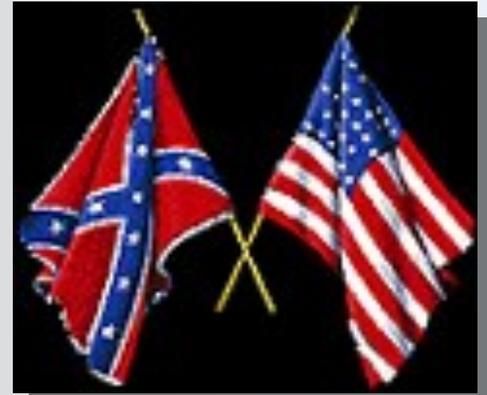




Bugle Calls



SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

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**BARBEQUE AT CLAGUE'S
CABIN 8/8/15 2:00 pm.**

Bring side dishes or desserts.
Call Brian or Linda for direc-
tions and what you are bring-
ing : 559-284-4969

PRESIDENT'S REPORT JUNE 2015

Hello and happy Memorial Day to each and everyone of you. I want to thank our fine brothers and sisters who are serving and who have served in our armed forces for their service to this nation.

I really didn't think that I would be writing this report because we don't have a meeting scheduled until September, but that old task-master Ron sent me an email and said, "get it done", so here it is.

I am in the beginning of a 10 day trip to the Carolina's doing research for my talk at the West Coast Civil War Conference that we, as a Round Table, are putting on in November.

The trek started on Friday when I drove from Tulare to San Francisco [250 miles] so that I could catch the plane to Raleigh N. C. on Saturday. I got up Sunday and drove [over 400 miles to Rivers Bridge State Park in South Carolina] Rivers Bridge is the only real battle fought in South Carolina between Sherman's forces and the Confederates. Then I drove to Columbia S.C. for the night and then the next day [Memorial Day] I drove to Wilmington N.C. [250 miles] See Fort Fisher and Moore's Creek battlefield [Revolutionary War] well gosh it was Memorial Day

and everything was closed down. So for some reason I am a bit worn out already so this gives me a chance to catch up with myself and get ready for the "fun" to come.

Sunday's excursion reminded me again why I enjoy going to battlefields and walking the ground.

I arrived at Rivers Bridge State Park shortly after noon. Rivers Bridge is really off the beaten track in the South East part of South Carolina. When I got to the park office it was closed and I thought I was out of luck, but in short order a pick-up pulled up and the chief park ranger, John White, stepped out. John is a great guy and is very knowledgeable about this battle. He suggested that he take me around the battlefield and I readily accepted his kind invitation.

We first went to the Confederate graveyard where the Confederate dead were buried in a mass grave by the Union forces. In the 1880 the daughters of the Confederacy put up a large marker and several smaller one for the men that were known to have died at the battle.

We then went down to the battlefield and John took me around the whole field. The park has some outstanding interpretation signs. It was well worth my while traveling to this park.

Looking out into the swamp that is in front of the Confederate works and realizing that the water that stood at the time of my visit was about 1/10 of what was in that swamp at the time of the Union attack. What those soldiers went through (going across a $\frac{3}{4}$ mile swamp into a cannon trap and a well-fortified Confederate position.)

The Confederates held up Sherman's men for a full two days. The rest of the time that Sherman's men burn their way through South Carolina, the only other Confederate defenses were hit and run cavalry raids.

Most of this failure to mount a strong defense is because Sherman made feints toward Charleston and Macon Georgia. This forced the Confederates to hold forces in readiness to defend those important cities. Sherman's objective all along was to move his 60,000 man army to the north and link up with Grant. He and his men destroyed just about everything in their path in South Carolina because they felt that South Carolina was the cause of the war and they wanted to punish the state for their actions. This included burning down South Carolina's capital city Columbus.

And my adventure continues but that is for another time.

Remember that we are sponsoring the West Coast Conference this year. It will be held in Tulare on November 12-13-14. Ron has been working very hard getting our speakers and I have made a good arrangement with the Hampton Inn in Tulare for the accommodations. The price will be \$85.00 plus tax of the night. More information to follow.

We had a very nice talk at our last meeting by Walt. The saga of the Civil War railroads continues. Thanks, Walt, for all that you do.

Our next regular meeting will be September 10, 2015 at Denny's Restaurant on Shaw Ave in Clovis. As usual, if you want dinner be there about 6 P.M. The meeting will start at 7 and our speaker will start at about 7:15.

We will have our annual Summer gathering at the Clague's on August 8 in Shaver. More information will follow.

Please remember that our dues were due January 1, and if you haven't paid yours yet, please contact Lisa.

Have a wonderful summer and the best to each and every one of you.

Yours:

Michael Green

President SJVCWRT



The Armstrong Cannon at Fort Fisher

Rivers Bridge State Park



Ranger John White



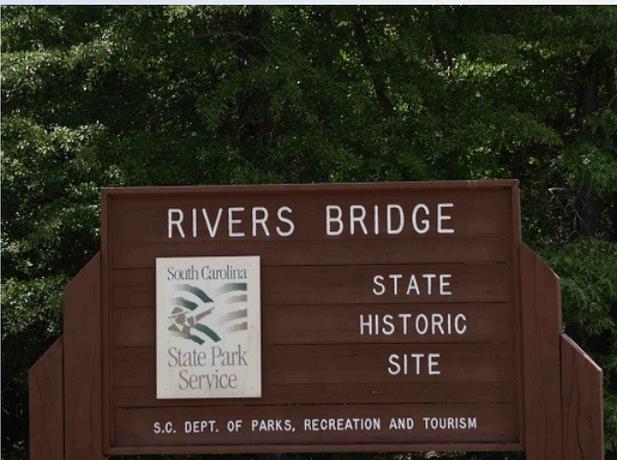
Confederate marker



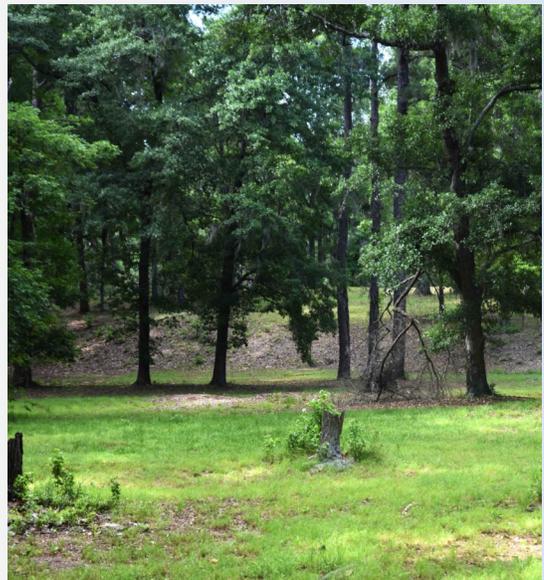
Confederate mass grave



Swamp Where Union attacked



Park Sign



View of earthworks from Union side



Confederate trenches



Confederate trenches

AFTER ACTION REPORT
SJVCWRT MEETING OF 5/14/15
BY RON VAUGHAN

*We had thirteen persons present, including a first timer, Paul Brown from Tulare.

*Treasurer, Lisa Peters, reported our bank balance is \$2,523, plus \$85 in cash box.

*Mike Green will be visiting N. Carolina next week to take more pics for his Nov. talk on Sherman's Campaign.

*Orange County will host the 2016 West Coast CWRT Convention.

*On August 8th, 2:00 the Clague's will host a barbeque at their Shaver Lake cabin. They will provide the meat, and guests to bring salads, side dishes, or desserts.

*Phyllis Scott Johnson, wife of the late Tim Johnson (a long time member), has written a book that was published in March. It is about her great uncle, Julian Scott, who was a CW drummer boy. The title is A Different Drummer. He painted pictures of his war experiences. The one of a drummer is our RT logo. She will speak to us in Sept.

*Walt Schulze had problems finding material for his planned topic on Grant's use of rail roads, due to the internet library site being closed for an undermined time. He altered his topic to "Rail Roads under attack in Tennessee":

C.S.A General Zollicoffer issued a proclamation "To the People of East Tennessee": It said that the people of Tenn. democratically voted to join the Confederacy, so all the people of Tenn. should accept the outcome. As long as people are peaceful, their lives and property will be safe. However, in 1862, the Union tried to burn RR bridges in E. Tenn. Local people were involved in this action. Five were caught and hanged. There continued to be much turmoil in Union leaning E. Tenn. Both Lincoln and General McClellan repeatedly urged General Buell to march into E. Tenn., but they were always disappointed.

David Davenport explained that Lincoln did not understand the geography of E. Tenn. The mountain chains run west-east, so there is no way to get there by RRs. An army could not even follow the area's few wagon roads, as it was not possible for an army to march (and be supplied) farther than 5 weeks round trip from a RR depot. The wagons could not carry enough food and horse/mule fodder to go further.

The usual book raffle concluded at 8:30.

CIVIL WAR HUMOR

From The Blue & Gray Laughing

“In the Army of Northern Virginia, sometimes a rousing cheer is heard in the distance. The Richmond Whig (newspaper) explained that it usually meant: ‘Boys look out! – here comes Old Stonewall, or an old hare, one or t’other – they being the only individuals who invariably bring down the house.’”

5. WEST COAST CWRT CONVENTION NEWS:

Thanks to the efforts of Ted Savas, we have the final speaker we needed for the Nov Conference! Chris Mackowski is said to be “a really really good speaker”! See his blog: EmergingCivil War.com.

Remember to be quick to register, as seating is limited to 107.

THE END OF THE WAR EVENTS OF JUNE 1865

June 2, 1865

Kirby Smith surrenders at Galveston. The last Confederate surrender in the Trans-Mississippi Theater

June 10, 1865

President Johnson appoints William Starkey as provisional governor of Mississippi

Mississippi

June 13, 1865

Civilian rule is restored in Mississippi

June 13, 1865

James Johnston, a pro-Union politician, is appointed provisional governor of Georgia.

Georgia

June 17, 1865

Fire-eater Edmund Ruffin dies of his own hand at his plantation Redmoor, Amelia County, Virginia

June 19, 1865

General Robert S. Granger declares Emancipation Day in Texas, the date when all Negroes are officially set free. Now celebrated as Juneteenth

Texas

June 23, 1865

Samuel DuPont dies unexpectedly in Philadelphia, PA

June 30, 1865

Andrew Johnson names Benjamin F. Perry provisional governor of South Carolina

South Carolina

Andrew Johnson

June 30, 1865

Conspirators in the assassination of President Lincoln are convicted by a military tribunal

WEST COAST CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE 2015.

Nov 13-15.

TULARE HISTORICAL MUSEUM, 444 W. TULARE AVE., TULARE

Note: Conference **Seating Limited to 107, so PLEASE REGISTER EARLY—1st come 1st served!**

Hampton Inn, Tulare offers a conference rate for us of **\$85 per night**. Free Breakfast.

1100 N. Cherry St. (844) 814-1595 It is always full Saturday mornings so **book early!**

(Hwy 99—Use Prosperity Ave off ramps) It is W. of 99, behind Apple Annie's Restaurant (on Blackstone St).

There are several other hotels in the immediate area, but all are near 99, while the museum is in the west part of town.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION: Checks payable to SJVCWRT. \$150 (See below for dinners for non-registered persons)

Send registration to Ron Vaughan, 730 E; Tulare Ave., Tulare, CA 93274

Questions: Ron (559) 686-3633 ronvaughan@prodigy.net

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

FRI

4:00-5:30 Registration & Social Hour.

5:30-6:00 CW Jeopardy, Ted Savas

6:00 Dinner

7:00-8:00 Strategic Situation in Jan. 1865, Jim Stanbery

8:00- ? Petersburg, Battle of Hatcher's Run, Chris Mackowski

SAT

8:30-9:30 Attack on Ft. Steadman, Chris Mackowski

9:30-10:30 Forrest's Operations in 1865, Thomas Cartwright

10:30-11:30 CSS Shenandoah, Gary Joiner

12:00 Lunch

1:00-2:00 Battle of Five Forks, Chris Mackowski

2:00-3:00 1865 Medicine, Dr. Brian Clague

3:00-3:15 Break

3:15-4:15 Breakthrough & Retreat to Appomattox, Mike Green

4:15-5:15 Appomattox Surrender, Michael Oddinino

Break

6:00 Dinner

7:00-8:00 Bentonville Campaign, Mike Green

8:00-9:00 1865 Photos—Ron Perisho

SUN

8:30-9:30 Battle of Palmito Ranch & Jo Shelby's Exodus, Ron Vaughan

9:45-10:45 CSA Veterans, Evan Jones

10:45-11:45 Early Reconstruction 1865, Jim Stanbery

11:45 Raffle

12:00-1:00 Museum Tour

Substitutions: Causes of the CW, Michael Oddinino

Sultana disaster, Lee Meredith

*For non-registered dinner guests the cost is \$20, but if conference is sold out there may not be a table space. We will do our best to accommodate you.

***Directions from hotel area to museum:** Drive south on Hwy99, or Blackstone, or Cherry; go west on Tulare Ave. Parking

Lot is north of the museum, between E St. and F St.

