



THE EAST TENNESSEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MUSEUM of EAST TENNESSEE HISTORY
Making history personal

For Immediate Release

Press Contact: Chere! Henderson, Director
865-215-8823 | 865-335-0888
chere!@eastTNhistory.org
www.eastTNhistory.org

July 23, 2013

***“Old Tennessee Is as Good a Country as We Want”:
Black Southerners in the Union Army, 1863-1866
A Brown Bag Lecture by Paul Coker, Ph.D.***

PROGRAM: *“Old Tennessee Is as Good a Country as We Want”:* Black Southerners in the Union Army, 1863-1866, A Brown Bag Lecture by Paul Coker, Ph.D.

DATE: Noon, Wednesday, August 7, 2013

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

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

Some 20,000 African Americans in Tennessee—equivalent to 40% of the state’s eligible black population—served in the Union Army during the Civil War. They fought with distinction, and their valor became a powerful symbol for future campaigns to win voting and civil rights. Their military experience presented them with unprecedented opportunities to elevate their political, economic, and social status; however, these aspirations rarely went uncontested. Dr. Coker, a Civil War scholar in the history department at the University of Tennessee, will discuss the experiences and contributions of these soldiers to the war and later efforts.

The program is sponsored by 21st Mortgage, and free and open to the public. 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.

End Release