

The Outpost

The Newsletter of the Salt Creek Civil War Round Table
Vol. LVII No. 3 November 2018



517th Regular Meeting

DATE: Friday, November 16, 2018
PLACE: Oak Trace, 200 Village Drive, Downers Grove, IL
TIME: 8:00 p.m.
TOPIC: “Civil War in Alabama: The South vs. The South”
SPEAKER: Dan McCarthy

WAS THE WHITE SOUTH SOLIDLY UNITED BEHIND THE CONFEDERACY?

In his talk Dan will examine the phenomenon of white Unionist resistance as it played out in the state of Alabama. The who, what, when, where and why of this war within a war will be covered with Alabama as a microcosm of the Unionist cause throughout the Deep South.

Dan McCarthy has been a member of the Salt Creek CWRT since 1985. In the intervening years he has served as President, Vice-President, Board member, newsletter editor and Auctioneer. He has given numerous talks and has been a major participant in panel discussions. His last talk was on the career of Union Brigadier August Willich. He is a graduate of Loyola (Chicago) University with a B.A. in History and is currently a para-educator in the Special Education Division of Lyons Twp. High School. Dan is also involved in re-enacting with Co. E. 1st Michigan Engineers and Mechanics.

If you need assistance parking during construction, please ask at the front desk or call the On-Site Transportation & Security Service at 630-401-6699. There are plenty of spaces available.

OCTOBER MEETING SUMMARY

The October meeting and Book Sale was preceded by the Dedication of the Marcellus Jones First Shot Marker at the Glen Ellyn History Center. The rainy weather brought the ceremony indoors. Marcellus Jones was one of the many soldiers from Danby (now Glen Ellyn) who fought in the Eighth Illinois Cavalry. His role in the Battle of Gettysburg has long been recognized at the Gettysburg National Military Park. His hometown now provides him with a similar honor. Among the speakers at the ceremony was Bill Hupp whose ancestor was in the 8th IL Cavalry. Bill donated a Keith Rocco Civil War Giclee “First Shot at Gettysburg” to the Glen Ellyn History Center. We also thank Kevin Wood aka Abraham Lincoln for his stirring Gettysburg Address.

Rob Girardi presented *The Changing Memory of the Civil War* to those who remained following the unveiling of the First Shot Marker. The legacy of the war meant different things to different people. Initially after the war many wanted to honor the memory of the soldiers’ bravery and sacrifice. The Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) was formed in 1866 as the first veterans’ fraternal organization in Decatur Illinois. In 1868 General John Logan, the first commander, issued General Order No. 11 declaring May 30th as Decoration Day later changed to Memorial Day to honor the deceased veterans. The GAR dissolved in 1956 upon the death of its last member Albert Woolson of Duluth, MN.

Over the years, monuments were put up in town squares and battlefields were preserved. Thousands of books were written. Letters and narratives were published by newspapers. As time passed the legacy of the war has lost meaning. In 1940 the first Civil War Round Table was formed in Chicago. Over 400 Civil War Round Tables formed in the following years, but the numbers are dwindling as the members are dying and the younger generation is not interested. In the 1960s, it was thought that the Centennial of the Civil War would generate more interest, but it was over shadowed by the Civil Rights movement. In 1990, the Ken Burns series on the Civil War reignited interest in the Civil War, but the use of the Confederate Battle Flag by hate groups has caused the flag to be banned in many places. It has become a symbol of white supremacy and terrorism. Recent violent events by members of hate groups have caused Confederate monuments to be vandalized and removed. The monuments should be a remembrance for the immense loss of life. They should remain and be protected.

STATE OF THE UNION

In the past, November has been election month for the Round Table. Actually there has not been an election in over 20 years. Volunteers have come forward to help keep this organization running. Our membership has remained at around 65 for a number of years. We are currently working on a Slate of Officers for 2019. VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED. The future of the Round Table is dependent on the participation of the membership.

**THERE WILL NOT BE A MEETING IN DECEMBER.
MEMBERS ARE URGED TO BRING COOKIES OR SNACKS TO THE NOVEMBER
MEETING.**

UPCOMING CIVIL WAR EVENTS

NOVEMBER 20, 2018
LINCOLN/DAVIS CWRT
"Sex and the Civil War"
Speaker: Jody Giesburg
Country House Restaurant, Alsip
lincolndavisroundtable@yahoo.com

DECEMBER 2, 2018
McHENRY COUNTY CWRT
Holiday Luncheon
"An Evening with Mr. & Mrs. Lincoln"
Pinecrest Golf Club, Huntley
www.mchenrycivilwar.com

DECEMBER 7, 2018
NORTHERN ILLINOIS CWRT
"TBD"
Speaker: Ed Bearss
Arlington Hts. Memorial Library
www.northernilcwr.org

DECEMBER 14, 2018
CHICAGO CWRT
"Abraham Lincoln and the Structure
Of Reason"
Speakers: Dan VanHaften and
David Hirsch
Holiday Inn O'Hare
dinnerreservation@chicagocwrt.org

DECEMBER 20, 2018
SOUTH SUBURBAN CWRT
Holiday Party
Auriellos Pizza, Frankfort
www.southsuburbancwrt.com

ALL FOR THE UNION

The SCCWRT website is temporarily down. Brian Conroy has taken over the Salt Creek CWRT Facebook page. Check it out for updates.

Thanks to Rick Zarr, Jan Rasmussen, Cindy Heckler, Sharon Maher and Karen Gustafson for their help at the Book Sale.

BACK IN HISTORY

50 Years Ago: Don Russell presented:
"The Civil War Career of General George
Armstrong Custer"

25 Years Ago: John Lapinski presented
"Charles Francis Adams & the Trent Affair"

10 Years Ago: Jerry Feinstein & Dan
McCarthy hosted the Annual Battlefield
Preservation Auction

FUTURE SCCWRT MEETINGS

December 21, 2018
No Meeting

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

THE SALT CREEK CWRT

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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Newsletter Editor: Jennie Warner

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