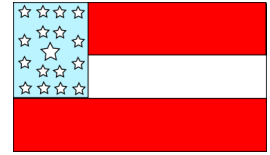




The Vidette

CALIFORNIA DIVISION

Sons of Confederate Veterans



The J. P. Gillis Flag

www.SCVCalifornia.net



5 November 2003 Issue 26 Published by Division Adjutant Vernon R. Padgett vp09@earthlink.net

COLUSA, CALIFORNIA

Six War Veterans Honored

By Lou Olker,
Adjutant, General
George Blake Cosby
Camp

On Saturday, October 11th, 2003, members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, Sons of Union Veterans, United Daughters of the Confederacy, and reenactors, historians, and townspeople, gathered for the second time in five years for a grave-marking ceremony for four Confederate veterans and two Union veterans buried at Colusa Cemetery.

Each veteran received a headstone from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

Descendants of three veterans attended. After songs played by a ten-musician Sacramento brass band (half Union and half CSA), a Blue and Gray Color Guard began the program.

The master of ceremonies was Lou Olker, Adjutant of the George Blake Cosby Camp. He led the forwarding of the Colors and presenting arms for the National Anthem. It was performed acapella by



United Daughters from left: Wilma Curnutt, Past California President of the UDC; Anne Miller, Past president of General Garnett Chapter, Fairfield, UDC, and Virginia Pierce, President of Fort Sumter Chapter, Sacramento, UDC.

Sara Ford, member of the Jr. ROTC at Marysville High School.

The pledge to the United States flag and the Salute to the Confederate States Flag were followed by an invocation given by Reverend Preston Gilliam, chaplain of Lt. General Wade Hampton Camp 2023 of Modesto. Gilliam appeared in artillery officer dress.

After introductions of dignitaries and participants, Lou Olker gave a brief history of the cemetery. It holds 107 veterans of the WBTS. Veterans of every



COLUSA: Top row left to right: Charles Christian, chaplain, former cmdr Col Ellsworth SUV Santa Rosa; Ron Cannon, Cmdr. Ellsworth Camp; Sara Ford, Jr. ROTC, Marysville High; in white shirt, SUV member; Jim Miller, GBC Camp 1627; soldier with red hat band and CSA Capt, members VA Artillery; Fred Bohmfalk, CCDR of Sac. SUV Camp; Union soldier behind tall young Rebel is John Patchin of SUV; Rev. Preston Gilliam, Chaplain of the Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp SCV, Modesto, and CDR of the Artillery group of reenactors, in CSA colonel uniform; holding colors: Lou Olker. Front row: John English, 1st Lt. Cmdr Camp 1627.

American war going back to the War of 1812 are interred there.

We read the biographies of each soldier and placed flowers on the Vacant Chair while the band played "The Vacant Chair." This chair was the focal point between the U.S. flag and the First National Flag of the Confederacy.

Fred Bohmfalk, representing Brad Schall, California division commander of the SUV, and Michael Montague, Commander of Camp 1627, representing Chuck Norred, California Division Commander of the SCV, placed a wreath. Charles Christian, Chaplain and Past CDR of the Col Ellsworth Camp of SUV, Santa Rosa, gave the benediction.

Seven CSA riflemen gave a 3-volley musket salute. Then Taps sounded on the bugle. The riflemen were members of the 1st Virginia Artillery, commanded by Preston Gilliam. He came in a colonel's outfit in memory of his great grandfather.

The ceremony was followed at midday with a picnic under the shade of a large old cedar tree.

It was a perfect ending to a ceremony that was both touching and personally enjoyable as it brought together members of three organizations in camaraderie and good will in tribute to their beloved soldiers. The soldiers honored were:

- Pvt. James W. Ficklin, Co H, 3rd Mo Inf Reg CSA**
- Pvt. George A. Finch, 38th VA Inf Reg CSA**
- Pvt. John Fletcher Rich, 51st VA Inf Reg CSA**
- Cpl John W. Van Horn, Co H, 78th Ill USA**
- Pvt. James B. Hutchens, Co C, 7th MO Cav CSA**
- Pvt. Charles H. Warner, Co G, 15th PA Cav USA**

Kearney Park Reenactment a Great Success for SCV

Chuck Norred, Commander, California Division

Friends, what a pleasure to see so many SCV members at Kearney this last weekend. Our grandfathers would have been proud!

Modesto was well represented and I have to say it was a genuine pleasure to finally get to meet George



AT FRESNO Kearney Park: SCV top row left to right: Chuck Norred shaking hands with SUV California Division Commander Jerry Sayre, Bryan Cline, Jim Cline, Bill Lee, Randall Epperson, Michael Moore. SCV bottom row L-R: Tim Desmond, Steve Madden, Eric Tidd, and Greg Farley.

Bell of the Modesto Camp. Congratulations Sir on your recent awards, as you are very deserving of them.

Thank you, to those of you who participated in the SCV picture. I know that we were all in a rush because of drill and battle plans. Little different to have those yanks in there with us. What a great step we made this past weekend in the relationship between the SCV and the SUV. It made a great picture, or should I say pictures.

When the public learned that we were all direct descendents of Confederate and Union soldiers it was a rush to see over a hundred fans descend upon us with their cameras. It didn't make the photographer very happy, but made me feel extremely proud.

Thank you Bill Lee, Jim Estill, Michael Moore and Russell Snow for manning the SCV Recruitment Booth. It was a great success. A very special thanks to Taya Cline and our Sisters of the UDC who shared the booth with us. I think it would be hard to top the combination of Bill Lee and Jan Lee as salesmen or as recruiters. The two of you were an "outstanding" combo.

I left Kearney Sunday evening with some very good feelings and when I arrived at home I took some time to reflect.

1- I like the camping out part of reenactments as one gets to spend some meaningful time with friends that we do not get to see very often.

2- The picture we took with the SUV was questionable to some but when we did it, it brought a new atmosphere to the whole event for me and I know for a few others. To see the public and how they reacted to this picture was overwhelming and made me very proud.

Why so many more Confederates than Yankees? Good Question.

3- Why at Reenactments are there always so many more Confederates than Yankees? Good question isn't it.

4- There seemed to be more attendance of the public at this reenactment than I have ever seen before. I also believe there was more reenactors than I have ever seen before.

5- History students swarmed our Camps and exhibits with questions. It was nice to see so many interested people and capable reenactors answering those questions.

It's back to work now and another Kearney Reenactment is over. But I have to say this past

weekend was the most meaningful reenactment event I have ever attended.

All for our Heritage!

FRESNO KEARNEY PARK

Great Reenactment

This Weekend

**Kermit Lee Albritton, Division Chaplin,
Commander, Camp 2023, Lieutenant General
Wade Hampton, Modesto**

Great reenactment this weekend; we did Gettysburg, but you couldn't have proved it by me, we whooped some Yankee butt. There is something "inherently" captivating about seeing a field of blue, through the haze of cannon smoke that causes one to know that what one does as a hobby has some significant, social effect.

We whooped some Yankee butt

Fresno was the site of a lot of "educational participation", as many reenactors as there were, there we the accompanying students from local high schools and middle schools, learning first hand about the War for Southern Independence.

I was talking with a third-year high school student, her name was Kelsey; ten minutes into our discussion I noticed that we had about thirty people around listening to our conversation. I quoted statistics from Dr. Padgett; Shelby Foote and what other historical account that could be summoned without the use of my reference material; I believe a chord was struck for the Southern Cause, and it resounded in the ears of those who would hear that day.

God bless the South.

Fresno After-action Report

By Paul DeNubilo, Commander, Washington Artillery

Counting our ladies and guests we had 26 people at Fresno! Our camp was out of sight, by that I mean it was fabulous (I learned this word at Guerneville!)-- not hidden in the trees!

Eleven tents and the lady's tent, a kitchen with 2 stoves going, out of sight food!

Friday night was a celebration for Donnallee's 29th birthday, tri tip, steak and sparkling wines (in the forbidden bottles!)

Thanks to Clarence, and Doug and Pam's guest (The Lyles) we did not suffer for breakfast. They also got a lot of help from our ladies. How come the birthday girl was doing dishes!

Once again the B-B-Q at the Steinciphers filled us all up with more than we should eat! The board of directors should consider a mandatory health spa membership for the unit!

Special thanks to Alfredo Torres. This was his first event. He met us at San Gabriel. Despite all he saw he is joining.

The Confederate Artillery was Massive

Our other cannoneer guest was Bradd Havranek, he met us at Julian and came out to Los Alamos. Bradd has been reenacting for a year and will be a real asset to the club if he joins.

The battle was typical Fresno, many reenactors, much smoke, and big booms from the Navy and some artillery disorganization, as usual. I wish they would learn artillery commands!



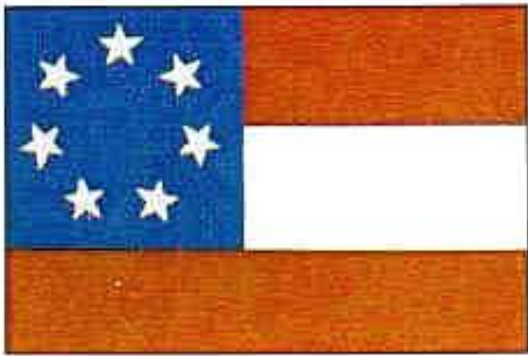
Confederate regular issue postage.

Lots of fun and still one of our best events!

The Confederate artillery was massive. One battle even had the mobile artillery lined up behind the fixed artillery to fire! I think there were 12 to 13 fixed guns and at least 7 mobile. They moved forward through the gun line with the infantry sent on by cheering from the artillery line.

The weather was warm, the grass green and the companionship was without peer!

I will send a thank you to the Confederate artillery brigade commander and ask him to pass it on to the NCWA officers.



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KEARNEY PARK, FRESNO

## The Biggest Event in the West

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By Lt. Col. Charles J. "Corky" Reed, Army of the Pacific, Dept. of California, San Francisco Headquarters

Greetings: This past weekend I participated at the BIGGEST civil war event in the west. Fresno, I was informed, had around 330 reenactors.

Being the 140th Anniversary of Battle of Gettysburg, the Battle of Gettysburg was the theme.

The temperature was around 92 degrees! I drank a lot of water.

There were more sutlers than last year and the Fresno Historical Society had a well-organized daily program-- Something for everyone.

At 10 a.m. the gates opened to the public and there was a formal flag raising ceremony with all reenactors lined up by company. After flag raising, a parade led by the Stag & Thistle Pipe Band.

On Main Street, there were classrooms where different types of presentations, such as Photography of Mathew Brady, Conversation with Women of the Civil War Era, Journalism in the Civil War, Civil War era Fashion Show. Also infantry and cavalry demonstrations.

I was on General U.S. Grant's staff and I helped plan battle strategy against old Bobby Lee at Gettysburg. Casualties were very high for both sides. The war still rages on.

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and Daughters of the Confederacy both had wonderful displays.

This is the BEST CW Event I have not just participated in but have seen in many years.

This was my 4th year at Fresno. I highly recommend everyone whether novelist or die-hard civil war Buff attend Fresno 2004. Fresno cw event is becoming BIGGER and BETTER each passing year. R/S.

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GUEST COMMANDER'S COLUMN

## How Can I Help The Cause?

By Joe Alarid, Camp 1631 Santa Barbara

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Our Southern Heritage has never been more under attack. I do not have room for all the anti-Confederate stories that cross my desk.

I ask you, Fellow Compatriots, to think about how you can help the Cause.

You can write a letter to the Editor challenging some Southern-basher's hit piece in the local newspaper.

Here is What To Do

You can cast your vote in an on-line Flag poll.

You can write your congressperson or senator about the political correctness that is infesting the National Parks system.

You can send a check to H. K. Edgerton, a black man and descendant of slaves, who carried our Battleflag 1400 miles on foot from North Carolina to Texas.

You can support the preservation of the Hunley.

You can participate in a Civil War Roundtable.

You can challenge people with the FACTS.

You can staff a SCV recruiting table at a Civil War reenactment.

You can renew your SCV membership early, or upgrade to Life Membership for less than the cost of a set of tires for your car.

You can sign up one new member in SCV.

Do something, and do it today. There may not be a tomorrow for Southern Heritage.

JVAlarid@juno.com

CIVIL WAR MEDICINE MEDICAL CORPS OF CIVIL WAR REENACTMENT SOCIETY

By **Tim Desmond, Division Surgeon General**

Officially formed in January of this year, the Civil War Reenactment Society's Medical Corps has had a good start at educating the public about 1860s medicine.

Besides setting up the Field Hospital tent at reenactment events, from Knight's Ferry near Jamestown to Mooney Grove Park in Visalia, this group has gone to elementary and middle schools to do talks along with others of CWRS.

They have considered this past reenactment at Kearney Park in Fresno on October 4th and 5th the greatest success so far. At this largest of West Coast reenactments, there are always the protocols of the hosting organization to approve the visiting groups activities. NCWA and the Fresno Historical Society have been great this year in helping the CWRS Medical Corps. They gave a choice of two locations and put no limits on the fundraising of the unit.

Members of the unit have raised money to help purchase period medical equipment to further the display and Field Hospital needs.



President Davis, General Lee, and General Jackson on United States postage.

Items sold at Kearney Park included handmade clothespin soldiers like ones made by Confederate patients, "hanky babies" [dolls made from hankerchiefs], and haversacks for men and ladies. A queen size Christmas quilt was raffled also.

Headed by Marcia Norred of Madera, who in real life is Registered Nurse for Kaiser Permanente, the group has a foundation in modern medicine. Five of the other reenactor nurses are also real life RN's.

While many of the husband reenactors help out, the goal at present is to recruit one or more surgeons to portray regimental doctors of the period.

The Medical Corps is currently not a military unit of CWRS. The nurses involved are from both Union and Confederate units within CWRS. This may change in the next year 2004. Whatever changes in command structure may occur the aims and goal will remain the same: To further the knowledge of the practice of Civil War Medicine.

Tim Desmond 16 October 2003

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

By **Corky Reed**

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) is a patriotic organization similar to and officially recognized by the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) as its successor. The SUVCW was founded in 1881 and incorporated by Act of Congress in 1954.

The purpose of the SUVCW is to perpetuate the Memory of the Grand Army of the Republic and the men who served the Union from 1861 through 1865. In addition-- to research documents and records, to cooperate in doing honor to all those who have served the true history of our country, to oppose every tendency that would weaken loyalty. To inculcate the American principles of impartial justice to all Eligibility to the SUVCW is open to male descendants who honorably served in the Union side of the Civil War.

In 1986 there were 19 Departments and 149 camps of the SUVCW existing in the United States. The membership in 1970 was 3000 and in 1990 2,830. Each SUVCW member receives the quarterly magazine *The BANNER* published by Dunmore Publishing, Inc 1175 Morel Street, Scranton, PA 18509

For more information, contact Brad Schall at Dschall@StarStream.net

Didn't Forrest Found the KKK?

In the beginning the Ku Klux Klan was an anti-Republican terrorist group. In Memphis, Tennessee there were 65 African-American men belonging to the "Colored Democratic Club" employed and protected by the Memphis KKK in 1868. The only real prerequisite to be in the early Ku Klux Klan in that you had to be a Democrat! At that time, many African Americans were in the Klan.

In an 1875 speech to a Memphis all African-American gathering of the "Independent Order of Pole-Bearers" a Democratic political interest group where the General was invited, he said, "I want to elevate you to take positions in law offices, in stores, on farms, and wherever you are capable of going...you have a right to elect whom you please; vote for the man you think best, and I think, when that is done, you and I are freemen." Lincoln never said anything close to that.

When he died in 1877, nearly 500 African Americans came to view his open casket and praise the Lieutenant General.

Source: Hurst, Jack (1993). *Nathan Bedford Forrest: A Biography*.

FILM REVIEW

Anti-Lincoln Gangs of New York

By Thomas J. DiLorenzo

Martin Scorsese's *Gangs of New York* is remarkable in that it accurately portrays the New York City working class's violent opposition to the Lincoln administration during the War for Southern Independence.

At one point in the movie, as the caskets of dead New Yorkers are piled up on the docks, a large crowd chants, "New York should secede!" "New York should secede!"

In another scene Irish immigrants who have been in the U.S. for only a few days are told to sign one piece of paper that grants them citizenship and

another one that enrolls them in the Union army. They are completely unaware of their fate: One immigrant asks, "Where are we going?" "Tennessee" is the answer, to which he responds: "Where's that?"

These men were to go down south to ostensibly teach the grandchildren of Thomas Jefferson and Patrick Henry what it really means to be an American. Thousands of them would be slaughtered after being ordered by General Ulysses S. Grant to charge into Robert E. Lee's well-entrenched army.

Who the Hell Has \$300?

The climax of the movie is the New York City draft riots of July 1863. The government began enforcing Lincoln's conscription law, accurately depicted in a newspaper headline in the film as "The First Federal Conscription Law." The wealthy Republican industrialists and bankers who were the backbone of the Republican Party saw to it that Lincoln's conscription law would spare their own male children by allowing one to buy one's way out of the draft for \$300. This led to violent protests against the inequity of "a rich man's war."

In the film a young draftee confronts one of Lincoln's conscription enforcers by screaming into his face, "Who the hell has \$300?!" "Who the hell has \$300?!"



The draftees knew perfectly well who has \$300, so that in mid July of 1863 they went on a weeklong rampage, targeting the houses and property of the Republican Party elite of New York City.

New York Tribune editor Horace Greeley, who had become a Republican Party

mouthpiece, is shown running for his life from a dinner party at a palace-like residence in the good part of town as the draft protesters break the windows and loot the house. As Iver Bernstein wrote in [The New York City Draft Riots](#), "Rioters tore through expensive Republican homes on Lexington Avenue and took – or more often destroyed – pictures with gilt frames, elegant pier glasses, sofas, chairs, clocks, furniture of every kind."

Scorcese and his producers obviously did their homework and must have read Bernstein's book. All during the scene of the draft riots there is a reading of headlines describing the events. Having read extensively about the draft riots myself, I recognized almost all of this script as being accurate, such as the burning down of a black orphanage and of the offices of Greeley' newspaper.

New York Should Secede!

Another perfectly accurate portrayal is the hunting down and murdering of any and all black people who were unfortunate enough to be on the streets of New York. Since Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation had recently declared emancipation to be a purpose of the war, the draft protesters vented their hatred for Lincoln and his war on the hapless black people of New York City. There are scenes in the movie of black men being beaten to death and lynched, which once again is perfectly accurate.

Just as realistic is the scene where thousands of federal troops are called up from the recently concluded Battle of Gettysburg and ordered to fire indiscriminately into the crowds. Hundreds of unarmed draft protesters, including women and children, are gunned down and are shown laying dead in the streets. This really happened, and is well documented in Bernstein's book and elsewhere, but most Americans have never heard of it (naturally). Gunships are also shown bombarding the parts of the city where the rioting was taking place.

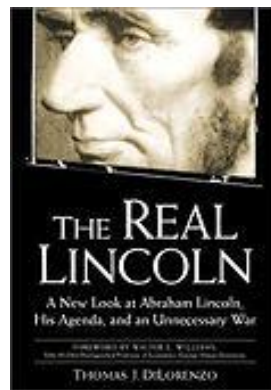
An eyewitness to the riots was Colonel Arthur Fremantle, the British emissary to the Confederate government who happened to be heading back to England at the time from the Port of New York. In his memoirs of his time with Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia entitled [*Three Months in the Southern States*](#), Fremantle wrote of the riots:

The reports of outrages, hangings, and murder, were now most alarming, the terror and anxiety were universal. All shops were shut: all carriages and omnibuses had ceased running. No colored man or woman was visible or safe in the streets, or even in his own dwelling. Telegraphs were cut, and railroad tracks torn up. The draft was suspended, and the mob evidently had the upper hand. The people who can't pay \$300 naturally hate being forced to fight in order to liberate the very race who they are most anxious should be slaves. It is their direct interest not only that all

slaves should remain slaves, but that the free Northern Negroes who compete with them for labor should be sent to the South also.

Scorcese and his producers must also have read Fremantle's book as well as *The Fremantle Diary*, which also discusses the draft riots.

The Gangs of New York is truly remarkable for its accurate portrayal of anti-Lincoln protesters in New York City in 1863, which has to be the most politically incorrect movie segment of the past several decades. This should pique the public's curiosity about the true history of Lincoln's war. It is a good prelude to an even more stunning cinematic event about Lincoln's war, the movie *Gods and Generals*. (January 4, 2003)



Thomas J. DiLorenzo [[send him mail](#)] is the author of [The Real Lincoln: A New Look at Abraham Lincoln, His Agenda, and an Unnecessary War](#) (Forum/Random House, 2002) and professor of economics at Loyola College in Maryland.

Civil War Round Tables in California

By Corky Reed

- Tri-Valley** cwrt Meets 2nd Thurs. each month
Borders Books 120 Sunset San Ramon; meeting
7pm; Contact Bruce Hevelin Bruce-
H@mindspring.com
- South Bay** cwrt Last Tues. each month Coco's
Restaurant 330 East Hamilton Ave. Campbell;
contact Debbie Petite Debbie4227@aol.com
- Sacramento** cwrt 4th Wed. each month; contact
Bernardo Buenosto Bernxbb@ix.net.com
- Peninsula** cwrt 3rd Tues. each month Salvatore's
Restaurant, 1000 El Camino Real San Carlos;
contact Bob Blair 650.595.2912
www.rightguide.com/civilwar/orgs/htm
- Orange County** cwrt 3rd Tues. each month; Carrows
Restaurant, 16931 Magnolia Street, Huntington

Beach; contact Anna Howland,

Boomtownrat4cw@aol.com

North Bay cwrt Meets 3rd Wed. each month. Coco's Restaurant Santa Rosa; contact Phil Alivia, 707.829.8613

San Diego cwrt 3rd Wed. each month John D. Sprecks Masonic Lodge 3858 Front St. Hillcrest area; contact David Tooley 858.672.2593

Los Angeles cwrt 3rd Tues. each month Community Room Pavilions Shopping Center; contact Connie Bennett laewrt@yahoo.com

San Francisco cwrt meets monthly United Irish Cultural Center 2700 45th Avenue, San Francisco; contact Bob Quinn 415.239.6816

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***The Ambiguous Flag, the documentary*** produced at the University of Florida last year, is now available for purchase at <http://www.customflix.com/Store/ShowTtl.jsp?rtnPt=0&id=205143>

View the 60-second QuickTime trailer by clicking on the link.

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Letter to the Editor
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Vern, Just wanted to say I ordered the Confederate checks as shown in *Vidette* last month.

I ordered the flag series and they are beautiful. More muted than the order indicated and just plain great.

Thanks, Jerri Padley

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SCV Life Membership
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Apply for Life Membership by completing application at [www.SCV.org](http://www.SCV.org). Fee is \$300 if you are 59 or younger; \$200 for those aged 60 to 69, and \$100 for those aged 70 and older. Mail check and form to HQ. Life Members are assigned to Camp 2 and are also listed on local Camp rosters with "LM" instead of an expiration date.

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California Division Staff
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**Heritage Officer** Mike Schooling

[scvmike2000@yahoo.com](mailto:scvmike2000@yahoo.com)

**Webmaster** Gary Waltrip [Secesh@rebelgray.com](mailto:Secesh@rebelgray.com)

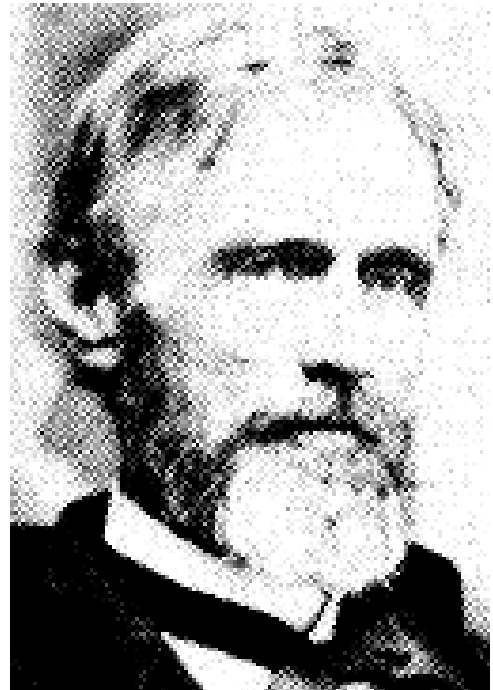
**Historian** Dr. Ro King [RebelRo@qnet.com](mailto:RebelRo@qnet.com)

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**Genealogist** JR Watson [elw442000@yahoo.com](mailto:elw442000@yahoo.com)

**Surgeon Gen.** Tim Desmond [BobbiTimDesmond@cs.com](mailto:BobbiTimDesmond@cs.com)  
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WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT



“The contest is not over, the strife is not ended. It has only entered upon a new and enlarged arena.” --Jefferson Davis, address to the Mississippi legislature-- 16 years after the war ended.
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California SCV Web Site
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Check [www.scvcalifornia.net](http://www.scvcalifornia.net) for the California SCV website. Gary Waltrip, Commander Camp 1440, The Stainless Banner, San Jose, continues to expand and add to the web site. See Gary's own site at [www.RebelGray.com](http://www.RebelGray.com)  
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