

Bugle Call Echoes

San Joaquin Valley Civil War Round Table Fresno, CA April 2007 Vol. 15 No. 4

San Joaquin Valley Civil War Round Table 2007

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Our dear friend Phyllis Mann has moved to Kady, Texas, to be near her son and his family so the position of secretary for the SJVCWRT is vacant.

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From the President's desk,

I regret having to miss several of the last dinner meetings due to conflicts, but anticipate being there to hear Dennis Kohlmann's talk on the Irish Brigade. This brigade and others like it, filled for the most part with new immigrant Irish, has a colorful and heroic history, displaying the full panoply of historical excitement of the day. Don't miss this talk. Dennis is an enthusiastic speaker who will carry you away. See you there.

Brian Clague, M.D.

DENNIS KOHLMANN writes that he became interested in the Civil War about thirty years ago during the Vietnam War. "At the time we had an unpopular war, draft riots, an unpopular president, and copperheads in Congress. I thought, we have been through this before" and this gave birth to a student of our nation's greatest conflict.

Dennis also writes that about 8 years ago he joined a senior learning group at Sacramento State Univ. that meets on Friday's. He taught a course on the Civil War and one of his students told him about the Civil War Roundtable in Sacramento. He joined about 6 years ago and was president for 2 years.

Dennis has visited many battlefields on his own and took a trip to Gettysburg with a group from *North & South.*



Make Your Dinner Reservations by calling Brian Clague at either 841-7161 where a machine will record your call or at 284-4969. In honor of Bryce Kuykendahl's 14th birthday Brian has paid to have our meals upgraded to roast chicken with red potatoes, Caesar salad, and ice cream for desert, so we shall have a jolly time at the Ramada Inn at the Shaw off-ramp on Highway 41. She you there!

AFTER ACTION REPORT SJVCWRT MEETING 3/29/07

By Captain Ron Vaughan, 44th New York State Volunteers

Twenty-four persons were present. It was reported that the 2007 Kearney Park Re-enactment will be held October 27-28 and the annual CWRT conference will be Nov 9-11 in Las Vegas.*

Tonight Bill Head spoke about "The Effect of Religion on the Southern War Effort." It might have also been titled, Religion Was One of the Causes of the War. Bill stated that although slavery existed in all the 13 colonies (footnote: The will of Rhode Islander Henry Head, born 1642, bequeathed 4 negro slaves to his wife and children.), the Great Awakening, an evangelical revival in England and the Northeastern United States, an abolitionist sentiment developed. Decades before the Civil War there was serious dispute between the pastors of various denominations as to whether slavery was immoral or divinely ordained. Noted historian Sidney Ahlstrom wrote that "The pulpits resounded with increasing vehemence . . ." and James Woods, another scholar of the era, wrote, "At no time was organized religion more politically active than in the 20 years prior to the Civil War."

Also, religion, politics, and patriotism were intermixed. Many denominations split over the slavery issue in the years before the Civil War. In fact one might say that Southern churches seceded long before the Confederate States did so. In both North and the South, there was widespread belief that God was on their side; whatever happened was the result of God's will. Early victories confirmed for Confederates that God was indeed assisting them, but the defeats at Vicksburg and Gettysburg shook this belief. Southern ministers explained this as punishment from a God that was judging the sins of the fighting man such as drunkenness and gambling. Many others said that God was holding the Confederacy accountable for the abuse of slaves by their owners.

There were many waves of revival that swept threw the Union army, but it was felt more keenly among Confederates. The South used religion to keep morale up, so it can be argued that piety on both sides lengthened the war.



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 - Our Annual Summer Picnic and 4th of July celebration at Linda and Brian Clague's at Shaver Lake.

July: No meeting

August 30, 2007. Dr. Joe Wagner of the LACWRT will speak to us 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.

Note:

[The San Joaquin Valley Civil War Round Table will put it to the membership for a vote to meet the last Thursday of the month (rather than the 4th Thursday) except during June, July and December]

The board would also like to increase our dues from \$25 to \$30 a year to establish a web site.

^{*} These dates for the re-enactment made it possible for vice-president David Davenport to extend an invitation to General and Mrs. Grant (aka Larry and Constance Clowers) to speak to us on October 25th. As a result he has good news and bad news. Yes, they would be happy to speak to us, but the Fresno Historical Society has not contacted them! In the hope that this can be rectified the email David received from the Clowers was forwarded to the Historical Society. Hopefully this won't backfire and cost us our booth at the re-enactment. Stay tuned-in for further developments.

Yet Another Version of "Dixie"

In a previous issue of "Bugle Calls" we reported that David Davenport had recently purchased <u>Rebel Rhymes and Rhapsodies</u>, 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".

We take this opportunity to reprint another of these, "THE SONG OF THE EXILE", reported by Mr. Moore to have come to him from an unnamed source in Martinsbugh, VA.

"THE SONG OF THE EXILE"

Oh! Here I am in the land of cotton,
 The flag once honored is now forgotten;
 Fight away, fight away,
 fight away for Dixie's land.
But here I stand for Dixie dear,
 To fight for freedom, without fear;
 Fight away, fight away,
 fight away for Dixie's land.

Chorus:
For Dixie's land I'll take my stand
To live or die for Dixie's land.

Fight away, fight away, fight away for

Dixie's land.

Oh! Have you heard the latest news,
Of Lincoln and his kangaroos;
Fight away, fight away,
fight away for Dixie's land.
His minions they would now oppress us,
With war and bloodshed they'd distress us!
Fight away, fight away,
fight away for Dixie's land.

Abe Lincoln tore through Baltimore,
In a baggage-car with fastened door;
Fight away, fight away,
fight away for Dixie's land.
And left his wife, alas! Alack!
To perish on the railroad track!
Fight away, fight away,
fight away for Dixie's land.

Abe Lincoln is the President,
He'll wish his days in Springfield spent;
Fight away, fight away,
fight away for Dixie's land.
We'll show him that old Scott's a fool,
We'll ne'er submit to Yankee rule!
Fight away, fight away,
fight away for Dixie's land.

At first our states were only seven,
But now we number stars eleven;
Fight away, fight away,
fight away for Dixie's land.
Brave old Missouri shall be ours,
Despite old Lincoln's Northern powers!
Fight away, fight away,
fight away for Dixie's land.

We have no ships, we have no navies,
But mighty faith in the great Jeff. Davis;
Fight away, fight away,
fight away for Dixie's land.

Due honor, too, we will award
To gallant Bragg and Beauregard!
Fight away, fight away,
fight away for Dixie's land.

Abe's proclamation in a twinkle,
Stirred up the blood of Rip Van Winkle;
Fight away, fight away,
fight away for Dixie's land.

Jeff. Davis's answer was short and curt;
"Fort Sumter's taken, and 'nobody's hurt!"
Fight away, fight away,
fight away for Dixie's land.

We hear the words of this same ditty,

To the right and left of the Mississippi;

Fight away, fight away,

fight away for Dixie's land.

In the land of flowers, hot and sandy,

From Delaware Bay to the Rio Grande!

Fight away, fight away,

fight away for Dixie's land.

The ladies cheer with heart and hand,
The men who fight for Dixie's land;
Fight away, fight away,
fight away for Dixie's land.
The "Stars and Bars" are waving o'er us;
And Independence is before us!
Fight away, fight away,
fight away for Dixie's land.

Bob Quist, the bonafide editor of "Bugle Calls" should be held blameless for the defects of this issue and for its late arrival. He and his lovely bride Judy are enjoying the a well-deserved vacation in mainland China. As such all your slings and arrows should be aimed at David Davenport who edited this issue of "Bugle Calls".

Did Lincoln wear a Stetson?

Please begin/renew my membership in the San Joaquin Valley Civil War Round Table

[NDIVIDUAL/FAMILY membership - \$25.00

STUDENT membership or NEWSLETTER ONLY - \$12.50

*\$5.00 of each membership goes toward Civil War Battlefield Preservation

Name

Phone

E-mail

Address

Bring this membership form and your check to our next monthly meeting, or mail it to our

Post Office Box listed on the return address below, and mark Membership on the lower left corner

San Joaquín Valley Cívil War Round Table P O Box 5695 Fresno CA 93755

of your envelope:

