



# HARDTACK



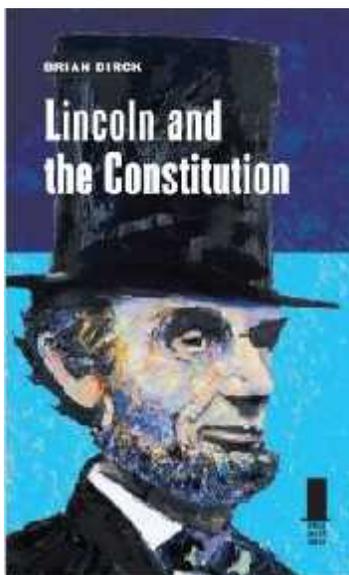
Indianapolis Civil War Round Table Newsletter  
<http://indianapoliswrt.org/>

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February 9, 2015 at 7:30 p.m.  
Meeting at Indiana History Center Auditorium  
450 West Ohio Street

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*The Plan of the Day*  
*Lincoln and the Constitution*



Lincoln felt that saving the Union necessitated an elastic Constitution, one that could admit West Virginia as a state even though no state could be divided without its consent, one that authorized the president (alone) to give the military commanders the right to suspend the writ of habeas corpus, one that allowed the president, as commander-in-chief, to declare that slaves in territory held by the Confederacy (and therefore pointedly excluding the Border States) were free.

**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.

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 [jkt60jet@gmail.com](mailto:jkt60jet@gmail.com) by the tenth day following the preceding month's meeting.

### *Our Guest Speaker*



**Brian Dirck** is Professor of History at Anderson University in Anderson, Indiana. He received his Ph.D. in United States history at the University of Kansas, where he focused on the history of the Civil War era. His first book was *Lincoln and Davis: Imagining America, 1808-1865*, published in 2001. He has since focused his attention primarily on the life and career of Abraham Lincoln. His 2007 book, *Lincoln the Lawyer*, won the 2007 Barondess Award from the New York Civil War Roundtable for the best book published on Lincoln that year. He has recently written *Lincoln and the Constitution* for the Concise Lincoln Library Series, and *Lincoln and White America*, a study of Lincoln's approach to white supremacy and racism.

### *Roster of Officers and Committees for the 2014-2015 Campaign*

#### *Officers:*

President: Nikki Schofield

Vice President: Peg Bertelli

Secretary: Frank Bynum

Treasurer: Tony Roscetti

Immediate Past President: Dave Klinestiver

#### *Committees:*

Preservation: Andy O'Donnell

Website: Ed Pope

Program Selection: Peg Bertelli, Jenny Thompson, Dave Klinestiver

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.**

### *2014-2015 Campaign Plans*

Mar. 9, 2015	Fred Schaefer – Civil War Medicine
Apr. 13, 2015	Ross Hudgins – <i>Maggie: The Civil War Journals of Margaret Nichol Vault</i>
May 14, 2015	Khabir Shareef – Maj. Martin Delaney: Highest ranking black Civil War officer
June 8, 2015	Ed Bonekemper – Six Turning Points of the American Civil War

### *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.

2/18 Phil DeHaven – The Woman Would be First Lady

3/18 – MaryAnne Matthews – Mrs. President: A Visit with Mary Todd Lincoln

4/15 Dave Walker – Portraying Jeff Davis

5/20 Margaret Hobson – The Iron Men of Indiana’s 44<sup>th</sup> Regiment

**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.

### *Special Orders*

**“Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War”:** The Benjamin Harrison Presidential Site opened a new exhibition, “Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War” on January 26, 2015. The traveling exhibition was organized by the National Constitution Center, Philadelphia, and the American Library Association (ALA) Public Programs Office, Chicago. Based upon an original interactive exhibit developed by the National Constitution Center, this traveling version explores Lincoln’s struggle to resolve the basic questions that divided Americans at the most perilous moment in the nation’s history: Was the United States truly one nation, or was it a confederacy of sovereign and separate states? How could a country founded on the belief that “all men are created equal” tolerate slavery? In a national crisis, would civil liberties be secure? President Lincoln used the Constitution to confront the secession of Southern states, slavery and wartime civil liberties. Lincoln’s decisions about these three intertwined crises of war reinvented the Constitution and the promise of American life. This exhibition develops a more complete understanding of Abraham Lincoln as president and the Civil War as the nation’s gravest constitutional crisis. The exhibit will close on March 6, 2015.

**Indianapolis Crossroads of America Civil War / Political Show:** The fifth annual show will be held in the main gym of Beech Grove High School on March 27-28, 2015. Friday's hours are 4-8 p.m. Saturday's hours are 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. All profits will be donated to the Beech Grove High School Student Incentive Fund.

**Lincoln Assassination Symposium, April 19, 2015:** Two-part lecture by noted author/historian Robert C. Jones during the sesquicentennial of Lincoln's death, 1:30-3:30. Hosted by Hope United Presbyterian Church, Plainfield, IN. Spaghetti dinner provided at 12:30. All events are free, with a free will offering for lunch.

For information, [www.hopepresplainfield.org](http://www.hopepresplainfield.org); <http://rcjbooks.com>;

Chris Shelton: [usgrant18642002@yahoo.com](mailto:usgrant18642002@yahoo.com)

Robert C. Jones is President of the Kennesaw Historical Society, as well as a member of the executive board of the Kennesaw Museum Foundation, which helped fund the 40,000 square foot Southern Museum of Civil War and Locomotive History in Kennesaw, GA. Robert has written a number of books on Civil War themes, including: *Retracing the Route of Sherman's Atlanta Campaign and the March to the Sea*; *Conspirators, Assassins, and the Death of Abraham Lincoln*; and *Great Naval Battles of the Civil War*.

**Signs found of Sherman's weapons dump in downtown Columbia, S.C. river:** (*Star and Stripes*, 18 January 2015) When Sherman's troops left Columbia in 1865, they dumped captured Confederate cannonballs, cartridges, rammers, sabers, bayonet scabbards, and knapsacks into the Congaree River. Historians and researchers, using sonar and metal detection, now believe they were dumped near the Gervais Street Bridge in downtown Columbia. With explosives experts supervising, they plan to soon retrieve the artifacts from under a two-foot thick layer of tar. Some artifacts were recovered in the 1930s, 1970s, and 1980s, but there is a lot more to reclaim. Recovered artifacts will belong to the state.

## *Official Records*

**January Attendance:** 22

**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:**

*Banners at Shenandoah: A Story of Sheridan's Fighting Cavalry*, by Bruce Catton  
*The Man Who Killed Lincoln: The Story of John Wilkes Booth and His Part in the Assassination*, by Philip Van Doren Stern

*Into the Wilderness with the Army of the Potomac*, by Robert Garth Scott

*The Opening Battles: The Photographic History of the Civil War*, edited by Francis Trevelyan Miller

*Sheridan the Inevitable*, by Richard O'Connor

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

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

1. What was the only decoration awarded by the Confederacy during the war? To whom was it given and for what?
2. Confederate General John B. Gordon rode a horse named for a Union General. What was the name of the horse?
3. On what battlefield would you find the Nicodemus House?
4. What is the military term for holding back a segment of a line in order to force the enemy to keep troops there?
5. A Texas soldier from Hood's brigade used the quotation from Paradise Lost below to describe a famous event that occurred in a major battle. What was the event?

Now storming fury rose,  
 And clamor such as heard in Heaven till now  
 Was never;...  
 ...dire was the noise  
 of conflict; over head the dismal hiss  
 Of fiery darts in flaming volleys flew,  
 And flying vaulted either host with fire.

Answers to the January quiz:

1. Name the New York prison, opened in 1864, which remains open today. \*\*\*  
 Riker's Island

2. At what battle did a group known as the “Forlorn Hope Band” engage in a suicidal charge? \*\*\* Port Hudson
3. What was the directive in Confederate General Orders #45? Who issued it? \*\*\* Required immediate release of captured Union medical officers; Gen. Samuel Cooper
4. What was a “quartermaster shot”? \*\*\* An artillery round landing behind the enemy lines
5. Who said, “My plans are perfect, and when I start to carry them out, may God have mercy on General Lee, for I shall have none.”? \*\*\* Gen. Joseph Hooker

### *The Soldiers Speak*

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

Gen. Ulysses S. Grant: “The fact is the constitution did not apply to any such contingency as the one existing from 1861 to 1865. Its framers never dreamed of such a contingency occurring. If they had foreseen it, the probabilities are they would have sanctioned the right of a State or States to withdraw rather than that there should be a war between brothers.” (Wright, 123)

Gen. Ulysses S. Grant: “The Constitution was not framed with a view to any such rebellion as that of 1861-65. While it did not authorize rebellion it made so provision against it....The Constitution was therefore in abeyance for the time being, so far as it in any way affected the progress and termination of the war.” (Wright, 126)

CS President Jefferson Davis: “The President of the United States calls for an army of 75,000 men, whose first service was to be to capture our forts. It was a plain declaration of war which I was not at liberty to disregard because of my knowledge that under the Constitution of the United States the President was usurping a power granted exclusively to the Congress.” (Wright, 63)

Abraham Lincoln, speech in Elwood, Kansas, December 1, 1859: “You may examine the debates under the Confederation, in the convention that framed the Constitution and in the first session of Congress and you will not find a single man saying that slavery is a good thing. They all believed it was an evil.” (Wright, 224)

Abraham Lincoln, speech at the Cooper Union, New York City, February 27, 1860: “An inspection of the Constitution will show that the right of property in a slave is not ‘*distinctly and expressly* affirmed’ in it.” (Wright, 225)

President Abraham Lincoln, message to Congress, July 4, 1861: “The provision of the Constitution that ‘The privilege of the writ of habeas corpus, shall not be suspended unless when, in cases of rebellion or invasion, the public safety may require it,’ is equivalent to a provision – is a provision – that such privilege may be suspended when, in cases of rebellion, or invasion, the public safety does require it. It was decided that we

have a case of rebellion, and that the public safety does require the qualified suspension of the privilege of the writ which was authorized to be made.” (Wright, 234)

President Abraham Lincoln, letter to Albert G. Hodges, April 4, 1864: “Was it possible to lose the nation, and yet preserve the constitution? By general law life *and* limb must be protected; yet often a limb must be amputated to save a life; but a life is never wisely given to save a limb. I felt that measures, otherwise unconstitutional, might become lawful, by becoming indispensable to the preservation of the constitution, through the preservation of the nation.” (Wright, 260)

Chief Justice Salmon P. Chase, 1865: “If you bring these leaders to trial it will condemn the North, for by the Constitution secession is not rebellion.” (Wright, 45)

### *Civilian of the Month*



Photo and information from: [http://www.pbs.org/wnet/supremecourt/democracy/robes\\_taney.html](http://www.pbs.org/wnet/supremecourt/democracy/robes_taney.html).

Supreme Court Justice Roger Taney served from 1835 until his death in 1864. He is best remembered for his opinion in the Dred Scott case, denying African Americans citizenship. Lincoln thought of him as an enemy and defied him when he suspended habeas corpus in parts of Maryland in 1861.

### *Historic Site of the Month*



Photo and information from: <https://www2.illinois.gov/alplm/library/Pages/default.aspx>.

**Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum:** The library holds original Lincoln letters and manuscripts, books and pamphlets about him, and many historical artifacts and photographs. All Lincoln Collection items must be used at the library by appointment. The library is open Monday – Friday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Many items have now been digitized and are accessible through Illinois Legacy Online.

<https://www2.illinois.gov/alplm/library/lincoln/lincolndocuments/pages/default.aspx>.

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