

BUGLE CALLS, MARCH 2018

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE



TABLE OF CONTENTS:

1. MARCH MEETING
 2. UPCOMING EVENTS
 3. PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
 4. AFTER ACTION REPORT
 5. CIVIL WAR HUMOR
-

1. MARCH 8TH, DENNY'S RESTAURANT, 710 W. SHAW, CLOVIS

6:00 pm Meal and Social Hour
7:00 Meeting
7:15 Program
8:15 Book Raffle

2. COMING EVENTS, 2018:

March 3 & 4: CIVIL WAR LIVING HISTORY & RE-ENACTMENT
AT MOONEY GROVE PARK, VISALIA
Battles 1:00 & 3:30 Saturday, 12:00 Sunday

March 16 & 17 KNIGHTS FERRY RE-ENACTMENT
Also MOOREPARK RE-ENACTMENT

April 21 & 22 MARIPOSA CIVIL WAR DAYS

3. PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY MICHAEL SPENCER

Dear members,

In regards to the round table Facebook page. I know that some of you have already been added as a friend of the SJ Valley Civil War. I was just made aware that our page is personal. Personal Facebook pages used for organizations is a violation of their terms of service.

The current round table page will be deleted or deactivated, as promised. I am working on this correction with the new Facebook page for our organization, where you can “follow or like” not a friend request. I apologize for the inconvenience.

Sincerely,
Michael Spencer

4. AFTER ACTION REPORT
FEBRUARY MEETING OF SJVCWRT
BY RON VAUGHAN

*President Michael Spencer welcomed the eleven persons who were present for our meeting. He announced that he has set up our Facebook page. He hopes this will inform a wider number of people about our organization.

*We discussed other ways to publicize our meetings. I have sent notices to the Fresno Bee, but only once did anything appear in the paper. It lists “5 Things To Do Today, ” and if we are not among their top 5, tough luck. There is a “Senior Activities” page, but I do not know how to access it for entering info.

*Gail was not present, so no Treasurer’s Report. I have received \$800 in checks for our Nov Conference registration, that need to be deposited.

*Mike Green brought up the subject of meeting our Conference speakers who arrive at the airport. He will meet Parker Hills, I will meet Thomas Cutrer. Richard Hatcher is the other one flying in. It

will depend upon the arrival times of their flights, as to who can meet him. Mike will work out the arrangements.

*Programs: Patty spoke about two ladies who helped the soldiers. Elida Ramsey, from New York, entertained troops by singing and reading to them. She took supplies hospitals after 2nd Bull Run. The sight and smell of the wounded made her nauseous, but she rose to the occasion, and helped them anyway. Kate Duncan volunteered for hospitals, and traveled to Gettysburg after the battle, to help out. They were both women who bravely stepped up, and defied social conventions, in order to serve. It is great that Patty has been highlighting women who were involved in the war.

*Michael Spencer read from an article on medical care during the war. He shared some interesting information and statistics. Here are two tables from his source article:

RECORDS OF TYPES OF WEAPONS AND WOUNDS TREATED:

WEAPON	NUMBER	% OF CASES
Minie Balls	108,000	76%
Musket Balls	16,700	12%
Shell fragments	12,500	9%
Pistol or Buckshot	3,000	2%
Cannister	1,150	1%
Cannon Solid Shot	360	0.3%
Explosive Bullets	140	0.1%
Unknown missiles	103,829	--

DISTRIBUTION OF INJURIES AMONG THOSE KILLED IN BATTLE OR SENT TO HOSPITALS:

SITE	KILLED	WOUNDED
Head or Neck	51%	18%
Trunk	42%	11%
Lower Extremities	5%	35%
Upper Extremities	3%	30%

Thank you Michael for your reading!

*I was to give a program on the Trans-Mississippi, but my laptop decided the Power Point was a virus, and refused to open it! However, I also had a Power Point on California in the Civil War. I did not have the text with me, but I was able to remember 90% of it from memory. Here is a very brief summery:

Lincoln won the 1860 National Election by 40% of the popular vote. In California, he only got 32%, and only carried 10 of 44 counties. This was still more than any of the other three candidates. The political situation had the state's Unionist worried.

There were strong opinions being expressed that California should join the Confederacy, or just become an independent and neutral republic. Governor Downey was an Irish immigrant, whose loyalty was uncertain. The military commander was Southerner, Col. Albert Sidney Johnston. There were 16,000 members of the secret society, The Knights of the Golden Circle, who had plots to bring California into the Confederacy.

One of the KGC leaders, Asbury Harpending, solicited Johnston to turn over the arms and defenses in the Bay area to the KGC. Fortunately for the Union, Johnston was a gentleman, and refused. Nevertheless, in many towns there were plots, rumors of unrest, plus the formation of Southern militias, bands of "partisan rangers," and Confederate volunteers: Napa, Volcano, Mariposa, Visalia, Los Angeles, and El Monte. In addition, many local government officials and law officers were pro-Southern. Also, the withdrawal of U.S. Army troops, emboldened many Native American tribes to attack settlers.

California raised eight regiments of volunteer infantry, two cavalry regiments, plus two cavalry battalions, and a few artillery units. Most of these were dispersed throughout the state to maintain order.

There were no battles in California, but there were fights with Native Americans, some incidents that were "almost battles," and gunfights involving soldiers and lawmen vs rowdy pro- Southern citizens and "bush rangers"/outlaws. The Californians that did see action, were the "California Volunteer Battalion" of the 2nd Massachusetts Cavalry Regiment.

5. CIVIL WAR HUMOR

From "The Blue & Gray Laughing"

"As the surgeon was going his rounds (in an open field hospital, in Locust Grove, after the battle of the Wilderness), examining patients he came to, a sergeant of a New York regiment , who had been struck by a bullet in the left breast, right over the region of heart.

[Editor's note: That is a really long sentence!] The doctor, surprised at the narrow escape of the man, ejaculated, 'Why, my man, where in the name of goodness could your heart have been?' The poor fellow, with a faint and sickly smile, replied, 'I guess it must have been in my mouth just then, Doctor.'"