
The UNION STANDARD

Sept 2005

Vol. 13, no 7

The Newsletter of the 1st United States Infantry, The Regulars

The lazy summer days are over and the Fall Campaign is now upon us. It's time to break out the wool and don those leathers. Come and join us at Corinth as our yearly national event holds special meaning for the 1st as we get to relive Battery Robinette. On October 4, 1862, Company C of the 1st US Infantry under the command of Lt Henry C. Robinette manned a battery named in his honor; whereby, Company C suffered a 50% casualty rate during the Confederate attack. Other than the Wilson Creek cornfield, Battery Robinette's action may be the only other actual 1st US battle scenario which we will reenact this decade.

The 1st US' own General Mark Dolive reports the Corinth weekend will feature four major reenactments with at least some side venues. These will include open field battles of maneuver, and of course attacks against fortifications. Mark states if you haven't yet registered you may do so until September 15 at www.corinth-registration.kentuckyregiments.org. First Federal Division suggested reading is The Darkest Days of the War, the Battles of Iuka and Corinth by Peter Cozzens. Visit the First Federal Division and the North South Alliance web sites for more Corinth information.

Gents, this is one of the few times where we get to reenact as Regulars at a major reenactment so remember your "Rackensacker" impression at Corinth - Hardee hat/frock coat or forage cap/sack coat. Shine that brass, blacken those leathers and have your rifle ready for inspection. Our appearance should be first rate and hat wear at all times is forage caps or Hardee hats.

The annual Live Fire is September 17th at the Arlington Sportsman Club in Mansfield and it will again be hosted by Kip Bassett and Ted Cross. They have casted mucho minie balls which were rolled at the August cartridge rolling party. Those who rolled cartridges are entitled to a free rounds packet. John Bowen has FFFg powder for sale at \$10 per pound, but caps will not be sold so bring your own. Competition will abound as Beck Martin tries to defend his reign as the 2004 Live Fire Cup winner. McFuddy yearns for his name engraved on that brass plate, but thankfully Kip & Ted don't accept bribes. Shooting starts "promptly" at 9:00 am and early arrivals are encouraged. See elsewhere for additional information and directions.

Lastly, Trammell and Harlan Crow have again contacted us to participate the last October weekend in a campout with his 200+ business associates and friends. This annual Crows' gathering will be staged on their 10,000+ acre farm in east Texas where we and other units will conduct a reenactment and perform living history. If ever there was an occasion to see how the rich & powerful have fun, then you must experience this weekend. The 1996 outing drew such celebrities as Ron Kirk, Chuck Colson, Richard Keating, and Wally Schirra. See my article elsewhere describing this event as I try to explain how unusual and entertaining this "once in a lifetime" outing truly is.

God Bless the Regulars.

Pvt. George Hansen
NTRS President

Directions to Arlington Sportsman's Club, Mansfield – page 2

CORINTH DIRECTIONS – page 3

1st U.S. Calendar

2005

SEPTEMBER

Sept 17th Live Fire – Mansfield, Tx.

OCTOBER

Sept 30th – Oct 2nd Corinth Ms.

Oct 28th-30th – Mill Creek Farm, Tx

NOVEMBER

12th Battle of Old City Park, Dallas Tx.

DECEMBER

(tbd) Drill & Candlelight – OCP

*Note: **Bold** are scheduled maximum effort events.
Italicized dates are available events or recruiting activities.*

If you were accused of being a
Federal Reenactor,
would there be enough evidence to
convict you?

By Paul Mattoon

Question #1: Is there anything on display at work and/or at home that announces to others that you reenact?

A picture of you in uniform, perchance? A Springfield over the fireplace? An old worn out brogan as a paperweight at work? OK, maybe not; but you get my point: if you're sincere in sharing your enthusiasm about the hobby and building the ranks of the 1st US, then you really need to come up with something—anything—that will pique the interest of people around you.

“You don't understand, Paul. See, I work in a corporate environment where such ostentatious displays of the personal are not highly valued, in fact, they're discouraged.”

Well, OK. Then go subtle. For example, get the smallest picture frame you can at the local hobby shop. While you're there, buy some Navy blue fabric the size of the frame. Obtain wood or cardboard as a backing for the frame and drill a hole dead square in the middle. Glue the fabric to the backing. Shine 1 large Federal button and attach this to the frame backing. (Spray the button with clear laquer to keep it shinny.) There you have it: one simple, tasteful “thing” in which to hang at work thus inviting the people at Corporate to ask about. Don't like this? Then use your imagination.

Question #2: If someone (male or female) were to indicate an interest in the hobby—however slight—do you have anything to give them?

At a minimum, we've got a brochure that is download-able from our webpage. Print a few, fold them, and stick them in your desk, planner, whatever. Business card programs are inexpensively available, where—with a little effort—you can design and print your own 1st US business card with our website on it.

Be prepared to follow-up with them by citing an interesting story about reenacting showing your enthusiasm and interest in them sharing in it.

Question #3: Are you *profiling* correctly?

That's right: you need to profile. You need to see everyone as either a potential recruit or a source of a potential recruit.

(Obviously Pvt Mattoon has never met any of the McFuddy's PRIOR to them placed in a uniform...)

=====

DIRECTIONS –

Going west on I-20 in Arlington:

Take 157/Cooper St. south from I-20 to Mansfield. In downtown Mansfield turn right on Broad St. Go 1.6 miles to Lillian St. and turn left. At 1.2 miles turn left into the Arlington Sportsman's Club.

Going east on I-20 in Arlington:

Take Hwy 287 south from I-20 to 157; turn right onto 157. Follow the above instructions

Mill Creek Farm

Oct 29 & 30

George Hansen

Trammel and Harlan Crow invited the First US in 1996 to help stage a Civil War experience as part of their annual outing as they invite a 'Who's Who' of Texas & national corporate magnates, along with friends and business associates. To say it was the most unusual event I've ever seen is an understatement. This outing offered a glimpse into how the extremely rich have fun. Two guests each shared a 10x14 tent with ample cots, pillows, blankets, Coleman lanterns and flashlights provided. An onsite bathhouse adequately allowed each guest to shower three times daily – now think about the towels and the staff needed to wash and dry the towels in the middle of practically nowhere. The logistics to support and entertain 200+ people 30 miles north of Tyler is remarkable. Truly extraordinary was that a San Francisco Mens' Glee Club was flown in just to sing for only one hour on a Friday night. Also memorable was a 1 hr 15 min Civil War slide show in an outdoor amphitheater seating 225, world-class economic and political sociology speakers, a small-scale classical orchestra with opera singers, and a classy open bar and sumptuous food. In 1995 Crows' buds went to a Scotland castle for a weekend.

How exciting to again be asked back to Mill Creek as the First will draw-up and organize the reenactment, devise and assist with living history talks, help with live-fire demos, and invite other Infantry and Cavalry units. The Board is asking for volunteers to lead or assist with these activities and contact me if you are interested. You can see the First has a lot on our plate and you are needed to show up the last weekend in October and help out. More information will be relayed in the next newsletter.

Those who joined the First after 1996 might have heard about the Mill Creek event. I encourage you to ask others who attended back then for their

impressions as we have different memories/experiences. One thing for certain is that all of us will always remember that weekend and find it to be one of the hobby's most unforgettable highlights. So, ask these guys for their opinions about that 1996 event: Don Gates, Don Gross, Mark Dolive, Glen Hargis, Conway Barton, Alan Prendergast, Rick Brockman, Kip Bassett, Jim Kirkendall, Kevin Doughtie, or Jon Kreider.

PROVOST MARSHAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

MILL CREEK FARM

In light of previous experiences encountered at an 'open bar' event the officers of the 1st are looking for a few good sober men to help ensure the proprieties are maintained at the Mill Creek Farm event. During our last visit our men were, of course, paragons of virtue, and our honor remained unsullied. Alas, a very small number of members of other units were wont to imbibe in a bit too much of the Nockum-Stiff. Given that the generosity of the host is such that he wishes all of us, literally, to, and I quote, "be his guests" we wish to maintain our honor unstained, and assist others who are less able to keep their honor clean without a helping hand. Randy Gilbert will be Provost Marshal.

Any volunteers should contact A. McFuddy (known to be a stone cold sober individual) at this address to volunteer for this rare opportunity.

Corinth, MS, Directions:

From Memphis: Take I-30 to Little Rock & then I-40 to Memphis. In West Memphis take I-55 south about 10 miles to I-240 and go east on I-240. At 8 miles go east on 385. About 15 miles 385 dead ends into US 72 and stay on US 72 East towards Corinth.

In Corinth take I-45 north about 4 miles to Route 2 as this is the last exit before Tennessee. Go right (east) on Route 2 to the 4-way stop which is the intersection of MS Rt. #2 and CR 350 (North Polk Street). Reenactor Check-In is planned near this intersection and look for signs.

Federal & Civilian Check-In should be in the church on your immediate right at the four way stop. Turn RIGHT and RIGHT again into the Church.

Main Entrance to Site: Federal, Civilian, Vendor and Spectator - Proceed straight from 4-way stop sign to SECOND ROAD ON LEFT (Cantrell Road). Turn Left and drive approx 1 mile to site entrance.

#####

1st US Annual Live Fire September 17, 9:00 am

The annual live fire is September 17th at the Arlington Sportsman Club. This is one time of the year when “burning powder” takes on a whole new meaning. Under the able direction of Kip Bassett and Ted Cross you will have the opportunity for individual competition, plus platoon firing in two ranks. If not the competitive type you can still get an appreciation for what they went through when “so much lead was whistlin’.” Those who participated at the August 13th cartridge rolling gig will be given at no charge a package of live rounds; otherwise, the rounds cost \$10. John Bowen will sell FFFg powder at \$10 per pound, but caps will not be available so make sure you bring some.

Bring your musket, ‘coots, blank rounds, and some cleaning gear. Shooting begins *promptly* at 9:00, early arrivals welcome. For additional information you may contact Ted Cross, 817-429-6317, or Kip Bassett, 817-453-0063. Those new members who need a musket may contact Kevin Doughtie at j.doughtie@comcast.net or 972-964-8179.

CORINTH INFORMATION

Gentlemen:

This is very important information regarding how your men will check in at the Check In Area at North Corinth Baptist Church when they arrive at the Corinth event.

ALL CSA Participants will check in by BRIGADE. There will be an area clearly marked for each brigade. Cavalry, Artillery, Division Staff and CSA registered Civilians will have a combined check in area.

General Jack King's Brigade, who are "going Federal" for the Corinth event will check in at the CONFEDERATE CHECK IN AREA.

About 40% of the registration forms DID NOT contain correct unit and/or brigade information. This will lead to confusion at event check in if your men do not know whose brigade that they are in. It is imperative that you send each unit in your command information regarding this check in process and make sure that all their men know which brigade that their unit belongs to.

The people running the Check In Process DO NOT KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT REENACTING.

They will not be able to answer questions like "What brigade is the 11th Tennessee in?"

Therefore, let me say again - it is the responsibility of the Brigade and Battalion commanders to make sure that each member of your organization knows which BRIGADE he belongs to. In a few cases, we have received registration forms that we have no idea of what unit these people belong to, let alone which brigade. IF you have a participant whose name is not listed with your brigade, ask them to see the FCD officer overseeing registration and we'll find the paperwork.

Your soldier will also need to know his brigade when he arrives at the unloading area at the CSA camps. We are splitting the brigades into two unloading areas to keep traffic out of the main camp area. General Flowers and General Huckabee's Brigades will now unload along a new road that will be between the fence at Davis Yancey Road and the edge of the woods that is General Flowers' camp. General Rambo and General Griffin's Brigades as well as Division Staff, Artillery and Cavalry will proceed up the fire lane and unload in the flat clearing between the North and South Woods.

There will be LOTS of signage directing each brigade, division staff, artillery and cavalry to the

proper unloading area.

CSA Registered civilians will proceed to the main site entrance - follow signage to "US & CIVILIAN CAMPS" to their camps and parking.

The camp area will be closed to vehicles at 12 midnight Friday night. Anyone arriving after that will unload at the East Gate on Davis Yancey Road (the gate that has been used for access to the CSA camp area), walk their gear to their proper camp and then take their car to the parking area.

IMPORTANT CHANGE TO PARKING PLAN:

ALL CSA Reenactors will now park in a parking area off State Line Road east (to the right when standing at the site main entrance looking towards the battery) of the main site entrance. After unloading, all vehicles will exit the CSA camp, turn RIGHT on Davis Yancey Road and proceed to the stop sign at TN 22 / Shiloh Road. Turn RIGHT on TN 22 / Shiloh Road and proceed to the second road on the right, STATE LINE ROAD. Turn RIGHT on STATE LINE ROAD and proceed to the parking area.

There will be signs in the parking area asking all to deactivate their vehicle alarm system so that the alarms are not set off by the cannon fire. No one should leave valuables in their vehicle. There will be mounted security patrols in the parking area 24/7. Anyone returning to their vehicle during the event must check in with the parking lot security patrol and show an ID. The patrol will log the name, time and vehicle (by license tag) that the individual visited.

CSA reenactors will walk from the parking area back to the camp by exiting toward the sutler row and following that fence line back to camp. The way will be marked with period signs that say "Chewalla" with an arrow, and we should have sentinels along the route to direct them. (Van Dorn / Price marched to Corinth from Chewalla on the Chewalla Road). This walk is about a mile, so they should unload as much as possible in camp before heading to the parking area. Mounted personnel are urged to ride their mounts in from the parking area.

If you have any questions regarding any of the above, please contact me directly. DO NOT HIT "REPLY ALL" AND SEND YOUR QUESTION TO EVERYONE ON THIS EMAIL LIST.

Mike Ventura
Chief of Staff
First Confederate Division

Yr. Obedient Servant,

Don Kessler
Major, AAG
1st Federal Division

Our Sympathies

Dr. Warren Blair Rudy **1926-2005**

Warren Blair Rudy MD, 79, of Wausau, died Tuesday, August 30, 2005, with his family gathered around him in his home.

Warren was born in Rocky River, Ohio on April 7, 1926 to Warren Ralph and Doris Houghton Rudy. He received his BS from Baldwin-Wallace College in Berea Ohio in 1947, and an MS and MD from Northwestern University, Chicago in 1951. After an internship at St. Luke's Hospital, Cleveland Ohio, he completed his residency in pediatrics at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.

On August 27, 1950, he married Daisianna Glenn of Chicago, IL. at the Austin Baptist Church in Chicago.

Dr. Rudy began practicing medicine at the Nicollet Clinic in Minneapolis, and then joined the Stahmer Clinic in 1956 as one of Wausau's first Pediatricians. He retired from West Hill Professional center in 1991. During his career he served the Wausau community in many ways. He was a frequent guest lecturer to the Wausau area school health classes and personal physician to generations of Wausau area children and young adults. He served more than 20 years on the Human Services Board of Langlade, Lincoln, and Marathon Counties, including serving as president for several terms. He also served as director of the

Child Welfare Center, Chief of Staff at the Wausau Hospital, Elder and long time choir member of First Presbyterian Church of Wausau. An enthusiastic Boy Scouter, he served at the Troop and Council level as Troop Committeeman and Council Advancement Chairman. He completed the adult training at Philmont, Scout Ranch and earned his Woodbadge. He participated in the World Boy Scout Jamboree in Japan, and was elected a Vigil member of the Order of the Arrow.

Dr. Rudy loved gardening, woodworking and spending time with his family at their northern Wisconsin cabin. He was an avid collector of historic fruit trees and a member of the NAFEX, National Fruit Explorers. He loved camping while traveling throughout the continental US and Canada on family vacations. He was HAM radio operator, KB9JZT, and a member of the Wausau Radio Controlled Sportsmen Club. He collected Boy Scout stamps with the Scouts on Stamps Society International. Most of all, Dr. Rudy was devoted husband and father and mentored his four children through post-graduate degrees.

Dr. Rudy is survived by his wife of 55 years, Daisianna, four children and eight grandchildren: Blair G. Rudy (Candy) of Southlake, TX, Thomas and Morgan. Dawn Anderson M.D., (Craig) of Minneapolis, MN, Brett, Deanna, Heather. Neal Rudy M.D., Peoria IL, Dean Rudy (Merilou) of Rochester NY, Zachary, Samantha, Shayna.

TALES OF THE BAYONET –

Cold steel! *Feared steel?* Well, yes it was, *yes it is*. However as anyone who's taken a look at the casualty sources from Civil War battles will realize, it accounts for but a very small percentage of the wounds suffered. That was the case 60 years earlier as well, when the armies of the various Continental powers were slugging it out across the face of Europe..

Man, as a creature of war, was not likely to have changed a great deal (the weapons, except for using percussion caps in place of flint, were essentially the same, though the percentage of rifled weapons was certainly dramatically higher) so insight can be gained from 'non-American' sources on the use of the bayonet.

After the climatic finish of Napoleon at Waterloo the continentals engaged in a great 'bayonet debate'. Some regarded the weapon as useless by virtue of the evidence their own experiences during battles throughout the European theatre had given them, noting that in an open field, bayonet fights were extremely rare. One, John Mitchell referred to them as a 'rickety zigzag' and another officer sarcastically listed it as useful by noting when the bayonet is put into the keyhole of a door it served as an adequate guide for placement in shooting off the lock. They too understood, as our beloved pard Glen notes, the many uses of a bayonet – *'A bayonet will also serve to prize up the lid of a box, it will tap a cask; when you are cooking cutlets across two ramrods a' la Tartare, a couple of bayonets form excellent steak-tongs; stuck in the ground it makes a first rate candlestick; it is a beautiful ornament to a barrack ball-room when collected into the shape of a star; and finally it forms a capital projectile to shy at a fowl or duck in a farmyard'*.

Sometimes, made of inferior metal, it would bend and would not penetrate between the ribs, bending like a loop. After the Battle of the Pyramids in Egypt, the French were noted to have bent their bayonets into hooks to drag dead Mamelukes from the Nile to enable proper looting. Jonh Mitchell again noted – "...in some scrambling attack of works, or hasty flight out of woods or villages, a soldier may, perhaps, have been killed or wounded with a bayonet...but to suppose that solders ever rushed into close combat, armed only with bayonets, is an absurdity...".

The bayonet was however, recognized as a psychological weapon, it's value noted – by William Napier – *"Men know psychologically and physiologically, that whether it be called a 'rickety zigzag' or any other name, it will prick their flesh and let out life, and therefore they eschew it. Many persons will stand fire who will not stand a charge, and for this plain psychological reason – that there is great hope of escape in the first case, very little in the second, and hope is the great sustainer of courage. It is therefore not in the weapon, but in the man who bears it, that the harmlessness resides."*

Napier, in another observation compared the bayonet to bathing in a river, noting that in the rapid and dangerous Rhone river, few people

drowned because so few people ventured into the river, whereas in the slow Saone many were lost. So too with the bayonet; so few were killed by it as so few dared to face it.

As regards firing volley after volley on the approach to an enemy line with the ultimate intention of launching a charge and sweeping them from the field

“All firing beyond one volley in a case where you must charge, seems only to cause a useless interchange of casualties, besides endangering the steadiness of a charge to be undertaken in the midst of sustained file fire, when a word of command must be hard to hear”.

The principle accepted by the British army, and successfully practiced, was to fire one volley, preferably at close range, and then taking advantage of the enemy’s disorder charge them with the bayonet. This had been a principle recommended since the early 1700’s when Humphrey Bland noted that units should reserve their fire till they were within close range and *“with the bayonets on the muzzles the instant you have fired....done under the cover of the smoke...so that the shock they will receive from your fire by being close and attacking them immediately with your bayonets, they may, in all probability, be beat with a very inconsiderable loss...but give them time to recover from the disorder your may have put them into, the scene may change to your disadvantage”.*

The British were also reserved as to the extent of their bayonet charges. In defense, once a charge had driven the enemy force from their front, it was standard practice to reform the unit and if any pursuit was needed it would either be done by the formed unit, or by skirmishers detached from the formed unit.

Just as readily, the formed unit could repel a second, third, etc, attack in the same fashion as it had the first. Fire a volley, charge and as Colonel Alexander Wallace noted; *“...push home to the muzzle!”*

The view was that in close quarters victory would go to those who were confident in their use of the bayonet.

“...the bayonets power consists in numbers, acting together as one machine in a closed compact line” Troops who had high confidence in it, and marched to the attack determined to use it, and the enemy knowing that they would do so, made all the difference.

As a final observation we have this statement: *“Charged with the bayonet, however, they must disperse at full speed, or perish....unless very desperate, they will always fly; and men who have once shrunk from personal conflict will always feel a considerable degree of awe and reverence for those from whom they fled. Any man, woman, or child can pull a trigger, but none except brave and highly excited men will meet their opponents with the cold steel”.*

NOTICE – to whom it may concern:

1st Lt Prendergast’s orders for transfer to Battery McFuddy in the Florida Keys have been rescinded by the Army.



(Battery McFuddy, Verdammt Island, Florida)

=====

E- Mail/Mailing submissions to The Union Standard

– d1stus@gte.net or C/O Alan Prendergast, 1403 Barclay Drive, Carrollton Texas, 75007

Newsletter –

contact George Hansen if you did not receive your mailed newsletter, beast1st@comcast.net or (972) 529-5349.

Address/Telephone changes –

any mailing/e-mail address changes or telephone number changes should be submitted to Ron Myers,

soonlobo@verizon.net

or 817-416-3741

Live Fire

Arlington Sportsman Club, Mansfield

September 17, 9:00 am

Competitions plus leisure firings

Hosted by Kip Bassett & Ted Cross

Live rounds available for purchase

Corinth Reenactment

Sponsored by North South Alliance

Sept. 29, Oct. 1 - 2

Relive the 1st US' experience in Battery

Robinette

'The' National Event for 2005

Registration accepted until Sept. 15

FRAZER BROTHERS
The Official Sutler of the

1st U.S. Infantry

More Information at:

(214) 696-1865, or

<http://www.frazerbrothers.com/>

The Union Standard

Newsletter of the 1st U.S. Infantry

1403 Barclay Drive

Carrollton Texas, 75007