



Bugle Call Echoes

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SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

P. O. Box 5695 Fresno CA 93755

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SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY
CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

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From the President's Desk:

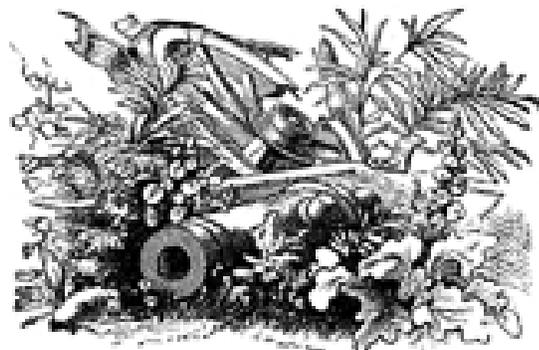
The summer is almost over. Last minute picnics and reunions maybe still ahead. There is a lot going on to prepare for the start of the winter season. Several interesting speakers on the way; and of course, the Civil War Round Table Conference in Clovis on November 7-9.

We will not be having a dinner meeting with speaker this month. However, the Board meets the 28th to tally the Conference attendees. We have spent more this year on fuel costs and rooms than anticipated, so we need as many attendees as possible...Shake your friends into action. Since publicity is always the answer, we are contemplating an exhibit in the local libraries. Any other brighter ideas are welcome. See you all soon.

**Brian Clague
President**

Remaining 2008 SJVCWRT MEETINGS

- Sept. 25 - Brad Schall - The Battle of Five Forks
- October 18th & 19th: Kearney Park Civil War Re-enactment
- October 30: Dennis Kohlmann - JEB Stuart at Gettysburg
- November 7-9: 24th Annual West Coast Civil War Round Table Conference at the Clovis Memorial Building in Clovis
- Saturday, December 6 or Dec. 13: Annual Christmas party.



AFTER ACTION REPORT SJVCWRT MEETING Of 5July2008

By Ron Vaughan

The ambience of the Claque's newly remodeled cabin was great, as was their hospitality, the food, and the cool weather! I presented a short (less than 30 min.) talk on **Women in Combat in the CW**. I chose this, as there are more females present at this event, than any other. What follows is a condensed version.

VIVANDIERES, CANTINIERES, AND DAUGHTER'S OF THE REGIMENT

From the earliest times, women followed their men to war-- and were termed camp followers. Although most European armies made some provision for the female relatives of soldiers, the role of Vivandiere originated in the armies of France in the 16th C. Also, called the Daughter of the Regt., they were usually young relatives of officers or NCOs. Their job was to carry water, wine or brandy, to refresh the soldiers. Additional duties could include acting as a nurse on the battlefield, cooking, mending and washing clothes, and operating the regimental sutler shop carried by a cart or a mule. Sometimes they were used as flag carriers for parades and ceremonies. The role varied on a wide scale, depending on the personal commitment of each girl.

War in Italy won notoriety for the French Army, especially the Zouaves and Cantinieres. The French Army was regarded as the best in the World, and the US Army copied the French artillery design, kepis, and drill. When our Civil War broke out, many volunteers units copied the Zouave, Chassuer, and Cantiniere Uniforms. Regiments were allotted 3 "laundresses / Cantinieres. Donzetti's Light Opera, "The Daughter of the Regiment", further popularized the Vivandiere concept. The Vivandiere.com site has the names of 31 Union and 13 Confederate Vivandieres that we know of. I mention a few of them.

The 6th Mass. regt. literally had a Daughter of the Regt. when they adopted a 10 year old orphan girl-- Miss Lizzy. She brought water to the hospital [patients and generally cheered up the soldiers. In a special ceremony they awarded her a little uniform and canteen.

Virginia Hall was Vivandiere with the 72nd Penn. Regt. (AKA the 3rd California Regt.) She was armed with sword and pistol. She has been depicted carrying a flag with a golden bee on it. She had the green sash and chevrons of a Hospital Steward, so that appears to have been main function.

The South had fewer Zouave units, but two of the most famous had Cantinieres.

Lavina Williams was with the Louisiana Tigers at 1st Manassas, and later appeared on stage to raise funds for a sick Zouave. She wore her uniform and demonstrated the Tiger's Bowie knife fighting techniques. Miss Riliseh was a Cantiniere with Coppen's La. Zouaves. Little is known of their service.

More is known about Annie Ehteridge (AKA Gentle Annie). She was a teenage orphan who joined the 2nd Michigan Vol. Infy. in 1861, as a laundress. She was not content with just doing the washing, and soon began tending to the sick. By the time of 1st Bull Run she had aquired a horse named Jessie, to speed her mission of giving first aid to the wounded. She courageously helped the wounded under fire at Blackburn's Ford, but during the Penninsula campaign she was ordered to serve on the hospital transports.

In the 2ns Bull Run camapign she was again in the field. General Kearney was so impressed that he vowed he would make her a Sgt. Major, but he was killed before he could do it. Though Annie's dress was often riddled by bullets, she was only slightly wounded once. In one battle, when the troops were wavering, she seized a flag and rallied them to a new charge. She was awarded the Kearny Cross for her bravery. She served in the battles of Antietam and Fredricksurg. When the 2nd Michigan was sent West, she transferred to the 3rd Michigan. At the end of her three-year enlistment, she re-enlisted with the veterans of the 5th Michigan.

The 1st Rhode Island Regt. was one of the first to answer Lincoln's call for volunteers. Robert Brownell was enrolled as 1st Sgt. and his wife Kady was accepted as color bearer. Kady also participated in Rifle practice and became a crack shot. She also became proficient in sword practice. At 1st Bull she bravely waved the colors while other ran away. When the 3 month enlistment was up, the Brownells joined the 5th R.I. Infy., and were sent with Burnside's N. Carolina coastal campaign. At the storming of the Rebel works at New Bearn, she carried the colors, until her commander changed his mind and sent her to tend the wounded. Soon Kady's husband came to need her care. Even though his wound healed, he was pronounced unfit for service and they were both discharged. It is remarkable the our own Bill Head's great grandmother was related Kady!

Perhaps the most well known Cantineire was Marie Tepe (also spelled Tebe), whom the soldiers called "French Mary". She immigrated from France and married Philadelphia tailor Bernardo Tepe. In Jan. 1861, they both joined the 27th Penn. Vol. Marie wore a blue zouave jacket, short skirt trimmed red, over red trousers, and a straw sailor hat. Marie operated an unofficial sutler shop, selling various luxuries, including contraband whiskey. She also did laundry, cooking, and hospital duty. Marie drew a regular soldier's pay, plus 25 cents per day for her hospital and HQ. services, which brought her total pay to \$21.25 per month, almost as much as a Sgt. Major! From 1st Bull Run, through the Peninsula campaign, she was under fire 12 times.

She was noticed by Col. Charles Collis, who persuaded her and her husband to join his regiment, the 114th Penn. Zouaves. Marie was wounded in her ankle at Fredricksburg, but continued to brave heavy fire to serve the wounded from her canteen. Her dress was torn by bullets. She was awarded the Kearny Cross for her bravery, by General Birney.

She continued to serve with the 114th through the battle of Gettysburg, Wilderness, Spotsylvania, and Cold Harbor.

Today there are many re-enactor girls and women who emulate her uniform and adventurous spirit.

24th West Coast Conference Speakers Book Reviews

In the next three issues of **Bugle Calls Echoes** we want to publish items by our principal speakers, Peter Cozzen, Robert K. Krick, and Jeffrey D. Wert

Peter Cozzens appearance at the 24th annual conference of West Coast Civil War Round Tables follows on the heels of the release of his tenth major book on the Civil War, **Shenandoah 1862: Stonewall Jackson's Valley Campaign**. The publisher, the University of North Carolina Press, describes the book as follows:

"In the spring of 1862, Federal troops under the command of General George B. McClellan launched what was to be a coordinated, two-pronged attack on Richmond in the hope of taking the Confederate capital and bringing a quick end to the Civil War.

The Confederate high command tasked Stonewall Jackson with diverting critical Union resources from this drive, a mission Jackson fulfilled by repeatedly defeating much larger enemy forces. His victories elevated him to near iconic status in both the North and the South and signaled a long war ahead.

One of the most intriguing and storied episodes of the Civil War, the Valley Campaign has heretofore only been related from the Confederate point of view. With **Shenandoah 1862**, Peter Cozzens dramatically and conclusively corrects this shortcoming, giving equal attention to both Union and Confederate perspectives.

Based on a multitude of primary sources, Cozzens's groundbreaking work offers new interpretations of the campaign and the reasons for Jackson's success. Cozzens also demonstrates instances in which the mythology that has come to shroud the campaign has masked errors on Jackson's part. In addition, **Shenandoah 1862** provides the first detailed appraisal of Union leadership in the Valley Campaign, with some surprising conclusions.

Moving seamlessly between tactical details and analysis of strategic significance, Cozzens presents the first balanced, comprehensive account of a campaign that has long been romanticized but never fully understood."

Robert K. Krick's appearance at the 24th annual conference of west coast civil war round tables follows by a year the release of his detailed work on how weather affected logistics and campaigns in Civil War Virginia.

Krick's fourteenth major book, *The Smoothbore Volley that Doomed the Confederacy*, is a series of notated essays on various aspects of the Army of Northern Virginia. It is described as follows by the Louisiana State University Press:

"No military unit in all the annals of American history exceeds in reputation Robert E. Lee's illustrious Army of Northern Virginia. In ten chapters based on exhaustive research, esteemed Civil War scholar Robert K. Krick gives eloquent examination to aspects of this army ranging from biographical sketches and the best and worst books on the subject to Confederate troop strengths and locating soldier records.

He begins with two key events: Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson's mortal wounding at Chancellorsville; and Jackson's most famous quarrel with a subordinate, which resulted in the unsuccessful court-martial of General Richard B. Garnett.

Krick continues with chapters on James Longstreet's failure at Knoxville and the prickly relationship between Jubal A. Early and

the undisciplined Valley Cavalry. His piece on Robert E. Rodes is the first complete portrait of Lee's best division commander, whose wife methodically burned all of his letters sent home, forever preventing a full-scale biography. Krick, however, has uncovered a wide array of unpublished material on Rodes to sketch him in fresh perspective.

Another essay considers the life and career of Colonel R. Welby Carter, a rogue who was cashiered by a court-martial after the Battle of Tom's Brook, a character quite different from Rodes. Krick also examines Maxcy Gregg in the only article written on this politician-general.

The Smoothbore Volley That Doomed the Confederacy gleams with Krick's usual superior research, skilled writing, and sound analysis and sheds new light on one of the most popular Civil War subjects. It is sure to become an integral part of the historiography of the Army of Northern Virginia."

Jeffrey Wert's appearance at the 24th annual conference of west coast civil war round tables comes but two months after the release of his definitive biography of J.E.B. Stuart.

"Jubal A. Early and Confederate Leadership" by Jeffrey D. Wert in Gary Gallagher's *Struggle for the Shenandoah: Essays on the 1864 Valley Campaign*. The Kent State University Press (1991). 137 pp. 5 maps.

"Jeffrey Wert was well qualified to write this essay. His book **From Winchester to Cedar Creek: The Shenandoah Valley Campaign of 1864** is a model campaign study. In less than one month, Wert writes, Early lost four major battles (Third Winchester, Fisher's Hill, Tom's Brook, and Cedar Creek) and more importantly the Shenandoah Valley and its use to the Confederacy as a granary. He believes the Confederacy needed a flawless performance in 1864 in the Valley and Early came up far short. Early's raid on Washington and burning of Chambersburg, PA raised the stakes and meant the Union would now concentrate a large force against him.

Wert covers Early's character traits and flaws near the beginning of the essay. Early was difficult to work with, saw others' mistakes and commented loudly, and at the same time ignored or down played his own mistakes. Despite having a group of excellent subordinates in Breckenridge, Rodes, Gordon, and Ramseur, these flaws caused Early not to make use of them. Wert indicates that Early was possibly jealous of these other officers, especially John Gordon. Early lacked physical stamina and charisma, but he was at the front of many fights and his courage could not be questioned. Early's troops respected and had affection for him.

One of Early's biggest flaws, as a long time infantryman, was his distrust and near hatred of his cavalry. To be fair, the Valley Cavalry was pretty poor fighting force, but Early did not use them properly. Wert goes on to detail Early's mistakes at the major battles of the campaign.

In the end, Wert says, "Early and the Army ultimately failed and that Early "was a flawed man and general". Early was ever afterward compared to Jackson and his 1862 success, but Wert believes Early did about as well as could be expected given the long numerical odds and his own peculiar flaws."

By Bill Armintrout at <http://theminiaturespage.com/boards/msg.mv?id=55919>

Dr. Davenport recommends several Civil War Websites

I have run across a website today that is very informative in that it has thousands of images including a complete run of **Harper's Weekly** magazine. The following is the website description followed by the url.

"Welcome to THE CIVIL WAR, the WEB's most extensive source of original Civil War resources. This site has over 7,000 pages of original Civil War content, and is full of incredible photographs, original illustrations, and eye-witness accounts of the defining moments of this Historic Struggle. Bookmark this site, as you will simply not find this information anywhere else!

We have recently completed posting the complete run of **Harper's Weekly** newspapers from the Civil War. These papers give incredible insight into this important period of our history.

We strive to provide invaluable source material for the serious student of the Civil War.

We are committed to providing you a safe and enjoyable browsing experience. This site will always be free, and free of annoying pop ups and popunders."

<http://www.sonofthesouth.net>

Another good Civil War related web site, a great site for reading reviews of new books. Check it out!

<http://www.cwbr.com/civilwarbookreview/reviewers.html>

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OPINION

- "I am none too happy that the House of Representatives has approved a resolution apologizing for the enslavement of Africans and African-Americans in this country's past, but not because the "peculiar institution" should have continued.
- "The resolution specifically says that the "American people" apologize and this burns my fuse. Not until the 13th amendment to the Constitution became law in 1866 did the people, through their state legislatures, have a voice in this matter.
- "On the other hand the House of Representatives made rules that prohibited the introduction of any legislation related to even debating the issue of slavery. For this, the House should apologize.
- Moreover, most of the white folk who came to colonial America came as 'indentured servants' whose contracts could be bought and sold. My Davenport ancestors in Virginia came under these circumstances. When do I get an apology?
- David D

