

The Outpost

The Newsletter of the Salt Creek Civil War Round Table
Vol. LVII No. 4 December 2018



518th Regular Meeting

Friday, December 21, 2018

NO MEETING SCHEDULED

Due to the proximity of the Christmas Holiday the board elected NOT to have a December meeting.

GREAT NEWS!!!

THE CURRENT SALT CREEK CWRT BOARD HAS VOLUNTEERED AGAIN 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, Nancy Fritz

Historian: Cindy Intravartolo

Newsletter Editor: Jennie Warner

Newsletter Staff: Art Foley, Jan Rasmussen, Brian Conroy

THANKS TO THE VOLUNTEERS FOR THEIR CONTINUED SERVICE!!!

HAVE A HAPPY AND SAFE HOLIDAY SEASON!

NOVEMBER MEETING SUMMARY by Art Foley

The topic for November's meeting "Civil War in Alabama: The South vs The South" presented by Dan McCarthy, illuminated that state's internal discontent with the secession movement.

While Loyalist elements might have argued against abolition sentiments, the desire to stay with the old flag was intensely felt. Secession was considered an act of folly and irresponsibility to one's family and to the nation as a whole. Southern "Honor" demanded faithful adherence to the Union and thus secession was a blight to be avoided.

Existing amongst northern counties and areas that contained neither cotton plantations or high slave populations, these areas resisted in political conventions. A coalition of Cooperationalists and Unionists fought the forces of rebellion and in defeat, Unionist groups vowed to fight against insurrection. These citizens found several paths of resistance. First, to avoid Confederate conscription, some hid out in the mountainous hill terrain. Some of these men resorted to guerilla actions. Second, men sought exemptions from military service due to occupation, purchasing their exemption, age, religious and medical excuse to varying levels of success.

Finally, some individuals assisted the Federal efforts by enlisting in or organizing Federal units, scouting for Federal forces, aiding escaped Union POWs, fomenting dissent at home, and as mentioned, guerilla actions. The 1st Alabama Cavalry (Union) was recruited and numbered amongst its ranks men from various Confederate states. This unit was involved in a number of major actions throughout the conflict.

In all, the estimation of three thousand plus men assisted in resistance activities. Deep strains within the locale affected beliefs and actions that, as Dan illustrated, still exist in present political thought and commemoration of the past. Dan hit it out of the park with presentation. We thank him for sharing his expertise. Huzzah!

STATE OF THE UNION

The proceeds from the October Book Sale and a generous \$500 donation from the Thomas Roos family (in memory of Joyce Clark) have enabled the Salt Creek CWRT to make a \$1000 donation to the American Battlefield Trust. The project chosen has a \$32.74 to \$1 match.

The Salt Creek CWRT started donating to Battlefield Preservation projects in 1992. Over the years we have managed to donate nearly \$63,000. Many of the donations were channeled to projects with matching funds thus increasing the impact of the donations.

THANKS to those who have donated books and THANKS to those who have purchased the books!

PRESERVATION REPORT BY BRIAN CONROY

Welcome to the new Preservation Report, as we examine a different preservation goal each month that the American Battlefield Trust is attempting to make happen. For December, the goal is three crucial tracts of 1862 battlefields in the states of Tennessee and Virginia to help raise the \$243,000 needed to secure these three transactions valued at \$1,178,000.

Hickenlooper's Battery at Shiloh is where Captain Andrew Hickenlooper (ancestor of today's governor of Colorado and Trust member John Hickenlooper) was "located just to the right rear" of Miller's brigade, and he worked his guns as quickly as possible to hold back the gray tide of Confederate General Adley H. Gladden's brigade. Captain Hickenlooper later wrote that a Rebel yell caused "an involuntary thrill of terror to pass like an electric shock through even the bravest of hearts." The good news is that this land is relatively inexpensive, and with \$33,000, these 8 acres can be saved.

Randol's Battery at Glendale, Virginia is where, in the spring of 1862, Union General George B. McClellan was inching toward the Confederate capital at Richmond. On the night of June 29-30, General Lee put his forces in motion, seeking to cut off and smash McClellan's army before it reached the sanctuary of the James River. Key to Lee's plan was the critical crossroads at Glendale, also known as "Frayser's Farm."

Lee's orders were miscarried, and could only bring a portion of his army to bear against the Federals. Confusion reigned supreme, and as Confederate Major E. Porter Alexander described that afternoon:

"Randol's Battery, over which it began, was taken and retaken several times. Once, when in possession of the 11th Alabama Regiment of Wilcox's brigade, it was charged by McCall's Pennsylvania Reserves, and after a desperate bayonet fight each side fell back to the adjacent woods."

Union General George G. Meade, leading the 4th and 7th Pennsylvania Reserves, was severely wounded during the fight. All the eyewitness accounts tell of desperate, brutal, savage combat on and around this land we are trying to save today. Glendale is close to being declared a preserved battlefield, and this 9-acre tract is critical to our success, and will cost \$195,000 to preserve.

Latimer's Battery at Fredericksburg saw a spirited charge on the afternoon of December 13, 1862 by the 15th New Jersey regiment, driving the 16th North Carolina from the field, causing Captain Joseph Latimer to fear for the loss of his guns.

Upon spotting Law's Brigade in the tree line behind him, Latimer bounded across the field furiously waving his cap. The artilleryman appeared 'very excited,' as he reined in front of the infantry. 'Don't come up here,' Latimer shouted, 'unless you will promise to support me.' 'Go back, Captain, to your battery,' the foot soldiers assured him, 'this is the old 4th Alabama.' 'Thank God, I am safe,' Latimer allegedly answered as he hurried back to rally his command."

Law's Brigade would eventually advance to within just 300 yards of the Bowling Green Road until they ran into a Union column directed by newly elevated division commander Daniel E. Sickles.

UPCOMING CIVIL WAR EVENTS

JANUARY 2, 2019
KANKAKEE VALLEY CWRT
Debate on the Legality of Secession"
Kankakee Public Library

JANUARY 4, 2019
NORTHERN ILLINOIS CWRT
Chesapeake & Ohio Canals During
The Civil War"
Speaker: Charlie Banks
Arlington Hts. Memorial Library
northernilcwr.org.

JANUARY 11, 2019
CHICAGO CWRT
"Henry Morton Stanley at Shiloh"
Speaker: Bjorn Skaptson
Holiday Inn O'Hare
5615 N. Cumberland, Chicago
dinnerreservation@chicagocwr.org

JANUARY 15, 2019
LINCOLN/DAVIS CWRT
"Women of the Civil War"
Speaker: Don White
Country House Restaurant, Alsip
lincolndavisroundtable@yahoo.com

JANUARY 24, 2019
SOUTH SUBURBAN CWRT
"Impeachment of President Johnson"
Speaker: Lester Lindley
Smokey Barque, 20 Kansas St.
Frankfort, IL
www.southsuburbancwr.com

ALL FOR THE UNION

The SCCWRT website is back.
It is still a work in progress.

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

BACK IN HISTORY

50 Years Ago: Panel Discussion
Most Crucial Moments of the Civil War"
25 Years Ago: Jerry Feinstein & Dan
McCarthy hosted Memorabilia Night and
Battlefield Preservation Auction
10 Years Ago: Memorabilia Display and
Show & Tell

FUTURE SCCWRT MEETINGS

January 18, 2019
"A Family and Nation Under Fire"
Speaker: Georgiann Baldino

THE SALT CREEK CWRT

www.saltcreekcwr.org
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Brian Conroy

**2019 Membership renewals are due by the
end of January. Memberships received
before the January meeting are eligible for
the free membership drawing.**