

The Cannon's Mouth

NEWSLETTER OF THE CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL ARTILLERY SOCIETY
MARCH 2010

Commander's Call

Alan Ginos

Our first work party weekend went well considering the small turnout of 8 attendees on Saturday and 3 on Sunday. With this level of attendance we can only keep up with current needs to start the season, and defer maintenance on items that will come back and cost us in the future.



The next work party March 6-7 combines both maintenance and training needs. On Saturday drivers will catch and clean horses, then fit tack to them. If time allows, team(s) will be hitched and worked. Non-drivers will do maintenance work on Saturday then practice gun drill on Sunday. Later in the day Sunday driver and cannoneer training will be combined for drills

in limbering up, mounting limbers, and prolong drill. This same scenario was followed last year and all in attendance felt it very beneficial.

If you can't make either day of the weekend, there is a second chance to be involved April 10-11. That weekend will start with our attendance at a parade in Pacific Grove, followed by work party and driver training the rest of the weekend. Sunday will be a copy of March 7 for safety training.

While we don't make things mandatory, we expect you to fall in for one or both of the weekends to ensure we start the year with safety in mind and covered before we take the field the first time at Mariposa.

The NCWA living history event at Oakhurst is a no battle event. If you want to attend, the theme will be 1860 election campaign and rallies. You can fall in as militia and participate. CHAS is not attending as a unit so you will be own your own.

Dispatches from the Dog Tent

Ted Milgovich

Winter is winding down and the reenacting season is upon us. Time to work on unit equipment, get people trained and look forward to a great season full of events. Also time to move into gear for our biggest fundraiser of the year, Duncans Mills. We have worked out the details with the site owners to have the event this year again. We need to generate more donations to keep the event going. Our search for more sponsor support so far has come up short. To compensate for this we are expanding our fees charged to the reenacting community. I prepared them for this, in last year's handout - all reenactors got warning that if the event was to take place, a fee was in the works. We have been collecting a fee from non-PACWR people for years now, but this year to fill the gap we are expanding this to include all reenactors. Attached will be a letter summarizing our plans and explaining our position in detail. We have our usual list of event clean up and projects to do as time approaches. I would like to get more firewood cut and split so look for a call for a work party just to work on the firewood project sometime this spring.

The next board meeting will be held on Wednesday March 31st, 6:00 pm at the Marie Callender's in Concord. As always, you may attend or contact your member at large.



Board Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the California Historical Artillery Society Board Meeting: December 10, 2009

Present: Mike Johnson, John Boyd, Alan Ginos, Ted Miljevich, Scott Foster, Judith Boling, Roger Boling, Teri Moretti

Guests: Wes Faubel, Donna Schulken

Meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM

Minutes of the Oct. 29, 2009 meeting were read and approved as corrected.

Officer Reports:

Vice President: John

Working on Data collection for Duncans Mills Attendees. Recommended that he work with Alan on what information is necessary.

Insurance for Trucks: Progressive Ins. Would be \$4500.00. Needs further information on model year, etc.

Treasurer: Mike Johnson

Reviewed the Checking and Disbursements,

Need to find out what the expenses were for the surrey repair in order to determine total profit.

Members at Large:

Roger: Inquired about ownership of forge. Was it donated to Unit, and should it be on the CHAS equipment list?

Commanders:

Alan:

Scott will scan school day presentation.
NCWA issues: Will go to yearly safety testing.
Rank ratio should include those on provost duty, camp guards, or other unit helpers.

Judith:

Received four surveys back. Currently at 18 members.

Safety:

No injuries at Moorpark.

Discussion about horse watch which should cover all aspects of camp life. Need to let everyone know who the key people are in case of emergency, and how to be aware of medical needs and issues. How do we tie it all together?

Wes has updated safety tests on web site.

Fundraising/Financial:

Donna Schulken is working on the fundraising dinner. Trying to figure out who would be a co-sponsor. Needs someone who is known and respected in the local business community. Alan recommended checking with Scott Johnson. Has gotten some response on the Save Mart cards.

Looking into parades and other venues. (i.e. Christmas Parades)

Need to get the word out that Duncans Mills will be July 17 and 18.

Materials and Acquisition:

Power washed and put away the equipment after Moorpark. Identified two wheels that need repair. Found a wheelwright in Marysville.

Gun 4 needs the most work. Should be stripped and repainted.

Tack is generally in good shape. All tack needing repair has been sent to Mark Weston.

Work party planned for 2/20 to start on equipment repair.

Electric winch on Forge trailer is now working. Wes needs to add a battery box.

March 6 & 7 planned for work party and driver training.

Horse sale opportunities: Alan had talked with someone in Florida looking for horses to use in Military funerals. Does not appear it will go any further.

Public Relations and Recruitment:

Ballots and reenlistment forms have gone out.

Ended year with 97 members.

By Laws:

Safety tests have been fixed.

Elections: Do not have a candidate to replace Norm.

Events:

Alan needs confirmation from the Sacramento Military Museum as to the date and location for the annual meeting.

March 19-21 will be an NCWA living history event at Oakhurst.

April 16-18 will be an ACWA event at Mariposa. CHAS is planning on attending.

April 24 will be an NCWA tactical event at Placerville.

Fresno is planned for October 1-3

CAV 101 planned for March 20-21. Melinda has arranged for an instructor. Will limit students to 18 and staff at 11. Wes will put a flyer together. Cost will be about \$75.00.

Need to get a copy of the previous contract for Duncans Mills and get it to Paul.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Annual meeting will follow the standard format. Potluck with Costco chicken. Donna and Teri will follow up on arrangements.

Next meeting is Thursday, Feb. 18.

CAV101 Coming Soon!

Wes Faubel

Hear the Bugles in the distance?

Are you a member of CHAS who does not normally work with our noble steeds a new driver that has yet to ride in a battle?

Are you one of those drivers who feel like you are constantly riding an impending horse wreck, but don't know why? Do you often "tell" your mount to do something and they ignore (or worse, laugh at) you?

Have you been to School of the Horse Soldier and felt overwhelmed by the skills that were taken for granted?

This first of its kind (for us) event is for you! CHAS is presenting Cavalry 101 specifically to enhance our members 1-on-1 horse skills. The school will be taught by Becky Hart of Chef d'Equipe, Endurance, an endurance rider and riding instructor. Becky is a Level III Centered Riding Instructor with extensive teaching experience at all levels. Centered Riding is based on dressage principles and body awareness.

This fun-filled two day event will include group lessons Saturday in mounted skills and trails/obstacles. Dismounted lessons will be taught in tacking, grooming, and history. Sunday will be devoted to mounted games to improve coordination and balance (on the part of the rider AND the horse), introduction to formation riding and other skills necessary for riders in the more advanced School of the Horse Soldier, and as a general all around horseperson.

The event will be held March 20 through March

21. The cost is \$75.00 and includes six meals and group lessons. Private and semi-private lessons are available directly from Becky for an additional fee. Accommodations will be bunkhouse or tent (period or modern).

Remember the class size is limited and we only have 10 positions left. Tell your friends! This event is open to the public, but for insurance reasons additional entry rules apply.

We also still have some positions for dismounted staff if you want to help out and see the action but don't want to try a horse.

Contact Lt Casualty at faubel@syix.com, 530 741 1259, or 7993 Meconium Way, Marysville CA 95901 for more information.

Your Obedient Servant,

Lt Casualty.



The Recruiting Desk

Wes Faubel

The grass is greening and the trees are blooming! Spring is here and as soon as the roads are dry enough to move, I expect the assembly to be played.

Fifty-six hearty souls have expressed their willingness to take the field again this year and I expect more anytime soon. Remember, members will be dropped from the roster if reenlistment papers are not received by April 1st. This allows the Command Staff to prepare their rosters.

Now join me in extending a warm CHAS welcome to new Sanitary Commission members Chrissy Henderson and Maria Huerta. They were both approved at the February 18th board meeting.

Yr Obedient Svt

Lt Casualty



The American Civil War Association
INVITES YOU

to Participate in & Enjoy
LAS MARIPOSAS CIVIL WAR DAYS

AT THE MOST SPECTACULAR SITE IN THE WEST!

Education Day: Friday, April 16th

Main Event: Sat./Sun., April 17th~18th

AT LONGS' MARIPOSA RANCH, MARIPOSA CA

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, COMPLETE EVENT SCHEDULES, AND
REGISTRATION INFORMATION SEE:**

**www.TheCivilWarDays.com OR
www.ACWA.org**

*Presented by the Las Mariposas Civil War Group
and the American Civil War Association*

Civilian Corner

Judith Boling

Our own Donna Schulken was appointed CHAS Corresponding Secretary at the February board meeting. Donna is starting her second year of membership with CHAS. In addition to her new duties as Corresponding Secretary, she also serves as CHAS fundraising chairperson.

Welcome to Sanitary Commission's two newest members, Maria Huerta and Crissy Henderson. Their membership applications were approved at the February board. Maria resides in Lodi. She is a student and serves as a docent at Sutter's Fort. Crissy resides in Los Banos. She is new to reenacting and is employed as an emergency room nurse. We look forward to getting to know both of you ladies.



Donna Schulken and I were on hand at the California Military Museum for Military Day in February, sharing the story of the important work performed by the U.S. Sanitary Commission during the years 1961 – 1966.

Need help fitting a bodice? Want to finish that petticoat you started last spring? Plan to attend the Sanitary Commission sewing weekend in Santa Nella, March 26 and 27. Join us for one or both days of sewing, conversation, and good food. RSVP with Donna Schulken.

Other opportunities for Civilian participation during March and April are numerous. See the listing of Events in the back of this issue of Cannon's Mouth.

REMINDER: If you haven't already done so, be sure to complete the CHAS Camp Safety Test. The completed test should be sent to Wes Faubel. NCWA is now requiring annual safety testing. They have adopted the PACWR Safety tests. Print and complete the General Safety Test and send it to me for signature and forwarding to the appropriate NCWA administrative personnel.

Fundraising

Donna Schulken

Just a short note from the Fundraising Corner.

We do hope you are using your SHARES cards when you shop at SAVE MART, LUCKY, S-MART or FOOD MAXX. It's a great way to help CHAS and with nothing out of your pocket. If you still need a SHARES card, let me know by writing to me at dschulken@earthlink.net or call me at 209-826-1611.

Another reminder is to use GOOD SEARCH as your permanent search engine. I have used it a number of times and in fact have been able to use eBay, Amazon and Bed, Bath and Beyond to purchase on line and a percentage of my purchase will come back to CHAS. It's very easy to set GOOD SEARCH as your search engine and don't forget to set "California Historical Artillery Society" as your charity of choice.

Now that the 2010 reenactment season is upon us, we will need to keep thinking of inventive ways to raise funds. If you have any ideas let me know and I will present any and all ideas to the board. Just send me a quick note to dschulken@earthlink.net

Remember we also have T-shirts for sale, along with CHAS mugs. Ordering information is located at the back of your monthly edition of the Cannon's Mouth.

Thank you for your help and see you all soon!

Donna



*The Authenticity Committee
would like a word with you...*

CALIFORNIA MILITARY MUSEUM



Retirement Thoughts

Terry Thompson

Many of you may know Terry as a cannoneer or the "Casini Weenie Queen". You may know about her local activities with the Rotary and the family business. She recently retired from more than 31 years service in the Navy and Reserves. We would like to congratulate Terry on her retirement and thank her for her service. Here is the speech she gave at her retirement ceremony. ~ ed.

31 yrs ago today, I was in Boot camp in Orlando, FL, a base that no longer exists. 31 yrs is 1 ½ generations. Needless to say, I have seen a lot of changes. When I joined, women were just starting to be allowed on ships. Today, there is talk of putting women on submarines. Having spent my active career in submarine repair, this is going to be interesting.

The Navy and Reserve has given me a lot of opportunities. I've played basketball in Adak, Alaska, got my first ambulance ride in NY for a bee sting, a riot in Great Lakes, IL, 2 submarine rides, one on my brother's old boat. I got a helicopter ride over Millerton Lake with the Sea Cadets. I've been in lava tubes in Volcano National Park, a snowstorm in Washington, DC and to the DMZ. And I only have about 1 month of total sea time.

And my family has gotten to travel with me most of my reserve career. It's been a great journey.

So what are my words of wisdom in departing?

Volunteer for anything. When I was getting ready to go to boot camp, Uncle Carl told me to volunteer for everything. That way if you don't like it, at least you can't blame somebody else. It's not a bad motto. And sometimes you end up doing some pretty cool stuff.



Never stop learning. Throughout my career I have completed lots of correspondence courses. I used to get the book and answer sheets and have to turn everything in and hope I got credit. Remember I was in before computers. I found some of my old evals, hand typed. If you made a mistake on one of them, you started all over. Now it is too easy. Especially with courses. Everything is on line, there is no excuse for not completing courses. Do the ones that are kind of off the wall. Upon commissioning, I was XO of NCTAMS, a communications units. I did Navy Space and learned how we launch satellites. When I transferred to Port Hueneme to CNFK, I was the Weapons Officers for the Logistics Division. I did the Gunner's Mate Course. Just December I completed a professional development course worth 25 points toward my retirement. I thought I knew a lot. I still learned a ton.

Don't be afraid to speak up. And don't be afraid to be first.

My career.

I was in the 2nd class of women to start Nuclear Power School. An experiment in 1979. The Navy opened the field for one year. Keep in mind the only nuclear powered ships in the Navy are aircraft carriers, cruisers, and submarines and women are not allowed on combat vessels. The Navy was just starting to let women on tenders. So this was an experiment. When I got to Nuc Power school, we first attended a preschool, mostly refresher in math and physics. We were put in class sections based on our scores coming out of preschool. 3 of us qualified to be in the top Electrician's Mate class. We started with that class in the morning. By afternoon, they moved us to the 2nd class. Why? Because the top class was on the bottom floor at the end of the wing and the 2nd class was on the second floor near the middle of the building. Why do we care? The only women's bathroom was on the second floor near the middle of the building. I protested that move and was put back in the top class. The other two women stayed in the 2nd class because they thought it would be easier. I graduated with a 3.6 average, in the top 10%.

Prototype was next. A mock up of a ship complete with the nuclear power plant. Of the 13 women to start my class, 4 went on to prototype. This time I finished 1st in my class.

Keep in mind, I was in the 2nd class of women. The class ahead of us had 3 women and the Navy was not ready to send them to a Nuc ship so they all were picked up as staff instructors for the prototype. When my class graduated, I was picked up as staff; the other 3 went to the USS Cape Cod, a destroyer tender in Charleston, SC. They all went

Continued on next page



to Radiological Controls – the treaded Rad Con which is in charge of taking radioactive waste from nuc ships. I was already seeing the writing on the wall for my active career.

After a two year tour as an instructor, I went to Rad Con at Submarine Base, Bangor, WA. And, you know, it was the best 3 yrs of my career. I played a lot of softball.

The guys were getting more used to having the women around. I remember one of the guys saying he liked to work with me because I could think like a man. Whatever the hell that is supposed to mean.

Quite honestly, I don't even like talking about the USS McKee. When I finally got to a ship, I found I hated it. I couldn't sleep when we were underway. All the clout I had at Bangor meant nothing. I felt like I was starting all over again. Suggestions were met with – this is not Bangor, we don't do it that way. I was very happy to get off active duty.

Reserves has been great to me. When people ask what war I was in – none of them, I am a Cold War Sailor. I went to Hawaii so many times in my first 10 years that I actually got tired of going. Not something you want to say to co-workers.

Using my GI bill I went to college graduating with an electrical engineering degree and applied for the Warrant program. Thanks to high year tenure, Warrant Officer Trapp retired and I made warrant. I knew I was special when I ordered by shoulder boards for my whites – they didn't have any. I heard the same thing when I made W3 and W4. So I am the first female engineering officer in the entire Navy.

I finally realized, I am a pioneer. I've laid a lot of ground work for the sailors after me, especially the women. Since the Navy is always changing, there are more firsts out there. Don't be afraid to step up and try something new.

What do I like most about being an officer? Re-enlistments. Since the enlisted sailor gets to pick the re-enlisting officer, I am honored anytime a sailor asks me to perform the ritual.

31 yrs ago a friend gave me a sweatshirt that said Property of USN and then in parenthesis below, they think. I love the Navy. And I am very glad that I have served.

I want to thank every one who came today.

My family –

You know, I have to tell you, I grew up in a family of 8 kids. My older brother is just 1 yr older than me. He joined the Navy right out of high school, submarine service. I joined a year and a half later. He left the Navy as an E-6 as did I. I joined the Reserves – he joined the reserves – I made Chief – finally I outranked him! He applied for LDO; I applied for Warrant. I made it he didn't – ha, I still out-ranked him and now he was supposed to salute me. Supposed to, anyways. He made chief and retired at 20. Here I am retiring at 30 as a warrant. Some of you are aware that I am also a private in the US Army, 3rd Artillery, Civil War Reenactments. My brother is the Lt. So, ha, ha. I'm supposed to salute him. Also, with us today is my brother, the other Terry, sisters Sandy and Valerie, my parents Jay & Viola, my aunts Kay and Carlee, Uncle Dave; and a bunch of nieces and nephews.

A special thank you to my brother in law, Dave Theis, former Marine who served at the DMZ in the early 80's.

And friends – Kiwanians, Rotarians, co-workers, Navy colleges, associates from other groups I'm involved with.

I'm going to miss this; I'm going to miss all of you. I'm going to miss the 2 week active duties mostly because from now on, I'm going to have to pay. But it's time. High year tenure let me make officer, my retirement should help others move up.

Hopefully you did well on the test today. I wish you all the best –



History of the 3rd U.S.

Al. T. Kocher

THE THIRD REGIMENT OF ARTILLERY

By LIEUT. WM. E. BIRKHIMER, ADJUTANT

Part X

Soon the Seminoles who had been left in Florida became restive. Accordingly in September, 1849, B, under Geo. H. Thomas; D, under Wyse; H, Steptoe; L, under Austine, embarked for Palatka, Fla., near the scene of disturbance. Here they remained, marching through the swamps, until order was restored, when they returned to their stations in 1850.

The regiment now looked forward to the enjoyment for a time at least of a quiet life. But this hope was short-lived. In the nature of things it could not long be indulged. We had acquired a vast and unsettled territory by conquest; it was inhabited by savages or semi-savages. The army was needed to keep them in subjection.

Before narrating, however, the part acted by the Third in this field of duty, it will be best hurriedly to glance at the experiences of the light companies from the close of the Mexican until the breaking out of the War of the Rebellion in 1861. During this time the light artillery was the sport of the War Department. On the plea of retrenchment, the number of light artillery companies in the army was reduced to four, including C, Third, in September, 1848. April, 1849, four additional companies were authorized; but, in the Third, instead of E, B was selected and ordered to West Point, where Shover, its captain, was instructor of artillery. Captain T. W. Sherman had again to fight for his rights. But he triumphed; the order was modified, and E, not B, was mounted. The termination of this



Capt. T.W. Sherman

controversy was supposed, at the time, to establish the legal principle "once a light company, always a light company"; for the contention then was, and the War Department apparently conceded the point, that when the President had designated two companies in each artillery regiment as light artillery, under the Acts of March 2, 1821, and March 3, 1847, he thereby fixed their legal status as that of light companies until the law should be changed. This is not the place to argue regarding the correctness of

the proposition; more recent practices have not been in accordance therewith. However, in 1851 E was dismantled again; in 1853, Congress having appropriated money expressly for the purpose, it was remounted, took station in Minnesota, where, excepting some expeditions over the Western Territories, it remained until 1861. C, after being remounted at Jefferson Barracks, 1850, served at Forts Gibson and Washita, Indian Territory, where the expense of maintaining it was enormous, and where, as a school of instruction, it was almost valueless. In 1856 it was dismantled, and, with three others, one company each from the respective artillery regiments, stationed at Fortress Monroe, Va., to reestablish the artillery school of practice; in 1858 it was remounted, ordered to Salt Lake to take over the light artillery armament which the Ordnance Department was masquerading with, and went thence in 1859 to Fort Vancouver, Washington Territory, where it remained until 1861.

In October, 1848, M, under Lieut. Geo. P. Andrews, sailed for California around the Horn, to join F. The movement of the regiment, though contemplated, was deferred. But our recently conquered subjects were restless, and had to be kept in order. With this object in view, B and L were sent early in April, 1853, to Texas, where they remained until early in 1854. This was for them a most fortunate circumstance, as they thus missed one of the direst calamities that has ever befallen our army on the seas.

How this was, we will now proceed to state. Pursuant to General Orders No. 2, H. Q. Army, September 26, 1853, Headquarters and the band with A, D, G, H, I, K, and large detachments of recruits for B and L. embarked December 21st, that year, for California, via Cape Horn, in the commodious steamer *San Francisco*. The vessel was new, its machinery excellent, and it was believed to be seaworthy. There were about 600 souls on board, including 500 belonging to or connected with the regiment. On the 22d the vessel was at sea. The 23d ended with a fresh breeze and, cloudy weather. By that time the weather was very threatening. An ominous calm prevailed. At 9 P. M. that night the wind came up with terrific force out of the northwest. The sea rolled mountains high. The ship, spite of all efforts of her skillful and devoted crew, soon became unmanageable. By 1.30 A. M. of the 24th she was entirely at the mercy of the waves, her machinery being disabled, and sails blown away. At 9 A. M., 24th, a huge wave struck her, stripping everything from the upper deck, including the saloon, in which, in addition to the regular passengers, a large number of soldiers had taken refuge. It was estimated that 175 souls perished at this time, including about 150 soldiers and Major Washington, Captain Francis Taylor, Captain Field and Lieutenant Smith, together with Mrs. Taylor

and Colonel Gates' son. Nothing could exceed the terror of the situation. Fortunately there were men on board who were fit to command. The officers of the vessel, and of the army, and Lieut. F. K. Murray of the Navy, set an example of heroism. The men, except a few dastardly souls, nobly seconded their efforts. To add to the horrors of the storm a leak was sprung, and only by intelligent, systematic, incessant and prolonged exertions was the vessel kept afloat. On the 25th the brig *Napoleon* was spoken but sailed away. The arrival of this vessel at Boston gave the authorities their first knowledge of the disaster. On the 26th, in latitude 38°20', longitude 69°, another vessel was sighted, but lost in the night. The men now began to die from exposure and exhaustion. On the 28th the bark *Kilby* of Boston stood by the wreck, and, the weather moderating on the 29th somewhat, ran a hawser and took off 108 passengers. That night the storm freshened, the hawser parted, the *San Francisco* drifted out of sight, and the *Kilby*, after a vain search for 2½ days, sailed for New York. At 9.30 A. M., December 31st, the British ship *Three Bells of Glasgow* was spoken and lay to. The storm, however, was unabated. No communication, except by signals, could be had. On January 3, 1854, the *Three Bells* was joined by the *Antarctic* of Liverpool. On the 4th and 5th all survivors were transferred to these two vessels. The *Antarctic* carried hers—42—to Liverpool. The *Three Bells* hers to New York. On January 12th the *Kilby* transferred most of her passengers to the Packet *Lucy Thompson*, bound to New York, making, herself, for Boston. Thus ended this appalling event. The ship was never seen or heard of more.

A Court of Inquiry, of which General Scott was President, was instituted to examine into the circumstances of this wreck, and as a result, whether justly or unjustly, Colonel Gates was relieved from command of the regiment which he did not resume until November, 18



"The wreck of the steamship 'San Francisco': disabled on her voyage from New York to San Francisco [California], December 24th, 1853 and in a sinking condition" - by Nathaniel Currier

Safety First!

Mike Johnson

"Focus On Safety" is most important as we enter a new campaign year. We've all enjoyed the off-season and have spent much time celebrating, traveling or just relaxing during the short days and long nights. It's time start thinking about the campaign year.

Start focusing on what needs to be done and how to do it safely!

Each member needs to take the appropriate Safety tests - Cannoneer, Gunner, Small Arms, Mounted, and Camp Safety. And don't forget we all must take the PACWR tests each year as well! Complete the testing before you go on the field. This is the first step in having a safe year. After testing, we will train... and more training.

Remember that Safety is everyone's concern!



We want to keep you safe and healthy at reenactments. Like any outdoor activity, you need to be aware of possible hazards involved. A few precautions and preparations can insure that you always have a GOOD time at reenactments.

- ♣ ☆ Drink, drink, drink ... water, that is.
- ♣ ☆ Watch for creepy crawlers
- ♣ ☆ Watch your feet around the horses
- ♣ ☆ Rider on top, horse on bottom
- ♣ ☆ DO NOT use your pard as a rammer!

Help us raise funds by shopping at CountrySupply.com. You can choose from thousands of great horse supply items at the best prices and by entering the COUNTRY-CARE Code 'chas' during checkout. When you do, Country Supply will donate 5% of your product's purchase price (excl. dewormers and shipping) to the 3rd US.

"Women in the Ranks"

Submitted by George Duncan

From "Living History - The Civil War - The History of the War between the States in Documents, Essays, Letters, Songs and Poems." Edited by Henry Steele Commager.

At least 400 Women served as soldiers in the Union and Confederate armies during the Civil War. Cloaked by bulky male clothing, closely clipped hair, and male aliases, women entered the army for many reasons, including patriotism, the love of adventure or the desire to stay close to a husband or loved one.

Amazingly enough, many women went undetected for years at a time. Physical examinations and boot camps were often cursory or nonexistent. Most soldiers lived outdoors, allowing women to avoid close scrutiny. The presence of so many adolescent boys in the military meant that it was not at all uncommon to have beardless youths among the ranks.

Women were most often discovered when they became ill or were wounded. At least six pregnant women hid their gender and their condition until they delivered their babies. Colonel Eliejah H. C. Cavins, of Indiana, wrote home that "a corporal was promoted to sergeant for gallant conduct at the



Sarah Edmonds Seyle served two years in the Second Michigan Infantry as Franklin Thompson. In 1886 she received a military pension

battle of Fredericksburg--since which time the sergeant has become the mother of a child. What use have we for women, if soldiers in the army can give birth to children? It is said that the sergeant and his Capt. occupied the same tent, they being intimate friends." One of the most famous female soldiers was "Albert" Cashier of the 95th Illinois Volunteer Infantry whose true identity as Jenny Rodgers was not revealed until 1911.



Disguised as a man, Francis Clayton served many months in Missouri Artillery and Cavalry units

Many women fought in several battles. "Hundreds of women marched steadily up to the mouth of a hundred cannon pouring out fire and smoke, shot and shell, mowing down the advancing hosts like grass; men, horses, and colors going down in confusion, disappearing in clouds of smoke; the only sound, the screaming of shells, the crackling musketry, the thunder of artillery," wrote Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cadt Stanton and Matilda Gage in their book History of Women Suffrage, "through all this women were sustained by the enthusiasm born of love of country and liberty."

Lauren Cook Burgess, a female Civil War reenactor, has documented 135 women who enlisted in Civil War armies. When Burgess was "discovered" in 1989 to be a woman, the National Park Service attempted to banish her from reenactments, citing the need to keep the events authentic. Burgess, however, filed a successful discrimination lawsuit. She has accomplished significant research to prove that women did actually serve as frontline soldiers.

Burgess edited the first published letters of a female Civil War soldier, Sarah Rosetta Wakeman, a private in the 153rd Regiment, New York State Volunteers. Three of her letters to back home follow. Wakeman may have disguised herself as a man to earn more money to assist her debt-ridden father on an upstate New York farm, Burgess hypothesizes. Wakeman fought in two battles during the Red River Campaign of 1864 and died of illness that spring.

Letters from one of the women on next page

Sarah Rosetta Wakeman was known to the Army as Edwin R. Wakeman or Pvt. Lyons Wakeman.

Alexandria Nov 24, 1862

My Dear Father and mother and sister and brother, one in all,

I receive your letter on Sunday yje 23. I was very glad to hear from you and learn that you were all well. I am well and enjoy good health.

Our regiment is in Camp at Alexandria, Va. We have had no fighting yet. We have to guard the City and stand on picket. I stood on my post all last night. When i left you i went to Binghamton. I saw you there. I meet you coming home from meeting. I went to work with Stephen Saldon the next day. I work half a month for 4\$ in money. I was only 7 miles from Binghamton up the river. I didn't go to the fair. When i got done (with) work I went on the canal to work. I agreed to run 4 trips from Binghamton to Utica for 20\$ in money, but this load of coal was going to Canajoharie, Montgomery Co.



When I got there i saw some soldiers. They wanted I should enlist and so i did. I got 100 and 52\$ in money. I enlisted for 3 years or soon (as) discharged. All the money I send you i want you should spend it for the family in cloyhing or something to eat. Don't save it for me for i can get all the money i want. If i ever return i shall have money enough for my self and to divide with you.

If you want to save anything to remember me by, keep that spotted calf and if i ever return i want you to let me have her again. Tell Robert to give her a few oats this winter and I will pay him for doing so. Tell Celestia that I will send her my likeness as soon as I can. Mother, i will tell you where my little Chest is. It is upstairs over the bedroom in the garret. Let Robert go and climb up by the stove pipe hole and he will find it on the left hand side toward the road up in the corner. I want you should keep all my things for me for i believe that God will spare my life and that I shall see you all again face to face before i die. Father, if you will send me some postage stamps I will be very thankful for them. I want to drop all old affray and i want you do to do the same and when i come home we will be good friends as ever.

Good-by for the present
Sarah Rosetta Wakeman

Direct your letter to Alexandria, Va., R. L. Wakeman in the care of Capt. McLaughlin. Tell Mary i thank her for that card and I send her this little knife.

Father, you needn't be a feared to write any(thing) private to me for I can read all you can write. I suppose you thought that I would have to get Somebody to read it for me but I read it all my self

**Capitol Hill, Washington, D. C.
October the 31/63**

Dear Father and Mother

I receive you letter last night. I was glad to hear from you all once more. i am well and I feel thankful to god that he has spared my life and kept me in good health until the present time, and glad to hear that you have bought out that Cider mill in Church hollow and got it home. When I get my pay I will senf you what money i can spare if it ain't but a little. Tell mother I will send her that ring that I showed to Henry Austin.

Our regiment expect to Stay here this winter. I would like to have you Send me a small box with iron hinges on it and a lock and key. Put the key inSide of the box and Screw the cover on and when I get the box I Can draw the Screw and open the box and get the key. Then if I have anything, my good friends won't Steal it. If you are a mind to Send me a piece of butter and some Cakes, I will be very thankful to you.

Is Fon aliving with you yet or not? Please let me know. When I think of home it seems like a dream to me, but Still I know there is such a place as home that I left one year ago. It is but one Chance to ten that I ever Shall meet you again in this world. There is a good many temptations in the army. I got led away into this world So bad that I sinned a good deal. But I now believe that God Spirit has been aworking with me, and 'til that I was a Coming back to Him again, and I hope and pray that I never shall be led away like it again. I have a hope that if I never meet you again in this world that I shall meet you in paradise where parting will be no more.

I got a letter form Frank a few days ago. He is not but a little ways from Alexandria, Some of our men have stood guard where Frank is. Good-by for this time from
Rosetta Wakeman

I thank you for the Stamps. Don't you ever ask me to lend you some money again in this world. If you do I won't send it to you

**Capitol Hill, Washington, D. C.
December the 28/63**

Dear Father and Mother

I receive you kind and welcome letter today. I am well and tough as a bear this winter. I receive a letter from Frank today. He is well at the time the letter was wrote.

As for my Coming home on a furlough this winter I don't know whether I can or not. There has a good many of our men has been home on a furlough. You needn't send me any box for I can get along without one just as well as not.

I don't care anything about Coming home for I (am) aShamed to Come, and I sometimes think that I never will go home in the world. I have enjoyed myself the best since I have been gone away from home than I ever did before in my life. I have plenty of money to spend and a good time asoldier(ing). I find just as good friends among strangers as I do at home.

We haven't seen any snow here yet but it rains here today.

I sometimes think that I will re-enlist for five years and get my eight hundred dollars bounty. I can do that if I ama mind to. What do you think about that?

I Can't think of any more to write. So good-by from your
Edwin R. Wakeman
or Rosetta Wakeman

LETTER
Of
THE SECRETARY OF WAR
in answer to

A resolution of the Senate of the 6th instant, relative to the purchase of extracts of coffee for the use of the troops

War Department

Washington, January 15, 1862

Sir:

In compliance with a resolution of the Senate on the 6th instant, I have the honor to transmit herewith "all orders, instructions and correspondence relating to the purchase of extracts of coffee for the use of the troops."

SIMON CAMERON
Secretary of War

- 1. It contains all the nourishing and stimulating properties of the coffee, with the addition of the nutritive element of the milk.*
- 2. It is prepared in vacuo at a temperature of only 110 degrees F.*
- 3. Increased efficiency in the actual use [by the means] of the coffee. Saving waste from bad means of roasting, grinding and cooking in the camps.*
- 4. Facility of furnishing coffee on the march wherever cold or hot water can be had.*
- 5. Economy and convenience of transportation, distributed in sealed tin cans enclosed in barrels.*
- 6. Saving in loss in transportation and distribution of raw coffee and sugar. "Ordinary" waste of coffee 1 to 5 per cent: "ordinary" waste of sugar 3 to 10 per cent.*
- 7. The extract, including milk will cost the government two mills per ration more than raw coffee and sugar of the same quality without milk in the ration, which difference would be more than counterbalanced by the saving in cost of transportation*
- 8. "The coffee and sugar ration for 100, 000 men for twenty days weighs two hundred and fifty tons, one half of which would be saved ... reducing the number of wagons for this ration in half."*

Further on in the 'remarks' section, the writer says, "Borden's Concentrated Coffee, combined with milk and sugar, will mingle with either hot or cold water. It furnishes better coffee than is usually furnished in this city and challenges the criticism of epicures."

The report recommended that Extract of Coffee should be tested in one or more of the new volunteer regiments. The report was enthusiastic about the new product: ensuring to the soldier, on the march or in camp, a supply of coffee as good as could be procured at a first-class hotel.."

Extract of Coffee was the invention of Professor W.L. Tilden. The Sanitary Commission's earliest reports of tests of Professor Tilden's Extract of Coffee were dated July 13, 1861. Later bidders for contracts were the American Desiccating Company and Borden, also known as the New York Condensed Milk Company.

Among the three bidders, Borden had the lowest price, \$2 66 per gallon. The American Desiccating Company offered its product at \$3.00 per gallon and Tilden had the most expensive with a price of \$3.11 per gallon.

My reproductions of the coffee have always ended up as a thick mixture which looks like axle grease in color and texture. In all justice, I must say that it tastes pretty damn good. I could make it a part of my daily diet.

The Tilden product was the best in the opinion of many of the testing officers. Other officers preferred the Extract of Coffee supplied by Borden. The American Desiccating Company presented a coffee powder product that met instant disapproval. American Desiccating then tried to follow the examples of Tilden and Borden by presenting a product in "fluid" form. This, too, appears to have been rejected by the examiners.

*Office of the New York Condensed Milk Company
33 Canal Street, New York, November 21, 1861*

Dear Sir:

Herewith we hand three samples of Borden's concentrated coffee, milk and sugar combined. Nos. 2 and 3 are nothing but coffee, milk and sugar and are samples of the lot of some 1,800 or 2,000 pounds which the company will deliver, at 4 State Street tomorrow or Saturday.

These samples differ only in that No. 3 is a little less sweet than the No. 2. Sample No. 1 has a small proportion of chicory: cannot say the exact amount till further advised by Mr. Borden. We furnish this sample under the impression that a small portion of chicory improves RIO, in order that, if any competitor thus improves his preparation, this company may have a sample of the same kind to exhibit.

It seems strange that the Secretary of War would have to submit to a Senate resolution and open his files to a Congressional Committee over something as simple as a good cup of coffee. Perhaps there is something here that does not meet the eye.

'The Extract of Coffee, was first issued to men at the Soldiers' Rest. It met with their instant approval. The same thing happened when Extract of Coffee was issued to men in Washington area hospitals. Next came trial issue on the regimental level. Units encamped in the area received rations of Extract of Coffee and were enthusiastic.

Preparing the coffee beverage required only a supply of hot water although the Extract of Coffee was said to be usable with cold water. Best of all, the beverage was consistent in taste and quality. Extract of Coffee was easy to transport and almost impossible to spoil. The troops could at last get decent coffee on a regular basis.

It was as delicious as well as a reliable product; superior in every way to the uncertain brew made with moldy green coffee beans charred in a greasy skillet, pounded into uncertain dust with the butt of a musket and boiled in ditch water. The Sanitary Commission also was quick to point out the health advantages, believing that it would help eliminate intestinal disorders.

The advantages of the new product were manifold: It occupied only 40% to 48% of the space of the green coffee and sugar it replaced, it weighed half as much, and it freed valuable transport for other things.

Various types of raw coffee were used to make the extract, including Rio and Java. Rio, the Brazil-produced standard for government rations, seemed to have the edge.

Extract of Coffee was a combination of concentrated coffee; milk and sugar, all vacuum distilled down to a thick paste. It came packed in several size containers from five gallon tins down to one quart cans. One gallon was supposed to make one day's ration of coffee for one hundred men. Tilden packed his tin containers in barrels while Borden used wooden cases.

We don't know what politics, bribes and manipulation for contracts was going on behind the scenes but competition was stiff. Reading the correspondence concerning Extract of Coffee we suddenly come across the following to Col. Eaton :

DECEMBER 10, 1861,

*COLONEL: By direction of the Secretary of War, you will make no more purchases of the extract of coffee.
Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,*

*J.P. Taylor
Commissary General of Subsistence*

Within days, numerous units raised such a ruckus that less than two weeks later the following order went out to the Army:

War Department

Washington December 24, 1861

Sir: The order grants the petition of fifty regiments in the field to be allowed to use, on their requisition, ' " Tilden's extract of coffee" ..

SIMON CAMERON

Secretary of War

On December 31, 1861, Professor Tilden wrote to the Secretary of War that he would not be able to furnish the 5,000 gallons of Extract of Coffee due to be delivered during the current week but that he had about 1000 gallons on hand in Washington to help fill the need. Remember that each gallon yielded one hundred rations of coffee. Five thousand gallons of Tilden's Extract of Coffee made up into 500,000 rations of coffee. It was a big army and it loved its coffee.

Borden apparently had no such difficulty in making deliveries. Dr. Borden had invented Condensed milk some twenty years earlier when, on an ocean voyage, he had noticed the hardships suffered by children with no supply of milk. Borden's condensed milk was a common product by the time of the war. Borden already had machinery that could be adapted to coffee production.

The original extract of coffee was produced by drawing away the water in a vacuum chamber at a temperature of 110 degrees F. It must have been very powerful stuff. Chemists of the time reported that the Borden product used 22 to 24 parts of water to one part of extract. Tilden's product could handle 34 parts of water.

For use in a modern-day encampment; a close copy may be made by combining instant coffee and Condensed milk. Condensed milk is the original, thick, heavy-sugar product invented by Dr. Borden in the 1830s. Although other brands may be found, I like to use "Borden's" brand condensed milk. It brings me just a little closer to the original. Do not use *evaporated* milk. It is not thick enough and does not contain sugar. (Might work for a diabetic, though.)

After unsuccessful experiments with liquid coffee and Italian espresso, I tried present day instant coffee mixed directly with Borden's or Eagle brand condensed milk. I think that this mix makes a very close copy of the original.

Place one half cup of instant coffee crystals in a cup and add a few drops of boiling water.

Use as little water as possible, adding just a few drops at a time. It doesn't take much water to break down the coffee crystals. When the crystals have barely dissolved, you should have no more than a teaspoonful of water mixed into the half cupful of coffee powder. You can mix the dry coffee crystals directly into the condensed milk but this makes the extract look spotty and it takes more labor to mix.

Next, empty one can of Borden's condensed milk into a suitable bowl. You may heat the condensed milk slightly in the microwave or on the stove. This is not necessary but will help with the mixing. Now mix the coffee paste into the condensed milk until it is all blended together.

The resultant Extract of Coffee will be a thick paste that looks like liquid fudge. Pack the Extract of Coffee in any suitable container.

One tablespoon of the Extract of Coffee, mixed into a tin cup of hot water will produce Civil War instant coffee, as made from Professor Tilden's original Extract of Coffee, one of the most popular but long-forgotten food items issued to the Federal troops.

END

3rd US Roster Assignments 2009

Role	Name	Report To	Role	Name	Report To
Commanding Officer	Ginos, Alan		Stable Sgt.	Winfrey, Dennis	XO
Executive Officer	Faubel, Wes	Captain	Teamster	Faubel, Melinda	XO
1st Sergeant	Foster, Scott	Captain	Teamster	Casini, Paul	XO
			Commissary Sgt.	Moretti, Scott	1st. Sgt.

Gun/Team 1

Chief of Piece	Foster, Scott	Captain
Gun Cpl	Alto, Scott	Gun Sgt.
Cannoneer	Ahrenholz, Ray	Gun Sgt.
Cannoneer	Hall, David	Gun Sgt.
Cannoneer	Jacobsen, Jake	Gun Sgt.
Cannoneer	Lemasters, Michael	Gun Sgt.
Cannoneer	Lincoln, Rafferty	Gun Sgt.
Cannoneer	Rejaian, Amir	Gun Sgt.
Cannoneer	Sablan, Scott	Gun Sgt.
Cannoneer	Thompson, Karla	Gun Sgt.

Team Corporal	Johnson, Mike	Gun Sgt.
Driver	Berry, Mike	Team Cpl.
Driver	Bricklin, Nathan	Team Cpl.
Driver	Burtz, Dan	Team Cpl.
Driver	Faubel, Loreleigh	Team Cpl.
Driver	Miljevich, Ted	Team Cpl.
Driver	Virga, Tony	Team Cpl.

Artificers

Chief Artificer	Griffith, Loren	1st. Sgt.
Artificer	Blair, Michael	Chief Art.
Artificer	Boling, Roger	Chief Art.
Artificer	Faubel, Tristan	Chief Art.
Artificer	Johnson, Dave	Chief Art.
Artificer	Lee, Robert	Chief Art.
Artificer	Plocher, Al	Chief Art.
Artificer	Weston, Mark	Chief Art.

Signal Corps

Private	Mosher, Chris	1st. Sgt.
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Gun/Team 2

Chief of Piece	Duncan, George	1st. Sgt.
Gun Cpl	Boyd, John	Gun Sgt.
Cannoneer	Bono, Joe	Gun Sgt.
Cannoneer	Dunne, Cary	Gun Sgt.
Cannoneer	Ebert, Bob	Gun Sgt.
Cannoneer	Gluch, Josh	Gun Sgt.
Cannoneer	Lincoln, Barbara	Gun Sgt.
Cannoneer	Sablan, Mike	Gun Sgt.
Cannoneer	Thompson, Terry	Gun Sgt.

Team Corporal	Moretti, Teri	Gun Sgt.
Driver	Christiansen, Jessica	Team Cpl.
Driver	Gilliland, John	Team Cpl.
Driver	Griffith, Naomi	Team Cpl.
Driver	Horton, Jim	Team Cpl.
Driver	Rejaian, Katie	Team Cpl.
Driver	Ruther, Justin	Team Cpl.
Driver	Sullivan, Lisa	Team Cpl.
Driver	Thompson, Doug	Team Cpl.
Driver	Whitehead, Dave	Team Cpl.

Unassigned

Unassigned	Amari, Gary	1st. Sgt.
Unassigned	Bailey, Wendy	1st. Sgt.
Unassigned	Bradford, Bryan	1st. Sgt.
Unassigned	Bradford, Lisa	1st. Sgt.
Unassigned	Byrne, Jeanne	1st. Sgt.
Unassigned	Claytor, Kermit	1st. Sgt.
Unassigned	Ensign, Sue	1st. Sgt.
Unassigned	Foster, Matt	1st. Sgt.
Unassigned	Foley, Mike	1st. Sgt.
Unassigned	Foley, Shirley	1st. Sgt.
Unassigned	Fulks, Andy	1st. Sgt.
Unassigned	Hawkins, Bill	1st. Sgt.
Unassigned	Justiniano, Joe	1st. Sgt.
Unassigned	Langman, Chip	1st. Sgt.
Unassigned	Maciver, Al	1st. Sgt.
Unassigned	Martinez, Thomas	1st. Sgt.
Unassigned	Rogers, Keith	1st. Sgt.
Unassigned	Rogers, Laurie	1st. Sgt.
Unassigned	Sims, Ed	1st. Sgt.

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2010 Schedule of Events

March

- March 6 - 7 Work Party. Camp Warhorse. Driver and cannoneer training Sunday. Contact Alan Ginos.
- Mar 19 - 21 CAV 101. Camp Warhorse, Salinas. Begins Friday night for those who can make it. Contact Wes Faubel.
- Mar 19 - 21 Oakhurst. NCWA Living History. Attend as individuals.
- Mar 27 - 28 SanCom Sewing Weekend. Contact Judith Boling
- Mar 27 - 28 CAV 101 Rain Date.

April

- April 10 - 11 "Good Old Days Parade". Pacific Grove. 1 or more teams/wagon. \$. Driver/cannoneer training and Mariposa load out on Sunday. Contact Alan Ginos.
- April 16 - 18 Mariposa Civil War Days. ACWA Battles & Encampment. School day Friday. Contact TBA.
- April 24 - 25 NCWA Tactical. Placerville. Attend as individuals.

May

- May 14 - 16 Gibson Ranch, Sacramento. NCWA Battles & Encampment. School day Friday. Contact TBA.

June

- June 26 - 27 Duncans Mills. CHAS weekend work party. Contact Ted Miljevich.

July

- July 2 - 4 38th Mohawk Valley Independence Day. Graeagle, CA. CCWR.
- July 10 - 11 Duncans Mills. CHAS weekend work party. Contact Ted Miljevich.

- July 17 - 18 Civil War Days at Duncans Mills.** CHAS Invitational. Battles & encamp. 2 teams, guns & support. \$\$\$\$\$. Maximum effort Contact Ted Miljevich.

September

- Sept. 4 - 7 Ninth Annual Gold Rush Days. Old Sacramento. CHAS living history & encampment. 1 team/gun, support unit. \$\$\$. Rotating attendance needed. Contact Mike Sablan.

Note: "\$" & "\$\$" denotes revenue producing events for CHAS

Sept 18 - 19 Tres Pinos. NCWA Living History.

October

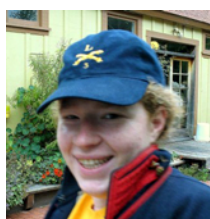
- Oct. 1 - 3 Kearny Park, Fresno. NCWA Invitational. Battles & encampment . 2 teams & guns, support units. School Day Friday.

November

- Nov 13 - 14 Moorpark Farm, Moorpark. Richmond Howitzers. 2 teams & guns. Battles & encampment. School Day Friday. \$.
- Nov 13 NCWA Civilian Forum.
- Nov 20 CHAS Weekend "Put-Away" Work Party. Contact Alan Ginos.

Get your cool CHAS Gear!

Don't forget the *Civil War Days* t-shirts and CHAS mugs. Contact Mike Johnson at 3rdusmounted@warhorse.org for your purchases!



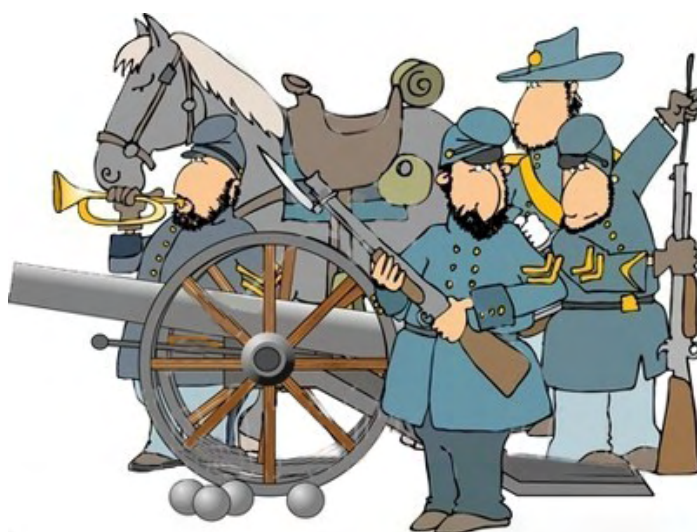
\$15.00



\$5.00



\$15.00



Sent in your reenlistment yet?!

"Don't be afraid to speak up. And don't be afraid to be first."

~ Terry Thompson

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Important Web Addresses

Civil War Days at Duncans Mills Web Site:

<http://www.civilwardays.net/>
707-922-5901 or 831-751-6978

CHAS Web Site:

<http://www.warhorse.org>

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Submissions for the next issue are due no later
than **March 24, 2010**