



# HARDTACK



Indianapolis Civil War Round Table Newsletter

<http://indianapoliscwrt.org/>

March 12, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

Meeting at Indiana History Center Auditorium  
450 West Ohio Street

## *The Plan of the Day*



**Above Us or Around Us: The Story & Men of the Bloody Eighth** At the beginning of the Civil War, the Eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry (with 784 men) organized for three months of service (April 25 - August 2). When the war did not end as quickly as expected, the regiment (with 1046 men) reorganized for three years of service. This presentation will provide a brief history of the three-month and three-year Eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, some problems faced in the regiment, and claims to fame and tragic endings of some of the soldiers.

### **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 Speaker*



Jenny Thompson graduated with a Bachelors in General Studies from IU in 2002 and a Masters in Military Studies - Civil War from AMU in 2006. She has served as the editor of the Hardtack since 2006. She is an adjunct History professor at American Public University System (American Military University and American Public University). On March 3, 2017, the Caroline Scott Harrison DAR Chapter presented her the "Woman in American History Award" for her outstanding work and accomplishments. She will have signed sets of her four volume book available for \$70 (they are \$95 on Amazon). If you want a set, please contact her at [jkt60jet@gmail.com](mailto:jkt60jet@gmail.com) so she will know how many sets to bring to the meeting.

### *Roster of Officers and Committees for the 2017-2018 Campaign*

#### *Officers:*

President: Dave Sutherland

Vice President: Tony Trimble

Secretary: Mark Thornton

Treasurer: Tony Roscetti

Immediate Past President: Chris Smith

#### *Committees:*

Preservation: Andy O'Donnell

Website: Ed Pope

Program Selection: Chris Smith, Jenny Thompson, Tony Trimble

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.**

### *2017-2018 Campaign Plans*

April 9, 2018 – Mark Laubacher – Cold Blooded Envenomation of 1861-65

May 14, 2018 – Meredith and Judy Wilson - James Davy's Civil War Diary

June 11, 2018 – Jennifer Murray – *On a Great Battlefield: The Making, Management, and Memory of Gettysburg National Military Park, 1933-2013*

### *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 them for dinner at 5:15 p.m. at Dooley O'Toole's Restaurant at 160 E. Carmel Dr., Carmel, IN 46032. Meetings will be on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month, September through May, excluding December.

March 14, 2018 - John Heiser, "1913 Gettysburg Reunion"

April 11, 2018 - Dave Finney, "Stonewall Jackson's Last Days"

May 9, 2018 - Dr. E.C. Fields , "General U.S. Grant"

**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*

**Civil War Trust 2017 Monument Survey:** The 2017 survey focused on the removal of Civil War monuments. Most members support keeping monuments where they are, but liked the idea of additional interpretation about the monument. They do not support the removal of Confederate monuments from Civil War battlefields and feel we should not rush to judge those who seceded from the Union based on today's standards. They feel that Robert E. Lee is still worthy of respect today.

**A Walk Through Leadership on Our Country's Common Ground:** The graduates of the IMPD Leadership Academy and Mr. Bill Westfall invite others to join them as they visit the Flight 93 Memorial, Gettysburg Battlefield and National Cemetery, and Antietam Battlefield on June 24 - 28, 2018. Dr. Harry L. Reeder, III will be the primary guide for the battlefields. The cost of \$526 per person covers the bus trip, four-night hotel room (double occupancy), three movies on the bus (Gods and Generals; Lincoln; and Gettysburg), box lunches, and other main meals. For more information, please contact Lt. Donald A. Bender at dbender1510@gmail.com or (317) 506-1510.

**Rare copy of the Declaration of Independence:** (from article in The Washington Post by Michael E. Ruane, published February 18, 2018 in Stars and Stripes) Billionaire David Rubenstein recently purchased a rare copy of the Declaration of Independence that was made for James Madison in the 1820s. Secretary of State John Quincy Adams ordered the production of two hundred facsimiles, which were distributed in 1824 to Congress, the

White House, and other important people like Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, and Madison (Each person received two copies.) During the Civil War, it lay hidden behind wallpaper in a Virginia home. Then it sat in a cardboard box in a closet in Kentucky. Later it lay behind a cabinet in an energy executive's office outside Houston. To read more about it, visit [https://www.stripes.com/rare-copy-of-declaration-of-independence-survived-civil-war-hidden-behind-wallpaper-1.512427?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=Stars+and+Stripes+Emails&utm\\_campaign=Daily+Headlines](https://www.stripes.com/rare-copy-of-declaration-of-independence-survived-civil-war-hidden-behind-wallpaper-1.512427?utm_medium=email&utm_source=Stars+and+Stripes+Emails&utm_campaign=Daily+Headlines).

**2nd Annual Baton Rouge Civil War Symposium:** This year's symposium, "Civil War Life: Sex, Lies and Tintypes," on April 27-28, 2018 at 1800 S. Acadian Thruway, Baton Rouge, LA, features speakers: Terry Jones, Bill Gurley, Steve Davis, and Sam Hyde. Early bird discount until 3/24 for both the symposium and reception is \$144. After 3/24, the reception is \$35 and the symposium is \$95. To register or for information, visit <http://www.brcwrt.com> or call (225) 937-2782.

**Tours:** The Civil War Education Association and American History Forum are offering three exciting spring tours: The Mobile Bay Campaign: Fort Morgan, Fort Gaines, Mobile, Blakely, and the Spanish Fort led by Mike Bunn on March 22-24; Shiloh: The First Great Battle of the Civil War led by Timothy B. Smith on April 19-21; and Lafayette and the Yorktown Campaign led by John R. Maass on April 18. For more information, please visit <http://www.cwea.net/programs>.

## *Official Records*

**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:**

*Dan Sickles: Hero of Gettysburg and "Yankee King of Spain,"* by Edgcomb Pinchon

*A Civil War Treasury,* by Albert A. Nofi

*Battle of Bull Run: A History of the First Major Campaign of the Civil War,* by William C. Davis

*Andersonville, A Novel,* by MacKinlay Kantor

*Voices of the Civil War: Second Manassas,* by the Editors of Time-Life Books

**\*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. Name the pre-war band master who led a famous raid during the Vicksburg Campaign.
2. On 20 March 1863, a skirmish was fought at Vaught's Hill. Where is it?
3. By what nickname was the 37th Iowa Volunteer Infantry known? Why?
4. Who wrote, "For four years have I waited, hoped, and prayed, for the dark clouds to break, and for a restoration of our sunshine. To wait longer would be a crime."?
5. Name the Union officer who was vilified for the hanging of William B. Mumford for the offense of tearing down the American flag in front of a U.S. Mint.

Answers to the February Quiz:

1. While Confederates were considering evacuation of Atlanta, a battle between troops commanded by Generals Hardee and Howard was continuing south of the city near what town? \*\*\* Jonesborough
2. When Braxton Bragg failed to prevent Rosecrans from concentrating his forces at Chattanooga, he set the stage for what battle? \*\*\* Chickamauga
3. Regiments under General Andrew Jackson Smith were given a nickname because they were shuffled so rapidly that they did not know the name of their commander. What was the nickname? \*\*\* Lost Tribes of Israel
4. On what battlefield would you find Slaughter's Field? \*\*\* Port Hudson
5. Who said, "I never went into a battle willingly or with enthusiasm. I was always glad when a battle was over. It is at all times a sad and cruel business. I hate war with all my heart, and nothing but imperative duty could induce me to engage in its work or witness its horrors." \*\*\* U.S. Grant

*The Newspaper Speaks*

From [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com)

*The Star Press* (Muncie, Indiana) Tuesday, June 15, 1909, page 2

<https://www.newspapers.com>

### OLD FLAG IS EXHIBITED

Presented to First Company Leaving Marion in Civil War.

Marion, Ind., June 14. - The General Shunk post, G. A. R., of this city, exhibited today in the celebration of Flag day a flag with unusual history. It was presented to the first company of soldiers leaving Marion to participate in the Civil war, Captain **David Shunk**'s company of the Eighth Indiana regiment, by seventeen young women, each of whom sewed a star on the field of blue and wrote her name on the star. This was in April, 1861, and though the ink with which the names were written has faded, all are legible, and are as follows: Mary McClure, Sallie White, Lizzie Spencer, Rose McClure, Louise Swayzee, Line Ayres, Lucy Carey, Marie Ayrea, Retta Morgan, Ferrie Shively, Maggie Brownlee, Amanda Sanford, Mollie Dunn, Mollie Stretch, Sallie Stretch, Josie Butler and Sallie Frazer.

Of those who participated in making the flag thirteen are living. Seven of them married soldiers who served in the Civil war. The flag was carried throughout the war and while it has been pieced by bullets it was never captured and was returned home by the company to which it was presented. It is faded with age and is preserved under glass. The flag is one of the prized relics of the General Shunk post.

### *Officer of the Month*



Photo and information from Find a Grave Memorial # 5893864

William Plummer Benton was born December 25, 1828 in New Market, Maryland. He was a lawyer before the Civil War. He raised the first company of the Eighth Indiana Infantry and became the colonel of the regiment. He became brigadier general in April 1862 and brevetted as major general in March 1865. After the war, he moved to New Orleans to become Collector of Revenue. He died of yellow fever March 14, 1867 and lies buried in Greenwood Cemetery in New Orleans, Louisiana.

## *Historic Site of the Month*



**Vicksburg Monument and close-up of left side plaque** “INDIANA 1<sup>ST</sup> BRIG. 14<sup>TH</sup> DIV. 10<sup>TH</sup> CORPS 8<sup>TH</sup> INFANTRY, COLONEL DAVID SHUNK, MAJOR THOMAS J. BRADY, ENGAGED: PORT GIBSON, MAY 1; CHAMPION’S HILL, MAY 16; BIG BLACK RIVER BRIDGE, MAY 17; ASSAULT, MAY 22; SIEGE, MAY 23 – JULY 4. CASUALTIES: KILLED 27, WOUNDED 133, MISSING 1, TOTAL 161, CAPTAINS ANDREW O’DANIEL, FREDERICK S. WYSONG AND HIRAM T. VANDEVENDER KILLED.” NPS photos

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