

"The Late Unpleasantness" July/August 2009



South Bay Civil War Round Table

San Jose, California

July 28th Meeting Speaker:

**Bob Hubbs on "How Lincoln Won
the War without the Help of his
Generals"**

Holder's Country Inn

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998 South De Anza Blvd. (near Bollinger)
San Jose, California

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Not only did we have one of the most well attended meetings of the year, with over 40 in attendance, we enjoyed a most interesting and informative presentation by Patrick Doyle, speaking on "Two Civil War Generals in Mexico". Patrick's power point presentation, combined with excellent narration, included a most thorough overview of the Mexican-American War (1846-1848), which included factors that precipitated the conflict, crucial battles and turning points in the war, the roles and contributions of future to-be-famous Civil War personalities and the actions/interactions of the two central figures of his presentation - Gen. David E. Twiggs and Gen. Wm. S. Harney - with John Riley, the charismatic leader of the San Patricios who was fighting alongside the Mexicans. Our sincere appreciation to Patrick for a job well done.

Our July meeting promises to be equally as interesting as our own Bob Hubbs will be speaking on "How Lincoln Won the War without the Help of his Generals". For a "preview" relative to the major points of Bob's presentation see our website at www.SBCWRT.org.

One of the pleasant surprises of our June meeting was the presence of Susan Ajax, who took a few minutes to express her appreciation to the group for their support and consideration shown to her following the recent passing of her father, Bill Burch, especially those attending her father's memorial service, sending cards of sympathy, and calls to express their

condolence. Susan's father, Bill Burch, was a long time and highly respected member of the SBCWRT.

Inasmuch as there will be no newsletter for the month of August (due to our Picnic on August 16th and with no monthly meeting scheduled at Holder's Country Inn on the last Tuesday evening of the month, in August), this message will conclude my two-year term as your President.

Gary Moore, President

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ELECTION of OFFICERS for 2009 - 2010

Officers for the 2009 - 2010 Program Year will be elected at our Annual August Picnic. Any member interested in serving as an Officer (or current Officer wishing to continue serving for 2009 -2010) can contact our President, Gary Moore, Vice-President, Larry Comstock, or Past Presidents, Hal Hubis or Bob Hubbs.

PICNIC INFORMATION

Our Annual Picnic/Bar-B-Que has been scheduled for **3:00 pm., Sunday, August 16, at the home of Rene and Mary Ann Accornero**. If you plan on attending and haven't signed both the attendance sheet and the "potluck dish" list, please check with Kyra Hubis at the July 28th meeting. Cost/person is \$5.00. Membership renewal dues are \$15.00 for individuals and \$25.00 for couples.

Directions: Take Almaden Expressway south to Camden Avenue and turn left. Turn left on Graystone Lane (approximately 1/2 to 3/4 mile) and quickly bear to the right. Travel 1.1 miles. Home is on the right.

19039 Graystone Lane, San Jose, CA 95120

For more information or help: (408) 268-7363

October 23 - 25

**West Coast Civil War Round Table
Conference – 2009**

REGISTRATION

The registration fee of \$225.00 includes three meals, namely dinner Friday the 23rd, lunch and dinner on Saturday the 24th, as well as fifteen lectures. (The hotels offer complimentary breakfasts.)

Early registration, prior to September 15, is set at the reduced rate of \$199.00.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City _____ **State** _____

Zip _____

Phone: Home: (____) _____ - _____ **Work:**(____) _____ - _____

Email: _____

Make checks for \$225.00 (or \$199.00) payable to
SJVCWRT

Send registration form and fee to:

**SJVCWRT
P. O. Box 5695
Fresno, California 93755**

July QUIZ submitted by Kevin Martinez

- 1) What ship rescued sailors after the Alabama sank?
- 2) How old was Raphael Semmes when he joined the navy?
- 3) Where did Raphael Semmes establish his permanent home?
- 4) What is the name of the ship that was Semmes first command?
- 5) What was the job Semmes had when he met Jefferson Davis?
- 6) What was the name of the ship that Semmes first captured in 1861?
- 7) Who was the US consul who stopped coal supplies from being sold to the Sumter?
- 8) What was the Foreign Enlistments Act?
- 9) Who was the US captain that opposed Semmes off the coast of Cherbourg, France?

JUNE Quiz “Artillery” Answers submitted by Gary Campagna

Cannons can be loaded from two directions:

- 1) Loading from the mouth of the barrel is called _____-loading. *Muzzle*
- 2) Loading from the back of the barrel is called _____-loading.) *Breech*
- 3) Name the weapon that shoots projectiles in an arc trajectory? *Mortar*
- 4) Describe the two types of interior surfaces of gun barrels? *Smoothbore and rifle*
- 5) What features distinguish foreign cannon carriages from American cannon carriages? *Foreign cannons had cupped wheels; American cannons had flat, angled wheels*
- 6) Why are the wheels of cannons angled? *To keep the mud from building up*
- 7) Name a vehicle that carries cannon accessories. *Limber or caisson*
- 8) What word describes the reaction of a cannon after it is fired? *Recoil*
- 9) What order was given to start cannons firing? *“Commence firing”*
- 10) What order was given to stop cannons from firing? *“Cease firing”*
- 11) What were dummy cannons made of and what were they called? *They were made out of logs/wood; they were called Quaker guns.*
- 12) What were hand-cranked, multi-shot guns called? *Gatling Guns*
- 13) Name three kinds of field guns that were transported on wheels? *Howitzers, Mortars, Columbiads*
- 14) How many men were on a cannon gun crew? *Seven*
- 15) Name some of the projectiles that were fired from Civil War cannons? *Solid shot; grape shot; canister shot; spherical case; elongated shot; carcus*
- 16) What is the technical name for the stubby arms on the exterior of a cannon barrels? *Trunnions*
- 17) How did artillerymen disable cannons that needed to be abandoned in the field? *They drove a spike in the vent hole.*
- 18) Cannons were designed to be used in which three places? *Field; forts; ships at sea*
- 19) What is an earthwork fortification called? *Rampart*
- 20) What are the two methods used to identify a cannon? *Bore diameter and projectile weight*

NOTE: This quiz was submitted in the memory of Ormand Eckley, cannon consultant.

21) Describe Ormand Eckley’s mustache. *White, handlebar mustache*

22) What kind of cannon did Ormand own? *12 pounder*

REMINDER - NO NEWSLETTER IN AUGUST

As our picnic is scheduled for August 16, 2009, there will be no monthly meeting at Holder's Country Inn on August 25th and no newsletter published in August. The next Newsletter will be mailed in mid-September.

FUTURE PROGRAMS - LOOKING AHEAD

<u>Month</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Topic</u>
August	Gary Yee	"A Plan Gone Wrong: The Siege of Battery Wagner"
September	Tom McMahon	"Life, Death, and Religion in the Civil War"
October	Larry Comstock & Rene Accornero	"Pickett's Charge and the Retreat from Gettysburg"

Preservation Report

In addition to the Civil War Preservation Trust's (CWPT) 10 Most Endangered Battlefields of 2009, 15 others have been identified as "threatened". Here are short descriptions of the second 5. (Source: www.civilwar.org)

Hoke's Run, W. VIRGINIA – July 2, 1861

Despite the recent preservation of two small land parcels and the installation of several interpretive signs, the first battlefield in the Shenandoah is threatened by its proximity to Interstate 81 and burgeoning commercial development in the area. The historic Porterfield House, built by Davey Crockett's grandfather and a major landmark of the battle, has been on and off the market several times.

Honey Springs, OKLAHOMA – July 17, 1863

The combatants at Honey Springs included Native Americans and African Americans, making it one of the most diverse engagements of the war. Despite early and frequent calls for preservation at this unique site, still only about one third of the total battlefield is permanently protected.

Lone Jack, MISSOURI – August 16, 1862

This small battlefield southeast of Kansas City is quickly being hemmed in by development. The final phase of a housing development is going up to the east, while a new high school has eaten up land to the south. A fast food restaurant on the northern portion of the field will soon be joined by a strip mall. The approximately 30 acres on the western side of the battlefield that remain empty are zoned commercial and are currently on the market.

Lovejoy's Station, GEORGIA – August 20, 1864

The Clayton County Water Authority is contemplating shifting several hundred acres northwest of preserved battlefield land from use as a wastewater spray field to an artificial wetland. The remains of federal campsites and entrenchments dug by both armies would be inundated, as would the site of the McVickers House, from which Union Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman famously sent a dispatch proclaiming, "Atlanta is ours, and fairly won."

Morrisville, N. CAROLINA –April 14, 1865

Morrisville saw the last assault by Sherman's army in North Carolina in 1865. In the last eight years, the population of this small town in North Carolina's Research Triangle has tripled. The Land Use and Transportation Plan currently under revision has residents asking critical questions about what continued growth can be accommodated without overwhelming their existing infrastructure.

As usual, the editor encourages any comments, corrections, or additions for future newsletters.

Bob Krauth
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San Jose, Ca 95121

