



HARDTACK



Indianapolis Civil War Round Table Newsletter

<http://indianapoliswrt.org/>

March 10, 2014 at 7:30 p.m.

Meeting at Indiana History Center Auditorium
450 West Ohio Street

The Plan of the Day

Sundered by Memory: The Confederate Flag, Black Confederates, and the Racialization of Civil War Memory



On April 17, 2001, Mississippi citizens went to the polls to vote in a statewide referendum on the status of the Confederate Battle Flag in the state's official banner. On September 24, 2004, H.K. Edgerton, the former head of the Asheville, North Carolina chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People turned neo-Confederate activist, was forcibly removed from a memorial to Confederate soldiers at the University of Texas in Austin. On October 13, 2013, Michael Ashmore, taking part in the "Million Vet March on the Memorials," protested outside the White House waving a Marine Corp flag alongside the Confederate Battle Flag. While separated by more than a decade and taking place more than 1,300 miles apart, these seeming disparate events represent a common thread in Civil War memory: the use of race to explore and articulate the meaning of citizenship in modern American society.

More than 150 years after the start of the Civil War, the cultural memory of this particular moment remains enormously powerful in American popular and political culture. This presentation seeks to explore the continuing cultural power of the American Civil War by exploring debates on the appropriateness of the Confederate Battle Flag, as well as depictions of the war and portrayals of African Americans and slavery in American popular culture. At its heart, the cultural battle over the meaning of the war remains rooted in racial contestations of power as white and black Americans used the memory of the war as political tools to define and explore their positions in modern American society.

This presentation will explore two major threads addressing the racialization of Civil War memory. The Mississippi flag debate, one of the most public of the many flag debates that took place across the South in the 1990s and 2000s, revolved around the meaning of racial citizenship in modern Mississippi. While black Mississippians argued that the official use of the flag constituted a violation of their basic rights, white Mississippians often used the debate over the flag to articulate deep-seated racial resentment over the increased political power of African Americans. In addition to the flag debate, this presentation will explore cultural depictions of black Confederates (as both loyal slaves and willing soldiers). Long a staple in popular culture, depictions of black Confederates have served as a tool to deny the equality of African Americans, but have recently been used by some members of the black community as a way to explore their cultural connections to the South and as an inroad into a particular brand of Southern politics.

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

Justin Ellison is currently a PhD candidate at Indiana University. He graduated from the University of Northern Colorado in 2006, writing his Honor's Thesis on the role of the 1st Colorado Regiment at the Battle of Glorieta Pass, and earned his M.A. from Indiana University in 2009. His current dissertation topic explores the use of Civil War memory and the creation of racial nationalism in the United States.

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 by the tenth day following the preceding month's meeting.

2013-2014 Campaign Plans

Apr. 14, 2014	Gail Stephens – <i>The Shadow of Shiloh: Major General Lew Wallace in the Civil War</i>
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 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.

3/19 Brian McCutcheon – “Ft. Donaldson”
 4/16 Robert May – “Origins of the Confederacy”
 5/21 Mark Jaeger – “The 10th 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 11th Street, in downtown Anderson.

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

Crossroads of America Civil War / Political Show: National Dealers will offer thousands of Civil War and political items on April 4 (4-8 p.m.) and April 5 (9 a.m. – 4 p.m.) at Beech Grove High School, 5330 Hornet Ave (Exit 52 on I-465). For information, contact Harvey W. Warrner at www.ironbrigaderelics.com or 317-784-2617.

Special Orders

SC Archeologists Race to Uncover Civil War POW Camp: Archeologists have until the end of April to uncover the remains of “Camp Asylum,” a prison camp for Union Army officers, on the grounds of the former South Carolina State Hospital in downtown Columbia before it is developed into shops, apartments, and possibly a minor league baseball field. The Historic Columbia Foundation is conducting tours of the site at \$10 per person. To read more about this project, please visit <http://www.stripes.com/news/us/sc-archeologists-race-to-uncover-civil-war-pow-camp-1.268042#UwFojkNdlw.email>.

Park Day: Volunteers are asked to answer their nation’s call to service on Saturday, April 5, 2014 to take on large and small maintenance projects at roughly 100 historic sites in 26 states. For a complete list of participating sites, visit www.civilwar.org/parkday.

Official Records

February Attendance: 59

***Shadow of Shiloh* Books on Sale in April:** The author of this book is our April speaker and we will have books on sale for \$25.00 that night, which she will autograph. If you would like to pre-order a book, please contact Nikki Schofield.

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.

Book Raffle:

The Memoirs of General William T. Sherman, by William T. Sherman

Dancing Along the Deadline: The Andersonville Memoir of a Prisoner of the Confederacy, by Ezra Hoyt Ripple and edited by Mark A. Snell

Secret Missions of the Civil War, by Philip Van Doren Stern

Triumph & Defeat: The Vicksburg Campaign, Vol. 2, by Terrence J. Winschel

Nothing by Victory: The Army of the Tennessee, 1861-1865, by Stephen E. Woodworth

***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.**

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

1. What state was home to the St. John the Baptist Regiment? How did it get its name?
2. Name the Confederate general who rode Fire Eater?
3. Where would you find the Bottle? By what more common name is it known?
4. Who said, "The hardships of forced marches are often more painful than the dangers of battle."?
5. Who were the Jessie Scouts? For whom are they named?

Answers to the February quiz:

1. On what battlefield would you find the Slaughter Pen Farm? *** Fredericksburg
2. Describe a hospital flag. *** Yellow bunting with a green letter H in the center
3. What Union general lent his name to the French kepi? *** George B. McClellan
4. Who wrote, "He is gone and sleeps in the Valley he loved so much."? To whom did he refer? *** Jedediah Hotchkiss on the death of Stonewall Jackson
5. On what battlefield would you find the Nicodemus house? *** Antietam

The Soldiers and Civilians Speak

Quotations from: John D. Wright, ed., *The Oxford Dictionary of Civil War Quotations* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2006).

Chaplain Thomas B. Van Horne: "Battle-fields become a part of history equally with the story of the conflicts enacted upon them....Not alone do the topographical features which suggest plans of battle and dominate tactical combinations become historic, but those also of mere grandeur and beauty, whenever the hosts of war commingle in deadly strife, where nature has been lavish of her gifts....And in all that is grandly concomitant with grandest battle, Chattanooga is pre-eminent." (412)

Private Warren Lee Goss, 2nd Massachusetts: “The murmur of many voices, the mellow, abrupt call of the negro drivers to their mules, the glistening arms of the infantry reflected in the sunlight, the dull rumble of artillery wheels and baggage-wagons, live in memory to-day as one of the pictures of ‘war’s wrinkled front,’ framed in the routine of more ordinary scenes.” – Wright, 114.

Private Warren Lee Goss: “With a nervous tremor convulsing my system, and my heart thumping like muffled drumbeats, I stood before the door of the recruiting office, and before turning the knob to enter read and reread the advertisement for recruits posted thereon, until I knew all its peculiarities. The promised chances for ‘travel and promotion’ seem good, and I thought I might have made a mistake in considering war so serious after all. ‘Chances for travel!’ I must confess now, after four years of soldiering, that the ‘chances for travel’ were no myth; but ‘Promotion’ was a little uncertain and slow.” – Wright, 115.

Private Edward W. Crippen, 27th Illinois: “Visited today by several Southern ladies [in Gunntown, Mississippi] with such delicacies for our wounded as they could raise. God bless them for their kindness.” – Wright, 54.

Mary Boykin Chestnut: “She [a Northern visitor in a Montgomery hotel] was playing ‘Yankee Doodle’ on the piano before breakfast to soothe her wounded spirit, and the Judge came in and calmly requested her to ‘leave out the Yankee while she played the Doodle.’” – Wright, 46.

Clara Barton: “If I were to speak of war, it would not be to show you the glories of conquering armies but the mischief and misery they strew in their tracks; and how, while they marched on with tread of iron and plumes proudly tossing in the breeze, some one must follow closely in their steps, crouching to the earth, toiling in the rain and darkness, shelterless themselves, with no thought of pride or glory, fame or praise, or reward; hearts breaking with pity, faces bathed in tears and hands in blood. This is the side which history never shows.” – Wright, 22.

Civilians of the Month



Photo and information from <http://www.30th-indiana.org/civilian.htm>

The Homefront representatives of the 30th Indiana Civil War Re-enactors group promote educational programs, living history events and show the civilian side of battles.

For the last eight years in March, they have held a full dinner and a social hour prior to the Grand March, which opens their Victorian Spring Ball, held at The Women's Club in downtown Fort Wayne. Dances during the Civil War provided entertainment and allowed people to socialize. For ticket information, please contact Susan Pfeiffer at spfeiffer@acpl.lib.in.us.

Historic Site of the Month



Photo and info from <http://www.nbhscso.com/gpage1.html> and other info from <http://www.floridastateparks.org/naturalbridge/>

Battle of Natural Bridge Reenactment, March 1-2, 2014: Natural Bridge Battlefield Historic State Park, located at 7502 Natural Bridge Road in Tallahassee, Florida, holds a reenactment of this battle the first full weekend in March. The second largest Civil War battle occurred here in 1865 when Confederate soldiers, old men and young boys met Union forces which had landed at Apalachee Bay planning to capture Fort Ward and Tallahassee. The Confederate volunteers repelled three major Union attacks and forced them to retreat to the coast. The reenactment begins at 9 a.m. on Saturday morning and ends at 3:30 p.m. on Sunday. There will be military demonstrations, children's and ladies' teas, children's activities, a Civil War dance, and period church services.

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6019 Allendale Dr.
Indianapolis, IN 46224