

The Outpost

The Newsletter of the Salt Creek Civil War Round Table
Vol. LV No. 1 September 2016



495th Regular Meeting

DATE: Friday, September 16, 2016
PLACE: Oak Trace, 200 Village Drive, Downers Grove, IL
TIME: 8:00 p.m.
TOPIC: “Black Hawk War Veterans in the Civil War”
SPEAKER: Jerry Allen

In the early 1800s, the Sauk and Fox tribes lived on their homeland which included a large part of northwest Illinois and southwest Wisconsin. By means that some would consider suspect, the Sauk and Fox lost their territory and ended up on a reservation in what is Iowa today. In 1832, Black Hawk and his followers crossed the Mississippi River back into Illinois planning to resettle on their tribal lands. This action started the Black Hawk War. The United States Army gathered soldiers from the Midwest and East to meet the threat. The initial engagements did not go well for the U.S. forces. After several more encounters, Black Hawk and his followers fled to southwest Wisconsin, where they were defeated.

The Black Hawk War lasted only 3 months. But about 30 years later, many US Army and militia participants were actively involved in the Civil War. This group of Black Hawk War veterans would include two presidents, 11 Confederate officers (including two generals) and 30 Union officers (including a major general and other generals). This presentation follows some of these soldiers during the Black Hawk War and how they fared during the Civil War.

Jerry Allen grew up on a farm in LaCrosse County Wisconsin. He attended the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse with a BS degree in Mathematics and Physics and received a MS degree from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Jerry recently retired after working 40 years as a pension consultant in Atlanta and Chicago. Jerry and his wife live in Cary, IL.

Although not a professional historian, Jerry has had a life-long interest in history with a special interest in the Civil War and American Indian Conflicts. He is past president of the Chicago and Northern Illinois Civil War Round Tables, and a member of various other Civil War Round Tables, including the Salt Creek CWRT.

JUNE MONTHLY SUMMARY BY JAN RASMUSSEN

Dr. Gordon Dammann entertained the membership and guests at the June Banquet with his presentation of "Civil War Medicine Hollywood Version: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly". Using film clips of medical scenes from Civil War movies, Dr. Dammann dissected and critiqued their medical accuracy.

Gone with the Wind received the "good" mark, especially for the Railroad Station Scene showing the scores of Confederate wounded in a panoramic view. The ambulances were accurate for the time as well as the personnel attending the wounded. An early scene in *Glory* showed how an officer's minor wound was given priority over the much more serious wounds of enlisted men.

The makeup artists for the Andersonville received excellent marks for attention to detail. The movie clip showed prisoners' grossly underweight with their teeth falling out and eyes sunken in from lack of clean water, food and proper nutrition. The hospital scene in *Dances with Wolves* emphasized the abundance of amputations. Contrary to belief anesthesia was used. Chloroform was available especially for the Union troops. *Gods and Generals* showed that even the highest ranking officers did not have the greatest survival rate due to the lack of knowledge of aseptic techniques which were yet to be discovered. *The Horse Soldiers* received the "ugly" mark when the movie clip showed William Holden with a stethoscope around his neck. Stethoscopes of that type were not used until much later.

Overall most of the medical scenes were fairly accurate. Everyone seemed to enjoy watching the movie clips and participating in the "dissection process". Many thanks to Dr. Dammann for an enlightening and entertaining presentation.

The Silent Auction at the Banquet took in \$632 for Battlefield Preservation. Thanks to those who donated (especially Gale Pewitt) and to those who purchased the items.

CAMP DOUGLAS NEWS

The Camp Douglas Foundation is preparing an application to have the footprint of Camp Douglas listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

We are asking our friends and others interested in the preservation of history to support this project by signing a petition. The petition is available at:

<https://www.change.org/p/camp-douglas-restoration-foundation-add-camp-douglas-to-the-national-register-of-historic-places>. Access to the petition is also available on

Facebook.com/CampDouglasRF and at www.campdouglas.org

PLEASE SIGN AND PASS THE INFORMATION TO OTHERS

Rob Girardi will be speaking on October 3rd at Harper College on "The Memory of the Civil War in Chicago".

Bruce Allardice will be speaking on October 19th at 7pm at the DuPage County Genealogical Society Meeting on "Online Resources for Tracing Your Civil War Ancestors". The meeting is at the DuPage County Historical Museum-Upper Level.

PRESERVATION REPORT BY DAN JOSEPHS

Welcome back. We hope that all of you had a relaxing and enjoyable summer. We look forward to seeing you at one of the meetings this fall.

As usual the Civil War Trust is in the process of raising funds to preserve sacred battlefield land at several Civil War battlefields. As the 154th anniversary of the Battle of Antietam approaches later this month (September 17th), the Civil War Trust is engaged in collecting and soliciting funds to save a total of 84 acres of sacred Civil War Battlefield real estate at Antietam Battlefield, South Mountain battlefield and the Shepherdstown Battlefield.

The largest parcel of battlefield land to be preserved is 65 acres on the South Mountain Battlefield at Turner's Gap. In the report by Jim Lighthizer, President of the Civil War Trust, it is noted that the Civil War Trust has already preserved almost 600 acres of Battlefield land at the South Mountain battlefield. Crucial fighting occurred at Fox Gap and Turner's Gap prior to the Battle at Antietam. Although the South Mountain battlefield is quite spread out, there was intense fighting which went on at Turner's Gap on this 65-acre parcel of battlefield land between the Union 9th Corps and Confederate troops commanded by General D.H. Hill.

There is a small but important 11-acre parcel of land located at Shepherdstown, Virginia at Boteler's Ford on the Potomac River. This was the scene of an attack by the Union Fifth Corps against the Confederate rear guard after the Battle of Antietam. The Union Fifth Corps was leading the pursuit of Lee's troops as they retreated after the Battle of Antietam.

Although it is the smallest parcel, the 9-acre parcel of battlefield land that the Civil War Trust is trying to preserve is located on the Antietam and probably the most important parcel of land being preserved by the Civil War Trust. In May of 2015 this column reported on the Civil War Trust's successful efforts to preserve approximately 44 acres of real estate located in the middle of the Antietam Battlefield, just south of the Cornfield and just north of the Dunker Church. A private owner of a 9-acre parcel of land located adjacent to the Dunker Church noticed the Civil War Trust's efforts to purchase and preserve the 44 acres last year. The private owner put this 9-acre parcel of land on the market which gained the attention of the Civil War Trust. Fortunately, the private owner is willing to sell to the Civil War Trust. If the Civil War Trust was not aggressive in purchasing this battlefield land, the private owner could have sold the land to another developer who could have built three huge mansions on this land which is located across the street from the Antietam Battlefield Visitors Center. There was vicious fighting going on this parcel of land during the morning and afternoon phases of the Battle of Antietam.

As they have done many times in the past, the Civil War Trust has allies in their preservation efforts including the Save Historic Antietam Foundation and the National Park Service which are contributing vital and substantial funds toward this purchase and preservation effort. The price for the 84 acres of battlefield land was originally \$1,525,500, but due to the efforts by these other preservation groups and other matching funds, the amount that the Civil War Trust has to raise is \$413,375. Post war buildings and other structures need to be torn down once the purchase of this land is complete.

Please support the efforts of the Civil War Trust when you are able. The information for this column mainly came from the Civil War Trust website.

UPCOMING CIVIL WAR EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 20, 2016
LINCOLN-DAVIS CWRT

“Civil War Myths”

Speaker: Ed Bonekemper
Country House Restaurant, Alsip, IL
Lincolndavisroundtable@yahoo.com

SEPTEMBER 22, 2016
SOUTH SUBURBAN CWRT

“The Life of Alonzo Hersford Cushing”

Speaker: Jim Heinz
sscwrt@gmail.com

SEPTEMBER 24, 2016
CIVIL WAR COLLECTORS' SHOW

Dupage County Fairgrounds
Wheaton, IL

OCTOBER 7, 2016
NORTHERN ILLINOIS CWRT

“The Centralia Massacre”

Speaker: Frank Crawford
Arlington Hts. Memorial Library
500 Dunton, Arlington Hts.
Northernilcwrt.org

OCTOBER 11, 2016
McHENRY COUNTY CWRT

“Battle of Monocacy”

Speaker: Charlie Banks
Woodstock Library
www.mchenrycivilwar.com

OCTOBER 14, 2016
CHICAGO CWRT

Nevins-Freeman Address
Speaker: Lance Herdegan
Holiday Inn O'Hare
5615 N. Cumberland, Chicago
dinnerreservation@chicagocwrt.org

OCTOBER 18, 2016
LINCOLN DAVIS CWRT

“Chickamauga Campaign”

Speaker: David Powell
Country House Restaurant, Alsip
Lincolndavisroundtable@yahoo.com

ALL FOR THE UNION

Speakers are needed for 2017. If you have a program to share contact Jan:
jrbarns@sbcglobal.net

VOLUNTEERS are needed to help out at the Civil War Collectors Show on September 24th. Contact Rick Zarr
rzarr@sbcglobal.net

Welcome New Members:

Mike Kitun
Annmarie Janatka

BACK IN HISTORY

50 Years Ago: H.L.Long presented
“The Navy in the Civil War”

25 Years Ago: Robert Girardi presented
“Jo Shelby”

10 Years Ago: Kurt Carlson presented
“Patrick R. Cleburne”

FUTURE SCCWRT MEETINGS

October 21, 2016
“Music for the People, George F. Root and the American Public”
Speaker: Art Foley
Annual Battlefield Preservation Book Sale Meeting at Glen Ellyn History Center

November 18, 2016
“TBD”
Speaker: Sam Blackwell

THE SALT CREEK CWRT

www.saltcreekcwrt.org
President: Kurt Carlson
Vice-President: Rick Zarr
Secretary-Treasurer: Jan Rasmussen
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