



# SOUTH BAY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

## South Bay Civil War Roundtable Meeting Minutes April 25, 2023

**Meeting Location:** Holder's Country Inn Restaurant located at 10088 N Wolfe Rd STE 130, Cupertino, CA 95014 across from the former Vallco Fashion Mall and via ZOOM

### **Special Activities & Events:**

#### **WEST COAST CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE CONFERENCE**

#### **160th ANNIVERSARY OF THE VICKSBURG CAMPAIGN**

- **Sponsor:** San Joaquin Valley CWRT
- **When:** Nov 3 to 5, 2023
- **Speakers:**
  - Gen. Parker Hills, Jim Stanbery
  - Gen. U.S. Grant (Dr. Curt Fields)
- **Where:**
  - Wyndham Gardens, Fresno Airport
  - 5090 E. Clinton Way
  - Phone 1-866-238-4218
  - \$112 Nightly with Group Block ID# 141218
  - Early Bird Registration \$225 until Oct 1st, After \$250
    - Attendee Name
    - Mailing Address
    - Email Address
    - Send to Ron Vaughan:
      - 730 E. Tulare Ave., Tulare 93274
      - ronvaughan@prodigy.net

## **Officer Reports**

### **President**

No Report

### **Vice President**

No Report

### **Treasurer**

- Wells Fargo account balance as of April 2023: Approx \$2,416

### **Secretary**

- Civil War Quiz: What Do You Know About American Civil War Army and Navy Connections? Mark Costin
- Meeting Attendance: Total: 13 (10 in-person; 3 via ZOOM)

### **Historian**

#### **Jefferson Davis**

- Served as only president of the Confederate States from 1861 to 1865
- Represented Mississippi in the Senate and House of Representatives as a member of the Democratic Party before the American Civil War
- Had served as Secretary of War under President Franklin Pierce.
- Youngest of ten children, born in Fairview, Kentucky; grew up in Wilkinson County, Mississippi, and lived in Louisiana
- Bother Joseph Emory Davis secured Davis's appointment to West Point
- After graduating, served six years as a lieutenant in the United States Army; fought in Mexican War as colonel of volunteer regiment
- Before the Civil War, operated in Mississippi a large cotton plantation and owned as many as 113 slaves
- Argued against secession in 1858, he believed the states had an unquestionable right to leave the Union.
- Davis married Sarah Knox Taylor, daughter of general and future President Zachary Taylor; both soon contracted malaria, and Sarah died after three months of marriage
- Davis recovered slowly; had recurring bouts of illness throughout his life
- Married again, to 18-year-old Varina Howell; Had six children.
- When the Confederacy was defeated in 1865, Davis was captured, accused of treason, and imprisoned at Fort Monroe was never tried and was released after two years.
- Despite rumors to contrary, Davis was not captured wearing female clothing.
- Citizenship restored in 1978 by President Jimmy Carter

## **Civil War Almanac This Day in the Civil War History: Apr 25**

**1861:** Troops from New York, Massachusetts and Rhode Island finally arrive in Washington, after their encounter with the rowdies in Baltimore. Meanwhile in the west, Capt. Stokes of Illinois and his troops succeed in taking away over 10 thousand muskets from the St Louis Missouri arsenal, before the rebels find out. Meanwhile in Richmond, Thomas J Jackson is unhappy at being appointed to a desk job as Major of Engineers. In California, Brigadier Gen Edwin Sumner replaces Col Albert Sidney Johnston as Commander in the West.

**1862:** Flag Officer Farragut arrives in the captured city of New Orleans. The mayor of New Orleans protests he has no authority to surrender the city, but this no longer matters. New Orleans will be held by Union forces until the end of the war. Meanwhile, Fort Macon near Beaufort North Carolina surrenders after bombardment by the troops of John G Park

**1863:** The British Parliament loudly debates the seizure of British vessels by American cruisers enforcing the blockade. There are skirmishes near Hard Times Landing Mississippi, Fort Bowie Arizona Territory, Greenland Gap West Virginia, and Webber's Falls Indian Territory

**1864:** Fighting at Marks' Mills and Moro Bottom in Arkansas, and at Cotile Landing on the Red River in Louisiana. In Tennessee, Federals begin a 3 days' expedition from Bull's Gap to the Watauga River. Gen Sherman sends a request to Fleet Capt Pennock in Cairo to protect Sherman's lines of communication, since Sherman's supply lines along the Tennessee River will be exposed when Sherman campaigns in Georgia

**1865:** The Lincoln funeral train begins the journey to Albany New York. Federal cavalry rapidly close in on John Wilkes Booth and his accomplice David Herold, at the Richard Garrett farm in Virginia. Gen Joseph Johnston asks Gen Sherman to renew negotiations, since President Johnson has rejected the original surrender agreement between Sherman and Johnston.

### **Subject of the Month:**

None

### **Other Topics**

None

### **April Presentation**

Speaker: Ron Vaughan

Topic: “Franco-Mexican Conflict”

### **May Presentation**

Speaker: Abby Eller and Jim Rhetta

Topic: “Opposing Views: If the newly formed Confederate government had chosen to immediately export as much cotton as possible, instead of withholding it from European markets, could the Confederacy have prevailed? YES: Abby Eller NO: Jim Rhetta

### **June Presentation**

Speaker: Alan Sissenwein and Jim Rhetta

Topic: “Opposing Views: Could the South have ever received recognition from England? YES: Alan Sissenwein NO: Jim Rhetta