



**Volume 56, No 7  
July, 2016**

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# Battle Cry

Founded 1961,  
Newsletter of the Sacramento Civil War Round Table  
P.O. BOX 254702  
Sacramento, CA 95865-4702  
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## President's Message

I regret that I will be out of town for our next meetings on the thirteenth of July and will miss Ted Savas's talk on the last of the ironclad battles. Ted is a long time contributor to our state-wide round tables and Annual Conferences having been instrumental in the founding of the South Bay Civil War Round Table and the Savas-Beatie LLC Publishing Firm as well as the source of fascinating presentations. I highly recommend this for those who have yet to hear Ted and don't need to for those who have.

I would like to remind our members that the Annual Conference this year will be in Costa Mesa at the end of October and early bird prices are announced in their flyer which was on our website and published in last month's Battle Cry. These Conferences are well attended and feature outstanding speakers and offer us a chance to get to know our colleagues throughout the state.

I have asked Paul Ruud to preside over the next board meeting and the evening meeting. He served as president so many years that he makes it look easy. We are all so grateful that he is here for us and are looking forward to another successful November Conference in Sacramento in 2017.

**Don Hayden, Vice President**

**MINUTES**  
**SACRAMENTO CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE**  
**Wednesday, June 8, 2016**  
**HOF BRAU RESTAURANT, 2500 WATT AVENUE, SACRAMENTO**

**ATTENDANCE – 23**

**MEMBERS – 18:** Don Hayden, Vice President, George W. Foxworth, Treasurer, Barbara Leone, Secretary, Silver Williams, Program Director, Roy Bishop, Monica Foxworth, Arnd Gartner, Alan Geiken, Ron Grove, Bob Hanley, Chris Highsmith, Arnold Kunst, Bernard Quinn, John Rice, Nicholas Scivoletto, Roxanne Spizzirri, Raymond Valdez, John Zasso.

**GUESTS – 5:** Josh Barnes, Esther Boeck, Dr. Tad Smith, Larry Spizzirri, Richard Spizzirri.

1. The meeting was called to order by Don Hayden at 7:00 PM. He led the pledge and John Zasso conducted the raffle. Don introduced our guest, Dr. Tad Smith, who is a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, a graduate of Virginia Tech, and holds a Doctorate in Agricultural Science. His topic was “Lucy Pickens: Queen of the Confederacy.”
2. Lucy Holcombe was born in 1832 in Tennessee. Her mother wanted her daughters to have a broader education than could be found in the South and sent them to a Quaker school in Pennsylvania. They were exposed to different studies such as Suffrage, Slavery, and the War in Mexico. Her mother believed their slaves should be taught to read and write even though it was illegal.
3. Due to her father's debts, they moved to the independent country of Texas and built their Wyalucing Plantation. They were very generous to their neighbors and guests in keeping with the Southern and pioneer spirit. In addition, they provided religious services to their slaves every Sunday night. Lucy was interested in politics and went to Jackson, Mississippi to hear debates in the legislature. She was flirtatious, beautiful, and had many suitors that she often ignored. She became involved in the government of MS and met Governor Quitman. He was involved in an illegal venture to occupy Cuba and have Cuba join the Union as a slave state. General Narcisco Lopez de Urriola led two invasions; both failed. The second resulted in the execution of 50 prisoners, including Lopez, by the Spanish. In order to free another 50 prisoners, President Millard Fillmore bargained successfully with the Spanish Crown. Under a pseudonym, Lucy wrote a book about the events, “The Free Flag of Cuba.”
4. Lucy met Francis Pickens at White Sulphur Springs, Virginia in 1858. He was smitten and proposed after one day. She required him to get an interesting post abroad before she would consider him. Pickens immediately petitioned President James Buchanan and was appointed Ambassador to Russia. Lucy accepted him and they quickly married at her family home in Marshall, TX. Lucy received the slave, Lucinda, who was about the same age as Lucy, as a wedding gift. They became friends with a very close life-long bond. Lucinda went with Lucy to Russia.
5. While in Russia, Lucy gave birth to a daughter in 1859 at the Royal Winter Palace. Lucy and Douschka (little darling) spent considerable time at the Palace. There was speculation as to who the father really was since Czar Alexander II was infatuated with Lucy. He gave Lucy a diamond every month for the child and wrote Lucy every year until his assassination in 1881. In October 1860, the Pickens returned to the United States. While in Washington, Pickens promised President Buchanan that South Carolina wouldn't secede until after the “hostile” government of Lincoln was installed. Protesting he did not want the Governorship of SC, Pickens accepted it on December 17, 1860. Three days later, SC seceded and Pickens betrayed Buchanan. It is noted Pickens did not sign the document declaring secession.
6. On January 9, 1860, cadets at the Citadel fired warning shots at the Union ship Star of the West. Dr. Smith stated that this was the actual start of the War. On April 2, 1860, Fort Sumter was shelled. Lucy sold some of her Russian jewels to outfit a Unit named The Lucy Holcombe Legion. By December 1862, Pickens two-year term as Governor ended and Lucy lived at Edgewood, Pickens home. The house and Lucy provided sustenance for those who had no other place to go. In 1869, Pickens died leaving Lucy in poor health and in pain. Doushka died when she was 34 leaving several children. Lucy was devastated by her death. Lucy helped to put a memorial to true Confederate veterans at Edgefield. She died on August 8, 1899. Three days later, Lucinda died. Lucy had firm beliefs about the South, her family, including slaves and the War. She held them until her death.
7. Dr. Smith's interest in Lucy Pickens started with his interest in Southern currency. Lucy Pickens appears on the 1862 \$1 note and on the \$100 notes issued in 1862-1864. In Europe, only royalty appeared on money and thus the term “Queen of the Confederacy” initially came into use.
8. The next Board Meeting will be Wednesday, July 13, 2016, 10 AM at Brookfield's, Madison Avenue.

**Barbara Leone, Secretary**

**Treasurer's Report**

The cash balance following the June 8th meeting was \$5,239.96. Thanks to John Zasso, other members, and guests, the raffle brought in \$43.00.

**George W. Foxworth, Treasurer**

# Coming Programs for 2016

Date	Speaker	Topic
July 13th	Ted Savas	"Last Clash of the Ironclads: The Desperate Battle of Trent's Reach, January 23 – 25, 1865"
August 10th	Bob Bundy	"The Stonewall Jackson – A.P. Hill Feud"
September 14th	Tim & Ginny Karlberg	"Do You Know More Than a 5 <sup>th</sup> Grader About the Civil War?"
October 12th	Sherri Patton	"Civil War Diplomacy"
November 9th	Carolyn Martin	"Women in the Civil War"
December 14th	Silver N. Williams	"The Rebel and the Rose—and The Lost Confederate Gold"

## **NEWSLETTER CIVIL WAR ARTICLES**

Civil War articles/book reviews are welcome. The submission deadline is the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month for that month's **Battle Cry**. However, you can submit articles at anytime. Please submit your items in Microsoft Word or regular email to:

[gwfoxworth@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gwfoxworth@sbcglobal.net)

Do not submit scanned files since I may need to edit files to combine the **Battle Cry**.

The **Battle Cry** is the monthly newsletter of the Sacramento CWRT. Submissions are subject to availability of space and size limitations. Submissions do not necessarily reflect the views of the organization or the Editor. The official address of this organization is: Sacramento Civil War Round Table, Post Office Box 254702, Sacramento, CA 95865-4702. <http://www.sacramentocwrt.org> is the web site address. Check the web for past newsletter editions and information about the group.

# CHICAGO CONVENTION MAY 1860

from Carl Sandburg's "*Abraham Lincoln: The Prairie Years and The War Years,*" One volume edition, Harcourt-Brace, 1954

Judd [Chairman of the State Central Committee] and others had made a special point of getting the Convention for Chicago. They told the National Committee that holding the Convention in an eastern city would "run a big chance of losing the West." Chicago had become a symbol for audacity, enterprise, and onward stride. Its population of 29,000 in 1850 had become 80,000 in 1855, and 109,000 in 1860; it betokened the "great Northwest" that had wrought transformations in American national politics. Its trade in hogs, cattle, wheat, corn, farm machinery, and the associated finance and transportation, made it the depot and crossroads for thousand-mile prairies. Out of it ran 15 railroad trains a day; on May 16, 1860, they had brought an estimated 40,000 strangers and 500 delegates to the Convention. At the corner of Lake and Market Streets the Sauganash Hotel had been torn down and a huge rambling lumber structure to hold 10,000 people, had been put up and named the Wigwam. Chicago girls and women, with the help of young men, had made the big barnlike interior gay and brilliant with flags, bunting and streamers of red, white and blue.

From the Midwest states, people swarmed into Chicago, proud and curious about the first great National Convention to be held so far west. New York had sent a thousand to shout and cheer for Seward; among them was Tom Hyer, the champion heavyweight prize fighter. Pennsylvania sent 1,500 marchers to see the big show and help Pennsylvania. A Wisconsin delegate had to register at a cheap hotel where, after inspecting the bed, as he told it. "I spent the rest of the night in a chair, as sure as my name is Carl Schurz." Processions with brass bands and bright nobby uniforms marched, cheering candidates. During the three days of the Convention, the crowd outside the Wigwam was two and three times the size of the one inside; relays of orators made speeches. A thousand saloons had customers making holiday and hullabaloo. Mark Delahay wrote two rambling, boozy letters to Lincoln, reporting in his way that the confusion was confounding.

Delegate Knapp [Nathan M. Knapp of Winchester, Illinois] wrote to Lincoln on May 14: "We are laboring to make you the second choice of all the Delegations we can where we can not make you first choice. We are dealing tenderly with delegates, taking them in detail, and making no fuss . . . brace your nerves for any result."

The day before the Convention opened, May 15, Davis [Judge David Davis] and Dubois [Jesse K. Dubois, State Auditor] wired Lincoln: "We are quiet but moving heaven and Earth. Nothing will beat us but old foggy politicians." The next day Judd's message was: "Don't be frightened. Keep cool. Things is working." On the afternoon of May 17, the platform was adopted in a sweep of yells and cheers. The Seward men then wanted to ballot on candidates; a motion to that effect was made but the Chair said "the tally-sheets had not been prepared" and on a quick motion to adjourn and by a light unrecorded vote, Chairman George Ashmun announced the motion prevailed and the Convention was adjourned. The moment was fateful; Seward men believed they could have nominated their man that afternoon. That May 17, the main Lincoln backers worked all night and clinched important deals. Davis telegraphed Lincoln: "Am very hopeful. Don't be excited. Nearly dead with fatigue. Telegraph or write here very little."

A message from Lincoln was carried to Chicago by Edward L. Baker, Editor of the *Springfield Journal*; it was a copy of a newspaper with markings of Seward speeches, with Lincoln's marginal notes, "I agree with Seward's 'Irrepressible Conflict,' but I do not endorse his 'Higher Law' doctrine," and then Lincoln's underlined words, "Make no contracts that will bind me." Why should Lincoln send such cryptic messages to old companions who were losing sleep, spending money and toiling fearfully to make him President was anybody's guess. He may have believed that in the rush and heat of events some corrupt bargain might be made, and he would have these messages to show. Definitely, too, out of his many years of close association with him he knew Davis' mind, will and conscience, and such peremptory messages from him would not stop the Judge from a resolved purpose to nominate Lincoln.

What happened next was told by Whitney: "The bluff Dubois said, 'Damn Lincoln!' The polished Swett said, 'I am very sure if Lincoln was aware of the necessities—' The critical Logan expectorated, 'The main difficulty with Lincoln is—' Herndon ventured, 'Now, friend, I'll answer that.' But Davis cut the Gordian knot by brushing all aside with, 'Lincoln ain't here, and don't know what we have to meet, so we will go ahead, as if we hadn't heard from him, and he must ratify it!'"

In that mood they went to the Pennsylvania managers. When they were through they came down to the lobby of the Tremont House, where Medill of the *Tribune* had been smoking and thinking about a remark of Lincoln's that Pennsylvania would be important in the Convention. As Medill saw 300-pound Judge Davis come heaving and puffing down the stairs about midnight, he stepped up to the Judge and, as he told it later, asked him what Pennsylvania was going to do. And Judge Davis: "Damned if we haven't got them." "How did you get them?" "By paying their price."

Seward victory was in the air; champagne fizzed at the Richmond House. Straw votes on all incoming railroad trains had given Seward overwhelming majorities. Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, were a unit for Seward, as were the New York, **Massachusetts (except four who were for Lincoln), and California Delegations.** Horace Greeley wired his New York *Tribune* that Seward seemed sure to win. Lincoln workers were saying with clenched fists and blazing eyes that the Republicans were beaten at the start if Seward headed the ticket. They scared a definite element who wanted to win; and again there were antislavery men such as Bryant of the New York *Evening Post* who believed Seward to be the same type as Daniel Webster, much intellect, little faith, none of the "mystic simplicity" of Lincoln.

Lamon had been to the printers of seat tickets. Young men worked nearly a whole night signing names of Convention officers to counterfeit seat tickets so that next day Lincoln men could jam the hall and leave no seats for Seward shouters. Hour on hour, the bulk of the 40,000 strangers in Chicago kept up noise and tumult for Abraham Lincoln, for Old Abe, for the Rail Candidate. Judd had fixed it with the railroads so that any shouter who wished could set foot in Chicago at a low excursion rate. Men illuminated with moral fire and others red-eyed with whisky, yelled, pranced, cut capers and vociferated for Lincoln.

On the first two days of the Convention's routine business the Seward men were allowed by the Chicago managers to have free run of the floor. But on May 18, when sunrise saw thousands milling about the Wigwam doors, the Lincoln shouters were shoved through the doors till they filled all seats and standing room; hundreds of New York hurrah boys couldn't squeeze in. Lamon and Fell got a thousand men recruited for their lung power; they had been given tickets and were on hand. They watched their leaders, two men located on opposite sides of the Wigwam. One of them, Dr. Ames of Chicago, it was said, could "on a calm day" be heard clear across Lake Michigan. The other one, brought by Delegate Burton Cook from Ottawa, could give out with a warm monster voice. The two Leather Lungs watched Cook on the platform; when he took out his handkerchief they cut loose with all they had and kept it up till Cook put his handkerchief back. They were joined by the thousand recruits picked for voice noise.

Seward had 173½ votes, Lincoln 102, and favorite sons and others the remainder of the votes on the first ballot. On the second ballot, Lincoln jumped to 181 as against Seward's 184½. On the third ballot, of the 465 votes Lincoln swept 231½ while Seward dropped to 180. Medill of the *Tribune* whispered to Cartter of Ohio, "If you can throw the Ohio delegation for Lincoln, Chase can have anything he wants." "H-how d'd'ye know?" stuttered Cartter, Medill answering. "I know, and you know I wouldn't promise if I didn't know."

Cartter called for a change of four votes from his State to Lincoln. Other delegates announced changes of votes to Lincoln.

As the tellers footed up the totals, and the chairman waited for the figures, the chatter of 10,000 people stopped, the fluttering of ladies' fans ended, the scratching of pencils and clicking of the telegraph dot-dash dash-dot-dash could be heard. The 900 reporters from everywhere in America clutched their pencils.

The chairman spoke. Of 465 votes, 364 were cast for the candidate highest, and "Abraham Lincoln, of Illinois, is selected as your candidate for President of the United States."

Chairmen of state delegations arose and made the nomination unanimous. The terrific emotional spree was over. Strong men hugged each other, wept, laughed and shrieked in each other's faces through tears. Judge Logan stood on a table, brandished his arms and yelled, swung wild his new silk hat and on somebody's head smashed it flat. Inside and outside the Wigwam it was a wild noon hour; hats, handkerchiefs, umbrellas, in the air; brass bands blaring; cannon explosions on the roof getting answers from city bells, riverboat and railroad whistles.

Submitted by Nina and Wayne Henley

# Amiable Scoundrel

*Simon Cameron, Lincoln's Scandalous Secretary of War*

By Paul Kahan

From poverty to political power

From abject poverty to undisputed political boss of Pennsylvania, Lincoln's Secretary of War, Senator, Chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and a founder of the Republican Party, Simon Cameron (1799–1889) was one of the nineteenth century's most prominent political figures. In his wake, however, he left a series of questionable political and business dealings and, at the age of eighty, even a sex scandal.

Far more than a biography of Cameron, *Amiable Scoundrel* is also a portrait of an era that allowed—indeed, encouraged—a man such as Cameron to seize political control. The political changes of the early nineteenth century enabled him not only to improve his status but also to exert real political authority. The changes caused by the Civil War, in turn, allowed Cameron to consolidate his political authority into a successful, well-oiled political machine. A key figure in designing and implementing the Union's military strategy during the Civil War's crucial first year, Cameron played an essential role in pushing Abraham Lincoln to permit the enlistment of African Americans into the U.S. Army, a stance that eventually led to his forced resignation. Yet his legacy has languished, nearly forgotten save for the fact that his name has become shorthand for corruption, even though no evidence has ever been presented to prove that Cameron was corrupt.

*Amiable Scoundrel* puts Cameron's actions into a larger historical context by demonstrating that many politicians of the time, including Abraham Lincoln, used similar tactics to win elections and advance their careers. This study is the fascinating story of Cameron's life and an illuminating portrait of his times.

Paul Kahan is a lecturer at Ohlone College in Fremont, California. He is the author of *The Bank War: Andrew Jackson, Nicholas Biddle, and the Fight for American Finance* and *The Homestead Strike: Labor, Violence, and American Industry*.

"Pennsylvania politics in the nineteenth century were a combat zone, and for more than half of that century Simon Cameron maneuvered sure-footedly through the minefields of state and national political affairs. This book goes behind Cameron's reputation for shady dealing and demonstrates that as a Senator, Ambassador, Secretary of War, and political boss, he advanced important policy achievements, including the abolition of slavery and equal constitutional rights for freed slaves."—James M. McPherson, author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Battle Cry of Freedom* and *The War That Forged a Nation*.

"Paul Kahan has given us a solid, readable, balanced biography of Simon Cameron, Lincoln's first Secretary of War and one of the great, if controversial, politicians of his generation."—Walter Stahr, author of *Seward: Lincoln's Indispensable Man* and *John Jay: Founding Father*.

408 pp. • 6 x 9 • 1 photograph, 4 illustrations, \$36.95 hardcover • 978-1-61234-814-8 \$51.95 Canadian/£25.99 UK ebook available, Potomac Books.

(Submitted by Silver N. Williams)

# WEST COAST CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE CONFERENCE

## WAR AND REMEMBRANCE

October 28-30, 2016, Costa Mesa, CA ★ Jointly Hosted by the Orange County and Pasadena Civil War Round Tables

### SPEAKERS AND TOPICS

**Eric Wittenberg, Author/Historian**

*Custer – What If...?*

*Little Phil: A Reassessment of the Leadership of General Phil Sheridan*

**James Hessler, Author/Historian**

*How Dan Sickles Declared Himself the Hero of Gettysburg*

**Paul Gillette, Author/Historian**

**Orange County CWRT**

*A Never-Ending War: The James-Younger Gang, 1866-1882*

**Meg Groeling, Author/Historian/Educator**

*These Honored Dead*

**Evan Jones, Author/Historian**

*The Road Home*

**Michael Oddenino – Historian/Attorney**

**Pasadena CWRT**

*Robert E. Lee After the War*

**Ted Savas, Author/Historian**

**Owner, Savas-Beatie Publishing**

*Rediscovering Hallowed Ground*

**Nick Smith, Historian**

**Sons of Union Veterans/Pasadena CWRT**

*Westward Bound: Veterans and Their Lives in California*

**James Stanbery, Historian**

**Professor, Los Angeles Harbor College**

**Orange County & Pasadena CWRTs**

*Left-Wing Confederates, In and Beyond the War*

**Joan Waugh, Author/Historian**

**Professor of History, UCLA**

*The Civil War in History and Memory*

**Cheryl Wilkinson, Author/Historian**

*Sawtelle: New Battles for Union Veterans*

### CONFERENCE HOTEL

**Crowne Plaza Costa Mesa**

**3131 Bristol Street, Costa Mesa, CA**

Group Rate of \$129/night includes free breakfast for two per room; free wi-fi and parking; free shuttle from John Wayne Airport. Group rate available pre/post event.

For details on the hotel and nearby activities/attractions, check their web site:

<http://www.ihg.com/crowneplaza/hotels/us/en/costa-mesa/laxcm/hoteldetail>

**Group Reservations**

**(prior to Oct. 7, 2016): (866) 437-5657**

Group Name:

Civil War Round Table (Code CWR)

**Conference Registration**

**Early Bird Rate: \$215**

(January 1 to July 31, 2016)

**Regular Rate: \$225**

(starting August 1, 2016)

**Refunds**

Refunds prior to Sept. 1, 2016 will be less a \$25 processing fee; no refunds will be made after September 1, 2016.

**Questions?**

**Contact the Co-Chairs**

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Janet Whaley, *Pasadena CWRT*

[janet1860@charter.net](mailto:janet1860@charter.net)

### REGISTRATION FORM

Make your check payable to Pasadena CWRT and mail to Janet Whaley, 1143 North Los Robles Ave., Pasadena, CA 91104-3558

Credit Card payments accepted via PayPal: <http://www.pasadenacwrt.org/westcoastconference2016>

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# MILITARY HISTORY

## BOOK FAIRE



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Want to donate books or help? [dana.lombardy@gmail.com](mailto:dana.lombardy@gmail.com)