



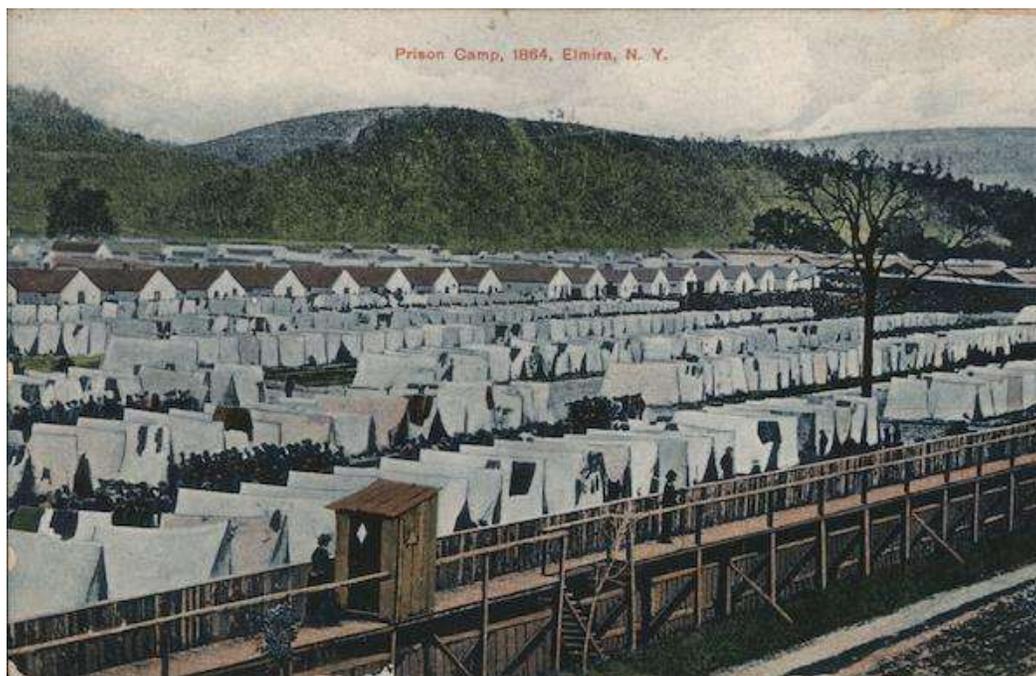
HARDTACK



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

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

The Plan of the Day



NORTHERN CIVIL WAR PRISON CAMPS

One of the many controversial subjects brought about by the Civil War was the treatment of prisoners in the camps both North and South. Many questions have been asked and many still go unanswered. It is a hotly discussed subject still today. There has been much written about the Southern camps, primarily Andersonville and Libby Prison. As the years passed, more books and information have been introduced about the Northern Civil War Prison Camps, primarily Camp Douglas in Chicago and Elmira Prison in New York State. Part 2 of this talk will take a more detailed look at individual prison camps with photos and a discussion of the conditions of the camps, as well as treatment of prisoners.

Our Guest Speaker



Gerald Jones

Gerald Jones, a lifelong Madison County resident, is a graduate of Ball State University. He retired from Guide Corporation General Motors after 34 years of service. He has served as treasurer of the Madison County Historical Society since 1998 and is the chairman of the Madison County Historical Society Roundtable. Gerald served as President of the Indianapolis Civil War Roundtable during 1991-1992.

Chris Smith Memorial Book Review

This season, we will honor our late member by having a book review presented during the business meeting.

Remainder of the 2025-2026 Campaign

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

May 11, 2026 - Steve Phan - “Burnside's East Tennessee & Knoxville Campaigns”

June 8, 2026 – Darryl Smith, “Stories of the Kentucky Campaign.”

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

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.

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

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. Name two Union generals buried in Bellefontaine Cemetery, Mount Vernon, Indiana.
2. Who was the future congressman who commanded Confederate troops at the Battle of Pleasant Hill?
3. Who was nicknamed "Lightening Eyes?" Who gave him the nickname and what was he best known for?
4. Who said, "General McDowell's first mistake was his display, and march for a grand military picnic." To what battle did he refer?
5. What charge in 1864 led to 7,000 Union casualties but only 1,500 Confederate casualties?

Answers for the November Quiz:

1. Lew Wallace
2. Vigilante group formed to stop extortion and violence at Andersonville
3. U.S. Grant
4. He was returned home when his enlistment expired
5. Joseph Wheeler

This Month in Civil War Era History

1861

December 2: Congress convenes for its regular session, with President Lincoln asking for a military railroad to be constructed.

December 2: Secretary of War Simon Cameron reports that 660,971 men are in active service in the U. S. Army, including 640,637 volunteers signed up for three years.

December 20: Troops of Union General Edward Ord defeat those of General “Jeb” Stuart near Dranesville, providing the Army of the Potomac with its first important victory.

December 20: Radical Republicans in the U.S. Congress establish the Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War to oversee Lincoln, whom they consider too conciliatory.

December 21: Lincoln signs legislation providing for a Navy Medal of Honor

December 26: Confederate Commissioners seized on November 8th from the British ship Trent are released after Britain threatens retaliation. “One war at a time,” says Lincoln.

1862

December 13: General Lee’s Confederate troops rout General Burnside’s overwhelmingly larger army at Fredericksburg, Virginia. Casualties: Union, 12,700; Confederate, 5,300.

December 17: General Grant expels all merchant Jews from his military district, saying they are violating Treasury Department regulations.

December 23: The Confederate Government orders that Black slaves serving with Union Forces should be dealt with according to state laws. This implies execution.

December 26: Confederate President Jefferson Davis addresses the Mississippi Legislature in Jackson, claiming the “dirty federal invaders” have insulted women and wantonly destroyed property.

December 28-29: Confederates repulse General Sherman’s attack on Chickasaw Bayou at Vicksburg, Mississippi.

December 31-January 2: The Battle of Stones River (or Murfreesboro), Tennessee is a draw but Confederate forces halt the Union advance on Chattanooga. Casualties: Union, 12,906, Confederate, 11,739.

1863

December 4: Freedman's Village, for 1,100 freed slaves, is dedicated by the U.S. Government at Arlington, Virginia, on the grounds of Robert E. Lee's former home.

December 7: President Lincoln asks people to assemble at their places of worship to thank God for the Chattanooga victory.

December 7: Confederate President Jefferson Davis addresses his congress, bitterly denouncing the enemy as "hardened by crime."

December 7: Lincoln issues a Proclamation of Amnesty and Reconstruction, offering pardons to anyone in the Confederacy taking a loyalty oath to the United States.

December 8: Lincoln's message to Congress notes that some 100,000 former slaves are now in military service.

December 11: A letter arrives in Richmond from Pope Pius IX addressed to the "illustrious and honorable Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States of America".

December 12: The Confederate government ends its policy of allowing northern food supplies for Union prisoners.

December 17: Congress awards General Grant a gold medal – the only one presented during the war – and also gives him an official "thanks" from Congress.

1864

December 6: Lincoln delivers his annual message to Congress, noting that the power of our nation's executive "would be greatly diminished by cessation of actual war."

December 13: Admiral David Farragut is acclaimed a war hero as he arrives in New York City after his Gulf of Mexico victories.

December 22: General Sherman takes Savannah, ending his destructive march through Georgia, and telegrams Lincoln that he presents the city as a "Christmas gift."

<p>Please note: In subsequent meetings, Charlotte Carmichael will bring a generous supply of Civil War battleground maps and several magazines for our perusal.</p>
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Preservation Spotlight



WITH THE HELP of our supporters and partners,
the American Battlefield Trust has now saved more than

60,000 ACRES

AT 155 SITES IN 25 STATES,
creating outdoor classrooms where the past can come alive.

Keep in touch!
Get press releases, news,
history and more
right to your email
www.battlefields.org/email-signup

Gettyimages National Military Park, Gettyimages, Po. BUDDY SECOR

Join us and help protect America's past by saving endangered battlefields. www.battlefields.org

5 Ways to Learn More About Battlefield Preservation

1. **Visit and enjoy.** From national parks to state, local, and private open spaces, there are scores of battlefields on American soil where you can walk in the footsteps of your ancestors. Explore these battlefields virtually or in person to learn how they connect to your American experience.
2. **Explore the website: battlefields.org,** for the latest research, articles, photographs, maps, and teacher resources about the battlefields we are working to preserve.
3. **Speak out for legislation to protect.** Visit battlefields.org/preserve/speak-out to see the current actions and learn more on how you can help save threatened battlefields.
4. **Watch the Trust videos on YouTube.** Experience the wars of America's first century through high-quality mini-documentaries on youtube.com/c/AmericanBattlefieldTrust
5. **Download the American Battlefield Trust apps.** Our GPS-enabled apps include visitor guides and battle examinations which will help you unlock American history – whether you are on the battlefield or at home.

Indianapolis Civil War Round Table

Membership Preservation Recommendation

Preservation Recommendation

Name (Optional)

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Name (Optional)

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

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

ICWRT Membership Enlistment for July 2025 thru June 2026

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 a name. _____