South Bay Civil War Round Table

"The Late Unpleasantness" January 2008



January 29th Meeting Speaker:

JOHN HERBERICH on "The Evolution of the Cavalry in the Civil War in the Western Theater"

Holder's Country Inn (408) 244-2798 998 South De Anza Blvd.(near Bollinger) San Jose, California

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About the Civil War Battlefield Preservation Program (CWBPP)

Editor's Note: The following e-mail is interesting and just for information.

The Civil War Battlefield Preservation Program (CWBPP) is a matching grants program that promotes preservation of the most historically important Civil War battlegrounds. The program, financed through the Land and Water Conservation Fund, encourages partnerships between local governments and the private sector.

In 1993, a blue-ribbon panel created by Congress recommended that an *emergency* matching grants program be established to protect high priority Civil War battlefields. This emergency program was first funded in FY1999 through a Congressional earmark. In December 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Civil War Battlefield Preservation Act, which authorized funding up to \$10 million a year for five years.

CWBPP matching grants are competitively awarded by the American Battlefield Protection Program, an arm of the National Park Service (NPS). Because only a small percentage of America's Civil War battlefields are preserved within the Park Service, CWBPP is used to target hallowed ground outside NPS boundaries (and thus does not contribute to NPS maintenance costs).

CWBPP's matching grants formula encourages both public and private sector investment in battlefield protection. The program preserves historic sites by working with willing sellers when properties become available. CWBPP matching grants can be used for both fee simple and easement acquisition. The Civil War Preservation Trust is the primary nonprofit advocate of the program.

In the summer of 2007, bipartisan legislation was introduced in the House and Senate to reauthorize this successful land conservation program. In the House, Congressmen Gary Miller (R-CA) and Bart Gordon (D-TN) introduced the Civil War Battlefield Preservation Act of 2007 (H.R. 2933) with the support of 22 original cosponsors. In the Senate, Senators Jim Webb (D-VA) and Jeff Sessions (R-AL) introduced a similar bill (S. 1921) with 17 original cosponsors. Both bills reauthorize funding up to \$10 million a year for five years, through FY2013.

CWBPP grants have been used to save 14,000 acres of hallowed ground in 14 states. Among the sites saved as a result of this program are historic properties at Antietam and South Mountain, Md.; Champion Hill, Miss.; Chancellorsville, Fredericksburg, and Manassas, Va.; Chattanooga and Fort Donelson, Tenn.; and Harpers Ferry, W.Va.

(As mentioned earlier in the article, this was a 5-year program. I don't know if it has been renewed in the current budget. Does anyone from SBCWRT know? - Editor)

November Quiz Answers (submitted by Kevin Martinez)

1. According to the rules of 1864, naval dress regulations are officers required to be in full dress uniforms? *Naval Officers when ashore are required to be in full dress.*

2. What happened to Patrick Clerburne's career after James Sleddon suggested that blacks should serve the Confederate army? *P. Clerburne never received promotion again.*

3. Which Broadway actress is playing the role of Mary Lincoln at the A. Lincoln presidential library? Julia Harris

4. How many monuments are there at Vicksburg Military Park? 1330 Monuments

5. Who was the only Confederate officer who was hanged by the US government for crimes at Andersonville? *Henry Wirz*

6. What unit did Marcelus Pointer serve with during the Civil War? Joe Wheeler Calvary

7. Where is Edward Baker buried after the Ball Bluff disaster? Presidio of San Francisco

8. How did Blood Bill Anderson meet his end? Union Forces put a bullet in his head.

9. Which Confederate general stated, "Great God, do I command cowards!" at the Battle of Franklin? William Loring

10. Who painted a series of watercolors depicting Fort Sumter during the war? Conrad Champman

11. Who were recruited to purchase weapons for Georgia prior to the beginning of the war by Governor Joe Brown? *William Hardee, Paul Semmes*

- 12. What assignment was David Farragut assigned to before the war? The Pension Board
- 13. Who took the photo of Mary Lincoln with the ghost of President Lincoln in the background? William Mumler

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Let me begin by wishing each of you a Happy New Year as we embark on the year 2008. I sincerely hope your holidays were enjoyable ones.

It is my hope that the new year will be one, for the SBCWRT, to include a wide-range of interesting, informative, and exciting programs and presentations.

For those of you who missed our 2007 end-of-year program in November we missed you - and you missed, probably, one of the most comprehensive demonstrations and display of authentic Civil War weaponry, uniforms, attire, and equipment ever presented at a SBCWRT meeting.

Our sincere appreciation to Spence Hinkle, Mike Perry, and Patrick McKenna, not only for the immense time, energy, and effort in organizing and displaying the items, but for the excellent commentary, interpretation, application, and relevance of each aspect of the program.

I am enthusiastic about our first program of the new year. Our January speaker is our own John Herberich, who will be speaking on "The Evolution of the Calvary in the Civil War in the Western Theater". John as researched and written extensively on this topic and we all are aware of his personal interest in the cavalry through the on-going series of articles, in our earlier newsletters, related to the Civil War Calvary experiences of his great grandfather, 1st Sergeant John M. Herberich, 4th Regiment, U.S. Calvary. This is a presentation I am sure you will not want to miss.

Remember, that in addition to the presentation there's our raffle, civil war quiz, announcements, discussions, and stimulating conversation related to all aspects of the Civil War.

I will look forward to seeing each of you at our January 29th meeting.

Gary Moore, President

January Quiz: The Cavalry in the Civil War by John Herberich

1. Who was the Secretary of War in Franklin Pierce's Administration whose 'tendencies to appoint officers from among his Southern favorites" was to have serious consequences for the Federal Cavalry at the outbreak of the Civil War?

2. How many Federal cavalry regiments were there at the beginning of the Civil War?

3. There were originally 10 companies in each cavalry regiment, designated with the letters A - K. Which letter was not used and why?

4. What were the distinguishing colors and insignia of the Regular cavalry regiments?

5. Prior to the outbreak of war, in what cavalry regiment did Robert E. Lee serve and what famous Major Genera! in the Union Army was under his command at that time?

6- From what Union command did Robert E. Lee resign to return to his home state of Virginia?

7. What famous cavalry officer resigned from the 1st (now 4th) U. S. Cavalry to lead the Confederate Cavalry?

8. Who was the first Union General to be killed in combat and in what battle?

9. What major surrender of Union infantry at the beginning of the war so stunned the army that the unit was denied its regimental colors until it had proven itself at Fredericksburg in 1863?

10. After what battle did a "little known (Union) brigadier general" make his name by demanding: "No terms except unconditional and immediate surrender can be accepted."?

11. Furious at the thought of the surrender of Fort Donelson, what famous Confederate officer managed to slip through Union lines and save his reputation and his troops?

12. What Union officer, who had served with the 4th Cavalry Regiment prior to the war, was designated as the first U. S. Army Chief of Cavalry in November of 1862?

13. The "first great cavalry combat of the war at Brandy Station, June 9, 1863, brought into prominence one of the Union's most controversial cavalrymen. Who was he and what was his nickname?

14. At the Battle of Chickamauga, September 19-21, 1863, Rosecrans made a fatal blunder which eventually cost him his command. A complete Union rout was stopped by what Union general and his cavalry, earning him the sobriquet, "The Rock of Chickamauga"?

15. What Union General learning from Nathan Bedford Forrest, envisioned the use of the cavalry as "dismounted troops with rapid-fire carbines" overpowering enemy forces, then mounting to "pursue relentlessly as no other army had done in the war"?

16. According to Historian Thomas Buell, under whose command did The Army of the Cumberland become "the most modern army of the Civil War, so advanced was it in technology and organization"?

17. After what battle in 1864 could it be said: "The power of the cavalry as a striking force had shifted from the South to the North, from J.E.B. Stuart to Phil Sheridan."?

18. What were the circumstances that led to the first uses of the Union Cavalry in trench warfare?

19. What was perhaps the most famous, if insignificant, Union cavalry raid of the Civil War, comprising 4500 men, "more men, more firepower, and more formidable than any mounted column Sherman had ever assembled"?

20. In October 1864, all the cavalry forces in the Western Theater are combined under the command of a 27 year-old Brevet Major General. Who was he?

21. During what Western Theater campaign in 1864 was Lieutenant Joseph Hedges the first member of the 4th Regiment United States Cavalry to be awarded the newly created Medal of Honor?

22. During what battle on April 2, 1865, did the Fourth Cavalry Regiment "become the only regiment, during the war between the states, to defeat superior cavalry, large masses of artillery, and entrenched infantry"?

23. This final campaign in the Western Theater has been described as "one of the most remarkable cavalry operations of the war, for, as we have said, it was not a mere raid or dash, but an invading army determined to fight its way through.... It is certainly one of the most extraordinary affairs in the history of the cavalry service...". Name the campaign and the Commanding General.

24. Who was the first (flamboyant) "horse soldier in blue who dashed forward under a truce flag to demand immediate and unconditional surrender" from General Robert E. Lee?

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT -LOOKING AHEAD



(FOR THOSE OF YOU INTERESTED IN ALCATRAZ CIVIL WAR HISTORY)

FRIENDS OF CIVIL WAR ALCATRAZ WILL PRESENT ALCATRAZ LIVING HISTORY DAY

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23rd 8:30 a.m. -----4:30 p.m.

(More complete and comprehensive information related to the program schedule, activities, maps, participants, displays, and other topics will be provided at our January 29th meeting)

Editor's Note: The following story was submitted by John Herberich for the newsletter.

In doing my research I've come across a number of interesting personal stories. This is one of the more humorous ones from Sergeant James Larson, 4th Regiment United States Cavalry, which occurred in February, 1864, near Okolona, Mississippi:

"... I lost my hat and had since then been wearing a contrivance something like a Hindu turban, made out of a large black handkerchief It did not shelter the top of my head from the sun and I had suffered much from that source the day before, so I concluded to get a hat at some house as soon as possible... (W)e came to a house close to the road. I tied my horse to the fence and walked to the door and rapped. 'Come in,' came from within in several voices that sounded as though they came from the feminine sex. I opened the door, and to my surprise found a large room filled with ladies and children, ten or twelve young ladies ranging from twelve to sixteen years old and some older ladies, all well dressed and handsome. It looked like The gentle sex from the whole neighborhood had collected here... for safety from the hateful Yankees. As I was always very bashful in the presence of ladies, I mustered up courage enough to say, with a becoming smile: 'Good morning, ladies'

'Good morning, sir,' came in a pleasant tone from the company.

'Are there no men folks about the place?' I asked.

'No sir, 'some of the young damsels answered in one voice. 'Our men folks are all out there fighting Yanks.'

This was followed by a subdued laugh and titter.

'Well, I'm sorry for that,' I said. 'You see my business here is to try to get a hat and perhaps there is one about the place that will do until I can get another one.'

'Yes, I see, 'said one of The older matrons, 'You ran too fast; therefore you lost your hat' Then followed a hearty and well enjoyed laugh by the company.

'...when (I) lost my hat I was alone and nearly in the Reb 's hands, too.'

'It's a pity They didn't catch you,' came in a low voice from among The young damsels. . . (S)ome of the handsome young damsels had to hold handkerchiefs to their mouths to prevent another outburst. "Our men folks got their hats on and they are not going to lose them either."

Sergeant Larson did find a hat in a closet and left.

Source of graphic: Harper's Weekly NEW YORK, SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 1863

COLONEL GRIERSON, SIXTH ILLINOIS CAVALRY, - FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY JACOBS, OF NEW ORLEANS.---

Visit the website: http://www.sonofthesouth.net/leefoundation/civil-war/1863/colonel-grierson.htm

Editor's note: I have revised the formatting this month for the online newsletter for better quality as a PDF file. I hope that it is easier to read and download. Comments are welcome, fellow *Civil War*riors. See you all on the 29th.