

The Western Campaigner

Journal of the Missouri Civil War Reenactors Association

Editor: David Christy ~ Day: 405-758-3255
Home: 405-758-3886 • 24-Hour FAX 405-758-3255



March
1997

Unit commander names needed for 1997 directory

In order to make up a unit commanders list, which will be included in the 1997 MCWRA membership directory, each member unit needs to inform the MCWRA the name of their unit commander.

Please mail a postcard with your unit name and the name of the unit commander to:

MCWRA
8124 N. Broadway
Kansas City, MO 64120

NOTE: these must be received by April 5, 1997, to be included in the 1997 membership directory.

April 1 cutoff date for dues; to be listed in 1997 directory

MCWRA membership dues are currently due. A yearly membership is \$8 for an individual, or \$12 for a family. A lifetime memberships can be purchased for \$100 a person.

Dues should be mailed to:

MCWRA
Treasurer
P.O. Box 417
Fayette, MO 65248

If your dues aren't paid, you won't be receiving a *Campaigner* in April. The cutoff date for receiving dues so that your name is included in the 1997 membership directory: April 1.

In addition, when dues come in slowly at the first of each year, it creates cash flow problems for the treasurer, and strings out membership renewal into the summer.

Bad weather predictions help in cancelling Feb. board meet

by Janet Hussey
MCWRA Secretary

Due to the fact that bad weather predictions kept a great many people from the scheduled MCWRA meeting in Springfield, Missouri, on Feb. 8, a quorum of board members was not in attendance, as reported by President Willie Huckabee.

The president was endeavoring to set up a meeting in conjunction with the annual period ball March 1. However, at last count, the next meeting will not be held until August.

President Huckabee conducted a telephone poll as provided by the MCWRA by-laws, to accommodate the following probation requests, so that they will be in effect for the 1997 event season.

- The Indian Territory Cadet Corps, sponsored by TMR, has requested to be put on probation.
- The following units have requested that they be removed from the probationary period:

-1st Light Artillery, sponsored by Walt Larson

-Porter's Northeast Missouri, sponsored by Rick Reed

-Northwest 15th Arkansas, sponsored by Ted Prater

President Huckabee will have president-elect Ted Prater in charge of the March 1 meeting, since he was going to be unable to attend.

Election results indicated that Ted Prater will be the new president-elect, and three-year board member terms were approved for John Beck, Jim Beckner and Ron Ulrich.

NOTE: With the new three times a

year meeting schedule, the term periods are as follows during this transition:

MCWRA Board Members until August 1997--

Willie Huckabee, president
Steve Allie, Immediate Past President

Jim Beckner, goes off
Boo Hodges, goes off
Dave Smith, goes off

Janet Hussey (sec.) 95-96-97

Henry Johns 95-96-97

Walt Larson 95-96-97

Scott Hughes (treas.) 96-97-98

Merle Hodges 96-97-98

Dave Bears 96-97-98

Terms are completed in August 1997, and they will be replaced by:

President-Elect Ted Prater
(begins duties Aug. 1997)

John Beck (3 years, 8/1997 to 8/2000)

Jim Beckner (voted back on the board for three years, 8/97 to 8/2000)

Ron Ulrich (3 years, 8/1997 to 8/2000)

Permanent MCWRA mailing address

The permanent mailing address of the Missouri Civil War Reenactors Association is: MCWRA, PO Box 417, Fayette, MO 65248. *You must* write on the outside of envelope the correspondence is to go to the treasurer, president, etc.

Send all address changes and dues checks to this address, attention treasurer. Dues are \$8 a year for individuals and \$12 for family memberships.

For Sale

Night caps/all sizes and tobacco pouches. Austin Hotelling, 417-759-2628.

Buttons & Bows

Custom sewing and alterations -- men, women and children. Patricia Crowley, 1128 Hwy. 5-240, Fayette, MO 65248. Call 816-248-2533.

Wanted

Light artillery piece suitable for cavalry unit. Must be safe, scale, and able to pass muster for Civil War era. Steve Baldwin, 710 W. LaHarpe, Kirksville, MO 63501. Ph. 816-627-1769.

Lose an item at an event? Have extra gear to sell or looking for something? Send in a small notice to *Western Campaigner*, P.O. Box 669, Waukomis, OK 73773.

Event Updates



The Battle of Indian Creek, set for Rocky Mount, MO on April 19-20, is being sponsored by Wade's Battery.

Registration on site for the MCWRA sanctioned event and for early set up will be April 18, with April 19 to begin the event at 6 a.m. with rations at the pavilion. Rations will be eggs, potatoes, sausage, bread and onions. A tactical is planned from 8 to 11 a.m., with a ladies tea at the pavilion from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

The tactical will include issuance of a map of the 400 acre site, on which two flags will be hidden--one CS and one US--with the object to find, capture, defend and bring back to headquarters your opponent's flag.

A 12:30 p.m. picnic basket auction is being planned, with a battle on the front field at 3 p.m. Camp tours conducted by local Boy Scouts will be held from 4 to 6 p.m., followed by a pot luck dinner.

The ball will be at the Amvets 3 miles from the site. A map will be available at the pavilion for directions.

On Sunday of the event, rations again will be available at the pavilion at 6 a.m., with church services at the pavilion from 9 to 11 a.m. A fashion show at the same site is set for 12 noon, and the battle at the front field is set for 1 p.m.

You are asked to preregister as soon as possible. For information contact Ed or Donna Madewell, HCR 3 Box 877C, Rocky Mount, MO 65072 (573-392-5120 home or 573-392-7684 work).

Homepage: <http://www.internetlans.net/~donna/civilwar.html>

E-mail address: donna@internetland.net

Getting out of Hobby

Gear and clothing for sale. Lots to choose from. Contact Christopher Warren. 573-760-8641 M-F 12 noon to 10:30 p.m. CST.

If you find a mistake in a listing below, please advise this publication immediately.

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 by event sponsors.

1997 Event Dates:

APRIL 5-6: SHILOH. National Event, generic 1862. On site registration (\$10 fee per person). For information, registration forms, write: 135th Anniversary Battle of Shiloh - Registration, 355 Mohawk Rd., Owens Crossroads, AL 35763-9251.

APRIL 19-20: BATTLE OF INDIAN CREEK, ROCKY MOUNT, MO. Sponsored by Wade's Battery. All amenities, potluck dinner, 2 battles, Sat. tactical, ladies tea, picnic basket auction, dance, fashion show. Register ASAP. Contact Ed or Donna Madewell, HCR 3 Box 877C, Rocky Mount, MO 65072 (573-392-5120 home or 573-392-7684 work) (Sanctioned)

APRIL 26-27: FT. GIBSON, OK. Indian Territories Cadet Corps spring muster, at Ft. Gibson stockade. Contact Roger Hudgins, 405-762-7709 for information. (Listed)

MAY 17-18: CARTHAGE, MO. Sponsored by 4th MO Inf. CS. Contact Ted Prater 316-232-0268 days, 417-781-8874 evenings. E-Mail: tprater@ibm.net (Maximum)

JUNE 14-15: COLUMBIA, MO. Living history, skirmishes, amenities. Contact Karen Ramey 573-874-7636 (Local).

JUNE 21-22: JEFFERSON BARRACKS, ST. LOUIS. Sponsored by Jeff City Civil War Hist. Assoc. and St. Louis County Parks. Call Nancy Herndon 314-631-4849. (Maximum)

AUGUST. DATE TO BE ANNOUNCED: MCWRA Planning/General membership meeting.

SEPT. 12-14: MOORE'S MILL, FULTON, MO. All amenities, prepared meals, sponsored by 6th MO. Contact Mark White, PO Box 487, Fulton, MO 65251 (816-246-7950). (Sanctioned)

SEPT. 20-21: LEXINGTON, MO. State Guard, battle of hemp bales, downtown scenarios, tour, dismounted cav., only 500-600 reenactors. Contact Janea Fuller. (Sanctioned)

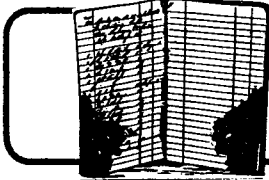
SEPT. 27-28: LEASBURG, MO (near Pilot Knob). Infantry, cavalry, artillery. Sponsored by 7th MO and Leasburg Historical Soc. (Sanctioned)

OCT. 3-5: SPRING HILL, TN. National event, contact John Beck.

OCT. 4-5: MELVERN LAKE, KS (Topeka). Mid-war, contact Dave Smith.

POSTPONED TO FEBRUARY OR MARCH, 1998: (Camp Gibson). Campaign style, contact Willie Huckabee. (Maximum)





The Editor's Notebook

❖ by David Christy ❖

Due to space limitations, the list of MCWRA member newsletters and publications will only appear every few months in *The Campaigner*.

However, I have several new ones to add to the list and a change.

Also, Celia Mater has begun a new publication, called *The Border States Courier*. She began the publication to be responsive to suggestions, ideas, and to provide a forum for reenactors' writing and ideas.

- Roger Conlon is the new editor of *The Journal*, newsletter of Co. A of the 9th Texas Infantry. His address is 3321 Carnegie Pl., Hutchinson, KS 67502-2911.

- *Newton's (horse)Apple(s)*, quarterly publication of the 8th Arkansas Cavalry. Editor is Patric Johnstone, Box 1180, Tulsa, OK 74101-1880 (918-585-5852. Email: patric@ghostriders.org

- *The Border States Courier*, the journal of, by, and for Midwestern reenactors. Editor is Celia Mater, 108 S. Logan, Newton, KS 67114 (316-283-0618). Subscription rate is \$12 per year, to cover postage and copying costs.



I have a correction on a phone number in an article by Dave Chuber and Keith Bartsch.

Under tinsmiths, who make copies only of originals, Carl & Marcia Giordano ob Box 74, Wadsworth, OK 44282, the correct phone number should have been 330-336-7270.

Carl called this office a few days back, appreciative of the mention in the fine article that gives members a long list of sutlers and period goods makers in some of the more obscure areas of the hobby. Good job on the article and all the research guys.



MCWRA secretary Janet Hussey passes on this little tidbit for readers . . .

Paul Kidwell, a Civil War buff in Poplar Bluff, MO, has an interesting service for CW questions, answers, trivia, this day in history, etc. To participate on the Internet: ww.pbmo.net (Poplar Bluff, MO)

Pond Books of Doniphan, MO, has announced a new book by Jerry Ponder, *The Civil War Battle of Fredericktown, Missouri*.

In 1861 the U.S. government was pouring troops into Missouri to drive the elected government from the state and continue Missouri as part of the Union.

With limited resources, the state was fighting to remain neutral, soon forced by the U.S. Army to enter the Confederacy. As part of the effort, Missouri Gen. M. Jeff Thompson moved his division of state troops north, defeated the Illinois unit at Blackwell Station, near DeSoto, on the St. Louis-Iron Mtn. Railroad, burned bridges and destroyed tracks to disrupt rail transportation to the important federal outpost at Pilot Knob and Ironton.

The general then concentrated his cavalry, infantry and artillery troops at Fredericktown and prepared an ambush for the Union troops.

Federal forces, calling themselves the Army of SE Missouri, responded from Pilot Knob, St. Louis and Cape Girardeau. Most of the troops were from Illinois, but others were from Iowa, Wisconsin and Indiana, plus a few provisional regiments trying to recruit citizens from Missouri.

On Oct. 21, 1861, the two armies met in a bloody, three hour battle on the south edge of Fredericktown, ending with the Missourians withdrawing as they had intended in their battle plan. Losses were severe and continued as a final skirmish was fought near Greenville.

Both sides claimed victory; the Federals because they continued in control of Fredericktown and had killed Gen. Thompson's second-in-command, Col. Aden Lowe; the Missourians thought they won because they had inflicted damages four to one upon the Union troops and managed to follow their battle plan to the letter.

All details have been ferreted out and the book is fully documented to make it an accurate account of the battle as well as the actions in Iron, Jefferson and St. Francois Counties.

All action was strictly Missouri against the U.S. No Confederate troops were involved in the battle.

The book is 170 pages, indexed, with photos, maps, charts, and with a quality softcover. It is billed as the first documented account of the 1861 actions.

Cost is \$16.95 plus \$2 per book postage and packaging. Missouri residents add 80¢ per book sales tax.

Write to Pond Books, PO Box 573, Doniphan, MO 63935.

Upcoming Events

Wyandotte Co. living history event Oct. 18-19

The Wyandotte County Historical Society & Museum will hold their 3rd annual living history encampment family educational event at the Wyandotte County Park, 126th and State Ave., Bonner Springs, KS, on Oct. 18-19.

Over 85 gently rolling tree covered acres are available, with more than 10,000 spectators from the greater Kansas City area attending last year's festival.

The historical society hopes to have a generic battle fielding 500 participants on the grounds. Amenities provided include hay bales, straw, water, firewood and rations to all interested units/reenactors.

For more information, members and unit commanders should contact Carolyn Walden at 913-371-2828 after 5:30 p.m. or on weekends, by calling the museum during daytime hours at 913-721-1078.

Great Heartland Trails Festival -- July 26-27

The Great Heartland Trails Festival is being held July 26 and July 27 in Lenexa, Kansas, at the Sar Kar Park located on 87th and Lackman.

All Civil War reenactors who would like to participate in this historical festival should contact Russell Hautzenrader at Box 526, Wathena, KS 66090. His phone number is 913-989-2155.

Old soldier campaigning tricks

by John Braden

(reprint from the newsletter of the 15th Arkansas)

Let's face it . . . camping authentically is uncomfortable at best, unhealthy at worst. One way the soldiers survived was by developing little tricks to make camp life more tolerable. Since these are as useful to reenactors as they were to the original soldiers, following is a list of "old soldier" tricks (with some modern ones tossed in). Although most will be well known to "old hands", I trust even they will pick up a trick or two.

HYGIENE

- Tuck your trouser cuffs into your socks. This will keep dirt and vermin off your legs. If the socks won't stay up by themselves, roll the tops down, or tie a string around the tops.
- To prevent an authentic case of heat rash or jock itch, apply zinc oxide ointment at the beginning of an event.
- Use the first cup of water you boil in the morning, not for coffee, but to clean your face, ears, and (if applicable) eyeglasses.
- If your tunic gets sweat-soaked, turn it inside out and lay it on your tent to bake in the sun.

FIGHTING THE ELEMENTS

- To keep cool on a hot day, soak a handkerchief with water and put it on your head, under your hat.
- If you have a choice, wear a round-brimmed hat; it will keep both rain and sun off you better than a kepi.
- A rubber or oilcloth poncho is an excellent investment. You can use it as a raincoat, ground cloth, dew cover, to close off the end of a tent, or as the tent itself.
- The cape of an overcoat is not just ornamental. Throw it over your head as a hood, or roll it up around your neck as a muffler. Actually, an overcoat is not essential; you can use your blanket as an overcoat more easily than you can use your overcoat as a blanket.

ACCOUTREMENTS

- A blanket roll is a lot easier to carry than a knapsack. Two hints: twisting the roll before you tie the ends together will help keep it from unrolling. Also, the blanket roll

should rest on your left shoulder (so as not to interfere with firing).

- Wear your waistbelt over the shoulder slings of your cartridge box and haversack to keep them from flopping when you run.
- Does your bayonet scabbard slide around your belt as you march? Punch a hole in your belt and the inside of your bayonet frog, then use a brass paper clasp to attach the two.
- Straps on your canteen too long (e.g.: to hang on your ridge pole)? Tie off part of it to make a smaller loop.

CAMPING

- Two things every camp needs: a shovel and a hatchet (the latter with a claw to pull tent stakes).
- Need kindling to get a fire started? If you've got straw bedding, use a handful of that. Or use the hatchet to shave some wood chips off a log.

DINNERTIME

- Don't leave your tin cup over the fire without liquid in it, else the heat may melt the solder holding on the bottom.
- Adding a wire handle to the top of your cup will make it a lot easier to lift it off the fire. A bayonet (socket side to fire) makes a good hook for this purpose.
- Speaking of bayonets, the socket makes a good candle holder.
- While the Civil War soldier used his bayonet or ramrod to skewer and hold food over the fire, I don't advise this for the reenactor who wants these items to last more than four years, since the heat may draw the hardening out of the steel.
- Tin cup too hot to drink out of? Rest the lip against the side of a full tin canteen to draw off some of the heat.
- You don't need a frying pan if you have a tin plate. Just split a stick, wedge the edge of the plate into the split, and you have a frying pan.
- It doesn't take a gallon of water to clean your dishes. Thrust knives and forks repeatedly into some sandy soil. For your tin plate, use a handful of straw or grass to wipe off the big stuff, then some sand to scrub off the rest. A damp cloth suffices to finish the job.

PITCHING YOUR TENT

- Camping on hard, lumpy ground? Use a shovel or bayonet to loosen up and contour the ground to your body before you pitch your tent.
- It's easier to put your straw and bedding down and pitch the tent over it than to try to pull the bedding in after you've pitched the tent.
- For a "dog" tent that will stand up to the strongest winds, after you've pitched it, tie the uprights to the ridgepole and to the tent itself.

SLEEPING

- A canteen, cartridge box, or both, covered with an article of clothing, makes a serviceable pillow.
- A tent with the ends closed off is a lot warmer than one with open ends.

Event Updates

Leasburg event now open to all branches

There has been a change in the Leasburg, MO event, scheduled for Sept. 27-28, near Pilot Knob.

According to Helen Wright of the Leasburg Historical Society, the event was originally advertised for cavalry only, but has been expanded to include all branches, including infantry, artillery and period civilian.

The MCWRA sanctioned event is also being sponsored by the 7th Missouri Cavalry.

For more information, contact Helen Wright, Leasburg Historical Society, PO Box 17, Leasburg, MO 65535.

Old Demaree Fair event set for October 4-5

The Old Demaree Fair, held at High Ridge, MO, is a local historical event close to the St. Louis area, to be held Oct. 4-5.

Amenities for the event will be provided, and contact person is Jim Flintsmith, 314-376-7553.

The Old Demaree Fair is a fast growing event that now takes place on an old homestead in High Ridge, sponsored by the Northwest Historical and Preservation Society.

Attendance is projected to be between 2,000 and 3,000 people, in a scenic setting.

Event Updates Moore's Mill, Mo.

Letter to the Editor

Fulton site for 135th anniversary battle

The 135th anniversary of the Battle of Moore's Mill, near Fulton, MO, will be held Sept. 12-14. The event is a benefit to raise the funds necessary to build a monument to those men in both blue and gray, who fought for their ideas at Moore's Mill 135 years ago.

The MCWRA sanctioned event is being sponsored by the Elijah Gates Camp #570 Sons of Confederate Veterans-MO Division, and Erwin's 6th Missouri Infantry, Co. A, CSA.

The site consists of 1,000 acres of primitive land along the banks of the Auxvasse Creek, in northeast Callaway County, Missouri, located on the east side of the original battlefield.

All military participants whose pre-registration is postmarked on or before July 1, will be admitted. No non-MCWRA walk-ons will be allowed. In addition to the scripted historical battle scenarios, there will also be bushwhacking and foraging scen-

arios by Union and Southern forces, and a running tactical battle on Sunday for all branches.

Following the battle on Saturday, a medical demonstration will be held. According to Mark White, the event registration coordinator, the event hopes to have several noted guest speakers who will lecture on various topics of interest.

On Saturday night, a period masquerade ball will be held in Fulton. A combined church and memorial service will be held Sunday morning.

"We are offering the basic amenities you have come to expect," said White. "Cash or powder will be issued to all pre-registered artillery units. Artillery pieces will be limited this year; horse drawn units are needed."

Additional amenities such as a prepared Friday evening meal, will be announced when acquisition has been secured.

Contact Mark White for information at P.O. Box 487, Fulton, MO 65251 or call 816-246-7950.

Also, check out the web page at--
<http://www.centrie.net/~Overby/>

Dear Editor:

Prairie Grove, Arkansas, as a great place for a reenactment. The battlefield was picture perfect. The weather held out for us but it was still freezing at night and warm during the day.

This was truly a great reenactment. But as at all reenactments, something happened to offend one side or the other. This time it was the Confederate reenactors that were offended.

The only path that led to the sutlers besides the main highway went through the Union camp. One of the Union units, I don't know which one, set up a picket on the path. The only way that we could get across is if we knew the password, or went down the highway.

And those of us who just stepped over the fence were escorted by harassing Union reenactors the whole way and back. Something that was brought to my attention was that an elderly lady in an electric wheelchair, escorted by her Confederate dressed son, was harassed to the point that she was very upset.

Now I can understand them asking us to go around while they are filming, but not force us to go around by raising their bayonets. This continued through the night, and the filming had stopped long before that.

Reenacting is meant to be fun for everyone, not just a handful of Union dressed reenactors. We Confederate reenactors didn't put a picket on the only path that led to the battlefield, which ran through our camp, because we didn't feel it was necessary.

All I'm asking is that the Union reenactors respect the Confederate reenactors as we respect them. Let's quit fighting each other and make this more fun for both sides. If we don't, reenacting will no longer live.

Cpl. Austin Hotelling
1st Mo. Cav., CSA

Fort Harker Days set July 12-13

The Ellsworth County Historical Society will host it's annual Fort Harker Days July 12-13, to help with the preservation of the fort, which is located at Kanopolis, southwest of Salina in central Kansas.

According to Robert Cuevas, captain with the 1st Kansas Volunteer Infantry Reg., USA, all branches of the military are welcome to the 1867 era event.

Firewood will be provided, as are water and straw. There is a \$2 donation-registration fee, to be used by the historical society for the fort.

For more information, contact the Ellsworth County Historical Society, P.O. Box 144, Ellsworth, KS 67439, or call 913-472-3059. Information is also available on the Internet at---
<http://www.es.twsu.edu/~crgrier/1stks.html>

You may also call Robert Cuevas for information at 316-773-5450, or e-mail him at-----
pawneerock@feist.com

Campaigner letter to the editor policy

The Western Campaigner accepts letters to the editor, but please follow these guidelines-- All letters **must be signed**, with address of writer and unit name. All letters that are unsigned go straight to the trash.

Also, limit the length to 1 1/2 typed pages double spaced. The editor reserves the right to edit for length and content, if comment is deemed potentially libelous, inappropriate, excessively wordy, or strays from the point.

Letters to the editor are one of the few forums for individual members to provide their point of view, make suggestions or criticize. If you must do the latter, make it constructive and offer ideas, alternatives or solutions.

Now Available

Limited edition Kevin King 135th anniversary Shiloh T-shirts. \$15 ea. including postage. Pro-CSA, 100% cotton pre-shrunk, oatmeal color, add size., check or MO. Add \$2 for XXL. All printed Feb. 16. Call 405-692-0007, or mail order PO Box 7333, Moore, OK 73153.