

# - - THE GROWLER - -

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CASCADE CIVIL WAR SOCIETY

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## It's a Slow Time of Year

Ah, November, December, January, et cetera, et cetera, et cetera, until about mid April or so when things start to warm up and the Civil War reenacting

events become to come out of hibernation. However, that does mean that the reenactors have gone into hibernation during those months. No, maybe slowed down a little, but they are plotting, scheming and dreaming of the new reenactor events coming when things warm up. They gather together and reminisce about the past year, and those reenacting years before that. Ahhh! The memories. Then, slowly but surely they begin to work on the new years events. Start to plan on going to this event or that event, or drawing together their plans to host events that others hopefully will come to.

This, is what winter is for. But wait theirs more. As the snow flies and chokes the high mountain passes, the reenactors tend to take out their uniforms, their dresses and get them cleaned and mended. Gear is brought out, a little at a time and cleaned and prepared for the new year. New items are sought after from things that have seen better days. A wish list or two may float around some families before the Holidays arrive. Jane needs a new hoop skirt, little Johnny wants a drum. Dad, a new cannon, (he's dreaming, but it could happen,) Mom has been eyeing a new emerald green ball gown.

But not every thing comes to a stand still. Reenacting clubs host balls and demos. Dinners and teas. Rarely on the larger scale of the summer month. But these events and need just the same. They help pass the winter hum drums. The Cascade Civil War Society is now different. There's a Victorian Social in the works for late December, and indoor event at a Gun Show in Klamath Falls, with a min-encampment is set up and a CCWS booth on the main floor of the event. The Ladies

are planning a tea during the winter dull drums, and who knows, a school demonstration or two may pop up.

This is a good time of year to sit back and catch up on some reading of Civil War related topics. Research period recipes or games. Track down that Civil War ancestor. There's a long list of things you can do to keep from getting "cabin fever," during the long dark winter nights. Just don't sit on your hands and collect dust. Relax, yes. But don't hibernate, like the bears. Get ready for the new reenacting year. It will be upon us faster then you know.

## Volcano Erupts in Klamath Marsh! Huge Earthquakes Strike Fort Klamath Region!

(Circa 1865)

News has just arrived by telegraph from Jacksonville,

Oregon of massive earthquakes rocking the Fort Klamath area, knocking buildings off their foundations. Thick ash from a new volcano south of Fort Klamath, Oregon darkened the sky making it hard for man and beast to see and breath.

This news was flashed around the world when Fort Klamath's newsletter, "The Growler" reached the telegraph station in Jacksonville. Some of you "old timer" CCWS members have heard the whole story that was taken for truth at the time. Please note, it was from, "The Growler." Yes, this is were we get the name for the CCWS newsletter. It copies were hand written and passed around Fort Klamath by the solders for something to do. The Author of that story had just read Edward Lytton's, "The Last Days of Pompeii," and wrote a fictional account of a similar volcanic eruption south of Fort Klamath. Every one at the Fort, new it was fiction, but folks beyond the Fort Klamath area, took it for truth. As late as 1921, scientific teams from Europe came out to see the new volcano that wasn't there.

Every couple of years I like to run this story so new members know how we got the name, "The Growler."



# Hardaway's Alabama Battery



I have the honor to report on the actions, both military and social, that took place in Gardnerville, Nevada on the 5th through the 7th inst and in which three members of the CCWS took part.

## **Friday, October 5th:**

Several members of Hardaway's Battery took part in the School Day presentations. These included Sgt Bill Kohse, Sgt. George Schegel and Pvt. Jody Roderick who presented on several subject to the large number of students that are reported to have attended. In addition our 3" ordnance rifle under the command of 1st Sgt. Ken Janson presented a firing demonstration. Also manning the gun for the school day were Sgt. Justin Smith, Sgt. Peter Dryer, Cpl Tom Phinney, Pvt. John Kalayjian and Pvt. Bill Duncan.

## **Saturday and Sunday, October 6th and 7th:**

During the four battles that took place over the following two days there were two 2-gun sections engaged: The 3" ordnance rifle and the 12 pounder howitzer were in gray, while two 3 pounder Whitworth rifles were in blue. The guns on both sides were written in to the scenarios to an unusually high degree with infantry, sharpshooters and dismounted cavalry taking no small number of casualties from the guns of our Battery.

During these four battles the 3" gun crew was joined by Pvt. Jeff Holzclaw and Pvt. Brett Zurawski. I regret to report that I do not have a list of those servicing the other guns, the 12 pounder howitzer under the command of Sgt. Wayne Rickey and the two 3 pounder Whitworths under the command of Sgt. Justin Smith and Sgt. George Schlegel. Four new recruits also joined the crews at different times, but I do not yet have their paperwork.

Sgt. Bill Kohse found himself most unfortunately incapacitated so that he remained out

of combat, but he graciously allowed his 3 pounder Whitworth rifle to be used without him to replace Sgt. Smith's gun on the line in order that this latter piece could be "stolen" by the Rebel cavalry at the commencement of hostilities in the last battle. The theft went off very well and added to the realism of the battle.

## **The Wedding**

Saturday afternoon/evening witnessed a most impressive ceremony as our beloved commander, Major Jack Eaves was united in matrimony to Miss Izabella Hunt-Jones. The wedding party, consisting of 15 groomsmen in uniform and 15 lovely ladies bedecked in a riot of colorful gowns and in attendance on the bride, was an impressive sight to see, but it paled in comparison to the beauty vouchsafed all in attendance when the bride appeared. As the bride and groom were brought together in wedlock, the two largest guns of the Battery boomed forth a salute that shook the very ground. The wedding ceremony was followed by a reception where food and drink was shared by all. Entertainment was provided by 1st Sgt. Ken Janson and Miss Carrie Rardon of the CCWS.

Please be advised that photographs of some of the above mentioned activities are to be found on the Battery website: [www.hardaways.us](http://www.hardaways.us)

The CCWR Gardnerville event proved a major success for Hardaway's Alabama Battery and it is as such that I duly report it.

I remain you obedient servant,

Ken Janson, 1st Sgt.

Battery Clerk

Hardaway's Alabama Battery

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## **SEW CRAZY**

So, you can't sew and you need a new period outfit. Vickie Lenninger of "Sew Crazy" is the Lady to see. She and her ladies love to work on period clothing. You supply the fabric and the pattern. She'll take the measurements and do the rest. She's good and her prices are right.

Sew Crazy, 129 South 9<sup>th</sup> St., Klamath Falls.

(541) 273 3010



## Was Mary Todd Lincoln a Spy?

During the Civil War, Washington was a hotbed of gossip

Mrs. Lincoln's family was deeply involved in the Confederate cause, a fact not lost on gossip-mongers. A half-brother was accused of brutalizing Union prisoners, her half-sisters were married to Confederate officers, and her brother thought Lincoln was "one of the greatest scoundrels unhung." It didn't help that she badgered her husband about political appointments and called Secretary of State William Seward "a dirty abolitionist sneak." Her secretary later wrote that rumors flew about Mrs. Lincoln's "constant correspondence, as a spy, with chiefs of the Rebellion. Through her they obtained the secrets of the Cabinet and plans of generals."



Finally a Senate committee convened in secrecy to consider the accusations. According to a member, the meeting had just begun when the officer posted at the opened it. The senators were "almost overwhelmed by astonishment," for there stood Lincoln, alone. Pathos was written upon his face and an "almost unhuman sadness" filled his eyes. Speaking "with infinite sorrow," he said: "I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, appear of my own volition before this Committee of the Senate to say that, I, of my own knowledge, know that it is untrue that any of my family hold treasonable communication with the enemy."

Lincoln turned and left. Overcome, the committee dropped all consideration of rumors that Mrs. Lincoln was a Confederate spy.

## *2008 dues are due!*

Remember to get your CCWS annual dues in. Remember, you need to be paid up to vote on CCWS items. So, bite the bullet; pay your dues.!

### Calendar of Events

#### November 2007

- November 8 - CCWS Membership Meeting
- November 9-11 - [RACW Anderson Event](#)

- November 11 - Veterans Day
- November 15 - Rogue Valley Chapter Meeting

#### December 2007

- December 6 - Snowflake Festival Parade, K.F (CCWS is passing on the event this year)
- December 1-2 JSSA Gun Show, Klamath Falls
- December 13 - CCWS Membership Meeting
- December 20 - - Rogue Valley Chapter Meeting
- December 22 - CCWR Christmas Ball
- December - Victorian Social, Klamath County Museum (Date TBA.)

## The 2008 CCWS Event Calendar

This item was brought up in the last Growler, but no perceivable progress has been made on this topic. So once again we bring it up.

Other Civil War reenactment clubs are working on their calendars and some have already posted theirs on their websites. I congratulated them on their foresight. It is time to do the same with the CCWS's calendar. The dates for CCWS events need to be nailed down for all to see and be aware of. It will hopefully alert other clubs when our events are and help them not to plan something the same weekend.



Three CCWS events currently on the 2008 calendar are:

#### TIMELINE:

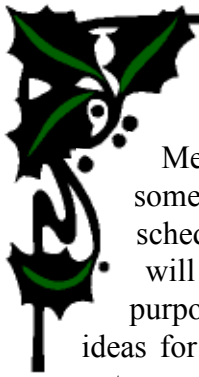
May 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>.

#### JOSEPH STWEART STATE PARK:

June 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> BATTLE AT MOORE PARK:

August 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>.



# Holly's Corner

The Civilian

Meeting and Tea has been moved to sometime in January, due to hectic schedules during the holidays. The date will be announced next month. The purpose of the meeting is to come up with ideas for activities for civilians at events, so put on your thinking caps. Becky has some good ideas, and I have a couple also. Lets see what all we can come up with!

The Potato Festival was...COLD! Fun, but cold. The Thrown Together Band performed for a while on the outdoor stage, until we could no longer feel the strings on our instruments -- makes it a little tough to play! We moved indoors and had a great time playing our own stuff and jumping in with the Link River Ramblers.

Thanksgiving is in two weeks, so let me take this opportunity to wish everyone a wonderful day. Go ahead, stuff yourselves! Oh wait, that didn't come out just right...well, you know what I mean!!

By Holly Fields

# Hat Cords

By Trooper

Bobby Broadway

Is documented evidence necessary in order to be historically accurate? I

say, not necessarily. In my opinion, some things were so obvious back in the time that the original letters, newspaper articles, diaries, and books were written that they went without saying. Only over time does such "common sense" knowledge of things get lost. Perhaps an each issue of the Growler could represent an "intuition" of how things were, but which cannot now be proved?

Hat chords, for instance. Was the true period use of hats chords simply to indicate, by reason of their colors, the particular arm of the service the individual belonged to? Blue for infantry, yellow for cavalry, gold for layabouts, etc. Or might the use of



hat chords have been something so "common" that its overlooked in this modern day and age and, although the colors were in fact used in the way we can document, is, in the more important sense, now forgotten?

Look at the design, the two loops. If it were only for color representation, why not just one loop? I think I've figured it out. Follow this: If you get on your horse and are going to ride fast, or its a windy day and your on foot, or your on foot and are going to run, and you don't want to loose your hat...what can you do? With a kepi, you pull the chin strap down. With a slouch hat, the hat chord "device" was created. If you pull the proper loop up over the hat and pull it down under your chin, you can then use the slip knot to tighten it under your chin. It pulls the edges of the hat down, but so what? Its very effective. And its just that simple. And its just that forgotten.

If anyone else has thought of this...or if, indeed, everybody but me already has figured this out...please don't laugh to loudly at me. I couldn't help but shake my head at how unthoughtful I've been all these years not to have noticed this undoubtedly "period" use of hat chords.

The Growler is published for the members of the Cascade Civil War Society. If you'd like to contribute, email the editor at [tcooley@charter.net](mailto:tcooley@charter.net) or mail to: Growler, Cascade Civil War Society, P.O.Box 1956, Klamath Falls, Oregon 97601. We reserve the right to edit any submissions.

# Private Newbee

