



**The Western Campaigner: The Journal of the
Missouri Civil War Reenactors Association**

May– July 2025

Message from the President:

Greetings all you who wear wool in the summer heat! I trust you are all well and staying hydrated.

I wanted to update you on the Athens battle cancellation. The state changed its rules and informed us 3 weeks before the reenactment, that it now required a 2-million-dollar liability policy for the reenactment to proceed. At that time, we had, as we always have had, a 1-million-dollar policy. We hurried and added another million-dollar umbrella policy to our existing policy, but the state was not satisfied. We were willing to pay almost \$900 more for our policy to suffice Jefferson City State Parks Office. Chalk it up to unelected bureaucrats on a power quest. My apologies to everyone who planned on attending.

See you in Hermann!

Dave Plummer
President MCWRA

Nominations:

We need nominations for the following positions by the close of the next meeting:

Vice President, Secretary, and 3 Board Members

If you want to nominate someone you can come to the meeting or contact a Board Member (refer to mcwra.org for the Board Members). If you want to run for a position yourself, you must be a member. To pay dues you can: Send them and membership form to: Jamie Horan, Treasurer, P O BOX 296, Linn, MO 65051 or you can pay on line: Here's the link to do that: <https://mcwra.org/join>.

How can we get new recruits?

We have been busy trying to educate people on the Civil War and trying to promote reenacting and the MCWRA!

Talk to people, is just one way!! If you get a request from someone, contact that person, show that you are interested, and try to help them find the right unit for what they want to do.

This is why it's important that we have commanders' names, phone numbers, address, and emails.

Another way, is going to the schools and doing presentations, and living histories!

We were invited to East Elementary School, Jefferson City and North School both were in May of this year. The kids had a lot of fun learning and trying on the clothes.

Ms. Thomas was kind enough to send us this letter.

On behalf of the second-grade team at East Elementary, thank you so much for visiting our classrooms and bringing history to life in such an engaging and memorable way. Your presentation was the perfect addition to our unit, and our students were absolutely captivated!

We especially appreciate the opportunity you gave our students to explore historical dress by trying on some of the clothing. It made the experience even more meaningful and immersive. Learning that a battle took place so close to our own school right here in Jefferson City helped our students connect the past to the present in a powerful way.

This is an experience our students—and teachers—will be talking about for years to come. We are so grateful for the time and effort you put into making history exciting and accessible for young learners. We truly look forward to working with you again in the future!

With sincere thanks,

Ms. Laura Thomas

East Elementary – 2nd Grade Team

Another event we did was “A Taste of Civil War History”, on July 19, 2025, at the local library in Linn, MO. Here is what the Branch Manager, Sarah Falter had to say:

Fire in the Hole!

The Osage County Library in Linn, Missouri partnered with the Missouri Civil War Reenactors’ Association to put on A Taste of Civil War History on Saturday, July 19. Reenactors started arriving on Friday to set up a camp full of tents complete with two cannons. Chris Buck with Landis brought his cannon and crew for live fire and let members of the community “pass the load” and fire the cannon. He had lots of good historical information to share including stories of generals and their use of slaves. Collins Battery were there, too, with a static cannon that folks could examine and take pictures with.

Several small tents were lined up on the perimeter of camp to show how our soldiers would have slept while awaiting orders during the Civil War. There were guns and other artifacts set up to enjoy including a telegraph station run by Cole County Commissioner, Sam Bushman. Throughout the event, telegrams were sent to President Abraham Lincoln (Mark Rehagen) that gave historical reference to activities or skirmishes that took place in July of 1864.

Families enjoyed a homemade stew made by Jamie Horan around her open fire and grilled hotdogs provided by the library. There were modern tents set up with yard games for the kids to enjoy and drawstring bags filled with various goodies from businesses and groups around Osage County that were distributed to the kids.

The Osage County Library would like to thank the Missouri Civil War Reenactors’ Association, the various volunteers, and the local businesses who donated to make this a successful event.

-Sarah Falter, Branch Manager, Osage County Library



Collins Battery

Sarah Falter, Branch Manager, Osage County Library, Jamie Horan, Lane McKim, and President Lincoln, who was reading a telegraph he had just received.



Landis Battery

Want to say Thank you to all of the Reenactors, President Lincoln, the telegraph operator, Sarah and staff at the library, and all who came out to help. It was a great event and I could not have done it without all of you!! As far as I know there was no one said anything negative, other than about the heat!!! They are wanting to do this again in a couple of years. So again, **THANK YOU!!!**—Jamie Horan

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Board Meeting/General Meeting:

Saturday, August 23, 2025, at 10:00 am for the Board Members, General session to start at approximately 11:30. Place: Missouri River Regional Library, 214 Adams St. Jefferson City, MO. I believe we will be in the Truman Room.

- If you have an event you want to present for next year, you need to be at this meeting!!

September 2025 Boonville, MO - Living History event

Living history/Timeline at annual steam engine festival

Details TBA

Boonville is between Columbia & Kansas City on I-70

September 26-28, 2025 - Hermann, MO

MCWRA-Sponsored event: The Battles at Hermann at the Dierberg Farm Hermann is on the MO river about an hour west of St. Louis

Reenactor info:

Friday school day

2 battles with various skirmishes, Saturday night dance

Bounties paid: \$150 for cannons and \$25 per horse

For more info text David Plummer at 417-773-1457

To register email Rafterjpranch@msn.com

Sponsored by the 8th Mo cavalry.

October 3-5, 2025 - Harrisonville, MO

- Living history & battles during local festival
- Harrisonville is just south of KC on I-49/MO-7

October 17-19, 2025 - Eureka, MO

Assault on Pigeon Hill (Atlanta campaign)

Location: Central Mo TBD

For more information on these events and other events, go to **mcwra.org**