



# The Battle Cry

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



**Volume 42, No. 8**  
**August 2002**

## 2002 SCWRT Officers:

**Paul Ruud, President**  
(530) 886-8806  
[pruud1@quiknet.com](mailto:pruud1@quiknet.com)

**Kit Knight, Vice-President**  
(916) 721-1827

**Walt Bittle, Secretary**  
(916) 722-2552  
[waltb50@surewest.net](mailto:waltb50@surewest.net)

**George Foxworth, Treasurer**  
(916) 362-0178

**Bob Williams,**  
Member-at-Large  
(916) 487-8144  
[rmwilms@mindspring.com](mailto:rmwilms@mindspring.com)

**Jim Armstrong**  
Member-at-Large  
(916) 457-7258

**Bernardo Buenrostro,**  
Webmaster,  
(916) 362-9837  
[bernxbb@ix.netcom.com](mailto:bernxbb@ix.netcom.com)

**Jim Middleton,**  
BATTLE CRY Editor  
9120 LaRiviera Dr.  
Sacramento, CA 95826  
(916) 363-8112  
[BattleCryEditor@aol.com](mailto:BattleCryEditor@aol.com)

## President's Message:

Where did the summer go? Here we are at the end of August and I can hear the call to rev our engines for the last push of the year. The programs are all set:

**August 28<sup>th</sup>:** "the entire Union line ablaze...Gettysburg, day two," by Ray Bisio

**September 25<sup>th</sup>:** "Images of Slavery," by Dan Defoe

**October 30<sup>th</sup>:** (1) Poetry Reading by Kit Knight  
(2) Mini-presentation, "The East Bank," by Russell Knauer. The title refers to the Mississippi River and the Vicksburg Campaign

**December 4<sup>th</sup>:** A discussion of the "Atlanta Campaign," by SCWRT members Fred Bohmfalk, Russell Knauer, Dennis Kohlmann, and Bob Williams, moderated by Walt Bittle.

You will notice that the Battle Cry this month is slightly thinner than it has been in the past. It is close to miraculous that we are receiving a Battle Cry at all this month. Jim Middleton, our editor, underwent quadruple bypass surgery shortly after sending out the last Battle Cry. The good news is that he is recovering nicely. I was certain that we would be looking for a volunteer to put out this month's newsletter, but when it was about time to start worrying about it, Jim shows up at the board meeting looking as fit as a fiddle. He tells us that he will be able to publish a smaller version of the Battle Cry for August and will return to full publication in September. Thank you and welcome back Jim!!!

The SCWRT Nominating Committee is busy organizing the slate of candidates for SCWRT Officers for 2003. If you would like to volunteer or should you have a suggestion, please contact one of the committee members: Carol Breiter (916-729-7644), Fred Bohmfalk (916-965-4776) Mitch Cnota (916-422-9667). The by-laws require the election of officers at our October meeting and I am told by the committee that the slate will be announced at the September meeting. Nominations from the floor are always

in order as well, but I encourage you to check with the person you wish to nominate before doing so.

The meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup> will be at the Sudwerk Brewery and Grill as usual. Ray Bisio returns for his second presentation of the year and I urge you to mark your calendars. I look forward to seeing you there.

**Paul Ruud, President**

**MINUTES  
SACRAMENTO CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 2002**

Sudwerk Restaurant, 1375 Exposition Boulevard, Sacramento, CA 95815

ATTENDANCE-33

MEMBERS-30

Paul Ruud, President

Kit Knight, Vice Pres.

George Foxworth, Treas.

Dudley Albrecht

Claudia Andres

Bob Baskerville

Roy Bishop

Steve Breiter

Bernie Buenrostro

Ardith Cnota

Mitch Cnota

Carol Dickson

James Dickson

Mike Dobbins

Alan Geiken

Ted Hansen

Don Hayden

Ken Kitchen

Russ Knauer

Arthur Knight

Dennis Kohlmann

Ken Lentz

Mary Lou Lentz

Albert McKim

Elvin Roach

Keith Roberts

Natalie Schafer

Rudy Schafer

Bob Williams

John Zasso

GUESTS-3

Bill Figenshu

Chuck Gorlinski

Mariel Gorlinski

1. The meeting was called to order by President Paul Ruud who reviewed this day in Civil War history. New members and guests were introduced and welcomed.
2. Program—Paul Ruud, SCWRT President, presented a program “Major General Jesse L. Reno.” President Ruud presented an excellent exposition of General Reno’s West Point days, the Mexican-American War, and the Civil War. General Reno was killed-in-action at Fox’s Gap, Battle of South Mountain, on September 14, 1862. President Ruud asserted that General Reno could have been the leader that President Lincoln was looking for. However, General Reno did not live long enough for that recognition. In addition, Reno, Nevada was named after General Reno in 1868, not the Major Marcus A. Reno of Custer’s 7<sup>th</sup> Calvary. An active and lively question and answer period followed. Thank you President Ruud for an excellent view of Major General Jesse L. Reno.
3. Committee/Activity Reports
  - a. Minutes of June 2002 approved.
  - b. Jim Middleton, SCWRT Battle Cry Editor, by-pass heart surgery.
  - c. 2004 West Coast Conference hosted by the SCWRT presented to membership for their thoughts at a later date.
  - d. Next meeting is August 28, 2002, “The Entire Union Line Ablaze—Gettysburg, Day Two” by Mr. Ray Bisio.
  - e. 2002 West Coast Conference hosted by the San Joaquin Valley Civil War Round Table, “The March on Atlanta.”
  - f. Monthly raffle.
4. Adjournment—The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

**George W. Foxworth,**  
Acting Secretary

**Treasurer’s Report**

The cash balance as of August 12, 2002 is \$1,630.43. The July Raffle was \$43.00. Thanks to members and guests. **George W. Foxworth**

## BEE'S LEGACY

**WEB SITES**

**Reenactors of the American Civil War**

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

**Civil War Skirmish Association**

<http://www.calweb.com/~arline/>

**American Civil War Assoc.**

<http://www.angelfire.com/ca5/acwa/>

**National Civil War Association**

<http://ncwa.org/>

**Battle Cry Editor**

**This publication is a monthly newsletter (except December) of the Sacramento CWRT. Please submit items to me for publication no later than the meeting day of the Board of Directors, either at that meeting, my home address (on first page), or by e-mail.**

**<[BattleCryEditor@aol.com](mailto:BattleCryEditor@aol.com)>**

**Check the web site**

**<http://www.sacramentocwrt.org/> for past newsletter editions.**

**The official address of this organization is: Sacramento Civil War Round Table P.O. Box 254702 Sacramento, CA 95865-4702.**

Debate concerning the origin of the familiar nickname bestowed upon Confederate Brigadier General Thomas J. Jackson is not likely to subside. No one knows for certain what Brigadier General Barnard Bee meant when he said that Jackson stood "like a stone wall" at Manassas. Earlier, as an instructor at the Virginia Military Institute, the man who became immortalized as Stonewall had been called Old Blue Light and Tom Fool. Bee's comment may have been a compliment, but some suggest it was an insult.

Whatever the case, after July 21, 1861, "Old Blue Light" was forgotten as "Stonewall" scored victory after victory. From that day on the Manassas battlefield to the end of the war, his brigade was known officially as the Stonewall Brigade. That made it the only brigade in gray to be designated by an officer's nickname.

**Editor's Note**

Due to circumstances beyond the editors control there will be no electronic copies sent out this month. For those of you who would like e-mail copies they will be available on the website. Everyone will receive paper copies this month. Next month everything should return to normal. Thanks for your patience.

Jim Middleton

### **GREELEY FOR PRESIDENT**

The New York Tribune is widely regarded as probably the most influential newspaper in the nation during the Civil War, with its publisher, Horace Greeley, being a staunch supporter of the war effort. Greeley later disagreed with Lincoln over the issue of slavery, but in July 1861, Greeley's "On To Richmond!" headlines helped to prod the Federal army toward its fiasco at the first battle of Bully Run.

Although seen as an early warmonger, Greeley mellowed somewhat over the course of the war, and eventually headed a Northern movement whose aim was to effect a negotiated peace. After the war, and against advice that such a move would drastically hurt the Tribune's circulation, it was Greeley who signed the bail bond of Jefferson Davis.

In 1872, it was liberal Republicans that nominated Greeley for the presidency, although he received larger support from Democrats. Greeley might well have gone to the White House had his opponent been anyone other than Ulysses S. Grant.

### **The General has Hemorrhoids, 1863**

A single blade of grass dangled from Grandpa's mouth as he watched General Stoneman

ride gawky. As he leaned on the fence, Grandpa's grass jiggled in laughter. "Look," he said, "Stoneman flaps his elbows like wings; he's in charge of 10,000 Federal cavalymen and the man can't even ride." Grandpa shook his head and winked at me. My dad, grandpa's oldest son, had gone South to fight with the rebels. Our farm, seven miles above the Mason-Dixon line, became part of a spy network. Food, medicines and notes on troop strengths got through the lines in our wagons. Once, I carried a coded message rolled up in my hair. My brother also served in Lee's army and he said the men were marching north and planning to invade Pennsylvania. Brother Billy Hoped for a chance to visit our Gettysburg farm; he hoped the peaches would be ripe then, and would I please make him a pie. Grandpa picked up a bucket saying he'd get some water, then casually added he'd heard Stoneman led an additional 2,000 men since the Federal defeat at Chancellorsville. Grandpa Observed, "The general, He don't rest easy in the saddle." I said, "I'm glad the Yankee has piles."

**Kit Knight**

**EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL  
WEST COAST  
CIVIL WAR CONFERENCE**

**NOVEMBER 8 - 10, 2002**

**HOWARD JOHNSON PLAZA HOTEL  
1055 Van Ness Avenue  
Fresno, California**



***THE ATLANTA CAMPAIGN***

**FACULTY**

**EDWIN C. BEARSS  
CRAIG SYMONDS  
RICHARD McMURRY  
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**CONFERENCE FEES**

**\$150 Before October 10  
\$165 After October 10**

**ROOM RESERVATIONS**

**Call the hotel direct. Ask for the conference rate of \$70 per night  
1-800-649-4955 (559-485-9000)  
CONFERENCE ENDS AT 1200 SUNDAY. CHECK OUT 1 PM**

**PARKING**

**Free parking in underground parking garage under hotel.  
Enter on Van Ness Avenue**

