



Bugle Calls



SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

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SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

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*Click here to see our Civil War
Cruise web site*

<http://civilwarcruise.org/>

PRESIDENTS REPORT

APRIL 2013

Hello everyone

- . I hope that you had a wonderful Easter and for some of you that your Easter break was enjoyable.
- . For those of you who missed last month's program that featured Jimmy Collier singing and playing the banjo, you missed one of the best presentations I have ever seen presented to our group. Jimmy is a singer/song writer, who has a very nice repertoire of period and civil war songs. Not only does he sing and play the banjo, he also talks about the origin and importance of the songs. As I said before, you missed an excellent meeting. Thanks to Ron for bringing Jimmy to our attention and to Patty for making the arrangements to bring Jimmy to our group. A job well done on both their parts.
- . For those of you that want to contact Jimmy his number is 209 742-3114 and his email is jcc@sti.net.
- . Our cruise has its web site up and running. Michael

Oddlenino is our web designer and master. He has done an outstanding job at putting it together and getting it up on the web. You can go to the website and get all the latest information. The address is WWW.civilwarcruise.org. I want to personally thank Michael for doing such a great job. I am excited about how well the conference is progressing. Brian Claig is doing a wonderful job at moving things along.

. Hope to see you on April 11, 2013 at Denny's on Shaw Avenue in Clovis. Remember if you are interested in having dinner; please get there around 6:00P.M. Because the meeting will start promptly at 7:00 P.M. We have our usual business meeting for about 15 minutes and then our speaker will start their program.

. **April's speaker will be Don McCue from the Lincoln Shrine Museum**, and of course will talk about Lincoln. Hope to see you at the meeting.

Respectfully yours:

Michael Green President SJVCWRT.

Upcomming Event

Gibson Ranch May 3rd - 5th. If anyone has questions regrading Gibson Ranch they can contact George Foxworth at gwfoxworth@sbcglobal.net or 916-362-0178



AFTER ACTION REPORT

SJVCWRT MEETING OF 3/14/13

By Ron Vaughan

. This was a very enjoyable meeting!

BUSINESS MEETING:

Fifteen persons were present.

*Walt presented a Treasurer's Report: Our current balance is \$1932. The website for our Cruise Conference has been set up. A schedule of the speakers was given to members.

*Mike reported that Parker Hill has been working on putting up interpretive signage at Raymond.

*Patty reported that next month Don McCue from the Lincoln Shrine Museum in Redlands will speak. May will feature Mike Green presenting on Port Hudson. July 13th will be an event at the Shaver Lake Museum, where Wayne Scott, as President Lincoln will read the "Gettysburg Address," followed by a barbeque at the Clague's cabin.

*Wayne Scott was asked to comment on the recent Lincoln movie. He said he enjoyed the film, but objected to him being portrayed as stooped over. Wayne's research reveals that he always stood fully erect.

PROGRAM:

. Jimmy Collier sang CW tunes and played his banjo. I had met him years ago at Kearney Park, when he was re-enacting with the 4th U.S. Colored Infantry. The Linda and I met him again at the last Kearney event. he has had an interesting career: As a young man he was on the staff of Dr. Martin Luther King, during the Freedom Marches.

He had a long corporate career. Musically, Jim started out playing cowboy music, and people were not aware of the history of Black cowboys. He has opened for the Sons of the San Joaquin. He got into re-enacting and played with fellow re-enactors.

. Banjos were popular with CW soldiers, as they were more durable than guitars or violins. He said "There is something about banjo music that is happy!" The most common CW banjos were four or five string, and difficult to keep in tune. Finger picks usually were not used. Stephen Foster's music made banjos popular. His music is controversial among African Americans, due to the stereotypes of Blacks. But others feel that at least the songs brought the slaves to the attention of people in the North.

. The style Jim plays is not Blue Grass, but the earlier "Slave style banjo," without using a pick. A number of us joined in the singing of popular songs: "We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder," "Amazing Grace," "Battle Hymn of the Republic," "Rally Around the Flag," "Dixie," "Kill That Yankee Soldier," (I never thought to hear a Black man sing

sing that!) "Lay Down Boys and Take A Little Nap," "Follow the Drinking Gourd," "Bonnie Blue Flag," "Old Abe Lincoln Came Out of the Wilderness," and finally "Oh Susanna" (The "most popular song ever written.).

CIVIL WAR HUMOR

From The Blue and the Gray Laughing.

- . "A soldier in one of the Kentucky camps, during one of the cold nights, says the motto with them is: "United we sleep; divided we freeze."
- . "What is a Quartermaster? The man who gives the poor soldiers one quarter and keeps the rest himself."

