



# Bugle Calls



## SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Volume 25 Number 2 P. O. Box 5695 Fresno CA 93755 February 2016

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT February 2016

Hello to you all:

**I** wasn't expecting to be doing this report again. I had indicated that it was my intention not to run for president again. I figured four years, putting on two successful West Coast Conferences, and one town hall meeting was enough.

**A**fter talking to Carolyn and getting her OK to continue as well as knowing that we would not be putting on another conference within the next two years and finding no one else who was willing to take on the job, I agreed to do it one more time. I took this position with the understanding that everyone in the organization would work on the one glaring failure in my stewardship which was increasing our membership. I will be holding each and every one of you to that promise. Enough said about that.

**I** want to welcome my fellow executive board members to the 2016 through the 2017 continuation of our Round Table. They are Vice President Michael Spencer, Treasure Gail Schulze, Secretary Ron Vaughan, past President Brian Clague and member-at-large Patti Spencer. These people have volunteered to lead and build this organization over the next two years and I believe we all should thank them for putting themselves

on the line for this organization. I certainly do thank and appreciate their commitment.

## **2015 West Coast conference report.**

**O**ur conference was a success not only as a meeting but also financially. We gathered \$5,000.00 which, with the approval of the executive board, has been sent to the Friends of Raymond battlefield. I am not sure exactly how this donation will be used but I am sure that it will be put to good use. When I find out what it was used for, I will let you know. We made the contribution with the understanding that recognition for two of our founding families will be recognized on the battlefield. The recognition will be in the names of Brian and Linda Clague and Ken and Barbara Moats. This organization would not be anything near what it is today without the hard work and undying support of these fine people. The executive board believed that it is only right to honor them for their continuing service to our Round Table.

**T**he January meeting had a small turnout. It could be because of the weather or possibly because it was the "show and tell" program and they knew that they might have to sit through another one of my presentations.

Well I did make a presentation centered around the civil war pictures that I had on display at the conference. I'll let Ron go through the description of how they were received.

**F**ebruary will find us at our meeting place at Denny's on Shaw Ave. in Clovis. As usual the dinner will be at 6 P.M. with a short meeting starting at 7 P.M. and then Ron will make a presentation. We should be out by 8:30 P.M.

**G**ail and Walt have been generous to volunteer to make up for the Christmas party that we were unable to have by putting on a party sometime in March. That date is yet to be determined. We will get back to you with the date and other pertinent information as soon as we can.

**I**'ve received information about the 2016 West Coast Conference which will be held in Orange County. The information as well as a registration form will be found in this newsletter. Please make a commitment to go to the conference.

Again thank you for putting up with me for another two years and I promise that I will try to do the best job that I can.

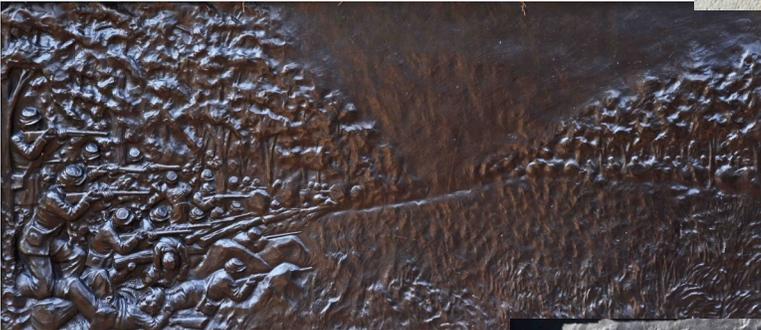
Yours

Michael Green

President SJVCWRT

# Art on Monuments at Chickamauga in Bass Relief

By Mike Green







# **AFTER ACTION REPORT**

## **BY RON VAUGHAN**

Business Meeting:

**T**he speaker for the Feb meeting cannot make it so I will give an expanded presentation of what I originally planned for tonight.

**G**ail suggested we have Spring party at her house for the March meeting.

**T**reasurer's report: Bank balance is \$7,111. About \$5,000 is from conference profit.

**C**onference loose threads were discussed. One refund appears to be owed. Sam said he would contribute \$300 to cover his flight costs that were double the others, but nothing has been received so far. Still no address received to pay the bill for the Jerry Russell plaque.

**D**iscussed \$5,000 donation to Raymond, either for special fencing or a cession.

**E**lections: The following volunteered or were drafted, I mean nominated, for positions, and there being no other nominations, they were elected by unanimous vote:

President: Mike Green

VP: Michael Spencer

Secretary: Ron Vaughan

Treasurer: Gail Schulze

Members-at-large: Brian Clague & Patti Spencer

Webmaster: Walt Schulze

**I**n addition, Gail agreed to help with publicity. There was discussion about a possible Facebook page and an ad on "Meet Up".

**O**ne expected presenter did not show up, and I was asked to defer mine to next month, so the show & tell program was Mike Green's wonderful battlefield photos, including one that won a \$500 prize from Civil War Trust. We all enjoyed viewing

them. Lisa and her mother spoke of reading books on the Founding Fathers. They said it had become clear that the Civil War began with the writing of the Declaration of Independence.

## Civil War Humor

From "The Blue & Gray Laughing"

**"A** lieutenant of the 10th Regular Infantry recently made a sad rebuff at Fort Kearney, Nebraska Territory. The lieutenant was promenading in full uniform one day and approaching a sentinel (volunteer) was challenged with, 'Halt! Who comes there?' The lieutenant with contempt in every lineament of his face, expressed his ire with and indignant—'Ass!' The sentry's reply, apt and quick came, 'Advance, Ass, and give the countersign!'"

## Preservation News

A) **Thomas Cartwright:** The December issue of the "Civil War Courier" had an article about the success in restoration and preservation of the Franklin Battlefield. In the article it mentioned Thomas Cartwright (who was a speaker at both our November and the 2014 conferences) as one of whom is considered one of the foremost historians on the battle. It was a privilege to have him with us.

B) **GLENDALE:** The Civil War Trust has saved over 580 acres at the Glendale Battlefield, once threatened by extensive residential development. In 2006 the Civil War Trust listed the battlefield at Glendale (or Frayser's Farm) as one of the most endangered Civil War battlefields in the nation. The National Park Service had independently protected only one acre of the battlefield. In the mid-1990s the Trust had purchased two properties totaling just over 200 acres at the battlefield's fringes, and had since donated them to Richmond National Battlefield, but at the time the 2006 endangered report was issued, ground had been broken on three housing developments surrounding the core fighting area, and three more were in the planning stages.

**Today, however, the situation is drastically different. In the words of historian Robert Krick, " the recent preservation success at Glendale defies comparison. There has been nothing like it before in Virginia...Never before in modern times has anyone preserved a major battlefield virtually from scratch...Two years ago one could not even find a safe roadside pull-off at which to pause for basic orientation. Now, incredibly and suddenly, almost all of the battlefield will be accessible."**



**SAVING REVOLUTIONARY WAR BATTLEFIELDS:** The CW Trust has started working on preservation of Revolutionary War battlefields. One of the most endangered is the Princeton Battlefield, one of George Washington's early victories, shortly after Trenton. A crucial part of the field where Washington personally led the counter-attack, is owned by the Princeton University School of Advanced Study. They are in the process of digging up the ground to build faculty housing. One would think that an institution of higher learning would have more consideration for preserving history! The CW Trust has a site where one can add their names to a petition to protest.



# WEST COAST CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLECONFERENCE **WAR AND REMEMBRANCE**

October 28-30, 2016, Costa Mesa, CA ★ Jointly Hosted by the Orange County and Pasadena Civil War Round Tables

## CONFERENCE HOTEL

### **Eric Wittenberg, Author/Historian**

*Custer – What If...?*

*Little Phil: A Reassessment of the Leadership of Gen. Phil Sheridan*

### **James Hessler, Author/Historian**

*How Dan Sickles Declared Himself the Hero of Gettysburg*

### **Paul Gillette, Author/Historian**

**Orange County CWRT**

*A Never-Ending War: The James-Younger Gang, 1866-1882*

### **Meg Groeling, Author/Historian/Educator**

*These Honored Dead*

### **Evan Jones, Author/Historian**

*The Road Home*

### **Michael Oddenino – Historian/Attorney**

**Pasadena CWRT**

*Robert E. Lee After the War*

### **Ted Savas, Author/Historian**

**Owner, Savas-Beatie Publishing**  
*Rediscovering Hallowed Ground*

### **Nick Smith, Historian**

**Sons of Union Veterans/  
Pasadena CWRT**

*Westward Bound: Veterans and Their Lives in California*

### **James Stanbery, Historian**

**Professor, Los Angeles Harbor College**

**Orange County & Pasadena CWRTs**

*Left-Wing Confederates, In and Beyond the War*

### **Joan Waugh, Author/Historian**

**Professor of History, UCLA**

*The Civil War in History and Memory*

## CONFERENCE HOTEL

### **Crowne Plaza Costa Mesa**

**3131 Bristol Street, Costa Mesa, CA**

Group Rate of \$129/night includes free breakfast for two per room; free wi-fi and parking; free shuttle from John Wayne Airport. Group rate available pre/post event.

For details on the hotel and nearby activities/attractions, check their web site: <http://www.ihg.com/crowneplaza/hotels/us/en/costa-mesa/laxcm/hoteldetail>

**Group Reservations (prior to Oct. 7, 2016): (866) 437-5657**

**Group Name:**  
Civil War Round Table (Code CWR)

### **Conference Registration**

**Early Bird Rate: \$215**  
(January 1 to July 31, 2016)

**Regular Rate: \$225**  
(starting August 1, 2016)

**Refunds**  
Refunds prior to Sept. 1, 2016 will be less a \$25 processing fee; no refunds will be made after Sept. 1, 2016.

**Questions?**  
**Contact the Co-Chairs**  
Joann Knowles, *Orange County CWRT* [joannsbk@aol.com](mailto:joannsbk@aol.com)

## REGISTRATION FORM

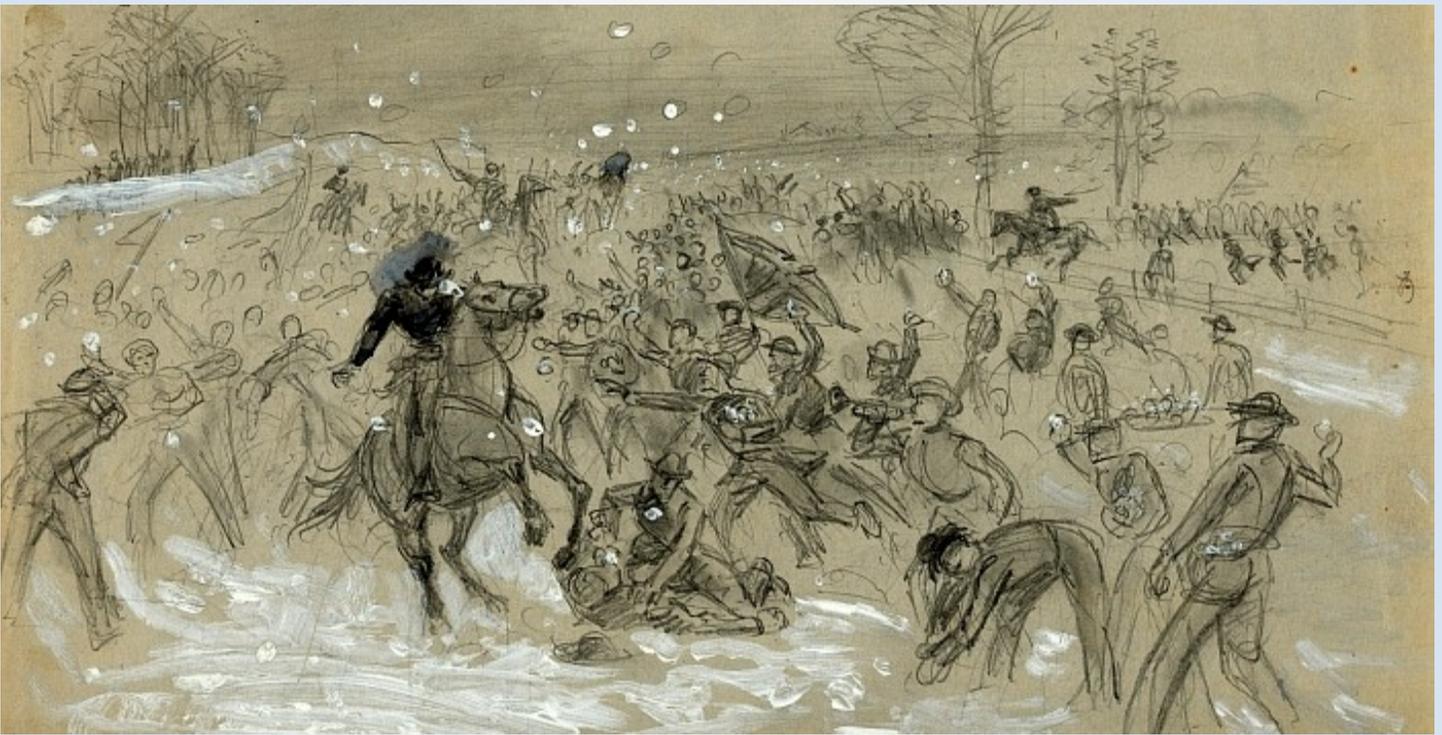
Make your check payable to CW Round Table 2016 Conference and mail to Joann Knowles, 32 Elksford Avenue, Irvine, CA 92604

Credit Card payments accepted via PayPal: <http://pasadenacwrt.org/conferenceregistration>

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ AFFILIATION \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS/CITY/  
ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_



## "A Desperate Snow Battle"

A CONFEDERATE SNOWBALL FIGHT, WINTER 1862-1863

D. AUGUSTUS DICKERT

*This excerpt from A History of Kershaw's Brigade, a memoir written by an officer in the 3rd South Carolina, describes a large-scale snowball fight which took place between Confederate soldiers in the winter of 1862-1863.*

**H**is troops delight in "snow balling," and revelled in the sport for days at a time. Many hard battles were fought, won, and lost; sometimes company against company, then regiment against regiment, and sometimes brigades would be pitted against rival brigades.

**W**hen the South Carolinians were against the Georgians, or the two Georgia brigades against Kershaw's and the Mississippi brigades, then the blows would fall fast and furious. The fiercest fight and the hardest run of my life was when Kershaw's Brigade, under Colonel Rutherford, of the Third, challenged and fought Cobb's Georgians.

**C**olonel Rutherford was a great lover of the sport, and wherever a contest was going on he would be sure to take a hand. On the day alluded to Colonel Rutherford martialled his men by the beating of drums and the bugle's blast; officers headed their companies, regiments formed, with flags flying, then when all was ready the troops were marched to the brow of a hill, or rather half way down the hill, and formed line of battle, there to await the coming of the Georgians. They were at that moment advancing across the plain that separated the two camps. The men built great pyramids

of snow balls in their rear, and awaited the assault of the fast approaching enemy. Officers cheered the men and urged them to stand fast and uphold the "honor of their State," while the officers on the other side besought their men to sweep all before them off the field.

The men stood trembling with cold and emotion, and the officers with fear, for the officer who was luckless enough as to fall into the hands of a set of "snow revelers," found to his sorrow that his bed was not one of roses.

When the Georgians were within one hundred feet the order was given to "fire." Then shower after shower of the fleecy balls filled the air. Cheer after cheer went up from the assaulters and the assaultant—now pressed back by the flying balls, then to the assault again. Officers shouted to the men, and they answered with a "yell."



*(Battles and Leaders)*

When some, more bold than the rest, ventured too near, he was caught and dragged through the lines, while his comrades made frantic efforts to rescue him. The poor prisoner, now safely behind the lines, his fate problematical, as down in the snow he was pulled, now on his face, next on his back, then swung round and round by his heels—all the while snow being pushed down his back or in his bosom, his eyes, ears, and hair thoroughly filled with the "beautiful snow."