



HARDTACK



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

Monday, May 9, 2022, 2022 at 6:45 p.m.
 Meeting at MCL Cafeteria Township Line
 2370 W. 86th Street

The Plan of the Day



Don Troiani

“Berdan’s Sharpshooters”

At the beginning of the Civil War, Col. Hiram Berdan developed a plan to form a unit formed of sharpshooters. In July 1861, his plan came to fruition, and the First Regiment United States Sharpshooters was formed. Wearing special green uniforms and carrying the five shot M1855 Colt New Model Revolving rifles, they presented a distinctive regiment in the field. In May 1862 they were issued the iconic M1859 .52 Sharp's rifles. We will look at the general history and achievements of Berdan’s Sharpshooters.

Our Guest Speaker



Gerald Jones

Gerald G. Jones is a lifelong resident of Madison County. He has retired from Guide Corporation, General Motors after 37 years. A graduate of Ball State University and past president of the Indianapolis Civil War Roundtable, he has been studying the Civil War since 1970. He has been Chairman of the Madison County Historical Society Civil War Roundtable since its inception in 1992. He also serves as Treasurer and on the board of the Madison County Historical Society. Gerald is married with three children, one granddaughter, and one grandson.

Remainder of the 2021-2022 Campaign

June **20**, 2022 — Karel Biggs - “The Importance of Quinine in the Antebellum South and the Confederate Search for a Substitute”

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

Website: Ed Pope

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

Publicity: Peg Bertelli & Chris Smith

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 flvingcircus2011@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.

May 16, 2022 Michael Eisenhut " Iron Brigade at Gettysburg"

June 20,2022 Linda J. Jones "Desertion"

Official Records

April Attendance: 46

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.

...

ICWRT Program History

By Steve Magnusen

60 years ago, May 1962 - "The Confederate Raider Alabama" by Cecil Hill

43 years ago, May 1979 - "The Last Confederate Stronghold at Petersburg" by Tom Williams

35 years ago, May 1987 - "Robert E. Lee Historical Insights" by Alan Nolan

...



Indiana Volunteer, Pea Ridge Battlefield

This Day In History

by Nikki Stoddard Schofield

May 9, 1861 –General David Twiggs surrendered United States forces and property in Texas to the Texas Rangers. Twiggs later became a Confederate general.

May 9, 1862 – Confederates forces abandoned Norfolk, Virginia, retreating south of the James River to join the Richmond defenses.

May 9, 1863 – President Jefferson Davis ordered General Joseph Johnston to take command of Confederate forces in Mississippi.

May 9, 1864 –General Phil Sheridan’s cavalry advanced toward Richmond to disrupt Confederate lines of communication.

May 9, 1865 – Elements of the 4th Michigan and 1st Wisconsin Cavalry Regiments closed on Irwinsville, Georgia, where Jefferson Davis was captured the following morning.

...

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

by Tony Trimble

1. In July, 1862 the Confederacy created the Military District of Mississippi. Who was given command of the new district?
2. In the Union army, how many guns constituted a battery? In the Confederate army?
3. On what battlefield would you find Priest Cap?
4. What Confederate general was killed in battle at Hatcher’s Run?
5. By what more common name was “McClellan Pie” better known?

Answers to the April Quiz:

1. Bread Riot
2. Chimneyville
3. Glorietta Pass
4. Ft. Sumter
5. Black Hats by Col. Lysander Cutler

...

The Society for Women in the Civil War, SECW, a 501c3 entity, is requesting donation of silent auction items for sale at their annual convention in July. So, if you have or know of someone who has a Civil War era item that women in particular would be interested in, please contact Vice President Steve Magnusen, who is coordinating Tia, at 847-525-6564, or magnusens@sbcglobal.net.

A description and value is requested, and receipts will be sent to you. Proceeds will go to the SWCW scholarship fund.

...

Help Preserve 311 Acres at Four Historic Battlefields

The Opportunity

Four Civil War battlefield sites made up of 311 acres where four legendary Confederate and Union Generals fought are threatened with development. If saved, three of these sites will be “first-acre” purchases—the first Trust-saved land on these battlefields and preserved for you and for future generations. Together, they have a total transaction value of nearly \$2.7 million — and we only need to raise \$206,207! If the Trust is successful raising the funds, these parcels will be added to our more than 150 sites saved in 25 states. DONATION MATCH: \$13-to-\$1

The History

Ulysses S. Grant and the Battle of Belmont (1861)

With just a little more than one acre, this important tract on the Kentucky side of the Mississippi River is the first preservation acre saved where the Battle of Belmont was fought. Newly-promoted General Ulysses S. Grant and his Union forces disembarked steamboats three miles north of Belmont in November 1861, and marched south to engage Confederate soldiers at Camp Johnson where they inflicted heavy losses. Confederate reinforcements, bolstered by long-range cannons in nearby Columbus, counterattacked the Federals.

While both sides claimed victory, the Battle of Belmont unquestionably gave Grant the combat and large-unit command experience he would need later in the war.

William T. Sherman and the Battle of Chickasaw Bayou (1862)

The three acres at Chickasaw Bayou in Mississippi would also be a “first-acre” preservation victory for the Trust. The Battle of Chickasaw Bayou saw General William T. Sherman in the opening engagement of the Vicksburg Campaign.

On December 26, 1862, Sherman disembarked his soldiers at Johnson’s Plantation to oppose Confederate forces under the command of General John C. Pemberton, a Pennsylvanian who chose to fight for the South.

By the third day of fighting, with the Union army outnumbering Confederates two-to-one, Sherman launched repeated attempts to get around Confederate defenses and failed each time. Sherman would not relent and ordered one last assault on December 29 — a frontal attack on the enemy, resulting in heavy casualties. Sherman withdrew his troops, suffering more than eight times as many losses as the Confederates. The resounding Confederate victory effectively thwarted the Union’s first attempt to capture Vicksburg.

John Hunt Morgan and the Battle of Buffington Island (1863)

The 117-acre tract in Meigs County, Ohio, is threatened by residential development and nearby mining that would encroach on the battlefield and nearby state memorial park. It was here that General John Hunt Morgan began his most ambitious raid of the war at The Battle of Buffington Island—one of the most significant battles fought north of the Ohio River.

In July 1863, as the Confederacy was reeling from losses at Vicksburg and Gettysburg, General Morgan and his men made their way to Buffington Island where he hoped to cross back over the river and get out of Ohio unscathed. On the very ground we are trying to save, General Morgan encountered 3,000 Union artillery, infantry, and cavalry accompanied by U.S. Navy gunboats. The fighting ended with 700 Confederates surrendering and others captured, wounded, or killed. General Morgan escaped but surrendered eight days later.

J.E.B. Stuart and the Battle of Upperville (1863)

The last tract on our list is 191 acres of pristine land that remains very much like it did in 1863 when General J.E.B. Stuart's Confederate army fought Union General Pleasonton's cavalry in the Battle of Upperville in Virginia.

The 191 acres provided the stage for the fighting that took place — stirrup to stirrup, saber to saber, and hand to hand — on the afternoon of June 21, 1863. We can't let this opportunity to save this battlefield slip through our hands.


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

...



Dedicated to telling the stories of the brave men and women of Orange County, this exhibit is filled with information, artifacts, photos, and so much more! At the FRENCH LICK WEST BADEN MUSEUM, 469 S Maple Street, French Lick, Indiana 47432

...



Takeaways from Steve Stotelmyer's "Too Useful to Sacrifice" presentation on George B. McClellan this past April 11:

1. Not Slow.
2. Not Timid.
3. Not afraid to fight.

Maine State Archives

...

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