NEXT MEETING: Thursday, March 14, 2019
China Harbor, 2040 Westlake Avenue North, Seattle, Washington
Time: Social hour at 6 p.m.; Dinner served at 6:30 p.m.; Program at 7:45 p.m.

MENU CHOICES: Mongolian Beef, Chicken, Salmon or Vegetarian
Dinner includes: salad, vegetable delight, General Tso’s chicken, fried rice and fresh fruit.
Cost: $24 for adults; $10 for minors and college students. See below for reservations. Payable at the door. Opting out of dinner? $5 fee for non-members, $1 fee for members.

To make reservations and meal choices, use one of these options (most preferred listed first):
Click on http://www.pscwrt.org/about/dinner-reservations.php
Email Steve Murphy at: steve@adaptech.us
Or lastly, call Steve Murphy at (206) 522-2268
Reservations are MANDATORY and be in by 12 NOON on Tuesday, March 12, 2019.

NOTE: Remember to turn off cell phones before the meeting so there are no distractions for the speaker. Thank you!

ANDREW E. MASICH WILL SPEAK ON
THE SUBJECT OF HIS AWARD-WINNING BOOK, CIVIL WAR IN THE
SOUTHWEST BORDERLANDS, 1861-1867, an account of the collision between three warrior cultures—Indian, Hispano, and Anglo—in civil wars indirectly related to the secession crisis.
Professor Masich will present a slide lecture, profusely illustrated with period artifacts and images.
A reviewer has called the book a comprehensive and elegant study, gracefully written and splendidly detailed. Professor Masich is an Emmy-winning documentarian known for his lively lectures. He is President and CEO of the Smithsonian-affiliated Senator John Heinz History Center in Pittsburgh and teaches history at Carnegie Mellon University. He is coauthor of Cheyenne Dog Soldiers: A Ledgerbook History and Halfbreed: The Remarkable True Story of George Bent, and author of The Civil War in Arizona: The Story of the California Volunteers, 1861-1865.

NEXT MONTH: ANNUAL PSCWRT AUCTION!!!
START LOOKING FOR ITEMS TO DONATE FOR THE SILENT AND LIVE AUCTIONS!
IMPORTANT DISPATCHES
Upcoming Events

March 17, 2019: Steve Murphy will give a talk on “The Perfect Scout”, the memoir of Union Scout George Quimby and his adventures during the Civil War, particularly Sherman’s March to the Sea. 2:00-3:30 p.m., Everett Library Auditorium, 2702 Hoyt Avenue, Everett, WA

March Birthdays
Several members have birthdays in March and we’d like to acknowledge their special day. They are:

Nick K. Adams  Ken Bertrand  Barbara Bruff Hemmingsen
Michael Kirschner  Marilyn Rexilius  Fred Sherman

PSCWRT ANNUAL AUCTION- APRIL MEETING (NEXT MONTH)!!!
The Annual Auction is the main fund raiser for our organization. Each year, our hope is to fill the coffers so that Pat Brady can go out and get the best speakers on topics related to the Civil War each month. However, it can only happen with the generosity and participation of each one of us!

Start planning today to bring items to donate that you feel members of the Round Table and guests will be interested in. More information will be available in next month’s newsletter.

NEWS AND PROJECTS

The following is a condensed obituary for past PSCWRT member and speaker, John W. Hough. We have only recently heard of his passing. For the full obituary, please go to:

Https://funeralalternatives.org/tribute/details/108090/John-Hough/obituary.html#tribute-start

John W. Hough Obituary
June 22, 1946-August 6, 2018

On August 6, 2018, while vacationing in South Africa, a blood clot following a fall took the life of a John W. Hough, 72.

John was born in Seattle, Washington to John E. and Lillian Hough and was raised in Lakewood, Washington. He graduated in 1964 from Clover Park High School. He graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Washington State University in 1968 and went on to graduate from the University of Chicago Law School in 1971.

John was on active duty as a Captain in the Marine Corps. John’s duties varied over those years. In addition to serving as a lawyer, among other duties he oversaw the guards for Air Force One when President Nixon was in California; and was the duty officer in Okinawa. Several times, he was in a position where Majors and Colonels had to report to him. (Something he enjoyed more than the Colonels did.)

In the fall of 1974, John joined the Washington State Attorney General’s Office. Over the next 25 years, he served in various capacities for the state. After retiring from the State, John continued to serve his community as a volunteer.
John was a historian. His den sags under the weight of his history books. While his readings covered centuries of history, of most interest to him was naval and maritime history. He was past president of and longtime board member of the Puget Sound Maritime Historical Society and has published several articles on regional maritime history, including about Olympia’s historic tug *Sand Man*. Many of his articles were published in the *Sea Chest* magazine. John, along with his co-author Les Eldridge, published an Arcadia book, *Maritime Olympia and South Puget Sound*. He was nearly finished with his “big book” on Jefferson Davis Howell and the sinking of the *Pacific*. He also participated on the Pacific Northwest Maritime Heritage Council, the State Heritage Caucus and the Thurston County Historians’ Conference. John also was a member for a time of the Puget Sound Civil War Round Table and was the speaker at their December 2015 meeting where he gave a talk on “The 1864 Confederate Attack on the Union Gunboat U.S.S. Underwriter”. Our condolences to his family…

**AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD TRUST – COLOR BEARER “THANK YOU WEEKEND”**

By Mike Movius

One of the very grandest things a Civil War enthusiast can do is to go on a guided tour. And, if that tour is led by some of the best historians in the land, it becomes a once-in-a-lifetime event. That’s the way it was in New Orleans for the Color Bearer “Thank You Weekend”.

To begin with, we stayed at the Hotel Monteleone in the heart of the French Quarter. This hotel was built in 1876, so in itself, it is of historical importance. If you haven’t been to the Crescent City, it’s number one industry is tourism. But tourism is also #2 and #3, respectively.

Attendees had many choices for their tours. I chose the Flotillas and Forts: Civil War New Orleans with Mark Bielski. The highlight of the tour was to Fort Jackson, one of two forts south of New Orleans on the Mississippi. You might recall that Flag Officer Farragut had his fleet run upriver through the sunken barges and ships, past for Jackson and Fort St. Phillip and through the Confederate gunboats to take New Orleans. The city had been abandoned by the Confederates and the triumphant sailors were met with jeers and other bad language.
Fort Jackson is located in Plaquemines Parish about 70 miles south of the city. The fort is not open for tours. However, ABT had secured a guide who had a key to the sally-port. And, it was magnificent. You may have seen the video I made while standing on the parapet overlooking the river.

When our bus returned to the city, we went on a walking tour that was rather crazy. Not only was the weather exceedingly warm with significant amounts of sunshine, but the streets were filled with people. We went to the New Orleans Mint, now a repurposed arts center and through Jackson Square.

The next day, I went on the tour entitled, “A Walk Among the Tombstones with Sean Michael Chick. Chick is one of the authors in the Emerging Civil War, and really knew his stuff. We went to the Lafayette Cemetery #1 and learned first-hand how the burial process above ground works…way different than we are used to. We visited the home in which Jefferson Davis died and also the home of John Bell Hood. Later, we visited Hood’s grave and that of PGT Beauregard in the Metairie Cemetery.

Hood’s home in the Garden District.
Hood’s grave site in Metairie Cemetery
The next American Battlefield Trust event will be held in Lexington, Kentucky May 28 through June 2. SEE LAST PAGE FOR ANOTHER PHOTO!

**FEATURED ARTICLES**

**Veterans in Our Back Yard: The Cause Of Death Was As Follows**
By Loretta-Marie Dimond

The epidemiology of the survivors of the American Civil War is an under-studied topic. While some sociometric analysis has been performed about battle casualties and war wounds, little serious research has delved into the collective postwar medical histories of the veterans. It's an inescapable feature of
Washington's Civil War vets, however—no battles were fought here, but thousands of them died here.

In my examination of the vets I've copied hundreds of Washington death certificates, and I've looked at hundreds more. The usual maladies surface on these documents, those incident to old age for any generation: general debility, organ failure, heart attack, stroke, male-specific ailments, cancer, pneumonia, senility, dementia, psychosis, and influenza (at least one local vet, Isaac Teller, died in the 1918-1919 “Spanish” influenza pandemic). Tuberculosis and alcoholism were reported frequently. A few Civil War vets lived long enough to be killed in motor vehicle accidents. Homicide, suicide, and accidental death weren't common, but did occur. One particularly sad case of suicide happened at Orting, involving a veteran named John of the storied Company E, 55th Illinois Infantry. John may have endured survivor's guilt regarding the Vicksburg volunteer storming party. His friend, another John, John Warden, also a survivor of the 55th and who received the Medal of Honor, had died two years before. The first John suffered from heart disease and asthma for a thousand days at the Soldiers Home before slitting his wrist.

The official death certificate instructions say, “Cause of death means the disease, injury, or complication which causes death, not the mode of dying, e.g. heart failure, asphyxia, asthenia, etc. As principal cause name the disease or injury causing death…” Later instructions were more clear that symptoms, such as “angina pectoris” and “old age,” were not to be listed as root causes.

Some circumstances shown by the physicians, however, raise an eyebrow. The following are actual causes of death listed on veteran death certificates.

“Senility complicated by hiccups.”
“Physical depreciation.”
“Poisoning by illuminating gas.” (A reason we no longer have gas lamps in Seattle.)
“Sudden changes.”
“Decrepitude.”
“Died suddenly. This is not positive diagnosis as I saw the patient but once.” (The physician did not elaborate on whether the patient was alive or deceased when seen, and made no other diagnosis.)
“Had felt a little weak for days, not in bed.”
“Psychic shock.”
“Rheumatism of the heart!!” (The exclamation points were added by officials at the Department of Health.)

George Washington Ames was one of the few Civil War vets to lose his life in a Washington State workplace accident. He lived in Pacific City and supervised a Cascades logging camp at Chute Valley City (wherever that was, out there in King County) for the Green Brothers. Unfortunately, at the age of 62, he was killed by “external violence” when he was struck by a log at the camp. He is buried, with his wife Lydia, at Mountain View Cemetery in Auburn. His grave is marked and is located on Bissell Hill, in the GAR section. Every Memorial Day there's a white chain around the section.

Ames, an Indiana native, was a private in Company C, 4th Minnesota Infantry. A young replacement, he served from 1 September 1864 to 12 June 1865. The boys of the 4th Minnesota had already been to Corinth, Port Gibson, Raymond, Jackson, Champion's Hill, Big Black, and the siege of Vicksburg. They were veteranized in 1864 after more fierce fighting at Chattanooga and Huntsville, and guarded supply during Sherman's dance with Johnston through Georgia. The replacements caught up with their unit in Atlanta, prevailed on the March to the Sea, and swept the Carolinas until April 1865. They participated in the Grand Review on 24 May 1865 and were discharged by companies thereafter. Ames saw some of the actual fighting in Carolina, but the unit's legend was written well before he got there. Ames first came to Washington Territory before 1879 and settled in the Maple Valley. He spent most of his adult life in the forest products industry. He filed for pension from North Dakota Territory on 9
October 1889, a month before statehood. At some time before 1907 he lost his right hand. He was a resident at Orting for two years, regaining his health, and had not been back in the community for long when his logging camp accident occurred. He was an early member of Stevens Post #1, GAR, and later transferred to Grover Post #51, GAR, at Slaughter (the old name of Auburn—in honor of Lieutenant William Alloway Slaughter of the 4th US Infantry, Fort Steilacoom, a combat casualty in the White River First Nations vs Settlers unpleasantness of December 1855—town fathers changed the name after the premier hotel keepers called themselves the Slaughter House).

But I digress. The one cause of death which broke my heart was “lack of care.” The Washington State Soldiers Home and Colony was founded at Orting in 1891 and has been in continuous operation since. In 1909 it was joined by the Washington State Veterans Home near Port Orchard at Annapolis, later called Retsil for its founder and patron Governor Lister. The Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic maintained a private home (now preserved as the Meeker Mansion) in Puyallup; it was in operation until the 1950s. Any indigent, needy, or abandoned honorably-discharged Union veteran or his widow, willing to abstain from drink and follow the rules, was welcome in the state homes and colony. The Ladies were even more liberal: they took in some women who were denied by the Bureau of Pensions. Washington has been a leader in providing state care for Federal veterans. More about these homes and their residents in future articles.

Oh, but what about Slaughter, since you brought him up? Glad you asked. He was buried for fifty years at Fort Steilacoom, in the little cemetery on the north side of Steilacoom Boulevard (behind the Western State Hospital buildings). Long after the post closed, he and other soldiers (those who died in Washington Territory around the time of the Civil War) were relocated by the Army south to the Presidio. It's now San Francisco National Cemetery. There's a historic marker in his honor in Auburn, hiding behind shrubbery. Enjoy the search.

Recommendations for additional reading on the Speaker’s Topic: The War in the Southwest

By Jeff Rombauer

From the spring of 1861 through the summer of 1862, Confederates from Texas undertook several efforts to secure a “pathway to the Pacific” by gaining control of New Mexico territory. [An area which consisted at that time of what is now Southern Nevada, and the present states of Arizona and New Mexico] Barely populated [only 61,547 in 1860] with a harsh climate, barren lands and hostile native tribes, the first attempt to seize the territory occurred in July 1861, when a small Confederate force under the command of Colonel John R. Baylor seized control of the town of Mesilla [in southeast New Mexico]. Forcing the evacuation of Union forces from Fort Fillmore and their eventual surrender, Baylor created the Confederate Territory of Arizona, and made himself governor. A larger and more serious invasion took place in January 1862, when “The Army of New Mexico” under the command of Confederate general Henry Hopkins Sibley invaded the territory. Ill supplied, the Confederate forces were hopeful of capturing provisions and equipment from Union forts in New Mexico. On February 21, 1862 Sibley’s forces attacked Federal forces under the command of Colonel E. R. S. Canby near Fort Craig. The resulting battle of Val Verde was the largest battle between the Federals and Confederates in the far west. While the Confederates won the battle, Sibley’s army did not have the supplies to lay siege to Fort Craig, where the union forces had retreated. The Army of New Mexico by passed Fort Craig, capturing Albuquerque and Santa Fe, but found no supplies. At the battle of Glorieta Pass, 20 miles southwest of Santa Fe, Union forces destroyed Sibley’s supply train, forces the Confederate to retreat back to Texas. For additional reading on this campaign the following books are recommended.

This slim volume offers a quick guide to the major sources of the conflict in New Mexico territory during the Civil War. Rittenhouse offers concise comments on 34 books and pamphlets, published prior to 1961, relating to the campaign. The second half of the book reprints a rare pamphlet regarding conditions in the territory in 1861.

A general history of the Civil War in the Trans-Mississippi, chapter 5 covers the New Mexico campaign.

Written by a prolific historian of the campaign in New Mexico, this massive volume covers the entire history of the war in the territory and the role of the New Mexico volunteers, many who were Hispanic-Americans. The second half of the work contains a roster of all those who served from the territory.

Carleton to drive the Confederates from the territory and “played a role in creating and shaping Arizona. The second half of the book reprints letters from California soldiers back to the San Francisco Daily Alta. An excellent account of the role of volunteers from California who under the command of Gen. James H. California newspaper.

Frazier believes that “Sibley’s failed adventure might have provided one of the few prospects for Southern independence.” However, Jefferson Davis chose the wrong man to attempt to create a Confederate empire in the west.

An almost hour by hour account of the largest battle fought in New Mexico during the Sibley campaign. While the Confederates may have won the field, they did not have the supplies to attempt to dislodge Union forces out of Fort Craig.

Often called “The Gettysburg of the West”, the fighting at Glorieta Pass near Santa Fe, was small in scale, with fewer than 300 casualties on both sides, but this impact of the Union victory was huge. With their supplies burned, the Confederates were eventually forced to retreat back to San Antonio. Albert’s book is well researched, well written, and well-illustrated.

### The Last Word

“Drill” Part Five- Instruction for Skirmishers
By Mark R. Terry

The role played by skirmishers in the Civil War is often overlooked, but they played a major part. Ironically, in Hardee’s Tactics, the “Instruction for Skirmishers” is tucked right in the middle between the School of the Company and the School of the Battalion.

The purpose of skirmishers was to screen large formations of troops; during an attack, a retreat, on the march or at any other time needed. The number of skirmishers necessary to cover a body of troops depended on the size of that body.

Some of the general principles of skirmishing were:
- Being able to move “in any direction with the greatest promptitude”
- The movements were NOT expected to be precise like those in closed ranks. In other words, “prompt execution” won over exactness.
• Their movements should be regulated with the body of troops they are to cover and protect.
• Every skirmish line should have a reserve close by. Thus, a company might deploy their 1st platoon, leaving the 2nd platoon in reserve.
• Skirmishers could carry their weapons “in a manner most convenient to them”.
• Movements of skirmishers would be “indicated by the sound of the bugle”. Why? Skirmishers would be spread out very wide, making it difficult to hear voice commands.
• Both skirmishers and their reserve should use every bit of cover and the “accidents of terrain” to protect themselves from enemy fire. This could even include laying down when in the open.

How was a skirmish line formed?
Back in Part Two- the School of the Company- each company numbered their men off from right to left “by Two’s” so that the first file was “ones”, the second file “twos”, the third file “ones” and so on. Each group of four are also termed “Comrades in Battle” or (for short) “CiB”. In this example at left, you can see how every set of files are denoted as “CiBs”, as well as the files next to them, and so on. When the command is given “Company, as skirmishers, on the _____ file, take intervals, MARCH”, each CiB marches forward, but begin separating and fanning out as they march. When all CiB are about 20 paces apart from one another, they all march straight ahead, keeping their distance from each other. When the line of CiB reaches the point where they are to deploy, the command is “HALT”. Then, each CiB stops and fans out in line:

The skirmish line is now in place. A “pace” is equivalent to 30 inches or 2.5 feet, so each individual soldier is a little over four yards away from the next soldier, for a total of 16 and a half yards of coverage. The entire length of the skirmish line would depend on how wide of a front the overall commander would want to cover. Note that the sergeants would be approximately in their usual places, but 10 paces behind the line. Lieutenants 25-30 paces behind and the Captain (with a bugler) even further back in the center.

[Illustrations copied from pages 94 and 184 of the “U.S. Infantry Tactics Manual” of 1861 (Hardee’s) Illustrated. Edited by James R. Dunn, copyright 1991]

Movement and Firing in the Skirmish line
Movements were pretty simple. Marching forward, the men kept their intervals and their alignment. If marching by the flank, they simply faced in that direction and marched, again keeping their intervals. If the commander wished the skirmish line to open fire, the command would be “Commence FIRING”. At this command (this is very important) ONLY the front rank men in each CiB would fire. When their weapon was loaded, they would inform their rear rank partner, who would fire then both would continue to alternate. In this way, at least half of the skirmish line would always have loaded weapons. If the line was marching forward when the command to fire was given, each pair of men within each CiB would essentially leapfrog one another moving forward, with the one furthest ahead loaded while the other fired. Care would have to be taken so that the alignment of the skirmish line was kept generally straight. Liberty was given to the skirmishers to kneel or lie down to load and fire as they saw fit. Skirmishers were also instructed to carefully aim at a target and only fire when in range.
The Rally
The advantage of a skirmish line- the ability to probe the enemy without exposing the main body to risk- was also its weakness. When up against a large body of infantry, a skirmish line was only there to test and harass, not to push them back or hold a position if pushed. It was well-suited for the task against infantry, because it could move quicker.

The “kryptonite” of a skirmish line was mounted cavalry. If caught in the open by a significant body of cavalry, the general command would be to “rally”. If there was little time, the bugle would sound “Rally by fours”. What this meant was that each CiB would fix bayonets, run back together, and go to the position of “guard against cavalry” with each soldier facing out in a different direction. From above, each CiB would look like a star. Sergeants and line officers would have a few extra soldiers with them so they could also do the same.

If the main body of troops a skirmish line was screening were moving forward against the enemy, OR if the enemy was moving against them, then there was no longer any need for the skirmish line! The command would be “Rally on the battalion”. At this point the entire skirmish line, including any reserves, would RUN towards the nearest open flank of their supporting body of troops and re-form behind them.

Comments on Skirmishing
Whenever you read battle reports, you will see skirmishers mentioned. Thus, every infantry unit was expected to deploy and act as skirmishers when needed. While this was the case, most infantry regiments deployed their flank companies most often, since that would cause the least disruption in the line, unless of course the entire regiment was ordered to form as skirmishers.

Then there were the units that were permanent skirmishers. These would be the sharpshooters, such as the 1st U.S. Sharpshooter Regiment, better known as “Berdan’s Sharpshooters”. In TV documentaries, these units are sometimes portrayed as if they were early “Special Forces”, but in reality, their purpose was to act as skirmishers. Of course, what set Berdan’s apart were 1) their uniforms- green instead of blue, 2) their weapons; breech-loading Sharps rifles (which allowed for a faster rate of fire) and 3) their training in which excellent marksmanship was required. Both sides used sharpshooter units with good effect.

As a Civil War reenactor for almost 19 years, I enjoyed doing skirmish drill and also deploying as skirmishers in battle, mainly because of the freedom one had. It did take concentration and discipline, especially while firing and moving, to stay in alignment with the rest of the line while making sure you and your file partner were alternating fire properly.

Conclusion of the series on Infantry Drill
This is my last installment of the series on Infantry Drill and Tactics. My goal was to give you a glimpse into the inner workings of the movements and actions of the infantry soldiers and their units and hopefully understand the bigger picture because of it. I have by necessity given you the “Reader’s Digest” version, since there were many details that had to be left out for lack of space.
One can now understand why the life of the soldiers was filled with “Drill, Drill, Drill”!

This group photograph below was taken during an ABT field trip to Fort Jackson on the Mississippi River while at a recent American Battlefield Trust event in New Orleans.
Quiz: There are two members of the PSCWRT in the photo. Can you name them and give thei...
**DUES & DONATIONS**
The PSCWRT season goes from September to the following May. Dues should be paid in September. Dues are payable either at the meeting or by mail: $25 per individual or for a couple. Also, donations are gratefully accepted. These will help secure speakers for our meetings. Please note that all donations are tax deductible as the PSCWRT is a 501(c)3 organization. Mail to: Stephen Pierce, Treasurer, 8008 190 Street SW, Edmonds WA 98026-6028. Call 425-773-0097 or email: horseless8@hotmail.com

*We welcome your article or research submissions for the newsletter, but they may be edited for space. The deadline for the April 2019 Washington Volunteer is Monday, March 25, 2019. Please have it in Mark Terry’s hands via email or snailmail by then. Thank you!*

**2018-2019 OFFICERS**
**Elected:**
President: Jeff Rombauer; jeffrombauer@foxinternet.com
Vice President Successor: Rick Solomon; ricksolo@ricksolo.com
Past President: Mike Movius; webmaster@pscwrt.org
Vice President Program: Pat Brady; patsbrady@comcast.net
Vice President Editor: Mark Terry; markimlor@comcast.net
Vice President Marketing: Dave Otis; jbhoo81@aol.com
Vice President Membership: Arthur Banner; banneras@comcast.net
Vice President Partnerships:
Vice President Reservations: Steve Murphy; steve@adaptech.us
Vice President Social Media: Mike Movius; webmaster@pscwrt.org
Treasurer: Stephen Pierce; horseless8@hotmail.com
Secretary: Doug Galuszka; dhgaluszka@aol.com
*All, except for Past President, an automatic position.*

**ANSWER TO PHOTO QUIZ:** Mike Movius (Standing, 4th from left) and Suzanne Hahn (Seated, 6th from left).