



BUGLE CALLS, NOV. 2016, SJVCWRT

Editor Ron Vaughan

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1. NOVEMBER 11TH MEETING: Dine 6:00, Meeting 7:00, at Dennys Restaurant, Shaw & Willow

SPEAKER: (Postponed from Oct.) Fred Bohmfalk—

“The Personal Lives of Grant, Sherman & Sheridan”

EDITOR'S NOTE: My apologies that Email notifications did not get through to most if not all of you for the Sept and Oct newsletter/meeting announcements

2. PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Hello

I hope that this newsletter finds you well. I want to let you know that I will be having an operation to repair a ruptured Achilles tendon. The operation will have taken place on October 28. The story of how and why I came to this situation is much too long and convoluted to have it published here. I will be pushing myself around on a little scooter for 6 weeks. Life will go on.

Our September speaker was Patty Spencer. She made a fine presentation on three women who were important in the Civil War. I know that Ron will have a fine account of her presentation. I really want to thank Patty for jumping in and filling the slot when our scheduled speaker was unable to make his presentation. Way to go Patty.

Our meeting will be held at Denny's on Shaw in Clovis. As is our usual practice, if you want to have dinner please join us at 6:00 P.M. We will start the program promptly at 7:00P.M. and have a short business meeting. At that time I hope to have those members who went to the West Coast Conference fill us in on the happenings. After the meeting we will have a presentation by Fred Balmfolk from the Sacramento Round Table.

We will have our annual Christmas get to gather at Gail Schulze's home in Clovis. Gail will have her wonderful Talco Bar. If you are going to attend, please let Gail know. Also please bring a small desert and a beverage.

The usual gift exchange will take place. If you plan to participate, please bring a gift valued at \$20.00 or less. I will be putting together my annual Civil War gift. This time it will cover the battles of Chickamauga and Chattanooga. The Bugle Call has 7 of the 13 pictures.

Hope to see you on the 10th.

Yours
Michael Green President SJVCWRT

3. AFTER ACTION REPORT

October 13, 2016 Meeting of the SJVCWRT

By Ron Vaughan

1. Meeting was called to order by President Mike promptly at 7:00 pm. 10 persons were present.
2. Wayne Scott reported on some up-coming events of interest: On the 3rd weekend of Oct., at the Monterey Presidio, the Sons of Union Veterans is hosting Civil War Days, and he is going as Lincoln. The Fresno Veteran's Day Parade is Nov. 11th. On the 3rd Friday of each

month, one can enjoy old Southern Gospel music at the New Covenant Church, Fresno.

3. Treasurer Gail reported our bank balance for June 3rd was \$2136. \$190 was paid for our website. Our current balance is \$1713.

She is inviting all to a Christmas Party Dec. 8th at her house. Bring a desert, a beverage, and a gift worth \$20-25. (for those who wish to participate in the gift drawing.) Also, at the next meeting and December Party, raffle tickets are available to win a CW Chess set. It has no board. But Gail has volunteered to make one. The proceeds will go towards battlefield preservation.

4. Mike Green showed four photos that he entered in the Tulare County Fair, and won awards for them. His 1st place award showed Ron V. & Mike Gatley in their CW uniforms.

5. Due to illness of Fred Bohmfalk's wife, he could not speak to us tonight. Instead, we were treated to a short presentation by Patti Spencer. It was about three women from the book, A Separate Battle—Women in the Civil War.

The first topic was Harriett Tubman: It is a familiar story of her escape from slavery, and how she returned to the South many times to help others escape to the North. What I had not heard before, was that once the war began, she served as a nurse to the wounded, and worked for women's rights.

Next was Dortha Dix: She was Superintendent of Union Nurses. At the beginning of the war, there were no female nurses. Ms. Dix recruited women, screened the applicants, and assigned them. She was called "Dragon Dix", because she was so adamant about improving conditions in hospitals. After the war, she worked to improve care in mental hospitals.

Finally, Patti discussed Mary Bickerdyke: Known as "Mother Bickerdyke", she was appointed as a field agent of the Northwestern Branch of the U.S. Sanitary Commission. She became a matron of a hospital at Cairo, Ill. And eventually helped set up 300 hospitals. She worked to overcome barriers. If her authority was challenged, she responded that her authority came from The Almighty!

After the talk, we had the usual nook raffle, and adjourned at 8:00!

POST MEETING NEWS: Patti has informed me that she has lined up speakers for January and February, with others to come.

4. CIVIL WAR HUMOR

FROM THE BLUE & GRAY LAUGHING:

"A young minister, preaching a highly elaborate sermon, said several times when giving a new exposition on a passage, 'The critics

and commentators do not agree with me here.’ Next morning a poor woman came to see him with something in her apron. She said her husband heard his sermon and thought it was a very fine one. Since he had said, ‘The common taters did not agreed with him,’ she brought him some of the very best Jersey blues.”

5. KEARNY PARK CIVIL WAR REVISTED 2016:

Once again, the SJVCWRT had elected not to pay for a booth, due to the very poor locations we had been given the last few years. This year the set up appeared to be better organized-- all in a square right next to the mansion. Even the sutlers were near. I was glad to see the return of the booth featuring tasty tri-tip sandwiches. For \$10 one received a bag with the sandwich, chips, a halo orange, a cookie, and a small paper US flag!

For the first time, there was more Union infantry present than Confederate. As usual, there were more CSA cannon (8) than USA, but all the latter were actually manned by Yankees, instead of galvanized Rebs. About half the cavalry, consisted of Confederate riders who donned blue coats, so that there would be a good show. Once again, I put on my old 1st Sgt. Coat, and fell in the combined 6th Iowa/69th N.Y. Irish. I was happy that several former comrades in arms, that I had not seen in 10 years or more showed up. It was a great reunion. I also encountered a couple of CWRT members that we had not seen in a while, and encouraged them to join us again.

6. PHOTOS BY MIKE GREEN

