



10828 Caledonia Road
Belvidere, IL. 61008
September 26, 2011

Scott Christiansen
Winnebago County Board
404 Elm Street Room 533
Rockford, IL 61101

Dear Mr. Christiansen:

My name is Paul T. Zeien Jr., I am writing to you and the Winnebago County Board in the following capacities: Commander of John A. Logan Camp #26 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Signals Officer SUVCW Department of Illinois, and as a Private of the Rockford Zouaves, Sons of Union Veterans Reserve. As you can see civil war history and the preservation of the sacrifices made for our country is extremely important to me and the organizations that I am a member of.

The purpose of this letter is to make a passionate and logical appeal to you and the county board in regards to the relocating of the civil war soldier monument currently located at Greenwood Cemetery. Simply stated, the John A. Logan Camp #26 and the Rockford Zouaves are vehemently against locating the civil war soldier statue to the center of the proposed roundabout at Auburn and Main streets. We would encourage and support the relocation of the statue to a place of honor on the sacred grounds of Memorial Hall.

Our membership is extremely passionate about the location as well as the care given to this monument. Many of our members are direct descendants of civil war veterans. Many of those veterans sacrificed everything. By locating the statue in the center of a roundabout in a high traffic area, exponentially increases the risk that the statue will be harmed if not destroyed. Our order is not new to addressing preservation issues such as this one. We continuously fight nation wide to preserve the legacy of the civil war and our ancestral memories. Please do not let our civil war soldier statue enter harms way as so many other monuments across the country have done as of late.

Memorial Hall was built to commemorate the brave that have fought for our freedoms. On June 3rd, 1903 President Theodore Roosevelt dedicated memorial hall and proclaimed "No more fitting memorial, no more fitting monument could be erected than a hall such as this..." he defined the importance of Memorial Hall as being an artifact for generations to come. Logically, we believe that the civil war soldier statue is also a fitting memorial and fitting monument that should be protected and cherished for generations to come. There are many reasons that make logical sense on locating the statue at Memorial Hall. Recently, Mr. Scott Lewandowski outlined ten of the them in a Rockford Register Star



article. Memorial Hall is county property and Mr. Lewandowski believes as we do it should be located with the hall; located on sacred ground, ground worthy of the legacy it represents.

I hope that you and your fellow board members understand our passion and consider our logic behind our desire to place the statue at Memorial Hall. Our organization is tasked with preserving the legacy of our civil war ancestors, making this appeal to you is an obligation we hope will carry some significance in your decision.

Please do not hesitate to contact me anytime at paul@boonecountysports.com or 815-298-5866 in regards to this project.

Respectfully Submitted:

Paul T. Zeien Jr.
Commander
John A. Logan Camp #26
Signal Officer
SUVCW Department of Illinois
Private
Rockford Zouaves