

NEWSLETTER OF THE CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL ARTILLERY SOCIETY DECEMBER 2009

Commander's Call

Alan Ginos

The horses are out to pasture, the equipment and tack put away for the winter, and members on furlough for a while for some well earned time away from reenacting. So how did we get to this state over the last month? Moorpark followed by a very productive put away work party.

Moorpark was the usual BIG event, with our normal camping spot in the trees near the welcoming cook fires of the Richmond Howitzers. Our event hosts once again outdid themselves with hospitality and good food. With over 20 members and guests available for duty, we had plenty of people to man our section of Parrots, and keep two teams of horses on the go. Thanks go out to the Washington Artillery and Tom Martinez for the loan of Tom's gun and limber. This was another fine event with record numbers of reenactors and public.

Following Moorpark, Wes and Mel Faubel, Judith and Roger Boling, Donna Schulken, John Boyd, Teri Moretti and Loren Griffith attended the Camp Warhorse put away work party. All rolling stock was power washed, wheels taken off and inspected, axles greased, and then put away in containers. Mel and Teri spent some very quality time sorting out all the tack, identifying parts needing fixed, and for the first time in years saw to it that all four teams worth of gear was reassembled and staged

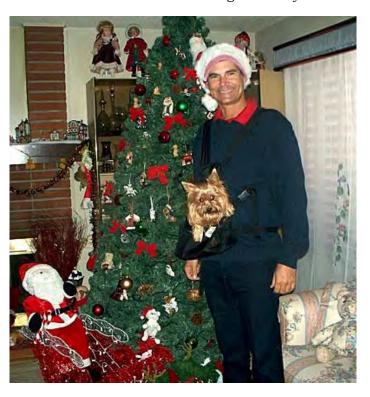
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Dispatches from the Dog Tent

Ted Miljerich

Happy holiday season to all.! Unit events, work parties and the rest of it now takes a back seat to the holiday season. The year has come and gone and now is the time to take a break for the holidays. Sunday January 24th will be the date for our Annual Meeting. This year we are moving the meeting to Old Town Sacramento. The board has had requests to make an attempt to centralized the meeting location. We have a found great place at the California Military Museum, 1119 Second Street, across from the Firehouse restaurant. We have a nice warm indoor meeting room at our disposal. 10:00 start time. I'll include more details in the next issue, but it will be the usual meeting format. For those who have asked for a new location, you have your wish! So we're looking forward to more members turning out this year!



The next board meeting will be held on Thursday December 10th, 6:00 pm at the Marie Callender's in Concord. As always, you may attend or contact your member at large.

distinctly by team. One of the county workers, a young man headed in to the Army in January, is spending 27 days cleaning tack, so hopefully the majority of it will be cleaned by him prior to our first work party in January.

Speaking of work parties, many new dates for activities will appear in this edition of the Cannon's Mouth including work party and training 2009 saw us operating in minimal attendance mode including the put away work party. By publishing dates early on for next year, want to ensure that more of you can turn out. And also notice that our own DM event appears to be able to happen for the 11th straight year; that despite all rumors to the contrary Fresno is on again in October; and that the NCWA is adding a couple of March events that we need more detail on before determining our attendance. Mariposa will now be an ACWA event, but an event we plan on supporting as payback for the fine ACWA contribution to our Duncans Mills event.

2010 will be a busy year with a lot of opportunities for attending fun events and being involved. To look out a bit further, 2011 starts the 150th anniversary events of the Civil War. For those of you new to us, or have not attended any of the big eastern reenactments, the 150th promises some truly huge events. We are working on a plan to stage a team/gun/limber and transport in VA for some or all of the 150th years. With some past members and friends already in the East, just some of us need to attend an event or two a year so that 3rd U.S. Battery L can once again be a force to be reckoned with in the Eastern Theater. That will follow our history to the letter.

Best of the Holiday Season to all of you.



Capt. Ginos and Pvt. Burtz at Moorpark photo by Nikolai Sklobovsky

Fundraising

Donna Schulken

Monthly CHAS Fundraising Update

I just wanted to keep you up to date on our fundraising activities. We are still in the planning stages for the Fundraiser dinner to be held on February 20 in Salinas. Again this is in honor of Dennis and Pat Winfrey. I still need volunteers for this event; not only for the planning of the event, but also will need help at the event. It is never too late to sign up.

The SHARES cards are being requested, but not at the rate I was anticipating. If you shop at Save Mart, Lucky, Food Maxx or S-Mart stores, please request one of these cards! These cards do not have your personal information attached so it is a very easy way for you and yours to help CHAS. Again, you can call me at 209-826-1611 or send me an email at dschulken@earthlink.net to request the cards. Also keep in mind that your friends and relatives can help too. So request as many cards as you think you may need.

Donna Schulken

Calling All Candidates!

Are you interested in finding new ways to be active in CHAS? Do you have some good ideas for making our club better? Would you enjoy being part of the CHAS leadership team? Then please consider becoming a candidate.

Now is the time to get your name on the ballot! Positions are open for:

- **★** President,
- **★** Vice President,
- **★** Recording Secretary,
- ★ Corresponding Secretary,
- **★** Treasurer,
- ★ Member-at-Large #1,
- ★ Member-at-Large #2.

Please email, or send by Post Office, your statements to:

Carolyn Faubel Elections Coordinator 7393 Meconium Way Marysville, CA 95901

or cbamembership@syix.com

~ 2010 Board Election ~ Candidates' Statements

President

Ted Miljevich

This is your incumbent President, Ted "EL DUCE" Miljevich, asking for your vote and support to be your President for another term. Those in this great organization know me and that I have been your President for a long time. I have said before if somebody wants the job more than me, just let me know and I will step aside. Well that has not happened as of yet. So I am stepping up to the plate and saying I will be happy to do it again. I have really enjoyed all the memberships support over the years and I, along with the rest of your hard working board members, intend to do the best job that I can do for you. Thank you again, and looking forward to another great year for CHAS!!!!!!

Teddy 'EL DUCE' Miljevich

Vice-President

John Boyd

Hello to all CHAS members! Well my first year serving on the board as your Vice President is coming to a close. CHAS has done well this year and I think my contributions as a member of the board of directors have been successful. I would like to continue serving the organization in this post and ask for your vote.

Respectfully John Mathew Boyd



Recording Secretary

Scott Foster

I am running for the Board position of Recording Secretary. I have served in this position for the last $7\frac{1}{2}$ years, and ask for your continued support. This has been one of the ways that I have been able to contribute to the organization, by keeping accurate minutes as well as representing the general membership in board matters. Going forward, I see some of the challenges as improving our impression, recruiting and training new members, and encouraging member participation in CHAS activities and work parties. Please continue to support me in this role with your vote.

Thank You, Scott Foster

Corresponding Secretary

OPEN

Treasurer

I believe that new faces and fresh ideas are good for the continued growth of all enterprises. I would like to see someone step up and run for this office!

Thank you! Mike Johnson

Members-At-Large

Roger Boling

Chas members,

It's that time of year and I am again asking for your vote in the unit elections. We as a unit have had an interesting year some good and some not so good but all in all I think we are stronger for the experience. I have been honored to serve you as member at large and ask that you allow me to continue in that role for 2010.

Thank you Roger L. Boling

Teri Moretti

I am running for the CHAS board position of Member-at-Large. I have been an active member of CHAS since 2004. I would like the opportunity to continue to represent you to our Board of Directors for the upcoming year. I am always available to forward any of your concerns, questions or kudos to the Board. I can be contacted either by email, phone or snail mail. I would appreciate your vote and support.

Thank you, Teri Moretti

Captain

Alan Ginos

Having not been successful in finding my replacement that I know of, I once again submit my name for the Captain's position in Battery L, 3rd U.S.

The Captain's role as published in our Bylaws revolves around military command, recruit questioning and potential event negotiations. The role I have assumed to oversee and schedule unit equipment maintenance is NOT the role of the Captain. Should someone else be interested in keeping track of what needs to be done, and to schedule the necessary work parties to get the work done, it would be a pleasure for me to give up this added role.

We have a good command staff, and recruit numbers going up again. 2010 should be a positive growth year for CHAS.

In your service, Alan Ginos

Executive Officer

Wes Faubel

Hello All.

I would like to once again throw my hat into the ring as a candidate for your executive officer next season (unless of course someone else has a desire to experience the prerogatives and perks of this powerful position). The last years have ones of growth in my impression and leadership skills and hopefully the next will entail more of the same.

I look forward to continuing to work on our historical impression and working closely with the Captain and First Sgt to make our camp run efficiently and maximizing the fun that we have at an event. I would especially like to see our group take advantage of some of the scenarios that are presented by the NCWA this year; wouldn't at least some of you like to be paid and have your rations issued?

Remember! A vote for me is a vote for honesty and integrity in command! (Depending, of course, upon how one defines those terms in a political statement).

I look forward to your support and thank you in advance.

Humbly, Lt Wes Faubel Always a Casualty in the great cause we serve

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.

Commander of U.S. Sanitary Commission *Judith Boling*

I once again request your vote for US Sanitary Commission Commander. I have served in this position since 2005 and would like the opportunity to continue to serve in this capacity.

I would appreciate your vote for Sanitary Commission Commander. I promise to work very hard for all of you.

Respectfully Submitted, Judith A. Boling

The Recruiting Desk

Wes Faubel

The harvests are in and all are tucked snuggly around the winter fires against the chill. If you hold your head just right you can hear distant sleigh bells.

Yes, all of the indicators point to the time of the year we all look forward to so eagerly: Reenlistment Time is Here Again! The reenlistment forms should be in your mailboxes beginning sometime next week. All members are encouraged to complete and return them expeditiously to avoid the Christmas rush.

We will also be holding our traditional drawing for a \$25 dollar CHAS merchandise shopping spree at Café Press. Entry will be automatic for those returning the appropriate safety test with their reenlistment by the annual meeting. Detailed instructions will be included in your reenlistment package.

Our new members were announced in last month's issue. Here are their assignments.

- ★ Joe Bono cannoneer, Gun 2
- ★ Nathan Bricklin driver, Team 1
- ★ Jared Bricklin (Nathan's son). Jared,13, is listed as unassigned until he turns 14.
- ★ Katie Rejaian driver, Team 2, is a returning member.
- ★ Amir Rejaian cannoneer, Team 1. Amir (Katie's husband) also filled in as a driver at Fresno

Wishing you all a hearty, healthy, and blessed Christmas

Yr Obedient Svt

Lt Casualty

WARTED! CHAS BOARD MEMBERS

While there is still gunsmoke in the air, battles to be fought, and horses to be groomed, the time of year is rapidly approaching when candidates for CHAS elected positions must be announced.

Here's your chance to make a difference and help guide the future of CHAS.

The elective offices to be filled are President, Vice President, Corresponding Secretary (open), Recording Secretary, Treasurer (open), Members at Large (2), Commanding Officer, Executive Officer, Sanitary Commission Commander, and Sanitary Commission Executive Officer. The duties of the each can be reviewed by downloading the Bylaws, Rules, Policy and Procedures Manual from warhorse.org. We also invite you to talk to the board members individually. We would be happy to answer questions and try to throw some light on why and how we do things.

Any governing body needs fresh input in the form of new members. Don't be afraid to announce your candidacy for a position that is already filled. Being a board member is a lot of work, but it is also fun. As with everything else in CHAS, we strive to have a good time while getting the job done.

MIKE JOHNSON

TREASURER





Please put this in a Conspicuous place.

Brass Band Performing!



This month the Ft. Point Garrison Brass Band will perform at Livermore's "Home for the Holidays" celebration on Dec. 5th and the Comstock Civil War Reenactors annual Christmas Ball in Virginia City on Dec. 19th. More information below.

Livermore's "Home for the Holidays" - http://www.livermoredowntown.com/events/event_pg/home_holidays/

CCWR Ball - http://www.ccwr.us/calendar.html

Band Website - http://www.fortpointbrassband.org/

HEY BOYS! BILLY'S BACK FROM THE REGIMENTAL SURGEON! ISEE THEY DID THEIR USUAL OUTSTANDING JOB. SAY, DIDN'T YOU JUST GO IN FOR A COLD? SWEAT @ 2009

Webmaster Wanted for Warhorse.org

CHAS is looking for a volunteer to take over managing and maintaining the warhorse.org and civilwardays.net websites. This is a great opportunity to get more involved and make a significant contribution to CHAS and the reenacting community. If you are interested in this highly satisfying volunteer opportunity, please email Ted at chaselduce@aol.com.

The Web Developer/Webmaster is responsible for maintaining both CHAS websites, including updating event schedules and membership information and working with board members on content requests. This is a virtual volunteer opportunity. Hours vary from one hour a month to several hours a week as needed.



Skills Helpful but not Required:

- Experience with any web page development application (e.g. HTML, FrontPage)
- Experience with Adobe Photoshop or any other image editing software
- Experience with File Transfer applications
- Understand and practice website design principles and best practices
- Ability to work independently
- Ability to communicate effectively
- Ability to meet deadlines.

After Action Report -Moorpark

Paul Casini

Camp Caisson, 9 November 1863 Gentlemen

Once again, Captain Ginos telegraphed orders to prepare a gun team for transport south. It seems that the enemy had re-enforced it's numbers after being pushed out of Fresnoburg during our October engagement. Their numbers have grown and their positions fortified. Our commanders will need our brave artillerists to bolster Federal forces. I have no doubt that the 3rd will get the job done and further convince the Confederate army of the error in their cause.

Last year's battle found us secretly infiltrating behind enemy lines under the guise of long lost fellow artillerists. The Captain advised us that we would once again camp in the enemy's midst but some sort of treaty had been struck protecting us from capture. No doubt though, I believe this ruse offers the Captain access to important information aiding our fight. Fortunately, Corporal Hell and I only donned our secretive, gray rags to afford us a larger food ration at the Reb chow tent. Our plates full, gravy running into our coat sleeves, Ted and I made off to the woods to enjoy the only good thing the South had to offer. Hot vittles. But I wander.

All preparations were made. Corporal Moretti once again arrived at Caisson mid day. This time, the corporal rode a wide berth around the hotel where the corporal ate the poisoned food a month ago. The ordeal of catching the horses began. Blackie was not having it. This reminded me of a comment our beloved Stable Sergeant once made to me referring to another of the geldings, Buttercup. As I recall, he said "this one didn't have much brains when he mustered in and aint grow'd nun since". Blackie is one of them horses that if I was atop his back galloping headlong into a great





oak tree, I'd have to think real hard between pulling the reins or just stepping off. Be a tough choice. The horses were finally tricked into capture, chores were completed, we packed and departed after sunset for Camp Warhorse arriving near mid night. Captain Ginos and private William met us and assisted in unloading and securing the horses for the night. I did notice that William seemed to stand to the side of the transport door more readily than before. Wonder why? After all was done we headed for the bunk house for a few hours rest.

Corporal Hell arrived in the morning as we finished cleaning up some rain damaged tack. He arrived late but quickly quelled our anger by opening a pink box filled with ring cakes and dough goods. Got to remember that technique next time I let the horses escape out the gate. Did I neglect to mention that part? I'll let someone else write that Soon after we loaded two teams onto transports and departed south toward uncertain fate. Amazingly, no mechanical problems or broken wheels occurred during the long voyage and we arrived near the Union camp just at sunset, meeting with our fellow 3rdUS pards. We set up camp and took care of the team. Some time later that evening I noticed that private Nathan had departed. No one knew where he went other than the reports that he may have gone foraging for food. He arrived a bit later with a stack of delicious flat bread pies. He kept saying "Have a pizza". I kept asking "A piece a what?" "No, have a pizza!" he'd repeat. "A piece a WHAT?" I'd say. Finally he said "shut up and eat this!" He's now on my Christmas card list too. After about a dozen helpings I noticed that Corporal Hell was no where to be found. I knew that if he missed out on this treat he would not be fun to be around and that I was on his team and did not want to suffer his wrath in the morning so I struck out looking for him. No where to be Later I found out that he was at the telegraph office sending messages. In the morning he was double cranky after he found out what he'd missed. I guess the dried tomato sauce and bits of sausage stuck to my face did not help the discussion.



A special treat for me was to see two of our long missing comrades walk into camp. Privates L Post and J Post found their way from far off to rejoin our ranks and help in the fight. It was good to see them once again.

Even though we were mounted on Team Two, marked for cull, they performed fairly well. The ground was poor though. Freshly plowed earth. They did their best but struggled to move the During the night battle, someone had erected a very bright cluster of lanterns near the corner of the battlefield, illuminating a small patch of earth and surrounding corn patch. The team could not see past the light and Corporal Hell was having a bit of difficulty convincing the leaders to enter the darkness. They were being stubborn as mules (or maybe as smart) and were having nothing of it. We were able to get them moving and about that time a photographer from the local burg stepped out in front of us and stopped our momentum. I was completely okay with juicing him about that time but Corporal Hell thought better of it. I thought we should have at least winged him to teach him a lesson but guess not. He did look kind of funny running away from us with a barrel load of infernal contraptions strapped to and flopping about his body. Three battles were fought that day with terrible losses on both sides until finally both armies fell back into their camps to heal up. That



night, Corporal Hell and I ran back and forth between the Reb mess tent and the feast prepared by the local townsfolk. We had our fill and retired to camp. My belly full as an egg I was fast asleep.

The next morning I arose and began tending to the horses. I noticed everyone else was moving slowly and rubbing their red eyes. Someone from the next camp began asking me about a grand commotion in our camp last night. Seems we had quite a ruckus early in the morning that had awoken most of the camp. I however was well rested because fortunately I was sleeping on my good ear. Could have shot a 10 pounder round through my tent and I would not have stirred. Guess it's not all that bad to be deaf in one ear and not able to hear out the other. Give me the Artillery any day!



That day brought two more battles in which we did our best to knock down as much corn as possible. We tried our best not to stop the team inside the corn patch as it proved difficult to get them moving again. It was like shooing a bunch of kids out of a candy store. All I could think about was seeing my picture in the Harpers Weekly proudly sitting atop my team of two artillery horses having a tug-of-war with a corn stalk in their teeth. Sometimes I have to look at Smoky and Bullet and shake my head in amazement that they can figure out how to awake each morning!

With both armies fought out, we struck our camps and headed back home to spend the next few months in winter camp. Corporal Moretti and I decided to take the Express line back to Caisson and arrived about an hour after mid night. With the team unloaded, the corporal left for home and I headed for the bunkhouse with many memories of the past campaign season to keep me company around the hearth.

Respectfully submitted Pvt P Casini Camp Caisson 3rd Artillery Battery L

MOORPARK













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Christmas in the Confederate White House

By Varina Davis

The wife of Confederate President Jefferson Davis wrote this article describing how the Davis family spent the Christmas of 1864 in the Confederate White House. It was published in The New York World, December 13, 1896 and has since been reprinted often.



Varina Davis

...Rice, flour, molasses and tiny pieces of meat, most of them sent to the President's wife anonymously to be distributed to the poor, had all be weighed and issued, and the playtime of the family began, but like a clap of thunder out of a clear sky came the information that the orphans at the Episcopalian home had been promised a

Christmas tree and the toys, candy and cakes must be provided, as well as one pretty prize for the most orderly girl among the orphans. The kind-hearted confectioner was interviewed by our committee of managers, and he promised a certain amount of his simpler kinds of candy, which he sold easily a dollar and a half a pound, but he drew the line at cornucopias to hold it, or sugared fruits to hang on the tree, and all the other vestiges of Christmas creations which had lain on his hands for years. The ladies dispersed in anxious squads of toy-hunters, and each one turned over the store of her children's treasures for a contribution to the orphans' tree, my little ones rushed over the great house looking up their treasure eyeless dolls, three-legged horses, tops with the upper peg broken off, rubber tops, monkeys with all the squeak gone silent and all the ruck of children's toys that gather in a nursery closet.

Makeshift Toys for the Orphans

Some small feathered chickens and parrots which nodded their heads in obedience were furnished with new tail feathers, lambs minus much of their wool were supplied with a cotton wool substitute, rag dolls were plumped out and recovered with clean cloth, and the young ladies painted their fat faces in bright colors and furnished them with beads for eyes.

But the tug of war was how to get something with which to decorate the orphans' tree. Our man servant, Robert Brown, was much interested and offered to make the prize toy. He contemplated a "sure enough house, with four rooms." His part in the domestic service was delegated to another and

he gave himself over in silence and solitude to the labors of the architect.

Christmas Eve a number of young people were invited to come and string apples and popcorn for the trees; a neighbor very deft in domestic arts had tiny candle moulds made and furnished all the candles for the tree. However the puzzle and triumph of all was the construction of a large number of cornucopias. At last someone suggested a conical block of wood, about which the drawing paper could be wound and pasted. In a little book shop a number of small, highly colored pictures cut out and ready to apply were unearthed, and our old confectioner friend, Mr. Piazzi, consented, with a broad smile, to give "all the love verses the young people wanted to roll with the candy."

A Christmas Eve Party

About twenty young men and girls gathered around small tables in one of the drawing rooms of the mansion and the cornucopias were begun. The men wrapped the squares of candy, first reading the "sentiments" printed upon them, such as "Roses are red, violets blue, sugar's sweet and so are you," "If you love me as I love you no knife can cut our love in two." The fresh young faces, wreathed in smiles, nodded attention to the reading, while with their small deft hands they gined [?] the cornucopias and pasted on the pictures. Where were the silk tops to come from? Trunks of old things were turned out and snippings of silk and even woolen of bright colors were found to close the tops, and some of the young people twisted sewing silk into cords with which to draw the bags up. The beauty of those homemade things astonished us all, for they looked quite "custom-made," but when the "sure enough house" was revealed to our longing gaze the young people clapped their approbation, while Robert, whose sense of dignity did not permit him to smile, stood the impersonation of successful artist and bowed his thanks for our approval. Then the coveted eggnog was passed around in tiny glass cups and pronounced good. Crisp homemade ginger snaps and snowy lady cake completed the refreshments of Christmas Eve. The children allowed to sit up and be noisy in their way as an indulgence took a sip of eggnog out of my cup, and the eldest boy confided to his father: "Now I just know this is Christmas." In most of the houses in Richmond these same scenes were enacted, certainly in every one of the homes of the managers of the Episcopalian Orphanage. A bowl of eggnog was sent to the servants, and a part of everything they coveted of the dainties.

At last quiet settled on the household and the older members of the family began to stuff stockings with molasses candy, red apples, an orange, small whips plaited by the family with highcolored crackers, worsted reins knitted at home, paper dolls, teetotums made of large horn bottoms and a match which could spin indefinitely, balls of worsted rags wound hard and cov-ered with old kid gloves, a pair of pretty woolen gloves for each, either cut of cloth and embroidered on the back or knitted by some deft hand out of homespun wool. For the President there were a pair of chamois-skin riding gauntlets exquisitely embroidered on the back with his monogram in red and white silk, made, as the giver wrote, under the guns of Fortress Monroe late at night for fear of discovery. There was a hemstitched linen handkerchief, with a little sketch in indelible ink in one corner; the children had written him little letters, their grandmother having their hands, the burthen of which compositions was how they loved their dear father. For one of the inmates of the home, who was greatly loved but whose irritable temper was his prominent failing, there was a pretty cravat, the ends of which were embroidered, as was the fashion of the day. The pattern chosen was simple and on it was pinned a card with the word "amiable" to complete the sentence. One of the [missing] received a present of an illuminated copy of Solomon's proverbs found in the same old store from which the pictures came. He studied it for some time and announced: "I have changed my opinion of Solomon, he uttered such unnecessary platitudes -now why should he have said 'The foolish-ness of a fool is his folly?"

On Christmas morning the children awoke early and came in to see their toys. They were followed by the negro women, who one after another "caught" us by wishing us a merry Christmas before we could say it to them, which gave them a right to a gift. Of course, there was a present for every one, small though it might be, and one who had been born and brought up at our plantation was vocal in her admiration of a gay handkerchief. As she left



Jefferson Davis' Children

the room she ejaculated: "Lord knows mistress knows our insides; she jest got the very thing I wanted."

Mrs. Davis's Strange Presents

For me there were six cakes of delicious soap, made from the grease of ham boiled for a family at Farmville, a skein of exquisitely fine gray linen thread spun at home, a pincushion of some plain brown cotton material made by some poor woman and stuffed with wool from her pet sheep, and a little baby hat plaited by the orphans and presented by the industrious little pair who sewed the straw together. They pushed each other silently to speak, and at last mutely offered the hat, and considered the kiss they gave the sleeping little one ample reward for the industry and far above the fruit with which they were laden. Another present was a fine, delicate little baby frock without an inch of lace or embroidery upon it, but the delicate fabric was set with fairy stitches by the dear invalid neighbor who made it, and it was very precious in my eyes. There were also a few of Swinburne's best songs bound in wall-paper and a chamois needlebook left for me by young Mr. P., now succeeded to his title in England. In it was a Brobdingnagian thimble "for my own finger, you know," said the handsome, cheerful young fellow.

After breakfast, at which all the family, great and small, were present, came the walk to St. Paul's Church. We did not use our carriage on Christmas or, if possible to avoid it, on Sunday. The saintly Dr. Minnegerode preached a sermon on Christian love, the introit was sung by a beautiful young society woman and the angels might have joyfully listened. Our chef did wonders with the turkey and roast beef, and drove the children quite out of their propriety by a spun sugar hen, lifesize, on a nest full of blanc mange eggs. The mince pie and plum pudding made them feel, as one of the gentlemen laughingly remarked, "like their jackets were but-toned," a strong description of repletion which I have never forgotten. They waited with great impatience and evident dyspeptic symptoms for the crowning amuse-ment of the day, "the children's tree." My eldest boy, a chubby little fellow of seven, came to me several times to whisper: "Do you think I ought to give the orphans my I.D. studs?" When told no, he beamed with the delight of an approving conscience. All throughout the afternoon first one little head and then another popped in at the door to ask: "Isn't it 8 o'clock yet?," burning with impatience to see the "children's tree."

David Helped Santa Claus

When at last we reached the basement of St. Paul's Church the tree burst upon their view like the realization of Aladdin's subterranean orchard,

and they were awed by its grandeur.

The orphans sat mute with astonishment until the opening hymn and prayer and the last amen had been said, and then they at a signal warily and slowly gathered around the tree to receive from a lovely young girl their allotted present. The different gradations from joy to ecstasy which illuminated their faces was "worth two years of peaceful life" to see. The President became so enthusiastic that he undertook to help in the distribu-tion, but worked such wild confusion giving everything asked for into their outstretched hands, that we called a halt, so he contented himself with unwinding one or two tots from a network of strung popcorn in which they had become entangled and taking off all apples he could when unobserved, and presenting them to the smaller children. When at last the house was given to the "honor girl" she moved her lips without emitting a sound, but held it close to her breast and went off in a corner to look and be glad without witnesses.

"When the lights were fled, the garlands dead, and all but we departed" we also went home to find that Gen. Lee had called in our absence, and many other people. Gen. Lee had left word that he had received a barrel of sweet potatoes for us, which had been sent to him by mistake. He did not discover the mistake until he had taken his share (a dishful) and given the rest to the soldiers! We wished it had been much more for them and him.

Officers in a Starvation Dance

The night closed with a "starvation" party, where there were no refreshments, at a neighboring house. The rooms lighted as well as practicable, some one willing to play dance music on the piano and plenty of young men and girls comprised the entertainment. Sam Weller's soiry [sic], consisting of boiled mutton and capers, would have been a royal feast in the Confederacy. The officers, who rode into town with their long cavalry boots pulled well up over their knees, but splashed up their waists, put up their horses and rushed to the places where their dress uniform suits had been left for safekeeping. They very soon emerged, however, in full toggery and entered into the pleasures of their dance with the bright-eyed girls, who many of them were fragile as fairies, but worked like peasants for their home and country. These young people are gray-haired now, but the lessons of self-denial, industry and frugality in which they became past mistresses then, have made of them the most dignified, self-reliant and tender women I have ever known -- all honor to them.

So, in the interchange of the courtesies and charities of life, to which we could not add its comforts and pleasures, passed the last Christmas in the Confederate mansion.

Christmas at the Time of the Civil War

by Joanne Shelby

Christmas is, without a doubt, my favorite holiday. The decorations, the lights, the carols, all fill my heart with joy. So too, was it for the Victorians. To help all of us with our impressions, I decided to do a little research on Christmas at the time of the Civil War. For the soldier, his thoughts would be about family and friends at home. I'm sure he would be thinking and talking about the holidays past as he lingered in camp or on the march, especially as the holiday approached. Think about what your persona would have experienced and remembered.

Would your home have had a Christmas tree? The first Christmas tree in America was erected in Cleveland, Ohio in 1851, so most likely you would have had at least one prior to the war. Most decorations would have been made at home and were very simple, such as dried and sugared nuts and fruits, popcorn balls and string. Colored paper, wax ribbon, spun glass, and silver foil ornaments were also popular. Ornaments were made in the shape of doll faces, angels, the Christ Child, and animals. Most trees sat on the table top. Unwrapped presents would be placed under them. Without a doubt, the Christmas tree was the centerpiece of the home. According to the book, We Were Marching on Christmas Day, the entire house would have been decorated with greenery such as fir, pine, holly, ivy, and mistletoe. No house was considered festive without the fragrance of these greens!

Singing Christmas carols was a very popular activity. What carols would you remember from home and even sing in camp? Songs such as "Silent Night," "Oh Come All Ye Faithful," "Hark the Herald Angels Sing," and "Deck the Halls" were popular. "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" was written in 1850, and other songs such as "O Little Town of Bethlehem," "Away in a Manger," "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day," and "Up on the Housetop" soon followed. I am sure that many a soldier sang these songs in camp with a twinge of longing for home in his heart and I'm also sure he looked for a fairly new custom to arrive with Mail Call--the Christmas Card (1844).

I hope you have enjoyed this brief overview of Christmas. For more in depth information, especially about Christmas during the war years, obtain the book *We Were Marching on Christmas Day* by Kevin Rawlings. It's a wonderful book and helps add to the human side of the war and those whom we portray. My Christmas wish for you and yours: May all of you find the coming year to be filled with HIS JOY, HIS PEACE, and HIS LOVE. Merry Christmas!

Fredricksburg Letter, Christmas, 1862

From: Tally Simpson, Camp near Fredricksburg

To: Anna Simpson Camp near Fred'burg Dec 25th, 1862

My dear Sister

This is Christmas Day. The sun shines feebly through a thin cloud, the air is mild and pleasant, [and] a gentle breeze is making music through the leaves of the lofty pines that stand near our bivouac. All is quiet and still, and that very stillness recalls some sad and painful thoughts.

This day, one year ago, how many thousand families, gay and joyous, celebrating Merry Christmas, drinking health to absent members of their family, and sending upon the wings of love and affection long, deep, and sincere wishes for their safe return to the loving ones at home, but today are clad in the deepest mourning in memory to some lost and loved member of their circle. If all the dead (those killed since the war began) could be heaped in one pile and all the wounded be gathered together in one group, the pale faces of the dead and the graons of the wounded would send such a thrill of horror through the hearts of the originators of this war that their very souls would rack with such pain that they would prefer being dead and in torment than to stand before God with such terrible crimes blackening their characters. Add to this the cries and wailings of the mourners - mothers and fathers weeping for their sons, sisters for their brothers, wives for their husbands, and daughters for their fathers - [and] how deep would be the convictions of their consciences.

Yet they do not seem to think of the affliction and distress they are scattering broadcast over the land. When will this war end? Will another Christmas roll around and find us all wintering in camp? Oh! That peace may soon be restored to our young but dearly beloved country and that we may all meet again in happiness.

But enough of these sad thoughts. We went on picket in town a few days ago. The pickets of both armies occupy the same positions now as they did before the battle. Our regt was quartered in the market place while the others occupied stores and private houses. I have often read of sacked and pillaged towns in ancient history, but never, till I saw Fredricksburg, did I fully realize what one was. The houses, especially those on the river, are riddled with shell and ball. The stores have been broken open and deprived of every thing that was worth a shilling. Account books and nots and letters and papers both private and public were taken from their proper places and scattered over the streets and trampled under feet. Private property was ruined. Their soldiers would sleep in

the mansions of the wealthy and use the articles and food in the house at their pleasure. Several houses were destroyed by fire. Such a wreck and ruin I never wish to see again.

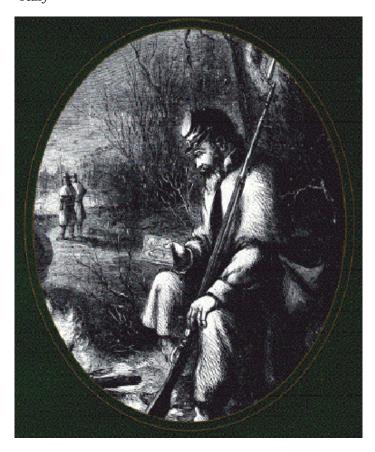
Yet notwithstanding all this, the few citizens who are now in town seem to be cheerful and perfectly resigned. Such true patriots are seldom found. This will ever be a noted place in history.

While we were there, Brig Genl Patrick, U.S.A., with several of his aides-de-camp, came over under flag of truce. Papers were exchanged, and several of our men bought pipes, gloves, &c from the privates who rowed the boat across. They had plenty of liquor and laughed, drank, and conversed with our men as if they had been friends from boyhood.

There is nothing new going on. I am almost dead to hear from home. I have received no letters in nearly three weeks, and you can imagine how anxious I am. The mails are very irregular. I hope to get a letter soon. Dunlap Griffin is dead, died in Richmond of wounds received in the last battle. Capt Hance is doing very well. Frank Fleming is in bad condition. (He has been elected lieutenant since he left.)

Write to me quick right off. I wish to hear from you badly. Remember me to my friends and relatives, especially the Pickens and Ligons. Hoping to hear from you soon I remain

Your bud Tally



The Brand Masquerade Vall

NATIONAL CIVIL WAR ASSOCIATION

SAN JOSE WOMEN'S CLUB

75 South 11th Street, San Jose, CA 95112

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 2010

THE BALL WILL BE A MASKED COSTUME EVENT, OR WHAT THE VICTORIANS WOULD CALL "FANCY DRESS." THUS, ALL ATTENDEES ARE ASKED TO ARRIVE IN COSTUME. WITH MASKS ENCOURAGED. WHATEVER YOUR INTERPRETATION OF FANCY DRESS, WE ASK THAT YOU MAKE A GESTURE OF COMPLIANCE - EVERYONE'S PARTICIPATION WILL HEIGHTEN EVERYONE'S ENJOYMENT OF THE MASQUERADE BALL.

DOORS WILL OPEN AT 7:00PM. DANCING COMMENCES AT 7:30PM. NO HARD LIQUOR ALLOWED.

DECORATED MASKS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PRE-ORDER AND AT THE DOOR FOR \$10.

MAIL TO SUSAN PFIEFER AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS



CONTACT: SUSAN PFIEFER 478 STANFORD CT. LIVERMORE, CA 94550 925-447-9105

THROUGH OCT. 31ST \$28 THROUGH NOV. 30TH \$33 THROUGH DEC. 31ST \$38 At the door \$40

LAST NAME FIR		RST NAME	M.I.	
STREET ADDRES	S		STATE ZIE	
E-MAIL ADDRES	S	PHONE NUMBER		
PLEASE INDICATION OF YOUR MAS	RESERVE DECORATED MASKS. ATE BELOW THE DESIRED COLOR K(S) AND QUANTITIES OF EACH. COLORS, PLEASE CALL. WE WILL E, IF POSSIBLE.	ATTENDEES NAMES (LAST NAME, FIRST NAME):		
ORANGE:	GREEN: BLACK: BLUE: WHITE: PURPLE: BROWN:			
I WOULD LIKE TO	RECEIVE RECEIPT OF PAYMENT THROUGH U.S. POSTAL SERVICE (PLEASE INCLUDE AN	(CHECK ONE):	Payment Breakdown:	
	ADDITIONAL \$1 FOR SHIPPING AND HANDLING)		TICKETS: \$ MASKS: \$	
	MAKE CHECKS DAVADIE TO NCWA		TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$	



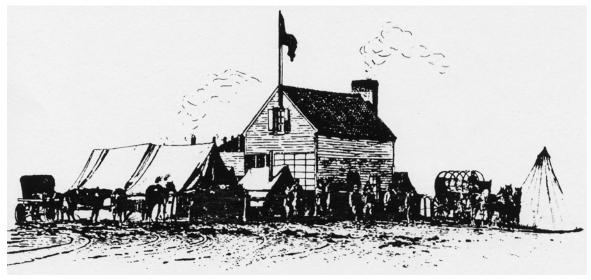
WINTER QUARTERS CONFERENCE 2009



Pre-Registration Form 1 800 500 9734

(one per person, please)

Name:						
Address:						
City:				State:	Zip Code:	
Telephone:						
E-Mail:						
	ode for your first and	second cho	oices for eac	ch session in the boxes b	elow.	
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Session 1						
Session 2						
Session 3						
Session 4						
Session 5						
Registration Fees and Conference Costs: (Please Circle the appropriate fees)		Official Use Only:				
Received before	e:			Date Received:		
December 3			\$40.00	Amount Received:		
February 15, 2009		\$50.00	Check #:			
Late Registration/Walk-on Fees				Registration #:		
Single D	D ay		\$30.00	Comments:		
Both Days \$55.00						
WQC 2009 T-Shirt (White Lt.Blue Lt. Grey) \$20.00						
WQC 2009 Polo Shirt (White Only) \$20.00						
(circle size) Ad	ult S M L X	KL				
(for larger sizes add \$3.00) 2XL 3XL \$3.00			Mail Pre-Registration Forms and Fees to:			
WQC 2009 Tote Bag \$20.00			\$20.00	Winter Quarters Conference		
Bound Copy of all of Conference Handouts			\$10.00	PO Box 151		
				Santa Clara, CA 95	052-0151	
Total Enclosed:				Telephone Inquires 1 800 500 9734		



GENERAL PUBLIC FLYER ONLY
7th ANNUAL

CIVIL WAR RE-ENACTMENT

APRIL 9th, 10th and 11th, 2010

TROOPS NOW FORMING FOR BATTLE AT

PRADO REGIONAL PARK

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CIVIL WAR ASSOCIATION SPONSORED EVENT

WITH SUPPORT FROM THE

CITY OF CHINO, SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY REGIONAL PARKS, SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

THE CITY OF CHINO'S BOY SCOUT TROOP 202

!!!!!!!!! INVITE YOU TO RELIVE AMERICAN HISTORY!!!!!!!!

2 SHOW BATTLES WITH LIVING HISTORY AND ENCAMPMENT TOURS DAILY

SHOW BATTLES SCHEDULED FOR 1:00 P.M. & 6:00 P.M. SATURDAY AND 11:00 A.M. & 3:00 P.M. SUNDAY PRADO REGIONAL PARK IS LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY OF CHINO AND IS OPEN FROM 7:30 A.M. TO 7:00 P.M. DAILY SCOUT BATTLE TO BE HELD SATURDAY AT 3:00 PM. MUST REGISTER FOR SCCWA CAMP-OUT TO PARTICIPATE INFANTRY, MOUNTED CAVALRY AND FULL SCALE ARTILLERY DEMONSTRATIONS

COME AND SEE WHAT LIFE WAS LIKE FOR A CIVIL WAR SOLDIER OF THE BLUE AND THE GRAY DURING THE MID 1860'S AND CIVIL WAR IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA'S LARGEST REGIONAL PARK 75 FULL HOOK-UP/RV CAMP SITES AVAILABLE, \$30.00 PER NIGHT BY ADVANCED RESERVATION FOOD VENDORS AVAILABLE FOR BREAKFAST, LUNCH AND DINNER STARTING FRIDAY EVENING FASHION SHOW/FIELD HOSPITAL/WOMENS TEA AND SOCIAL/PERIOD SUTLERS

\$10.00 PARKING FEE WILL BE CHARGED BY THE COUNTY FOR ALL VEHICLES ENTERING PRADO REGIONAL PARK \$10.00 ADULT ADMISSION SINGLE DAY OR \$15.00 WEEKEND PASS

\$5.00 CHILD ADMISSION 2-12 YEARS SINGLE DAY OR \$7.50 WEEKEND PASS -CHILDREN UNDER 2 YEARS FREE BOY, GIRL AND CUB SCOUTS AND PARENTS IN SCOUT UNIFORMS WILL BE CHARGED \$2.00 TO ENTER THE CIVIL WAR RE-ENACTMENT EVENT

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT ABRAHAM SIMPSON EAGLE SCOUT SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION
THE REGIONAL SCOUT CAMP-OUT HOSTED BY THE SCCWA IS A SEPARATE FEE AND EVENT THAT IS
HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE CIVIL WAR RE-ENACTMENT. FEE IS \$20.00 PER SCOUT OR SCOUTER
(BOY, GIRL & CUB SCOUT UNITS WELCOME FOR OVERNIGHT CAMPING) MAKE RESERVATIONS NOW!

(BOY, GIRL & CUB SCOUT UNITS WELCOME FOR OVERNIGHT CAMPING) MAKE RESERVATIONS NOW!

CROSS-CUT SAW COMPETITION, TUG-O-WAR AND SIGNAL TOWER CONSTRUCTION PROVIDED BY THE SCCWA WITH SIGN-UP SHEETS AVAILABLE AT CHECK- IN ALL SCOUT TROOPS AND PACKS PLEASE MAKE YOUR WEEKEND CAMPING RESERVATIONS BY JANUARY 1ST 2010

SCCWA SPECIAL EVENTS FOR CAMPING, FOOD VENDOR & SUTLER RESERVATIONS — (909) 590-1764 PRADO REGIONAL PARK FOR GENERAL INFORMATION & RV CAMP RESERVATIONS — (909) 597-4260 SCCWA SCOUT CAMP-OUT RESERVATIONS — (909) 590-1897 FirstMaine.Cav@Verizon.Net

ALTERNATE DATE FOR EVENT IN CASE OF RAIN, MAY 15th and 16th, 2010

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR TO VIEW OUR PROMOTIONAL VIDEO, REFER TO OUR WEBSITE at: SCCWA.com Southern California Civil War Association INC. is a non-profit educational corporation - Tax I.D. # 26-0575085

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
J	,	•	Commissary Sgt.	Moretti, Scott	1st. Sgt.
Gun/Team 1			Gun/Team 2		
Chief of Piece	Foster, Scott	Captain	Chief of Piece	Dungan Gagrea	1st Sat
Gun Cpl	Alto, Scott	Gun Sgt.	Gun Cpl	Duncan, George Boyd, John	1st. Sgt. Gun Sgt.
Cannoneer	Ahrenholz, Ray	Gun Sgt.	Cannoneer	Bono, Joe	Gun Sgt.
Cannoneer	Hall, David	Gun Sgt.	Cannoneer	Dunne, Cary	Gun Sgt.
Cannoneer	Jacobsen, Jake	Gun Sgt.	Cannoneer	Ebert, Bob	Gun Sgt.
Cannoneer	Lemasters, Michael	Gun Sgt.	Cannoneer	Gluch, Josh	Gun Sgt.
Cannoneer	Lincoln, Rafferty	Gun Sgt.	Cannoneer	Lincoln, Barbara	Gun Sgt.
Cannoneer	Rejaian, Amir	Gun Sgt.	Cannoneer	Sablan, Mike	Gun Sgt.
Cannoneer	Sablan, Scott	Gun Sgt.	Cannoneer	Thompson, Terry	Gun Sgt.
Cannoneer	Thompson, Karla	Gun Sgt.	Camioneer	riioinpson, rerry	dun ogt.
- Cultivities	111011111111111111111111111111111111111	0.011 0.50	Team Corporal	Moretti, Teri	Gun Sgt.
Team Corporal	Johnson, Mike	Gun Sgt.	Driver	Christiansen, Jessica	Team Cpl.
Driver	Berry, Mike	Team Cpl.	Driver	Gilliland, John	Team Cpl.
Driver	Bricklin, Nathan	Team Cpl.	Driver	Griffith, Naomi	Team Cpl.
Driver	Burtz, Dan	Team Cpl.	Driver	Horton, Jim	Team Cpl.
Driver	Faubel, Loreleigh	Team Cpl.	Driver	Rejaian, Katie	Team Cpl.
Driver	Miljevich, Ted	Team Cpl.	Driver	Ruther, Justin	Team Cpl.
Driver	Virga, Tony	Team Cpl.	Driver	Sullivan, Lisa	Team Cpl.
			Driver	Thompson, Doug	Team Cpl.
Artificers			Driver	Whitehead, Dave	Team Cpl.
Chief Artificer	Griffith, Loren	1st. Sgt.			
Artificer	Blair, Michael	Chief Art.	77 1		
Artificer	Boling, Roger	Chief Art.	Unassigned Unassigned	Amari, Gary	1 st . Sgt.
Artificer	Faubel, Tristan	Chief Art.	Unassigned	Bailey, Wendy	1 . Sgt. 1 st . Sgt.
Artificer	Johnson, Dave	Chief Art.	Unassigned	Bradford, Bryan	1 st . Sgt.
Artificer	Lee, Robert	Chief Art.	Unassigned	Bradford, Lisa	1 . Sgt. 1st. Sgt.
Artificer	Plocher, Al	Chief Art.	Unassigned	Byrne, Jeanne	1 st . Sgt.
Artificer	Weston, Mark	Chief Art.	Unassigned	Claytor, Kermit	1 st. Sgt.
			Unassigned	Ensign, Sue	1 st . Sgt.
01 - 10			Unassigned	Foster, Matt	1 st . Sgt.
Signal Corps	N. 1 (01)	1 . 0 .	Unassigned	Foley, Mike	1 st . Sgt.
Private	Mosher, Chris	1st. Sgt.	Unassigned	Foley, Shirley	1 st . Sgt.
			Unassigned	Fulks, Andy	1 st. Sgt.
WE ARE DARTICIDATING	CINTUE COUNTRY CAR	E DDOCDAM	Unassigned	Hawkins, Bill	1 . Sgt. 1 st . Sgt.
WE ARE PARTICIPATING	G IN THE COUNTRY CAR	E PROGRAM	Unassigned	Justiniano, Joe	1 . Sgt. 1st. Sgt.
allNr.	Shop at the Country Supp	ly website:	Unassigned	Langman, Chip	1st. Sgt.
COUNTY	www.countrysupply.com	i Shai	Unassigned	Maciver, Al	1 st . Sgt.
	and they will donate a	FNIR	Unassigned	Martinez, Thomas	1 st . Sgt.
	percentage of your purchases! Simply enter our Care Code	(Dillabr)	Unassigned	Rogers, Keith	1 st . Sgt.
	when you complete your order	75"	Unassigned	Rogers, Laurie	1st. Sgt.
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$\underline{C \cdot A \cdot R \cdot E}$	Our Care Code: Clld	3	-		-

2009-10 Schedule of Events

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

December Happy Holidays!

2010

January

Jan 9 NCWA Grand Masquerade Ball. NCWA Annual Meeting - 10:00 a.m.

San Jose, CA

Jan 24 CHAS Annual Meeting.

California Military Museum,

Old Sacramento. Contact Ted Miljevich

February

Feb 26- 28 NCWA Winter Quarters. Benicia.

March

March 5 - 7 Mooney Grove Park, Visalia.

CWRS Battles & Encampment. 1 gun.

Mar 19 - 21 Oakhurst. NCWA Living History.

April

April 10 - 11 SCCWA Battles & Encampment.

Prado Reg, Park, Chino.

April 16 - 18 Mariposa Civil War Days.

ACWA Battles & Encampment. School day Friday. Contact TBA.

April 24 - 25 NCWA Tactical. Placerville.

May

May 14 - 16 Gibson Ranch, Sacramento.

NCWA Battles & Encampment. School day Friday. Contact TBA.

July

July 2 - 4 38th Mohawk Valley Independence Day.

Graeagle, CA. CCWR.

July 17 - 18 Civil War Days at Duncans Mills.

CHAS Invitational. Battles & encamp. 2 teams, guns & support. \$\$\$\$. Maximum effort Contact Ted Miljevich.

September

Sept 18 - 19 Tres Pinos. NCWA Living History.

Oct. 1 - 3 Kearny Park, Fresno. NCWA Invitational.

Battles & encampment . 2 teams & guns,

support units. School Day Friday.

November

Nov Moorpark Farm, Moorpark. Richmond

Howitzers. 2 teams & guns. Battles & encampment. School Day Friday. \$.

Nov 13 NCWA Civilian Forum.

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!



\$15.00



And don't forget CHAS's own Café Press store for calendars, clock, bags and more!



http://www.cafepress.com/chas_sutler

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Al Plocher

Events

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

Chairman of the Board of the California Historical Artillery Society: Ted Miljevich

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For CHAS Membership Information Contact:

Wes Faubel (530) 741-1259 faubel@syix.com

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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http://www.acwa.org/

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Comstock Civil War Reenactors (CCWR)

http://www.ccwr.us/

Fort Tejon Historical Association (FTHA)

http://www.forttejon.org/

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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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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.