



THE EAST TENNESSEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MUSEUM of EAST TENNESSEE HISTORY

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For Immediate Release

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“Common People in Uncommon Times” A Brown Bag Lecture and Gallery Tour by Myers Brown

PROGRAM: A Brown Bag Lecture and Gallery tour for *Common People in Uncommon Times: The Civil War Experience in Tennessee* by exhibit curator Myers E. Brown II

DATE: Noon, Wednesday, December 5, 2012

LOCATION: East Tennessee History Center
601 South Gay Street
Knoxville, TN 37902

ADMISSION: FREE | Attendees are encouraged to bring a “brown bag” lunch

Curator of Extension Services for the Tennessee State Museum, Myers E. Brown II, will present a Brown Bag Lecture and gallery tour on Wednesday, December 5, on the new exhibition at ETHS *Common People in Uncommon Times: The Civil War Experience in Tennessee*, the official traveling exhibition of the Tennessee Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission.

Myers Brown will discuss the *Common People in Uncommon Times* exhibition, a pictorial narrative that represents a diverse array of personalities--Confederate soldiers, Union sympathizers, African-Americans, gallant women-- whose stories illustrate a land divided. The saga of personal struggle and endurance during the Civil War is presented in different themes: Confederate leaders, Union leaders, African-Americans, civilian home front, common soldiers, war on the water, reconstruction and commemoration. “Tennessee, being geographically centered between the North and the Deep South, was destined to be the focal point of the Civil War,” explains Brown. “The state became a major battlefield, supply center, transportation hub, and invasion route for both Union and Confederate armies. The war disrupted and impacted the people of Tennessee in ways that are almost unimaginable.”

Myers E. Brown is the author of several books, including *Tennessee’s Union Cavalrymen* and *Tennessee’s Confederates*, which will be available for purchase and signing after the lecture and gallery tour.

Free and open to the public, the program is sponsored by 21st Mortgage Corp. The lecture will begin at noon at the East Tennessee History Center, 601 S. Gay Street,

Knoxville. Guests are invited to bring a “Brown Bag” lunch and enjoy the lecture. Soft drinks will be available. For more information on the lecture, exhibitions, or museum hours, call 865-215-8824 or visit the website at www.EastTNHistory.org.

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