



# HARDTACK



Indianapolis Civil War Round Table Newsletter

<http://indianapoliscwrt.org/>

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Monday, May 11, 2026 at 6:45 p.m.  
Meeting at MCL Cafeteria Township Line  
2370 W. 86th Street

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## *The Plan of the Day*



*Harper's Weekly*

**“Burnside's East Tennessee & Knoxville Campaigns”**

### *Our Guest Speaker*



**Steve Phan**

Steve T. Phan is a Park Ranger and serves as the Chief of Interpretation at Camp Nelson National Monument. He has also worked at the Civil War Defenses of Washington, Charles Young Buffalo Soldiers National Monument, Rock Creek Park, Hopewell Culture National Historical Park, Stones River National Battlefield, Richmond National Battlefield Park, and Gettysburg National Military Park. A military history scholar of the Civil War era, Phan's research focuses on military occupation, operational command, African American soldiers and refugees, and fortifications during the Civil War. He contributed an essay to "They Are Dead and Yet They Live: Civil War Memories in a Polarized America", published by the University of Nebraska Press (2026). He was nominated for the National Park Service Tilden Award for Excellence in Interpretation for the National Capital Region in 2019 and 2020, as well as the Excellence in Interpretation Individual Award for the Southeast Region in 2025. He holds a Master's degree in American History from Middle Tennessee State University.

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

June 8, 2026 - Darryl Smith, "Stories of the Kentucky Campaign."

## **Chris Smith Memorial Book Review**

The book reviewers for the months remaining in this campaign are:

- May - Kathryn Lerch
- June - Bob Gottschalk

At our April meeting, Mike Eisenhut reviewed “Hoosier Spies and Horse Marines,” regarding the 3<sup>rd</sup> Cavalry, East Wing. He also spoke about Gen. George Chapman (only 5’4”) who’s buried at Crown Hill.

## **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

**Please note:** In subsequent meetings, Charlotte Carmichael will bring a generous supply of Civil War battleground maps and several magazines for our perusal.

## **Nominating Committee Report**

Submitted by Nikki Schofield, Chair of the Nominating Committee...

Officers and Committees for the 2026-2027 Campaign:

- President – Danny Russel
- Vice President – David Hughes
- Secretary – Greg Herke
- Treasurer – Peter Mohr
- Hardtack Editor – Teresa Russel
- Program Selection Committee
  - o Rob Webb, Chair

- Roy Agnew
- David Finney
- Steve Magnusen
- Book Raffle Hostess – Charlotte Charmichael; Assistant – Eric Dove
- Preservation Chair – Andy O’Donnell
- Quiz Master – Tony Trimble
- Website Administrator – Ed Pope
- Nominating Committee – Nikki Schofield, Chair & Linda Smith

### *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.

Contact David Hughes ([david-hughes@msn.com](mailto:david-hughes@msn.com)) for participation with the Indiana Antique Arms Collectors. Membership is free, with meetings at our West 86<sup>th</sup> Street MCL during odd months at noon, lasting roughly about two hours during the second Saturday. Enjoy a wide variety of weapons, firearms, swords, gun-making tools, etc.

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

*by Tony Trimble*

1. By the middle of February 1863, Lincoln was worried about an expedition to attack what city?
2. What is a "ferryboat"?
3. Who said, "I can make men follow me to hell"?
4. On 23 January 1862 who issued orders to confiscate property in St. Louis from Confederate sympathizers who failed to pay assessments to aid pro-northern fugitives?
5. George Pickett wrote to his Sally, "he is and will always be, even were his pistol pointed at my heart, my dear best friend. May God bless him and spare his life." To whom did he refer?

*Answers for the April Quiz:*

1. *Spring Hill, TN*
2. *3<sup>rd</sup> Indiana Cavalry*
3. *Gen. William T. Sherman*
4. *Cedar Mountain*
5. *Gen. Phillip St. George Cocke*

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

#### **1861**

**May 3:** President Lincoln calls for 42,000 volunteers or three years, ordering the regular army to increase by 22,700 men and the navy to add 18,000 seamen.

**May 6:** Arkansas secedes from the Union.

**May 9:** U.S. Gen. David Twiggs surrenders Texas with its forces and supplies to the Texas Rangers. He later becomes a Confederate general.

**May 10:** The Maryland Legislature passes a resolution protesting the war against the Confederacy and resolves to take no part in it.

**May 10-11:** Union forces seize Missouri Militia in Camp Jackson near St. Louis, causing riots in the city.

**May 11:** The U.S. Army's Department of the Ohio (Ohio, Indiana, western Pennsylvania and western Virginia) is organized, with Gen. George McClellan in command.

**May 13:** U.S. Gen. Benjamin Butler's troops seize Baltimore, Maryland.

**May 13:** Queen Victoria proclaims Britain's neutrality in the war but withholds official recognition of the Confederacy, granting them the status of "Belligerents."

**May 14:** William T. Sherman accepts an appointment as colonel in the 13<sup>th</sup> Infantry of the U.S. Army.

**May 20:** South Carolina secedes from the Union.

**May 21:** Richmond, Virginia is chosen as the permanent capital of the Confederacy.

**May 21:** Robert E. Lee's nephew, Lt. Fitzhugh Lee, resigns as instructor at the U.S. Military Academy to join the Confederate Army.

**May 22:** Gen. Butler's Union force occupies Fort Monroe in Virginia, establishing a new command on the Atlantic coast.

**May 23:** Three slaves find refuge in Fort Monroe and Gen. Butler refuses to return them, saying the Confederate states have no right to U.S. laws.

**May 24:** Union Troops enter Virginia, and Alexandria is occupied by an amphibious expedition from the Washington Naval Yard.

**May 26:** Union Gen. George McClellan informs West Virginians that U.S. troops will not interfere with their slaves and will crush any attempts by slaves to rebel.

**May 27:** The New York tribune urges "on to Richmond" – a phrase the newspaper will often repeat.

**May 27:** Union Gen. Irvin McDowell is appointed to command a new military department comprising Virginia east of the Alleghany.

**May 29:** The Confederate capital is transferred from Montgomery to Richmond, Virginia.

## **1862**

**May 1:** Brigadier Gen. Sherman is promoted to Major General of Volunteers

**May 3:** Gen. McClellan's troops near Yorktown, Virginia send up an observation balloon. It draws Confederate fire, which misses.

**May 4:** Yorktown, Virginia falls and is occupied by Union troops under McClellan. They encounter a new weapon laid by Confederates – land mines.

**May 4:** Confederate Gen. "Stonewall" Jackson begins the Shenandoah Valley Campaign in Virginia. Within a month it will succeed.

**May 4-5:** The Battle of Williamsburg, Virginia ends with a Confederate retreat and Union occupation. Casualties: Union 2,283; Confederate 1,682.

**May 8:** Confederate troops under Stonewall Jackson repulse the enemy at McDowell, Virginia.

**May 9:** Norfolk, Virginia is abandoned by Confederate troops, who join in the defense of Richmond.

**May 10:** The Confederate fleet at Memphis, Tennessee sails up the river to engage a Union squadron but retreats after an hour-long battle.

**May 11:** CSS Virginia runs aground and is burned by her crew off Craney Island, Virginia to prevent her capture.

**May 12:** Union fleet, under Flag Officer Farragut, occupies Baton Rouge, the capital of Louisiana.

**May 13:** Robert Smalls and seven other slaves seize the steamship Planter in Charleston Harbor and turn it over to the Union blockade squadron.

**May 14:** Gen. McClellan halts his advance from Richmond to await reinforcements, despite having overwhelming troop numbers

**May 15:** Union Gen. Benjamin Butler, commanding troops occupying New Orleans, issues orders to treat as prostitutes any woman who insults Union soldiers.

**May 20:** President Lincoln signs the Homestead Act, providing western land to settlers who have never borne arms against the Union or aided its enemies.

**May 23:** Confederate Gen. Stonewall Jackson's troops defeat those of Gen. Nathaniel Banks at Front Royal, Virginia, assisted by information from the Confederate spy Belle Boyd.

**May 24:** The Union army's portable telegraph system is first employed in the Peninsula Campaign.

**May 24-30:** In four engagements, Gen. Jackson's forces drive Gen. Banks' troops from the Shenandoah Valley.

**May 25:** President Lincoln telegraphs Gen. McClellan that "you must either attack Richmond or give up the job and come back to the defense of Washington."

**May 27:** The Battle of Hanover Court House, Virginia, drives Confederates from that area

**May 29 – 30:** Gen. Beauregard evacuates Corinth, Mississippi, ending a month-long Union siege

**May 30:** Union troops return to Front Royal to rescue prisoners held from the May 23<sup>rd</sup> engagement and to arrest Confederate spy Belle Boyd

**May 31 – June 1:** Battle of Seven Pines (Fair Oaks), Virginia is inconclusive, but Confederate Gen. Joseph Johnston is severely wounded. Casualties: Union 5,000; Confederate 6,134

### **1863**

**April 30-May 6:** Gen. Lee's Confederates win the Battle of Chancellorsville, Virginia, but Gen. Stonewall Jackson is mortally wounded by his own men. Casualties: Union 17,278; Confederate 12,821

**May 1:** Gen. Grant's troops defeat the enemy at Port Gibson, Mississippi, below Vicksburg

**May 1:** The Confederate Congress adopts the Confederate National Flag (second pattern) to replace the first one that was deemed too similar to the U.S. flag

**May 1:** Confederate cavalry raider John Hunt Morgan receives the CSA Thanks of Congress for his "varied, heroic and valuable services."

**May 3:** Confederate forces evacuate Grand Gulf Mississippi below Vicksburg and General Grant arrives – making it a supply base for his troops

**May 5:** U.S. Congressman Clement Vallandigham of Ohio is arrested after opposing the war and urging Union soldiers to desert

**May 9:** Confederate President Davis orders Gen Joseph Johnston to take command of forces in Mississippi

**May 10:** Confederate Gen. Stonewall Jackson dies of his wounds complicated by pneumonia

**May 12:** Union forces under Gen. James McPherson win a battle at Raymond, Mississippi, a few miles west of Jackson

**May 13:** Gen. McPherson's army reaches Clinton, Mississippi, destroying the railroad and telegraph there

**May 14:** Jackson, Mississippi falls to Gen. Grant's troops

**May 14:** Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton create the Women's National Loyal League, seeking an amendment to the Constitution to abolish slavery

**May 16:** Battle of Champion Hill, east of Vicksburg, won by Union forces. Casualties: Union - 2,441; Confederate – 3,851

**May 17:** Confederates are driven across Mississippi's Big Black River, and 1,700 are taken as prisoners. The remainder return to Vicksburg

**May 19:** Gen. Grant's assault on Vicksburg is repulsed

**May 19:** President Lincoln commutes the two-year prison sentence given to Ohio Congressman Vallandigham for opposing the war, banishing him to the Confederacy

**May 21:** Gen. Grant's second attempt to take Vicksburg fails

**May 23:** Gen. Grant decides to lay siege to Vicksburg and starve out its Confederate forces

**May 27:** A Union assault on Port Hudson, Louisiana fails, so a siege begins

**May 27:** The Union gunboat USS Cincinnati is sunk on the Mississippi River by a large cannon in Vicksburg known as "Whistling Duck"

**May 30:** The Confederate Congress designates "Stonewall" Jackson's brigade as the only one given an official nickname

### **1864**

**May 1:** Union forces "available and present for duty" number 662,345, with 17,000 in hospitals or unfit to serve

**May 1 – 8:** Confederate cavalry destroy five Union boats in action around Alexandria, Louisiana

**May 3:** General Grant crosses the Rapidan River in Virginia with 100,000 to move towards Richmond

**May 4:** General Sherman's Union force leaves Chattanooga, Tennessee, on the march towards Atlanta

**May 5:** The Confederate ram, CSS Albemarle, battles seven blockade ships to a draw in the mouth of the Roanoke River

**May 5-7:** The Battle of the Wilderness in Virginia between Grant and Lee is inconclusive. Casualties: Union – 17,666; Confederate – 7,750

**May 6:** A Confederate torpedo destroys the USS Commodore in the James River

**May 6:** Confederates accidentally kill their own Gen. Micah Jenkins and seriously wound James Longstreet at the Wilderness in Virginia

**May 8-19:** The Battle of Spotsylvania, Virginia, directed by Grant and Lee, is largely inconclusive. Casualties: Union – 17,500; Confederate – roughly 10,000

**May 9:** Gen. George Crook's Union force defeats the small cavalry command of Gen. Albert Jenkins at Cloyd's Mountain, Virginia. Jenkins is mortally wounded

**May 9:** Union Gen. Philip Sheridan advances towards Richmond to disrupt the Confederates' line of communication

- May 10:** The infamous Confederate raider Captain Willima Quantrill is fatally wounded by Union troops as he travels to assassinate President Lincoln
- May 9-10:** The forces of Union Gen. George Armstrong Custer destroy more than 100 railroad cars, two locomotives, and ten miles of track at Beaver Dam Station, Virginia
- May 10:** At Crockett's Cove, Virginia, Gen. John Hunt Morgan's cavalry and infantry repulse the Union troops of Gen. William Averell, who then retreat to West Virginia
- May 11:** The Battle of Yellow Tavern, Virginia results in the withdrawal of the Confederate cavalry and the mortal wounding of its leader, Gen. "Jeb" Stuart
- May 12:** Gen. Sherman's Union army breaks through Snake Creek Gap near Dalton, Georgia. Confederates have held them off since May 7<sup>th</sup>
- May 12:** Confederate Gen. "Jeb" Stuart dies in Richmond from his wounds
- May 13:** Private William Henry Christman of the 6<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania infantry is the first military man interred at Arlington National Cemetery, Virginia
- May 13:** Admiral David Porter's squadron escapes low water in Louisiana's Red River after dams are quickly built to allow his retreat from Alexandria
- May 13-15:** Gen. Sherman's Union troops are repulsed by Gen. Johnston's at Resaca, Georgia, but the Confederates withdraw after hearing news of Union reinforcements
- May 12-16:** Confederates under Gen. Beauregard repulse Gen. Benjamin Butler's force at the battle of Fort Darling on Drewry's Bluff, Virginia
- May 15:** Gen. Jubal Early's Confederates defeat Gen. Franz Sigel's army at New Market, Virginia to end Union plans of sweeping the enemy from the Shenandoah
- May 18:** In the final action of the Trans-Mississippi region, Confederate cavalry under Gen. St. John Liddell clash with Admiral David Porter's fleet at Yellow Bayou, Virginia
- May 20:** The Battle of Ware Bottom Church, Virginia, keeps Gen. Butler's Union troops bottled up at Bermuda Hundred next to the earthworks of Gen. Beauregard's force
- May 25-27:** Confederates under Gen. Joseph Johnston repulse Gen. Joseph Hooker's troops at New Hope Church, Georgia
- May 25:** Five volunteers from the Union gunboat USS Wyalusing fail to destroy the Confederate ram CSS Albemarle with a torpedo
- May 26:** Gen. Nathaniel Banks' Union army reaches Donaldson, Louisiana, completing their retreat from Alexandria

**May 31:** Radical Republicans nominate Gen. John C. Fremont to run against their own party's President Lincoln

## **1865**

**May 2:** President Johnson offers a \$100,000 reward for the capture of former Confederate President Davis

**May 4:** Davis, in retreat at Washington, Georgia, performs his last official act, appointing Captain Micajah Clark as the Confederacy's acting treasurer

**May 4:** President Lincoln is buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery outside Springfield, Illinois

**May 4:** Confederate Gen. Richard Taylor surrenders his army to Gen. Edward Canby at Citronelle, Arkansas

**May 10:** Former Confederate Davis is captured while fleeing in Irwinsville, Georgia

**May 10:** The trial begins for John Wilkes Booth's co-conspirators in the assassination of Lincoln. It lasts about six weeks.

**May 10:** President Johnson declares the official end of armed resistance to the federal government

**May 11:** The Confederate Vice President Alexander Stephens is arrested in Georgia (and will serve five months in Fort Warren on George's Island in Boston Harbor)

**May 11:** Confederate troops in Arkansas surrender at Chalk Bluff

**May 11:** Confederate troops in Florida surrender in Tallahassee

**May 13:** In the war's final battle, Confederate troops under Colonel John S. Ford defeat Union forces at Palmetto Ranch near Brownsville, Texas

**May 19:** The CSS Stonewall is given up to Cuban officials in Havana

**May 19:** Camp Ford, the largest Confederate prison west of the Mississippi, is closed at Tyler, Texas

**May 22:** Former Confederate President Davis is imprisoned at Fort Monroe on Chesapeake Bay, Virginia. (He will be released on May 13, 1867 without trial)

**May 23:** The U.S. Army of the Potomac is formally disbanded

**May 23-24:** About 150,000 soldiers parade through the streets of Washington in the victorious army's Grand Review

**May 26:** Confederate Gen. Edward Kirby Smith surrenders the last Confederate force, the Trans-Mississippi Department, to Gen. Edward Canby at Galveston, Texas

**May 29:** President Johnson presents his proclamation of amnesty and pardon for Southerners, which is far more lenient than Congress desires

## **Preservation**

### Manassas

The American Battlefield Trust is fighting to stop the world's largest data center campus from being built immediately adjacent to Manassas National Battlefield Park. A total of 37 industrial buildings with 12 substations and towering power lines have been proposed. This land includes historically significant sites, like Brawner Farm which opened the second Battle of Manassas. Despite local opposition and expert objections, county officials voted 4-3 to rezone the land in a hasty and premature lame duck session, before the county chair was replaced by a data center skeptic. The ABT sued over their mishandling of the public process. Their case is going before the Virginia Court of Appeals and is paired with a related lawsuit that already succeeded in circuit court.

### The Wilderness

Developers plan to build a 2600-acre "Wilderness Crossing" mixed-use project that includes data centers, 5,000 housing units and 732 acres of commercial/industrial construction. The ABT sued to stop the rezoning. While the circuit court dismissed some of their claims, it allowed their most powerful and persuasive arguments -- over county authority, secret meetings, and tax authority -- to move forward.

## **2026 American Battlefield Trust Park Day – Wrap Up**

### Helping Preserve the General Lew Wallace Study and Museum

Occupying an entire city block in Crawfordsville, every spring the grounds of General Wallace's one-time home need some TLC in recovering from winter. About a dozen volunteers, from kindergarten age on up, were actually aided by the foul weather that rolled across Indiana on Friday, April 24th because storms left behind sunny skies on the 25th. This was a plus as we helped the staff prepare for increased visitor traffic. Many leaves and sticks gathered would later be disposed of by the Crawfordsville Parks Department. Other volunteers spread mulch and topsoil. Some even assembled a new wooden picnic table. After about two hours, most tasks were completed and the volunteers began saying goodbye to the staff until next year's Park Day.

## RE-ENLIST NOW FOR THE 2026-2027 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 Phone: (317) 828-5176  
 Indianapolis, Indiana 46220 Email: [pmohr2@gmail.com](mailto:pmohr2@gmail.com)

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

**ICWRT Membership Enlistment for July 2026 through June 2027**  
 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. \_\_\_\_\_