INDIANAPOLIS CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE COLLECTION, 1859–2001

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Cataloging Information

Processed by

Emily Castle March 2006

Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org

COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF 6 boxes, 2 printed items, 4 photograph folders, 2 artifacts

COLLECTION:

COLLECTION 1859–2001

DATES:

PROVENANCE: Indianapolis Civil War Round Table, c/o Tom Krasean,

Indianapolis, IN, May 2002, March 2006

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION 2002.0413; 2006.0193

NUMBER: NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

In the spring of 1955 the Indianapolis chapter of the Civil War Round Table (ICWRT) was co-founded by Rudolf K. Haerle, Harry Grube, and Alan Nolan. On 8 February 1955 a founder's meeting was held where President, Vice-President, and Secretary-Treasurer positions were elected, with the first regularly scheduled meeting set for 1 April. By September there were 89 paid members, with attendance at the monthly meeting reaching 69.

In January of 1958 the first regular edition of the newsletter *Hardtack* appeared. During the next few years the group continued to grow and reached 120 members by May 1960. Throughout the following years the first meeting of the Indiana Civil War Centennial Commission was held, field trips to battlefields were taken, and summer encampments were started.

Three awards were created for outstanding members of the ICWRT: the Colonel Howard H. Bates Memorial Award, Robert C. Harman Memorial Award, and the General's Cup Award. The Bates award was started in September 1962, in the form of a book or other object pertaining to the Civil War, presented annually to a member to mark excellence in either historical scholarship or administration of the ICWRT affairs. The Herman award was started in 1965, and given to a member in recognition of outstanding service to the ICWRT. The General's Cup Award was started in 1987 when it was presented to one of the co-founders of the organization, Rudolf Haerle. The following years it was presented to the other co-founders.

Over the years programs were developed and given during meetings. They were designed to enlighten, entertain, and inform members about a variety of subjects relating to the Civil War. Over half of the programs were prepared and presented by ICWRT members, while others were given by authors, professional historians, and other round table members. Programs covered topics including battles, raids and campaigns, individuals, units, and films and movies.

Sources:

Materials in collection.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of papers from the first forty-five years of the Indianapolis Civil War Round Table. The papers are arranged by subject, and then chronologically. Included in the collection are meeting announcements and minutes, recruitment materials, histories of the group, and correspondence. There are booklets recounting battles and skirmishes of the war, and brochures and schedules from the Third and Eighth Annual Midwest Civil War Round Table meetings, which were held in Indianapolis. Plus there are copies of the newsletter *Hardtack*, from 1958 to 2000, and runs of *Lincoln Lore* from 1957 to 1990, some artifacts, and photographs from local events. There are four folders that contain discharge papers of a solider, letters from soldiers, indentured servant papers, and other correspondence from the 1860s.

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CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

Box 6, Folder 6

- 1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog: http://opac.indianahistory.org/
- 2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.
- 3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.
- 4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, M 0867).
- 5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.