



**Volume 57, No 4  
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# 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

This month, I am saddened to announce the passing of our member William R. Jackson who left us earlier in March. Mrs. Jane Jackson called the other day with the sad news. I had the pleasant experience of chatting with them last October at the Civil War Conference in Costa Mesa. Mrs. Jackson has offered his Civil War collection for our Conference raffle this November. I have accepted on behalf of the Sacramento CWRT.

We have heard that there may be no Gibson Ranch re-enactment this May as Doug Ose has decided to drop out. The County has decided to keep the Park open for now. We'll keep you posted.

Plans continue for our Civil War Conference this November and all is going well.

Bernie Quinn presented an excellent discussion of Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain in March and will present the rest April on 12th. I'll look forward to seeing you there.

**Don Hayden, Vice President**

**MINUTES**  
**SACRAMENTO CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE**  
**Wednesday, March 8, 2017**  
**HOF BRAU RESTAURANT, 2500 WATT AVENUE, SACRAMENTO**

**ATTENDANCE – 30**

**MEMBERS – 27:** Don Hayden, Vice President; George W. Foxworth, Treasurer; Barbara Leone, Secretary; Silver Williams, Program Director; James Armstrong, Roy Bishop, Harvey Cain, Marsha Jutovsky, Alice Corley, Arnd Gartner, Alan Geiken, Ron Grove, Bob Hanley, Nina Henley, Wayne Henley, Chris Highsmith, James Juanitas, Dennis Kohlmann (MAL); Arnold Kunst, Bernie Quinn, John Rice, Paul Ruud (MAL); Nancy Samuelson, Nick Scivoletto, Richard Sickert, Roxanne Spizzirri, Michael Werner.

**GUESTS – 3:** Esther Boeck, Larry Spizzirri, Richard Spizzirri

1. The meeting was called to order by Don Hayden and he led the Pledge. Nick Scivoletto conducted the raffle. Paul Ruud, Chairman of the 2017 West Coast Civil War Conference, talked about the raffle and live auction. Someone is needed to organize the raffle/auction and all members are asked to contribute items. Silver Williams informed the Club that Dimple Records is now carrying books and periodicals that may be helpful to Civil War aficionados. She introduced Bernie Quinn whose topic was Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain, "Lion of the Round Top."
2. Born in Maine in 1828, his stern father taught him will-power and positive action could accomplish almost anything. His father wanted him to go to West Point and Joshua wanted a West Point education but did not want to be in a peace time army. His personality required excitement and challenge. His mother wanted him to be a minister and he saw an exotic and dangerous ministry in his future.
3. He went to Bowdoin College in 148 where he felt isolated especially since he stammered. But with help, he was winning awards for oratory by his third year. While attending readings by Harriet Beecher Stowe at her home, he met Frances (Fanny) Carolyn Adams, his second cousin who he married.
4. In 1861, he was given a two-year sabbatical to go to Europe but he took it to go to War. And rather than be Colonel of the 20<sup>th</sup> Maine, he preferred to be Lieutenant Colonel so he could learn the military craft. Chamberlain learned how to be a soldier and run a regiment from Adelbert Ames, the first Commander of the 20<sup>th</sup> Maine.
5. After Ames was promoted several times, Chamberlain became Colonel and Commander of the 20<sup>th</sup> Maine. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Maine consisted of men who had signed for two years except for 120 who had signed for three. The Army refused to let them leave and put them under guard. Chamberlain was allowed to handle the problem as he wished. He put a few of these men in each of ten companies. He talked to them and all cooperated except for two that were court-martialed. Thus Chamberlain demonstrated leadership and his ability to motivate men.
6. The 20<sup>th</sup> Maine arrived on the second day of the Battle. Little Round Top wasn't very high but was very broken ground. Hood was wounded early; as a result the 44<sup>th</sup> Alabama and the 48<sup>th</sup> Alabama were not well directed. If they had been, the 20<sup>th</sup> Maine would have been eliminated. Confederate Colonel Oates believed his 15<sup>th</sup> Alabama was the best in Hood's Division. The officers and men were seasoned veterans who believed they could not be beaten. The 20<sup>th</sup> Maine was the only defense of the far left flank of the Union Army.
7. Oates' charge up the Hill was beaten back. Chamberlain withdrew his men slightly to a better location causing Oates to think they were retreating. During the Battle, Chamberlain saw he was being flanked and thinned his line. It appeared he was being turned but he refused to concede. With his sharpshooters and a series of fortunate coincidences but no direct order to charge, he was able to keep from being flanked and convince Oates that further fighting was futile. When Chamberlain ordered bayonets, the men of the 20<sup>th</sup> Maine charged on their own and the rebels ran down the Hill in defeat.
8. Bernie suggested using the internet to search "company movements on Little Round Top" for the excellent slides he used in his presentation. The slides and explanations of them are a better representation of the Battle than what can be provided here. An important point is that both Oates' men and Chamberlain's men each believed they had to win the Battle and that's how they fought.
9. Bernie related anecdotes that personalized Chamberlain's experience. He was fighting with two leg wounds, malaria, and dysentery. During the fight, he would have been killed but his assailant's weapon misfired.
10. After the War, he received a letter from a rebel sharpshooter saying twice during the Battle he had the opportunity to shoot him but an odd feeling prevented him from pulling the trigger.
11. The next Board of Director's Meeting is Wednesday, April 12, 2017, 10:00 AM at Brookfield's.

**Barbara Leone, Secretary**

**Treasurer's Report**

The cash balance following the March 8th meeting was \$5,642.70. Thanks to Nicholas Scivoletto, other members, and guests, the raffle brought in \$39.00.

**George W. Foxworth, Treasurer**

# Coming Programs for 2017

Date	Speaker	Topic
April 12th	Bernie Quinn	"Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain: Petersburg to the 20th Century"
May 10th	Joe Maxwell	"The Battle of the CSS Alabama & USS Kearsage"
June 14th	Marty Cain	"General Lewis Addison Armistead"
July 12th	To Be Determined	To Be Determined
August 9th	To Be Determined	To Be Determined
September 12th	To Be Determined	To Be Determined

## 2017 Membership

The 2017 membership renewal is due as of January 1, 2017. 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)

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

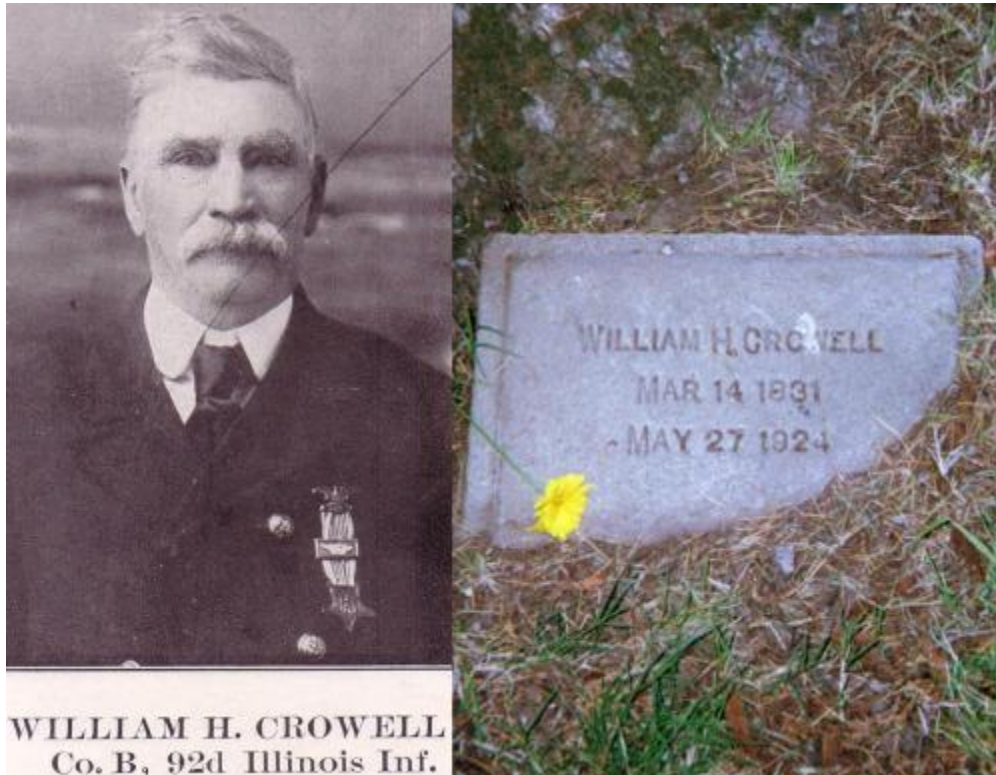
The **Battle Cry** is the monthly newsletter of the Sacramento CWRT. Submissions are subject to availability of space and size limitations. Submissions do not necessarily reflect the views of the organization or the Editor. The official address of this organization is: Sacramento Civil War Round Table, 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.

## GIBSON RANCH 2017

Per the National Civil War Association (NCWA), there will be no re-enactment this year. However, they are planning to return to Gibson Ranch in 2018.

# WILLIAM H. CROWELL

William H. Crowell, a Union veteran of the Civil War, moved to Sacramento in the years after the War. He helped build our great city and is buried here.



William H. Crowell served as a Lieutenant in the 92nd Illinois Volunteer Infantry, Company B, from August 1862 until he resigned on February 19, 1863 due to poor health. During this time, Crowell and his Regiment served in Kentucky and Tennessee. After the War, he moved to Sacramento in 1867.

Submitted by - Sebastian Nelson ( [sebnelson@gmail.com](mailto:sebnelson@gmail.com) )

## William Robert Jackson

William (Bill) Jackson, age 81, passed away in Newark, Delaware on Thursday, March 2, 2017 after a long pulmonary illness.



Bill was born on April 10, 1935 at Cooper Hospital in Camden, New Jersey. Bill lived a full and eventful life. After graduating with his BS in Accounting from Lehigh University in 1956, Bill entered the Army where he was a decorated marksman, achieving the rank of Sargent in the Delaware National Guard, serving his country with distinction for six years.

Bill was a member of the DuPont Company's finance organization for 39 years and played a critical role in the DuPont acquisition of Conoco in 1982, one of the largest Corporate mergers ever at the time. After retiring from DuPont, Bill became a key consultant to help modernize the finance systems of the Happy Harry's Drug Store Chain and their in-store pharmacy business.

Bill was an accomplished deep sea diver, joining a number of expeditions as a member of the Delaware Underwater Swim Club, investigating ship wrecks off the NJ coast bringing back memorabilia and often large crustaceans that used the ships as their home. He was also a talented musician playing numerous instruments with his specialty being the acoustic guitar. Bill was a "seasoned" cook; his lobster rolls (some from the lobsters recovered on dives) were famous amongst his family and friends.

He loved to travel and did so often after he retired from DuPont with his second wife, Pat, then after her death, with his first wife, Jane, with whom he became reunited. He particularly enjoyed visiting the shipyards in the English port towns where historical British vessels could be found. Bill was obsessed with the Civil War. He has a comprehensive library documenting the conflict and visited almost every significant Civil War battlefield across the United States. Bill was a member of the Sacramento Civil War Round Table since 2014.

## Clara Harris and Henry Rathbone

Mary and Abraham Lincoln had searched in vain for someone to accompany them to the theater on the night of April 14, 1865, to see the famous Laura Keane starring in "Our American Cousin." Finally, a close friend of Mary Lincoln's, Clara Harris, and her fiancé, Major Henry Rathbone, agreed to join them. In 1848, the young couple's parents had married, making them step-siblings. Both Clara and Henry were looking forward to a night at Ford's Theater in the company of the President of the United States and his wife.



Anticipation turned to terror when John Wilkes Booth entered the President's private box and fired his one fatal shot. Rathbone immediately jumped up to stop Booth and was brutally slashed from elbow to shoulder, severing an artery. Rathbone's action staggered Booth, stopping him from making a clean break and causing him to trip on the US Treasury flag draped over the balcony. Most of the blood in the box and on Laura Keane's skirt, where she had cradled Lincoln's head in her lap, was Rathbone's. Somehow, Rathbone managed to escort Mary Lincoln across the street to the Peterson House. Once there, he fainted. Doctors examined him, only then realizing the seriousness of his wounds.

Henry Rathbone had a long slow recovery complicated by bouts of depression. Clara, three years older and maternal, cared for him until they were finally married on July 11, 1867. Rathbone was unable to hold a job and spent the following years brooding about

his inability to thwart Booth the night of the assassination. Every year on the anniversary of Lincoln's murder, reporters swarmed Rathbone, making him relive those last moments of mayhem and helplessness. Rathbone grew worse as the years passed. His family felt he might better recover in Europe. However, his fits of rage, irrational jealousy, and anger had grown so severe, Clara was afraid to be alone with him. Finally, she agreed to go only if her sister would accompany her and the children.



On the night of December 23, 1883, Henry Rathbone shot and stabbed his wife to death while their three children hid in another room with Clara's sister. Henry stabbed himself 6 times but was unable to complete his suicide. Their three children were returned to the United States to be raised by family. Rathbone was committed to the Asylum for the Criminally Insane in Hildesheim, Germany. He lived there quietly for twenty eight years until his own death on August 14, 1911. Ironically, he was buried next to Clara, his wife and murder victim, in Stadfriedhof Engesohde Cemetery in Hanover, Germany.

In Europe, it is often customary to pay a burial space rental fee for 25 years. At the end of that period, if there is no "rent" forthcoming, the graves are re-used. By 1952, the Cemetery determined that the Rathbones had been forsaken by their family. Clara and Henry's tombstones were discarded. Their graves were dug up and they were reburied deeper. New residents were interred directly above them.

Their bones, probably dust now, will rest side by side for eternity. Clara Harris and her step-brother, husband, and murderer.

Submitted by Judith Breitstein



# 2017 West Coast Civil War Conference

Sponsored by Sacramento Civil War Round Table

## Lesser Known Civil War Battles

November 10 - 12, 2017, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Sacramento

### Our Speakers are:

**William C. Davis:** Retired in 2013 as Professor of History and Executive Director of the Virginia Center for Civil War Studies at Virginia Tech University. He is the author or editor of more than 60 books on the Civil War and Southern history, and consultant and commentator for A&E's "Civil War Journal," and several other television and film productions.

**Dr. Brian S. Wills:** Director of the Center for the Civil War Era at Kennesaw State University. Dr. Wills is a nationally recognized Civil War historian and author of books on Civil War topics.

**Thomas Cartwright:** Is a leading authority and author on the Battle of Franklin who conducted tours of Western Theater battlefields for 20 years. Appeared on many TV shows and is a frequent CWRT speaker.

**Jim Stanbery:** Professor of Political Science and History at Los Angeles Harbor College, and speaker at the West Coast Civil War Conference for more than twenty years. Is a frequent CWRT speaker.

**Theodore Savas:** Is an attorney, adjunct college instructor, award-winning author, Partner and Managing Director of Savas Beatie LLC. He specializes in military history and the American Civil War.

**Ron Perisho:** A member of the Sacramento CWRT and Center for Civil War Photography (CCWP), Co-Editor of "Gettysburg in 3-D," and a Soils Engineer who has collected Civil War Photography for 30 years.

The Conference cost is \$200 per person which includes Friday dinner, Saturday lunch and dinner, as well as all sessions. A full hotel breakfast buffet is included for guests staying at the hotel.

Partial day attendance: Friday Only \$50; Saturday Only \$125; Saturday Dinner and Lecture Only \$50; Sunday Only \$25.

There will be a no-host bar set-up Friday and Saturday evenings for your enjoyment before dinner.

For more information, contact Paul Ruud at 530-886-8806 or by contacting [www.sacramentocwrt.com](http://www.sacramentocwrt.com) where information and registration forms will be available.

Room reservations are available by calling Crowne Plaza directly 877-504-0054 or [www.crowneplaza.com](http://www.crowneplaza.com)  
[Crowne Plaza Hotel](#) has rooms set aside for us at \$124 per night, plus tax. Please mention the Conference.

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Please print this page, fill it out, and return the form with your check for your registration. Make checks payable to:  
**Sacramento CWRT** and mail to: George W. Foxworth, 9463 Salishan Court, Sacramento, CA 95826-5233.

### Name / Organization as you want it on your badge (Please Print):

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