



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 SEPTEMBER 2011

Hello all:

I hope that you had a good summer and that you are ready to get back involved with the Round Table. I have had a good time this summer and along with several of our members have been working toward making our Round Table a going concern. I am proud of what we have done this summer and what we are looking forward to accomplishing.

We have purchased a projector for the Round Table. This projector will be able to show power point programs without having to attach itself to a computer. As we all have seen, we ran into problems with the projector that Brian was so kind to loan us. It just didn't want to talk to the computers that we had available. This left a lot to be desired. Your executive board voted to purchase a projector and Walt went out and got a good one. It was a bit expensive but several of our members made contributions that helped to reduce the drain on our bank account. Ken and Barbara Motte contributed \$100.00, Ron Vaughn put in \$50.00 and Carolyn and I contributed \$100.00. We have pledges from other members that will raise an additional \$400.00 and they have indicated that their pledges will be coming in next month. This has gone a long way to paying off the projector. If anyone else would like to make a contribution, no matter how big or small, we would very much appreciate your help.

Brian and Linda had their annual get together in July and it was well attended. The weather was great and the company was outstanding. Brian and Linda put on a great feed and everyone went home quite full. A great time was had by all. Brian was kind enough to put on a program that was quite interesting. I would like again to thank Brian and

Linda for a wonderful time.

The Board had a meeting in June to get some ideas as to where we would like to see the Round Table improve on what it is doing.

We worked on the programs that are scheduled for the remainder of the year and talked about what we could do to help Patty with her job as program chairman. Several ideas come out of the discussion and hopefully we will be able to get some outstanding programs for next year.

The Round Table is looking into writing some articles that would feature local people that had fought in the war and later moved to this area. The idea was to get a local connection to a story about a particular battle. Like finding someone whose unit fought at Wilson's Creek and then getting the story published in the local newspapers. It is possible that we might get more interest in our Round Table by expanding our scope.

We had an extended discussion about whether the Round Table should sponsor the 2013 West Coast Conference. It was decided that we will consider that possibility. One idea is that we would have the conference on a cruise ship. The group felt that we might be able to get a larger group of people from all over the US to attend. It was also felt that we would be able to attract some speakers that we might not have been able to attract if we do a cruise. Of course the subject would be the Civil War in 1863. We are also looking into the possibility of having the conference in Clovis again. A lot of that will depend on the costs involved. We continue looking at the possibilities.

One of the things that we discussed was to expand our December meeting because of the presentation of General Parker Hills [The Co author with Ed Bearss of Receding Tide which has won prestigious awards]. We have had Evan Jones take this project on and we will be doing a fundraiser for the Raymond battlefield at his talk. We have moved the program to the Clovis Veterans building. Evan has already received pledges for pictures to auction of f at this event and Brian and Linda have pledged \$1000.00 toward the fund. We are hoping to raise around \$5,000.00 to give to the Raymond Battlefield program. This is the same battlefield that we made our large contribution two years ago. General Hills is a major player in this program. I hope that we can get all of our members behind this fundraiser so that we can help to make a real difference to a program that its money toward Battlefield restoration. We will be a participant at the annual reenactment in Kearney Park. We will have a booth and be talking to the public about the civil war and the need for them to join the Round Table. We will be asking all of you to come out and lend a hand during the two day event. More on this as we get closer to the event.

Our September meeting will feature one of our own members. Ron Vaughn will be putting on a program about the battle of Wilsons Creek. This was one of the major battles at the beginning of the Civil War and the outcome made sure that the State of Missouri remained in the union. As usual Ron will have an excellent presentation which will include an excellent power point program. We will be able to see our new projector in action.

The week after the meeting Henry Howison and I will be heading to the East coast and taking in the points of interest around Fredericksburg Virginia. Henry's family is from the area and his family home is still located on the battlefield. I have had the privilege of being able to enter and be escorted by the owner around the home. We are hoping to be able to be allowed that privilege again. After we look at Fredericksburg, we will travel to Manassas and look at that battlefield. The highlight of our trip will be the last two days where we will tour and walk the battlefields of South Mountain and Antietam on the 149 Th anniversary of the battle. I have had the honor of being able to attend the park service's anniversary [both the US and the State of Maryland] before and let me tell you they put on a great program. You have the

opportunity of really walking the ground where the battle was fought and learn firsthand from experts the true story of the battle. It should be a great time.

I am wishing you and yours all the best and I hope to see you at our September meeting.

Yours:

Michael Green

President SJVCWRT

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