



BUGLE CALL ECHOES



Vol. 7 No. 7, July 1999

San Joaquin Valley Civil War Round Table

Knowing in part may make a fine tale, but wisdom comes from seeing the whole.

PROGRAM NOTES

Jack Leathers will speak to the round table at the July meeting on Texans in the Confederacy.

Mr. Leathers was born and raised in Marion, Indiana. After graduating from senior high school in Winona, Minnesota, he began college at the University of Minnesota. He transferred to the University of Washington, eventually graduating from UC Berkeley with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Finance. He crewed at both Washington and California under Al Ulbrickson and Ky Ebright, and received a Second Lieutenant's commission via AFROTC.

Pilot school in Bainbridge, Georgia, and Lubbock Texas, followed, then B-47 multi-jet bomber training at Wichita, Kansas. Mr. Leathers was assigned to March AFB, Riverside, CA, as Lead Crew 88, 443rd Bomb Squadron, 320th Bomb Group, 15th Air Force, Strategic Air Command of General Curtis LeMay. The B-47 carried the Mark 21 hydrogen bomb on maneuvers all over the Western US, Pacific Ocean, and to Alaska—13 to 17 hours each trip, at 550 knots, and at over 45,000 feet above sea level.

Upon returning to civilian life, Mr. Leathers spent three months traveling over much of Europe and then trained with Merrill Lynch in NYC to become a stock and bond broker in Oakland. After five plus years in the investment business he left to become a corporate lender, first in leasing, then commercial finance, and finally banking. He spent over five years in Chicago before returning to the Bay Area as a banker at Lloyds Bank California.

More currently, Mr. Leathers has found opportunities in financial consulting to contacts, previous clients, and referrals, writing bank memorandums that lead to specific corporate loan approvals after credit analyses.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Our June potluck was again a great success! Thank you Carol Berry for a heartfelt and wonderful program. Your discussion of quilts and anecdotes was most interesting.

It's hard to believe while we swelter in the summer heat that fall is just around the corner. As many of you know, the Round Table has planned a fund raiser for our October meeting. Dr. Leon Litwack, a Pulitzer Prize-winning author, will be the guest speaker for the occasion. Our members have been busy acquiring items to be raffled at the meeting. So

JULY MEETING

The July meeting of the San Joaquin Valley Civil War Round Table will be held on Thursday, July 29, 1999, at the Ramada Inn, Shaw Avenue and Highway 41 in Fresno.

A no-host social hour will begin at 6 p.m., followed by dinner and the program at 7 p.m.

Please send your check for \$15 (\$10 for students under 25) to cover the cost of the meal to Gloria Carter, PO Box 5695, Fresno, CA 93755, or call 559/322-9474 to advise her you will be attending the meeting.

far the cache includes two signed prints, a number of books, a dinner gift certificate and a wine gift box. We can use any donations you members can find in your personal libraries or services you might provide. Remember, the purpose of our organization is battlefield preservation and all proceeds from the fund raiser will be donated to a mutually agreed upon preservation project.

See you at the July meeting, Thursday the 29th.

*Mike Carter
Vice President*

WHAT ARE YOU READING?

Greystone Emporium, a bookstore in Gettysburg, lists the following as their ten best sellers in recent weeks:

1. **The Gettysburg Campaign** - Coddington
2. **Pickett's Charge** – Reardon
3. **Confederates in the Attic** – Horwitz
4. **Killer Angels** – Shaara
5. **Early Photography at Gettysburg** – Frassanito
6. **Battle Cry of Freedom** – McPherson
7. **Strange and Blighted Land** – Coco
8. **Stonewall Jackson** – Robertsons
9. **The Iron Brigade** – Nolan
10. **The 20th Maine** – Pullen

PRESERVATION

The South Carolina Battleground Preservation Trust is a Public Benefit 501(c)3 not-for-profit corporation dedicated to the preservation of South Carolina's historic battlegrounds and military historic sites. Primary areas of interest are the American Revolution and the American Civil War (War Between the States).

Activities of The Trust :

- Obtains legal title to and holds South Carolina battleground and military history sites for perpetual preservation of their historic value;
- Seeks historic preservation easements on property owned by other entities by agreement or purchase;
- Provides historic consultation, survey and legal work on existing sites (protected and non-protected) to promote their preservation;
- Identifies sites needing preservation and works with public and private entities to preserve them; and
- Holds educational and fundraising events (including battle reenactments and living history events) to help preserve battleground sites.

Properties Protected by the Trust

WARNING- *vandalizing, removing artifacts or conducting unauthorized excavations on Trust properties violates State law.*

Marsh Battery (Site of the Swamp Angel Cannon. 1863)

Federal Engineers built a gun platform "floating" on the muddy marshes between Morris Island and James Island to support a 16,000 pound, 8-inch Parrot Rifle firing 200 pound shells filled with "Greek fire" into the City of Charleston, the first Federal artillery shells to reach the

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city. Difficult access by boat, marked and visible from harbor.

Battery #5, James Island Defensive Lines. 1863

Part of General Beauregard's "new lines" that pushed the Confederate defenses of Charleston farther south and west across James Island, this earthwork held artillery to repel Federal attacks against Charleston. It is accessible by car and open to visitors. Donated by Louis J. Hexter and Bankers First of Augusta in 1992.

Coles Island. Fort Palmetto. Stono River

This tabby fort on Coles Island, South of Charleston was built before the Civil War from a concrete like mixture of sand and ground oyster shells. It served as a Confederate defensive position until Gen. Pemberton contracted Charleston's defenses in Spring of 1862 after which it was occupied and used extensively by Federal Forces. Difficult access from water.

Battery Cheves

This earthwork on James Island was part of the Southern Defenses of Charleston. It is not open to the public, but is similar to Battery #5 above and is on the register of National Historic Places. Donated by Mrs. Anne V. Padgett in 1995.

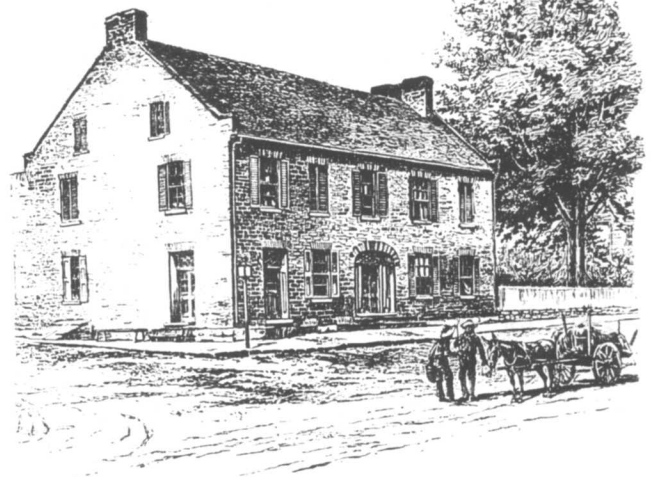
Contacting the Trust

For more information regarding the South Carolina Battleground Preservation Trust, write them at the following address:

P.O. Box 12441
James Island, SC 29412

Be sure to include your name and address. Their web site address is:

www.scbattlegrounds.org/



Lee's Headquarters at Sharpsburg

GETTYSBURG

As reported in the New York Times July 1863:

The Great BattlesRout of Lee's Forces on FridayThe Most Terrible Struggle of the WarTremendous Artillery DuelRepeated Charges of the Rebel Columns Upon Our PositionEvery Charge Repulsed with Great SlaughterThe Death of Longstreet and HillOur Cavalry Active on the Enemy's FlankThe Rebel Retreat Cut OffChambersburgh in Our PossessionsAdvance of the Militia Under Gen. Smith to Important PositionsThe Rebel Pontoon Bridge at Williamsport DestroyedThe Contents of the Captured Dispatches from Jeff. Davis to LeeA Peremptory Order for the Rebel Army to Return to VirginiaOfficial Dispatches From Gen. Meade

Special to The New York Times

Washington, Saturday, July 4-10:10 A.M.

The following has just been received:

Headquarters Army of Potomac, Major-Gen. Halleck,
General-in-Chief:

The enemy opened at 1 P.M. from about one hundred and fifty guns, concentrated upon my left centre, continuing without intermission for about three hours, at the expiration of which time, he assaulted my left centre twice, being upon both occasions, handsomely repulsed, with severe loss to him, leaving in our hands nearly three thousand prisoners.

Among the prisoners is Brig. Gen. Armstead and many Colonels and officers of lesser rank. The enemy left many dead upon the field, and a large number of wounded in our hands.

The loss upon our side has been considerable. Maj.-Gen. Hancock and Brig.-Gen. Gibson were wounded. After the repelling of the assaults, indications leading to the belief that the enemy might be withdrawing, a reconnaissance was pushed forward from the left and the enemy found to be in force.

At the present hour all is quiet.

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My cavalry have been engaged all day on both flanks of the enemy, harassing and vigorously attacking him with great success, notwithstanding they encountered superior numbers of both of cavalry and infantry.

The army is in fine spirits.

George G. Meade

Maj.-Gen. Commanding

Washington, Sunday, July 5 -- 4 P. M.

The latest official dispatch received here, up to this hour, from Gen. Meade, is dated at Headquarters Army of Potomac, 7 A.M., July 4, which merely states that the enemy had withdrawn from his position, occupied for attack, on Friday. The information in the possession of Gen. Meade, at that hour, did not develop the character of the enemy's movement, whether it was a retreat or a manœuvre for other purposes.

Reliable information received here to-day asserts that Gen. Lee's Headquarters were at Cashtown yesterday afternoon, and further represents that the rebels were fortifying at Newman's Cut in the South Mountains, apparently to cover a retreat.

Later official dispatches are expected this evening.

Second Dispatch

Headquarters Army of Potomac

July 4 -- Noon

Maj.-Gen. Halleck:

The position of affairs is not materially changed since my last dispatch of 7 A.M. We now hold Gettysburgh. The enemy has abandoned large numbers of his killed and wounded on the field.

I shall probably be able to give you a return of my captures and losses before night, and a return of the enemy's killed and wounded in our hands.

George G. Meade, Major-General

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Third Dispatch

Headquarters Army Potomac, July 4 -- 10 P. M.

To Maj.-Gen. Halleck:

No change of affairs since my dispatch of noon

Geo. G. Meade, Major-General

Fourth Dispatch

Washington, Monday, July 6 -- 12:30 A. M.

The following is the latest official dispatch:

Headquarters Army of the Potomac

Sunday, July 5 -- 8:30 A. M.

Major-Gen. Halleck:

The enemy returned under cover of the night and the heavy rain, in the direction of Fairfield and Cashtown. Our cavalry are in pursuit. I cannot give you the details of our captures in prisoners, colors, and arms.

Upward of twenty battle-flags will be turned in from one corps. My wounded and those of the enemy are in our hands.

GEO. G. Meade, Major-General

The President to the Country

Washington, D. C., July 4 -- 10:30 A. M.

The President announces to the country that news from the Army of the Potomac, up to 10 P.M. of the 3d, is such as to cover that army with the highest honor; to promise a great success to the cause of the Union, and to claim the condolence of all for the many gallant fallen; and that for this, he especially desires that on this day He, whose will, not ours, should ever be done, be everywhere remembered and revered with profoundest gratitude.

(Signed) A. Lincoln

The Great Battle of Friday

Our Special Telegrams from the Battle-Field

Near Gettysburgh, Saturday, July 4

Another great battle was fought yesterday afternoon, resulting in a magnificent success to the National arms. At 2 o'clock P. M., Longstreet's whole corps advanced from the rebel centre against our centre. The enemy's

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forces were hurled upon our position by columns in mass, and also in lines of battle. Our centre was held by Gen. Hancock, with the noble old Second army corps, sided by Gen. Doubleday's division of the First corps.

The rebels first opened a terrific artillery bombardment to demoralize our men, and then moved their forces with great impetuosity upon our position. Hancock received the attack with great firmness, and after a furious battle, lasting until 5 o'clock, the enemy were driven from the field, Longstreet's corps being almost annihilated. The battle was a most magnificent spectacle. It was fought on an open plain, just south of Gettysburgh, with not a tree to interrupt the view. The courage of our men was perfectly sublime. At 5 P.M. what was left of the enemy retreated in utter confusion, leaving dozens of flags, and Gen. Hancock, estimated at least five thousand killed and wounded in the field.

The battle was fought by Gen. Hancock with splendid valor. He won imperishable honor, and Gen. Meade thanked him in the name of the army and the country. He was wounded in the thigh, but remained on the field. The number of prisoners taken is estimated at 3,000, including at least two Brigadier-Generals—Olmstead, of Georgia, and another—both wounded.

The conduct of our veterans was perfectly magnificent. More than twenty battle flags were taken by our troops. Nearly every regiment has one. The Nineteenth Massachusetts captured four. The repulse was so disastrous to the enemy, that Longstreet's corps is perfectly used up. Gen. Gibson was wounded in the shoulder. Gen. Webb was wounded and remained on the field. Col. Hammell, of the Sixty-sixth New-York, was wounded in the arm.

At 7 o'clock last evening, Gen. Meade ordered the Third corps, supported by the Sixth, to attack the enemy's right, which was done, and the battle lasted until dark, when a good deal of ground had been gained. During the day Ewell's corps kept up a desultory attack upon Slocum on the right, but was repulsed. Our cavalry is to-day playing savagely upon the enemy's flank and rear.

L. L. Crouse

Gettysburgh, Friday, July 3

The experience of all the tried and veteran officers of the Army of the Potomac tells of no such desperate conflict as has been in progress during this day. The cannonading of Chancellorsville, Malvern and Manassas were pastimes

compared with this. At the headquarters, where I write, sixteen of the horses of Gen. Meade's staff officers were killed by shell. The house was completely riddled. The Chief of Staff Gen. Butterfield, was knocked down by a fragment of case-shot. Col. Dickinson, Assistant Adjutant General, had the bone of his wrist pierced through by a piece of shell. Lieut. Oliver, of Gen. Butterfield's Staff, was struck in the head; and Capt. Carpenter, of Gen. Meade's escort, was wounded in the eye.

While I write the ground about me is covered thick with rebel dead, mingled with our own. Thousands of prisoners have been sent to the rear, and yet the conflict still continues. The losses on both sides are heavy. Among our wounded officers are Hancock, Gibbon and a great many others whose names I feel restrained from publishing without being assured that they are positively in the list of casualties. It is near sunset. Our troops hold the field, with many rebel prisoners in their hands. The enemy has been magnificently repulsed for three days - repulsed on all sides - most magnificently to-day. Every effort made by him since Wednesday morning to penetrate Meade's lines has been foiled. The final results of the action, I hope to be able to give you at a later hour this evening.

S. Wilkson

Dispatch to the Associated Press
Headquarters Army of the Potomac, Friday, July 3
6 A. M.

The enemy's guns opened on our left wing at daylight, apparently to feel our position. They found us "at home," and soon suspended operations. They also endeavored to push forward their front on our right, steadily drove them back for half an hour, when the enemy were reinforced, and a portion of the Sixth corps was sent to its support.

Failing in this, the enemy opened a heavy cannonade all along the line. The attack on the right is believed to have been a feint to cover a more formidable flank movement on the left. The cannonading is now heavy in that direction, and appears to be extending.

The Third Corps suffered greatly yesterday. The number of wounded is heavy, with a large number of officers. No estimate can be formed of the killed at this writing. Heavy musketry has opened now on our right again and cannonading on our left is slackening. The enemy are

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fighting with the greatest desperation. Nothing can surpass the vigor and precision of our artillery. Yesterday, the rebels took two of our guns, for want of horses and infantry support, but the division (Humphrey's, I think) rallied and recaptured them. We took one from the enemy.

Comparatively few prisoners have been taken on either side up to this hour.

Ten o'clock A. M.—The cannonading has slackened. Rebel prisoners say when their infantry charged our left-wing batteries yesterday, the massacre was beyond parallel. Some of the guns were masked, and did not open until the enemy were within canister range.

From a reprint of the New York Times, July 1863

GETTYSBURG CONFERENCE

Sponsored by the Civil War Round Table Associates, this conference will be held from September 30 to October 2, 1999, at Ski Liberty Lodge near Gettysburg.



Featured speakers include Ed Bearss, Licensed Battelfield Guides Hanse Henzel, Dr. Charles Fennell and Col. Kavin Coughenour, and Rich Rollins and Dave Schultz.

For more information contact Jerry Russell at 501/225-3996 or write him at PO Box 7388, Little Rock, AR 72217.

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PROGRAM SCHEDULE FOR 1999

Date	Speaker	Topic
January 29, 1999	Nathan Boyer	<i>Civil War Prison Camps</i>
February 25	Dr. Allen Carden	<i>Abraham Lincoln</i>
March 25	John Peterson	<i>Gouverneur Warren</i>
April 29	Shelton Johnson	<i>Yosemite and Sequoia Black Infantry and Cavalry</i>
May 27	Philip Avila	<i>The Bear Goes East: California in the Civil War</i>
June 24 – Backyard potluck at the Moats'	Carol Berry	<i>A Woman's War: The Homefront</i>
July 29	Jack Leathers	<i>Texans in the Confederacy</i>
August 26	Dr. Helen Trimpi	<i>Harvard Confederates</i>
September 30	Tom Goodrich	<i>First Civil War—Bleeding Kansas</i>
October 28 (note date change)	Dr. Leon Litwack	<i>Reconstruction</i>
November 18	Mike Carter	<i>States' Rights and Secession</i>
December	No regular meeting	

**MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Please begin/renew my membership in the San Joaquin Valley Civil War Round Table. My membership category is checked below:

_____ Individual \$25 _____ Family \$35 _____ \$10 Student or Newsletter

Name _____

Address _____

Clip this membership form and send it with your check to the SJVCWRT, PO Box 5695, Fresno, CA 93755.

The membership year is from January to December. Five dollars of each membership goes towards preservation.