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General Orders

Walker's Brigade

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2025



DECEMBER 2025 MEETING
Thursday, December 11, 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
Madelaine Setiawan Speaking
On:

**“Southern Unionist Women as
Remembered by Fleeing Fugitives”**

In the late nineteenth century, Union-published post-war accounts that displayed stories of Southern Unionist women came to the forefront, indicating that these women were overt political actors who frequently risked their lives to feed, hide, and aid Union soldiers and prisoners using their extensive network of communication, allies, and geographical awareness. These stories became critical to the prison retribution propaganda that Republicans

and the Northern citizenry advocated beginning in 1865, as the atrocities at Andersonville and the arrest of Captain Henry Wirz began to unfold.

Madelaine Setiawan's presentation will uncover the stories of the fleeing fugitives and the role of Southern Unionist women in their escape. Ms. Setiawan reveals how the term “Unionism” was never reserved strictly for white Americans. It was a term extended to Black men who fought for the Union, but also to Black women who prisoners consistently remembered in their memoirs for their kindness, hospitality, intelligence, and their help in guiding them back to safety.



Madelaine Setiawan

About Madelaine Setiawan

Madelaine Setiawan is a PhD candidate at Texas A&M University. She specializes in the U. S. Civil War and Reconstruction, War and Memory, and 19th-century Women and Gender. Her research has been supported by the Massachusetts Historical Society, the Virginia Center for Civil War Studies, and the Melbern G. Glasscock Center for Humanities Research, among others. Her Master's thesis, "Trust to Us, the Union Men of the South: The 1866 Southern Loyalist Convention and the Fight for Reconstruction" highlights the role of Southern Unionists and their rhetoric during Reconstruction. For her dissertation, Madelaine examines the ways in which Southern Unionist women contributed to the wartime effort and were remembered, commemorated, or forgotten afterward.

Prior to Texas A&M, Madelaine graduated Summa Cum Laude from Lee University with a BA in History and Political Science. She currently holds the Military Historical Society of Massachusetts Fellowship from the Massachusetts Historical Society.

President's Comments

By Walker Agnew

Once again, we enjoyed a wonderful presentation this past month. Dr. Leah Tarwater presented "Kentucky Soldiers in the Civil War." As a border state, Kentuckians had a true split in loyalties to either the Union or the Confederacy. They first attempted to remain neutral, but eventually became a Union state. Of the 100,000 soldiers from the state, about two thirds fought with the Union and about one third with the Confederacy. Native son John C. Breckinridge, who had been U. S. vice president under James Buchanan, was not successful in his run for president in 1860, and later became a general in the Confederate army. As a border state, it still had slavery and many thought it would be protected. After the war, the state did

not ratify the 13th Amendment, although they formally did in 1976, some 110 years later.

Remember, our December meeting will be on the 2nd Thursday of the month, December 11th, where we will hear from our Gary Chandler Graduate Student Award winner, Madelaine Setiawan from Texas A&M. Her topic will be "Southern Unionist Women as Remembered by Fleeing Fugitives."

Please arrive by 5:45 pm in order for the restaurant to serve and clear the tables before the presentation. Our treasurer Thad Fine reports that we had approximately 25 people in attendance at the November meeting, and asked me to remind everyone to be sure to sign in when you enter our meeting room.

We look forward to seeing everyone again on December 11th!



*Last month's speaker Leah Tarwater
with President Agnew*

Membership Report

By Michael Clennan

Let's celebrate the 2025 holiday season together at our December 11th meeting at Saltgrass, which includes a dinner and talk by Madelaine Setiawan, a PhD candidate at Texas

A&M. Join our fellowship for dinner at 5:45 pm. The Civil War quiz, raffle and presentation will start at 7:00 pm. Please feel free to bring a new member or guest for this special evening. If you have any questions, call me at (713) 864-1204. See you at the front door!

Walking Tours of Galveston

Our own Ed Cotham has Battle of Galveston walking tours scheduled for Saturday, January 3rd at 10 am and 2 pm, and another one at noon on Sunday, January 4th. For information and tickets, visit galvestonhistory.org, go to "Events," then "Event Tickets." Ed has authored various books on the Civil War, including *Battle on the Bay: The Civil War Struggle for Galveston*.

Monthly Book Raffle

By Rita Campbell

Happy Holidays! Here are the books for our December book raffle – what a deal! **THE WEST POINT HISTORY OF THE CIVIL WAR**, published by the U. S. Military Academy, **GETTYSBURG:**



DAY THREE by Jeffry D. Wert, **THE CIVIL WAR IN PHOTOGRAPHS** by William C. Davis, **BATTLE MAPS OF THE CIVIL WAR** by Richard Oshea and David Greenspan, and finally **THE ATLAS OF THE CIVIL WAR** by James M. McPherson.

I'm told that we collected \$34.00 for our November book raffle. Thanks to everyone for purchasing these tickets, which help with our Round Table's administrative expenses. I look forward to seeing everyone in December!

SHSU Civil War Consortium First Annual Conference

Sam Houston State University is sponsoring its first Civil War Consortium Annual Conference on June 12th and 13th, 2026. The event will be held at the Walker Education Center, Sam Houston Republic of Texas Presidential Library in Huntsville, Texas.

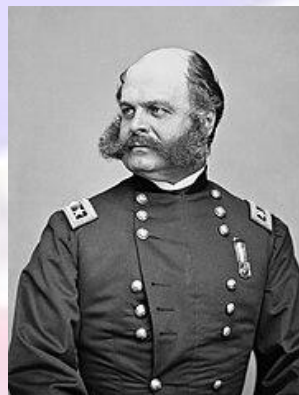
This will be a gathering of scholars, students, and history enthusiasts dedicated to exploring new perspectives on America's defining conflict. The theme of this conference is "Four Score and Seven Years Later: Civil War Americans and the Legacy of the American Revolution." The keynote speaker will be Pulitzer Prize winning historian David Blight.

For additional information, contact Brian Matthew Jordan at bmj018@shsu.edu or (936) 294-4460.

December Quiz

By Jim Godlove

December 11, 1862 saw Burnside's troops occupy Fredericksburg, Virginia by throwing pontoon boats across what river?



2025-2026 SPEAKERS CAMPAIGN

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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