



**Volume 63, No. 8
August, 2023**

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Battle Cry

Founded 1961,
Newsletter of the Sacramento Civil War Round Table
P.O. BOX 254702
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President's Message

Greetings everyone, I hope you are all doing well. As George Foxworth notified everyone earlier, I have COVID and Strep Throat along with a recurring Cough and another illness and have been extremely sick recently. Because of my illness and because we have many Officers out of town during August, I regret to inform everyone that the Sacramento CWRT won't be meeting in August but will meet again on Wednesday, September 13, 2023 at Denny's near Auburn Boulevard & Watt Avenue. If you are in contact with any other Round Table members at this time, please be sure to notify them of the cancelled August Meeting.

Thank you for your patience and I hope to see all of you in September.

James C. Juanitas, President

MINUTES
SACRAMENTO CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE
Wednesday, July 12, 2023
DENNY'S RESTAURANT, 3520 AUBURN BOULEVARD, SACRAMENTO

ATTENDANCE – 21:

MEMBERS – 20: James Juanitas, President; Carol Breiter, Vice President; George W. Foxworth, Treasurer; Jean Breiter, Harvey & Marsha Cain-Jutovsky, Arnd Gartner, Wayne & Nina Henley, Kim Grace Long, Joe (MAL) & Michelle Matalone, Paul (IPP) & Patty Ruud, Nicholas Scivoletto, Stuart & Andrea Sheffield, Steve Shiflett, Peggy Tveden, and John Zasso.

GUESTS – 01: Kate Phillips.

1. The meeting was called to order by President James Juanitas at 7:00 PM and he led the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. President Juanitas asked if anyone knew of a new meeting location. The latest is the Hof Brau may reopen in about two years. In the future, the Hof Brau is opening a mobile food truck near their building until they reopen. President Juanitas mentioned the November Civil War Conference in Fresno. He also noted our vacant Board of Directors positions. There were no volunteers.
3. Guests were introduced. One was present.
4. The raffle was conducted by Nicholas Scivoletto. Books and bottles of wine were offered as prizes. The raffle raised \$44.00. President Juanitas introduced the speaker.
5. The speaker was Jean Breiter and her topic was "Horse Breeds of the Civil War." Northern farms supplied different breeds to the Union. The Confederates would bring their own horses from home. There were mares and gelding horses in the War.
6. General Grant used three horses in the War: Egypt, Cincinnati (a thoroughbred), and Jeff Davis. Jeff Davis was purchased by Grant and was easy to ride.
7. Various horses were used by the cavalry, artillery, wagons, and ambulances. The types of horses were quarter horses, Morgan horses, American Standardbred, American Saddlebred, thoroughbred, and others. All of the breeds came in multiple colors and could be used to perform more than one type of work. Mules were also used by both armies.
8. It is estimated that between 1,000,000 and 3,000,000 horses, mules, and donkeys died during the War. For example, over 3,000 died during the Battle of Gettysburg in July 1863. In addition, 72,000 horses and mules were used in the Battle of Gettysburg. Horses and other draft animals had a seven-month life expectancy during the Civil War.
9. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.
10. The next Executive Board Meeting is August 9, 2023 at 10:00 AM, Brookfields at Madison and I-80.

Submitted by George W. Foxworth for Secretary (Vacant)

Treasurer's Report

The cash balance on July 12, 2023 was \$5,020.44. Thanks to Nicholas Scivoletto, members, and guest, the raffle brought in \$44.00.

George W. Foxworth, Treasurer

Coming Programs for 2023 & 2024

Date	Speaker	Topic
August 9th	"No Meeting"	"No Topic"
September 13th	"Arnd F. Gartner"	"To Be Determined"
October 11th	"To Be Determined"	"To Be Determined"
November 8th	"To Be Determined"	"To Be Determined"
December 13th	"To Be Determined"	"To Be Determined"
January 10th	"To Be Determined"	"To Be Determined"

2023 Membership

The 2023 membership renewal is due on January 1, 2023. 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:

gwofforth@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.

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.

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.

Submitted by Steve Johnson

William de Fleurville

William de Fleurville was born into a prominent Creole family on September 12, 1807 on Cape Haitien, Haiti. The family fled to the United States during the 1821 revolution. Some said that when King Henri Christophe, a former slave who had proclaimed himself king, committed suicide, the de Fleurvilles were left without protection.



De Fleurville was described as a “light-complexioned Negro Creole-French with a witty personality and a way with words.” The boy was sent by his parents to live with his godmother in Baltimore, MD. She placed him in St. Mary’s convent to be schooled. After her death, he was put into an orphanage to learn a trade. He chose barbering.

Upon graduating, William traveled to New Orleans looking for business opportunities but he heard too many stories of free and freed men being kidnapped and enslaved in the City. A friend from Baltimore, Dr. Elias Merriman, who now resided in Springfield, Illinois, had promised to help de Fleurville set up a barbershop. Stopping in New Salem in 1831, on his way to Springfield, de Fleurville ran into 22 year old Abraham Lincoln, who had recently left his father’s house to strike out on his own. The pair walked into Town together. Both were gifted storytellers which made the time pass quickly. De Fleurville admitted that he was in need of cash. Lincoln took his new friend to Rutledge Tavern where he was rooming. De Fleurville earned enough money in one night of work that he was able to continue his journey with cash jingling in his pocket.

With the help of Dr. Merriman, de Fleurville opened the first barbershop in Springfield on Adams between Fifth and Sixth Streets. Well established by 1832, “Billy the Barber” named his shop The Temple of Fashion. De Fleurville advertised himself as the “Emperor and Autocrat of all the Barbers.” He promised that under his care, his “Old patrons will look 20 years younger” and “forget he has the blues.” He would “nullify beards” and “Resuscitate, re-invigorate and refrigerate” dirty clothes. The shop was “...a haven for cultured men amid the dirt and discomfort” in Springfield. As the years passed, it became a second home for Lincoln and his cronies. Many of Springfield’s

most prominent men came to use William's services and stayed long after to share in the camaraderie, take part in the debates, and hear the jokes told to the merry circle that gathered around Lincoln. Some folks said that Lincoln stole many of de Fleurville's best jokes. De Fleurville and Lincoln spent so much time together that the Illinois State Journal wrote that the only two men who understood Lincoln, "were his law partner, William H. Herndon, and his barber, William de Fleurville." De Fleurville was Lincoln's barber for the next 24 years.

De Fleurville also tried his hand at real estate and catering. He opened the first clothes cleaning establishment in Springfield. His advisor and attorney in all his business dealings was the Honorable Abraham Lincoln. Because the local people had a problem pronouncing his name, he changed the spelling to "Florville."

Florville married a freed slave, Phoebe C. Roundtree, shortly after he moved to Springfield and together the couple had five children. Though born Catholic, Florville was one of the founding fathers of Saint John's Baptist Church in Springfield. William had integrated himself into the Town through his business and his philanthropy.

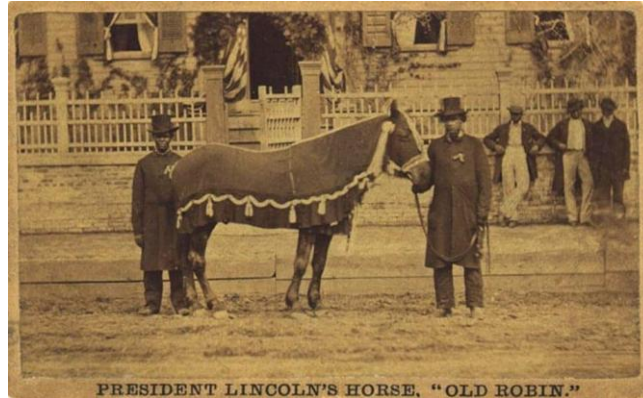
Twenty-one free Blacks lived within a three block radius of Lincoln's home. Mary Lincoln's church had a Black female member. Lincoln used a Black barber, a Black handyman, a Black driver, and a Black shoemaker and knew the Reverend Henry Brown, a Black minister, very well. Lincoln represented several Black clients. He took William Johnson, his sometimes handyman and valet, to Washington when he was elected President. The people of Sangamon County disapproved of slavery, but the two races did not interact socially.

Lincoln had become seriously ill not long before his wedding to Mary Todd. He was taken into the home of his friends, Dr. and Mrs. Anson Henry. Dr. Henry called for Florville to stay with them and care for Lincoln through his illness. William Florville nursed Abraham back to health. A few weeks later, Lincoln strode into the barbershop and said, "Billy, I want you to shave me, and trim my hair also, and I want you to do it as if I was going to be married." Florville answered, "If I do, Mr. Lincoln, it will cost you one dollar. We have to charge extra for shaving when you are going to be married." Lincoln replied, "All right. I suppose I ought not to dance without paying the fiddler."

Close to 20 years later, Lincoln seated himself in his customary chair in Florville's shop. William, thinking Lincoln had come in for his usual shave, was surprised when Lincoln stopped him from picking up the razor. "Billy," he reportedly said, "Let's give them a chance to grow." (Whether the decision to grow whiskers was due to the request of little Grace Bedell or Lincoln's belief that whiskers would make him look more presidential, we'll never know.)

On February 10, 1861, the day before Lincoln left for Washington, Florville groomed his friend for the last time. Florville was the only friend from Springfield who wrote two personal letters to the President during his term. One mourned the death of Lincoln's son, Willie and told Lincoln to assure Tad that his beloved dog, Fido, was being well taken care of back at home. The second letter said in part, "And When these troubles Shall end, the Nation will rejoice. The Oppressed will shout the name of their deliverer, and Generations to Come, will rise up and call you blessed."

Almost every funeral procession for The Great Emancipator was segregated. William Florville was asked to walk at the front of Lincoln's funeral procession to Oak Ridge Cemetery. He declined, choosing to walk at the back with the rest of the African American procession. Also included were Reverend Henry Brown, who had worked as a handyman for the Lincolns, and another local minister, Reverend William Trevan, who led Lincoln's favorite horse, Old Bob, decked out in a mourning blanket with silver fringes.



In newspaper article, Lincoln's horse "Old Bob" is mistakenly labeled "Robin."

William Florville died on April 13, 1868, three years after his friend, the President of the United States, Abraham Lincoln. Being Catholic, he chose to be buried at Cavalry Cemetery in Springfield. His family is interred in the segregated "Colored Section" at Oak Ridge. Upon William's death, his wife, Phoebe, inherited "fifteen business and tenement houses in Springfield and a farm of eighty acres in Rochester Township." Phoebe died in 1897, at the age of 93, and is buried alongside her children and family in Oak Ridge Cemetery.



William's grandson, Colonel Otis B. Duncan, was the U.S. Army's highest ranking Black officer during WWI. Another grandson, George Richardson, was the suspect that kicked off the Race Riots of 1908 in Springfield. Many Blacks were killed and their businesses and homes destroyed after a White woman accused Richardson of raping her. Two weeks later she confessed before the Grand Jury that her story was a lie.

Submitted by Judith Breitstein

National Register of Women's Service in the Civil War (NRWSCW):

Woman of the Month

Euphemia Mary Goldsborough Willson

Nurse and Smuggler, CSA



Born: June 5, 1836, in Talbot County, Maryland

Died: March 10, 1896, at Summit Point, West Virginia

Buried: Green Hill Cemetery, Berryville, Virginia

Euphemia Mary Goldsborough was born at "Boston," the Goldsborough family farm in Maryland. Called PHEME by her friends and family, she was the third eldest of Martin and Ann Hayward Goldsborough's eight children. During her teenaged years, she was educated at a girls' boarding school in Tallahassee, Florida, but by 1860, she had joined her family in their new home in Baltimore, Maryland.

With the advent of the Civil War, the Goldsborough family declared their allegiance

to the Confederacy, and their home in Baltimore quickly became a safe house for blockade runners and other Confederate operatives. After the Battle of Antietam, PHEME joined a group of Baltimore women who travelled to Frederick, Maryland to nurse wounded Confederate soldiers. She was 26 years old. When her nursing services were no longer needed in Frederick, PHEME travelled to Point Lookout Prison, where she was allowed to care for wounded Confederate prisoners of war.

Upon hearing news of the Battle of Gettysburg, PHEME travelled to the town, and began nursing Confederate wounded at a makeshift hospital at Pennsylvania College (now Gettysburg College). PHEME's reputation as a compassionate and selfless nurse was solidified immediately, when she volunteered to be a "prop" for Colonel Waller Patton (great uncle of General George S. Patton III). Colonel Patton had been shot through the lungs, and was unconscious. Doctors knew that if he did not remain upright, he would suffocate. Other nurses carefully positioned the Colonel against PHEME's back, and fastened his unconscious body to hers. PHEME supported him throughout the night, never moving, and becoming numb from the pressure, until the Colonel passed away the next morning.

PHEME went above and beyond for all of her patients. Noticing that the wounded soldiers needed clothing and shoes, she began making regular trips between Baltimore and Gettysburg, and smuggling these items in her hoopskirts to later distribute to her patients. When Camp Letterman Hospital opened, PHEME elected to stay in Gettysburg as a nurse, even though that meant nursing Union troops as well as Confederate ones. She was assigned to care for 100 men -- 50 Union and 50 Confederate. Her favorite patient was Sam Watson, a Texan with an amputated arm. PHEME wrote he was "one of the most attractive boys I ever saw." PHEME was devastated when Watson died on September 13, 1863. She left Gettysburg shortly thereafter.

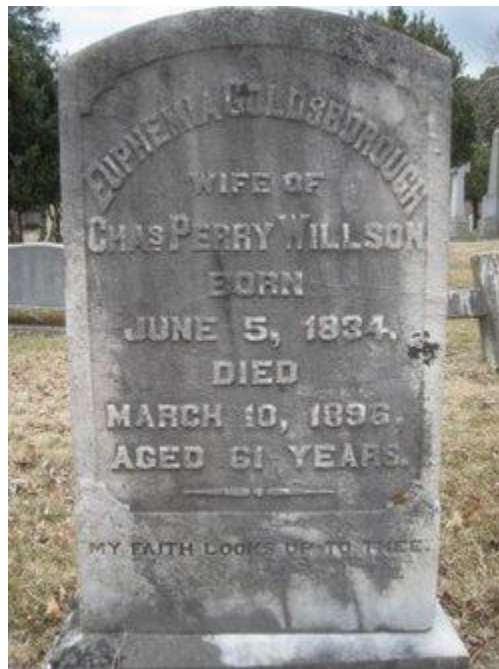
PHEME returned to Baltimore much broken in spirit, and her sister remarked she was "never the same joyous girl again." And yet, PHEME's cherished possession was the book she had kept as a nurse, filled with the signatures of all the wounded soldiers she had cared for -- and in many cases, the soldiers had filled her book with poems and words of thanks. After some rest, PHEME joined her family in the smuggling of food, medicine, and clothing to Confederate POWs in hospitals and prisons. Union Provost authorities had been long suspicious of the Goldsborough family, and managed to intercept a letter written by PHEME. Although the contents of that letter are now lost, it was incriminating enough to lead to her arrest.

PHEME, who claimed her crimes were "feeding the hungry and clothing the naked," was found guilty of treason and sentenced to banishment from the Union for the remainder of the War. She was put on a steamboat and arrived in Richmond on December 4, 1863. PHEME was quickly accepted into Richmond society. Although offered a home by the family of Colonel Patton, PHEME elected to reside at a ladies

boarding house. In need of funds, she was appointed to a job at the Confederate Department of Treasury. For the next 16 months, PHEME's schedule consisted of working each morning at the Treasury, and nursing in the afternoon at one of the many hospitals in Richmond.

On March 26, 1865, PHEME left Richmond with Captain Thomas Houston, for a visit to his family home in Rockbridge County, Virginia. It was there that she learned of the fall of Richmond and the surrender of Confederate forces at Appomattox. She wrote in her diary of the deep sorrow and fear she felt at the loss of the Confederacy. PHEME finally returned to Baltimore on July 2, 1865. After the War, PHEME and her family were deeply involved in various charities devoted to assisting Confederate veterans and their widows. PHEME was also a Baltimore socialite in the post-War years.

On June 29, 1874, at the age of 38, PHEME married Charles P. Willson, a Confederate veteran and a widower with five children. They moved to Summit Point, West Virginia, where they farmed, ran a mercantile business, and operated a boarding house. PHEME gave birth to three children, Martin, Sam, and Ann. Only her daughter outlived her -- both Martin and Sam died in November 1880. Charles died in 1893. PHEME passed away from cancer on March 10, 1896. Charles, PHEME, and their children are buried at the Willson family plot in Berryville, Virginia.



Euphemia Goldsborough Willson was the first Confederate woman inducted into the Maryland Women's Hall of Fame.

Submitted by the "Society for Women and the Civil War - www.swcw.org"

2023 WEST COAST CIVIL WAR CONFERENCE

November 3 - 5, 2023



WYNDHAM GARDEN HOTEL, 5090 East Clinton Way, FRESNO, CA 93727-1506, (1-844-208-0446, 1-559-494-4992, or 1-559-252-3611), \$112.00 per night with Group Block ID# 141218, (Fresno Airport).

“160th Anniversary of the Vicksburg Campaign.”

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

SPEAKERS & TOPICS:

General Parker Hills; Author & Civil War Tour Guide; Various topics on Vicksburg. General U.S. Grant (Dr. Curt Fields); Grant Interpreter; Grant at Vicksburg. Jim Stanbery; Educator & Historian; Grant vs Pemberton. Ron Vaughan; San Joaquin Valley CWRT; Battle of Milliken's Bend & The Adventures of Bowen's Missouri Troops in the Bayous.

Friday Night Dinner Begins at 5:30 PM.

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

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION: \$225.00 PER PERSON for Weekend, including meals until October 1, 2023. After October 1, \$250.00. Breakfast on your own. Coffee, water, and pastries provided during the Conference.
(Non participants who wish Dinner Friday or Saturday nights: \$35.00 each meal.)

Name _____

Address _____

Phone(s) _____

Email _____

Member of which CWRT/ORG _____

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

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