



Bugle Calls



SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

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SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

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PRESIDENTS REPORT JANUARY 2015

I would like to wish all of you a Happy New Year. My goodness 2015, I'm going to have to work to not put down 2014 on the stuff that I write.

It has been a good year for our Roundtable culminating in a wonderful Christmas party put on by Walt and Gail. We had a nice group joining us and were entertained by Johnathan and his friend serenading us with some great songs. If you were unable to attend we missed you. Walt and Gail have put this party on for several years and I personally want to thank them from the bottom of my heart for going the extra mile in putting the get-together on. It is very much appreciated.

We have again embarked on the great adventure of hosting the 2015 Civil War Roundtable West Coast Conference. Ron has been working hard getting speakers to commit to joining us in Tulare on November 13-15, 2015. The topic is the Civil War 1865 and we are expecting to have a good turnout. Putting this on is not a one or two person operation and I will be calling on you to do what you can to make this program a success.

Speaking of program or programs... our meeting on January 8, 2015 [if I keep writing 2015 I will slowly get it into my head what year it is] will be our annual

Show and Tell. Remember this is coming right up on us because January 8 is next week. It comes up quickly this year. So get your presentation together and we will be happy to hear it on Thursday at Denny's on Shaw in Clovis. As usual, the meeting starts at 7:00 P.M. and if you would like to have a meal, please get there around 6. It is always fun to get together and talk before the meeting.

Again speaking of programs, Patty is looking for people who would like to make a presentation sometime during the year. If you are interested, contact Patty.

Again, it's 2015 and that means that dues are again due for membership in our Roundtable. The cost is \$35.00 for the family and the money goes for compensating the cost of gas, food, and lodging for our speakers that come in from out of town. It also pays for things like our website and if we have anything left, donations to groups who are working on preservation and interpretation of Civil War sites. We also take the money that we get from the raffles at the meetings and put that into preservation. But to have raffles, we need things to raffle off. We are really running low on things to raffle so if you have books on the Civil War that you would like to donate to the Roundtable, please either bring them to the meeting or contact Patty about your donation. It would be appreciated.

I understand that congratulations are in order to a couple former members of our group. David Davenport has published a book and is on the way to getting another book out and Evan Jones has also published a book. I understand that Ron has Evan's book. Hopefully he will honor us with a review of it in a later "Bugle Call" and if you have read David's book, we would also love to have a review of that fine work.

One of the things I enjoy doing is photography and I like to take some of my pictures and put them into calendars. I did a Civil War calendar this year with objects that I have seen in display cases during my wonderings. I have asked Walt to put them up in this month's Bugle Call. They run from John Wilks Booth's assassination pistol and the pillow with Lincolns blood stain on it to a Burnside's rifle which was in the city museum in Manassas. I hope that you enjoy them.

Hope to see you at the January meeting.

Yours:

Mike Green

President SJVCWRT

AFTER ACTION REPORT

SJVCWRT CHRISTMAS PARTY 12/11/14

By Ron Vaughan

Eighteen persons were present for the party at the Schulze's festively decorated home. Once again, we are thankful for their hospitality. Stormy weather had been predicted, but fortunately it held off until all were safely home. Unfortunately, this was not true for the Clagues, who were snowed in.

The bill of fare was an extensive and tasty taco bar, plus many delicious desserts brought by attendees. All the gifts were first rate items. Entertainment was provided by Johnathon and friend, who played guitars and sang country music. We were surprised and impressed by Johnathon's rich deep singing voice. It was a great party.

Our next meeting, January 8th, will be "show & tell," so bring something for a 5 to 10 minute talk. Let Patty know that you plan to share.

CIVIL WAR EVENTS OF JANUARY 1865:

- *January 8 Indian forces defeat Texas troops in the Battle of Dove Creek, southwest of San Angelo. (See below)

- *January 14 Union withstands an attack on Dardanelle.

- *January 16 Confederate attack on steamers at Ivey's Ford; last Confederate attempt to challenge Union control of the Arkansas River.

BATTLE OF DOVE CREEK, 1/8/1865

Both Wikipedia and The Handbook of Texas Online have good articles on the battle. In summary: *Texans discovered an abandoned Indian village of 92 lodges in*

SW Tom Greene County, and assumed they belonged to Comanche or Kiowa raiders. Quickly a force was gathered of 161 of the Confederate Frontier Battalion and 425 mounted militiamen. They eventually found and attacked the Indians new camp, which was well sited on a high bank of Dove Creek, in the cover of woods and prickly brush.

A plan was conceived to have the militia make a frontal attack, while the Confederates circled to the rear to capture the pony herd, and cutoff the Indian retreat. It turned out that the 400 to 600 Indians were migrating Kiowas, who had been peaceful for more than a decade, but were nonetheless well prepared for trouble. The militiamen were disrupted by the rough terrain and routed by the fire of the defenders. Meanwhile, the Confederates had captured the ponies, but were soon trapped in a crossfire, nearly surrounded, and only managed to escape after dark.

The Confederate-Texans had lost 22 killed and 19 wounded, while the Kiowas lost 12 killed and an unknown number of wounded. The Kiowas traveled into Mexico, where they settled, and began to take revenge, by raids into Texas over the next decade.

FROM "THE BLUE AND GRAY LAUGHING"

" When Prince Napoleon visited our army at Manassas, his supper the first night was half-picked bone – provisions being so scarce.... The next day he rode over the battlefield, but turned very sick at the sight and odor (of corpses) that met his senses.

Subsequently he reviewed our troops. While riding down the line, he expressed a desire to pass back along the rear of the troops. Lt. Col. Skinner of the 1st Virginia Regiment, who was by the side of the Prince, for the moment was placed in a dilemma, a flush mantled his rugged face, but recovering himself quickly, he replied in French: `Your royal highness, we would gladly take you to inspect the rear, but the fact is, the linen (underwear) of the men is in rather an exposed condition. It being a part of the person which we never expect to show to the enemy.'"

Pictures from Mike's "Civil War Calendar"



Booth pistol Ford's Theater



Lincoln blood stained pillow Ford's Theatre



Artillery shells Manassas



Hotchkiss Shell Stones River



Canister Shot 273 Prairie Grove



Fuses low South Mountain



Kepi Monocracy



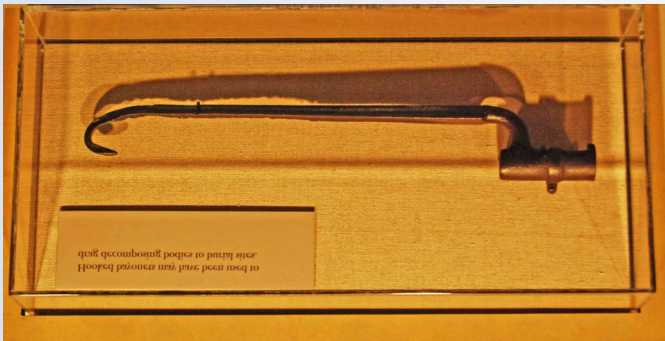
Jacksons cap from VMI



Jacksons handkerchief with his blood on it VMI



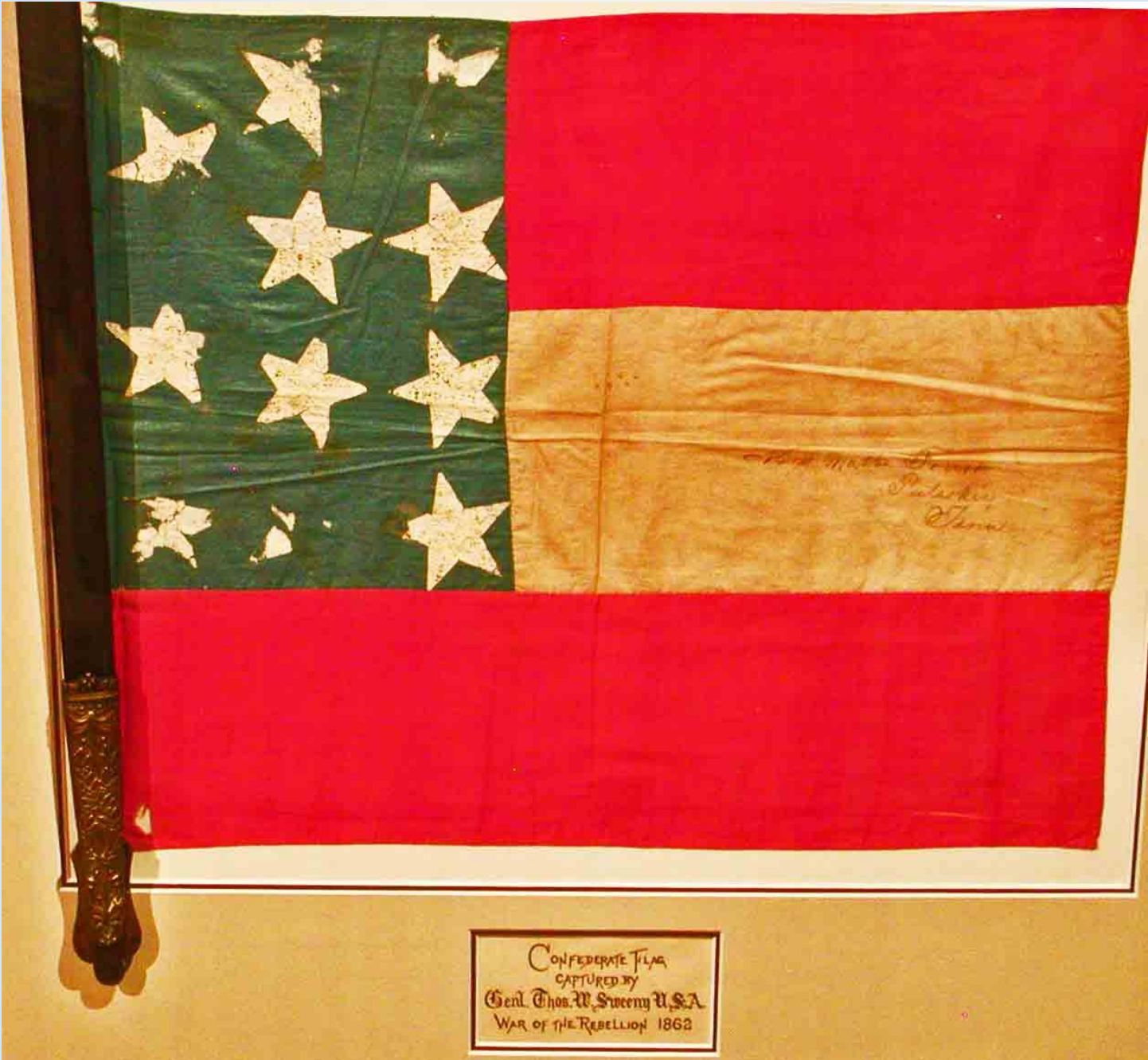
DR Kit Wilsons creek



Hooked bayonet Stones River



Burnside Rifle Manassas



Captured confederate flag Wilsons creek