

Bugle Call Echoes

San Joaquin Valley Civil War Round Table
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San Joaquin Valley Civil War Round Table 2009 Board of Directors

President: Dr. Dave Davenport
6156 N Mitre Ave 559-277-3283
Fresno CA 93705
davidpauldavenport@yahoo.com

Vice-President: Michael Gatley, M.D.
1698 Goshen Avenue
Clovis, CA 93611 mgatley@comcast.net

Secretary: Bryce Kuykendall
21001 East Weldon
Sanger CA 93657 559-787-3632
bryce.kuykendall@gmail.com

Chauffer to the Secretary and Member at Large:
Neil Kuykendall

Treasurer & Web Master: Walt Schulze
1432 Locust
Clovis CA 93611 559-297-4481
wschulze1@sbcglobal.net

Past President: Brian Clague [Linda]
P O Box 116
Shaver Lake CA 93664 559-841-7161
bclague@netptc.net

Publicity: Shaun Ardemagni
2580 E Los Altos
Fresno CA 93710 559-299-7453
rampchamp@aol.com

Bugle Calls Editor: Bob Quist [Judy]
504 E Magnolia Ave
Hanford CA 93230 559-582-9520
bquist1@sbcglobal.net

Contributing Editor Ron Vaughan
730 East Tulare Avenue
Tulare CA 93274
ronvaughan@prodigy.net

Member at Large: Pattie Spencer
1548 W Vasser Ave
Fresno CA 93705 559-233-1059
cell phone: 304-8170 pds8919@aol.com

Member at Large: Michael Spencer
1548 W Vasser Ave
Fresno CA 93705 559-233-1059

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Do You Remember ViewMaster?

Among my childhood treasures is a device called a ViewMaster. In the late 1950s and early 1960s I spent many hours visiting exotic places around the world by inserting a disc in which small pictures were inserted. "So what, Dave?," you ask. "Why didn't you just get a subscription to National Geographic?" Well I did, but what made ViewMaster special was the binocular viewer that tricked my brain into thinking I was really there, seeing the sites in 3D.

What I didn't know at the time was that this wasn't a new device. The ViewMaster was simply the most recent iteration of the Victorian Era "stereopticon" one version of which was called the "magic lantern" projector. There were several manufacturers of these and even a home version. A brief history of them can be found on the internet at <http://www.bitwise.net/~ken-bill/stereo.htm>.

On Thursday March 26, Ron Perisho of San Ramon will present a history of the Civil War using modern projection equipment and 150 year old 3D stereographic images that were originally sold during the Victorian Era to provide viewers of that era with 3D views of the American Civil War. He has collected these over a number of years by visiting antique stores, attending "swap meets" for 3D collectors, and buying a few on EBay. He will also have for us to wear during the presentation special 3D glasses reminiscent of the one red lens and one green lens used in the 1950s to view 3D monster movies at the cinema. I am certain that we will all see the Civil War as we have never seen it before!

As always contact Bryce Kuykendall no later than 9pm on Tuesday March 24th to make your dinner reservation..

David Davenport, President

SJVCW Meeting Schedule for 2009

Thursday, March 26. Ron Perisho - "The Civil War in 3D" showing 3D stereographic images from the American Civil War period.

Thursday, April 30. Chris Waldrep of SF-State University. "Vicksburg's Long Shadow, the Founding of a National Military Park."

Thursday, May 28. Shaun Ardemagni will host "The Bohemian Brigade: Civil War Correspondents", a C-SPAN Book TV episode.

Saturday, July 4. Annual 4th of July Picnic at Shaver Lake hosted by the Clagues.

Thursday, Sept. 10. Fred Bohmfalk "Baseball in the Civil War."

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

Friday, Oct 2 through Sunday, Oct. 4. The Civil War Revisted: Fresno Kearney Park.

Friday Oct. 23 to Sunday, Oct. 25 The 25th Annual West Coast Civil War Conference. "The Campaigns of Chattanooga." Clovis Veterans' Memorial Building.

Thursday, Nov. 12. Mary Townsend. My great, great, great grandfather, Maj. Gen. Peter Osterhaus.

Thursday, Dec. 10. Christmas Party.

Jones' Presentation Praised

At our February meeting our presenter, Evan Jones had an especially interesting presentation on the almost life-long animosity between Grant and Rosecrans. The following week he noted he had received a number of emails about his talk. Folks seem to think that he will be delivering the same talk at the conference in October. "I just don't want to seem like a one trick pony. I assure folks that my talk at the conference will be on a different topic." That lecture will focus on Rosecrans' relationship with his lieutenants within the Army of the Cumberland without great focus on his rivalry with Grant."

AFTER ACTION REPORT SJVCWRT MEETING OF 2/26/09

By Ron Vaughan

We had an election of officers with the following elected by unanimous ballot: President- Dave Davenport, VP.- Mike Gatley, Treasurer- Walt Schulze, Secretary- Bryce Kuykendall, Members at Large- Neil Kuykendall, Pattie Spencer, Michael Spencer, and Past President- Brian Claque.

Our speaker was Evan Jones on the topic, "A Malignant Vindictiveness the 16 year rivalry between Ulysses S. Grant and William Rosecrans." Evan believes that Rosecrans was one of the most capable generals in the war, but he has had a bad rap due mostly to enmity from General Grant. The two started out as friends at West Point. Their subsequent service careers were on separate paths. They came together again after Shiloh, when Rosecrans joined Grant's command and was given command of the Army of Mississippi, even though he was only a Brigadier General. Grant recommended him for promotion.

The trouble between them began with the battle of Iuka. Grant had a grand plan to trap CSA General Price, with Rosecrans marching by a roundabout route to cut him off, while Grant & General Ord attacked from the north. The plan unraveled when Rosecrans' march was delayed, and he was three hours late in attacking. However, Ord never engaged, because Grant changed his plan without telling Rosecrans. Price slipped away. They blamed each other, and then rumors of Grant's drunkenness re-emerged. The source of these stories was The Cincinnati Gazette, and Cincinnati was Rosecrans' hometown.

Rosecrans went on to win the battle of Stone's River and capture Chattanooga. He was held in high esteem by the public, and there was talk of his running for President as a Democrat. Assistant Secretary of War, Charles Dana, came to visit Rosecrans' HQ during the Chattanooga- Chickamauga campaign. He sent disparaging reports about Rosecrans back to the War Dept. After Rosecrans' defeat at Chickamauga, Stanton met with Grant, and they decided to relieve Rosecrans from command.

After the war, Grant dismissed him from the US Army. This was not, however, the end of the vindictiveness. In the 1880's Rosecrans was elected to Congress. As Grant was dying of cancer and impoverished, a bill was introduced to give him a pension. But Rosecrans attempted to block it.

More than one person expressed the comment that this talk was one of the most interesting we have ever heard.

A Note Of Humor. Overheard during this night's dinner: Dr. Davenport asked Mr. Lincoln if there were any John Wilkes Booth re-enactors. Abe replied that he had never heard of any. Dr. Meux quipped, "It is a one shot deal!"

Ron Perisho to Present
'The Civil War in 3D' at
the March Meeting of the
SJVCWRT

San Ramon, CA

Mr. Perisho will present our next meeting attendees with a new experience as he will be showing 3D images of the Civil War using stereographic images. Don't worry, Ron will also be providing the 3D glasses. He studies air photos for geology and learned to view 3D without a viewer.

Ron started collecting photography in 1985, and has been collecting the full history of landscape photography, including cameras, negatives, stereo cards, and prints. He has taken classes on early photographic processes. He is always excited to view new photos, especially stereo views of railroads and the Civil War. "One can see and learn so much more from 3D," he reports.

Growing up in Illinois, a little over an hour from Springfield, he was interested in Lincoln sites and history. Ron continues to study the 16th President.

His ancestors were enlisted soldiers from Illinois. Wife Kathy's ancestors include a Medal of Honor winner at Corinth, Mississippi; and a member of First Alabama Cavalry (a Union unit). Together they have traveled to many battlefields and enjoy comparing of sites present-day sites to photos from the Civil War period. He supports the Civil War

Preservation Trust and is a member of the Center for Civil War Photography. Plan to attend our meeting on Thursday, March 26th as his talk will begin at 7:30 PM at the Ramada Inn. Members should RSVP with Secretary Bryce Kuykendall; non-members are welcome and an RSVP is also appreciated if you plan to dine with us.

Dinner Reservations
for our March meeting

... at the Ramada Inn at the
Shaw offrampon Freeway 41:
5:30 - 6:30 social hour; 6:30 - dinner
7:30 - program and speaker
... contact Secretary Bryce
Kuykendall at 787-3632 to let him
know how many are coming, or e-mail
him at bryce.kuykendall@gmail.com.

4 February 2009

Dear Round Table Members,

On behalf of the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields foundation, I would like to thank you for your recent contribution of \$1,500 to the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation to help preserve the Huntsberry farm on the Third Winchester battlefield. Your contribution makes it possible for us to achieve our goal of protecting our nation's history.

Since its creation in 2000, the Battlefields Foundation has made great strides in fulfilling its mission of preserving the Civil War Battlefields in the beloved Shenandoah Valley, interpreting the Valley's grand Civil War history, and bringing more visitors to the Valley's Civil War sites. The foundation has now protected more than 2,650 acres of battlefield, adding to the 2,100 acres that had already been protected here in the Valley....

Contributions like yours not only provide us with the capital needed to protect the Valley's historic battlefields, but they also serve as an example to our constituents, partners, and lawmakers of how important our work is. For that, I am truly grateful....
Best wishes,

Dr. Irvin E. Hess,

Chairman
Shenandoah Valley Battlefields
Foundation

www.ShenandoahAtWar.org

**Huntington Library Hosts
2-Day Conference April 3-4
'A Lincoln for the 21st Century'**

The Huntington Library exhibit from Feb. 7 - April 27 is entitled 'The Last Full Measure of Devotion: Collecting Abraham Lincoln' in celebration of the 200th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln. This exhibit presents the letters, manuscripts, printed works, and photographs of Lincoln. It showcases the Huntington's significant Lincoln holdings, which rank with the collections of the Library of Congress and the Presidential Library of Illinois as the most important in the nation. The exhibit includes the Strohm copy of the 13th Amendment signed by Lincoln, his notebook on slavery, and a pass that was issued to Lincoln's bodyguard, Ward Lamon, sending him to Richmond, and making him absent the night Lincoln was assassinated.

The Conference at the Huntington on April 3-4 will be held in Friend's Hall. Moderators for the 5 sessions will be Gary Gallagher [University of Virginia] and Joan Waugh [UCLA].

Friday, April 3, 2009

Session 1 - Lincoln Before the White House

Daniel Walker Howe [UCLA] "Abraham Lincoln's Opposition to the Mexican War"

Harold Holzer [Metropolitan Museum of Art] "The Image of the Great Secession Winter: The Evolution of a President-Elect"

Session 2 - Reassessing Lincoln's Wit and Wisdom

Elizabeth Leonard [Colby College] "Lincoln the Teacher: Lesson's Learned"

Richard Carwardine [Univ. of Oxford] "Just Laughter: The Moral Springs of Lincoln's Humor"

Stephen B. Cushman [University of Virginia] "When Lincoln Met Emerson"

Session 3 - Lincoln Confronts His 'Dissatisfied Fellow Countrymen'

David Blight [Yale Univ.] "Lincoln and the American South"

Richard W. Fox [USC] "Striding Toward Assassination: Lincoln's Walk through Richmond, April 4, 1865"

Saturday, April 4, 2009

Session 4 - Lincoln Looks West and to the Constitution

James McPherson [Princeton University] "Lincoln and the West"

Jennifer L Weber [Univ. of Kansas] "Abraham Lincoln and Executive Power"

Session 5 - A Lincoln for the 21st Century

Conference registration fee is \$25; buffet lunches for Friday and Saturday are \$16.50 each. No confirmation will be sent. Make checks payable to "The Huntington" by March 27. Mail to Susi Krassno, The Huntington, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino CA 91108. For more information call Susi Krasnoo, Research Department at the Huntington at 626-405-2194.

2009 MEMBERSHIP FORM - Membership year is from January to December

Please begin/renew my membership in the San Joaquin Valley Civil War Round Table, an organization dedicated to informing the public about the Civil War in general and about the need for preservation of Civil War sites. As a member I will receive the Bugle Call Echoes, our monthly newsletter, either electronically or on paper; regular invitations to our monthly meetings; and free tickets to the annual Civil War Revisited reenactment at Fresno Kearney Park, if I agree to work two hours at our information booth.

_____ INDIVIDUAL/FAMILY membership - \$30.00

_____ STUDENT membership or NEWSLETTER ONLY - \$15.00

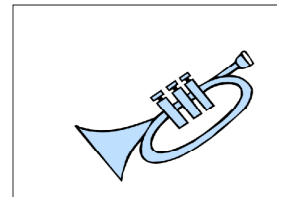
*\$5.00 of each membership goes toward CIVIL WAR BATTLEFIELD PRESERVATION

Name _____

Phone _____ e-mail address _____

Regular Address _____

Bring this membership form and your check to our next monthly meeting, or mail it to our post office box listed below:



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

