



# HARDTACK



Indianapolis Civil War Round Table Newsletter

<http://indianapoliscwrt.org/>

October 8, 1028 at 6:45 p.m.  
Meeting at MCL Cafeteria Township Line  
2370 E. 86th Street

## *The Plan of the Day* Civil War in Hancock County

This presentation discusses the Hancock County families which were torn apart by the Civil War. It also talks about those who played different leadership roles in the conflict and along with those at the bottom rail of everyday life: people like Oliver Gooding, Reuben Riley, Lee O. Harris, David Gooding, William H. Power, George Knox, Dunbar Family, Samuel Shelby, Isaac Newton Fred, plus others. He will talk about the *Sultana* Explosion, 2000 soldiers aboard with 800 escaping with their lives including Hancock County soldiers. He will talk about the Black community that migrated to Hancock County after the Civil War. This presentation touches on the letters home from the Dunbar and the Wilson families. He will also talk about the Lincoln Funeral Train coming through Hancock County, sham battles after the Civil War, and our involvement with the Morgan Raid.

### **JOIN US BEFORE THE MEETING AT MCL CAFETERIA!**

**All ICWRT members and guests** are invited to join us at 6:00 P.M. at MCL Cafeteria, 2370 W. 86th Street before the meeting to enjoy dinner and fellowship.

### *Our Guest Speaker*



**Joseph Skvarenina** has a B.S.Ed, M.Ed. from Kent State University; colloquy in Religion Concordia University; and a Fund Raising Certificate from Indiana University School of Philanthropy. He is married to Cheryl; they have two children and six grandchildren.

He has served as Hancock County Historian since 1991; he was appointed by the Indiana Historical Society and Indiana Library and Historical Bureau. He received the Award to the Board of the State Library and Historical Bureau by Governor Pence and was the 2015 award winner of the Herbert Hawkins Award for outstanding contribution to local

history by Indiana Historical Society. He is the Past President of the Hancock County Historical Society, Vice President of the Riley Old Home Society, founding member of Greenfield Historic Landmarks, and a Board member of the National Road Association. He is a member of Phi Alpha Theta International History Honorary. He is the current Chairman of the Board of the Greater Greenfield Chamber of Commerce and is serving his first term as a member at large of the Greenfield City Council. He will have his book available October 8 for \$10.00. It is called the *Civil War Era In Hancock County*, with co-authors Sue Baker and Elayne Stewart. The year 2011 marked the sesquicentennial of the beginning of the Civil War. The purpose of our small volume was to encourage the people of Hancock County to recognize the effect the most devastating conflict of the nation had on our local community. According to the Binford History, 209 Hancock County residents died in the Civil War. Two sections of our book include the newly transcribed Dunbar and Wilson letters written home from the battlefield. The book also includes Morgan's Raid into Indiana, the explosion of the *Sultana*, family conflicts, Grand Army of the Republic, and many other items which brought the Civil War into Greenfield homes.

### *Roster of Officers and Committees for the 2018-2019 Campaign*

#### *Officers:*

President: Tony Trimble

Vice President: Nikki Schofield

Secretary: Linda Smith

Treasurer: Tony Roscetti

Immediate Past President: Dave Sutherland

#### *Committees:*

Preservation: Andy O'Donnell

Website: Ed Pope

Program Selection: Dave Sutherland, Jenny Thompson, Nikki Schofield

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

### *2018-2019 Campaign Plans*

November 12, 2018 – John Summerlot – "We were there, on both sides: Indiana University in the Civil War"

December 10, 2018 – Robert Smith – *Indiana and the Sultana Disaster: The Story of a Survivor*

January 14, 2019 – James Fuller – "Oliver P. Morton and the Civil War in Indiana"

February 11, 2019 – Steve Williams– "Lambdin P. Milligan and the Fire in the Rear"

March 11, 2019 – David Finney – "Valor, Gallantry, and Remembrance: The Medal of Honor, Taps, and Memorial Day"

April 8, 2019 – Kraig McNutt – "Battle of Franklin"

May 13, 2019 – Gary Johnson – "Countering Mallory's Infernal Machines"

June 10, 2019 – David Koehler – "Census in the Civil War"

NOTE: Our meetings will start at 6:45 p.m. and now will be held at MCL Cafeteria, 2370 W. 86th St.

### *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'Tools 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.

October 10, 2018 - David Powell - The Battle of Chickamauga

November 14, 2018 - Dr. Bruce Allardice - Conscription of a Free People

December - no meeting

January 9, 2019 - Judy & Merideth Wilson - Civil War Diaries

February 13, 2019 - Jim Fuller - Gov. Oliver P. Morton and the Civil War

March 13, 2019 - Rob Girardi - Jefferson Davis

April 10, 2019 - Mac Wyckoff - Bombardment of Fort Sumter

May 8, 2019 - Curt Fields - General Grant, part II

**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.

October 15, 2018 - Stephen T. Jackson - "Their Last Full Measure of Devotion - Brigade General Conrad Feger Jackson"

November 19, 2018 - DVD "Finance and Supply"

December - no meeting

### *Special Orders*

**Reconstruction: America After the Civil War:** PBS recently announced a new four-hour documentary, produced and hosted by Henry Louis Gates, Jr., the Alphonse Fletcher University Professor at Harvard University and director of the Hutchins Center for African and African American Research, will premiere next spring. <https://to.pbs.org/2OmMpRT>

**American Queen Cruises:** The Jefferson Davis Foundation is offering two cruises. The first cruise (October 27 - November 4, 2018) on the American Queen Steamboat leaves from Memphis with stops at significant Civil War sites along the Mississippi, and will also visit Paducah, Kentucky; Savannah, Tennessee; and Florence, Alabama. There are only 25 cabins available for this cruise. The second cruise (May 26 - June 3, 2019) on the American Express Steamboat leaves from Vancouver, Washington, will explore sites

along the Columbia and Snake Rivers, and will also visit Astoria, the Dales, Richland, and Clarkson (following the Lewis and Clark travels and exploring the visits of Ulysses Grant and see the influence of Jefferson Davis on the Oregon Territory issues in 1846. For more information and to make reservations for either cruise, contact Bertram Hayes-Davis at bhayesdavis@att.net or by phone at 719-238-5573.

**Book Review by Nikki Schofield:** *Lincoln & Churchill, Statesmen At War* by Lewis E. Lehrman, is a comparison of the leadership styles of these two men during wartime. The excellent book was published this year. As Doris Kearns Goodwin states in her recommendation, it is like having Abraham Lincoln and Winston Church in the same room. Mr. Lehrman shows how the two men were similar and also how they were different. The book is well worth reading.

## *Official Records*

**Attendance:** 31

**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:**

*That Devil Forrest; Life of General Nathan Bedford Forrest*, by John Allan Wyeth

*Storming Little Round Top*, by Phillip Thomas Tucker

*Mountains Touched with Fire: Chattanooga Besieged, 1863*, by Wiley Sword

*Field Surgeon at Gettysburg*, by Clyde B. Kernek, M.D.

*From Manassas to Appomattox: Gen. James Longstreet CSA*, by James Longstreet

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

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

1. Who commanded Union troops in the skirmish at Binnaker's Bridge? In what state is it?
2. What was the National Covenant? What was its purpose?
3. What are jambiers? Who wore them?
4. By what other name is the Battle of Fair Oaks known?
5. The Civil War also had its Bunker Hill? Where was it?

Answers to the September Quiz:

1. During the Atlanta Campaign, where did Sherman cut Hood's last railroad into the city? \*\*\* Jonesborough
2. What was the "Lady Bell"? With what battle is it associated? \*\*\* An eight-ton Dahlgren gun; Fort Donelson
3. What general was known as "The Great Confederate Murat," an allusion to Napoleon's cavalry commander Joachim Murat? \*\*\* Nathan Bedford Forrest
4. In what state would there have been fighting at Ft. McCook? \*\*\* Tennessee
5. While Vicksburg was under siege, what city was captured in Louisiana? \*\*\* Port Hudson

### *The Citizens Speak*

From Newspapers. com

*The Hancock Democrat* (Greenfield, Indiana) Wednesday, January 8, 1862, page 2

Platform of Center Township Democracy.

WHEREAS, our country is involved in civil war, involving the very existence of the Government itself; therefore, we deem it proper to declare our views of duty to the Government, plainly and explicitly, at this critical juncture of public affairs; therefore,

1. *Resolved*, That we are devotedly attached to the Union of the United States, and the Constitution of the United States, and the faithful and impartial execution of the Laws, made in pursuance thereof, in every part of the Government.
2. *Resolved*, That, for the purpose of perpetuating the Union, and maintaining the Constitution, and executing the laws, we will sustain the Government of the United States, in all proper efforts for the suppression [sic] of the rebellion, and for such purpose we are in favor of a vigorous prosecution of the present deplorable civil war, in order to a speedy and honorable peace.
3. *Resolved*, That, whenever, from any cause, the rebellion is put down, or ceases to exist, then the war should cease; and all the constitutional and legal rights of States and citizens should be respected and maintained, and that we oppose the prosecution of the war for any other purpose than to suppress the rebellion.
4. *Resolved*, That as Democrats we reaffirm our faith in the Great Principle of Popular Sovereignty, as declared by the lamented Stephen A. Douglas.

5. *Resolved*, That all men who *now* heartily *approve* and *endorse* the platform of principles on which Stephen A. Douglas ran for the Presidency in 1860, are Democrats, and as such have a right to participate in the conventions of the party, and none others have such right.

6. *Resolved*, That we *approve* and *endorse* the act of the Extra Session of Congress in appropriating money and providing soldiers to suppress the rebellion, and that we are gratified at the entire unanimity of all patriotic parties in its support.

7. *Resolved*, That we have no political sympathies with Northern Abolitionism nor Southern Secessionism, but repudiate both as dangerous to the Government.

*"Whoever is not prepared to sacrifice party organizations and platforms on the altar of his country does not deserve the support and countenance of honest men. How are we to overcome partisan antipathies in the minds of men of all parties so as to present a united front in support of our country? We must cease discussing party issues, make no allusion to old party tests, have no criminations and recriminations, indulge in no taunts one against the other as to who has been the cause of these troubles.*

*"When we shall have rescued the Government and country from its perils, and seen its flag floating in triumph over every inch of American soil, it will then be time enough to inquire as to who and what has brought these troubles upon us. When we shall have a country and Government for our children to live in peace and happiness, it shall be time for each of us to return to our party who will not abandon all such issues in times like these." - Extract from the last Speech of Senator Douglas.*

### *Officer of the Month*



Photo from Find A Grave memorial # 13964410. Information from *Above Us or Around Us: Volume III* by Jennifer Thompson and <https://www.buckeyemuse.com/the-james-whitcomb-riley-home-in-greenfield-indiana/>.

**Reuben Alexander Riley** was a lawyer and politician before the war. He changed from the Democratic Party to the Republican Party because of the slavery issue. He helped to

elect President James Polk and served in the state legislature. He also served as delegate at the Republican convention that nominated Abraham Lincoln. He organized and served as captain of Company G of the three month Eighth Indiana Infantry. "A shell that fell near him at the Battle of Rich Mountain stunned him, pierced his left side, and almost destroyed the hearing in his left ear. His left side remained paralyzed for a while." He mustered out as a member of Company I and later enlisted as captain of Company G of the Fifth Indiana Cavalry. His impaired health led to his resignation on December 25, 1863. He read Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address to crowds awaiting the arrival of Lincoln's Funeral Train. He also served as judge advocate general, was in charge of several cases regarding Knights of the Golden Circle members, became mayor, and was a writer. He died of la-grippe and typhoid pneumonia on December 6, 1893 and lies buried in Park Cemetery in Greenfield.

### *Historic Site of the Month*



**The Chapel in the Park Museum** was originally the Philadelphia United Methodist Church. It is now located in Riley Park in Greenfield. Their collection documents the history of Hancock County.

## Re-enlist NOW for the 2018-2019 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](mailto:anthony.roschetti@pnc.com)

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

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### **ICWRT Membership Enlistment for July 2018 thru June 2019**

*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:

\_\_\_\_\_



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