

HARDTACK

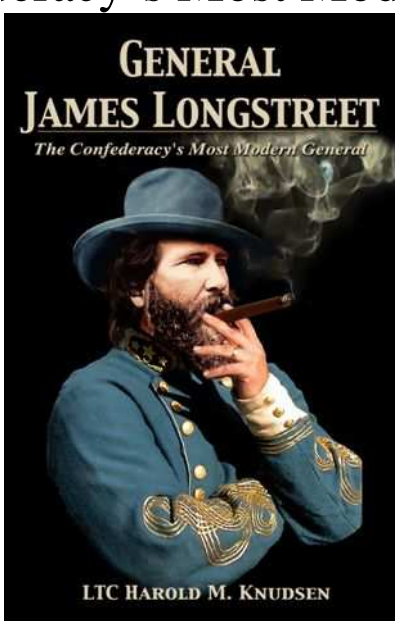
Indianapolis Civil War Round Table Newsletter

<http://indianapoliscwrt.org/>



December 14, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.
Meeting at Indiana History Center

The Plan of the Day
Lieutenant General James Longstreet:
The Confederacy's Most Modern General



While there are many books and writings available on the history of Lieutenant General James Longstreet of the Confederate States Army, nearly the entire body of this historiography marginalizes his accomplishments and is devoted to his falling from grace due to his postwar politics. LTC Knudsen's book aims to look at Longstreet with twenty-first century objectivity, and completely abandons the Lost Cause linked hatred that many postwar elites had for him and his post war politics.

It compares the similarities of Longstreet's innovations and operations to certain aspects of war that became standard in the First and Second World Wars. Interpreting Longstreet through the comparison of his methods to twentieth century methods shows Longstreet was a modern general.

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.

Our Guest Speaker



LTC Knudsen is an active duty Army officer with over 23 years of experience in artillery, maneuver tactics, and staff operations from Battery to Headquarters Department of the Army level. He has combat experience in Desert Storm, commanded an Artillery Battery in Germany, served as Peace Keeper in Bosnia, and has deployed to Iraq and Kuwait multiple times in the current conflict as a Force Manager.

Originally from Chicago, Illinois, his interest in Longstreet actually began in Germany, while at the Combat Maneuver Training Center where he studied his defense at Fredericksburg, and his offensive at Chickamauga in comparison to late 20th century US Army operations and doctrine on nearly identical terrain.

Roster of Officers and Committees for the 2009-2010 Campaign

Officers:

President: Tom Dean

Secretary: Frank Bynum

Vice President & Programs: Chris Smith

Treasurer: Tony Roscetti

Committees:

Preservation: Andy O'Donnell

Website: Paul Watson

Publicity: Dave Klinestiver, Dave Sutherland & Tony Roscetti

Quiz Master:

Tony Trimble

HARDTACK Newsletter:

Editor: Jenny Thompson

Summer Campaign:

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.

2009-2010 Campaign Plans

January 11, 2010	“The Affective Struggles of Abraham Lincoln”	John Wernert, M.D.
February 8, 2010	“If Not for the Ladies: Ladies’ Memorial Associations and the Lost Cause”	Carolyn Janney
March 8, 2010	“Who Lost the Lost Order?”	Dave Klinestiver
April 12, 2010	“Mary Surratt – Innocent or Guilty?”	Nikki Schofield
May 10, 2010	“Lincoln, Terrorism Abroad & the Coming of the Civil War”	Robert May
June 14, 2010	<i>A Dark and Bloody Ground: Sowing the Wind</i>	Michael Willever

Other Camp Activities

Carmel Civil War Round Table:

- January 20 – Al Harris, “June 25, 1862 - The Day the War Could Have Been Won”
- February 17 – DVD presentation, “The Fight for Murfreesboro, 12/31/62 – 1/3/63”
- March 17 – Phil DeHaven, “Toward Glorietta Pass, 3/26-28/1862, Part II”
- April 21 – Alan Hinds, “Battle of Mobile Bay”
- May 19 – Christopher Dennison Brooke, “William Dennison, War Gov. of Ohio and Member of Lincoln’s Cabinet”

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.

Portraits of Lincoln: The Robert Lang Collection: This special exhibit will be on display until January 2, 2010 at the Wabash County Historical Museum, 36 E. Market Street, Wabash, IN. Hours: Tues – Sat. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission: \$5 Adults; \$3 Seniors (60+); \$3 Children (6-12). For more information, visit www.wabashmuseum.org or call 260-563-9070.

Buffalo & Mistletoe: This event will be held December 12 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and December 13 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Buffalo Run Farm, Grill & Gifts in Spencer County. See pioneers, frontiersmen and Native Americans demonstrating the life skills of the Lincoln Era. For more information visit <http://www.legendaryplaces.org/buffalorun/> or call 812-937-2799.

Special Orders

TCWPA Hosts first Three-Star Battlefield Tour at Davis Bridge Battlefield: The Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association (TCWPA) invites you to its first “Three Star Civil War Battlefield Tour” at Davis Bridge Battlefield on Saturday, December 12, 2009, 9:30 – 12:30 pm. This in-depth tour of the recently protected Davis Bridge battlefield is free and open to the public. The battlefield is located near Pocahtonas, TN. You are invited to a free reception, which will be held the evening before, December 11, at 6:30 pm, in Corinth, MS at the National Park Service visitor center. If you’d like to attend the reception and tour, please **RSVP by email** to Executive Director Mary Ann

Peckham, mapeckham@aol.com. If you would like to do **only the tour**, please register online at TCWPA's web site, www.tcwpa.org (Click on "Events" page).

Virginia in the Civil War: A Sesquicentennial Remembrance: This two-DVD set was created by Dr. James I. Robertson, Jr., the Virginia Center for Civil War Studies, and Blue Ridge PBS as an educational resource for the sesquicentennial commemoration. It features footage, commentary from dozens of historians, and a number of other features. This three-hour program is divided into nine 20-minute modules about the background of the Civil War, military campaigns, the African-American experience, leading Virginia personalities, the common soldiers, home front activities, and legacies of the war. Although developed with students in mind, the program can be enjoyed by audiences of all ages. The DVD set can be ordered for \$20.00 (plus \$3.99 shipping/handling) from www.virginiacivilwar.org/education.php.

Official Records

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.

Attendance:

November – 38

Book Raffle list:

The First Flag on the Summit: History of the 15th Indiana Civil War Regiment, by Sam Passo and Bill J. Crane

All for the Regiment: The Army of the Ohio, 1861-1862, by Gerald J. Prokopowicz

The First Day of Gettysburg: Essays on Confederate and Union Leadership, edited by Gary W. Gallagher

Lincoln and His Admirals, by Craig Symonds

The Battle of Gettysburg, With Photographs from the 125th Anniversary Reenactment, by Neil Johnson

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

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

Identify the Civil War personality who was given each of the nicknames below.

1. "Owl-eyed Billy"
2. "Old Wooden Head"
3. "Hard Backsides"
4. "Calico Colonel"

5. "Hero of Pea Ridge"

Answers to the November quiz:

1. On what would you find a "chatoyant face"? Who used the most famous one?
*** Compass face with changeable luster; Jedediah Hotchkiss
2. What innovation was referred to as a "horizontal shot tower" by the Confederates? *** Spencer Rifle
3. "There is no doubt that _____ allowed three distinct occasions to take Richmond slip through his hands for want of nerve to run what he considered risks. Such a general will never command success, though he may avoid disaster." Who said this and to whom was he referring? *** George G. Meade about George McClellan
4. Where was Telegraph Road? (2 battlefields) *** Fredericksburg, Pea Ridge
5. Under whom did the Jessie Scouts serve? How did they get their name? *** John Charles Fremont; named for his wife

The Soldiers Speak

Advice to troops given on June 17, 1862 by Lt. General James Longstreet, quoted in *The Oxford Dictionary of Civil War Quotations*, edited by John D. Wright:

"Keep cool, obey orders and aim low."

Lt. General James Longstreet at Fredericksburg, quoted in *The Oxford Dictionary of Civil War Quotations*, edited by John D. Wright:

"General [Lee], if you put every man now on the other side of the Potomac in that field to approach me over that same line, and give me plenty of ammunition, I will kill them all before they reach my line."

CS Brigadier General James L. Kemper, quoted in *The Oxford Dictionary of Civil War Quotations*, edited by John D. Wright:

"Longstreet rode slowly and alone immediately in front of our entire line [at Gettysburg]. He sat his large charger with a magnificent grace and composure I never before beheld. His bearing was to me the grandest moral spectacle of the war. I expected to see him fall every instant. Still he moved on, slowly and majestically, with a confidence, composure, self-possession and repressed power in every movement and look, that fascinated me."

General Robert E. Lee, quoted in *The Oxford Dictionary of Civil War Quotations*, edited by John D. Wright:

"Longstreet is a very good fighter when he gets in position and gets everything ready, but he is so slow."

Lt. General James Longstreet, quoted in *The Oxford Dictionary of Civil War Quotations*, edited by John D. Wright:

"The General [Lee] is a little nervous this morning; he wishes me to attack; I do not wish to do so without Pickett. I never like to go into battle with one boot off."

About the disastrous assault on the third day of Gettysburg, July 3, 1863

Lt. General James Longstreet, quoted in *The Oxford Dictionary of Civil War Quotations*, edited by John D. Wright:

“[Lee] knew that I did not believe that success was possible; that care and time should be taken to give the troops the benefit of positions and the grounds; and he should have put an officer in charge who had more confidence in his plan.”

General Robert E. Lee, quoted in *The Oxford Dictionary of Civil War Quotations*, edited by John D. Wright:

“Longstreet is the hardest man to move in my army.”

General Robert E. Lee, in a letter to Longstreet, who had advised against attacking Cemetery Ridge at Gettysburg, quoted in *The Oxford Dictionary of Civil War Quotations*, edited by John D. Wright:

“Oh, general, had I but followed your advice, instead of pursuing the course that I did, how different all would have been.”

Lt. General James Longstreet at the Battle of the Wilderness, May 6, 1864, quoted in *The Oxford Dictionary of Civil War Quotations*, edited by John D. Wright:

“Hit hard when you start, but don’t start until you have everything ready.”

Horace Porter, in his book *Campaigning With Grant*:

“General Longstreet, then commanding a corps in Lee’s army, told me, several years after the war, that the evening on which news was received that Grant intended to give personal direction to the army which was to operate against Lee, he had a conversation on the subject at Lee’s headquarters. An officer present talked very confidently of being able to whip with all ease the western general who was to confront them, at which Longstreet said: ‘Do you know Grant?’ ‘No,’ the officer replied. ‘Well, I do,’ continued Longstreet. ‘I was in the corps of cadets with him at West Point for three years, I was present at his wedding, I served in the same army with him in Mexico, I have observed his methods of warfare in the West, and I believe I know him through and through; and I tell you that we cannot afford to underrate him and the army he now commands. We must make up our minds to get into line of battle and to stay there; for that man will fight us every day and every hour till the end of this war. In order to whip him we must outmanoeuvre him, and husband our strength as best we can.’”



Officer of the Month

Info from <http://en.wikipedia.org>

James Longstreet was born January 8, 1821 in Edgefield District, South Carolina. His “rocklike” character earned him the nickname of Peter; he was known as Pete or Old Pete all his life. Although a poor student and a disciplinary problem at West Point, James was popular with his classmates when he graduated 54th out of 56 in 1842. He served with distinction in the Mexican War and served on frontier duty after the war. James married Maria Louisa Garland in March 1848. He resigned from the U.S. Army in June 1861 to join

the Confederacy in the Civil War. After the Civil War, he worked for the U.S. Government as a diplomat, civil servant, and administrator. His conversion to the Republican Party, cooperation with President Ulysses S. Grant, and critical comments in his memoirs about Lee made him anathema to former Confederate colleagues. He moved to Gainesville, Georgia in 1875. A devastating fire on April 9, 1889 destroyed his home and many of his personal possessions, including Civil War memorabilia and documents. Louisa died in December. James published his memoirs in 1896. He married Helen Dortch in 1897. He died in Gainesville on January 2, 1904 and is buried in the Alta Vista Cemetery in Gainesville.

Historic Site of the Month

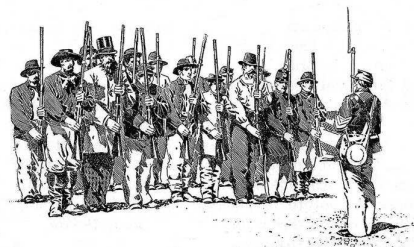
This monument to Longstreet, sculpted by Gary Casteel, was unveiled July 3, 1998. It is located at Pitzer Woods at Gettysburg. Nearby are two plaques giving a biographical sketch and summarizing Longstreet's actions at Gettysburg.



ATTENTION: For members who have not renewed their membership, this is the last Hardtack you will receive. Please renew your membership this month so you will not miss the next Hardtack. Visitors and guest speakers will still receive complimentary Hardtacks.

Re-enlist NOW for the 2009-2010 Campaign

All ICWRT members may continue to receive the monthly newsletter, HARDTACK, via email at no additional charge. Members who prefer to receive the HARDTACK by U.S. Mail are asked to pay an additional \$12.00 to help cover printing and mailing costs.



Please bring your completed re-enlistment form (below) together with your payment to Tony Roscetti, ICWRT Treasurer, at the next Round Table meeting, or mail your re-enlistment form and payment to:

Tony Roscetti
6270 Brixton Lane
Indianapolis, Indiana 46220

Phone: (317) 475-9227
Email: anthony.roschetti@nationalcity.com

Please complete and detach the form below and include with your check:

ICWRT Membership Enlistment for July 2009 thru June 2010

Please print legibly!

Name..... Date

Address.....
.....

Phone: (.....) Email Address:

We must have a valid email address if you wish to receive the HARDTACK newsletter free of charge!

(please specify Membership Level):

_____ **\$30 Individual** _____ **\$35 Family** _____ **\$15 Student**

_____ **I wish to receive the newsletter via U.S. Mail for an additional \$12**

In addition to my membership dues, please accept my generous gift of \$ _____
to the ICWRT general operating account (This donation is not tax deductible)

If someone invited you to join the ICWRT, please list his or her name below:

Lt. General James Longstreet, quoted in *The Oxford Dictionary of Civil War Quotations*, edited by John D. Wright:

“It is well known that after driving off attacking forces, if immediate pursuit can be made, so that the victors can go along with the retreating forces, pell-mell, it is well enough to do so; but the attack should be immediate.”

Indianapolis Civil War Round Table
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