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**Battle Cry deadline is
1:00PM Wed. two
weeks before the regu-
lar meeting. Items can
be given the editor by
hand, mail or e-mail.**

Battle Cry

Founded 1961,
Newsletter of the Sacramento Civil War Round Table
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President's Message

I returned today from a fantastic 3 days at the Gettysburg Battlefield. On my first trip to Gettysburg, I toured the whole battle in 2 hours in a bus. This time in 2 and 1/2 days we ran out of time! We started at the place where General Meade had his tent on the night of 28 June, 1863, when he got the orders making him the commander of the Army of the Potomac. What a first week on the job he had! Next we visited Pipe Creek where he wanted to set up the Union battle line.

I don't want to try to cover all I saw, but I was surprised to learn that on the morning and early afternoon of July 2nd, General Meade was trying to launch a counterattack. His plan was to attack General Ewell's Corp. from the east. Meade had two corps, the 12th and 5th ready to go under the commander of the 12th Corp., General Slocum. They were around Wolf's Hill. Had the 6th Corp. come up soon enough, he would have used them, too. Gen. Slocum was the senior Corp. Commander in the Army of the Potomac but had declined command of the army. Meade had to be very diplomatic in how he phrased orders to Slocum. The 5th and 12 Corps were put in place and, at 11:30, Meade sent Slocum a preliminary message to prepare to attack. He got back a message from Slocum saying; "I am not where you think I am." Slocum had moved the entire force over to Culp's Hill. Needless to say, Meade was livid. This started a personality conflict that lasted until Slocum was moved out west. This partially explains why General Meade did not inspect General Sickles Corp. placement until 3 PM.

Throughout the rest of the battle, Gen. Slocum was outstanding in deploying his men. An interesting aside is that, since the 20th Maine was part of the 5th Corp., in the morning of 2 July, they were as far from Little Round Top as they could get.

Our next meeting is Tue. Oct. 26 at the Hof Brau. I will be speaking on the Election of 1864.

Treasurer's Report

The cash balance following the September 29, 2004 meeting was \$1,520.68. Thanks to members and guests, the raffle brought in \$41.00.

George W. Foxworth,
Treasurer

MINUTES

SACRAMENTO CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

WENSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2004

HOF BRAU RESTAURANT 2500 WATT AVE, SACRAMENTO

ATTENDANCE 35

Members – 32

Dennis Kohlman, President	Alan Geiken	Jim Middleton	Maxine Wollen
Kit Knight, Vice President	Don Hayden	Betty Mitchell	John Zasso
George Foxworth, Treasurer	Janet Junell	Maurice Mitchell	<u>Guest – 4</u>
Edie Keister, Secretary	Robert Junell	Bev Passerello	Bob Webb
Dudley Albrecht	Majorie Knauer	John Passerello	Violet Webb
James Armstrong	Russell Knauer	Paul Ruud	Bernard Scher
Roy Bishop	Arthur Knight	Andrew Sneeringer	Kyle Glasson
Ardith Chota	Virginia Martin	Ted Swanson	
Mitch Chota	Earl Martin	Bob Williams	
Kirk Fujikawa	Leslie Michaels	Susan Williams	

1. Meeting started at 7:00. Guest were noted and welcomed. Hands were counted for who had dinner at the restaurant. "This Day in Civil War History" was read. Susan shared information on the Modesto CWRT Convention in November. Paul Ruud finally heard from the elusive Walt B – he's fine and doing well in St. Louis.
2. New Officers were announced for the coming year
 - Don Hayden, President
 - Susan Williams, Vice President
 - George Foxworth, Treasurer
 - Edie Keister, Secretary
 - Bart Shall, Member at Large
 - Carol Breiter, Member at Large
 - Dennis Kohlmann, Past President
 - Jim Middleton: Battle Cry Editor
3. Request was made by President Kohlmann for a committee to work on the 2006 conference.
4. We had a very enjoyable evening (thanks to Kit Knight) with Mark Twain (Bob Webb), and his lovely wife Livy (Violet Webb). Our guest speaker kept us laughing as we learned about his travels, outlook on life, and his short gig in the Civil War with a questionable Confederate outfit. The only trouble was – it was too short! (I could've listened another hour.) Many thanks to Bob and Violet, and kudos to Kit for attaining their presence.
5. Our next speaker will be our own Dennis Kohlmann, speaking on the Election of 1864, Tues Oct. 26th
6. The raffle was held. Many members contributed extra items to be raffled off – thank you everybody! Meeting ended at 8:00.

Edie Keister
Secretary

For at least the next two months, maybe longer, SCWRT will meet at the Hof Brau 2500 Watt Ave. the northeast corner of El Camino and Watt Ave.

Date	Speaker	Title
Tues 26 Oct.	Dennis Kohlmann	Election of 1864
Mon 6 Dec	Paul Wagstaffe	Reconstruction

Please note the change in day of the week for Oct. & Dec.

Our October meeting is when we elect officers for next year:

Nominees for 2005

- President: Don Hayden
- Vice President: Susan Williams
- Treasurer: George Foxworth
- Secretary: Edie Keister
- Member at Large; Brad Schall
- Member at large: Carol Breiter
- Editor: Jim Middleton
- Past Pres: Dennis Kohlmann

As usual nominations will be accepted from the floor at the meeting.

A Report on The 15th Annual Civil War Reenactment At Kearney Park

by George W. Foxworth

In conjunction with the Fresno Historical Society, The National Civil War Association (NCWA) ended its 2004 reenactment season on September 24-26 at Historic Kearney Park in Fresno, California. The theme was the "Battle of Spotsylvania," to honor the soldiers

on the occasion of the 140th anniversary of the Battle.

The NCWA is a private non-profit organization that uses "living history" to help the public to better understand the American Civil War. By portraying the manner in which the soldiers and civilians lived, worked, fought, and died during the Civil War era, the NCWA hopes to keep alive the spirit and sacrifice made by the men, women, and children of that time. On September 24th (Friday), the NCWA and Fresno Historical Society hosted hundreds of students from Fresno area schools for a living history demonstration. The reenactment was Saturday and Sunday. The highlight of the weekend was the expanded battlefield at Kearney Park. In past years, the entire battle and battlefield was visible from one location. However, the expanded battlefield was three times larger and several battles happened on the field at the same time. You could see and hear the battle near you. However, you could hear other battles but could not see them. It was similar to battles that were reported by many Civil War participants who kept dairies.

Attending were Ken and Barbara Moats and other members of The San Joaquin Valley Civil War

Round Table. From the Sacramento Civil War Round Table (SCWRT), the attendees were John Zasso, John Nevin, Ed Sims, Brad Schall, and George W. Foxworth. Former SCWRT members that attended were Gene Morrow and Bob Hayes.

The 2004 NCWA end-of-the-season event was a complete success and the NCWA and Fresno Historical Society are commended for their great work. We look ahead to the 2005 season that begins in early Spring and the 16th Annual Reenactment at Kearney Park.



Bob Webb as Mark Twain
Our September
speaker gave a light
hearted presentation of
Mark Twain. He kept us
entertained throughout
the meeting. With his wife
Livy, we received a taste
of the character and
personality of Clemens. A
most enjoyable evening.

HELL ON 16 ACRES

Uncle Robert was one of the 50,000 Canadians who fought in America's Civil War. My uncle drew maps for the Union Army until he was captured in 1863; he chewed up bits of papers all that night. Later, for five days he was crammed in a boxcar that had been used to carry cattle. Manure still covered the floor. None of the 62 prisoners had room enough to sit, let alone to lie down. Uncle Robert got three crackers and a slice of raw bacon each day. Less, once he arrived in Andersonville. The stockade held 33,000 men; each prisoner was allotted the footage of a grave. Nearly 14,000 men wearing shreds of rotted blue rags died there. On dark nights when the moonlight flowed like mad cream, my uncle watched wild hogs rooting up the bodies. The ones who didn't die lost teeth to scurvy and were beaten by other prisoners. Anything to get a filthy lice-infested blanket or an extra spoonful of wormy flour. His sketch of the hut for bloodhounds that tracked escapees is hideously chilling. Hell on 16 acres of Georgia's red earth. Four decades have passed, and today Uncle Robert moved into the Old Soldiers' Home. He says pain and grief either turns a man animal or makes him stronger. Pointing to piles of diary entries and sketches, my uncle says, "I learned to cry on paper."

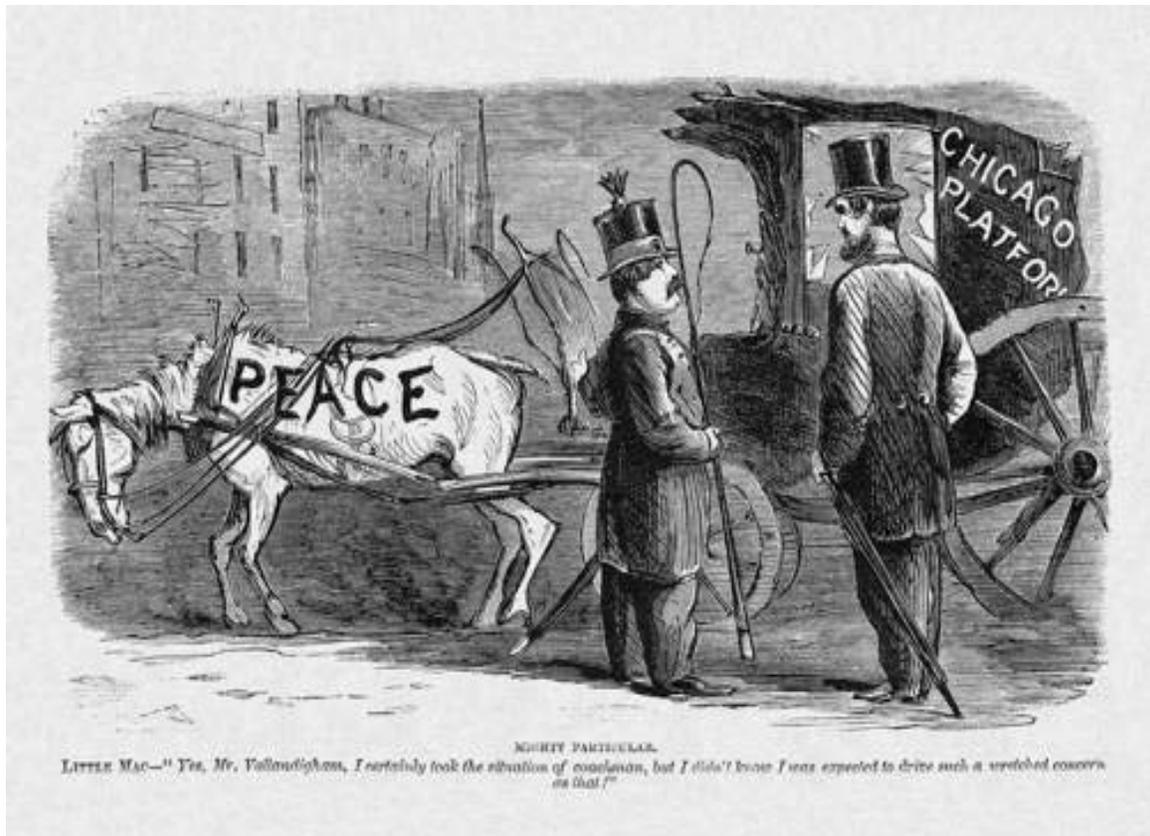
-- Kit Knight



"Model 1844 Columbiads on the right flank of South Battery. A powder magazine is located at the end of the line of barbette emplacements."
From: Martini, John Arturo. *Fortress Alcatraz: Guardian of the Golden Gate*. Ten Speed Press, 2004.

On Sunday, October 17, 2004 about 60 Civil War buffs from several round tables, Sons of Union Veterans, Reenactors of the Civil War and other interested persons met at Alcatraz Island. The trip had been arranged through the Park Service by Fred Bahmfalk, Brad Schall and Phil Avila. We were divided into three groups of about 20 people, each group led by a ranger except the one led by retired ranger John Martini, the author of the above book. For three hours, we were shown Alcatraz, including many areas normally closed to the public. The focus was on Alcatraz during the Civil War. During his research for the above book, Martini had discovered several pictures taken of the fort in 1864 which had been banned by Edwin Stanton and the negatives destroyed. Of the 50 pictures originally taken, 8 are reproduced in this book. They were found misfiled or misidentified somewhere in the Archives. Whether there are any more misfiled or misidentified somewhere in the Archives is not known. One of the pictures published in the book is reproduced above.

A new group called Friends of Civil War Alcatraz is being formed.



Cartoonist: Frank Bellew

Source: Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper

Date: October 1, 1864, p. 32

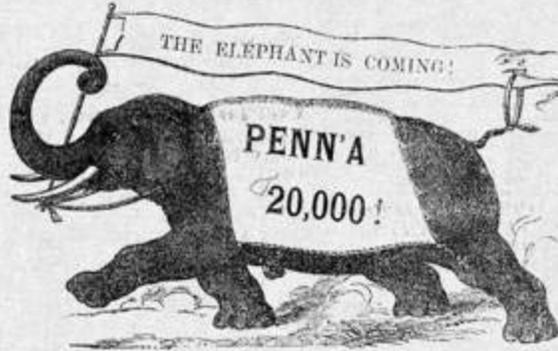
Complete HarpWeek Explanation:

In this cartoon from *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, Democratic presidential nominee General George B. McClellan (left) expresses surprise to Clement Vallandigham (right) over the poor state of the party's horse, a weak animal named "Peace." Drafted at the Democratic National Convention in Chicago, the party platform included an endorsement of a ceasefire and negotiated settlement of the Civil War. McClellan repudiated the peace plank and declared that he would administer the war more effectively than President Abraham Lincoln, his Republican opponent. [Vallandigham](#) was a former Democratic congressman who had been charged with treason and exiled to the Confederacy. He returned to Ohio in June 1864 and began speaking out against the war, but was ignored by Union officials. He was instrumental in the passage of the peace plank and campaigned for McClellan and other Democratic candidates.

Since our topic at our next meeting is the 1864 election, I am including a couple of the campaign cartoons in this issue. Cartoons are from the HarpWeek internet site

“LITTLE MAC” OFF THE TRACK!

VICTORY, VICTORY!



**"We'll Rally Round the Flag, Boys, Rally once again,
Shouting the Battle Cry of Freedom!"**

VICTORY IN PENNSYLVANIA!

VICTORY IN INDIANA!

VICTORY IN OHIO!

VICTORY IN MARYLAND, AND

VICTORY ALONG THE LINE!



The election on Tuesday last resulted in a glorious Union Victory. Desperate efforts were made by the enemy to carry Pennsylvania, but they were handsomely beaten by from two to three thousand majority on the home vote, which will be increased twenty thousand by the returns from the army.

Out of the twenty-four Congressmen elected, sixteen are Union, being a gain of four. The State Legislature is Union by a large majority in both branches. The Copperheads elected only three from Philadelphia. The glorious City of Philadelphia gave 7700 Union majority.

In Lancaster, Chester, Bradford, Tioga, and in fact all the strong Union Counties, our majorities were reduced, by reason of over confidence. They will do much better in November.

In Berks, Luzerne, Montgomery, Schuylkill, and several other democratic counties, where the effort was made, we gained on last year's vote, and thus the popular majority in the State was secured for the Union.

Cartoonist: Unknown
Source: Father Abraham
Date: October 18, 1864, p. 3
(continued on page 8)

(continued from page 7)
Complete HarpWeek Explanation:

Most discussions of the origin of the elephant as the symbol of the Republican Party credit Thomas Nast and his *Harper's Weekly* cartoon of November 7, 1874, "The Third Term Panic." Political commentator William Safire does so in his *New Language of Politics* (1972). However, Safire and others following his lead also mention an alleged appearance of an elephant in the pro-Lincoln campaign newspaper of 1860, *The Rail Splitter*. Although an image of a stampeding elephant was published in the Chicago version of that partisan periodical, it was part of an [advertisement](#) for a Chicago shoe store, Willet & Co. The elephant in the ad wears boots and carries a banner in its trunk labeled "Good Boots and Shoes." Located on the back page of each issue, none of the Willet advertisements make any direct or indirect reference to the Republican Party in particular or politics in general. The image does not appear in the Cincinnati edition of *The Rail Splitter* (1860).

During the 1864 presidential election, an image of an elephant was published in the pro-Lincoln campaign newspaper, *Father Abraham*. The same boot-wearing, banner-carrying pachyderm used in the 1860 Willet advertisements is shown in the September 27, 1864 issue of *Father Abraham* celebrating Union [military victories](#), instead of selling shoes. Since "seeing the elephant" was slang among Civil War soldiers for engaging in combat, the symbol was a natural choice for honoring successful military campaigns.

In the featured illustration from the October 18, 1864 issue of *Father Abraham*, the same emblem (minus the boots) bears a banner proclaiming, "The Elephant is Coming." The animal is surrounded by text celebrating Republican victories in state elections, which were seen as precursors of the presidential contest a few weeks later in early November. This first appearance of the Republican Elephant had transitioned smoothly and swiftly from the language and imagery of war to that of American politics. As mentioned above, the symbol indirectly derived from the business world of product marketing.

In 1872, *Harper's Weekly* published a cartoon depicting the breakaway Liberal Republicans as a sham elephant. However, in neither 1864 nor 1872 did the symbolic caricature have a lasting impact on political cartoonists or the public. It was not until the mid-1870s that [Thomas Nast's use](#) of the elephant to represent the Republican Party captured the attention of others. By the 1880 presidential election, cartoonists for other publications had incorporated the elephant symbol into their own work, and by March 1884 Nast could refer to the image he had made famous as "The Sacred Elephant" of the Republican Party.