



Bugle Calls



SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Volume 17 Number 9

P. O. Box 5695 Fresno CA 93755 SEPTEMBER 2009

**SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY CIVIL
WAR ROUND TABLE**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

President David Paul Davenport
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Greetings fellow Civil War
Enthusiasts.

**Vice-President and Programs
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Summer has escaped. School
has resumed. And Fall foliage will
soon be seen in many parts of our
country.

**Treasurer and Web Master
Walter Schulze [Gail]**
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More importantly, the World
Series is but two months away.
With it comes a realization that
"America's favorite past time" is
at least twice as old as any of our
members. I know nothing about
baseball in the Civil War but I expect
to learn a great deal from Fred
Bohmalk when he speaks to us
on Thursday, September 10th, the
second Thursday in September, at
the Ramada.

Secretary Bryce Kuykendall
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Remember, the second Thursday
of each month, September -
May is our new meeting day and I
look forward to large turn out. For
the remainder of our 2009 schedule
of meetings and speakers see the
last page of the newsletter. You
will also find our meeting dates for
2010.

**Member at Large and Chauffeur
to the Secretary Neil Kuykendall**
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**Members at Large:
Pattie Spencer and Michael Spencer**
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**Treasurer Walt Schulze
will have the remainder of the
SJVCW Round Table shirts with
him on Sept. 10th and hopes
that those who did not receive
them at the Clague BBQ at
Shaver in July will be at the
Ramada Inn. They sure look
sharp! Thanks Walt.**

David D.

If you do not have e-mail
and wish to continue to receive
the newsletter please notify Edi-
tor Bob Quist in writing so that
we can print and mail your *Bugle
Calls*. All members can receive
the newsletter as it is posted
monthly on our web site.

Web site: <http://SJVCWRT.com>

**The San Joaquin Valley
Civil War Round Table is
now meeting the second
Thursday of each month,
except summer months,
at the Ramada Inn,
located at Shaw Ave. and
Hwy 41 in Fresno.
Social hour 5:30;
Dinner 6:30-7:30PM;
Speaker 7:30 PM**

Just a Reminder

**Please RSVP by Monday
preceding our Thurs-
day meeting and din-
ner with treasurer Walt
Schulze via his e-mail at
wschulze1@sbcglobal.net
or with a phone call at
297-4481.**

Round Table booth volunteer sign up sheet for the Civil War Revisited at Kearney Park Saturday and Sunday, Oct 3-4th, 2009

Saturday, Oct 3rd	Sunday, Oct 4th
10AM - Noon	10AM - Noon
Noon - 2PM	Noon - 2PM
2PM - 4PM	2PM - 4PM
4PM - 6PM	xxx

I will have tickets available at our September meeting for those volunteering at that time. For more info call Patricia Spencer at 304-8170

PS. If someone else can do the volunteer list next year it's time to pass the torch to another.

Regards
Pattie Spencer

Evan Announces Artist Proof Prints for the Conference

The up-coming conference team is very happy to report that Don Troiani, Dan Nance and Rick Reeves, three of the country's preeminent Civil War artists, have donated prints to this year's preservation raffle.

"Sword of Virginia" by **Don Troiani** depicts Colonel F.G. Skinner and the 1st Virginia Infantry overrunning the 5th Maine Artillery at Second Manassas.

"The Darkest of All Decembers" by **Rick Reeves** depicts Army of Tennessee commander John Bell Hood in the opening moments of the battle of Nashville. "On Empty Rifles" by Rick Reeves depicts Confederate Major General Patrick Cleburne launching the last successful Confederate assault of the battle of Chattanooga.

Dan Nance has pledged to send an additional two prints from his studio in Charlotte, North Carolina. We are very proud to have this level of support from these artists.

For more information on the prints contact Evan Jones and then plan to purchase raffle tickets to bring one of these fine prints home with you for display.

BOOK REVIEW

Marching with Sherman

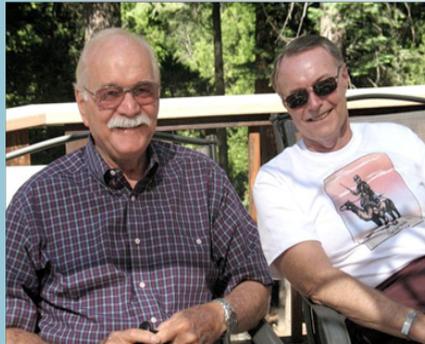
Your President has been reading and studying the diary of Henry Hitchcock, General Sherman's aide-de-camp during the Georgia and South Carolina campaigns. It is fascinating reading, so much so that I believe I may transform it into a "one-man" show. He has lots to say about retreating rebels, freedmen, foraging, etc. which makes it rather clear that the rebels in retreat were responsible for almost all of the destruction that took place.

For example, he wrote to his wife from Fayetteville, North Carolina, on March 12, 1865, about the burning of Columbia, South Carolina, as follows:

"One word about Columbia. It was not burned by orders, but expressly against orders and in spite of the utmost effort on our part to save it. Everything seemed to conspire for its destruction. The streets were full of cotton, brought out and set on fire by the rebels before they left, --- saw it when we rode into town. A gale of wind was blowing all that day and that night, and the branches of the trees were white with cotton tufts blown about everywhere. The citizens themselves --- like idiots, madmen, -- brought out large quantities of liquor as soon as our troops entered and distributed it freely among them, even to the guards which Gen. Howard had immediately placed all over the city as soon as we came in. This fact is unquestionable, and was one chief cause of what followed. Here in Fayetteville a lady told Gen. Sherman that Gen. Joe Johnson told her, yesterday morning, that the burning of Columbia was caused by liquor which the people there gave our soldiers. besides there were 200 or 300 of "our prisoners" who had escaped from rebel hands before, and when we reached Columbia burning to revenge themselves for the cruel treatment they had received, and our men were fully aware of the claims of Columbia to eminence as the "cradle of secession." In that same town, in 1861, a woman, a school-teacher from new England, was tarred and feathered and sent North "for abolition sentiments."

"The result of all this was that partly by accident, from the burning cotton, partly by design by our escaped prisoners, and by our drunken men, fire was started in several places, --- and once started, with the furious continued on next page

July Picnic at the Clague's in Shaver Lake



continued from previous page

wind blowing, it was simply impossible to put it out. Nothing was left undone, -- I speak advisedly -- to prevent and stop it; Gen. Howard, Sherman, and other Generals and their staffs, and many other officers and hundreds of men were up and at work nearly all night, trying to do it, but in vain. The guard was changed --- three times as many men were on guard as were ever on guard at any one time in Savannah where perfect order was preserved; our own officers shot our men down like dogs wherever they were found riotous or drunk -- in short no effort was spared to stop it; and but for the liquor it might perhaps have been stopped. This is the truth; and Wade Hampton's letter to Sherman -- it will be in the New York Herald if not already published North -- charging him with sundry crimes at Columbia is a tissue of lies."

Hitchcock also commented about the institution of slavery. The following passage left me with in shock:

"Gen. Logan sent over to Gen. Sherman a "white slave". This was a man, 38 years old (so he said and looked), with a skin as white as mine, and not a tinge or trace of swarthy or mulatto tint, though he was sunburned --- exactly as fair complexioned white men are; with well-shaped, unmistakable clear blue eyes, nose thin, well formed and aquiline, hair very dark brown, nearly black, worn rather long than otherwise, and lying in waves, so to speak: i.e., not curly, nor in the slightest degree "frizzled," yet not strait like mine. I stood close beside him, and once stepped round immediately behind him, -- not two feet from him -- and closely examined his hair and skin. Not a feature or thing about the man indicated negro blood in any degree, and an ordinary observer would instantly pronounce him a white laboring man. But his story, which is positively corroborated (as to his being a slave and so treated) by a negro man who has joined Logan's Headquarters here (the two coming in separately) is that he always has been a slave and held as such; first at Charleston, till eighteen years old, then sold at auction with six other children of his mother, and brought to this country where he has lived for twenty years. . . . Said his father was a white man named De la Roche, in Charleston and had in all eleven children by his mother. . . . He further said that his mother and de la Roche were never married; that she and her children belonged to a Judge Smith (I think) --- that after his death they were sold at auction for \$91 apiece, a "speculator" buying the lot of them. . . . General Sherman seemed disposed to think he was . . . the child of white parents whom it was convenient to dispose of thus in infancy. . . . Gen. Logan was much interested in this case and declared that this alone would have "made an abolitionist of him."

The September issue of the *Bugle Calls* is now available for your viewing on our website:

<http://sjvcwrt.com>. Enjoy
Webmaster *Walt Schulze*

The San Joaquin Valley Civil War Round Table (SJVCWRT)

Presents:

"Baseball in the Civil War"

Speaker: Fred Bohmfalk

Thursday, September 10th
6:30 p.m. for dinner
Reservations needed- \$18.00
Talk begins at 7:30 p.m.
Open to the public

Ramada Inn on Shaw at Hwy 41.

Information at www.sjvcwrt.com

Dinner Reservations can be made with Walt Schulze via his e-mail at wschulze1@sbcglobal.net or calling him at 297-4481.

The Remaining 2009 Meeting Schedule

Thursday, September 10. Fred Bohmfalk. "Baseball during the Civil War"

Thursday, October 8. Ginny and Tim Karlberg. "The California 100 in Fact and Legend".

Friday, October 2 to Sunday, October 4. The Civil War Revisited: Fresno's Kearney Park

Friday, October 23 to Sunday, October 25. 25th Annual Civil War Conference. "**The Campaigns for Chattanooga**". Clovis Veterans Memorial Building.

Thursday, November 12. Mary Townsend. My great-great-grandfather Major General Peter Osterhaus.

Thursday, December 10. Christmas Party. TBA

The **2010** meeting dates for the SJVCWRT are January 14, February 11, March 11, April 8, May 13, September 9, October 14, November 11, and Dec 9. Please mark your calendars.

David D

San Joaquin Valley Hosting 25th Annual West Coast Conference

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

Steven Woodworth - [Keynote Speaker]

Professor, Texas Christian University

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

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

Plan now to attend the 25th West Coast Conference in 2009. Registration and more details can be obtained at the conference web site at

www.chattanooga2009.com

San Joaquin Valley Civil War Round Table
P O Box 5695
Fresno CA 93755

Website: <http://SJVCWRT.com>

