



Bugle Calls



SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

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SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

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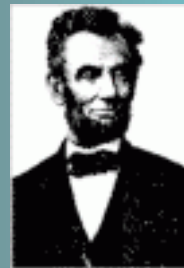
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AFTER ACTION REPORT SJVCWRT MEETING OF 11/12/09

By Ron Vaughan

Twenty four persons were present for what may have been the first ever November meeting. Our speaker, Larry Tag, was introduced as “the best base guitar player of any Civil War author!” His book *The Unpopular Mr. Lincoln*, is based not upon the opinions expressed by Southerners, but Northern editorial and public opinions.

Today Lincoln is one of our most popular Presidents, but this was not the case in the Civil War times. Prior to his election, Lincoln was largely unknown. His supporters in the Republican Party. Manipulated his nomination over Seward. He gave no campaign speeches, as he counted on winning due to the four way political divisions. Lincoln was elected by 39.8 % of the vote (0 % Southern votes), the lowest of any U.S. President. People ridiculed him for “sneaking” into the Capitol for his inauguration. When the Southern States began to secede, his popularity decreased even further to 25 %. People considered him ugly and homely. Hawthorne described him as awkward and uncouth.

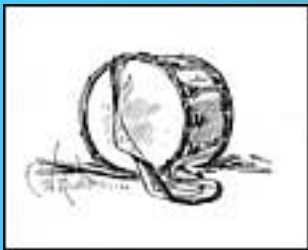
When Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, he was widely criticized by Democratic newspapers. The *Chicago Times* wrote that it was a “monstrous usurpation”. Republicans lost in the '62 elections, so that Lincoln had only two supporters in Congress. The Copperheads grew in power, some North - Western states wanted to secede, and there were Draft riots in many cities. Stone's River, Gettysburg, and Vicksburg raised morale, but Grant's heavy losses in the '64 Campaign were unpopular. Lincoln stacked the deck of the '64 Republican Convention, with his appointees, to insure his re-nomination. As the election approached, Republican

Reminders

2010 Membership Dues is due and payable no later than the January 14th meeting.

Beginning with the January 2010 meeting, we will be in the meeting room at Denney's at the northeast corner of Herndon and Blackstone. You will be able to order directly from the menu and can pay with either cash or credit card. We will still be holding our raffle drawings at each meeting so bring cash or check so you can get your raffle tickets.

IMPORTANT : Unless your membership dues is current for the year, you will not be able to vote regarding any business to come before the Roundtable. If you are not sure if you are current, contact Walt Schulze at 559 297-4481.



The 2010 meeting dates for the SJVCWRT

January 14,
February 11,
March 11,
April 8,
May 13,
September 9,
October 14,
November 11,
and Dec 9.

Please mark your calendars.
David D

militants deserted Lincoln. Two things saved Lincoln: The Democrats nominated MacClellan on a peace platform, and Sherman Captured Atlanta eight weeks before the election. People could see the end of the war as a possibility. In 1860 Lincoln won 54% of the Northern vote, in 1864 55 % of the Northern vote. Even then, a newspaper all but called for his assassination. Lincoln really became popular as a martyr. He was killed the day before Easter Sunday, and many ministers rewrote their sermons to extol him. In New York City, where there had been Draft riots, many thousands lined up to view his open casket.

Mr. Todd's most interesting comment about Lincoln was that, "No one ever did more with less political capital."



AFTER ACTION REPORT NOV. 2009 WEST COAST CWRT

By Ron Vaughan

This was one of the most rewarding conferences I have ever attended. Our presenters constituted the greatest gathering of scholars of this campaign ever assembled. My thanks to the presenters, Evan, and all who helped organize it.

So much has been written about Gettysburg, and so little about the Chattanooga Campaign, which includes Rosecrans brilliant Tullahoma campaign, and bloody Chickamauga. I gained many new insights. Space precludes a re-telling of all the information presented. The following are what were highlights for me:

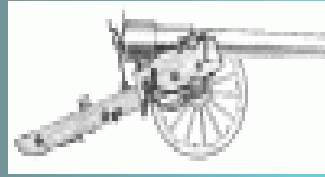
The Chattanooga Campaign was one of the most decisive of the war. Rosecrans's capture of the city, and Grant's breakout kicked open the door to the Deep South. We all know that Chattanooga was important as a rail road hub, and a gateway through the mountains. But it is less well known that the area had important and scarce resources: iron ore, lead (bullets), copper (percussion caps), and nitrates (gun powder). The Deep South was not just the center of the Cotton Kingdom, but also industry at cities all along the fall line (where water power was an asset), such as Augusta, Macon, Columbus, Montgomery, and Selma. As the war progressed, these cities became increasingly important for production of war materials, such as uniforms, small arms, cannon, artillery projectiles, and gun powder. Also, to supply the armies with food, cotton plantations began to substitute food crops.

Preservation: The Chattanooga- Chickamauga Battlefield Park is large and covers most of the fighting, except for that lost years ago to urban expansion around Chattanooga. However, we learned of a virtually unknown danger-- the elimination of Park Historian Positions in the General Plan of many Battlefield Parks.

DECEMBER MEETING

Our next meeting is December 10 at the Ramada Inn (Shaw at Highway 41) in Fresno at 6:00 pm. This is our annual Christmas Party. The price for a sit down catered meal is \$20. Also bring a gift valued at less than \$20 for a gift exchange. We will also have a regular program by Mike Gatley who will speak about some important but lesser known Union Generals. Please make reservations by contacting Walt Schulze at 297-4481

For example, Stones River has not had a historian since 1991, and this Park will eliminate the Historian position once the current one retires. While we are focused on saving the Battlefield lands, we face a danger of losing some of the history that the Historian's on-going research is attempting to salvage! Here is a new topic of concern to write to Congress and the National Parks Dept.



PRINTS FOR SALE

Web-Master & Compatriot, I have 7 copies of Rick Reeves limited edition print "On Empty Rifles" This print is currently sold out and I have not seen it on E-Bay. I am not a company, just an avid Civil War buff. Price is \$65.00 plus \$8.00 for shipping. These are signed and numbered and are about 24 X 26 inches. If any of your members are interested please contact me at butternut4662@dixie-net.com or call to order 662-882-1562

Deo Vindice
Respectfully,
Frank Wood



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