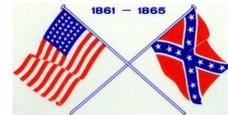


HARDTACK

Indianapolis Civil War Round Table Newsletter

<http://indianapoliscwrt.org/>



March 9, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.

Meeting at Indiana History Center

The Plan of the Day

The Real First Day of the Battle of Chickamauga



Unfinished sketch of Reed's bridge from
The Fight for Chattanooga: Chickamauga to Missionary Ridge, by Jerry Korn

When one thinks of the Battle of Chickamauga, attention is always focused on September 19 and 20, 1863, the two principle days of the action. What has almost been forgotten are the critical events and actions that took place on September 18th that set the stage for everything that took place over the next two days. My presentation will center on the events of September 18th. We will look in detail at the positions of the two armies and the confusion of the command structures of the Army of the Cumberland and the Army of the Tennessee. I will center my presentation on the critical events that took place at the fords and bridges over the Chickamauga Creek. We will look, in detail, at the actions of the Union brigades under the command of Colonels Robert Minty and John Wilder and their attempt to defend the fords and bridges against advancing Confederate forces. The program will pay special attention to the brigade of mounted infantry under the command of John Wilder. In particular, his attached battery commanded by Captain Eli Lilly.

Our Guest Speaker

Dale Phillips

I am a native of New Jersey. I earned my BA degree in American History from York College of Pennsylvania in 1978. I began working for the National Park Service as an interpreter at Gettysburg in 1976. My other duties have included being a law enforcement ranger for the Army Corps of Engineers at Lake Shelbyville, Illinois; an



interpretative ranger at Fort Sumter, Charleston, South Carolina; supervisory park ranger/historian at Chickamauga/Chattanooga National Military Park; unit manager of the Chalmette (Battle of New Orleans site) Unit of Jean Lafitte National Historical Park; and finally unit manager of the Acadian Unit of Jean Lafitte. My present position is that of superintendent of the George Rogers Clark National Historical Park located in Vincennes, Indiana. I have written numerous articles on U.S. military history for various publications. I also work as a guide/lecturer for the Delta Queen Steamboat Company, Civil War Roundtables, and other history touring organizations. My area of expertise is from the colonial period (French and Indian War) through the American Civil War. I am married to Ms. Carol Bernstein of Louisiana. Carol also is an accomplished historian and preservationist. She is currently the administrator of William Henry Harrison's home "Grouseland," which also is located in Vincennes. "Grouseland" was constructed in 1803 and served as Harrison's home and headquarters during his time as governor of the Indiana Territory (1800-1812). We have one daughter, Laura, who attends college in Phoenix, Arizona.

Roster of Officers and Committees for the 2008-2009 Campaign

Officers:

President: Nikki Schofield

Secretary: Frank Bynum

Vice President & Programs: Tom Dean

Treasurer: Tony Roscetti

Committee Chairs:

Programs: Tom Dean

Preservation: Andy O'Donnell

Website: Paul Watson

Publicity: Dave Sutherland & Tony Roscetti

Quiz Master:

Tony Trimble

Summer Campaign:

Nikki Schofield

HARDTACK Newsletter:

Editor: Jenny Thompson

JOIN US BEFORE THE MEETING AT SHAPIRO'S DELI!

All ICWRT members and guests are invited to join us at 5:30 P.M. at Shapiro's Delicatessen, 808 S. Meridian St. (just south of McCarty Street) before the meeting to enjoy dinner and fellowship.

2008-2009 Campaign Plans

April 13, 2009

"48th Indiana"

Steve Towne

May 11, 2009

"CSS Hunley"

Gary Johnson

June 8, 2009 (Banquet)
Harmon

"Thinking Bigger: Gettysburg in Space and Time" Troy

***Note our April and May meeting will be held at Speedway Baptist Church at 2986 Moller Road. Our June banquet will be held at the Indian Lake Country Club on the northeast side of the city.**

Other Camp Activities

Upcoming Lincoln Events in Spencer County

April 14, 2009 – Abraham Lincoln Funeral Reenactment, noon to midnight CDT
A reproduction of President Abraham Lincoln's casket will lie in state in the Spencer County Courthouse in Rockport, Ind. as guards in period uniform keep watch. A wreath laying ceremony will begin at noon. For more information, call 812-489-0365 or visit www.ThinkLincoln.org.

April 19, 2009 – Lincoln Bicentennial Speakers Series, 2 p.m. CDT
This event at the Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial will feature Seth Bongartz of Hildene, the home of Robert Todd Lincoln. For more information, visit www.nps.gov/libo or call 812-937-4541.

April 25, 2009 – Pioneer Day, Rockport Lincoln Pioneer Village, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Costumed interpreters will be demonstrating life in the village and trade techniques commonly used during the period when Lincoln grew up in Southern Indiana. Free admission. Donations accepted. For more information, visit <http://www.lincolnpioneervillage.org/> or call 812-649-9197 or 812-686-2553.

Carmel Civil War Round Table:

- March 18 – Tim Beckman, “The 42nd Indiana and His Family”
- April 15 – Al Harris, “The Battle of Perryville, Kentucky”
- May 20 – a documentary DVD entitled “The Battle of Perryville – The Invasion of Kentucky” filmed on site at the 144th anniversary National Reenactment
- September 16 – Tony Trimble, “Lewis Addison Armistead, Genl. CSA 1817-1863”
- October 21 – TBA
- November 18 – Dr. Wesley Hanson, “Rare and Unusual Music of the Civil War”

We meet at 7:00 PM on the third Wednesday of the month at the Carmel Clay Historical Society's Monon Depot Museum at 221 First St. SW in Carmel.

Special Orders

More info about the Gettysburg flag in Minnesota: (from Greg Biggs) When the 28th Virginia flag was taken at Gettysburg, it was first sent to the War Department where it was catalogued into a book of captured flags and assigned a capture number of WD58. At some point, it was loaned to the veterans of the 1st Minnesota and never returned to the War Department. There are captured flags from Vicksburg, Ft. Donelson, and Corinth that never reached Washington. Many were sent to families or state governors. Some of these are in state collections today. The 1905 flag return only affected flags held by the War Department. Many flags still remain in the North today.

Brakken's Rangers: Brakken was supposedly a newspaper man who formed a cavalry unit in Indianapolis and served as escort for General Siegel. Robert Stevens, of Miami, Florida, is seeking information about this unit. If you know any more about this unit, please email him at robestev@nova.edu.

Original Muster Rolls: I have original regimental Civil War Pay Muster Rolls for the state of Indiana as well as many other states that I am willing to sell. Would any of your members be interested in buying any of these? Please let me know what state and

company you are interested in. The cost is between \$50-\$80 each. THESE ARE ALL ORIGINALS. Please contact me at: Tom Maiyer 419-529-5162

Civil War Cavalry Seminar: “The Cavalry: A Conference on Mounted Warfare” will be held on Friday, March 27th and Saturday, March 28th at Belle Meade Plantation in Nashville, Tennessee. Featured speakers include: Dr. Richard McMurray, Dr. Brian McKnight, Myers Brown, Dr. Lonnie Maness, and Greg Biggs. There will also be a tour of Belle Meade. Registration is only \$65 for the entire program. For more details, call Jenny Lamb at Belle Meade at (615) 356-0501 (email interpretation@bellemeadeplantation.com) or Jeff Sellers at the Tennessee State Museum at (615) 253-0142 (email jeff.sellers@state.tn.us). Registration deadline is March 20th.

The Reel Civil War: The Civil War in the Cinema: Liberty University, located in Lynchburg, Virginia, will present its 13th annual Civil War Seminar on March 27-28, 2009. Featured speakers include Bruce Chadwick; Ron Maxwell; Lee Webb; David Sachsman; Ken Elston, Mel Reid; Katherine Antolini; Paul Ashdown; Dr. Brenda Ayres; Kevin Hershberger; Kenny Rowlette; and Dr. Brian Wills. There will also be numerous exhibits of Civil War artifacts and memorabilia, vendors of Civil War items, and a special exhibit of Civil War movie posters. Friday’s events will be held at the Kirkley Hotel. Saturday’s events will be held in DeMoss Hall on the campus. The seminar will conclude with a special period church service on Sunday, March 29. Admission to the seminar is \$65, which includes all the seminar sessions, Friday night banquet, and Saturday’s luncheon); \$35 for Friday only; and \$40 for Saturday only. For more information, visit <http://www.liberty.edu/index.cfm?PID=8516>

Chambersburg Civil War Seminars:

In the Footsteps of John Brown, April 3-5, Four Points Sheraton, Chambersburg, PA
Stonewall Jackson in the Valley, July 22-26, Plaza Hotel, Hagerstown, MD

Riding with Jeb Stuart, Oct. 9-11, Four Points Sheraton, Chambersburg, PA

For more information, visit <http://www.chambersburgcivilwarseminars.org> or call Cindy Baker at 717-264-7101.

Annual Lincoln Tomb Ceremony: This event, sponsored by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) and the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States (MOLLUS), will be observed on Saturday, April 18, 2009 at the Lincoln Tomb in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield, Illinois. The ceremony will be held at 10 a.m. CDT and will be followed by a luncheon at noon. A ceremony commemorating the founding of the Grand Army of the Republic will be held at the site of Dr. Benjamin Stephenson’s grave in Rose Hill Cemetery near Petersburg, Illinois at 3 p.m. Additional information may be obtained by visiting www.suvcw.org or by contacting Alan Loomis at arlsuvcw@aol.com or 219-464-1332.

Third annual Civil War event at Fort Harrison: This event, “The Sunken Road at Shiloh”, will be held at Fort Harrison on September 19-20, 2009.

Official Records

ICWRT attendance for February:

Final Muster: Former member, Wilda Vass Neely Skidmore, died at her home on Monday, January 19. She was married to our former president, Dick Skidmore, and authority on the John Hunt Morgan Trail. Sympathy notes can be sent to him at 2146 S. Logan's Point Drive, Hanover, IN 47243-9250.

New Book Raffle: We plan to hold a raffle of new Civil War books at the banquet in June. We already have *The Fighting McCoys*. Please donate new books to Tony Roscetti for the banquet raffle.

Alan T. Nolan Memorial Youth Scholarship Fund: The Executive Board of the Indianapolis Civil War Round Table has established this fund to provide membership dues, annual tour expenses or other worthwhile purpose for any full-time student of any age. Please see Tony Roscetti to donate to this fund.

Annual Trip:

Our annual trip (to the Shenandoah Valley) will be Sat., July 11, to Friday, July 17. More information will be in the next Hardtack.

June Banquet: The June banquet will be held at Indian Lake Country Club, 10502 E. 75th Street in Indianapolis on June 8, 2009. The sign up sheet is at the back of the Hardtack.

Book Raffle list:

Clash of Cavalry: The Battle of Brandy Station, by Fairfax Downey

The Civil War Day by Day: An Almanac, 1861-1865, by E.B. Long

The Civil War – A Narrative: Charleston Harbor to Vicksburg, by Shelby Foote

A Pictorial History of the Confederacy, by Lamont Buchanan

The Story of Robert E. Lee, edited by Ralston B. Lattimore

***Anyone wishing to donate books for upcoming raffles should either bring them to Tony Roscetti at the March meeting or contact him to make arrangements for pick up.**

Audio tapes about Chickamauga available from ICWRT Archives:

10/16/86 Gordon Whitney on "Second Day at Chickamauga"

10/17/86 "Visitor's Center at Chickamauga"

Contact Marilyn Hoffman at 849-1906 if you would like to borrow any of the tapes.

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 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.

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

1. Who said "I appeal to you again to constantly bear in mind that not with politicians, not with Presidents, not with office-seekers, but with you, is the question, Shall the Union and shall the liberties of this country be preserved to the latest generations? Where did he say it?"
2. Name the two units known as the "Preacher Regiment."
3. What was the "Stainless Banner?" Where was its first recorded use?
4. What was "dandyfunk?"
5. Who said, "Never mind! Brave men must die in battle. We must seek results." What event was he reacting to?

Answers to January quiz:

1. What is an "inundation"? Where was the only recorded use during the war? *** A dammed waterway in front of defensive works; Knoxville
2. For what was George W. Morse known? *** The Morse Carbine
3. In what unit would you find Company Darling? *** Confederate Partisan Rangers – John S. Mosby
4. What unit was known as the "Wild Riders"? Name the well-known enemy unit defeated by them twice. *** 1st Kentucky Cavalry, U.S.; Defeated John Hunt Morgan twice
5. What important activity did soldiers do, "by the nines"? *** Step by step method loading of muskets and rifles

The Soldiers Speak

The beginning: Private T. B. Kellenberger, 6th Indiana, quoted in *The Fight for Chattanooga: Chickamauga to Missionary Ridge*, by Jerry Korn:

"Our tremendous volley rang along the whole line. At first all was smoke, then dust from the struggling steeds. A few riderless horses were running here and there, save which nothing was seen of that cavalry troop. Thus began the Battle of Chickamauga."

The battle: Colonel Thomas Berry, one of Forrest's cavalry officers, quoted in *The Fight for Chattanooga: Chickamauga to Missionary Ridge*, by Jerry Korn:

"Neighing horses, wild and frightened, were running in every direction; whistling, seething, crackling bullets, the piercing, screaming fragments of shells, the whirring sounds of shrapnel and the savage shower of canister, mingled with the fierce answering

yells of defiance, all united in one horrible sound.... The ghastly, mangled dead and horribly wounded strewn the earth for over half a mile up and down the river banks. The dead were piled upon each other in ricks, like cordwood, to make passage for advancing columns.”

The counterattack: Sergeant J.K. Young, 89th Illinois, quoted in *The Fight for Chattanooga: Chickamauga to Missionary Ridge*, by Jerry Korn:

“The line in front of us stalks grimly into the smoke. Men cheer, but in that awful roar the voice of a man cannot be heard 10 feet away. Men fall to the right and left. The line stumbles over corpses as it hurries on. There are flashes in the smoke cloud, terrible explosions in the air, and men are stepped upon or leaped over as they throw up their arms and fall upon the grass and scream in the agony of mortal wounds.”

That night: A soldier of the 60th Alabama, quoted in *The Fight for Chattanooga: Chickamauga to Missionary Ridge*, by Jerry Korn:

“All through the night, a sharp fire was kept up between the pickets, and, ever and anon, the booming of a cannon, startled us in our troubled slumber, reminded of the carnage of the past day and the coming horrors of tomorrow.”

A member of Lilly’s battery, quoted in *The Fight for Chattanooga: Chickamauga to Missionary Ridge*, by Jerry Korn:

“A great many badly wounded men of both armies lay between the lines. The cries and groans from these poor fellows is perfectly awful. They are more dreadful than the storm of bullets that showered on us all day – friend and foe lying side by side, the friends of each unable to assist in the least. It was the hardest part of the battle to lie within hearing and not be able to assist them.”

The next day: Bushrod Johnson, quoted in *The Fight for Chattanooga: Chickamauga to Missionary Ridge*, by Jerry Korn:

“The scene now presented was unspeakably grand. The resolute and impetuous charge, the rush of our heavy columns sweeping out from the shadow and gloom of the forest and into the open fields flooded with sunlight, the glitter of arms, the onward dash of artillery and mounted men, the retreat of the foe, the shouts of the hosts of our army, the dust, the smoke, the noise of firearms – of whistling balls and grapeshot and of bursting shell – made up a battle scene of unsurpassed grandeur.”

The retreat: A reporter from the *Cincinnati Gazette*, quoted in *The Fight for Chattanooga: Chickamauga to Missionary Ridge*, by Jerry Korn:

“Men, animals, vehicles, became a mass of struggling, cursing, shouting, frightened life. Everything and everybody appeared to dash headlong for the narrow gap, and men, horses, mules, ambulances, baggage wagons, ammunition wagons, artillery carriages and caissons were rolled and tumbled together in a confused, inextricable, and finally motionless mass, completely blocking up the mouth of the gap.”

Soldier of the Month



John Lincoln Clem

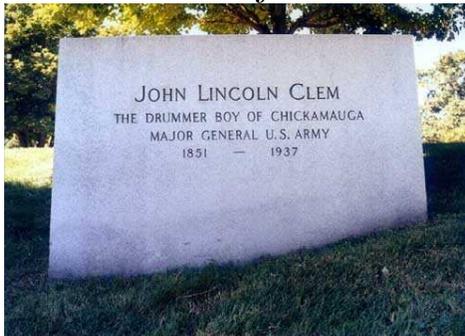
Info from www.findagrave.com and *The Fight for Chattanooga: Chickamauga to Missionary Ridge*, by Jerry Korn

Ohio-born Johnny Clem ran away to war before he was 10. His mother had been killed in a train accident. Born John Joseph Klem, he changed his middle name to Lincoln because of his admiration for President Abraham Lincoln and also changed the spelling of his last name. He applied to the 3rd Ohio Regiment and the 22nd Michigan and was turned down by both commanders. Determined, he tagged along after the 22nd Michigan, acting just like other drummer boys. “He was an expert drummer,” wrote his sister, “and being a bright, cheery child, soon made his way into the affections of officers and soldiers.” Although not enrolled, he performed camp duties and received a soldier’s pay of \$13 a month, donated by the officers.

He made his way, also, into the hearts of Northerners, who found the “Drummer Boy of Chickamauga” a most appealing war hero. He was with the 22nd Michigan in its major battles – Shiloh, Perryville, Murfreesboro, Atlanta – but became famous only after the press extolled his exploits at Chickamauga. Armed with a sawed-off musket cut down to fit him, he shot and wounded a Confederate officer who was said to have galloped upon him shouting, “Surrender, you little Yankee devil!” Other stories had him firing furiously after his drum was ripped away by a shell. He was given a sergeant’s stripes for valor and awarded a silver medal by the beautiful daughter of Treasury Secretary Salmon Chase.

He was captured shortly after Chickamauga, but was exchanged two months later. Twice he had ponies shot from under him, later served as a courier, and was wounded in the hip by a shell fragment. He was discharged in 1864, at the age of 13. After the war, he tried to enter West Point, but was turned down due to his slim education. He appealed to President Grant, who personally handed him his second lieutenant’s commission. He saw action during the Spanish-American War. When he retired in 1916, he was Major General John L. Clem, the last man active in the armed forces who had fought in the Civil War. When the United States entered World War I, Clem, now 65, sought permission to be activated to join the fighting in France, but President Wilson refused his request. He retired to San Antonio, Texas, where he later died.

Historic Site of the Month



Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia – plot: Section 2, Lot 993, Grid S-32.5

Indianapolis Civil War Round Table

Annual Dinner Meeting

Monday, June 8, 2009

at

Indian Lake Country Club *

10502 E. 75th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46236

(317) 823-4484

Buffet dinner will be served starting at 6:30 PM.

Cost is \$21 per person

Menu: Homemade Fried Chicken; Savory, slow simmered swiss steak; mashed potatoes; beef and/or white pepper gravy; bacon infused green beans; kernel corn; coleslaw; dinner rolls/butter; carrot cake/chocolate cake; coffee/tea/soda

Our Guest Speaker: Troy Harmon

* **Directions:** From I-465: Take the 56th Street exit. Go east to Pendleton Pike and turn left. Turn left (north) on to Sunnyside Road. At the stop light at 75th Street, turn left to the entrance on your right. *** From Castleton: Come east on 82nd Street, which becomes 79th Street at Fall Creek Road. Continue east to the stoplight at Sunnyside Road. Turn right (south) to the stoplight at 75th Street. Turn right to the club entrance on your right. *** From the Southeast: Come north on German Church Road, which becomes Sunnyside Road at Pendleton Pike. Continue north to the stoplight at 75th Street. Turn left to the club entrance on your right.

Reservation form (attached below) should be completed and submitted, along with payment, by **June 1, 2009**. Reservation form and payment can be brought to the February, March, April or May meeting or mailed to:

Tony Roscetti

6270 Brixton Lane

Indianapolis, Indiana 46220

----- Please detach and mail this form, along with payment, to Tony Roscetti -----

Individuals attending the Indianapolis Civil War Round Table, June 8, 2009 dinner meeting, including the buffet dinner:

Name

Name

Reservation form and payment must be received by June 1, 2009.

Cost: \$21 per person. Please make check payable to *Indianapolis Civil War Round Table*

Thomas Hart Benton McCain, 86th Indiana Infantry, from *In Song and Sorrow: The Daily Journal of Thomas Hart Benton McCain of the Eighty-Sixth Indiana Volunteer Infantry*, edited by Richard K. and Geraldine M. Rue:

“Saturday Oct 3rd 1863

Clear morning. Picked up the Nashville Courier and saw the definition of the Indian name Chickamauga to be “River of Death”. How memorable in history will this stream be as upon whose banks many a patriot has shed his blood that the country might be saved. Chickamauga! The name will live in the memory of the soldier. One of the most hotly contested and sanguinary battles of the war was fought on its oak bestudded and thickly overgrown banks.”

Indianapolis Civil War Round Table
6019 Allendale Dr.
Indianapolis, IN 46224