



**South Bay Civil War Roundtable
Meeting Minutes November 28, 2017**

Meeting Location: Holder's Country Inn – Cupertino, CA

Special Activities & Events:

None

Officer Reports

President

Civil War Roundtable Congress & Forum:

- Soliciting information from Mike Powell & Wally Rueckel (Brunswick, NC CWRT) on Congress and Forum
- Wally Rueckel is contacting John Bamberl and Mike Movius presidents respectively of the Scottsdale and Puget Sound Round Tables; will provide information on California RTs
- Mike Movius will add SBCWRT Congress email list
- Requesting Ted Kunstling (President of Raleigh Forum) to also add SBCWRT to the Forum mailing list.
- North Carolina Forum will be held in downtown Raleigh, NC at the History Museum on August 4, 2018
- Civil War Congress will be held in Harrisburg, PA at the National Civil War Museum on August 18 2018; consideration will be discussed at future meeting of sending a SBCWRT member to attend event

Vice President

No Report

Treasurer

No Report

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Secretary

- Distributed November meeting minutes
- Civil War Quiz: What Do You Know About Events Leading Up to the Civil War?
- \$42 collected for book raffle
- Meeting Attendance: Total: 18

Preservation

- Emphasized that the SBCWRT will match any member's donation to a preservation effort

Historian

No Report

Other Topics

Civil War Statues In Southern States: Their Removal and/or Preservation (Discussion led by Tom McMahon)

- Presented information on the intense discussion and various actions regarding the removal of Confederate related monuments from public locations
- Most information/discussion is occurring primarily via Social Media channels
- Over 1500 Confederate monuments/plaques are currently in existence in various locations throughout the South
- Described several examples of violent protests by far right radical white supremacist organizations protesting removal of Confederate monuments
- Intent of presentation was not to advocate one position, but to serve as a forum for discussion

Additional Comments From Tom Roza

- Numerous programs on PBS and CSPAN on the removal of Confederate monuments. Two main discussion points have been featured:
 - 1) Destruction of the Country as Defined by The Constitution
 - a) The North was fighting to preserve the United States as one entity which it saw as justification for the Civil War; the Confederate monuments symbolized support for that destruction and thus, that warranted and justified their removal
 - b) The South was fighting to in effect destroy the then existing United States and form their own country; Southerners agree they were fighting to create their own country, and the monuments are viewed as symbols for The Cause

2) Symbols Supporting Slavery

- a) The North was fighting to abolish slavery as evidenced by action such as the Emancipation Proclamation and the passage of the 13th Amendment to the Constitution later followed by passage of the 14th Amendment (Equal Protection) and 15th Amendment (Right to Vote regardless of race, color, or previous condition of servitude)
- b) Many in the South justified fighting for secession based on the issues of State's Rights and the existence of unfair taxes and restrictions on Southern commerce and its economy; in actuality, for the most part the South was fighting for the right to uphold slavery and treat Negroes as inferior to Whites as evidenced by the over 100+ years of segregation that took place following the Civil War where Negroes were denied basic rights (Jim Crow laws)

November Presentation:

Speaker: Tom McMahon

Topic: Part 2: Conclusion of Battle of Monocacy; and, Civil War
Statues In Southern States: Their Removal and/or Preservation

December Presentation:

No Meeting this month

January Presentation:

Speaker: Bob Burch

Topic: California: Military Operations in State I – Securing the State”