

AIMS OF THE WAR

Most Northern soldiers were fighting to preserve the Union, not to free the slaves. The Emancipation Proclamation, issued by Abraham Lincoln in September 1862, sought to liberate slaves only in states rebelling against the North who were then beyond the Union's power to liberate.

Living off the land

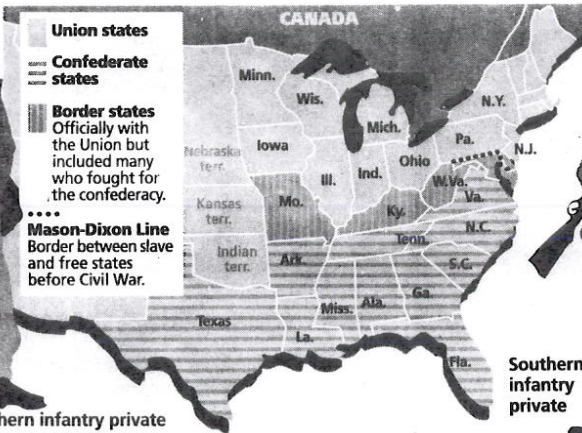
► In most Civil War regiments, the men all came from the same area. Many units elected their own officers, many of whom were inexperienced. Both sides paid their soldiers poorly. Soldiers carried with them salt pork and hard biscuits called hardtack. Many soldiers took fruit and vegetables from farmers' fields.



The flag of 1861, used during the war, had stars for 34 states, including the Southern States.



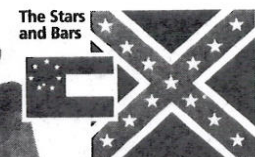
Northern infantry private



Union states
Confederate states
Border states Officially with the Union but included many who fought for the confederacy.
Mason-Dixon Line Border between slave and free states before Civil War.



Southern infantry private



The Stars and Bars

Battle flag

The standard gray Confederate uniform was not seen much after 1862, replaced mostly by makeshift mixtures of gray and brown.

Confederate flags

The Stars and Bars, adopted in 1861, had stars for the seven seceding states. It looked too much like the U.S. flag, so troops carried a battle flag. It had stars for 11 states and for secessionist governments in Kentucky and Missouri.



Springfield rifle-musket
 One of the Civil War many innovation enabling soldiers to shoot far more accurately, fr much greater distance and much more rapid

BATTLEFIELD OF DREAMS

HISTORY: Civil War re-enactors take great pains to paint an accurate portrait of the past.

By JOHN WESTCOTT
 The Orange County Register

Carl Clink bakes his own hardtack, but never has to tap out any weevils before he eats it.

He sleeps on the dirt with a single blanket, but by Sunday night he'll be back in his Huntington Beach home, with all its 21st century comforts.

Still, seeing him in full uniform, you might blink once or twice. He could pass for the colonel he portrays in the 100th Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers.

Why does he go to so much trouble to re-enact a war 130 years old?

"What these veterans did to keep the Union together, we have to keep it in the public's eye," he said. "Our primary goal is education."

Hundreds of spectators will hear cannons belch fire and sniff the acrid odor of gunpowder this weekend at Huntin-



EUGENE GARCIA/The Orange County Register

FAMILIAL LINK: Carl Clink of Huntington Beach portrays a Union soldier in the 100th Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers. His great-

CIVIL WAR BATTLES

When: 1 and 4 p.m. Saturday, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Sunday
Cost: Free
Between battles: A Civil War "fashion show," a speech by "Abraham Lincoln" and a field hospital demonstration. Spectators also can look at the Union and Confederate camps and ask questions.
For more information: Call (714) 962-5777

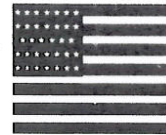


The Orange County Register

east periodically to relive 1 campaigns of their regimen following the unit's eve move by the book - in Clink's case, a history of the Pennsylvania regiment that's several inches thick

OF THE WAR

Northern soldiers were to preserve the right to free the slaves. Emancipation act, issued by Abraham Lincoln in 1862, sought to free slaves only in states loyal to the North. It then beyond the power to liberate.



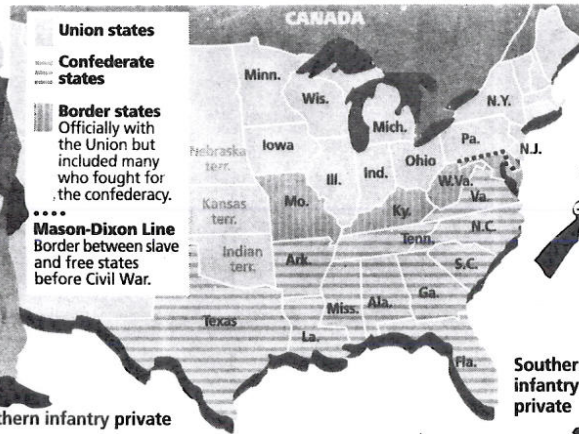
The flag of 1861, used during the war, had stars for 34 states, including the Southern States.

Off the land

At Civil War regiments, the men all came from the same area. Many units elected their own officers, whom they were inexperienced. Both sides paid soldiers poorly. Soldiers carried with them salt hard biscuits called hardtack. Many soldiers ate and vegetables from farmers' fields.



Northern infantry private



Union states
Confederate states
Border states Officially with the Union but included many who fought for the confederacy.
Mason-Dixon Line Border between slave and free states before Civil War.



Southern infantry private

The Stars and Bars

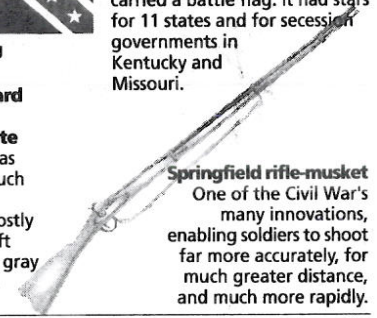


Battle flag

The standard gray Confederate uniform was not seen much after 1862, replaced mostly by makeshift mixtures of gray and brown.

Confederate flags

The Stars and Bars, adopted in 1861, had stars for the seven seceding states. It looked too much like the U.S. flag, so troops carried a battle flag. It had stars for 11 states and for secessionist governments in Kentucky and Missouri.



Springfield rifle-musket
One of the Civil War's many innovations, enabling soldiers to shoot far more accurately, for much greater distance, and much more rapidly.

BATTLEFIELD OF DREAMS

DRY: Civil War actors take great care to paint an accurate portrait of the past.

WESTCOTT
Orange County Register

Carl Clink bakes his own hardtack, but never has to tap out any weevils before he eats it.

He keeps on the dirt with a blanket, but by Sunday he'll be back in his Huntington Beach home, with all its creature comforts.

Seeing him in full uniform, you might blink once or twice. He could pass for the man he portrays in the 100th Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers.

Does he go to so much trouble to re-enact a war 130 years old?

But these veterans did do it to reunite the Union together, we must keep it in the public's eye, he said. "Our primary education."

Hundreds of spectators will witness belch fire and the acrid odor of gunpowder this weekend at Huntington Beach.



EUGENE GARCIA/The Orange County Register

CARL CLINK: Carl Clink of Huntington Beach portrays a Union soldier in the 100th Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers. His great-grandfather...

CIVIL WAR BATTLES

When: 1 and 4 p.m. Saturday; 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Sunday

Cost: Free

Between battles: A Civil War "fashion show," a speech by "Abraham Lincoln" and a field hospital demonstration. Spectators also can look at the Union and Confederate camps and ask questions.

For more information: Call (714) 962-5777



The Orange County Register

east periodically to relive the campaigns of their regiments, following the unit's every move by the book - in Clink's case, a history of the Pennsylvania regiment that's several inches thick.

It he'll be back in his Huntington Beach home, with all its 19th century comforts.

Still, seeing him in full uniform, you might blink once or twice. He could pass for the one he portrays in the 100th Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers.

Why does he go to so much trouble to re-enact a war 130 years old?

What these veterans did to keep the Union together, we have to keep it in the public's eye," he said. "Our primary goal is education."

Hundreds of spectators will see cannons belch fire and feel the acrid odor of gunpowder this weekend at Huntington Central Park.

Clink, 38, started the annual event five years ago. It gets bigger every year, with about 100 re-enactors participating each year.

Re-enactors – please don't call them "Civil War buffs" – undergo the hardships of encampments and smoky battles for many reasons, including honoring ancestors.

Some just like to crawl under the skin of a 19th century soldier for a couple days. Clink caught the Civil War fever when he was 8 years old, wrapped himself in the Confederate gray of the First Texas Infantry at 16.

He switched sides to the 11th Pennsylvania after finding a great-great uncle, John T. Cooper, who fought with that regiment from 1862 to the war's end in 1865. Cooper somehow survived the Battle of Gettysburg, Petersburg, Vicksburg, and other battles with only a minor mishap: a mini-ball struck the tip of his nose at Spotsylvania in 1864.

In real life, Clink is a historical consultant. The son of a union man, Clink oversaw battle scenes for the movie "Amistad" and the History Channel's "Civil War Journal."

He'll sometimes stray from historical accuracy to sci-fi fantasy, such as helping to build the first Borg space ship in a "Star Trek: The Next Generation" TV episode.

POPPING BACK IN TIME

At the Confederate camp, when Holcomb won't take arms this weekend. But he'll show you how the other side did.



EUGENE GARCIA/The Orange County Register

FAMILIAL LINK: Carl Clink of Huntington Beach portrays a Union soldier in the 100th Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers. His great-great uncle fought with that regiment from 1862 until the war ended in 1865. An authentic Civil War outfit costs \$2,500, Clink said.

A member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, Holcomb is the great-great grandson of Richard Peter Sheppard, a Texas infantryman.

The group, like the Sons of Union Veterans, are echoes of the veterans groups that once paraded and camped in Orange County: the Grand Army of the Republic and the United Confederate Veterans.

Like many descendants, Holcomb, 54, bristles at the suggestion that Southern soldiers fought for slavery.

It took an agonizing week-long re-enactment of the 1864 Red River campaign, tramping up to 15 miles a day in drenching rain, to convince Holcomb where he stood on that issue.

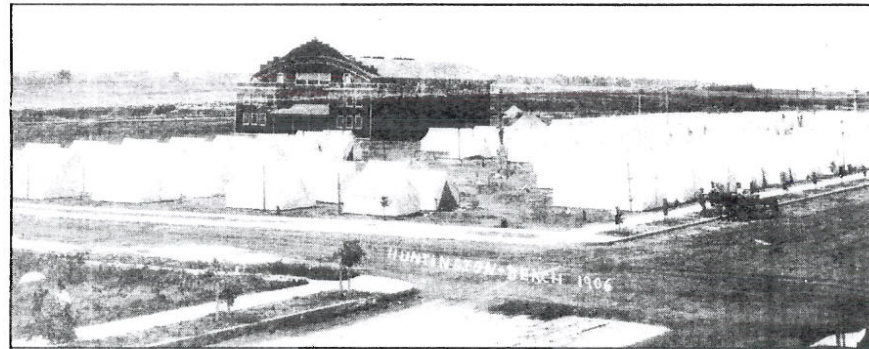
"That's when I really began to understand that it was not really for slavery that they fought," he said. "No one would put themselves through that, put their lives on the line just so somebody else could keep slaves."

He pulls out heartfelt letters from his wife and daughter, and memories of stomping the same ground his ancestor trod upon. He believes Southern soldiers, few of whom owned slaves, fought more to defend their land and way of life.

"There was motivation," Holcomb said. "It just came from a place I didn't really expect."

Holcomb, an Irvine arborist, also is among a dedicated few who document and honor the Orange County grave sites of Civil War veterans.

Holcomb has taken the number of known Confederates in

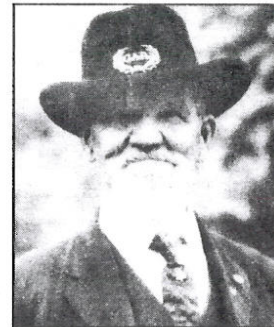


Courtesy of city of Huntington Beach

TENT CITY: A Grand Army of the Republic encampment was set up in Huntington Beach in 1906.

county cemeteries from about a dozen to 80, collecting detailed backgrounds on most of them. Gordon Bricken, a former Santa Ana mayor who has spent years tracking down both Union and Confederate grave sites, has documented 278 Union graves at Fairhaven and the older Santa Ana Cemetery, where most of the war's veterans can be found. Paul Gillette and others have restored dozens of the grave-stones, and counted more than 650 Civil War graves around the county. It's the re-enactments that draw the crowds. For Holcomb, Clink and others, these replayed battle scenes and authentic campsites are all about getting it right – the same tents, the same gunpowder, the same uniforms and the same food.

They try mightily to get every detail right – from cooking the same kinds of stews over a



Courtesy of First American Title

UNION VETERAN: An unidentified member of the GAR.

fire to carrying the bare essentials, a blanket and little else.

A few may stray on the side of comfort, crawling into sleeping bags and hiding ice chests in a corner of a tent. But each presents as accurate a picture

of a soldier's life as he can – and, sometimes, as she can.

FIRST-PERSON ACCOUNTS

A few dozen women may join in this weekend, mostly as nurses or *vivandieres*. In the Civil War, the latter were mostly foreign-born wives of soldiers who carried water or even regimental flags into battle, said Treese Hellstrom, a Huntington Beach woman who's participated in re-enactments.

Serious re-enactors skip the general histories – and their emphasis on the generals. Instead, they read the first-person accounts of common soldiers.

One "bible" of re-enactors is "Hard Tack and Coffee" by John D. Billings, who offers a candid and detailed description of life in the Army of the Potomac.

Hard-core re-enactors head



The Orange County Register

east periodically to relive the campaigns of their regiments, following the unit's every move by the book – in Clink's case, a history of the Pennsylvania regiment that's several inches thick.

Clink participated in the same Red River re-enactment that Holcomb did in 1994, though they didn't meet among the thousands who participated.

Clink marched 10-15 miles day after day, skirmishing with Confederate units and pounding in stakes for their tents.

When the real soldiers' bill of fare turned to corn and peaches, so it did for the re-enactors more than 130 years later.

BIGGER BACK EAST

Of course, there wasn't much blood spilled in California during the Civil War, and none in Orange County.

That's why re-enactments here can't match those waged on or near the hallowed battlefields back East, where thousands of re-enactors display famous battles in full regalia and drama.

No single battle will be portrayed this weekend. But you may glimpse bits and pieces of an authentic scenario, such as Pickett's charge at Gettysburg. Clink, Holcomb and others don't skimp in their effort just because the names of Huntington Beach and Irvine don't ring with the authority of Chancellorsville or Chattanooga.

It costs \$2,500 to fully outfit yourself with authentic gear, from cap to boots and weaponry, Clink said.

From there, the cost gets more modest: about \$10 for enough gunpowder and food to get through the next weekend's event.

Clink says the only thing missing will be the blood and the deaths.

21st century comforts.

Still, seeing him in full uniform, you might blink once or twice. He could pass for the colonel he portrays in the 100th Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers.

Why does he go to so much trouble to re-enact a war 130 years old?

"What these veterans did to keep the Union together, we have to keep it in the public's eye," he said. "Our primary goal is education."

Hundreds of spectators will hear cannons belch fire and sniff the acrid odor of gunpowder this weekend at Huntington Central Park.

Clink, 38, started the annual event five years ago. It gets bigger every year, with about 300 re-enactors participating last year.

Re-enactors - please don't call them "Civil War buffs" - undergo the hardships of encampments and smoky battle scenes for many reasons, including honoring ancestors.

Some just like to crawl under the skin of a 19th century soldier for a couple days.

Clink caught the Civil War bug when he was 8 years old, and wrapped himself in the Confederate gray of the First Texas Infantry at 16.

He switched sides to the 100th Pennsylvania after finding a great-great uncle, John T. Cooper, who fought with that regiment from 1862 to the war's end in 1865.

Cooper somehow survived Antietam, Petersburg, Vicksburg, and other battles with only a minor mishap: a mini-ball that zipped the tip of his nose off at Spotsylvania in 1864.

In real life, Clink is a historical film consultant. The son of a stunt man, Clink oversaw battle scenes for the movie "Amistad" and the History Channel's "Civil War Journal."

He'll sometimes stray from Civil War accuracy to sci-fi fantasy, such as helping to build the first Borg space ship for a "Star Trek: The Next Generation" TV episode.

STEPPING BACK IN TIME

At the Confederate camp, Stephen Holcomb won't take up arms this weekend. But he'll show you how the other side lived.



EUGENE GARCIA/The Orange County Register

FAMILIAL LINK: Carl Clink of Huntington Beach portrays a Union soldier in the 100th Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers. His great-great uncle fought with that regiment from 1862 until the war ended in 1865. An authentic Civil War outfit costs \$2,500, Clink said.

A member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, Holcomb is the great-great grandson of Richard Peter Sheppard, a Texas infantryman.

The group, like the Sons of Union Veterans, are echoes of the veterans groups that once paraded and camped in Orange County: the Grand Army of the Republic and the United Confederate Veterans.

Like many descendants, Holcomb, 54, bristles at the suggestion that Southern soldiers fought for slavery.

It took an agonizing week-long re-enactment of the 1864 Red River campaign, tramping up to 15 miles a day in drenching rain, to convince Holcomb where he stood on that issue.

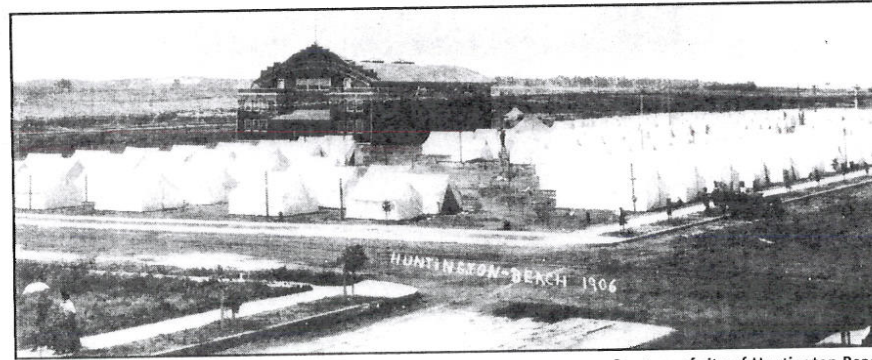
"That's when I really began to understand that it was not really for slavery that they fought," he said. "No one would put themselves through that, put their lives on the line just so somebody else could keep slaves."

He pulls out heartfelt letters from his wife and daughter, and memories of stomping the same ground his ancestor trod upon. He believes Southern soldiers, few of whom owned slaves, fought more to defend their land and way of life.

"There was motivation," Holcomb said. "It just came from a place I didn't really expect."

Holcomb, an Irvine arborist, also is among a dedicated few who document and honor the Orange County grave sites of Civil War veterans.

Holcomb has taken the number of known Confederates in

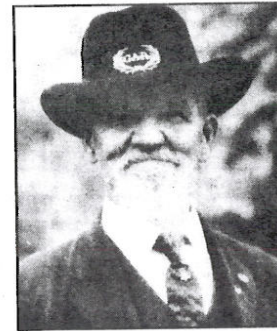


Courtesy of city of Huntington Beach

TENT CITY: A Grand Army of the Republic encampment was set up in Huntington Beach in 1906.

county cemeteries from about a dozen to 80, collecting detailed backgrounds on most of them. Gordon Bricken, a former Santa Ana mayor who has spent years tracking down both Union and Confederate grave sites, has documented 278 Union graves at Fairhaven and the older Santa Ana Cemetery, where most of the war's veterans can be found. Paul Gillette and others have restored dozens of the grave-stones, and counted more than 650 Civil War graves around the county. It's the re-enactments that draw the crowds. For Holcomb, Clink and others, these replayed battle scenes and authentic campsites are all about getting it right - the same tents, the same gunpowder, the same uniforms and the same food.

They try mightily to get every detail right - from cooking the same kinds of stews over a



Courtesy of First American Title

UNION VETERAN: An unidentified member of the GAR.

fire to carrying the bare essentials, a blanket and little else.

A few may stray on the side of comfort, crawling into sleeping bags and hiding ice chests in a corner of a tent. But each presents as accurate a picture

of a soldier's life as he can - and, sometimes, as she can.

FIRST-PERSON ACCOUNTS

A few dozen women may join in this weekend, mostly as nurses or *vivandieres*. In the Civil War, the latter were mostly foreign-born wives of soldiers who carried water or even regimental flags into battle, said Treese Hellstrom, a Huntington Beach woman who's participated in re-enactments.

Serious re-enactors skip the general histories - and their emphasis on the generals. Instead, they read the first-person accounts of common soldiers.

One "bible" of re-enactors is "Hard Tack and Coffee" by John D. Billings, who offers a candid and detailed description of life in the Army of the Potomac.

Hard-core re-enactors head



The Orange County Reg

east periodically to relive campaigns of their regiment following the unit's move by the book - in Clink's case, a history of the Pennsylvania regiment that's several inches thick.

Clink participated in same Red River re-enactment that Holcomb did in 1996, though they didn't meet at the thousands who participated.

Clink marched 10-15 miles a day after day, skirmishing Confederate units and pitching in stakes for their tents.

When the real soldiers' fare turned to corn peaches, so it did for the re-enactors more than 130 years later.

BIGGER BACK EAST

Of course, there was much blood spilled in California during the Civil War and none in Orange County.

That's why re-enactment here can't match those on or near the hallowed battlefields back East, where sands of re-enactors displace mous battles in full regalia drama.

No single battle will be replayed this weekend. But may glimpse bits and pieces of an authentic scenario, su Pickett's charge at Gettysburg. Clink, Holcomb and others don't skimp in their effort because the names of Huntington Beach and Irvine don't have the authority of Chattanooga or Chattanooga.

It costs \$2,500 to fully outfit yourself with authentic gear from cap to boots and onry, Clink said.

From there, the cost is more modest: about \$100 for enough gunpowder and food to get through the next weekend.

Clink says the only missing will be the blood of the deaths.

Civil War veterans helped O.C. secede from Los Angeles County

Texas Infantry at 16.

He switched sides to the 100th Pennsylvania after finding a great-great uncle, John T. Cooper, who fought with that regiment from 1862 to the war's end in 1865.

Cooper somehow survived Antietam, Petersburg, Vicksburg, and other battles with only a minor mishap: a mini-ball that zipped the tip of his nose off at Spotsylvania in 1864.

In real life, Clink is a historical film consultant. The son of a stunt man, Clink oversaw battle scenes for the movie "Amistad" and the History Channel's "Civil War Journal."

He'll sometimes stray from Civil War accuracy to sci-fi fantasy, such as helping to build the first Borg space ship for a "Star Trek: The Next Generation" TV episode.

STEPPING BACK IN TIME

At the Confederate camp, Stephen Holcomb won't take up arms this weekend. But he'll show you how the other side lived.

long re-enactment of the 1864 Red River campaign, tramping up to 15 miles a day in drenching rain, to convince Holcomb where he stood on that issue.

"That's when I really began to understand that it was not really for slavery that they fought," he said. "No one would put themselves through that, put their lives on the line just so somebody else could keep slaves."

He pulls out heartfelt letters from his wife and daughter, and memories of stomping the same ground his ancestor trod upon. He believes Southern soldiers, few of whom owned slaves, fought more to defend their land and way of life.

"There was motivation," Holcomb said. "It just came from a place I didn't really expect."

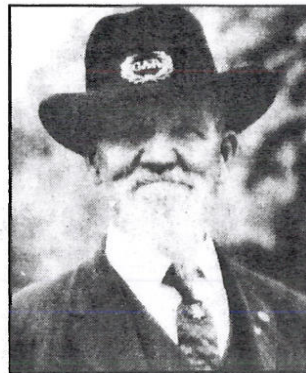
Holcomb, an Irvine arborist, also is among a dedicated few who document and honor the Orange County grave sites of Civil War veterans.

Holcomb has taken the number of known Confederates in

TENT CITY: A Grand Army of the Republic encampment was set up in Huntington Beach in 1906.

county cemeteries from about a dozen to 80, collecting detailed backgrounds on most of them. Gordon Bricken, a former Santa Ana mayor who has spent years tracking down both Union and Confederate grave sites, has documented 278 Union graves at Fairhaven and the older Santa Ana Cemetery, where most of the war's veterans can be found. Paul Gillette and others have restored dozens of the grave-stones, and counted more than 650 Civil War graves around the county. It's the re-enactments that draw the crowds. For Holcomb, Clink and others, these replayed battle scenes and authentic campsites are all about getting it right - the same tents, the same gunpowder, the same uniforms and the same food.

They try mightily to get every detail right - from cooking the same kinds of stews over a



Courtesy of First American Title

UNION VETERAN: An unidentified member of the GAR.

fire to carrying the bare essentials, a blanket and little else.

A few may stray on the side of comfort, crawling into sleeping bags and hiding ice chests in a corner of a tent. But each presents as accurate a picture

Courtesy of city of Huntington Beach

of a soldier's life as he can - and, sometimes, as *she* can.

FIRST-PERSON ACCOUNTS

A few dozen women may join in this weekend, mostly as nurses or *vivandieres*. In the Civil War, the latter were mostly foreign-born wives of soldiers who carried water or even regimental flags into battle, said Treese Hellstrom, a Huntington Beach woman who's participated in re-enactments.

Serious re-enactors skip the general histories - and their emphasis on the generals. Instead, they read the first-person accounts of common soldiers.

One "bible" of re-enactors is "Hard Tack and Coffee" by John D. Billings, who offers a candid and detailed description of life in the Army of the Potomac.

Hard-core re-enactors head

fornia during the Civil War, and none in Orange County.

That's why re-enactments here can't match those waged on or near the hallowed battlefields back East, where thousands of re-enactors display famous battles in full regalia and drama.

No single battle will be portrayed this weekend. But you may glimpse bits and pieces of an authentic scenario, such as Pickett's charge at Gettysburg. Clink, Holcomb and others don't skimp in their effort just because the names of Huntington Beach and Irvine don't ring with the authority of Chancellorsville or Chattanooga.

It costs \$2,500 to fully outfit yourself with authentic gear, from cap to boots and weaponry, Clink said.

From there, the cost gets more modest: about \$10 for enough gunpowder and food to get through the next weekend's event.

Clink says the only thing missing will be the blood and the deaths.

Civil War veterans helped O.C. secede from Los Angeles County

By JOHN WESTCOTT

The Orange County Register

Victor Montgomery, early Orange County's most prominent lawyer, drafted the original bill creating the county.

Dr. William Wall, leader of the Orange County Society and the Santa Ana Valley Irrigation Co., was the county's first treasurer.

The connection between these two men, along with many other respected citizens of early Orange County? Before they came here, they fought for the Confederacy.

Montgomery was a famed scout under Gen. Nathan B. Forrest. He was captured, only to make a daring escape the next day.

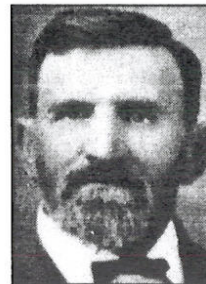
Wall was the head surgeon of the 33rd Mississippi Regiment, rising to the rank of major.

You could say the South fell at Appomattox Courthouse in 1865 - only to rise again in Orange County. And that here, its former warriors finally got the secession they wanted. Just not the one they started out for back in 1861.

The secession they got was Orange County's, in 1889, from the hated "north": Los Angeles.

After the war, many left a ravaged South, seeking a fresh start. Often, they headed first to Texas, then up to the Midwest. From there, they took the intercontinental railroad, completed in 1869, to California.

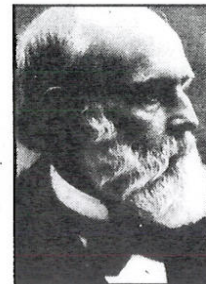
Many Union veterans also



JOSHUA JOPLIN



VICTOR MONTGOMERY



JAMES TOWNER

migrated west. Southerners were greatly outnumbered by their former foes and other Republicans in Orange County. Yet many became prominent community leaders. And it was mostly Southerners who led

the effort to separate from Los Angeles County.

To win the vote, they had to work with people who had been their enemies. It was a difficult effort, thwarted by Los Angeles County for years.

That changed in 1889, when leaders in Santa Ana succeeded in getting the issue on the ballot. Voters overwhelmingly approved the new county on June 4, 1889.

Six weeks later, a nonpartisan slate of candidates won nearly all of the county offices, including a decorous mix of both Blue and Gray.

Other Civil War veterans who played key roles in early Orange County:

► James Towner, a captain in the Union's 9th Iowa who lost an eye at Pea Ridge, became the county's first Superior Court judge.

► Joshua Joplin, a Confederate who fought at Antietam and Gettysburg, served as county treasurer from 1898-1918. He

was active in many local groups. The Joplin Youth Center in Trabuco Canyon is named for him.

► Dr. Henry Head, a Confederate captain who fought valiantly at Chickamauga and other battle sites, campaigned for Orange County's creation, served as state assemblyman, and for 28 years was a Garden Grove school trustee.

► William Clayton, a Union veteran, served on the Orange City Council and was city treasurer for five terms.

► Dr. John Lacy, a surgeon of an Arkansas regiment and honoree for gallantry at Prairie Grove, was elected to the Santa Ana City Council. His youngest brother, Theo, was Orange County sheriff for 16 years.