

The Outpost

The Newsletter of the Salt Creek Civil War Round Table
Vol. LVIV No. 2 October 2020



533rd Regular Meeting

DATE: Friday, October 16, 2020
PLACE: Confines of your own home.
Due to Covid restrictions the meeting will be via zoom
TIME: 7:30 p.m.
TOPIC: "None But the Brave: The Civil War Medal of Honor"
SPEAKER: James Heinz

The October meetings were previously held at the Glen Ellyn History Center in conjunction with the Annual Battlefield Preservation Book Sale. Due to Covid Restrictions presentations for the rest of 2020 will be virtual.
See page 2 for Zoom Meeting access details.

The Civil War brought about many changes in American life, including the establishment of the first permanent military medal for bravery, the Congressional Medal of Honor. Jim Heinz's presentation will cover the establishing of the Medal and its first Civil War awards all the way through to the Medal of today, with an emphasis on Civil War and Illinois recipients. His talk will dispel many of the misunderstandings about the Medal, including what the word Congressional in its title actually means

James Heinz is a retired police officer from Milwaukee who developed a life long interest in the Civil War when his family took him down south at the age of 7 in 1964 for the Centennial of the Civil War. He is a member and former board of directors member of the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee. He has presented to the Milwaukee, South Suburban Chicago, and Rock County WI Round Tables, as well as the Prairieville Irregulars and the Madison WI History Round Table."

Topic: Salt Creek CWRT October Meeting
Time: Oct 16, 2020 07:30 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85255183976?pwd=dUdob3RoTWg5SWWhJbEs2eUFJMFE3dz09>

Meeting ID: 852 5518 3976

Passcode: 461654

One tap mobile

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Meeting ID: 852 5518 3976

Passcode: 461654

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85255183976?pwd=dUdob3RoTWg5SWWhJbEs2eUFJMFE3dz09>

ALL FOR THE UNION

Check us out on Facebook and at saltcreekcwrt.org

VACANT CHAIRS

Legendary military historian and preservationist Ed Bearss passed away September 15th. He was a celebrated author, tour guide, and National Park Service Chief Historian Emeritus who led the creation of the modern battlefield preservation movement. He led the Chicago CWRT annual battlefield tours for over 50 years. Many have fond memories following Ed on the battlefield. His knowledge, passion and energy were inspirational.

At the request of the Bearss family donations in memory of Ed may be made to the American Battlefield Trust. Please visit www.battlefields.org/RememberingBearss for more information.

South Suburban CWRT member Don White passed away on October 2nd. Don often spoke to CW round tables and local community groups. He was a familiar friendly face at the CW shows. He published a book titled "Facts, Quotes and Anecdotes of the Civil War. Condolences go to his wife Helen and family.

Kankakee CWRT member Art Schumacher passed away September 9th. Art was a founding member of the Kankakee CWRT and organized the Kankakee CW Symposiums.

OCTOBER 2020 PRESERVATION REPORT BY BRIAN CONROY

October is that month out of the year where we look forward to seeing the leaves start to change color, indulging in apple and pumpkin flavored food and drink, and especially telling and hearing scary stories. The Civil War has spawned quite a few of those stories for those who visit the bloody battlefields, with Shiloh being among them due to its infamy as more than 23,000 soldiers were killed at that battle. "Bloody Pond," where soldiers went to cool their thirst during the battle, bled into the water; when the sun hits the water just right on certain days, the water is the blood shade of crimson. There's also a woman dressed in white who was a nurse that will appear to try to comfort a woman or child who's become lost in the park and is distressed by the battlefield itself. The caretaker's house also has stories of cabinet doors being mysteriously opened. Duncan Field, which is a specific area of the park, also has reportedly been the scene of soldiers refighting the battle at night sometimes. No one has stuck around long enough to see who wins the rematch.

Shiloh is part of an effort to preserve 99 acres of Civil War battlefield land from the Western battles of Shiloh in Tennessee, and Raymond and Vicksburg in Mississippi. The total transaction value of the 99 total acres at these three iconic Western Theater battles is \$1,495,660, and with a \$2.70-\$1 matching grant, only \$553,330 is needed to ensure these three crucial pieces of the American Civil War.

This month, we will focus on the 22-acre parcel of land in Shiloh where on Sunday, April 6, 1862, elements Brig. Gen. Adley Gladden's 2,400-man Confederate brigade filed north to attack the left flank of Brig. Gen. Benjamin Prentiss' 5,400-man division. Gladden's infantry suffered heavy casualties in their attack on Prentiss' left, as the Federal forces successfully held the line and repulsed the Confederates. Gladden was joined by another 2,400-man brigade of Mississippi and Tennessee troops, under Brig. Gen. James Chalmers, and these two brigades resumed their attacks on the hard-pressed Federals.

The Confederate advance drove the Union line back until they encountered resistance at places like the Hornet's Nest, Bloody Pond, and the Peach Orchard. The Union lines suffered terribly, but every bullet and casualty bought them precious minutes, while costing the Confederates dearly. Eventually, the Union brigades were forced to fall back to a defensive line at Pittsburg Landing. During the rainy night that followed, crucial Federal reinforcements arrived. When dawn broke on April 7, the Union army pushed the Southern soldiers back, and later that day, a portion of the defeated Confederate army retreated across this property to recover key roads for the return march southward to their base at Corinth, Mississippi. After the battle, elements of Maj. Gen. Don Carlos Buell's Army of the Ohio also encamped on the property for roughly two weeks.

BACK IN HISTORY

50 Years Ago: Lloyd Miller presented: "The Battle of Franklin"

25 Years Ago: Donna Daniels presented: "The Role of Women in the Civil War"

10 Years Ago: John S. Kociolko presented: "Whatever Became of the Union?"

UPCOMING CIVIL WAR EVENTS

Check with the organization sponsoring the program for meeting status

October 20, 2020

Lincoln/Davis CWRT will feature Steve Stottlemeyer presenting "Too Useful to Sacrifice" Country House Restaurant, Alsip, IL

October 22, 2020

South Suburban CWRT will feature Larry Hewitt presenting "Lt. General Fighting Dick Anderson" (ZOOM MEETING)
South Suburban CWRT on Facebook

November 4, 2020

Northern Illinois CWRT will feature Laurie Schiller presenting "Dave Stuart & the Burch Trial of 1861" (ZOOM MEETING)
www.northernilcwr.org

November 13, 2020

Chicago CWRT will feature John R. Scales presenting "General Nathan Bedford Forrest" www.chicagocwrt.org (ZOOM MEETING)

The Civil War Round Table Congress is sponsoring a series of virtual Civil War Lectures.

To view the schedule visit:
<http://www.cwrtcongress.org/lectures.html>

The Kenosha Civil War Museum is also sponsoring virtual programs.

To view the schedule visit:
<https://museum.kenosha.org/civilwar/events>

FUTURE SALT CREEK CWRT MEETINGS

November 20, 2020

Rob Girardi will present "Lincoln & the Common Soldier"

December 18, 2020

Brian Conroy will present "The First Michigan Engineers"

THE SALT CREEK CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

President: Cindy Heckler

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