



SOUTH BAY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

South Bay Civil War Roundtable Meeting Minutes August 30, 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

Advertising the SBCWRT

- Look for opportunities to create awareness of our Roundtable
- Information: Short description of purpose; meeting date/time/location
- Posting: Websites: Other Round tables, historical organizations, libraries, college campuses, retail stores

Vice President

No Report

Treasurer

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

Secretary

- Civil War Quiz: What Do You Know About The Mason Dixon Line? (Vernon Hayashida)
- Meeting Attendance: Total: 9 (2 in-person; n via ZOOM)

Historian

James Longstreet

- Was one of foremost Confederate generals of American Civil War and principal subordinate to General Robert E. Lee, who called him his "Old War Horse"
- Served under Lee as corps commander for most of the battles fought by the Army of Northern Virginia in the Eastern Theater, and briefly with Braxton Bragg in the Army of Tennessee in the Western Theater.
- Was born on January 8, 1821, in Edgefield District, South Carolina
- Fifth child and third son of James Longstreet and Mary Ann Dent
- James's father was impressed by his son's "rocklike" character on the rural plantation, giving him the nickname Peter, and he was known as Pete or Old Pete for the rest of his life
- Longstreet's father decided on a military career for his son but felt that the local education available to him would not be adequate preparation.
- In 1838, was appointed a relative, Reuben Chapman, to attend West Point
- Ranked in bottom third of every subject during his four years at the academy.
- Longstreet was popular with his classmates, and befriended a number of men who would become prominent during the Civil War, including George Henry Thomas, William Rosecrans (his West Point roommate), John Pope, Daniel Harvey Hill, Lafayette McLaws, George Pickett, and

Ulysses S. Grant. Longstreet ranked 54th out of 56 cadets when he graduated in 1842. He was commissioned a brevet second lieutenant in the United States Army.

NOTE: To Be Continued

Free Library

- Has large collection of historical books and other memorabilia
- Working on setting up a “Free Library to make these available to anyone who shares an interest in historical topics

Civil War Almanac This Day in the Civil War History: July 25 Cancelled

Person of the Month: Robley Dunglison Evans (Mark Costin)

During the Civil War

- **At the 2nd Battle of Fort Fisher**
 - 18 year old Ensign Evans led a company of marines forming part of the frontal attack on the fort
 - Wounded four times
 - Finally, dug a hole but was still under fire from a sniper; a lucky shot from his revolver killed the sniper and saved his life
- **After the 2nd Battle of Fort Fisher**
 - Grievously wounded, was taken to naval hospital at Norfolk, Virginia
 - Surgeons wanted to amputate both legs, but he still had his revolver and prevented them from operating
 - Transferred to Philadelphia where he received better treatment
 - Only 6 others survived from his attacking unit
 - Invalided out but after an appeal to Congress he was reinstated
- **Spanish-American War**
 - Commanded the battleship USS Iowa (BB-4)
 - The ship took part in the bombardment of San Juan, Puerto Rico
 - Participated in the blockade of Cuba
 - Battle of Santiago de Cuba; assisted in the destruction of three of the four Spanish cruisers

Other Topics

None

August Presentation

Speaker: Mark Costin

Topic: Battles of Fort Fisher

September Presentation

Speaker: 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?

October Presentation

Speaker: Chuck Seekamp

Topic: "The Iron Brigade"