

The Outpost

The Newsletter of the Salt Creek Civil War Round Table
Vol. LXII No. 3 November 2024



574th Regular Meeting

DATE: Saturday, November 16, 2024
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 Wilson-Kautz Raid & Grant's Second Offensive at Petersburg"**
SPEAKER: John Horn

The Union Army's failure to capture Petersburg during the June 15-18, 1864, attacks did not deter Ulysses S. Grant. He immediately launched a raid on the railroads supplying the city from the south and west. The raid's focus was to slow down the arrival of Confederate reinforcements and cut off Robert E. Lee's army from much-needed supplies. August Kautz and James Harrison Wilson commanded the Union cavalry forces. Opposing the Federals were veteran troops under Wade Hampton and William B. Mahone. During the raid several battles and engagements occurred including Sappington Church and First Reams Station. Join us as our speaker, John Horn, sheds light on this early attempt to deliver a knockout blow at Petersburg.

John Horn is a native of Chicagoland and is a career attorney. He received a B.A. in English and Latin from New College, in Sarasota Florida, and his J.D. from Columbia Law School in 1976. John is one of the leading authorities on the Petersburg Campaign and is also a much-published author on all aspects of the Petersburg Campaign. In addition to many articles in Civil War periodicals, he is the author of *The Petersburg Campaign: The Destruction of the Weldon Railroad*, *The Petersburg Campaign, June 1864-April 1865*, and *Civil War Talks: The Further Reminiscences of George S. Bernard & His Fellow Veterans*, and *The Petersburg Regiment in the Civil War*. His forthcoming book deals with the opening battles of the Petersburg Campaign. Follow his blog, johnhorncivilwarauthor.blogspot.com.

ALL FOR THE UNION

Thanks to Rob Girardi, Jan Rasmussen, Rick Zarr, Karen Gustafson, Cindy Heckler, Jane Munsie, Craig Butkovic, Art Foley and Nancy Fritz for their help at the October Book Sale. \$1,111 was raised for Battlefield Preservation. HUZAZH!

VETERANS DAY MEMORIAL

On Saturday November 9, 2024, at 11 am, The 1st Michigan Engineers will host their annual Veterans Day Memorial to the American Soldier at Rosehill Cemetery in Chicago.

VACANT CHAIR

It is with a heavy heart that we must report that longtime member and friend, Roger Bohn has successfully eluded the blockade and has made his way to a better place. Roger passed away on Sunday, October 13. Roger had diverse interests and passions, one of which was the naval aspect of the Civil War.

Roger was a past president of both the Salt Creek CWRT and the Chicago CWRT and was a behind the scenes doer of almost every facet of these organizations. He can be remembered for his efforts to tell anyone about the Confederate notes on the Salt Creek plaques. Chicago members knew him for his untiring assistance in organizing and planning battlefield tours and ensuring all tour kits and map books were done to his specifications. Roger facilitated the making of T-shirts, mugs, pins, badges, and anything else to promote round tables and battlefield preservation, including the multi-year performances of the 97th Regt. String Band.

Roger was a devoted friend and worker. Members of the several round tables benefitted from his efforts without realizing how much he did, including anonymously underwriting many of the projects. We bid adieu and bon voyage to a dear friend.

UPCOMING CIVIL WAR EVENTS

Check with the organization sponsoring the program for meeting status.

November 8, 2024

Chicago CWRT will feature Allen Ottens presenting "The Grant-Rawlins Relationship".
Holiday Inn Oakbrook, 350 W. 22nd Street, Oakbrook Terrace chicagocwrt.org

November 12, 2024

McHenry County CWRT will feature Bruce Allardice presenting "Loose Lips: Military Secrecy in the Civil War". Woodstock Library www.mchenrycivilwar.com

November 19, 2024

Lincoln/Davis CWRT will feature Bill Taylor "Comparing the Civil War with the Vietnam War".
Country House Restaurant, Alsip, IL lincolndavisroundtable@yahoo.com

November 24, 2024, at 2 pm

NW Indiana CWRT will feature Brian Conroy presenting "Forming the 4th Illinois Cavalry".
Crown Point Community Library Northwest Indiana CWRT on Facebook

December 2, 2024

Rock River Valley CWRT will feature Dan Weinburg presenting "Dealing in Historical Artifacts." Veterans Memorial Hall, 211 N. Main Street, Rockford, IL.

December 6, 2024

Northern Illinois CWRT will feature Dave Oberg presenting "The 1st Illinois Light Artillery".
Arlington Hts. Historical Museum or Arlington Hts. Library www.northernilcwr.org

December 13, 2024

Chicago CWRT will feature Jon Sebastian presenting "We Are All in This War-- The Northern Home Front". Holiday Inn Oakbrook, 350 W. 22nd St., Oakbrook Terrace chicagocwrt.org

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

November 8, 2024, Larry Desotell will present "From Prison Guards to Prisoners: The Story of the Nineteenth Wisconsin". <https://museums.kenosha.org/civilwar/events/>

FUTURE SALT CREEK CWRT MEETINGS

Check us out on Facebook and at saltcreekcwr.org

December 21, 2024 Rob Girardi will host "Memorabilia Show and Tell." (**3 More Volunteers needed**)

January 18, 2025 Ron Carlson will present "General Alpheus Starkey Williams".

February 15, 2025 Bruce Allardice will present "Loose Lips: Military Secrecy in the Civil War".

BACK IN HISTORY

50 Years Ago: Mr. & Mrs. George Carlton presented "The Life and Letters of General Willaim T. Martin".

25 Years Ago: Roger Bohn presented "Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy: The Civil War Years".

10 Years Ago: Jerry Allen presented "The Art of Killing People Without Getting Killed Yourself".

THE SALT CREEK CWRT

President: Cindy Heckler

Vice-President: Robert I. Girardi

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

November 2024 Preservation Report by Brian Conroy

From the American Battlefield Trust:

American Battlefield Trust Vows to Keep Up Fight Against Digital Gateway After Judge Dismisses Lawsuit Trust had sued Prince William County and two tech companies over improper zoning votes that cleared way for world's largest data center complex next to historic Manassas National Battlefield

Jim Campi, (202) 367-1861 x7205 and Claire Barrett, (202) 367-1861 x7226

October 31, 2024

(Manassas, VA) — The American Battlefield Trust is pursuing options for appeal after the Circuit Court of Prince William County dismissed its lawsuit against Prince William County and two tech companies over plans to develop the world's largest data center complex adjacent to the Manassas National Battlefield.

Prince William County Circuit Court Judge Tracy Hudson ruled that the case brought by the Trust and nine citizen plaintiffs against the Board of Supervisors and tech companies planning to canvas 1,750 historic acres with massive data centers and related infrastructure was insufficient to proceed to trial.

"While disappointed in today's decision, the Trust remains undaunted," stated American Battlefield Trust President David N. Duncan. "We've experienced setbacks before, and still prevailed. The Manassas Battlefield is too important to allow it to be overwhelmed by the world's largest data center campus. Mark my words – this fight has only just begun."

Duncan's remarks were echoed by attorney and former State Senator Chap Petersen, who represents the Trust and other plaintiffs in the lawsuit. Speaking after the ruling, Petersen declared: "This is only the beginning of the process. We will go to the Court of Appeals. This is an important cause, and we are not giving up."

The Trust and nine citizens filed the lawsuit in January against the county Board of Supervisors and two tech companies to stop development of the 1,750-acre Prince William Digital Gateway. [The lawsuit cites several legal violations](#) committed by Prince William County as grounds to overturn the rezonings. They include: the lack of required information about the development; inadequate public notice and hearings; unlawful waivers of key analyses; submissions and approvals; failure to consider key environmental and historical facts; and unlawful delegation of rezoning power through failure to identify which of the more than 1,750 acres could be put to what uses.

The Trust is part of a coalition of national, statewide and regional nonprofits that oppose the Prince William Digital Gateway. Earlier in October, several of these organizations, including the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the National Parks Conservation Association, the Coalition to Protect America's National Parks, Preservation Virginia, the Piedmont Environmental Council, and the Coalition to Protect Prince William County, [filed an amicus curiae brief](#) in support the Digital Gateway lawsuit.

The American Battlefield Trust is dedicated to preserving America's hallowed battlegrounds and educating the public about what happened there and why it matters today. The nonprofit, nonpartisan organization has protected more than 58,000 acres associated with the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, and Civil War across 160 sites in 25 states, including 386 acres associated with the Manassas Battlefield. Learn more at www.battlefields.org.