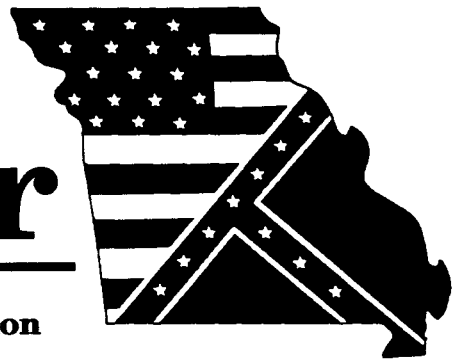


# The Western Campaigner



Journal of the Missouri Civil War Reenactors Association

Editor: David Christy, day 405-758-3255; home 758-3886; FAX 758-3255

August 1995



## President's Corner



by John Beck

### MCWRA Membership . . .

The MCWRA schedule has now reached the mid-way point of the season. As we look at the first part of the schedule and try to put into perspective what was accomplished, was the experience deserving the effort?

The majority will say the endeavors have paid dividends. One of the abundant payoffs came with the "Last Surrender Campaign" hosted by the Oklahoma Historical Society and Whit Edwards. This unique event was immense in the undertaking, but the magic moments were numerous. From the 12 mile tactical campaign to loading the entire Confederate and Union Armies (wagons, horses, infantry and female refugees) on the train and moving 17 miles back to Fort Towson and finally the emotion of stacking arms and folding the colors for the last time.

This was truly an unequalled event. Any Confederate who wants to do a true impression needs to go through emotion of a surrender commemoration. It will bring a tear to the eye and pull upon your heart strings.

A note about the ladies who made the campaign and commemoration at the fort . . . a job well done. There were a few in the military who were betting they could not fulfill the entire event. Not one of the "Rose Hill Refugees" pulled from the event. This cannot be said for the military on either side.

The Lady Russell twisted her ankle on the morning of the second day, and with the ladies all pulling together to help, this lady made over half the march wounded. With the aid of a walking stick, Lady Russell, thus earned the nickname of tripod. Teresa

"Abolition" Black and her ladies have the respect of all who participated in the "Last Surrender Campaign."

The "Last Surrender" has shown us just how far the hobby and events have evolved in the past years. Moving troops, wagons with supplies, refugees and horse drawn artillery over 12 miles involved the efforts of many people and countless hours of planning and execution. The most singular item that came about with this event was the focus on the basics. There were no 20th century eyeglasses, Reeboks, hoops or children without parents on this campaign.

The military only carried what they needed. This was truly back to the basics. The event also showed us how far we have gotten from the basics in the hobby. On Saturday night one individual could not do without his van in camp as it was needed to make a beer run.

The association, units, events and the hobby have evolved tremendously in the last 15 years. Time was, if we had a 100-man event it was something to converse about. We now have units who can put 50 man companies on the field at any given time.

We are more organized than we have been just five years ago. But have we moved from the basics with this growth? We have not so much

Continued on page 2



### Members

- Send all dues and address changes to MCWRA Treasurer Scott Hughes, 8124 N. Broadway, Kansas City, MO 64118.
- Send all newsletter items to *The Western Campaigner*, David Christy--Editor, P.O. Box 669, Waukomis, OK 73773.

## President-elect, directors Nominations open for MCWRA posts

Nominations for MCWRA president-elect and three board of directors positions open with this issue of *The Western Campaigner*.

Nominations are open for president-elect for the year 1997. John Beck is currently MCWRA president, and will serve through the end of 1995. Members voted late in 1994 to approve Steve Allie as president for the upcoming 1996 year.

Three board of directors posts are also open. Before nominating anyone for a position, members are asked to make sure that their nomination is willing to serve.

**Deadline for submitting nominations is October 1, 1995.** Please make your nominations either in writing or by phone to *Western Campaigner* editor David Christy, for inclusion on the voting ballot for the November issue.

For those mailing nominations send to PO Box 669, Waukomis, OK 73773. Call 1-405-758-3255 (work) or 1-405-758-3886 (home). Nominations may also be FAX'ed to 1-405-758-3255 24-hours a day.

### Lost

At Pea Ridge on Sunday, .44 cal. pistol, when I fell from my horse. Reward. Bob Woody, 913-352-6391.

### Lost

May 1995 in Friday's battle at Pea Ridge, a Cabela's 1851 Confederate Navy .44 cal. brass frame pistol. Serial #292376. Also had an M scratched in the pistol butt by the serial number. If found please contact: Mike Boyd, 8th MO Cav., 30728 Castor River Rd., Fredericktown, MO 63645 (314-760-1522).

# Osage Beach Lodge of the Four Seasons named site for March 2, 1996 Grand Ball

Plans are set for the Grand Ball March 2, 1996, to be held at the Lodge of the Four Seasons in Osage Beach, Missouri.

Reservations may be made by calling 1-800-THE LAKE, and they may be made immediately to reserve a room, which can be cancelled 24 hours prior to the event at no penalty.

The hotel is as beautiful as Tan-Tar-Ra and more, according to Conderate Ladies Organization (CLO) president Linda Cantrell. "The hotel will be putting our rooms in a brand new renovated wing just off the ball room," she said. "This will put all the reenactors together, a wise move on their part. No shuttle or walking out of doors."

"We were able to get a special weekend package on room rates," said Cantrell. "If you stay Friday, March 1 and Saturday, March 2 your room rate is \$59 per night. If your stay is

## President's Corner

Continued from page 1

moved from the basics as we have put them on the back burner as things have evolved. In the past you could not find a pair of 20th century eyeglasses in the ranks, but now they are creeping back into the ranks. In the beginning years, no one left the event before it was over unless it was an emergency. We now see people start moving vehicles into camp Sunday morning at 7 a.m.

At Pea Ridge, there were Reeboks in the ranks on children under 16. We have all made the agreement to help with these issues. The association is not a law passing or law enforcement organization. We can vote or mandate these issues off the field. It is the individual units who must police themselves. This is the only way it will work.

This is not to say that we are out of control, we just need to look at the basics a little closer.

We must remember what we are doing in this hobby. We all have the different levels we want to achieve, but the basics are the same. *Preservation through historical interpretation.* We need not leave the public with the interpretation that we are *costume campers on a weekend beer bus.* Most of all let us remember that we march in the ranks of our forefathers. *Let us honor those who have gone before us.*

Saturday night only, the rate is \$69."

There is no limit on people in a room, and Osage Beach has many attractions such as shops, antiques, and an outlet mall with over 130 stores.

Ball tickets remain the same as in the past--\$20--and are ready to be purchased. According to the custom of the times, only those persons 16 years of age and older will be admitted to the ballroom. Tickets will be available at events at Linda Cantrell's tent, or at the tent of Karen Zeller, in "The Town" unit.

They may also be purchased by mailing a check (make out to CLO) to Karen Zeller, 522 E. Washington St., Belleville, IL 62220.

"Help out your budget by purchasing early," said Cantrell. "This also

helps the CLO obtain an early count for the caterer. We hope that we will not need to cut off ticket sales but this could be a possibility if the numbers grow too large, so buy your tickets now." She went on to suggest that tickets to the ball would make a fine gift for a birthday or anniversary.

The band hired for the affair is the Saxson's Coronet Band. "Their performance alone is worth the price of your ticket," she said. "Pass the work among your reenactor friends."

"The CLO Ball committee is really excited and know that this will be the best ball we have yet done." CLO held a 50/50 drawing at the Glasgow event.

For further information contact Linda Cantrell at 314-825-2846.

## Calendar of events



Complete information as to contact person and phone number of sponsor or sponsoring unit, amenities, schedule, map or directions, will be included here or in stories in *The Campaigner*, as they are made available from event sponsors.

### Event highlights for 1995 . . .

- August 26: MCWRA calendar planning meeting, 10 a.m. at Jefferson City Library.
- Sept. 9-10: St. Charles, MO (Local). Contact Bob Smith.
- Sept. 23-24: Ironton, MO, *Battle of Pilot Knob* (Sanctioned), full amenities, powder ration. Contact Terry Cadenbach 314-629-0530 after 5:30.
- Sept. 30-Oct. 1: Cabin Creek, OK (Maximum Effort). Contact Whit Edwards, 405-521-2491 (day).
- Oct. 7-8: Centralia Guerillas (Maximum Effort). Contact City of Centralia 314-682-2139.
- Oct. 14: Humbolt, KS, border warfare (Local), contact Bev Miller 316-473-3315.
- Oct. 27-29: Nashville, TN, national event (listed).
- November: MCWRA Board Meeting, Jefferson City, MO



### 1996 Tentative Event Dates . . .

- April 20-21: Davisville, MO (local), contact Ken Settlemoir, 84th MO.
- June 14-16: Jefferson Barracks, St. Louis, MO (Maximum Effort), contact Steve Dasovich 314-884-3495.
- June 22-23: Civil War Encampment, Stuhr Musuem of the Prairie Pioneer, Grand Island, Nebr., contact Gail 308-385-5316.
- July 13-14: Cole Camp, MO (Maximum Effort), contact Susan Kyle, 5th MO, 816-668-3090, or 816-668-4416.
- July 20-21: Honey Springs, OK.
- September, second weekend, Frederickstown, MO (Maximum Effort)
- September: St. Charles, MO

## Event Updates



# St. Charles, Centralia, Pilot Knob events on fall MCWRA calendar

## St. Charles, MO, local event Sept. 9-10

The St. Charles, Missouri local living history event will take place Sept. 9-10 with a number of activities planned, and amenities provided.

Registration on Friday will be from 4 to 11 p.m. at the depot. Camps open the following morning at 9 a.m., with an infantry drill demonstration at 9:30 a.m. and artillery firing at 10:30, with a band concert on stage at 11:30 a.m. featuring Saxton's Coronet Band.

Lunch is served at noon, with cavalry drill at 1 p.m. and a "floozy recruiting effort and health certification at 2 p.m.

A battle is set for 3 p.m. catered dinner buffet at 5:30 p.m., and a street dance with Saxton's playing from 7 to 11 p.m., with free carriage rides for people in period dress, with a "belly bomber" contest to be announced.

On Sunday, church services will be at 9 a.m., with cavalry drill at 10 a.m., infantry at 11 a.m. and lunch at noon. Another band concert is set for 1 p.m. and an on stage fashion show at 1:30, with the Sunday battle at approximately 2 p.m.

Amenities include water, straw, wood, hay, free parking next to Goldenrod Showboat, porta-johns, coupon for complimentary bottle of wine from local winery, hand-washing facilities at dinner site, discounts by many shopowners to those in period dress, and free trolley rides.



## Battle of Pilot Knob, MO, event Sept. 23-24

The MCWRA sanctioned event at Ironton, Missouri, will depict the Battle of Pilot Knob at Ft. Davidson Historic Site Sept. 23 and 24.

The schedule of events and activities include arts and crafts booths in the Pilot Knob park opening at 8 a.m., historical tours at 9 a.m., occupation of the courthouse from 9 to 11:30 a.m., drill and demonstrations at Ft. Davidson from 9:30 to 11 a.m., battlefield marker dedication at 10 a.m., fashion show at 11 a.m., march of troops from Ironton to Ft. Davidson at 11:30 a.m., a battle in which skirmishers will be driven in will be held at 1:30 p.m., with a medical demonstration from 3 to 4 p.m., and a

period concert and demonstration ball on the Ft. Davidson grounds from 7:30 to 11 p.m. featuring the Rose of El-a-noy Minstrels.

On Sunday, activities include battlefield church service at 9 a.m., full-dress inspection in camp, followed by demonstrations at 10 a.m., tours at 12 p.m., and the final battle assault on Ft. Davidson at 1:30 p.m.

Amenities include authentic rations for all meals with raw foodstuffs issued to US and CS quartermasters in bulk, with rations for the refugee camp issued by the US quartermaster.

Straw, firewood, water, sanitary facilities and good hay will be provided, with 10 pounds of powder per artillery piece issued, with infantry allowed 1/2 pound of powder per man.

Contact person is Terry Cadenbach, 5731 Highway N, Robertsville, MO 63072 (314-629-0530).



## Centralia, MO, maximum effort event Oct. 7-8

Oct. 7-8 has been set for the maximum MCWRA effort Centralia Massacre and Battle, sponsored by the City of Centralia, MO, the Centralia Parks and Recreation Board, and the Centralia Historical Society.

Two battles are planned, one on each day. Saturday's battle will reenact The Battle of Centralia. Sunday's battle will be a generic

battle with guns. The Saturday morning massacre reenactment with a train, will be staged close to the original site. Other events may include a bonfire dance, dinner train, fashion show and Sunday church service with an actual sermon from 1864.

A production company in Los Angeles is planning to film the event. Interested parties as of this writing include the Discovery Channel.

Amenities include three meals, firewood, hay, straw, water, powder, and powder for artillery (first eight guns), porta-johns, warm showers in pool restrooms. The site consists of approximately 80 acres adjacent to the city park.

Pre-registration is required. There are **no fees** for reenactors who register before September 1. Centralia is approximately 20 miles north of Columbia. Information and registration packets can be obtained by calling 314-682-2139, or send a postcard to: City of Centralia, 114 S. Rollins, Centralia, MO 65240.

## Letters to the Editor policy

*The Western Campaigner* accepts letters to the editor, but there are several guidelines that should be followed. All letters must be signed, with the address of the writer and unit name if possible. The newsletter has received several letters unsigned, and they go to the trash, so if you sent one and it didn't get in, that's probably the reason.

Also, please limit length of letter to one-and-one-half pages double spaced, since space is limited. The editor reserves the right to edit for length and content, if it is deemed potentially libelous, inappropriate or excessively wordy and strays off the point.

Letters to the editor are one of the few forums for *any* member of MCWRA to provide their point of view, make suggestions or occasionally criticize, but if you must do the latter, make it constructive and offer ideas or alternatives.

~The Editor

## Under 18 participants need signed release for Pilot Knob event

Terry Cadenbach, spokesman for the event at Pilot Knob, MO Sept. 23-24, clarified a misunderstanding concerning participants under the age of 18.

According to Terry, it had originally been reported that no one under age 18 could participate. However, that is not correct. He stated that any participant under age 18 may participate if they have a release form signed by a parent or guardian, which may be brought to the event, as is done at virtually every other event these days.

For more information on getting releases, contact Terry at 314-629-0530

# The Editor's Notebook

by David Christy



## Coin honors drummers

This little tidbit was passed on by an organization member, who asked for anonymity since two of the unit's drummers will be recipients.

The idea is to honor drummer boys, (or perhaps buglers, and other musicians, etc.) with the Civil War 50 cent piece that features a drummer boy.

At present, the coin goes for about \$11, and this might be an idea to honor drummers in other units.

Good idea!



## Huzzah to Holmes Brig.

Pvt. Jim Coyne of the Co. D, 1st Kansas Infantry, on behalf of his unit, publicly thank the boys of the Holmes Brigade for kindly allowing them to fall in with their unit during the last two events--at Fulton and at Glasgow.

Several of the unit's ranks could not make both events and those attending asked the Holmes Brigade boys if they could join with them. According to Jim, their kind hospitality was much appreciated and he hopes they were glad to have them.

"It is this type of camaraderie that makes our hobby what it is and what it should be," said Coyne. "Again, many thanks to the fine soldiers of the Holmes Brigade. Your hospitality and kindness will not be forgotten. Huzzah!"



## German reenactor

Wolfgang Hockbruck writes from Stuttgart, Germany that a friend gave him the *Campaigner* address as a possible source to establish contact with other companies of the unit they are presently forming in Germany--Co. B, 2nd Missouri Infantry (US).

He would appreciate if anyone in the 2nd or 3rd regiments of Missouri Volunteer Infantry, either Boernstein's or Sigel's regiments, corresponding with him.

He is an assistant professor of American Studies at the University of Stuttgart, and he can be reached at: Schubart St. 4

D - 70190 Stuttgart / Germany

This telephone is 0049 711 2864339 and his FAX 1213500. He may be reached by E-Mail as wolfgang.hochbruck@po.uni-stuttgart.de

### Found

Poncho, at Fulton. Call Todd Conner, 816-563-3472.

## Dedication needs artillery

Mark Randall is looking for four artillery pieces and crews for the Sept. 9 dedication of a CS monument to Bledsoe's Battery, to be held at Pleasant Hill, Missouri.

They are offering \$25 per full scale artillery piece to help with powder, and are seeking full scale either six pounders, 3-inch ordinance rifles or 10 pound Parrots to serve in a battery for the dedication.

All reenactors and the public is invited to attend. The dedication is set for 10 a.m., with a parade at 9 a.m.

For more information call Mark at his work phone 816-987-3135 or at home 816-540-5312.



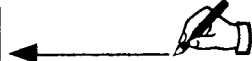
## Andersonville event

The Andersonville, Georgia, Historical Fair will be held Oct. 7-8 in the town square and at Pioneer Farms, with both CS and US encampments.

A Mock CW battle is slated, along with a parade, antique and collectible dealers, and two performances of Saul Levitt's stage play, "The Andersonville Trial."

For further information contact the sponsoring Andersonville Guild at 912-924-2558.

## Letter to the Editor



To the Editor:

If you missed the Moore's Mill event at Fulton, Missouri, you missed a great one. No, the weather wasn't great! I was hotter than the last Honey Springs, but everything else was great.

The support of the local people, the landowners and farmers, the emergency medical staff, the veterinarians, camp layouts, water supply for people and horses (thanks to the local fire dept.) and just about everything else was excellent.

This is without question one of the outstanding events of this year and will be hard to beat. Many thanks to the 6th Missouri Infantry (CS) and the Callaway Guards for their work and help. It paid off in a great time despite the heat. If there is a 135th, I'll be back.

Henry L. Johns  
4th Mo Vol. Cav. (US)

## Westport book in print

The book *Action Before Westport, 1864* by Howard N. Monnett is now available with a new introduction and notes that update the original volume concerning the Civil War cavalry action.

Westport's action during the summer of 1864 culminated a Confederate cavalry raid in the South's last ditch invasion of Missouri that ended forever the bitter fighting that had devastated the Missouri-Kansas border.

Howard N. Monnett's classic study presents the only full account of that most unusual and daring CW battle.

The 6x9, 240 page volume includes 24 b&w photos, and is available for \$19.95 from University Press of Colorado, PO Box 849, Niwot, CO 80544. You may order toll free at 1-800-268-6044, and call for information at 303-530-5306.

### Found

At Fulton, in the Federal cavalry camp, period eye glasses. Henry Johns, 913-748-0877..

### Wanted

Used Sharp's carbine. Contact Adjutant Frank K. Yeckl, 8514 Gen. Grant, St. Louis, MO 63123, (1-314-849-7307).

### For Sale

Blue and silver two-horse trailer with dressing room, 6 inches extra length and height, asking \$2,000. Linda Smith, 231-2905.

### For Sale

Federal overcoat, size 42, \$200; Columbus Depot jacket and trousers (Charlie Child's pattern). 1-314-928-9263.

### Inventory For Sale

Like new Armi-Sport '53 Enfield w/leather sling \$300; Enfield bayonet & scabbard \$25; Fall Creek brogans 9 1/2 \$75; large A frame w/poles \$100; numerous accoutrements, Sz. 44 jean shell jacket \$90; jean trousers sz. 34 \$75; Fed sack coat 44R \$40; trousers, civilian vests, shirts; Dirty Billy special hat brown w/black trim 7 3/8 \$50; black slouch \$15; misc.: soft pack, poncho, shelter halves, tent pegs, wood lantern, ammo box. If interested call John P. Shoptaw, 501-524-4879, 215 Oak Crest Rd., Siloam Springs, AR 72761.

# Guidelines for dismounted cavalry offered to dispell confusion over historical roles

by Capt. D. Michael Gooch  
Elliott's Scouts, 1st MO Cav. Bttn.

The following has been provided to various MCWRA unit commanders in an attempt to shed light on the use of dismounted cavalry in reenactments. Much has been written in recent *Western Campaigners* about dismounted cavalry, and there seems to be some confusion.

These guidelines have been read and approved by dismounted cavalry commanders in the MCWRA and North-South Alliance, and will be used in planning future events.

It should be noted that dismounted cavalry represents troopers whose horses are being held behind the lines, while cavalry, dismounted are troopers utilized as infantry because their horses have been taken by official edict.

Dismounted troopers are under as much discipline and are as well drilled as the soldiers of any other combat arm. Their presence on every Trans-Mississippi battlefield of note is well documented.

## Introduction

From reading the Official Records, unit histories, and personal papers, it is evident that the cavalry of the Rebellion was quite versatile. Not only were traditional cavalry duties (patrol, picket, recon, courier, etc.) performed, but troopers were adept at fighting on foot. In fact, it was quite rare for Cavalry to remain mounted during battle.

In view of the MCWRA's mandate to accurately portray the Rebellion, a study of the battlefield role of dismounted cavalry is needed.

## Criteria for Use of Dismounted Cavalry

- 1. Numbers: Dismounted cavalry can augment lack of strength in the other arms. The ability to perform numerous functions, from static fighting in formation to rapid deployment and maneuver, makes dismounted cavalry extremely versatile.
- 2. Tactical Need: Dismounted cavalry can be thrown into any situation, planned or crisis, because of its versatility.
- 3. Terrain: Because dismounted cavalry is capable of effective fighting in a variety of formations, no other arm of service is more suited to deployment in rough or irregular terrain.
- 4. Historical: The sources named in

the introduction offer insight into the original utilization of dismounted cavalry.

A. Skirmishers: Dismounted cavalry normally deployed in open skirmish order. Typically, they led advances, opened battle, developed enemy lines, and scouted.

B. Flankers: Dismounted cavalry both protected friendly flanks and probed enemy flanks.

C. Support: Dismounted cavalry protected batteries, extended infantry

## Dismounted Cavalry guidelines



lines, and screened and protected the movements of all other arms. They were the hammer for infantry's anvil, and the anvil for mounted cavalry's hammer.

To summarize, dismounted cavalry is cavalry. Wherever cavalry would be found, whatever cavalry would be doing, however cavalry would be utilized, this is the battlefield role of dismounted cavalry.

Faster maneuvering and more flexible than infantry, and harder hitting and more steadfast than mounted cavalry, dismounted cavalry is a versatile and valuable tool for the Army Commander.

With all the controversy in the MCWRA over dismounted cavalry, it seems a study on the actual use of dismounted cavalry is in order.

What follows is the testimony of the commanders on the field, from their reports at Elkhorn Tavern.

- Brig. General Albert Pike, Indian Brigade: "General McCullough's orders were . . . to dismount and charge together. . . . the Indians (Watie's regiment on foot and Drew's on horseback) . . . charged full in front."
- Col. Henry Little, 1st Missouri

Brigade: "Our Cavalry prudently fell back . . . and, dismounting, they formed on the left . . . In the rear of Colonel Rives' regiment was placed Major Whitfield's battalion of dismounted Cavalry."

- Col. B. W. Stone, 6th Texas Cavalry: "Having been reserved as the only mounted regiment in the field . . ." "My troops were the only ones to be left mounted during the day on our right..."

- Col. Elkanah Greer, 3rd Texas Cavalry: ". . . I was ordered to dismount my command and hold at all hazards a hill . . . leaving our horses in the rear, we took position..."

- Col. G. W. Riggins, Missouri Cavalry: "We immediately ordered our men to dismount, and extended our left wing . . ."

- Brig. General D. M. Frost, MSG " . . . my infantry and cavalry (then and during the remainder of the action dismounted) . . ."

- Col. Colton Greene, 3rd Missouri Brigade: "In compliance with your order all the cavalry, excepting Captain Campbell's company, which fought as infantry, was dismounted before leaving camp in Boston Mountains. . . ." "Captain Shelby's well-drilled company . . . in the evening his men were dismounted and served . . . in the gallant charge across the field."

Major Todd Samuels, Prices' escort: "I immediately dismounted my command . . . and succeeded in bringing on a general engagement."

Although several Federal reports imply dismounted cavalry action, only the report of Col. Eugene Carr, commanding 4th Division, specifically says so: ". . . the 3rd Illinois Cavalry . . . frequently dismounted to fight on foot."

Hunt Wilson, writing in the St. Louis Missouri Republican in 1885 tells of standing with Guibor's Battery and seeing the horses of Col. Gates' 1st Missouri Cavalry emerging from the battle smoke, moving in perfect order but not a rider in the saddle. The gunners were horrified, thinking the troopers had all been killed, but were much relieved to see the dismounted command shortly come running down the hill.

Were most Southern cavalry dismounted at Elkhorn? Without a doubt. In fact, the reports make it quite evident that there was very little mounted cavalry action on that battlefield.



# Letter to the Editor



Dear Editor:

My name is Celia Mater. I reenact with the 1st Kansas Vol. Inf./Women's Relief Corps of Wichita, Kansas. I'm very new to all this, having begun in January. But I'm having a wonderful time, and I believe I can make some solid contributions to reenacting. As a professional musician, I've been researching and performing Civil War music (vocal, guitar, tin whistle, fife, recorder).

But this letter has to do with an article in the July *Western Campaigner*, entitled "Period photos lend help to authenticity. I refer specifically to item number 9, regarding socks, of Dave Chuber's 13 "farb" problems. He states that Civil War soldiers wore socks knit by loving hands at home. Very true! There are some delightful stories in a book entitled *No Idle Hands*, a history of knitting in America, in chapters "Knitting for the Blue" and "Knitting for the Gray." But Mr. Chuber offers no solutions to puzzled reenactors.

As an experienced knitter, I've

been having a wonderful time learning to knit socks. This is one thing I do when I'm sitting in camp, as knitting is certainly a period skill. Most spectators have never seen anyone knit a sock. I've made five pairs for guys in my unit and have sold several other pairs to men from other units. Whenever I go to an event, I try to have a few pairs to take along for sale or trade.

In short, I'd be interested in advertising my services--knitting socks for reenactors.

I charge \$20 plus postage. I use pure wool yarn, for the most part, and for authenticity, but I have found that a wool-acrylic blend can work well. The pure wool yarn is cream-colored to off-white. My pattern is a simple work sock pattern that can be worked in sizes from 6 to 12. I use four double-pointed size-3 needles and work in the round, which is period technique. It takes me about three days to complete one pair of socks--that is, if my children don't give me too many interruptions! Probably it would be realistic to figure on one

week per pair.

Pure-wool socks seem to stand up well in machine washing--just being tossed in with other dirty reenactor garb--although I would caution that delicate cycle is probably best for them. They can be dried either on delicate (machine) or laid flat to dry. Of course, as I add on my signature card, if you want to be REALLY authentic, you can wear them without any washing until they fall to pieces.

I'm delighted that some of my knit socks have been worn into combat, and I hope to do more knitting for reenactors. Please feel free to write or call if you need more information.

*Your obedient servant,*  
Celia Mater  
108 S. Logan  
Newton, KS 67114  
(Tel.) 316-283-0618

## Lillard & Stamps Special Effects

Call or write for information on the use of pyrotechnics to enhance your reenactment. 816-862-8602.

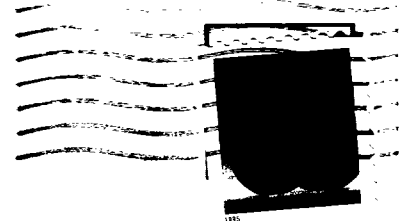
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