



South Bay Civil War Roundtable Meeting Minutes July 29, 2025

Meeting Location: Jack's Restaurant & Bar 1502 Saratoga Ave, San Jose, CA 95129 located in the Westgate Center Shopping Mall and via ZOOM

Special Activities & Events:

SBCWRT Picnic

- Date/Time: Saturday September 6 1:00pm-4:00pm
- Location: Tonya McQuade Family Home
1455 Portobelo Drive San Jose CA 95118

Officer Reports

President

SBCWRT Picnic – Save the Date

- Date/Time: Saturday Sept 6 1pm-4pm
- Location: Tonya McQuade's House – 1455 Portobelo Drive – San Jose
- Food/Refreshments:
 - Main Course: BBQ Chicken and Hamburgers: Prepared by Picnic Hosts (cost paid from SBCWRT funds)
 - Other Food/Refreshment Items: Provided by other members (salads, chips/dips, drinks, etc.)
- Email will be sent to all members containing a brochure that describes the event and RSVP instructions

Vice President

No Report

Treasurer

- Wells Fargo Checking Account Balance as of 6-30-25: \$2,409.98, a decline of \$54.87 from the prior month

Secretary

- Civil War Quiz: What Do You Know About John Singleton Mosby?
- Meeting Attendance: Total: 11 (11 in-person; 0 via ZOOM)

This Month in Civil War History: July

1861: To thwart the Confederate threat in northern Virginia, a series of earthworks and forts are engineered to surround the City of Washington, adding to protection already offered by active posts such as Fort Washington on the Potomac River.

1862: On July 11, 1862, Lincoln named General Henry W. Halleck as the Union's General-in-Chief, responsible for coordinating all Union armies

1863: The Battle of Gettysburg is fought and on July 4, Vicksburg, Mississippi surrenders to General Grant

1864: Attack on the Defenses of Washington. Jubal Early's troops arrive on the outskirts of Washington, DC, and trade cannon fire with a token Federal force remaining in the forts around the city. President Lincoln observes the skirmishing from Fort Stevens as reinforcements from the Army of the Potomac arrive and quickly fill in the works. Early withdraws that evening

Person of the Month: Brother Joseph Dutton - Candidate for Sainthood

Early Life and Civil War

- Born in April 27, 1843 in Stowe, Vermont
- Raised Protestant in Baptist Sunday schools
- In 1861, enlisted in 13th Wisconsin Infantry
- Dutton began as a private/left as a first lieutenant and the regimental quartermaster but saw little combat
- Married during the Civil War, but his wife ran off with another man and he never mentioned her by name; Dutton became an alcoholic

After the Civil War

- After the war, he stayed in the South, volunteering to find the dead that were scattered on the battlefields and bring them to a common burial site, which eventually became the National Cemetery
- Later, oversaw distillery in Alabama; worked in Memphis on the railroad
- In 1875, joined War Department settling claims against the government
- Successful in every field, he was nevertheless a functioning alcoholic
- In 1876 he took a vow to never touch a drop of whiskey again and he kept that vow for the remainder of his life

- He converted to Catholicism in 1883 and afterward spent 20 months at the Trappist monastery at the Abbey of Our Lady of Gethsemani

Brother Dutton

- Changed his name to Joseph, his favorite saint
- At 43, he gave away all his possessions, boarded a steamship to Hawaii
- Joined Father Damien working with the leper colony of Moloka'i
- After Damien's death, Dutton founded Baldwin Home for men and boys
- Dutton stayed on Molokai for the rest of his life, spending 44 years caring for young boys and men suffering from the effects of leprosy

Canonization

- Became widely known by many distinguished figures in the United States and other countries, including President Woodrow Wilson.
- Brother Dutton never contracted the disease during his 44 years working at the leprosarium
- He died March 26, 1931, and was buried in the grave next to St. Damien at St. Philomena Church, Kalawao.
- In December 2015, the Joseph Dutton Guild was established by the Diocese of Honolulu to petition the Diocese of Honolulu to start the formal cause of beatification and canonization. His cause for canonization was opened in 2022.

Historian

- Report on numerous historical events that influenced people's lives and how they reacted to them

Other Topics

None

July Presentation

Speaker: Tom McMahon

Topic: Tom McMahon on "An Aging Historian Objectively Views The Civil War"

August Presentation (at SBCWRT Picnic Sept 6)

Speaker: Tonya McQuade

Topic: "Tonya McQuade on "Visits to ECW Symposium in Fredericksburg and the Gettysburg Battlefield"

September Presentation

Speaker: Jim Rhetta

Topic: "Would England have Recognized the South?"