

Bugle Call Echoes

San Joaquin Valley Civil War Round Table

Fresno, CA May 2007 Vol. 15 No. 5

San Joaquin Valley
Civil War Round Table

Web Site: sjvcwrt.org

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From the President's Desk,

Hey, members! Check it out! Our web page is finally up and available. Please visit the site and make recommendations. This is easy to change at any time. In fact, I will be editing it with each newsletter and any information which members would like to see. Want a special web site linked? It is easy to accomplish and I'd be happy to make the addition. I'm thinking that each of the newsletter pages should be shown?? Maybe start a page for the November 2008 Symposium??

Go to: sjvcwrt.org and I hope that you like it...

Brian, your friendly webmaster.

We of the "Fresno" Round Table are very much looking forward to your talk about composer Stephen Foster and the Civil War by Fred Bohmfalk of the Sacramento Round Table on Thurs., May 31.

For dinner reservations for Thurs., May 31st, and to learn more about the interesting life of Stephen Foster we'll look for you at the Ramada Inn at the Shaw off-ramp on Freeway 41. Preliminaries start at 6 PM, dinner at 7 PM, and evening program at 8 PM.



Contact President Brian or his lovely wife Linda at 841-7161 where a machine will record your call, at 284-4969, or e-mail your reservation at bclague@netptc.net.

Secretary Position Open

Phyllis Mann Outlined Duties Before Moving to Texas

The SJVCWRT lost always gracious Phyllis Mann to Texas. Before selling her home and moving she wrote, "You might want to delegate some of the responsibilities of the secretary position, especially the one about taking reservations. I usually do the calling on Monday night before the meeting, and give the Ramada catering office (224-4040, Extension 192) a call to give them a preliminary count. Then, if more than a couple of reservations come in after I've called in the count again and give them a revised number."

"I made up a roster of phone numbers for people who attend fairly regularly, and use it in my Monday night calling [the list includes about 14 couples]

"I also usually e-mail or call members of the board on the Monday prior to a board meeting to remind them of the upcoming meeting.

Best regards to all,
Phyllis Mann

Yet Another Version of 'Dixie'

In the previous three issues of "Bugle Calls" we reported that David Davenport had purchased Rebel Rhymes and Rhapsodies, a collection of verses compiled by Frank Moore and published in New York by George P. Putnam in 1864. Among the 142 "songs and ballads" in the work were alternate lyrics to "Dixie".

At our April meeting President Clague presented to David The Civil War in Song and Story published in 1869 by the same Frank Moore. David reports that while studying this book he has found yet another set of lyrics that can be sung to the tune of "Dixie".

We take this opportunity to reprint these; "SOUTHTRONS, HEAR YOUR COUNTRY CALL YOU", attributed by Mr. Moore to Albert Pike. Mr. Moore does not indicate whether this is Union Brigadier General Albert Pike who served in Indian Territory in 1861.

"SOUTHTRONS, HEAR YOUR COUNTRY CALL YOU"

SOUTHTRONS, hear your country call you!
Up! Lest worse than death befall you!

To arms! To arms! To arms, in Dixie!
Lo! All the beacon-fires are lighted -
Let all hearts be now united!

To arms! To Arms! To arms, in Dixie!
Advance the flag of Dixie!

Hurrah! Hurrah!

For Dixie's land we take our stand,
And live or die for Dixie!

To arms! To arms!
And conquer peace for Dixie!
To arms! To arms!

Hear the Northern thunders mutter!
Northern flags in South wind flutter!
To arms! &c.

Advance the flag of Dixie! &c.
Fear no danger! Shun no labor!
Lift up rifle, pike, and sabre!
To arms! &c.

Shoulder pressing close to shoulder,
Let the odds make each heart bolder!
To arms! &c.

How the South's great heart rejoices
At your cannons' ringing voices!
To arms! &c.

For faith betrayed, and pledges broken,
Wrongs inflicted, insults spoken,
To arms! &c.

Advance the flag of Dixie! &c.
Strong as lions, swift as eagles,
Back to their kennels hunt these beagles!
To arms! &c.

Cut the unequal words asunder!
Let them then each other plunder!
To arms! &c.

Advance the flag of Dixie! &c.
Swear upon your country's altar
Never to submit or falter!
To arms! &c.

Till the spoilers are defeated,
Till the Lord's work is completed.

"Stephen Foster and the Civil War" Presenter Fred Bohmfalk's Background

Fred is a California native, growing up in San Leandro. He graduated from San Jose State University (1959) with a Degree in Business and from the University of Southern California (1979) with a Masters degree in Systems Management.

His service in the USAF included flying as a crew member on the B-52 aircraft and the RC-135 aircraft and in leadership positions mostly in the Strategic Air Command. After retirement in 1981 he worked for TRW in management. In 1991 he retired again and went to work in family businesses.

Since that time with an interest in history he has been very active in the Sacramento Civil War Round Table and throughout the area as a speaker, writer and in leadership positions. He had two great great grandfathers who served in the Civil War, Joshua White, 1st Wisconsin, Co K and Dedlef Schuentz, 6th Texas Co K both dying of disease during the war.

'Lost, Lost, all is lost?'

Q. The confederate victory at Chancellors was perhaps Robert E Lee and Stonewall Jackson's greatest triumph. But it came at a great cost, with the loss of 13,000 Confederate troops, 1,665 of the killed, including Jackson. For the North it was even worse, with 17,000 losses, including 1,606 dead. Who spoke the following words in reaction to the Union defeat: "Lost, lost, all is lost"?

- President Lincoln
- Massachusetts Senator Charles Sumner
- Secretary of War Edwin Stanton.

A. These were the words of the Radical Republican abolitionist Charles Sumner, whose strong views had actually led a SC congressman, Preston Brooks, to severely beat Sumner in the congressional chamber in 1856. Lincoln's own response on learning of the utter disaster was "My God, my God! What will the country say?"

To arms! &c.

Advance the flag of Dixie! &c.
Halt not, til our Federation
Secures among earth's powers its station!

To arms! &c.
Then at peace, and crowned with glory,
Hear your children tell the story!

To arms! &c.
Advance the flag of Dixie! &c.
If the loved ones weep in sadness,
Victory soon shall bring them gladness.

To arms! &c.
Exultant pride soon banish sorrow,
Smiles chase tears away tomorrow.

To arms! &c.

Advance the flag of Dixie! &c.

Brilliant Journalists, Commentators



"It appears we have appointed our worst generals to command forces, and our most gifted and brilliant to edit newspapers! In fact, I discovered by reading newspapers that these editor/geniuses plainly saw all my strategic defects from the start, yet failed to inform me until it was too late. Accordingly, I'm readily willing to yield my command to these obviously superior intellects, and I'll, in turn, do my best for the Cause by writing editorials - after the fact."

The following provides some anecdotal support for Bill Head's thesis that religion was important to the Civil War soldiers and civilians. It appears in *The Civil War Song and Story*.

An incident of Antietam. In a small clump of woods near the battlefield, the body of a dead Union soldier in a partially upright position, was found resting against a tree.



The expression of the man's countenance was perfectly natural - in fact he appeared as if he was only asleep. Alongside of him was an old and worn Bible, which the poor fellow, knowing his time had come, was reading, and in this way, a soldier and Christian he died; and now, with thousands of others, his grave is unknown.

Stephen Foster: the American Mozart?"

Oh! Susanna, My Old Kentucky Home, Nelly was a Lady, Ring Ring de Banjo, Jeanie with the Light Brown Hair, Camptown Races, are the titles of but a few of the songs written by Stephen Collins Foster, America's most prolific composer.

Stephen Foster, the 9th of ten children born to William and Eliza Foster, was born just outside Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on July 4, 1826. As a young boy in an era before tax-supported public education he was privately tutored and then schooled at private academies.

Eventually Foster decided to make a living as a professional composer. Since copyright laws did not yet exist Foster's decision was a courageous one. His income came solely from royalties based on the sales figures provided by publishers, some honest and some otherwise, and on the outright sale of his work. For "Oh! Susanna" he was paid \$100.

In 1850 he married Jane Denny MacDowell, of "Jeanie with the Light Brown Hair" fame. A year later their only child, a daughter, Marion, was born. He wrote for minstrel shows but unlike other composers of the time he humanized African-Americans. For example "Nelly was a Lady" was the lament of a slave for his dead wife. And his reference to the deceased as a "Lady" was provocative; the term was usually reserved for use wellborn white women.

He died on January 13, 1864, tragically at the age of 37.

2007 Round Table Schedule continued

May 31 - Fred Bohmfalk also of the Sacramento CWRT, will speak on *Stephen Foster and the Civil War*

Saturday, June 30 - Annual Summer Picnic and 4th of July Celebration at Linda and Brian Clague's at Shaver Lake.

July - No Meeting

August 30 - Dr. Joe Wagner of the Los Angeles CWRT will speak about the *Gatling Gun*.

Sept. 27 - Phil Avila (North Bay CWRT) of Sebastapool will speak on *The Life and Times of Wade Hampton of South Carolina*.



Members approve two board proposals

At the March meeting of the San Joaquin Valley Civil War Round Table the membership approved meeting the last Thursday of the month (rather than the 4th Thursday on those months that have 5 Thursdays) except during June, July and December]

The membership also approved an increase in dues in 2008 from \$25 to \$30 a year to establish a web site.

Web Site Now On-Line

It's here! To see our web site check out: sjvcwrt.org

Special thanks to Webmaster Brian Clague for all his time and efforts.

The Civil War Preservation Trust

recently sent me an interesting fund-raising/
membership letter that included some interesting
highlights. Permit me to share some of those with
you.

Bob Quist, Bugle Call Editor

Antietam...Gettysburg...Chancellorsville...Shiloh...
Vicksburg...these are not just places where
America's greatest battles were fought. These
are places where some of CWPT's greatest
battles were - and still are - being fought.

At these sites and nearly 90 more, CWPT
has been successful in stopping the voracious
developers and others who would pave over our
past. More than 23,500 acres in 18 states is
impressive.

The past: Did you know that 20% of
Civil War hallowed ground is already gone -
paved over and out of our reach forever? And
that another 15% of these historic places are

**Thinking his son would enjoy seeing a reenactment of a Civil War battle, my niece's
husband took the boy, Will, to the event. But the poor child was terrified by the booming
cannons. During the lull, Will's dad finally got him calmed down. That's when the Confeder-
ate general hollered, "Fire at will!"**

preserved by an entity such as the National Park
Service?

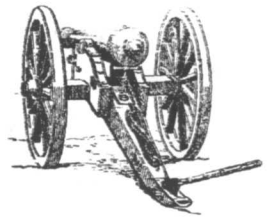
The future: Did you know that our
nation is losing one acre of hallowed American
ground every hour? The forces of sprawl working
against us are tremendous, and getting more
numerous and stronger every day.

In the past year CWPT reclaimed a 38-acre
piece at School House Ridge at Harpers Ferry
from a developer. In addition CWPT had
previously preserved an additional 232 acres at
Harpers Ferry.

CWPT took on 'Chance Enterprises' to
stop the construction of a sprawling slots casino
complex from desecrating Gettysburg battlefield.

Saved 196 acres at Bentonville, NC,
combined with the 325 acres preserved there by
CWPT in 2003.

Preserved 52 acres at Champion Hill, MS
where the largest and bloodiest action of the
Vicksburg campaign took place.



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