

The Sentinel



Full steam ahead into 2017!

At the February 8 meeting of the Nevada Civil War Volunteers, there was a tangible sense of energy and excitement as plans were drawn up for the 2017 reenacting year. The minutes have been attached, but for those who were not present, there is a lot to look forward to!

We will begin our year by hosting a joint tactical/work party with the Comstock Civil War Reenactors. This will be held at Fort Churchill on March 4th and 5th. This will be our time to look over all of the NCWV equipment and loaner gear, and to ensure that everything we have will be ready for use throughout the season.

Between this and our next event, several members plan on attending Knight's Ferry (ACWA), Mariposa (ACWA), and Dog Island (RACW).

Our next event will be the opening of Bower's Mansion Regional Park in Washoe Valley. This will be a day encampment, and the date will be sent out as soon as it is set in stone.

After this, we plan on setting up camp for the Genoa Cowboy Festival April 28-30 at Mormon Station. For Memorial Day Weekend, several members plan on attending the ACWA event at Roaring Camp, CA.

As we move into June, we will have a camp at Oodles of Noodles in Dayton June 3rd and 4th.

The following week will be the Nevada State Fair's Kit Carson Rendezvous. This event will be June 8th through 11th at Mills Park in Carson City, NV. It will include visits by youth organizations and will be attended by several living history organizations and sutlers. All members are strongly encouraged to attend this outstanding event in it's second year.

July will bring Graeagle (RACW) from July 1st to the 2nd. This is a great event to go to for anyone who has never been. The field is beautiful, the camping is prime, the townsfolk are friendly, and the fireworks are not to be missed. From July 14th to the 16th, the Civil War will come to life

at Duncan's Mills (CHAS), in what is usually one of the best events of the year.

August will be a much needed month off., but September brings Virginia City (CCWR) from the 2nd to the 4th. This is a great event with the V&T Railroad and a lot of spectators in the historic city that boomed from the Comstock Load. September 8th-10th will bring us the NCWA's Tres Pinos event, which is a lot of fun for all involved.

In October we will return to Fort Churchill from the 14th to the 15th, and we will close Bower's Mansion on a date to be determined. We will also be marching in the Nevada Day Parade in Carson City on October 28th. After that we will be marching in the Veteran's Day Parade in either Reno or Virginia City.

We will then close out the year with our 2017 Christmas Ball in Carson City, planned to be December 16, but subject to change.

That's about it folks, the full schedule is included on page 6, but I have to say, it's shaping up to be a great year!

History Comes Alive at Sutro Elementary

NCWV Adjutant General Melanie Cooper, Confederate Chief of Staff Robert Burr, and Corporal Dave Cooper have been working to bring the American Civil War to Mrs. Kirby's 4th Graders at Sutro Elementary School. Earlier in the year, they accompanied the school as it toured the Sutro Mines for the first time in 22 years.

In early February, they visited the class and taught about the life of the Union soldier, Confederate soldier, and female soldiers during the Civil War. The program was well received by the students, and more programs are planned in the month. Dr. and Mrs. Reed plan on teaching all about period music and quilting, and Miss

Rebecca Van Sickle plans on teaching about children's lives during the Civil War.

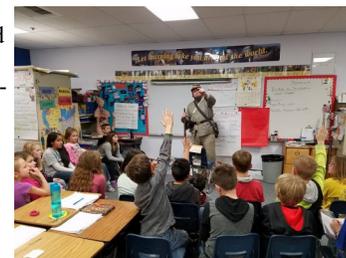
We look forward to this, and many more school partnerships in the 2017 year. Nothing we do is more important than educating our youth.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Unit of the Month	2
Nevada's Statehood	3
Ulysses S. Grant	3
Nevada State Fair	4
Rifles of Gettysburg	4
2017 Schedule	5
February 8th Minutes	7

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Release of the 2017 Schedule*
- *Under-told stories of the Civil War*
- *NCWV goes on the road to educate Nevada youth for another year*
- *Information on the 1st Rhode Island Cavalry*





The Story of Captain George N. Bliss - C Co., 1st RI Cavalry

We all remember the story of Wilton Parmenter from the theme song of *F Troop*, and specifically his charge that turned the tide of a battle, right? Well, this story is not totally uncommon for the Civil War, although when something of the sort did occur, it was much more deliberate. Such is the story of Captain George Neuman Bliss of C Company, 1st Rhode Island Cavalry.

During the Battle of Waynesboro in September of 1864, CPT Bliss was ordered to take his Company into the city to serve as Provost Guards. In the commission of this duty, the Confederates began pushing Union forces back into the town. CPT Bliss formed his men in line across the street and managed to gather the stragglers in good order, when the last man of the retreat, COL Lowell, reached him. The Colonel and he exchanged words about how imperative it was to send Johnny Reb

packing, and with that the two rallied men of the 1st Rhode Island and 3rd New Jersey Cavalries to charge. As they charged, COL Lowell peeled off to gather more men. This left CPT Bliss to lead the charge.

As the men rode across the field, CPT Bliss got further and further ahead, until he was 50 yards from his own men, and ran right into the middle of a Confederate Cavalry column of fours in full retreat. He began using his sabre, and among those that fell to him was a Virginia color bearer with the Company Standard in hand.

In attempting to surrender after his horse was shot from beneath him, CPT Bliss was struck with a



carbine, cut across the forehead by a sabre, and stabbed by a sabre before being allowed to surrender after identifying himself as a Freemason. He was taken to a Confederate hospital by a young cavalryman, and gave his boots to the Trooper for his kind treatment. He was transported to prison with the young Rebel Lieutenant whose sabre had nearly killed him. After 45 days captivity, he was traded back to the United States. Upon recovering from his wounds, he served as president over courts martial in Annapolis, Maryland, until he was mustered out of service in May of 1865.

On August 3, 1897, CPT Bliss was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his actions at Waynesboro. CPT Bliss is still honored today with a prominent display in the Civil War exhibit at the US Army Military Police Museum in Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.

Sabres and Spurs; The First Regiment Rhode Island Cavalry

"What gallant battalions came forth for the right,-
Their carbines and sabers reflecting the light
As flame-lances boreal flash in the night,
'Neath guidons and standards, their courage aglow,
With the swiftness of arrows as shot from the bow
The steel of our horsemen sped home on the foe
We dashed o'er the field like the sweep of a gale
We parried their missiles and smote through their mail
Boasted Ashby and Stuart fall back from

the shock!
As buffeted surges recoil from a rock"
-Reverend Frederick Denison, Chaplain
1st Rhode Island Cavalry Regiment

"Let your helm adorn your cottage;
Let your belt hang on the wall;
Keep you knapsack as a relic;
Guard your sabre in the hall;
Hold your spurs all marred by battle,

And your bullet-riven blouse,
With the bloody grime upon it,
As the jewels in your house.
Of these we will tell our children,

Sabres and Spurs is the full accounting of the 1st Rhode Island Cavalry during the Civil War. It was written, in cooperation with the Regimental Association, by Rev. Frederick Denison, the Regimental Chaplain. These two poems appear at it's beginning and end, respectively.

Regimental History

The regiment was organized between December 1861 and March 1862 at Pawtucket as the 1st New England Cavalry. Late in that month, the regiment was sent to Washington D.C. and initially assigned to Hatch's cavalry brigade in Nathaniel Banks' V Corps in the Department of the Shenandoah. Throughout the war, the regiment would be a part of many reorganizations of the cavalry, although the majority of its service was with the Army of the Potomac.

Most of the regiment's service in 1862 was in northern Virginia, where it served as scouts to determine enemy movements, as well as foraging for supplies and screening infantry movements. The troopers saw action contesting Stonewall Jackson's cavalry in the Valley Cam-

paign. They fought in the Second Bull Run Campaign, as well as many other battles of note, including service in the cavalry actions surrounding the Battle of Fredericksburg.

In 1863, they participated in the Chancellorsville Campaign, and played an important role in the opening battle of the Gettysburg Campaign at Brandy Station. Shortly thereafter, isolated and alone deep in Confederate territory on a scouting mission, they lost nearly 240 of their 280 remaining men at the June 17 skirmish at Middleburg. The regiment was refitted with new recruits and performed scouting and outpost duty along the upper Potomac River until September, when they rejoined the Army of the

Potomac, participating in the Bristoe Campaign and Mine Run Campaign.

The following year, the 1st Rhode Island served in the defenses of Washington D.C. before eventually returning to the Shenandoah Valley under the command of Philip H. Sheridan. Due to heavy battle losses, the regiment was consolidated to a battalion of four companies on January 1, 1865. They continued serving in the valley for much of the rest of the war before being mustered out at Baltimore, Maryland on August 3, 1865.



Why did Nevada become a state? Part 1 of 2

Who hasn't heard ad nauseam that our state was admitted to the Union on October 31, 1864 because its silver and gold production were needed to help finance the Civil War. Anyone who has attended Nevada's schools has heard the story from a teacher or read it in a textbook. It's a wonderful tale, but nothing could be farther from the truth. Our state's history has too often been embellished and transposed into myth, and the claim of Nevada's mineral wealth triggering statehood ranks as one of the most pervasive fictional stories in the annals of the Silver State. The reasons for Nevada's statehood were political, not economic. Earlier writers were so caught up in romanticizing Nevada's role in the Civil War they decided to re-invent history.

FACT: Nevada Territory was a federal territory, a part of the Union, and President Abraham Lincoln appointed Gov-

ernor James Warren Nye, a former Police Commissioner in New York City, to ensure that it stayed that way. Governor Nye put down any demonstration in support of the Confederacy, and there were some. The federal government bought much of Nevada's silver and gold bullion to support its currency. What federal taxes there were at the time that could be effectively collected went into Union coffers. Therefore, Nevada's creation as a TERRITORY on March 2, 1861 by the United States Congress ensured that its riches would help the Union and not the Confederate cause.

FACT: By the time Congress approved an Enabling Act for Nevada on March 21, 1864, the Civil War was winding down. The Union had won decisive victories at Gettysburg and Vicksburg, and the South was in shambles. President Lincoln sought reelec-

tion and faced a three-way race against General John C. Fremont, the Radical Republican candidate, and General George B. McClellan, a Democrat—he had earlier in the war relieved both generals of their commands. New states, and their popular and electoral vote, were needed to reelect Lincoln in support of his moderate, reconstruction policies for the South. Among the proposed policies was the 13th Amendment abolishing slavery. If Nevada were a state, it could ratify the amendment and help in the passage of the landmark humanitarian legislation.

—*This article is the first of a two part piece by Nevada State Archivist Guy Rocha*



The Past Bridges to the Present

February 9, 1862

DEAR SISTER:

I take my pen in hand "away down in Dixie" to let you know that I am still alive and well. What the next few days may bring forth, however, I can't tell you. I intend to keep the ball moving as lively as possible, and have only been detained here from the fact that the Tennessee is very high and has been rising ever since we have been here, overflowing the back land and making it necessary to bridge it before we could move.—Before receiving this you will hear by telegraph of Fort Donelson being attacked.—Yesterday I went up the Tennessee River twenty odd miles, and to-day crossed over near the Cumberland River at Fort Donelson.—Our men had a little engagement with the enemy's pickets, killing five of them, wounding a number, and, expressively speaking, "gobbling up" some twenty-four more.

If I had your last letter at hand I would answer it. But I have not and therefore write you a very hasty and random letter, simply to let you know that I believe you still remember me. Whilst writing I am carrying on a conversation with my Staff and others.

Julia will be with you in a few days and possibly I may accompany her. This is barely possible, depending upon having

full possession of the line from Fort Henry to Fort Donelson, and upon being able to quit for a few days without retarding any contemplated movement. This would not leave me free more than one day however.

You have no conception of the amount of labor I have to perform. An army of men all helpless, looking to the commanding officer for every supply. Your plain brother, however, has as yet no reason to feel himself unequal to the task, and fully believes that he will carry on a successful campaign against our rebel enemy. I do not speak boastfully but utter a presentiment. The scare and fright of the rebels up here is beyond conception. Twenty three miles above here some were drowned in their haste to retreat, thinking us such vandals that neither life nor property would be respected. G.J. Pillow commands at Fort Donelson. I hope to give him a tug before you receive this.



U.S.G.

So why publish a letter from Grant to his sister? Because Nevada is planning to be visited by Dr. Curt Fields! Dr. Fields is THE nationally recognized Ulysses Simpson Grant. From 150th Appomattox to Old Fort MacArthur Days, Dr. Fields travels the nation appearing as General Grant. Thanks to the 8th Cavalry Regiment in Virginia City, he will be here during Labor Day.

We plan on assisting in making General Grant welcome throughout the weekend. I've been told to relay that when he's here, just call him Curt.



What to expect: 2017 Nevada State Fair

After a very successful 2016 event, the Rendezvous is back again as a part of the Nevada State Fair! The event will be June 8-11. Currently, the plan is to revive some of the old traditions of the Rendezvous. The biggest one for this year is re-introducing the passports to history. The City of Carson will be printing off passports for us, which can be stamped in each camp.

The plan right now is for us to have at least 10 camps with demonstrations: mountain men, Union and Confederate infantry, artillery, cavalry, Nevada gunfighters, Nevada Indian Tribes, Pony Express riders, the Nevada State Railroad Museum,

the Indian Wars soldiers, Traditional General Store, and Company K Mercantile. Beginning with days where youth programs and camps can visit (Thursday and Friday), children in the greater community will be able to come to the Rendezvous Headquarters, pick up a passport, and go around to all the different camps with their parents, getting their passport stamped. When it is filled, they can return to Headquarters to get a prize. Since NCWV is the proponent organization for the event, this will fall on us, but the Fair will cover all associated costs with the prizes.

All those who will be able to be pre-

sent on Thursday and Friday are encouraged to contact Noah Jennings as soon as possible with information about you, your display, and if you would be willing to talk to the youth groups.

It takes a village to put on events like this, so please let us know if you are willing to help by contacting Noah at 775-297-5854, or by email at nevadacavalry@gmail.com. Information about the Rendezvous is available online at <http://nevadacavalry.webs.com/nevada-state-fair>. Thank you!



Strange facts of the Civil War: Rifles from Gettysburg

The numbers we have today state that at least 27,574 rifles were recovered, although some sources claim the number to be as high as 37,000. Of the weapons that were salvaged, an incredible 24,000 rifles were still loaded (that's either 87% or 63%, depending on which estimate you accept.) Of the total number, half had been loaded more than once, and a quarter had been reloaded multiple times. Apparently, one poor soldier had reloaded his weapon twenty-three times, but the weird thing is that he never fired a single shot.

Read that again: he reloaded his weapon, but didn't shoot at all, and

he wasn't the only one to do this. Now at first glance, this doesn't make any sense. However, there are some theories to explain this strange occurrence. One theory suggests that the soldiers, for whatever reason, were not firing, but wanted to appear as if they were participating in the volleys. The deception would work too. In that situation, there would be thick smoke, mass confusion, and deafening sounds of weapons discharging. A soldier would not be likely to notice even if it was his neighbor in the firing line

was not shooting. All a person would have to do would be to mimic the motion of kickback as they pretended to fire.

—taken from *The Vintage News*



Complete 2017 Schedule

Silver State Tactical (NCWV)

Fort Churchill, NV

March 3-5

Knight's Ferry (ACWA)

Modesto, CA

March 11-13

Bower's Mansion Opening (NCWV)

Washoe Valley, NV

TBA

Mariposa (ACWA)

Mariposa, CA

April 7-9

Dog Island (RACW)

Red Bluff, CA

April 28-30

Genoa Cowboy Festival (NCWV)

Genoa, NV

April 28-30

Roaring Camp (ACWA)

San Jose, CA

May 26-29

Oodles of Noodles (NCWV)

Dayton, NV

June 3-4

Nevada State Fair (NCWV)

Carson City

June 8-11

Graeagle (RACW)

Graeagle, CA

July 1-2

Duncan's Mills (CHAS)

Guerneville, CA

July 15-16

Virginia City (CCWR)

Virginia City, NV

September 2-4

Tres Pinos (NCWA)

San Benito, CA

September 8-10

Bower's Mansion Closing (NCWV)

Washoe Valley, NV

TBA

Fort Churchill (NCWV)

Fort Churchill, NV

October 14-15

Nevada Day Parade (NCWV)

Carson City, NV

October 28

Veteran's Day Parade (NCWV)

Reno/Virginia City, NV

November 11

NCWV Christmas Military Ball

Carson City, NV

December 16

Members Celebrate Lincoln's 208th Birthday

The Nevada Civil War Volunteers' Miss del Porto, Captain Bechard, 1st Sergeant Jennings, Corporal Creager and Trooper Young attended the 208th celebration of President Lincoln's Birthday today at the 1864 Tavern in Reno, Nevada.

In the future, this event is planned to be annual, and will fall on the Saturday evening closest to February 12.



A Day at Fort Point

On January 28, NCWV's RQMS Johnson, 1SG Jennings, SGT Ahrenholz, and Troopers Burr, Smith and Ketcham went to Fort Point in San Francisco where they manned the garrison in support of the ACWA. The day began at 10AM with a full parade and the raising of the colors, with musical accompaniment from the Fort Point Garrison Brass Band. Throughout the day, tourists to the fort were able to come watch units drill, participate in artillery demonstrations, and get a feel for what it would have been like to see the Fort in operation back in the 1860's. For those especially motivated reenactors, the oppor-

tunity was given to stay the night in the old barracks. The NCWV presence was far from unnoticed, as the National Park Service rendered it's most gracious thanks to Sergeants Ahrenholz and Johnson, as well as Trooper Smith for their excellent work in demonstrating the operation of the Fort's artillery. If you're sad you missed it, fear not—the ACWA will host a second day at the Fort in August!



Correspondence: A Message from Author Larry Buege

Confession time. I am an author. I normally write fiction, but I have always wanted to tell the story of my Great, Great, Grandfather who left his wife and three small children to join the 5th Michigan Cavalry Regiment. I was surfing the Internet and stumbled across Wolverine re-enactors in of all places Nevada!

Please share with your group that *William Goodman Civil War Horse soldier* is now available on Amazon in both trade paperback and e-book. The 7th Michigan Cavalry is referenced over fifteen times including the mounted charge at Gettysburg that rescued the 5th Michigan Cavalry Regiment, which had exhausted its ammunition. - Larry Buege

Summary:

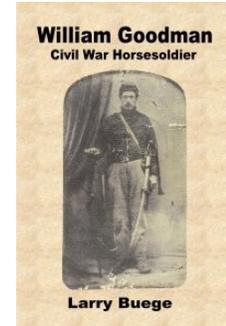
On August 30th, 1862 twenty-four year old William Goodman left his wife and three small children to join the 5th Michigan Cavalry. He participated in numerous con-

flicts under the leadership of George Armstrong Custer including the battles at Hanover, Gettysburg, and Monterey Pass. On October 11, 1863, he was captured near an obscure town on the James River and died nine months later at Andersonville Prison. Those battles as well as the depredations at Andersonville Prison are well documented. What lacks documentation are Goodman's emotions and inner most thoughts.

William Goodman—Civil War Horse soldier is a work of non-fiction in that weaponry, geography and individual troop movements are meticulously adhered to and provide an accurate historical account.

It is also a work of fiction in that the novel fleshes out the participants and reminds the reader that these were real people whose endurance and resolve were pressed to the ultimate limits. The dialogue is sprinkled with humor, which may seem out of place, but it is the author's experience as a medic with the 4th Inf. Div. in

Vietnam that humor is often all that maintains one's sanity during the stress of combat. New estimates now place the cost of the Civil War in terms of human life at three quarters of a million people. After observing the death toll at Gettysburg, Robert E. Lee was moved to tears and postulated that "It is wise that war is so terrible—lest we should grow too fond of it."



The Civil War: Mark Twain fired one shot and then left

At least, that's what he claimed in "The Private History of a Campaign that Failed," a semi-fictional short story published in 1885, after *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, but before *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court*.

In it, he recounts a whopping two weeks spent in 1861 with a Confederate militia in Marion County, Missouri. But he introduces the tale by saying that even the people who enlisted at the start of the war, and then left permanently, "ought at least

be allowed to state why they didn't do anything and also to explain the process by which they didn't do anything. Surely this kind of light must have some sort of value."

Amongst being a famous author, Samuel Clemens (AKA Mark Twain) lived in Nevada from 1861-64, publishing the Territorial Enterprise, and writing Roughing It

Twain writes that there were fifteen men in the rebel militia, the "Marion

Rangers," and he was the second lieutenant, even though they had no first lieutenant.

After Twain's character shoots and kills a Northern horseback rider, he is overwhelmed by the sensation of being a murderer, "that I had killed a man, a man who had never done me any harm. That was the coldest sensation that ever went through my marrow."

However, his grief is slightly eased by the realization that six men had fired their guns, and only one had been able to hit the moving target.

Magic at Shiloh: Angel's Glow

The Battle of Shiloh was one of the bloodiest in the entire Civil War. It was a constant, two-day struggle that left little time for the medics to tend for the wounded, and the massive amount of wounded soldiers meant that many of them would be left just lying on the battlefield for days. As the wounded men lay in agony, a strange thing happened: Some of their wounds started glowing. The eerie sheen was clearly visible in the dark, and no one could understand what was happening. However, the strangest part happened when the medics actually started treating the wounded: The soldiers with glowing wounds were healing much better than

the ones with normal, non-glowing injuries.

The phenomenon soon became known as Angel's Glow. Its nature remained a mystery, and many suspected the healing shine was actually divine in origin.

The strange secret of Angel's Glow was finally solved in 2001 by two high school students who were investigating the phenomenon for a science fair project. They figured out that the glow on the wounded soldiers was most likely *Panellus stipticus*, a "good" bacteria with bioluminescent properties that was transported to the wounds by the many insects that were infesting them. Although *P. stipticus* wouldn't usually

survive in human body temperature, it was able to survive in the hypothermic wounded soldiers, allowing it to fight the bad bacteria that were trying to infect their wounds.



Minutes of the February 8, 2017 Meeting

The February Meeting was convened at 18:41 on February 8, 2017, by Noah Jennings, Commander. There was no public content.

The next order of business was Officer Reports. Commander Jennings discussed events for the year 2017. Inspector General Bullis spoke about the cannon trailer and the need to buy FFF powder. Melanie Cooper said we can buy black powder from Battle Born Ammunition once they have their full website up and running. Adjutant General Extended thanks to the civilian ladies for their work on the Christmas Ball. Great job to all those involved! She also thanked Peter Aylworth for doing the Celtic Fair. Union Chief of Staff Aylworth reported that he and his dad can work on the Website for NCWV. Asked to be granted access to the website, approved by NCWV Board. Confederate Chief of Staff Burr had no report. Civilian Chief of Staff Grune began her report by giving gifts to Melanie Cooper, and gave a big thanks to all members for attending the meeting.

Next, Adjutant General Melanie Cooper gave the financial report. Luke Bullis made a motion to move the PO Box to Carson City, seconded by Melanie Cooper. After discussion about the tenure of the current box, the vote was denied by a majority vote.

The only item of old business was the 2017 Schedule. Mel Cooper, Dave Cooper, and Robert Burr are going to Sutro Elementary school on Friday 2/10/2017 for a school day. Dr. and Mrs. Rex Reed are going to Sutro Elementary for a school day on 2/17/2017. Medical / civilian /quilting classes being planned for Sutro Elementary School, dates TBD. Fort Churchill Encampment moved to October 14th and 15th for the Grune's wedding anniversary. NCWV received an email invitation for Oodles of Noodles in Dayton, NV. Email included an offer of a \$200 donation to do a one day encampment on June 3rd. Mel Cooper made a motion to attend the event, which was seconded by Paulette Grune and approved by a majority. Luke Bullis made a motion to finalize the 2017 events after amendments were made to the proposed schedule. Motion was seconded by Ray Ahrenholz. The motion was passed by a majority vote.

The first item of new business was the approval of Aides-de-Camp. Commander Jennings put forth: Dr. Rex Reed for Chaplain, Chance Brown for Chief of Cavalry, Ray Ahrenholz for Chief of Artillery, Fred Grune for Ordinance Officer, Byron Johnson for Quartermaster, Hunter Ketcham for Signal Officer, Becca del Porto for Editor of The Sentinel, and Tom Lynch for Historian. Motion made for approval by Luke Bullis and seconded by Melanie Cooper. Motion was approved unanimously.

The next order of business was scheduling the Tactical and Work Party. March 4th-5th was chosen as the weekend for the combined tactical and work party held at Fort Churchill. Next was the creation of a bylaws revision committee, to consist of: Dr. Rex Reed (Chairman), Luke Bullis, Fred Grune, Robert Burr, Chance Brown, Melanie Cooper, and Mike Creager. Motion to approve list made by Ray Ahrenholz, seconded by Peter Aylworth, and approved by a majority vote.

The next order of new business was the passage of the 2017 Operating Budget proposed by Adjutant General Melanie Cooper. An amendment was made revising the Secretary of State fee from \$75 to \$100. Robert Burr made the motion to approve the amended budget, seconded by Mike Creager and approved by a majority vote.

Because of the rising insurance costs, Dave Cooper made a motion to raise club annual dues to: \$35 for an individual, \$45 for a couple and \$55 for a family. A change in the dues rate for the 2018 year was discussed. Motion was tabled until further discussion and financial planning is completed. A motion was made by Rob Sewell to charge administrative fees of \$10 for one weekend reenactors who participate without joining, which would count as a credit toward membership. Seconded by Melanie Cooper and approved by majority vote. Melanie Cooper made a motion that we hold meetings at events when events are in the NCWV area of local operation when possible. Seconded by Robert Burr and approved by majority vote.

Under Good of the Order, Robert Burr presented a plaque to carry on from year to year for outstanding achievements and historical achievements. First to be put on the plaque is Dave and Melanie Cooper for Outstanding Dedication to NCWV, and Wayne Bechard for Excellence in Education.

Rebecca Van Sickle volunteered to move the club property from Fred and Paulette Grune's house to be stored in a shed on the Van Sickle property. Motion made to move club assets to this location by Melanie Cooper. Seconded by Luke Bullis and approved by a majority vote.

Commander Jennings presented a list of members for each unit. He challenged all units to recruit three new members by December of 2017.

The March meeting is scheduled to occur at the tactical on the evening of March 4th. Prior to adjournment there was no public comment made. A motion made by Dave Cooper to adjourn the meeting at 19:54. Motion required no second, and was approved unanimously by membership.

Nevada Civil War Volunteers

PO Box 11033
Reno, NV 89510

Staff

Noah Jennings
Commander
775-297-5854

Luke Bullis
Inspector General

Melanie Cooper
Adjutant General

Peter Aylworth
Union Chief of Staff

Robert Burr
Confederate Chief of Staff

Paulette Grune
Civilian Chief of Staff

Aides de Camp

Dr. Rex Reed
Chaplain

Ray Ahrenholz
Chief of Artillery

Chance Brown
Chief of Cavalry

Byron Johnson
Quartermaster

Fred Grune
Ordinance Officer

Becca del Porto
Editor of The Sentinel

Hunter Ketcham
Signal Officer

Tom Lynch
Historian

The Nevada Civil War Volunteers is a non-profit formed in 1980 in Nevada for the purpose of educating the public about the American Civil War. Each year we host and participate in several historical re-enactments, living history events, parades and ceremonies all over Northern Nevada and California.



Commander's Call

I'd like to begin by extending my gratitude to all of the members of the Nevada Civil War Volunteers for allowing me to serve you as your Commander this year. I will endeavor to discharge my duties in accordance with what will be the best for our organization. I would also like to thank you for electing an excellent Staff to serve with me, without whom I could accomplish nothing.

The last two years have seen an amazing amount of growth for our club, and the future holds the promise that the sky is the limit. One emphasis I would like to make is recruiting. This is becoming especially important in our slowly shrinking hobby, and it is for that reason that at the February meeting, I issued a challenge to our unit commanders. My challenge is for each of them to bring in three new members by the December meeting. I have no doubt in their ability to meet this goal, and I look forward to seeing our

new recruits this year. My second emphasis will be on our education mission.

This year, I hope to see a greater emphasis on education than ever before. Although going out into the field and burning powder is always important, we must remember that our organization was founded specifically for education.

In a world where schools are not always placing as much of an emphasis on history as it was previously given, our mission of sharing and perpetuating knowledge about the American Civil War is evermore important. We serve as an important resource for Nevadan and Californian teachers to utilize in their classroom. Will Rogers once said "A man only learns in two ways, one by reading, and the other by association with smarter people." When it comes to the Civil War, many of those in our group are those smarter people, who can show students of all ages what

they have learned. One can read about the Civil War all they want, but once they walk into a camp of canvas tents and see soldiers drilling and hear the sounds of the times, they can truly begin to understand what they know. That is what we can do.

We currently have quite a few schools that we have found our way into. I ask each of you, if you have any connection with a school, to approach them and offer our services to their history department. Make that first contact that we can use to broaden the extent of our mission.

Thank you for the work you have all done, and for the support that you give for the advancement of the NCWV. I know that this year will be an outstanding year, and I am thankful to have your support. I look forward to serving you all, and to seeing where 2017 takes us.

-Noah L. Jennings, Commander