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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**

Most of our members received a note from me asking opinions and ideas for growing interest and attendance for our Round Table. I know the change in location has been a problem for several, however it has become more convenient for others. A year and a half ago I checked out many restaurants and meeting places that might suit our needs to no avail. Most were banquet type or wanted meal orders ahead of time. There are members that live in the Carmichael area and I am willing to network for possible carpool/ride opportunities if there is interest. My email is:

[carollikestoswim@aol.com](mailto:carollikestoswim@aol.com).

Also, if you have a specific topic on the Civil War, I would be happy to try to find someone who could provide a program. As it stands at the moment, we are struggling to find presenters and are ecstatic to have Bernie Quinn with his vast knowledge and availability. Come the Autumn, I'd like to go to some colleges/schools and see if I can drum up some interest. Anyone interested in accompanying me?

**Carol Breiter, President**

# **MINUTES**

## **SACRAMENTO CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE**

**Wednesday, June 11, 2025**

**R Vida Cantina Restaurant, 7040 Sunrise Boulevard, Citrus Heights**

### **ATTENDANCE – 23**

**MEMBERS – 15:** Carol Breiter, President; Paul Ruud, Vice President; Jean Breiter, Secretary; George W. Foxworth, Treasurer; Steve Breiter, Marsha Jutovsky-Cain, Corbin Crutchley, Brendan Harris, James Juanitas (IPP), Joseph (MAL) & Michelle Matalone, Patty Ruud, Stuart & Andrea Sheffield, & Stephen Shiflett.

**GUESTS – 8:** Jeanette Calvin, Jason & Jennifer Crutchley, Lorenzo Cuesta, Matthew Jutovsky, Bernie (Speaker) & Kathy Quinn, & Katherine Phillips.

**ZOOM – 0:** Not available.

1. The meeting was called to order by President Carol Breiter at 7:00 PM and she led the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. President Breiter shared this day in history: In 1863, Darien, South Carolina was burned by the 2nd South Carolina Volunteer Regiment & 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Regiment. In 323 BC, Alexander the Great died. In 1509, Henry VIII married Catherine of Aragon. Lieutenant John F. Kennedy was awarded the Navy & Marine Medal in 1944. The University of Alabama was desegregated in 1963.
3. There was no old business.
4. New Business/Announcements: It was announced that our Facebook Page has over 800 followers. Jean Breiter was voted in by the Board Of Directors as Secretary, retroactive from January 2025. The term ends on December 31, 2026.
5. It was noted with sadness that former members Nancy Samuelson and Barbara Leone have both passed away. Barbara was our last serving Secretary in 2020.
6. Our Program was presented by Bernie Quinn and was on "George Armstrong Custer." Custer died (June 25, 1876) just before the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of the United States, captured the first Confederate flag of the Civil War, and his greatest service was at Gettysburg in 1863. In 1876 at the Little Big Horn, the Native Americans had superior rifles and Crazy Horse whipped General George Crook at the Battle of Rosebud. Captain Miles Keogh was the last man to fall and was the only body not desecrated by the Indians. It was the largest single day loss for the US Army in the Western Indian Wars.
7. After discussions, the evening ended at 8:17 PM.
8. The next Executive Board Meeting is Wednesday, July 9, 2025, 10:00 AM, at Brookfields near Madison and I-80. Members and guests are welcome.

**Submitted by Jean Breiter, Secretary**

### **Treasurer's Report**

The cash balance on June 11th was \$5,159.74. The raffle brought in \$27.00.

**George W. Foxworth, Treasurer**

# Coming Programs for 2025

Date	Speaker	Topic
July 9th	"Bernie Quinn"	"Civil War Quiz: Who is This"
August 13th	"To Be Determined"	"To Be Determined"
September 10th	"To Be Determined"	"To Be Determined"
October 8th	"To Be Determined"	"To Be Determined"
November 12th	"To Be Determined"	"To Be Determined"
December 10th	"To Be Determined"	"To Be Determined"

## 2025 Membership

The 2025 membership renewal is due on January 1, 2025. The dues are \$30.00 and you can renew at a 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

## NEWSLETTER CIVIL WAR ARTICLES

Civil War articles/book reviews are welcome. The submission deadline is the first day 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 Round Table or the Editor. The official address of this Round Table 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.

## **Friends of Civil War Alcatraz**

The Friends of Civil War Alcatraz (FOCWA) is a group of individuals interested in the Civil War history of Alcatraz island. We are made up of teachers, veterans, historians, and others who like to research and read about how Alcatraz became an important Fort for the protection of San Francisco during the Civil War.

Some of our members are also National Park Service volunteers who assist the rangers in giving public programs, in uniform, about the Union soldiers stationed on the Island and interesting events that occurred there between 1859 and 1865. We publish a newsletter every month, which can be found on our website [www.friendsofcivilwaralcatraz.org](http://www.friendsofcivilwaralcatraz.org).

We also visit schools and organizations to tell that early history of the Island, long before it became the notorious Federal prison. And we conduct living history days twice a year, in conjunction with the American Civil War Association, to give the public an idea of what the Island was like as a Union Fort.

## 5 Women of Gettysburg

The Battle of Gettysburg—fought July 1 to 3, 1863—is often told through generals and battlefields, but the women of the town fought a different kind of war. They nursed the wounded, buried the dead, fed hungry soldiers, and recorded the devastation around them with grit and compassion. Here are five remarkable women whose courage shaped the town’s story—and whose legacies still linger today.



Tillie Pierce

When the chaos of war rolled into Gettysburg in July 1863, 15-year-old Tillie Pierce fled with her neighbors—the Shriver family—seeking refuge at a farmhouse on the southern edge of town. They thought they were escaping danger, but fate had other plans. Just beyond their doorstep, brutal combat erupted at Little Round Top. Amid cannon fire and chaos, Tillie found herself transformed from schoolgirl to battlefield nurse—rushing water to parched lips, tending shattered limbs, and comforting the dying.

Years later, her extraordinary eyewitness account became a memoir—*At Gettysburg: Or What a Girl Saw and Heard at the Battle*—offering a rare glimpse of the Civil War through the eyes of a courageous teenage girl.

“The whole landscape had been changed,” she wrote, “and I felt as though we were in a strange and blighted land.”

Her story is still in [print today](#).



Hettie Shriver

Hettie Shriver was just 24 years old, the mother of two young daughters, when 170,000 Union and Confederate soldiers descended on Gettysburg. Her husband, George Shriver, had joined the Union Army at the outbreak of War, leaving Hettie to manage their elegant brick home on Baltimore Street alone.

When fighting erupted at her doorstep, Hettie fled with her daughters and their neighbor, 15-year-old Tillie Pierce, to her parents' farm on the southern edge of Gettysburg. There, she stayed to nurse the wounded and help bury the dead.

On July 7, Hettie returned to a shattered town. Miraculously, the Shriver home was still standing—barely. Confederate soldiers had occupied it during the Battle, converting the attic into a sharpshooter's nest. Bullet holes riddled the walls, furniture was smashed, and the pantry had been ransacked.

George returned briefly for Christmas later that year, but just after returning to Cole's Cavalry, he was captured and sent to the notorious Andersonville Prison in Georgia, where he died in December 1864. Financial hardship forced Hettie to sell the home in 1866. She moved to High Street and eventually remarried.

The Shriver House was painstakingly restored in 1996 to how it appeared during the Civil War and today operates as a [heritage museum](#).



Jennie Wade

Perhaps Gettysburg's most famous civilian, 20-year-old Jennie Wade had sought refuge at her sister Georgeanna's home when the fighting erupted. Georgeanna had just given birth, and Jennie, along with their mother, stayed to care for the new mother and her infant son. As the Battle raged around them, Jennie baked bread and offered water to nearby Union troops. But then, tragedy struck.

On the morning of July 3, while kneading dough in the kitchen, a stray bullet pierced two closed doors and struck Jennie in the heart, her corset tragically trapping the fatal shot. Union soldiers wrapped her body in a quilt and carried her to the cellar, where her grieving family rode out the final hours of the Battle.

Jennie was laid to rest in Evergreen Cemetery, where a U.S. flag flies perpetually in her honor—one of the few sites in the country where a flag is flown continuously for a woman.

Her sister's home has since become a memorial and museum, known today as the [Jennie Wade House](#).





Margaret "Mag" Palm

Margaret "Mag" Palm was a washerwoman and domestic servant living in Pennsylvania, though she was most famous for serving as a conductor on the Underground Railroad in Gettysburg. Perhaps it was her ability to assist so many escapees that drew the attention of Southern slaveowners, because one day in 1858, after doing the washing at Joseph Tuckey's home, three men seized her, tied her hands, and tried to push her into a horse-drawn carriage—presumably to take her South.

A newspaper account of the day stated she possessed "more than ordinary muscular power" as she fought off her attackers, even biting off one of their thumbs to free herself. Later, she implicated Ferdinand Buckingham, Philip Snyder, and Tuckey as her abductors and brought them to court—and won.

When the Battle of Gettysburg broke out, she and her husband, Alfred, were renting a house from a fellow African American in Gettysburg. Knowing the threats of being abducted into slavery, they fled town ahead of the Confederate Army's arrival. After the War, they remained in Gettysburg for the rest of their lives. Palm died on October 25, 1896, at the age of 67; she is buried in [Gettysburg's Lincoln Cemetery](#).



Elizabeth Thorn

As the wife of a Gettysburg cemetery caretaker, Elizabeth Thorn's role became more prominent when War came to town in 1863. Her husband was off serving in the Union Army, leaving her at home, six months pregnant.

As the Battle waged, Evergreen Cemetery became a makeshift hospital and burial ground for fallen soldiers. She tirelessly carried water from the Cemetery's well to wounded soldiers. And, with only the help of her elderly father, she buried more than 90 Union soldiers who died during the Battle.

Her contributions were recognized in 1904 when the Federal Government awarded her a pension.

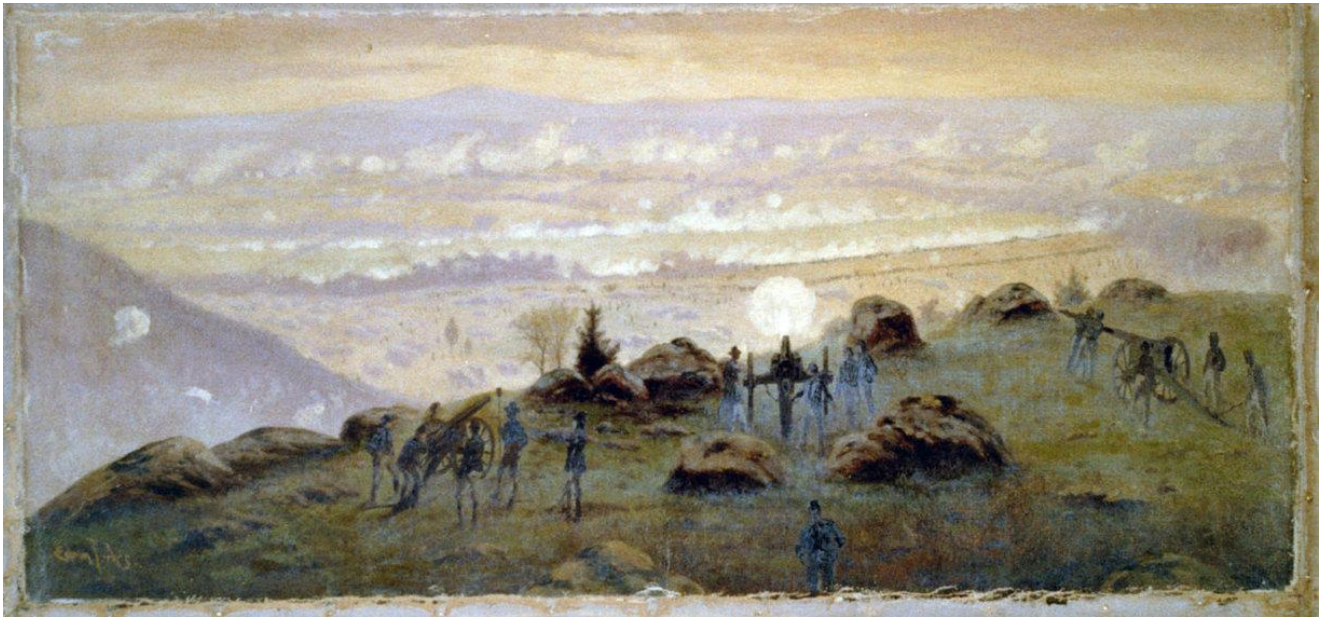
Today, you can visit her Cemetery—[Evergreen Cemetery](#)—and view the tombs of soldiers she buried. Here, too, is the Gettysburg Women's Memorial, a bronze statue depicting a heavily pregnant Elizabeth wiping sweat from her brow. Her tombstone is just up the hill, where she was laid to rest in 1907 next to her husband.

**Submitted by the Blue and Gray Education Association**



# A Favorite Battlefield Spot: Gettysburg

S. Waite Rawls III, May 27, 2024, [blueandgrayeducation.org](http://blueandgrayeducation.org)



View from the summit of Little Round Top at 7:30 p.m. on July 3rd, 1863, in a painting by Edwin Forbes.

Like many other history buffs, I love to read books about the Civil War—the more the better. And when it comes to reading about the battles, I love the maps—the more the better. But there are things that happened back then that neither the books nor the maps can describe well—things that often established the tactical plan and things that changed the course of the battle. Oftentimes, things that the generals or their men could see or couldn't see determined the outcome in ways that books and maps can't capture. You need to go to the battlefield yourself, to see what they could see. These sight lines represent one of the great reasons we try to save the battlefields.

I will try to capture several of those sights in a series of short articles, and I will start with Gettysburg's second day at Little Round Top.

First, let me say that recent work at Gettysburg to cut many of the trees down at Devil's Den has been terrific. Now as then, from the top of Little Round Top, you can see the path of the onslaught of Benning's Brigade; and from below, you can see what those Georgia boys could see as they looked up at the rocky slope. But I think books, maps, and photographs can capture these views.

But farther to the Union left, something happened that was probably more important than the fighting around Devil's Den. Joshua Chamberlain was deploying the 20th Maine as the extreme left Regiment in the defenses of Little Round Top. He detached Company B and



Little Round Top was the scene of intense fighting on July 2, 1863.



A view from Little Round Top today. The Pennsylvania Memorial can be seen in the distance.

sent it out to his left front where they lay down behind a small, broken-down stone wall. The rest of his Regiment refused its left flank and fought off several determined charges by Texans and Alabamians. At the critical point of the Battle, with William Oates' 15th Alabama about to find and perhaps turn the left flank of the 20th Maine, the men from Company B rose and fired a volley into the rear of the Alabama boys, causing a panic in their overheated and dehydrated ranks as the supposed flankers found themselves flanked. The rest of the 20th Maine made their famous bayonet charge at exactly that moment, but the single volley from Company B had already turned the tide. Without that small company firing that small volley, Oates' men might indeed have turned the Union position and driven the men in blue off of Little Round Top.

Until recently, there was only a small sign pointing to an even smaller trail that led to the stone wall of Company B; and the NPS's recent work on Little Round Top has not made the position more prominent. But when you go to this spot, you can sense why the Alabamians thought their attack had failed, leading to their disorderly retreat. Only then can you understand why Longstreet's assault failed on the second day. It is one of the most important spots in the whole three days, yet it remains off the beaten path and is barely marked. And the books, photographs, and maps cannot capture its importance the way a visit to the spot can.

**Submitted by the Blue and Gray Education Association**