

"The Late Unpleasantness" May 2009



South Bay Civil War Round Table

San Jose, California

May 26th Meeting Speaker:
**Larry Tagg on "The Unpopular
Mr. Lincoln"**

Holder's Country Inn

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

On a personal note, it was great to be back with you for the April meeting. My appreciation to our Vice-President, Larry Comstock for presiding over the March meeting in my absence - not to mention also writing the President's Message and submitting the April quiz. Thanks again, Larry.

If you were unable to attend the April meeting we missed you - and you missed a most interesting and informative presentation by Jack Mather, who spoke on "Sherman: From the Fall of 1864 to the End of the War - Myth and Reality". We all appreciated Jack's penetrating insights, thought provoking reflections, sense of humor, and quick wit. An outstanding job, Jack.

Our May meeting promises to be equally as interesting as our presenter, Larry Tagg, will speak on his soon- to-be released book entitled "The Unpopular Mr. Lincoln". Larry has spoken to our group in the past on another of his publications, "The Generals of Gettysburg". Larry is an excellent presenter - knowledgeable, informed, articulate, and interesting. Larry's presentation is sure to be one that you will not want to miss.

A more comprehensive "preview" of Larry's presentation can be seen on our website at www.SBCWRT.org.

Among items of note during our brief business session, prior to Jack's presentation, were the following:

- Civil War Tours (May 14 and 21st) related to the personal collection of Bill Cleary and sponsored by the Saratoga Historical Museum
- A multi-media presentation entitled "Images of the Civil War", on May 17th, at 1:00 p.m. also at the Saratoga Historical Museum
- A reminder of the election of new officers at the Summer picnic, any member interested in being an officer for the program year, 2009-2010 can contact our President, Gary Moore, Vice-President, Larry Comstock or Past Presidents, Hal Hubis or Bob Hubbs.
- Our Annual August Picnic relative to date, location, and speaker
- A preview of upcoming programs for May, June, and July

I will look forward to seeing each of you at our May 26th monthly meeting at Holder's Country Inn. In the meantime, remember that in addition to our featured Speaker there is our raffle, Civil War Quiz, announcements, discussions, and stimulating conversation related to all aspects of the Civil War. See you at Holder's on the 26th.

Gary Moore, President



**Old Abe "BE SPRY,
BILLY, OR SOME OF
THESE WILL EAT US
OUT OF HOUSE AND
HOME! IT'S TOO BAD
OF THESE CHAPS TO
WANT US OUT; WE
AIN'T HALF FAT
ENOUGH YET."**

www.abrahamlincolncartoons.info

ANNOUNCEMENTS

May 14 and 21 Civil War Tours (Personal Collection of Bill Cleary) sponsored by the Saratoga Historical Museum

October 23 - 25 West Coast Civil War Round Table Conference - 2009

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT (ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2009 - 2010)

Just a reminder that Officers for the 2009 - 2010 Program Year will be elected at our Annual August Picnic. Any member interested in serving as an Officer (or current Officer wishing to continue serving for 2009 -2010) can contact our President, Gary Moore, Vice-President, Larry Comstock, or Past Presidents Hal Hubis or Bob Hubbs.

The Union Right Flank at Gettysburg April Quiz Answers by Larry Comstock

1. What was the major hill that formed the right flank of the Union line? ***Culp's Hill***

2. What Union Corps defended the largest part of the right flank of the union line? ***XII Corps***

3. What Confederate Corps attacked the Union right flank and who was its commander? ***II Corps. Richard Ewell***

4. On the Second Day what Confederate division attacked the Union right flank? ***Edward Johnson's Division***

5. A brigade from this division succeeded in penetrating the Union defenses during the evening of the Second Day. Who was the leader of this brigade? ***George H.***

Steuart—known as Maryland Steuart

6. One brigade was left to defend the Union right flank on the evening of the Second Day. Who was the brigade commander?

George Sears Greene

7. A division that was sent to assist the defense of the Union left flank became lost on the way. Who led this division? ***John White***

Geary

8. This division commander had a connection to San Francisco. What was his role in the City?

Geary was the first mayor of San Francisco

9. On the morning of the Third Day the Confederates made one

last desperate attempt to destroy the Union line on the Union right flank. The attack was across a field later named for a regimental

commander. Who was that commander and hence the name of the field? ***Ario Pardee.***
Pardee's Field

May Quiz - Lincoln's Assassination (Gary Moore)

- 1. Where was Lincoln when he was fatally shot?**
- 2. What play was he seeing?**
- 3. Who were the other two men targeted for assassination?**
- 4. Who shot Lincoln? What weapon did he use?**
- 5. President and Mrs. Lincoln were seeing the play with another couple. Who were they?**
- 6. What happened to the male guest after Lincoln was shot?**
- 7. What two phrases did the assassin utter after he shot the president?**
- 8. What was the last line of dialogue in the play before the assassin pulled the trigger?**
- 9. What happened to the assassin when he jumped to the stage from the president's theater box?**
- 10. Which conspirator had the task of killing the Secretary of State?**
- 11. Who accompanied this conspirator to watch the horses?**
- 12. Where the intended victim when his attacker tried to kill him?**
- 13. Did the victim survive the attack?**
- 14. Who was supposed to kill the Vice-President?**
- 15. Did that conspirator go through with his mission?**
- 16. Lincoln was taken across the street to a house where he later died. What was the name of the family that owned the house?**
- 17. What cabinet official took effective control of the government while Lincoln was dying?**
- 18. Whom did that cabinet official think was behind the assassination? What was he expecting?**
- 19. Who was the physician who unknowingly set the assassin's broken leg?**
- 20. What happened to the assassin? What happened to the other conspirators?**

FUTURE PROGRAMS - LOOKING AHEAD

Month	Speaker	Topic
June	Patrick Doyle	"Two Civil War Generals in Mexico"
July	Bob Hubbs	"How Lincoln Won the War without the Help of his Generals"
August	To be determined	To be announced

Preservation Report

(This is the last of a 3-part report on the 10 most threatened battlefields for 2009 announced by Civil War Preservation Trust)

Sabine Pass, Texas, September 8, 1863: Anxious to prevent a viable Confederate trade route through Mexico, President Abraham Lincoln sent a force to capture Sabine Pass and begin the occupation of Texas. The only Confederate line of defense was a few dozen artillerists manning six cannons inside Fort Griffin. Their deadly accuracy caused one of the most lopsided victories of the war as they turned back the Union fleet and captured several hundred prisoners. ***The site of this struggle was closed to the public after sustaining heavy damage during Hurricane Rita in 2005 and again following Hurricane Ike in 2008.***

South Mountain, Maryland, September 14, 1862: In his first invasion of the North, Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee famously divided his army in the face of a superior Union army under Gen. George B. McClellan. A copy of one of his orders, detailing the vulnerability of his outnumbered forces, fell into McClellan's hands and spurring his foes to confront Lee's army at South Mountain. The hopelessly outnumbered Southerners fought back savagely in defense of three gaps along South Mountain. ***Today, the historic battleground is threatened by a \$55 million natural gas compression station planned nearby.***

Spring Hill, Tenn., November 29, 1864: Spring Hill, site of a famous missed opportunity for Confederate forces that led to a disastrous defeat in nearby Franklin, is located in Middle Tennessee, one of the nation's most rapidly growing regions. ***General Motors is looking to sell approximately 500 acres of unused land***

associated with the battlefield. Initial plans call for 400 acres of high-density development including apartments, a hotel, a theater, restaurants and retail and office space adjacent to the battlefield.

Although many battlefields are endangered, CWPT is making significant progress in the fight to preserve them. In 2008, the organization rescued approximately 1,000 acres of hallowed ground at legendary battlefields such as Champion Hill, Miss.; Bentonville, N.C.; Shiloh, Tenn.; and Brandy Station, Va. Since its creation two decades ago, CWPT has protected more than 25,000 acres at more than 100 sites in 19 states. CWPT first issued its annual report on endangered battlefields in February 2001.

(Editor's note: For more information, visit CWPT's website at www.civilwar.org.)

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