



From the Desk of Roundtable President Charles Holt

May 2022 Newsletter www.WWIIroundtable.com

Salutations! We have been blessed by the great programs every month, covering WWI & II as well as some Korean/Vietnam/current wars. Come and join us for a great buffet and comradery, as well. Your purchase of the meal/your buying drawing tickets and donating items for it/your membership dues and donations keep us afloat, while many other groups faded away during the COVID pandemic. Thank you and spread the word!

PS: Please let us know your interest in our June 18th Road Trip—This should be educational and lots of fun!

Charles Holt, D.O.

May 23, 2022, 7:00 PM In-Person Only

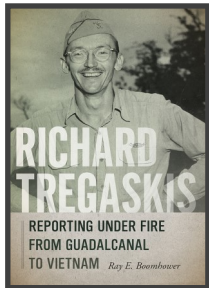
Dinner 6-7:00 at North Side Social!

7:00 "Trivia Report" by Brad Damon & 7:15 Program

Ray Boomhower

Featuring his newest book

***Richard Tregaskis: Reporting Under Fire
From Guadalcanal to Vietnam***



Our speaker is senior editor at the Indiana Historical Society Press, where he edits the popular history magazine *Traces of Indiana and Midwestern History*. Boomhower has written extensively on World War II media history, including biographies of such noted war correspondents as Scripps-Howard columnist Ernie Pyle and *Time* magazine reporter Robert L. Sherrod. Boomhower has also published biographies of fighter ace Alex Vraciu, war photographer John A. Bushemi, and Mercury astronaut Gus Grissom.

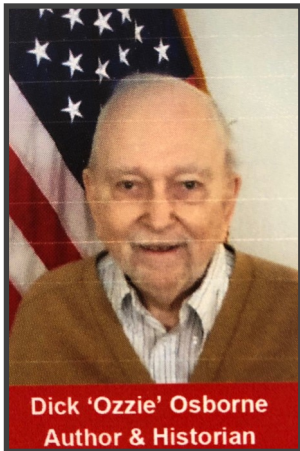
Join us in person for a great program. Books will be available for purchase.

DATES FOR 2022

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| JAN 24 | AUG 22 |
| FEB 28 | SEP 26 |
| MAR 28 | OCT 24 |
| APR 25 | NOV 28 |
| MAY 23 | DEC 5 |
| JUN 27 | |
| JUL 25 | |

Regular Monthly Dinner \$11++

Join us in person if you are able! Be sure to send your RSVP to Karl Kleinbub ASAP: knj1002@myninestar.net or phone 317-607-6948. **no later than May 16!** A head count for Northside Social is very important. Also, please have CASH in exact change \$11 ++ tip for your meal. You do not want to miss the opportunity either for the book / artifact drawing: \$5.00 per ticket. Alan Andrews always has a great selection of "gems" as does Travis Petrie with WW2 era books and more.



WW 2 TRIVIA FOR MAY 2022

- When the US occupation of Japan began the Americans commandeered the Imperial Palace Hotel which was directly across the moat from the Japanese Imperial Palace. Some of its staff spoke English and they had had a long experience of accommodating foreign guests. After this everyone in the Imperial Palace could look out of their windows at any time and see the American occupied hotel.

- In Nazi Germany during the war a popular song appeared and was frequently played. Its title was "Today we have Germany, tomorrow the world."
- At some of the social events in the White House Secret Service agents wore tuxedos.
- When the Kamikaze program began in Japan young boys, not yet of military age, were interviewed to see if they might be interested in becoming Kamikaze pilots.
- When Field Marshall Petain became the wartime premier of Vichy France he had seven stars on his uniform. Normally a Field Marshall had only five stars.
- When the US crew of the B-29 that dropped the first atomic bomb on Hiroshima they all wore sunglasses.
- When General Patton was in the automobile accident in which he was severely injured he was on his way to hunt pheasants.
- On the first Sunday after Germany surrendered there was a surge of church attendance in the US.
- When Germany surrendered in May 1945 a rumor quickly spread through New York City that a German submarine had sailed into New York Harbor flying a white flag. Upon investigation it was discovered that the vessel was a small US Navy craft on which the crew was hanging out some of its laundry to dry.

... more trivia next month

Don't forget, May 8th is the anniversary of Victory in Europe Day (V-E Day)!

Featured Speaker May 23, 2022

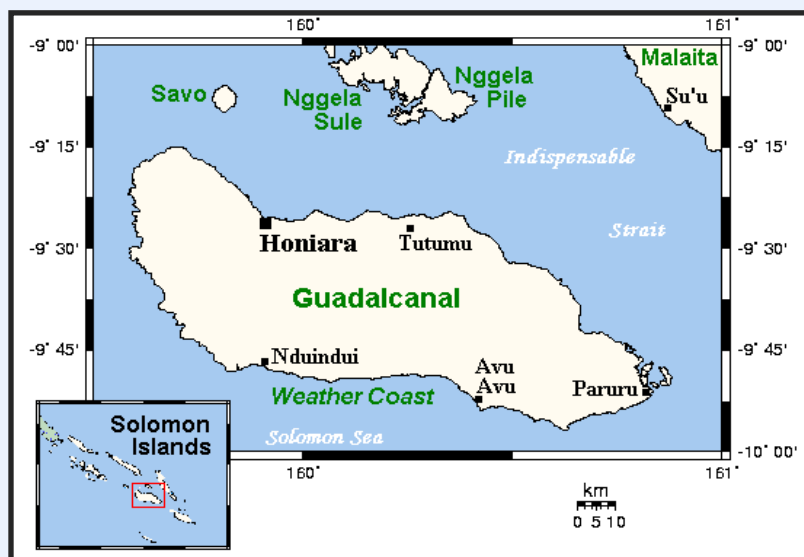
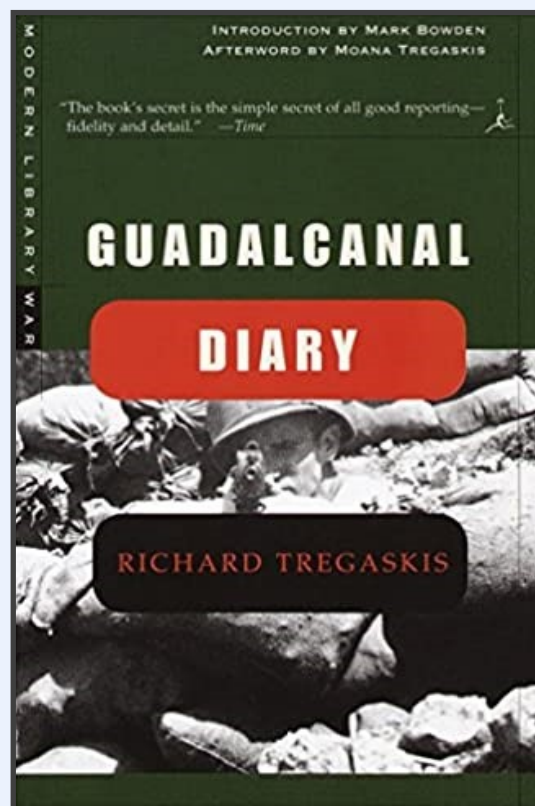
Ray Boomhower, Senior Editor Indiana Historical Society

Author/ex-journalist Ray Boomhower's riveting new biography of war correspondent Richard Tregaskis embeds the reader in the battles that Tregaskis covered. Tregaskis was the eyes and voice of the "everyman" soldier, sailor, aviator, and marine to the world. Boomhower's well-rounded presentation of the author of *Guadalcanal Diary*, *Invasion Diary*, *Vietnam Diary*, and many other best sellers of the time presents a portrait of a man of courage, sensitivity, and intensity, while very much human and flawed.

"Alongside Ernie Pyle, Richard Tregaskis was perhaps the most outstanding American war correspondent of World War II. Tregaskis remains best known today for his landmark Guadalcanal Diary, but that book covered only one small chapter of his reporting from the front lines. Ray Boomhower's excellent new biography finally does justice to Tregaskis in this deeply researched, thoughtful portrait of the man and his times." -- Richard B. Frank, author of Guadalcanal: The Definitive Account of the Landmark Battle

If you have not read this celebrated classic—it should be on the top of your list. Consider starting this Diary before the program by Ray Boomhower.

This celebrated classic gives a soldier's-eye-view of the Guadalcanal battles—crucial to World War II, the war that continues to fascinate us all, and to military history in general. Unlike some of those on Guadalcanal in the fall of 1942, Richard Tregaskis volunteered to be there. An on-location news correspondent (at the time, one of only two on Guadalcanal), he lived alongside the soldiers: sleeping on the ground—only to be awoken by air raids—eating the sometimes meager rations, and braving some of the most dangerous battlefields of World War II. He more than once narrowly escaped the enemy's fire, and so we have this incisive and exciting inside account of the groundbreaking initial landing of U.S. troops on Guadalcanal.



REMINDER: 2022 WWII Round Table Dues are Payable Now

Please pay via website or bring exact cash or check to dinner in May. At dinner sign-in, you will also be able to confirm correctness of your membership information. This will help us update our membership list. **Veteran Family \$20.00; Non-Veteran Family \$25.00; WWII Veterans FREE Membership**

JUNE 18, 2022 ROAD TRIP TO EVANSVILLE

This is advance notice of a special WWII Round Table organized Road Trip. In years past members of the Round Table have visited various museum sites around Indiana. Our mission is to feature stories related to WWII events and personages and this trip promises to be very special!

Admission fee to the museum is \$11.00 for adults, \$8 for active military or veterans, and free admission for WWII and Korean War veterans. A docent-led tour of the museum will follow our special program and lasts approximately 45 minutes depending on the group's interest.



The museum is located on Evansville Airport property, which is on the north edge of Evansville on HWY 41. Also, the LST Museum is downtown on the Ohio River and a real gem to visit.

Our WW2 RT Program will run 12:30 to 1:30 and will include:

- ◆ Veteran Marine gunner, Richard Kolodey. He served as a gunner on Grumman TBM Avenger in the South Pacific. He is very well spoken!
- ◆ Josephine, a neighbor of Kolodey's, may share her story about installing instrument panels on planes during WWII
- ◆ WW2 RT member, Linda Minton, will talk about Evansville's contribution to the war effort. She will also sell signed copies of her books *WWII Heroes: We Were Just Doing Our Jobs* and *Remembering WWII Women*
- ◆ And possibly another participant . . .

Docent-Led Tour 2:00-2:45, followed by free time in the museum until it closes at 3:00

Getting There and Additional Options

Please note that Evansville & New Harmony are in the Central Time Zone. The museum opens at 12:00 PM (1 PM Indianapolis time), so plan accordingly!

If you wish to join a car caravan to Evansville, please email Dr. Holt [caholt103@sbcglobal.net] to confirm a meeting location and time. If you plan to travel independently, please arrive at the museum no later than 12:15. The drive from Indianapolis via I-69 takes approximately 3 hours. The museum is located at 7503 Petersburg Road Evansville, IN 47725. Phone (812) 424-7461.

The Evansville Wartime Museum is focused on THE EVANSVILLE REGION'S WARTIME CONTRIBUTIONS AND HOME FRONT LEGACY For more information go to:

<https://www.evansvillewartimemuseum.org/> A video tour is also available:

<https://www.visitevansville.com/attractions/evansville-wartime-museum.>

The Round Table plans on recording this special program, but it what would be much better than to meet and hear their stories in person!

Following the special program in Evansville, our members and guests may drive back to Indianapolis or "detour" to New Harmony, Indiana, a mere thirty minutes away. See the next page for options!

JUNE 18-19 ROAD TRIP TO EVANSVILLE & NEW HARMONY, INDIANA



David Lenz Harmonist Period House



Lenz Dye Garden



Open Air Church

If you wish to “extend” your trip and have a more leisurely trip and tour southern Indiana, we suggest an afternoon or overnight visit to quaint New Harmony, Indiana which is located on the Wabash River. “Travel through this charming town and learn about two early- American Utopian societies that became a haven for scientists, scholars and others.” Historic New Harmony features period Harmonist houses, gardens, enticing shops and a selection of excellent restaurants. **Travelers may opt to self-reserve a room at the New Harmony Inn and/or book a dinner reservation at the adjoining Red Geranium Restaurant. (Additional restaurants are in the village.)** A walking tour will be available late Saturday afternoon (weather permitting) as well as entry to the Harmonist David Lenz House and dye garden, which is owned by the Colonial Dames in the State of Indiana. See: <https://visitnewharmony.com/location/david-lenz-house/> Also go to: <https://www.greatamericantreasures.org/destinations/david-lenz-house/> for contact information. Also viewable is the Harmonist Dormitory, the Labyrinth, Working Men’s Institute (1838), the Atheneum (visitor center), etc. On Sunday morning, one may elect to meditate at the Open Air Church, hike along the Wabash River, visit selected gardens, or visit other restaurants and shops in the center of town—all walkable from the New Harmony Inn. For more information, go to: <https://visitindiana.com/things-to-do/55004-new-harmony-state-historic-site> Website for Inn: <https://newharmonyinn.com/> Special reservation packages are available. If you opt to drive back to Indianapolis from New Harmony via US 41 past Vincennes, Indiana, do not miss William Henry Harrison’s home, “Grouseland”. The Mansion and Museum, a National Historic Landmark, is important for its Federal-style architecture and role in American history.

Questions about New Harmony activities? Please contact Kathryn Lerch klersch@parktudor.org or 317-251-8661 (landline) Please let me know if you wish to join this part of the road trip! Please RSVP to me by June 6, 2022 so that I know how many visitors to expect. You are responsible, however, for arranging any lodging Saturday evening. I am also happy to coordinate any Sunday morning activities.



Walkable Gardens & Wabash River view (June 2021)

