



Volume 41, No. 3
March 2001

**SCWRT Officers
 for 2001:**

Paul Ruud, President
 (530) 886-8806
pruud1@quiknet.com

Ardith Cnota, Vice-President
 (916) 422-9667
cnote@calweb.com

Walt Bittle, Secretary
 (916) 722-2552
waltb50@aol.com

George Foxworth, Treasurer
 (916) 362-0178

Mitch Cnota,
 Member-at-Large
 (916) 422-9667
cnote@calweb.com

Bernardo Buenrostro
 Acting Newsletter Editor &
 Webmaster
 (916) 362-9837
bernxbb@ix.netcom.com



Table of Contents

President's Message	1
Next Meeting	2
Civil War Museum	2
Disposition of Proceeds	2
Mormon Research	3
Drum Barracks	3
Meeting Minutes	4
Re-enactor Schedule	5

The Battle Cry

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



President's Message:

Let me begin by thanking everyone who attended the meeting on February 28th. I know that you join me in acknowledging a marvelous presentation by SCWRT member, Bob McGill. The Battle of the Crater truly came alive for us! It appears that political decisions have frustrated military progress way before Vietnam, like in 1864 at the aforementioned battle. We can only imagine how many hours Bob has devoted to researching and preparing his presentation. Home cooking always tastes good!

We will be electing our second member-at-large at the **March 28th** meeting. Nominations will be open before the election so if you have a candidate, be prepared to place this person's name in nomination. I suggest that you discuss the nomination with the person in advance to avoid surprises.

There are some initiatives gathering steam behind the scenes. Mitch Cnota is chairing the Membership Committee! His goal is to energize our membership even more by rounding up Civil War buffs and then introducing them to our group. Mitch would welcome any help you can provide. Russ Knauer is organizing a Civil War discussion group. This group would gather over food and drink to discuss a particular topic, maybe Gettysburg. Things such as the 3rd day (Pickett's charge) or what if Jeb Stuart would have been available to Lee? What if Meade would have pursued? A meeting time and formats will be discussed and disseminated – see Russ to be a charter member of this group. Thanks to both Mitch and Russ.

An informational item – the 18th Annual West Coast Civil War Conference will be hosted by the San Joaquin CWRT in **November of 2002**. The conference will be at the DoubleTree Hotel in Fresno and feature the Atlanta Campaign. Next year's conference will be hosted by the Long Beach CWRT, held at the hotel adjacent to Knott's Berry Farm and feature the Battle of Antietam.

Remember the Gibson Ranch reenactment on **April 27-29**. I particularly need volunteers for Friday to provide student group escorts. Please see me to get your name on the list. I look forward to seeing you on the 28th – come early and stay late. Fred Bohmfalk will be charming us with the personal side of General William Tecumseh Sherman.

Sincerely,

Paul Ruud

Next Meeting:

The next SCWRT meeting will be on **Wednesday, March 28, 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.**

After opening remarks, the introduction of guests and new members, and a brief business meeting, SCWRT member Fred Bohmfalk will give a presentation on **“General William Tecumseh Sherman”**. A raffle will follow the program.

Civil War Museum:

(The following article was taken from the Los Angeles Times which was printed in the March 11th Issue of the Sacramento Bee.)

Harrisburg, Pa. – The nation’s largest Civil War museum has opened in Harrisburg, Pa., billed as the first to objectively tell the whole North/South story under one roof.

“It is unique in that we are treating both sides of the conflict, the Union and Confederate perspective, without undue prejudice to either view,” said director of development Bill Urick.

“We present the facts and allow the visitor to reach some independent conclusions. We’re trying to reach visitors on a couple of different levels: the intellectual level, through stunning artifacts, and the emotional level, by presenting the conflict from a humanistic perspective that in addition to facts and figures presents the cost of the conflict in human lives and broken families and disruptions and so on.”

Another unusual aspect of the new National Civil War Museum, which is about 45 minutes from Gettysburg National Military Park, is its treatment of slavery – “dealing up front with it like it was, horrible and tragic,” Urick said.

As visitors go through the galleries they meet “some composite folks” and find themselves in the middle of battle re-creations, surrounded by sights and sounds that include National Park Service tutorials and snippets of footage from films such as “Gettysburg.”

The museum’s 12,000 artifacts were collected over 10 years by the city’s history-buff-in-chief, Mayor Stephen R. Reed. The items, which will be displayed 900 to 1,000 at a time in continually – changing exhibits, include the gauntlet Stonewall Jackson was wearing when he was shot and Abraham Lincoln’s hatbox from the 1860 campaign.

Also planned are outdoor living-history and re-enactment activities on adjacent land in the city’s hilltop Reservoir Park.

There are, naturally, critics. One Confederate organization questioned the objectivity of the museum because its grand opening was on Lincoln’s birthday.

For more information about the National Civil War Museum: (717) 260-1861 or visit the site www.nationalcivilwarmuseum.org . General admission to the museum is \$7.

Disposition of Shiloh Conference Proceeds:

Interested SCWRT members met on March 6, 2001, as advertised in “The Battle Cry”, to learn what the net proceeds were from Shiloh Conference and to vote on how the funds will be distributed for Civil War related historical purposes.

A large number of members attended the meeting that was conducted by Fred Bohmfalk. The results will be communicated to the SCWRT membership at the next SCWRT meeting.

Mormons' Genealogical Research on African Americans:

(Source: Sacramento Bee, March 6th)

While the Mormon Church pursues genealogy as a sacred mission, they have provided valuable research assistance to millions who have no connection to their church.

Most recently, the Mormon Church has produced a valuable new research tool that will assist African Americans search for their ancestors.

The Mormons have produced and released a CD-ROM containing information on nearly 500,000 freed slaves who were depositors in the Freedman's Bank, a federally chartered institution used exclusively by ex-slaves in the post Civil War era.

The source of the information for the CD-ROM consisted of handwritten deposit slips. Besides names and amounts of deposits, the slips list the freedman's occupation; wife's and children's names; former owner; residence; military history; and even skin shade.

Until now, the data were only available in the National Archives in an unorganized mass of unalphabetized paper records. Understandably, it took the Mormon Church 11 years to organize the database!

If anyone knows how this CD-ROM can be obtained please let the newsletter editor know so that this information can be passed on to interested SCWRT members in the next "Battle Cry".



Drum Barracks Civil War Museum:

A facility of the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks -- The following information was taken from a recent Press Release.

Two Upcoming Drum Barracks Fundraising Events

Event No. 1:

Collector's Close-up

Sat., Mar. 31st

4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Admission: \$25

Event No. 2:

Weekend Walkthrough

Saturday & Sunday

Mar. 31st & Apr. 1st

11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., ea. Day

Admission: \$5

Members of the West Coast Civil War Collectors will present a wonderful array of artifacts from their personal collections at the Drum Barracks as a fundraiser for the Museum. Reservations for the "Close-up" are appreciated but not required.

Attendees will enjoy music of the Civil War era and refreshments while viewing this special exhibition and will have the opportunity to discuss the practice of collecting and the history of the artifacts with these knowledgeable collectors. The following will be included:

- ◆ Rare and common Civil War weapons – muskets, carbines, swords and sidearms
- ◆ Exhibit of artifacts honoring the California companies that fought for the Union w/the Second Massachusetts Cavalry
- ◆ A room dedicated to the common soldier w/original period artifacts from the march and in camp
- ◆ A collection of Civil War musical instruments and live music
- ◆ A "hands-on" room w/real weapons and artifacts
- ◆ Exhibits of original uniforms, weapons and accoutrements (gear) of Infantry, Cavalry and Artillery

For additional information contact the Museum at 1052 Banning Blvd., Wilmington, CA 90744, (310) 548-7509 or visit their web site:

<http://www.cityofla.org/RAP/dos/museums/drum.htm>

MINUTES
SACRAMENTO CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2001
 Sudwerk Restaurant, 1375 Exposition Boulevard, Sacramento

ATTENDANCE – 40

MEMBERS – 36

Paul Ruud, Pres. Lynn Buenrostro
 Ardith Cnota, V. P. Mitch Cnota
 George Foxworth, Treas. Jon Courtway
 Walt Bittle, Sec. Carol Dickson
 Dudley Albrecht James Dickson
 Jim Armstrong Bill Donaldson
 Fred Bohmfalk Lydia Donaldson
 Carol Breiter Alan Geiken
 Bernie Buenrostro Don Hayden

Ken Kitchen
 Marjorie Knauer
 Russ Knauer
 Earl Martin
 Virginia Martin
 Bob McGill
 Jim Middleton
 Herb Milikien
 Maurice Mitchell

GUESTS – 4

Laura Getman
 Dean Harvey
 Albert McKim
 Tyler Renvill

1. The meeting was called to order by President Ruud, who reviewed this day in history. He also recommended *The Empire Express* by David Bain. New members and guests were introduced and welcomed. The January minutes were approved as printed. Treasurer Foxworth reported a balance of \$1199.65, and reported that he had submitted our non-profit status tax returns.

2. Committee/Activity Reports

- a. Members were reminded about the Civil War reenactment returning to Gibson Ranch for the third year. Volunteers will be needed for Friday's (April 27) school presentation and for manning our booth. (Saturday and Sunday, April 28 and 29)
- b. Dudley Albrecht was disappointed with the History Channel's presentation of *The Unfinished Civil War*. He did expect good things from *Enemy at The Gates* and *Pearl Harbor*.
- c. Bill Donaldson brought some Civil War-era hats to share.
- d. Ken Kitchen reminded members that the Military Museum is always looking for donations, and he announced another militaria show for April 29.
- e. Fred Bohmfalk reminded members about the meeting to disburse the funds generated by November's conference – March 6th at 7:00 pm at the Plaza Hof Brau.
- f. Members were reminded that the Civil War Battlegrounds Tour scheduled for March 29 through April 6 is in danger of being cancelled due to lack of participation.
- g. Bernie Buenrostro was commended for how well he has been balancing the load placed on him lately – functioning as Member-At-Large, Web Master, and Acting Newsletter Editor. Kudos!
- h. Bob McGill read the poem *Killed at The Ford* by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.

3. New/Old Business

- a. Mitch Cnota was elected to replace Bernie Buenrostro on the Board as Member-At-Large.
- b. Three separate motions were presented by the Board for a vote: 1) To add a second Member-At-Large as a voting member of the Board, 2) To add the Web Master as a voting member of the Board, and 3) To increase the dues to \$20 effective for 2002 membership year. All three motions passed as presented, and the Bylaws will be amended to reflect the changes.

4. Program – Bob McGill set a new benchmark with his well-researched multi-media presentation on *The Battle of the Crater*. Using photographs, diagrams, and selected quotes from participants, Bob led us up to, into, and through the incident – utilizing his laptop computer and PowerPoint. Now we know what the Crater looked and felt like to those who were there. Thanks for an excellent presentation, Bob!

5. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 8:45. The raffle was postponed to March.

Walt Bittle
 Secretary

Civil War Skirmish Association (http://www.calweb.com/~arline/Events.html)			
Date	Event	Hosted By	Location
March 17-18, 2001	Regional Skirmish	2 nd Texas	Camp Murphy
April 21-22, 2001	Regional Skirmish	F troop	Camp Sixbits
May 19-20, 2001	Regional Skirmish	3 rd Mo.	Camp Murphy
June 25-30, 2001	Nationals	CWSA	Bloomfield, Iowa
July 2001	No Skirmish	--	--
August 18-19, 2001	Regional Skirmish	22 nd Tenn/Cherokee	Camp Murphy
September 29-30, 2001	Regional Skirmish	6 th Penn	Angeles Shooting Rnge
October 20-21, 2001	Regional Skirmish	Palmetto SS 5 th Texas	Camp Sixbits
November 17-18, 2001	Regional Skirmish	2 nd Texas & F. Troop	Camp Murphy
December 2001	Range Clean-Up	--	--

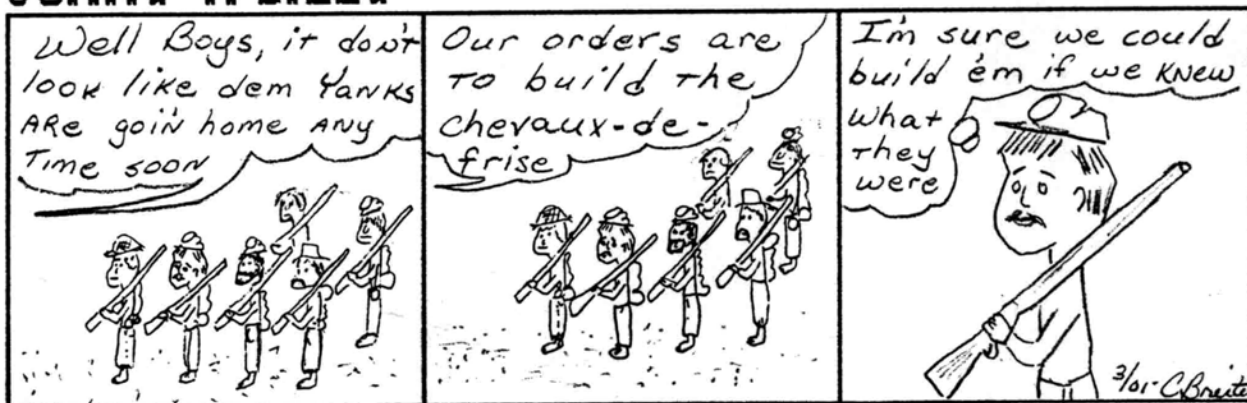
American Civil War Association Schedule for 2001 (Http://www.angelfire.com/ca5/acwa/sched.html)		
Date	Location	Description
March 24-25	Knights Ferry, CA	Weekend event and encampment
April 21-22	Healdsburg, CA	Weekend event and encampment
May 24-25	Roaring Camp, Felton CA	Living History to school children
June	Pollock Pines	TBD
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
March 24-25, 2001	RACW Annual Spring Tactical	Donnelley Ranch, Newville, CA (closed to the public)
April 21-22, 2001	Woodsons Rridge Civil War Days Event	Woodsons Bridge State Recreation Area, Corning, CA
May 5-6, 2001	Annual Civil War Days Event	Anderson River Park, Anderson, CA
May 18, 2001	Civil War Days Educational Event	Bidwell Junior High School, Chico, CA
June9-10, 2001	Volunteer Event, RACW at the NCWV Carson City Rendezvous Event	Carson City, Nevada
July 20-21, 2001	Civil War Days Event	McCloud River RR, McCloud, CA
August 11-12, 2001	Civil War Days Event	Chester, CA
Sep. 8-9, 2001	Civil War Days Event	Fortuna, CA
Oct. 20-21, 2001	Civil War Days Event	Butte Community College, Pentz, CA

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"

JONNY 'N BILLY



Sacramento Civil War Round Table
c/o Bernardo Buenrostro
9444 Mirandy Drive
Sacramento, CA 95826

