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June 2001

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The Battle Cry

June 2001

Newsletter of the Sacramento Civil War Round Table
Founded 1961, <http://sacramentocwrt.com/>



President's Message:

Bob Cameron played to a reasonably full house as he started with the 79th New York "Highlanders" and segued nicely to California's military organizational contributions then and now. Seeing him there in his BDU's made me feel a little like "boot camp days of old" since Ken Kitchen had already noticed that my hair was longer than usual. Even though this could be called a ceremonial meeting, I think Bob made a good choice in wearing BDU's rather than kilts! Thank you for a very informative presentation.

New members continue to enlist as evidenced by our May mailing list! A big Round Table welcome to Mark & Mary Aulman and to Roy Bishop. As always, we want to know you better so please work the crowd at meetings, introducing yourselves. New members are the life-blood of the Round Table.

It isn't too early to be planning on attending the 17th Annual West Coast Civil War Conference! Remember ours was the 16th Annual. It will happen in Buena Park, California, in November and will feature the Maryland Campaign – Harpers Ferry, South Mountain, and Antietam! I have been to the last three and haven't been disappointed yet! Registration forms will be available at the meeting Wednesday night.

It is past time for a dip of the Round Table colors to some dedicated Round Table workers. A special piece of hardtack to the following: (listed alphabetically)

- ◆ **Walt Bittle:** writes the minutes from each meeting among other things
- ◆ **Bernie Buenrostro:** publishes the Battle Cry each month and maintains our web site – check it out at www.sacramentocwrt.com
- ◆ **George Foxworth:** keeps the check book, memberships, etc.
- ◆ **Mary James:** informs a half dozen area news organizations of our meetings and activities each month
- ◆ **John Zasso:** the money making raffle would grind to a halt without him

Please give these key players a big thank you when you see them. Buy their coffee – take action!

Circle Wednesday, **June 27th** on your calendar for the next encampment at the Sudwerk Grill and Brewery. If you only catch a meeting now and then, this is one you don't want to miss. My instincts say it will be memorable! The program will be special – Mike Carter from the San Joaquin Civil War Round Table will be here to talk about "States Rights!" Is this what the war was fought over? Was the right to secede one of these rights? The order of the evening will be a welcome followed immediately by the program and then a brief business meeting. The raffle will be particularly juicy since it's had an extra month to marinate. I look forward to seeing you for food and drink about 6:00 p.m. and for the meeting at **7:00 p.m.**

Sincerely..... **Paul Ruud**

Next SCWRT Meeting:

The next SCWRT meeting will be on **Wednesday, June 27, 2001**, at the Sudwerk Brewery and Grill, 1375 Exposition Blvd. (Exposition Blvd and Response Way) at **7:00 p.m.** The meeting is open to the public. Members and honored guests are invited to gather for dinner and discussion at **6:00 p.m.**

The featured presentation will be on **“State’s Rights!”** by San Joaquin CWRT member Mike Carter. The evening’s presentation will immediately follow brief opening remarks. The evening will end with a business meeting and raffle.

SCWRT Speaker Schedule for 2001:

- ◆ June 27 “**State’s Rights**” by Mike Carter, San Joaquin CWRT
- ◆ July 25 “**Grierson’s Raid**” by Bill Head, San Joaquin CWRT
- ◆ Aug 29 “**General George Thomas**” by Bob Blair
- ◆ Sep 26 “**Civil War Railroads, Strategic Aspects**” by Lee Meredith
- ◆ Oct 24 “**Should the Other Guy Have Gotten the Job?**” by Jim Stanbery
- ◆ Nov 28 <Open>

Blue, Gray & Green

The White House, eager to find green programs it can support, is looking over a \$15 million funding request by the national Civil War Preservation Trust to buy threatened battlefields like those at Shiloh, Tennessee, and Brandy Station, Virginia. The 34,000 member group has saved more than 3,600 acres of historical sites in three years and is promising to match the Fed’s \$15 million with private donations. The bid has Senate support, but the House didn’t put funds in initial budget votes. All sides feel President Bush’s support would cement the deal and allow him to crow about his preservation credentials. *US News & World Report, June 25, 2001.*

Sacramento Civil War Round Table Meeting Agenda June 27, 2001

1. Call to Order
 - This day during the Civil War
 - Introduction of guests and new members
2. Program
 - “States Rights” by Mike Carter, San Joaquin CWRT
3. Reports
 - approval of minutes
 - President
 - treasurer – George Foxworth
 - media – Dudley Albrecht
 - museum – Ken Kitchen
 - others
4. Business
5. Upcoming meetings:
 - Next regular meeting: July 25th, here at Sudwerk – program by Bill Head of San Joaquin CWRT on “*Grierson’s Raid*”.
 - Next board meeting: Tuesday, July 10 @ 1130 AM, Carrows at 28th and J Streets in Sacramento
 - Saturday SCWRT breakfast: 9:30 AM (new time) on Saturday, July 14th, at Lyons Restaurant at Watt Ave. & El Camino. Contact Bernie Buenrostro (362-9837) for details.



***Book Review by SCWRT Member,
Walt Bittle***

“George B. McClellan and Civil War History – In the Shadow of Grant and Sherman” by Thomas J. Rowland. *The Kent State University Press (1998)*

I was pleasantly surprised by this completely new treatment of George B. McClellan’s contribution to the Civil War. Mr. Rowland has done a masterful job of balancing McClellan’s shortcomings with his successes.

McClellan’s actions, writings and military campaigns have been studied in minute detail. Some have even tried to psychoanalyze his ego and state of mind – by extremely long distance. Many authors have either vilified McClellan for his failures and/or downplayed his contribution completely.

Mr. Rowland refuses to accept this portrayal. Using a variety of sources and approaches, the author compares and contrasts McClellan with his peers – and, most importantly, with the time in which he lived. Mr. Rowland does not deny McClellan’s over-active ego and his military failures, but he does balance these against the egos and failures of many others, especially Sherman and Grant – who are often portrayed as faultless heroes.

Fort Tejon State Historic Park:

<http://www.forttejon.org/>

(On Interstate 5 off the Grapevine summit)

Admission to Fort Tejon State historic Park is \$5 for adults and \$3 for kids. Walt Bittle compiled the following schedule:

- ◆ July 4 Fort Tejon 4th of July of 1856
- ◆ Jul 15 Fort Tejon Civil War Reenactments
- ◆ Aug 5 Dragoon Era at Fort Tejon
- ◆ Aug 19 Fort Tejon Civil War Reenactments
- ◆ Sep 16 Fort Tejon Civil War Reenactments
- ◆ Oct 7 Dragoon Era at Fort Tejon
- ◆ Oct. 21 Fort Tejon Civil War Reenactments
- ◆ Nov. 3 Candlelight Tours at Fort Tejon
- ◆ Dec. 2 Dragoon Era at Fort Tejon

***Irwin McDowell
1818-1885***

<http://www.on-the-square.com/benscivilwar/generals/imcdowell.htm>



McDowell was another of several Union generals who were fine administrative officers but ineffectual in the field and thus saw their careers tainted by the war. Ohio born and a West Point graduate, McDowell had a career typical of an army officer of his time, including service in the Mexican War. By the time the Civil War

broke out, he was well regarded by members of the new Republican administration, so in May 1861 he was given the most crucial command, that of the Army of the Potomac and the Department of Northeastern Virginia. As a very meticulous administrator, McDowell knew that the Union troops were not that ready for battle when they met the Confederates at First Bull Run, so he accepted the loss, but the government and public in the North were not so detached and McDowell was replaced in his top command by General McClellan and demoted to head a division. In the ensuing months, McDowell was shifted from one command to another; by the Second Bull Run campaign in August 1862 he was in command of the III Corps, Army of Virginia, and although the Union forces were generally beaten, McDowell was particularly singled out for his failures and was removed from command. Although he demanded an official inquiry and was eventually exonerated, he was never given another field command. He retired from the army in 1882, and spent his last years in San Francisco. Totally dedicated, with no interest in political or popular considerations, McDowell simply lacked the inspirational and decisive qualities required of a leader at a certain point in history.

17th Annual West Coast Civil War Round Table Conference
Hosted by the Civil War Round Table of Orange Co., Calif.
and sponsored by Civil War Round Table Associates, Little Rock, Arkansas

***"CONFEDERATE TIDE RISING: THE 1862 MARYLAND CAMPAIGN"
HARPERS FERRY, SOUTH MOUNTAIN, AND ANTIETAM***

Date: November, 9, 10, 11, 2001

Place: Radisson Resort Knott's Berry Farm
7675 Crescent Avenue
Buena Park, California 90620

Conference Fees: Before Oct. 5th - \$155 for all three days including four meals.
After Oct. 5th \$175

SPEAKERS:

Brian Pohanka - Historian
Dr. Joseph Harsh - Educator / Historian / author of three books of the Maryland Campaign
Dr. Richard Rollins - Historian / Publisher
Don McCue - Director of the Lincoln Memorial Shrine
George Otott - Historian
Jerry Russell - Civil War Table Associates
Musical entertainment provided by the Cottonwood String Band

Featuring after lunch on Saturday (Nov. 10) a walking tour of Fairhaven Memorial Park in Santa Ana of the Antietam veterans buried there. Conducted by Civil War researcher Paul Gillette and Fairhaven administrator Rev. Lou Carlson. A program on battlefield preservation will follow in the Mausoleum given by Brian Pohanka.

Hotel Reservation: Call hotel direct.

Ask for special conference rate of \$99.00 + tax a night double or single occupancy.
(800) 333-3333 or (714) 995-1111

checkout their website at: www.radisson.com/buenaparkca

Registration check-in between 3-5 PM on Friday Nov. 9th. Social Hour from
5:00 - 6:00. Banquet follows at 6:00 PM.

Make Checks payable to: West Coast Civil War Round Table Conference (WCCWRTC)

Send to: Bill Haley - 1510 Backbay Circle, Huntington Beach, Ca. 92648

Information contacts:

Anna Howland (714) 826-5920 or email: boomtownrat4cw@aol.com

Maryann Kaenig (714) 539-0555 or email: yankeeangel5@cs.com

Paul Gillette (714) 638-2024 or e-mail: civilpaul@earthlink.com

***American Battlefield Protection Program --
National Park Service***

Tanya Gossett – Planner, NPS

The American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) is pleased to announce its 2001 battlefield preservation grant awards. The ABPP received 55 eligible applications and awarded 15 grants for battlefield preservation projects in 2001. Total grant funding was \$368,030.

Please see our web site at <http://www2.cr.nps.gov/abpp/01grantees.htm> for a list of this year's recipients.

The ABPP works to protect significant battle sites associated with wars fought on American soil. The program provides assistance to state, local, and tribal governments and private organizations, for battlefield preservation and management projects. The ABPP grants assist local battlefield stewards effectively protect historic resources in their communities. For more information about ABPP grants, please contact Glenn Williams at 202-343-9563 or glenn_williams@nps.gov. (News release provided by Jerry Russell, CW Associates.)

***Press Release: Preservation Trust Urges
Tennessee DOT to Reject Interchange
Plan at Stones River***

(Washington, D.C.) -- In a letter to the Tennessee Department of Transportation, the Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT) urged that agency to reject a proposal for an I-24 highway interchange at Stones River National Battlefield. CWPT argues that the interchange plan, coupled with the anticipated widening of Manson Pike, could irrevocably damage the historic battlefield.

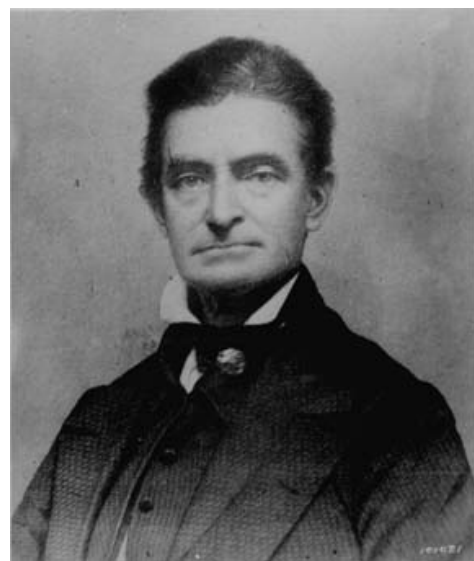
“Much of Stones River battlefield has already been lost or fragmented by development,” writes CWPT President James Lighthizer in his June 4 letter. “The addition of an interchange would destroy privately held battlefield land and severely compromise the small portion of this national treasure that is currently protected by the National Park Service”

Highway interchanges are among the most serious threats to America's remaining Civil War battlefields. Not only will the proposed I-24 interchange serve as a magnet for sprawl, but the construction and widening process itself will alter hundreds of acres of battlefield beyond – recognition. If the interchange plan is implemented, hallowed ground will likely be replaced by strip malls and fast food restaurants.

Earlier this year, CWPT identified Stones River as one of the ten most endangered battlefields in the United States. The battlefield earned this dubious distinction because of the threat posed by the I-24 interchange plan.

Stones River was the scene of a bloody, three-day struggle that was fought outside Murfreesboro, Tenn. From Dec. 31, 1862 through Jan. 2, 1863. The battle culminated with a heroic but doomed assault by Confederate forces under major General John C. Breckinridge. The charge is often compared with the more famous charge of Pickett's men on the third day of Gettysburg.

With 35,000 members, CWPT is the largest non-profit battlefield preservation organization in the United States. Its mission is to preserve our nation's endangered Civil War battlefields and to promote appreciation of these hallowed grounds through education and heritage tourism.



John Brown

MINUTES
SACRAMENTO CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE
WEDNESDAY, MAY 30, 2001
Sudwerk Restaurant, 1375 Exposition Boulevard, Sacramento

ATTENDANCE – 37

MEMBERS – 33

Paul Ruud, President	Bernie Buenrostro	Don Hayden	Maurice Mitchell
Ardith Cnota, Vice Pres.	James Caldwell	Bob Junell	Genevieve Mooney
George Foxworth, Treas.	Bob Cameron	Janet Junell	Keith Roberts
Walt Bittle, Secretary	Mitch Cnota	Ken Kitchen	Don Ryan
Dudley Albrecht	Bill Donaldson	Russ Knauer	Robert Williams
Jim Armstrong	Lydia Donaldson	Dennis Kohlman	John Zasso
Fred Bohmfalk	Alan Geiken	Al McKim	
Carol Breiter	Kristopher Gibson	Jim Middleton	
Steve Breiter	Jim Harper	Betty Mitchell	

GUESTS – 4

Art German
Phoebe German
Darlyne Venneri
George Venneri

1. The meeting was called to order by President Ruud, who reviewed this day in history. New members and guests were introduced and welcomed. The April minutes were approved as printed, with the exception of moving Dennis Kohlman from guest to member. Treasurer Foxworth reported a balance of \$1953.63, with \$39 being raised in the last raffle.
2. Program – Bob Cameron started with the mutiny of the 79th New York over uniforms, and moved through the years to compare and contrast militia and National Guard – then and now. Bob showed slides and distributed photographs taken from the Internet. Lots of discussion followed. Thanks for your time, energy, and commitment, Bob.
3. Committee/Activity Reports
 - a. Dudley Albrecht was disappointed with *Pearl Harbor*, but had high hopes for the new movie about the Indian Code Talkers in World War II.
 - b. Ken Kitchen reported on the ceremony and parade preceding the Jazz Festival. He was most proud of our participation in dedicating a new US stamp honoring American Veterans.
 - c. Keith Roberts displayed his Korean Service Medal, and explained how to make application to the South Korean Government.
 - d. Paul Ruud and Mitch and Ardith Cnota gave summaries of their recent travels. Mitch and Ardith presented two flags to the Round table - a 34 star Union flag and the Confederate Stars and Bars.
4. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 8:40, with the raffle being postponed to the June meeting.

Walt Bittle
Secretary

Civil War Skirmish Association (http://www.calweb.com/~arline/Events.html)			
Date	Event	Hosted By	Location
July	No Skirmish	--	--
August 18-19	Regional Skirmish	22 nd Tenn/Cherokee	Camp Murphy
September 29-30	Regional Skirmish	6 th Penn	Angeles Shooting Rnge
October 20-21	Regional Skirmish	Palmetto SS 5 th Texas	Camp Sixbits
November 17-18	Regional Skirmish	2 nd Texas & F. Troop	Camp Murphy
December 2001	Range Clean-Up	--	--
American Civil War Association Schedule Http://www.angelfire.com/ca5/acwa/sched.html			
Date	Location	Description	
July 21-22	Duncan Mill, Gurneville	CHAS event featuring ACWA, RACW & NCWA	
August 25-26	Casa De Fruta, Gilroy	Weekend event and encampment	
Sept. 15-16	Ione, CA	Weekend event and encampment	
Oct. 20-21	Los Banos, CA	Weekend event and encampment	
November	Benicia, CA	ACWA Ball & Banquet at Clock Tower	
Reenactors of the American Civil War Http://www.home.inreach.com/mavgw/racwschedule.htm			
Date	Event	Location	
July 20-21	Civil War Days Event	McCloud River RR, McCloud, CA	
August 11-12	Civil War Days Event	Chester, CA	
Sep. 8-9	Civil War Days Event	Fortuna, CA	
Oct. 20-21	Civil War Days Event	Butte Community College, Pentz, CA	
National Civil War Association http://www.ncwa.org			
Date	Event	Location	
July 21-22	Reenactment	Guernville, Duncan Mills	
October 6-7	Reenactment	Fresno, Kearney Park	
November 3-4	Reenactment	Vacaville, Lagoon Valley Park	

The Battle Cry Editor – This publication is a monthly newsletter (except November/December) of the Sacramento CWRT. Please submit items to me for publication by the 12th of each month at the address listed below. I can receive submissions over the phone at: (916) 362-9837 or through e-mail: bernxbb@ix.netcom.com . Check web site <http://www.sacramentocwrt.org/> for past newsletter editions.

Bernardo Buenrostro, Editor, “The Battle Cry”



[Carol Breiter’s “Jonny ‘N Billy” will appear in next issue]

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