



South Bay Civil War Roundtable Meeting Minutes June 27, 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 June 2023: Approx \$2,416

Secretary

- Civil War Quiz: What Do You Know About The 54th Massachusetts Regiment?
- Meeting Attendance: Total: 9 (7 in-person; 2 via ZOOM)

Historian

Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain

- Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain (born Lawrence Joshua Chamberlain, September 8, 1828 – February 24, 1914)
- Was college professor from Maine who volunteered during the American Civil War to join the Union Army
- Became a highly respected and decorated Union officer, reaching the rank of brigadier general (and brevet major general)
- Is best known for his gallantry at the Battle of Gettysburg, for which he was awarded the Medal of Honor.
- Chamberlain was commissioned a lieutenant colonel in the 20th Maine Volunteer Infantry Regiment in 1862, and fought at the Battle of Fredericksburg
- Became commander of the regiment in June 1863 when losses at the Battle of Chancellorsville elevated the original commander, Colonel Adelbert Ames, to brigade command
- During second day's fighting at Gettysburg on July 2, Chamberlain's regiment occupied extreme left of the Union lines at Little Round Top; Chamberlain's men withstood repeated assaults from the 15th Alabama Infantry Regiment and finally drove the Confederates away with a downhill bayonet charge
- Chamberlain was severely wounded while commanding a brigade during the Second Battle of Petersburg in June 1864; was given what was intended to be a deathbed promotion to brigadier general

- In April 1865, fought at the Battle of Five Forks and was given the honor of commanding the Union troops at the surrender ceremony for the infantry of Robert E. Lee's Army at Appomattox Court House, Virginia.
- After the war, entered politics as a Republican and served four one-year terms of office as the 32nd Governor of Maine from 1867 to 1871
- After leaving office, he returned to his alma mater, Bowdoin College, serving as its president until 1883. He died in 1914 at age 85 due to complications from the wound that he received at Petersburg.

Civil War Almanac This Day in the Civil War History: June 27

1861: Captain James Harmon Ward of the Thomas Freeborn is killed while erecting a breastworks for a cannon. He is the first U. S. naval officer to die in the conflict

1862: General Ambrose Burnside authorizes the organization of a new Union regiment, the 1st North Carolina Volunteer Infantry. The outfit is organized at New Bern and in surrounding areas now under Federal control. In 1863 another regiment is formed, but the 2 are eventually combined. About 1,300 white men from eastern North Carolina join these two regiments to fight for the Union against their Confederate neighbors.

1863: One of the most dramatic and decisive cavalry clashes of the American Civil War occurred at Shelbyville on Sunday, June 27, 1863. The Confederate Army of Tennessee cavalry commander Joe Wheeler concentrated the main body of his cavalry in front of Shelbyville. This set up the clash of the horse mounted arms. The Battle of Shelbyville was a turning point. Rebel cavalry in the west would have other fine showings in its future; they were, even as late as December 1864, a force to be reckoned with. However, Shelbyville was the resounding signal that their days of dominance would never return. The Union had achieved parity, if not superiority, in the western theater. After the victory and in honor of their charge, Minty's outfit became known as the "Saber Brigade." Never again would the Union cavalry be the laughingstock of either army

1864: Fires break out along the Kennesaw Mountain battle lines as Union troops are forced back. Confederate Colonel William Martin orders his men to stop firing and both sides work to rescue the wounded before the fire reaches them. The next day Union officers will present Martin with a pair of Colt pistols as a token of appreciation.

Subject of the Month: Dr. Alexander Darnes (Mark Costin)

Other Topics

None

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

July Presentation

Speaker: TBD

Topic: TBD

August Presentation

Speaker: TBD

Topic: TBD