

BUGLE CALL ECHOES



SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE FEBRUARY 2002

*"PATRIOTISM IS THE LAST REFUGE OF A SCOUNDREL"
Samuel Johnson, April 17, 1775*

February Program

Are you aware of California's involvement in the American Civil War? Be sure to attend the February meeting as Ron Vaughn will present "California in the Civil War." Ron is a long time member of our Round Table. He has a master's degree in history from CSUF and belongs to the local reenactment association where he portrays a soldier in the 6th Iowa. He is also a member of the Fort Tejon Historical Society. Ron has given several talks to our group and he is very active in local schools. Ron and his family live in Tulare.

The meeting will be held on Thursday, February 28 at the Ramada Inn located at Shaw and Highway 41 in Fresno. Please send your check for \$15 to cover the cost of the meal to Gloria Carter, P.O. Box 5695, Fresno, CA 93755 or call her at 559-322-9474 to advise her that you will attend.

President's Corner

January is always fun. Our "Share and Tell" session is one of the highlights of the program year. It is simply fascinating to hear from our members about ancestors, collections, and those subjects that have captured their attention over the years or perhaps just the recent past.

The West Coast conference steering committee met on January 12 to discuss areas where we will be looking for help from our members in making our conference a success. If you have an interest in volunteering to assist with conference, please call the Carters at 559-322-9474. We will inform Bill Head, Program Chair and he will contact you.

Mike Carter, President

Craig Symonds Will Speak at Conference

Dr. Symonds, Professor of History at the United States Naval Academy, has taught naval history and Civil War history at the Academy for over two decades. He has written several outstanding books including Stonewall of the West: Patrick Cleburne and the Civil War, Joseph E. Johnston: A Civil War Biography and his latest book History of the Battle of Gettysburg. Dr. Symonds is the only person ever to win both the Naval Academy's "Excellence in Teaching" and "Excellence in Research" awards.

Book Review:

Joseph E. Johnston: A Civil War Biography by Craig Symonds. General Joseph E. Johnston was in command of Confederate force at the South's first victory....Manassas in July 1861....and at its last....Bentonville in April 1865. Many of his contemporaries considered him the greatest southern commander of the war; others ranked him second only to Robert E. Lee.

But Johnston was an enigmatic man. His battlefield victories were never decisive. He failed to save Confederate forces under siege by Grant at Vicksburg, and he retreated deep into Georgia in the face of Sherman's march. His intense feud with Jefferson Davis ensured the collapse of the Confederacy's western campaign in 1864 and made Johnston the focus of a political schism within the government. This is a must book to read for the conference.

Civil War Site Preservation

Developers are buying up the land where the second and third Battles of Winchester took place. At second Winchester, Gen. Robert E. Lee trapped and destroyed the Union Army under the command of General Robert Milroy. The next year on September 19 the Union Cavalry attack at third Winchester put Confederate forces on their heels. If you are interested in saving these sites contact the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation.

Dr. James "Bud" Robertson will speak at a luncheon to be held at the Iron Gate in Belmont on March 6, 2002. The cost is \$25 per person, If interested, call Bill Head 559-855-2678.

Come Join Us....

The Atlanta Campaign
Fresno Plaza Hotel
November 8-10

Mark your calendars now! Registration materials will be sent Spring 2002.

Sacramento Civil War Round Table presents "General Grant and General Lee" on Saturday, February 23rd, 2002 at 7 p.m. at Sudwerk Brewery and Grill, 1375 Exposition Blvd, Sacramento. Call 916-925-6623 for information.

O Captain! My Captain! by Walt Whitman. (Lincoln)

Oh Captain! my Captain! our fearful trip is done,
The ship has weather'd every rack, the prize we sought is won,
The port is near, the bells I hear, the people all exulting,
While follow eyes the steady keel, the vessel grim and daring,
But O heart! heart! heart!

O the bleeding drops of red,
Where on deck my Captain lies,
Fallen cold and dead.

O Captain! my Captain! rise up and hear the bells,
Rise up--for you the flag is flung--for you the bugle trills,
For you bouquets and ribbon'd wreaths--for you the shores a
crowding,
For you they call, the swaying mass, their eager faces tuning;
Here Captain! dear father!

The arm beneath your head!
It is some dream that on the deck,
You've fallen cold and dead.

My Captain does not answer, his lips are pale and still,
My father does not feel my arm, he has no pulse nor will,
The ship is anchor'd safe and sound, its voyage closed and done,
From fearful trip the victor ship comes in with object won:

Exult O shores, ring O bells!
But I with mournful tread,
Walk the deck my Captain lies,
Fallen cold and dead.

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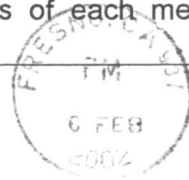
Please begin/renew my membership in the San Joaquin Valley Civil War Round Table. My membership category is checked below:

_____ Individual \$25 _____ Family \$35 _____ \$10 Student or Newsletter

Name _____

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Clip this membership form and send it with your check to the **SJVCWRT, PO Box 5695, Fresno, CA 93755**. The membership year is from January to December. Five dollars of each membership goes towards preservation.



SJVCWRT
29223 Spence Lane
Tollhouse, CA 93667