



BUGLE CALLS FEBRUARY 2017

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1. Feb. 9 Meeting, 6:00 Dinner from menu.
Meeting 7:00
Speaker: Fred Bohmfalk on "Grant Sherman and Sheridan."
Denny's 710 W. Shaw

2. PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Coming Soon

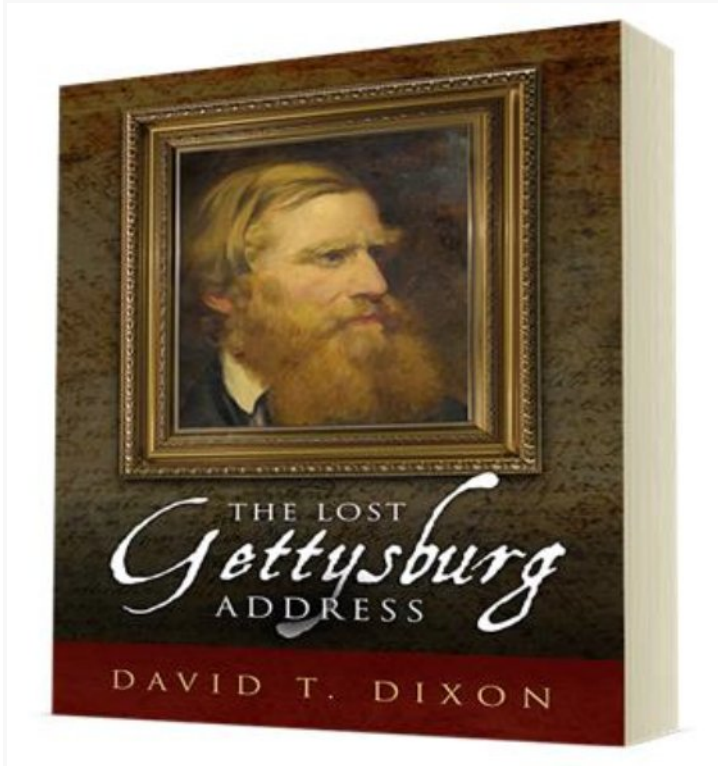
3. AFTER ACTION REPORT
SJVCWRT MEETING OF 1/12/17
BY RON VAUGHAN

*14 persons were present, with a number of regular attendees missing. 2 new persons came, John & Cathy Withrow, in response to the meeting announcement I placed in the Events section of the Bee.

*Gail Schulze reported the new year's membership dues of \$35 per family are due. Also, our PO Box payment is due. It was voted to terminate the use of the PO Box, as seldom do we receive any mail via it.

*Our speaker was David Dixon from Santa Barbara. He spoke at the Sacramento CWRT Wed. night, then traveled to us. His topic was "The Lost Gettysburg"

Address, Charles Anderson's Civil War Odyssey," which is the title of his book.



The following review from “B-List History” website sums up the book very concisely:

“Few remember that two famous orators shared the stage with Lincoln at the Gettysburg dedication. The day’s concluding speech remained lost until recently, when an anthropologist stumbled upon it in a cardboard box at a remote ranch in Wyoming. Forgotten too was the incredible true story of its author, Charles Anderson, a slave owner who risked everything to save the Union.

We accompany Anderson on his exciting journey through some of the most dramatic events of the Civil War. Born on a Kentucky slave plantation, he struggles to reconcile a morally bankrupt slavery system that yet holds the nation together. Imagine yourself standing in the crowd as Anderson delivers a bold Union speech in San Antonio just weeks after Lincoln’s election.

Imprisoned by Confederate officers, he makes a daring escape, and arrives in New York a national hero. Anderson nearly loses his life in the battle of Stones River. He is elected Lieutenant Governor of Ohio on a ticket that defeats exiled Copperhead Democrat Clement Vallandigham. Two years later, Anderson becomes Ohio’s governor.

This is the inspiring tale of a true patriot. Charles Anderson had the courage to hold steadfast to his convictions, remaining loyal to the Union at a time when nearly all Southerners turned against their country.”

David researched the book via Anderson’s files at the Huntington Library. His presentation was nicely done, and several attendees purchased his book. David said that Anderson’s speech was never printed, as the newspapers devoted all their page space for Everett and Lincoln. Even Anderson lost his hand written text, and searched unsuccessfully for it.

David explained that of the three Gettysburg speeches that day, Edward Everetts’ speech focused on history, Lincoln focused on reconciliation and the future, while Anderson’s speech related to the present, motivation to prosecute the war to a victorious conclusion. His speech was loudly cheered and helped bring in the votes for Lincoln, which gave Abe the win in Ohio for the 1864 election. David noted that Anderson seemed to be a very controversial and outspoken man, somewhat similar to a politician of our day!

4. CIVIL WAR HUMOR

FROM “THE BLUE & GRAY LAUGHING”

“(Talking to Stonewall Jackson’s old body servant) Someone asked him how he came to be so much in the confidence of his master. ‘Lord, Sir,’ said he, ‘massa never tells me nothing, but the way I knows is this: massa says his prayers twice a day, morning and night—but if he gets out of bed two or three times in the night to pray, you see I just commences packing my haversack, for I knows there will be the devil to pay the next day!’”

5. CIVIL WAR MISCELLANEOUS:

- a. “MERCY STREET” New series on CHANNEL 18 SUNDAY NIGHTS
- b. “BLOOD & FURY, AMERICA’S CIVIL WAR” was being shown on The American Heroes Channel, Wed nights. If you missed the series, look for reruns, or Utube. The shows featured 1st Bull Run, Antietam, Fredricksburg, Gettysburg, Nashville, and the Petersburg Breakthrough. Each episode focused on the actions of one unit for each side. The programs were good, with only minor flaws, like showing the CSA Battleflag at 1st Bull Run. The Fredricksburg film stated three times, that this was the first time American troops ever experienced urban fighting. Apparently the writers forgot about the street battles of Trenton, Germantown, San Antonio (Texas Revolution), and Monterrey!
- c. BATTLE OF CEDAR MOUNTAIN (Aug. 1862) REFOUGHT!
The other day I set up a table top miniature wargame of the Battle of Cedar Creek. My son Erik played the role of Union General Banks. He and his subordinate players won a very lopsided victory. The players representing Stonewall Jackson’s force, exhibited some questionable tactics, compounded by consistently terrible dice throws. At one point even the Stonewall figure was sent running in retreat, despite pluses to the dice roll! In the historical battle, the

Confederates had numerical advantage and a skilled commander, but a few things went wrong for the Confederates, but they triumphed after all. The point of this is, that in war, one can have all sorts of advantages, but a mistake, bad timing, or bad luck can bring disaster.

As the Scottish poet Robert Burns (whose birthday is this month) wrote
“The best laid schemes o’ mice and men
Gang aft a-gley,
And lea’e us nought but grief and pain
For promised joy.”
