

The Outpost

The Newsletter of the Salt Creek Civil War Round Table
Vol. LVX No. 1 September 2021



542nd Regular Meeting

DATE: Friday, September 17, 2021
PLACE: Confines of your own home.
Due to Covid restrictions the meeting will be via zoom
TIME: 7:30 p.m.
TOPIC: "Lincoln as a War Leader"
SPEAKER: Bruce Allardice

Abraham Lincoln is regarded by many as our greatest President. An orator of unmatched eloquence with a compelling personal story, he towers above his contemporaries. Like no other presidency in history, Lincoln's presidency was defined by the Civil War that began a month after he took office and continued after his death. As such, Lincoln's performance as war leader must remain the center point of his administration. Mr. Allardice will examine the war leadership, coming to some surprising conclusions.

A professor of history at South Suburban College, Bruce S. Allardice is a past president of both the Civil War Round Table of Chicago and the Northern Illinois CWRT. Prof. Allardice has authored and co-authored six books and numerous articles on the Civil War. A former Board Member of the Illinois State Historical Society, Prof. Allardice has presented numerous lectures and presentations on the Civil War and genealogy for Civil War Round Tables, museums and civic organizations. He is also the recipient of the CWRT of Chicago's prestigious Nevins-Freeman Award for distinguished service in Civil War Scholarship and the CWRT movement.

An avid sports historian, Prof. Allardice currently heads up the "Civil War Baseball" subcommittee for the Society of American Baseball Research (SABR) and is a member of SABR's Biography Committee, specializing in researching the lives of 19th Century ballplayers. Prof. Allardice is a graduate of the University of Illinois and the University of Illinois School of Law and a lifelong resident of the Chicago area.

Oak Trace has suspended in person meetings until further notice. Alternative locations are being investigated for future meetings.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88003713143?pwd=cG43U0lvNmdkYkdZaFNWQmpQc3Bhdz09>

Meeting ID: 880 0371 3143

Passcode: 863185

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,88003713143#,,,863185# US (Chicago)

+16465588656,,88003713143#,,,863185# US (New York)

UPCOMING CIVIL WAR EVENTS

Check with the organization sponsoring the program for meeting status

September 21, 2021

Lincoln/Davis CWRT will feature Don Allison presenting "Ghosts of Gettysburg"

Country House Restaurant, Alsip, IL

September 23, 2021

South Suburban CWRT will feature Steve LaBarre presenting "Chicago's Black Soldiers"

South Suburban CWRT on Facebook

October 1, 2021

Northern Illinois CWRT program TBD

northernilcwrt.org

October 2, 2021

Two Old Goats in Cedar Lake, IN will feature Rick Zarr and Richard Crowe on "Haunted Gettysburg" rzarr@sbcglobal.net

October 8, 2021

Chicago CWRT will feature David Dixon presenting "August Willich"

Holiday Inn O'Hare, 5615 N. Cumberland, Chicago (In Person & Zoom Presentation)

chicagocwrt.org

October 12, 2021

McHenry Co. CWRT will feature Scott Larimer presenting "Civil War Forts"

Woodstock Library

mchenrycivilwar.com

ALL FOR THE UNION

September 25th, 2022

The Civil War & Military Extraganza will be held at the DuPage County Fairgrounds
General Admission for Saturday 9:00 am- 4:00 pm is \$9.00 and free for youths 16 and under
Saturday at 8:00 am for \$25.00.

Parking is free. The DuPage County Fairgrounds is located at 2015 Manchester Rd,
Wheaton, IL 60187

For additional information contact Zurko Promotions at 715-526-9769
or <https://chicagocivilwarshow.com/>

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

Check us out on Facebook and at saltcreekcwr.org

October 23, 2021 **SATURDAY AT THE GLEN ELLYN HISTORY CENTER**

Annual Book Sale for Battlefield Preservation. 11am to 2pm

AT 2pm Rob Girardi will present "Chicago's Memory of the Civil War".

November 19, 2021

David Keller will present: "Command at Antietam" at Oak Trace.

BACK IN HISTORY

50 Years Ago: Richard Blake presented "A Look at Lincoln".

25 Years Ago: Gordon Dammann presented "If a Collection Could Talk".

10 Years Ago: Jan Rasmussen presented "Dakota Uprising of 1862" (fill in for Rick Benson)

THE SALT CREEK CWRT

President: Cindy Heckler

Vice-President: Rick Zarr

Secretary-Treasurer: Jan Rasmussen

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

Historian: Cindy Intravartolo

Newsletter Staff: Jennie Warner, Brian Conroy & Jan Rasmussen

Facebook and Website Editor: Brian Conroy

September 2021 Preservation Report

by Brian Conroy

Welcome back to another season of great Civil War discussions and presentations. We are going to begin the year of Civil War preservation efforts with a four part series that will cover the course of a little more than two years and five battles across three states in the Western Theater that changed the course, and ultimately, the outcome of the American Civil War. These tracts of land, which there is an opportunity to save, was fought fiercely over by both Union and Confederate forces, and controlled the means of transportation in the south on the river and by railroad. The donation match is \$9.27-\$1, and the ultimate goal is \$307,450.

The first small parcel of ground to be saved is only six-tenths of an acre in Corinth, Mississippi, has been listed for sale in the local real estate market and is literally across the street from the Corinth Civil War Interpretive Center, making it an incredibly valuable addition to the National Park Service site. Corinth played a large role in the fighting over control of the railroads that converged there, eventually giving the Union Army an opportunity to strike towards the garrison city nicknamed the “Gibraltar of the South”— Vicksburg.

The First Battle of Corinth in May 1862 was the beginning of the fall of dominoes in Corinth, Mississippi, as victorious Union forces gained control of the Mobile & Ohio and the Memphis & Charleston railroads, and access to the Confederate heartland and the South's key coastal ports. After this victory, Union forces erected various fortifications around Corinth due to its importance as a transportation center, and on October 3rd, with a force of 22,000 troops, General Earl Van Dorn returned, hoping to recapture this strategic location and sweep into Middle Tennessee. He approached the outer line of Federal fortifications occupied by 23,000 troops on the outer line, and Confederate troops steadily pushed the Yankees to the rear, exploiting a gap in the Union line. The confidence in this movement, combined with heat, fatigue, and water shortages, persuaded Van Dorn to wait until the next morning to finish off the Federal line, and allowed Union Major General William S. Rosecrans to regroup his men at the fortifications for the coming attack the next morning, which came at 9:00 am after a delay due to Brigadier General Louis Hébert's sickness.

The Confederate attack then moved forward as Union artillery swept the field, and the Rebels advanced. They stormed Battery Powell and closed on Battery Robinett, where desperate hand-to-hand fighting ensued. The Rebels fought their way into Corinth, but were quickly driven out. Federal troops pushed their own way forward, recapturing Battery Powell, and forcing Van Dorn into a general retreat due to heavy casualties.

Rosecrans postponed any pursuit until the next day. As a result, Union troops suffered 2,359 casualties, and Confederate troops suffered 4,838 casualties.