



# HARDTACK



Indianapolis Civil War Round Table Newsletter

<http://indianapoliscwrt.org/>

December 9, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.

Meeting at Indiana History Center Auditorium  
450 West Ohio Street

## *The Plan of the Day*

Edmund Ruffin: Father of Modern Agriculture,  
Southern Secessionist and “Fire-eater”



Edmund Ruffin was a Southern Fire-Eater from Virginia. He is most famous, however, for being the Father of Modern Agriculture. How did these two interests combine to make him one of the Civil War’s most controversial figures?

### **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*

**Dan Moll** is an avid Civil War history buff. At the present time, he is the President of the Blue and Gray Roundtable in Connorsville. He has been a reenactor for many years. Dan portrays a Confederate refugee following the army because he was too old to fight and because his home was destroyed by the Yankees. Dan also portrays his wife’s Union great-great grandfather in dual readings of his letters home to his wife Rachel. His interest in Edmund Ruffin stemmed from the question: “Why did the South go into this

war knowing that they were outnumbered in population and manufacturing plants?” This research led him to Edmund Ruffin. Edmund Ruffin was also older and clean shaven, thus making him easier to portray! Please note -THAT THE BELIEFS OF EDMUND RUFFIN ARE NOT IN ANY WAY SHAPE OR FORM THAT OF DANIEL MOLL!!!

### *Roster of Officers and Committees for the 2013-2014 Campaign*

#### *Officers:*

President: Dave Klinestiver

Vice President: Nikki Schofield

Secretary: Frank Bynum

Treasurer: Tony Roscetti

Immediate Past President: Dr. John Wernert

#### *Committees:*

Preservation: Andy O'Donnell

Website: Ed Pope

Program Selection: Nikki Schofield, Jenny Thompson, Dr. John Wernert

Publicity: Peg Bertelli, Dave Sutherland & Tony Roscetti

#### *Quiz Master:*

Tony Trimble

#### *HARDTACK Newsletter:*

Editor: Jenny Thompson

**Members are encouraged to wear their badges to the meetings, so people will know who you are.**

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](mailto:jkt60@att.net) by the tenth day following the preceding month's meeting.

### *2013-2014 Campaign Plans*

Jan. 13, 2014

Dennis Haskett – Sutler Tokens

Feb. 10, 2014

Dave Sutherland – VMI's Civil War Legacy

Mar. 10, 2014

Justin Ellison – Civil War in popular culture

Apr. 14, 2014

Gail Stephens – *The Shadow of Shiloh: Major General Lew Wallace in the Civil War*

May 12, 2014

Fred Leickly – The Battle of Cedar Creek, by Col. W.H. Polhamus

June 9, 2014

Anita Morgan – State & County Governments providing material & financial relief for soldiers' families

### *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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month, September through May, excluding December.

Dec. – no meeting

1/15 Brian Dirck – “Lincoln and Civil Liberties”

2/19 Jim Johnson – “Religion During the Civil War”

3/19 Brian McCutcheon – “Ft. Donaldson”

4/16 Robert May – “Origins of the Confederacy”

5/21 Mark Jaeger – “The 10<sup>th</sup> Indiana Volunteers”

**Madison County Historical Society Civil War Roundtable:** They meet on the third Monday each month except July, August and December at 7 p.m. at the Madison County History Center, 15 West 11<sup>th</sup> Street, in downtown Anderson.

1/20 Annual Show and Tell

2/17 DVD program “Early Union Triumphs in the West”

3/17 Richard Nottingham – “Battlefield Photos”

4/21 Gib Young – “Words of Glory, Words of Romance”

5/19 Steve Ritchie – “The Relationship Between Robert E. Lee and Thomas Jackson

6/16 Donna Schmink – “Indiana’s Battle Flags”

July and August – no meetings

9/15 Gerald G. Jones – “Northern Civil War Prisons”

10/20 Kevin & Lucinda Rushton – “US Christian Commission”

11/17 DVD program “Shiloh and Corinth”

December – no meeting

### *Special Orders*

***Making Freedom: The Underground Railroad and the Politics of Slavery:*** The author R.J.M. Blackett will discuss his book, which explores the inner workings of the Underground Railroad and the enforcement of the Fugitive Slave Law. This meeting will be held at The Filson Historical Society (1310 South Third Street, Louisville, KY) at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 11. It is free for Filson members and \$5 for non-members. Register online at

<http://www.eventbrite.com/event/9227037317/es2?rank=1&sid=ba51621e488c11e38cb422000aa821d4> or call (502) 635-5083.

**1863 editorial retracted:** In 1863, the *Patriot & Union* dismissed Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address as “silly remarks of the President. For the credit of the nation we are willing that the veil of oblivion shall be dropped over them, and that they shall be no more repeated or thought of.” The newspaper now called the *Patriot-News*, “regrets the error” and retracted that editorial on Thursday, November 14.

### *Official Records*

**November Attendance:** 27

**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.

**Help Sponsor a Meeting:** We are accepting donations in increments of fifty dollars to help pay the cost of our monthly rental: \$50 (Brigadier General); \$100 (Major General); \$150 (Lieutenant General); and \$200 (General). Those who donate \$200 will be given the honor of leading the pledge to the flag before the meeting. Checks should be written to the Indiana Historical Society with "ICWRT" noted in the memo line and given to treasurer Tony Roscetti, so we can keep a record of the donations. This year's sponsors include: Tom Krasean (September); Tony Roscetti (October); Andy O'Donnell (November); and Dave Sutherland (February).

**Book Raffle:**

*The Civil War Dictionary*, by Mark M. Boatner III

*Stormy Ben Butler*, by Robert S. Holzman

*Battle Cry of Freedom*, by James M. McPherson

*Lincoln at Gettysburg*, by Garry Wills

*Grant Moves South*, by Bruce Catton

**\*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 associated with each of the nicknames below.

1. "Granny"
2. "Shanks"
3. "Old Clubby"
4. "Old Bush"
5. "Old Cock Eye"

Answers to the November quiz:

1. What was the nickname of Co. G of the 18<sup>th</sup> Virginia Infantry? How many original members were left at Appomatox? \*\*\* Nottoway Grays; 3
2. Who or what was “Old Gridiron”? \*\*\* Southern name for the American flag
3. Name two battlefields that featured a Peach Orchard. \*\*\* Shiloh & Gettysburg
4. Who wrote to his wife, “I am sorry that the movement of our armies cannot keep pace with the expectations of the editors of the papers.”? \*\*\* Robert E. Lee
5. What is an “eligible point”? \*\*\* A position considered usable or suitable for artillery batteries

### *The Officers and Soldiers Speak*

Quotes from [http://blueandgraytrail.com/event/Edmund\\_Ruffin](http://blueandgraytrail.com/event/Edmund_Ruffin)

Edmund Ruffin, 1856: “Slavery is not intrinsically right, it is only circumstantially right under a set state of circumstances. The right rule is freedom, but slavery is an exception to that rule; and if right, right as all exceptions are, according to the circumstances which surround it.”

Edmund Ruffin, 1860: “I have studied the question now before the country for years. It has been the one great idea of my life. The defense of the South, I verily believe, is only to be secured through the lead of South Carolina. Old as I am, I have come here to join her in that lead. I wish Virginia was as ready as South Carolina, but, unfortunately, she is not. But the first drop of blood spilled on the soil of South Carolina will bring Virginia and every other Southern State to her side.”

General P.G.T. Beauregard, about Fort Sumter in the Official Records: “The venerable and gallant Edmund Ruffin, of Virginia, was at the Iron battery, and fired many guns, undergoing every fatigue and sharing the hardships at the battery with the youngest of the Palmettoes.”

Captain G.B. Cuthbert, about Fort Sumter: “The mortar battery at Cummings Point opened fire on Fort Sumter in its turn, after the signal shell from Fort Johnson, having been preceded by the mortar batteries on Sullivan’s Island and the mortar battery of the Marion Artillery. At the dawn of day the Iron battery commenced its work of demolition. The first shell from columbiad No. 1, fired by the venerable Edmund Ruffin, of Virginia, burst directly upon the parapet of the southwest angle of the fort.”

Cuthbert, about the Battle of Manassas: “Many of the soldiers threw their arms into the creek, and everything indicated the greatest possible panic. The venerable Edmund Ruffin, who fired the first gun at Fort Sumter, who, as a volunteer in the Palmetto Guard, shared the fatigues and dangers of the retreat from Fairfax Court-House, and gallantly fought through the day at Manassas fired the first gun at the retreating column of the enemy, which resulted in this extraordinary capture.”

Edmund Ruffin, to Jefferson Davis: "RICHMOND, VA., May 16, 1861.  
 President DAVIS:  
 For salvation of our cause come immediately and assume military command.  
 EDMUND RUFFIN."

Edmund Ruffin, final written words written June 17, 1865, from [www.old-picture.com/defining-moments/Edmund-Ruffin.htm](http://www.old-picture.com/defining-moments/Edmund-Ruffin.htm): "I here declare my unmitigated hatred to Yankee rule -- to all political, social and business connection with the Yankees and to the Yankee race. Would that I could impress these sentiments, in their full force, on every living Southerner and bequeath them to every one yet to be born! May such sentiments be held universally in the outraged and down-trodden South, though in silence and stillness, until the now far-distant day shall arrive for just retribution for Yankee usurpation, oppression and atrocious outrages, and for deliverance and vengeance for the now ruined, subjugated and enslaved Southern States! ...And now with my latest writing and utterance, and with what will be near my latest breath, I here repeat and would willingly proclaim my unmitigated hatred to yankee rule--to all political, social and business connections with Yankees, and the perfidious, malignant and vile Yankee race."

### *Civilian of the Month*



Photo and information from <http://bioguide.congress.gov/scripts/biodisplay.pl?index=H000128> and from our speaker

Governor James Henry Hammond was a graduate of South Carolina College in 1825. He also studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1828. He was a planter, taught school and practiced law. He wrote for a newspaper and established a newspaper to support nullification. He also served in politics. He served as a Representative in Congress (1835-1836), South Carolina Governor (1842-1844), and U.S. Senator (1857-1860). He died on November 13, 1864.

## *Historic Site of the Month*



Images and information from Find a Grave Memorial #913

Edmund Ruffin is buried at his Marbourne Estate in Hanover County, Virginia, which is located on the east side of US 360 at Route 628.

Indianapolis Civil War Round Table  
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