



BUGLE CALLS, MARCH 2022

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

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1. MARCH 10TH MEETING,

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Denny's Restaurant, 710 W. Shaw, Clovis

6:00 Dinner hour

7:00 Meeting: Speaker Bernie Quinn, on Berdan's Sharpshooters

8:15 Book Raffle

2. COMING EVENTS:

APRIL 14TH: Bernie Quinn's Part 2 on Berdan's Sharpshooters

MAY: 12TH: Meeting topic to be determined.

AUGUST: ? Barbeque at Shaver?

SEPTEMBER: MEETING

OCTOBER: MEETING

NOVEMBER 4-6: WEST COAST CONFERENCE (See website page)

3. PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

BY MICHAEL SPENCER

Hello Members,

I hope all is going well since our last meeting. Our next meeting will be Thursday March 10th. Our speaker will be Bernie Quinn, speaking about Berdan Sharpshooters. His subject is their organization, recruitment, training, tactics, uniform, and their successes at Gettysburg.

Ron mentioned he wrote a letter about Black soldiers of the Civil War in the 2/20/22 Fresno Bee (see After Action Report below.) Here is a note about the 54th Massachusetts Regiment: The 54th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment was an infantry regiment that saw extensive service in the Union Army during the American Civil War. The unit was the second African-American regiment,

following the 1st Kansas Colored Volunteer Infantry Regiment, organized in the northern states during the Civil War.

[Wikipedia](#)

Active: March 13, 1863 – August 4, 1865; **Size:** 1,100

(Editor's Note: Michael included a longer article on the 54th, but unfortunately, I was unable to copy & paste it. Drat these infernal devices!)

4. AFTER ACTION REPORT: Meeting of February 10

BY RON VAUGHAN

Ten persons were present. It was good to see Lisa and Helen back. Wayne Scott was sick, we hope he has a speedy recovery.

Lisa reported that the Westerner Club meets on the 2nd Wednesdays at 6:00 at Mimi's Bistro & Bakery.

I reported that I tried to apply for non-profit status for our SJCWRT. The 40 page Form 1023 was completed, but the site would not allow the form to print out no matter how I and my son tried! We finally started printing, when the printer ran out of ink! Replaced cartridge, but it would not do it! Extreme frustration! I will look for another way.

Tom Ebert provided our program with an excellent lecture on the political events of 1850s that led to Southern Secession over the slavery issues. I have three pages of notes—too much to retell here.

An interesting note, Tom said the Confederate Government mirrored the USA Constitution, but there was not a two party system. For President Davis, it was “My way or the highway.”

To sum it up, the South desired to extend slavery, but the rise of Lincoln and the Republican Party made the slave owners fear for the future of their “peculiar institution”.

As Dave Davenport once said, the election of Lincoln made the slave owners think slavery was doomed; even though Lincoln had no executive power to end slavery, or enough votes in Congress to end slavery. By seceding, and starting war, they brought about the eventual end of slavery!

Note: The 2/20/22 edition of the Fresno Bee, contained a letter to the editor. I commented upon the memorialization of the Black soldiers in the Civil War, and that the first Black regiment was not the famous 54th Massachusetts, but the 1st Kansas Colored Regiment, raised in June 1862, eight months earlier. It also had the first Black officers, a Captain and two Lieutenants.

5. CIVIL WAR HUMOR

FROM “THE BLUE & GRAY LAUGHING”

“In the Battle of Bull Run, a soldier around whom the cannon shot were flying particularly thick. On seeing one strike and bury itself in a bank near him, he sprang into the hole it had scoped out, remarking, ‘Shootaway! You can’t hit twice in the same place!’ At that instant, another shot struck a few feet distance, almost covering

the fellow with sand and gravel. Emerging from what had so nearly become his grave, he continued the unfinished sentence: ‘But you can come so pesky near it that the first hole is hole is uncomfortable.’”