



# Bugle Calls



## SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

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### SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

#### Board of Directors

##### President

Michael Green  
847 E. Pleasant  
Tulare, CA 93274  
Phone (559) 688-2134  
E-mail Address: osogreen@aol.com

##### Vice-President and Programs

Pattie Spencer  
1548 W Vassar Ave Fresno CA 93705  
Phone (559) 304 8170  
E-mail Address: pds8919@comcast.net

##### Treasurer & Web Master

Walter Schulze [Gail]  
1432 Locust Ave  
Clovis, CA 93611  
Phone (559) 297-4481  
E-mail Address: wschulze1@sbcglobal.net

##### Secretary

Ron Vaughan  
730 E Tulare Ave  
Tulare CA 93274  
E-mail Address: ronvaughan@prodigy.net

##### Bugle Call Editor

Ron Vaughan  
730 E Tulare Ave  
Tulare CA 93274  
E-mail Address: ronvaughan@prodigy.net

##### Members at Large

Michael Spencer  
1548 W Vassar Ave Fresno CA 93705  
Phone (650) 766-1337  
E-mail Address: michaelspencer54@gmail.com

##### Member at Large & Past President

Brian Clague (Linda)  
PO Box 116  
Saver Lake, CA 93664  
Phone 559-841-7161 Cell 559-284-4969  
E-mail Address: bclague@netptc.net

### PRESIDENTS REPORT

#### OCTOBER 2013

Hello all,

I hope that all of you are doing well.

We had a good presentation at our last meeting. Walt had just had a medical procedure and was not able to put on his presentation. Ron Vaughn was nice enough to provide us with a video about a woman who disguised herself as a man and fought with the confederate side. It was very interesting. Thanks again to Ron for coming up with this program.

Ron will be putting on this month's program. He will present the program that he will present at the West Coast Conference next month so we will be getting a sneak preview. His program is about the relationship between the US, Confederacy, and the nation of Mexico. It should be interesting.

We are in the final phases of getting the conference together. We didn't get as many people signed up for the conference we had hoped but we will be doing the best that we can with the people

that will be attending. It's too bad but you deal with what you have.

Because the Fresno County Historical Society didn't get to us about the cost of the booth for the annual reenactment, we have decided that we will not participate in this year's program. It is unfortunate, but it was felt that the effort that we would have to put out for the booth would just not be worth the effort this year. We will see how things work out for next year's reenactment.

I am looking forward to the West Coast Conference and hope that the people that are going to it will find it worthwhile.

I will let you know how it went in the December news letter.

Best wishes to all of you.

Yours:

Michael Green President SJVCWRT

## **AFTER ACTION REPORT**

### **SJVCWRT MEETING OF 9/12/13**

By Ron Vaughan

. Thirteen persons were present for the meeting. It was discussed whether the organization will soon cease to exist! We used to have better attendance when someone called each member before a meeting. Wayne Scott suggested a phone tree, where several members divided up the member list and called.

We would need several volunteers for this, ANY ONE WISH TO HELP? Meanwhile, Ron will mail an Oct. notice to the list of 50-60 contacts, as many may not pay attention to their Email notices, among the quantity of spam they may receive.

. Treasurer's Report from Walt Schulze, who was absent due to illness:

Balance of 9/13/13 is \$4,099. Conference deposits make up \$3,840. The South Bay Round Table donated \$500 for the Cruise Conference.

. Mike reported that Ryamond was selected as the "Battlefield of the Year" by the National CW Battlefield Trust.

. Patty reported that Catherine Rehart (long time member and writer) passed away this month.

. Patty still needs volunteers for our booth at Kearney Park, Oct. 19 or 20.

. Since Walt could not present his talk on CW Railroads, I brought a DVD that I had purchased, just for such an occasion. "Rebel" by Maria Agui Carter, is the story of Loreta Janeta Velazquez, who served in the Confederate Army disguised as a male. She was born in Cuba in 1842, and was somewhat of a tomboy, so her parents sent her to a school in New Orleans to become a proper young lady. At the age of 14, she disappointed her parents by marrying an officer in the U.S. Army in 1856. They had two children, who tragically died of disease. When the war broke out, her husband resigned his commission and joined the Confederate Army. He refused her request to go with him. He was killed by a firearms accident. The distraught widow took her husband's uniform, disguised herself as a man, Henry T. Buford, and moved to Arkansas, where she recruited 236 men. She claimed to have served in the battles of 1<sup>st</sup> Bull Run, Balls Bluff, Fort Donelson, and Shiloh, where she was wounded. Her secret was discovered. Eventually Confederate authorities hired her as a spy, and she went North, sometimes dressed as a woman and other times in male disguise. There she was hired as a spy, becoming a double agent. At one point she was assigned to search for herself!

. After the war she traveled and married and was widowed again two times. In 1876 she wrote a book, The Woman in Battle, a story of her exploits. Jubal Early pronounced it a fraud, but historians have documented some of her story, but other events are questionable. It is probable that it is a true story with embellishments to enhance sales. Ms. Carter asks that interested people look up her website on [facebook.com/rebel-documentary](https://www.facebook.com/rebel-documentary).



**Loreta Janeta Velazquez**

## **. CIVIL WAR HUMOR**

### **From “The Blue & and Gray Laughing”**

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 . (Written during the Vicksburg campaign) “Yesterday a Western correspondent, in search of something definite in relation to the fighting now going on, stepped into the White House and asked the President if he had anything authentic from General Grant. the President stated that he had not, as Grant was like the man that climbed the pole and then pulled the pole up after him.”



**Loreta Janeta Velazquez**