membership Application along with your dues at your earliest convenience.

Individual Dues \$25; Family \$40; Sustaining \$50; Supporting \$100; Sponsoring \$500

Make checks payable to: 'Knoxville Civil War Roundtable' or 'KCWRT'

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

(Mail Application to above address or turn in at Monthly Meeting – 2nd Tuesday each month at Bearden Banquet Hall, 5806 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN; 7 pm Buffet, 7:45 Business Meeting, 8 pm Speaker begins)

(Knoxville Civil War Roundtable Website: kcwrt.org)

Membership year is by fiscal year (1 July – 30 June)

Membership Application

Name _____ Phone (H) _____ (W) _____

Mailing Address _____

E-mail addresses you want Scout Report and other KCWR information sent to:

(If you have no email address, check here to get the Scout Report mailed to you, check here)

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
For Knowledge, Commemoration, and Preservation of Our Civil War Heritage

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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 or go to our website: www.kcwrt.org

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