

BUGLE CALL ECHOES

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

September 2002

“Whenever you find you are on the side of the majority, it is time to pause and reflect.”

■ Mark Twain –



September Program

“The Atlanta Campaign and the Election of 1864.” Dr. David Davenport, a round table member, is a past chair of the History Department at Fresno City College. He developed a curriculum and taught a course in Civil War history at the college. For several years he has been a member of the 6th Iowa Infantry of the Civil War Reenactment Society. He takes part in the annual reenactment at Kearney Park each fall. Dr. Davenport will present this program at the 18th Annual West Coast Conference to be held in Fresno November 8-10, 2002.

The dinner meeting will be held on Thursday, September 26, 2002 at the Ramada Inn located at Shaw and Hwy 41 in Fresno. Please send your Check for \$15 made payable to the SJVCWRT to Gloria Carter, P.O. 5695, Fresno, California 93755 or call her at 559-322-9474. We need a head count for the hotel. Thanks.

President's Corner

This month we resume our monthly dinner meeting at the Ramada Inn. I trust Everyone had a great summer and is excited to get back into the “groove” of regularly scheduled meetings.

My message this month is an important one. The close of the 2002 calendar year will end the term for the current board of directors. Many of the present directors have served the board in one capacity or another since the club was founded. They are ready for a break! Nominations are usually handled through a nominating committee, but since attendance at our meetings and functions has been down this year, we would like to change the process. We invite members who are interested in serving a two year term as an officer or director to call us and express their interest. Please call the Carters at 559-322-9474 or the Moats at 559-229-3654 during the month of September and early October. We are especially interested in hearing from someone interested in becoming our newsletter coordinator!

Mike Carter, President

Living History Room at November Conference

While the conference's general session is in progress, there will be talks and demonstrations in the hotel's upper lobby next to the main meeting rooms. The presentations focus on diverse Civil War topics and are provided primarily (but not exclusively) for non-registered guests, family and friends of registered participants. There will be three separate programs on Saturday, November 9th. Dr. Brian Clague, Fresno neurosurgeon, will discuss the medical conditions of the day. Kellee Lozano-Holmes, a researcher and historian, will present a living history program titled "Women in Mourning." And finally the Ebony Verses will perform their wonderful poetry and verses. When you pick up your registration packet on November 8th check the official program for time and place. There is no fee to attend.

Preservation Update

The site of the first battle that led to the 1864 siege of Atlanta has been preserved, thanks to a four year effort and a complex public-private partnership. The collaborative effort secured 625 acres comprising the Battlefield of Rocky Face Ridge, where on May 8 and 9, 1864, forces under Union General William T. Sherman failed to dislodge Confederate General Joseph Johnston. Stone breastworks built by the Southerners, extending 1690 yards, still stand.

National Park Service historian, David Lowe, who mapped the battlefield, said the stone breastworks, "some in quite good condition, stand 3 to 4 feet high." There are also hundreds of one and two man fighting holes, a couple of Confederate artillery positions, and nearly a thousand yards of more hastily built Union breastworks. "In some areas it looks like they just walked a few years back." Lowe said.

Frances Kennedy, Director of the Conservation Fund's Battlefield Campaign, announced the acquisition in late May. Kennedy spearheaded the project from its inception, resorting to her trademark practice of enlisting wide-ranging support from local, state and federal sources. Kennedy called the battlefield "a very beautiful, untouched ridge, absolutely pristine."

**EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL
WEST COAST
CIVIL WAR CONFERENCE**

NOVEMBER 8 - 10, 2002

**HOWARD JOHNSON PLAZA HOTEL
1055 Van Ness Avenue
Fresno, California**



THE ATLANTA CAMPAIGN

FACULTY

**EDWIN C. BEARSS
CRAIG SYMONDS
RICHARD McMURRY
JAMES STANBERY
DAVID DAVENPORT**

SPONSORED BY THE

**SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY
CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE
AND
CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE ASSOCIATES
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS**

CONFERENCE FEES

**\$150 Before October 10
\$165 After October 10**

ROOM RESERVATIONS

**Call the hotel direct. Ask for the conference rate of \$70 per night
1-800-649-4955 (559-485-9000)
CONFERENCE ENDS AT 1200 SUNDAY. CHECK OUT 1 PM**

PARKING

**Free parking in underground parking garage under hotel.
Enter on Van Ness Avenue**

