

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 16, 2015

**SCHEDULE FOR 4th ANNUAL GENERAL W. H. L. WALLACE MEMORIAL
WEEKEND, "LASALLE COUNTY AT PEACE", ANNOUNCED**

Wallace Memorial Committee
Ottawa Avenue Cemetery Association
Ottawa, IL

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The fourth annual General W. H. L. Wallace Memorial Weekend, Saturday and Sunday, August 29th and 30th, entitled "LaSalle County at Peace: The Public and Soldiers Speak" has a new encampment location at Pitstick Pavilion, 3401 N. State Route 23, in Ottawa, IL. This year's living history program will include two battle re-enactments, wandering musicians, coopering and blacksmith demonstrations, a vintage base ball match, and historical presentations.

Saturday's events will include Union and Confederate encampments, training, and military drills. Period demonstrations, sutlers, vendors and food booths will also be set up and the "Battlefield Balladeers" will be performing period music throughout the day.

At 11am, two Catholic archbishops will debate the morality of slavery (both re-enactors are actual Catholic priests). Father Tim Koys from St. James on the Sag, Lemont, will portray Archbishop Baptist Purcell of Cincinnati for the Union and Father Bob Miller from St. Dorothy's Catholic Church in Chicago will represent the Confederacy as an archbishop from Georgia.

After a battle re-enactment complete with musket and cannon fire at 2pm, and an Officers' tea at 3:30pm, the keynote address, "Thoughts of the War, Reconstruction, and The Future," will begin at 5pm. Generals Lee, Grant and Wallace will offer their thoughts and opinions.

At 7:45pm, a bonfire will be lit. In 1865, prominent Ottawans J. D. Caton, T. Lyle Dickey, and Lorenzo Leland built a large fire on the North Bluff to inform the local citizens of the end of the Civil War. On the south side, John Hossack built a corresponding bonfire.

On Sunday, in addition to the Civil War encampment, period demonstrations, and vendors, events will include an early morning church service at for the soldiers with the public invited, a vintage base ball match between the Lemont Quarrymen and the Somonauk Blue Stockings at 11am, and a second battle at 1:00pm, with the Union forces victorious, will end the afternoon.

Admission (which includes both days) is \$5.00 per person, with a family rate of \$15.00. All money raised throughout the weekend will be used for the restoration and upkeep of the Dickey-Wallace Cemetery.

For more information, please visit our website, <http://ottawahistory.org>.