

# The Scout's Report

*Knoxville Civil War Roundtable*

*P. O. Box 52232*

*Knoxville, TN 37950-2232*

*KCWRT Website:*

[www.kcwrt.org](http://www.kcwrt.org)

VOLUME XXXIV

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NO. 2

Tuesday, August, 8, 2017  
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, AUG 7  
CALL (865) 671-9001  
AND LEAVE MESSAGE

MENU:  
Beef Tips over Noodles  
Char-Grilled Chicken  
Garden Salad  
Mixed Steamed Vegetables  
Mashed Potatoes  
Rolls  
Beverages  
Assorted Desserts  
LOCATION:  
Bearden Banquet Hall  
5806 Kingston Pike

**THIS ISSUE:**

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## “THE QUESTION WAS ONE OF SUPPLIES” - THE LOGISTICS FOR GENERAL WILLIAM T. SHERMAN’S ATLANTA CAMPAIGN

No army in history moved without a secure line of supplies especially if it moved into enemy territory. If an army got cut off from its supplies calamity usually followed, often ending in defeat and/or destruction. When William T. Sherman set his sights on Atlanta he prepared for the supplying of his army in a manner that surpassed every other Civil War general. Rebuilding railroads and confiscating locomotives and cars to haul supplies, Sherman set daily goals for shipments to his forward base in Chattanooga. Ruthless in making sure that only supplies got on the cars, Sherman also had to worry about protecting the line of rails that ran back to Louisville, Kentucky from Confederate raiders. Building on a system begun by William S. Rosecrans, Sherman's engineers built forts and blockhouses and prepared pre-fabricated trestles for replacing those brought down by the Confederates. While his preparations were masterful and thorough, they were not without flaws. Join us as historian Greg Biggs examines the nuts and bolts of Sherman’s logistics including the errors that were made in the process. In the end, however, his supply line performed as expected, Atlanta was captured, and the stage was set for one of the war’s concluding chapters: Sherman’s march to the sea and beyond.





## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The second Tuesday of each month continues to be a popular evening. On July 11 we had 70 diners, 63 members and 7 guests, plus 27 persons attending the lecture. Of these 25 were members. So 97 interested---and interesting---individuals enjoyed Dr. George Rabel's presentation on the battle of Fredericksburg in December, 1862. In addition to reviewing the actual battle strategy and tactics, Dr. Rable discussed the events prior to and after the actual fighting, and what the soldiers locally and the country as a whole thought about it.

Several professions have been characterized as largely boredom punctuated by sheer terror. Anesthesia, flying an airplane, police, and firefighter come readily to mind. Of course soldiering falls into this category, although the terror of battle is augmented by the deprivations before and after the actual shooting, such as hunger, disease, and isolation.

Our speaker on August 08 will, I suspect, expound upon these points. Greg Biggs will be with us to discuss logistics during Sherman's Atlanta campaign. It's a topic that is often overlooked, but to the hungry, footsore soldiers and to the animals of both armies, supply was vital. Join us for dinner at 7:00 pm followed by a short business meeting at 7:45 and Greg's presentation at 8:00 pm. And remember that in September our schedule will change. Effective September 12 the buffet dinner will start at 6:30 pm, business meeting at 7:15, and program at 7:30 pm.

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For many years a core KCWRT mission has been the preservation and interpretation of Fort Dickerson, which is one of the very few physical Civil War structures in East Tennessee. Public visitation and support is vital to our success, and public awareness and usage of the Park has increased significantly following redesign and construction of the Park entrance on Chapman highway, But many are not aware that the Park includes considerable wooded acreage and a large, water-filled quarry. The latter has been used for both illicit and illegal purposes over the years. In co-operation with the Aslan Foundation, the City of Knoxville has just announced a \$5 million project to improve the non-Fort parts of the park. This will include hiking trails, a new western-side entrance, a dock, restrooms, a concession stand, and lockers for those who wish to kayak or canoe on the quarry waters. While not in direct contact with the hilltop earthworks and park area, these improvements will have a spillover effect and will increase public awareness, support, and usage of the Fort area proper.

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The East Tennessee History Fair will be held at Krutch Park in downtown Knoxville on Saturday, August 19, from 10 a.m. until 5 pm. This is an annual event and draws large crowds. The KCWRT will have a table to promote Civil War study, preservation, and commemoration in general, and our organization in particular. We need volunteers to sit in the shade, answer simple questions, and dispense brochures. It's easy, beneficial, and enjoyable. We have only four volunteers so far and need more. If you can help for one or two hours, please contact any board member or me.

President

John Burkhart

## THE KNOXVILLE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE 2017 SPEAKERS SERIES

**Aug 8---Greg Biggs, Historian, “The Question Was One of Supplies:  
The Logistics of Sherman’s Atlanta Campaign”**



**Sept 12---Dave Mowery, Historian & Author, “Morgan’s Great Raid: Taking the War to the North”**

**\*\*\*TIME CHANGE BEINGS-DINNER AT 6:30-KCWRT BUSINESS & ANNOUNCEMENTS AT  
7:15-LECTURE AT 7:30\*\*\***

**Oct 10---Eric Jacobson, H & A, “For Cause and Country: Spring Hill and Franklin”**

**Nov 14---Ed Bearss, Chief Historian Emeritus/Author, “Farthest Forward: Pettigrew's  
Brigade at Gettysburg”**

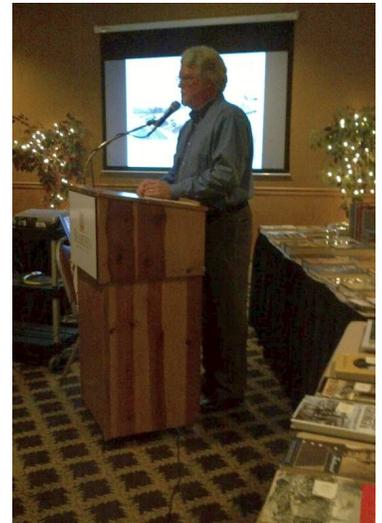
**Dec 12---Jim Ogden, Historian Chickamauga/Chattanooga NMP, “Reopening the Tennessee River:  
Brown's Ferry, Wauhatchie, and the 'Cracker Line'”**

## WELCOME BACK TO KNOXVILLE, GREG BIGGS!

Greg Biggs has studied military history from the Spartans to modern wars for over 50 years with concentrations on the Napoleonic Era, the Civil War and World War II. An expert on the military flags of the 18th and 19th Centuries, Greg has consulted with museums, collectors and auction houses on Civil War flags and has written several articles on the topic in SCV publications, North-South Trader and Civil War News, Battle of Franklin Trust Magazine and others.

Greg is also a text editor and author for the scholarly Flags of the Confederacy web site ([www.confederate-flags.org](http://www.confederate-flags.org)). He has done research for several Civil War authors and has written articles for Civil War Regiments journal, Blue & Gray Magazine, Civil War News, Citizens Companion, Hallowed Ground and some online publications. Greg has lead tours for Civil War groups of the Fort Donelson, Atlanta, Chickamauga-Chattanooga and Tullahoma campaigns as well as tours of the Cairo/Mound City, IL area covering the start of the river campaigns.

In addition he has done numerous staff rides for US Army units stationed at Fort Campbell, KY. Greg lives in Clarksville, TN with his wife Karel and their four cavalry cats. He is president of the Clarksville CWRT and an officer in the Bowling Green and Nashville CWRTs.



## DEVELOPERS PROPOSE THE DESECRATION OF FORT NEGLEY

by Greg Biggs

### Shame on us if we let it happen

“[WKRN has a story](#) about a proposed development around Fort Negley:

On Tuesday, we heard from a developer who has big plans for the empty property (Greer Stadium site): a multi-purpose complex called Nashville Adventure Park.”

“The proposal includes senior living, luxury apartments, townhomes, affordable housing, a farmer’s market at the stadium, artisan retail and studios, restaurants, a hotel, and a wide variety of sports offerings.”

“If you imagine the hill that the main part of the fort sits on as an egg yolk, this development would be like the egg white, seeming to completely surround the fort, except for where the Adventure Science Center sits.”

“In other words, the old Catholic Cemetery and the large City Cemetery annexes that the Union opened during the Civil War would all be gone. And, fine, they’re supposed to be empty anyway, but if I were a developer, I’d put a line in my budget for dead parts removal.”

“More disturbingly and more tragically, this development sits on the site of the contraband camp, the home of thousands of black refugees during the Civil War. [As Zada Law pointed out two years ago](#), there’s been virtually no archaeology done at any contraband camp in Tennessee.”

“We’ve already irretrievably lost whatever was under the Adventure Science Center, but a lot remains relatively undisturbed. Even the parts under the parking lot are just under a parking lot. We have not yet screwed up a crucial bit of Nashville’s African American history, even if we haven’t bothered to explore it like we should. But if we let developers have it, then that history will be lost. Sure, some archaeologists could come in and do history triage to try to learn as much as they could before it’s torn up, but the Civil War isn’t that far down in the ground. We will lose it.”

“And frankly, how much more of our Civil War history do we have to lose? We already put I-440 on top of the Confederate line and built a city on the battlefield. One of the most important battles of the Civil War and we let Franklin and Murfreesboro be the tourist destinations while we metaphorically kick the rug over what’s left of our Civil War sites.”

“Shame on us if we let this development happen. Shame on us if we knowingly let this history slip away.”



## Fort Negley Cont.

Here is what the proposed development looks like:



Somewhere in the middle of this monstrosity lies Fort Negley and the visitors center. Note that the parking for the latter has not been expanded. It has been proven time and again that history tourism brings in far more money than any other – people have more to spend, stay longer, etc. if you give them something to see and promote it so they know about it. The traffic count for the area will explode making it even more difficult to get to the fort to visit. Don't believe me? Look at what has happened at the Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond, VA with the massive growth of Virginia Commonwealth University around it; their attendance has fallen off to the point that they are moving to new quarters down on the James River.

Traffic comes with big cities. But traffic also drives people away from doing things just so they do not have to deal with it. People spend enough time in traffic just going to and from work five days a week; they do not want to deal with it on weekends when they want to do something fun.

Ms. Phillips' article also brings out the tremendous loss of historic ground upon which sits the fort and its surrounding area, which was all part of the fort's footprint. Shall Nashville follow the same mistaken path that Atlanta did many years ago by paving over its history from the Civil War? How does this travesty being proposed in Nashville compare to what is happening just a few miles down the road in Franklin where they lead the nation in reclaiming lost Civil War land and restoring it to how it looked over 150 years ago? It is a pathetic failure on Nashville's part.

Like so many other cities, Nashville has lots of places that are basically blight that can be redeveloped into something like in the above drawing; places that are not historic Civil War lands. How about moving this thing there instead and leave Fort Negley be?

If you want to help stop this development, please contact the Mayor of Nashville, Megan Berry, and the Nashville Metro City Council. You should also contact the City of Nashville Metro Parks department and let them know how you feel about this. The city's web site is [www.nashville.gov](http://www.nashville.gov).

Let them hear the voices of the Civil War community of America and stop this development.

## TWO FAMED UNION MASCOTS OF THE CIVIL WAR

Submitted by Larry Moore

### *LIEUTENANT GENERAL, ULYSSES S. GRANT*



*General Ulysses S. Grant's – favorite horse was named Cincinnati (1860 – 1878). He had other horses that he rode and their names were: Fox (Grant's mount during the battles around Fort Donelson and Shiloh), Rondy (Grant's first horse in battle), Jack (used by Grant until after the battle of Chattanooga), Kangaroo (used during the Vicksburg Campaign), Jeff Davis (captured at Jefferson Davis' plantation, Vicksburg Campaign), and Methuselah.*

Review of the literature involving two of the famed Union horse mascots of the two top Union generals was very interesting – General Ulysses S. Grant and General William Tecumseh Sherman. General Grant rode his favorite horse to the Appomattox Court House to accept General Robert E. Lee's surrender and negotiate the terms and conditions of the surrender. To cover all of the great Confederate and Union horses would call for a book.

However, General Grant's most trusted horse - Cincinnati was based on its demonstrated performance on the battlefield. It is his horse Cincinnati that we see pictured with Grant and on his memorial monument in Washington, D. C. located near the reflecting pool at the Mall and base of Capitol Hill.

Cincinnati was a gift to Grant following the Vicksburg Campaign but based on the condition that the horse would not be further given to a person who would mistreat him. General Grant agreed to the request and "Cincinnati" had a new owner. This horse turned out to be his greatest mount of importance during the Civil War. He owned and rode the horse constantly to the end of the War. Following the war, Grant farmed his great horse out on Admiral Daniel Ammen's farm located in Maryland where the horse died in 1878 at the age of 18, 13 years after the war ended. **Note:** Admiral Ammen saved Grant from drowning when they both were young boys. They remained close friends forever.

His horse named Cincinnati was of great bloodlines and at one time, General Grant refused ten-thousand dollars for his outstanding horse. Due to the horse's exceptional bloodlines and his continued performance on the battlefield during the war, Cincinnati was in high demand while in retirement on Ammen's farm. He carried General Grant into many battles and proved over and over that he was a horse of high reliability, of high trust and was steadfast during the loud noises from the Union's cannons firing and incoming Confederate rounds exploding as well as loud noises from rifle fire by the soldiers on both sides. Their loud yelling and other battlefield noises that would scare (spook) most horses. **NOT CINCINNATI!**

As a large horse, Cincinnati was (17 hands tall {68 inches in height}), weighed over a thousand pounds, brave and made many long marches with General Grant on his back during the day and at night when visibility was poor. General Grant said that his most famous horse appeared to realize what his position on the field battle was to help his master.

It is said that General Grant allowed two people only to ride his beloved horse, Cincinnati, and they were, his friends: Admiral Daniel Ammen and President Abraham Lincoln, the latter who visited Grant at City Point, Virginia, the Union's field headquarters for the remainder of the war located at the confluence of the James and Appomattox rivers, the hub of Union supply lines during the siege on Petersburg. President Lincoln enjoyed visiting General Grant during the remaining days of his presidency and life including the last month of the War prior to General Lee's surrender.

Continued Page 6

## Mascots Cont.

President Lincoln was a great horseman and that he enjoyed riding Cincinnati most every day during his visits to see General Grant at City Point, Virginia the great field commander and leader who helped him, Lincoln, to win the war.

General Grant loved to be with and ride horses all of his life since his early childhood days and as a result he owned several during his lifetime. At the West Point Academy during his graduation ceremony, Grant displayed an exemplary performance of horsemanship for the graduation crowds involving jumping and maneuvering on a horse completing remarkable events.

### GENERAL SHERMAN AND ONE OF HIS FAMED HORSES

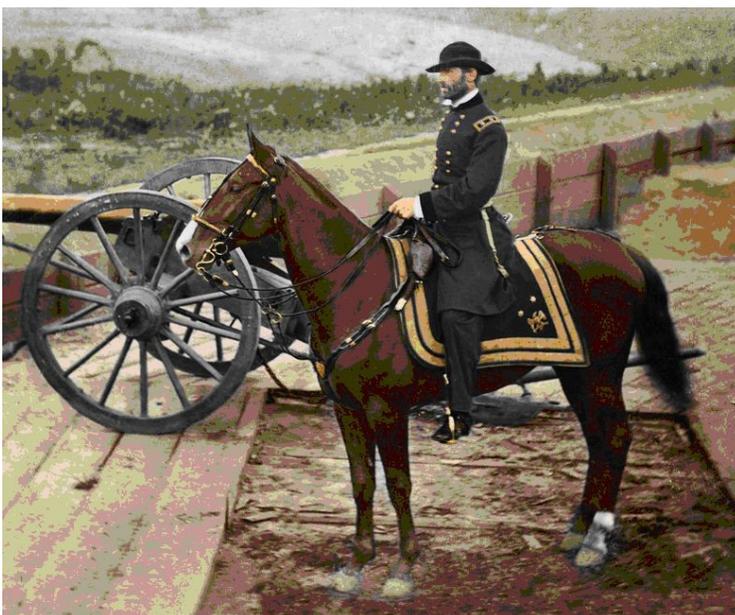
*General William Tecumseh Sherman – favorite horse was named DUKE. He owned and rode the following four named horses: Sam, Dolly, Lexington and Duke. It was SAM that he rode on his long trip coined Sherman's "March to the Sea" and Sam was the first backup to Duke.*

Dolly was also one of the back-up horses to Duke as well as the other listed horses. However, she was captured when Confederate forces raided General Sherman's train at a place called Collierville. General Sherman got Sam after the battle of Shiloh following one of his mounts that got shot out from under him during the battle. Sam was a Chestnut colored horse, weighed over a thousand pounds and by the end of the war, the horse Sam was wounded several times. Sam had great endurance and strength that was displayed on the march to the sea and at all of the other battles that he served with Sherman. His notoriety was gained after he supported General Sherman during the long and most difficult Campaign to the sea.

The horse Sam, remains a mystery to this day concerning his whereabouts. We do know that General Sherman's highly noted horse was buried in Frankfort, Illinois. The exact location of Sam's remains is still unknown! Where he is suspected to be buried there is a large development of homes that was a farm initially. Sam was retired to a farm around 1870 owned by William Sanger, a Sherman family acquaintance and died in 1874, nine years after the war.

When General Sherman was notified that his steadfast horse named Sam had died, General Sherman stated the following about his old warhorse: He depicted his horse Sam as being "so steadfast that even when a musket ball passed through his neck, he didn't complain and went right along at his work as though he was used to it." General Sherman further stated "I can only hope that he, Sam, now rests from his worldly labors in the place where good horses go!"

In view that Sam's remains has never been found and he has been lost in the history of his country and burial location in Frankfort, Illinois, the local citizens dedicated and commissioned a sculpture in town that shows Sam, Sherman and two Sanger grandchildren who often rode Same to town prior to his death.



**References:** The mystery trailing General Sherman's horse – tribunedigital-chicagotribune; Cincinnati (horse) – Wikipedia; Animal Mascots of the Civil War/Fort Ward Museum and Historic Site/city of Alexandria, VA; Famous Civil War Horses/Gettysburg Battlefield Tours; Horses of the Civil War Leaders; [www.encyclopediaofvirginia.org/City\\_Point\\_During\\_The\\_Civil\\_War](http://www.encyclopediaofvirginia.org/City_Point_During_The_Civil_War) [www.civilwarhome.com/warhorses.html](http://www.civilwarhome.com/warhorses.html); [hubpages.com/education/America-civil-war-generals-and-their-horses](http://hubpages.com/education/America-civil-war-generals-and-their-horses).

# THE SCOUT'S REPORT

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

## PRESIDENT

John Burkhart  
laurapowers@bellsouth.net

## VICE PRESIDENT/PAST PRESIDENT

John Stegner  
jstegner@tds.net

## SECRETARY

Steve Dean  
sdean2740@charter.net

## TREASURER

Gene Akers  
POET0840@aol.com

## DIRECTOR OF PRESERVATION

Eric Wayland  
ericwayland@gmail.com

## DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Stan Sech  
zachsam@yahoo.com

## DIRECTOR OF MEMBERSHIP

Jerry Patterson  
jerrykpatrick@comcast.net

## DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMMING

Jim Doncaster  
jdoncaster1@msn.com

## DIRECTOR OF PROMOTIONS

Jack Spiceland  
jspiceland@charter.net

## DIRECTOR OF INTERNET & TECHNOLOGY

Jim Stovall  
jgstovall@gmail.com

## NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Laura Reagan  
reaganseesh@aol.com

## DIRECTOR AT LARGE

Trent Laviano  
Phoenix-24@Live.com

## DIRECTOR AT LARGE

Tom Wright  
thomaswright8@comcast.net

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 please call 865-671-9001 or visit our website at [www.kcwrorg.wordpress.com](http://www.kcwrorg.wordpress.com)



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