



HARDTACK



Indianapolis Civil War Round Table Newsletter

<http://indianapoliscwrt.org/>

January 11, 2016, at 7:30 p.m.

Meeting at Indiana History Center Auditorium
450 West Ohio Street

The Plan of the Day The Irish Brigade at Antietam

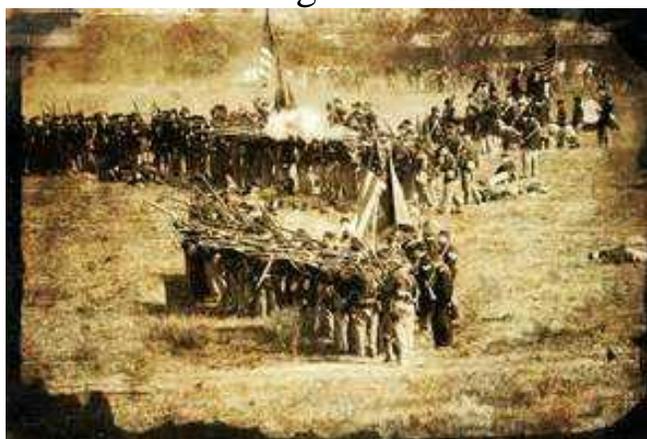


Image from <http://www.civilwartalk.com>

Our speaker will discuss the role of the Irish Brigade in the repulse of Lee's first invasion of the North at Antietam. The Irish Brigade will be remembered as much for its colorful commander, Gen. Thomas Meagher, as for its deeds on the battlefield. His presentation will include an overview of his life and service. He will also talk about the postwar legacy of the regiment and its contributions to future conflicts.

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. Tony Trimble is a resident of Plainfield, Indiana. He is employed as adjunct professor of history at Ivy Tech Community College and in private practice as a psychologist. He

earned B.S. and M.S. degrees in history and political science from Indiana State University and the Ed.S in School Psychology from Butler University.

Dr. Trimble is a member of the Indiana Historical Society, currently serving as a member of the Awards Committee, Society of Civil War Historians, and Phi Alpha Theta-National Honorary Fraternity for Historians. He served as Vice-President and President of the Indianapolis Civil War Roundtable and is a winner of its Harmon Award for Civil War Scholarship and the Bates Award for contributions to the administration of the affairs of the roundtable. Dr. Trimble was listed in the 1990-91 Edition of *Who's Who in the Midwest* and the 1992-93 Edition of *Who's Who in American Education*. He has articles published in *Civil War Times Illustrated*, *Indiana Military History Journal*, *Civil War*, *Gettysburg – Historical Articles of Lasting Interest*, *Michigan History*, *The Encyclopedia of Indianapolis*, and was in the *Well Done Indiana: "Tales of the Triumphs and Tragedies of Indiana in the Civil War"* DVD.

Roster of Officers and Committees for the 2015-2016 Campaign

Officers:

President: Peg Bertelli

Vice President: Chris Smith

Secretary: Mark Thornton

Treasurer: Tony Roscetti

Immediate Past President: Nikki Schofield

Committees:

Preservation: Andy O'Donnell

Website: Ed Pope

Program Selection: Chris Smith, 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.

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

2015-2016 Campaign Plans

Feb. 8, 2016 - Alan Teller – Abraham Lincoln's Boyhood Years

Mar. 14, 2016 - Dave Sutherland – The Battle of New Market

Apr. 11, 2016 - Gary Joiner – Brown Water Navy

May 9, 2016 - Brian Jordan – Marching Home: Union Veterans and Their Unending Civil War

June 13, 2016 - Shelby Harriel – Forbidden, Hidden, & Forgotten: Women in the Ranks During the Civil War

Other Camp Activities

Hamilton County Civil War Roundtable: They meet at the Carmel City Hall, located at 1 Civic Square, Carmel, IN 46032. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., and the program will start at 7:00 in the Second Floor Counsel Room. Join us for dinner at 5:15 p.m. at Dooley O'Tools Restaurant at 160 E. Carmel Dr., Carmel, IN 46032. Meetings will be on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, September through May, excluding December.

January 13, 2016 – TBA

February 10, 2016 – Danny Russel – Honest Abe Impersonation

March 9, 2016 – Steve Martin – Hoosiers and the Civil War

April 13, 2016 – Phil DeHaven – Bedford Forrest Johnsonville Campaign

May 11, 2016 - TBA

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.

Official Records

December 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.

Book Raffle:

The Baraboo Guards: A Novel of the American Civil War, by John K. Driscoll

Chattanooga: A Death Grip on the Confederacy, by James Lee McDonough

Lee and Jackson, by Paul D. Casdorff

A Turn in the South, by S. Naipaul

Embattled Courage: The Experience of Combat in the American Civil War, by Gerald F. Linderman

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

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

1. Name the officer appointed Inspector General of the District of Columbia in 1861?
2. Where would you find Port Royal Ferry?
3. What battle included skirmishes at La Vergne and Stewart's Creek?
4. In what Confederate state did a skirmish occur at Sylamore Creek?
5. What went wrong when General Butler ordered a canal to be cut on the James River at Dutch Gap?

BONUS: What do these five things have in common?

Answers to the December Quiz:

Name the Civil War figure associated with each of the nicknames below.

1. The Bishop Militant *** Leonidas Polk, CSA
2. Little Powell *** A.P. Hill, CSA
3. Rooney *** Fitzhugh Lee, CSA
4. Old Cock Eye *** Benjamin F. Butler, USA
5. Old Prayer Book *** Oliver O. Howard, USA

The Soldiers Speak

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

Israel Benjamin: "Future generations will be astounded to learn from history that from 400,000 to 500,000 volunteers took up arms to defend the Constitution of their land and that nowhere could this most enlightened people find a man to lead these mighty columns, this mountain rolling onward to victory, so that it might in a short time shatter its weaker opponent, and that immigrant Germans and Irish had to be summoned to act as spearhead."

CS private Alexander Hunter: "Pick out of any thronged thoroughfare ten Irishmen, and you will find at least six honest men. They are the bone and sinew of our land. They rear our stately structures, build our great industrial works, develop our mines, and join heart and soul in our battles. What a happy, devil-me-care, laughter-loving fellow he is withal! In all the troops of the Confederates, there were none truer or braver."

US private David L. Thompson: “If the march has just begun, you hear the sound of voices everywhere, with roars of laughter in spots, marking the place of the company wag—generally some Irishman, the action of whose tongue bears out his calling. Later on, when the weight of knapsack and musket begins to tell, these sounds die out; a sense of weariness and labor rises from the toiling masses streaming by, voiced only by the shuffle of a multitude of feet, the rubbing and straining of innumerable straps, and the flop of full canteens.”

Soldier of the Month



Photo and information from “Beating Drum on Top of Monument Plan to Observe Enlistment Date: Abe F. Springsteen, Youngest Soldier in Civil War, Has Unique Idea for Celebration,”

Indianapolis Star, 15 Oct 1911, p. 49

“Mr. Springsteen’s war record is interesting. It is the story of a youth who ran away from the Indianapolis schools when he was 10 years old to beat a drum at the local recruiting office. Time and again his parents took him home and insisted that he remain in school, but each time he ran away again. . . . I continued beating my drum for the various recruiting officers until Oct. 15, 1861, when, at the age of 11 years, I obtained the consent of my parents and was mustered as a private in Company A, Thirty-fifth Irish Regiment of Indiana Volunteers, then stationed at Fort Morton. I was subsequently put in the regimental band and was on duty with my command until Dec. 23, 1861, when we were

ordered to the front. We broke camp and marched to the Governor's Circle late in the evening and were presented with a stand of colors by the ladies of Indianapolis, and after a speech by Governor Morton we marched to the Cincinnati freight depot, where we were to take the train for the South. There was a delay of several hours, and in the meantime my parents learned of our intended departure, and my mother and sister hurried down to the depot and, on pretense of wanting to take me home and fill my haversack with good things to eat, kidnaped me and locked me up, and on the following day sent me to the country. I ran away several times and tried to find my way back to Indianapolis, but each time was captured. In May 1862, I returned to my home on account of a death in the family. In June I obtained employment at a branch of the United States arsenal at the southeast corner of Washington and Missouri streets, assisting in the manufacture of cartridges, where I worked until July, when I again buckled on my drum and helped organize Company I, Sixty-third Indiana Volunteer Regiment. We had our recruiting tent pitched in the northeast corner of the old State House yard, just across from the arsenal. Henry Tindell, who was superintendent of the arsenal, was made captain, and on the 28th day of July, at the age of 12 years, I was mustered in as drummer boy of the company. I went to the front with my command and served until June 31, 1865, when I was discharged with my regiment at Greensboro, N.C., and was finally mustered out at Indianapolis on the 3d day of July, just three days prior to my fifteenth birthday, having served about three years and three months." After the war, he worked in government service and in 1905 was working at the local pension office. He received special permission to mount to the top of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument to sound reveille with his Civil War drum on the fiftieth anniversary of his enlistment (the date of the article). Several family members lie buried in Crown Hill Cemetery, but he and his third wife lie buried in Los Angeles National Cemetery.

Historic Site of the Month



Irish Brigade Monument at Antietam Battlefield

Image from <http://www.irishbrigadestore.com>

Antietam National Battlefield is open daily from 9–5, except for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years Day. A three-day pass is \$5 per person (15 and under are free) or \$10 per vehicle. They hold special programs on the Monday of Memorial Day Weekend at the National Cemetery (Memorial Day Commemoration), the first Saturday in July (Independence Day Commemoration), September 17 (Anniversary of the Battle of Antietam), and the first Saturday in December (Memorial Illumination).

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6019 Allendale Dr.
Indianapolis, IN 46224