



THE GENERAL'S REPORT

The Newsletter of the Southern Indiana Civil War Roundtable
www.sicwrt.org

SEPTEMBER 2014



AUGUST MEETING —

August is the month of our annual dinner meeting. An excellent meal was prepared by FOP Lodge member Stewart “Snootch” Van Meter. Treasurer Ron Sproatt reported we have a balance of \$801.86.

AUGUST PROGRAM: Krista Castillo — “From the Pages of *Harpers Weekly*: The Illustrations of Thomas Nast”.



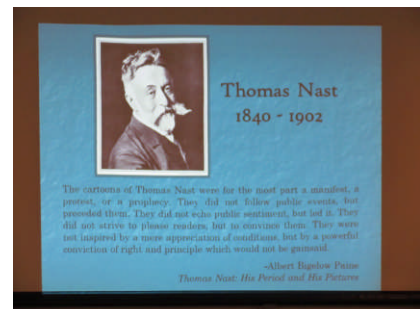
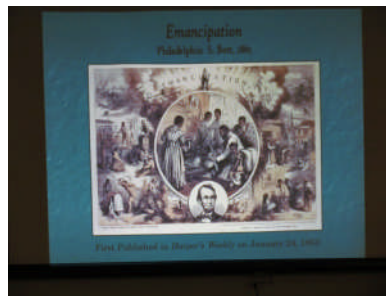
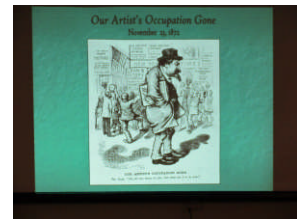
In 2000, Krista graduated from Mount Union College in Alliance, Ohio with a BA in history. One year later she moved to Ft. Campbell, KY with her husband. From 2004 to 2008 she worked at the Customs House Museum and Cultural Center. In November 2008, Krista came to Fort Negley as the Education manager and received a promotion to Museum coordinator in April 2010. Krista completed coursework toward a MA in Military History in 2009.

That same year, she and Greg Biggs founded the Nashville Civil War Roundtable which meets monthly at Fort Negley Visitors Center. She is currently president of the Nashville Civil War Roundtable.

Krista’s presentation focused on the illustrations of Thomas Nast, prominently displayed in *Harper’s Weekly* and how they reveal popular attitudes towards Reconstruction politics and emerging radical ideologies.

Thomas Nast was a German-born American caricaturist and editorial cartoonist. As a political cartoonist he was able to sway his audience to his personal position. He wielded enough influence to profoundly affect the outcome of every presidential election during the period 1864 to 1884. Nast was also a crusading civil reformer and helped destroy the corrupt Tammany Hall and William “Boss” Tweed.

Among his notable works were the creation of the modern version of Santa Claus and the political symbol of the elephant for the Republican Party. Contrary to popular belief he did not create Uncle Sam or the Democratic donkey, though he did popularize these symbols through his art.



SESQUICENTENNIAL — 1864-2014: 150 YEARS AGO:

Sept. 1, 1864 — Gen. Hood, C.S.A. and the Army of Tennessee evacuate Atlanta.

Sept. 2, 1864 — Union troops move into Atlanta in the morning. Sherman telegraphs Lincoln “Atlanta is ours and fairly won”.

Sept. 3, 1864 — Lincoln declares Sept. 5 a day of national celebration.

Sept. 4, 1864 — Confederate raider John Hunt Morgan was killed at Greenwell, TN.

Sept. 6, 1864 — Union ships open fire on Fort Sumter for the next nine days.

Sept. 7, 1864 — Sherman orders the evacuation of all civilians from Atlanta. This included 1,600 people, comprising about 446 families.

Sept. 8, 1864 — Maj. Gen. George McClellan formally accepts the Democratic nomination for President.

Sept. 27, 1864 — “Bloody Bill” Anderson raids Centralia, MO and 24 unarmed Union soldiers are murdered. When Union troops came to rescue the town, they were ambushed and 116 of them were killed.

Sept. 29, 1864 — Siege of Petersburg continues.

(BE/LM)



THE REST OF THE STORY: More Soldier’s Quotes —

“One blanket to each man was found to be as much as could be carried, and amply sufficient for the severest weather.”

“Experience soon demonstrated that boots were not agreeable on a long march...good, strong brogans with broad bottoms and big flat heels, succeeded.”

“Shoes are very scarce. The men get pieces of raw hide from the butchers, and after wrapping their feet up in old rags, sew the hide around them...which they wear until it wears out.”

“Caps finally yielded to the demands of comfort and common sense, and a good soft felt hat worn instead.”

(BE)

Source: *Arms and Equipment of the Civil War* by Jack Coggins

WHERE ARE THEY? Civil War Carbine: This carbine has carvings on its stock reflecting ownership by both Union and Confederate soldiers. Provenance says the carbine was issued to a Union cavalryman, then later was possessed by a Confederate cavalryman. Parris Island Museum, Parris, S.C. www.pimuseum.us

CIVIL WAR QUOTE:

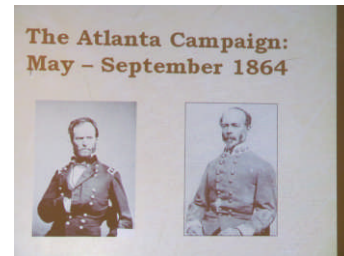
“Until we can repopulate Georgia, it is useless for us to occupy it; but the utter destruction of its roads, houses and people will cripple their military resources. I can make this march, and make Georgia howl.”

U.S. Maj. General William T. Sherman,
telegram sent to Gen. U.S. Grant at Atlanta, Georgia, September 9, 1864

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM: Greg Biggs — Atlanta Campaign, Part II



Greg Biggs, President of the Clarksville, TN Civil War Roundtable, will present the second part of his program on the Atlanta Campaign.



FUTURE PROGRAMS:



- Sept. 18, 2014 — Greg Biggs – Atlanta Campaign, Part II**
- Oct. 16, 2014 — David L. Mowery – “Morgan’s Great Raid: Taking the War North**
- Nov. 20, 2014 — Jim Goecker – Galvanized Yankees**
- Dec. 18, 2014 — Trivia Contest and Show & Tell**

Please see Tom Murray if have suggestions for a future program speaker in 2015.

****The 2014 membership dues should soon be paid to Ron Sproatt. Your dues enable us to bring have good programs with very knowledgeable speakers. Dues of \$15.00 can be paid at the meeting or mailed to Ron Sproatt at: 1716 Madison Av., Evansville, IN 47714.**

BOOK RAFFLE WINNERS:



The Book Raffle winners for August were: Tom Arflack, Ed Irick, and Bill Hale. Remember, if you have any books that you would like to donate for the raffle, please bring them to the next meeting. (LM)

FORAGER'S LIST:

September 18, 2014 — Gary Rhodes
October 16, 2014 — George Payne
November 20, 2014 — Jim Hayden
December 18, 2014 — Phil Hare



Thanks to Martha and Norm Kohler for maintaining our Forager's List.

WEB SITE — Josh Claybourn has set up a web site for the Southern Indiana Civil War Round Table. Go to this link: <http://www.sicwrt.org>

SPECIAL INDIANA CIVIL WAR NEWS:



Sons of Union Veterans
of the Civil War

John W. Foster Camp No. 2

Prior to the beginning of our September meeting there will be a special ceremony. This event will recognize the local John W. Foster Camp No. 2 as part of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. The John W. Foster Camp No. 2 of the SUVCW is named after John W. Foster and was organized on July 11, 2014. John Foster was an American diplomat and military officer, as well as lawyer and journalist. His highest public office was U.S. Secretary of State under Benjamin Harrison. He was born in Petersburg, Indiana and raised in Evansville.

Two of our SICWRT members are officers in the Camp. Joshua Claybourn is Commander and Dennis Hutchinson is Senior Vice Commander. Camp Foster received the Horace Greeley Award at the 2014 National Encampment. This award is bestowed to the department or camp with the best website.



L to R - Dennis Hutchinson and
Joshua Claybourn



MEMBERSHIP:

The Southern Indiana Civil War Roundtable is open to membership to anyone interested in learning more about the U.S. Civil War. Meetings are held monthly on the third Thursday of each month at the Evansville Fraternal Order of Police Lodge at 801 Court St., Evansville, Indiana at 7:00 p.m. Dues are \$15.00 per family for a year and are due in January of each year. If you still owe dues for this year, be sure to see Ron Sproatt at our next meeting.

Members are always encouraged to share information they have about any civil war topic by passing it along to the newsletter editors.

SICWRT officers are: Chairman – Alan Elsner; Treasurer – Ron Sproatt; Program Committee – Tom Murray and Larry Harms; Newsletter Editors – Bill Emmick and Larry Morris; Book Raffle Chairman – Larry Morris.



North



South