



SOUTH BAY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

South Bay Civil War Roundtable Meeting Minutes July 27, 2021

Meeting Location: Online via ZOOM Meeting Application

Special Activities & Events:

Fort Point Tour

- Saturday August 28
- Noon: Meet at Holder's Country Inn; park in back parking lot after Restaurant's approval
- Noon-1pm: Carpool to Ft Point in San Francisco
- 1pm-4pm: Tour Ft Point
- 4pm-5pm: Carpool back to Holder's
- 5pm-7pm: Dinner and SBCWRT meeting at Holder's

Officer Reports

President

- Return to In-person Roundtable Meetings
 - Starting Tuesday July 27, in-person monthly meetings will resume
 - Holder's Country Inn: 998 De Anza Blvd, San Jose, CA 95129
 - 6:00pm-7:00pm: Gathering and Dinner; 7:00pm-9:00pm Business Meeting
 - Dining Requirement for Use of Meeting Room: \$200/Minimum - Members dining at Holder's should order from the Meeting Room and not in the Customer Dining Room
 - Tom Roza will send out email advisories to the membership on the resumption of in-person meetings at Holder's
- Annual Picnic
 - Normally held 2nd or 3rd Saturday of September
 - Election of Officers
 - Collection of 2021-22 Dues
 - Normal Business Agenda

- Date/Time/Location needs to be determined
- Civil War in the News
No Report
- Book Review – Jean Libby
 - The Notorious Isaac Earl and His Scouts: Union Soldiers, Prisoners, Spies by Gordon L. Olson
 - While large armies engaged in epic battles in the eastern theater of the Civil War, a largely unchronicled story was unfolding along the Mississippi River.
 - Thirty "Special Scouts" under the command of Lieutenant Isaac Newton Earl patrolled the river, gathering information about Confederate troop activity, arresting Rebel smugglers and guerillas, and opposing anti-Union insurrection
 - Gordon L. Olson uses new research in assembling his detailed yet very readable account of Earl, a dynamic leader who rose quickly through Union Army ranks to command this elite group
 - He himself was captured by the Confederates three times and escaped three times, and he developed a strategic -- and later romantic -- relationship with a Southern woman, Jane O'Neal, who became one of his spies
 - In keeping the river open for Union Army movement of men and supplies to New Orleans, Earl's Scouts played an important, heretofore unheralded, role in the Union's war effort.

Vice President

No Report

Treasurer

- No Updated Report
- Bank Account: \$2,885 (No new expenses or income)

Secretary

- June meeting minutes posted on SBCWRT web site
- Civil War Quiz: Northerners Fighting for the South and Southerners Fighting for the North by Mark Costin
- \$20 collected for book raffle
- Meeting Attendance: Total: 16

Preservation

No Report

Historian

Vacant

This Day in the Civil War: July 27

1861: Maj Genl McClellan assumes command of the newly formed Army of the Potomac. In New Mexico Territory, the 7th US Infantry led by Capt John Baylor, surrenders Ft Fillmore at St Augustine Springs, to Confederate forces

1862: In Liverpool England, the steamer Enrica prepares to sail to the Azores to rendezvous with the ship Agrippina. The Agrippina will transfer guns, ammunition and coal to the Enrica, to be renamed the CSS Alabama under the command of Capt Raphael Semmes

1863: The Confederate commerce raider CSS Florida under Cmdr Maffitt, sails from Bermuda to Brest, France to put in harbor for repairs. Confederate fire-eater William Lowndes Yancey dies in Montgomery Alabama. Skirmishes near Cassville Missouri, Rogersville Kentucky, Bayou Teche Louisiana and Bridgeport Alabama

1864: At Petersburg, Hancock's 2nd Corps along with Sheridan's two divisions of cavalry cross the James River and head towards Richmond, to put pressure on Lee and wear down Confederate morale. In Georgia, Sherman puts cavalry to work tearing up tracks around Atlanta, to isolate the city. A boat commanded by USN Lt JC Watson makes a daring daylight reconnaissance of the Mobile Bay channel.

Skirmishing at Back Creek Bridge West Virginia, at Whiteside on Black Creek in Florida, at Snapfinger Creek Georgia, and at Massard Prairie near Ft Smith Arkansas

Other Topics

None

July Presentation

Speaker: Alan Sissenwein

Topic: The Worst Generals of the Civil War - Part 4

August Presentation

Speaker: Abby Eller

Topic: King Cotton

September Presentation

Speaker: TBD

Topic: TBD