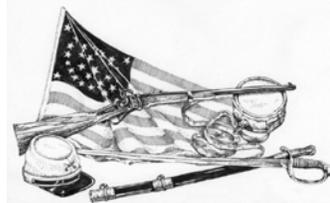
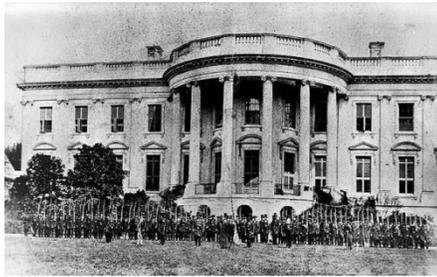


DECEMBER 2015

SOUTH SUBURBAN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Established 1953

NEWSLETTER



Secretary / Newsletter Donna M. Tarvid

President Dennis R. Doyle SSCWRT@gmail.com (815) 274-5321

Vice President / Quizmaster Steve LaBarre Treasurer Gordon Ramsey

LOCATION: AURELIO'S PIZZA 9901 WEST LINCOLN HIGHWAY FRANKFORT, ILLINOIS



Holiday Party at Aurelio's



Time: THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2015 AT 5:30 PM

Many thanks to our November speaker Rob Girardi who discussed General Warren at Petersburg-Five Forks. Our thanks to Rob for a fascinating view of Warren and how a biased viewpoint of Warren has endured despite strong contrary evidence. We look forward to Rob's latest book, co-written with Paula Walker, due out in 2016: The Soldiers' General: Major General Gouverneur K. Warren and the Civil War.

Our annual Holiday Party is Thursday, December 17 from 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm at Aurelio's Pizza located at 9901 West Lincoln Highway in Frankfort. Musical entertainment will be provided by the Battlefield Balladeers. Thank you to all who donated auction items for our silent auction. You can still bring an auction item the day of the party. Happy Holidays!



Reminder: There is no December meeting at Smokey Barque this month due to the Holiday Party. Our next regular meeting at Smokey Barque will be on Thursday, January 28, 2016. Our speaker will be Leslie Goddard who will talk about GONE WITH THE WIND AND THE MEMORY OF THE CIVIL WAR.



We received a few suggestions regarding where to donate the Holiday Party silent auction proceeds. Some of the suggestions include:

- Camp Douglas Special Artifacts Fund
The Center for Civil War Photography
President Lincoln's Cottage
Civil War Trust



Please let us know which organization(s) you'd like to see our donations go to. Many thanks for your support!



The SSCWRT is saddened to report the passing of founding member **Truex Upchurch** at the age of 97. We offer our heartfelt condolences to his family.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

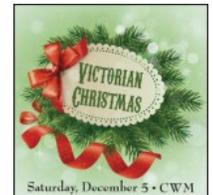


Many thanks to SSCWRT member **Alan Stratton** for his voluminous and generous donation of books! Alan donated many books at our November meeting for members to enjoy. The remaining books will be used for quiz prizes. Thank you so much for your generosity!



AROUND TOWN

The **Civil War Museum** located at 5400 First Avenue in Kenosha, Wisconsin presents a **Victorian Christmas** on **Saturday, December 5** from 11:00 am to 3:30 pm. A day of programs, exhibits, music, crafts, and dance to explore how soldiers and civilians celebrated the Christmas holiday during the Civil War period. For a schedule of the day's events go to: <http://www.kenosha.org/wp-civilwar/events/>.

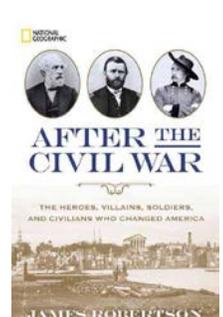


Also at the **Civil War Museum** Gene Salecker will give a presentation on *The Sultana Disaster: What Caused It?* on Friday, **December 11** from noon to 1:00 pm. The Mississippi steamboat Sultana was carrying home over 2,200 recently released Union prisoners of war when her boilers exploded in the early morning hours of April 27, 1865. More than 1,800 people lost their lives—more than on the *Titanic*. What caused the explosion? For more information on this free event please call (262) 653-4141.

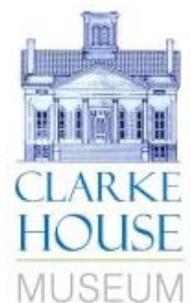


BOOK SIGNING

On **Saturday, December 5** at noon the Abraham Lincoln Book Shop located at 357 West Chicago Avenue in Chicago welcomes **James "Bud" Robertson** for a virtual book signing. Mr. Robertson will discuss his latest book, *After the Civil War: The Heroes, Villains, Soldiers, and Civilians who Changed America*. Best-selling author and Civil War scholar James Robertson tells the stories of 70 key figures who feature prominently in those painful but pivotal postwar years. He reveals the fascinating lives of military masterminds and fearless frontiersmen, passionate politicians and gifted artists. In each entry, captivating anecdotes and illustrations—including antique photographs and artwork—give extraordinary insight into the generation's biggest personalities. Learn more at: www.alincolnbookshop.com/events and order your book today or call (312) 944-3085.



The **Glessner House Museum** located at 1800 South Prairie Avenue and the **Clarke House Museum** located at 1827 South Indiana Avenue, both in Chicago, will have candlelight tours on **Saturday, December 12** and **Sunday, December 13**. Tours are 5:30, 6:00 and 6:30 pm. Admission fee charged. Pre-paid reservations required (312) 326-1480. Docent led tours will highlight Christmas customs and decorations of the 19th century. The **Clarke House** will feature simple decorations of the 1850's era. The **Glessner House** will feature more elaborate decorations of the late 19th century including a live tree decorated with period ornaments. After the tour, stroll over to the **Keith House**, an 1870 Second Empire style landmark mansion on historic Prairie Avenue for light refreshments. The museums will be decorated through January 3, 2016.





IN THE NEWS

On November 17, 2015, the *Fredericksburg Star* reported that a dig following excavation work at the Fredericksburg Riverfront Park has turned up more bones—and most are likely those of Civil War soldiers. Dovetail Cultural Resource Group’s report on the site of the old Prince Hall Lodge 61 at 609 Sophia Street said more than 100 bone fragments were found mixed in with buttons and bits of fabric from Union infantry uniforms and other items in what may have been a root cellar. Dovetail President Kerri S. Barile said that the Rowe–Goolrick house, which was next to the site, served as a hospital during the Battle of Fredericksburg in 1862. There are written accounts from several individuals, including some serving in the 14th Regiment, Connecticut Volunteer Infantry, which describe convalescing on the house’s grounds. If the bones found at the park site are confirmed to be those of Union soldiers, they would qualify to be buried in Fredericksburg National Cemetery.



Dovetail’s archaeological dig at the Riverside Park site uncovered what may have been a Civil War trench

The Smithsonian recently reported that if you live near a Civil War era cemetery, homeowners should watch for toxins leaking out of old graves that could be contaminating drinking water and causing serious health problems. Embalmers flocked to battlefields to embalm anyone whose loved ones could afford it. Recipes for embalming fluid were well guarded, but one popular formula “contained about four ounces of arsenious acid per gallon of water, and up to 12 pounds of non-degradable arsenic was sometimes used per body,” according to the 5th Street Cemetery Necrogeological Study. The use of arsenic was banned from embalming fluid in the early 1900’s. Read more about this discovery at:



Dr. Richard Burr (embalming surgeon) 1863

http://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/arsenic-and-old-graves-civil-war-era-cemeteries-may-be-leaking-toxins-180957115/?utm_source=twitter.com&no-ist



December 7, 1861 –

Stonewall Jackson destroys the West Virginia side of Dam Number 5 on the Potomac River, disrupting the C&O Canal and impacting the Union’s ability to repair the B&O Railroad.



CIVIL WAR WORD SEARCH

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| Abolitionist | Fugitive | Petersburg |
| Antietam | Gettysburg | Rebels |
| Appomattox | Gray | Richmond |
| Blue | Harpers Ferry | Slavery |
| Bull Run | Harriet Tubman | South |
| Confederate | John Brown | States Rights |
| Davis | Lincoln | Union |
| Dred Scott | Nat Turner | Washington DC |
| Fredericksburg | New Market | Wilderness |
| Freedoms Journal | North | Yankees |



SOUTH SUBURBAN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Established 1953



HOLIDAY PARTY



DATE: Thursday, December 17, 2015
TIME: 5:30 pm – 9:00 pm
LOCATION: Aurelio's Pizza
 9901 West Lincoln Highway
 Frankfort, Illinois

Family Style Buffet Dining: \$28.00 per person
 (includes pizza, mostaccioli with marinara sauce, Italian beef, broasted chicken, salad, garlic bread, dinner rolls, dessert pizza, ice cream, soft drinks, iced tea, coffee, tax and tip)
(price does not include alcoholic beverages)

JOIN US FOR SOME HOLIDAY CHEER!

🎸🎸🎸 Music entertainment provided by **THE BATTLEFIELD BALLADEERS** 🎸🎸🎸

Come view our silent auction items!

Mail bottom portion with a check made payable to Gordon Ramsey by December 9 to:

☆☆

Gordon Ramsey
 25311 South 88th Avenue
 Frankfort, IL 60423-8452

gprspinphys@yahoo.com
 (815) 469-0878

PLEASE PRINT:

Member Name(s): _____

Spouse/Other Name(s)Attending: _____

Total Number of Attendees: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____