



BUGLE CALLS, NOVEMBER 2025

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE

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1. NOVEMBER 13 MEETING

Denny's Restaurant, 710 W. Shaw, Clovis

- Dinner 6:00,
- Meeting 7:00
- Program 7:30- 8:30
- Book Raffle 8:30

"CONFEDERATE GENERAL IN CALIFORNIA"

By Zethin McKinley

2. December 11 Christmas Party!

3. PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Michael Spencer

On October 29 during the American Civil War include the Union victory at the Battle of Wauhatchie in 1863, which helped resupply besieged Union troops in Chattanooga, and the conclusion of a Union defensive effort at the Battle of Decatur in 1864.

1861

Skirmish at Island Mound, Missouri: A skirmish occurred in Bates County involving the 1st Kansas Colored Infantry, making it the first engagement where African American soldiers fought as part of an organized Union unit.

Skirmishes in Missouri: Other fighting took place on this day in Missouri, including near the towns of Warsaw and Ozark.

1863

Battle of Wauhatchie, Tennessee: A surprise nighttime attack by Confederate Lieutenant General James Longstreet's forces against Union troops near Chattanooga was ultimately repulsed.

Significance: The Union victory secured the newly opened "cracker line," a vital supply route for the Union Army of the Cumberland, which was under siege in Chattanooga.

Confederate Promotion: Edward Higgins was promoted to Brigadier General in the Provisional Army of the Confederate States.

1864

Battle of Decatur, Alabama: Union forces under Brigadier General Robert S. Granger concluded a three-day defensive action against a much larger Confederate Army of Tennessee, preventing them from crossing the Tennessee River.

Fighting in Missouri: On the last day of October 1864, fighting was reported at Warsaw and Ozark, a period of heightened guerrilla activity in the state.

Regards,
Michael J Spencer

4. AFTER ACTION REPORT. MEETING OF 10/9/2025

By Ron Vaughan, Secretary

Ten persons present, including Dallas from Reno. Our bank balance is \$3441.00. Members donated nearly \$100 to send the family of deceased historian Eric Whittenburg. I sent a check for \$100, after learning the address.

Ron Vaughan read a paper written by a friend, Curtis Easton, about his CW ancestor, William N. Fritts. He was from East Tennessee, a Unionist area, as opposed to Confederate leaning West Tennessee.

Throughout his service he was frequently ordered to do two duties: Spying on the Confederates, and digging graves for the fallen soldiers. He survived many dangers, but toward the end of the war, he was swimming in a stream and was bitten by a poisonous snake, which brought his death. It seems crazy that he survived many battles and spy missions, only to die this way!

5. CIVIL WAR HUMOR

From “The Blue & Gray Laughing”

“The bayonet, too, is a novelty: a soft iron affair, apparently designed to coil around the enemy as it is introduced, thus taking him prisoner!”