



# BATTLELINES



A Bimonthly Newsletter of the San Pasqual Battlefield Volunteer Association

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15808 San Pasqual Valley Road, Escondido, CA 92027 - 760-737-2201



1910 Military Funeral at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery.  
The *USS Bennington* Monument of 1908 is clearly visible.

## President's Message



by Tom Vilicich

Hello to all SPBVA members. I hope that you and your loved ones are safe and healthy from COVID-19 and other things that are presently happening.

I guess the big question is, "Is San Pasqual Battlefield State Historic Park open?" Sad to say, "No, it has not yet re-opened." I saw a list of State Parks that are opening. Old Town San Diego SHP was on that list, but not San Pasqual. Although Old Town may be open, the visitor center and museums are not. And that is where we are—the visitor center at San Pasqual is closed and therefore the Park is closed. When that may change, I cannot say. It is a "until further notice" situation.

Memorial Day has come and gone. Thanks to COVID-19, the Memorial Day service at Fort Rosecrans was greatly reduced to about 15 minutes of the Virtual Simulcast Commemoration with the *USS Midway*, Miramar National Cemetery, and Mount Soledad National Veterans' Memorial. I watched it from the comfort of my home. It was a well done memorial. At the same time, it was a little strange to me being stuck at home watching on my computer after taking the cannon from San Pasqual to Fort Rosecrans for more years than I can remember and also placing the company guidons over the graves of the

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*SPBVA 2020*

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**President's *continued***

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 troopers who gave their all in the Battle of San Pasqual. It is my understanding that the media asked "where was the cannon?"

Let's hope that COVID-19 does not interfere with Memorial Day next year. The veterans who are buried in National Cemeteries and all cemeteries should have their loved ones and others able to visit and pay their respects. The virus caused things to change this year, but we cannot allow this to become only a media event, lest we forget the history of our nation.

As for the other usual summer events that SPBVA participates in, the Fourth of July at Old Town San Diego is unlikely. This is another holiday that I have spent in San Diego for the last 15 or 20 years, along with other SPBVA members. The same is true for Stagecoach Days with the Soldiers and Citizens event at Old Town.

I never truly realized how much time I spend at the Park with school, military, and other tour groups as well as our First Sunday Living History days. I have made a few trips to Escondido to check our post office box. Other than that, I've had lots of down time. To keep busy, I have been doing some woodworking. I have made a new lid for the candle dipping pot at the Park, and I am now working on a display box for the cannon dummy rounds as well as some other projects for family and friends.

Recently we learned that former SPBVA board member Lyn Fleming lost her husband of 64 years, Graham Kimball "Kim" Fleming in February. Kim served in the Navy 1952-1956. He was the first full-time City of Escondido Attorney. His ashes were interred at Miramar National Cemetery. The SPBVA family sends our deepest condolences to Lyn and her family.

**July 4, 2019 Old Town San Diego**



*Courtesy of MaryLou Jimenez*





### Fourth of July Memories of San Pasqual at Old Town: 2000, 2002, 2004



1848 Jan 8 *Daily Union* Washington, DC

**FIRST REGIMENT OF DRAGOONS.**

First Lieutenant Philip Kearney, to be captain, December 6, 1846, vice Moore, killed in battle.

First Lieutenant Robert H. Chilton, to be captain, December 6, 1846, vice Johnston, killed in battle.

First Lieutenant Daniel H. Rucker, to be captain, February 7, 1847, vice Burgwin, deceased, of wounds received in battle.

First Lieutenant Andrew J. Smith, to be captain, February 16, 1847, vice Boone, promoted major.

First Lieutenant James H. Carleton, to be captain, February 16, 1847, vice Cooke, promoted major in the second regiment of dragoons.

Second Lieutenant Abraham Buford, to be first lieutenant, December 6, 1846, vice Kearney, promoted.

Second Lieutenant Patrick Noble, to be first lieutenant, December 6, 1846, vice Chilton, promoted.

Second Lieutenant Henry W. Stanton, to be first lieutenant, February 7, 1847, vice Rucker, promoted.

Second Lieutenant Rufus Ingalls, to be first lieutenant, February 16, 1847, vice Smith, promoted.

Second Lieutenant Cave J. Coats, to be first lieutenant, February 6, 1847, vice Carleton, promoted.

Second Lieutenant Joseph H. Whittlesey, to be first lieutenant, October 13, 1847, vice Jenkins, deceased.

Brevet Second Lieutenant Clarendon J. L. Wilson, to be second lieutenant, December 6, 1846, vice Buford, promoted.

Brevet Second Lieutenant John Adams, to be second lieutenant, December 6, 1846, vice Noble, promoted.

Brevet Second Lieutenant Thomas F. Castor, of the second regiment of dragoons, to be second lieutenant, December 6, 1846, vice Hammond, killed in battle.

Brevet Second Lieutenant Orren Chapman, of the second regiment of dragoons, to be second lieutenant, February 7, 1847, vice Stanton, promoted.

Brevet Second Lieutenant Oliver H. P. Taylor, to be second lieutenant, February 16, 1847, vice Ingalls, promoted.

Brevet Second Lieutenant Samuel D. Surgis, of the second regiment of dragoons, to be second lieutenant, February 16, 1847, vice Coats, promoted.

Brevet Second Lieutenant George Stoneman, jr., to be second lieutenant, July 12, 1847, vice McElvain, deceased.

Brevet Second Lieutenant George F. Evans, to be second lieutenant, October 13, 1847, vice Whittlesey, promoted.

This newspaper article lists military assignments for the First Dragoons, showing who was assigned to replace those officers who were killed at San Pasqual. The term "vice" is used to mean "as a substitute for" just like Vice President means a replacement for President. Thus Philip Kearney was promoted to Captain, replacing the deceased Benjamin D. Moore; Chilton to replace Abraham R. Johnston; Castor to replace Thomas C. Hammond.

# First Sergeant's Corner

submitted by Tom Vilicich

## *Of the Charge.*

956.—The charge, which is the decisive action of the cavalry, being merely an application of the march in line, it is not included in the twelve evolutions; it completes the instruction of the regiment.

To be successful, the charge should be short, the horse should be urged to the quickest gallop, without losing command of them, and the men should remain united and masters of their movements, notwithstanding the quickness of the pace.

957.—To exercise the regiment, the Colonel causes the charge to be made against an imaginary line; but he does not go faster than the quick gallop; the signal to charge and the command CHARGE serving merely as a notice to take position with the sabre.

## *Charge in line.*

958.—The regiment marching in line, the Colonel commands:

1. *Attention to charge.*
2. DRAW—SABRE.
3. *Trot.*
4. MARCH.

The third command is repeated by the field officers and the captains commanding.

At the command MARCH, repeated by the same officers, the squadrons *trot*. After having passed over 150 paces at this pace, the Colonel commands:

1. *Gallop.*
2. MARCH.

The first command is repeated by the field officers and the Captains commanding.

At the command MARCH, repeated by the officers, the squadrons *gallop*.

After having passed over about 100 paces at this pace, and having to go only 60 more to reach the imaginary line, the Colonel directs the *charge* to be sounded. At this signal, repeated by all trumpeters, all the officers command CHARGE at the same time. The men of both ranks take the position of the sabre or lance prescribed for the charge.

To halt, the graduation of the paces is as followed, in the order to avoid stopping too suddenly; for this purpose, the Colonel commands:

1. *Attention.*
2. *Squadrons.*
3. HALT.
4. *Right (or left)—DRESS.*

At the command *Attention*, repeated by field officers, the Captains commanding and the chief of platoons, the squadrons prepare to change their pace, and the troopers carry the sabre to the shoulder. (*Lancers*, carry lance.)

At the commands *Squadrons*, repeated by the field officers and the Captains commanding, the chief of platoons command *Platoon*, and the squadrons take the *trot*.

At the command HALT, repeated by the field officers, the Captains commanding and the chief of platoons, the squadrons halt.

At the command *Right (of Left)—DRESS*, repeated by the field officers and the Captains commanding, the squadrons align themselves.

The regiment being aligned, the Colonel commands FRONT.

JOIN NOW! Our non-profit organization supports the activities of the San Pasqual Battlefield State Historic Park. All members receive *BATTLELINES*, a 10% discount on all bookstore items, special programs, field trips, history discussions, and opportunities to participate in our Living History Sundays and in our annual December re-enactment of the Battle.

**SAN PASQUAL BATTLEFIELD VOLUNTEER ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

P.O. Box 300816, Escondido, CA 92030-0816

(760) 737-2201

www.spbva.org

This is my/our membership application & dues for the following category:

- \_\_\_ Student (\$5)
  - \_\_\_ Sustaining (\$50)
  - \_\_\_ Dragoon (\$100 or more)
  - \_\_\_ Individual (\$15)
  - \_\_\_ Organization (\$25)
  - \_\_\_ Benefactor (\$1,000 or more)
  - \_\_\_ Family (\$20)
  - \_\_\_ Corporate (\$100)
- Please make checks payable to: SPBVA

NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

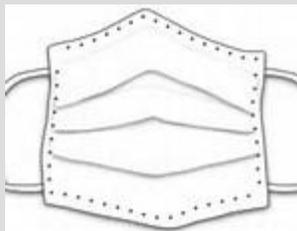
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_ INTEREST/SKILLS \_\_\_\_\_

**2020 CALENDAR**

Until further notice, all events are cancelled and the park is closed due to the Coronavirus pandemic



- **Bob & Judy Bowman**
- **Justin & Michelle Burkhard**
- **Carole Chavez**
- **Donald & Vicky Coates**
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- **Bob & Robyn Wohl**



**Dragoon Level Members**