



THE GENERAL'S REPORT

The Newsletter of the Southern Indiana Civil War Roundtable

www.sicwrt.org

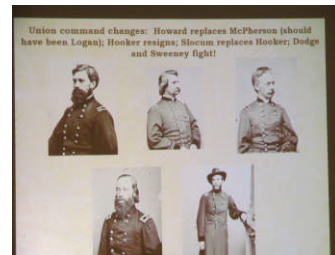
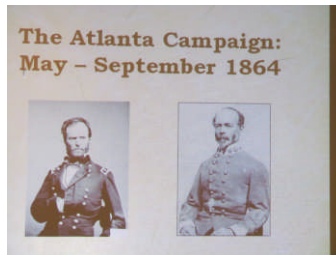
OCTOBER 2014



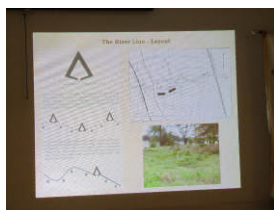
SEPTEMBER MEETING —

Prior to the beginning of meeting there was a presentation of the charter to the new camp of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. The John W. Foster Camp No. 2 is led by our member, Josh Claybourn. See further information and pictures in this newsletter. Treasurer Ron Sproatt reported we have a balance of \$576.86. Our September program will be presented by Greg Biggs. He is President of the Clarksville Civil War Roundtable.

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM: Greg Biggs: Atlanta Campaign, Part II



Greg presented his second part of the Atlanta Campaign and as usual he has an expert knowledge of the battles and the leaders. Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman was invading Georgia with three armies: Army of Cumberland under George H. Thomas, Army of the Tennessee under James B. McPherson, and the Army of the Ohio under John M. Schofield. Confederate Gen. Joseph Johnston was fighting several defensive battles against Sherman's troops. Johnston strongly repulsed Sherman's first (and only) attempt at a massive frontal assault in the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain on June 27. Johnston's cautious approach had yielded over 110 miles of mountainous territory in just two months. Frustrated, president Davis removed Johnston from command on July 17, 1864. His replacement was John B. Hood. Sherman's Army had several advantages. Telegraph wire was laid along the Kennesaw Line so he could be in constant communication with his army. Sherman's troops rebuilt the Chattahoochee bridge in four days. On August 1 they began shelling Atlanta for 28 days, 5,000 shells in one day alone. Sherman's Atlanta campaign ended on Sept. 2, 1864 with the capture of Atlanta. Hood abandoned the city and blew up 80 train cars of ammunition. He also hands out surplus food to the civilians. Atlanta protected the South's biggest area of food and manufacturing. With the capture of Atlanta and the loss of its rail hub, the South is doomed. According to Greg, the world found out about the Atlanta Campaign through the book, *Gone with the Wind*.



SESQUICENTENNIAL — 1864-2014: 150 YEARS AGO:

Oct. 1, 1864 — Siege at Petersburg continues. Gen. Hood, C.S.A. strikes at Sherman's railroad line to Atlanta.

Oct.. 2, 1864 — At Augusta, Ga., President Davis appointed Gen. P. G. T. Beauregard over the armies of Hood and Taylor in the West.

Oct. 5, 1864 — Union troops repel Confederate attack at Altoona, Georgia.

Oct. 6, 1864 — Gen. Forrest, C.S.A., continues to harass Union forces in Sherman's rear at Florence, Alabama.

Oct. 10, 1864 — In the Shenandoah Valley, Sheridan moved to a position straddling the Valley Pike near Cedar Creek and held, awaiting developments. Early was coming down the Valley.

Oct. 12, Rear Admiral David D. Porter, U.S.N., assumes command of the North Atlantic Blockading Squadron.

Oct. 12, 1864 — Diarist George T. Strong wrote, "The Hon. Old Roger B. Taney has earned the gratitude of his country by dying at last. Better late than never."

Oct. 17, 1864 — Gen. Hood, C.S.A., begins to move his army north into Tennessee hoping Sherman will follow.

Oct. 20, 1864 — Abraham Lincoln proclaimed that the last Thursday in November would be celebrated as Thanksgiving Day.

Oct. 27, 1864 — Grant's Siege of Petersburg continues.

(BE/LM)



THE REST OF THE STORY: More Soldier's Quotes — Overcoats and Canteens

"Overcoats, an inexperienced man would think an absolute necessity for men exposed to the rigors of a northern Virginia winter. But they were found to be a great inconvenience. Some carried them to the last but the majority got tired of lugging them around."

"Canteens were as a general thing discarded. A good strong tincup was found better than a canteen, as it was easier to fill at a well or spring, and was serviceable as a boiler for making coffee."

(BE)

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

WHERE ARE THEY? Robert E. Lee's Frock: Worn by Confederate commander-in-chief General Robert E. Lee at the surrender at Appomattox in 1865. Museum of the Confederacy, Richmond, VA, www.moc.org

CIVIL WAR QUOTE:

“Surrender means that the history of this heroic struggle will be written by the enemy; that our youth will be trained by Northern school teachers; will be impressed by all influences of history and education to regard our gallant dead as traitors, and our maimed veterans as fit subjects for derision.”

— C.S. Major General Pat Cleburne

OCTOBER PROGRAM: David L. Mowery – “Morgan’s Great Raid: Taking the War North”



Mr. Mowery, a graduate of the University of Cincinnati, has lived at various points along the path of Morgan’s Raid for most of his life. David joined the all-volunteer Ohio Civil War Trail Commission and over the years his role expanded to include the final design and historical validation of the entire length of the John Hunt Morgan Heritage Trail of Ohio. With Lora Cahill, he co-authored Morgan’s Raid Across Ohio: The Civil War Guidebook of the John Hunt Morgan Heritage Trail. He also authored the book titled Morgan’s Great Raid: The Remarkable Expedition from Kentucky to Ohio. Since 1995 David has been a member of the

Cincinnati Civil War Roundtable, for which he has written various papers on Civil War subjects. He also serves as Vice President of the Buffington Island Battlefield Preservation Foundation, the grass-roots organization to preserve Ohio’s only Civil War Battlefield.



FUTURE PROGRAMS:

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 2015 membership dues will soon be coming up for payment. 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 September were: Mary Erickson, George Payne, and Gary Rhodes . 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

At the beginning of our September meeting the local John W. Foster Camp No. 2 as part of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War was presented with their charter. 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. The middle picture shows members of the local chapter.



Member Ed Irick showed us a broadside for the Grand Reunion of the Blue & Gray G.A.R. Farragut Post No. 27 on September 20-23, 1887.



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