

# 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.**

**May-June 2014**



## ACWS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President – Dave Grimsrud**  
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**Civilian Corps – Vacant**

**Newsletter Editor – Michael Akkerman**  
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### 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:

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 May and June. 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! During this coming time Please join me and the rest of the ACWS Board in wishing them all a Happy Birthday and Welcome!

## Happy Birthday

## New & returning Members

May	
Frances	Bangs
John T.	Bange
El Roy IV	Coddng
Miranda	Coddng
Tori	Zalesny
Karen	Frey
Evan	Gregorio
Yul	Haasmann
Stan	Hetrick
Sandra	Hetrick
Debi A.	Humphries
Chloe	Hogan
Scott	Huseth
Kenneth	Johnson
Catherine	Kruk
Jason R.	Lutu Sr.
Ian	MacMillan
Charles	Prescott
Theodore	Pawlowski
Scott	Peca
Frank J.	RuVolo Jr.
Dave	Slater
Anthony R.	Thomas
D.J.	Brannon
Penny Lynn	Weaver
Austin	Steedman
Mike	Walters
Jared	Benson

June	
Donald	Ancell
Cynthia	Botello
Christain	Beilstein
Tony	Boyle
Claudia	Boyle
Helen	Carlson
Glen	Carlson
Constance	Chamberlain
Marc	Comelius
Jason	Coffey
Robert	DeVries
Steven	Fields
Tracey	Gorin
Carol	Hurley
Micha	Hanning
Emma	Orrin
Jonathan	Kaya
Kevin	Karzin
Robert	Lujan
Jade	Lujan
Debbie	Pavich
Bradley D.	Richardson
Bert	Steverson
Kenneth	Serfass
Eugene A.	Teves
Maritza	Torres
Lea	Brannon
Sean	Agreman

NEW MEMBERS	
Diana Rene	Andriola
Chuck H.	Conley
Roger	De Coster
Patricia	Grill
James	Flaherty
Joseph F.	Mortimer, Jr.
Caden	Mulhauser
Sarah	Bogs
Bert	Steverson
Shane	Snelling

## ❧A Word or Two From the PRESIDENT❧

Greeting once again. I'm taking a break in getting my kit together for Costa Mesa to write a few words. I'm sorry to have missed Prado due to my health, as most of you know William Peck resigned as our Lincoln, I just wish I personally could have said good-bye to one of the best Lincolns in the country. He will be missed. We had our quarterly meeting on Saturday the 26<sup>th</sup> of April. Things are looking fine, membership and finances are good, we are getting a head start on a Christmas party. I want to welcome Karen Norquist to the Board as Secretary, she will be a big help, and we do have a few opening on the Board for anyone interested. Once we get the green light from the City of Costa Mesa, look for a big announcement about the "Battle of Costa Mesa." I think this year's BOCM will be bigger and better than ever. It grows in size and popularity every year

I have always held the thought that Civil War groups are stronger working together; with that in mind Fort Tejon has moved their invitational to May 31-June 1. Many Civil war Companies got their start at the Fort. Their Civil War program is an important part of what the Fort does, so I encourage participation, let's all come out and support the Fort. We almost lost it to budget cuts a few years ago, there is strength in numbers.

### A Few Words from the President.... Part Duex.

Now that Costa Mesa is over, I have a few more words. The ACWS has 3 parts the Union, Confederate, and Civilian. Without a Civilian director the civilian side has kinda been forgotten, but this has to change. At every ACWS event there should be a "Ladies Tea", and hopefully a "Fashion Show". The tea should have access by interested spectators to take part. The fashion show need not have an emcee, but let the ladies show and discuss their dresses. Also groups like the "Society of Sobriety", any abolitionist group or even a "Woman's suffrage" (ya like that will happen), should be on the schedule. This could be a great recruiting tool, and let's have some fun; but keep it period. Also while I'm on the subject, let's discuss women in camp. Any woman in camp needs to be a worker, a cook, laundress, and seamstress. In short, no hoop skirts or ball gowns. To paraphrase that great General Benjamin Butler, "Any woman in camp dressed in a hoop skirt or ball gown will be perceived as a woman of the town plying her profession." Again, I appreciate any suggestions or comments.

Regards,  
David Grimsrud

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

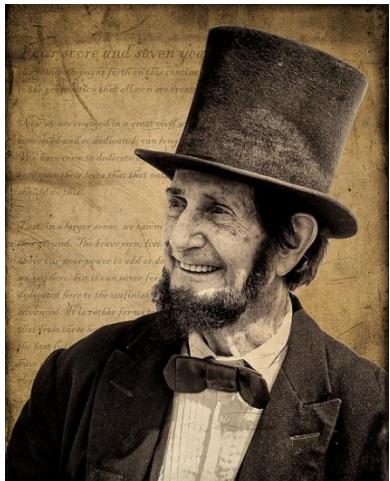
April 2014

From the Vice President:

Hello all and it is with fondest greetings that I address you. I hope that this sesquicentennial season is treating you well so far. I will address a number of items this month, and one of them directly involves our membership's participation.

First then I will speak on the preservation of our hobby and directly, our society within that hobby. At present, our membership in the ACWS is less than it was last year, but more than some previous, recent years. I would hope by that statistic that we, the BOD are doing something right to keep you all on board as well as attract new members. Each of YOU can be our best recruiter, not only for the ACWS at large, but for each of your individual units with your army. Even if your best

buddy isn't keen to fight on YOUR side, what's the harm in having them across the lines for a little rivalry and "target practice" during our battles? You may have heard the age old statement that "if each of you brings one new member a year, our society would double in no time" or words to that effect. Think on that a moment.. it DOES have some merit. The startup costs in our hobby are very steep, of this there is no arguing, but there are many ways to help newbies get established, so with some creative thought and teamwork, there are plenty of ways to bring new folks into the fold. For many, running about the field is seen as a game for the young, so therein lies the future of our hobby overall. If your only goal of participating is to run about and burn wool, so be it. Do that to the best of your abilities, but also keep in mind the history and heritage you are helping to interpret, and know that everything you do at an event is an example for the uninitiated and could easily influence them to join us. Be that good will ambassador and mentor to somebody new in your old shoes... 'Nuff said on that for now.



For those who came out to Prado Park at the beginning of April, we had great weather, good ground and very high emotions over the recognition of the end of participation for an amazing man, a true gentleman and personally an inspiration for me in our activity and the realm of living history. Many of you know that Bill Peck, a long time Lincoln impressionist, has announced his retirement from the activity sighting health concerns.

He has led by example in his first person impression of the 16<sup>th</sup> president and I have learned a great deal from him in that regard and in many others as I came to know the man and former Marine under that famous stovepipe hat.

Over the time I have appeared as US Grant, I have had several experiences in first person in situations similar to what Grant may have actually also experienced. Walking up the steps of the McClean house at Appomattox Courthouse, sitting on a railfence at City Point, whittling under a tree in the Wilderness HQ knoll and even receiving flowers from ladies along the Remembrance Day parade route are highlights for certain. On every occasion the sensation has been amazing to

realize those emotions and thoughts he may have had. One occasion yet to come, but that is inevitable, will be the time when Mr. Peck leaves this life for his reward beyond. I do not look forward to mourning him, but I will keep in mind the release of pain for him and the joy beyond that will greet him. But along with that and knowing much about the relationship between the actual Lincoln and Grant, I just may react quite the same as Grant did over the death of Lincoln. Grant is said to have wept openly alongside the body of the president as it lay in state in the capital before the train ride back to Illinois. If I dwell on it too long, I begin to well up at the thought. With all that said, I'd invite you to say a prayer on his behalf and if you have a chance, send him a note or voice your support for him.

Some of our fellows in this hobby/ lifestyle are prepping to go east for the activities there commemorating 1864. The Wilderness campaign in Virginia seems to be a highlight and focus for quite a few friends. I wish I could attend this year, but it's not yet in the cards. I will take some time here to say that situations such as that and opportunities in the east are about to become very accessible for me as I prepare for a new chapter in my walk as Grant and in living history in general.

Some of my closer comrades in California already know, but many either don't or aren't sure about any rumors that may be floating about.

It goes back to my recent participation in the Gettysburg Remembrance Day events this past November and being "discovered" during the parade by the owner of a tour company in Gettysburg.



After passing my card along and some face to face discussion, the tour company reached out and offered me a job with them to write and lead a new walking tour in the guise of Gen. Grant and present this daily in Gettysburg. Not only is this a job that "isn't" a job, but they offered a home for my family to rent in town, on Baltimore street, very near to where US Brig. General Schimmelfennig hid in a shed over the course of the three-day

battle. All my closest friends and family agreed that this is one opportunity that cannot be passed up, and would be an amazing presentation.

So while my "Granting" will be the day job, I've already begun to build an east coast edition of the Antebellum Marine Band. With the contacts I've made over the last few years of participating back is ready and willing to present Marine Band out there with me east coast reenactors to so a huge compliment and tells me right all along.

This change of the ACWS unit, Mar Det USS Antebellum Marine Band, West happy coincidence that most of out west are during the time of Gettysburg are curtailed due to will be very happy to come back and reconnect with you all. I east coast buddies will also participate. One of my east coast contacts has already booked me for an event in June



east, a solid core of players the impression of the US as their leader. For the readily accept me for this is I've been doing something

headquarters will not affect Wabash, nor the Coast Unit. In fact, it is a the events we participate in year that walking tours in the seasonal weather. I to visit, enjoy the weather hope too that some of my want to come out to

out there, so it's only fair we get them to come play with us. The wonder of technology is ideally suited to keep in contact with the west coast, just as I do now with the east, so as I said, just a change of headquarters location.

With that in mind, you know how to contact me, so if you get to Gettysburg, then you need to visit and take a walk! I hope that you all would as comrades in arms! It will be sad to leave, but I know it's not a final and forever goodbye. Still... I will miss you all a great deal.

Another topic to give you a heads up about is a mini-series shooting soon and hopefully broadcast later this year. It is called, "To Appomattox" and it will obviously lead to the surrender between Lee and Grant. Their Facebook page has details and cast descriptions. There is quite a buzz growing over it, so I encourage you all to look into it for yourselves. I've been and there is potential to act they put it, "help their NO PROBLEM!

If you already follow Grant in living history" position and adventures will encouraged me to stay on updates on east coast as a society and how to like to think our and that our BOD's efforts all and gain new members. best recruiters to keep the units and form new ones as



contacted by the producers as a consultant of sorts and as Grant be more Grant-like".

me on Facebook, the "US page, you will see how my new evolve. The ACWS BOD has as VP, so I will also provide activities and also our issues improve what we do. I would experiences have improved are doing positives to keep you Remember, YOU are all our hobby growing and build your well!

Thank you all for reading this and more for all the great memories. As time permits and the stars align, I will look forward to sharing the field of honor with you all any time in the future, on either coast!

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

From: VP, ACWS BOD  
To: ACWS Membership

There is a POTENTIAL situation regarding our upcoming event in Costa Mesa. The battlefield we use at Fairview Park is next to a nature preserve. The city of Costa Mesa has a naturalist involved who is concerned about the nesting habits of an endangered Nuthatch bird which MAY be nesting in that location set aside for our event.

At present the naturalist and his staff have not seen the bird on site, and they aren't sure about it's preferred area of nesting.

If they were to discover the bird is nesting in the area, they will ask us to change the event from a FULL REENACTMENT to a LIVING HISTORY EVENT, with camp set ups, drill demonstrations and other activity not requiring gun fire, which it is said would disrupt this federally protected bird.

The cutoff date for a decision on this is this coming Tuesday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2014. If you don't hear from the BOD on this by then feel free to contact us for confirmation.

Yours respectfully,

Kenneth J. Serfass  
VP ACWS

# ¤ MILITARY DISPATCHES ¤

## ¤ CONFEDERATE DIVISION ¤

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

**SHORT NEWSLETTER** - A short newsletter article. Was in a carriage crash. Big Conestoga wagon hit my little two-wheeled carriage. So, for Costa Mesa I'll be there, but only in an administrative capacity. Lt. Cols Peca and Stytle will have on-field command, one each day.

**FORT TEJON INVITATIONAL** - Will be on May 31 and June 1. Come out and support the Fort.

**FORT MACARTHUR DAYS** - Coming up on the Second weekend in July. If you wish to attend, you'll need to contact one of the invited units that are there - 1<sup>st</sup> North Carolina, Washington Artillery, and 8<sup>th</sup> Louisiana. Here is the info from lsgt Don Black of the 8<sup>th</sup> La. This information is from the event coordinator and is being put here for your reading enjoyment. The requirements are the same for the other Confederate Units, just contact point is different.

Old Fort Mac days is coming up. This is the 100th anniversary for the fort so I hope this will be a big one. I hope that we can get a big number of us out for this one. Again I will be asking everyone to send me the money so I can get the wrist bands for the group. The price is \$10.00 per person. Again I will be the contact person. My dead line will be MAY 31 2014 with no Exceptions. If you don't pay on or before the cutoff date you can pay at the gate but you will not get to go on the battle field with us. I am also asking to send with the money and the names of those that are going with a return self-address envelope. PLEASE make it a legal size envelope because along with the wrist bands there will be extra information being sent. Also please have a stamp on the envelope. AGAIN my cutoff date is MAY 31<sup>st</sup>. Everyone must have a wrist band on when entering the fort and must stay on the whole time you are at the fort. I have just move so my address has changed.

Don Black  
5319 E. Lanai  
Long Beach, Ca. 90808  
Email - BLACK90815@YAHOO.COM  
Phone (562)708-6932



## ¤ UNION DIVISION ¤

Col. Kenneth Dacey, Commander, ACWS Union Division  
No Report was submitted for this Newsletter's press time.

## ❧ 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 ❧

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

## ❧ 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
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 \*\*\*\*\***

Nothing at this time:

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