



**Volume 58, No 8
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2018 Officers:

Dennis Kohlmann, President
(916) 726-4432
gkohlma@aol.com

Anne M. Peasley, IPP
(530) 320-5112
apeasley22@gmail.com

**Donald J. Hayden, Vice
President**
(916) 485-1246
djhbooklover@yahoo.com

**Silver N. Marvin,
Program Director**
(916) 712-1875
snw5678@aol.com

Barbara A. Leone, Secretary
(916) 457-3915
bleonelachatte@hotmail.com

**George W. Foxworth,
Treasurer**
(916) 362-0178
gwofforth@sbcglobal.net

Richard E. Sickert, MAL
(916) 564-4608
r.sickert@comcast.net

Paul G. Ruud, MAL
(530) 886-8806
paulgruud@gmail.com

VACANT
Editor

SCWRT Website
www.sacramentocwrt.com

Kim Knighton, Webmaster
webmaster@digitalthumbprint.com

Battle Cry

Founded 1961,
Newsletter of the Sacramento Civil War Round Table
P.O. BOX 254702
Sacramento, CA 95865-4702
<http://sacramentocwrt.com/>



President's Message

Robert Orr did a great job presenting "Vicksburg Battlefield, Part A." I always find it fascinating how the states wanted to honor their units that fought at various battles.

I was surprised to learn there were other Iron Brigades in the Civil War. One was a Southern unit that fought out West. "Shelby's Iron Brigade" was originally formed in 1863, under orders, from Major General Thomas C. Hindman, following a successful recruiting expedition into Missouri, by Joseph O. Shelby, Upton Hayes, and John T. Coffee; who each recruited a cavalry regiment. These new Regiments - Shelby's 5th, Hayees's 11th, and Coffee's 6th (redesignated as the 12th) were brigaded, under the command of Colonel Shelby. They based themselves in Arkansas, participated in four major raids into Missouri during the War, earning a reputation as the most formidable brigade in the theater.

Rather than surrender in 1865, with the collapse of the Confederacy, in June, Shelby and his men rode South, into Mexico, to offer their services to Emperor Maximilian, who declined to accept the ex-Confederates, into his armed forces. However, the Emperor did grant them land, for an American colony in Mexico, and many of Shelby's Iron Brigade settled on the free land.

Dennis Kohlmann, President

MINUTES
SACRAMENTO CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE
Wednesday, July 11, 2018
HOF BRAU RESTAURANT, 2500 WATT AVENUE, SACRAMENTO

ATTENDANCE – 24

MEMBERS – 19: Dennis Kohlmann, President; Don Hayden, Vice President; Barbara Leone, Secretary; George W. Foxworth, Treasurer; Jim Armstrong, Roy Bishop, Mark Carlson, Arnd Gartner, James Juanitas, Jaime & Dianna Lizzaraga, Alejandro Lizarraga, Joseph & Michelle Matalone, John Rice, Nancy Samuelson, Richard Sickert (MAL); Roxanne Spizzirri.

GUESTS – 5: Esther Boeck, Joe Maxwell, Robert Orr, Larry Spizzirri, Richard Spizzirri, Don A. Zajic.

1. Dennis led the Pledge, James Juanitas conducted the raffle. Dennis announced a request for letters to be written to support the preservation of the 17 acres where Letterman Hospital was located after the Battle of Gettysburg. Address: S&A Housing, Bob Poole, CEO, Suite 200, 2121 Old Gettysburg Road, State College, Pennsylvania 16803. There will be a CWRT Congress in Harrisburg, PA that Dennis will attend. Its purpose is to discuss ways to attract more members, improve meetings, raise more money, solidify partnerships, etc.
2. Our speaker, Rob Orr, is the President of the Stanislaus Civil War Association in Modesto. The former President, Joe Maxwell, was with him. Rob presented Vicksburg, Military Park, Part A. The Park was established in February 1899 and the granite archway was moved to its present location in 1967. The Park is a collection of primarily Union state monuments, busts, and plaques, but Confederate memorials are represented, too. Rob emphasized the detail of the carvings. There is only one copper plaque and that is erected in memory of Grant's chief engineer.
3. Vicksburg is known as the "Art Park of the World." There are 7 daughter monuments, those that contain a female figure; the Minnesota and Michigan Monuments are two of them. The Mississippi African-American monument dedicated in February 2004 is the largest of its type to honor African-American soldiers on any Civil War battlefield today. The only remaining structure from the siege is the Shirley House.
4. The Wisconsin monuments are made of the state stone, red granite, except for the state monument. At the top is the effigy of "Old Abe," the bald eagle that traveled with the 8th Wisconsin Infantry. The first state monument erected was that of Massachusetts in 1903 and is known as the Volunteer. There were 13 tunnels dug during the siege to get men and supplies to the other side of the ridge. Two remain, one is open to the public.
5. Forty-seven steps lead to the top of the Illinois monument, one for each day of the siege. Inside, there is a plaque for each of the 36,325 soldiers. The Louisiana Monument, with an eternal flame, is at the highest point of the Park. Missouri contributed 27 Union regiments and 15 Confederate regiments. Ohio did not erect a state monument; there are 39 monuments representing each regiment and artillery battery.
6. The Union Navy Memorial, erected in 1911, is the tallest, 202 feet with a 20 foot base.
7. After being submerged for 102 years, the CSS Cairo was cut into three pieces so it could be raised. It was the first ship to be sunk by a water mine (torpedo) electronically. All hands survived. The upper deck is always open for viewing but the head ranger allowed Rob and his friend Paul entry to a locked area below the ship. They saw the paddlewheel, the two rudders, and the boilers. They even saw the ordinance removed from the ship. One type was bridge shot.
8. There are more than 7,000 Union soldiers buried in the National Cemetery and two Confederate soldiers.
9. The next Board Meeting will be Wednesday, August 8, 2018, 10:00 AM at Brookfield's Restaurant.

Barbara Leone, Secretary

Treasurer's Report

The cash balance following the July 11th meeting was \$6,572.83. Thanks to James Juanitas, other members, and guests, the raffle brought in \$25.00.

George W. Foxworth, Treasurer

Coming Programs for 2018 & 2019

Date	Speaker	Topic
August 8th	Larry Tagg	"The Generals of Shiloh"
September 12th	Sherrie Patton	"Latinos Were in the Civil War"
October 10th	Tad Smith	"Fort Sumter, From the Southern Perspective"
November 14th	Joe Maxwell	"Union Cavalry"
December 12th	Nicholas Scivoletto	"Civil War Quiz"
January 9th	Ted Savas	"The War Outside my Window"
February 13th	Jim Lane	To Be Determined

2019 Membership

The 2019 membership renewal is due as of January 1, 2019. The dues are \$20.00 and you can renew at a monthly meeting or send to the Treasurer through the mail. For all checks, make them payable to **Sacramento Civil War Round Table** and send them to

George W. Foxworth
 9463 Salishan Court
 Sacramento, CA 95826-5233

Remember, you can also pay at any monthly meeting.

NEWSLETTER CIVIL WAR ARTICLES

Civil War articles/book reviews are welcome. The submission deadline is the 1st 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:

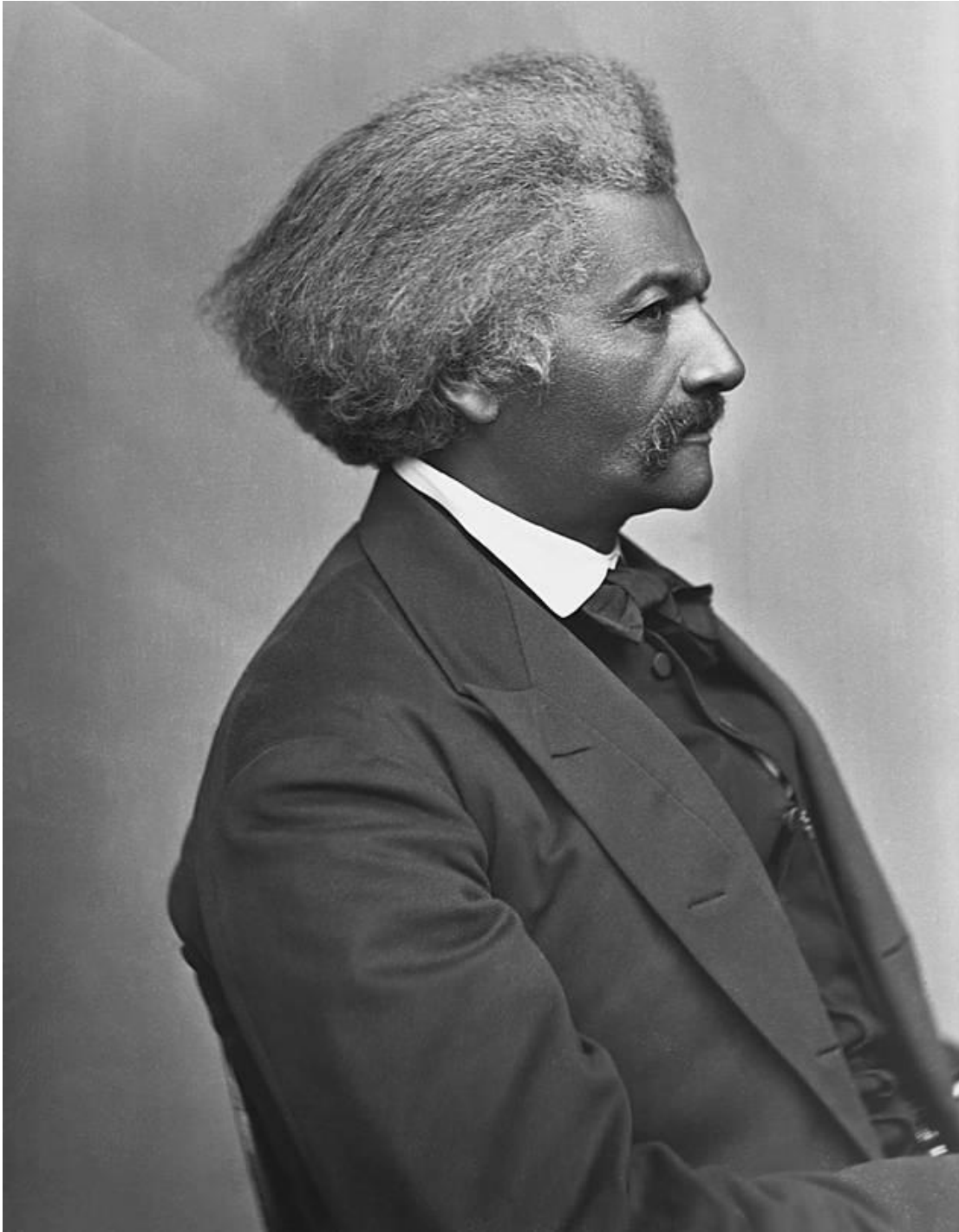
gwofforth@sbcglobal.net

Do not submit files that I cannot edit.

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.

The American Experience of Frederick Douglass

The famed African-American reformer and writer, born 200 years ago this month, demands as much attention today as he did in his lifetime.



Frederick Douglass, circa 1870-75. PHOTO: CORBIS/GETTY IMAGES
By Andrew Delbanco, February 22, 2018, 9:56 AM ET

February is Black History Month, which happens to coincide this year with the 200th anniversary of the birth of Frederick Douglass, the most distinguished and influential African-American public figure in the first century of our country. A reformer and writer who thought deeply about the place of African-Americans in the broader American experience, he demands attention today as much as he did in the ominous years leading up to the Civil War and the period of unresolved racial conflict in its aftermath. As he admonished students of American history, “we have to do with the past only as we can make it useful to the present and to the future.”

Douglass was born in Maryland in February 1818 to an enslaved Black woman and a White father. With the help of his owner’s wife, he learned to read; and at the age of 20, he escaped by train and boat to New England, where he was recruited to the Abolitionist lecture circuit.

An imposing man with a booming voice, he had the explosive force, in the words of a contemporary, of a “tornado in a forest.” His experience under slavery had made him an angry man, but he did not confine his anger to the South. Aboard ship on Long Island Sound, he found himself forced to sleep on the freezing deck, and while traveling by railroad through New England, he was “dragged from the cars for the crime of being colored.”

‘It was slavery, not its mere incidents—that I hated.’

Yet Northern White audiences flocked to hear him. At the behest of his Abolitionist managers, who scolded him when he strayed from the script (“Give us the facts,” he was told, “we will take care of the philosophy”), he gave them largely what they wanted—shocking accounts of girls and women abused by masters or overseers, and of boys and young men brutalized. But he grew weary of the prurient interest of some who came to hear him and tried to get them to understand that “it was slavery, not its mere incidents—that I hated.”

It was the psychological horror of slavery that most enraged him. He spoke of enslaved young people starved not of food but of hope. He reminded White Americans of the liberties they took for granted, beginning with the “freedom to go and come, to be here and there” as they pleased. The slave, by bitter contrast, “is a fixture...pegged down to a single spot,” and the very idea of moving from one place to another “comes, generally, in the shape of a threat, and in punishment of crime. It is, therefore, attended with fear and dread.”

Douglass settled in Rochester, New York, a center of antislavery activity, where he became the most famous Black man in America, perhaps the world, through his speaking and writing. As rancor deepened between North and South, he saw that a final reckoning with slavery was imminent. While some friends and allies continued to believe that slave owners could be convinced to give up their slaves through “moral suasion,” Douglass believed it necessary to “reach the slaveholder’s conscience through his fear of personal danger. We must make him feel that there is death in the air about him, that there is death in the pot before him, that there is death all around him.”

When the Civil War broke out in April 1861, most White Northerners understood it as a War to suppress the secessionists and restore the Union. To prosecute the War successfully, President Lincoln needed the support of the Border States (Maryland, Delaware, Missouri, and Kentucky) where slavery remained entrenched—so he was slow to push for Emancipation. Douglass was among those who denounced Lincoln as a prevaricator.



A 1943 color lithograph of Frederick Douglass appealing to President Lincoln and his cabinet to enlist Black soldiers in the Civil War. PHOTO: BRIDGEMAN IMAGES

But as slavery began to break down with the advance of Union troops into Confederate territory, and it became clear that the War to save the Union and the War to destroy slavery were becoming one and the same, the two men developed a deep mutual respect. Douglass shifted from public critic to private adviser. He lobbied the President to open up enlistment in the Union Army to Blacks, to give Black soldiers the same pay as Whites, and to retaliate in kind against the Confederacy for its brutal practice of executing captured Black soldiers as criminals rather than treating them as Prisoners of War.

It might reasonably be said that Frederick Douglass thought of himself first as a Black man and second as an American. At a gathering in Rochester celebrating

Independence Day in 1852, he told his mainly White audience that “This Fourth [of] July is *yours*, not *mine*.” He even told them it was a “mockery” to “call upon him to join you in joyous anthems” because “above your national, tumultuous joy, I hear the mournful wail of millions!”

Years later, at the unveiling of the Freedman’s Monument in Washington, D.C., in 1876, Douglass was still speaking to his White audience with sharp severity. “You are the children of Abraham Lincoln,” he told them. “We are at best only his stepchildren.”

Yet even as he decried the unbridged gulf between White and Black Americans, he always stressed their common humanity. In three memoirs published over 40 years, he told his own life story as a quintessentially American young-man-makes-good story—a tale of beating the odds, of rising from low to high circumstances. He wrapped himself in the mantle of honored patriots like Benjamin Franklin, who, in his own memoir, had recounted his life as a journey from servitude to independence. “In coming to a fixed determination to run away,” Douglass declared, “we did more than Patrick Henry, when he resolved upon liberty or death.”

And by casting his story as a “glorious resurrection...from the tomb of slavery, to the heaven of freedom,” he deployed the language of religious conversion by which so many Americans—White and Black—understood the arc of their lives. In all these respects, he presented himself, as his friend the Black Abolitionist James McCune Smith remarked, as a “Representative American man—a type of his countrymen.”

Douglass thought of America as a work in progress. Soon after Lincoln’s assassination, in a speech delivered in New York City, he spoke of the freedom not yet attained but “made attainable” by the Civil War. The Postwar Constitutional Amendments banning slavery and guaranteeing citizenship to all persons “born or naturalized in the United States” advanced that goal, but Douglass saw how short they fell. Though former slaves had achieved liberty as a legal matter, they were a long way from achieving moral recognition as persons fully free and equal to their former masters.

Douglass believed in the American creed of personal responsibility and self-reliance. He was as proud of his work as a stevedore, by which he earned his first wages on the docks of New Bedford, as of his work as a writer and editor, by which he earned great renown. But he also knew that by asking its citizens to commit to the individualist creed of self-improvement, the nation made an implicit promise to accord them equal dignity regardless of their origins, color, or means. Surely he would want us to ask ourselves today how close we are to keeping that promise.

—*Mr. Delbanco is Alexander Hamilton Professor of American Studies at Columbia University. His new book, “The War Before the War: Fugitive Slaves and the Struggle for America’s Soul from the Revolution to the Civil War,” will be published by Penguin Press in the fall.*

Published in the Wall Street Journal, February 22, 2018.

Submitted by Silver N. Marvin

2018 WEST COAST CIVIL WAR CONFERENCE

November 9 - 11, 2018



WYNDOM GARDEN HOTEL, 5090 East Clinton Way, FRESNO, CA 93727-1506, (1-559-252-3611 or 1-866-238-4218), \$99.00 per night, or wyndhamguestreservations.com.

“THE TRANS-MISSISSIPPI THEATER: THE NOT SO GLAMOROUS STEP-SISTER OF CIVIL WAR HISTORIANS.”

HOSTED BY THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY CWRT AND THE INLAND EMPIRE CWRT.
For more information, see Website: SJVCWRT2.com

SPEAKERS:

Thomas Cutrer, Ph.d., Theater of a Separate War
Richard Hatcher III, Park Ranger (Retired), Wilson’s Creek
General Parker Hills, Red River Campaign Tour Guide
Jim Stanbery, MA., Professor (Retired)
Dr. Brian Clague, MD.

TOPICS: Wilson’s Creek, Pea Ridge, Prairie Grove, Red River, Sibley’s Campaign, & others.

Ron Vaughan, MA., (Conference Coordinator: ronvaughan@prodigy.net)

ATTENDEE REGISTRATION: \$200.00 PER PERSON for Weekend, including meals.

Dinner Entrees: ()Beef, ()Chicken, ()Fish, ()Veggie

_____ Spouse Friday Dinner \$35.00; _____ Spouse Saturday Dinner \$35.00

Name _____

Address _____

Phone(s) _____

Email _____

Address Check to **San Joaquin Valley CWRT.**

Send Check and Registration to: **Ron Vaughan, 730 East Tulare Avenue, Tulare, CA 93274-4336.**