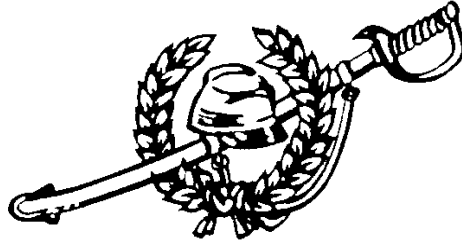


The Outpost

The Newsletter of the Salt Creek Civil War Round Table
Vol. LXI No. 1 September 2023



562nd Regular Meeting

DATE: **SATURDAY**, September 16, 2023
PLACE: Glen Ellyn History Center at Stacy's Corners
800 N. Main Street, Glen Ellyn, IL (NW Corner of Main & Elm Streets)
Annual Book Sale for Battlefield Preservation 11am-1pm
PROGRAM: "The 1st and 8th Wisconsin: Shadowy Secrets" at 1pm
SPEAKER: Jerry Allen

The 8th Wisconsin Infantry Regiment was raised in Madison, Wisconsin and mustered in on September 13, 1861. The 8th would be commanded by four men. The third of these men was John Wayles Jefferson. When he mustered in, he was 26 years old and was a successful businessman as a hotel operator. He rose in the ranks from major to colonel and eventually commanded the regiment. Throughout his service, he sent letters to Madison newspapers giving locals a sense of what the 8th Wisconsin was experiencing.

However, Colonel Jefferson carried a secret about his background that probably would have made him ineligible to be an officer in the 8th Wisconsin. There were clues, but these clues were very obscure. First, his last name was Jefferson, just like the third president of the United States. The second clue is his first and middle name of John Wayles. John Wayles was Thomas Jefferson's father-in-law. Well, Colonel Jefferson's grandfather was President Thomas Jefferson. That should have been something to be proud of, but at that time it was not. If people had known the truth, Colonel Jefferson would never have become a colonel and probably would have been unable to join the 8th Wisconsin. What was the shadowy secret that Colonel Jefferson tried so hard to keep under cover? Join us as Jerry Allen reveals the rest of the story...

COME TO THE BOOK SALE AND SUPPORT BATTLEFIELD PRESERVATION!

UPCOMING CIVIL WAR EVENTS

Check with the organization sponsoring the program for meeting status

September 8, 2023

Chicago CWRT will feature Al Ovies presenting “Boy Generals: George Custer, Wesley Merritt and the Cavalry of the Army of the Potomac”

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

chicagocwrt.org

September 10, 2023

Northwest Indiana CWRT will feature Bruce Allardice presenting “The Election of 1864”.

Crown Point Indiana Library

Northwest Indiana CWRT on Facebook

September 12, 2023

McHenry Co. CWRT will feature Pat McCormick presenting “The North Anna”.

Woodstock Library

mchenrycivilwar.com

September 19, 2023

Lincoln/Davis CWRT will feature Rob Girardi presenting “General John E. Smith”.

Country House Restaurant, Alsip, IL

lincolndavisroundtable@yahoo.com

September 28, 2023

South Suburban CWRT will feature Jonathan Sebastian presenting “1864 Shenandoah”.

Trail’s Edge Brewery, 20 Kansas Street, Frankfort, IL.

South Suburban CWRT on Facebook

October 6, 2023

Northern Illinois CWRT will feature Bruce Allardice presenting “Loose Lips—Military Security in the Civil War”.

Arlington Hts. Historical Museum

northernilcwrt.org

October 8, 2023

Northwest Indiana CWRT will feature Pat Brennan presenting “Gettysburg in Color”.

Crowne Point Library

Northwest Indiana CWRT on Facebook

October 10, 2023

McHenry Co. CWRT will feature Charlie Banks presenting “Confederate Railroads”.

Woodstock Library

mchenrycivilwar.com

October 13, 2023

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

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

chicagocwrt.org

October 17, 2023

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

Country House Restaurant, Alsip, IL

lincolndavisroundtable@yahoo.com

ALL FOR THE UNION

Thanks to all who attended the annual banquet on June 16th.

Volunteers needed for the Midwest Civil War on September 23rd.
Contact Jan @ jrbarns@sbcglobal.net or sign up at the Sept. 16th meeting.

Volunteers are also needed for Memorabilia Show & Tell at the December 16th meeting.
Contact Rob Girardi @ cwlwarguy@aol.com

The **2023 Great Lakes Civil War Forum** on September 23rd at the Kenosha Civil War Museum
The theme of this year's Forum is the Vicksburg Campaign.
<https://84428.blackbaudhosting.com/84428/Great-Lakes-Civil-War-Forum-23Sep2023>

FUTURE SALT CREEK CWRT MEETINGS

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

October 21, 2023

Dan McCarthy will present "Green Rebels: Confederate Irish".

November 18, 2023

Gene Salecker will present "Vicksburg After the Fall".

December 16, 2023

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

BACK IN HISTORY

50 Years Ago: Roger Wilhelm presented "Military Telegraph in the Civil War".

25 Years Ago: Bruce Allardice presented: "Civil War Generals".

10 Years Ago: Fr. Bob Miller presented "Notre Dame in the Civil War".

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

September 2023 Preservation Report

By Brian Conroy

Welcome back from a beautiful summer, and to another year of great Civil War presentations with the Salt Creek CWRT! Our preservation report this month is going to focus on a couple of ongoing battles to protect some key Civil War battlefields. Manassas National Battlefield Park and the Wilderness National Battlefield Park are both in danger from industrial development of data and distribution centers along their borders, and are fighting for more comprehensive studies to be done for further preservation before these priceless locations of history are lost to development.

The Central Virginia Battlefield Trust (CVBT), American Battlefield Trust, and Friends of Wilderness Battlefield are leading the charge to appeal the vote by the Orange County Board of Supervisors approval to allow the Wilderness Crossing Development to proceed, which would allow for the possible the creation of a 2,600-acre mixed-use commercial, industrial, and residential complex that developer KEG Associates III envisions including up to 5,000 residential units, 732 acres of towering and noisy industrial buildings, data centers, and warehouse distribution key points. Critics of the plan are concerned about the impact to the area's ecology, infrastructure, and historic resources, with none of the public in attendance speaking in favor of the massive development project.

Not too far to the northeast, the Manassas National Battlefield Park is fighting its own preservation battle as rezoning applications may bring about the Prince William Digital Gateway, which plans to build 28 to 34 new data centers on 2,133 acres directly north of the national park. The new park superintendent, Kristopher Butcher, has written to Prince William County officials with concerns that the introduction of this development could impact many places of historical interest, such as Camp Hardee, which was used by Confederate forces in 1861 and 1862, and was the site of a measles outbreak leading to the deaths of hundreds of soldiers. And while the developers say that after archaeological testing done by their own firms and others, showing that there are no gravesites or human remains having been found at this site or others in the area, Superintendent Butcher warns that the development could impact future sites of preservation, including that of African American historic sites. One location is Pageland II, which was a plantation home built in 1855, and another site is the Thornton School, which educated freed slaves, both of which included the family of Jennie Dean. One of the development companies, Compass Datacenters, has said that while their company has completed a comprehensive archaeological survey, they have offered to help build an interpretive site commemorating the Thornton School and settlement.

Park superintendent warns of data center's "wholesale destruction" of historic areas around the Manassas battlefield https://www.princewilliamtimes.com/news/park-superintendent-warns-of-data-centers-wholesale-destruction-of-historic-areas-around-the-manassas-battlefield/article_278caca0-37c3-11ee-9f99-abdeaaa89493.html

Join the Wilderness Crossing Fight!

https://cvbt.dm.networkforgood.com/emails/2709455?recipient_id=uVnYBVyIFtnh57SmG4r3wQ||bWlrZUBjd3JOY29uZ3Jlc3Mub3Jn



The Salt Creek Civil War Round Table Needs Volunteers

FOR

THE LONG AWAITED RETURN OF MEMORABILIA NIGHT!

DECEMBER 16, 2023

Do You Have an interesting Civil War artifact, photograph or other item of interest that you are willing to share with the group at our December meeting?

Don't miss this opportunity to seize the spotlight for a period of not more than 600 seconds to enlighten us on your unique Civil War item.

Time is of the essence! Only 5 Volunteers can be accepted.

**Contact Rob Girardi at
cwlwarguy@aol.com**