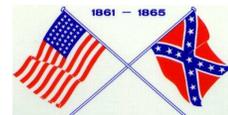


HARDTACK

Indianapolis Civil War Round Table Newsletter

<http://indianapoliscwrt.org/>



October 11, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.

Meeting at Indiana History Center

The Plan of the Day **Battle of Franklin, Tennessee**



Battle of Franklin, by Kurz and Allison, 1891

A battle took place on the 30th of November 1864, in Franklin, Tennessee. That particular fight would comprise perhaps the bloodiest moments and hours in American military history. Most of the ten thousand casualties that fell there literally fell in mere moments.

Our Guest Speaker



A native of Indiana, **David Fraley** spent twelve years with the Carter House Museum, and four with the Lotz House Museum, on the Franklin, Tennessee Battlefield, of November 30, 1864. He has been featured on the History Channel's "Civil War Combat Series: The Battle of Franklin," and sat on the board of directors of the "Save the Franklin Battlefield" group, as well as the City of Franklin's Battlefield Taskforce. He is

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:

- October 12: “From California Here We Come: The Golden State in the Civil War” Greg Biggs
- November 9: “Civil War at Fort Wayne” John R. Weaver
- December 14: “Wilder and the Lightning Brigade” Donald Parman
- January 11: “Modern President: Lincoln and High Technology in the Civil War” Vernon Dahlstrom
- February 8: “Steamships and the Civil War: The Role of Cornelius Vanderbilt, American’s First Tycoon” Jim Kaiser
- March 8: “Confederates in Indiana: The Raid of John Hunt Morgan” Jim Turley
- 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

Carmel Civil War Round Table meetings at 7 p.m. on the third Wednesday of the month at the Carmel Clay Historical Society’s Monon Depot Museum at 221 First St. SW in Carmel:

- October 20: “Who Lost the Lost Order” Dave Klinestiver
- November 17: “Galvanized Yankees” Jim Goecker
- March 16: “CSA Brig. Gen. William E. ‘Grumble’ Jones” Phil DeHaven

Monroe County Civil War Round Table mourns the loss of their President, David Wiley, who passed away in July. He had been with the Round Table since its earliest days and had a measurable impact on the success of the group. David was also a member of the Sons of Union Veterans, Ben Harrison Camp. He will be greatly missed.

Special Orders

Nation’s Oldest Civil War Monument Arrived at the Frazier Museum, Louisville, KY August 18, 2010

Clarksville, TN Civil War Roundtable September 2010 newsletter

The nation’s oldest existing Civil War memorial, known as the “Bloedner Monument,” is on loan to the Frazier Museum’s lobby for a minimum of ten years, where visitors can see it for free. The Bloedner Monument, whose official name is the 32nd Indiana Infantry Monument, was carved in the weeks following the 1861 Battle of Rowlett’s Station near Munfordville, Ky., and recently was conserved by Conservation Solutions, Inc. at the University of Louisville, following decades of exposure at Cave Hill National Cemetery where it had been since 1867. The Battle of Rowlett’s Station was a one-hour skirmish on December 17, 1861 during which the 32nd Indiana Infantry, a regiment of German-Americans, warded off a Confederate attack. Union Pvt. August Bloedner used a natural

outcrop of limestone to fashion the 3,500-pound monument to honor thirteen of his fellow soldiers killed in battle. It was placed on the graves at Munfordville before the infantry marched on. In 1867, the remains of eleven of the soldiers and their monument were moved to the northwest corner of historic Cave Hill National Cemetery in Louisville. A new monument designed to pay homage to the original will be returned to Cave Hill next year with informational markers.

Official Records

Attendance:

September – attendance not taken

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:

The Killer Angels, by Michael Shaara

The Civil War, by Harry Hansen

Reveille in Washington: 1860-1865, by Margaret Leech

No Turning Back: The Beginning of the End of the Civil War, March – June 1864, by Don Lowry

Riot and Resurgence: Tullahoma to Meridian, by Shelby Foote

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

Final Roll Call: Former member, Philip Fisher, passed away on September 7. He was a member of our Round Table from 1991 – 2007. He and his wife visited many Civil War battlefields throughout the U.S.

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

1. On what battlefield would you find the home of Robert Cravens?
2. On what battlefield would you find land owned by the Widow Tapp?
3. If you are a senior cadet at West Point and having trouble in math, you should rub the right spur on the statue of what Civil War general?
4. Who said, "This was not war, it was murder"? Of what battle was he speaking?
5. In the excitement of Missionary Ridge, what happened to Col. Charles Harker?

Answers to the September quiz:

1. Who was Orion House. At what battle did he distinguish himself? *** 14 year old drummer boy who won the Medal of Honor at Vicksburg
2. At what battle site would you find Brown's Ferry? *** Chattanooga/ Lookout Mountain
3. Name the Union general who was a former mayor of San Francisco. *** Brig. Gen. John W. Geary

4. Name Grant's best friend from West Point who was killed in the Wilderness. ***
Brig. Gen. Alexander Hays
5. On what battlefield would you find Laurel Hill? *** Spotsylvania

The Soldiers Speak

S.W. Rodgers of 113th OH inf. captures a bushwhacker, story found in Washington Davis's *Camp-fire Chats of the Civil War*. (Chicago: A.B. Gehman, 1887), 158-159. "While a portion of the army was lying at Franklin, Tenn., in the spring of 1863, a number of Johnnies were encamped in Spring Hill, only six miles distant. There had been considerable skirmishing between the two armies, and bushwhacking on all sides; and a certain picket post in Grass Creek valley, just where the skirmish line crossed the stream, was being molested continually.

Accordingly one night, a brave, stout young fellow was posted there, who was thought equal to any emergency. He kept quiet for a time, but finally perfected a scheme in his mind to entrap the wary bushwhacker who disturbed the place. He made the outline of a man with some sticks, then threw an old coat over the frame, and with a long stick as a substitute for a gun at support, the bogus sentinel was ready to receive the bushwhacker's bullet.

There were two or three other boys besides the sentinel waiting to assist in capturing the bushwhacker, if their aid should be needed. All hands were not much more than well hidden before 'Whang!' went the bushwhacker's bullet through the supposed sentinel at his post. At the crack of the gun, the young fellow who had been ordered to the post started on a lively race through the brush, and before he had gone many yards he succeeded in overtaking the bushwhacker, and laid his strong arm on him.

'Come on, boys,' called the sentinel to his comrades 'I've caught the rascal!' The bushwhacker had not a word to say. He was taken to a spot where the moonlight could shine full in his face, and was found to be a person who lived near the camp, and had peddled pies, milk, bread and cakes to the soldiers that very day. He had preached sometimes in the neighborhood, and pretended to cover his dark career with the meek and lowly garb of Christianity. But alas!

Truth, crush'd to earth, shall rise again:
The eternal years of God are hers;
But Error, wounded, writhes with pain,
And dies among his worshipers.

The result was that summary punishment was meted out to this despicable man at the hands of the outraged soldiers."

Sam Watkins, quoted in *The Oxford Dictionary of Civil War Quotations*, edited by John D. Wright (New York: Oxford University Press, 2006), 419.

"The death angel was there to gather its final harvest. It was the grand coronation of death....Our cause was lost from the beginning. Our greatest victories – Chickamauga and Franklin – were our greatest defeats. Our people were divided upon the question of Union and secession. Our generals were scrambling for 'Who ranked.' The private soldier fought and starved and died for naught."

Civilian of the Month



Photo and information from <http://battleoffranklin.wordpress.com>

Carrie Winder McGavock is known as the Good Samaritan of Franklin. She supervised the operation of mercy on November 30, 1864, sacrificing much food, clothing and supplies to care for the wounded and dying. Witnesses say her dress was soaked at the bottom with bloodstains when she arose to make breakfast the next morning. At least 150 Confederate soldiers died that night in her home. Her two surviving children, Hattie (age nine) and Willie (age seven) served as medical aides that night as well.

Historic Site of the Month



The **Carnton plantation**, home of John and Carrie McGavock, became the largest Confederate field hospital. Heavy bloodstains still mar the floors in several rooms. The family donated two acres near their home as a final resting place for 1,481 Confederate dead. George Cuppett recorded the names and information about each soldier in the McGavock cemetery book. After he finished the re-burials in mid 1866, he turned over the care of the book to the McGavock family. The wooden headstones were replaced with granite markers in 1896. Carrie continued to maintain the cemetery until her death in 1905. Today, only 780 Confederate soldiers have been positively identified, leaving 558 listed as unknown. The home is located at 1345 Carnton Lane, in Franklin, and is open Mon. – Sat. 9 – 5, Sat. 1 – 5, with the last tour beginning at 4 p.m. Admission is \$12.00 adults, \$5.00 children 6-12, free children 5 and under, \$10.00 seniors.

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 2010-2011 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 2010 thru June 2011

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
6019 Allendale Dr.
Indianapolis, IN 46224