

The Outpost

The Newsletter of the Salt Creek Civil War Round Table
Vol. LXI No. 2 October 2023



563rd Regular Meeting

DATE: **SATURDAY**, October 21, 2023
PLACE: Glen Ellyn History Center at Stacy's Corners
800 N. Main St., Glen Ellyn, IL (NW Corner of Main & Elm Streets)
TIME: 11 a.m.
PROGRAM: **"Green Rebels: Confederate Irish"**
SPEAKER: Dan McCarthy

Across the lines Irishmen were the largest immigrant group to fight in the American Civil War. The vast majority of Irishmen who served fought on the Union side. Most notably, the famous Irish Brigade and their leaders have been well and extensively chronicled. We know much less about those who chose to serve the Confederacy. Dan's presentation will seek to fill in a tiny number of the lacunae and perhaps dispel at least one persistent myth.

Dan McCarthy is retired from service as a paraeducator in the Special Education Division at Lyons Twp. High School. He is a "Centennial Baby" whose Civil War enthusiasms were sparked at age nine by his late father. Dan 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. He is a graduate of Loyola (Chicago) University with a B.A. in History. Dan is also involved in re-enacting with Co. E. 1st Michigan Engineers and Mechanics and resides in "The Highlands".

UPCOMING CIVIL WAR EVENTS

Check with the organization sponsoring the program for meeting status.

October 13, 2023

Chicago CWRT will feature Carleton Young presenting "Two Vermont Brothers in the Army of the Potomac".

Holiday Inn O'Hare, 5615 N. Cumberland, Chicago.

chicagocwrt.org

October 14, 2023

Kenosha Civil War Museum will feature Steve Acker presenting "The Fight for a Gettysburg Farm" at 1pm.

<http://www.cwrtcongress.org/lectures.html>

October 17, 2023 6:30pm

Kenosha Civil War Museum will feature Fr. Robert Miller presenting "Faith of the Fathers" a documentary Civil War film highlighting the roles played by the nearly 120 Catholic priests who served as chaplains and ministered to the spiritual needs of both armies during the Civil War.

October 17, 2023

Lincoln/Davis CWRT will feature Kevin Connelly presenting "Ghosts of the Civil War".

Country House Restaurant, Alsip, IL

lincolndavisroundtable@yahoo.com

October 26, 2023

South Suburban CWRT will feature Jan Rasmussen presenting "The Dakota War 1863-65".

Aurelio's Pizza, 19836 Wolf Road, Mokena, IL.

South Suburban CWRT on Facebook

November 3, 2023

Northern Illinois CWRT will feature Dave Powell presenting "a Topic to be Determined".

Arlington Hts. Historical Museum

northernilcwrt.org

November 10, 2023

Chicago CWRT will feature Ernest Dollar presenting "Hearts Torn Asunder: Trauma in the Civil War".

Holiday Inn Oakbrook, 17 W350 22nd Street, Oakbrook Terrace

chicagocwrt.org

November 12, 2023

Northwest Indiana CWRT will feature Fr. Robert Miller presenting "Forgotten Footnotes: Vicksburg Victims of Sickness and Disease".

Crown Point Community Library

Northwest Indiana CWRT on Facebook

November 14, 2023

McHenry Co. CWRT will feature Greg Cole presenting "a Topic to be Determined".

Woodstock Library

mchenrycivilwar.com

November 21, 2023

Lincoln/Davis CWRT will feature Bob Grenier presenting "Civil War Veterans".

Country House Restaurant, Alsip, IL

lincolndavisroundtable@yahoo.com

ALL FOR THE UNION

Thanks to Rob Girardi, Jan Rasmussen, Karen Gustafson, Cindy Heckler and Sharon Maher for their help at the Annual Book Sale. \$503 was raised for Battlefield Preservation. Huzzah!

Thanks to Rob Girardi, Jan Rasmussen, Rick Zarr, Karen Gustafson, Cindy Heckler, Dan McCarthy and Nancy Fritz for their help at the Midwest Civil War on September 23rd. \$508 was raised for Battlefield Preservation. Huzzah! Huzzah!

The Salt Creek CWRT donated \$1000 to the American Battlefield Trust for the Gaines Mills-Cold Harbor Saved Forever Campaign. The donation is made in the memory of Robert Neuwirth whose family donated his book collection.

FUTURE SALT CREEK CWRT MEETINGS

Check us out on Facebook and at saltcreekcwrt.org
Meetings are held at the Glen Ellyn History Center at 11am

November 18, 2023

Gene Salecker will present "Vicksburg After the Fall".

December 16, 2023

Rob Girardi will host "Memorabilia Show and Tell". **Volunteers needed.**

Contact Rob @ cylwarguy@aol.com

January 20, 2024

Steven Alban will present "The Election of 1860: How Lincoln Really Got Elected".

BACK IN HISTORY

50 Years Ago: Marshall Krolick presented "Lee & Longstreet at Gettysburg".

25 Years Ago: Lance Herdegan presented: "Hail to the Chief: Old Abe and Little Mac".

10 Years Ago: Harold Knudsen presented "Chattanooga: Lost Victory".

THE SALT CREEK CWRT

President: Cindy Heckler

Vice-President: Rick Zarr

Secretary-Treasurer: Jan Rasmussen

Board Members: Brian Conroy, Sharon Maher, Jon Fritz, Nancy Fritz, Rob Girardi

Historian: Cindy Intravartolo

Newsletter Staff: Brian Conroy & Jan Rasmussen

Facebook and Website Editor: Brian Conroy

October 2023 Preservation Report By Brian Conroy

Happy October, everyone! Remember to keep an eye out for those Civil War soldiers that may be hanging around your favorite battlefield haunts this time of year. The American Battlefield Trust has an ongoing campaign that covers five battlefields across four states, in which from 1862 to 1865, some of the fiercest fighting of the Civil War happened. A few were some of the final Confederate victories of the war. And while this group of properties span multiple years and states, they all played a crucial role in the story of the Civil War. This campaign consists of an \$18-to-\$1 match to raise \$140,732 towards a staggering \$2.5 million transaction value towards preserving the hallowed acres of Chickamauga, Bentonville, and Shiloh, Brice's Cross Roads, and Wyse Fork. We will continue to cover each battlefield individually to focus on its importance battle.

This month, we will be looking at Brice's Crossroads near Baldwyn, Mississippi, where the American Battlefield Trust is looking to add another 95 acres to the more than 1,500 acres it has already saved for the past two decades at this under-recognized battlefield.

In late May 1864, Confederate General Nathan Bedford Forrest led his cavalry corps on an expedition into Middle Tennessee, intending to wreak havoc against General Sherman's vital supply line along the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad, which was carrying men and supplies supporting his campaign against Atlanta. Forrest and his troops outmaneuvered Brig. Gen. Samuel Sturgis, who had been ordered to counter his forces and control northern Mississippi. Sturgis aimed his infantry and cavalry columns toward Brice's Crossroads, where he met Forrest's cavalry, who first beat back Union cavalry forces, followed by infantry reinforcements and counterattacks. Forrest, although outnumbered two to one, still maneuvered his cavalry to threaten Union infantry lines while using his artillery to focus on the center of Union lines. His 2nd Tennessee Cavalry then captured the Tishimongo Creek after a wide flanking move behind Sturgis' lines, forcing Union lines to retreat towards Memphis. Their retreat resulted in a casualty rate of five-to-one, and was covered by the 55th USCT and 59th USCT, which prevented Union forces from being destroyed as Forrest's brilliant tactical victory against long odds helped to not only allow him to take control of the field, but also cemented his reputation as one of the foremost mounted infantry leaders of the Civil War.

Brice's Cross Roads National Battlefield Site was established in 1929, commemorating the battle and becoming one of the best preserved of the American Civil War. Monuments and interpretive panels were erected and are still maintained by the National Park Service on a small 1-acre plot at the cross roads. Concerned citizens organized the Brice's Cross Roads National Battlefield Commission, Inc., in 1994 to protect and preserve additional battlefield land, and with assistance from partners in the Civil War Trust/American Battlefield Trust, federal, state, and local governments, BCNBC has purchased for preservation over 1,420 acres.

The American Battlefield Trust and its partners have acquired and preserved land at Brice's Cross Roads since 1996, when the Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites (APCWS), acquired and preserved 797.7 acres, about two-thirds of the battlefield. In 2001, the Civil War Preservation Trust, now known as the American Battlefield Trust acquired 512.8 additional acres. Additional purchases have increased the total battlefield land acquired and preserved to 1,500 acres as of late-2021, which is nearly the entire battlefield.