



Hurt's Battery

Alabama Light Artillery, ANV^a.
Re-enactors of the American Civil War



19. August 2010

Cannoneers;

I have the honor to report on the recent activity at Fort Klamath on the 14th and 15th inst. The fort, which was established in 1863, and is located some 35 miles north of the town of Klamath Falls and just in the shadow of Crater Lake National Park. The event was sponsored by the Cascade Civil War Society (CCWS)



Present for duty along with Sophia Antoinette Barksdale were:

Capt. Ken Janson
Sgt. Tom Phinney
Pvt. Jeff Holtzclaw
Pvt. John Kalajian
Pvt. Bill Duncan
Mess Sgt. Linda Kalayjian



Secunded to the Battery on the first day of battle was Earle Fonce of the CCWS's Baltimore Light Artillery, which unit also fielded a 3" ordnance gun and took the field as the 4th US Battery B. We are pleased to report that Maj. Don LaPorta of the RACW Union artillery took the field in a supporting capacity.



Hurt's Battery was protected on the field by Maryland dismounted cavalry with the addition of Pvt. Jeff Kuhn of the 1st Texas Infantry. The battle lines were thin and the artillery dominated the field.



The CCWS is a small organization but the larger clubs would do well to emulate some



of their original activities such as the lady's tea at which only period conversion was permitted. Your servant had the good fortune to be invited to speak to the ladies of the progress of the war. We all condoled on the recent loss to the Cause of Gen'l. T. J. Jackson. The ladies made every effort to present a decorative and plentiful table despite the scarcities occasioned by the blockade.

A song was called for and Capt. Janson, Miss Carrie and Miss Holly obliged with an a capella rendition of *Hard Times, Come Again No More*, a sentiment in which all could concur whatever their politics. Afterward the ladies shared readings from books of poetry.



Another activity usual with the CCWS is *Mail Call*. Here letters are distributed one at a time and read aloud. Some are comic, such as the sheaf of telegrams received by Capt. Janson indicating the birth of various sons to various women all calling him husband, and some are in fact letters originally written during the War and speak of things both deep and touching. In the photo to the left Sgt.

Phinney and Pvt. Holtzclaw listen as the captain reads his completely fraudulent telegrams wherein he receives the news that a plethora of new-born sons have all been christened *Ken*.

Another impressive project created by the ladies of the CCWS is the making of soldiers' quilts. At each event sponsored by this club, a quilt made by the ladies is given to a soldier, Union or Confederate, selected by lot. The quilts are intended for use at the reenactments and will improve the soldiers' impressions. This will continue until all soldiers in the club receive a quilt.



Saturday evening after the public had gone we were all most happy to welcome Sgt. Hugh Simpson into camp and back to reenacting. The good sergeant is still recovering from his recent and prolonged hospitalization and being only marginally mobile was unable to participate in the day's activities. But he came into camp to share in the music making along with the rest of the *Thrown Together Band*. It

was good to see that, although his legs were not up to their usual energy level, his voice and good spirits most certainly were.

The event was greatly enjoyed, even if the mosquitoes may have had a large share of the enjoyment. Pvt. Jeff Kuhn, 1st Texas Infantry wisely decided to spend the night, along

with Sgt. Phinney and Pvt. Holtzclaw, at the very nearby home of Capt. Janson, thus rendering the flank assaults by the six legged creatures of little account.



The Battery looks forward to its next engagement at Fort Stevens, another fort established in 1863, on the Columbia River over the Labor Day Weekend. This will be a much larger event and we look to have a full crew mustered for duty in defense of our Country.

Ken Janson

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