

# The Outpost

The Newsletter of the Salt Creek Civil War Round Table  
Vol. LVI No. 4 December 2017



## 508th Regular Meeting

**DATE:** Friday, December 15, 2017  
**PLACE:** Oak Trace, 200 Village Drive, Downers Grove, IL  
**TIME:** 8:00 p.m.  
**TOPIC:** “How The U.S. Navy Helped to Save the Union”  
**SPEAKER:** Roger Bohn

The first important Northern victories in the Civil War came from the employment of sea superiority in combined operations against the Carolina coast of the Confederacy. This early success marked fateful development in the war that forecast inevitable destruction for the South unless, as in the American Revolution, overseas nations came in to convert this conflict into a world war with great naval forces joined in decisive combat.

Washington settled on the powerful forces of sea power to help crush the South. These forces included: 1) A naval blockade that starved the industrially deficient South. 2) The capture of Southern ports that facilitated the blockade and forced the South to disperse strength to counter Northern attack from the sea. 3) Severing the South along the Mississippi River and the use of the mighty highways of the western waters to speed the Confederacy's destruction.

Roger Bohn is a past president of the Salt Creek Civil War Round Table and the Chicago Civil War Round Table. His interest in the naval aspects of the Civil War began with an early “assignment” to speak on that subject to the Salt Creek CWRT. Roger has presented seven presentations on various naval subjects to our Round Table as well as other CWRTs.

**Members are urged to bring cookies or snacks to help celebrate the Holiday Season.**

Due to construction Oak Trace has an ON-Site Transportation & Security Service available. If you need assistance finding parking: Dial: 630-401-6699 or ask at the front desk.

## **NOVEMBER MONTHLY MEETING**

At the November meeting, 2 days before the 154<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Abraham Lincoln giving the Gettysburg Address, Don White provided an interesting presentation on Lincoln's "remarks" at the dedication ceremony for the Gettysburg National Cemetery.

The original date of the dedication ceremony was to be October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Edward Everett, the keynote speaker needed more time to prepare his speech, so the date was changed to November 19<sup>th</sup>. Everett's speech lasted 2 hours while Lincoln's address lasted just over 2 minutes. Despite the historical significance of the speech, modern scholars disagree on its exact wording. There are 5 known handwritten copies of the speech. The copies differ slightly in their wording, punctuation and structure. Each of the copies are named for the person who received it from Lincoln. Copies were given to his private secretaries John Nicolay and John Hay. The Nicolay copy is said to be the first draft. This copy remained with Nicolay until his death in 1901, when it was passed to his friend John Hay. The Hay copy is referred to the second draft. It was believed to have been completed the morning of the address or shortly after Lincoln returned to Washington. The Nicolay and Hay copies were donated to the Library of Congress by the Hay family in 1916. The third copy is the Everett copy. It was sent to Edward Everett by Lincoln to be included in a collection of speeches to be sold at a Soldiers' Sanitary Commission Fair. This copy is at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, IL. The fourth copy was written at the request of George Bancroft to be included in a collection to be sold at a Soldiers and Sailors' Sanitary Fair. It was written on both sides of the paper and could not be used in the collection. This copy was donated to Cornell University in 1949. Lincoln wrote a fifth copy to use in the collection. This copy had a title and was signed and dated. It was named for Colonel Alexander Bliss who was George Bancroft's stepson. This is the most often used version. It has 272 words and is the version inscribed on the south wall of the Lincoln Memorial. The copy is displayed in the Lincoln Room at the White House.

We thank Don for sharing his love for Lincoln and providing a quiz with prizes for the correct answers.

## **GREAT NEWS!!!**

**THE CURRENT SALT CREEK CWRT BOARD HAS VOLUNTEERED TO REMAIN FOR 1 MORE YEAR!!!**

President: Cindy Heckler

Vice President: Rick Zarr

Secretary-Treasurer: Jan Rasmussen

Board of Directors: Chuck Kurtz, Brian Conroy, Mike Miller, Sharon Maher, Jon Fritz

**THANKS TO THE VOLUNTEERS FOR THEIR CONTINUED SERVICE!!!**

## **BATTLEFIELD TOUR** April 26-29, 2018

The CWRT of Chicago 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Battlefield Tour will be the 1864 Atlanta Campaign.

For itinerary and registration information: [cwrt2018tour@chicagocwrt.org](mailto:cwrt2018tour@chicagocwrt.org).

SALT CREEK CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE  
MEMBERSHIP FORM

\$35 Mailed Newsletter \_\_\_\_\_

\$25 Emailed Newsletter \_\_\_\_\_

\$5 Student \_\_\_\_\_

I have included a separate donation for battlefield preservation: \_\_\_\_\_

Return this form by January 31st and your name will be placed in a drawing for a free 2018 membership to be determined at the February meeting.

Check payable to: Salt Creek CWRT

Mail to: Jan Rasmussen, Treasurer  
756 Sterling Court D2  
Bartlett, IL 60103

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone : \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in giving a presentation on: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## **UPCOMING CIVIL WAR EVENTS**

DECEMBER 14, 2017  
SOUTH SUBURBAN CWRT  
Holiday Party  
Aurellio's in Frankfort  
[www.southsuburbancwrt.com](http://www.southsuburbancwrt.com)

DECEMBER 19, 2017  
LINCOLN/DAVIS CWRT  
"Elmer Ellsworth & the Zoauve Cadets"  
Speaker: Doug Dammann  
Country House Restaurant, Alsip  
[lincolndavisroundtable@yahoo.com](mailto:lincolndavisroundtable@yahoo.com)

JANUARY 3, 2018  
KANKAKEE VALLEY CWRT  
"The Interesting William Oates"  
Speaker: Gary Wright  
Kankakee Public Library

JANUARY 5, 2018  
NORTHERN ILLINOIS CWRT  
"The Cushing Brothers"  
Speaker: Pat McCormick  
Arlington Hts. Memorial Library  
500 Dunton, Arlington Hts.  
[northernilcwrt.org](http://northernilcwrt.org)

JANUARY 12, 2018  
CHICAGO CWRT  
"The Battle of Ezra Church"  
Speaker: Bruce Allardice  
Holiday Inn O'Hare  
5615 N. Cumberland, Chicago  
[dinnerreservation@chicagocwrt.org](mailto:dinnerreservation@chicagocwrt.org)

JANUARY 16, 2018  
LINCOLN/DAVIS CWRT  
"Ambrose Bierce at Shiloh"  
Speaker: Bjorn Skaptson  
Country House Restaurant, Alsip  
[lincolndavisroundtable@yahoo.com](mailto:lincolndavisroundtable@yahoo.com)

## **ALL FOR THE UNION**

The SCCWRT website is temporarily down. Technical assistance would be greatly appreciated. Contact Rick Zarr: [rzarr@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rzarr@sbcglobal.net)

Brian Conroy has taken over the Salt Creek CWRT Facebook page. Check it out for updates.

A volunteer is needed to write the Preservation Report for the newsletter. If interested contact Jan Rasmussen: [jrbarns@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jrbarns@sbcglobal.net)

## **BACK IN HISTORY**

50 Years Ago: Harold Thornburg refereed a panel discussion: Mistakes of the Civil War.  
25 Years Ago: Jerry Feinstein and Dan McCarthy hosted Memorabilia Night & Auction.  
10 Years Ago: Jerry Feinstein and Dan McCarthy hosted the Annual Auction for Battlefield Preservation.

## **FUTURE SCCWRT MEETINGS**

January 19, 2018  
"Untold Facts of the Custer Debacle"  
Speaker: Don Sender

February 16, 2018  
"Henry Hunt at Gettysburg"  
Speaker: Art Foley

## **THE SALT CREEK CWRT**

[www.saltcreekcwrt.org](http://www.saltcreekcwrt.org)  
President: Cindy Heckler  
Vice-President: Rick Zarr  
Secretary-Treasurer: Jan Rasmussen  
Board Members: Chuck Kurtz, Mike Miller, Sharon Maher, Brian Conroy, Jon Fritz  
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