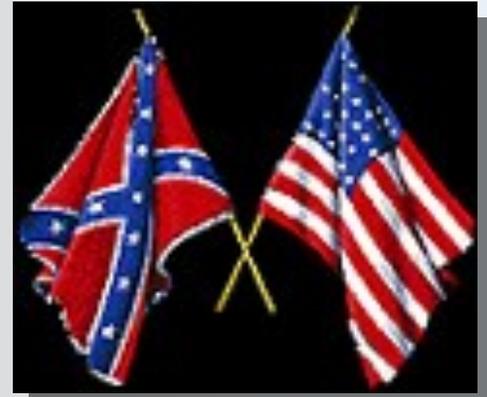




# Bugle Calls



## SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

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### SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

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### PRESIDENTS REPORT

#### BY MIKE GREEN JANUARY 2014

Hello to all of you, I hope that you had a wonderful Christmas and a great New Year!

It's hard to believe we are into the new year. It has been an interesting year to say the least. We survived our putting on of the West Coast conference, and we received some more nice comments from the participants.

Paula Adams writes:

"Dear Civil War friends: Wow, I learned so much from the conference and I still need to transcribe my notes!! My gratitude and thanks to all who gloriously spoke of their subject matter, especially those who traveled from afar and had to endure the LAX debacle -- needless to say, they arrived in good humor -- it certainly was not the typical Los Angeles welcome. In any event, I was very impressed with Carnival in delaying the cruise time to 8:00 pm to allow those to make it to the ship -- if they hadn't, we might have had to hear Michael's Ball's Bluff lecture at least one more time. Ha, ha. It was nice to meet you all, and I wish you a blessed holiday."

Buena and Dave Taylor wrote the following:

. "Just wanted to say that we really enjoyed the conference. We enjoyed the speakers and the willingness of everyone to roll with the circumstances. This conference stood up to past conferences very well. There were some interesting facts that were not known before and it is very exhilarating to be in on the discovery of these new historical aspects of the Civil War. Our compliments to the staff that organized this and to the speakers who were magnificent. This is truly a conference that will not be forgotten."

. Speaking of the conference, I want to thank Brian and Linda Clague for putting up the money so that we could make this event go. Overall they sponsored the conference to the tune of over \$1,300.00. This included sponsoring Craig Symonds and his wife's transportation to and from the conference. Paying for Mrs. Symonds room, and coming up with the money to pay for the extra baggage fees so that the wonderful dresses that Mrs. Hatcher and Mrs. Hutchinson wore to their presentations could get to the conference. Again, Brian and Linda, the Round Table owes you a great deal of thanks.

. We had a wonderful time at our December meeting which was held at Walt and Gail Schulze's home. It was a lot of fun. Speaking of meetings, our **next meeting** will be held at the Shaw Ave. Clovis Denny's on January 9, 2014, it will be our annual show and tell meeting. Bring something that you would like to share with the group. Please make your presentation 10 minutes or less. If you are intending to eat, please get there around 6 P.M. so that we will be ready to have our meeting at 7. We will be electing officers at this meeting. At the present time Brian Clague and Patty Spencer have indicated that they will be willing to serve as members at large. Ron Vaughn said that he will continue as the secretary and I have indicated that I will be willing to serve as President. We still need people to agree to be Vice President and Treasure. Please remember that you can't vote unless you are a member and dues for 2014 are due now. They are \$35.00/family.

. In **February, Walt Schulze will be presenting his program on the Railroads in the Civil War.** In **March Brian Clague will be presenting on the medical practices** during and after the battle of Chattanooga. We are in the process of getting speakers for the rest of the year. If you are interested in making a presentation, please contact me.

. I received a nice letter from Sharron and Tom Rosendahl. They have moved to Texas and are missed by the members of our Round Table. They let me know that in their travels, they had made it to Raymond and did locate the two cannon that our Round Table helped to fund. I was glad that they made the effort to get out there to see our contribution.

. Our friend General Parker Hills has been out working on the battlefield. He has done some more digging and has found some more interesting things about the battle. Below is his letter:

. "After our archaeology work today, despite the wet, mud, chilly air, and drizzle, we found a few items. We found more buckshot in the Upper Field, which is exactly what was expected. Those Texans were firing plenty of .33 cal. lead.

. One unknown item was found in the R&B field south of the guns at the old Magna Plant. We will work that issue to identify that oval-shaped piece of iron, but it is probably post-war.

. The melted lead found next to the creek in the heavily-fought over Upper Field almost certainly denotes another burial detail campsite. That would make four such sites that we have identified.

. A dropped .58 caliber Minié was found in the same line in the Middle Field as the dropped balls that we found in earlier searches. This ball was found about 12" down, with a lot of work on Alan and Tom's part to get through the oak tree roots. It was worth it because it tells a story that the federals, after being driven back across the creek, formed a battle line. This fits exactly into the report filed by COL Walker of the 3rd Tennessee."

. We made a contribution to the Friends of Raymond for a cannon in the name of Cameron Owens. We received a nice letter from Mr. and Mrs. Owens thanking us for making the contribution. The following is a copy of that letter:



Dear San Joaquin Valley Civil War Round Table Members,

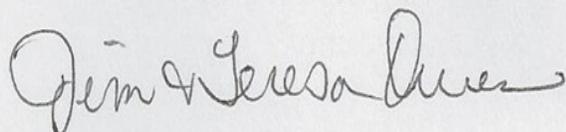
In the fall of 2012 your organization donated replica Civil War cannons to be placed on the battlefield where the Battle of Raymond was fought. One of those cannons was dedicated in memory of our son, Cameron Hunter Owen. We would like to formally thank you all for everything you did, not only to honor our son, but to help preserve the history of this great nation. We wish that each of you were able to visit the site. Pictures cannot do it justice. For those of us who appreciate history, the view of that battery standing at the ready, just as it happened in 1863, is truly awe inspiring.

Cameron would have been so proud to be honored in such a way. He loved Civil War history from a very young age. He decided he wanted to become a Civil War reenactor at the age of eleven, without the encouragement of anyone. Fortunately there was a group which accepted him as a member and he became an avid participant. After a few years with that group, he and some others formed their own unit, which was a hard core realism unit. That is, they slept on the ground, ate hardtack and sow belly, and expressed utter disdain for those who chose a less realistic, but more comfortable, approach to portraying the life of the Civil War soldier. Although he was their youngest member, he was selected to be the unit commander when he was sixteen. We tell you these things to let you know that he was truly one of you and would have considered it a high honor to be associated with a group like yours.

We will never be able to find the words to properly thank you for your gesture. Please accept this letter as our feeble, yet heartfelt, attempt to convey to you our eternal indebtedness to your organization.

May God bless you all.

With warmest regard,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jim & Teresa Owen". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and personal.

Jim and Teresa Owen

# **AFTER ACTION REPORT**

## **SJVCWRT CHRISTMAS PARTY, 2013**

**By Ron Vaughan**

We had 16 persons present for the holiday party at the lovely Schulze home. The food was good, the conversations pleasant, and nice gifts were drawn and exchanged. Mike Green provided a couple of 2014 self produced calendars. The shapes on the calendars were not lovely ladies, but Federal gunboats!

Mike reported that checks are still coming from Carnival, so we still do not know with certainty how the Cruise Conference will balance out.

The January 9<sup>th</sup> meeting topic will be "Show & Tell", so come and share a picture, book or artifact for 5 to 10 minutes.

### **CIVIL WAR HUMOR**

From the "Blue & Gray Laughing"

A Confederate wrote: "Five days of the year we have fasting and prayer; For the rest of the time, we fight, drink, and swear!"

### **HISTORICAL EVENTS OF JANUARY 1864**

\*Jan.—Confederate Secret Service begins manufacturing Coal Bombs for agents to throw into Union coal piles for ships, with the hope of sinking or damaging a vessel.

\*14<sup>th</sup>—General Sherman's Army begins to march south, beginning the Atlanta Campaign.

\*16 & 17<sup>th</sup>—Battle of Dandridge, TN: Union Maj. Gen. John Parke advanced and engaged Confederates of Lt. Gen. Longstreet. After an all day fight, Parke held his position, but retreated during the night.

26<sup>th</sup>—Battle of Athens GA: Union troops repel a Confederate cavalry raid.