



# HARDTACK



Indianapolis Civil War Round Table Newsletter

<http://indianapoliscwrt.org/>

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Monday, September 11, 2023 at 6:45 p.m.  
Meeting at MCL Cafeteria Township Line  
2370 W. 86th Street

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## *The Plan of the Day*



BATTLE OF BRISTOW, OCT. 14th, 1863.

THIRD BRIGADE, 3D DIV., 2D CORPS.

Seizing the Railroad Cut.

## **“A Campaign of Cat and Mouse: The Bristoe Station Campaign, October 9-19, 1863”**

The fall of 1863 is an often-overlooked period of the Civil War in Virginia. Sandwiched between the battles of Gettysburg and the Wilderness, it has mostly been glossed over and forgotten, largely because there was no major battle that occurred during the campaign. In October 1863, Robert E. Lee and his Army of Northern Virginia underwent an offensive campaign to defeat George Meade and his Army of the Potomac. This campaign was more one of maneuver rather than battle, though it ended poorly for Lee's army, which failed to achieve its objectives. This campaign was the last time Lee himself oversaw an offensive campaign during the Civil War.

## *Our Guest Speaker*



**Kevin Pawlak**

Kevin Pawlak is a Historic Site Manager for the Prince William Office of Historic Preservation, where he manages Ben Lomond Historic Site and Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park. Kevin is also a licensed battlefield guide at Antietam National Battlefield and Harpers Ferry National Historical Park. He is the author of six books on the American Civil War, including *Such a Clash of Arms: The Maryland Campaign, September 1862*.

## **Remainder of the 2023-2024 Campaign**

October 9, 2023 – Greg Mertz – “Jackson at Cedar Mountain”  
 November 13, 2023 – Dan Bauer - “Harriet Beecher Stowe”  
 December 11, 2023 – Steve Buxsen, Ph.D. – “Infectious Diseases of the Civil War”  
 January 8, 2024 – YOU – “Civil War Show and Tell”  
 February 12, 2024 – Dr. Brian Direk – “Lincoln’s Views on Death”  
 March 11, 2024 – Chris Burns - “The Life & Legacy of Ulyesses Grant and the Women Who Molded the Man”  
 April 8, 2024 – Kent Brown - “General George G. Meade”  
 May 13, 2024 – Scott Britton – “But Not for My Children”  
 June 10, 2024 – Phil Spaugy - “19th Indiana & the Iron Brigade”

## **Roster of Officers and Committees for the 2023-2024 Campaign**

### *Officers:*

President: Pete Brenner

Vice President: Chris Smith

Secretary: Eric Dove

Treasurer: Pete Mohr

Immediate Past President: Steven Magnusen

### *Committees:*

Preservation: Andy O’Donnell

Website: Ed Pope

Program Selection: Chairman Steve Magnusen; Members: Bob Gottschalk, David Finney, & Tony Trimble

Publicity: Peg Bertelli

### *Quiz Master:*

Tony Trimble

### *Book Raffle Master*

Tony Roscetti

### *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. Here is the list of programs for the Madison County Historical Society Civil War Roundtable for 2023.

September 18--Linda Jones--"Civil War Veteran Pensions"

October 16--Roundtable discussion.

November 20--Stephen Ritchie--TBA

## *Official Records*

**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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## *Margaret Mitchell's Secret*

*William M. McKinnon M.D., August 7, 2023, blueandgrayeducation.org*

Of all the burial sites at Atlanta's Oakland Cemetery, the one most often visited is that of Margaret Mitchell. Her Pulitzer Prize-winning novel *Gone With the Wind* was published in 1936 to immediate acclaim.

It is fitting that Mitchell is buried at Oakland. Growing up nearby, she witnessed Confederate Memorial Day ceremonies each year, and listened to the remembrances of elderly friends and family members who recalled in detail their experiences during and just after the war. The book was penned based on these memories of her family and friends as well as the historical record.

In 1922, as "Peggy" Mitchell she became a newspaper writer for the Atlanta Journal Sunday Magazine and, in 1925, married John Marsh, director of the publicity department of the Georgia Power Company. When complications of a broken ankle kept her bedridden and bored, John, tired of bringing her library books, suggested she write a novel herself. And write she did; her novel of 1,037 pages was largely written in three years. Thinking it unworthy of publication, she kept the manuscript hidden. She finally showed it to Harold Latham, an editor for the MacMillan company, and the book was published in 1936.



Margaret Mitchell | LOC

The film came out in 1939, debuting in Atlanta before a whites-only audience. Mitchell and others (including Clark Gable) were unhappy that black cast members like Oscar-winner Hattie McDaniel were not permitted. Gable threatened to boycott the opening if McDaniel was not allowed to attend; he relented only after a personal appeal from McDaniel not to disrupt the occasion. Still, some blacks were present—ten-year-old Martin Luther King, Jr., was a member of the Ebenezer Baptist Church choir that sang at the opening.

In 1940, Dr. Benjamin Elijah Mays, a University of Chicago religion professor, became president of Atlanta's Morehouse College. Morehouse was a small college for black men and on the edge of financial ruin. Mays worked to remedy the situation by soliciting donations from the wealthy citizens of Atlanta, both black and white. Previous letters from Mays to Mitchell requesting funds had gone unanswered as they were intercepted and declined by her husband. This time, Mays sent a message to Margaret via a student courier and asked her for \$80 for the tuition of a worthy student. She agreed to donate with the firm understanding that no one would ever know of her generosity. In the coming years, more and more checks followed, but the two never spoke and never met. For over a decade they exchanged over 60 letters, stressing that she would “prefer the students to be chosen on a basis of character, good will toward their fellow man, and willingness to work, rather than on brilliance or high scholastic grades alone.” Her generosity supported completion of medical school training for dozens of Black men—all in secret.

In 1984 Dr. Otis Smith, the first licensed Black pediatrician in Georgia, revealed he had been the first recipient of financial support under the Mays-Mitchell agreement. The secret was then out.

Margaret Mitchell died in 1949 after being struck by a speeding automobile as she and John crossed Peachtree Street. Eugene Muse Mitchell, Margaret's nephew, continued the family tradition of philanthropy, and in 2002 he donated 1.5 million dollars to establish a Margaret Mitchell Chair in Humanities and Social Sciences at Morehouse College. In 2005 he donated another 1.5 million dollars for scholarships to the new Morehouse College School of Medicine.

This daughter of the South saw a need for change, and quietly acted. She might not have known what other societal changes would be seen in the decades to come, but I think she had faith in the future, for as Scarlett said, “Tomorrow is another day.”

Sign up for more free Blue and Gray Education Society dispatches or at our website:  
<https://blueandgrayeducation.org/>

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### **This Day In Civil War History**

September 8, 1860: The excursion steamer Lady Elgin, returning to Milwaukee from Chicago on Lake Michigan was accidentally rammed, and sank with a loss of about 300. It remains the largest loss of life on the Great Lakes.

September 18–20, 1863: The Army of the Cumberland, under Maj. Gen. William Rosecrans is defeated by elements of two Confederate armies at the Battle of Chickamauga in northwestern Georgia. With 34,624 casualties, it is the second most costly battle of the war.



Library of Congress

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

*by Tony Trimble*

1. What was the “fiendish innovation” created by Gen. Gabriel Rains?
2. What were the obsolete weapons that John Brown intended to remove from the arsenal at Harper’s Ferry?
3. In the fall of 1861, Union troops were ordered into east Tennessee. Who was in command?
4. To whom is the phrase “irrepressible conflict” attributed?
5. What was a pas de charge?

Answers in the October HARDTACK.

## **Don't Let Data Centers Destroy the Wilderness!**

This spring, Orange County, Va., approved the largest land-use alteration in its history, the rezoning of 2,600 acres at the gateway to the Wilderness Battlefield. It's the same area where, some 16 years ago, Walmart wanted to build a supercenter, before listening to reason and finding a more appropriate location nearby. In the aftermath, the Trust and its allies worked with the county to craft an overall vision for this historically sensitive region that would balance growth with preservation of open space.

Sadly, this new proposal is worse — far, far worse — than that original big-box development plan. In the face of overwhelming public opposition, officials approved the building of 5,000 homes and, appallingly, as many data centers and distribution warehouses as they can cram into 750 acres. Originally, that type of hulking, windowless development had been capped at five million square feet, but any semblance of a limit was lifted in the final hours before the vote, creating a material difference in the rezoning application beyond what had been considered by the county's professional planning staff.

Data centers are necessary components of our digital world, supporting the internet and cloud computing. But through a confluence of policy decisions and geographic convenience, Northern Virginia has become the data center of the world: more than 70 percent of GLOBAL internet traffic flows through Northern Virginia, with more data center facilities going online every day. Despite very real concerns about environmental impacts and the need for expensive upgrades to power lines and the existing power grid, neighboring counties are clamoring to tap into what they see as easy tax revenue.

The Trust and its allies are tracking many such proposals, but most utterly pale in comparison to the threat posed by the Wilderness Crossing development. The sheer scale of it threatens not only the Wilderness Battlefield, but Chancellorsville as well. If ever there was a time to fight, it is now. That's why we — along with our long-time allies at the Central Virginia Battlefields Trust and Friends of Wilderness Battlefield — have filed a lawsuit seeking to overturn the rezoning and block the project.

We truly believe in the merits of our case, but such legal action is costly, and this urgent need comes while we are also pursuing many time-sensitive land preservation projects. Purchasing historic landscapes in this region outright is the most ironclad way to ensure they don't fall victim to another such proposal.

With so much at stake, the Trust is asking you to help us stop this outrageous proposal. Please consider making a gift toward this special appeal and help us hold the line at the Wilderness.

**DONATE NOW!**

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

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## Antietam Institute 2023 Membership Application

New Member     Renewal

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ HOME PHONE: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred method of communication:     email     phone     post

Please select your Membership Level (benefits are listed on reserves side form):

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cadet - \$10 (Student)  | <input type="checkbox"/> *Lieutenant - \$250                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Private - \$25          | <input type="checkbox"/> *Captain - \$350                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corporal - \$50         | <input type="checkbox"/> *Colonel - \$500                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sergeant - \$75         | <input type="checkbox"/> *Honor Guard (Life Member) - \$1000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Sergeant Major - \$150 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sutler – Business Sponsor- \$500    |

\*Please select shirt size:    SM     MD     LG     XL     2XL     3XL

Please select Style:    Men's     Women's




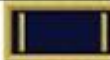




PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: Antietam Institute  
P.O. Box 33  
Sharpsburg, MD 21782

How did you hear about the Antietam Institute?

Through your membership the Antietam Institute will be able to support the Antietam National Battlefield and other local preservation and historical organizations. Your membership will also entitle you to attend Institute events as well as discounted publications and merchandise. The Institute is a tax-exempt, public benefit, non-profit corporation and qualifies under Section 501(c)(3) of the IRS code. Your membership and donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

If you have any questions or need additional information, contact our Membership at:  
[membership@antietaminstitute.org](mailto:membership@antietaminstitute.org)

Antietam Institute    PO Box 33 Sharpsburg, MD 21782    [antietaminstitute.org](http://antietaminstitute.org)

<p><b>Cadet - \$10 (Student, under 21 in school)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10% discount on all Antietam Institute merchandise and events.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Private - \$25</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10% discount on all Antietam Institute merchandise</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Corporal - \$50</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Same benefits as Private Level</li> <li>• Subscription to our bi-annual "Antietam Journal"</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Sergeant - \$75</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Same benefits as Corporal Level</li> <li>• Antietam Institute logo hat</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Sergeant Major - \$150</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Same benefits as Sergeant Level</li> <li>• Antietam Institute logo polo shirt</li> <li>• *Exclusive offer - copy of <i>From Frederick to Sharpsburg</i> (available for a limited time only)</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Lieutenant - \$250</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Same benefits as Sergeant Major Level</li> <li>• 25% discount to the annual Symposium or Conference</li> <li>• *Exclusive offer - copy of <i>From Frederick to Sharpsburg</i> (available for a limited time only)</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Captain - \$350</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Same benefits as Lieutenant Level</li> <li>• 25% discount to the annual Spring Symposium</li> <li>• 25% discount to the annual Fall Conference</li> <li>• Recognition as an "Honorary Captain" member in the "Antietam Journal"</li> <li>• *Exclusive offer - copy of <i>From Frederick to Sharpsburg</i> (available for a limited time only)</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Colonel - \$500</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Same benefits as Captain Level</li> <li>• Invitations to exclusive programs (Annual Honor Guard Gathering)</li> <li>• Recognition as an "Honorary Colonel" member in the "Antietam Journal"</li> <li>• *Exclusive offer - copy of <i>From Frederick to Sharpsburg</i> (available for a limited time only)</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Honor Guard-\$1000 (Lifetime Member)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10% discount on all Antietam Institute merchandise</li> <li>• Subscription to our bi-annual "Antietam Journal"</li> <li>• Antietam Institute logo hat</li> <li>• Antietam Institute logo polo shirt</li> <li>• Invitations to exclusive programs (Annual Honor Guard Gathering)</li> <li>• Recognition as an "Honor Guard" member in the "Antietam Journal"</li> <li>• *Exclusive offer - copy of <i>From Frederick to Sharpsburg</i> (available for a limited time only)</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Institute Sutler - Business Sponsor - \$500</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Corporal level membership for Business owner, including complimentary pass to the Spring Symposium</li> <li>• ¼ page advertisement in the "Antietam Journal" and in Institute event programs</li> <li>• Recognition and company logo on the Antietam Institute website.</li> <li>• Recognition as an "Honorary Sutler" in the "Antietam Journal"</li> </ul>	



## ***BOOK REVIEW OF TWO CIVIL WAR CLASSICS***

By Nikki Stoddard Schofield

Published in 1863, *Three Months in The Southern States, April-June 1863*, by Lieutenant-Colonel Arthur James Lyon Fremantle (1835-1901) does not really end in June, but in mid-July. He witnessed and wrote about Gettysburg and the New York City Draft Riots. The first 100 pages are about his travels through Texas on his way to meet Confederates. Arthur, a member of the Coldstream Guards, was not an official representative of the United Kingdom, but a war tourist. His descriptions of the Confederate generals he met personally makes you feel like you are there.

*Recollections of a Confederate Staff Officer*, by General G. Moxley Sorrel (1838-1901) is the story of one of General James Longstreet's trusted associates. As Moxley told his war stories, I found his memoir hard to put down. The introduction states that the book "is a valuable contribution to this great history."

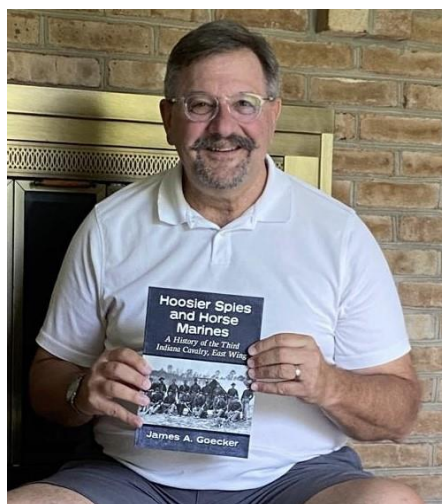
If you cannot find these books on Amazon, look at Alibris.com.

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### **New Civil War Work of Hoosier Interest**

Jim Goecker, who presented to the Indianapolis Civil War Roundtable in the 2000s has published a new book, **Hoosier Spies and Horse Marines: A History of the Third Indiana Cavalry, East Wing.**

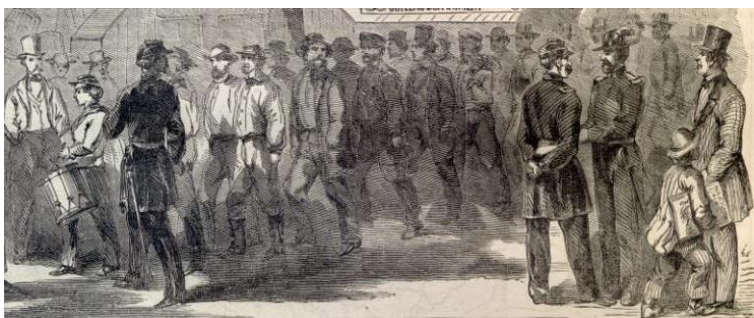
This work traces the history of a remarkable troop of Hoosier horsemen--the East Wing of the Third Indiana Cavalry--during the Civil War. From the backwaters of the war in eastern Maryland to the epicenter of cavalry action in the eastern theater, they fought at Antietam, Brandy Station, Gettysburg and around Petersburg, and helped subdue Confederate forces in the Shenandoah Valley. Along the way they served as spies and fought in dozens of vicious skirmishes and battles. At Appomattox, they escorted one of the most famous generals to come out of the war.



The book is published by McFarland Publishing, and is available on Amazon.

# RE-ENLIST NOW FOR THE 2023-2024 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 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](mailto:pmohr2@gmail.com)

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

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**ICWRT Membership Enlistment for July 2023 thru June 2024**

*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