

# The Outpost

The Newsletter of the Salt Creek Civil War Round Table  
Vol. LXII No. 2 October 2024



**573rd Regular Meeting**

**DATE:** SATURDAY, October 19, 2024  
**PLACE:** Glen Ellyn History Center at Stacy's Corners  
800 N. Main St., Glen Ellyn, IL (NW Corner of Main & Elm Streets)  
**Annual Book Sale For Battlefield Preservation 11am-1pm**  
**PROGRAM:** "Joseph Medill: Chicago Tribune's Abolitionist" at 1pm  
**SPEAKER:** Jeffrey Anderson

Jeffrey Anderson, Executive Director of the Glen Ellyn Historical Society, will present the life of Joseph Medill, who helped form and raise the Republican Party in 1854. Medill, a social radical, used his position as owner and editor of the *Chicago Tribune* to support Abraham Lincoln politically and eventually bring an end to slavery. Later, as mayor of Chicago in the wake of the Great Fire of 1871, Medill led Chicago's reconstruction as he continued to champion social reform.

Jeffrey Anderson took over the position of Executive Director of the Glen Ellyn Historical Society in June of 2023. In addition to a Master of Arts degree in American History, he brings 17 years of experience at Museums of Cantigny Park where his work included working as Assistant Curator and Exhibit Coordinator at the First Division Museum as well as Interpretation Manager and Volunteer Coordinator of the Cantigny's Robert R. McCormick Museum. He is a published author and has given numerous talks on local history.

**Support the Annual Book Sale 11am-1pm  
Program at 1pm**

## **ALL FOR THE UNION**

Thanks to Jan Rasmussen, Rick Zarr, Karen Gustafson, Brian Conroy, Dan McCarthy, Cindy Heckler, Sharon Maher, Bruce Allardice and Dan Van Haften for their help at the Civil War Show on September 21<sup>st</sup>. \$535 was raised for Battlefield Preservation. HUZAH!

## **VACANT CHAIRS**

We recently learned that longtime member and past president Gale Pewitt passed away on May 18, 2024. Gale and his wife Lyn had moved back to their beloved Franklin, Tennessee to be nearer to family. Gale gave numerous presentations to the Round Table. He led the project to get a new carriage for the Civil War cannon in Central Park in Naperville, IL and co-authored a book on the St. Albans Raiders in 2008. Many members have fond memories of shared adventures with Gale and Lyn on the yearly Chicago CWRT Battlefield Tours.

Longtime Chicago CWRT member Dick McAdoo passed away September 14, 2024. Dick gave several presentations to Salt Creek CWRT sharing his knowledge of Civil War Artillery and Projectiles. He is best remembered for his wit and humor on the Chicago Battlefield Tours.

## **UPCOMING CIVIL WAR EVENTS**

Check with the organization sponsoring the program for meeting status.

October 11, 2024

**Chicago CWRT** will feature Larry Hewitt presenting "The Birth of Combat Photography".  
Holiday Inn Oakbrook, 350 W. 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, Oakbrook Terrace [chicagocwrt.org](http://chicagocwrt.org)

October 13, 2024 at 2pm

**NW Indiana CWRT** will feature Gene Salecker presenting "The Sultana Disaster".  
Crown Point Community Library Northwest Indiana CWRT on Facebook

October 15, 2024

**Lincoln/Davis CWRT** will feature Bjorn Skaptson presenting "Shiloh".  
Country House Restaurant, Alsip, IL [lincolndavisroundtable@yahoo.com](mailto:lincolndavisroundtable@yahoo.com)

October 24, 2024

**South Suburban CWRT** will feature Phil Spaugy presenting "The 19<sup>th</sup> Indiana Regiment During the Civil War". Aurielio's Pizza, 19836 Wolf Road, Mokena, IL.  
South Suburban CWRT on Facebook.

November 1, 2024

**Northern Illinois CWRT** will feature Doug Stiles presenting "Lincoln's Watch".  
Arlington Hts. Historical Museum or Arlington Hts. Library [www.northernilcwrt.org](http://www.northernilcwrt.org)

November 4, 2024

**Rock River Valley CWRT** will feature Douglas Egeton presenting "Thunder at the Gates"  
Veterans Memorial Hall, 211 N. Main Street, Rockford, IL.

November 12, 2024

**McHenry County CWRT** will feature Bruce Allardice presenting "Loose Lips: Military Secrecy in the Civil War". Woodstock Library [www.mchenrycivilwar.com](http://www.mchenrycivilwar.com)

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

October 11, 2024 Bob Presman will present “John Brown: Hero or Terrorist? Martyr or Madman”? <https://museums.kenosha.org/civilwar/events/>

October 12, 2024 The Kenosha Civil War Museum will feature Dave Powell teaching a workshop “The Atlanta Campaign: Missed Opportunities” 1-3 pm

**The Hainesville Civil War Encampment and Battle** will be on October 19 & 20, 2024.

For details and schedule see [www.hainesville.org](http://www.hainesville.org) under the YOUR VILLAGE dropdown menu.

On October 20th, Garfield Farms Museum in Campton Hills, Illinois is holding an “immersive event” on the Battle of Gettysburg, featuring Gary Adelman.

For more information, visit [garfieldfarm.org](http://garfieldfarm.org)

### **FUTURE SALT CREEK CWRT MEETINGS**

Check us out on Facebook and at [saltcreekcwr.org](http://saltcreekcwr.org)

November 16, 2024 John Horn will present “The Wilson-Kautz Raid and Grant’s Second Offensive at Petersburg”.

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

January 18, 2024 Ron Carlson will present “General Alpheus Starkey Williams”.

### **BACK IN HISTORY**

**50 Years Ago:** Jerry Warshaw presented “The General”.

**25 Years Ago:** Art Foley presented “Richard Taylor: Soldier Prince of Dixie”.

**10 Years Ago:** Leslie Goddard presented “Gone with the Wind and the Construction of Civil War Memory”.

### **THE SALT CREEK CWRT**

President: Cindy Heckler

Vice-President: Robert I. Girardi

Secretary-Treasurer: Jan Rasmussen

Board Members: Brian Conroy, Sharon Maher, Rick Zarr, Nancy & Jon Fritz & Dan McCarthy

Historian: Cindy Intravartolo

Newsletter Staff: Brian Conroy & Jan Rasmussen

Facebook and Website Editor: Brian Conroy

## **October 2024 Preservation Report**

**By Brian Conroy**

### **Preserve the Most Important 11 Acres Left to Save at Antietam!**

The American Battlefield Trust is working with a private landowner to secure the “doughnut hole” of unprotected land right in the middle of the Antietam Battlefield.

This tract at Antietam we have the chance to save is just a few steps behind the Dunker Church building and part of the West Woods.

**These 11 acres are, by far, some of the most important acres left to secure at Antietam.** They not only witnessed, but were at the center of, the surging attacks and counterattacks that defined the deadliest day in American history.

We must quickly raise the \$150,000 needed so we can fill in this 11-acre hole in the battle map and ensure the Antietam Battlefield is intact and preserved.

### **The History at Antietam**

This key parcel of land witnessed critical parts of the Antietam battle. During their furious and costly charge to the Cornfield, the right flank of General John Bell Hood's Confederate division crossed this ground.

Shortly after, South Carolinians under General Joseph B. Kershaw worked to defeat Union soldiers involved in the fights for the West Woods and the Sunken Road. The 34th New York also occupied this land ... as did Maryland and Pennsylvania soldiers from the Union Twelfth Corps for a time.

After the battle, photographer Alexander Gardner recorded **some of the most famous photos of the war here**. And what's more amazing — the trees on this tract appear in every photo and sketch of the Dunker Church!

*“Without hesitation, I can tell you that these 11 acres are, by far, some of the most important acres left to secure at Antietam. They not only witnessed, but were at the center of, the surging attacks and counterattacks that defined the deadliest day in American history.”*

David N. Duncan, President