

The Outpost

The Newsletter of the Salt Creek Civil War Round Table
Vol. LV No. 7 March 2017



501st Regular Meeting

DATE: Friday, March 17, 2017
PLACE: Oak Trace, 200 Village Drive, Downers Grove, IL
TIME: 8:00 p.m.
TOPIC: "Military Academies During the Civil War"
SPEAKER: Brian Conroy

Throughout history, empires were built on the military achievements led by leaders who were given the best military education available. The United States was no different, and throughout its history has had its own share of military leaders who were educated at top military institutions. Learn about the military education of famed empires including Sparta, Rome and medieval Europe, then learn about the military institutions in the United States, such as West Point and The Citadel, along with the graduates who served their country before, during and after the Civil War.

Brian earned a B.A. in History from the University of South Florida and a teaching certificate from the Trinity Christian College. He is Vice President of the Will County Historical Society and serves as docent at the Joliet Area Historical Museum. Brian has been a Civil War reenactor with the 1st Michigan Engineers and Mechanics since 2000. He also portrays American Voyageur businessman and fur trader Gordon Hubbard at Rendezvous events and plays vintage baseball with the DuPage County Plowboys..

FEBRUARY 2017 MEETING SUMMARY BY ARTHUR FOLEY

February marked the 500th meeting for the SCCWRT! The evening, emceed by Jan Rassmussen, was filled with recollections of the Round Table's membership past and present. Don Sikorski recalled events of the 1960's. Other members participated in a chronological remembrance of tours, book auctions, and fund raising activities for battlefield presentation carried out over the last fifty- odd years.

Of particular interest memories of comrades who have answered the final muster were evoked. The surprise of the evening was the citation of a tally of \$57,662.00 that has been raised over the years, (and this does not include the impact of matching funds) , to aid in acquisition and maintenance of Civil War sites. Topping off a pleasant evening of celebration was the serving of a wonderful cake! Huzzah!

PRESERVATION REPORT BY DAN JOSEPHS

We hope that Spring is just around the corner. Nature is sending us a few warmer days here and there, giving us hints that Winter is coming to an end. We trust that you have been able to enjoy these short periods of time of warmer weather.

The Civil War Trust among its many battle preservation campaigns has a campaign currently going on to save battlefield land at the Fort Donelson Battlefield Park (Union victory in February of 1862) and at the Parker' Crossroads (scene of Confederate Nathan Bedford Forest's successful campaign on December 31, 1862).

This Civil War Trust campaign is attempting to save a total of 63 acres of Civil War battlefield land at these two 1862 battlefields located in Tennessee. For every dollar that is raised in this campaign, it is matched by \$5.78 of funds from federal, state, and local preservation funds that have been collected by the Civil War Trust. Although the total amount of money to be raised is in the amount of \$645,000, the actual amount of funds to be raised by the members of the Civil War Trust, is in the amount of \$111,500 which represents only 18% of the funds needed to be raised in this campaign.

The Fort Donelson battlefield park is a battlefield park within the Federal Battlefield parks. There is a total of 45 acres of battlefield land at Fort Donelson to be preserved. The actual battlefield parcel of land to be preserved is located in the area of Confederate General Pillow's attack which was part of the Confederate attempt to break out of the Union lines. The other tract is located within Confederate General Buckner's lines. Fort Donelson was the scene of General Ulysses Grant's first victory during the war. These parcels are part of many parcels that have been preserved by the Civil War Trust at the Fort Donelson Military Battlefield Park.

The 18 acres of the Parker's Crossroads Battlefield to be preserved are the fifth time the Civil War Trust has raised money to save battlefield land at this battlefield. The previous campaigns at Parker's Crossroads occurred in 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2008. There is no national battlefield military park located at this battlefield. The Civil War Trust is working with a local battlefield organization called the Parker's Crossroads Battlefield Association to preserve this parcel of land.

The information for this column was obtained from the Civil War Trust website.

UPCOMING CIVIL WAR EVENTS

MARCH 21, 2017

LINCOLN DAVIS CWRT

"Jefferson Davis in Person"

Speaker: David Walker

Country House Restaurant, Alsip

Lincolndavisroundtable@yahoo.com

MARCH 23, 2017

SOUTH SUBURBAN CWRT

"Lincoln-Douglas Debates of 1858"

Speaker: Graham Peck

Smokey Barque, 20 Kansas St.

Frankfort, IL

www.SurburbanCWRT.com

APRIL 5, 2017

KANKAKEE VALLEY CWRT

"U.S. Grant—Underrated General,
Underrated President"

Speaker: Phil Angelo

Kankakee Public Library

APRIL 7, 2017

NORTHERN ILLINOIS CWRT

"Civil War Battle Tactics"

Speaker: Steve Fratt

Arlington Hts. Memorial Library

500 Dunton, Arlington Hts.

Northernilcwr.org

APRIL 11, 2017

McHENRY COUNTY CWRT

"Tullahoma Campaign"

Speaker: Dave Powell

Woodstock Library

www.mchenrycivilwar.com

APRIL 14, 2017

CHICAGO CWRT

"Command Conflict in the Overland
Campaign"

Speaker: Diane Smith

Holiday Inn O'Hare

5615 N. Cumberland, Chicago

dinnerreservation@chicagocwrt.org

APRIL 13, 2017

LAKE COUNTY CWRT

"Pennsylvania Home Guard"

Speaker: Dave Noe

Grayslake Historical Society

ALL FOR THE UNION

APRIL 29, 2017

"Chicagoland Civil War & Military

Extravaganza

DuPage Co.Fairgrounds, Wheaton

Brian Conroy has taken over the

Salt Creek CWRT Facebook page.

Check it out.

The next board meeting will be May 9th

At Oak Trace in the Small Dining Room.

BACK IN HISTORY

50 Years Ago: Miner T. Coburn presented: "The
Monitor and the Merrimac"

25 Years Ago: Conrad Miller presented:
"Stonewall Jackson"

10 Years Ago: Mary Carol Farber presented:
"Women's Movement During the Civil War"

FUTURE SCCWRT MEETINGS

April 21, 2017

"Lincoln's Political Generals and the Roles They
Played"

Speaker: Steve Alban

May 19, 2017

"For God, Church, and Country:

Catholic Civil War Chaplains"

Speaker: Rev. Robert J. Miller

June 16, 2017 Annual Banquet

"Abraham Lincoln & Franklin D. Roosevelt: Two
War Presidents"

Max Daniels & R.J. Lindsey

THE SALT CREEK CWRT

www.saltcreekcwr.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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