



# HARDTACK



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

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Monday, September 8, 2025 at 6:45 p.m.  
 Meeting at MCL Cafeteria Township Line  
 2370 W. 86th Street

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## *The Plan of the Day*



### **MR. LINCOLN'S "THINKING BAYONETS": UNION SOLDIER RE-ENLISTMENT AND THE ELECTION OF 1864**

In 1864, the Union faced two questions imperative to the war's outcome, and the country's very fate: would veteran white Northern soldiers re-enlist, and would President Abraham Lincoln be re-elected? Each must be analyzed independently, but to fully grasp the grave circumstances under which the Civil War's third year was waged, the intricate link between re-enlistment and re-election also needs to be explored.

Based on his exciting new research, psychiatrist and war historian Dr. Stephen A. Goldman will discuss the several inducements offered to the Union's most experienced soldiers to prevent their leaving the army starting in April 1864, and their respective impacts. He will then examine what motivated more than half of the eligible white Northern soldiers to risk their lives in a second term of service, and in a connected, striking display of faith, to help re-elect Abraham Lincoln on a platform that called for a constitutional amendment to abolish slavery forever, and supported use of black troops.

## *Our Guest Speaker*



**Stephen Goldman, M.D.**

Stephen A. Goldman, M.D., served as a clinical assistant professor of psychiatry and medicine at the Indiana University School of Medicine, where he directed the Division of Consultation -- Liaison Psychiatry. A distinguished Life Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association, he is the sole physician to serve on the Abraham Lincoln Institute Board of Directors.

Having treated and worked with America's combat veterans, Dr. Goldman's in-depth study -- spanning 160 years and the ramifications of their service -- are all exemplified in his groundbreaking book [One More War to Fight: Union Veterans' Battle for Equality Through Reconstruction, Jim Crow and the Lost Cause.](#)

As a psychiatrist with decades of experience in academic research, clinical medicine, and public health, his thought-provoking findings have been welcomed on television, radio, podcasts, and other venues.

On Tuesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, Dr. Goldman will be signing limited copies of his book and leading a discussion/reading at Barnes & Noble in Carmel (14790 Greyhound Plaza) from 3-7pm.

## ***Chris Smith Memorial Book Review***

Starting with the September 2025 meeting, we will honor our late member by having a book review presented during the business meeting. Nikki Schofield will review "Leaders of the Lost Cause" on September 8.

**Remembering Christopher Aldric Smith**  
**1946-2025**



Christopher Aldric Smith died suddenly July 16th after suffering a stroke. He was born November 4, 1946 in Quincy Massachusetts to Ruth Chenoweth Smith and Aldric Smith. He was 78. He graduated from Broad Ripple High School in 1964 and Purdue University in 1969.

He served on active duty in the United States Coast Guard from June of 1969 until August of 1971, followed by many years of reserve service, reaching the rank of Lieutenant. Upon release from the service, he attended Indiana University Indianapolis School of Law and graduated in May of 1974. He worked as a deputy prosecutor in Marion County and later practiced law with Robert Hagemier and David Allen for over thirty years.

He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Linda Evard Smith, his son Maxwell Christopher Smith, daughter in law Angela Florio Smith, two grandchildren Jasmine and Raj, and a sister Priscilla Smith. He is also survived by dozens of siblings-in-laws, nephews, nieces, grandnephews, and grandnieces.

Chris was a member of Lawyers Club, Inns of Court, Literary Club, Weimer Discussion Group and past president of the Indianapolis Civil war Roundtable. Chris deeply believed that clients should be the focus of legal practice and that effective client counseling was the most critical skill in the legal profession. This tenant was central to his practice, and he loved passing this craft on to new attorneys by judging the annual Attorney Client Counseling Competition at the Indiana University Indianapolis Law School. In 2007 he received the Presidential Citation from the Indiana State Bar Association in recognition of his contributions to the legal profession.

A Renaissance man, he enjoyed playing bridge, listening to classical music, reading, walking and pampering his Welsh Springer Spaniel dogs, a breed he happily shared his life with for 35 years. He read widely and deeply especially enjoying books on history and religion. The Civil War remained a major area of interest throughout his life, particularly biographies on President Lincoln. His love of learning was matched only by his love of sharing his knowledge, and he freely and frequently passed on stories, facts, and insights from his studies. He also loved playing tennis, cooking, and cheering on the Boilers, Colts and Pacers.

Mentoring young people brought Chris tremendous joy. Whether guiding interns, new lawyers, or players on the youth baseball teams he coached, Chris loved helping people reach their full potential, often

through a unique combination of logic, humorous observations, and a catalogue of anecdotes and wisdom from his vast readings. His nurturing presence will be missed by the many lives he touched.

Private family services will be held at a later time. Online condolences may be made at Indiana Funeral Care. Memorial contributions may be made to the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra at [www.indianapolissymphony.org](http://www.indianapolissymphony.org) or Faith Church at [www.faithchurchindy.com](http://www.faithchurchindy.com).

### **Remainder of the 2025-2026 Campaign**

- **October 13, 2025** - James Pula, Ph. D. - “Dan Butterfield”
- **November 10, 2025** - Ron Gifford, Ph. D. – “George Thompson and Emancipation: Britain, Trans-Atlantic Slavery, and Civil War”
- **December 8, 2025** - To be announced
- **January 12, 2026** - YOU - Annual Show & Tell
- **February 9, 2026** – Mike Eisenhut - “The Stonewall Brigade”
- **March 9, 2026** - Kevin Charles Murray - “The First Fighting Irish: 35th Indiana Volunteer Infantry. Hoosier Hibernians in the War for the Union.”
- **April 13, 2026** - Steve & Lisa Ball? - Civil War Music (**Tentative**)
- **May 11, 2026** - Steve Phan - “Burnside's East Tennessee & Knoxville Campaigns”
- **June 8, 2026** - - “To be announced”

### **Roster of Officers and Committees for the 2025-2026 Campaign**

#### ***Elected Officers:***

President: Tony Roscetti  
 Vice President: Danny Russel  
 Secretary: Gregg Herke  
 Treasurer: Peter Mohr  
 Immediate Past President: Chris Smith

#### ***Other:***

Book Raffle: Charlotte Charmichael/Eric Dove  
 Quiz Coordinator: Tony Trimble  
 Website Administrator: Ed Pope  
 Librarian: \*\*Vacant\*\*  
 HARDTACK Editor: Teresa Russel

#### ***Committees/Chairpersons:***

Preservation: Andy O'Donnell  
 Programs: Steve Magnusen (Chair), Bob Gottschalk, David Finney, Tony Trimble  
 Publicity: \*\*Vacant\*\*  
 Membership: Roy Agnew  
 Nominating: Nikki Schofield (Chair), Linda Smith, Tony Trimble

### *Other Camp Activities*

**Free Tour:** Nikki Schofield will lead a free Civil War walking tour on Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9:30 a.m. at the Waiting Station (34<sup>th</sup> Street Gate). The tour will last about two hours.

**Free Books:** Linda Smith is giving away Chris's Civil War and WWII books from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at 6134 Hazelwood Avenue, Indianapolis, 46228. See Nikki Schofield (317-328-8782) for more details.

**Hamilton County Civil War Roundtable:** Meetings are on the 2nd Wednesday each month at the Cornerstone Lutheran Church, Main St. & Gray Rd., Carmel. Entrance Door #6. Opens at 6:30, and program begins at 7:00. Their September 10<sup>th</sup> topic is: "Irritable Heart, Shell Shock, Battle Fatigue and PTSD: The History of Combat Stress Reactions."

**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*

**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.

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

*by Tony Trimble*

1. On February 10, 1865, a skirmish was fought at Kittredge's Sugar House. Where?
2. What battle made Lady Breckenridge famous?
3. On which battlefield would you find the Slaughter Pen?
4. On September 1, 1864, Confederates evacuated what city?
5. How did Navy Lt. William Cushing escape after running his ship aground on the New River?

### ***This Month in Civil War Era History***

#### **1861**

**September 4:** Union forces under General Ulysses S. Grant occupy Paducah, Kentucky.

**September 11-13:** In General Robert E. Lee's first campaign, his troops attack but fail to capture Cheat Mountain, West Virginia.

#### **1862**

**September 2:** Lincoln relieves General Pope of command of the Army of Virginia, replacing him with McClellan, and reverts to calling it the Army of the Potomac.

**September 13:** Union General McClellan is given a copy of battle plans lost by Lee, but he hesitates, fearing a trap.

**September 17:** The war's bloodiest day – the Battle of Antietam – is a draw, but Lee halts the invasion of Maryland.

**September 22:** Lincoln issues his Emancipation Proclamation to take effect on January 1<sup>st</sup>, liberating slaves in the Confederacy but not to border states loyal to the Union.

#### **1863**

**September 9:** Union troops capture Cumberland Gap, Tennessee and its Confederate garrison.

**September 18-20:** Confederates under General Bragg win the Battle of Chickamauga, Georgia  
Casualties: Union (16,170), Confederates (18,454)

#### **1864**

**September 2:** General Sherman's troops occupy Atlanta, Georgia, but much of the city has been destroyed.

**September 8:** General George McClellan accepts the Democratic nomination as the party's Presidential Candidate, stating that the Union must be reunited.

**September 19:** Despite higher casualties, General Philip Sheridan's Union forces defeat those of General Jubal Early in Winchester, Virginia.

## Preservation

The American Battlefield Trust finalized preservation efforts at 18 different Revolutionary War and Civil War battlefields just in the second half of last year. Here are two examples quoted from the Trust's Spring, 2025 publication, "Hallowed Ground."

Stones River: "With funding from the American Battlefield Protection Program and the Tennessee Civil War Sites Preservation Fund, the Trust successfully acquired 32 acres at Stones River. The trust has now saved 105 acres at Stones River."



Fredericksburg: "The Trust acquired 7 acres at Fredericksburg that played a key role in the 1862 battle, as well as the second battle of Fredericksburg on May 3, 1863. The trust has now saved 266 acres at Fredericksburg."



Next month: Brief updates of preservation successes at Nashville and Franklin.

## RE-ENLIST NOW FOR THE 2025-2026 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 2024 thru June 2025**

*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. \_\_\_\_\_