



May 12, 2011

**U.S.-Dakota War Series:
John LaBatte and the
Battles of Fort Ridgely
Evaluation Compilation**

Attendance: 58

Evaluations Received: 36

Evaluation Summary:

1. Did this program teach you something about the U.S.-Dakota War battles at Fort Ridgely?

36 Yes

0 No

The history of Fort Ridgely.

Outcome could have been very much different for the fort without the cannon fire.

Details that I had not heard before

We got the facts, chronologically given.

Had no idea that the Indians were so involved in the Ridgely conflict.

John knew many, many details I was unfamiliar with. His personal knowledge from his research is astonishing.

Reinforced much of what I knew and mentioned more.

I had never heard the details of the battle.

Much more detail regarding the order of battle.

Details about the fort and approach of the Indians were clear.

Definition of terms.

2. Did this program help you recognize the significance of the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862 in New Ulm and Minnesota?

34 Yes

0 No

Context of Civil War.

Will learn more about the battles.

Much more serious than I thought.

The great importance of the Dakota War during the Civil War.

It made me realize what would have happened in this area had the Indians won.

John could have elaborated on this, but he did talk about what may have happened had the fort fell to the Sioux attack.

Already knew.

I didn't realize it was in that big an area.

The frightening approach of the Indians required a massive plan of defense.

3. Overall, did you enjoy this program?

36 Yes

0 No

This was great! It was interesting and captivating.

4. Please write other comments about this program below:

Very interesting!

Well done — thank you.

Very good. Very good. John LaBatte is well informed. The Power-Point was effective.

Sound was not good.

I have heard John before. I wish more people would listen to him. I wish such programs could convince MHS to spend money to reconstruct Fort Ridgely and promote its importance to MN history.

Very good.

Very informative.

One cannot know too much.

Better sound.

Good overview. Good research. It could have lasted another hour.

Very interesting!!!

5. Where did you hear about this program?

Poster at public library — 7

Word of mouth — 6

Poster in community - 2

Newspaper - 25

Radio - 1

Internet — 2

Other — Wife, Librarian, During the walking tour this past Tuesday 5/10/11

6. Please list suggestions for future programs:

History of Minnesota's Universities and how they were founded.

History of (unreadable) and Steamboat traffic. How South Central MN was settled.

History topics.

Causes of Dakota War — LaBatte

Similar event for attack on New Ulm.

Battle of New Ulm (Indians and settlers)

More on New Ulm history. More on Sioux Uprising using the various monuments in the area to tell the story. The monuments in the city of New Ulm. Schell

Brewery — then and now. John's "Causes of the Indian War."

More

I would be interested in attending John's lecture on the causes of the U.S.

Dakota War.

Detailed information on the conduct of the trials and hanging of the Indians in Mankato.

Would like to learn much more!