

The Outpost

The Newsletter of the Salt Creek Civil War Round Table
Vol. LVI No. 6 February 2018



510th Regular Meeting

DATE: Friday, February 16, 2018
PLACE: Oak Trace, 200 Village Drive, Downers Grove, IL
TIME: 8:00 p.m.
TOPIC: “Henry Hunt and the Third Day at Gettysburg”
SPEAKER: Art Foley

Gettysburg is a familiar story to most Civil War enthusiasts, or is it? While we are familiar with the activities of July 3, 1863, the actions of infantry and cavalry, both Union and Confederate, what of the artillery? Yes, we can speak of the units attached to Hancock’s 2nd Corps. We can cite the sacrifice of Cushing and other commanders facing Pickett’s onslaught, but the existence of the overarching strategy? How was the army’s artillery situated, supplied and led? Was the role of the long arm agreeable to the fractious commanders of the Army of the Potomac? Art Foley will endeavor to clarify and illuminate the role of a forgotten hero of the conflict.

Art is a long-time member of the Salt Creek CWRT. A retired educator and musician, Art has given talks on Civil War music and battles in the Trans-Mississippi Theater. With this talk, Art will follow his third passion, highlighting the actions of lesser known commanders.

Due to construction the parking at Oak Trace has changed. There are plenty of spaces available. If you need assistance finding parking, please ask at the front desk or call the On-Site Transportation & Security Service at 630-401-6699 which is available to assist you.

JANUARY MONTHLY MEETING BY ART FOLEY

The membership greeted long-time member Don Sender as the presenter for our January meeting. Titled, "Untold Facts of the Custer Debacle", Don described Custer's astounding record during the Civil War. A household name across the nation. Peacetime found the boy general assigned to first, Reconstruction duties and then to fighting Native American tribes on the northern plains. Custer was involved in various clashes with the tribes, notably his attack on Black Kettle's encampment on the Washita River in 1868. Custer was also involved in an expedition to the Black Hills in 1874. On the discovery of gold near present day Custer, South Dakota, Custer trumpeted the discovery triggering a gold rush to the area.

The General was called to Washington in March 1876 to give testimony regarding alleged corruption that involved Secretary of War William W. Belknap and Orville Grant, the President's brother. Custer's testimony was explosive causing Belknap's resignation and creating a political firestorm. A furious President Grant attempted to remove Custer from his command, but various officers (Sherman, Sheridan and Terry), convinced the President that Custer was needed for the upcoming campaign against the Sioux and related tribes. As we all know, events led to an epic encounter on the Little Big Horn.

Citing that the presence of Mark Kellogg and telegraphic equipment brought along, (to the exclusion of Gatling guns), Don theorized that Custer hoped to grab, after an easy victory, the Democratic nomination for the Presidency. Don explored Custer's possible motivations on selecting that day's tactics and examined the elements that led to its unraveling. Besides the troopers' unreliable armament, Don also conjectured, based on Native American accounts, that Custer was one of the early casualties, causing panic amongst the troopers.

With the enhancement of a slide show and weapons used during the fight as icing on the cake, Don provided a delicious evening for the membership. We thank Mr. Sender for sharing his expertise. Huzzah!

REMINDER TO RENEW

If you have not renewed your membership yet, please send your dues in. If you have already renewed THANK YOU.

BATTLEFIELD TOURS

The CWRT of Chicago 68th Annual Battlefield Tour (April 26-29, 2018) will be the Atlanta Campaign

For itinerary and registration information: cwrt2018tour@chicagocwrt.org

The Civil War Museum of Kenosha is offering a bus tour of the Chickamauga/Chattanooga Civil War Sites Sunday, October 21 to Wednesday, October 24, 2018. The tour will be led by award winning author and Chickamauga expert Dave Powell.

For itinerary and registration information: ddammann@kenosha.org or 262-653-4432.

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

FEBRAURY 20, 2018

LINCOLN/DAVIS CWRT

"The Battle of Wise's Forks"

Speaker: Brian Sokolosky

Country House Restaurant, Alsip

lincolndavisroundtable@yahoo.com

FEBRUARY 22, 2018

SOUTH SUBURBAN CWRT

"36TH IL"

Speaker: Jason Krausz

Smokey Barque, 20 Kansas St.

Frankfort, IL

www.southsurburbancwrt.com

MARCH 2, 2018

NORTHERN ILLINOIS CWRT

"Chicago During the Civil War"

Speaker: Kurt Carlson

Arlington Hts. Memorial Library

500 Dunton, Arlington Hts.

northernilcwrt.org

MARCH 7, 2018

KANKAKEE VALLEY CWRT

"Sherman's March"

Speaker: Bruce Allardice

Kankakee Public Library

MARCH 9, 2018

CHICAGO CWRT

"Peachtree Creek"

Speaker: Robert Jenkins

Holiday Inn O'Hare

5615 N. Cumberland, Chicago

dinnerreservation@chicagocwrt.org

MARCH 13, 2018

McHENRY COUNTY CWRT

"General Longstreet & the Methods
of Modern War"

Speaker: Harold Knudsen

Woodstock Library

www.mchenrycivilwar.com

ALL FOR THE UNION

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

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

Feb. 17th Will County Historical Society Fundraising Dinner unveiling the Lincoln Funeral bier flower. Contact Brain Conroy: paleobrian@yahoo.com

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Paul Lanphier

BACK IN HISTORY

50 Years Ago: Dr. Paul Clausius presented "Mary Todd Lincoln".

25 Years Ago: Don Sikorsky & Dan McCarthy Debated: Robert E. Lee was the Greatest General Produced During the Civil War"

10 Years Ago: Bjorn Skaptson presented: "The History of the Battle of Shiloh"

FUTURE SCCWRT MEETINGS

March 16, 2018

"Monocacy"

Speaker: Charlie Banks

April 20, 2018

"The Clan of Arms Be Heard No More"

Speakers: Fred & Carol Miller

THE SALT CREEK CWRT

www.saltcreekcwrt.org

President: Cindy Heckler

Vice-President: Rick Zarr

Secretary-Treasurer: Jan Rasmussen

Board Members: Chuck Kurtz, Mike Miller,

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