

The Outpost

The Newsletter of the Salt Creek Civil War Round Table
Vol. LXII No. 9 May 2025



580th Regular Meeting

DATE: Saturday, May 17, 2025
PLACE: Glen Ellyn History Center at Stacy's Corners
800 N. Main St., Glen Ellyn, IL (NW Corner of Main & Elm Streets)
TIME: 11am
PROGRAM: **"The Very Spirit of War: General John Alexander Logan"**
SPEAKER: Robert I. Girardi

John Alexander Logan hailed from "Little Egypt," the southern portion of Illinois in the fertile region of the Mississippi and Ohio river valleys. Logan was a staunch Democrat in the years before the Civil War. After a service in the Mexican War, he entered politics on both the state and national levels. In Illinois, he passed the notorious Black Codes, and in Congress, he supported the Fugitive Slave Law. Logan remained silent when the Civil War began but soon turned into one of the staunchest pro-Union men and fought his way to the rank of major-general. After the war, he reversed his political course, joining the Republican Party and fighting for freedmen's and veterans' rights. We remember him best as the founder of Decoration Day, now called Memorial Day. Join us this month to learn more about Black Jack Logan, the very spirit of war.

This month, our speaker is Salt Creek president, Robert I Girardi. He has studied the Civil War his entire life. He earned his M.A. in Public History at Loyola University of Chicago. Rob is a past president of the Chicago CWRT and belongs to several local CWRTs, the Company of Military Historians and the Sons of Union Veterans. He is on the editorial advisory board of the Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society and was guest editor of the journal for four years during the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War. He has received awards from the Chicago and Milwaukee CWRTs, and speaks on Civil War topics all over the United States. Rob is the author of numerous articles and nine books, with more on the way. Learn more at www.robertgirardi.com

The Annual Banquet at the Doubletree by Hilton, Lisle Naperville on Friday, June 20th will feature Mark Flotow presenting "In Their Letters, In Their Own Words: Illinois Soldiers Write About U.S. Grant". Registration flyer attachment included.

ALL FOR THE UNION

Thanks to Dan McCarthy, Nancy & Jon Fritz, Karen Gustafson, Rick Zarr, Brian Conroy, Dan Van Haften, and Mike Miller for their help at the Midwest Civil War Show. \$438 was raised for Battlefield Preservation. Huzzah!

On April 26th Bruce Allardice spoke at the Baseball Hall of Fame at Cooperstown.

On May 6th Robert I. Girardi presented "Abraham Lincoln and the Common Soldier" at the Woodstock Public Library.

On May 31st Brian Conroy will present a workshop on "The Role of Civil Engineers" at the Kenosha Civil War Museum from 1-2:30 pm.

Rob Girardi, Jan Rasmussen, Kurt Carlson, Janet Linhart, Jonathan & Geoff Sebastian visited the Sultana Disaster Museum on the way to the Shiloh Tour. After a great tour a check for \$500 was presented. The new museum will open next April.

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Joe O'Reilly

UPCOMING CIVIL WAR EVENTS

Check with the organization sponsoring the program for meeting status.

May 9, 2025

Chicago CWRT will feature Steve Phan presenting "*Asian and Pacific Islanders During the Civil War*".
Holiday Inn Oakbrook, 350 W. 22nd St., Oakbrook Terrace www.chicagocwrt.org

May 13, 2025

McHenry County CWRT will feature Dennis Doyle presenting "*Illinois Regiments at Gettysburg*".
Woodstock Library www.mchenrycivilwar.com

May 20, 2025

Lincoln/Davis CWRT will feature John Horn presenting "*The Wilson/Kautz Raid*".
Country House Restaurant, Alsip, IL lincolndavisroundtable@yahoo.com

May 21, 2025 at 6 pm

NW Indiana CWRT will feature Fr. Bob Miller presenting "*From Rome to Appomattox: History of Civil War Chaplains*". Crown Point Library Northwest Indiana CWRT on Facebook

May 22, 2025

South Suburban CWRT will feature Dennis Doyle presenting "*Cold Harbor, 1864*".
Aurelio's Pizza, 19836 Wolf Road, Mokena, IL. South Suburban CWRT on Facebook.

June 2, 2025 at noon

Rock River Valley CWRT will feature Bob Presman presenting "*Was Lincoln a White Supremist?*"
211 N. Main Street, Rockford.

June 6, 2025

Northern Illinois CWRT will feature Bob Presman presenting "*Could the South Have Won the Civil War?*". Arlington Heights Library www.northernilcwrt.org

The Kenosha Civil War Museum features **Second Friday Lectures at Noon.**

On May 9, 2025, Dr. Kate-Williams-McWorter & Dr. Gerald McWorter will present "New Philadelphia, Illinois: Seven Ways to Freedom". Free and Open to the Public and No Prior Registration is Required.
<https://museums.kenosha.org/civilwar/events/>

Great Lakes Civil War Forum at the Civil War Museum of Kenosha, Wisconsin Saturday, Sept. 13th. The theme of this year's Forum is the Antietam Campaign.

For speaker and program information, registration costs and additional details, please click on the link below or call the museum at 262-653-4140.

The Kenosha Civil War Museum is offering a Petersburg and Appomattox Campaign Tour. Sunday October 19th thru Wednesday October 22nd. For itinerary and more information see website.
<https://museums.kenosha.org/civil-war-museum-programs-events/annual-events>

FUTURE SALT CREEK CWRT MEETINGS

Check us out on Facebook and at saltcreekcwrt.org

June 20, 2025 Annual Banquet featuring Mark Flotow presenting "*In Their Letters, In Their Own Words: Illinois Civil War Soldiers Write About U.S Grant*".

Sept. 27, 2025 Jerry Allen will present "*General James B. Steedman*". **Note the date change due to a conflict with the Civil War Show.**

Oct.18, 2025 ANNUAL BOOK SALE 11am to 1pm. Program at 1pm.
Fr. Bob Miller will present *From Rome to Appomattox: The History of Military Chaplains*.

Nov.15, 2025 Thomas Arliskas will present "*Smoothbores & Shotguns vs Rifles at Fort Donelson*".

Dec. 20, 2025 Memorabilia Show & Tell moderated by Robert I. Girardi.

BACK IN HISTORY

50 Years Ago: Don Sender presented Matthew Brady Slides of the Artillery and Foot Soldier.

25 Years Ago: Len Overcash Sr. presented "*The 64th Illinois Volunteer Infantry*".

10 Years Ago: Cindy Intravartolo moderated a panel discussion: *How the Civil War Changed American Life* featuring Kurt Carlson, Patricia Murphy, Sharon Maher and Don Sender.

THE SALT CREEK CWRT

President: Robert I. Girardi

Vice-President: Jan Rasmussen (acting)

Secretary-Treasurer: Jan Rasmussen

Board Members: Brian Conroy, Sharon Maher, Rick Zarr, Dan McCarthy, Nancy & Jon Fritz

Historian: Cindy Intravartolo

Newsletter Staff: Jan Rasmussen, Rob Girardi, Brian Conroy

Facebook and Website Editor: Brian Conroy

May 2025 Preservation Report
by Brian Conroy

Save 210 Important Acres in Virginia

Right now, an opportunity exists to protect nearly 210 acres of sacred battlefield land in Virginia — at Malvern Hill, Brandy Station, New Market, and New Market Heights. Through a remarkable \$6.44-to-\$1 match, contributions will go even further, ensuring that these irreplaceable sites remain untouched for current and future generations. The total value for this irreplaceable historic land is more than \$2.7 million, but fortunately, every dollar donated toward this goal will be multiplied, thanks to the anticipated government matching grants from the Commonwealth of Virginia, the federal government, committed partner groups, and some very generous supporters. The bottom line is: \$429,500 is needed to forever preserve these battlefield acres.

Battlefields have already been lost to development. If action is not taken now, these landscapes — *where history was written in blood and sacrifice* — will disappear.

Each of these Virginia battlefields tells a story of courage and determination.

- **Malvern Hill (1862):** The final battle of the Seven Days Campaign, where Union forces held their ground against relentless Confederate attacks. Without preservation, the battlefield's sweeping vistas could be marred by new construction.
- **Brandy Station (1863):** The site of the largest cavalry battle of the Civil War, marking a turning point for Union horsemen. Today, this historic land faces the threat of modern development.
- **New Market (1864):** The battle where young cadets from the Virginia Military Institute charged bravely into history, shaping the outcome of the war in the Shenandoah Valley.
- **New Market Heights (1864):** A battlefield where African American Union soldiers displayed extraordinary valor, with 14 men receiving the Medal of Honor. This land holds powerful lessons about bravery and the fight for freedom.

Too many irreplaceable historic sites have been lost. At Malvern Hill, a developer was prepared to build a massive home directly on battlefield land. Circumstances allowed for intervention in time.

But relying on luck is not an option — dedicated supporters must take action. With the right help, these 210 acres of historic land can be *protected forever*.



The Salt Creek Civil War Round Table's **Annual Banquet-Friday June 20, 2025**

Time: 6:30 Cocktails – 7:00 Dinner – Program – **Silent Auction**

MARK FLOTOW

Presenting: ***“In Their Letters, In Their Own Words:
Illinois Soldiers Write About U.S. Grant”***.

Where: DOUBLETREE by Hilton Lisle Naperville

3003 Corporate West Drive (Warrenville Road) Lisle, IL, 630-505-0900

♦ 1-mile east of the intersection of Naperville Rd./ Naper Blvd. & Warrenville Road ♦

Directions...

From **Chicago**: Eisenhower west to “Aurora / I-88” exit “53 south” 1-block to Warrenville Road, turn west (right) 1-mile (+/-) to the **DOUBLETREE by Hilton Lisle Naperville** on the left (south) side of the road.

From the **West**: To Naperville Road / Naper Blvd., to Warrenville Road; east to **DOUBLETREE**, on the right (south).

Price: \$65.00 per person (free parking)

Select: Sliced N.Y. strip loin of **BEEF**, Boursin (cheese)-crusted **CHICKEN**, or Honey-ginger **SALMON**

♦ Please make your reservations by **June 16, 2025** ♦

Questions: Call Jan Rasmussen...630-217-8427; jrbarns@sbcglobal.net

★ ★ ★



Please respond by June 16, 2025—return this form **with your check** to:

Jan Rasmussen, Treasurer
756 Sterling Ct. D2; Bartlett, IL 60103

Make checks payable to: **“SCCWRT”** for the **total amount due**

NAME (please print) _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

NUMBER OF ATTENDEES _____ @ \$65 each = total: \$ _____

CHOICE & NUMBER OF ENTRÉE: Sliced loin of **BEEF** _____ Boursin-crusted **CHICKEN** _____ Honey-ginger **SALMON** _____

NAME(S) OF
GUEST(S) _____