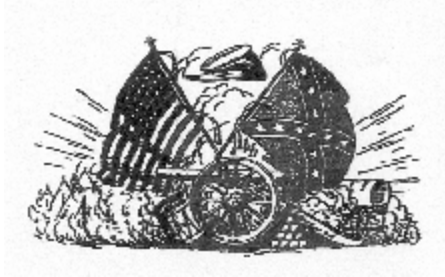


~THE CALL TO ARMS~



Newsletter of the Comstock Civil War Re-enactors

21st Edition, August, 2008

News from the Front: The
Battle that Determined our
National Destiny!!!

Hello Fellow Reenactors,

The journey out east to Gettysburg was a marvelous one. It would almost need to be broken up into two parts. The actual reenactment which was unbelievable and the actual visiting of the sights in Gettysburg. We had been planning this trip for over a year and we were not disappointed in the least. There were over 13,000 reenactors, and over 10,000 spectators at each battle. Terry took part in 7 of the battles all on horseback. He rented a horse since it would be difficult to travel that far with horses. Close to 200 confederate cavalry mounted and double that on the union side. There were 2 battles specific for the cavalry. Yes, Terry was grinning from ear to ear. The 3 days of reenactment followed the actually 3 days of

the true Gettysburg. With the last day of Picket's Charge, the first hour was only cannon fire from the 100 cannons that were there. It was awesome. It took that long to get all the 13,000 reenactors on to the field for that final battle which also lasted about an hour. Truly a sight to see and give you a small glimpse into what it may have really been like. The man that was announcing and telling about the battles was awesome. And I feel that our knowledge of Gettysburg is 100 times improved. The reenactment ran smooth it was actually started on time each day, and everyone was super nice. Terry had more of the inside view and states that it was amazing how they got all those people to move. He now understands how large amounts of men and horses were moved. Use of the chain of command was in effect. The field was HUGE, so large that at times you would see the cannon smoke before hearing the boom.

One very weird thing was that the weather when we were there was very close to the weather 145 years ago. A professor at Gettysburg college kept records and that is how they know what it was. Rainy at times in the high 80's and high humidity. Now on to Gettysburg. It is a beautiful place over 1800 monuments to honor all those who fought there. We stayed in a B&B that was there when the Civil War took place. The Confederate Army marched right in front of the B&B. Awesome. When you're driving around and stopping to see the monuments and walking on the field up to Little Round Top, it is very overwhelming. To set foot on the ground where 55,000 men died, were injured or missing makes a person stop and pause. At times the three of us were pretty subdued about what we were viewing. It makes you stop and wonder what were they thinking knowing that they would die right there. We have many pictures and our own video that we would love to share with the club. Also Lion Hearted Films was at there making a new film that we have purchased and will be out in November that we would love to share. Maybe at some club function. Also go on U-tube where there are a lot of great videos. Terry is in about 5 we have found. The number of people will knock your socks off.

Thanks for letting us share. If anyone has any questions about the trip, please feel free to call or e-mail. Love to share all we know. We will be in V.C. and have the pictures there. See ya' in V.C.

Terry, Kathleen, and Aaron.

A Word from Our Next Event's Co-ordinator

Dearest Friends,

The battle year is drawing to a close. The last engagement the CCWR is sponsoring will be Virginia City. Because it is our last event of the year a great deal of business will be enacted. An already full schedule will make room for the annual membership meeting. This is an important one for the membership, as we need to make nominations for next year. Also the proposed new By-Laws are being published in this newsletter. The meeting on Saturday morning at 9:45A in the park (bring a chair) is the time to ask questions so that we can all be informed voters at the Christmas Ball on December 13th. The Policies and Procedures will also be passed out at this meeting and if you have any questions or changes please let your Brigade Commanders know.

While the battle year is coming to a spectacular closure with the VC event the year is not ended for us. We still have the pleasure of the Nevada Day Parade- A good theme this year- Nevada in the Movies will allow us to get more involved. The parade will be the last Saturday of October. Sunny is going to step in and help with this one as our parade person is unable to be available.

Next in December we have a full schedule- First- two parades on Dec.6 in Sparks and Virginia City. We have some wonderful lighting devices our president Jack Eaves

discovered this year, which will definitely help to light us up.

Then we have our annual collection for the Salvation Army in front of Trader Joe's. This is a wonderfully fun event. If you dress very warm and bring a carpet to stand on you are hardly frozen at all. It is wonderful to sing and dance and wish Merry Christmas to everyone. All who come in the store seem to really appreciate our efforts so much. Every year we stuff 2 kettles... a real feat. Bringing the joy of an old fashioned Christmas to others brings joy to all of us who take part. The exact date is yet to be announced but Jeannette McHugh will let us know soon.

Third, of course there is the Christmas Ball on Dec. 13th at Boomtown. We are going to have a slightly different but equally wonderful event this year. A marvelous buffet with a carving station will aid in keeping the price at a stand-still and Jack Eaves has volunteered to do the photos. Every year Regina has put the silent auction together with little to no help. Anyone wanting to volunteer would be more than welcome. Also when donating things for the auction please keep in mind that civil war items are the most cherished but we love any beautiful thing you wish to donate.

We desperately need a voting committee- it is a tremendous responsibility and those who volunteer are taking on a very important job. Counting votes and taking votes is an awesome duty. If you want to take part in this really important job let your brigade commander know, as

the tradition has been to have 1 person from each brigade.

I am looking forward to a wonderful VC event. We have had many calls from both visitors and new re-enactors. Members from the RACW, ACWA and the NCWA are joining us this year. The Steam engine is up and running and I have ridden in it. Very exciting but HOT.

The Hunley will be with us this year in the Ramada parking lot. John Nevins and John Dangerfield, the guardians of the Hunley replica, and I will stay around for the week after to visit schools in Carson and Reno-Sparks. The Storey county schools and Home schooled students will be visiting on the Friday before we kick off the event. They have also asked to visit our camp. I let them know that we would be in the setting up stage but they are so excited they don't care.

The Ramada has hired a wonderful period saloon- The Wild Rose to be on their lawn. It is a period correct tent with wooden swinging doors. Some of the Sutlers will be next to it in the wooden buildings and there is a rumor- untrue I am sure- that several "hurdy-gurdy" women are coming to town and have rented one of those small buildings. I urge the ladies to keep their husbands close by. For those of you who have the time the Hunley gentlemen will be speaking at the Gold Hill Hotel on Tuesday night - dinner 6 PM and the lecture with slides at 7:30.

I was contacted by the Nevada Historical Society. They are holding a small conference at the Ramada, with Guy Rocha speaking on the Saturday during

the event and are so excited about our event they want to video the train battles and the Hunley and other portions.

Saturday, the 9th of August, some of our ladies went to VC and took part in the TV Show the Local Scene, in which one of our members, Toni Van Cleave, civilian quartermaster, is a moderator. We had a good time but the best was afterward at the Palace when we all had lunch and laughed and talked about history and the civil war and period attire.

The new Civilian Companion has a marvelous section about period patterns published by Simplicity- how difficult they are and if they are period correct and how to fix that. You will find it very informative and helpful- I know I did.

We had an excellent civilian staff meeting. Please let Susie Giurlani, our Camp Mayor, know your needs and if she needs help as we have several responsibilities. Any non-military re-enactors wanting to ride the battle trains need to sign up with Miss Kim at camp, as the spaces are limited. Also Miss Kim will be taking money and reservations for the Tea, which are limited.

Everyone has been so good about helping but some need special attention. One of these special people is Justin Smith. For the past three years Justin has tended, carried, and put up and taken down our civilian fly. This edifice should be called the club fly as many things take place under it. Justin please know that everyone is hugely grateful to you for all your hard

work and decency in helping with the fly and donating your aid and compassion to any who need assistance. We send you a loving and hearty Thank you on behalf of the Civilian Brigade.

Until next time- May the road rise up to meet you and the sun always be at your back.

Yours In Service

Miss Izabella

Additional Information for Re-enactors

Camp and Park: Camp cook available. Reasonable fees for meals at the Mess Tent.

See Miss Kim for non-military re-enactor Train ride and tea tickets.

Fresh water available in the Park behind the restrooms.

Wash Basins available for men and women in the Park Restrooms.

A small shuttle will arrive at the park 45 minutes before each battle train to take civilians to the station. Cost is \$1 tip. Also will be available to take ladies back to the park after trains.

Pay Attention!!! Fires are forbidden ANYwhere except the BBQ pit in Miners Park. This is a Storey County ordinance. Do not spend the weekend in the County lockup.

In Town: The Palace Restaurant is open until 8:00 PM Friday - Monday for re-enactors (on "C" Street - same side of the block as the Delta.)

Restrooms at Visitor's and Tourist Center on "C" Street (same side of the block as the Delta.)

Sergeant-Major's Silver Dollar Saloon on "C" Street (rear entrance on "D" Street across the road and up 2 blocks from the camp. Reenactors welcomed!

Saint Mary's R.C. Church offering Mass several times on Sunday, times are posted.

There is a period attire display at the 4th Ward School Museum. Not to be missed! Excellent.

Individuals and families can go up to the Visitor's Center, "C" Street, same side of the block as the Delta to get reduced prices and tickets for local VC sights and also a video on VC history.

More Specifics about this Event

The C.S.S. H.L. Hunley is in the Ramada Parking lot for viewing from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM every day of the re-enactment. Friday will be when school children visit the submarine, but reenactors in attire are welcomed to visit then or throughout the event.

John Nevins from the C.S.S. Hunley and our own Robert E. Lee scholar Bill Kohse will be talking at our Tea on Sunday the 31st. In addition, attendees will have chances to win door prizes.

For first-timers, the V.C. Train Depot is 4 blocks south of the park on "F" Street. It is on the same street as Saint Mary's Church.

Civilians who want to take part in the street battle please see Sister Lois (a.k.a. Jeannette McHugh).

Those who wish to assist with the Wine Train, please speak to Miss Amelia (Janice Drake.)

Civilians will act as Safety Marshalls during the post-parade Street Battle. This is a vitally important function. If you wish to aid in this critical endeavor, please see the Widow Clarke (Sunny Spencer) for satin sashes and assignments.

Eat, Dance and Make Merry! The Sawdust Restaurant does the BBQ on Saturday evening from 6:00 to 8:00 PM at the Ball site on "C" Street. Gus Gustoferson will be our Dance Master.

The Ramada has rooms available with re-enactor discounts. Horses can be stabled in the Camel Races corral where water is available. Also note: The Ramada has brought in a period correct saloon ("The Wild Rose"). It will be on their lawn. It consists of a period correct tent with swinging wooden doors. Please visit and enjoy. Re-enactors are welcome and wanted.

Sutlers are in the small wooden buildings next to the Wild Rose Saloon.

Contacts: Miss Izabella (775)722-5949, or Major Jack Eaves (707) 616-3507. Visit club webpage CCWR.US.

Important Notice:

As stated earlier, and in accordance with club By-Laws, nominations for Board of Directors (including Company Commanders) will be taken at the general membership meeting at the V.C. Reenactment. Saturday morning at 9:45.

Correspondence from the Widow
Clarke

Greetings to all my fellow
Civil War Enthusiasts.

This is the Widow Clarke
letting you know that due to the
long-term effects that this long
& arduous war has taken upon me,
I must cut down on some of my
many activities.

First, and probably most
important, I shall no longer be
able to perform the role of
Secretary on the CCWR Board of
Directors. Although a rewarding
stimulus, I must ask & pray that
one of you will feel compelled to
run for this most important
position in our upcoming
election.

Second, I will be parting with
some of the lovely accessories
which I have acquired over these
last years that have magnified my
role as Widow Clarke, Tavern
Owner. So, should any of you be
looking for cookware, lanterns,
bonnets, wash basins etc.
(including Confederate uniform
items), please visit my campsite
at the Virginia City event. I am
also offering antiques from my
personal collection that will be
displayed at the Delta during our
Tea on Sunday, August 31st.

I thank each & everyone of you
for your past encouragements &
hope for your continued support.

Yr. humble svt.,

The Widow Clarke (a.k.a. Sunny
Spencer)

Note
Labor