

# HARDTACK

Indianapolis Civil War Round Table Newsletter

<http://indianapoliscwrt.org/>




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February 11, 2008 at 7:30 p.m.

Meeting at Indiana History Center

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*The Plan of the Day*

## Galvanized Yankees, the U.S. Volunteers



Photo taken from cover of Dee Brown's book *The Galvanized Yankees*

A civil war is a complex and heart rending event. It involves deeply held beliefs as well as conflict within every participant. For the men of the South, this was no less true than in any other conflict. But, once captured and incarcerated in the northern prison camps under very trying conditions, some men found their allegiance to the South tempered by their desire to survive the squalor around them. When the opportunity to leave the camps in exchange for their oath of allegiance to their former foe was offered, many found a way to justify their decision to re-join the Union. Some did it because of their lukewarm attachment to the Confederacy, some did so because they liked army life, others joined for a chance to start over. Whatever their reasons, these are the men who became the "Galvanized Yankees."

Six regiments of these former Confederate soldiers were raised by the United States Army. Come hear our speaker chronicle the Union's long slow process of accepting former enemies into its service. Were they traitors to be despised or manpower needed to prosecute the war? Would they desert at first opportunity or respond to military discipline and do as ordered? Could they be trusted? What was the outcome of their service? What about "Galvanized Confederates?" Come listen and enjoy this presentation on "The Galvanized Yankees".

## *Our Guest Speaker*

### Jim Goecker

Jim Goecker has had a life long interest in the Civil War and that interest has led to his active participation in the West Central Indiana Civil War Roundtable for a number of years. Jim's research interests are the 3<sup>rd</sup> Indiana Cavalry as well as military intelligence operations during the war, especially in the eastern theater. He has presented programs at a number of Roundtables in the state of Indiana over the years and will present in 2008 in Clarksville, TN and St. Louis, MO.

Jim has been employed by Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology since 1986 where he is currently Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid. Married to his wife Deb for 30 years, they have two children. His educational background includes a B.S. in Social Science Education and an M.A. in American History from Ball State University. In addition, he holds an M.S. from Indiana State University in College Student Personnel.

### *Roster of Officers and Committees for the 2007-2008 Campaign*

#### *Officers:*

President: Dave Sutherland

Secretary: Frank Bynum

Vice President: Nikki Schofield

Treasurer: Peg Bertelli

#### *Committee Chairs:*

Programs: Nikki Schofield

Preservation: Andy O'Donnell

Website: Paul Watson

Publicity: Dave Buchanan & Tony Roscetti

#### *Quiz Master:*

Tony Trimble

#### *Summer Campaign:*

Nikki Schofield

#### *HARDTACK Newsletter:*

Editor: Jenny Thompson

### *2007-2008 Campaign Plans*

Unless otherwise noted, we meet at the Indiana History Center, 450 West Ohio Street.

March 10, 2008	Union Cavalry at the Battle of Shelbyville	Greg Biggs
April 14, 2008	Spring Hill Affair & the Battle of Franklin	Eric Jacobson
May 12, 2008	"William C. Oates in War and Peace"	Glenn LaFantasie
June 9, 2008*	<i>Topic to be Announced</i>	Peter Carmichael

\* meeting at Primo Banquet & Conference Center, 5649 Lee Road

### *Other Camp Activities*

**"Faces of Lincoln: Lincoln and Politics"** Indiana Historical Society

The exhibit will include a political cartoon by Thomas Nast, illustrative prints, Horace Greeley editorials, portraits, and campaign materials. The display will be in the Lanham

Gallery, Fourth Floor of the Indiana Historical Society, 450 West Ohio Street in downtown Indianapolis from Feb. 11, 2008 through June 21, 2008.

**Civil War Living History Exhibit** at the Brownsburg Public Library, Saturday, March 22, 2008, 1 to 4 p.m.

**Civil War Parks Preservation Day** April 5, 2008

#### **Civil War Cannon Rededication**

Rose Hill Cemetery in cooperation with the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) will be rededicating a Civil War era cannon on April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2008. The time of the rededication is to be announced at a later date. Rose Hill Cemetery is located on State Road 261 in Newburgh. For more information please contact Tim Beckman of the SUVCW Ben Harrison Camp at the following e-mail address: [timbeckman@gmail.com](mailto:timbeckman@gmail.com)

#### **“War in the Ozarks: Trans-Mississippi and Missouri”**

Civil War Preservation Trust Annual Conference at Springfield, Missouri, April 17-20, 2008, at the University Plaza and Conference Center, 333 John Q. Hammons Parkway, Springfield, MO 65806. For more information, please telephone (800) 298-7878 or visit the website, [www.civilwar.org/travelandevents/ac2008](http://www.civilwar.org/travelandevents/ac2008).

#### **The Long Road to Richmond: How Colossal Miscalculations and Audacious Generals Lengthened the Civil War**

Seminar at the College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA, April 20-25, 2008  
Gain a detailed understanding of the battles and consequences of the crucial Civil War campaigns of the Virginia Peninsula in 1861-62. Lectures investigate battles from Big Bethel (one of the first) to the clash of the ironclads Monitor and Merrimack to the “murderous” charge at Malvern Hill. Witness the war’s impact on towns caught in the middle, women left behind, and slaves hungry for freedom. Hike on half a dozen battlefields and experience them from the perspective of the soldiers who fought and died there. Investigate how events on a narrow Virginia peninsula tremendously impacted the politics, strategies, and even the length of the Civil War. Program tuition includes all hotel lodging, meals, and admission fees. For additional information or to register for this week long program, call the William and Mary Elderhostel office directly at 757-221-3649 or email [elderh@wm.edu](mailto:elderh@wm.edu). Please note that this program is sponsored solely by the William and Mary office and is not an Elderhostel program.

#### **Tours at Crown Hill Cemetery**

Join Nikki Schofield for the following tours this year:

Sunday, April 13	Civil War Women
Sunday, May 11	Civil War Generals
Sunday, June 1	Civil War Tour
Sunday, August 3	Civil War Generals and Their Wives (a new tour)
Sunday, August 17	Civil War Tour
Sunday, Sept. 21	Tombstones and Trees (a new tour)
Sunday, Sept. 14	Around the Gothic

## *Special Orders*

### **A Civil War Oddity** (more about the double-barreled cannon in Athens, GA)

Submitted by Gregg Biggs

“The two cannon balls had a chain attached between them so that when the barrels were fired, the balls and chain would spread out and mow down attacking infantry in a much wider swath. You could never get the two barrels to fire at the same time so that when they did, the balls and chain more impersonated a whirling dervish than what they intended.”

### **The Tallest Soldier in the Union Army**

Submitted from Vernon Earle

David Vanbuskirk, a Union soldier from Gosport, Indiana was the tallest soldier in the Union Army. He was 6 foot 10 ½ inches tall and was in Co. F, 27<sup>th</sup> Indiana, which enlisted only 6-footers. The average soldier in the Union Army was 5 foot 8.25 inches tall.

### ***The Forgotten Marines: The Capture of John Brown*** by Dale Lee Sumner

Cost \$19.95 paperback; \$40.00 hardback. Available at [www.lulu.com/theforgottenmarines](http://www.lulu.com/theforgottenmarines)

Oddly enough, the role of the United States Marines during the capture of John Brown at Harpers Ferry (October 1859) has been completely overlooked and essentially forgotten – even by the Marines themselves.

Why were they sent? How were they organized? How did they journey to Harpers Ferry? What actually took place after they arrived there? Was Robert E. Lee really in direct command of them? What kind of a wooden ladder could do what three heavy sledgehammers could not? How and why did the sword that struck down John Brown bend? As one looks into the Marines’ involvement in this bygone confrontation, more and more questions seem to present themselves and demand explanation.

Now, almost one hundred and fifty years after the event, this novel offers an in-depth look at the actions of those heroic, but forgotten Marines.

The author, Dale Lee Sumner, is a retired Naval officer, who as a Third Class Petty Officer, was awarded “Marine of the Month, June 1970”, the highest honor at Marine Corps Air Station in Yuma, Arizona. He was associated with the Marines throughout the rest of his career. He has spent many years as a researcher, a living historian and as a re-enactor, both Federal and Confederate. In 1996, he co-founded the first Civil War Federal Marine Re-enacting unit, “U.S. Marine Detachment, Washington Navy Yard, 1859-1865.” This is his first novel – number one in an expected series of five about “The Forgotten Marines” of the Civil War.

### ***Troubled State: Civil War Journals of Franklin Archibald Dick*** by Gari Carter

Cost: \$34.95 hardcover. Truman State University Press. Available at [www.garicarter.com](http://www.garicarter.com)

Buried for years in family files, Gari Carter's discovery of her great grandfather Franklin Dick's diary has produced *Troubled State*, the inside story of St. Louis' divided and violent history during the Civil War. This important first-hand account of Dick's experiences as Missouri Assistant Adjunct General and Provost Marshall General promises to give new life to the study of politics, power and divided loyalties in the state

of Missouri. Filled with intrigue and raw emotion as well as never-before-heard accounts of such major figures as Nathaniel Lyon, Frank and Montgomery Blair, John C. Frémont and Abraham Lincoln, *Troubled State* is a must-have new resource for libraries, historians, and Civil War buffs.

Franklin Dick's eyewitness account of the events leading up to the famous Camp Jackson incident is just the first of many new insights into the true landscape of Civil War St. Louis. Dick's detailed descriptions of such important moments as the secret Unionist meetings held in his office, and his role in the Assessment Committees formed to punish Southern sympathizers, make this book historically priceless. His frank account of his own emotional journey over the course of the war also makes *Troubled State* an extremely engaging read.

Much like the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Mary Chestnut's Civil War*, Franklin Dick's journals in *Troubled State* offer the Civil War from a truly unique point of view. Dick is an ardent supporter of the Union, but is frequently troubled by the slow progress and terrible cost of the war. For him the divided city of St Louis presents a heartbreaking test of personal strength.

Gari Carter is a multi-published author and expert speaker. Her book, *Healing Myself* (Hampton Roads: 1993), about her recovery from a catastrophic accident, sent her on an acclaimed nationwide book tour. Gari is fluent in Civil War history. She also gives a wonderful talk about her research journey for *Troubled State*, which revealed to her truths about her family as well as about our nation. Gari is available to speak to scholarly audiences as well as on radio and television. For more information contact [www.garicarter.com](http://www.garicarter.com).

## *Official Records*

### **Annual Civil War Trip**

Reserve the dates Saturday, July 12 through Friday, July 18 for the annual Civil War bus trip. Our destinations are Gettysburg, Harpers Ferry, Antietam and Appomattox. More information will soon be available in an upcoming Hardtack.

### *Test Your Civil War Knowledge (with Trimble's Trivia)*

1. Name the Civil War prison that is now the location of a modern city correctional facility.
2. By what name was the 6<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania popularly known?
3. What is a "coehorn"?
4. Who said, "I think I am the proper person to advise Mr. Davis and if I were he, I would be hung before I submit to the humiliation." To what "humiliation" did the speaker refer?

5. “God disposes. This ought to satisfy us,” was a last message left on the desk of a well known soldier and found there after his death. Name him.

Answers to the January quiz:

1. Name the battle referred to in this quotation: “Wounded rebels at \_\_\_\_\_ had fallen in heaps...On the hillside near a deep hollow our men were hauling them down and throwing them into the deep gully. Men were in on top of the dead, straightening out their legs and arms and trampling them down so as to make the hole contain as many as possible.” Shiloh
2. Name the Confederate general who died in the midst of a long-standing feud with James Longstreet over Lee’s command decisions at Gettysburg. Jubal Early
3. This prominent Confederate chose suicide over living under the American flag. Name him. Edmund Ruffin
4. Name the common soldier who wrote in his memoir, “The death angel was there to gather its last harvest. It was the grand coronation of death.” To what battle does the author refer? Sam Watkins on Franklin
5. Name the Union general who is buried at West Point with one of the most ornate monuments even though he never attended the academy. Ironically, he is also the author of a famous tribute to the dead which continues today. Daniel Butterfield

### *Historians and The Soldiers Speak*

Definition of a galvanized Yankee, found in Webb Garrison’s *The Encyclopedia of Civil War Usage*:

“A Confederate deserter or prisoner of war who took the oath of allegiance to the Union. They were also called ‘repentant Rebels,’ ‘transfugees,’ and ‘white-washed Rebels.’ By 1864 six thousand Southerners were recruited into the Union army from prison camps and formed into six regiments. They were sent to the frontier, the Trans-Mississippi Department, where authorities believed they could do little or no harm. Largely consigned to duties such as mail service, escorting wagon trains, and survey and scout work, these six thousand men were nevertheless engaged in several skirmishes and one battle. After the war, few returned to the South to face the scorn of their former comrades, and they were not welcomed into the ranks of Union veterans, so they scattered and found new lives apart from their war service.”

Colonel Richard Owen, quoted in Hattie Winslow and Joseph Moore’s *Camp Morton 1861 – 1865: Indianapolis Prison Camp*:

“After the reception at Camp Morton of a letter addressed by the War Department to a prisoner named Williams, indicating that negotiations were pending for an exchange of prisoners, many persons individually & also as delegates from whole companies, especially of Tennesseans, stated verbally & also in writing, that they should *not* like to be exchanged. Some of them said they would rather remain in Camp Morton than be exchanged; others enquired if there was no mode whatever by which they could hope to see their homes again except by being forced into the southern army again, which they

earnestly desired to avoid.... I think I am justified in the belief that at least two thirds of the men from Tennessee...would regret any circumstances which induced or compelled them again to take up arms against the Union.”

From Hattie Winslow and Joseph Moore’s *Camp Morton 1861 – 1865: Indianapolis Prison Camp*:

“During February and March six hundred Confederates were released in addition to the number who were sent for exchange. Some of them belonged to the large number of prisoners who had refused parole at Vicksburg in 1863, and whose release on taking the oath of allegiance had been ordered some months before. The rest – enough to make up two companies – enlisted in the Union Army and were transferred to duty at Camp Douglas, Chicago.”

From *The Soldiers’ and Sailors’ Half-Dime Tales of the Late Rebellion*, quoted in *A Civil War Treasury of Tales, Legends and Folklore*, edited by B.A. Botkin:

“ ‘What is your government going to do with us when we surrender?’ inquired a reb of a blue-jacket as they stood together on the ‘neutral ground’ between the lines at Petersburg.

‘You must be pretty certain that you are nearly played out, or you wouldn’t ask that.’

‘We are nearly played out; our confederacy is going to tumble right soon, and I am going to ‘git from under.’ I’ve stuck, now, since 1861; enlisted for a year then; been over four years here, and now that they’ve brought my old father, and my little brother, who wasn’t quite ten years old when I left home, I think the jig is nearly up, and I’m going to leave. What are you going to do with us?’

‘Send you home,’ said the Yankee soldier, ‘send you home in good shape; we don’t believe that the rank and file of the Confederate army have any heart in this rebellion; our government blames the leaders only, they’ll have to suffer for all this.’

‘That’s what I always said,’ quoth the rebel. ‘This is the rich man’s war and the poor man’s fight, with us; in your army every one turned in and took a hand, but they didn’t in our country. I believe I’ll get taken prisoner in the first brush we have with you; I’ve been too long here to desert.’

The two men looked into one another’s eyes, and understood each other in a moment.

‘I’ll take you now,’ said Yank, sliding his hand into his breast as though for a pistol (the soldiers never carried their muskets ‘between the lines’); ‘I’ll take you now. You are my prisoner – come in.’

‘All right, my boy; I’ll come,’ said the not unwilling gray-jacket, and in toward our lines they trudged, while half a dozen harmless shots from the enemy whistled around their heads.

‘But say, Yank,’ said Johnnie, after they got safely in, ‘do all you fellows carry pistols?’

‘Pistols? No – what makes you ask that?’

‘Why, when you took me prisoner out there,’ said Reb, with a sly wink, ‘you put your hand into your breast for your shooting iron, didn’t you?’

‘No – I only carry my pipe there – have a smoke?’ said he, presenting the article mentioned.

They smoked, of course, and not long after our soldier received a letter telling him that his prisoner had been ‘galvanized,’ and was wearing the army blue.”

Alexander C. McClurg, Union army, quoted in Otto Eisenschiml and Ralph Newman’s *Civil War: Volume I – The American Iliad as Told by Those Who Lived It*:

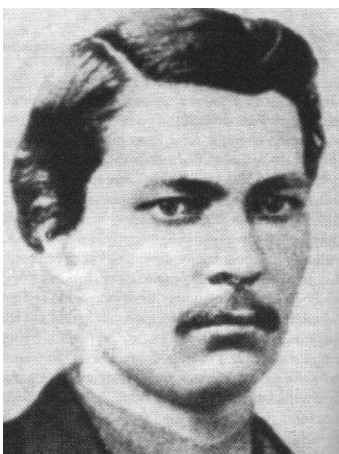
“It was nineteenth of March, 1865. A part of the 20<sup>th</sup> Corps, supported by the 14<sup>th</sup>, had had a sharp engagement with the enemy, under Hardee, at Averasboro and had chased him northward toward Raleigh.... It was now about half past one o’clock, and Generals Slocum and Davis were in consultation in the woods when a deserter from the enemy was sent to them. He belonged to that limited class of ‘galvanized Yankee’ men who had been captured and who, rather than endure prison life, had taken service in the Rebel army. This man told a startling story. General Johnston’s army had by night marches been concentrated in our immediate front and was strongly entrenched. At first his story was doubted; but a young officer recognized him as a fellow townsman and former playfellow. There could be little doubt that he was telling the truth.”

### *Soldier of the Month*

#### **Henry Morton Stanley**

Henry Morton Stanley, quoted in *Dee Brown’s Civil War Anthology*, edited by Stan Banash:

“Finally I was persuaded to accept with several other prisoners the terms of release, and enrolled my self in the U.S. Artillery service, and on the 4<sup>th</sup> June was once more free to inhale the fresh air.”



Henry’s name was John Rowlands when he was born in Denbigh, Wales in 1841. As a teen, he sailed as a cabin boy to New Orleans, where he jumped ship. He was befriended and adopted by Henry Morton Stanley, who insisted he take his name and never drink liquor.

In July 1861, he joined the Confederate Army. He was captured April 7, 1862 at Shiloh and was sent to Camp Douglas in Chicago. With proper authority, the commandant of the camp Colonel James A. Mulligan, enlisted 228 Confederate prisoners, who were Irishmen and other foreign-born. Stanley enlisted on June 4. He became ill with dysentery a few days later, but did not seek medical help until arriving at Harpers Ferry, where he collapsed and was taken to a hospital.

He was mustered out of service on June 22. He walked to a farm near Hagerstown, where a farmer took care of him until he recovered. He worked in Maryland to earn passage on a ship so he could join his adopted father in Cuba; however, when he arrived, he learned his father had died. When he returned to New York, he enlisted in the



U.S. Navy. He began writing newspaper articles about sea and land battles he witnessed. He deserted on February 10, 1865 in Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

He then traveled to the West, where he visited many of the same places that the Galvanized Yankee regiments traveled. “Stanley was a Galvanized Yankee before that epithet was even invented – and then only for a brief time...”

Note: Henry Morton Stanley is best remembered for finding the missing African explorer Dr. David Livingstone, who had disappeared.

### *Historic Sites of the Month*

#### **Camp Douglas and Camp Morton**

Neither camp exists today. Camp Douglas was the Confederate prison camp in Chicago. Images, artifacts, and books and other items can be seen at the Chicago History Museum, located at 1601 North Clark Street in Chicago. More information about this museum and a list of holdings can be seen at [www.chicagohistory.org](http://www.chicagohistory.org).

Camp Morton was located in Indianapolis. It began as a training camp for Union soldiers and later became a Confederate prison camp. Markers were dedicated in 2003 by the Sons of Confederate Veterans and the Ben Harrison Camp of the Sons of the Union Veterans to designate the boundaries at the corners of 19<sup>th</sup> and Central; 21<sup>st</sup> and Central; 21<sup>st</sup> and Talbott; and 19<sup>th</sup> and Talbott.



If you have a short article, book review, or some other item that may be of interest to our members, please submit it via email to the editor at [jkt60@att.net](mailto:jkt60@att.net) by the tenth day following the preceding month's meeting. Please list HARDTACK in the subject line and include your email address in case I need to contact you.

CS Major General Daniel H. Hill, quoted in *The Oxford Dictionary of Civil War Quotations*, edited by John D. Wright:

“The late Civil War was relieved of very much of its sectional character by the presence of so many Southerners in the Union armies. Therefore, it will be in the United States as in all the unsectional civil wars of the world’s history in which race and religion were not involved, - the waves of oblivion will roll over the bitter recollections of the strife. But we trust that fragrant forever will be the memory of deeds of heroism, patience, fortitude, self-denial, and constancy to principle, whether those deeds were performed by the wearers of the blue or of the gray.”

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