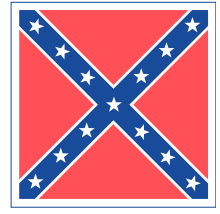


THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Founded December 3, 1940



Volume LXXV, Number 10

Chicago, Illinois

May 2015



742ND REGULAR MEETING

★★★★★

Friday, May 8th

★★★★★

HOLIDAY INN MART PLAZA

350 NORTH ORLEANS STREET

Cocktails at 5:30 p.m.

Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

\$49 - Members/Non-members

Entrée: Chicken Casserole or Baked Orange Roughy

Please Note:

Make your reservations by Wednesday, May 6, by emailing dinnerreservations@chicagocwrt.org, or calling 630 460-1865 with the names of your party and choice of entrée.

If a cancellation becomes necessary after dinner reservations have been made, please email us at dinnerreservations@chicagocwrt.org and/or call us at 630-460-1865.

We are offering the option of choosing not to have dinner and coming only for the address at 7:15 p.m., for a charge of \$10 per person.

Parking at the Holiday Inn is \$25 with validation. More if not validated Other parking is available at 437 N. Orleans.

Eric Leonard on *Cartel, Code, and Consequences at Andersonville*

BY BRUCE ALLARDICE

At the beginning of the Civil War, the United States had little experience dealing with prisoners of war. During our Revolutionary War (the only time prior to 1861 when large numbers of prisoners were captured and held) neither the British nor the Americans were prepared to take care of those they caught. Both sides accused the other of mistreating their POWs, accusations that foreshadowed the accusations made by both sides during and long after the Civil War.

At that time, it was normal practice to parole (set free) prisoners of war, and then arrange for their exchange.

That system of parole and exchange was based on trust. But trust was in short supply during the Civil War. As the exchange system broke down, prison populations dramatically increased, straining the resources of both sides to handle the influx. Both sides created offices for managing prisoners, to replace the early war chaos where individual commanders sent prisoners where they liked, effected exchanges, and created their own prisons.

On May 8th historian Eric Leonard will address our CWRT on how



Eric Leonard

prisoners were treated by both sides during the war. The challenge of managing military prisoners took both sides by surprise at the beginning of the war. Legal systems for handling prisoners shifted during the course of the conflict, leading to confined soldiers suffering terribly from overcrowding, poor sanitation, and inadequate food. Mismanagement by war-weary governments

worsened matters. By the end of the war, a new legal framework existed which still protects military prisoners 150 years later. The treatment of prisoners of war during the

Civil War remains one of the most controversial and poorly understood aspects of the conflict.

A public historian focused on sites of violence, tragedy and controversy, Eric Leonard has extensively studied 19th century executions and Civil War military prisons. He has been employed by the National Park Service since 1995, working at a wide variety of 19th century military sites including Fort Larned (KS), Fort Smith (AR), Arkansas Post and Andersonville.



ANHEUSER-BUSCH FOUND. DONATES 65 ACRES FROM WILLIAMSBURG BATTLEFIELD

By Scott C. Boyd (May 2015 *Civil War News* - Preservation Column)

Williamsburg, Va. Gov. Terry McAuliffe announced the preservation of 65 core battlefield acres of the May 5, 1862, Battle of Williamsburg at a press conference on March 24th.

"I'm proud to say this is the single largest preservation milestone of this battlefield to date," McAuliffe said. "What Anheuser-Busch is doing here today is truly historic."

The land was donated to the Civil War Trust by the Anheuser-Busch Foundation. The Anheuser-Busch Companies Inc. have had a brewery in Williamsburg since 1972. The 65 acres were part of the companies' former Busch Gardens theme park. The press conference was held at Kingsmill Resort, a former Anheuser-Busch property.

The Trust has arranged for a local group, the Williamsburg Land Conservancy, to manage the donated property.

"It's a very special arrangement to have the Trust and the Conservancy work together with the owner to make this possible," said Travis Crayosky, chair of the Conservancy's board of directors.

"Anheuser-Busch, coincidentally was founded by two Union veterans," according to Trust President Jim Lighthizer. Founders Adolphus Busch and his father-in-law, Eberhard Anheuser, were members of the Missouri Volunteers.

In his 15 years as Trust president, Lighthizer said he knows of only two corporations which voluntarily donated land for historic preservation. Anheuser-Busch at Williamsburg and Walmart at the Wilderness Battlefield in Orange County, Va.

In addition to Anheuser-Busch and the Conservancy, Lighthizer praised another local preservation group's efforts to make the acquisition possible, the Williamsburg Battlefield Association.

According to the association's website, 10,369 acres are associated with the Battle of Williamsburg-342 are protected and only 400 undeveloped acres remain. "This is ground that has seen a lot of history," said Rick Shippey, senior general manager at the Anheuser-Busch Williamsburg brewery, who noted the company's long history of supporting this country's military.

After the press conference McAuliffe, Lighthizer, Shippey and Virginia Secretary of Natural Resources Molly Ward signed the documents and a large, poster-size symbolic deed to finalize the transaction.

Although the Williamsburg area is best known for its Colonial-era history as former capital of the British Colony of Virginia, there is also significant Civil War history.

The Battle of Williamsburg was the first major battle of the Peninsula Campaign. The Army of the Potomac under Major General George B. McClellan landed at Fort Monroe and intended to march up the peninsula between the James and York rivers to seize the Confederate capital of Richmond.

At Williamsburg, approximately 40,000 Union troops under Major General Joseph Hooker engaged Confederate Lt. General James Longstreet's 32,000 defenders. The Confederates fought, then retreated closer to Richmond. Total casualties were nearly 4,000 men.

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE



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1039 Hinswood
Darien, Illinois 60561
Phone: 630-460-1865
www.chicagocwrt.org

The only requirement for membership in The Civil War Round Table is a genuine interest in the Civil War and its era. For information, address Membership Committee, 1039 Hinswood, Darien, Illinois 60561, or editor@chicagocwrt.org.

LINCOLN FUNERAL REENACTMENT IN SPRINGFIELD!

2015 will be an extraordinary year for re-enactors, individuals and organizations that are steeped in Civil War history. This year not only brings to a close the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, it will remind the world of the 150th anniversary that changed the course of American History - the death of President Abraham Lincoln.

For the first time since 1865, thousands of re-enactors, period carriages, visitors and dignitaries will, on MAY 1 - 3- 2015, convene in Springfield, Illinois, to pay tribute to our 16th President with superb events and, the unparalleled historic and solemn re-creation of the funeral procession to Oak Ridge Cemetery.

(Although MONDAY, MAY 4, 2015 is the official anniversary date of President Lincoln's burial, the above dates were selected to preclude weekday business disruption.)

United States and international dignitaries are cordially invited to participate.

Abraham Lincoln scholars are cordially invited to participate in the event symposia. Visit http://lincolnfuneraltrain.org/2015_event.php for event details. See also www.lincolnfuneralcoalition.org.

Valley Foundation Seeks \$260,000

April 2015 Civil War News

NEW MARKET, Va. — Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation (SVBF) has launched its 2015 campaign to raise \$260,000 from private donors.

According to Chief Executive Officer Keven M. Walker the planned projects will protect another 347 acres across the Valley, including 203 acres within Cedar Creek and Belle Grove National Historical Park.

The land SVBF hopes to protect at Cedar Creek will connect properties already protected, “forever preserving two of the three areas that witnessed the daring Confederate assault that began the battle,” Walker said.

It includes roadways used when troops commanded by Confederate Gens. Gabriel Wharton and Joseph Kershaw advanced in the foggy predawn and smashed into the Union 8th Corps camps that were on land SVBF owns. Union Col. Joseph Thoburn’s exposed and isolated division, also on land owned by the SVBF, was quickly routed, beginning the collapse of the Federal defenses during the early part of the battle.

The foundation has protected 706 acres at Cedar Creek. Last summer it preserved the 179 acres known as Island Farm. Some of the first shots of the battle were fired from there.

Walker said those efforts “prevented 237 residential building lots from being developed - construction that would have forev-

er marred the battlefield landscape.”

The SVBF also proposed a plan accepted by the Commonwealth of Virginia to change the alignment of the U.S. Route 11 bridge crossing at Cedar Creek at the park’s southern gateway.

Walker said the new alignment will better protect the roadbed of the Civil War era Valley Turnpike, the 18th century ford where the “Great Wagon Road” originally crossed Cedar Creek, and the ruins of a colonial mill.

Wharton’s troops advanced through the creek there. Hours later the retreating Confederate crossed as they fled to safety in front of pursuing Federal troops. Along with its partners at the Civil War Trust, National Park Service, Belle Grove, and Cedar Creek Battlefield Foundation, the SVBF has helped protect 1,712 acres of battlefield land at Cedar Creek.

The foundation is also busy at Third Winchester where, in January, it bought a small property adjacent to its land, bringing the total of preserved battlefield to 569 acres.

SVBF welcomes memberships as well as donations. Information is at 540-740-4545, info@svbf.net and shenandoahatwar.org

Stephen A. Douglas Assn.

Historian Martin H. Quitt,

whose biography of Stephen A. Douglas opened new themes in the historiography of the Little Giant, will be the keynote speaker at the Douglas Associations annual observance of Senator Douglas’s death. This year’s ceremony will begin with the annual wreath laying at 10 a.m. Saturday, June 13th, at the Douglas tomb, followed by the luncheon and talk at the Holiday Inn Merchandise Mart. For Reservations or more information, see www.stephenadouglasassociation.com.

Underground Railroad Talk May 13th

On May 13th, the Wheaton Historic Commission will sponsor a presentation by Dr. David Maas talk about the Underground Railroad in Illinois and in Wheaton, including his own research which led to Wheaton being added to the National Register of Historic Places’ official list of Underground railroad sites. The event will at the Wheaton Public Librabry, starting at 7 p.m. It is free and open to the public.

The annual CWRT election for officers will be at the May meeting. As in prior years, the nomination committee will present its selections, and members present at the meeting can make other nominations from the floor.

GRAPESHOT



May 17th, **Joliet Area Historical Museum: Civil War Symposium** on the war in the Chicago area, with **Bruce Allardice**, David Keller, **Jerry Allen**, **Rob Girardi**, Bob Kuzma and **Kurt Carlson** presenting. For more details visit www.jolietmuseum.org.

On May 19th, **Rob Girardi** will present "The Union High Command" at the Waukesha CWRT.

Bruce Allardice will be presenting "Hollywood Movies and the Civil War," May 21st at the Pleasant View Community, Ottawa. On May 27th he will speak on "The Election of 1864" at the Hinsdale Community House, at 10 a.m.

On May 5th and 12th **Bjorn Skaptasan** will lead a class on "Sterling Price's 1864 Campaign" at the Kenosha Civil War Museum. For more information, visit www.TheCivilWarMuseum.org.

Check the **Announcements** section of the CWRT's website for additional coming events.

Know of any upcoming talks, events, or publications? All members are welcome to contribute items to the newsletter. Contact the editor at editor@chicagocwrt.org or (630) 297-8046.

SCHIMMELFENNIG BOUTIQUE

Sixty plus years of audio recordings of CWRT lectures by distinguished historians are available and can be purchased in CD format. For pricing and a lecture list, please contact Hal Ardell at hal229@ameritech.net or phone him at (773) 774-6781.

Each meeting features a book raffle, with proceeds going to battlefield preservation. There is also a silent auction for books donated by Ralph Newman and others, again with proceeds benefiting battlefield preservation.

More Upcoming Civil War Events

May 1st, Northern Illinois CWRT: Eric Wittenberg on "John Buford at Gettysburg"

May 5th-8th at Midway Village, Rockford: Civil War School Days, featuring the Battlefield Balladeers.

May 6th, Kankakee Valley CWRT: Gordon Ramsey on "Ballooning"

May 7th, Milwaukee CWRT: Eric Leonard on "Code, Cartel and Consequences at Andersonville"

May 12th, McHenry County CWRT: Charlie Banks on "Lincoln's Final Journey"

May 14th, Lake County CWRT: Gene Salecker on "The Sultana"

May 15th, Salt Creek CWRT: Panel Discussion on "Ways the Civil War Changed American Life"

May 16th-17th, Civil War Days in Naperville

May 19th, Lincoln Davis CWRT: Leslie Goddard on "Gone With the Wind and the Construction of Civil War Memory"

May 21st, South Suburban CWRT: Helen Milam on "Ella King Newsom: Florence Nightingale of the South"

May 30th, Chicago CWRT Sesquicentennial Symposium, at the Lisle Hilton

Bulletin Board



FUTURE MEETINGS

Regular meetings are held at the Holiday Inn Mart Plaza, 350 North Orleans Street, the second Friday of each month, *unless otherwise indicated*.

June 12: Garry Adelman on "4D Civil War Photography Extravaganza"

Sept. 11: Dale Phillips on "The Capture of New Orleans"

Oct. 9: Dennis Frye, Nevins-Freeman Award: "John Brown: The Spark that Ignited War"

Nov. 13: Philip Leigh on "Trading with the Enemy"

Dec. 11: Dave Keller on "Camp Douglas"

Jan. 8, 2016: David Moore on "William S. Rosecrans"

Feb. 12: Don Doyle on "The Cause of All Nations"

March 11: Bruce Kraig on "Why the Civil War Made our Modern Food"

April 8: Greg Biggs on "Nashville: Siren's Song of the Confederacy"

May 13: Glenna Schroeder-Lein on "The Solders' Home in Civil War America"

June 10: Dale Phillips on "Ben Butler and the Federal Occupation of New Orleans"

Virtual Book Signing

Join the **Abraham Lincoln Book Shop** on May 29th at 6 p.m.. We welcome William C. "Jack" Davis. He will discuss his new book Crucible of Command, about the challenges faced by both Grant and Lee. Learn more about this book and order yours at http://virtualbooksigning.net/book-information/#anchor_2.

The Civil War Round Table of Chicago is moving!!

Due to significant cost increases for our monthly dinners and parking, the meeting place of the Round Table will be changed, effective with the September, 2015 meeting. We will be meeting at the Holiday Inn O'Hare, 5615 N. Cumberland, Chicago, IL 60631. The decision to move by the Executive Committee at its meeting of January 17, 2015, was unanimous.

The hotel is on the east side of Cumberland, just north of Bryn Mawr. To enter the hotel, you turn east into Bryn Mawr Avenue at the stoplight and go north about one block on the frontage road. There is no entrance directly into the hotel from Cumberland, and the stoplight immediately north of the hotel will bring you onto the entrance ramp to the Kennedy. You don't want to go there! It is suggested you visit the area once before our meeting in September to familiarize yourself with the route to enter the hotel. The hotel can be readily seen on the east side of Cumberland Avenue.

Parking is Free!!! There is a parking deck on the property.



Holiday Inn
CHICAGO O'HARE AREA

Location

From Downtown:

- Take I-90 W and exit towards Kennedy Expy
- Go 5 miles and exit toward O'Hare-Rockford
- Exit Cumberland Ave and arrive at hotel

From Midway:

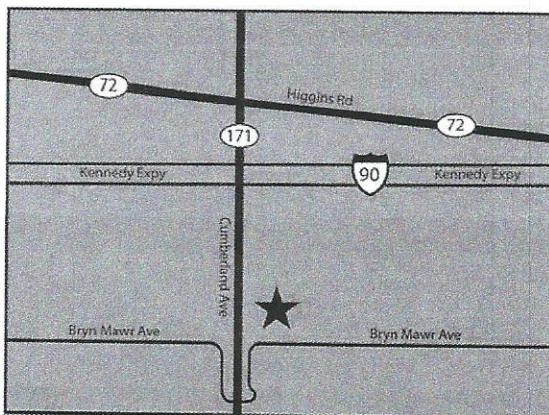
- I-55 North to 294 North to I-90 East
- Exit Cumberland Avenue South/79A
- The hotel is on the left at the ~~first~~ second light

From O' Hare:

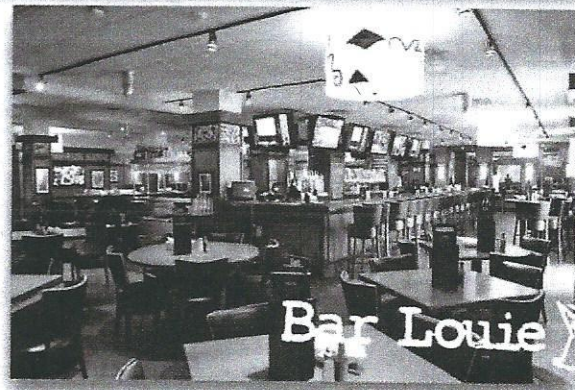
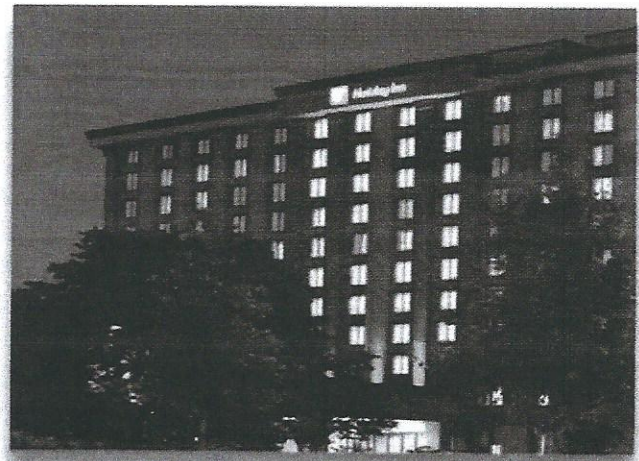
- Complimentary Shuttle Available 24 hours
- Taxi Charge (one way): \$25.00

Train or Subway:

- Station Name: CTA Blue Line
- Distance: 0.5 MI/0.8 KM NORTH to Hotel
- Across the street



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