

The Cannon's Mouth


NEWSLETTER OF THE CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL ARTILLERY SOCIETY
JUNE 2009

Commander's Call

Alan Ginos

Gibson Ranch is in the books; almost record books with heat again. In spite of that the unit did a good job representing a disciplined battery. Good drill, mostly shady firing positions, and minimum movement led to a good time. A very special CW moment was had Saturday night when the Ft. Pt. Garrison Band entertained our guests and us prior to dinner. The James River Squadron came to dinner, many in the ambulance so ably squired by Teamster Mel Faubel. With Pvt. Robert (Carolyn Faubel) in charge of the provisioning for the weekend, we had a great meal with our friends. Thanks Carolyn for taking care of us all weekend.

Sgt Duncan incurred a brevet demotion to Pvt. For disparaging remarks about Brigade command while the Brigade Commander was standing within earshot (and safety zone of a loaded piece). Fortunately this occurred near the cessation of hostilities so the gun crew did not lose the valuable leadership Sgt. Duncan provides. And even better news is that due to the necessities of war, the good Sgt. was returned to his NCO position in time for our next engagements of the season.

Continued 



George Taylor of the James River Squadron and Capt. Ginos enjoy the band concert at Gibson Ranch

Dispatches from the Dog Tent

Ted Miljerich

There seems to be several issues on the doorstep of the organization. We are struggling with budget matters, lower event attendance and recruitment, to name a few. We on the board are doing our best to work on these issues. I feel that some are going to take some major changes to keep us in line. There are some factors confronting us that are just not simple fixes. Stay tune for articles and directions we plan on going. June is the time for really gearing up for our DM event. This needs to be our focus now as our big fundraising event of the year.

The next board meeting will be on Tuesday July 28th, 6:00 pm at Marie Callender's in Concord. As always, any member in good standing may attend or contact your member at large to send along any message or input.

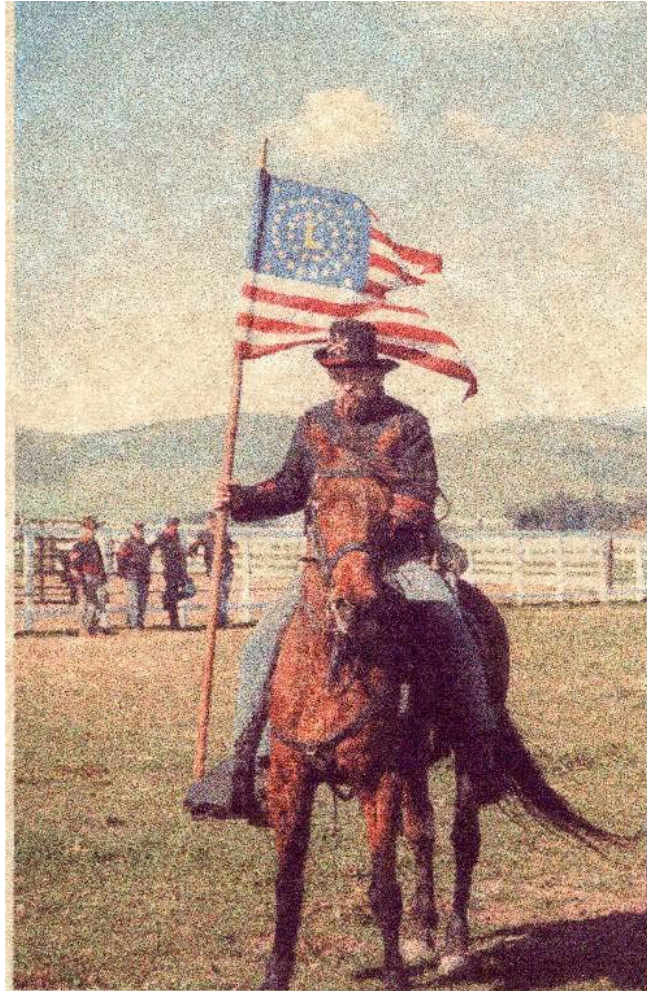
"Commander's Call", cont.

Our next CW event is on the 4th of July weekend at Graeagle where we will participate in a McCloud type community event including fireworks, BBQ's, and a parade on the 4th. Oh, and battle reenactments as well. We are featured guests, getting paid, and will need a turnout to man a gun, 6-up team, ambulance and outriders. A separate call to arms will come out soon, but feel free to let Captain Ginos know if you can and plan on attending.

June heats up with work parties and activities to get ready for the Duncans Mills event in July. Literature and posters need to be distributed in various communities in the North Bay, as well as work parties at Casini Ranch to physically get ready. Watch for announcements through the Digital Bugler.

Roger Boling has decided to step down as Chief Artificer feeling he could not devote the time to do the job as he would like to. Thanks to Roger for his past and future efforts. The new Chief Artificer is Loren Griffith who will capably move right in to his new position. Please congratulate Loren on his new position and stand ready to assist him with his new responsibilities.

Burgie



1970 ~ 2009

Board Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the California Historical Artillery Society Board Meeting: March 26, 2009

Present: Mike Johnson, John Boyd, Norm Roger, Alan Ginos, Ted Miljevich, Scott Foster

Absent: Roger Boling, Judith Boling, Teri Moretti

Guests: Wes and Carolyn Faubel

Meeting was called to order at 6:15 PM

Minutes of the Feb. 4, 2009 meeting were read and corrected as necessary.

Officer Reports:

Vice President: John Boyd

John talked with the insurance broker for the radio club vehicles. The broker would need our vehicle information in order to provide a quote. Need to check with Dennis as to his desire for the truck ownership.

John has purchased the water softeners and built the fixture for use with the pressure washer.

Treasurer: Mike Johnson

Reviewed the Checking and Disbursements.

Safety:

Alan's foot was injured when the splinter bar of a limber in one of the storage containers fell on him when the prop pole slipped. He has built additional sawhorses to firmly hold up limbers when in storage.

Need to ensure that our safety rules do not have any conflicts with those of PACWR.

Need to ensure that everyone has taken all appropriate safety tests, they have been graded and the results properly documented.

Need to check with Mike Foley as to the location of the Indian Fire pump

Fundraising.

Shirley Foley has resigned as chair.

Ted expressed concern about income sources, especially this year. There was discussion about tighter controls on spending. We need to inform the membership of the actions we are taking to reduce costs and review potential revenue sources. Wes and Alan have been asked to work on an article for the Cannon's Mouth.

Should put more emphasis on doing our own tack and saddle repairs.

Discussed contacting Lisa and Bryan Bradford for coordinating the fundraising dinner.

Alan did get a call from a group in Washington State interested in a set of artillery tack.

Materials and Acquisitions:

Jeanne Byrne is sending plans for a lean-to at Warhorse to Alan.

Alan proposed replacing the blue tarps used as gun trailer covers with canvas ones. Cost would be \$60.00 ea vs. \$20.00 for the blue ones. Concern was expressed about the weight and difficulty of using the heavier canvas tarps. In addition, there should be some type of storage boxes attached to each of the trailers.

The Acetylene gauge on the welding torch at Warhorse is bad and should be replaced. Wes will look for a replacement.

Public Relations and Recruitment:

Sixty five people have renewed their memberships so far.

By Laws:

It was M/S/P to accept both the PACWR safety rules and tests that are published as of March 21, 2009.

A new SOP for Retreat by Prolong was presented by Wes. It was M/S/P to accept.

Wes is working on the Forge safety test and answer key, as well as the Gunner and Small arms answer keys. In addition, he is working on the flying artillery procedures.

Historical Educational:

Ted received a box of history items from Chris Burgin. Need a place to keep it.

Events:

Had an initial inquiry about a 21 gun salute for the Navy in Monterey, but have not gotten any further response.

Duncan's Mills: May have some people distributing literature beforehand. Also decided to eliminate the discount for pre sale tickets.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

None

Next meeting will be on Thursday, May 21, 2009.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 PM.

Civil War Days at Duncans Mills July 18 & 19

Ted Milgenich

Now in its tenth year, "Civil War Days at Duncans Mills" sponsored by the Casini Ranch Family Campground and the California Historical Artillery Society is rapidly becoming the West Coast's premiere summer reenacting event. This invitational event is the July club event for the ACWA and NCWA, but re-enactors from Southern California, Oregon, Nevada, Idaho and Washington are also expected to attend. Last year's event drew nearly 700 re-enactors and over 3000 public, and this year's could certainly exceed that. With the hamlet of Duncans Mills situated along the beautiful Russian River resort area many re-enactors are making it an annual outing, combining reenacting with some great vacation time.



Command and control of this invitational event change yearly between the clubs, with this year's tactical command under ACWA control. All re-enactors will need to contact their respective commands to confirm attendance. This is paramount for camp layout and battle scenario planning. If you show up without checking with your respective command, you may find yourself being placed wherever there is room.

Due to battlefield size restrictions, Artillery guns per side will be limited as set forth by each command staff. CHAS is also limiting Artillery Powder reimbursements to a total of eight Confederate and six Union Guns. All Artillery attending must contact their respective command staff.

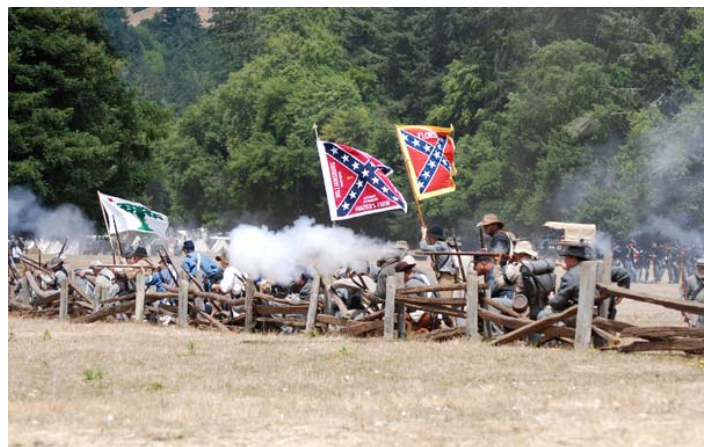
Contacts are:

- ☆ Union CO - Col. Tom Bispo, sierratec34@hotmail.com
- ☆ Confederate CO - Col. Chris Bowman, chrisbman19@hotmail.com
- ☆ Sutlers - Lewis Williams, lodownrebel@aol.com
- ☆ Civilians - Geri Mitchell, acwacivilian@hotmail.com

The site and format are basically the same as last year, with all camps in the same locations. Re-enactor passenger car parking will once again be located behind the Confederate camp. Horse trailer, large vehicle and RV (non hook up) parking will be available in the rodeo grounds at the corner of River & Moscow Rds. Traffic control directors and a shuttle will be available. If you require an RV hook-up contact the Casini Campground directly at (707) 865-2255 or e-mail info@casiniranch.com, or any of the nearby camping resorts on the Russian River.

The interconnecting meadows are spacious and provide shade along the perimeters. Both Confederate and Union camp sites also have available wooded "campaign style" camping areas. Be aware! Poison oak is persistent in all wooded areas, so enter at your own risk! The mid-July weather is typically mild, with temperatures in the mid-seventies during the day. Due to proximity to the ocean, evenings can be relatively cool and foggy. Straw, firewood, water and porta-potties will be provided at all camp sites. Hay and water troughs for mounted units are available. Trash containers will be available, so please leave areas clean when you leave. In ground fire pits are allowed, just back fill all holes. Fire danger is always a concern and must be paramount in everyone's minds. All fires require a bucket of water immediately available - NO EXCEPTIONS. No discharging of weapons of any kind is allowed beyond the battlefield areas.

Reenacting members of recognized reenacting clubs (e.g. ACWA, ACWS, CCWR, CWRS, FTHA, NCWA, RACW, WBSHA, Southern California and the greater Western United States) are all invited to the event. These members only need to show their club's membership card to gain access. Any reenactor not having a recognized club membership card will need to fill a waiver upon arrival and pay a fee of \$20.00. Due to recent landlord ownership changes, a secondary site specific liability waiver form will also need to be signed upon entry by all re-enactors not members of the NCWA, ACWA and CHAS, as so far they are the only clubs who have adopted the standardized PACWR Liability Form.





CHAS supports the West Coast reenacting federation and as such supports the reenacting community. Club membership in a recognized reenacting organization supports this effort. All reenactors will be issued an event ID card upon check in. Retain this card, as command and CHAS event staff will be checking. Concession- style food and beverages will be for sale during public hours in the sutler/ civilian area. CHAS has adopted the West Coast federation's (PACWR's) standard safety rules for the event. These are listed on the web site for review. In our ongoing effort to make the event as safe as we can, we will continue to have in place CHAS safety representatives with each command staff. Any safety issues will be dealt with swiftly using the club Presidents of ACWA, CHAS & NCWA.

Back by popular demand, the Saturday night dance will be held from 8:00 to 11:00 at the Casini Campground recreation hall, next to the General Store near the campground entrance off Moscow Rd. Due to an expected large turnout, this will be an outside venue open to re-enactors and the public. Period dress is of course preferred, but not required. The band and dance caller we had last year is unavailable but we are trying to arrange for another band, with taped music as a last alternative. There will be a shuttle from the main event entry bridge area to the dance location from 7:30 to 11:30 pm. There will also be parking available at the dance site if you wish to drive. Or you walk the one mile to the dance if preferable. There is no charge for the dance, but since last year's dance lost money we will be placing a donation box at the hall. Beverages and snacks can be purchased at the General Store adjacent to the dance area. If you have further questions or would like to help, contact dance coordinator Maryanne Roger at mamamagnolia@aol.com or (650) 594-0582.

REENACTOR ARRIVAL TIME:

Begins Friday at 12:00 noon. Unit set-up locations will be staked out. Sutlers may begin arriving Thursday and need to check in with Sutler coordinator Lewis Williams for set up locations.

PUBLIC HOURS:

Saturday, July 19th - 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. NOTE: All re-enactor cars must be out of camps at 9:00 am. No vehicles will be allowed back until after public hours end on Sunday, so plan accordingly. Sunday, July 20th - 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Cars will be allowed to reenter camp areas as soon as we can get the public out of the areas and it becomes safe to enter with vehicles. Every effort will be made to get this done quickly.

EVENT INFORMATION:

- Public event information phone numbers – (707) 922-5901 or (831) 751-6978.
- Public & Re-enactor information web site – www.civilwardays.net.
- Event coordinator Ted Miljevich – CHASELDUCE@aol.com, or (707) 922-5901. Feel free to contact Ted directly with any further questions.



There have been a few questions regarding medical coverage for the weekend. Each year CHAS has teamed up with local fire and EMT support to provide emergency response for the reenactors and our guests. We will continue that support this year. Also, as requested, here's a list of area hospitals:

Memorial Hospital (1165 Montgomery Dr., Santa Rosa, CA 95405 707-546-3210

Kaiser Hospital 401 Bicentennial Way, Santa Rosa, CA 707-571-4000

Sutter Medical Center 3325 Chanate Rd, Santa Rosa CA 707-576-4000

Palm Drive Hospital (closest to event site) 501 Petaluma Rd., Sebastapol, CA 707-823-8511

Duncans Mills Update

Ted Miljevich

"Civil War Days" on the Russian River is just around the corner on July 18th and 19th. Eighteen road-side banners have already been placed in prime and highly visible locations for all to see. We have thousands of hand flyers to be placed around in shops and business locations. This will be done at the work parties and by other means of dispersal. The NCWA and ACWA information booths have also been well stocked for months with these flyers. Yes, the word is out! Come and enjoy our tenth year for this great event.!

June 27th and 28th will be our usual pre-event kickoff work party weekend. Bob Lee is helping me organize the massive effort in manpower and logistics it takes to plan for the event. Please everyone respond to his request so he can put together the information needed to help plan for the event. Remember everyone has a job to do for this - our biggest fundraiser of the year. Your choice of duty is all yours. We are asking for your help at a work party, the event itself or, if you can not do any of those, then pledge a monetary donation to help us in the cause. We have always asked for 100% unit help in this event, so with the choices at hand everyone can for sure do their part.

The event article itself has all you need - event information, details and directions for the newer members and or others reading our newsletter. The civilwardays.net website has even more information and is always up and running. Things are pretty much as last year as far as everything. The ACWA will be have command and control this year as we have been rotating commands.

As a reminder, CHAS has adopted the Pacific Area Civil War Reenactor safety rules. We firmly believe if everybody is on the same page with reenacting safety we can have a fun, safe time and all work together. CHAS members who have partaken in NCWA events are already familiar with these rules, but as a reminder they are linked on the event web site. As always, no pre-event registration is needed. All reenactors, CHAS included, will be checked in at the event. Just show your club membership card and that gets you in for free. Let's all have fun and be safe!!!!

Ted Miljevich, Event Coordinator
CHASELDUCE@aol.com
707 -922-5901
www.civilwardays.net

Help Wanted!

**Organized, Dedicated, & Talented
Individual for unique career
opportunities!**

Immediate position open!

Expand your skills! Show off your stuff!
CHAS has an opening for a position very important to our club.

Fundraising Committee Chair:

This important position is a "back room" position that oversees our horse rescue and various fundraising efforts.

Duties include working closely with the Board of Directors to supervise and monitor existing fundraising efforts. The position is also involved in investigating new fundraising ideas put forth by the board or membership.

Contact Capt Ginos or Pvt Miljevich for more details.

Civilian Corner

Judith Boling

With two events now behind us, the event season is in full swing. Sanitary Commission started work on an American flag at Mariposa. Work will continue on the flag at events until it is completed. Our sights are now focused on Duncans Mills.

Many members of the Sanitary Commission have traditionally worked at the front gate both days of the event. Volunteers to work at the front gate "Time Tunnel" are again required. Rosalyn Johnson is heading up Front Gate staffing. Please contact Roz at rjohnson@starstream.net to volunteer for this very important task.



CASINI RANCH FAMILY CAMPGROUND
AND THE
CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL ARTILLERY SOCIETY
(a non-profit educational organization)
PRESENT

CIVIL WAR DAYS

10TH YEAR!

DUNCANS MILLS, CA



Photo by Michael Sharps

JULY 18TH & 19TH, 2009

SATURDAY: 9am - 5pm • SUNDAY: 9am - 3pm

Adults: \$10 • Kids: \$5 • Parking: \$5

Encampments food & Beverages Twice Daily Battles

Battle Times - Sat: 1pm & 4pm - Sun: 11am & 2pm

Sorry, we are unable to accept bank cards of any kind.

Performance features gunfire, explosions and other loud noise. Small children and pets not recommended.

Featuring reenactors from the ACWA, NCWA and groups from the Greater Western United States.

For More Information, visit www.civilwardays.net

Call (707) 922-5901 or (831) 751-6978

The Recruiting Desk

Wes Faubel

Our current recruiting drive is showing positive results. Specifically, the Captain's order to clear the malingerers from the hospitals and Sanitary Commission lines has yielded a sudden surge in strength.

Current membership stands at 106 members (up from 82 at the Mariposa Campaign). One application was submitted and approval at the May Board of Directors meeting. No applications are currently pending, but the recruiting desk is actively fielding inquiries.

Please all join me in welcoming Jessica Christiansen to our fine unit. She has enlisted as a horse driver and been assigned to tender care and mercy of Cpl Moretti of Horse Team #2. (Let's please all remember to refer to Trooper Christiansen's NCO by her proper title and name until Jessica gets better acquainted with us all. This is not only proper military decorum, but it prevents the preconceived image that "Cpl Crash" engenders in the minds of the new troopers.)

Looking forward to seeing you all soon.

Yr Obedient Svt

Lt Casualty



Recovered from her flying dismount at Mariposa, Wendy Bailey drives her mule team on a 60 mile trip somewhere between Lone Pine and Bishop.

"Never miss a good chance to shut up."

~ Will Rogers

"Old Sac Gold Rush Days 2009"

Wes Faubel

Attention 3rd US Artillery, Signal Corp, and the Gentle Ladies of the Sanitary Commission!

Once again it is time to strut our stuff and wow the civilian population of one of the leading towns of the Old West with our impression of quality living history (and help fill CHAS coffers too). Come and mix with mountain men, settlers, gun-fighters, and Indians! Stroll with your lady (or gentleman) on wooden board walks while enjoying a variety of fine food and quality entertainment. Yes, Gold Rush Days at Old Sacramento is on the horizon and approaching at a breakneck pace!

This event is a money maker for us and is four full days, Friday September 4th through Monday Sept 7th (Labor Day) so sign up early and often. Please telegraph Mike Sablan at michaelsablan@aol.com to reserve your spot in what promises to be the biggest four day shingdig west of the Mississippi. Indicate whether you are willing to come Friday, Saturday, Sunday, or Monday. If possible please plan on spending a day and night.



Information will be provided by telegraph at a later date. If you have any questions about the event please do not hesitate to contact Mike.

Respectfully,
Lt Wes Faubel (aka Casualty)



Team 3 is now at Summer Quarters, Camp Caisson

Corporal of the Guard, Lil Squirt, at his duty station. "Who you callin' little?!"

"Veterinarians"

A humorous article from Melinda Faubel's blog at www.bootsandsaddles4mel.blogspot.com

I had to share this article about vets.....I laughed so hard because I can relate. It's written by Leslie Guttman for the blog "Equine ER".

"I believe people drawn to a specific profession share similar traits. All the writers and editors I know are, for example, "noticers": observers who pick up on a thousand details of a situation in one encounter. As far as equine veterinarians, the ones I have met, both at Rood & Riddle and elsewhere out in the field, are a little larger than life. They swoop in, fixing large animals in a single bound, whether it is a million-dollar mare with pleural pneumonia or a colt with a severely fractured bone. These vets are confident ("One time I was wrong, but it was a mistake."), funny ("I went into veterinary medicine over human because patients look better with their clothes off."), and pragmatic ("Look, you can *always* kill (euthanize) the horse. Let's see if we can save him first.") They can work all day and all night on a handful of peanuts and a Coke, and then go for a five-mile run after they punch out. Like regular humans, they like Monty Python, but unlike regular humans, they would much rather be outside doing something like bulldozing a field than inside on the couch watching John Cleese on TV. They are dog-crazy. They are sensitive to the nutritional needs of llamas. They crave the rush of a medical emergency and the calm of a morning on a farm. They want, need and have to work hard; it is part of their DNA. In their spare time, they do things like get certified to be professional dive instructors, extreme ski and play classical violin. "



Melinda and Wes Faubel at a "poker" fun ride at Camp Farwest

Thanks from James River ~ Gibson Ranch

Capt. Ginos

On behalf of the James River Squadron, I wish to express our cumulative delectation on the conclusion of our communal repast. All attendees were most pleased by the inclusion of the musical interlude, and appreciated the appropriateness of the selected pieces.



The ladies thoroughly enjoyed the "carriage" ride, and may have otherwise suffered greatly in the heat, had you not been the thoughtful gentleman we've come know and made it available. Our only regret is that the schedule of the day (and heat) precluded our ability to share more dialogs with our fellow Artillerists.

We have begun working on the logistics of our reciprocity and look forward to the eventual culmination of yet another fine gathering.

P. S. Your "elixir" was delicious.

Keep the wind abaft your beam (that means behind the middle of your ship)

Kevin Groom

Lt. Commanding

James River Squadron



James River members stand for the playing of "Dixie" and "Bonnie Blue Flag"

After Action Report ~ Gibson Ranch

Red Faubel

After a relaxing leave, I received a call to arms paired with a strong suggestion that I appear in light of the numbers attending. I set out for the rendezvous, encountering Madame Allen also on trek for the front having heard rumors of her son being sighted in that area. Madame's carriage being faster than my feet, I hitched a ride. 'Twas almost a pain in my heart and a tear in my eye to see all my fellow comrades in arms after such a long absence-reunited at last! One I did not recognize was the new Cookie, though there are elements of familiarity with that face...with the food. It will come to me in time, I am sure. After all, as one in the Secret Fraternity of Clerkhood, information is MY bread and butter.



The Colonel, being an officer with a head high above the clouds, no doubt did not notice that the battle for the green hills of Gibson Valley took place under a sweltering sun. We below did our best to provide subtle hints, such as perspiring copiously, panting loudly, and falling stricken to the ground before rounds even left gun chambers. I confess, the only reason our gun seemed to be safe was the ever-present haze of sulphurous canon smoke that hung over our knoll. Some chose to attribute this to First Sgt. Foster's generous firing drill; others to the serendipity of having Pvt. Malcom "Reverend" White on our crew, though that could also be attributed to the crafty First Sergeant. All this soldier knows is that there was shade.

The Gray Cavalry saw a gun that APPEARED to be alone and defenseless. This was, however a cunning trap set by our dashing, cool-headed commander (he was parked under the leafiest tree on the north bank of the river). Charging down the hill, pistol blasting, he shamed the Lieutenant into bravery as well. The Lieutenant always did have a rather high self preservation streak that needs to be



removed. The Cavalry, perhaps with the misguided notion that the raging artillery team would be close behind, kicked up their heels and scurried back across the river. Their mounts then followed.

Our valour in the face of the insurgents and the heat must have touched a heart string somewhere, for a breeze struck up during our much-earned siesta. Upon returning to the gun, we were joined by a new cannoneer. Having not run the transfer paperwork myself, I was naturally curious as to his identity. I put all my natural subtlety as clerk in to action. "Who are you, where have you come from, and in God's name why are you HERE?" I received a completely unsolicited "Bug off, stripey". This did not fill me with joy and goodwill. Many of you will remember a certain Cpl. Faubel that joined Our Lord some years back, leaving the lovely Widow Faubel. Then, a brother appeared from nowhere to take his place not only in her affections, but in the saddle as well. This Cpl has been absent all while a similar-visaged man has been sauntering around in Lieutenant bars. And now another brother Faubel appearing as a cannoneer? I submit that something officially fishy is taking place; therefore, I will investigate with all the resources at my disposal and inform the commandment of my findings. That said, I do feel the Corporal has a firm understanding now of the proper procedure with which to present rounds to be loaded. Taking such a duty so lightly as to include skipping is not to be tolerated.

We returned from a successful skirmish to find Pvt Roberts in a flurry of food. I found much to my dismay that the 3rd US Artillery, Schnieder's Battery was to host a diplomatic envoy from our South-most counterparts, James River Artillery. And they were bringing their womenfolk with them. No half-measures there! Pvt. Mel volunteered to fetch the envoy in the ambulance, and with our only other option the limber and caisson, we agreed. We hoped the obvious signals would be correctly misinterpreted. A well-placed bribe lured

Continued next page



the Fort Point Garrison Brass Band to our camp, who proceeded to serenade the southern sailors. Such was the call of the sirens, that our very own unit was drawn to listen. Pvt.s Tad and Loren held out long enough to bring wash water, but then they too were lost.

Much like any glimpse of something Divine, details of the evening are hazy, save two key points. I'm not sure where Pvt Roberts came by those six apple pies, but as long as they keep coming, I don't think anyone cares. The company was so pleasant, the conversation so delectable that the future course of the war does not concern me as much as whether such a gathering can be had again.

Morning brought to the forefront such important issues as: would there be enough eggs? (there would) who shot Big Guy? (a horse did...one of the black ones) and was the state of the Captain's soul such that it would behoove him to attend Church Call? (it was, so it would) I also realized at this time that, somewhat to my clerk-y surprise, there was no one left to hunt down for ration money. I would like to send my gratitude to all those attending for stepping up to the plate and not making me chase you in that heat.



Captain Ginos conspired with First Sergeant Foster to provide a demonstration of our military prowess by fielding a gun with full crew and shooting at nothing. After a consultation between corporals past, present, and possibly future, Cpl Alto angled the gun towards some shifty looking barn-like structures in the far distance. They weren't moving at the moment, but hell, have we ever taken chances? Our first shot was a sighting shot. We decided this after me made it. We shifted left, then fired again...or rather tried to. We tried to fire roughly 4 more times. By the time our primer-impaired cannon actually went off, we were of the opinion that distant metal barns held no threat, as they hadn't moved at all from our barrage.



We were told that Sunday was cooler. They say if you tell anybody something often enough they will believe it, and Command was certainly doing its damndest to test that theory. Being a student of human nature myself, I don't entirely agree with the control group they used, but it did get the rest of the soldiers semi mobile. This was just dandy because it gave the Rebels something to shoot at other than myself--a mobile shield against pesky confederate lead. This appeared to be working rather well....until halfway through the first skirmish. Upon the clear front, I swept my eyes around the knoll, and spied movement where there shouldn't be. After discharging, I made pointing motions, and a sound similar to "ooga ooga! the enemy!!" Ignored by the rest of the crew, I concentrated my efforts on Cpl. Casualty, who heard the certain girlish tone to my voice when I become frantic. After alerting command, the Captain again plunged down the hill into the melee. Even with no trusty Lieutenant to guard his back this time, he emerged victorious and unscathed...the gun was saved!!

I end my report of the Battles of Gibson Ranch, Gibson River, and Gibson Hills with a hearty Hoorah!! No casualties were taken from the elite 3rd--either from enemy fire, the heat, or friendly fire. Our men -- skilled. Our Commander -- fearless. Our horses -- fast, and our food -- hearty! I look forward to our next engagement and hope to see many more uniforms, with strong soldiers to fill them.

GIBSON RANCH!



GIBSON RANCH!



After Action Report ~ Roaring Camp

1st Sgt. Scott Foster

I loaded up the tin wagon and proceeded to follow the westerly migration of numerous civilians who appeared to be headed to the ocean for some type of weekend pilgrimage.

I was able to report in at the Union headquarters at Roaring Camp, where the camp was strategically placed so we could guard both the covered bridge and a rail crossing. Privates Tad and Rafferty Lincoln were already in camp, and Corporals Boyd and Alto showed up a few hours later. Our camp was set up close to the rail crossing and our gun placed with the three of the 2nd US to provide artillery support against the Rebel advances trying to take over the rail crossing.

The next day we found the tracks very busy with trains loaded with what appeared to be refugees fleeing the upcoming hostilities. For all the hardships they had suffered, they appeared to be a happy lot, encouraging us in our duties with many waves and smiles. Private Morgan Foster reported for duty Saturday morning. Unfortunately, it appeared our horses had been captured in the middle of the night, thus we would have to operate in a fixed position. After morning parade, we practiced our drill to ensure we would be ready for battle.

When the call came, we reported to our gun, not knowing what the enemy was planning. However, under the leadership of Lt. Dave Johnson of the 2nd U.S., we were quickly given our orders and fell into line with them. The start of the skirmish showed that we were still suffering from the defective primers provided by the Pennsylvania Armory. After multiple misfires, the Union Command Staff became concerned about our effectiveness. In view of the concerns, I ordered the crew to switch to quill

primers and a linstock. From that point on, we were a much more reliable gun, though the slow match had some issues with fraying.

Twice on Saturday, there were intense skirmishes with the Rebs. Our infantry fought valiantly, and had many successes, despite the withering fire from the 12 Rebel artillery pieces. When the smoke had cleared, we returned to camp and shared a dinner and many tales of valor.

Sunday brought overcast skies and reports of more Rebel activity. Again, they tried twice to overtake our position, but at the end of the day, we had stood our ground. An order came down from Command that we would be boarding the train in order to scout out new positions. When we arrived at the station, there were many Southern sympathizers milling around, and what appeared to be Rebel spies who boarded the train with us.

During the trip, we found many possible emplacements for our guns, but without the horses, it would be difficult to move the guns into position. The railroad did not have any freight cars available as they all had been requisitioned to bring in additional supplies and would not return for several days. We returned to our camp realizing we would have to continue utilizing the exposed positions we currently occupied.

The final skirmish was very fierce and long, resulting in many casualties on both sides. We continued to fire until we ran out of ammunition, at which point, we had to spike the gun to prevent it from being used against us, but unfortunately, there were injuries to the crew.

I would like to report that all acted with the utmost skill and bravery throughout this difficult campaign. There were so many individual acts of sacrifice, that I cannot enumerate them.

Respectfully,

First Sergeant Scott Foster



After Action Report ~ Roaring Camp

Pvt. Rafferty Lincoln

This past weekend hosted Battery L in defense of the logging town of Roaring Camp. The Rebel Horde vastly outnumbered Federal Forces, some fourteen guns to our four. Their fifteen Marine Rifles easily removed the smaller numbered 69th NYV's from the field, and as they were reinforced by Mosby's Crew, we had few chances to overcome defeat.

Myself and Pvt Tad joined an honor guard in their march to Evergreen Cemetery's GAR plot where one of our relations is buried. At such time, from Evergreen, some four and a half miles from the Roaring Camp Battlefield, our Honor Guard heard the twenty one gun salute being carried out as part of the Roaring Camp Ceremony.

The Last Engagement was a well fought battle, and a total defeat. All Union Forces were captured. The Artillery, however, was paroled. As good soldiers of the North, a few of ours, (we happy few, we band of brothers) heard that the Rebels were planning an attack of the Train route on Bear Mountain. Some good Thirty of us (or some portion of that) prepared to board the train to offend the attack. Sources report that the planned attack was held off after seeing the sight our great numbers.

Aside from all other problems with primers, slow match, Chiefly, misfires, and training powder monkeys; this event for the Third shows more than a great promise for later years !!



*Please join us in congratulating Alice and Matt
on their engagement!*

A Civil War Era Lexicon

The origin and meaning of words is of interest to many. The often-mispronounced term "artificer" proves to very interesting indeed.

ARTIFICER((är-tĭf'ĭ-sər, ar-TIFF'ĭ:sir)
n.

A skilled worker; a craftsperson. One that contrives, devises, or constructs something. "The labyrinth... was built by Daedalus, a most skillful artificer" (Thomas Bulfinch).



In Greek mythology, Daedalus (Latin, also Greek Daidalos "cunning worker") was a skilled artificer and was even said to have first invented images. He is first mentioned in Homer's *Iliad* (believed to be written in the 7th or even the 6th century BC), where he built for Ariadne "The Labyrinth," a wide dancing-ground.

*Source: The American Heritage® Dictionary of the
English Language, Fourth Edition*



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Most of our members will remember Royal Magnell. Ever wonder what he's doing since he went away to Patrick Henry College? Here's an article he wrote for a magazine!

A Weapon for All Occasions | Weapons Profile

The rocket propelled grenade and the face of modern warfare.

SIMPLE, LOW-TECH explosive devices are the bane of modern, highly-mechanized militaries. They allow an insurgent fighter to attack an expensive target with a high probability of success—all at little monetary cost. They are, in more than one sense, the great conflict equalizers between advanced militaries and Mujahideen, simple citizen soldiers, terrorists, and guerrilla fighters. A 'shaped charge' or High Explosive Anti-Tank (HEAT) warhead focuses the damaging effect of an RPG's explosive blast toward the target. The cone has a metal lining that is transformed into a jet of molten metal when the explosive is detonated. This jet is extremely effective at punching through armor. Because of this, HEAT charges are used in almost all portable anti-armor weapons, including RPGs.

RPG are, in more than one sense, the great conflict equalizers between advanced militaries and Mujahideen, citizen soldiers, terrorists, and guerrilla fighters.

The first RPG was developed in WWII and by the end of the war, Germany, the United States, and the Soviet Union had all developed RPGs of some sort. Weapons like the German *faustpatrone*, *panzerfaust*, and the American bazooka were all early RPGs. From these early RPGs came the most prolific and arguably the most cost effective of the modern RPGs—the RPG-7, a Russian design first built in 1961 to combat western tanks. Today it is the most common anti-armor weapon in the world, used by over 140 nations. The RPG-7 costs about \$500 U.S. dollars, and is constantly evolving and being adapted for uses outside its original purpose. Since recent warfare has been characterized by fighting between small, very unconventional guerrilla type forces and modern militaries, this article focuses on the unconventional uses of the RPG-7.

Anti-Helicopter Applications

Contrary to popular belief, RPG-7s were first used to down helicopters in Vietnam, rather than in Afghanistan. On August

6, 1966 a U.S. UH-1E 'Huey' gunship was downed by North Vietnamese Army RPG-7 fire. In Vietnam, there were a total of 380 attacks on helicopters that involved RPG-7s. Of these, 128 of the helicopters were shot down. In comparison to other weapons used against helicopters during this period, an attack involving an RPG was twice as likely to end with the downing of the helicopter than if the attack utilized any other weapon. RPG-7s also inflicted a higher than normal fatality rate during anti-helicopter operations when compared to other weapons. In one incident, 29 men died and 11 more were wounded after a CH-47B Chinook was shot down. Characteristic of RPG anti-helicopter attacks to this day, most attacks center around landing zones, when helicopters were most vulnerable.

During the Soviet-Afghani war, RPG-7 anti-helicopter tactics became increasingly sophisticated, since Afghani Mujahideen found themselves disadvantaged by the Soviets' substantial use of helicopters. Accordingly, they turned to innovative techniques like ambushing Soviet helicopters with RPGs and heavy machine guns as they flew through Afghani canyons. They also developed tactics including volley fire, which consisted of using sheer numbers of RPGs to down low-flying helicopters. They were also the first to use fuse cutting, which involved the shortening of an RPG's self-detonating fuse that normally causes it to self-destruct at the end of its 900 meter flight. This turned a simple RPG-7 into the crude equivalent of a specialized anti-aircraft device designed to detonate its warhead near the aircraft, allowing a deadly airburst to destroy the target. They also developed modifications to the RPG-7 that allowed it to be fired at a vertical angle.

Al Qaeda's RPG Evangelism

The techniques developed in Afghanistan by the Mujahideen fighters are important because the innovative techniques developed in Afghanistan were spread by Al Qaeda around the world. The worst single-day loss of American special forces soldiers in operation Enduring Freedom and the single worst loss of U.S. Navy special forces



US troops train with RPGs | M & C

since World War II occurred when a force of eight 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment crew members and eight Navy SEALs aboard a CH-47 Chinook were shot down, when an RPG-7 was fired into their open loading ramp as they attempted to rescue four other SEALs during Operation Red Wing. Similar incidents still occur in both Afghanistan and Iraq today.

Modernized nations' militaries that have experienced extensive combat with insurgent forces have realized the effective nature of simple weapons like the RPG-7. This has in turn fostered a renewal of training troops in the use of simple weapons in urban warfare context. Examples of this change in focus can be seen in new armor and tactics to protect helicopters from RPG attacks and the redeployment of the U.S. equivalent of the RPG-7, the M72 light anti-tank weapon (LAW). This sort of flexibility may help reverse the successes of Mujahideen RPG tactics. Only time in the battle theatre will tell, however, how effective countermeasures will be against the RPG-7, the most effective insurgent weapon in history. ■

Royal Magnell is a junior Strategic Intelligence major at PHC.

WANTED!

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Do you like to be in charge and are you the type of person that can get things done? CHAS is looking for a Fundraising Committee Chairman. Raising funds is crucial to help keep our unit events and horse rescue program running.

The Fundraising Chairman should:

- ★ Lead and organize the fundraising committee
- ★ Appoint committee members to direct projects.
- ★ Inform the Board of all planning and organizing details.
- ★ Motivate and inspire all members to promote and participate in the events.
- ★ Direct the planning processes in cooperation with the Board and the Fundraising Committee.
- ★ Delegate the implementation of decisions

If you are interested in finding out more about this important position, contact any member of the Board! You can find contact information on the website and Cannon's Mouth.



MIKE JOHNSON
TREASURER



Please put this in a Conspicuous place.

HELP SUPPORT OUR TROOPS

BRING YOUR DONATIONS!

Thanks again to all of you who brought items for the Troops! Many of them have expressed thanks for all we've done. We will be collecting items throughout the year. We will be shipping to them soon, so if you have any donations please bring them with you to any work party or event so we can get them out to the troops as soon as possible. Also, shipping is pretty expensive so if you can't contribute items, monetary donations are accepted and will be marked specifically for the troops!

The troops have let us know that they really appreciate your items because it lets them know someone cares about them being where they are deployed. The packages and letters they receive help make the days pass and give them something to look forward to. Here is a list of things they most enjoyed:

Iraq

- Gatorade powder and the single packages of those drink powders that you put into a bottle of water
- Gift cards for AAFES - <http://www.aafes.com/>
- Beef jerky
- Good sun block (45 spf or higher)

Afghanistan

- Warm socks/gloves and undergarments - it gets extremely cold in Afghanistan
- Mosquito repellant (the lotion kind)
- Good coffee for those cold mornings - coffee mugs and travel cups also.

General items for any soldier in both countries

- Candies, spicy foods (rice crackers, spicy peanuts, etc. - foods with flavor) The Dining Facilities (DFACs) serve rather bland foods.
- Word puzzle games - there's dozens of little pocket book game books.
- Name brand shampoos and soaps - the BX/PX, if there's one near you, only sells a few generic brand toiletries.
- Fingernail clippers, Q-tips, chap stick, etc are good things to send as well.

www.treatsfortroops.com is also a very good site to purchase from. They always have good stuff to send to the troops. From this site, you can foster a soldier deployed. I got packages from quite a few people that I didn't know and you have no idea how good it makes you feel to hear from people that support you. It's an uplifting experience and keeps the troops moral as high as can be expected.

Thanks again and support those deployed! They deserve it!"

If you prefer, you can still send your items and donations to:

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COINCIDING WITH THE CELEBRATION OF 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF VIRGINIA CITY, THIS COMPETITION IS OPEN TO ALL HORSEMEN, INCLUDING LIVING HISTORY REENACTORS, ACTIVE RESERVE NATIONAL GUARD MILITARY RIDERS AND UNIFORMED MOUNTED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS. ALL COMPETITORS MUST WEAR THE CORRECT UNIFORM OF THE UNITS THEY REPRESENT.

THE RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THIS COMPETITION WILL BE BASED ON THE NATIONAL CAVALRY ASSOCIATION'S COMPETITION RULES AND REGULATIONS. THESE MAY BE FOUND ON THE INTERNET BY LOOKING UP THE US CALVARY ASSOCIATION (BY THE WAY, THINK ABOUT JOINING THEM. THEY ARE AN OUTSTANDING ORGANIZATION!).

FOR HUNDREDS, IF NOT THOUSANDS OF YEARS, THE STANDARD FOR HORSEMANSHIP WAS SET BY THE CAVALRYMAN. IN ALL EQUINE COMPETITION, THE STANDARD OF COURAGE AND COMPETENCY OF BOTH HORSE AND RIDER WERE DEMONSTRATED TO THE EXTREME BY THE HORSE SOLDIER. WE WISH TO BRING THESE TRADITIONS BACK WITH A CONTEST IN THE MILITARY ARTS OF HORSEMANSHIP. ARE YOU AND HORSE AS GOOD AS YOU THINK YOU ARE? THE GAUNTLET HAS BEEN THROWN. WE'LL SEE YOU THERE, TROOPERS!

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER CONTACT
RICHARD LEE AT 775-846-1336 OR MIKE CREAGER AT 775-772-0619

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	Lemasters, Michael	Gun Sgt.
Cannoneer	Lincoln, Rafferty	Gun Sgt.
Cannoneer	Sablan, Scott	Gun Sgt.
Cannoneer	Thompson, Karla	Gun Sgt.

Team Corporal	Johnson, Mike	Gun Sgt.
Driver	Berry, Mike	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	Signal Sgt.
Private	Roger, Norm	Signal Sgt.

Gun/Team 2

Chief of Piece	Duncan, George	1st. Sgt.
Gun Cpl	Boyd, John	Gun Sgt.
Cannoneer	Dunne, Cary	Gun Sgt.
Cannoneer	Ebert, Bob	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	Horton, Jim	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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2009 Schedule of Events

June

June 27 - 28 Duncans Mills. Weekend work party. CHAS. Contact Ted Miljevich.

July

July 3 - 5 37th Mohawk Valley Independence Day Celebration. Graeagle, CA. CCWR Battles & Encampment. \$\$\$. Contact Alan Ginos.
Includes 8:00 PM Dusk Battle!
www.graeagle.com/events/mvid/2009/

July 11 - 12 Duncans Mills. CHAS weekend work party. Contact Ted Miljevich.

July 18 - 19 Civil War Days at Duncans Mills.
CHAS Invitational. Battles & encamp. 2 teams, guns & support. \$\$\$\$. Maximum effort Contact Ted Miljevich.
One of the largest annual events west of the Mississippi.

July 25 - 26 Duncans Mills. CHAS after event clean up work party. Contact Ted Miljevich.

August

N/A

September

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

Sept 18 - 20 Tres Pinos. NCWA Battles & Encampment. 1 gun, no horses.

Sept 19 - 20 Fortuna. RACW Battles & Encampment. 1 gun, no horses. Contact Scott Alto.

Sept 26 Alcatraz Living History Day. Hosted by the Friends of Civil War Alcatraz and the National Park Service. San Francisco.

October

Oct. 2 - 4 Kearny Park, Fresno. NCWA Invitational. Battles & encampment. 2 teams & guns, support units. School Day Friday. Contact Alan Ginos.
One of the largest annual events west of the Mississippi.

Opinions expressed in Cannon's Mouth articles are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editors, CHAS, its governing Board, membership, or anybody else.

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

November

Nov 6 - 8 Moorpark Farm, Moorpark. Richmond Howitzers. 2 teams & guns. Battles & encampment. School Day Friday. \$. Contact Alan Ginos.

One of the largest annual events west of the Mississippi.

Nov 14 CHAS Weekend "Put-Away" Work Party. Contact Alan Ginos.

Nov 19 CHAS Dinner Fundraising Event. Monterey County. Contact Ted Miljevich.

December

Happy Holidays!

2010!

April

April 10 - 11 SCCWA Battles & Encampment. Prado Reg, Park, Chino.

Get your cool CHAS Gear!

We now have hats (as modeled by Bethany Faubel) and pins. And don't forget the *Civil War Days* t-shirts and CHAS mugs. Contact Mike Johnson at 3rdusmounted@warhorse.org for your purchases!



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Important Web Addresses

Civil War Days at Duncans Mills Web Site:

<http://www.civilwardays.net/> 831-751-6978

CHAS Web Site:

<http://www.warhorse.org>

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American Civil War Association (ACWA)

<http://www.acwa.org/>

American Civil War Society (ACWS)

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Civil War Re-enactment Society (CWRS)

<http://www.cwrs.info>

Comstock Civil War Reenactors (CCWR)

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Fort Tejon Historical Association (FTHA)

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<http://www.ncwa.org/>

Reenactors of the American Civil War (RACW)

<http://www.cwrs.info>

War Between The States Historical Assn (WBSHA)

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Contributed articles and photographs should be addressed to *The Cannon's Mouth*, c/o M. Johnson, 334 Kevin Ct., Auburn, CA 95603, or e-mailed to mjohnson@cfsa.org. Materials may also be submitted via CD or floppy disk (in PC format). Submitted materials will not be returned unless by prior arrangement.

Changes in mailing address should be submitted to: CHAS Recording Secretary, c/o S. Foster, 4446 Richmond Ave., Fremont, Ca 94536 or e-mail to 3rdartyscott@sbcglobal.net.

Submissions for the next issue are due no later
than **June 24, 2009**