



# Bugle Calls



## SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT MAY 2015

It's a good thing that I went to the Son's of Norway meeting on Friday because I ran into Ron and he asked if I had sent my president's report into Walt... It had completely slipped my mind. So I'm sorry that this is going to be a little late.

Where the heck did April go? Whatever happened, it sure went fast.

We had a good meeting in April. David Davenport finished with his presentation, which he had started at our March meeting. It was an interesting presentation. I know that Ron will give a full breakdown of the presentation in his report.

The date of the meeting, April 9, which coincided with the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Lee's surrender of the Army of Virginia to the forces commanded by Grant, Ron directed me to put together a presentation on the run up to Appomattox. I presented a short power point program about what happened just before that event. Again I'm sure that Ron will give you a breakdown on the program.

Our last meeting before our summer break [we will resume our regular meetings again in September] will be on May 14, at the Denny's on Shaw Ave in Clovis. As usual, if you would like to have a meal and talk before the meeting we would suggest that you get there by 6 P.M. The meeting will start at 7 P.M. and our program will start about 7:15 and it will usually end around 8:30.

Walt will be presenting this month's program. He will give us a power point program on the railroads during the Civil War. Walt has already presented a talk on the railroad and [if his last presentation is any indicator we are in for a real treat]. The use of the railroads by both sides during the war changed the face of war from that point on.

I would like to remind you that the dues have been due since the beginning of the year. I hope that you will submit your dues to Lisa. Look for her address in the officer's information portion of the Bugle Call.

We will be discussing the West Coast Conference during the meeting at 7P.M. Ron is finishing up on the list of presenters.

At the end of the month I will be going to North Carolina on a tour dealing with Sherman's attack on Johnston's army in April of 1865. I will be going in a few days early so that I can go down into South Carolina and get some more information on Sherman's movement out of Georgia into South Carolina. This is my topic for the conference and I want to have some good shots of some of those skirmishes. It should be interesting. I will share it with you when I return.

Our fall schedule will start on September 10. We will also be doing our usual celebration at the Clague's during the summer. When that information becomes available, I will get it too you.

I hope to see you on the 14<sup>th</sup> but if I don't see you I want to wish you a wonderful Summer.

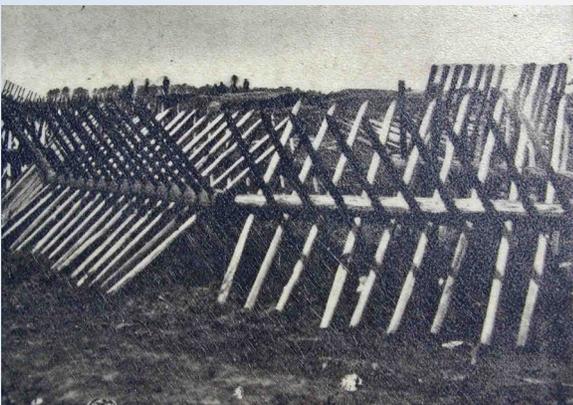
Yours:

Michael Green

President SJVCWRT

**These are some of the pictures from Mike's power point in April.**





# **AFTER ACTION REPORT**

## **SJVCWRT MEETING OF APRIL 9, 2015**

### **BY RON VAUGHAN, SECRETARY**

This was a very special night, the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia, 4/9/65! Fourteen persons were present for our commemoration. Mike Green showed a few slides of the Petersburg re-constructed defenses, the Union breakthrough point, and of course pics of Appomattox. Then we did some toasting with crystal wine glasses and sparkling cider that I brought.

After a very brief meeting, Dr. Davenport continued his talk on Lt. Davis and the 15<sup>th</sup> Indiana Regt. The Regt. had been recalled to Kentucky, and formed part of the army of Major General Carlos Buell, in Jan. '62. Being so close to their homes, the soldiers ate well from food packages sent by their families.

After Grant's capture of Fort Donelson, the Confederates abandoned the Bowling Green line, and retreated. Buell was ordered to advance and join Grant at Pittsburg Landing. Buell's troops began arriving during end of the first day of Shiloh. The next day the 15<sup>th</sup> participated in the battle. Afterward, by a coincidence, Davis encountered a school mate who had been serving with the Confederate 20<sup>th</sup> Tennessee.

After Shiloh, General Hallack decided to take personal command of the combined armies and advance on Corinth. Determined to avoid another surprise like Shiloh, Hallack had the army advance only a mile and a half each day, then entrench for the day and night. Therefore it took a month to reach, Corinth, whereupon the Confederates evacuated the important rail center.

Hallack then ordered Buell to march on Chattanooga, but insisted that the troops rebuild the railroad as they advanced. Of course this made for another slow advance. At Mooresville, Alabama, Buell stopped, due to doubt about the whereabouts of Bragg's Army. Bragg soon appeared in Kentucky, and Buell marched after him. This time leaving impediments behind, the army marched 20 to 25 miles a day. On August 30<sup>th</sup> Buell's vanguard clashed with Forrest's cavalry at Little Pond. Buell finally ran into Bragg at Perryville, Oct 8<sup>th</sup>.

After the battle, Bragg withdrew, and Buell was replaced by Rosecrans. At the end of the year, Rosecrans and Bragg would meet at Stones River. After the Tullahoma Campaign, Rosecrans maneuvered the Confederates out of Chattanooga, but soon was driven back after the battle of Chickamagua. Grant came to relieve besieged Chattanooga, and when the troops of General Thomas attacked up Missionary Ridge, the 15<sup>th</sup> Indiana was among them, and in the forefront of the attack against Bragg's Headquarters. According to David, the 15<sup>th</sup> went into action with 337 men and had 200 killed. He must have meant 200 casualties, of which maybe 1/3 were killed, 1/3 seriously wounded (many would die later). Since less than 200 men were

the 15<sup>th</sup> Regt. was folded into the 17<sup>th</sup> Indiana, so it ceased to exist. Lt. Davis had missed this battle, because he was elected County Clerk, so he resigned his commission and went home.

Dr. Davenport's Power Point featured many period illustrations and photos, plus modern pictures of locations, all a great improvement over the old days of over-head projectors.

We had our usual book raffle, and were finished by 8:30.

### **CIVIL WAR HUMOR**

#### **FROM 'THE BLUE & GRAY LAUGHING'**

"A young, stout, hale, hearty man in a South Carolina regiment went to General Lee, for the purpose of getting a furlough, when the following amusing incident took place—

General Lee: 'Sir, do you know the position of a soldier (position of attention)?'

Soldier (saluting the General: 'I do Sir.'

Lee: 'I want to see if you can execute two or three orders as I give them.'

Lee: (Viewing him closely and scrutinizing his position) 'About face. Forward march' (and never said "halt")."

## CIVIL WAR EVENTS OF MAY 1865

<a href="#">May 3, 1865</a>	Joseph "Joe" Brown, Governor of Georgia, calls a meeting of the state legislature when word reaches him of Joe Johnston's surrender.	<a href="#">Georgia</a>
<a href="#">May 4, 1865</a>	General Richard Taylor [CS] surrenders the remaining troops in Alabama and Mississippi based on an agreement signed two days earlier	<a href="#">Mississippi</a> <a href="#">Alabama</a>
<a href="#">May 6, 1865</a>	Shouting "Hurrah for Jeff Davis..." Philip Henry Mulkey was arrested in Eugene. A pro-Union mob broke down the jail door but Mulkey escaped harm.	<a href="#">Oregon</a>
<a href="#">May 10, 1865</a>	President Jefferson Davis is captured near Irwinville	<a href="#">Georgia</a>
	<a href="#">Jefferson Davis</a>	
<a href="#">May 10, 1865</a>	President Johnson declares armed resistance at an end	
	<a href="#">Andrew Johnson</a>	
	<a href="#">The Civil War</a>	
<a href="#">May 10, 1865</a>	The CSS <i>Imogene</i> becomes the last known ship to successfully run the naval blockade	
<a href="#">May 11, 1865</a>	Confederate Vice President Alexander Stephens is arrested at Liberty Hall, his estate in Crawfordville, Georgia by members of the 4th Iowa Cavalry.	<a href="#">Georgia</a>
	<a href="#">Alexander Stephens</a>	
<a href="#">May 12, 1865</a> <a href="#">May 13, 1865</a>	The last significant fighting of the Civil War takes place at the Palmito Ranch along the Rio Grande between Col. Theodore Barrett and John S. "RIP" Ford	<a href="#">Texas</a>
<a href="#">May 12, 1865</a>	8 conspirators in the Lincoln assassination plead not guilty to the military court holding the trial	
<a href="#">May 12, 1865</a>	Major General O. O. Howard is appointed by President Andrew Johnson to become head of the Freedman's Bureau	
<a href="#">May 14, 1865</a>	President Johnson issues a conditional amnesty to all persons engaged in the late Rebellion	
<a href="#">May 22, 1865</a>	Jefferson Davis imprisoned at Fort Monroe	
	<a href="#">Jefferson Davis</a>	
<a href="#">May 23, 1865</a>	Grand Review of the Army of the Potomac	
	<a href="#">Army of the Potomac</a>	
<a href="#">May 24, 1865</a>	Grand Review of Sherman's Army	
	<a href="#">William Tecumseh Sherman</a>	
<a href="#">May 29, 1865</a>	Andrew Johnson grants a Presidential pardon to those who directly or indirectly aided the Southern war effort. He restored property rights to the South with the exception of slaves. Unlike Lincoln's declaration in December, 1863, Johnson creates an exception for property owners whose holdings total \$20,000 dollars or more.	
	<a href="#">Andrew Johnson</a>	
<a href="#">May 29, 1865</a>	President Andrew Johnson appoints William Holden as provisional governor of North Carolina, a blueprint for his plans of Presidential Reconstruction. Holden was instructed to call a constitutional convention of men who had signed an oath of allegiance to the United States.	