

The Western Campaigner

Journal of the Missouri Civil War Reenactors Association

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MCWRA addresses concerns, problems with changes

by Ted Prater
MCWRA President

In a recent letter to the MCWRA Board of Directors, printed in the June/July issue of this publication, one of our number raised some good questions. I do appreciate his coming forward and making his thoughts known. I feel if any one of you has concerns, then others must have them as well, and they need to be addressed. I welcome the opportunity to respond to his questions, and to also pass on my thoughts about additional points.

The MCWRA is solvent. All bills to date are paid and enough funds remain to complete the year. However, we do not have the comfort of cash reserves as we have in years past. Over the past two or three years the number of dues paying members of the MCWRA has decreased from about 1500 to just over 850, reducing our income significantly.

Also, by vote of the Executive Committee, we have not been collecting the \$200 event fee from

sponsors for the past three years, further reducing incomes. At the same time, our insurance costs have not gone down with our size because the premium is not driven by the number of members we have. Other items that have in recent years reduced reserves by sizable sums have been the purchase of our computer system, the publication of the by-laws booklet and the annual directory.

As you will note in a separate story in this issue, at the August meeting the Executive Committee did ~~vote to move the Western Campaigner to an every two months issue for the remainder of '97.~~ This will reduce our postage and publishing expenses for the remainder of the year and insure our finishing the year without a problem.

If we continue into the new year without adjusting, we will begin to incur a deficit. With the assistance of the other board members, I am in the process of developing a budget for the coming 1998 campaign season. The first pass indicates it will be necessary to reinstate the \$200

event fee for '98 events and to increase dues, at least until our numbers expand. I do not expect any increase in dues to be large or for it to greatly impact individual members. I will present that proposed budget and recommendations at the next association meeting.

One of our larger, and I agree more important, expenditures has been the publication of the member/unit directory. You are correct in that the last time it was published was 1996. Printing and mailing of that issue cost the association almost \$2,000. With the current membership that works out to be \$2.45 per copy. It was very well done and I use mine all the time. However, we don't feel it is necessary to publish a booklet of this quality to satisfy the majority of our needs.

You will very soon receive a much less expensive version of the directory. The total cost in this format will be just slightly more than the postage alone in '96. We wait your reaction and input on this simpler publication, and hope it will be acceptable as we think it will.

As to the cut-off date for being included in the 1998 Directory, it will be March 31, and it will be strictly adhered to. Publication of the '98 Directory will be well underway by that date and it will go to press as near to April 1 as possible.

We all have concerns about our membership numbers. I see one obvious thing in my home unit, and it may be indicative of the MCWRA. That is the length of time individual members have been in the hobby and how their interests change over the years. I've heard it said, and believe it, that the interest span of the average reenactor is 4-5 years. With that in mind, our present situation

MCWRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

TED PRATER, President, 3028 Kansas Ave., Joplin, MO 64804 (Home: 417-781-8874) tprater@ibm.net (Work: 316-232-0268) tprater@via-christi.org

WILLIE HUCKABEE, Past President, 805 Ozark, Morris, OK 74445 (918-733-2661) HUCKTMR@aol.com

PRESIDENT-ELECT: Vacant

JANET HUSSEY, Secretary, 1481 State Rt. 0, Fayette, MO 65248 (816-248-3426)

SCOTT HUGHES, Treasurer, 8124 N. Broadway, Kansas City, MO 64118-11 (816-468-6711) CAVSCOTT@aol.com

JOHN BECK, 3506 S. Knight, Wichita, KS 67217 (316-942-3690) IRONCLAD61@aol.com

JIM BECKNER, 2144 SW 150 Hwy., Lee's Summit, MO 64082 (816-322-3100)

MERLE HODGES, 850 S. Santa Fe, Salina, KS 67401 (913-827-5451)

HENRY JOHNS, 899 E. 800 Rd., Lawrence, KS 66047 (913-748-0877)

WALT LARSON, 401 E. Main, Washington, MO 63090 (314-239-0977)

DAVE SMITH, 14375 Cnty Rd. 8450, Rolla, MO 65401 (314-364-6491)

RON ULRICH, 25854 Hamilton St., Macon, MO 63552 (816-775-2550)

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Board terms altered; nominations open

In 1996, the MCWRA meeting schedule and board terms were changed. The general membership and planning meeting is now held in August, making this an appropriate time for the new board members and new president to take over, according to MCWRA Secretary Janet Hussey.

"This has caused a slight rearrangement of the terms of board members for the next two 'years'," said Ms. Hussey.

President Ted Prater and board members John Beck, Jim Beckner and Ron Ulrich began their terms at the August meeting, and those terms run through August 2000.

The terms of board members Janet Hussey (secretary), Henry Johns and Walt Larson were scheduled to go "off duty" in November 1997, but with the change in meeting, their terms will now continue through August, 1998.

Similarly, board members Scott Hughes, Merle Hodges and Dave Bears were due to complete their terms in November, 1998, but now will continue to serve until August, 1999. At that time, all the transition terms should be completed.

In order to give the longest possible time for nominations and voting, nomination ballots are being included in this issue. When nominating someone for the MCWRA Board, remember the following criteria:

- 1) Nominees must be PAID members of the MCWRA.
- 2) Nominees must be contacted and their permission given to be nominated.
- 3) Nominees can only run for one position; i.e. if nominated for the Board, he/she cannot also be nominated for president-elect.

"Unit leaders and Board members are elected to fulfill the wishes of the organization," said Ms. Hussey. "Choose your nominees with care and support them."

New MCWRA members may wish to have a booklet containing the by-laws, safety regulations, etc. of the organization. If interested, send your name and a check for \$2 made out to MCWRA to defray the cost of printing and postage. Mail to Janet Hussey, Secretary, P.O. Box 417,

Fayette, MO 65248 and request the by-laws booklet.

Nomination ballots will appear in this issue of *The Campaigner*, and in the November/December issue. The actual voting ballots will be in the March/April issue.

Deadline to receive nominations will be February 15, 1998, and there will be no exceptions. The deadline to receive voting ballots will be June 15, 1998, with no exceptions to be made.

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:

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

OCT. 24-26: SPRING HILL, TN. National event, contact John Beck.

1998 Event Dates:

MARCH 7: Grand Ball, hosted by the CLO, to be held in Columbia, MO at the Holiday Inn. For info contact Linda Cantrell at 314-825-2846, or Karen Zeller, 618-235-0253.

MARCH 21-22: Fort Gruber, OK. Tactical, contact John Beck. (MAXIMUM)

APRIL 4-5: Wichita, KS. Maple Grove Cemetery, 200-500 reenactors, band concert, military demonstrations, 2 battles, medical demo., political debate, commemorative ceremony at memorial site. Event will attract participation in the preservation/restoration of historic Maple Grove Cemetery. (SANCTIONED)

APRIL 18-19: Fort Scott, KS. Federal weekend. (LISTED)

MAY 8-10: Vicksburg, Miss. Vicksburg Campaign (Champion's Hill, etc. (LISTED)

JUNE 6-7: Leasburg, MO. Sponsored by 7th Mo. CS Cav. Contact Ron Tinsley (573-783-7292); 2 battles, candlelight tour, medical demonstration, fashion show, raw foods for 2 breakfasts and 2 lunches, prepared meal Sat. evening, powder provided. (SANCTIONED)

JUNE 13-14: Columbia, MO. Living history, skirmishes, period demonstrations, fashion show. (LOCAL)

JUNE 26-28: Fulton, MO. Kingdom Days. (LOCAL)

SEPT. 12-13: St. Charles, MO. Sponsored by 9th Mo. Bn., CS. Contact Robert Smith (314-662-2442). Lewis/Clark campground on banks of Missouri River; 2 battles, ball, fashion show, medical demo., all meals prepared. (SANCTIONED)

SEPT. 26-27: Pilot Knob, MO. Sponsored by 4th Mo. Cav., US. DNR event. Contact Terry Cadenbach (573-697-5637 or 573-546-3454). Actual battle site, 600 reenactors; 2 battles, dance, medical demonstration, fashion show, raw foods for 5 meals, 10 lbs. powder for artillery. (SANCTIONED)

OCT. 17-18: Wyandotte County Days, KS. Sponsored by 3rd Mo. Inf. (Crowleys); contact Dave Weaver (785-286-0158); 400-600 reenactors; 8-12 artillery, 60 cav.; 2 battles, dance, tour, medical demo., fashion show, living history, period baseball, raw foods & prepared meals; powder reimbursement for artillery. (MAXIMUM)

NOV. 7-8: Cabin Creek, OK. (SANCTIONED)

DEC. 5-6: Prairie Grove, AR. (LISTED)

TBA: Shelbina, MO. (LISTED)

APRIL 1999: Butler, Mo. Marais de Cygnes massacre. Contact Bred Vermaas (816-679-6059). Usual events including a horse race.

'98 events discussed at annual meeting

Respectfully Submitted by
Janet Hussey, MCWRA Secretary

The MCWRA annual general membership meeting was held Aug. 2, 1997 at 2 p.m. in the Jefferson City Public Library. The meeting was called to order by president Willie Huckabee. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by board member Henry Jones.

Willie Huckabee thanked the board and membership for their support and turned over the presidency to incoming president Ted Prater. New board members taking office were John Beck, Jim Beckner and Ron Ulrich (not present).

Unit representatives (voting) present included Larry Shahan, Jackman's Reg.; Dan Keeslar, 4th Mo. CS; Mike Matthews, Trans-Miss. Lt. Art.; John Maki, Holmes Brig., US; Jim Atkin, 1st Mo. Cav., CS; Terry Cadenbach, 4th Mo. Cav., US; Dave Weaver, 3rd Mo. Inf., CS; Carl Rader, 9th Tex., Co. B, CS; Rick Reed, 2nd Mo. Cav., CS; Robert Smith, 9th Mo., CS; Jerry Goza, 7th Mo., CS; Nate Van Campen, 5th Mo., CS; Michael Crousore, 6th Mo., CS; Alan Bowling, 5th Mo. Inf., CS; Fred Norris, ACWMA; David Murphy, 8th Kansas, US; George Harris, 9th Tex., Co. B, CS.

Other members present were Brad Vermaas, City of Butler; Bob Eckhoff, 7th Mo. Inf.; John Kimmel; Todd Conner, 1st Mo. Cav., CS; Kenneth Smith, 1st Mo. Cav., CS; David Kesinger, Holmes Brigade; Dennis Faught, 5th Mo.; Travis Emerson, 3rd Mo. Inf.; Joey Butler, 3rd Mo. Inf.; Hellen Wright; Bill Wayne, 5th Mo. Inf., CS; David C. Smith, 4th Mo.

Vol., US; Deby Thompson, 6th Mo.; Cherrie Mann, CLO.

As the general membership meeting is also the planing meeting, the following events were discussed and voted upon for 1998:

- March 21-22: Maximum--Ft. Gruber, OK. Tactical, contact John Beck.
- April 4-5: Sanctioned--Wichita, KS. Maple Grove Cemetery, 200-500 reenactors, band concert, military demonstrations, two battles, medical demonstration, political debate, commemorative ceremony at memorial site; event will attract participation in the preservation/restoration of historic Maple Grove Cemetery.
- April 18-19: Listed--Ft. Scott, KS. Federal weekend.
- May 8-10: Listed--Vicksburg Campaign (Champion's Hill, etc.).
- June 6-7: Sanctioned--Leasburg, Mo. Sponsored by 7th Mo. Confederate Cavalry; contact Ron Tinsley (573-783-7292); two battles, medical demonstration, fashion show, candlelight tour, raw foods for 2 breakfasts and 2 lunches, prepared meal Saturday evening; powder provided.
- June 13-14: Local--Columbia, Mo. Living history, skirmishes, period demonstrations, fashion show.
- June 26-28: Local--Fulton, Mo. Kingdom Days.
- Sept. 12-13: Sanctioned -- St. Charles, Mo. Sponsored by 9th Mo. BN, CSA. Contact Robert Smith (314-662-2442); Lewis and Clark campground on banks of Missouri River; two battles, ball; fashion show; medical demonstration, all meals prepared.

- Sept. 26-27: Sanctioned--Pilot Knob, Mo. Sponsored by 4th Missouri Cav., US; DNR event. Contact Terry Cadenbach (573-697-5637 or 573-546-3454); actual battle site, 600 reenactors; two battles, dance, medical demonstration, fashion show, raw foods for five meals, 10 lbs. powder for artillery.
- Oct. 17-18: Maximum--Wyandotte County Days, KS. Sponsored by 3rd Mo. Infantry (Crowleys); contact Dave Weaver (785-286-0158); 400-600 reenactors; 8-12 artillery; 60 cav.; two battles, dance, tour, medical demonstration, fashion show, living history, period baseball, raw foods and prepared meals; powder reimbursement for artillery.
- Nov. 7-8: Sanctioned -- Cabin Creek, OK (Willie will check on this).
- Dec. 5-6: Listed--Prairie Grove, Ark.
- TBA: Listed--Shelbina, Mo.
- April, 1999: Butler, Mo.--Possibly sponsored by 3rd Mo. Crowleys; contact Bred Bermaas (816-679-6059); Marais de Cygnes masacre, usual events including a horse race.

There was a lengthy discussion about the MCWRA insurance policy. It currently and always has covered *paid* MCWRA members *liability* if they should injure a *spectator* at an event. The state, specifically Lexington at this point, has presented a contract to be signed indicating that the MCWRA would be responsible for spectators' injuries, park employees and the park grounds.

Our insurance does not cover this. It may be possible that a weekend rider, or having the state entity become an MCWRA member for the weekend, or having the state pay the weekend rate to be covered would suffice, but it was an attorney's opinion, after reading the contract (even with some minor changes) that may put the organization at great risk.

A motion was made by Dave Weaver, seconded by Bill Wayne, that the Board will collect insurance information, review the information and then make a judgment based on that information whether to sign the

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Victorian Rose Cotillion tickets \$22

Tickets for the Victorian Rose Cotillion, scheduled March 7, 1998 at the Holiday Inn Select in Columbia, Mo., will be \$22 per person.

To receive your tickets include your name or names, the number of tickets requested, enclose the proper amount, and mail to: Mrs. Linda Cantrell, 524 Meramec Station Rd., Valley Park, Mo. 63088.

Room rates are \$66 and you may have as many people in the room as you desire at no extra charge. To

reserve a room call 1-800-Holiday and specify the Holiday Inn Select, and that you are attending the Civil War Ball.

"A magnificent array of refreshments will be provided," said Ms. Cantrell. "Elegant favors for the ladies and gentlemen will be available at the door, and a special surprise will be in each room when you check in compliments of the Confederate Ladies Organization."

The CLO is the sponsoring organization of this year's event.

'98 events discussed at annual meeting

Continued from Page 3

amended contract with Lexington; request more changes or refuse to sign. Motion carried. Scott Hughes will begin on this immediately as time is short for the 1997 Lexington event.

Terry Cadenbach moved and Larry Shahan seconded that the minutes of the last meeting be accepted as published in the *Campaigner*. Motion carried.

Treasurer Scott Hughes reported a current balance of \$1,799.33; stating also that the insurance for the year has been paid. Some of the problems in check depositing were caused by insufficient information as to whom the actual payee was (one check for entire unit and/or monies couldn't be separated as to who was an individual and who was a family membership, or just no name at all). The system will now be changed to get the bulk of checks deposited immediately, and then follow up on the problem ones.

It was suggested that a quarterly treasurer's report will be sent to unit commanders so they can check their unit's MCWRA membership and this will also help identify units that don't meet unit criteria. It will be necessary when sending in memberships for the entire unit to be sure to include individual names, addresses, telephone numbers and the amount of the dues payment.

Scott pointed out that the balance is lower than in previous years be-

cause membership is down by several hundred (1500 members down to 815); two years ago the treasury was to the point that it would exceed our not-for-profit limit before having to pay income tax, and the Board voted to temporarily waive the \$200 insurance donation from event sponsors. The insurance charge can be reinstated at the discretion of the Board.

Scott said to also keep in mind that postage is due to go up, as is our insurance premium . . . and that *Campaigner* costs may go up as Dave Christy has not raised the cost of producing the newsletter since he took over in 1993.

Under new business, Deby Thompson mentioned that the 1997 Fulton event on Sept. 13 and 14 will feature a masquerade ball (masks provided) and a fiddlers contest.

The Mine Creek, KS event scheduled for October 4-5, 1997 will be providing additional information to the *Campaigner*. It was suggested that the event listings in the newsletter also include more information on ladies' activities.

There was a short discussion on the possibility of raising membership dues—this had also been discussed at the separate Board meeting. The decision will be made after reviewing the 1998 estimated budget.

It was also suggested that the *Campaigner* could become a quarterly publication, but since this is the only method of communication among

MCWRA members, a monthly letter or bi-monthly letter would be better in case schedules changed, etc. It was decided to publish bi-monthly for the present, until if and when the projected budget indicates otherwise.

Bill Wayne moved and Jim Beckner seconded that the membership direct the Board to create a budget and set an appropriate level of expenditures and dues as indicated by the budget. Motion carried. There were no units to come off probation and no new units coming on.

The next meeting is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 1, 1997, at 1 p.m. with the location to be announced. The Ramada Inn in Springfield is the preferred location. Meeting adjourned.

FOR SALE

USED 1863 Springfield for reenacting, \$200. Contact Quartermaster Alan Bowling, 5th Mo. Inf. (573) 442-9489 or <Acbsca@aol.com>

WANTED

Information about and/or papers from the family of Capt. Hiram Bledsoe, who found in the Southern Cause commanding Bledsoe's Battery from 1861-65. Bledsoe's Battery was originally mustered in Lexington, Lafayette County, MO. Please contact LTC Jim Ahrens, Wentworth Military Academy and Jr. College, 1880 Washington, Lexington, MO 64067. 816-259-2221, ext. 516 (W) or 816-259-6403 (H) or by e-mail: jahrens@sound.net.

NOMINATION BALLOT FOR MCWRA

President Ted Prater, Janet Hussey, Henry Johns and Walt Larson will complete their terms of office in Aug., 1998. Please indicate your nominations below.

REMEMBER:

- 1) Nominees must be PAID members of the MCWRA.
- 2) Nominees must be contacted and their permission given to be nominated.
- 3) Nominees can only run for one position; i.e. if nominated for the Board, he/she cannot also be nominated for president-elect.

FOR PRESIDENT-ELECT . . . NOMINATE ONE

FOR BOARD MEMBER - three year term, ending August, 2001 - NOMINATE THREE

1) _____ 2) _____ 3) _____

Return this nomination ballot to: MCWRA SECRETARY JANET HUSSEY, P.O. Box 417, Fayette, MO 65248

ABSOLUTE DEADLINE FOR NOMINATION IS FEBRUARY 15, 1998

MCWRA addressing \$\$\$ problems

Continued from Page 1

seems to make some sense.

We had a large influx of members the year or so following Wilson's Creek '91. Over the past couple of years, participation by that group has really fallen off. I'm sure part of the reason is that their families, jobs and their situations in general have changed, and partly because they have "been there and done that", and more often than not, two or three times. I guess the answer in the broadest sense is . . . we need to do something to generate new interest by the public and light a fire under our present and past membership.

I don't know what it will take. It may be a number of quality major events in the Trans-Mississippi over the next few years. If that is right, it is going to take a lot of work and dedication from everyone of us to get things going in that direction. In the meantime, I hope we are just at a low point and things will look better a year from now.

However, we can't procrastinate and just wait for something to happen. Your suggestions are needed. ~~What can we do in the short and the long term to have a positive effect on our association?~~

There have been reports from individuals that they have not been receiving their *Western Campaigner*. As we investigate each incident there does not seem to be a common thread pointing to a single problem. Instead, the reasons for discrepancies seem to run the full gamut. I have asked Terry Cadenbach, who has volunteered to work on the directory, to send each unit commander a list of those individuals in their units that we show as having paid their '97 MCWRA dues. I'm asking those unit commanders to check their records against ours and to poll their members to see who is experiencing a problem.

We will address each discrepancy as it is presented and will rectify problems to everyone's satisfaction.

Our by-laws call for one general membership meeting annually with additional meetings at the discretion of the President. I want to once again schedule quarterly meetings starting with Nov. 1, 1997. The others will follow in February and March with the general membership (annual) meeting remaining in August.

Quarterly meetings are nothing new. They were suspended a couple of years ago due to lack of partici-

pation from the Executive Committee and consequently the lack of a quorum at those meetings. After talking to a couple of the unit commanders, I wonder if all commanders realize they are members of the Executive Committee and a quorum of the commanders or their proxy is required to have a legal meeting, just as it is required of the Board of Directors?

It is our duty as the commanders of member units to see that this obligation is fulfilled and our units represented at association meetings. I hope everyone will join me in trying to make this work once again. I think the continuity to be achieved by working together more frequently will have merit and make us a stronger organization.

One problem I and other members of the board perceive, and one that may have lead to the frustration expressed in the aforementioned letter to the editor, is communications. Or to put it another way, who do I go to with questions and to get answers?

We have a Board of Directors consisting of 12 persons elected from the general membership. I and the other board members do want to be ~~accessible and available to respond~~ to your needs. To make this a little easier, you will find a list of the board members in this newsletter. We have asked that it be printed in every newsletter beginning with this issue. We hope it helps, and by all means if you have questions, concerns or suggestions, don't hesitate . . . call one of us.

Boy Scout Camporee

A Boy Scout Camporee will be held near the Lee's Summit area at Lake Jacomo, shelter 14 on Oct. 11. The theme is American Heritage, past and present and CW reenactors are needed from all branches, and both sides. Women and children are also welcome to help give Scouts a chance to see life during the CW.

Set up is Friday night for the Saturday event, with a small skirmish Saturday at 3 p.m. Food will not be provided, but water for horses and soldiers will. For more information call Larry Shahan at 816-763-5727.

FOR SALE

1863 Sile Sharps Carbine, cav. model .54, exc. shape \$500; Navy Arms 12 ga. TNT shotgun \$300. Jeff Dunaway, (314) 692-8233.

Wyandotte Days invites reenactors Oct. 18-19

Wyandotte County Historical Society and Museum is hosting a celebration on 19th century life at Wyandotte City, KS, Oct. 18-19, with reenactors invited to participate.

The event will be held on 85 acres of rolling grass at the county park at 126 and State Ave. in Bonner Springs.

There will be two battles and a period baseball game. Activities for civilians include Sanitary Commission scenario, croquet, candlelight tour at dusk, and a period dance.

Period civilians are encouraged to demonstrate any skills they wish at their camp site. The goal is to present a variety of educational experiences for young spectators.

Water, ice, wood, straw, hay, Saturday dinner, and a Sunday breakfast will be provided. Rations for other meals will be given to those who register ahead of time.

To register contact Wyandotte Co. Historical Society and Museum, Carolyn Walden, 631 N. 126th St., Bonner Springs, KS 66012 (913-721-1078).

FOR SALE

A-Tent 9x8x6 and Awning 8x8--Best Offer. Used one reenacting season. Carlene Berry 913-649-3062, evenings. Kansas City area.

FOR SALE

Original cavalry sabre and scabbard, \$350. Genuine Colt 1860 Army, early 2nd generation, Mfg. 1978 before numerical sequence was resumed at 200501---. Approx. 200 were non-sequentially numbered--RARE. 8-inch, 4 screw, Army model, cut for shoulder stock, .44 cal., powder flask and accessories. Original case, never been fired, \$1,200. Civilian model--same numerical as above. Powder flask & accessories, wooden case, never been fired, \$800. (816) 826-0968.

WANTED

I am trying to gather the following items of clothing to dress out a small company of Sons of Veterans Reserve, Sons of Union Veterans. If you have these for sale give me a call, or write a letter (I'm in MCWRA directory) and let me know the size, condition and price. John J. Martin, 2nd MO Inf. CS, 816-966-9496. -- Enlisted man's frockcoat; Company officer's frockcoat; Sack coats; Forage caps; Kepi caps; Trousers, sky blue kersey; Suspenders; Footwear.

The Editor's Notebook

◆ by David Christy ◆



New president Ted Prater notes that Dave Bears tendered his resignation from the MCWRA Board of Directors effective Aug. 15. Dave asked that he be relieved and the board appoint another member to complete his elected term.

Other pursuits and commitments are requiring most of his time and he did not feel he could give his post the

attention it requires.

"Please join me in thanking Dave for his service to the MCWRA and we look forward to working with him again when his time permits," said Prater.

David Smith of the 4th Mo. Cavalry has agreed to complete his term. He is a past board member and just went off the board Aug. 2. "We very much appreciate David for his willingness to once again obligate his time to the MCWRA," said Prater. "Welcome back David."



From Doug Moody: Any unattached MCWRA member(s) whose unit does not plan to go to Spring Hill, TN Oct. 24-26 will be welcome to join up with Co. A of the 3rd Mo. Cavalry (dismounted) for the event.

"We would like to have our own Missouri company at this event and we need to pick up 6 or 7 men," said Moody.

A pre-event drill will be held Oct. 18-19. For information and direc-

tions call 417-759-6351 after 9:00 p.m.



James E. Crofutt, 7th/30th Missouri Vols., at PO Box 8092, St. Joseph's, MO 64508, is seeking help on a question he has.

James has noticed at many events the use of infantry guidons with the battalions, but he has been unable to locate a source or reference to the use of these for infantry, not even in the *Revised Regulations for the Army of the United States 1861*.

He is wondering if this is authentic for company's in battalion formation to fly guidons, and if so, can someone contact him and explain it all.



Dan Kessler of the 4th Missouri Infantry is looking for photos from Wilson's Creek. Contact him about his needs at 417-887-2180.

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IN A COMING ISSUE

Baseball - Like It Used To Be . . . an excerpt from J. Charles Zeller's forthcoming book.

The Western Campaigner

September/
October 1997

P.O. Box 669
Waukomis, Oklahoma 73773

The Journal of the Missouri Civil War Reenactors Association

MCWRA meeting Nov. 1 in Republic, Mo.

The next MCWRA meeting will be Nov. 1 at 1:00 p.m. at Smitty's Food Store and Restaurant, Republic, MO, southwest of Springfield near the Wilson's Creek Battlefield. Smitty's is donating use of their meeting room at no charge, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

According to Ted Prater, Smitty's offers an all-you-can-eat buffet @\$5.99 a person. It's located 1/4 mile west of Republic on the south side of Hwy. 60, 878 W. Hwy. 60 (417-732-2878).

Of special note: Dr. Tom Sweeney, owner of Gen. Sweeney's Civil War Museum, has offered discount admission to anyone identifying themselves as CW reenactors on the day of the meeting.

He also will open one hour early at 9 a.m. to accommodate anyone wishing to spend time at the museum prior to the MCWRA meeting. Sweeney's Museum is located near the main gate to the Wilson's Creek Battlefield Park