

## **HOW CAN YOU HELP**

1. Make a donation. All donations are accepted, and are tax-deductible. Donations of \$20, \$40, \$100, \$250 or more, whatever you can afford, to honor the fallen of Rock Island County.

Make Checks Payable to:

“Rock Island County Historical Society”

C/O Civil War Soldiers’ Monument  
Restoration Project  
P.O. Box 3384  
Rock Island, Illinois 61204

2. Spread the word to as many individuals, groups or corporations as possible.

3. “Like” us on Facebook.

4. Share any recommendations for us to find possible funding to accomplish our restoration goals.

We will continue to seek the financial support of our fellow citizens and local businesses in this effort to restore the Civil War Soldiers’ Monument.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT**

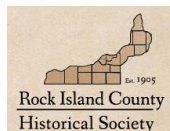


“The power of noble deeds is to be preserved and passed on to the future.” - Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain



A Special Project Organized by the Rock Island  
County Sheriff's Office  
*Sheriff Gerry Bustos*

In Conjunction with the Rock Island County  
Historical Society and the Civil War  
Roundtable-Quad Cities Chapter



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## **The Civil War Soldiers’ Monument Restoration Project**

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## The Civil War Soldiers' Monument Restoration Project

On December 17, 1863 the Rock Island County Board of Supervisors passed a resolution appropriating \$1,500 toward the building of the Civil War Soldiers' Monument. The approximate cost of \$10,000 came largely from public donations. Sculptor Leonard Wells Volk's design was accepted and approved. On April 9, 1869 Volk's Soldiers' Memorial Monument was dedicated. This date was the fourth anniversary of the surrender of Lee's army to General U. S. Grant at the Appomattox Court House in Virginia. This dedication event was attended by approximately 30,000 people. The Honorable Emery A. Storrs of Chicago made a patriotic address to the crowds.

-Some information was obtained from the book: "Historic Rock Island County" -Kramer and Company, publishers and engravers 1908.

A quote taken from the Daily Argus on April 10, 1869 stated:

*"The monument, in its mute grandeur, will attract admiration and stir in its beholders a generous patriotism and reverence for our dead soldiery so long as it shall be gazed upon by the citizens of a free government."*

The honor and respect to the brave soldiers who fought to uphold the Constitution of the United States is now being threatened. The condition of the Monument is deteriorating and is in dire need of your support.

»The Union Soldier that once rested atop the monument nearly fell from its perch and was taken down for safety reasons.

»The soldier is in drastic need of refurbishing. The nose has eroded from the elements, the gun is missing the barrel, and both of the hands need to be re-sculpted due to missing fingers.

»There are lichens on the soldier and monument that need to be removed.

»The monument pillar has several fractures possibly compromising the integrity of the monument.

»Many of the soldier's names have eroded making them unreadable.

» The support backing of President Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, which is located next to the Monument, is breaking up and collapsing.

### Goals and Objectives:

The project will have five phases:

1. Accept bids for the repair and restoration of the Civil War Soldiers' Monument. The projected cost will exceed \$100,000.
2. To clean, repair, strengthen, and restore the monument as close to its original glory as possible.
3. Research and document the names of each soldier on bronze plaques for display.
4. Strip and powder coat the Gettysburg Address plate, and replace the base and backing with a granite support.
5. Hold a rededication ceremony on a date to be determined.

The Rock Island County Sheriff's Office is incorporating the support of community organizations including the Rock Island County Historical Society and the Civil War Roundtable-Quad Cities Chapter. This committee is a non-profit group operating under the auspices of the Rock Island Historical Society, which is a local 501(c) (3) charitable organization.



**Rock Island County Historical Society**  
822 11th Avenue  
Moline, IL 61265-1221  
Phone: (309) 764-8590

Hours: 9:00 - 4:00 Wednesday—Saturday