

"The Late Unpleasantness" July 2010



South Bay Civil War Round Table

July 28th Meeting Speaker: Dr. Libra Hilde on cultural, social and political trends and events that led up to the Civil War

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The President's Message

I hope everyone had a happy and reflective 4th of July holiday. We spent ours in Palm Beach, Florida, and were so close to the fireworks on the Coastal Waterway we got covered with ash! Jane and I drove to San Antonio, Texas, and then to Jupiter, Florida, to visit our daughters. We rented a truck to take everything of theirs in our garage to their garages. The truck handled well, the roads were good, the weather cooperated and we had a great time of it. From what we saw, Texas has certainly decided not to participate in our current recession. We weren't able to visit any Civil War sites this trip, but did stop by two frontier forts in Texas, Fort Stockton and Fort McKavett.

August 14th - SBCWRT Picnic

Some information was handed out at the last meeting regarding the picnic and we will finalize things at the next meeting. It will be held at the home of Marion Harkness in Los Gatos, hosted by John and Jane Herberich. Her address is 229 Cerro Chico Dr. off of Harding Avenue, about a half mile east of the intersection of Los Gatos Blvd. and Highway 9. Please call or e-mail with any questions: 408-264-0665 [/jlherberich@att.net](mailto:jilherberich@att.net).

John Herberich

Summary of July Topic by Larry Comstock

Medicine, with one major exception, was virtually unchanged from practice in the dark ages. Bacteria were unknown. Sanitation was primitive, hand washing by surgeons considered unnecessary. The one enormous discovery that was used extensively by both Union and Confederate surgeons was anesthesia. Nitrous oxide (laughing gas) discovered in 1845, ether in 1846, and chloroform in 1847. Smallpox vaccination was mandated but not rigidly enforced. Soldiers shared vaccine materials, often with disastrous effects. Measles, a childhood illness, was far more serious in adults. In one battle, half a regiment was out of action due to measles. Many soldiers from rural areas had no exposure to common childhood illnesses, and hence no immunity.

Dear Larry: Please convey my thanks to your colleagues for their assistance in setting up a projection screen, microphone and speaker, etc. They helped make my presentation of "Civil War Medicine" to your Round Table a successful event. It seemed to be very well received in spite of a few minor technical glitches. Best wishes, Joe Wagner

COMING IN NOVEMBER

The 26th Annual West Coast Civil War Conference presents

BLOOD ON THE RAMPARTS: CIVIL WAR COASTAL DEFENSES
San Francisco, California November 12-14, 2010

For questions: friends.of.civil.war.alcatraz@gmail.com

Sponsored by Friends of Civil War Alcatraz and San Francisco Civil War Round Table

The Conference is a Friday evening of dinner and presentations by Craig Symonds, and James McPherson, all day Saturday of Civil War lectures, and a Sunday of tours of Historical Civil War sites including Alcatraz Island, Fort Point, Fort Mason, and The Presidio. You may attend all three days, any combination of two days, or any single day - the choice is yours. The Sunday event is unique in that the four Civil War site tours are visited in a single outing.

For more information: www.friendsofcivilwaralcatraz.org

THE FIXIN' TO DIE FOR THE CONFEDERATE FLAG RAG

(What if Country Joe McDonald had been about 100 years earlier?)

Well, come on all of you gray shirt men,
The Stars and Bars need your help again,
Abe's got us Rebs in a terrible jam,
Way down yonder in Alabam'
So quit working crops and pick up a gun,
We're gonna have a whole lot of fun!
(Chorus)

And it's one, two, three
What's the South fighting for?

Don't ask me, I don't give a damn,
Next stop is Alabam'.
And it's five, six, seven.
Open up the gates to hell!
Well there ain't no time to wonder why!
Whoopee! The South's gonna die!
Well come on Pickett, let's move fast!
Your big chance has come at last!

Now you can go out and get those Feds,

The only good Yankee is the one that's
dead!

And you know that Secesh can only be won

When you blow 'em all to Kingdom come!

(Repeat Chorus)

And come on Richmond, don't be slow,

Watch all these wartime profits flow!

There's plenty good money to be made

Supplying Lee's Army with the tools of the
trade.

You just hope and pray that the Union
blockades

Get broken with our bomb submarine raids.

(Repeat chorus)

Now come on owners of every slave!

Let other men join and really be brave.

Come on rich men, don't hesitate,

Let poor rural boys get killed for your state.

Or be the first plantation in your county

To have your sons shipped home in a crate.

(Repeat Chorus)

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Here's a helpful link to one current interpretation of the original 1960s song, complete with
cornball carnival calliope and kazoo:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7awldDcwrqU&feature=related>

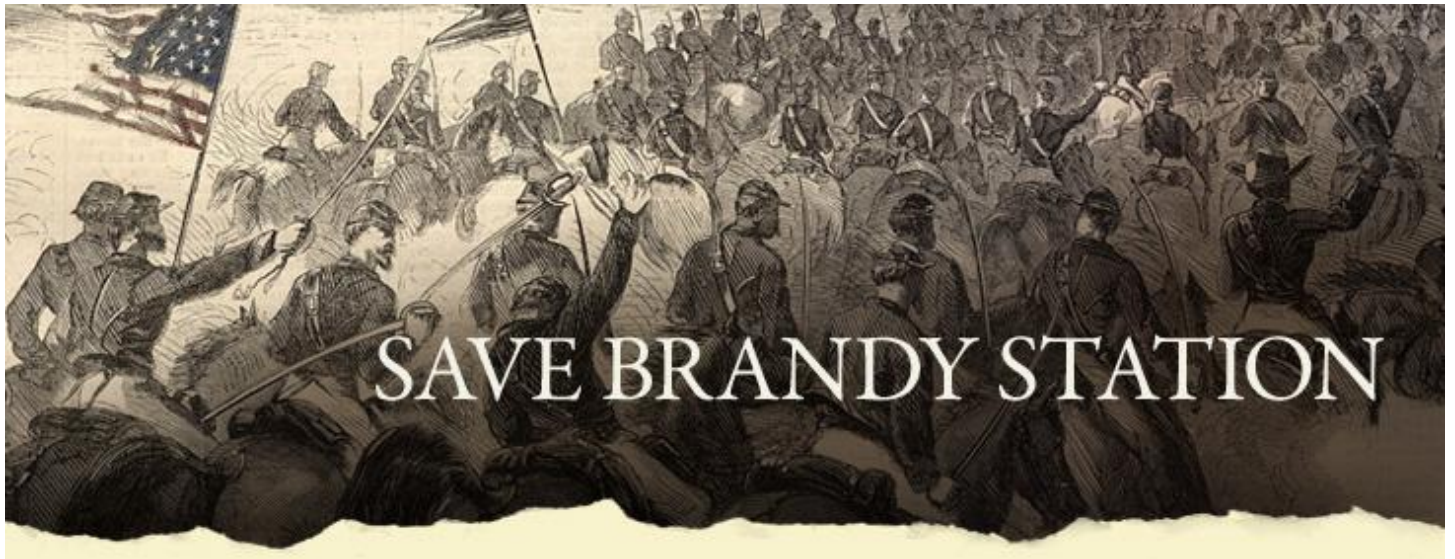
The above photos of battlefield dead by Alexander Gardner at Antietam (September, 1862)
were found at <http://www.sonofthesouth.net/leefoundation/battle-antietam-pictures>.

Speaker Announcement

Sunday, August 14: Our own Military Historian, Thomas Christianson, will discuss the opening to the Battle of Chickamauga when Wilder's Brigade of Mounded Infantry and Minty's Cavalry Brigade held back the Confederate assault at Alexander's Bridge and Reed's Bridge.

Preservation Report

The following funding raising request is from Jim Lighthizer, President, Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT) received in e-mail and is presented here for possible discussion and consideration by SBCWRT – editor)



Help Save the Brandy Station Battlefield
Save the land where Buford, Rooney Lee, Hampton, and Devin fought

A Can't-Miss Opportunity to Preserve 782 Battlefield Acres

What would you think if I told you that you could help save 782 acres of hallowed ground at the Brandy Station battlefield in Virginia for just \$85.68 per acre?

In a world where CWPT often must pay about \$5,000 - \$10,000 or more per acre of hallowed ground I've got to tell you that a price of \$85.68 per acre gets your attention!

The two parcels that make up this new preservation efforts are highly significant to the Battle of Brandy Station. The northernmost tract is where Gen. John Buford's Federal cavalry fought with Rooney Lee's Confederate troopers. The southern parcel includes land where Federal cavalry under Col. Thomas Devin repeatedly clashed with Confederates led by General Wade Hampton. As historian Bud Hall puts it, "there is no piece of Piedmont plain in Culpeper County that witnessed more infantry and cavalry action than this property."

Brandy Station 2010 Preservation Campaign

Acres: 782 acres

CWPT Fundraising Goal: \$67,000

Match: Roughly \$116 to \$1

Match Sources: Landowner donated conservation easements

For more: www.civilwar.org/brandystation10

New battle map, historian videos, history articles, and photos online!


In this very extraordinary case at Brandy Station, we have two landowners donating conservation easements on their land directly to the Commonwealth of Virginia.

What this means is that, in return for federal and state tax benefits based on the value of their property, these landowners have forsaken all future development rights to this land meaning, it will be protected just the way it is forever. The funds that CWPT are raising will pay for necessary closing costs, making sure *the* land is preserved.

Please let me hear back from you as soon as possible, and please accept my deepest thanks for your generosity. Very sincerely yours, Jim Lighthizer, President, CWPT

A Final Word – For the past 5 years I have served as newsletter editor. I talked to John over coffee last year and told him that I felt that I had lost the passion, creativity, and desire to continue as editor but agreed to another year. My feelings have not changed and told him that this would be my last issue. I want to thank the membership for their appreciation, encouragement and support over the years, but I especially want to thank Bob Hubbs, Hal and Kyra Hubbs, Larry and Marilyn Comstock, John Herberich, and Gary Moore for the time spent on the phone putting everything together at the last minute, for the quizzes, summaries, President messages, and advice that made life easy for me. Special thanks to Helen Trimpi for being such a wonderful encourager and leader at SBCWRT, and to Anna Buran for inviting me to my first meeting 7 years ago.

Best Wishes to all you *CivilWar-riors*, BobK



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