



**Volume 49, No 9
September, 2009**

2009 Officers:

Don Hayden, President
(916) 485-1246
djhbooklover@yahoo.com

Silver Williams, Vice-
President
(916) 408-4574
snw5678@aol.com

Dennis Kohlmann,
Program Director
(916) 726-4432
dkohlma@aol.com

Eddie Keister, Secretary
(916) 725-1852

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

Bob Hanley, MAL
(805) 796-5895 cell
acivilwar@aol.com

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

Paul Ruud, IPP
(530) 886-8806
ruud@starband.net

SCWRT Website
www.sacramentocwrt.com

Kim Knighton, Webmaster
webmaster@digitalthumbprint.com

Jim Middleton, Editor
(916) 799-1246
battlecryeditor@sbcglobal.net

**Battle Cry deadline is 1:00
PM Wednesday, two weeks
before the regular meeting.**

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

It's always a pleasure to hear a Stanbery discussion and August's was no exception as Jim covered The Shenandoah Valley, it's geography, topography, pictorial beauty, and the comparison of Jackson and Early's campaigns in a splendid power-point presentation. After hearing many of Jim's talks over the years, I marvel at the clarity and insight he brings to his subject. It is apparent why he is voted the best teacher at Harbor College. We also appreciate his numerous contributions to the Annual West Coast Conferences and look forward to his presence in Clovis in October.

I am happy to report that our group is growing by leaps and bounds. I'd like to personally welcome newcomers Rose Browne, Anne Peasley, Bruce Nothmann, and Dick Thompson to the fold. We are always delighted to see new faces and trust you will get to know your fellow members. We also encourage your participation if you are inclined to give a talk, bring an article of interest, or serve on the SCWRT Board. And please feel free to offer ideas or suggestions. I also wish to thank Vivian Miller for stepping up to the plate and running the raffle. Well done, Vivian.

On another note, we are strongly encouraging our computer literate members to sign up for electronic transmission of The Battle Cry. I get mine via Microsoft Word. This saves a tremendous amount as each mailing costs over a dollar not to mention ink, paper, and labor. I print a hard copy to save and prefer to read it in that format. If interested, email Jim Middleton at battlecryeditor@sbcglobal.net. Jim does a tremendous job for us.

It's Jim and Ginny Karlberg on September 9. They did a great job on the California 100 in 2007. They work in costume and portray their subjects. I saw him a week ago in Elk Grove and he mentioned that he will portray a Southern plantation owner in that era. The title is "The South was Right." Should be interesting. I'm sorry I'll not be there since we are on a long awaited and long planned trip.

All the best,

Don Hayden, President

MINUTES
SACRAMENTO CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE
Wednesday, August 12, 2009
HOF BRAU RESTAURANT, 2500 WATT AVENUE, SACRAMENTO

ATTENDANCE – 38

MEMBERS – 28

Don Hayden, President
George Foxworth, Treasurer
Edie Keister, Secretary
Ken Berna
Roy Bishop
Fred Bohmfalk
Lydia Donaldson
William Donaldson
Fred Elenbaas
Alan Geiken
Kyle Glasson
Bob Hanley, MAL
Scottie Hayden
Nancy Hayden

Laurel Hayden
James Juanitas
Dennis Kohlmann, PD
Vivian Miller
Betty Mitchell
Maurice Mitchell
John Nevins
Bruce Nothmann
Anne Peasley
Paul Ruud
James Taff
Dick Thompson
Drew Van Winkle
Robert Williams

GUESTS – 10

Dudley Albrecht
Charles Christian
Jerry Cress
Nina Henley
Wayne Henley
Nancy Samuelson
Jim Stanbery
Doug Vander Weyde
Kathryn Witztum
Mary Wou

1. Meeting started at 7:00 PM. President Hayden welcomed guests from far and near, 10 guests.
2. On Sunday, September 13th, at 10:30 AM, at the Old City Cemetery, there will be a ceremony dedicated to the Grand Army of the Republic. There will be a table reserved for SCWRT members.
3. The October Convention in Clovis was discussed - the topic is Chattanooga and Chickamauga. The revised fee is \$199.
4. To save on postage, please send your e-mail address to Jim Middleton to receive The Battle Cry electronically at battlecryeditor@sbcglobal.net.
5. Our guest speaker was scholar and teacher, Jim Stanberry. His topic was "Stonewall and Jubal in the Valley." He covered both campaigns from 1862 and 1864, and the differences why one was considered superior and one inferior, and the reasons why. Thank you Jim, as usual, it was great!
6. Welcome new member Anne Peasley.
7. The raffle was held and meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

**Edie Keister,
Secretary**

Treasurer's Report

The cash balance following the August 12, 2009 meeting was \$2,869.88. Thanks to Vivian Miller, other members, and guests, the raffle brought in \$87.00.

**George W. Foxworth,
Treasurer**

Coming Programs 2009		
Sept. 9 th	Tim Karlberg	"The South Was Right"
Oct. 14 th	Fred Bohmfalk	William Hardee
Nov. 11 th	Dennis Kohlmann	U. S. Grant
Dec. 9 th	Brad Schall	TBA

Sept 9th Presentation: "The South Is Right"

Our September speaker, Tim Karlberg, will re-enact a Southern Planter circa 1860, who comes to state the case for the Southern Cause. Be prepared for a challenge to your Union opinions, politics, and the myths that you have learned in school. You will be in the company of a true Southern Planter, who will state the case that the Northern Federal Government has conspired against the Southern States for divisional political gain. You will hear Historical evidence, Constitutional Law, and a Southern perspective that will draw you into a time when America's very survival was at stake and our nation was heading toward a national calamity. The presentation is heated, controversial, and in the true spirit of a Southern patriot.

About the speaker and opening remarks: From 1968 through 1970, the speaker served in the US Army as a First Lieutenant in the special weapons development branch called TECOM (Test and Evaluation Command). Twenty three young Army Officers were recruited for this work, and Tim was the only Yankee from California. The remaining 22 Lieutenants were all Southern boys, many of whom had just graduated from the West Point Academy of the South called VMI (Virginia Military Institute). Tim quickly learned that these Southern young men were bright, patriotic, and very good soldiers. Now, forty years later, he has come to the realization that it was young men of this caliber that made up the ranks of the CSA during our nation's Civil War. One hundred and fifty years after our nation's Civil War has ended, we analyze and discuss the Union account of that conflict with all the perspective and the history that documents its actions. We ask, "How intelligent Southern people like these could come to believe that their slavery based society was moral and that they could take on the North with twice the population, resources, industry, and finances.

The speaker will attempt to tell their story and their belief systems that brought them to the brink of destruction. You will be asked to place yourself back in time to the year 1860. Lincoln is only a presidential candidate, the war of rebellion has not been ignited, and the mood of the country is anxious, frightened, and angry. Their story is told from the perspective of a pre-war 1860 citizen of the South, who is not yet aware of the calamity that is about to alter his society and culture in a most devastating manner.

Chattanooga, the Plan of Battle versus the Actual Battle 24-25 November 1863



In a *Century Magazine* article of May 1885, entitled "*General Grant*" which drew heavily upon material from Grant's Personal Memoirs, the writer says of Chattanooga: "*Few battles in any war have ever been fought so strictly according to the plan. This battle was fought as nearly according to the plan laid down in advance as any recorded in the schools.*" Nothing could have been further from the truth! In a subsequent article published in *Battles and Leaders*, volume three, page 716, 1886; Brigadier General William F. Smith set the record straight as follows:

Holding at the time the position of Chief Engineer of the Army of the Cumberland under General Thomas, and being at the same time Chief Engineer of the Military Division of the Mississippi under General Grant, it was absolutely necessary that I should know the plan to be able to direct the engineering operations. Let me compare the original plan as "laid down in advance" with a sketch of the battle as fought.

The original plan of the battle of Chattanooga was to turn Bragg's right flank on Missionary Ridge, thereby throwing his army away from its base and natural line of retreat. This, the first thing to be done, was confided to Sherman, *and the plan was not adopted* till after Sherman had carefully examined the situation and asserted that he could do the work assigned to him. Thomas was to hold the center and right of our front, to cooperate with Sherman, and attack when the proper time arrived

The preliminary movements were simple. Sherman was to affect a lodgment on the left bank of the Tennessee River, just below the mouth of the South Chickamauga Creek. This was to be done by landing a brigade of troops from the boats, which were to be used in the bridge to be thrown at that point across the Tennessee for the crossing of Sherman's army. One division of Sherman's army was to march up the Lookout Valley, on the extreme right of our operations, and threaten a pass in Lookout Mountain, ostensibly to turn Bragg's left flank. The march was to be made in daylight, in sight of the enemy, and after dark the division was to retrace its steps, cross the Tennessee at Brown's Ferry, and join the main body of Sherman's force, which was to be massed during the night preceding the intended attack at the point where the bridge was to be laid. Hooker with his small force was to hold Lookout Valley and threaten Lookout Mountain at the point where it strikes the Tennessee.

This general plan was filled in with all necessary details, embracing all the initial movements of the whole force under Grant. At the very outset began the changes in this plan. The division which made the threat against Bragg's left flank on returning found the bridge at Brown's Ferry unpassable; and as it could not join Sherman, it was turned over to Hooker, who was ordered, with his command thus strengthened, to assault the works on his front on Lookout Mountain. This was a most decided change from the plan "laid down in advance."

On the evening of the first day the results could be summed up as follows: Sherman had crossed the Tennessee River at the point selected, but had not turned Bragg's right flank. Thomas had drawn out the Army of the Cumberland facing Missionary Ridge, had connected with Sherman, but had no fighting other than skirmishing varied by some artillery practice. Hooker had carried Lookout Mountain after a fight which has been celebrated in song as "the battle above the clouds." This victory of Hooker's compelled Bragg to withdraw his troops from the Chattanooga Valley, and retreat or concentrate for a battle on Missionary Ridge.

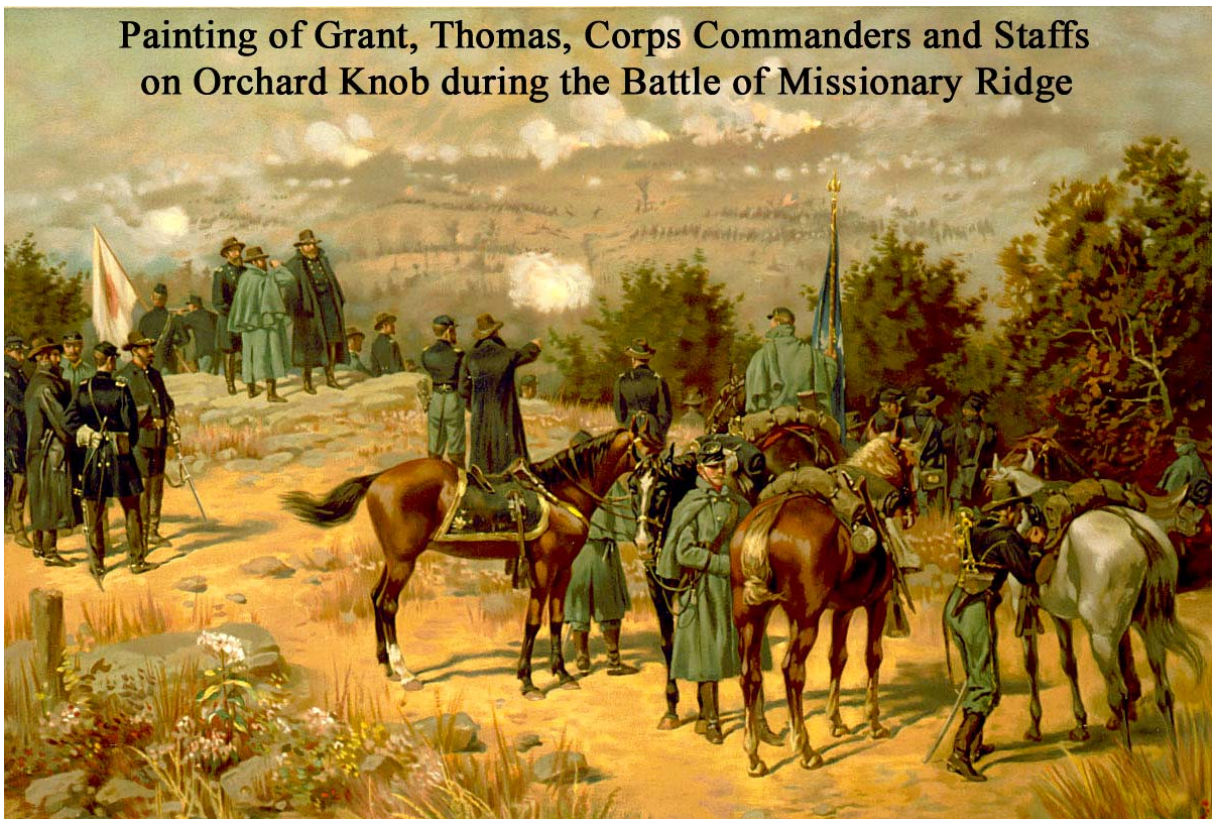
On the morning of the second day Hooker was ordered by Thomas to march forward and *carry* the Rossville Gap in Missionary Ridge, and as soon as that was done to send an aide or courier to him, in order that he might then make the assault of the "Ridge" with the Army of the Cumberland. Sherman with severe fighting continued his efforts to reach the crest of Missionary Ridge. As the day

wore on, and no news came from Hooker, Thomas grew anxious, but could give no order to assault the works on his front till one at least of the enemy's flanks had been turned.

Finally, in the afternoon, General Grant sent orders directly to the division commanders of the Army of the Cumberland to move forward and carry the rifle-pits in their front at the base of Missionary Ridge. This was very easily done, and after capturing the rifle-pits the soldiers, seeing that they could not remain there under the fire from the crest of the ridge, and having no intention of giving up any ground won by them, demanded to be led up the hill to storm the works on the crest, which was successfully done, and Bragg's headquarters were in their possession just before the sun went down on the second day of the battle. This assault was, of course, the crisis of the whole battle, and the successful carrying of Missionary Ridge was doubtless due in a measure to the position of Sherman and the threatening movement of Hooker. The battle was then ended and nothing left but a retreat by one and a pursuit by the other opposing general. A condensed statement of the history of the original plan and the battle of Chattanooga as fought is this: The original plan contemplated the turning of Bragg's right flank, *which was not done*. The secondary plan of Thomas looked toward following up the success of Hooker at Lookout Mountain by turning the left flank of Bragg, and then an attack by Thomas along his entire front. The Rossville Gap was not carried in time to be of more than secondary importance in the battle. *The assault on the center before either flank was turned was never contemplated, and was made without plan, without orders, and as above stated.*

Note: The above concludes W. F. (Baldy) Smith's *Battles and Leaders* statement on the matter. Full text of his article is available on the website at: <http://www.aotc.net/Chattanooga.htm#Smith>. It provides additional and more specific information as to Smith's very significant overall role as Chief Engineer for the Army of the Cumberland, and the Division of the Mississippi. The accompanying battleground map was subsequently prepared under Smith's direction. (Map reference item "D" may be of special interest to some readers??)

Bob Williams: 8-26-09

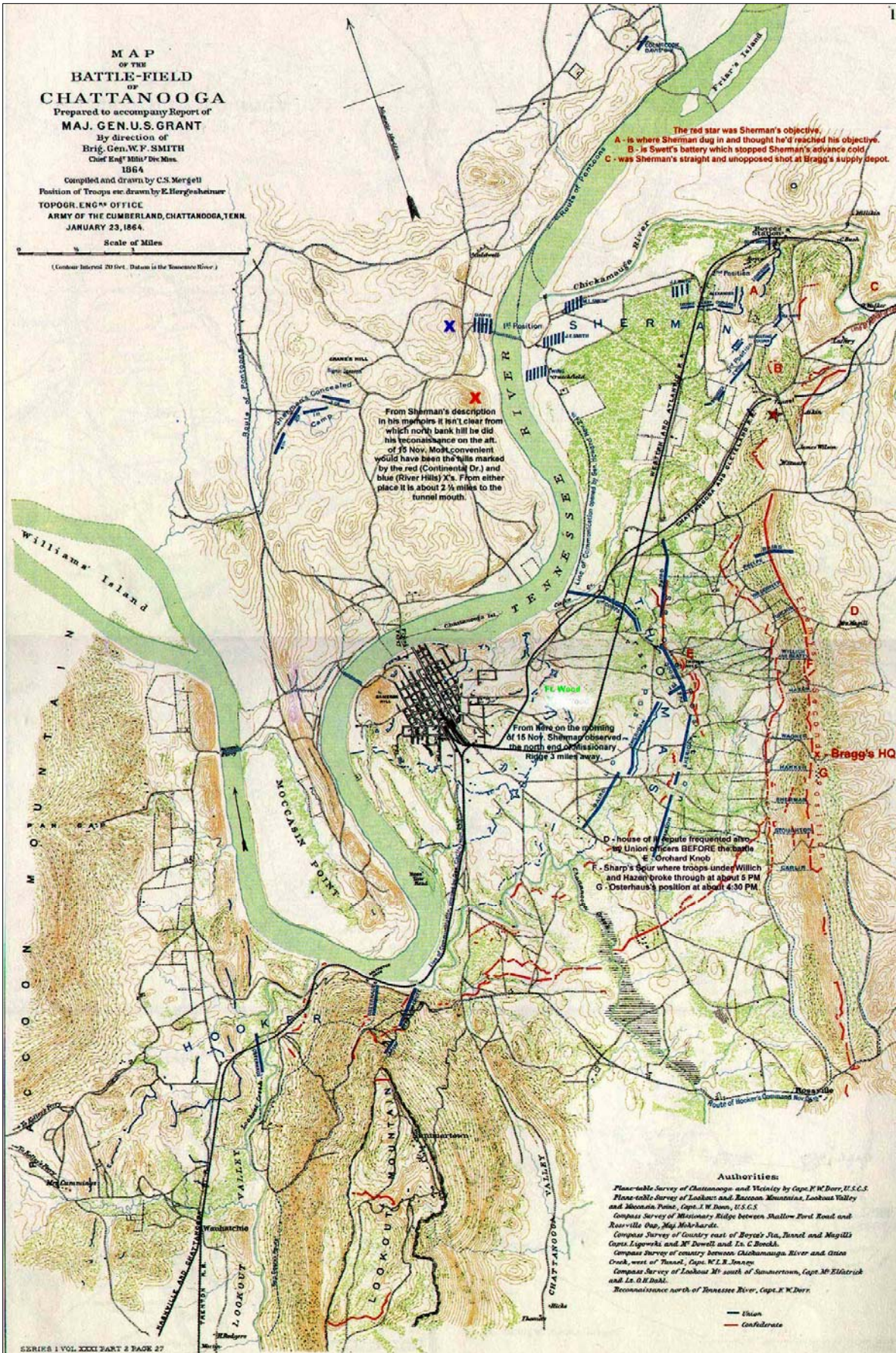


**MAP
OF THE
BATTLE-FIELD
OF
CHATTANOOGA**

Prepared to accompany Report of
MAJ. GEN. U.S. GRANT
By direction of
Brig. Gen. W. F. SMITH
Chief Eng'g Mch's Div. Mns.

1864
Compiled and drawn by C.S. Mergell
Position of Troops are drawn by E. Hargrave
TOPOGR. ENGR'S OFFICE
ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND, CHATTANOOGA, TENN.
JANUARY 23, 1864.

Scale of Miles
(Contour Interval 20 feet. Datum is the Tennessee River.)



The red star was Sherman's objective.
A - is where Sherman dug in and thought he'd reached his objective.
B - is Swett's battery which stopped Sherman's advance cold.
C - was Sherman's straight and unopposed shot at Bragg's supply depot.

From Sherman's description in his reports it isn't clear from which north bank hill he did his reconnoissance on the aft. of 15 Nov. Most convenient would have been the hills marked by the red (Continental Dr.) and blue (River Hills) X's. From either place it is about 2 1/2 miles to the tunnel mouth.

From here on the morning of 18 Nov. Sherman observed the north end of Missionary Ridge 3 miles away.

D - house of ill repute frequented also by Union officers BEFORE the battle at Orchard Knob.
E - Sharp's Spur where troops under Willich and Hazen broke through at about 6 PM
G - Osterhaus's position at about 4:30 PM

Authorities

- Plane-table Survey of Chattanooga and Vicinity by Capt. F. W. Dorr, U.S.C.S.
- Plane-table Survey of Lookout and Mission Mountains, Lookout Valley and Mission Point, Capt. J. W. Dunn, U.S.C.S.
- Compass Survey of Missionary Ridge between Shallow Ford Road and Rossville Gap, Maj. Mohrhardt.
- Compass Survey of Country east of Boy's Den, Tunnel and McGill's Gap, Lieutenants W. Derritt and L. C. Bowles.
- Compass Survey of Country between Chickamauga River and Otis Crick, west of Tunnel, Capt. W. L. B. Jenney.
- Compass Survey of Lookout Mt. south of Sunnyside, Capt. M. E. Dietrich and L. O. H. Dink.
- Reconnoissance north of Tennessee River, Capt. F. W. Dorr.

— Union
— Confederate