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General Orders

Walker's Brigade

Vol. 37
No. 3
Oct.
2025



OCTOBER 2025 MEETING
Thursday, October 16, 2025

Saltgrass Steakhouse
8943 Katy Freeway
6:00 pm (or sooner) - Dinner
7:00 pm - Program Begins

*****No Reservations Required for this Meeting*****

There is no cost for dues-paid members.
\$10.00 charge for visitors.

The HCWRT Presents **Shae Smith Cox Speaking On:**

“The Fabric of Civil War Society”

Historian Shae Smith Cox, author of *The Fabric of Civil War Society: Uniforms, Badges, and Flags, 1859-1939*, will discuss how material culture, specifically uniforms, badges, and flags, shaped and reflected American identities and memories during and after the US Civil War.

She will demonstrate how these objects were not only practical tools of warfare, but also how they became symbols of politics, power, and memory for future generations. Dr. Smith Cox's presentation will trace how these items transitioned into cherished objects by the turn of

the century, when veterans began replacing their wartime uniforms with newly designed veteran uniforms. Memory machines were created in the form of memorial and commemorative groups, such as the Grand Army of the Republic, Woman's Relief Corps, United Confederate Veterans, and the United Daughters of the Confederacy. These groups used material objects to battle for control of people's memory from the war and perpetuate the Lost Cause narrative.



Shae Smith Cox

About Shae Smith Cox

Shae Smith Cox is an Assistant Professor of History in the War and Society Program and a core member of the Public History faculty at Texas

A&M University in College Station. She earned her Ph.D. in American History at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas with a minor in Public History. She studies 19th century race and gender with an emphasis on material culture, senses, emotions, and memory of the U. S. Civil War and Reconstruction.

LSU Press published her first book, *The Fabric of Civil War Society, Uniforms, Badges, and Flags, 1859-1939*. She is now working on her second project, an auditory history of Civil War hospitals, titled *'The Suffering and Groans of the Wounded and Dying Were Terrible to See and Hear': Auditory Experiences of Civil War Suffering*. This book will examine the experiences of Civil War surgeons, nurses, and attendants in hospital settings.



*Last month's speaker Jeremi Suri
with President Agnew*

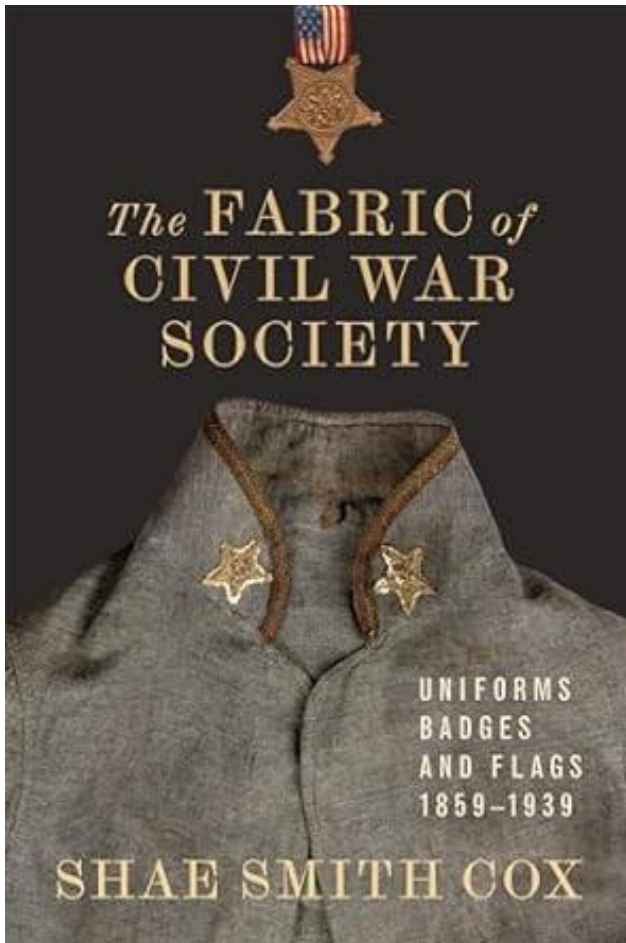
President's Comments **By Walker Agnew**

What an incredible start to the new campaign year! At our first meeting at Saltgrass Steakhouse on Katy Freeway, we had a full house to hear Dr. Jeremi Suri present on "How Slaves became Union Soldiers (and Veterans)." He gave many examples of what drove these men to fight.

As an all-volunteer group, give some thought about helping the Round Table. We can always use additional people on our programs and membership committees. Also, if you have heard or happen to know of a great speaker for next year, please reach out to Vice President Scott Wilkey with that information

This month's speaker will be Shae Smith Cox, whose topic is "The Fabric of Civil War Society" based on her book of the same name. It will be a presentation you won't want to miss!

Please try to arrive by 6:00 pm (or earlier) in order for the restaurant to serve and clear the tables before the presentation. We look forward to seeing everyone again on October 16th!



Membership Report

By Michael Clennan

Welcome, members! I'm proud to say that the 2025-2026 campaign is off to a great start! We celebrated in September with a full house at Saltgrass and six first time guests! The October meeting will be highlighted by Dr. Shae Smith Cox presenting "The Fabric of Civil War Society."

Please consider bringing a friend and enjoy dinner with a room full of Civil War enthusiasts! I recommend you arrive by 5:45 pm for a leisurely dinner. At 7:00 pm, we have our book raffle, Civil War quiz and this month's presentation by Dr. Smith Cox. We anticipate a full house, so arrive early! We will see you at the front door! If you have any questions, please call me at (713) 864-1204.

October Quiz

By Jim Godlove

One of the early martyrs of the Civil War was Elmer Ellsworth who was killed while removing a rebel flag from a hotel in Alexandria, Virginia in May 1861. He was a close friend of President Lincoln. When the war broke out, he raised a regiment comprised mainly of New York City firefighters.

What distinctive uniform did the 11th New York wear?



New Book by Edward Cotham

HCWRT member Ed Cotham recently informed us that his new book, entitled *Rockets, Tanks, and Submarines: The Ingenuity of Civil War Texans* is now available. To obtain further information or to order a copy, visit Ed's website at www.edcotham.com.



Monthly Book Raffle

By Rita Campbell

I missed the September meeting, but I'm looking forward to being there on October 16th.

We have some good selections to offer this month. First off, **SHENANDOAH 1862: STONEWALL JACKSON'S VALLEY CAMPAIGN** by Peter Cozzens, **NATHAN BEDFORD FORREST: FIRST WITH THE MOST** by Robert Selph Henry, **FROM SELMA TO APPOMATTOX: THE HISTORY OF THE JEFF DAVIS ARTILLERY** by Lawrence R. Laboda, **THAT DEVIL FORREST: LIFE OF GENERAL NATHAN BEDFORD FORREST** by John A. Wyeth, and last but not least, **OLD ALLEGHANY: THE LIFE AND WARS OF GENERAL ED JOHNSON** by Gregg S. Clemmer.

Please be sure to take some time at the next meeting and purchase raffle tickets. The revenue will help support the operations of our Round Table!

2025-2026 SPEAKERS CAMPAIGN

Oct. 16, 2025:	Dr. Shae Smith Cox: "The Fabric of Civil War Society"
Nov. 20, 2025	Dr. Leah Tarwater: "Kentucky Soldiers in the Civil War"
Dec. 11, 2025	Reserved for Gary L. Chandler Graduate Student Award Recipient
Jan. 15, 2026	Dr. Don Frazier: "Tom Green: Soldier of Three Republics"
Feb. 19, 2026	Danny Sessums: "Granbury's Texas Brigade"
March 19, 2026	John Michael Priest: "Reynolds, Iverson, and Buford at Gettysburg: New Interpretations"
April 16, 2026	D. Scott Hartwig (2025 Vandiver Award Recipient): "I Dread the Thought of the Place: The Antietam Campaign"
May 21, 2026	Reserved for 2026 Vandiver Award Recipient

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