

HARDTACK

A Publication of the Indianapolis Civil War Round Table – January 2004

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Vice President – Anthony Roscetti

Hardtack Editor – Debby Chestnut

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Treasurer – Doug Wagner

Quiz Master – Tony Trimble

January 12, 2004

Monday – 7:30 p.m. at the Indiana Historical Society – 450 W. Ohio St.

(Parking in lot north of the Society off New York St. – Please enter via Northeast Door)

The Perils of Spying: A First Person Presentation by Belle Boyd

Presented by Nikki Schofield

Belle Boyd was perhaps the most famous spy for the Confederacy. Legend says that she led men in battle, sat in on war councils, and gave orders to Stonewall Jackson. Learn the true story of this teen-aged girl from Martinsburg, Virginia, who, in her later years, told “The Perils of Spying” on the speaking circuit in both the North and the South. She was the heroine of the Battle of Front Royal. She rode all night to carry a message to Turner Ashby. She was captured on a blockade-runner, taking letters from President Jefferson Davis to England. She married the Union naval officer who captured her ship heading for England, after first converting him to the Southern cause. These are just a few of her adventures during the Civil War. You will hear of many others. Nikki will present a first-person portrayal of this remarkable woman.

About the Speaker: Nikki Schofield is a former President of the Indianapolis Civil War Round Table. She is the Library Director at Bingham McHale, a law firm of 115 attorneys in Market Tower. She is a deacon at Speedway Baptist Church, has two sons and five grandchildren. For the past two years she has served as director of our Round Table’s annual trip. Nikki has portrayed other Confederate women, beginning with Anna Jackson in 1995. Her other characters include Anzolette Page Pendleton, Susan Pendleton Lee, and Mary Jenkins Surratt.

Please bring a friend to hear this month’s speaker.

Dinner At Shapiro’s

ALL MEMBERS AND GUESTS ARE INVITED TO SHAPIRO’S DELLI AT 5:30 P.M.
TO ENJOY DINNER AND FELLOWSHIP PRIOR TO THE MEETING.

From the Board

Hardtack Editor

Please send book reviews, interesting articles, etc. to place in the Hardtack to me at the following: **Debby Chestnut, 441 S. Catherwood Ave., Indianapolis, 46219; E-mail: chestnud@mail.ips.k12.in.us or dchad@indy.net - Phone: 356-5117 (home) or 226-4101 (work); FAX 226-3444.** The deadline for February Hardtack: **January 23.**

Treasurer

We still plan to deliver the Hardtack via e-mail for as many members as possible. Please make your e-mail address available to Dorothy Jones: **joejones@iquest.net** and Doug Wagner: **dougwag@msn.com**

Preservation Committee

Gettysburg Work Detail – Position of the 27th Indiana Volunteer Infantry – November 15, 2003

The scheduled the work detail on Remembrance Day in the presence of thousands of re-enactors, period bands, and tens of thousands of wannabes added to the fun! Regimental units and bands formed up in the parking lot at the foot of Culp’s Hill across from the Position of the 27th and drilled, providing us with entertainment and splendid music.

Veterans of the Gettysburg Work Detail will be delighted to hear that we have the site under control. Spangler Spring Branch is keeping itself flushed out of debris, and the willows and vines haven’t returned to choke the flow of water. The detachment that combed the Branch and Rock Creek piled up 8-10 stacks of windfalls.

The pathway along the stone wall running to the south from the meadow similarly had not grown up. The detachment working that stretch cut up and hauled off two trees that had fallen across the wall and completed cutting up and hauling of a third that had resisted prior attempts.

We took the regimental flag that the ICWRT paid to have replicated to Gettysburg. At the conclusion of about three hours of field work, Color Sergeant Bob Dorn donned his uniform and arms. Sergeant Dorn presented the flag of the 27th Indiana Volunteer Infantry to the Memorial marking its gallant assault.

We then moved from the site of the Monument to a point on Steinwehr Avenue where the five of us enjoyed watching the Remembrance Day parade. In addition to President Lincoln and many Civil War generals, Zouaves, cavalry, colored brigades, widows and children, sailors, and all manner of Union and Confederate infantry.

We believe that a work detail will not be needed this spring.

Volunteers:

Color Sergeant Bob Dorn
Angela Gilmer
Andy O’Donnell
Ray Shortridge
Gary Stair

Prayers Are Needed

Jerry Russell, the father of Civil War Site Preservation, passed away on December 5, 2003. He is survived by his wife, Alice and four children. His efforts on the behalf of all of us who study the Civil War and work to preserve its sites, memories and lessons were tireless. It’s going to be hard filling his shoes. Your prayers for his family would be appreciated.

Also, **Brian Pohanka** has been diagnosed with cancer in several areas of his body. He will soon be undergoing treatments. Brian had an eye removed due to cancer five years ago. He is a great historian and a very interesting speaker on the History Channel Civil War Journal. Please keep Brian in your prayers.

Civil War Quiz

By Tony Trimble

1. Who was the Union Brevet General named for the “Swamp Fox of the Revolution?”
2. What Confederate “First” is generally credited to John J. Chisolm?
3. Name the officer who commanded the Department of Louisiana during Reconstruction. What was his rank.
4. Whose arrival saved Grant’s exhausted troops after the 1st day at Shiloh?
5. Name the Union General whose Civil War career began with a victory on the Mississippi and ended in fighting the Sioux.

Answers to December Quiz: 1) David Twiggs, C.S.A.; 2) Bridget Divers, Union Nurse; 3) Edward Johnson, C.S.A.; 4) John B. Gordon; Alexander Stewart, C.S.A.; 5) Cadmus Marcellus Wilcox, C.S.A.

Seminary Ridge Interpretive Walking Tour

The Seminary Ridge Historic Preservation Foundation has been awarded a \$215,000 grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation to install an interpretive path along the ridge. The total cost of the project is estimated to be around \$500,000.

In order to raise the additional funds, the foundation is selling engraved bricks to form a “seminary ridge plaza” along the walking path, providing lasting recognition for families and friends of Seminary Ridge. Each brick is available for a donation of at least \$100. They are offering this opportunity to civil war organizations and friends before opening the purchase of these bricks to the general public.

If anyone is interested in purchasing a brick, contact the Hardtack editor, Debby Chestnut at 356-5117 for a copy of the donation form with your personal engraving on the brick

Upcoming Event

The Plainfield-Guilford Township Public Library is hosting a three-part Civil War Series beginning in January. The library is located at 1120 Stafford Road, Plainfield, IN. Registration will be required for each speaker. To register, call 839-6602, ext. 115. All programs start at 7:00 p.m. Following are the dates and topics to be discussed:

- ❖ **January 13 - Hendricks County Quakers in the Civil War** - presented by Historian Betty Bartley, curator of the Hendricks County Museum. Quakers faced tough choices during the Civil War. Their religion advocated pacifism, but some felt called to fight in defense of the Union.
- ❖ **February 19 - John V. Hadley's Seven Months a Prisoner** - presented by Historian Libbe Hughes. Danville's John V. Hadley was a prominent lawyer, businessman, state legislator and Indiana Supreme Court Justice. He also fought the Civil War and was captured by Confederate troops. Libbe will talk about his life, including his escape from a Civil War prison. Hadley's book, *Seven Months a Prisoner* was a source for Charles Frazier's award-winning novel, *Cold Mountain*.
- ❖ **March 18 - Battle Flags of the Civil War** - presented by Steve Hill. During the Civil War, US Army regulations called for each regiment to carry two flags, the national flag, and a regimental flag. During battle, the regimental flags served to mark soldier's positions and were also the source of unit pride. Steve Hill of the Indiana War Memorial will show pictures of some of central Indiana's regimental flags and discuss their history.

A Short History of Identification Tags

Arlington National Cemetery is not the only resting place for "Unknown Soldiers." Countless American soldiers have died defending their way of life throughout the history of this nation; many of their graves are marked with a single word, "unknown."

The Civil War provided the first recorded incident of American soldiers making an effort to ensure that their identities would be known should they die on the battlefield. Their methods were varied, and all were taken on a soldier's own initiative. In 1863, prior to the battle of Mine's Run in northern Virginia, General Meade's troops wrote their names and unit designations on paper tags and pinned them to their clothing. Many soldiers took great care to mark all their personal belongings. Some troops fashioned their own "ID" tags out of pieces of wood, boring a hole in one end so that they could be worn on a string around the neck.

The commercial sector saw the demand for an identification method and provided products. Harper's Weekly Magazine advertised "Soldier's Pins" which could be mail ordered. Made of silver or gold, these pins were inscribed with an individual's name and unit designation. Private vendors who followed the troops also offered ornate identification disks for sale just prior to battles. Still, despite the fact that fear of being listed among the unknowns was a real concern among the rank and file, no reference to an official issue of identification tags by the Federal Government exists (42% of the Civil War dead remain unidentified.)

The first official advocacy of issuing identification tags took place in 1899. Chaplain Charles C. Pierce, who was tasked to establish the Quartermaster Office of Identification in the Philippines, recommended inclusion of an "identity disc" in the combat field kit as the answer to the need for standard identification. The Army Regulations of 1913 made identification tags mandatory, and by 1917, all combat soldiers wore aluminum discs on chains around their necks. By World War II, the circular disc was replaced by the oblong shape familiar to us today, generally referred to as "dog tags."

INDIANAPOLIS CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Program for 2003-2004 Campaign

(Programs Co-Sponsored by the Col. Eli Lilly Civil War Museum)

<u>MEETING DATES</u>	<u>SPEAKER</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>
Sept. 8, 2003	Greg Biggs	<i>Nathan Bedford Forrest-Napoleonic Cavalrymen</i>
Oct. 13, 2003	Steve Jackson	<i>Memories of the Blue and Gray</i>
Nov. 10, 2003	Patrick Falci	<i>The Man in the Red Battle Shirt – Gen. A.P. Hill</i>
*Dec. 8, 2003	Gerald Jones	<i>Munfordville, The Forgotten Battle</i>
Jan. 12, 2004	Nikki Schofield	<i>The Perils of Spying: First Person Presentation by Belle Boyd</i>
Feb. 9, 2004	Ken Knouf	<i>Napoleon Collins and the Capture of the CSS Florida</i>
Mar. 8, 2004	Marshall Brinkman	<i>Civil War Telegraphy</i>
Apr. 12, 2004	Richard McMurry	<i>Two Great Rebel Armies</i>
May 10, 2004	Jeff Johnston	<i>Recovery and Restoration of the USS Monitor</i>
Jun. 14, 2004	Lloyd Hunter	<i>18th Indiana Infantry Regiment</i>

