

Volume XXIX, Issue 10

The Dispatch

October 2007

Newsletter of the National Civil War Association

Civilian Forum

You are cordially invited to attend a
Civilian Forum

Presented by and for the Civilians of the National Civil War Association

November 17, 2007

8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Sacramento Public Library, Arden-Dimick Branch

891 Watt Ave., Sacramento, CA 95821

Please join us for an enjoyable day of mini-seminars, table displays, demonstrations and workshops on a wide range of reenacting topics designed to inform and entertain civilian reenactors. Subjects include information on the literature of the era, period correct beverages, cosmetics and hairstyles, camp cookery and many, many more.

Our keynote speaker is Judith Peebles, noted purveyor of quality goods for the discriminating seamstress. She will be discussing Ladies Dress Buckles and Jewelry, with examples from her private collection.

Your \$25 registration fee entitles you to the Forum Notebook, a fabulous holiday goody bag, all workshop materials, the Friday evening reception from 7 to 9 p.m., Saturday continental breakfast, Saturday lunch, afternoon snacks and a special commemorative T-shirt!

In addition to the above activities, we invite you to share your favorite reenacting recipes to be collected into a booklet distributed at the Forum. These need not be period-correct (though those are more than welcome). We're also looking for those quick, easy, family-pleasing dishes for "Friday night set-up time" and tasty items to cook over an open fire, regardless of the era. Please include your recipe with your registration.

Got too much reenacting gear to fit in your car? Do you have items that you no longer want and that might be useful to someone else? Bring them to the informal rummage sale at the Forum. Tables will be available for your merchandise. Please tag with the price and your name. Larger items (tents, furniture) may be described on a sheet of paper and left there as well. A nice way to raise a little extra Christmas gift-buying cash!

Hotel accommodations are available at the Fairfield Inn, 1780 Tribute Road, Sacramento, CA 95815, (916) 920-5300. Rates are \$79 for a king bed room (1-2 people), and \$89 for two queen beds (up to 4 people). Call between August 8 and October 17 and mention the NCWA to receive this special rate. A limited number of reduced-rate rooms are available. The Friday night reception will be held at the hotel as well.

Please register by October 15, 2007. Registrations postmarked after that date cannot be guaranteed a t-shirt. No walk-ins, please, due to planning constraints.

Further information may be had by contacting Roz Johnson, (530) 318-0481 or rjohnson@starstream.net.

Directions to the site, etc. will be sent to each registrant.

Please mail this form to Roz Johnson, 334 Kevin Court, Auburn, CA 95603 by October 15, 2007. Make your \$25 check payable to NCWA.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Calling cards will be part of the goody bag . . . how would you like yours to read? (Please print!)

T-Shirt Size (circle one) YXL S M L XL

Mayoral Missives*Susan Pfiefer*
Civilian Mayor

Civilian Brigade,

We have some of our best events and experiences coming up in the next few months. The Fresno event at Kearney Park on Oct. 27 & 28 always proves to be filled with energy and activity. Unit members, be sure to get in your camp reservation to your unit head; townspersons, please email Lynne Ashby, townplanner@comcast.net, to confirm your arrival and tent size. Also, on Friday, Oct. 26, we have a huge education day for the school children of Fresno County. If you can help as a presenter, or to provide a backdrop for the presenters, please email me.

The Civilians also have an event just for us in November. Roz Johnson of the Sanitary Commission and I have organized a Civilian Forum for us and by us to be held on November 17 in Sacramento. We have speakers, projects, goody bags, food, and fun provided by members of a number of our civilian units. Find the application in this newsletter or go on line to NCWA.org under "events." Mail in the application! Please join us.

While we have no official activity in December, January is fast approaching. In honor of the NCWA's 25th Anniversary, our Grand Ball will be a Silver Ball on January 12, 2008 in Sacramento. What silver ribbons or trims can you add to your gown? December is the time to plan and trim; we'll see the results early in the new year!

I look forward to seeing you all at the Fresno event, and don't forget to sign up for the Civilian Forum by October 15!

With regards,

*Susan Pfiefer*Civilian Mayor, spfiefer@comcast.net**Ball Gown Fitting Workshop****Ball Gown Bodice Fitting Workshop and Field Trip
Sunday, October 7, in San Jose**

A beautifully made evening/ball gown can make you feel like a lady. However, attaining the proper fit for an evening/ball gown bodice on your own can be a challenge. Please join the Working Woman's Guild on Sunday, October 7, 2007, at 11 a.m. for a bodice fitting to get help with that perfect fit.

A field trip to Fabrics R Us and the San Jose Berryessa Flea Market is planned for after the bodice fittings. The fabric store and flea market carry silk taffeta and other luscious fabrics at reasonable prices, and are great places to purchase decorations for your evening gown.

Requirements:

- ☞ Corset
- ☞ Chemise
- ☞ Muslin of evening/ball gown bodice
- ☞ Notions: Silk pins, chalk, scissors

Please contact the Working Woman's Guild & Sons at wsgs@ncwa.org if you plan to attend this workshop.

2008 Election Notice

All Candidate Statements, either nominations or statements of candidacy, must be submitted and received by me no later than November 15, 2007. Any statements received after that date will not be accepted and that candidate's name will not appear on the official ballot.

I would also like to take a moment to remind all incumbents who are standing for re-election that they must file a statement or their name will not appear on the ballot. These statements may be submitted electronically (via e-mail) in clear e-mail text or Microsoft Word format or by mail to the following address:

Kevin Groom
8835 Kona Way
Orangevale, CA 95662
(916) 988-3307
graytar1@aol.com

Please send your statement formatted as you would like it printed. Neither the Dispatch Editor nor the Elections Administrator will edit the statements submitted for grammar or spelling. However, excessively long statements may be edited for space.

A "Voters Guide" which will include the statements of the formal candidates will be published as part of the December Dispatch for the use of the Club's membership. In addition to the lists of formal candidates for each position and the statements related to their candidacy, this guide will include the directions for filing your ballot.

In accordance with our Club's rules I will be mailing ballots to all eligible club members, in the first part of December. This mailing will be made out individually to each eligible club member and will include the appropriate ballot(s) and the return envelope that must be used for returning the ballot(s).

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions, or would like to verify the receipt of any materials. I would also like to thank everyone in advance for their cooperation and understanding in working through this process.

Thank You,

Kevin Groom

Election Administrator 2007

A Word from the Provost Line

At our most recent event, a few minor issues came up that our membership needs to be aware of to prevent future problems.

First, if you are not dressed in period attire, you may not cross the Provost line for any reason during the battle. Once the Provosts are posted, they are under orders not to allow anyone to cross the established Provost/Safety line. So, if you are not dressed out and ready to participate in the battle, you may not cross the lines for any reason short of a major medical emergency. Our Provost people are there to do a job, so it doesn't matter if you are a reenactor or not—you do not cross the Provost line during a battle.

If, by some chance, there is an accessible road by which members in period attire may cross near the field during the battle, keep in mind that the Public may be able to see you. Don't just stroll along as if nothing is happening when there is a battle going on a few yards away. It sort-of spoils the effect.

Second, please remember that voices do carry, sometimes a great distance. If you are in camp and your camp is in view of the battlefield, remember that your conversations may be overhead by a great many people. And, for the men on the field, please remember that your conversation with your pards, or your taunts of the enemy, can be heard by the viewing Public. So watch what you say!

And (finally), if you are asked to clear the road for an approaching Army, don't argue. If the Army is coming up the road, just step to the side of the road and allow them to pass. It isn't that inconvenient to wait for a few minutes. If you really are in a hurry, you will get where you are going much more quickly by yielding the road for the brief time than you ever will by trying to force them out of your way!

Please remember that the Public can't differentiate between a reenactor out of uniform and just another spectator. If they see you getting away with breaking the rules, then they

A Word (cont.)

will want to get away with the same behavior, too. Make it easier on everyone, especially those on the Provost line, and obey rules and orders, please.

Lynne Ashby
Civilian Provost

Calendar of Upcoming Events 2007/2008

2007 General

October

- Oct. 5-7 CCWR Gardnerville Reenactment - Gardnerville, NV
- Oct. 26-28 NCWA Fresno - Fresno, CA
- Oct. 27-28 ACWS Spring Mountain Ranch - Las Vegas, NV

November

- Nov. 3 RACW Harvest Social - Cottonwood, CA
- Nov. 9-11 RACW Veteran's Day Civil War Days - Anderson, CA
- Nov. 10-11 Moorpark - Moorpark, CA
- Nov. 17-18 ACWS We Make History - Queen's Creek, AZ
- Nov. 17-18 1st Cal Vols Ft. Bowie Encampment - Ft. Bowie NHP

December

2007 Administrative

October

- Oct. 9 Combined Board Meeting - San Jose, CA

2008 General

January

- Jan. 12 NCWA Grand Ball - Sacramento, CA

February

- Feb. 9-10 NCWA Winter Conference - Benicia, CA

April

- Apr. 18-20 NCWA Mariposa Event - Mariposa, CA

May

- May 16-18 NCWA Gibson Ranch Event - Sacramento, CA

June

- June 21 NCWA Summer Social - Tres Pinos, CA

July

August

- TBD NCWA Tres Pinos - Tres Pinos, CA

September

- Sept. 19-21 NCWA Ardenwood Farms - Fremont, CA

Note: For space purposes, this is merely an abbreviated calendar, displaying primarily the NCWA hosted events. Other organizations' events are listed only for the the next three months. For the complete calendar, please visit www.ncwa.org/news.htm.

Organizations Key

- ACWA American Civil War Association
- ACWC Arizona Civil War Council
- ACWS American Civil War Society (So. CA.)
- CCWR Comstock Civil War Re-enactors
- CHAS California Historical Artillery Society
- CSRM California State Railway Museum
- CWRS Civil War Re-enactment Society
- FMMA Fort MacArthur Museum Association
- FTHA Ft. Tejon Historical Association
- KCHS Kern County Historical Society
- NSA North South Alliance
- RACW Re-enactors of the American Civil War
- SSCWA Southern California Civil War Association

Co. A Greg Sweatt



Sometimes "first person" reenactors have to think fast on their feet!



Content submissions are due by the
15th of each month!

For NCWA membership information contact:

Debi Taylor at dtaylor@ncwa.org
or at P.O. Box 2193, North Highland, CA 95660

*2007 NCWA
Board of Directors*

President

Mr. Stewart Howe

Vice President

Mr. Ted Stahr

Secretary

Mrs. Debi Taylor

Treasurer

Miss Jennifer Roger

Dispatch Staff

Editor in Chief

Mr. Glendon Lee

Copy Editor

Miss Emily Pfeifer

The Dispatch ISSN 1083-4745 Copyright 2007. All rights reserved. This publication may not be reprinted, in whole or in part, without written permission. **The Dispatch** is published monthly by the National Civil War Association Inc., a private, not for profit, educational organization dedicated to educating the public regarding the events and activities of United States Military and Civilians (1861-1865). Additional information may be obtained by visiting the NCWA Website at <http://www.ncwa.org>

Opinions expressed in *The Dispatch* do not necessarily reflect the views of the NCWA or its governing Board, membership, or anybody else.

Contributed Articles and Photographs should be addressed to *The Dispatch*, c/o E. Pfeifer, 478 Stanford Court, Livermore, CA 94550, or emailed to glee@ncwa.org. Materials may also be submitted via CD in PC format. Submitted materials will not be returned unless by prior arrangement.

Changes in mailing address should be submitted to NCWA Secretary, c/o D. Taylor, P.O. Box 2193, North Highlands, CA, 95660 or e-mail dtaylor@ncwa.org