



SOUTH BAY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

South Bay Civil War Roundtable Meeting Minutes January 28, 2020

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

Special Activities & Events:

4th Annual CWRT Congress 2020

When: September 18-20, 2020

Location: Philadelphia, PA

Note: Early Bird Reservations begin February 10th. Those Registrants today will receive a 10% discount. **SAVE THE DATE!!**

Society for Women & the Civil War

When: July 24-26, 2020

Location: Hotel Madison and Shenandoah Valley Conference Center, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Virginia

Note: For more information about the conference and to register, visit www.SWCW.org

Officer Reports

President

Passing of Al Cribari

- Long time SBCWRT Member; passed away Nov 27, 2019.
- Link to Obituary:
<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/mercurynews/obituary.aspx?n=albert-benjamin-cribari&pid=195131369>

Phishing Attacks

- Scammers have accessed the SBCWRT website and are using contact information (email addresses, phone numbers) to send out fake requests for money
- When receiving email correspondence from any SBCWRT member, do the following that requests a favor or money, do all of the following:
 - Upon receipt of an email, **DO NOT** immediately reply to it

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- Check email address to see if it matches an address you have seen before from an RT member
- If the email address does not match the address you have been using for an RT member, delete the email; attempt to contact the RT member using either a phone number or their real email address to advise them of the scam

Future Presentations

- Three new presentations have been added to the schedule:
 Jun 30: Tom Roza on "The Presidential Election of 1864"
 Aug 25: Bob Burch on "The Russian Navy Visit to San Francisco 1863-1864"
 Nov 24: Bob Burch on "The Changing Historical Interpretation of the Civil War 1865-Present"

Civil War Memorabilia Donations

- SBCWRT has received a recent donation of Civil War memorabilia from an individual named Rick Wilson consisting of 15 Francis J. Barnum Limited Edition Pewter statues & several large paintings
- Pat Moore (Gary Moore's widow) has extended an offer to inspect a large volume of Civil War memorabilia acquired by Gary for potential donation to our RT; Bob Burch and Tom Roza will schedule a visit with Pat to review what items are available and if any should be accepted as donations
- Items donated will either be auctioned at the Annual SBCWRT Picnic or offered as part of the monthly meeting book raffle

Donation Policy Concerns

- From a policy perspective, our RT should avoid becoming a clearing house for donated Civil War memorabilia, especially large quantity donations such as the Wilson and Moore donations; there could be issues with tax issues that the RT could be violating because of our non-profit status
- Items that are not successfully auctioned or selected in the raffle will be donated to an appropriate organization
- Regarding books: Abby Eller has offered to donate any books to the Encore Books organization of the San Jose History Museum

Vice President

No Report

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Treasurer

- Bank Account: Approximately \$3,254

Credits

Nov Raffle: \$40

Dues: \$20

Debits

Speaker Fee: \$51

Parcel to Yee: \$10

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Secretary

- Distributed November meeting minutes
- Civil War Quiz: “What Do You Know About These Obscure Facts Of The Civil War?”
- \$47 collected for book raffle
- Meeting Attendance: Total: 16

Preservation

- Dollar-for-Dollar matching donations up to \$500 will be made for anyone making a donation to one of the Civil War preservation organizations

Historian

Vacant

This Day in the Civil War: January 28 (By Abby Eller)

1861: The arsenal at Augusta, GA falls into state hands. Union troops depart Ft Monroe, VA to reinforce Ft Pickens in Florida.

1862: Pres Lincoln issues Genl War Order #1: “that Feb 22, 1862 be the day for a general movement of the land and naval forces of the United States against the insurgent forces.” Flag Officer Foote notifies Genl Henry Halleck that Foote and Genl Grant agree Ft Henry might be taken with four gunboats and the troops available

1863: Cmdr John L Worden of ironclad USS Monitor, takes command of ironclad, USS Montauk. Accompanied by 4 wooden ships, Montauk attacks shore batteries at Ft McAllister, GA on Ogeechee River. Fleet is unable to inflict significant damage due to obstructions which the Confederates have placed in the river. Worden and the fleet are forced to withdraw.

1864: US steamer Western Metropolis captures British blockade runner Rosita off coast of Key West, FL. Rosita is loaded with a cargo of liquor and cigars, Braxton Bragg summoned to Richmond to confer with Pres Davis.

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1865: To represent the Confederacy in upcoming peace talks with Pres Lincoln, Pres Davis appoints Alexander Stephens, Robert MT Hunter, and John A Campbell. In SC, skirmishing along Combahee River, SC between Sherman's troops and Confederate defenders, as Sherman's forces head towards Columbia. Grant summons troops commanded by Genl Schofield to launch the assault on Wilmington, NC.

Person of the Month: Hannibal Hamlin (By Abby Eller)

Background

- Hannibal Hamlin was born in 1809, was an attorney-politician and a native of Maine who had public service career that spanned 50 years.
- Admitted to the bar in 1833, practiced law in Maine. Initially a Democrat, was elected to the state House of Representatives in 1835, then appointed by governor of Maine to state military staff
- Aroostook War 1838-1839:
 - Was an armed confrontation between the US and Britain over northern boundary of Maine and southern boundary of New Brunswick in Canada.
 - There were no casualties except for two Canadian militiamen who were attacked by black bears
 - The Webster-Ashburton treaty signed in 1842 established present boundary; Hamlin helped negotiate an end to the War which was last armed confrontation between the US and Britain.
- In the 1840's, Hamlin represented Maine in the US House of Representatives, then in the US Senate
- Was antislavery supporting Wilmot Proviso and opposing the Compromise of 1850 and the Kansas-Nebraska Act
- **Civil War**
- In 1856, Hamlin joined Republican Party. In the election campaign of 1860, was chosen not only to geographically balance the Republican ticket, but to also persuade antislavery Democrats to vote Republican.
- Hamlin was not personally close to Lincoln. However, as presiding officer of the US Senate, supported Lincoln's legislative programs.

Post-Civil War

- Was appointed by President Johnson to be Collector of the Port of Boston
- Hamlin resigned in protest over Johnson's harsh Reconstruction policies meant to punish the South
- In 1869 Hamlin was again elected to US Senate - served two more terms
- His last office was as Ambassador to Spain before he retired to live in Bangor Maine, where he died in 1891.

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Other Topics

None

January Presentation

Speaker: Bob Burch

Topic: California: U.S. Navy

February Presentation

Speaker: Tom McMahon

Topic: Religion and Barbarism in the Civil War

March Presentation

Speaker: Kristin Patterson

Topic: United States Tax Stamps Used to Raise Funds for the Civil War