



Bugle Call Echoes

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

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Website: SJVCWRT.ORG

**SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY
CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE
Board**

*Tom and Kathy Carr invite you to their home for our
Round Table Christmas Party*

From the President's Desk:

President Brian Clague [Linda]
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*Tom and Kathy Carr have agreed to host our annual Christmas potluck get together. We all have a lot to be thankful for and this is a good time to get together and review the past year and the just completed West Coast Conference. Because of the possibility of fog we have selected **Saturday, December 13th, with a 5 PM starting time.** If you would like to come a little earlier because of your schedule you would be welcome.*

Vice-President and Programs
David Paul Davenport
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It's a little tricky getting to Carr's once you get off Clovis Avenue but we don't believe we have lost any members the past couple of years coming to or going home after the festivities. If your GPS [or your wife] give you wrong directions, just give Tom or Kathy a call at 268-4828 and Tom will be glad to direct you to their beautiful home. Please see the back page for directions to the Carr's.

Treasurer Pattie Spencer
1548 W. Vasser Ave
Fresno CA 93705
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pds8919@aol.com

The Carr's graciously provide turkey, beef and ham along with a variety of refreshments. They offer a couple of potluck guidelines: If your last name is A - H please bring an appetizer or salad; last names from I - Q bring a main dish, and those with last names R - Z should bring a dessert.

**Secretary Bryce Kuykendall and
[Chauffeur to the Secretary
Neil Kuykendall]**
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We will have a short business meeting to announce the net proceeds from our just-completed Shenandoah Conference and to poll the membership about changing our meeting day to the second Thursday of the month beginning in September 2009. Vice President and Program Chair David Davenport will also briefly review our exciting new program lineup for the first quarter of the new year.

Publicity Shaun Ardemagni [Kirk]
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Again, let me thank each one of you for your participation and extra efforts in our Round Table Conference.

Brian Clague, MD

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P. S. Contact Bryce Kuykendall if you are planning to attend our Christmas Party on Saturday, December 13th. His number is 787-3632 or you can RSVP by dropping him an email at bryce.kuykendall@gmail.com.

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**Check out our website at
SJVCWRT.org**

Webmaster Walt Schulze has made some great changes. He can be contacted at wschulze1@sbcglobal.net

**Remaining 2008 SJVCWRT
MEETING**

- Saturday, December 13th: Annual Christmas party starting at 5 PM..

Saving a Civil War Legacy in VA's Shenandoah Valley Deal Protects Land On Which a Decisive Battle Was Fought

By Nick Miroff

Washington Post Staff Writer

Friday, November 14, 2008; Page B02



In 1762, the Huntsberry family settled the land along Redbud Run, outside Winchester, with a deed from Lord Fairfax. Eight generations later, Bob Huntsberry spent his summers there as a child, finding Minie balls that had been fired from the muskets of Civil War soldiers. He grew up steeped in elders' stories of the day, late in the summer of 1864, when Union Gen. Philip Sheridan and 39,000 troops came marching in.

Now, Huntsberry, 80, has reached a \$3.35 million deal with Civil War preservation groups to protect the land and with it, the little-known legacy of a decisive event in the war. The sale will preserve 209 acres of woods and hay fields on one of Northern Virginia's most significant battle sites, where Yankee and Rebel forces waged brutal hand-to-hand combat for control of the Shenandoah Valley. Preservation groups will add the land to their holdings to create a 575-acre park with trails, interpretive signs and free public access.

"The historic significance of this site is huge in every way," said Elizabeth Paradis Stern, assistant director of the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation, describing the site as possibly the second-most important in Northern Virginia after Manassas National Battlefield Park. Her organization arranged the deal as part of a public-private partnership with the state and the Civil War Preservation Trust. A \$1 million grant from the state will contribute to acquiring the land, and by May the two preservation groups will need to raise the remaining \$2.35 million through grants and private donations. "There is a lot of meaning in those farm fields," Stern said.

The National Park Service calls the clash, known as the Battle of Third Winchester or the Battle of Opequon, "a turning point in the war" and had deemed the battlefield a top preservation priority, writing, "Because of its size, intensity, and result, many historians consider this the most important conflict of the Shenandoah Valley."

The Huntsberry family was living there and tending its fields when Sheridan launched his scorched-earth Shenandoah Campaign in late summer 1864. Sheridan's forces met Lt. Gen. Jubal Early's Confederate troops Sept. 19, and the battle became the largest of the war in the Shenandoah Valley, with almost 9,000 casualties, according to the Park Service. Park Service historians have described the close-quarters fighting that took place as extremely fierce and "sanguinary." One soldier called a wooded area along Redbud Run where 1,500 men died or were wounded a "basin of Hell."

Two future presidents, Rutherford B. Hayes and William McKinley, saw their first combat in the battle, according to the Civil War Preservation Trust. Union forces sustained heavier losses but won the battle, the first step in wresting strategic control of the Shenandoah Valley from the Confederacy. "It ended the valley as a source of food for the Confederacy and an avenue of invasion to the North," said Jim Campi, spokesman for the Civil War Preservation Trust. His foundation owns 222 acres on the site that are contiguous with 144 acres owned by the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation, and interpretive trails on those portions opened to the public last year. But Campi said the purchase of the Huntsberry family's 209 acres will make the site into a bona fide tourist destination. "Prior to this, folks would visit for a half-hour or less," he said. "Now people will be able to go out and get lost for hours in the history and beauty of the property. It has essentially been kept as pasture land for 150 years, so it is very much like it was at the time of the battle." Campi said the preservation groups would conduct extensive archaeological and resources studies on the property before hosting any large-scale events, such as battle reenactments. The fields will continue to produce hay for the sake of historical accuracy and to help offset maintenance costs.

Kathleen Kilpatrick, director of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, called the deal "a hugely important milestone for Virginia and the nation" and described the "spiritual benefits" of historic preservation. "It is the history in our communities that we can see and touch and experience that really, truly connects us to our story and to one another by telling us that we are part of something larger than ourselves," she said. About 50,000 acres of Civil War battlefield land in Virginia remain unprotected, she said. "Once that land is gone, it's gone forever."

Huntsberry, of Winchester, said he had mixed emotions about selling land that has been in his family for so long. "It'll be preserved, so that's a good thing," he said.

Shenandoah debriefed

By David Paul Davenport

I'm not finished reviewing the comments made by attendees of our Shenandoah conference but I would like to respond to the several people who excoriated me personally for not using Power Point.

First, being lazy has nothing to do with it. When I was still teaching at Fresno City College I used Power Point for a year and although this meant that I had to have everything on a big cart that had to be wheeled from one room to another, I stopped doing so because I determined that the "dog and pony" show was not conducive to learning. I felt that the students were admiring the pretty pictures and not listening.

Second, students stopped taking notes, much to their detriment. Test scores actually dropped a bit because a Power Point presentation is less engaging than one in which the students must respond to my prompts, "John, can you help me spell Chickamauga while I write it on the board?", "Susan, what did President Lincoln call that document in which he freed the slaves in the Confederacy?" These prompts are opportunities for students to write down what they are suppose to learn.

Third, technology is unreliable. Witness what happened toward the end of Evan's presentation about Jubal Early when Brian's laptop computer shut down unexpectedly. Evan was able to continue but without the pictures he intended to show to us.

Fourth, it is often unclear what part of an image is important. Photographs of people are not problematic but diagrams and maps are. Recall that in Jim Stanbery's talk he had to use a laser pointer to highlight what he was referring to. I own a couple of these but the rear projection screens at Fresno City College and at CSU, Fresno, where I showed slides to my geography classes absorbed the laser light making them useless. This was not a problem for Jim, however, because the auditorium had real screens.

Fifth, overhead projectors are cheaper and easier to operate. They are also more user friendly. I have had my overhead projector for fifteen years and I bought it and the screen at the Salvation Army thrift store for a combined price of \$35.00. I also prefer to use transparencies because I can make multiple copies of those I plan to use more than once, rather than try, as in a Power Point, to go back to previous image. I can also place a pointer on the overhead to highlight a map location, for example, rather than use a yard stick and stretch to point to something on the screen, or write on the transparency as needed with different colors. I also find that taking a few steps to the overhead, removing one transparency, and replacing it with another gives students an opportunity to get caught up with their note taking. They also have an opportunity at this time to ask me to clarify something before I move on to the next image.

Lastly, the following comments written on the back of the conference evaluation form baffle me. "Saturdays Presentation by all speakers was terribly disjointed full of minutue facts separated as much from the big picture. Video/audio presentations appeared like the ones in grade school 40 years ago! Need to "come of age" in audio/visual presentations." [All spelling, etc. presented here in [Bugle Calls](#) as in original] The same person rated almost everything about the conference as 3 or 4 (acceptable or fair) and gave his only 5 (poor) to Robert K. Krick. I am astonished by this and wonder why the same individual would indicate that he or she is likely to attend the Chattanooga conference in 2009.

Book Review

The Spirit Divided: Memoirs of Civil War Chaplains: The

Confederacy [The Civil War Courier](#)

Book Reviewed by Duane A Benell

During the Civil War 1,308 Confederate chaplains served at one time or another. Forty-one of them did not survive the war. Thirty-two were non-combat deaths, one of which was a Union prisoner of war. This excellent book is comprised of memoirs of 19 Confederate chaplains and is divided into the following six chapters:

1-Reporty for Duty, 1860-1862, 2-Ministry in the Camps, 1863-1864, 3-Ministry in the Campaigns, 1862-1864, 4-Ministries of Revival and Encouragement, 1862-1863, 5-Ministry at the End, 1864-1865, and 6-Building a New South, 1871-1880. Twenty-three memoirs make up the six chapters.

There were no prescribed duties for chaplains in the regulations for the Army of the Confederate States. Chaplains were dependant on outside help such as churches and denominational officials, as there were no military supply channels for ecclesiastical items. The only thing the Confederate government provided for them was a 'very inadequate salary.' Later in the war the Quartermaster Department was authorized to provide them tents, fuel and forage for their horses. A 'good' chaplain was to provide services essential to the welfare of the troops. The most important objective of the chaplains' ministries was to prepare soldiers for battle, to fight the enemy with courage and conviction, and to endure defeat, disfigurement, disease or death if necessary. Chaplains also preached sermons of hope, encouragement and faith in God. They gave out Bibles, tracts, newspapers, visited the sick, worked in hospitals, assisted field surgeons with the wounded, wrote letters for the illiterate, performed weddings and baptisms, conducted funerals, delivered mail and packages, ministered to those who were to be executed for desertions, taught school classes, attempted to curtail soldiers' vices, and at times ministered to enemy POWs.

The memoirs provide the reader with a first hand account of their experiences, duties, political views, army life and their other numerous activities. One memoir of an interesting chaplain, Charles Holt Dobbs, told of a conscientious chaplain with a tremendous responsibility and workload. As one chaplain wrote, "I wish I would have done more." There were never enough chaplains for every unit to have one. This book should appeal to all Civil War readers.

Author: Wesley Brinssfield II and Benedict R Maryniak. Publisher: Mercer University Press
Pages: 347 Price: \$35.00

Directions to Tom and Kathy Carr's home near Clovis Avenue and Jensen in SE Fresno:

From the north or west:

Right on Clovis for 2 and a half miles to Church.

Left on Church until it dead ends at Sunnyside.

Right on Sunnyside to Byrd.

Right on Byrd one block to Argyle

Left on Argyle to 2577 S. Argyle

From the south:

Take 99 north to the Clovis Avenue exit.

North on Clovis about five miles past Jensen to Church.

Right on Church until it dead ends at Sunnyside.

Right on Sunnyside to Byrd.

Right on Byrd one block to Argyle

Left on Argyle to 2577 S. Argyle

From the east:

Head west from where ever you happen to be.

When you reach Clovis Avenue go either north if you came west on Jensen or a road south of it.

If you reached Clovis by using a road located north of Church go south on Clovis.

At Church make either a right or a left so you are headed east. Then see above.

Evan Jones Starts the Ball Rolling for the 2009 25th Annual West Coast Civil War Round Table Conference

SJVCWRT Will Again Serve As Hosts

Evan Jones has lined up noted speakers, Park Rangers, historians and authors to come to Fresno-Clovis on October 23-25, 2009 at the Clovis Veterans Memorial Building to examine '**The Campaign for Chattanooga**'. His conference line-up of speakers-historians include:

Steven Woodworth - [Keynote Speaker] Professor, Texas Christian University

Evan Jones - Former Park Ranger, Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park

James Ogden - Chief Historian, Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park

Glenn Robertson - Director, Combat Studies Institute, Ft. Leavenworth

James Stanbery - Professor, Los Angeles Harbor College

Wiley Sword - Author/Historian

Lee White - Park Ranger, Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park

Chris Young - Former Park Ranger, Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park

Save the date and plan now to attend the 25th West Coast Conference in 2009.

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