



# **BUGLE CALLS, SUMMER 2022**

## **SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE**

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### **1. AUGUST 20<sup>th</sup> BARBEQUE**

Clague's Cabin #13, Rock Haven, Shaver Lake, 1:00 pm

Last name A-M bring dessert or salad, N-Z appetizer or side dish.

**Call Brian & Linda for RSVP & directions at (559) 284- 4969, or e-mail [brianhclague@gmail.com](mailto:brianhclague@gmail.com)**

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## **2. COMING EVENTS:**

A. September 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting: Professor Alan Sissenwein on General “Kill Cavalry”

B. October: Kearney Park, Civil War?

C. October 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting: Tom Ebert on Lincoln and Emancipation

D. November 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>: West Coast Civil War Conference, Fresno

C. Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting: Ron Vaughan presents “10 Critical Decisions” that determined the outcome of the Civil War

D. December 8<sup>th</sup>: Christmas Party and Michael Spencer sharing about R.E. Lee’s 2<sup>nd</sup> Home at Derwent

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### **3. PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

**BY MICHAEL SPENCER**

Hi there,

Last week I attended the Westerner's @ Mimi's Cafe a guest of Lisa Peters', after dinner we heard the speaker talk about the antebellum south (civil war before & after). It was very informative. Lots of photos.

As you know our C W group is on a summer hiatus, so no meeting June - July. Ron emailed me that Brian and Linda have chosen a date for the Shaver BBQ, it will be, Saturday August 20<sup>th</sup>. See "Events" for details.

P.S. Jonathan (Schultz) and Katie got married May 14th.

Regards,

Michael Spencer

**This month's CW tidbit....Stonewall Jackson's flank march and attack, May 2nd.**

After concluding their momentous conference Stonewall Jackson left Lee to get his division moving. About 7 AM the lead regiments far past Lee's headquarters. Then Jackson appeared, the two men talked briefly and Jackson canceled along the furnace Road. The two daring generals never saw each other again. Jackson spurred ahead to join General Robert Rhodes division in the lead and to urge the troops to hurry. "Press on press forward" he called out over and over leaning forward on his horse, his cap as usual pulled down almost over his eyes. "Permit no struggling. See that the column kept closed. Press on press on!"

Speed was indeed essential. To work his way around to Hookers right, Jackson had to march his 26,000 soldiers almost 14 miles on a roundabout route along the narrow dirt road, he hoped were hidden from the federal's. And he had to do it while before nightfall, to allow time to deploy and launch his surprise attack. The weary, underfed troops trudged on as best they could, the column heading west and south on furnace Road then eventually north on rock Road with a few delays.

Jackson's march had in fact been spotted by union lookout at Hazel Grove, a small rise south -west of Chancellorsville. Given the news, Hooker soon concluded correctly for once that Lee might be trying to flank him, and he sent a message to General Howard the XI Corps commander, but then hooker did nothing to harass Jackson's column until mid-day, when he finally gave Sickles 3rd Corps permission to advance cautiously. The combative Sickles did more than that launching an attack that strictly overran what amounted to Jackson's rear guard the 23rd Georgia at Catherine furnace, and threaten to roll up the rear of Jackson's column. Soon, however, a rebel counterattack threw the federals back.

This commotion actually aided Jackson. Combine with reports that the long confederate columns sneaking west including number of wagons it somehow convinced Hooker that Lee's entire army was retreating. Out on the union right, where the blow was to fall, Senior commanders dismissed the warning of Jackson's approach that came in sick and fast from Federal pickets throughout the afternoon.

By the time the Confederate troops reached the orange turnpike and started deploying, less than three hours of daylight remained, but Jackson never thought of postponing the attack. Quietly with orders murmured and undertones the officers marshaled troops into two long

lines straddling the Orange Turnpike, Raleigh E. Colston's next, with AP Hills still forming up in the rear. Finally at 5:15 PM by his pocket watch Jackson turn to Roses and said simply you can go forward then.

Minutes after Rodes' troops moved they were spotted and fired on by startled union pickets. The surprise over, the attackers screamed the blood curdling rebel yell – forward through the dense underbrush and smashed into the camps of Leopold von Gilsa's brigade. Some of the union troops from ranks and got off a volley or two, but most were taken in the flank by blast of gun fire and fled without firing a shot.

Shortly the federal retreat turned into a rout, and terrified men streamed through the forest in chaos. By dusk the Confederates had race to head in there while charge more than 2 miles, but by then many units had become mixed, and the exhausted and famished men were unable to find their officers or regiments. Slowly the attack shuttered to a halt.

Well after dark, assist officers desperately try to sort out their distorted ranks, Jackson did something innocuous but perfectly in character. Not satisfied with his brilliant victory, he wrote ahead to scout out a side track of the plank Road that he could use to watch a night attack and, he hoped, utterly destroy the enemy. Has he wrote back

about 9 PM jittery troops of the 18th North Carolina mistook his party for federal Calvary and fired wildly into the dark. Jackson was hit three times, two bullets shattering his left arm, which was amputated shortly after he was taken to the rear.

While a courier had reached General Lee with the news that Jackson had been shot by his own troops. Lee gave a moan and seemed on the verge of tears, the courier recalled, then asked not to hear of any details. "It's too painful to talk about," said Lee. Any victory is dearly but which deprives us of the services of General Jackson even for a short time. But then Lee turn to business confirming the appointment of Jeff Stewart to take over Jackson score and sending Stewart firm orders to hit the Federals with everything he had the next morning.

From the Time Life book *“Voices of the Civil War-Chancellorsville”*

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#### **4.) AFTER ACTION REPORT: Meeting of May 12th**

**By Ron Vaughan**

\* Fourteen persons were present, including Brian and Linda Clague, who have returned to our area.

\* Treasurer's Report: Bank balance for 4/29/2022 is \$1,481. 6 reservations for Nov. 2022 CWRT Conference.

\* Brian reported the Scottsdale CWRT has lectures online one can view.

\* Ron has acquired 3 boxes of CW books from his late cousin David Vaughan. These will be donated for raffles.

\* Program: "The 1<sup>st</sup> Black Regiment in the Civil War." By Ron V. Opened with a brief look back at the history of Black participation.

1. The first American to die in the American Revolution was Crispus Attucks, who was shot by the British in the Boston Massacre, 1770.

2. The first Black unit in the American Army was the 1<sup>st</sup> Rhode Island Regiment raised in 1778. It fought bravely through the war until the end at Yorktown.

3. At the Battle of New Orleans, 1815, a battalion of Freemen of Color participated.

4. The first Black unit to serve in the Civil War was the 1<sup>st</sup> Louisiana Native Guard Regiment, Confederate!! Louisiana had some 25,000 free Blacks, and 1500 volunteered in in 1861 to defend New Orleans. All the company officers were Blacks. When Admiral Farregut's fleet approached the city, the Mayor ordered them to disband.

In Sept. 1862, only 107 men and 10 officers (ex-CSA) joined the Union 1<sup>st</sup> La. Native Guard.



5. After the Civil War broke out, Senator James Lane began raising a regiment in June 1862. Recruits were free Blacks and runaway slaves. This was done without authorization by President Lincoln or the War Department. It was mustered into Kansas State service August 4, 1862. Note that the famous 54<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts started recruiting in February 1863.

6. The Colonel of the 1<sup>st</sup> Kansas was James Williams, who had participated in the Underground Railroad. Company D had a Black Captain and two Lieutenants.

7. Not only was the 1<sup>st</sup> Kansas the first recruited, but the first Black unit to fight. Their 1<sup>st</sup> battle was on October 27<sup>th</sup>, at Island Mound, Missouri. One of the Confederate guerrilla's they fought said the Black soldiers "fought like tigers!"

8. Their battles were: 5/18/63 Rader's Farm, 7/1& 2/63 Cabin Creek, 7/17/63 Honey Springs, 4/18/64 Poison Springs, 9/16/64 Flat Rock Creek, 7/31/64 Fort Smith. All were hard fought and Confederates showed no mercy to the 1<sup>st</sup> Kansas wounded, shooting them in cold blood. On 12/13/64 the Regiment was reorganized as the 79<sup>th</sup> U.S. Colored Regiment, which served until it was mustered out 10/18/65. It was the last Colored unit to be mustered out.

9. Of the total of about 1,000 men, the unit lost 344: 5 officers and 173 enlisted killed, 1 officer and 165 men died of disease.

10. The 54<sup>th</sup> Mass, would surpass the 1<sup>st</sup> Kansas in historical scholarship and popular memory, but it pioneered the use of Black enlistment, and it set the stage for Civil Rights in America, changing the misconceptions of those who thought the Black man unequal, and unfit for the task of fighting for his own freedom.

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## **5.) CIVIL WAR HUMOR**

### **From “The Blue & Gray Laughing”**

A weekly series of newspaper cartoons “Humors of the War” depicted two Confederate troopers slouched under a tree along a river bank: “This is the way a southern gentleman has to fight for his country, is it?”  
“Breakfast! Why, I’ve lived two days, now, on an old boot, and a darn poor boot at that!”