

# AMERICAN CIVIL WAR SOCIETY



## Hallowed Ground 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 2014**



## ACWS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President – Dave Grimsrud**  
[btdave@antelecom.net](mailto:btdave@antelecom.net)

**Secretary – Vacant**

**Membership – Michele Akkerman**  
[nicowl@aol.com](mailto:nicowl@aol.com)

**Union Division – Col. Ken Dacey**  
[kenbus@aol.com](mailto:kenbus@aol.com)

**Public Relations – David Cartwright**  
[rdcartwright@yahoo.com](mailto:rdcartwright@yahoo.com)

**Vice President – Ken Serfass**  
[ramonatownband@yahoo.com](mailto:ramonatownband@yahoo.com)

**Treasurer – Ken Serfass**  
[ramonatownband@yahoo.com](mailto:ramonatownband@yahoo.com)

**Confederate Division–Col. James R. Tebbetts**  
[latigerreb@yahoo.com](mailto:latigerreb@yahoo.com)

**Civilian Corps – Vacant**

**Newsletter Editor – Michael Akkerman**  
[qaman249@verizon.net](mailto:qaman249@verizon.net)



### Federal/Union Division:

**Division Commander:** Col. Ken Dacey

**Adjutant:** Capt. Dave Bolin

**Division Sgt. Major:** Michael Quinlan (Degregorio)

**Infantry Battalion Cdr.:** **VACANT**

**Artillery Brigade Cdr.:** Major Gary Wear

**Division Chaplain:** Rich Holt and Anthony Delgadillo

**Cavalry:** **VACANT**

### Confederate Division:

**Division Commander:** Col. James R. Tebbetts

**Division Adjutant General:** Major Dave Grimsrud

**Division Sgt Major/Provost:** **Vacant**

**Division Clerk:** Sgt. Jay Stilson

### Confederate Brigade Staff:

**Infantry Brigade Commander:** Lt. Col. James M. Style

**Infantry Brigade Adjutant:** **VACANT**

**Infantry Brigade Sgt. Major:** Sgt. Major Ray Daniel

**Cavalry Brigade Commander:** Major Scott Peca

**Cavalry Brigade Adjutant:** Capt. John Riddler

**Cavalry Brigade Sgt. Major:** **VACANT**

**Artillery Brigade Commander:** Lt. Col. Mike Collins

**Artillery Brigade Adjutant:** 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Jose Justiniano, Jr

**Artillery Brigade Sgt. Major:**

## Editor's Note:



Look at our next generation of reenactors ready for battle while at Calico 2014. If you have an interesting story to share please send it to me at [qaman249@verizon.net](mailto: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, and all of our new members who have joined ACWS so far this year. Below are those folks who have or will be celebrating a birthday in March and April. To the troops listed, let's hope they have a safe new year, to the other family members at home, keep the faith and pray all the men and boys come home soon!

Please join me and the rest of the ACWS Board in wishing them all a Happy Birthday and Welcome!

## Happy Birthday

March	
Gabriel	Serrano
Virginia E.	Bange
R. David	Cartwright
Lisa	Coffey
Michael	Climo
El Roy Jr.	Codding
David	Delgadillo
Michael	DeGregorio
Paul	DeNubilo
Karen	Stanford
Bruce	Fleshner
Elizabeth	Kleiner
Laurie	Lewis
Ethan	Lujan
Kathleen	MacMillan
Angel	Ochoa
Richard M.	Senzig
Lois	Tunnell
Ben	Talbott
Lana	Brannon
Sarah	Weaver
Aidan	Whitty
Syria Jane	Zoch

## New & returning Members

NEW MEMBERS			
Ronald	Burnes	Alen B.	Rothenberg
Megan	Burnes	Colleen	Rothenberg
Michael	Bart	Amanda	Mercado
Celia Fayeleen	Crichton	Alicia	Burnes
Robert	Eggert	Erica	Bowlin
Nathan	Felix	Nathaniel	Bowlin
Marvin J.	Grogan	Joseph	Cosner
Diana	Illian	Marc	Comelius
Robert	Mance	Amelia	Campbell
Karen	O'Connell	William B.	Dean
Steve	Pavich	Robert	DeVries
Jose	Perez	Scott	Elkins
Colleen	Rothenberg	Sherrie	Riglin
Elizabeth	Richardson	Alex	Zalesny
Jacob	Snow	Tori	Zalesny
Jeanne	Tomlinson	Evan	Gregorio
Aaron	Tedder	David	Hardt
Sandra	Houston	Debra	Hardt
John (Buck)	Weaver	Kenneth	Johnson
Chase	Pregler-Webb	Cameron	Johnson
		Jon	Kaya
		David	Kaya
		Jonathan	Kaya
		Kevin	Karzin
		Laurie	Lewis
		Rich	Shelby
		Alexsandra A.	Lewicki
		Jill	Lundgren
		Robert	Mance
		Brett	Minor Sr.
		Rebecca	Olsen
		Nikki	Pelley
		Brett	Calpepper
		Mary	Nell
		Theodore	Pawlowski

## ♪A Word or Two From the PRESIDENT♪

I hope all of you had a very Merry Christmas, and a fun and Happy New Year. Much has happened since our last newsletter; I will try and fill you in.

After months of frustration the ACWS now fully controls its website. Mike Collins and I tried to work with the old internet company, but we finally had to give up and start over, so if you have any updates please send them to our Webmaster, and he will post them. Our current provider offered more options and saved us some money, so it's all good.

Calico Ghost Town. What can I say? The weather was almost perfect for this event. Larger than expected crowds made the management very happy. I observed some of the battles, and I saw no safety violations; the battles looked well, and no one rushed. The dinner on Saturday was well attended, the food was excellent, and the dance after had a good crowd. To change things up we decided to offer a hot breakfast on Monday, instead of the box lunch. I am happy to say the breakfast was a huge hit, so we will keep that on the schedule. Calico started our reenacting year with a big bang--let's keep it going.

As most of you know St. Cats has canceled for this year, leaving Pichaco Peak in Arizona as the next event. I hope some of you decide to make this event. I know it's a bit of a drive, but it is historic. We moved the Battle of Costa Mesa to the first weekend in May. This may be a permanent move and I think a positive one. The Fort Tejon Invitational has been moved to May 31-June 1. I hope we can all go and support the Fort. Many units of the ACWS got their start at the Fort, and it needs all the support we can give it.

We are always looking for new sites at which to hold events. It is getting harder and harder to find new sites as cities grow and impose restrictions. The Board will be doing a site visit at a place in Cuyuma. Once we tour the site we can offer more information, but right now the potential sounds very good. In closing, again, the ACWS is for its members. If you have any questions, comments, suggestions, I welcome them. Our goal for 2014 is improving the period military look and deportment of the camps and uniforms, increasing the civilian population, and, as always, safety.

Regards,  
David Grimsrud



## ❧A Word or Two from the Vice-PRESIDENT❧



February 2014

From the Vice President:

Here we are now, into the sesquicentennial season for 1864, and it seems there are more events to commemorate that every day.

We kicked it off right with the President's Day weekend event at Calico Ghost Town. There was a lot of battle action and other activity to keep the crowds busy and certainly many of our members too. As always, a handful of my Marine band members also doubled as combat Marines of the USS Wabash and we had a few guest Marines come out to fill in the ranks.

I hope that all of you that attended enjoyed your weekend as much as my Marines did, and that you will be out at other events this year to see more of the elephant. It was great to see so many veterans return

and to see some folks new to our area, if not our hobby.

The Calico event is always tricky to keep as period as possible, what with the gun fighter types about town, the local "farbs" mashing various eras into one outfit or another and just the general lack of proper education in the public of our era. With all that considered, we do a fine job portraying life in the 1860's and all weekend I heard from visitors how much they enjoyed what they saw and heard from us reenactors. For me personally, the memorial service was very moving. I didn't know Shawn at all very well, but he was a brother reenactor and as it is for musicians, we offer out gifts as we can. Paying tribute to Shawn as we did was very moving and I hope his family had closure from that. As some of you already know, a good percentage of my band is active duty Marine musicians and a few former military players are mixed in too. That ceremony was very typical of the work our bands do for our fallen, so our end of the ceremony was presented with all respect and professionalism that Marines bring in their day job and they made me proud to be among them. Tom Atkins' poem was very moving and I think everybody joining us for "Amazing Grace" was a great moment in camaraderie for us all.

Our daily serenades for Mr. Lincoln were taken very well, having been both entertaining and educational, and I have a strong feeling that the grand parade each day inspired all you boys who take to the battlefield to do your best for your flags! I've contributed a number of photos for the newsletter from the event, so I hope you find yourself in them. More are published to my band Facebook page, Antebellum Marine Band, and also the ACWS website.

One aspect of our hobby that has become more enjoyable is the civility across the lines. In days past there was an unnecessary rivalry even when we were not engaged in battle scenarios. I have always believed there is nothing wrong with Billy and Johnny saying hello and sharing a smile and pleasant word, as it takes both sides to present to the public. I chuckle inside some times when I shock a Reb or two by greeting them with a pleasant hello. In my study of US Grant, he was known to pay as much respect to Confederate prisoners as he would fellow Federal officers and men.

I have been traveling to the east for Civil War events and I find many prejudices there about how we enjoy the hobby in the west. I disagree with much of the obsessive stitch counting that accompanies this, but do agree that we can't truly call our events

reenactments in a region that saw no action to begin with. I have been referring to our activities as a “Civil War Event” and have recently taken to referring to them as “Civil War Demonstrations” to be less misleading. I’m sure anybody reading this can relate to that ever popular question of “how can you reenact a battle that didn’t take place here?” Many of our events are on ground far too difficult to maneuver on properly or are also too confined to really demonstrate how battles evolved.

If we take that tack, then it seems to me that we can be more focused on how we are recreating life in the 1860’s. “Living history” is a good term for much of what we do when we are being observed, so that is why so much attention is being focused now on cleaning up the “farb” elements in our personal and camp impressions. If we strive to put ourselves into the period, it becomes more believable for us and our visitors that we are giving them a taste of that. First person impressions are the best way to convey that with a mindset of “this is what we are and do every day” vice “that’s how they did it then,” which takes everybody out of being in the moment. It’s something to think about there that may help with your impressions you present. I’d love to chat on this in person with any of you should you feel inclined. My camp is open and the fire side at night is a perfect venue for this.

I sensed from many of you at Calico how eager you were to be back in your wool, so please know your BOD is actively seeking other venues for future events to support your habit. Next up, although not an ACWS event, is the weekend in San Diego County at the Antique Gas & Steam Engine museum over the second weekend of March. It is right around the corner, so let’s ensure muskets are clean and camp gear is ready.

I look forward to sharing the field of honor with you all.

Your H&OS,  
Gunny Ken  
AKA Lt. Gen US Grant/ Bandmaster, AMB/ CO, Mar Det USS Wabash

## ¤ MILITARY DISPATCHES ¤

### ¤ CONFEDERATE DIVISION ¤

From: James R Tebbetts, Col,  
ACWS Confederate Command  
To: Readers Members of the Confederate Command  
Date: March 1, 1864 (+150 years)  
Subject: Confederate Command Report

**PROMOTIONS** - The following promotions occurred at the Calico Event. These were done based on the good work they do for the Confederate Division and the reenacting community:

James Stytle to Lieutenant Colonel;  
Michael Collins to Lieutenant Colonel; and  
David Grimsrud to Major.  
Congratulations to all.



**PUBLIC RELATIONS** - After a bit of work, the ACWS was able to regain control of its website. As such, I am in the process of updating the Confederate Division’s portion of the website to bring it up to date (i.e. contacts, emails, photos, etc.). As such, I would like to get information on each unit that is an ACWS Unit

or a Friend of the ACWS that participates at ACWS events. I'll be taking photos at the Prado event of command individuals (Commander, 1<sup>st</sup> Sergeant, etc).

#### PAST EVENTS -

**Live Fire (Near Seeley, Ca – El Centro)** - January 18-19, 2014 - Annual event. Heard it went well, not sure of the individuals or teams that won, but figure it was a good event as it always is.

**Calico** – February 15-17, 2014 – Annual event. Extremely warm weather made it a nice weekend. A good turnout with members of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Kentucky, 43<sup>rd</sup> Virginia, 10<sup>TH</sup> Virginia, Hampton's Legion, 4<sup>th</sup> Texas, 8<sup>th</sup> Louisiana E and F, 8<sup>th</sup> Alabama, Washington Artillery, Howitzers Band, and a new unit from Central California, the Confederate Marines. The raffle was held Sunday and the lucky ticket drawn was for Keith Harriott, 8<sup>th</sup> Alabama. Congratulations. We will also honored Shawn Stidger with a memorial ceremony Saturday Afternoon.

**Battalion of the Common Soldier (Cherry Valley)** – Held the weekend of February 22-23, 2014 - UAOW Infantry Brigade Command in conjunction with the Battalion of the Common Soldier hosted a Camp of Instruction School of the Infantry at Mile High Cherry Ranch in Cherry Valley, CA (near Riley's Farm, just over the hill). I had planned on attending, but got in a traffic accident on Thursday. Did see a few photos that were making the rounds. Seemed to be well attended and am sure those there learned something new.

#### FUTURE EVENTS -

**150<sup>th</sup> Events** - Next 'big' one it will be Spotsylvania/Wilderness in April/May of 2014. Not sure if a group is going from Southern California, but if you are interested in attending, I have an infantry unit you can fall in with back there. Let me know. Possible second choice would be Cedar Creek, in October 2014. Super long range is Appomattox in April 2015. For those with a Louisiana leaning, November 2014 is the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Capture of Camp Moore.

**Pichaco Peak** - More info can be found at: <http://azstateparks.com/parks/pipe/events.html>. Tom Atkins usually goes and commands a consolidated unit from South California. Here you can wear your 'yahoo' clothing. Most all Confeds wore their normal frontier Texan clothing, very few had military uniforms. The site has RV hookups, showers and the like. Event info can be found at: <http://azstateparks.com/Parks/PIPE/events.html>. More info dealing with general rules and such can be found at: [http://azstateparks.com/volunteer/v\\_historical.html](http://azstateparks.com/volunteer/v_historical.html). Location: Picacho Peak State Park, between Phoenix and Tucson, Az.

**Prado Park** - Annual event being held April 5 & 6. For those that are ACWS/FTHA/etc members, get into the park free with your membership card, otherwise it is \$10. Registration fee is \$2. For RV parking information contact the park at (909) 597-4260. Set up can be as early as noon on Friday, the 4th. Location: Prado Regional Park, Chino, CA. Directions: Get to Euclid Ave (SR-83) North on the Chino Valley Freeway (SR-71). Go north on SR-83 about 2 miles; entry to park is on your right (east) side. Here is web link for the event: <http://sccwa.com/toc.htm>

#### SAFETY TESTS

PACWR (Pacific Area Civil War Reenactors) has a new set of safety tests. IF you took the previous tests, no need to do the new ones. BUT if you have to take the safety tests or you have a member of your unit that has to take the new safety tests, please have them go to this link and down load the tests - <http://koplowicz.com/pacwr/safety/>. I will be downloading the tests and making them available at events, along with an answer key. New tests will be submitted at any future ACWS event. As a side note, I believe the Union Army of the West has adopted these safety rules and tests too.

#### CONFEDERATE COMMAND POLICIES

**Eligibility for Annual ACWS Raffle** - To be eligible for the annual ACWS raffle a person must:

1. Be a member of the ACWS for the most recent year (i.e. 2013 for raffle to be held in 2014). If a member for the entire year, the member will be credited for events attended during the membership. If a member for a portion of the year, they will only be credited for the time a member and events attended during that period of membership.

2. Attend events sponsored or supported by the ACWS.

a. Sponsored Events. Members attending such events will get one ticket per day they attend. As an example in 2013 there were a potential of 12 tickets 'earned' for attending events – 4 tickets for Calico (Saturday, Sunday, Monday[2]) and 2 tickets each for Costa Mesa, Vail Lake, Helendale, and Spring Mountain Ranch (Saturday, Sunday).

b. Supported Events.

1. If attending an ACWS supported reenactment event (Prado, Fort Tejon), a member can earn one-half ticket per day, per person. But only when the ACWS participates as an independent battalion or battery (infantry, cavalry, and artillery) at the event.

2. If attending an ACWS supported living history event (Ft Mac, Drum Barracks), a member can earn one-half ticket per day, per person.

3. Do 'extra' duties at ACWS events. These are items such as doing guard mount or other activity as directed by the Division Commander and/or ACWS Officers/Board. Duties done within the Company or Brigade do not count toward these 'extra' duties.

4. The drawing will be held at the first event of the ACWS year.

5. It is the responsibilities of each Company to ensure correct morning reports will all attendees noted be sent forward up the chain of command to ensure names of those attending an event make it to the Division Adjutant. At the end of the reenacting year these names will be checked against the ACWS membership list to ensure correct numbers of tickets are allocated to ACWS members.

#### DISTAFF SOLDIERS

At Calico we had a number of women that were fighting. Almost all met the ACWS standards as it relates to distaff soldiers. ACWS rules state: 3.3.2.3. Women shall be encouraged to portray soldiers as well as portraying documented Vivandiere/Cantinierre impressions within the units. However, Vivandieres/Cantinierres must belong to an existing unit. As such they shall be allowed to take the field and shall fall under the command of their respective Company, Troop or Battery commander. Women doing soldier impressions must carry/wear the same equipment/uniforms as men and make every effort to hide their true gender while doing such impressions. They are expected to pass the "Five Foot Rule," that is, at a five (5) foot or greater distance; the average spectator should be unable to distinguish a male soldier from a female soldier.

However, sometimes there is a problem-- one of the "soldiers" was wearing nail polish. So, IF I or another command person sees someone that does not meet the ACWS rules related to distaff soldiers, they will be asked to leave the event (battlefield/camp) until she's brings herself into compliance with the ACWS rules.

#### POSITIONS OPEN - The following positions are open. Contact the person noted if interested:

Confederate Infantry Brigade seeking someone to fill the position of Brigade Adjutant and ask any potential candidates to Contact LC James Style ( [stylejames@yahoo.com](mailto:stylejames@yahoo.com) )

Confederate Division is seeking someone to fill the position of Division Sergeant Major. You can be from any of the three arms (Infantry, Artillery, and Cavalry). If interested contact me at [latigerreb@yahoo.com](mailto:latigerreb@yahoo.com)

#### I NOW STEP ON THE SOAP BOX -

Time to write your Assembly Member or Senator. Assembly Bill 2444 would prohibit the sale of a Confederate flag or tangible personal property inscribed with the image of a Confederate flag on property owned or operated by the state. This would be places such as Fort Tejon.

It is introduced by Assembly Member Hall with the following co-author: Assembly Members Bloom, Bradford, Brown, Fox, Holden, Jones-Sawyer, Nestande, Ting, and Weber. There are co-authors in the senate too, Senators Mitchell and Yee.

The law would add Section 53.5 to the Civil Code, relating to the Confederate flag. Here is the text of the law:

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

#### SECTION 1.

Section 53.5 is added to the Civil Code, to read:

53.5.

(a) A person may not sell a Confederate flag or tangible personal property inscribed with the image of a Confederate flag on property owned or operated by the state.

(b) For purposes of this section, all of the following apply:

(1) "Person" means any individual, partnership, firm, joint stock company, corporation, limited liability company, association, trust, estate, or other legal entity.

(2) "Sell" means to transfer title or possession, exchange, or barter, conditional or otherwise, in any manner or by any means whatsoever, for consideration. "Transfer possession" includes only transactions that would be found by the State Board of Equalization, for purposes of the Sales and Use Tax Law, to be in lieu of a transfer of title, exchange, or barter.

I understand what they are trying to do, but is this the right way? The flag of the United States was also in place when slavery was legal and for a much longer time, from the founding of the Country to 1866. It too was used by 'racist' organizations such as the Klu Klux Klan. See pictures from the 1910s through 1930s. The 'confederate flag' was only brought to the forefront in the 1960s during the Civil Rights era.

IF they are going to ban this flag and memorabilia, then they should do it for the following countries/eras/etc: Nazi Germany, Imperial Japan, Castro/Che Guevara, communist flags of all sorts. They should also include the Flag of the State of California which in the early 1850s passed laws dealing with 'vagrants' that placed them into a form of slavery, and was primarily used against Native Americans and poor Mexicans. Now, don't get started on all the massacres of Native Americans by the US Army and civilians that were flying the American Flag.

Go here to find your Assembly Member or Senator - <http://findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov/>

I now step off the soap box.

## ❖ UNION DIVISION ❖

Col. Kenneth Dacey, Commander, ACWS Union Division

Ladies and Gentlemen of Our Union Division,

I wish to start with congratulating our Division for its performance at Calico. My thanks go to all the units and civilians for all their work in making this perhaps one of the best Calico events I have seen in a while. The breakfast provided on Monday was a big success with all who stayed over.

Units in attendance were Iron Brigade, 71st Pa, 2nd IRVC, 4th US Artillery, the combined Marine detachments, and the 7th Michigan Cavalry. Again to you all, well done!

The weather was great. We were fielding larger numbers of troops. We are growing each year due to all of our efforts. We have had some more creative battles, including on Monday a nicely scripted hand to hand fight near the school house. However, even though after a hard fight, we were beaten back and lost control of the town.

Some news for upcoming events:

April 5-6 is the Prado Regional Park event,

May 3-4, for those interested, will be the Costa Mesa event.

All Company and Brigade commanders are now tasked with preparing their units and get them marching to the engagements.

Thank you for those in attendance and for supporting the ACWS Union Division in all that we do.

I also want to at this time I want to 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.

Your Obedient Servant,  
Col. Kenneth Dacey  
Commanding ACWS union Division

## ❧ Civilian Director's Report ❧

No Report was submitted for this Newsletter's press times.

The Civilian Coordinator's seat is vacant at present time. Please contact Dave Grimsrud if you are interested in filling this much needed position.

## ❧ MEMBERSHIP REPORT ❧ ❧❧❧ MEMBERSHIP REPORT ❧❧❧

As of March 5, 2014, there are 275 members in the American Civil War Society. Of these, 69 are new members, many having joined at Calico last month. This is a great way to start the New Year, and I hope recruiting efforts remain strong. I use the 'selling' point that the ACWS is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization and that expenses incurred for reenacting are tax deductible. For your tax returns, the ACWS tax ID number is **33-0747524**.

Two of my friends, who are photographers, love going to reenactments for the great subjects available for photos, and when I mentioned that as a reenactor they would not have to pay to get into our events, and pay very little to attend others, they said "Application please!" Another friend who grew up in Louisiana and is very familiar with CW reenactments is getting her application to me sometime this week – she looks forward to portraying a right proper Southern lady and her husband a Yankee gentleman (one of those 'mixed' marriages).

Another selling point is that the ACWS does not require that members attend a minimum amount of events in order to 'be in good standing,' and the fact that we sponsor/support events all over So Cal, Nevada, and Arizona provides a variety that enables members to actively participate. A third point I make to prospective members is that they don't have to spend \$100s to get started, that reenacting is a 'work in progress' and there's no rush for ladies to get a camp dress, underpinnings, crinolines, corset, and other accessories all at one time. The same goes for military reenactors--- uniform pieces and other equipment are loaned to 'newbies' until they get their own.

Finally, I'd like to thank Joyce Bolin and Donnalee Simmons for hostessing yet another wonderful ladies' tea at Calico. Your dedication is truly appreciated.

So, keep talking about our awesome organization, our mission, and the great friends we make, and get the new recruits to sign up!

Regards,

Michele Akkerman  
Membership Director



A Lucky and Happy St. Patrick's Day  
To You!!

## **CSCSCSCS Civil War History CSCSCSCS** **The Importance of Events in 1864:**

The big year for the tide turning, as many of you may know was 1864. The first six months for the Union had some significant happenings. This is not a comprehensive list by any means, because the March to the Sea was orchestrated by Sherman in Georgia, Fort Fisher finally succumbed and other actions where Confederate forces prevailed also made headlines. But for the overall understanding of how the final Union victory was achieved, I submit the following as a guide to the final act at Appomattox in April of 1865.

### **February**

Congress and the Senate debate and inevitably pass the proposal to reinstate the rank of Lieutenant General and award it to Ulysses S. Grant. President Lincoln signs it into law on Leap year, February 29<sup>th</sup>. Until Grant's appointment, the only other man to wear the rank was George Washington. Winfield Scott is brevetted with it, but in retirement.

### **March**

"US Grant and son, Galena Ill." With those words scribbled into the registry at the Willard Hotel in Washington City on March 6, General Grant unwittingly announced his presence in the Federal capital. When the clerk read the entry and realized he had the hero of the hour in his sight, he hurriedly changed Grant's room assignment from the top floor hovel initially offered, to Suite 6, the presidential suite. Soon after dinner that evening the General was escorted to the Executive Mansion to a reception held to commemorate his promotion – a reception he had not even been invited to attend. With the formalities concluded, and three stars now pinned to his coat, initial assessments are made by Grant regarding the status of all Federal forces across the continent. Grant's grand strategy begins to take form as he begins the logistical coordination for the coming spring's work.

### **April**

In the east, near Culpepper Courthouse, Grant establishes his headquarters 5 miles away from the Army of the Potomac, to give Meade his space he needs to maintain control of his army. Grant and Meade begin closer cooperation and Grant's plan of coordinated movements across the continent begins to take form. He tells General Halleck, acting as chief of staff in Washington, he will manage the war from the field, using telegraph and dispatches, with a particular eye on the supervision of the Army of the Potomac. Lee knows a hammer is about to drop, but he is not sure where... Confederate forces are in the foothills near the Ely and German fords, anticipating where and when the Federal forces will again move south.

### **May**

Up to this time, the Confederates in the east have grown accustomed to Federal forces being an easier adversary to have their way with, but those days are soon to end. The beginning of the Overland Campaign in Virginia sees the first conflict between Lee and Grant, with the battle of the Wilderness starting on May

4th. In planning it, Grant didn't give it a name, the nature of the campaign and the press soon decided on that. In a series of left hooks and sidling continually south towards Richmond, the two armies in the east slugged it out daily for over 6 weeks, with Grant wearing Lee down, first near Chancellorsville, then Spotsylvania, Hanover Junction, Yellow Tavern, and leading in June to Cold Harbor, before breaking contact to maneuver towards Petersburg.

### **June**

Cold Harbor - Of all the assault Grant orders in the war, the second at Cold Harbor, where Federal losses totaled more than 17,000 in ten minutes, leads Grant to admit in his memoirs his regret for committing to it. Grant crosses the James and establishes his HQ at City Point VA, where the James and Appomattox rivers meet before heading towards the Chesapeake Bay. In time, this base will become the largest war time complex of the civil war, with docks for munitions and rail lines stretching westward towards the fighting, and even boasting a bakery which could deliver still-warm bread to Federal troops surrounding Petersburg.

### **July**

With the stalling of any movement against Lee, Grant settles into a siege posture outside of Petersburg. Thus the Overland Campaign ends and the stage set for the final act of the Army of Northern VA. While Grant and Lee simmer, Sherman pushes through Georgia, Banks gets tangled in the Red River campaign near New Orleans, and fighting in Tennessee subsides. By this time next year, 1865, all fighting will have ended.

More next time, General Grant!

## ~~~THE CIVIL WAR IN THE NEWS~~~

### ~~~A WORD TO THE LADIES~~~

The full skirt was the fashion during the Civil War, and its appearance depended upon a crinoline, or hoop underskirt. The crinoline gave a skirt its bell-shaped form and allowed easier movement. A corded petticoat also allowed a skirt to hang away from a woman's legs.

Sitting on the porch of Calico's Town Hall last month gave me the opportunity to watch people pass by and what I noticed more than anything was the not-so-fashionable way in which some ladies wore their crinolines. Some hoops were too large and the wire could be seen through the skirt. A large hoop also caused the hem of the skirt to be too high off the ground allowing a "shocking" look at a lady's stockings and the lacy hem of her drawers if a lady leaned forward a bit.

So in the spirit of being accurate reenactors, ladies should remember to adjust the circumference of each hoop in the crinoline to be proportionate to the skirt's volume. A ball gown has more volume than a day dress which has more volume than a simple work or camp dress. To prevent hoops from showing through the fabric, a ruffled crinoline or an over-petticoat should be worn. And to prevent undergarments from showing if leaning forward or sitting down, a modesty petticoat under the crinoline will do the trick.

## ~~~A MESSAGE TO ALL CIVILIANS~~~

from Membership Director Michele Akkerman

In the absence of a Civilian Director, I would like to inform civilians to check in with me or Town Constable Michael Akkerman in order to receive a raffle ticket for attending the event (raffle held at the end of the year). There is also an important need during the battles for civilians to assist with crowd control, as is our duty (and you get to wear those official-looking sashes too), so please report to us before the battle for your assignment.

Also, at future ACWS events we will be checking civilians for current membership cards. Those without a card will need to register and pay a \$7 fee for an event pass, a requirement of our insurance policy. This applies to 'visitors' who are in the camps (usually family or friends who are there for the day). In addition to being in good standing with a membership card or event pass, civilians must be dressed 'period correct', head to toe, during public hours; those not dressed properly will have to leave the camps.

Your cooperation in these matters will be greatly appreciated and will help to perfect the historical impression we are making as reenactors!





**MEMBERS** — The ACWS is a non-profit corporation, and as a volunteer your expenses are tax deductible. Expenses include food, equipment, clothing, and mileage when traveling to events. So, remember to save your receipts and document your travel mileage in order to claim them as a tax deduction when filing your income tax returns. The ACWS tax ID number is 33-0747524.

## Additional organizations and links of interest:

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

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

NCWA [www.ncwa.org](http://www.ncwa.org)

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

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

The History Channel Club: [www.historychannelclub.com](http://www.historychannelclub.com)

## ACWS 2014 Calendar of Events

### Sponsored and Supported Events

Dates are subject to change, but not more than a week or so.

Date	Event Name	Sponsor	Sponsored or Supported	Location
March 15-16	Picacho Peak, AZ	Arizona	Supported	Picacho Peak, AZ
April 5-6	Prado Park	SCCWA	Supported	Chino, CA
April 19-20 or May 4-5 TBD	Fairview Park	ACWS	Sponsored	Costa Mesa, CA
Apr 26-27	BSA Camp Out	BSA SG	Support	Monrovia, CA
April TBD	150 <sup>th</sup> Wilderness/Mule Shoe	Unk		Virginia
July 5-6	Old Fort MacArthur Days	FMHA	Supported	San Pedro, CA
August 16-17	Fort Tejon Invitational	FTHA	Supported	Lebec, CA
September 20-21	Drum Barracks Living History	Drum Brks	Supported	Wilmington, CA
October 4-5	Helendale	ACWS	Sponsored	Helendale, CA
Oct 25-26	Spring Mountain Ranch (150 <sup>th</sup> Anv NV Statehood)	ACWS/SNLHA	Sponsored	Las Vegas, NV
Nov 11	Reagan Library Vet Day	Library	Supported	Simi Valley, CA
December 6-7	Drum Barracks Christmas Theme Event	Drum Brks	Supported	Wilmington, CA
December 13	Christmas Party (TENT)	Newlin House	Sponsored	Huntington Bch, CA
January 2015	16 <sup>th</sup> Annual Live Fire Invitational	IVLHA/ACWS	Sponsored	Seeley, CA
April 2015	150 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Lee's Surrender	TBD	Support	Appomattox, VA

## \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ Ad Space For Sale \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

If you are a vendor and want to reach every ACWS member 6 times a year and not just at an event, then this could be a cost effective place for you.

You provide the copy and pictures you wish to display. We will be selling space based on the size of your ad and the number of times you run it. You may buy a 1/8, 1/4, 1/2 or even a full page and change the copy each cycle of the newsletter. All art and copy must be sent to the Editor 45 days before the edition in which you want it to be published. Your check for the run of your ad must be received 30 days before the first cycle of the newsletter in which you want it to be published. The editor reserves the right to refuse all or part of an ad, and you will be notified of changes to or if your ad is rejected for publishing.

Advertising fees as of 1/1/2014

Frequency	Full Page Cost/Issue	Half Page Cost/Issue	Quarter Page Cost/Issue	Eighth Page Cost/Issue
1 Issue	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 20.00
2 - 5 Issues	\$ 30.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 15.00
Year - 6 Issues	\$ 25.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 10.00

For Members wanting to place non-commercial “Want Ads” or “For Sale” ads, there is no charge. Be sure to include a description of the item, sale price, and contact information. So if you have any equipment or clothing that is not being used and is taking up space for new items, take this opportunity to let members know that you have something to sell.

## \*\*\*\*\* FOR SALE by MEMBER \*\*\*\*\*

I am selling the following tent:

20' x 24' Panther Primitives Wall Tent

6' Wall for Tent

Medium Green Braid on Standard Scallops

20'x24' Sod Cloth

12'x20' Ground Cloth

Set Up Package for 20'x24' Tent. This includes all poles, ropes, stakes, etc.

Bought in 12/2004 and setup 4 - 5 times

Price \$900.00 if you come to San Diego and provide the muscle. Up to \$1200.00 if I deliver and provide the muscle. Deliveries will only be made within Southern California (San Diego, Imperial, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino to Barstow and Los Angeles Counties.)

Email me at [dtdelgadillo@gmail.com](mailto:dtdelgadillo@gmail.com)

or call (619) 838-3272 - leave a message

David Delgadillo

ACWS NEWSLETTER  
Michele Akkerman  
20170 Ross Road  
Wildomar, CA 92595-8273