



# Bugle Calls



## SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Volume 18 Number 5

P. O. Box 5695 Fresno CA 93755 MAY 2010

### SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

#### Board of Directors President

David Paul Davenport  
6156 N Mitre Ave  
Fresno CA 93722  
Phone (559) 277 3283  
E-mail Address:  
davidpauldavenport@yahoo.com

#### Vice-President and Programs

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

Bryce Kuykendall and  
[Chauffeur to the Secretary  
Neil Kuykendall]  
21001 East W. Seldon  
Sanger CA 93657  
Phone (559) 787 3632  
E-mail Address:  
bryce.kuykendall@gmail.com

#### Past President

Brian Clague [Linda]  
P O Box 116  
Shaver Lake, CA 93664  
Phone (559) 841-7161  
E-mail Address: bclague@netptc.net

#### Bugle Call Editor

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

#### Members at Large

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

### F. O. R.

## Friends of Raymond Battlefield UPDATE



Bob's cannon on Artillery hill



General Hills points to where the San Joaquin Valley Civil War Round Table name will be inscribed as a general for the park.

Mike Green

## President's Message

Our program on Thursday, May 13, begins at 7 pm so please arrive at 6 pm and order from the menu immediately. This will allow the cooks to prepare meals as orders are made and allow us to complete our eating (and pay our checks) before 7 pm. We want to avoid having the servers disrupt the presentation by distributing checks and taking payment.

Our meeting will be a tribute to the Jefferson Davis, who was born in a Kentucky 202 years ago. We sincerely hope that

Steve Ganner, the Valley's premier Davis presenter, will attend our festivities. As per the plans made last December before Mike Green became our vice-president and program coordinator, we will watch and comment upon the first 50-60 minutes of a four hour and ten minute documentary film about President Davis made by Percival Beacroft, Brian Gary, and Wendi Berman of Kultur. This segment addresses Davis's life prior to becoming a hero in the War against Mexico. I dare to say that this part of his life is least known to us and, so, our evening should be highly educational.

Elsewhere in this issue your president has a short review of a collection of essays about President Davis by William J. Cooper, Jr. of Louisiana State University.

I look forward to seeing you at Denny's in Clovis on Shaw just east of Willow at 6pm on Thursday, May 13, 2010.

David D

A tribute to civil war veterans in the form of a poem was found by your President while he combed back issues of the Fresno Morning Republican for information about union veterans who settled in Fresno and are buried at Mountain View Cemetery. It is reproduced below:

May 28, 1905.

UNDER THE FLOWERS: A POEM OF MEMORIAL DAY by T. C. Harbaugh.

Muffle the drums in the cannons of glory.  
    On the bugles of peace blow a resonant call.  
Tell in the camps of the silent the story  
    Of the heroes whose deeds hath enveloped us all  
        Roses are over them.  
        Sweet lilies cover them.  
Lying at rest in the shade of the pines;  
    Leaflet and blossom  
    Lie soft on each bosom.  
And Honor stands guard on the old battle lines.

Loved by the nation, they're camping forever,  
    The young and the tender, the brave and the true,  
Some on the hillside and some by the river,  
    Wrapped in their garments of gray and of blue.  
        Violets and springing.  
        The song birds are singing  
Down where the waters slip out to the sea,  
    Deep in the pine lands  
    And down in the vine lands ---  
All 'neath the folds of the flag of the free.

## Book Review

A review of Jefferson Davis and the Civil War Era by William J. Cooper, Jr. (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 2008).

William Cooper, Jr., the author of a half dozen works related to the Civil War and the antebellum South including Jefferson Davis, American, the definitive biography of the Confederacy's only President. In the 125 page work reviewed here Professor Cooper presents a series of essays originally presented as talks "before a number of audiences about different aspects of Davis's life and career." (p. 1).

There is little here that is not covered in the larger biography mentioned above. It begins with Davis's meteoric rise in Mississippi and in national politics following his heroic deeds in the War with Mexico. If one is seeking to learn of Davis as a child, or an adolescent, or as a young man, or as a bereaved widower, or as a successful Planter this volume has nothing to offer. On the other hand, if one is seeking insight into a man who wanted the national government to do nothing except defend the states against foreign aggression but battled against secession until the cherished institution of slavery was perceived to be threatened by the newly elected President Abraham Lincoln, this small work will delight the reader. Each of the nine chapters addresses a specific topic and each can be easily read in ten to twelve minutes.

There's a wreath on the gun and rose decks the saber,  
The cannon no longer growl harsh on the hill,  
In the camps of the dead neighbor slumbers by neighbor,  
And the sound of the battle forever is still,  
The breeze as it passes  
Stirs softly the grasses  
Where the comrades repose 'neath the sentinel tree.  
And blossoms are falling  
Where the robin is calling  
Her mate in the camps by the old Tennessee

No longer they charge through the heart of the wildwood,  
No more does the battle smoke burden the air;  
They dreamlessly sleep as they slept in their childhood.  
Decker by the hands of the brave and the fair.  
The paean of glory  
Rehearses the story  
How valorous Blue met the valorous Gray;  
The bloom of the meadows,  
The quick, dancing shadows  
Fall light where they slumber this sanctified day.

They made up a nation no hatreds can sever,  
They gave us a flag without one missing star.  
They bound in love's garlands the sections forever  
And planted the fame of their country afar.  
On the hill, in the valley,  
Wherever winds dally,  
In the heart of the gorge, on the mountain's white crest,  
The flag loved in story,  
Unfurled in its glory,  
Waves over the camps of the heroes at rest

Touch softly the flowers that lie on each bosom,  
O breezes of summer that quiver the pines,  
For love hath enhaled the beautiful blossoms  
We give to the boys of the old battle lines.  
They peacefully slumber,  
An uncounted number,  
Who wake not again to the roll of the drum;  
A requiem ever  
Sings sweetly the river,  
And a voice to their comrades says tenderly, "Come!"

Your President's copy (as usual) was obtained from the Fresno County Public Library where it is cataloged as 973.78209 COO.

#### AFTER ACTION REPORT SJVCWRT MEETING OF 4/8/10

By Ron Vaughan

I did not take a head count, but the restaurant room was full, at least two dozen people were there.

Treasurer Walt Schulze reported we have a balance as of 2/11/10 of \$2,116. Patti passed around an article from The Civil War Courier, about our donation to the Raymond Battlefield Park, accompanied by a picture of the presenters from last years conference.

It was announced that there is a new threat to Gettysburg. Mr. Vann has become the owner of the Eisenhower Hotel, and plans to turn it into a casino! It is only ½ a mile from the Gettysburg Battlefield. There is an online petition to say no to the casino.

Our program was by Alex Fabros Phd. and retired US Army Major. His topic was the Battle of Raymond, May 12, 1863. He illustrated his talk with a tabletop diorama of the battlefield and hundreds of 15mm tall painted CW soldiers. He had two gentlemen to assist him in moving the soldiers as the battle developed.

On April 30, 1863 General Grant crossed the Mississippi River at Bruinsburg, south of Vicksburg. The next day he defeated a Confederate force under Bowen, at Port Gibson. General Pemberton thought Grant would move directly north towards Vicksburg and began deploying his troops to meet this advance,

Pemberton had few cavalry (most drawn off by Grierson's Raid), so he had no information about Grant's movements. He also ordered reinforcements to come from Port Hudson, General John Gregg's 2,500 man veteran brigade. Gregg's command arrived at Jackson, then were ordered south to Raymond, with the idea of falling upon Grant's supposed flank. Adam's CS cavalry regt. was in the area, but misread an order, and moved to Edward's Station, leaving Gregg relatively blind to the Union advance. Gregg soon learned of a group of Union foragers operating south of Raymond. Gregg was experienced and very aggressive. He decided to smash these foragers.

What Gregg actually ran into was the advance guard of general McPherson's XVII Corps of 10,000 men! In contrast to Gregg, McPherson was a capable commander, but inexperienced and cautious. His cavalry reported Gregg's Bde., but he thought that such a small force would not dare to attack. He ordered his cavalry screen to advance, down the along the Utica Road, and another road to the east, followed by infantry skirmishers. The two advances, collided in the woods along Fourteenmile Creek. Gregg sent the 7th Tex. and the 3rd Tenn. to pin the Union frontally, while he dispatched 4 other regts. to cross the creek farther east, and turn the Union right flank. Bledsoe's Battery with 3 cannon, unlimbered on high ground to the rear, to lend support. The Texas and Tennessee troops did not have bayonets, but nevertheless, they charged and scattered the Federal brigade. But then General John Logan arrived on the scene, rallying the troops and bringing reinforcements. Four Union batteries unlimbered on what is now named Artillery Ridge, to fire at the Confederate troops and Bledsoe's guns. McPherson thought he was outnumbered, and cautiously held back troops in reserve.

After a fierce fight, the outnumbered Rebels were forced to retreat. The 20th Ohio was leading the pursuit, and nearly caught Gregg's rear guard. But the Raymond ladies had set out a large picnic lunch for Gregg's men, and hungry Ohio boys broke off their pursuit to eat the food! The Confederates had lost 514 men and the Federals 442.

Which Civil War General are you? Take the test on the following website:  
<http://quizfarm.com/quizzes/new/rjb182/which-american-civil-war-general-are-you/>

**San Joaquin Valley Civil War Round Table  
P O Box 5695  
Fresno CA 93755**

**Website: <http://SJVCWRT.com>**

