



HARDTACK



Indianapolis Civil War Round Table Newsletter

<http://indianapoliscwrt.org/>

Monday, June 20, 2022, 2022 at 6:45 p.m.

Meeting at MCL Cafeteria Township Line

2370 W. 86th Street

PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE!

The Plan of the Day

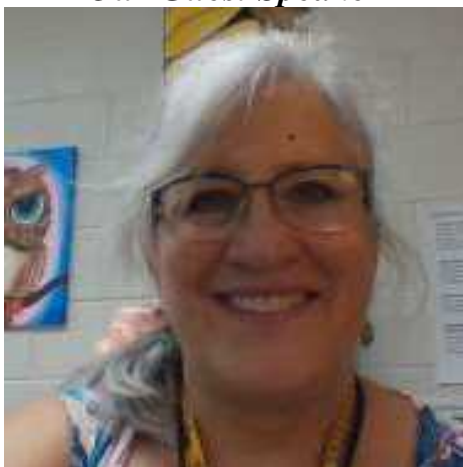


Harper's Weekly

“The Importance of Quinine in the Antebellum South and the Confederate Search for a Substitute”

Quinine was utilized to treat malaria and “fevers” quite heavily during the antebellum era. Once the Union blockade of the South was firmly established, quinine and substitutions for it were in demand, and, aside from coffee, were some of the items most smuggled.

Our Guest Speaker



Karel Lea Biggs

Karel Lea Biggs graduated from California State Polytechnic University with a degree in Hotel, Restaurant and Travel Management. That followed with degrees in Education from Wright State University in Celina Ohio, and a Masters in Education from Cumberland University in Tennessee. Karel met her husband Greg at the Los Angeles Civil War Roundtable. Moving first to Ohio in 1992, she lived in the same county that contributed men to the 71st OVI, her ancestors' Civil War regiment) before moving to Clarksville, Tennessee in 2003 (one of the towns her ancestors served in). She has worked at New Providence Middle School in Clarksville, primarily as a seventh-grade science teacher.

A lover of history and science, her husband Greg often refers to her as the Death and Disease Lady due to her love of combining the two subjects and historical medical issues and events.

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, David Finney, & Tony Trimble
Publicity: Peg Bertelli & Chris Smith

Website: Ed Pope
Tour Director: Pete Brenner

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 flyingcircus2011@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, 15 West 11th Street, Anderson, Indiana.
June 20, 2022 Linda J. Jones "Desertion"

Official Records

May Attendance: 33

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.

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This Day In History

by Nikki Stoddard Schofield

On June 20, 1863, West Virginia officially broke away from Virginia and was admitted as the thirty-fifth state of the Union. West Virginia is the only state formed as a direct result of the American Civil War.



Flicker

Variation of the 35 Star flag.

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

by Tony Trimble

It's June, and there is no Trimble's Trivia until September! But if you can't wait until then, go to <https://www.indianapoliscwrt.org/quiz.htm> for the Indianapolis Civil War Round Table Quiz. You can test your knowledge of the War Between the States with 100 old questions from Quizmaster Tony Trimble.

Answers to the May Quiz:

1. In July, 1862 the Confederacy created the Military District of Mississippi. Who was given command of the new district?
Gen. Earl Van Dorn
2. In the Union army, how many guns constituted a battery? In the Confederate army? *6 and 4 respectively*
3. On what battlefield would you find Priest Cap? *Port Hudson*
4. What Confederate general was killed in battle at Hatcher's Run? *John Pegram*
5. By what more common name was "McClellan Pie" better known? *Hardtack*

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Book Review

APOSTLE OF THE LOST CAUSE by Christopher Moore

(Reviewed by Nikki Stoddard Schofield)

Christopher Moore's book, "Apostle of the Lost Cause, J. William Jones, Baptists, and the Development of Confederate Memory," tells the story of Chaplain John William Jones, author of "Christ in the Camp," who was the main proponent of the Southern states myth to vindicate the Confederacy's defeat. Rev. Jones promoted the trinity of Davis, Lee, and Jackson as virtuous men, and the revivals in the Confederate Army as evidence of God's favoring their cause. Mr. Moore is a good writer, thus making this study of history an enjoyable read. The book is published by The University of Tennessee Press.

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CROWN HILL TOURS

Nikki Schofield will be leading two Civil War tours at Crown Hill Cemetery this summer. On July 16, she will give a tour entitled "Civil War Personalities." The next month, on August 16, the tour is "Treason in Indianapolis," based on her book about the Indianapolis Treason Trials. Both tours begin at 9:30 a.m., Saturday, from the Waiting Station at the 34th Street gate. The cost is \$10 and must be paid at EventBrite where tickets are sold. No tickets are available from Nikki. You can read more about the tours by going to crownhill.org and clicking EVENTS. At the next screen, select "Public Tours." If you have questions, Nikki will be at the June meeting or you can phone her at 317-328-8782.



Save 45 Historic Acres at the Battle of Chancellorsville



Harper's Weekly

The Opportunity

We have an urgent opportunity to save three historic tracts of land across which the Battle of Chancellorsville raged. Taken together, these three parcels of hallowed ground add up to 45 acres and total \$1,656,000 in transaction value. Through anticipated federal and state matching grants and other gifts, we have secured nearly 90% of the funding, but we must raise the final 10% before it's too late.

Your generous support can help save these truly historic lands today for only \$157,500 — a \$10.50-to-1 match of any gift you make today.

The History: Jackson's Flank Attack at Chancellorsville

With dawn on May 2, 1863, still hours away, Generals Robert E. Lee and Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson, seated on crates in a small clearing in the woods, studied a hastily drawn map and decided to do the unthinkable.

Lee had already violated established military doctrine by dividing his forces in the face of an enemy, leaving a substantial portion of his army to guard the river crossings at Fredericksburg. Now, following a day of heavy fighting which resulted in the Union Army of the Potomac pulling back to the Chancellorsville crossroads, Lee proposed to split his forces once again.

By the low light of a small campfire and a few flickering candles, Lee traced the vague outline of the movement he wished Jackson to make. "Old Jack's" entire corps, about 28,000 strong, would follow a series of country roads and paths to attempt to reach the Union right flank, which was reported to be "in the air," or unprotected.

Lee, with his army's scant remaining 14,000 soldiers (facing four or five times as many Federals), would noisily demonstrate and hopefully divert the attention of Union troops so Jackson could march his troops into position unnoticed and ready them for a flank attack.

On May 2, 1863, it took the increasingly exhausted Confederates most of the day to cover more than 12 miles to reach the point of attack. In the late afternoon, Jackson's men slowly and silently deployed into battle lines along the Orange Turnpike. It was an awe-inspiring front that measured nearly a mile on either side of the Turnpike.

At approximately 5:15 p.m., bugles echoed notes up and down the Confederate line. Then, with the suddenness of a summer thunderstorm, waves of sweat-soaked soldiers rolled forward, screaming like banshees and driving all manner of animals — deer, rabbits, squirrels, birds, and more — ahead of them. Astonished Federals were sent reeling. "Along the road it was pandemonium," recalled a Massachusetts soldier, "and on the side of the road it was chaos."

As Jackson's wave broke upon the exposed Union right and rear, many boys in blue fought valiantly to stem the tide. Near Dowdall's Tavern, New Yorkers and Pennsylvanians under the command of Colonel Adolphus Buschbeck made a stand along with the Ohio battery of Captain Hubert Dilger. The brave Federals formed what is now known as the "Buschbeck Line" and fought with great ferocity before they, too, were overwhelmed by the Confederate onslaught.

Sunset and the confused intermingling of Jackson's brigades compelled the general to call a temporary halt to reorganize. But even as darkness grew, Jackson was determined to renew the assault if possible, believing he could trap Hooker's Army of the Potomac and destroy it.

In the gloom of the darkening forest, after a long and trying day, a North Carolina regiment mistook Jackson's small scouting party as the enemy, which had ridden out beyond the lines to reconnoiter the Union position which lay ahead.

A few scattered shots and then a volley burst forth in the blackness, and Jackson reeled in his saddle, struck by three bullets, requiring the emergency battlefield amputation of his left arm. He would die eight days later. In literally the hour of his greatest triumph, Jackson had been struck down.

Dowdall's Tavern

The first and largest of the three tracts is 42 acres and includes the site of the historic Dowdall's Tavern.

In May of 1863, the Tavern served as the home of Reverend Melzi A. Chancellor, pastor of Wilderness Baptist Church. The tavern was a prominent landmark during the battle, with Union General Oliver O. Howard, commander of the Union's 11th Corps, establishing his headquarters at the house, and Buschbeck's men positioned in entrenchments on the southern edge of the property. Late on May 2nd, four Georgia regiments of Doles's Brigade charged violently across the tract. Kirk Bissell of the 4th Georgia described attacking Federal guns near Dowdall's Tavern: "a yell and a dash and over and around and on we flew."

In the aftermath of the Confederates' attack, Dowdall's Tavern, like every other home, barn, or church for miles around, became a field hospital.

Given its size and prime location on the Orange Turnpike (now the dangerously busy Virginia State Route 3), it's a miracle this tract hasn't already been developed.

Robert K. Krick, who probably knows more about this battle and Jackson's Flank Attack than anyone alive today, said "the survival, undeveloped, of a tract this large in this crucial location is nothing short of miraculous. Saving it would be a spectacular preservation coup."



Federal troops at Dowdall's Tavern

Library of Congress

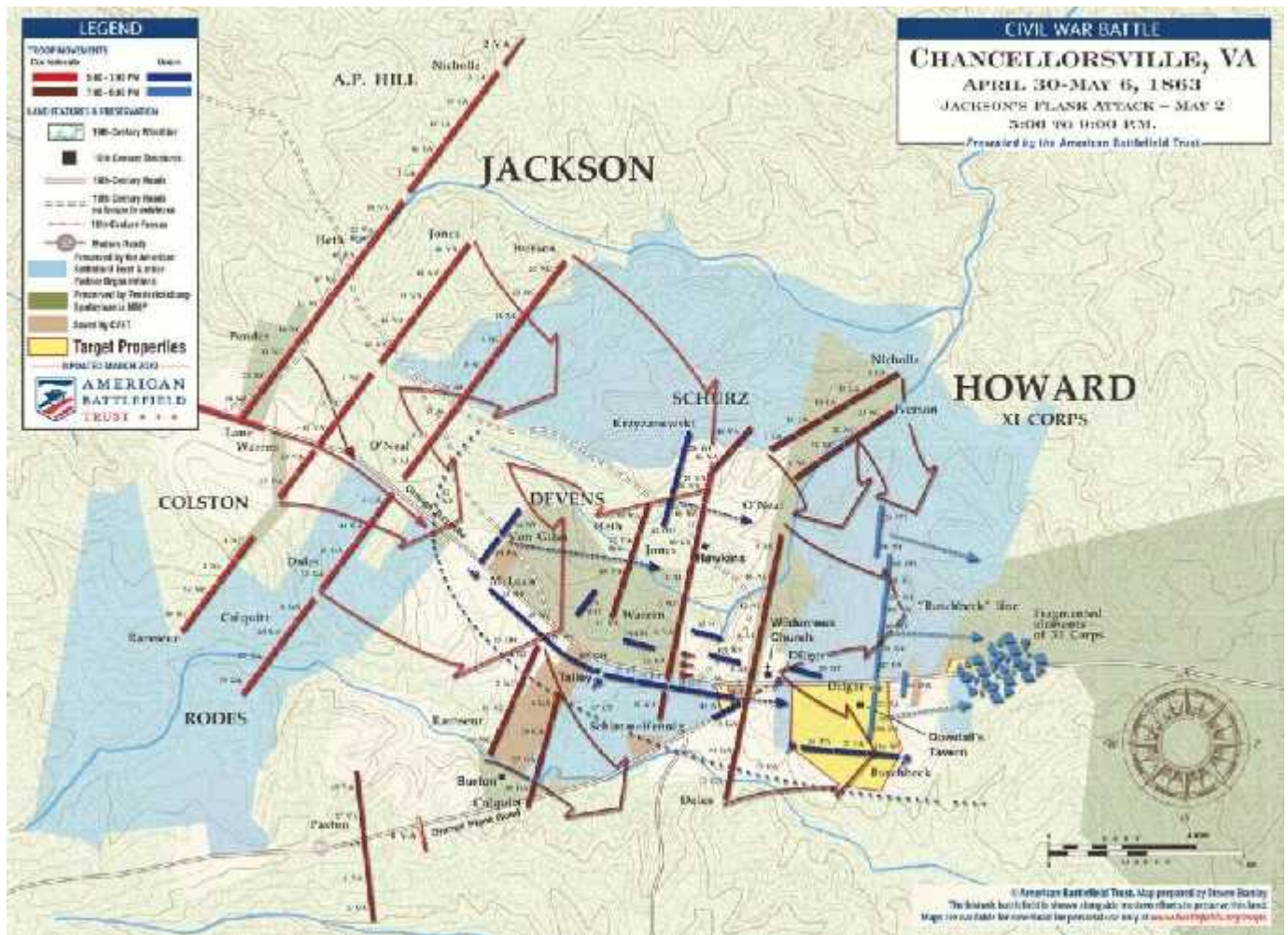
Chancellorsville Puzzle Pieces

The additional two tracts are smaller but no less important, for they help fill in key gaps and extend the areas of the battlefield we can preserve.

A nearly 2-acre tract, surrounded by land preserved by the Trust, partner organizations, and the National Park Service, is a critical puzzle piece of preservation. An Alabamian in O’Neal’s Brigade, which stormed through this tract, described a jubilant advance so overpowering that “Lucifer with his host” could not have halted it.

Finally, the small one-acre tract highlighted on your map between the Orange Turnpike and the Orange Plank Road is a key project by the Central Virginia Battlefields Trust, and they have asked for our help in funding the transaction.

By securing these two additional puzzle pieces, we will succeed in preserving a contiguous stretch of preserved battle land that will be saved forever.



American Battlefield Trust
 1156 15th Street NW, Suite 900
 Washington, DC 20005

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Re-enlist NOW for the 2022-2023 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.roscetti@pnc.com

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

ICWRT Membership Enlistment for July 2022 thru June 2023

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 add their name. _____

Indianapolis Civil War Round Table
1162 Thistlewood Way
Plainfield, IN 46168