



HARDTACK



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

Monday, December 13, 2021 at 6:45 p.m.
 Meeting at MCL Cafeteria Township Line
 2370 W. 86th Street

The Plan of the Day



BATTLE OF VALENTINE (GREEN) - WALL OF STARS BIVOUAC.

“Death Struggle in Missouri”

For Abraham Lincoln, the border states, as he called them, were of critical importance to saving the Union. One of those states was Missouri. Lincoln appointed John C. Fremont to command in St. Louis. His time there was filled with conflict and ended after the death of General Nathaniel Lyon. These two men engaged in a tug of war with a common object—to save the State of Missouri for the Union. “Death Struggle in Missouri” is the story of what happened when both men pulled on their end of the rope.

Our Guest Speaker



Tony Trimble

Tony Trimble lives in Plainfield, and is a psychologist in private practice. A 41 year member of the Indianapolis Civil War Roundtable, who has served as both president vice-president, Tony is also a member of the Civil War Roundtable of West Central Indiana, the National Congress of Civil War Roundtables, and the Society of Civil War Historians. He is also the author of numerous articles and essays on Indiana and Civil War history.

Roster of Officers and Committees for the 2021-2022 Campaign

Officers:

President: William Ghormley

Secretary: Bill Nicolai

Immediate Past President: Angie Gilmer

Vice President: Steven Magnusen

Treasurer: Tony Roscetti

Committees:

Preservation: Andy O'Donnell

Program Selection: Bob Gottschalk, Nikki Schofield, & Tony Trimble

Publicity: Peg Bertelli & Chris Smith

Website: Ed Pope

Tour Director: Peter Benner

Quiz Master:

Tony Trimble

HARDTACK Newsletter:

Editor: Robert Gottschalk

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 flyingscircus2011@hotmail.com by the tenth day following the preceding month's meeting.

Other Camp Activities

Hamilton County Civil War Roundtable: Meetings are on the 2nd Wednesday each month, September through May (excluding December) in Carmel City Hall. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., and meetings start at 7:00 p.m.

Madison County Historical Society Civil War Roundtable: Meetings take place on the third Monday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Bowman Room at the Museum of Madison County History, 11 West 11th Street, Anderson, Indiana.

Official Records

November Attendance: 35

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.

This Day In History

by Nikki Stoddard Schofield

December 13, 1862, General Lee's troops repulsed General Burnside's overwhelmingly larger army at Fredericksburg, Virginia. Casualties were 12,700 Union and 5,300 Confederates.

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

by Tony Trimble

Fill in the name of the Civil War personage who had each of the nicknames below.

1. Rock of Chickamauga
2. Old Stars
3. Hero of Pea Ridge
4. Hellcat in Calico
5. Neptune

Answers to the November Quiz:

1. John S. Mosby
2. Col. Eli Parker
3. Shiloh
4. They had to hold the horses.
5. Cedar Creek

Lost Cause Religion

By Nikki Stoddard Schofield

At the June 1988 meeting, we presented the Colonel Howard Bates Award to our member Lloyd Hunter for the best speech of the 1987-1988 campaign. Lloyd spoke at the February 8, 1988, meeting on “The Immortal Confederacy – A Look at the Lost Cause Religion.”

The Fall 2020 issue of Baptist History & Heritage has published an article by Christopher C. Moore entitled “Dividing the Mind of the White South: Carlton McCarthy and the Bifurcation of Confederate Memory,” which makes reference to Lloyd Hunter’s article “The Immortal Confederacy: Another Look at Lost Cause Religion,” published in The Myth of the Lost Cause and Civil War History edited by Gary W. Gallagher and Alan T. Nolan (Indiana University Press, 2000).

Mr. Moore wrote: “The Lost Cause was a sacralization of white Southern memory, often involving an apology of the Confederate cause and a veneration of Confederate soldiers, primarily in an attempt to preserve a distinctive Southern identity vis-à-vis Northerners. Here I borrow historian Lloyd Hunter’s term, “sacralization.”

If you are interested in reading this article by Mr. Moore, you may obtain a single issue by emailing Jackie Riley at Jackie@baptisthistory.org.

Civil War Face of the Month



FindaGrave.com

John Franklin Chenoweth was listed as a farm laborer in the 1860 Census. He was the oldest of Stephen and Cassandra Chenoweth’s four children, born near Sulphur Springs, Henry County in early 1844.

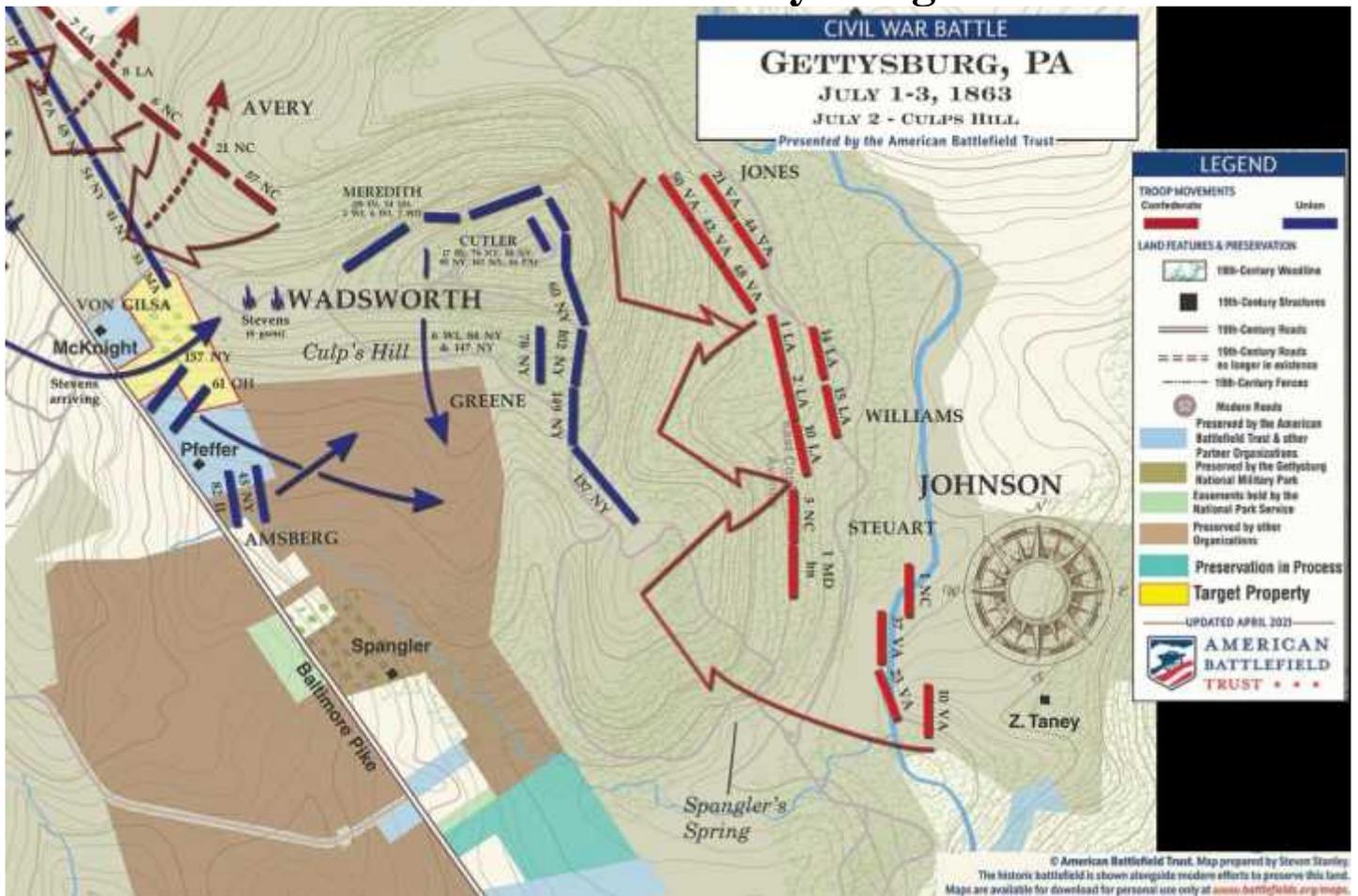
In November, 1861, not quite 18 years old, John enlisted in Company F, 57th Indiana Infantry. The 57th served in Wagner's Brigade, along with the 15th and 40th Indiana Regiments, and the 97th Ohio Regiment.

Chenoweth saw service from Shiloh through Franklin, being twice wounded, at Stones River and Resaca.

Captured when Wagner’s advanced line was overrun at Franklin, John spent the next four months at the notorious Cahaba Prison in Alabama. He was exchanged after only four months at Camp Fisk, near Vicksburg, Mississippi in April 1865.

Unfortunately, he was one of the nearly 2000 former prisoners loaded onto the S.S. Sultana for their journey home. Chenoweth, along with at least 10 other members of the 57th, perished on the ship when boilers exploded just north of Memphis on April 27. He was just 21 years old.

Five Acres at Gettysburg!



The Opportunity

We need your help today so that we can buy and eventually restore these 5 key acres of battlefield land at Gettysburg. The first is a four-acre tract of land near Culp's Hill that contains the Battlefield Military Museum and the second is a nearly 1-acre tract at the often-neglected South Cavalry Field.

These two special tracts of land have a total value of \$2.24 million. That's a huge number! Luckily, thanks to previously received contributions from generous supporters like you, combined with anticipated government grants and a few large private gifts, about 83% of the needed funds are lined up. But we're not there yet.

The Trust still needs to raise the remaining \$384,720 to save this land forever. That is no easy task, and we must hurry to do it. If successful, we will add key missing pieces of Gettysburg Battlefield to the hallowed ground we have worked together to faithfully protect — through a combination of determination, cultivation, and negotiation — for well over a decade along the roads leading to Gettysburg.

Please make your most generous gift today to help us raise the remaining \$384,720 to preserve forever five key acres of battlefield land at Gettysburg. Your gift will be multiplied by 5.83 for every dollar you contribute to this campaign.

BONUS: For every gift of \$50 or more, you will receive the first-ever American Battlefield Trust Gettysburg Challenge Coin. This special commemorative coin is only the second in the Trust's series of challenge coins and a wonderful keepsake to honor the soldiers who gave the ultimate sacrifice on this land for our great nation.

The Background

The first four-acre tract is an exceptional piece of historic land, which figured prominently on the second day of the Battle of Gettysburg. This property is known to generations of Gettysburg visitors as the site of the Battlefield Military Museum.

The tract is located on the slopes of East Cemetery Hill, abutting the Baltimore Pike and sitting just below the crest of the Union artillery position on Stevens Knoll. Today, the four acres contain the large, 1960's-era Battlefield Military Museum. Last year, the family that has owned this property for many years sold an adjacent one-acre tract to the Trust that contained the historic McKnight House. Now, the Trust has a once-in-a-generation opportunity to purchase the four-acre remainder of the family's property for preservation and eventual restoration to its 1863 appearance.

Tens of thousands of Union troops marched right in front of, paused on, passed over, or fought on McKnight's property and the four-acre tract the Trust is now working hard to save.

The National Park Service has restored the historic wood line around Stevens Knoll, making this four-acre parcel we want to save even more visible and important.

Several years ago, a Comfort Suites hotel was built on the Baltimore Pike opposite this property. I fear that if we fail to act now, another name-brand hotel or other commercial structure could be built there. Or maybe a residential developer would scoop up the property and attempt to have it re-zoned for an apartment building or townhouses.

This would be a devastating blow to our years-long preservation efforts along the Baltimore Pike. Take a look at the 2009 and 2021 "then and now" maps to see our work along the Baltimore Pike. Together we've completed nine transactions, totaling more than \$3.1 million, permanently protecting almost 40 acres! Each acre we preserve along the Pike prevents developers from gaining a foothold to mar this hallowed landscape.

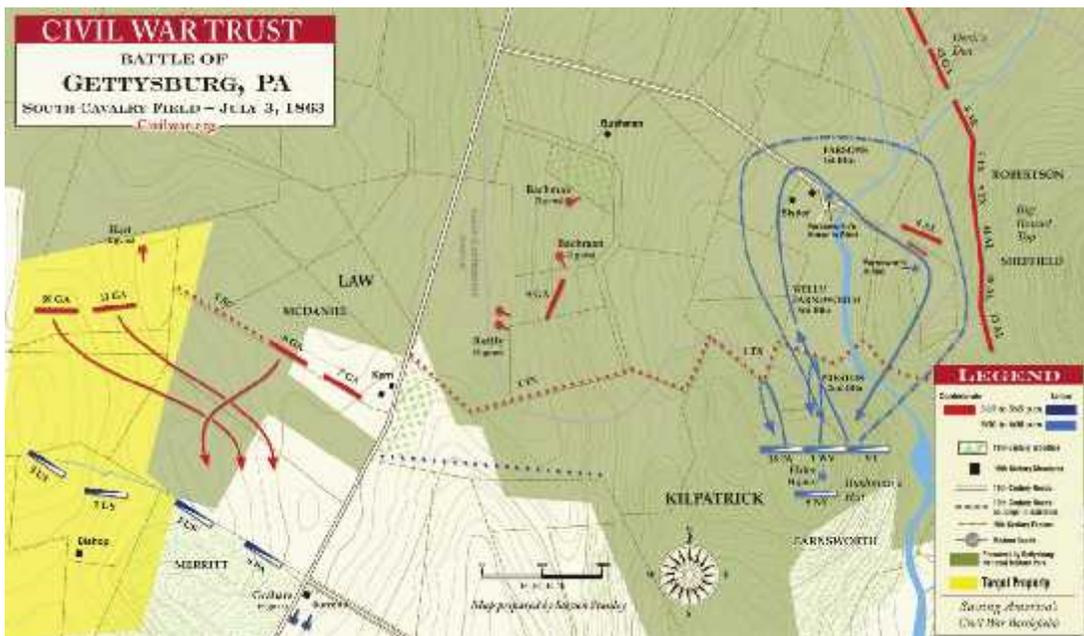
Our vision is to buy this pivotal piece of battlefield ground and restore it to its near-original condition such that, if General George Meade's troops were to somehow march up to the site again, they would know exactly where they were.

The second 1-acre tract will add to the 83+ acres we have already preserved together at South Cavalry Field — where infantry and cavalry, North and South, struggled before and after Pickett's Charge on July 3rd, 1863.

The target tract is not large, but it would be devastating if we weren't able to save it. Developers are hungry to snatch it up and put a "McMansion" on it. Anything short of protecting this land would ruin the viewshed of that part of the battlefield, which is right where Union General Wesley Merritt's cavalymen advanced toward waiting Confederate soldiers.

This was such important land that the War Department erected informational markers and tablets on an adjacent tract more than a century ago, but few people have ever seen them. The problem is access.

There is currently no safe place to park, walk the ground, and read those markers. By saving this one small tract, we can at last provide a safe access point to this part of South Cavalry Field. The Gettysburg National Military Park is interested in providing this access point if they can get the funds to acquire the tract from us.



ICWRT HISTORY by Steve Magnusen

20 Years Ago – November 2001: A committee was formed to write a history of the ICWRT's 50th anniversary in 2005. Alan Nolan and Vernon Earle were named co-chairs, with Jim Bishop, Tom Krasean, Dan Mitchell and Nikki Schofield.

25 Years Ago – 1996-97 Campaign: President Nikki Schofield presided over meetings 408 through 417, all but one held in the Indiana State Library Auditorium. The February meeting was at the Indiana War Memorial to hear about Indiana Battle Flag Preservation by Tom Williams, ICWRT.

43 Years Ago – 1978 -79 Campaign: Speakers included young David Finney of Michigan on The Battle of Brandy Station (June, #233) and author Bell Wiley of Georgia on Reminisces of a Civil War Historian (November, #236).

60 Years Ago – December 1961: The members watched a film about the US Navy in the Civil War. That July 111 members and guests attended the 3rd Annual Summer Encampment at Hiller's Timberlane Farm where the reactivated 19th Indiana Volunteer Infantry performed a loading and firing demonstration.

The Hartshorn Boarding House

by Steve Magnusen

To those who have read Steve Magnusen's *To My Best Girl* about Rufus and Mary Dawes, the "Hartshorn Boarding House" in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, is the site of a poignant occurrence which greatly impacted their lives. Steve visited the historic town in September, and with guidance provided by retired NPS Rangers Tom Clemens and Dennis Frye, he located the building which still exists today. Unfortunately the structure is vacant and in disrepair, apparently slated for razing and redevelopment by the company currently replacing the historic Hilltop House Hotel. Here are 1864 and current photos of the Hartshorn House at Washington and Columbia Streets, Harpers Ferry.



Re-enlist NOW for the 2021-2022 Campaign

Membership Extension Notice

The past year has been unprecedented in how it has impacted all of our lives. With the risks and concerns presented by the Coronavirus, the ICWRT was required to substantially alter the 2020-2021 campaign. With the cancellation of a number of meetings and the transition to Zoom calls for several more, the ICWRT was unable to provide the high level of meetings and presentations to which all of us have become accustomed. As a result, the Executive Board has determined that everyone who has an active membership for the 2020-2021 campaign will have their memberships extended at no additional cost for the 2021-2022 campaign. For anyone who has already paid for membership in the 2021-2022 campaign, their memberships will also be extended for an additional year. It is anticipated that the ICWRT will be able to return to our regular, in-person meetings beginning in September 2021 and we look forward to the return of all current and former members. Thank you for your understanding and commitment to our wonderful organization.

Tony Roscetti, Treasurer
Indianapolis Civil War Round Table

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1162 Thistlewood Way
Plainfield, IN 46168