



BUGLE CALLS



SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Volume 20 Number 12 P. O. Box 5695 Fresno CA 93755 DECEMBER 2012

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Board of Directors

President

Michael Green
847 E. Pleasant
Tulare, CA 93274
Phone (559) 688-2134
E-mail Address: osogreen@aol.com

Vice-President and Programs

Pattie Spencer
1548 W Vasser Ave Fresno CA 93705
Phone (559) 233 1059 (559) 304 8170
E-mail Address: pds8919@aol.com

Treasurer & Web Master

Walter Schulze [Gail]
1432 Locust Ave
Clovis, CA 93611
Phone (559) 297-4481
E-mail Address: wschulze1@sbcglobal.net

Secretary

Ron Vaughan
730 E Tulare Ave
Tulare CA 93274
E-mail Address: ronvaughan@prodigy.net

Bugle Call Editor

Ron Vaughan
730 E Tulare Ave
Tulare CA 93274
E-mail Address: ronvaughan@prodigy.net

Members at Large

Michael Spencer
1548 W Vasser Ave Fresno CA 93705
Phone (559) 233 1059 (559) 304 8170
E-mail Address: pds8919@aol.com

Member at Large & Past President

Brian Clague (Linda)
PO Box 116
Saver Lake, CA 93664
Phone 559-841-7161 Cell 559-284-4969
E-mail Address: bclague@netptc.net

PRESIDENT'S REPORT DECEMBER 2012

Hello again:

First I want to wish everyone a wonderful holiday season and an outstanding new year. My goodness where has the time gone?

Most of my report for this month was in the individual emails that I sent to you. Just to recap what was in the email:

1. Our December meeting will be a Christmas party at Walt and Gail's place. So far about 16 people have RSVP'd that they are going to attend. If you are going to make the party, please let them know if you are planning to attend.

Ron Vaughn is organizing a gift exchange for the party. Contact him for more information.

2. Dues are due. The yearly dues are \$35.00. Please remit your dues to Walt.

3. We are moving along on our conference that we are hosting on a cruise ship from November 1, 2012 through November 4, 2012. We need to get people signed up ASAP to be able to hold the rooms. The down payment is \$150.00 per person.

I received some unfortunate information today in that Jack Davis will not be able to join us as a speaker. He found out that he has a previous engagement that he will not be able to break. I will be looking for someone to fill Jack's place. He gave me a good lead and I will be working on trying to secure another top notch speaker.

We did get some good news in that Michael Oddlenino has agreed to join our speakers and will be presenting a talk on Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. Michael has also agreed to work with Walt on a web site for the conference. Michael will be a valuable addition to our team.

Since the last meeting I was able to attend the San Francisco and the Peninsula round tables [I was in the bay area for Thanksgiving with my family] and presented the information about the conference. I am hoping that we will be able to recruit some people in those areas.

Walt and I continue to heal from the accident we were in while traveling to the conference in Orange County. Walt has found that he had a couple broken ribs that he didn't know about after the initial examination. He is slowly recovering and I wish him a speedy recovery. I am still bothered by the whiplash that I received from the accident. My head and neck doesn't want to work properly and because my head is forward of my body, my balance leaves much to be desired. But I am healing and have gotten back on the horse that threw me off [Not really a horse but I have started to drive again, but not in my car which was totaled in the accident] the incident has made me much more careful about my driving.

We will need your help to make sure the conference will be a success. I

will be contacting you to see what you will be willing to do.

Again have a wonderful holiday season and I hope to see you at Walt and Gail's home on December 13.

Respectfully Yours,

Michael Green

President SJVCWRT

AFTER ACTION REPORT

SJVCWRT MEETING OF 11/8/12

By Ron Vaughan

. Fifteen persons were present, including 5 new persons. Walt Schulze was absent due to an auto accident injury, when he and Mike Green were in route to the CW Conference.

. We discussed the 2013 Conference Cruise. Reservations are now open, with \$150 deposit.

. Elections of Officers. All current officers agreed to continue, and there were no new nominations. Unanimous voice vote re-elected the slate of officers.

. We made roughly \$200 with the raffle sales at Kearney Park. Tickets were drawn for the prize winners.

. Christmas meeting discussed. We will meet on 2nd Thursday, at Schulze home. Ron will see if a banjo player he met at Kearney can come.

It will be a potluck. Hosts will provide Ham, while persons will bring a salad or dessert, and a gift for exchange.

. Tom Lubas of the North Bay CWRT gave a presentation on General Benjamin F. Butler, entitled: "Lincoln's Conundrum." Butler was born in 1818, in Deerfield N.H. His father died of Yellow Fever. Ben was a bright lad, at the age of four he could read and write. he wanted to attend West Point, but his mother sent him to Waterville College, a Calvinist seminary.

He was an impertinent and impudent student. He heard a lawyer speak to his class,

and he decided to become an "arguer."

. Ben read law and in 1840 started his own practice. He was a sharp and crafty lawyer, always looking for loopholes or technicalities in the law or a case. As an attorney, he won an acquittal for a burglar caught red-handed, and many other clients got off. Ben became interested in politics, and sympathetic for the mill workers who worked long 12 hour or more days. He tried to convince the legislature to pass a 10 hour workday law, but never succeeded. However, his speeches and activities convinced mill owners to voluntarily change to a 10 hours work day. Butler became a delegate to the Democratic Convention, and played a role in the split of the party support for Douglas to Breckinridge.

When the war began, Butler used his political power to engineer an appointment as a Brigadier General of the Massachusetts Militia Brigade.

Butler secured Annapolis, Md., and on his own initiative, occupied Baltimore, and its important rail road junction. The War Department was upset at him, but the public adored him, and his activities sold newspapers. He was promoted to Major General, and was assigned to Fort Monroe, on the Virginia peninsula. When a Southern officer came to claim his runaway slaves, demanding enforcement of the Fugitive Slave Law, Butler refused, declaring the slaves were "contraband of war." This policy was adopted by the Lincoln Administration. On June 9th, Butler ordered an attack on Confederate forces at Big Bethel. It was the first battle of the war, but the defeat resulted in the papers calling for his removal.

Butler survived, and was reassigned to be Military Governor of New Orleans. Southern mobs tore down U.S. flags and Southern ladies were insulting to Union soldiers. Butler had the mob leader arrested, tried, and hung. This served to control the mobs. He curbed the harassing ladies by issuing the infamous "Woman Order" stating that any lady who insulted the troops would be treated as "a woman of the town." Butler financially aided the widow of the gallows victim, and had soldiers clean the streets to combat sickness. Nevertheless, Southerners were enraged by his rule, calling him "Beast Butler," accusing him of stealing spoons for a hotel, and Jeff Davis declared he would hang Butler, if he was caught. Butler was popular in the North, and some wanted him to be Vice President, but he declined.

Butler was placed in charge of the operation to capture Fort Fisher. He created a cunning plan to sail a ship packed with gunpowder near the fort, and blow it up. However, the explosion did little damage. Then he ordered an infantry attack, without reconnaissance, into a minefield. Grant relieved Butler.

Butler was wealthy, and used his funds to buy 12 Gatling guns for use of his troops during the Siege of Petersburg. When 500 of his Colored troops were casualties in an attack on new Market Heights, he purchased 200 medals for his wounded troops. In 1873 he bought the yacht "America", which won several cup races. His estate at

his death was \$3 million.

After the war he was involved in the impeachment of President Johnson. In 1883 Butler was elected Governor of Mass. He died in 1893, and his tombstone reads: "The touchstone of liberty is not that all men are created equal, but that everyman has the right to be the equal of every other man, if he can."

CIVIL WAR HUMOR

From "The Blue and Gray Laughing"

. "The people of Virginia have very queer ideas about our soldiers, and some of them are amusing. Among the cavalrymen who made a raid on Wytheville, was a certain Captain Y---, who has a remarkable fondness for buttermilk as a beverage, and who is in the habit of calling for it constantly at the farmhouses he passes when on a scout. On the road to Wytheville he, with others, halted before a respectable-looking house, when they were met at the door by the frightened inmates with cries of, 'The Yankees have come!' One of them, a 'virgin on to forty,' stretched forth her hands and with the most imploring gestures exclaimed, 'Gentlemen, burn my house, destroy my property, do what you will- but spare my honor!'"

. 'Confound your honor!' said the irate captain Y---. 'Have you got any buttermilk?'"

Since my Civil War Quizes have brought no responses, I am discontinuing this idea.

SJVCWRT CHRISTMAS PARTY

DEC. 13, 6:00 PM

SCHULZE HOME, 1432 LOCUST AVE., CLOVIS

Jimmy Collier will entertain us with banjo music.

Bring: 1. Wrapped gift (\$10 or less value) for exchange (used book, gift card, cookies, ect.)

2. Food item: (Salad if last name A-M, Dessert or Christmas Goodies if N-Z)

3. Optional Beverage.