

AMERICAN CIVIL WAR SOCIETY



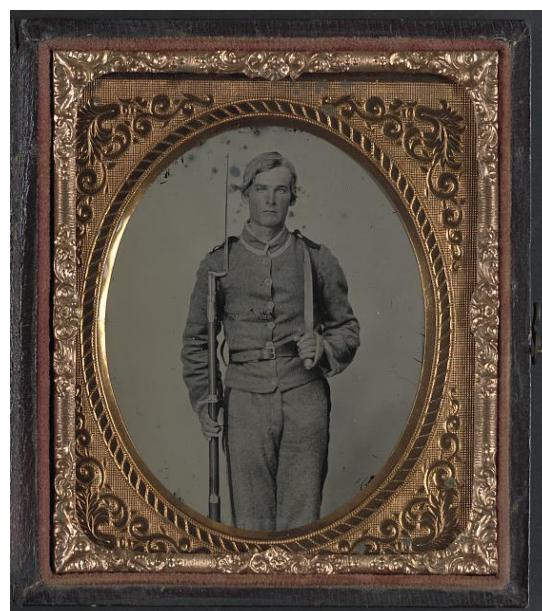
Company Dispatch

Official Newsletter of the American Civil War Society

American Civil War Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of our history for future generations.

Signed editorials and letters are the views of the author, and do not necessarily represent the opinions of the American Civil War Society.

March-April 2012





ACWS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President – Dave Grimsrud
btdave@antelcom.net

Vice President – Ken Serfass
ramonatownband@yahoo.com

Secretary – Sgt. Dave Grimsrud
mailto:btdave@antelcom.net

Treasurer – Sgt. Maj. Sam Frankl
ssfrankl@earthlink.net

Membership – Michele Akkerman
micowl@aol.com

Confederate Division – Lt. Col. James R. Tebbetts
latigerreb@yahoo.com

Union Division – Lt. Col. Ken Dacey
kenbus@aol.com

Civilian Corps – VACANT

Public Relations – VACANT

The ACWS is a non-profit organization with the purposes of charitable and educational activities for the general public that demonstrate the language, conduct and manner of daily living of the civilian population and military forces during the American Civil War period (1861–1865) and the issues they faced during that conflict.

News Letter - Michael Akkerman

qaman249@verizon.net

COMPANY DISPATCH
20170 Ross Road
Wildomar, CA 92595

Next General Board Meeting
TBD

FOR ALL OPEN BOARD POSITIONS PLEASE CONTACT ANY CURRENT BOARD MEMBER



Federal/Union Division:

Division Commander: Lt. Col. Ken Dacey

Adjutant: VACANT

Infantry Brigade Cdr.: VACANT

Infantry Sgt Maj: Michael Quinlan (Degregorio)

Artillery Brigade Cdr.: Maj. David Bolin

Artillery Adjutant: VACANT

Division Chaplain: Rich Holt and Anthony Delgadillo

Cavalry: VACANT

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Chief of Staff: VACANT

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Confederate Brigade Staff:

Infantry

Brigade Commander: Major James M. Style

Brigade Adjutant: 2nd Lt. John Sanchez

Brigade Sgt. Major: Sgt. Major Marcus Brannan

Cavalry

Brigade Commander: Major Scott Peca

Brigade Adjutant: Lt. John Riddler

Brigade Sgt. Major: 1st.Sergeant John Quessenberry

Artillery

Brigade Commander: Major Mike Collins **Brigade Adjutant:** Lt. Doug Carroll

Brigade Sgt. Major: Sgt. Major Sam Frankl

Editor's Note:

If you have an interesting story to share please send it to me. My email is qaman249@verizon.net . I hope to hear from you at the upcoming events. Have fun, be safe, and love one another. Remember, ACWS is **people** and **pet friendly** (yes, your dogs are welcome). I want to thank everyone who has come out to our events. I want to thank all of our new members who have joined ACWS so far this year, Thank to each one.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Marti Barth	Matthew T. Miller
Wesley Burnett	Bill Migill
Devan Scott	Ronald H. Mourer
Cory Brady	Rebecca L. Mourer
Michael Climo	Alexander Mussenden
Price Carson	Thomas V. Odell
El Roy Jr. Codding	Tom Pinch
Marjorie Codding	Linda Pinch
El Roy IV Codding	Jeffrey B. Parker
Miranda Codding	Christopher Pierson
Sabrina Codding	Michael Pierson
Susan Curtis	John Rotatori
Lucas Reilly	Cheryl Burton
Liam DeLuca	Kacie Silveira
Hallie Fernandes	Rory Strippel
William C. Flores	Thomas Swisher
David Hardt	Ruth Swisher
Debra Hardt	Jonathan Swisher
Darlene Hipsher-Griffin	Kenneth Serfass
Carly Harvey	Cheyenne Brugh
Peter Hopkins	Stanley Tomaszewski
Scott Huseth	Sandi Houston
Anne Knighten	Lea Brannon
Leleste Kartley	Lana Brannon
Emma Orrin	D.J. Brannon
Terry Milkoff	Mark Villalobos
William Milkoff	Lance Willis
Emerson Kleiner	Hope Willis
Barry Kivi	William D. II Wirtz
Kathie Kivi	Helen Joyce Wirtz
Ryan Poff	Monique Wright
Ken Kurts	Charlotte Wright
Robert Kacmar	Katherine Wright
Crystal Kacmar	Charles Wright
AJ Lundgren	William Wright
Bill Locey	Amanda Creighton
Jason R. Lutu	

Starting with this newsletter, I wanted to mention those folks in our group who have or will be celebrating a birthday in the months of March and April. Please join me and the ACWS Board in wishing them all a **Happy Birthday**.

Chris Benintende	Kristina Lee Tom
Virginia E. Bange	Kathleen MacMillan
Monica Beisecker	Patrick Morgan
Michael Barth	Ronald H. Mourer
Brian L. Brock	Rebecca L. Mourer
Gary A. Busic	Shu-Luan/Christine Nelson
Celia Fayeleen Crichton	Angel Ochoa
Wanda Couchman	Thomas V. Odell
Lisa Coffey	April Lundberg
Brian Ruskautt	Steve Pavich
Logan Creighton	Muriel (Phyllis) Phillips
Michael Climo	Jose Perez
El Roy Jr. Codding	Michael Pamplin
Joshua Cronin	Elizabeth Richardson
Paul DeNubilo	Michelle Herrera
Mike Doyle	Jesse Short
Karen Stanford	Candi Silveira
Bruce Fleshner	Richard Senzig
Mary Fernandes	Jeanne Tomlinson
Nathan Felix	Lois Tunnell
Marvin Grogan	James Ulrich
Dynise Gonzales	LK VanLeer
Megan Holt	Sandi Houston
Peter Hopkins	Lana Brannon
Diana Del Carlo	Charles Wright
Raul Ibarra	William Wright
Dakota Ibarra	Syria Jane Zoch

♪ A Word or Two From the PRESIDENT ♪

Calico got our reenacting year off to a great start. Michele Akkerman was very busy at the membership/day pass table. She actually ran out of day passes. Our invited guests all gave a positive feedback, so I'd like to invite them all back next year. Our numbers were much better-- the Confederates had 85 rifles, and I think the Union numbers were close to 100. The Calico people were great to work with. I have to say all in all a successful event.

The next ACWS event is the battle of Costa Mesa. We are putting the finishing touches on this event, and I think it will be bigger and better than ever. The board is looking to add another event or two. La Quinta is interested in doing an annual event, but they have no coordinator. Johanna has offered to return just for another event, I hope we can make it happen.

We do have some openings on the board. As always, if you are interested we could use the help. We want to rebuild the Civilian Corp. I hope to see you all at a reenactment soon.

Regards,

David Grimsrud

¶ MILITARY DISPATCHES ¶

Confederate Command:

From: James R Tebbetts, Col, ACWS Confederate Command

To: Readers and Members of the Confederate Command

Date: March 5, 2012

Subject: Confederate Command Report

Past Events, Calico – Another good event in the desert. Weather was some of the best I've seen in the past few years. Fairly warm, but a bit windy. On the Confederate side about 100 soldiers took the field. Amongst the units there were: Hampton's Legion, 8th Louisiana (Cos E & F), 8th Alabama, 10th Virginia, 4th Texas (from Las Vegas), McGowan's Sharpshooters, 2nd Kentucky, and the Washington Artillery. We also had some singletons show up, a couple of CS Marines and a Sharpshooter from the ACWA in the Central Valley and a dismount from Utah. Thanks to those that attended. Good battles were held in the Silver Bowl and at the School House. Thanks to LC Peca and Major Style for their good work with movement of the troops, along with artillery support from Major Collins. If you notice, I leave the great majority of tactical determinations to these Brigade Commanders. I provide an overview as to what I would like them to do, and let them implement it. And yes I know, we need to work a bit on getting few more Yankees to go down (i.e., last battle on Sunday at the bridge), but overall and on average they did take hits satisfactorily for the weekend. Kudos to Pvt Don Nobles of McGowan's Sharpshooters. During public hours he made bullets using lead and a bullet form. There was always a group of public around watching. I very much want to encourage this type of education and interaction with the

public and soldiers too. Again, with fire and hot lead, be safe. There were some minor glitches at the event. Remember, when we park on the north side, don't park in the areas along the road or in the lot to our north. This is for the employees of the park that work in businesses on the north side of town. Also, make sure your camp area is cleaned up before you go home. That way those that stay over don't have to clean up your mess.

Annual Rifle Raffle – Capt Tom Atkins of Co E, 8th Louisiana was the winner of the Rifle Raffle held at Calico. To be eligible for entry into the rifle raffle, you must be an ACWS Member for 2012 and have attended at least one ACWS Event in 2012 (Calico, Costa Mesa, SMR, etc). You earn one ticket for each day you attend an event. Additional tickets can be earned if you do 'extra' duties as directed by Command, such as guard mount. Names for attendance at ACWS events are taken from Morning Reports submitted by each Company to Brigade then to Division Staff at each event, each day. If your Company does not submit the Morning Report, you do not get credit for attending. ACWS membership will be drawn from the listing provided by the ACWS Membership Chair. At the end of the year (December/January) the two lists will be combined to determine attendance and membership at the end of the reenactment year. This listing will be sent to Company Commanders for them to ensure those that attended are on the listing. The raffle itself will be held at the first ACWS event in the New Year (generally Calico).

Safety Testing – A goodly number of safety tests were turned in and cards/passes stamped at the Calico event. The Division Staff will keep a listing of those passing and will use this to stamp cards at future events. Membership cards and day passes with endorsements will be checked at each ACWS event. As a reminder, if you go to another PACWR associated unit event (i.e., Fresno, Mariposa, etc) your safety test taken with the ACWS is good with their unit. A listing of test passers has been/will be sent to each Company Commander/Contact so they know who within their unit have passed the tests.

Safety Testing for Mounted Troops - For those mounted members who attend ACWS/PACWR events, there is a required test for you and your mount. I have asked LC Peca to identify a person to perform these tests. Basically the test is done to ensure the rider has good control of his mount, the mount is not gun shy, etc. Once this test is taken and passed, it need not be retaken unless there is a safety issue or the rider or mount do not attend an event for one year. Each horse ridden must pass the test (i.e., Pvt. Jones does a test with White Horse and passes. If Pvt. Jones brings his new horse, Black Horse, to an event, Black horse also needs to pass the test too.).

Recruiting Station - The ACWS is working to reinvigorate a Recruiting Station at ACWS events. Here units can place recruiting flyers and such. So plan on bringing your unit's recruiting flyers to the next event.

Upcoming Reenactment Activities:

St. Catherine's Military School (Anaheim) will be held on March 24th and 25th, sponsored/hosted by the Washington Artillery and supported by ACWS. This is an event that is more living history and less reenactment. If your unit desires to attend, please let me know at your earliest. And if attending, could each unit's commander send a few questions (4-5) along with answers so that I might forward to School Question Coordinator? These will be consolidated with other units which will be given to students to ask your members. I am trying to get more unit-oriented information out of those young skulls full of mush, rather than the generic, 'What did you do before the war?' All reenactors and civilians pay \$2.00 registration fee. ACWS members do not have to complete the release but must present a card. Non-ACWS members must complete the release. The red ticket

is use as identification and must be presented at Muster. Save the other half of the red ticket for the raffle. The red ticket is also used for the Saturday night raffle and is not to be surrendered.

Prado Dam (Chino) - Held on March 31st and April 1st. Sponsored by the SCCWA and supported by the ACWS. For those that are ACWS members, get in free with your membership card, otherwise it is \$10. Registration fee is \$2. Set up is after noon on March 30th. Information on the event can be found at <http://sccwa.com/toc.htm>. This link has a registration form, info on RV parking, etc. Our good friend Lt Col Keith Harriott will be in command of Confederate Forces.

Fairview Park (Costa Mesa) - To be held on April 14th and 15th (so get your tax paperwork done before the event). Setup can begin after noon on April 13. There are two battles each day. It will be held is 2 weeks after Prado and 1 week after Easter, so it will not conflict with any other events. KOOL 101.5 radio will be setting up a satellite web cam and a live broadcast so the event can be heard and seen on their website and radio station. Please make sure you add this event to your event calendar; you don't want to miss it! Items of interest include: breakfast available Saturday & Sunday; Saturday night dinner; Saturday Night dance; Sunday raffle (after Sunday's first battle); the battle field will be mowed this year and horses are welcomed. FYI, because of the openness of the event site, each unit/individual needs to be prepared for Guard/Fire Mount on Saturday night.

Glorietta Pass, New Mexico Territory (Near Santa Fe, NM) - To be held from May 3rd to 6th. Info can be found at <http://newmexicocwcommcongress.org/>. The battles include Glorieta and Apache Canyon. Event to be held at El Rancho de las Golondrinas Living History Museum, which is about 20 miles southwest of Santa Fe, New Mexico. From the general LA area, figure an 830 mile trip (about a day and a half of driving). If you register before March 15 the fee is \$10. After the 15th the fee will be \$15.

Gettysburg 150th - From past discussions it appears there will be three groups associated with the ACWS going back to Gettysburg in July 2013 for the 150th Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg. There will be infantry, dismounted cavalry, and artillery groups planning on attending. Keith Harriott will be commanding a composite group of infantry which will be falling in with our friends back east in the 1st Arkansas/Trans Mississippi Brigade. We may also have a few rifles from Britain and Italy falling in with us. For those going we may ask that you bring a few extra rounds/caps to give to them as they probably won't be able to bring them on the plane. According to Scott Peca, a group of dismounts will also be going. Bob Hayes of Moody's Battery will also be going. If you might want to go with one of these groups, contact them for more information. I am helping with the paperwork for the infantry unit, so contact me if you have any questions, wanting to join, etc.

UNION DIVISION

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Union Brigade--

I wish to start with congratulating our Division for their performance at Calico, even though after a hard fight we were beaten back and lost control of the town. Weather was good for the event and unless I missed something, we had very few issues; those we had are being handled.

And we had two new units with us for the event. One was a new Union cavalry unit, the 7th Michigan, and one of two units that I had invited to participate with us at this event, the 69th Penn. My thanks to all that came out for the event.

And congratulations to Faith Myhra for winning the yearly rifle raffle. I do apologize for leaving it at home. Please let me or your company commander know what your next event will be so I can get this to you.

Thanks to all those that stayed over for Monday as, for the first time in a long while that I can recall, the Union forces outnumbered the Confederate units.

I also want to at this time let you all know if you have any concerns, issues or comments, please feel free to talk to me either at events or by wireless telegraph.

Some news for future events

Following this engagement, I am asking that any unit or individuals that can to please come out to the St Catherine event on March 24-25. A week later we have the Prado event on Mar 31- April 1. As this is a larger event I would really like to see as many as possible show up for this one.

All Company and Brigade commanders are now tasked with preparing their units and get them marching to the engagements. Please report readiness to the Sgt Major.

Thank you to those in attendance and for supporting the ACWS Union Brigade.

Your Obedient Servant,
Col. Kenneth Dacey
ACWS Brigade Commander

❧ Membership Director's Report ❧

As of this writing, there are 327 members of the ACWS— 183 combatants and 144 civilians. So far, 73 new members have joined thanks to all of you who have helped with recruiting. We have had some lapsed members return as well, so it's safe to say that 2012 has been a good year so far.

I have brought home the large utility trailer purchased by the Civilian Corps. The numerous items need to be reorganized and inventoried, and some thrown out due to their poor condition. I could use some help doing this, so if you are available on Sat. May 5, let me know.

A civilian raffle will be held at the end of the year, similar to the one the military members have. To be entered in the drawing, civilians need to report to me and Michael at the Sobriety of Society/Town Constable encampment every time we host an event. Also, if any of you would like to donate items for the civilian raffle, please let me or Dave Grimsrud know.

The next ACWS Board meeting is in April, so if you have any concerns, suggestions, or ideas for membership activities, please contact me.

Your obedient servant,
Michele Akkerman

IRISH CIVIL WAR MUSIC

In stage entertainment, the favorite butt for mid-nineteenth century American comics and singers was the Negro, in "black face" minstrel form. But following close behind were Paddy O'Reilly and Mick McGuire—the "stage Irishmen." Typical of "comic Irish" songs with a Civil War motif was "Who Will Care for Mickey Now?" sung to the tune of "Who Will Care for Mother Now."

The Irish, naturally, responded to the derogatory stereotypes with indignation and, in New York City and Boston, the Democratic Party. With their wonderful national tradition of song and dance behind them, Irish singers and comics began to take the stage in their own behalf. Irish songwriters and parodists met each musical indignity with a score of replies. Some even employed the character of the "stage Irish" to make their point. A pre-Civil War song, "No Irish Need Apply," is typical:

I'm a decent boy just landed from the town of Ballyfad,
I want a situation and I want it very bad.
I have seen employment advertised, " 'Tis just the thing," says I,
But the dirty spaldeen ended with "NO IRISH NEED APPLY."

The song goes on to relate how the prospective employer was convinced that he had erred:

I couldn't stand it longer, so a-hold of him I took,
And gave him such a welting as he'd get at Donnybrook.
He hollered "Millia Murther" and to get away did try,
And swore hed' never write again, "NO IRISH NEED APPLY."

With the outbreak of hostilities, the Irish responded with enthusiasm, which turned into heroism in the stress of battle. Songs of the period identified the Union struggle against slavery with Ireland's centuries-old battle for freedom and national independence:

The war trump has sounded, our rights are in danger,
Shall the brave sons of Erin be deaf to the call,
When Freedom demands of both native and stranger
Their aid, lest the greatest of nations shall fall?

... Oh long may our flags wave in Union together,
And the harp of green Erin still kiss the same breeze,
And brave every storm that beclouds the fair weather,
'Til our Harp, like the Stars, floats o'er rivers and seas.

Songs of Pat's courage under fire and of the martyrdom of the Irish, as "Pat Murphy of the Irish Brigade," were widely sung and remembered. The New York 69th and other Irish regiments were celebrated in songs, along with leaders like Corcoran, Ellsworth, and Meagher. There were songs celebrating Irish bravery, Irish loyalty, and the special regiments of Irishmen who marched off to war together. In 1861 they sang of Colonel Meagher and his newly-organized Brigade:

You gallant sons of Erin's isle, attend to what I say,
A brother, driven to exile, is up alive today;
He is the good Hiberian blood that never frets nor fears,
He has arranged a new brigade of Irish volunteers.

But three years later, in 1864, the song of the Irish Brigade was somewhat different:

... They went forth to die in the swamps of the South,
And in the sunny green glade,
Lie the soldiers who fought in the Irish Brigade.

The pride of the Irish as a people, as a nation, as a group subjected to indignity and discrimination, and as loyal patriots faithful to their newly adopted land was expressed in scores of songs. Many were sung in the music halls of New York where Irish performers played such an important role. One of the best-known of such singers was Joe English, whose nightly turns covered a wide range of topical fare. In "Paddy and the Know-Nothings," Joe English ridicules anti-Irish prejudice, has warm words for Irish heroism, and winds up, naturally, singing the praises of "Little Mac" (Gen. MacClellan):

And when the war's over and peace is restored,
And our brothers down South to the Union come back,
We'll join hands together and vote Democratic,
And for our next President elect the brave Little Mac.

With the Confederacy taking an Irish song, "The Irish Jaunting Car," and changing it into a Southern anthem, "Bonnie Blue Flag," it was natural for Irish Unionists to attempt to reclaim the melody. "The Bonnie Green Flag" was an obvious answer to the Confederate song, and also made some comments about Northern discrimination against the Irish at the same time:

There are many around don't know what they're at,
When they laugh and they jeer and make game of poor Pat;
With his sprig of shillaleh and shamrock so green:
There are others you know oft tell a big lie,
When they say that the Irish need not apply;

But when soldiers they want, in the front there is seen,
The sprig of shillaleh and shamrock so green.

Only a few of these songs of the Irish and their fighting brigades have survived the passage of years, but history tells us that the songs of Irish bravery and devotion in the Civil War do not overstate the case. "Pat Murphy" is one of the few which an occasional singer will recall from a distant and hazy folk memory—and with it the "Irish Brigade" still marches into battle, its bright flag of green waving high alongside the Stars and Stripes.



The Irish Regiments

ACWS 2012 Calendar of Events

DATE	EVENT	
Jan 14 -15	Live Fire, El Centro, CA	IVLHA/ACWS
Feb 18-20	Calico – Presidents Day Weekend	ACWS Sponsored
Mar 24-25	St. Catherine's Military School (Anaheim)	ACWS Sponsored
Mar 31 – Apr 1	Prado Dam (Chino)	SCCWA Sponsored ACWS supported
Apr 14-15	Fairview Park (Costa Mesa)	ACWS
Mar 10-11	Picacho Peak, Arizona Territory	
May 3-6	Glorietta Pass, New Mexico Territory	
	More dates TBD in Jan 2012	

Additional organizations and links of interest:

PACWR: <http://www.pacwr.org/events.htm>

Fort Tejon: <http://www.forttejon.org>

NCWA www.ncwa.org

SWCWA <http://www.swcwa.com>

We Are History: <http://www.americanheritagefestival.com/ACWS>

The History Channel Club: www.historychannelclub.com