



HARDTACK

Indianapolis Civil War Round Table Newsletter

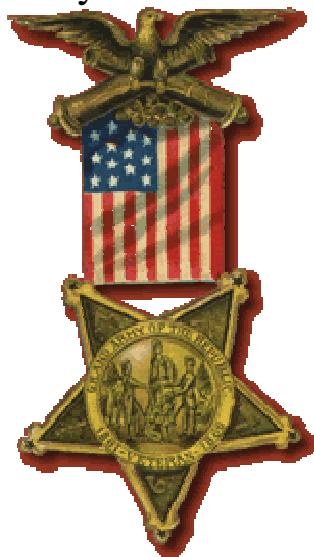
<http://indianapoliscwrt.org/>



March 14, 2011 at 7:30 p.m.

Meeting at Indiana History Center

The Plan of the Day The History of the GAR Badge



Our speaker will present a very brief history of the GAR. He will explain the GAR's relationship with the UVL, UVU, Boys in Blue and MOLLUS organization. He will describe the first GAR badge (3-BN Badge) and its history. He will also describe the second 3BN style badge along with the Medal of Honor style no. 3 badge and the next three modifications to this badge. He will have examples of all of these badges at the meeting.

Our Guest Speaker



Dan Mitchell has been a member of ICWRT since the early 1960s and has served in many offices, including president, and on committees. Many wonderful friendships have

been made. The friendships have led to some of the following organizations: Company of Military Historians (Fellow), President of Civil War Veterans Historical Association, Confederate Stamp Association, Military Uniform Collectors Society, Indiana Historical Society Collection Board, Johnson County Historical Association, Council on America's Military Past, Society for Military History, and Teddy Roosevelt Society. Publications are in the *Encyclopedia of Indianapolis*, *Johnson County Historical News*, and various historical papers. Dan's main interest is in the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), the Mississippi Marine Brigade, and Civil War and Military history in general. Dan is now retired from the insurance business in Franklin.

JOIN US BEFORE THE MEETING AT SHAPIRO'S DELI!

All ICWRT members and guests are invited to join us at 6:00 P.M. at Shapiro's Delicatessen, 808 S. Meridian St. (just south of McCarty Street) before the meeting to enjoy dinner and fellowship.

Roster of Officers and Committees for the 2010-2011 Campaign

Officers:

President: Chris Smith

Secretary: Frank Bynum

Vice President & Programs: Jerry Thompson

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:

Tony Trimble

2010-2011 Campaign Plans

April 11, 2011

Theodore Roosevelt and the Civil War

Gib Young

May 9, 2011

History of the Gun

Mike Marsh

June 13, 2011

The Trent Affair: Lincoln Dodged a Bullet

Howard Strouse

Other Camp Activities

Camp Tippecanoe Civil War Round Table meetings at 7 p.m. at the Tippecanoe Arts Federation Building, 638 North Street, Lafayette, only a few blocks northeast of the downtown square and historic courthouse:

- April 12: "The Real First Day of Chickamauga (September 18, 1863)" Dale Philipps
- May 10: "Demobilizing Union Soldiers: The Grand Review Victory Parade in Washington" Bob Bain

Indianapolis Crossroads of America 2010 Civil War/ Political Show: This show will be held Friday, April 1 (4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.) and Saturday, April 2 (9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.) in the main gym of Beech Grove High School, 5330 Hornet Avenue, Beech Grove, IN. All profits will be donated to the Beech Grove High School Student Incentive Fund. For more information, contact Harvey W. Warrner at Ironbrigaderelics.com or 317-784-2617.

Civil War Heritage Days – Hendricks County: The Danville Public Library and Hendricks County Historical Museum are sponsoring Civil War Heritage Days – Hendricks County. Currently plans are being made for the festival which will be June 25 & 26, 2011. If you or someone you know would be interested in helping with the festival, please contact Gail at 696-3129 or Cindy at 745-2604. Events will include Civil War Units, Agriculture & Transportation Display, Music, Civil War Ancestor Show & Tell, High Tea, Quilt Display, Church Service and many other activities.

Special Orders

A Great Bronze Tarnished by Neglect: (*The Wall Street Journal*, January 8, 2011)
 “The most artistically accomplished memorial in Washington, D.C. – as well as the most overlooked – is that of Gen. Ulysses S. Grant....Standing at the east end of the Mall, facing the Lincoln Memorial to the west, with the Washington Monument in between, its prominent location reflects Grant’s once-towering reputation in the eyes of his countrymen. Sadly, most visitors who linger there today do so merely to photograph the Capital looming behind it....The memorial was dedicated on April 27, 1922, the centenary of Grant’s birth....Today the memorial is difficult to see to advantage because the Capitol Reflecting Pool, installed in 1979, blocks a direct approach from the front. This pointless water feature should be removed immediately and ‘Union Square,’ as the area is officially known, relandscaped to permit a proper viewing and appreciation of Mr. Shrady’s masterpiece. And the memorial is tarnished by years of exposure and neglect.”

Weider History Group Special Offer: *1861: Hell Breaks Loose* is the first in a series of annual collector’s editions the Weider History Group is publishing for the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War. The official on-sale date of this magazine is March 2, 2011. With a minimum order of 20 copies, you can buy this unique special for \$5.00 per copy, instead of the newsstand rate of \$9.99. Jenny has a copy of this magazine and will bring it to the March meeting. Please see her if you would like to preview the magazine before purchasing your own copy. If you would like to purchase this magazine, please give your name to Tony Roscetti. When we have twenty people signed up, he will contact you for the money needed to place the order.

Official Records

Attendance:
 February – 35

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.

Book Raffle:

Gallant Fourteenth: The Story of an Indiana Civil War Regiment, by Nancy Niblack Baxter

Brothers in Gray, Book II: The Alternative History Trilogy, by R.W. Richards

The War the Women Lived: Female Voices From the Confederate South, by Walter Sullivan

To the North Anna River: Grant and Lee, May 13-25, 1864, by Gordon C. Rhea

Images of the Civil War, paintings by Mort Kunstler and text by James M. McPherson

***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.**

War in Tennessee: CHATTANOOGA & KNOXVILLE, JULY 13-17, 2011

Tour Coordinator: Tony Trimble, 1714 Beech Dr. N. Plainfield, IN 46168;

Phone: 317-839-5817; email: tonytrimble@comcast.net **Sign Up Deadline: May 1, 2011**

WE MUST HAVE 38 PEOPLE MINIMUM FOR THE TRIP. IF WE DO NOT REACH THAT NUMBER, THE TRIP WILL BE CANCELLED.

ITINERARY

Tuesday, July 13—Depart from Holiday Inn Airport Indianapolis, 7:30 AM; Lunch in Hendersonville, Tn.; Stones River National Battlefield, Murfreesboro, Tn.; Arrive in Chattanooga; Dinner

Wednesday, July 14—Tour Chickamauga National Military Park, Visitors Center & Museum; Lunch on the Battlefield;

Thursday, July 15—Battles for Chattanooga Electric Map; Tour Lookout Mtn. Battle Sites; Lunch; Tour Missionary Ridge & Orchard Knob; Visit Chattanooga National Cemetery; Dinner at Buttonwillow Church;

Friday, July 16—Depart Chattanooga, 8:00 AM; Arrive in Knoxville 10:00 AM; Tour Civil War sites including: Bleak House (Confederate Hall); 2nd Presbyterian Church; Cherokee Heights; Fort Hill; Forts Dickinson & Stanley; Battery Wiltsie; National Cemetery; Fort Sanders (Lunch & Dinner at appropriate times)

Saturday, July 17—Depart Knoxville, 8:00 AM; Tour Richmond Battlefield (KY) and Civil War sites in Lexington including John Hunt Morgan house; Todd House; John Hunt Morgan Equestrian Statue; and City Cemetery; Arrive Indianapolis 7:00 PM.

A Dark and Bloody Ground: Reaping the Whirlwind: If you would like to pre-order a copy of Michael Willever's book, please send your name and address to him at mwillever@comcast.net.

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

1. Name the Confederate state that sent the most troops and suffered the most casualties.

2. What area of the Confederacy has been described as, “a salvage yard for senior Confederate officers deemed malcontents and incompetents?”
3. Name the Lincoln Administration official whose enemies called him, “the meanest man in Washington?”
4. On what battlefield would you find Benner’s Hill?
5. Who first described the Civil War as an, “irrepressible conflict?”

Answers to the February quiz:

1. Name the general whose great grandfather was a signer of the Declaration of Independence. *** Benjamin Harrison
2. What nickname was adopted by the 40th New York following the death of a beloved officer? *** Elsworth’s Avengers
3. Who were the “Immortal 600?” *** Confederate prisoners confined in a combat zone as retaliation for similar treatment of Federal prisoners by the Confederates.
4. What was the “Petersburg Express?” *** A flatbed railroad car with a mortar known as the “Dictator” mounted on it
5. What unit was known as the “La Garde Lafayette” and “Les Gardes des Fourchettes?” Who was its commanding officer? *** 55th New York Infantry; Col. Regis de Trobriand

The Soldiers Speak

“An Address by an Ex-Confederate Soldier to the Grand Army of the Republic”

Maurice E. Thompson

The Columbia Book of Civil War Poetry, edited by Richard Marius

I
 I was a rebel, if you please,
 A reckless fighter to the last,
 Nor do I fall upon my knees
 And ask forgiveness for the past.

A traitor? *I* a traitor? No!
 I was a patriot to the core;
 The South was mine, I loved her so,
 I gave her all, - I could no more.

You scowl at me. And was it wrong
 To wear the gray my father wore?
 Could I slink back, though young and strong,
 From foes before my mother’s door?

My mother’s kiss was hot with fight,
 My father’s frenzy filled his son,
 Through reeking day and sodden night

My sister's courage urged me on.

And I, a missile steeped in hate,
Hurled forward like a cannon-ball
By the resistless hand of fate,
Rushed wildly, madly through it all.

I stemmed the level flames of hell,
O'er bayonet bars of death I broke,
I was so near when Cleburne fell,
I heard the muffled bullet stroke!

But all in vain. In dull despair
I saw the storm of conflict die;
Low lay the Southern banner fair,
And yonder flag was waving high.

God, what a triumph had the foe!
Laurels, arches, trumpet-blare;
All around the earth their songs did go,
Thundering through heaven their shouts did tear.

My mother, gray and bent with years,
Hoarding love's withered aftermath,
Her sweet eyes burnt too dry for tears,
Sat in the dust of Sherman's path.

My father, broken, helpless, poor,
A gloomy, nerveless giant stood,
Too strong to cower and endure,
Too weak to fight for masterhood.

My boyhood's home, a blackened heap
Where lizards crawled and briars grew,
Had felt the fire of vengeance creep,
The crashing round-shot hurtle through.

I had no country, all was lost,
I closed my eyes and longed to die,
While past me stalked the awful ghost
Of mangled, murdered Liberty.

The scars upon my body burned,
I felt a heel upon my throat,
A heel that ground and grinding turned
With each triumphal trumpet note.

“Grind on!” I cried, “nor doubt that I,
 (If all your necks were one and low
 As mine is now) delightedly
 Would cut it by a single blow!”

II That was dark night; but day is here,
 The crowning victory is won;
 Hark, how the sixty millions cheer,
 With Freedom’s flag across the sun!

I a traitor! Who are *you*
 That dare to breathe that word to me?
You never wore the Union blue,
 No wounds attest *your* loyalty!

I do detest the sutler’s clerk,
 Who skulked and dodged till peace had come,
 Then found it most congenial work
 To beat the politician’s drum.

I clasp the hand that made my scars,
 I cheer the flag my foeman bore,
 I shout for joy to see the stars
 All on our common shield once more.

I do not cringe before you now,
 Or lay my face upon the ground;
 I am a man, of men a peer,
 And not a cowering, cudgled hound!

I stand and say that you were right,
 I greet you with uncovered head,
 Remembering many a thundering fight,
 Where whistling death between us sped.

Remembering the boys in gray,
 With thoughts too deep and fine for words,
 I lift this cup of love to-day
 To drink what only love affords.

Soldiers in blue, a health to you!
 Long life and vigor oft renewed,
 While on your hearts, like honey-dew,
 Falls our great country’s gratitude.

Officer of the Month

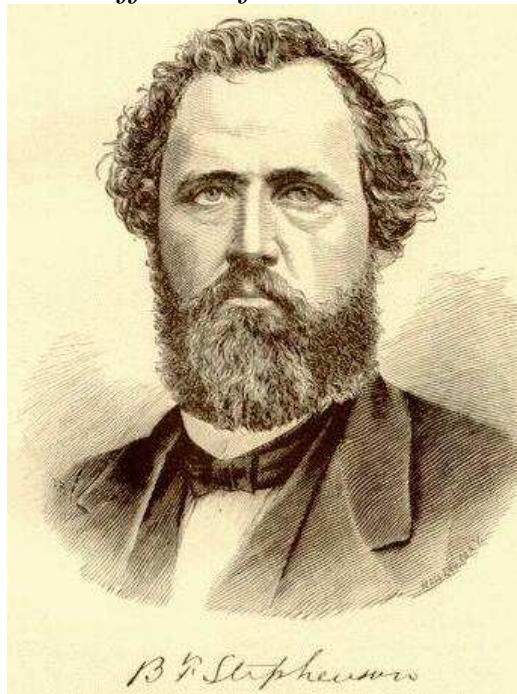


Photo and information from <http://suvvw.org/garcinc/bfsteven.htm>

Dr. Benjamin F. Stephenson was the founder of the Grand Army of the Republic and the provisional commander-in-chief from April 6, 1866 to November 21, 1866. "On the organization of the 14th Illinois Infantry he was elected surgeon of the regiment by the officers and enlisted men, but another doctor was commissioned. Later he was mustered in as surgeon of the 14th Illinois Infantry at Pittsburg Landing, April 7, 1862. He served with the regiment through all its campaigns as part of the Army of the Tennessee. As a result of his action at Shiloh he was commissioned major by Governor Yates. The 3 year term of the regiment expired June 24, 1864, and it was mustered out of service. He returned to Springfield, Ill., to resume the practice of medicine and became connected with a firm of druggists. During the service in the Army his tent mate and close companion was the chaplain of the regiment, Rev. W.J. Rutledge, a native of Virginia. They often discussed what would be the future of the men and boys in the Union Armies after the war and from these talks came the foundation for the organization of the Grand Army of the Republic.... he never lost an opportunity to discuss with former soldiers the possibility of a society to bind them closer together, and so as a result of these efforts on April 6, 1866, in Decatur, Ill, there was formed post No. 1 of the Grand Army of the Republic with 12 charter members. Dr. Stephenson then worked enthusiastically to promote the formation of more posts, often neglecting his own personal interests. Then came one disappointment after another, for the first departmental encampment called in Springfield, Ill, in July 1866, another was elected department commander, an honor which should have gone to Dr. Stephenson. Again at the first national encampment held in Indianapolis, Ind., in 1866 he expected to be chosen commander-in-chief, but had to see his friend General Hurlbut chosen instead. He was, however, appointed adjutant general and the work of the organization became uppermost in his mind. He died at Rock Creek, Menard County, Ill, August 30, 1871, in the 48th year and was buried in the

cemetery there. August 29, 1882, the body was removed to the Soldiers Plot in Rose Hill Cemetery, Petersburg, Ill, where a beautiful monument has been erected by public subscription to the founder of the Grand Army of the Republic.”

Historic Site of the Month



Photo and information from <http://civilwarmuseumnc.org/index.html>

The Civil War Veterans Museum at the GAR Memorial Hall: “At one time, there were more than one hundred Grand Army of the Republic Halls in Nebraska. Only four remain today. The Nebraska City GAR Hall, built in 1894, is the only one of these halls in the state that has undergone restoration and development as a Civil War and GAR museum. In addition, it is the largest Civil War Museum in the Midwest. The Hall is a reminder to us and our children of the presence of Civil War veterans in Nebraska City and the role they played in the growth of the community, state and nation after the war. Dedicated to the memory of the Union and Confederate veterans, the Hall is being maintained so that it may once again serve the community as a meeting place, research library and historical museum.” It is located at 910 First Corso, across from the library in Nebraska City. It is open from noon to 4 p.m. every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from the last weekend in April through the end of October. Visit <http://civilwarmuseumnc.org/index.html> to see pictures of the interior of the hall.

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.

Re-enlist NOW for the 2011-2012 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
6260 Green Leaves Road
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 2011 thru June 2012

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:

Indianapolis Civil War Round Table

Annual Dinner Meeting

Monday, June 13, 2011

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 \$22 per person (includes tax and tip)

Menu: Fried chicken; savory, slow simmered Swiss steak; mashed potatoes and gravy; green beans; corn; coleslaw; fresh baked bread & butter; carrot cake; coffee/tea/soda

Our Guest Speaker: Howard Strouse

*** 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. **A round of golf could be arranged for the afternoon. Contact Jean Bly to arrange times (phone 823-6425 or cell 697-1280)**

Reservation form (attached below) should be completed and submitted, along with payment, by **June 1, 2011**. Reservation form and payment can be brought to the March, April or May meeting or mailed to:

***Tony Roscetti
6260 Green Leaves Road
Indianapolis, Indiana 46220***

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

**Individuals attending the Indianapolis Civil War Round Table, June 13, 2011
dinner meeting, including the buffet dinner:**

Name

Name

Reservation form and payment must be received by June 1, 2011.

Cost: \$22 per person. Please make check payable to *Indianapolis Civil War Round Table*

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