



HARDTACK



Indianapolis Civil War Round Table Newsletter

<http://indianapoliscwrt.org/>

Monday, October 10, 2022 at 6:45 p.m.
Meeting at MCL Cafeteria Township Line
2370 W. 86th Street

The Plan of the Day

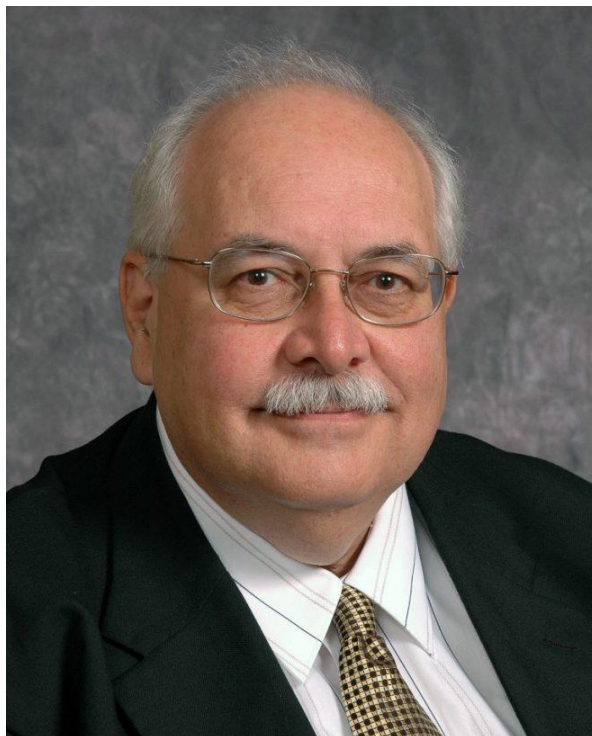


Pritzker Military Museum

“The 11th Corps at Gettysburg”

It is difficult to find historians who have written anything positive about the Eleventh Corps. Blamed for the Union disaster at Chancellorsville, branded as cowards who ran from the field at the first fire, generations of historians have competed to find just the right words of condemnation when describing the corps. Gettysburg was no different. Writers as prominent as Edwin Coddington, the “dean” of Gettysburg scholars, have dismissed the efforts of the Eleventh Corps. Reflecting on this negative image in the postwar years, Sgt. James H. Peabody of the 61st Ohio wrote that “The burning shame of that stigma has followed us nearly twenty-eight years, and will follow us on to the grave, and still on to the end of time.” In this illustrated presentation, James S. Pula, author of **Under the Crescent Moon With the XI Corps in the Civil War**, a two-volume history of the Eleventh Corps, will offer eyewitness evidence that the corps contributed much more to the Union victory in July 1863 than is generally recognized.

Our Guest Speaker



Dr. Jim Pula

James S. Pula is a Professor of History Emeritus at Purdue University and editor of Gettysburg Magazine. His books include *For Liberty and Justice: A Biography of Brigadier General Włodzimierz B. Krzyżanowski*; *The Sigel Regiment: A History of the 26th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry*; the two volume **Under the Crescent Moon With the XI Corps in the Civil War**; and **The Civil War from Its Origins to Reconstruction**. He was three times awarded the Oskar Halecki Prize for outstanding books as well as the Gambrinus Prize in History from the Milwaukee County Historical Society, and Honorary Membership in the Iron Brigade Society. His research on Polish immigrants was recognized with the Officer's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland. Most recently his work on the Eleventh Corps was honored with the U. S. Army Historical Foundation Distinguished Writing Award.

Remainder of the 2022-2023 Campaign

November 14, 2022 – Steve T. Phan - “Civil War Defenses of Washington City”
 December 12, 2022 – Bill Ghormley and Andy O’Donnell – “The Civil War Institute at Gettysburg College”
 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

Vice President: Pete Brenner

Secretary: Eric Dove

Treasurer: Pete Mohr

Immediate Past President: Bill Ghormley

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: 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

September Attendance:

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.

President's Message for October 2022

Our Indianapolis Civil War Round Table began its 67th campaign last month, beginning with a successful field trip to several Civil War Kentucky sites as arranged by V.P. Pete Benner (thanks again, Pete!), and our regular meeting at the W. 86th Street MCL on September 12. I am extremely honored to serve as the incoming president. Many thanks to the officers and committee chairs who will also be serving the membership this year.

Our October 10 meeting will feature Prof. James Pula, editor of the Gettysburg Magazine, as noted in more detail here in the Hardtack.

The executive committee got together in August to discuss organizational improvements and enhancements. It was a productive meeting held at the beautiful home of our member David Finney. David laid out a great meal for us at his wonderful venue, filled with history and his amazing collection of books and artifacts. Thanks again David!

The CWRT Congress continues to be a great resource and has presented a “Sustainability Challenge” program. As explained briefly at our September meeting, the “Challenge” consists of ten activities which active CWRT’s should focus on. These are:

Member retention and recruitment, member education, marketing, new member engagement, meeting experience, new member education, philanthropy, public image, leadership and management, committees and groups.

I hope to get to know everyone better. I do know our combined, collective experience in a variety of member careers over many years can provide our CWRT tremendous brain-power resources. So, please give some thought to the “Challenge” program and how you can help to make the ICWRT better, stronger, and bigger. I need to hear from YOU to make this a member-driven focus. Please feel free to contact me at magnusens@sbcglobal.net at any time. More to come on this topic as the year progresses.

Hopefully you have had a safe and healthy summer. (Yes, the solstice is just past) I am looking forward to seeing you at the MCL on October 10, if not before!

Steve Magnusen
President, Indianapolis CWRT

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160th Anniversary Event Links

Corinth, Mississippi (October 1 - 5, 2022)

<https://www.nps.gov/shil/learn/news/160th-battle-of-corinth-anniversary.htm>

Perryville, Kentucky (October 8 - 9, 2022)

https://perryvillebattlefield.org/html/commemoration_2022.html

Helena, Arkansas (April 14 - 16, 2023)

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

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This Day In Civil War History

by Nikki Stoddard Schofield

October 10, 1862, Major General Stonewall Jackson was promoted to Lieutenant General and given command of the new Second Corps of the Army of Northern Virginia.

October 10, 1863, at Blue Springs, Tennessee, General James Shackelford’s Union cavalry attacked General John S. Williams’s troops, which withdrew to Virginia.

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

by Tony Trimble

1. What was the "stone fleet?"
2. On January 11th, 1864, Missouri Sen. John B. Henderson proposed a joint resolution to do what?
3. What statement was incorporated on U.S. currency in 1864?
4. Name the Confederate general whose escape was foiled at Buffington Island?
5. The "goose question" was a covert reference to what issue?

Answers to the September Quiz:

1. Burnside and Lee
2. To return former slaves who were unhappy as colonists.
3. A Dahlgren, 8-ton cannon at Ft. Donelson
4. One of the many shapes into which Sherman's soldiers bent rails.
5. Illinois

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Member Civil War Public Appearance Activities

All have helped to promote the Indianapolis Civil War Round Table to others.

(Please contact Bob Gottschalk if you or other ICWRT members have participated in similar events or happenings)

Pete Benner, David Finney, Bill Ghormley, Don Heitman, Steve Magnusen, Pete Mohr, new member Roy Agnew, and ICWRT friends Kip Kistler, Lynn Osborn and Bill Asher, plus several friends of Pete's - all enjoyed the ICWRT Kentucky Field Trip Sep. 7-10.

Mike Eisenhut (Author: *Brothers At War*) continues to appear at a variety of CWRT meetings and Civil War events, including book signings in Gettysburg where he and his wife have spent over seventy days in the past months.

Bob Gottschalk is a former temporary National Park Service ranger at Antietam and a member of the Antietam Institute. He was a speaker at last fall's conference explaining the earlier stages of the battle from the Confederate perspective.

Gerald Jones is President of the Anderson (Madison County) CWRT which meets at the Madison Historical Society on the third Monday evening of the month. Gerald has been a member of the Indianapolis CWRT since 1985, has spoken to us on several topics, and is scheduled again as speaker in April 2023, the topic being Grierson's Raid.

Steve Magnusen (Author: *To My Best Girl: The Rufus Dawes and Mary Gates Story*) has spoken about the remarkable life sagas of these Civil War patriots at several CWRT meetings over the past months, either via Zoom or in person. He also presented the story of Major Ephraim Dawes, Rufus' equally courageous younger brother, to the Kenosha Wisconsin Civil War Museum's "Second Friday Lecture Series" in August.

Nikki Schofield is continuing her prolific research and historical fiction writing career and continues service as a Crown Hill Cemetery docent/tour guide. Nikki, by the way, beats out Gerald for ICWRT longevity; she joined in 1980, obviously as a teenager!

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Phase Three of Gaines' Mill-Cold Harbor Saved Forever Campaign

The Background

Two years ago, the Trust launched "The Gaines' Mill-Cold Harbor Saved Forever Campaign."

Since then, we've successfully protected the tract we called "Pickett's Charge Five Times as Large" and the tract we aptly named "The Intersection" because of its intersecting location for the two epic battles — Gaines' Mill and Cold Harbor. These saved acres represent Phases One and Two of our multi-phase campaign.

Now, we must now begin working on Phase Three to save 45 acres that we're calling "The Juncture at Griffin's Woods" along with 12 additional acres associated with the battles of Glendale, First Deep Bottom, and Malvern Hill.

The Opportunity

This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to preserve two tracts of land totaling 56 acres where FIVE different battles took place throughout history. This land has been at the very top of every historian's and preservationist's "must-have" list for more than two decades.

The total transaction value of the combined 56 acres we can save at these five battlefields is \$677,299. Fortunately, we already have the expectation of potential gift grants for up to \$170,000, which means we still need to raise \$507,299. With your help, we'll purchase both parcels, and keep them out of the hands of developers forever!

Please donate to support this critical phase today. With just one gift, you'll play a key role in helping save threatened hallowed ground at Gaines' Mill, Cold Harbor, Glendale, First Deep Bottom, and Malvern Hill.

The History

45 Acres — The Juncture at Griffen's Woods

This key tract of sacred ground serves as that critical juncture — the all-important connection — between battlefield lands we've already saved to the east, west, and north, filling in a gap and completing an uninterrupted and fully protected section of this battlefield.

Griffin's Woods, so-named for Union General Charles Griffin, is who defended this part of the battlefield during the Battle of Gaines' Mill.

It is completely unchanged from its wartime appearance. The trees — among which a dozen brigades ferociously fought — are descendants of the forest that so troubled and confused the combatants on June 27, 1862.

Both branches of Boatswain's Creek still meander through the woods as important landmarks. The trace of the unnamed farm road that ran eastward from the Watt House also survives.

On June 27, 1862, General Robert E. Lee's Confederates grappled mostly with Union General Fitz John Porter's Fifth Corps in the Battle of Gaines' Mill — the third and bloodiest of the Seven Days Battles. Lee's final and successful assault that day remains the largest attack ever made on American soil.

Fast forward nearly two years to the 1864 Battle of Cold Harbor, where Lee's army repulsed General Ulysses S. Grant's troops in a devastating two-week action that cost a staggering loss of more than 17,000 lives.

Both these historic battles occurred on this doubly hallowed ground. Of the 55,000 acres you have helped to save all across America, these may be the most important.

12 Acres – Battles of Glendale, Malvern Hill, and First Deep Bottom

The tract fronts on two historic roads, the Long Bridge Road and the Carter’s Mill Road, although the current route of the latter road is considerably farther east than it was during the Civil War. In fact, the western boundary of this parcel roughly approximates the course of the wartime Carter’s Mill Road.

At Glendale, the penultimate Seven Days battle which took place on June 30, 1862, initial Confederate attacks led by General James L. Kemper’s Virginia brigade jumped off from this very ground, supported by a single artillery battery.

The next day at Malvern Hill, Confederates pivoted to pursue and attack the Federals who had taken a strong defensive position. As much as half of Lee’s army marched over or on the roads immediately bordering this property, as they girded for their doomed advance.

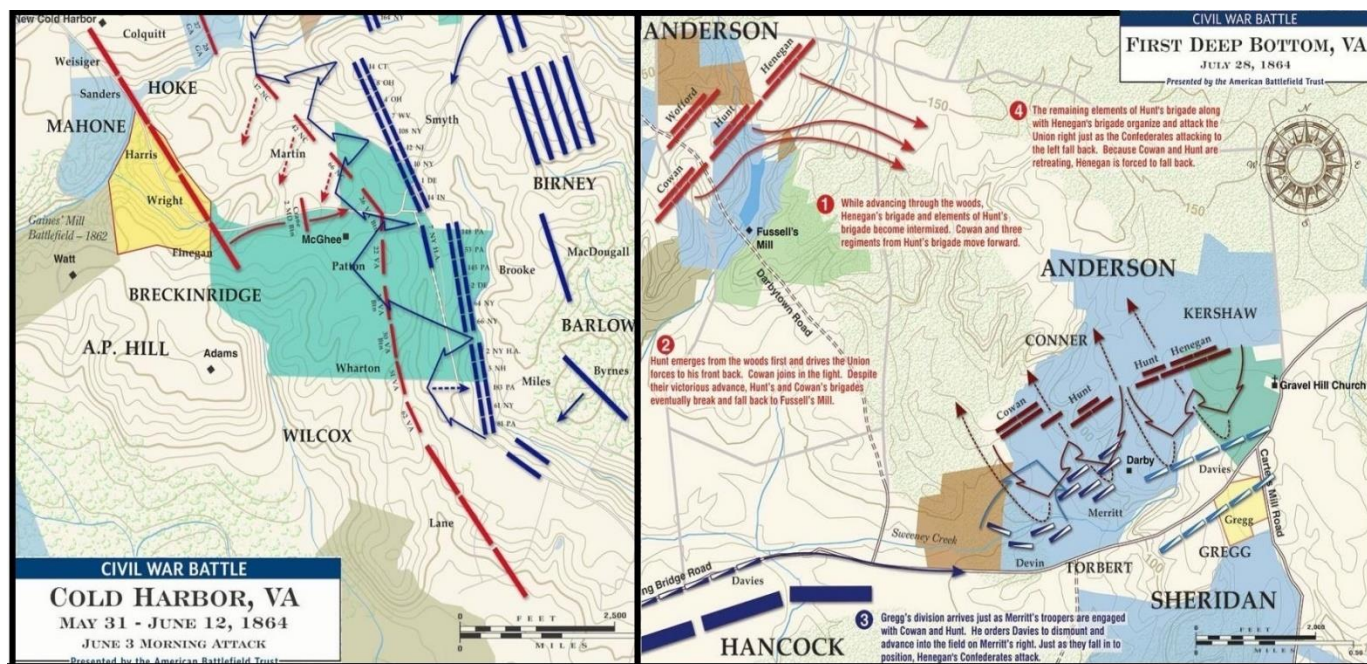
Then, about two years later, at First Deep Bottom, a dismounted line of Federal cavalry established a line in the Long Bridge Road, the northern border of the tract. The troopers, belonging to General David M. Gregg’s division, were attacked by several brigades of Confederate infantry. With the bulk of the fighting swirling just north of the road, the temporarily defeated Union soldiers rallied and regrouped on the land we are working to save.

Unfortunately, the current zoning for this hallowed ground allows for the construction of a large single-family home. Imagine for a moment how a huge McMansion would mar the property’s rolling, open viewshed and disturb the sacred history of three separate battles.

This 12-acre parcel will, for another “first,” physically connect the Glendale and First Deep Bottom battlefields with nearby Malvern Hill, creating an extended “walk through history.”

Preserve TWO tracts associated with FIVE battles

If you will help preserve today 56 acres of hugely important battlefield ground with your generous contribution, the generations coming up behind you and me will be able to walk “The Juncture at Griffin’s Woods” at Cold Harbor and Gaines’ Mill — plus lands at Glendale, First Deep Bottom, and Malvern Hill. Please make a gift today.



American Battlefield Trust
1156 15th Street NW, Suite 900
Washington, D.C. 20005

RE-ENLIST NOW FOR THE 2022-2023 CAMPAIGN!

CAMPAIGN FEES DUE BY NOVEMBER 14TH!

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 Pete Mohr, ICWRT Treasurer, at the next Round Table meeting, or mail your re-enlistment form and payment to:

Pete Mohr

6308 Breamore Road

Indianapolis, Indiana 46220

Phone: (317) 828-5176

Email: pmohr2@gmail.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.....

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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. _____