



HARDTACK



Indianapolis Civil War Round Table Newsletter

<http://indianapoliswrt.org/>

Monday, December 12, 2022 at 6:45 p.m.
Meeting at MCL Cafeteria Township Line
2370 W. 86th Street

The Plan of the Day



CIVIL WAR INSTITUTE
GETTYSBURG COLLEGE

“The Civil War Institute at Gettysburg College” “Logistics — Civil War v. Gulf War”

Part One: The Civil War Institute, 2022 & 2023

Andy O’Donnell and Bill Ghormley will give an overview of Gettysburg College’s outstanding annual gathering: What it is and when/where it is held. What was presented in 2022. What’s planned for June 2023. How you can attend.

Part Two: Logistics — Civil War v. Gulf War

Using an assortment of maps and images to bring to life the complexity and challenges of supplying a deployment of many thousand men in a remote location, Deputy Commanding General Tom Jones will speak on the issues and realities of logistics, from a command perspective (40,000 horses vs. thousands of tanks, vehicles, aircraft — just for starters).

Then there is water, food, shelter, waste products, ammunition, fuel, and bodies — living and dead — lots to prepare for and react to.

Tom — one of our own — was there and will help us understand the issues and opportunities that logistics provide — **THIS IS NOT TO BE MISSED!**

Our Guest Speakers



Bill Ghormley, Andy O'Donnell, and Tom Jones

Bill Ghormley. Bill Ghormley is also a member of the Hamilton County Civil War Roundtable and a Volunteer Historical Interpreter at Conner Prairie History Museum. He is also a member of the Indiana Historical Society, Smithsonian Museum, and Sites of Conscience.

A Deacon at the Second Presbyterian Church, Indiana, Bill lives in Carmel with his library, maps, and two stuffed California Valley Quail (who don't eat much). Bill will be acting as M.C.

Andy O'Donnell. A long-time member of the Indianapolis Civil War Round Table, Andy is also a member of the American Battlefield Trust and The Lincoln Forum. He has attended the Civil War Institute at Gettysburg College. He is an investment advisor, has three children and six grandchildren. In addition to the Civil War, Andy is interested in sports cars and professional bicycle racing.

Tom Jones. A fifth generation Hoosier and native of Terre Haute, Tom earned a BS from Michigan State University in 1958. After graduation he was commissioned a 2nd Lt. and assigned to the 3rd Medium Tank Bn. in the US Army. During Desert Shield/Desert Storm Tom served for eleven months as the Deputy Commanding General of the 22nd Support Command. Following active duty he joined the US Army Reserve, and with both active and reserve duty served a total of 38 years of commissioned service.

Remainder of the 2022-2023 Campaign

January 9, 2023 – YOU – “Civil War Show and Tell”

February 13, 2023 – Ray Boomhower – “Benjamin Harrison”

March 13, 2023 – Dave Finney - “Custer Meets the Wolverines”

April 10, 2023 – Gerald Jones - “Grierson’s Raid”

May 8, 2023 – Jonathan Tracey – “The 27th Indiana”

June 12, 2023 – Steve Jackson - “50th Anniversary of the Blue & Gray at Gettysburg”

Roster of Officers and Committees for the 2022-2023 Campaign

Officers:

President: Steven Magnusen

Secretary: Eric Dove

Immediate Past President: Bill Ghormley

Vice President: Pete Brenner

Treasurer: Pete Mohr

Committees:

Preservation: Andy O'Donnell

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

Publicity: Peg Bertelli & Chris Smith

Website: Ed Pope

Quiz Master:

Tony Trimble

HARDTACK Newsletter:

Editor: Bob Gottschalk

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.

Official Records

November Attendance: 32

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.

160th Anniversary Event Links

Prairie Grove, Arkansas (December 3 - 4, 2022)

[Reenactment of the Battle of Prairie Grove - everything you need to know - Living History Archive](#)

Fredericksburg, Virginia (December 9 - 13, 2022)

<https://www.nps.gov/thingstodo/fredericksburg-anniversary.htm>

Stones River (Murfreesboro), Tennessee (December 31, 2022)

[Battle of Stones River 160th Anniversary Living History Event: In Their Own Words | Stones River National Battlefield, Murfreesboro, TN | December 31, 2022 \(happeningnext.com\)](#)

Helena, Arkansas (April 14 - 16, 2023)

<https://www.arkansasheritage.com/events/2023/04/14/default-calendar/battle-of-helena-160th-anniversary-reenactment>

Gettysburg, Pennsylvania (June - July 2, 2023)

[160th Battle of Gettysburg Anniversary | Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association \(gbpa.org\)](#)

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A Few Words From Steve Magnusen

Our December 12 meeting features three of our own and is sure to be informative. Please be sure to join us at the 86th Street MCL! Our program begins at 6:45 but come early for dining and conversation beforehand.

Our November meeting saw over thirty attendees enjoying an enlightening presentation regarding the Civil War defenses of Washington, D.C. provided by NPS Ranger Steve Phan. It was a well presented and educational look at a topic many of us knew little about. Steve's enthusiasm is contagious, and we learned from his attire of orange pants and blue blazer that he is a die-hard Denver Broncos fan!



The next morning Nikki Schofield graciously and expertly gave Steve Phan and yours truly a Civil War tour of Crown Hill Cemetery. After lunch, where Steve ordered an authentic Pork Tenderloin sandwich at the Slippery Noodle Inn, the Steve's walked around the Soldiers and Sailors Monument. To say that Steve Phan was impressed, awe struck, and excited would be an understatement! "Best day ever!" were his words. Here he is striking a pose next to the Gen. Jefferson Davis monument, very special to him as he is now posted at Camp Nelson, Kentucky, named for "Bull" Nelson, the fellow general Davis murdered at the Galt House Hotel, Louisville!

Nametags

We are still pursuing the purchase of clip-on nametags similar in style to those worn by some of our veteran members, with the Soldiers and Sailors Monument logo, name in caps, Round Table name, and blue background. We are asking a \$5 contribution from each member to help defray the cost. Hopefully a firm quote from the vendor and production time frame will be presented at the December meeting.

Christmas and Holiday Gift Ideas

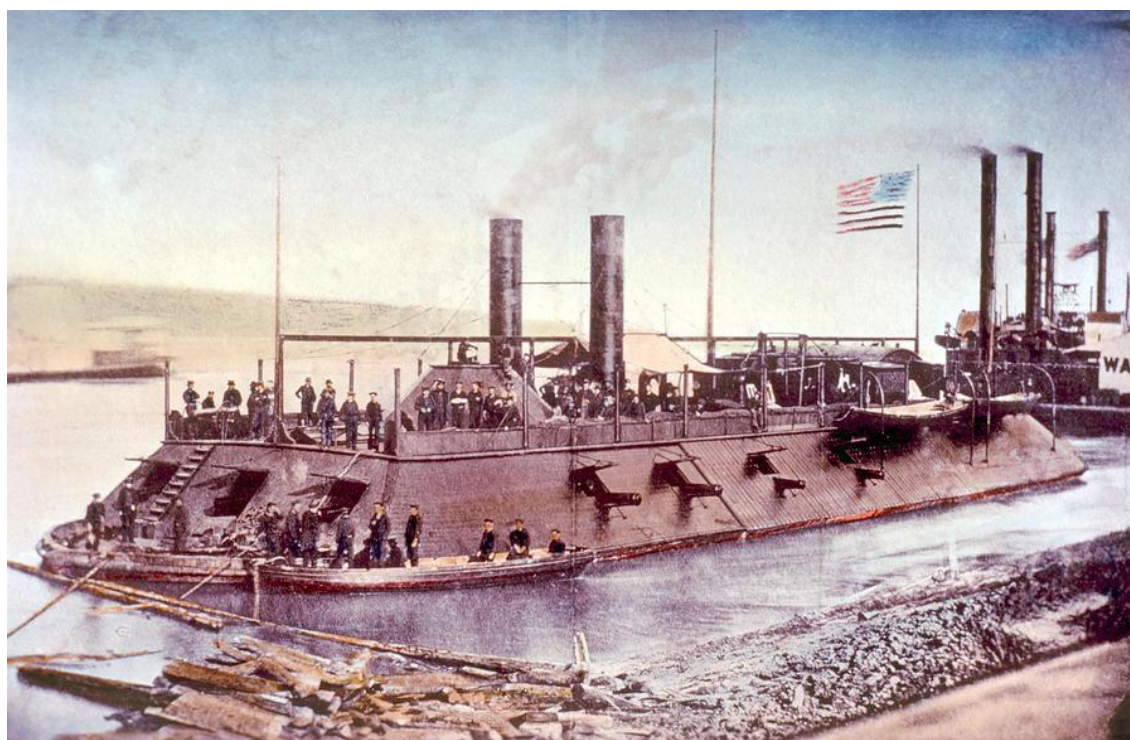
Thinking of Holiday Giving, several members are authors and have terrific books to offer as potential gifts for others, or for yourself! Mike Eisenhut, Steve Magnusen, and Nikki Schofield will have their Civil War topical books available on December 12 for signing and sale.

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This Day In Civil War History

December 12, 1862: The U.S.S. Cairo, a River casemate ironclad of the City Class (or Cairo Class) struck a mine (or torpedo) in the Yazoo River north of Vicksburg, Mississippi. There were no casualties.

Rediscovered in 1956, the Cairo has been on display at Vicksburg National Military Park since November 1980.



Library of Congress

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

by Tony Trimble

Identify the Civil War personality or object associated with each of these nicknames:

1 "Little Phil"

2. "Old Jubilee"

3. "Old One Wing"

4. "Marquedant"

5. "Old Demoralizer" / "Lady Davis"

Answers to the November Quiz:

1. Gen. Benjamin Butler

2. Abraham Lincoln

3. New York

4. They got higher pay by swearing to have been free when the blockade was declared in 1861.

5. William Henry Seward (Florida, New York).

Civil War Era Christmas Carols

The lyrics of "**God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen**" possibly date as far back the 1500s and were sung by town watchmen to passersby for holiday tips. The song appeared on a broadsheet in 1760 and was printed in an English periodical a few years later. It was published in William B. Sandys' *Christmas Carols Ancient and Modern* in 1833.



Louis Prang

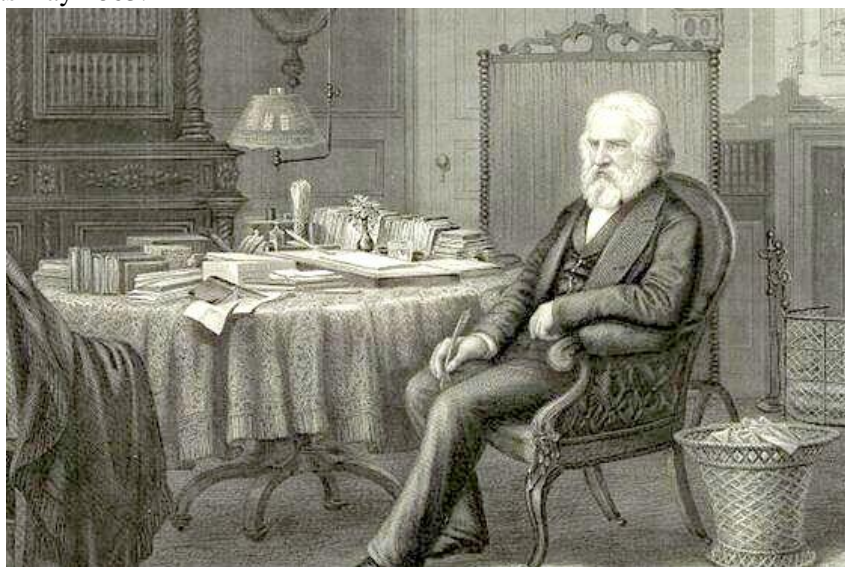
"Hark the Herald Angels Sing." The lyrics were written by Charles Wesley, brother of Methodist Church founder John Wesley in 1739, and originally set to a much slower and unrecognizable tune. In 1855, William Hayman Cummings, an English musician, adapted the lyrics to "Festgesang" by Felix Mendelssohn, composed 15 years earlier to commemorate Johann Gutenberg's invention of the printing press.

"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" was written as a poem in 1849 by Edmund Hamilton Sears, pastor of the Unitarian Church in Wayland, Massachusetts for William Parsons Lunt, pastor of United First Parish Church in Quincy, for his Sunday School. The following year, Sears asked Richard Storrs Willis of Boston, who had studied under Felix Mendelssohn, to set his work to music.

"**One Horse Open Sleigh**" ("**Jingle Bells**") Transplanted New Englander James Lord Pierpont wrote this song for a Thanksgiving pageant, probably about 1850, while he was still living in Medford, Massachusetts. The song was first published by Oliver Ditson & Co. in 1857. Pierpont had moved to Savannah, Georgia in the mid-1850s and became a clerk, after having been a U.S. sailor, a whaler, a photographer, and a 49er.

Although both his father and brother were ardent abolitionists, and James served as organist and music director in his brother's Unitarian church in Savannah, he adopted the secessionist beliefs of his new home. He served in the 5th Georgia Cavalry after the war began, and wrote the popular wartime songs "Our Battle Flag," "Strike for the South," and "We Conquer or Die."

While not a Civil War period carol, "**I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day**" has its roots in the conflict. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow was still mourning the untimely death of his second wife more than two years before, when his son Charles, a 2nd Lieutenant in the 1st Massachusetts Cavalry, was severely wounded at New Hope Church, Virginia in late November, 1863. After personally bringing Charles home to Cambridge, Massachusetts and caring for him there, Longfellow penned the poem "Christmas Bells" on Christmas Day 1863.



civilwar.org

Eight years later, John Baptiste Calkin of London, England put the poem to music, leaving out several stanzas that dealt directly to the Civil War.

"**O Come All Ye Faithful**" (Latin "Adeste Fideles"). Originally in Latin and intended to be a hymn, the lyrics were written by John Wade, and the music by John Reading more than 150 years before the war. Reverend Frederick Oakley of the Church of England, translated the words to English in 1841.

"**We Three Kings**" John Henry Hopkins Jr. originally wrote both words and lyrics of "**We Three Kings**" for a Christmas pageant held at General Theological Seminary in New York, possibly in 1857. The song was popular with family and friends, so Hopkins published it in his *Carols, Hymns, and Songs* in 1863.

Before turning to the clergy, Hopkins had studied law and written for a New York newspaper. He originally graduated from the University of Vermont.

"O Holy Night." Following the 1843 renovation of the parish organ in Rouquemaure, France, the village priest asked Placide Cappeau, an atheist, to write a poem celebrating the event. Adolphe Adam, who was Jewish, put the poem to music soon afterwards, and in 1847 Emily Laury, an opera singer, performed it in Rouquemaure. However, when the Catholic hierarchy discovered Cappeau's beliefs, the song was banned for church usage.

In 1855, John Sullivan Dwight of Boston, a Unitarian minister, abolitionist, and editor of Dwight's Journal of Music, wrote an English version. The third verse includes the lines:

Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother
And in His name, all oppression shall cease

The song became quite popular in the North.

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An Unparalleled Preservation Opportunity at Gettysburg Battlefield

For generations, this half-acre property that played a major role in Pickett's Charge has been occupied by commercial development, operating as a restaurant, theater, and gift shop known as "General Pickett's Buffet." Now, the business is looking to its next chapter – relocating to a new, larger site – and giving the Trust the opportunity to buy and restore the property.

The Opportunity

We have an unparalleled preservation opportunity to help save a piece of Gettysburg Battlefield that witnessed monumental points in history, including Pickett's Charge. The long-time owner of the property has chosen to work with another local businessman to relocate the business several miles away and off the battlefield. We are fortunate that in this process, he approached the Trust about preservation options for the original restaurant site.

It's a true win-win for everyone: more preserved battlefield and a beloved institution thriving in a new location, retaining local jobs and accommodating even more customers. But if we are unable to come up with the money — in this case, \$1.5 million — he will be forced to sell to someone else.

In addition to the \$1.5 million price tag, we estimate that it will cost another \$155,000 to take down the current structure, remove the asphalt parking lot, and restore the landscape, preparing the property for an interpretation and visitor experience that will attract heritage tourists for years to come.

The good news is that this land is eligible for a whopping \$750,000 in federal matching funds. Fortunately, we already have half that amount either pledged or in hand from anonymous donors and our great partner organization, the Gettysburg Foundation!

The bottom line is that we still need to raise \$550,000 between now and December 15 to ensure that we can close on the property and then have the funds on hand to begin the restoration and interpretation of the property once the federal matching grant is received.

Developers are desperate to scoop up this land. The landowner prefers to sell to us. But we need to raise \$550,000 before December 15. Please give now and your donation will be TRIPLED!

The History

While this tract of land at Pickett's Buffet is small, it has witnessed an unbelievable amount of history.

On the First Day of the Battle of Gettysburg, Union cavalry and then Union infantry galloped or double-quickened to the sound of the guns right past this land, only to be driven back on the same roads later that day to the relative safety of Cemetery Hill where they made their stand.

From this tract on the next day, you would have been able to watch as Confederates swept across the farm fields and Emmitsburg Road to attack the Union III Corps of General Daniel Sickles in the Peach Orchard and the Wheatfield and could have seen battle smoke and heard the distant fighting for Little Round Top. There was also skirmishing on this very land, as the Confederates probed the Union defenses for any advantage.

On the fateful Third Day, from this tract of land you would have had a front-row seat to one of the largest and most significant charges of the entire Civil War.

By the end of those three days, 51,000 soldiers would either lie dead on the battlefield, be wounded (some lightly, many more grievously), become prisoners, or go missing, perhaps never to be seen again.

This land witnessed so much more history! In November of 1863, you would have seen crowds arriving on Cemetery Hill to see and hear President Lincoln deliver one of the most famous speeches in American history, the Gettysburg Address — speaking words that he had written only the night before.