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# *Battle Cry*

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



## **President's Message**

We had a remarkable Board of Directors' meeting in December. Ted Savas attended and had lots of good ideas for the 2019 West Coast Civil War Conference. He recommended some speakers and will help with marketing the event. Ted gets newsletters from all the Round Tables in California. There is never anything in them about the Annual Conferences.

Sitting around Saturday at the 2018 Conference, I learned many clubs are shrinking. The San Joaquin Valley Civil War Round Table (Fresno) held a great Conference but only had 49 paying attendees. We are shooting for at least 100 for the 2019 Conference.

We have a great product but not enough people know we exist. All the clubs could use a good marketing campaign. I am working on this. Potential members are people over 50 years of age. Another source of new members is you, our Sacramento CWRT members. If you belong to other groups/clubs/organizations, let them know about us.

**Dennis Kohlmann, President**

**MINUTES**  
**SACRAMENTO CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE**  
**Wednesday, December 12, 2018**  
**HOF BRAU RESTAURANT, 2500 WATT AVENUE, SACRAMENTO**

**ATTENDANCE – 33**

**MEMBERS – 28:** Dennis Kohlmann, President; Don Hayden, Vice President; Barbara Leone, Secretary; George W. Foxworth, Treasurer; Larry & Silver Marvin (Program Director); Roy Bishop, Harvey & Marsha Cain, Mark Carlson, Arnd Garnter, Ron Grove, Nina & Wayne Henley, Jane Jackson, James Juanitas, Arnold Kunst, Lloyd Limprecht, Alejandro & Jaime Lizarraga, Bernie Quinn, John Rice, Paul Ruud (MAL); Nancy Samuelson, Nicholas Scivoletto, Stephen Shiflett, Richard Sickert (MAL); Roxanne Spizzirri.

**GUESTS – 5:** Esther Boeck, Tracy Samuelson, Larry Spizzirri, Richard Spizzirri, Don A. Zajic.

1. Dennis Kohlmann led the Pledge, James Juanitas conducted the raffle. Paul Ruud spoke about the theme of the 2019 West Coast Civil War Conference. It will be a broad umbrella of both high commands so that speakers can choose almost any topic. Dennis commented on the need to work on membership and to let others besides Civil War enthusiasts know about the Conference. Also, the Round Tables need to inform each other about events such as the Conference. All Sacramento CWRT members interested in the Conference are encouraged to attend the Board Meetings. New blood is needed!! George Foxworth provided Christmas cake and coffee.
2. Nicholas Scivoletto presented his annual Christmas Civil War Quiz testing the members knowledge of basics and trivia. Illinois provided 250,000 of the total manpower for the North after New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio, and many officers including U.S. Grant. Known as the Gettysburg of the West, Westport was the last major Confederate offensive West of the Mississippi River. It involved 30,000 men and was one of the largest battles fought West of that River in the area now known as Independence, Missouri.
3. A Lincoln quote is "I hope to have God on my side but I must have Kentucky." This Border State was vital to both sides. The last Confederate General to surrender was the Cherokee Stan Watie who led the Confederate Indian Cavalry consisting of Cherokee, Muskogee, and Seminole Indians. D. H. Hill, a West Point graduate and Division Commander of the Army of Northern Virginia, was the brother-in-law of Thomas (Stonewall) Jackson. The 26<sup>th</sup> North Carolina Regiment at Gettysburg lost 726 out of 803 men, the most of any Regiment on either side.
4. Known as the Little Pale Star from Georgia, Alexander Stevens was Vice President of the Confederacy. He served as a Congressman before and after the War. The Gatling gun could fire 200 rounds/minute. Oregon Senator Edward Baker was the only sitting Senator to be killed in Battle (Ball's Bluff). Nathan Bedford Forrest was the only man to rise from Private to Lieutenant General. His Cavalry Unit captured more guns, horses, and supplies than any other unit. Confederate A. P. Hill's Light Division of 6 brigades of 12,000 men fought at 2<sup>nd</sup> Manassas, Fredericksburg, and Chancellorsville. At Antietam, they marched 17 miles in 7 hours saving Lee's Army of Northern Virginia.
5. Joseph R. Anderson headed the Tredegar Ironworks in Richmond. It produced the iron plating for the CSS Virginia and 1,100 artillery pieces. Richmond was a critical industrial site in addition to being the Capital.
6. The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad was the main connection between Washington, DC and the North. It was the site of over 143 raids and battles. In 1862, the Dakota members of the Sioux Tribe opposed the Union. After the uprising, 38 were hanged, the largest mass execution in one day.
7. In 1863, 16 Union Regiments were required to quell the New York City draft riots lasting 3 days. Eighty thousand men from Maine served in the War, representing the largest number of combatants in proportion to population than any other State.
8. Silver Marvin announced she and Larry will be moving to a city near Birmingham, Alabama in 2019.
9. The next Board Meeting will be Wednesday, January 9, 2019, 10 AM, at Brookfield's Restaurant.

**Barbara Leone, Secretary**

**Treasurer's Report**

The cash balance following the December 12th meeting was \$6,583.73. Thanks to James Juanitas, other members, and guests, the raffle brought in \$48.00.

**George W. Foxworth, Treasurer**

# Coming Programs for 2019

| Date          | Speaker         | Topic   |
|---------------|-----------------|---|
| January 9th   | Ted Savas       | "The War Outside my Window"                                     |
| February 13th | Jim Lane        | "The Great Locomotive Chase"                                    |
| March 13th    | Bernie Quinn    | "Engagements of Hiram Berdan's Sharpshooters"                   |
| April 10th    | Nick K. Adams   | "Two Sides of One Story as Minnesota Governor Alexander Ramsey" |
| May 8th       | Chris Highsmith | "The Adventures of the Illinois 34th"                           |
| June 12th     | Nancy Samuelson | "Colonel John S. "Rip" Ford, Ranger"                            |

## **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 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)

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.

# Horace Greeley

When Horace Greeley was born on February 3, 1811, he did not breathe for the first twenty minutes of his life. Future biographers believe this is what attributed to his eccentric behavior in later life and what some now say was Asperger's Syndrome.



Greeley left the poverty of his family home and went to apprentice as a printer. He founded the *New York Tribune* in 1841 using \$5,000 his wife, Mary Young Cheney, had saved from her teaching salary. Greeley had an on and off again relationship with Lincoln and the Republican Party, often fought out on the front pages of his newspaper. His advice to "Go West" is as famous as are his Abolitionist views.

*The Tribune* probably had the largest circulation of any newspaper in the country in its day. People waited breathlessly to hear Greeley's opinions. He raised the standard of journalism, staying away from the sensationalism that often dominated the newspapers at that time.

Horace looked like a backwoods farmer. He worked eighteen hours a day and slept in an apartment he rented in New York City (35 East 19<sup>th</sup> Street) even after he purchased a family home in Chappaqua, NY. His marriage was miserable and he referred to his home in upstate New York as "Castle Doleful."

Horace was a follower of many causes. In his early days, he was an advocate for Sylvester Graham, the founder of The Graham Diet and inventor of the Graham cracker. The diet eschewed meat, refined wheat, coffee, spices, alcohol, tobacco, and other stimulants and was believed to curb sexual desire.

Horace had met his future wife at the Graham House Hotel where they both boarded and followed the restricted menu. They were wed on July 5, 1836. Mary was a Suffragette and believed in Spiritualism. She was said to be clinically depressed, obsessive-compulsive, and

mentally unbalanced. Horace was allowed no say in the running of their household. When asked why his wife refused to have guests for dinner, Greeley replied, "Mother's sanity is not of the highest order." Despite their seeming dislike of each other, Mary's lung disease and the lust killing Graham diet, Mary was constantly pregnant. Only two of their nine children, Ida and Gabrielle, survived to adulthood. It is generally believed that at least one of their children died of neglect. Mary believed her son, Arthur, (called "Pickie" by Horace) was a Medium. When Pickie died at five years old, Mary had Mary Fox, a famous Spiritualist of the time, move in with them and try to contact the dead boy.

Though Greeley helped found the Republican Party, he grew disenchanted with the corruption during Grant's administration and the continued Reconstruction policies in the South. Greeley ran for President in the 1872 election as a Liberal Republican. Newspaper cartoons and editorials ridiculed him mercilessly calling him a fool, an ignoramus, an extremist, and a crazy man. He was labeled a traitor for having posted bond for Jefferson Davis in 1867. Greeley was also ridiculed for his unkempt appearance and odd whiskers.

On October 30, 1872, Mary Greeley lost her twenty year bout with consumption. The loss of Greeley's bid in the Presidential election followed. Two weeks later, Whitelaw Reid, owner of *The New York Herald*, wrested control of *The Tribune* from Greeley.

Horace had a complete physical and mental breakdown. He was confined to Dr. Choate's Sanitarium in Pleasantville, NY where he died on November 29, 1872. He is the only Presidential candidate to die before the electoral votes were in.



Against his express wishes, Greeley's two daughters arranged a lavish and public funeral at Greenwood Cemetery in Brooklyn. Though mocked during the campaign, his funeral on December 4 was attended by President Grant, several Cabinet members, his nemesis Whitelaw Reid (the new editor of *The Tribune*), and hundreds of his admirers.

Submitted by Judith Breitstein

## Who Knew About Fort Alcatraz?

San Francisco in the 1850's and 1860's was the one of the remotest cities in the United States. Both Fort Point and Fort Alcatraz were the among the remotest Army posts in the country. So who actually knew about them? Here are some prominent people who knew very well about these Forts:

**General Henry Halleck**, General-in-Chief of the U.S. Army (1862). Prior to the Civil War, Halleck was stationed in California and in fact was instrumental in writing the State's Constitution. He became General of the California State Militia and probably spent time on the island as troops were being trained.



**Jefferson Davis**. Before he became President of the Confederacy, Davis was the Secretary of War under President Pierce. He approved the plans for the building of Fort Point and Fort Alcatraz. Only 10 years later, in 1863, he approved Asbury Harpending's plan to operate as a privateer and attack gold shipments from California. No doubt, he was quite disappointed when that plan failed and Harpending wound up as a prisoner on Alcatraz.



**Brigadier General George Washington Custis Lee**. Son of Robert E. Lee, he graduated from West Point and went into the Army Corps of Engineers. He was one of the engineers who helped to supervise the building of Fort Point, and he would have known of the plans for Fort Alcatraz as well. He was made a General in the Confederate Army and was aide-de-camp to Jefferson Davis.



**Albert Sydney Johnston** was Commander of the U.S. Army in the Department of the Pacific, which of course included Fort Point and Fort Alcatraz. Johnston was born in Kentucky and had mostly lived in Texas. In 1861, he was asked by a group of fellow Southerners to turn over Fort Point to them, and he honorably refused to do so. However, he did resign his commission, returned to the South, and eventually became one of Lee's best generals in the Confederate Army. He was killed in the Battle of Shiloh in 1862.



**William Tecumseh Sherman.** As a young lieutenant in the Army, Sherman was assigned to help keep order in California before and after the Gold Rush. He later resigned his commission and became a banker in San Francisco in the 1850's. He would have known about the construction going on at Alcatraz. The bank building where he worked can still be seen on the corner of Montgomery and Jackson Streets. (Note: After the financial bust of 1857, he left the world of banking and later said "I can handle a hundred thousand men in battle, and take the City of the Sun, but I am afraid to manage a lot in the swamp of San Francisco." What would he think now?)



**Submitted by Bruce A. Castleman, Ph.D.**

# 2019 CIVIL WAR INSTITUTE SUMMER CONFERENCE



CIVIL WAR INSTITUTE  
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## 2019 CIVIL WAR INSTITUTE SUMMER CONFERENCE

Join us, June 14-19, 2019, for a blockbuster year of CWI speakers! We are thrilled to feature eminent Civil War scholars, Gary W. Gallagher, Ed Ayers, Carol Reardon, and Peter Carmichael within our line-up of over 35 distinguished speakers and tour guides.

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- Mosby's Confederacy: Part II
- Treasures of the National Civil War Museum
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with guides Carol Reardon, Dennis Frye, Greg Mertz, Wayne Motts, and more.

### FEATURING

- Gary Gallagher, *Edward Porter Alexander*
- Ed Ayers, *The Thin Line of Freedom: The Civil War and Emancipation in the Heart of America*
- Peter Carmichael, *The Combat Experience of Civil War Soldiers*
- Earl Hess, *Tactics, Terrain, and Trenches in the Atlanta Campaign*
- Amy Murrell Taylor, *Embattled Freedom: Journeys Through the Civil War's Refugee Camps*
- Patrick Breen, *Nat Turner's Rebellion*

**PLEASE NOTE: 15% discount for all Sacramento Civil War Round Table Members! Please see [www.gettysburg.edu/cwi/conference](http://www.gettysburg.edu/cwi/conference) for full details.**