



CALIFORNIA  
National Organization for Women

*Working to advance the women & girls of California*



March 1, 2011

Visitors per month: 8,150

### **Women in Military History**

*During Women's History Month, we'll be featuring a post each week from [America Comes Alive!](#) on little-known American women's history.*



Sarah Emma Edmonds (1841-1898), who served during the Civil War using the alias Franklin Thompson. Dressed as a man, Edmonds enlisted in the Second Michigan Regiment of Volunteer Infantry with the Union Army and fought at the first Battle of Bull Run. Later she became a colonel's aide and served as a spy behind Confederate lines. A few of her fellow soldiers realized

she was a female, but they kept her secret.

In 1882 she applied for a pension as Sarah Edmonds, noting that she had served as Private Franklin Thompson. Several soldiers testified as to her loyalty, hard work, and effort, and she not only was granted a pension but she became the only woman inducted into the Civil War Veterans' Organization.

*In celebration of March and Women's History Month, **America Comes Alive!** will feature "**30 Under 30**" – women who have made contributions to the society we live in. Check back here every Monday to see this week's theme and featured woman, and visit [AmericaComesAlive.com](http://AmericaComesAlive.com) daily in March to see each day's featured woman.*

###