

The Outpost

**The Newsletter of the Salt Creek Civil War Round Table
Vol. LVI No. 3 November 2017**



507th Regular Meeting

DATE: Friday, November 17, 2017
PLACE: Oak Trace, 200 Village Drive, Downers Grove, IL
TIME: 8:00 p.m.
TOPIC: "Lincoln and the Gettysburg Address"
SPEAKER: Don C. White

In November 1863, President Abraham Lincoln was invited to deliver remarks at the official dedication ceremony for the Gettysburg National Cemetery on the site of one of the bloodiest and decisive battles of the Civil War. Lincoln's speech lasted just over two minutes, but it went into history as one of the most beloved and best remembered speeches in history.

Don White has spent years studying subjects of Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War. His love of Lincoln goes back to his grade school days in Peoria Illinois. He is a member of the South Suburban Civil War Round Table. He and his wife Helen live in Palos Hills. After taking early retirement he began work on his book, "Facts, Quotes and Anecdotes of the Civil War" which was published in 2008. Don also writes articles for a local newspaper and gives various presentations on Lincoln and the Civil War. He and his wife enjoy traveling around the state giving presentations and meeting people with an interest in the Civil War period.

Due to a construction project at Oak Trace visitor parking has changed. Oak Trace has an Outside Security and ON-Site Transportation Service available.

If you need assistance finding parking: Dial: 630-401-6699 or ask at the front desk.

An updated Oak Trace Campus map is included in the newsletter.

OCTOBER MONTHLY MEETING BY ART FOLEY

At the October meeting, held at the wonderful Glen Ellyn Historical Museum, we examined the occurrences related to Sherman's 1864 March to the Sea. Bruce Allardice, who has presented many interesting talks examined and informed us again with his professional expertise.

With the end of the Atlanta Campaign, William Tecumseh Sherman pursued the strategic objective of destroying the South's ability to wage war through the destruction of infrastructure, material and will power. Rather than pursuing Gen. John Bell Hood's depleted yet dangerous army, Sherman culled his forces, electing to take 60,000 battle-tested troops to make Georgia howl. After sending troops to George Thomas to monitor any motion Hood's forces would make in Tennessee, Sherman took the XIV, XX, XV & XVII Corps, along with Judson Kilpatrick's Cavalry division toward the coastal city of Savannah. The force provisioned off the land, covering a thirty-mile front moving along four different roads. Flanked by cavalry and the provisioning horde of "bummers", the Union juggernaut destroyed railroads, bridges, factories, warehouses, agricultural supplies, and hopefully the South's fighting spirit. Incurring over one hundred million dollars in damage, while facing light opposition, Sherman reached Savannah by December 20th. After taking the evacuated city on the next day, Sherman telegraphed Lincoln of his accomplishment offering to his commander and the Union the city as a Christmas present. Afterwards, Sherman used the city to rest, resupply and prepare for his push into the Carolinas.

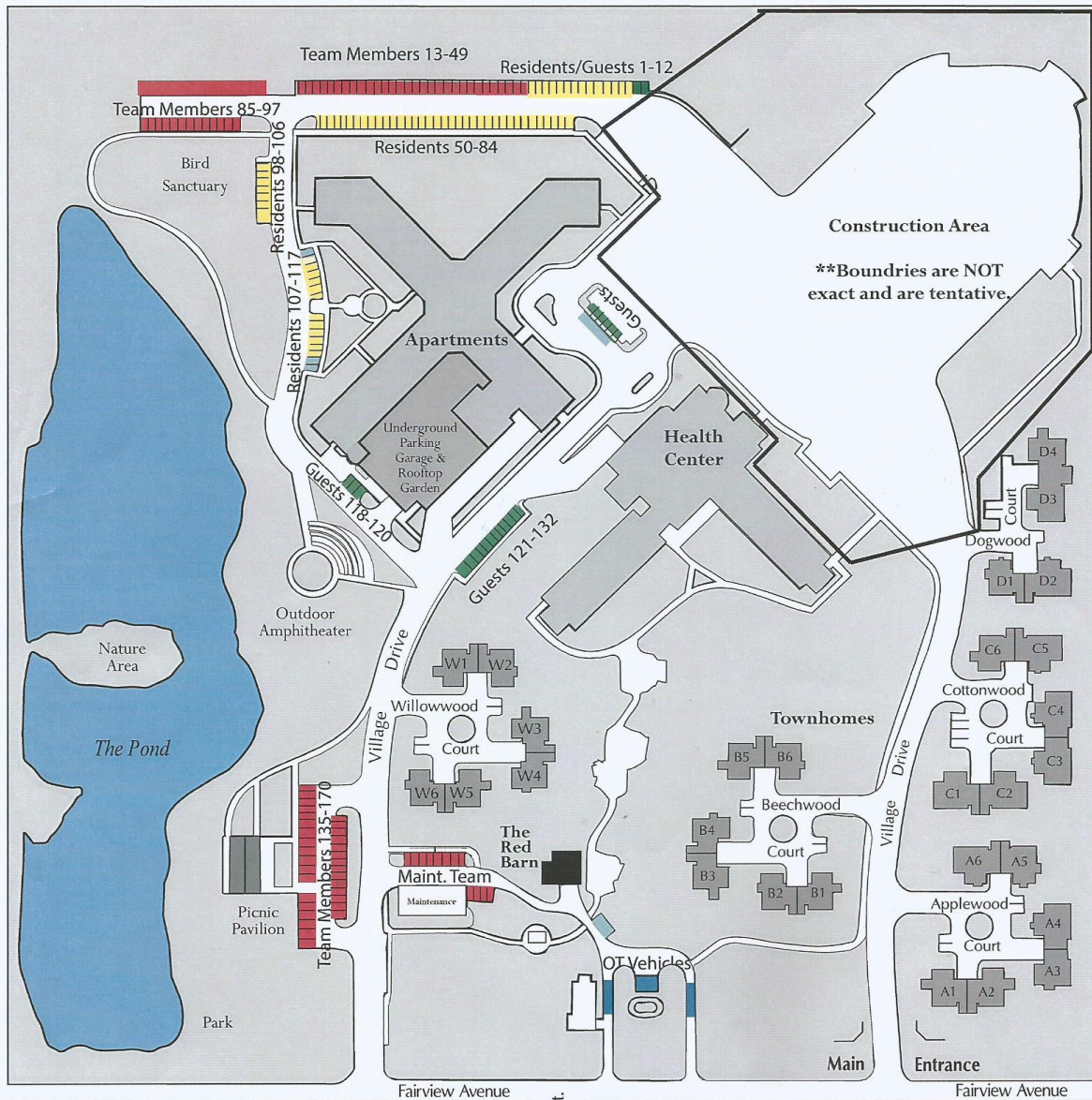
Bruce then provided evidence for several views of the campaign. Sherman had brought "total war" to the South. However, were his armies' actions as heinous as asserted, or were those actions blown out of proportion to achieve propaganda like weapons for the faltering Confederacy, followed by the "Lost Cause" adherents, ending with popular entertainment, (Gone With The Wind)? Bruce offered examples for both sides of the argument citing period evidence.

We would like to thank Mr. Allardice for an informative evening which provided new perspectives on this historical event. HUZAZH!!

ANNUAL BOOK SALE UPDATE

Thanks to those who participated at the Annual Book Sale for Battlefield Preservation. There was an abundance of books and magazines available due to generous donations from Gale Pewitt, Terry Kainz, Gil Mitchell, Wally Bass and Art Foley. Over 100 books and magazines were sold. The proceeds were \$560. The board approved a \$1000 donation to the Civil War Trust for a project to "Save 1,053 Acres at Seven Battlefields" with a \$14.10 to \$1 Match. The battlefields include Corinth, Champion Hill, Prairie D'Ane, Brices Cross Roads, Monocacy, Second Deep Bottom and Cedar Creek.

Oak Trace Campus — Designated Parking Areas



- Team Members
- Residents
- Guests
- Handicap
- Company Vehicles

ON-Site Transportation Service
Outside Security

Cell: 630.401.6699

From In-House phone dial x8888

Front Desk: 630.769.6100 or x6100

OakTraceDG.com

UPCOMING CIVIL WAR EVENTS

NOVEMBER 14, 2017

McHENRY COUNTY CWRT

"Elmer Ellsworth & the Zoave Cadets"

Speaker: Doug Dammann

Woodstock Library

www.mchenrycivilwar.com

NOVEMBER 16, 2017

SOUTH SUBURBAN CWRT

"Merrimac-Virginia Naval Battle"

Speaker: Dave Noe

Smokey Barque, 20 Kansas St.

Frankfort, IL

www.southsuburbancwrt.com

NOVEMBER 21, 2017

LINCOLN/DAVIS CWRT

"Collecting the Civil War"

Speaker: Steve Worsham

Country House Restaurant, Alsip

lincolndavisroundtable@yahoo.com

DECEMBER 1, 2017

NORTHERN ILLINOIS CWRT

"The Irish Brigade"

Speaker: Pat McCormick

Arlington Hts. Memorial Library

500 Dunton, Arlington Hts.

northernilcwrt.org

DECEMBER 6, 2017

KANKAKEE VALLEY CWRT

"The Dashing Jeb Stuart"

Art Schumaker

Kankakee Public Library

DECEMBER 8, 2017

CHICAGO CWRT

"The Lost Gettysburg Address"

Speaker: David Dixon

Holiday Inn O'Hare

5615 N. Cumberland, Chicago

dinnerreservation@chicagocwrt.org

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.

A volunteer is needed to write the Preservation Report for the newsletter. If interested contact Jan Rasmussen: jrbarns@sbcglobal.net

BACK IN HISTORY

50 Years Ago: Dr. Glen Williams presented: "The Seven Days Battle"

25 Years Ago: Gary Rotrammel presented: "Fort Donnellson"

10 Years Ago: Roger Bohn presented: "Anecdotes and Adventures of the Civil War Blockade"

FUTURE SCCWRT MEETINGS

December 15, 2017

"How the U.S. Navy Helped to Save the Union"

Speaker: Roger Bohn

THE SALT CREEK CWRT

www.saltcreekcwrt.org

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Vice-President: Rick Zarr

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