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# General Orders

## *Walker's Brigade*

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2025



**NOVEMBER 2025 MEETING**  
**Thursday, November 20, 2025**

**Saltgrass Steakhouse**  
**8943 Katy Freeway**  
**5:45 pm - 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** **Dr. Leah Tarwater Speaking On:**

#### **“Kentucky Soldiers in the Civil War”**

When the Southern states began to secede from the Union after the election of Abraham Lincoln in November 1860, the South expected Kentucky to join them. The North also worked hard to keep Kentucky in the Union. The state originally took a stance of neutrality but, in September 1861, chose to remain with the Union. Still, Kentuckians remained greatly divided over the matter. Many men from this Union state chose to go south and fight for the Confederacy, often against the wishes of their community, family, and friends. Kentucky men joined the Confederate army for a number of different reasons. Some fought due to their

hatred of Abraham Lincoln and in defense of states' rights, or slavery. Others simply sought the adventure that only army life could provide. In true southern form, many of these men enlisted in the army in defense of honor. Many Kentuckians remained loyal to their state and country by enlisting in the Union army. These men did so out of a deep devotion for and love of their country. They did not fight to rid the United States of slavery, but rather to preserve the Union. Because of this, the Emancipation Proclamation had a great impact on all Kentuckians and their stance on the war. Whether they fought or not, the Civil War affected every citizen of Kentucky in one way or another. Many families were divided within the state and Kentucky soldiers often found themselves fighting against their cousins, fathers, brothers, and boyhood friends. Dr. Tarwater will discuss what motivated these men to enlist in the opposing armies.



***Dr. Leah Tarwater***

## About Leah Tarwater

Dr. Leah Tarwater is an adjunct professor of history at Liberty University where she has taught in the doctoral program since 2019. Prior to that, she taught at Hill College, Tarrant County College, Texas Wesleyan University, and the University of Southern New Hampshire. Dr. Tarwater earned a Bachelor of Science degree in education at Texas Tech University. She went on to earn a M.A. and doctorate in history from TCU in 2010 where her dissertation focused on Kentuckians in the Civil War.



## President's Comments

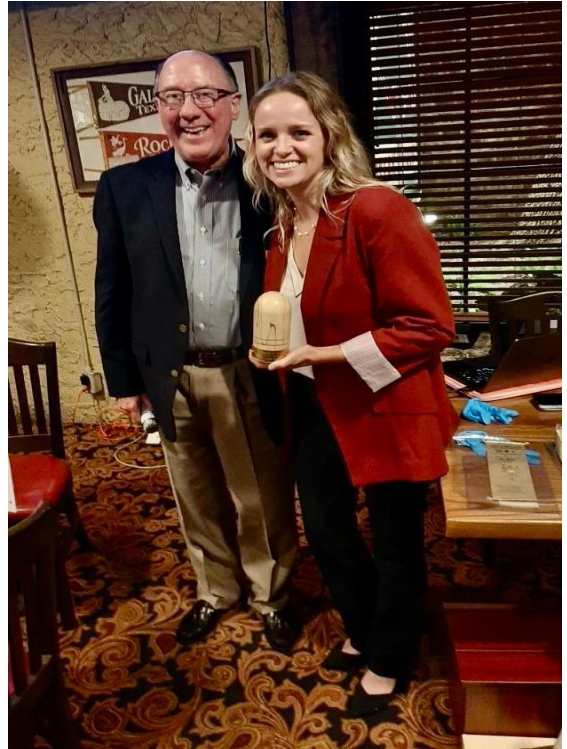
*By Walker Agnew*

Thanks to everyone for making the start of this campaign one of the best in years! We've enjoyed great conversations and fellowship to go with wonderful presentations.

We were so pleased to have Shae Smith Cox speak on "The Fabric of Civil War Society." It was interesting to know that some of the uniform designs were based off of the French army, and that sometimes the higher the rank, the gaudier the uniform! After the war, Confederates could not wear their uniforms in public. This seems to have been lifted many years later as the reunion groups on both sides began creating simple uniforms. Dr. Cox was able to bring and display

several examples of these post-war uniforms as well as some badges worn by veterans.

**Please try to arrive by 5:45 pm** in order for the restaurant to serve and clear the tables before the presentation. We look forward to seeing everyone again at our next meeting.



*Last month's speaker Shae Smith Cox  
with President Agnew*

## Treasurer's Report

*By Thad Fine*

First of all, I'd like to thank those who have paid their dues for this campaign. If you haven't already done so, you can either mail a check to my address on the last page of this newsletter or pay at our upcoming meeting. We accept cash or check (please make payable to "HCWRT"). Your dues will cover your membership through May 31, 2026. Annual dues are \$50.00 for individuals and \$60.00 for families.

We welcomed a number of visitors and first-time guests during the September and October meetings. Included in this group was Dan

Leedy, who joined our Round Table at last month's meeting. I hope we see all of these guests back soon!

If you've attended any of our meetings, you've noticed that we always have a book raffle. Thanks to Rita Campbell for coordinating this every month! All funds raised through raffle ticket sales help cover the HCWRT's administrative expenses. Raffle tickets are only \$1.00 each, and may be purchased when you register at the meeting. Also, your donations of Civil War-themed books are always welcome!

We would appreciate it if everyone would register when entering our meeting room so we'll have an accurate record of turnout and obtain updated contact information on our members.

The Hood's Texas Brigade Association, Re-Activated (HTBAR) is sponsoring two upcoming events: their annual Scholarly Seminar in Huntsville, Texas on November 7 and 8, 2025 and a Civil War Tour through Manassas, Spotsylvania, and Fredericksburg on April 14 – 18, 2026. For additional information, go to the HTBAR website at [hoodtexasbrigade.org](http://hoodtexasbrigade.org) or see me or John Stevens at the meetings.



## Monthly Book Raffle

*By Rita Campbell*

Thanks to your generous donations, we have some great selections included in this month's raffle! When attending our November meeting, please purchase raffle tickets for the following gems: **BATTLES AND LEADERS OF THE CIVIL WAR** (VOLUMES I, III, AND IV) by Robert Underwood Johnson, **SHILOH: IN HELL BEFORE NIGHT** by James Lee McDonough, and **SEASONS OF WAR: THE ORDEAL OF A CONFEDERATE COMMUNITY, 1861-1865** by Daniel E. Sutherland.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone on the 20<sup>th</sup>!

## November Quiz

*By Jim Godlove*

Perhaps the most famous soldier from Kentucky, this man had been vice-president and Kentucky senator before the war. He ended the war as Confederate Secretary of War.

**Who was this gallant leader who was the victor at New Market in May, 1864?**



## Membership Report

*By Michael Clennan*

Come one, come all!! Why not bring an old member or a new friend with you on Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup>? Our dinner begins at 5:45 pm where there is always an abundance of fellowship and conversation! Also, there is plenty of parking at our new meeting location, Saltgrass Steakhouse at 8943 Katy Freeway.

Our meeting begins at 7:00 pm, which features Dr. Leah Tarwater of Liberty University speaking to us about "Kentucky Soldiers in the Civil War." Her talk starts right after our popular Civil War quiz and book raffle. We expect to have a full house, so come early. I will be at the front door to welcome you. If you have any questions, please call me at (713) 864-1204.

## 2025-2026 SPEAKERS CAMPAIGN

|                |                                                                                                                                      |
|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Nov. 20, 2025  | Dr. Leah Tarwater: "Kentucky Soldiers in the Civil War"                                                                              |
| Dec. 11, 2025  | Madelaine Setiawan (Gary L. Chandler Graduate Student Award Recipient): "Southern Unionist Women As Remembered by Fleeing Fugitives" |
| 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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