



HARDTACK

Indianapolis Civil War Round Table Newsletter

<http://indianapoliscwrt.org/>



June 11, 2012 at 6:30 p.m.
 Meeting at **Indian Lake Country Club**
 10502 E. 75th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46236

The Plan of the Day Battle of South Mountain



Village of Boonesboro – South Mountain in the distance where Burnside fought
 Alfred R. Waugh, September 1862, Library of Congress

Fought on September 14, 1862, the Battle of South Mountain has long remained in the shadows cast by the larger and far bloodier battle fought three days later along the banks of the Antietam Creek in western Maryland. Yet South Mountain was in itself a significant battle, for it was here that Robert E. Lee's first invasion of the North was met and initially repulsed. It was also the first major battle fought north of the Potomac River, and the Union victory there did much to restore confidence in the ranks, which aided them three days later at Antietam. Hoptak, who recently published a history of South Mountain as part of the History Press' Civil War Sesquicentennial Series, will speak of the importance of the battle of South Mountain by placing it within the larger context of the Maryland Campaign. He will describe the actions at Fox's, Turner's, Frostown, and Crampton's Gap and the reasons why South Mountain was a significant battle.

Our Guest Speaker



John David Hoptak is a lifelong student of the American Civil War and currently works as an Interpretative Park Ranger at Antietam National Battlefield. He also teaches courses in American History, Civil War History, and Mexican-American War history as an Adjunct Instructor at American Military University. Hoptak is the author of several books, including *First in Defense of the Union: The Civil War History of the First Defenders* (2004), *Our Boys Did Nobly: Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania, Soldiers of South Mountain and Antietam* (2009), *The Battle of South Mountain* (2011), and *Antietam: September 17, 1862* (2011). Hoptak is active in the preservation and promotion of local history and recently completed a nationwide effort to restore the 48th Pennsylvania Monument at Antietam Battlefield. Hoptak also blogs on the Civil War at www.48thpennsylvania.blogspot.com. John will be bringing two of his books with him: *The Battle of South Mountain*: \$20.00; and *Antietam: September 17, 1862*: \$10.00.

* **Directions to Indian Lake Country Club:** 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)**

Roster of Officers and Committees for the 2011-2012 Campaign

Officers:

President: Jerry Thompson
Secretary: Frank Bynum
Programs: Jenny Thompson

Vice President: Dr. John Wernert
Treasurer: Tony Roscetti
Immediate Past President: Chris Smith

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Preservation: Andy O'Donnell
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Website: Paul Watson

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.

2012-2013 Campaign Plans

September 10, 2012	Donna Schmink – Civil War Battle Flags
October 8, 2012	Shannon Bennett – An Irrepressible Conflict: Civil War Rioting in Cincinnati, 1862
November 12, 2012	Brent Abercrombie – Camp Morton
December 10, 2012	Kathi Badertscher – Civil War and Philanthropy
January 14, 2013	Meredith Clark-Wiltz – Unexpected Soldiers: Gender, Duty and Women's Experiences in the Civil War
February 11, 2013	Tom Mason – The Papers of Lew and Susan Wallace
March 11, 2013	Bob Bain – The Armies Gather
April 8, 2013	Harry Bulkeley – I Propose to Fight It Out: The Story of Ulysses S. Grant, A One Man Show
May 13, 2013	Lee Peters – Monocacy
June 10, 2013	Phil Tichenor – Andersonville: A Visual Presentation

Other Camp Activities

Hamilton County Civil War Roundtable: The Carmel-Clay Civil War Roundtable is now the Hamilton County Civil War Roundtable. They meet at the Conner Prairie Interactive History Park located at 13400 Allisonville Road. Doors open at 7:00 p.m., and the program will start at 7:30 in the Lilly Theater on the 2nd floor of their main office building. We will have plenty of free parking, and people should enter through the main entrance where the ticket office is located. Camp coffee and hardtack should be available. Meetings will be on the 3rd Wednesday of the month, September through May, excluding December.

9/19 Stephen Towne – “Military Intelligence in the Northern States of Indiana, Ohio and Illinois”

10/17 Jim Goecker – “Two Men and a Photograph”

11/21 Tom Williams – “The Stonewall Brigade”

No December meeting

1/16 James Tremblay – “Railroad Men of the Civil War”

2/20 John Rutherford – “From Riding with Morgan's Raiders to General Counsel of the L&N Railroad – The Adventures of a Southern Rebel from the Hoosier State”

3/20 Chris Kolakowski – “Tullahoma Campaign”

4/17 Del F. Jarvis – “The Battle at Shiloh Church”

5/15 Donald Parman – “John T. Wilder’s Military Career – Wilder’s Lightning Brigade”

Madison County Historical Society Civil War Roundtable: They meet at 7 p.m. at the Madison County History Center, 15 West 11th Street, in Anderson.

6/18 Michael Willever – “The Bohemian Brigade (News reporters and photographers)”

9/17 Michael Winner – “The Life of Major General Thomas H. Ruger”

10/15 Kevin Stickels – “USS Cairo”

11/19 roundtable study of the war, topic will be First Manassas

No December meeting

Civil War Heritage Days: The second annual Civil War Heritage Days will be held June 23 – 24, 2012 in Danville, Indiana. A Grand Ball will be held on Saturday evening in the Courthouse Rotunda. Two High Teas will be held at Courthouse Grounds. Music will be heard from the stage on the square throughout the festival. Civil War re-enactors will be camping at the museum, courthouse and government center. Contact Cindy, 745-2604 or Gail, 696-3129, or visit www.civilwarhendricks.com for more details.

Civil War Lectures and Encampment: The General Lew Wallace Study & Museum, at 200 Wallace Avenue in Crawfordsville, Indiana, will be holding two Civil War lectures and a Civil War Encampment in June. On Tuesday, June 26 at 7 p.m., Ginny Terpening will be speaking on Civil War medicine. On Thursday, June 28 at 7 p.m., Bernie O’Bryan from Cincinnati will be speaking on the Black Brigade used for the defense of Cincinnati in 1862. Everyone is invited to these interesting lectures. The Museum will hold a Civil War Encampment on June 30-July 1 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Everyone is invited! Travel back in time to the 1860s! Bring the family and experience 19th century medicine, communications and travel!

Special Orders

South Shore Civil War Memorial Trail: This trail, which was launched Memorial Day weekend, “is a collection of the last known resting places, monuments and architectural icons related to the brave men and women of Lake and Porter counties who sacrificed during this most pivotal era in history. Indiana contributed more than 200,000 Union troops to the Civil War effort between 1861 and 1865, and hundreds of those veterans are buried in the cemeteries of Northwest Indiana along the South Shore of Lake Michigan. The South Shore Civil War Memorial Trail serves as a guide for visitors who want to see and pay respect to the veterans’ historic burial grounds and learn the stories of humanity behind the Calumet Region men in blue.” To learn more about this trail and its preservation project, please visit <http://www.southshorecva.com/civilwartrail/>.

Battle of Iuka Reenactment: The Battle of Iuka was fought on September 19, 1862, on the highest point in Mississippi, which is known as “America’s Bloodiest High Point.” The reenactment battle will begin at 2 p.m. Sunday, September 2, 2012. Bus tours are welcome. Other events are planned August 31 and September 1 prior to the reenactment

such as illuminations, historic home tours, Civil War camps and demonstrations, relic shows, period music, etc. For more information, contact Tishomingo County Tourism Council at 800-FUN-HERE (386-4373), www.battleofiuka.com, info@tishomingo.org, or www.tishominogofunhere.org. They will be holding a quilt show on September 21-22. More information about the quilt show can be found on the last web site listed.

Image of War Seminar: This seminar will be held October 5-7, 2012 at Antietam. The Center for Civil War Photography (CCWP) was founded in 1999 and has become one of the leading resources for Civil War photography. Their mission is: to educate the public about Civil War photography, its role in the conflict and its rich variety of forms and formats; to digitally secure original images and preserve vintage prints; to enhance the accessibility of photographs to the public; and to present interpretative programs that use stereoscopic and standard images to their fullest potential. The Center is a non-profit organization; members receive discounts to their annual Image of War seminar and also receive their newsletters. The CCWP has produced 3-D presentations running in museums throughout the country. Visit their website to learn more about the exhibits they have produced, to view their online exhibits and to register for the Image of War Seminar, please visit their website: www.civilwarphotography.org/.

Official Records

May attendance: 39

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.

Facebook: The Indianapolis Civil War Round Table is on Facebook. We invite you to join our group. Feel free to post Civil War related messages on our site.

Charitable Sponsors: In an effort to upgrade our speakers and programs, the board of ICWRT is asking members and organizations with which they are involved (companies or charitable organizations) to consider sponsoring one or more speakers. This could be done as a gift now, or a person could opt to make a bequest in a will for that purpose. Because of our limited membership, we can't bring in as many national speakers as we would like to. If you are interested or want more info, call Chris Smith at 450-7430.

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

No quiz this month.

Answers to the May quiz:

1. What was Indiana Senator Jesse D. Bright's unique claim to fame? *** Only Senator ever expelled from Congress for treason
2. What was U.S. Grant's first Civil War battle? *** Belmont, Missouri

3. Where was the USS Monitor built? *** Greenpoint Shipyard, Long Island, NY
4. Name the only Confederate state that did not suspend the Writ of Habeas Corpus.
*** Georgia
5. Name the nurse who published, "The Great Army of the Sick"? *** Walt Whitman

The Officers Speak

Lt. Gen. Daniel H. Hill, CSA: "The conflict of the 14th of September, 1862, is called at the North the battle of South Mountain, and at the South the battle of Boonsboro. So many battle-fields of the Civil War bear double names that we cannot believe the duplication has been accidental. It is the unusual which impresses. The troops of the North came mainly from cities, towns, and villages, and were, therefore, impressed by some natural object near the scene of the conflict and named the battle from it. The soldiers from the South were chiefly from the country and were, therefore, impressed by some artificial object near the field of action. In one section the naming has been after the handiwork of God; in the other section it has been after the handiwork of man."

Lt. Gen. Daniel H. Hill, CSA: "Here is probably the best place to explain the extraordinary caution of the Federals, which seemed so mysterious to us on that 14th of September. An order of General Lee, made while at Frederick, directing Jackson to capture Harper's Ferry, and Longstreet and myself to go to Boonsboro', had fallen into the hands of the Federals, and had been carried to General McClellan. This order (known at the South as the Lost Dispatch) was addressed to me, but I proved twenty years ago that it could not have been lost through my neglect or carelessness. The Federal commander gained two facts from the order, one of which was needless and the other misleading. He learned that Jackson had gone to Harper's Ferry --- a truth that he must have learned from his own scouts and spies and the roar of artillery in his own ears: the cannonading could be distinctly heard at Frederick, and it told that some one was beleaguering Harper's Ferry. The misleading report was that Longstreet was at Boonsboro."

Capt. James A. Blackshear, CSA, September 15, 1862: "The other batteries of the battalion about 8 o'clock P.M. yesterday had returned to camp with most of their ammunition exhausted and the men and horses worn out from fatigue and hunger. I had taken occasion to call the Colonel's attention to the important position which my battery had held and to the valuable service which it had rendered; whereupon he had consented that I should take it to the battle field. I had mounted my horse to be going and 60 minutes later would have made me and my entire command prisoners of war had it not been that an Aid De Camp to Gen. Evans luckily galloped that way, from the field and informed us that our whole army had retreated during the night and that the enemy was advancing in full force by the very turn-pike which I was to take and that he was then within two miles of us. Where was the army gone! He did not know. He knew nothing more than that when he went in search of the General where he had left on yesterday, he saw nothing but yankees there and yankees everywhere."

Lt. Gen. Daniel H. Hill, CSA: “If we had to be beaten it was better to be beaten by former friends. Every true soldier loves to have ‘a foeman worthy of his steel.’ Every true man likes to attribute high qualities to those who were once friends, though now alienated for a time. The temporary estrangement cannot obliterate the recollection of noble traits of character.”

Officer of the Month

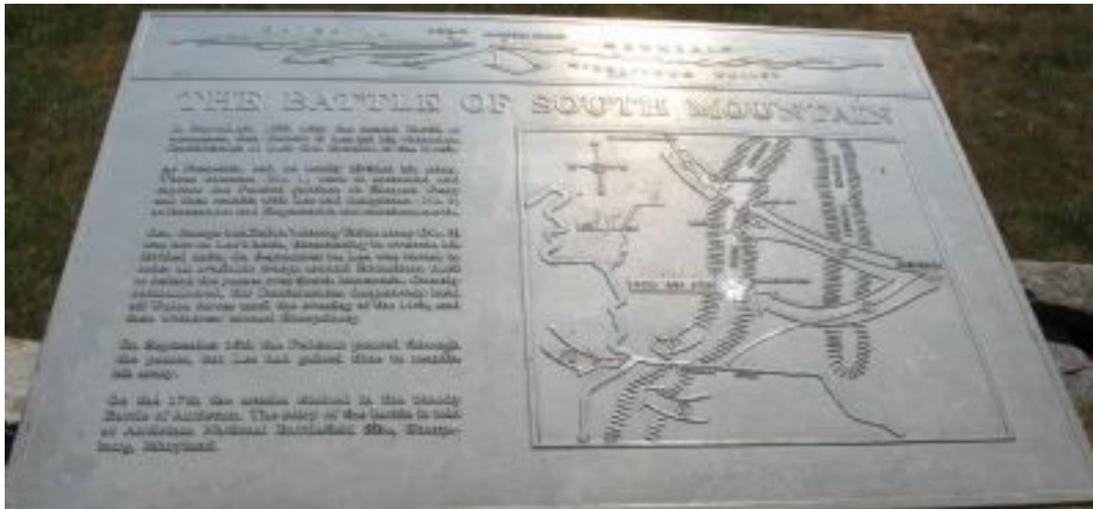


Photo and information from <http://www.mrl.lib.in.us/history/biography/meredithsol.htm>

Solomon Meredith was born and raised in North Carolina. When he was nineteen, he moved to Centerville, Indiana, where he worked as a woodchopper and store clerk. He became involved in politics and served as Wayne County Sheriff, a member of the State Legislature and United States Marshall, District of Indiana prior to the Civil War. Although he lacked military experience, Governor Morton appointed him colonel of a regiment of men he raised from Wayne County at the start of the Civil War. This regiment became the 19th Indiana Infantry, which fought at Antietam and a number of other battles. Solomon, seriously wounded on the first day of the Battle of Gettysburg, never fully recovered from his wounds and was removed from field command. He commanded garrisons at Cairo, Illinois and Paducah, Kentucky for the rest of the war. After the war, he raised prize-winning cattle, sheep and horses in Cambridge City,

Indiana for the rest of his life (except during 1867-1869 when he served as Montana surveyor-general). The GAR named the Richmond, Indiana post in his honor.

Historic Site of the Month



Craig Swain (2007), Historical Marker Database
Marker is located at 39° 24.346' N, 77° 38.349' W, near Burkittsville, Maryland

Inscription: In September, 1862, after the second Battle of Manassas, Gen. Robert E. Lee led his victorious Confederates on their first invasion of the North.

At Frederick, Md. he boldly divided his army. Three columns (No. 1) were to surround and capture the Federal garrison at Harpers Ferry and then reunite with Lee and Longstreet (No. 2) at Boonsboro and Hagerstown and continue north.

Gen. George McClellan's strong Union army (No. 3) was hot on Lee's heels, threatening to overrun his divided units. On September 14, Lee was forced to order all available troops around Boonsboro back to defend the passes over South Mountain. Greatly outnumbered, the Confederates desperately held off Union forces until the evening of the 14th, and then withdrew toward Sharpsburg.

On September 15th the Federals poured through the passes, but Lee had gained time to reunite his army.

On the 17th the armies clashed in the bloody Battle of Antietam. The story of the battle is told at Antietam National Battlefield Site, Sharpsburg, Maryland.

Re-enlist NOW for the 2012-2013 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 2012 thru June 2013

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