



HARDTACK



Indianapolis Civil War Round Table Newsletter

<http://indianapoliscwrt.org/>

May 12, 2014 at 7:30 p.m.

Meeting at Indiana History Center Classrooms on the Canal Level
450 West Ohio Street

The Plan of the Day

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



"Sheridan's Ride. Battle of Cedar Creek" by Alfred R. Waud, Library of Congress

The descendant of Col. Polhamus will be sharing his ancestor's lecture that was described in the Gnadenuhnen newspaper, around 1922: "The lecture on 'The Battle of Cedar Creek,' given in the town hall last Friday morning, by Col. W.H. Polhamus, was a rare treat. The lecture, which was a descriptive poem, was composed by the Colonel himself, and it certainly reflected honor upon its author, both in composition and delivery. His strength of expression, purity of diction and appropriate figures, caused one to be carried back in imagination and take a birdseye view of what this gentleman saw and did in reality. It served as a preparatory occasion for memorial day, when our hearts and minds should be filled with patriotism and be made receptive of the story which portrays both the bright and dark sides of civil war. It is to be regretted that the attendance consisted of only about twenty of our citizens, including one soldier."

Please note that we are meeting in the Classrooms on the canal level, not in the Auditorium.

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

Dr. Fred Leickly hails from Cleveland, Ohio. He is a Professor of Clinical Pediatrics at Riley Hospital for Children, where he is the director of Pediatric Allergy Clinical Services. He attended the Cleveland State University, where he majored in biology. He then went into a PhD program in Pharmacology at Case Western Reserve University, where he also obtained his Medical degree. His training is in pediatrics; he did his residency and a chief residency at Duke University, Durham, North Carolina. He stayed at Duke to do a fellowship in Allergy and Clinical Immunology. From there, he was the director of Pediatric Allergy, Clinical Services in the Henry Ford Health Care System, Detroit, Michigan. He has been at Riley since 1994. Dr. Leickly went back to school a few years ago to obtain his Masters of Public Health. His professional work has included publications, research grants, and a number of awards for his services. He has been in the Indianapolis Monthly 'Top Doc' listing numerous times; so much for his vocation, now for his avocation.

As we all do, he shares a genuine interest in history especially that critical time that defined our nation: the American Civil War. During his childhood in Cleveland, Ohio, he was told of his great grandfather who fought in the Civil War as a member of the Ohio 2nd Volunteer Cavalry. He recalls going to the Soldiers and Sailors monument on the public square of downtown Cleveland and seeing his relative's name on the wall of that monument to the young men from Cleveland who fought in the war. Many stories were told of the exploits of his ancestor. When his career and family allowed, Dr. Leickly became a Civil War re-enactor; if you love history, this was a chance to live it. He has been a member of the Indiana 49th Volunteer Infantry. Of note, his ancestor was cavalry, not infantry. Dr. Leickly had no plans to get anywhere near a horse.

He continues to work at Riley. He offers a website that goes over topics related to his profession. He has the only pollen counting station in Central Indiana; when the season is upon us, you can see the 'real' pollen counts on his site 'LeicklyStory.com'. He has 5 young grandchildren, one of which has him reviving vintage Lionel trains as a new interest.

This is the first time Dr. Leickly has been asked to present on a non-medical topic. His ancestor wrote a poem about a battle. He is here to share that poem with you.

<p>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.</p>
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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.

2013-2014 Campaign Plans

June 9, 2014

Anita Morgan – “Liberal Provisions...Nothing...Action Which Comes Far Short’: State and Local Government Attempts to Aid Soldiers’ Families in Indiana”

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.

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.

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

Civil War Days at Conner Prairie: Jon Austin, who spoke to us earlier this campaign, hopes to present autopsy demos during Civil War Days.

Hardship and Hope: The Life of the Hoosier Soldier during the Civil War: This exhibition will run May 8, 2014 – August 29, 2014 at the Indiana State Library: Exhibition Hall and Gallery. After 150 years, the American Civil War remains a defining moment in our nation's history. This exhibition gives a more personal understanding of the everyday realities from the Hoosier soldier on the battlefield. Unique letters, photographs, and artifacts from the Indiana State Library's collection, many of which have never before been on display, will be available for the public to view. Become immersed in the experience at the **opening reception on Thursday, May 8, 2014 at 5:00pm**. The two-hour program features Civil War historians and re-enactors. Learn more online at <http://www.in.gov/library/150.htm>. Special event parking for the reception will be available for \$5 in the Senate Avenue Garage from 4:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Learn more: IN.gov/library/parking.htm.

Official Records

April Attendance: 34

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 Haskell Memoirs: The Personal Narrative of a Confederate Officer, by John Haskell and edited by Gilbert E. Govan and James W. Livingood
Lee's Real Plan at Gettysburg, by Troy D. Harman

The Land They Fought For, edited by Lewis Gannett

Battle Cry of Freedom, by James M. McPherson

The Life of Billy Yank: The Common Soldier of the Union, by Bell Irvin Wiley

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

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

1. What Confederate loss, in 1863, cut the rail line between Chattanooga and the East?
2. Name the general who explained his successes by saying, "I got there first with the most men."
3. What earned the nickname, "What-Is-It"?
4. Where would you find the "allegiance barracks"? What was their purpose?
5. By what informal name was Camp Sumter known?

Answers to April quiz:

1. The last ground skirmish of the war was a Confederate victory. Where was it? *** Palmito Ranch
2. After the war, Gen. Sherman was asked what battle was the bloodiest. What did he say? *** Shiloh
3. Name the Confederate general who ended the war tied in the saddle and wearing a French-made cork leg. *** John Bell Hood
4. On what battlefield would you find Breckinridge's Slaughter Pen? *** Stones River
5. What distinction was achieved by Sally Tompkins? *** Only woman commissioned as an officer in the Confederate army

The Soldiers Speak

This is some discrepancy about who wrote originally wrote this ballad, so I am including both versions in this newsletter. Savage was considered the author for many years, but his name is not on the original writings. G.P. Hardwick Music Company published Savage's version some time after the war. According to the Cedar Creek Battlefield Foundation, the original ballad was written by Private Robert Tracey Hixon, 1st Massachusetts Cavalry.

"Battle of Cedar Creek, Oct. 19, 1864"
By C.A. Savage, Co. "K", 8th INDIANA
From Indiana Historical Society

"Battle of Cedar Creek"
By Robert Tracey Hixon, 1st MA Cav.
From Cedar Creek Battlefield Foundation

Old Early camped at Fisher's Hill,
Resolved some Yankee blood to spill;

Old Early camped on Fisher's Hill,
Resolved some Yankee Blood to spill.

He chose his time when Phil. was gone,
 The Yankee camp to fall upon.
 At night, like thief, of sense bereft,
 He marched his troops around our left,
 With orders strict unto his boys,
 To nothing take t' would made a noise.

Get out of the way, says Gen. Early,
 I've come to drive you from the Valley.

While they were on their mission bent,
 We Yanks were sleeping in our tents;
 Until the Rebs, with rousing volley,
 Warned us that sleep was death and folly.
 Old Early carried out his plan,
 Surprising Crook and his command,
 Who had not time their lines to form,
 So sudden came the rebel storm.

Now, at the rising of the sun,
 Old Early thought it jovial fun;
 But Gen. Grover, (God bless his name)
 Said he would help them play the game.
 He formed a line the pike along,
 To check old Early and his throng;
 And here he held the rebs at bay,
 'Til he was flanked from every way.

This gave the Sixth Corps time to form,
 Who bravely faced the leaden storm;
 'Til the other Corps' had time to rally,
 To stop the rebels in the Valley.
 The Johnnies thought the victory won,
 And their usual pillaging begun;
 Robbing the dead and wounded too,
 As none but Southern bloods can do.

Now when the day was almost lost,
 God sends a reinforcing host;
 The host he sends is but a man,
 But that's the noble Sheridan.
 On, on he comes with lightning speed,
 Crying, who hath done this awful deed;
 He'd better fare 'neath Southern skies,
 Who dares my sleeping camp surprise.

He chose his time when Phil was gone
 The Yankee Camp to fall upon.

Get out of the way says Gen Early
 I've come to drive you from the Valley -
 All night like a theaf of sence bererft
 He mached his troops around our left
 With orders strict unto his men
 To nothing take t' would make a noise.

While thay were on there mission bent
 We Yanks were sleeping in our tents
 Untill the Reb's with a rousing volley
 Warned us to sleep was death and folly
 Old Early carried out his plan
 Supprising Crook and his comand
 Whou had not time there ranks to fill
 So sudden came the Rebel storm
 Now the Ninth corps all had run
 Old Early thought it joviel fun
 But Gen Grover, God bless his name
 Said he would help them play the game.
 He formed a line the Pike along
 To check Old Early and his throng
 And here he held the Rebs at bay
 Till he was flanked from every way.
 This gave the sixth corps time to form
 Whou Bravely faced the Rebel storm
 Till the ninthed corps had time to Rally
 To stop the Rebels in the Valley
 Now the Rebs thought the victory won
 And there usual Pillageing begun
 Robbing the dead and wounded to
 As none but Suthern Bloods can do
 Now the day was almost lost
 But God sent ous a reinforcing host
 The host he send is but a man
 But thats the noble Sheridan
 Now turns tune say's Phil to Early
 You come to late to get the Valley.
 On on he came with lightning speed
 Crying who hath done this awfull deed
 He better fare neath southern skys
 Who dars my sleeping camp supprise.
 Get out of the say's Phil to Early
 Youve come to late to get Valley

Get out of the way says Phil. to Early,
You've come too late to get the Valley.

Ah, there another sound is heard,
And Liberty's the rallying word;
And every heart is filled with pride,
To see their gallant leader ride.
Saying "Form quick – the fight renew,
And see what right with wrong can do;
By night our camp we will regain,
And vengeance have for those that's slain."

Ah there is sound is herd
And liberty is the rallying word
And every heart is filed with pride
To see there gallant leader ride.
Saying form quick with rong can do
By night our camp we will regain
And vengance have for those that slain
The orders flew from left to right
And glorious was the evening sight
The Rebels flew mid canons roar
Losing all thay'd and thousands more

Then orders flew from left to right,
And glorious was the evening sight;
The rebels fled 'mid cannon's roar,
Losing all they'd gained & thousands more.
Round their flank brave Custer flew,
As other Cavalry ne'er could do;
Capturing guns, well nigh three score,
Including those we'd lost before.

Three cheers for Emory, Crook and Wright,
Torbett, Merret, and General Dwight;
Three for Custer and his command,
Our Union and General Sheridan.
God bless our Nation and her sons,
And may this bloody war be done;
May North and South, United stand,
As once they were a happy band.

Officer of the Month



Photo and information from Cedar Creek Battlefield Foundation; some information from Find a Grave

Major General Philip Sheridan graduated from West Point in 1853. Prior to the Civil War, he served in the Pacific Northwest territories. He was a captain when the Civil War

began and proved he was a competent officer. In May 1862, he accepted promotion as colonel of the 2nd Michigan Cavalry and a fellow officer gave him a horse named Rienzi, which he rode from Winchester during the Battle of Cedar Creek. He accepted more promotions: brigadier general in July 1862 and major general in April 1863. In August 1864, he took command of the Army of the Shenandoah. He achieved a number of victories in this Valley Campaign and played a decisive role in the final defeat of the Army of Northern Virginia. After the Civil War, he served again in the West during the Indian Wars. He accepted promotions to 4-star general and the Commander of the U.S. Army. He died August 5, 1888 and is buried in Arlington Cemetery facing Washington, guarding the Union.

Historic Site of the Month



Jenny Thompson showing the bullet hole in the front pillar at the Belle Grove Plantation

Belle Grove Plantation: The Battle of Cedar Creek was fought around this plantation. The only damage to the building was one bullet hole in a front pillar. The home was built in 1797 by Major Isaac Hite and his wife Nelly Madison Hite (the sister of President James Madison). Isaac was the grandson of Jost Hite. Jost and Robert McKay (Jenny Thompson's ancestor) claimed the northern part of the Shenandoah Valley in 1731 and established grain farms and milling complexes. The home is open for guided tours Monday – Saturday 10-4 and Sunday 1-5. Reenactments of the Battle of Cedar Creek occur on the lawn in October each year.

Re-enlist NOW for the 2014-2015 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 Indianapolis Civil War Round Table, and give it 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@pnc.com

Please complete and detach the form below and include with your check:

ICWRT Membership Enlistment for July 2014 thru June 2015

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 9, 2014

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; sliced ham; mashed potatoes and gravy; green beans; dinner salad; fresh baked bread & butter; cheesecake; and coffee/tea/soda

Our Guest Speaker: Anita Morgan

* **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.

Reservation form (attached below) should be completed and submitted, along with payment, by **June 1, 2014**. Reservation form and payment can be brought to the 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 9, 2014 dinner meeting, including the buffet dinner:

Name

Name

Reservation form and payment must be received by June 1, 2014.

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