
The UNION STANDARD

May 2004

Vol. 12, no 5

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

Dispatch from the Board

Well I guess the big news this month is our new website. For those of you who might have missed it you might want to check out <http://www.1stusinfantry.org>. Ron Myers took over honchoing the project the last few weeks and between him and Melissa Gunter (who actually built and maintains the site) I think our site is something to be very proud of. There is a monitored message board that will provide a forum that I hope will increase communication between all of us. There are quite a number of links to other civil war sites. For those 'wanna be' singers in the group who don't always know (or like me can never remember the words) Kevin and Alan are reaching deep into their repertoire and getting the words on line.

I appreciate the small band of hardy souls who spent last Saturday rolling both blank and live cartridges. We've got a pretty good supply of blanks for Franklin and a nice start on the live rounds.

Speaking of live rounds next month will find us at Fort Chadbourne for our annual live fire.

Chadbourne is privately owned and the owners are excited about our coming out there. Elements of the 1st closed down the fort in 1861. We have a 500+ yard range to work with out there and we plan on incorporating some tactical shooting that we haven't been able to do here in the metroplex. The barracks and one officer's quarters are restored and the site is free of anachronisms. Naturally rations will be provided and 'cookie' Gates assures me that *we will eat well!*

A feature we've added to our web site in the events section is the ability to register on-line if an event we're going to has a web site for registration. Look for the link for Franklin as registration is up to each individual.

Bellmead was last weekend. Cap'n Gimpy became a private and let some political hack from East Point (yes, East Point) manage the company. Although not a maximum effort event for us we had a small company there which combined with the companies

of the 69th New York and the 13th U.S. Bellmead definitely falls into the '*fun without any work category*' and the short drive to just outside Waco ain't bad either.

There are two Memorial Day Activities is Fort Worth that are worth considering. The first is on Saturday, May 22 at 1:00 PM at Fort Worth's Heritage Park for a Legion of Honor Ceremony. This ceremony will honor recipients of the Medal of Honor, and

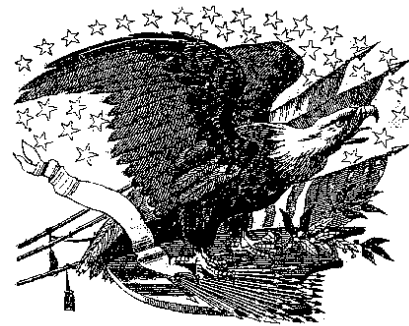
Distinguished Service Cross's. At 1 PM participants will gather for recognition, speechifying, and a musket and cannon

salute. This will be followed by some stand down time to mingle and visit with honorees. The event will close with a formal flag Retreat at 4 PM. Significant press and public exposure is expected. The second activity is on Monday, Memorial Day, May 31 at 9:00 AM for a ceremony at the Fort Worth Pioneers Rest Cemetery. These are two events that will provide you an opportunity to remember those who served, and are still serving, our country and whose sacrifice we recognize as reenactors.

And last but not least don't forget the big national event – Franklin in October. Lots of good information about this event in this issue as well as on their website.

God bless the Regulars,

Don Gross



1st U.S. Calendar

2004

MAY

22nd Heritage Park Honor Ceremony – Fort Worth.

31st Fort Worth Pioneers Rest Cemetery

JUNE

4th, 5th, 6th *Fort Chadbourne* – Live Fire

SEPTEMBER

TBD Drill

OCTOBER

1st- 3rd Franklin TN, 1st Federal Division
NATIONAL EVENT

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

13th US and the 69th for the battle on Saturday. As for me, well, amazing things in my future. I started out planning to be a Lt. Because we expected (and found) a serious lack of Federal infantry officers. Due to a tailoring malfunction I was forced instead to become a Captain for the day. Then in a brilliant political move at an officer;s mess (livin high now he is...McF) I managed to con Mickey White out of his Major's frock as "it's too new"...I think he was hoping my pards would tar and feather me or find other ways to sully my new coat... anyone who knows Mickey will understand.

The unit seems to have survived me (a couple of them did) as commander (Queen of the May he was...). Attending were: Glen Hargis, Mike Beard, Andrew Schultz, Don Gross (Private Don Gross...hehehehehe), George Hansen, Blair Rudy, Ron Myers, Scott Harris, Conway Barton, Pete Graham, Brook Thomas & Art Ogle. Frank Molinets and his son Zack also fell in with us as Berdan sharpshooters.

BELLMEADE

by Alan Prendergast

Well, most of us seemed to have survived the Battle of Bellmeade last weekend. A small group of us attended the event, and to paraphrase King Henry the 5th – “you gentlemen now abed in the Metroplex should think yourselves accursed you were not here!”. The most amazing thing happened on Saturday in that the scenario actually went, completely AS PLANNED. The Union forces administered a severe drubbing on the rebs on Saturday as per the plan. In the real world there wouldn't have been enough of us left to make chili out of as we advanced two companies of infantry and dismounteds against 13 Confederate cannons. I haven't looked it up, but I think Ruggles may have only had a couple more when he cleared the Hornet's Nest at Shilo.

The overall Federal command was in the hands of Brian Glass, of the Scout “Explorer” posts. These were the same kids who saved our bacon with their carbines and cannons up at Gainesville. A nice bunch of folks. We also fell in with the

Mentors

Contact Regt. Sgt. Maj. Mike Beard if you'd like to try your hand as a mentor. Our new recruits need support and guidance as they seek to establish a foothold into the hobby. Even if you recently acquired your company letter, your expertise is needed. Mike can be reached at dotmike@sbcglobal.net, or (817) 446-7935.

DIRECTIONS TO FORT CHADBOURNE

Go West on I20 to Abilene.
Stay on 20 north around the town.

Exit 277 south to San Angelo. This area is under construction.

After about two miles be sure to be in the right lane to exit. Go to stop light.

277takes off to the south. The fort is about 50 miles south. You wind through the hills and fall out into a long straight away. The fort is on the left.

There is a bill board on the right telling you you are there. Fort is about 1/2 mile off the road.

FRANKLIN/NASHVILLE

Headquarters, 1st Federal Division –
140th Anniversary Reenactment
Franklin/Nashville

The Basics

Site – Spring Hill Tennessee, Approximately
1,400 acres (4 times larger than Perryville)

The Battles

Friday:

Late afternoon – The Campaign Begins (cavalry particularly is particularly important)

Saturday:

Mid Morning – The Battle of Spring Hill (fought on the original site). This is Union rearguard action. Following the battle there will be a march to the Franklin field, where pre-dug trenches will be improved and men given time to lunch and rest.

Late afternoon – The Battle of Franklin (The Union army will be positioned in trenches) The Confederate Army will attack across 1-1/2 miles of open fields and the Union Army stands firm. At end of this battle, a medical scenario will be put into play, and modified outpost will be permitted. Those wishing to spend the nights in the trenches may do so (pre approval will be necessary).

Sunday:

Early Afternoon - The Battle of Nashville (Artillery Heavy) The Confederate Army is shattered by Union assault.

Camps

Provisions are being made for full campaign and general bivouac camps. However, all units are highly encouraged to camp light using shelter tents. A tents will be allowed for enlisted men, and line officers are highly encouraged to use shelter, fly, or A tents. Field officers on

Battalion and Brigade level are also asked to use shelters flies or A-tents. This includes all branches.

The military camps will be military. If there are units that require their civilians to be camped with them, area will be provided in a civilian/military camp. Each Brigade's "personality" and internal running will be respected, however certain minimum standards will be maintained.

Guiding Impression

Late War, fall, 1864. Union troops should be in sack coats with black leather. No leggings. Hats should be slouch, roughed up Hardee, or forage caps. No straw or wheel hats. No two banded rifles in the ranks. No Bowie, long, or sheath knives on the field. Pistols will be limited to only officers in the Franklin trenches. Henry Rifles will be permitted. There will be a Henry company put together for the Franklin scenario.

Organization

Battalions must have at least 4 companies with color guard and staff to stand-alone. Units not meeting this standard will be placed with other units. However, all unit integrities and affiliations will be respected. Brigades will consist of 2 or more battalions. Unit impressions will be based on units of the 4th and 23rd Corps. A list of available units will be issued when numbers attending the event are known. Assignment of Brigades to each scenario will take place closer to the event. Scenario packets are anticipated to be published in late August, early September

Registration:

Registration is available online at <http://www.battleoffranklin.com/>. Individuals and units are encouraged to register online. With registration and waiver sent in a participant pass will allow reenactor to cut down on the onsite registration process and is highly recommended. When arriving onsite there will be individual check in points. See attachment for further information about Registration

Parking:

Upon arrival reenactors may unload their equipment at their Brigade drop off point. Cars will be allowed in the camp area no longer than 20 minutes on Friday. Artillery and horse trailers will be given 30 minutes. We are working on having flatbeds arranged for Saturday morning arrivals. All cars in camps Saturday morning will be towed.

Inspection of Arms Guideline

by George Hansen

The last few outings I've noticed some confusion during Inspection of Arms regarding fixing the bayonet first or drawing the rammer, along with presenting the rifle for inspection. *Casey's* clearly states the **bayonet goes on first** followed by the rammer being placed entirely into the barrel, head of the rammer going in first. The rifle is then returned to the order arms position until ... "The instructor will then inspect in succession the piece of each recruit, in passing along the front of the rank. Each, as the instructor reaches him, will raise smartly his piece with his right hand, seize it with the left between the lower band and guide sight, the lock to the front, the left hand at the height of the chin, the piece opposite the left eye; the instructor will take it with the right hand at the handle, and, after inspecting it, will return it to the recruit, who will receive it back with the right hand, and replace it in the position of ordered arms."

Now note returning the bayonet, rammer and when to do so.... "When the instructor shall have passed him, each recruit will retake the position prescribed at the command *inspection*, return the rammer, *unfix the bayonet*, and resume the position of ordered arms." Note: If in Battalion formation then the bayonet remains fixed until ordered to "unfix bayonet."

So, as a guideline the below are simple points to remember during Inspection of Arms:

- Bayonet on first, off last.
- Present the rifle with lock to the front with the left hand between lower band and guide sight, left hand at left eye level.
- Take the rifle back with the right hand.
- Return the rammer *as soon as* the instructor passes you – bayonet only if in company formation.

A Letter From the Sons of Union Veterans

Greetings Fellow Members of the 1st US Infantry and NTRS:

Is this a great hobby or what? Within this family of friends we can develop our impression and pursue our interest in the Civil War to make this hobby what we desire it to be. We can strive to be a campaign soldier, enjoy living history, or be a motel militia member. We have an open venue with which to explore and enjoy new aspects of our hobby, risk free and welcomed to any unit activity.

I invite you to look at yet another aspect of our hobby and heritage and consider joining the ranks of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, the SUCVW. There are already several members of the 1st US active in this national patriotic organization. We have a local Camp, the Lone Star Camp #1 in North Texas. We are one of three Camps in the state, or Department of the Southwest which includes Texas and New Mexico. The other two Camps are centered in Houston and Austin. I invite you to explore the national web site at www.sucv.org and the Department site at www.txsv.org.

There are two types of memberships within the SUCVW. Regular membership is for males with documented ancestors who fought to preserve the Union between 1861 and 1865 as Union soldiers or sailors. Please review the specific membership requirements at the National SUCVW website.

The other type of membership is the associate member. This would be any like minded male

with an interest in the organization regardless of ancestor Civil War participation.

There is no distinction within our Camp as to who is an associate or regular member.

We find that it can sometimes be a potentially lengthy task to seek out the records of our Civil War ancestors. As this is often the case, we suggest first joining us as an associate member while you conduct your genealogy research. Your status can be changed with the location of the records.

We meet for dinner and a speaker at the Catfish Company Restaurant on SH 183 in Hurst the last Thursday of alternating months. We have been fortunate to meet jointly with a local Camp of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, SCV for our gatherings. We share meeting space, speakers and a common interest in the Civil War. It is a very open and engaging forum to gather and gaggle.

I extend an open invitation to you to meet with us for our next gathering on Thursday May 26 to check us out. Please contact me for specifics if you are interested.

We are planning to participate with the historically minded Cross-Timbers organization on Saturday May 22 at 1 PM (1300 hours) in Forth Worth's Heritage Park to honor those US military service members who have received the Medal of Honor or Distinguished Service Cross. This Legion of Honor Ceremony will consist of a 3 round musket volley and Flag ceremony. This is expected to be a significant venue for public exposure for Union Civil War organizations. We welcome your attendance and participation.

We will also have a brief gathering on Monday May 31, Memorial Day at the Forth Worth Pioneer Rest Cemetery at 9 AM (0900 hours) to fire a 3 volley salute to our Civil War ancestors. We welcome your participation then as well.

Please contact me for ceremony or meeting specifics.

I hope to see you at the SUVCW meetings and events; we are always looking to add like minded patriots to our group. I suggest you ask these other 1st US Infantry members, who are already members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Lone Star Camp #1 what they think and we will see you in the ranks.

Mike Beard, Commander, Department of the Southwest

Mark Backus, Signals Officer and Past Commander for the Department and Camp
George Hansen, Senior Vice Commander, Lone Star Camp

Ron Myers, Junior Vice Commander, Lone Star Camp

Don Gross, Secretary and Treasurer, Lone Star Camp

Adam Gross

John Bowen

Sean Bowen

Aaron Smith

Respectfully,

Blair Rudy

Commander, Lone Star Camp #1

bgrsuvcw@charter.net

817-424-0027

Lessons from Lincoln

“I want to see Richmond,” Lincoln said, when he heard that that stronghold was once more in Union hands. He went by the river from Grant’s headquarters, and landed from a twelve-oared barge near Libby Prison. No military escort to meet him, and not even a vehicle of any kind. Taking his boy Tad by the hand, he walked through the streets for a mile and a half, guarded only by ten sailors. The negroes were wild with joy when they beheld their emancipator, before whom they prostrated themselves. “Don’t kneel to me; that is not right,” he said; and a leader among them commanded in a hoarse whisper, “Sh-‘sh-be still; heah our Saviour speak.”

Lincoln said, “I am but God’s humble instrument, but you may rest assured that as long as I live no one shall put a shackle on your limbs. God bless you, and let me pass on,” he

said to them, as he passed along. Again in the strange progress of this modest conqueror an old slave lifted his hat, and the President returned

140th Anniversary Battle of Franklin

Event Registration (The Sooner the Better!)

The 1st Federal and 1st Confederate Divisions, military hosts for the 140th Battle of Franklin welcome and invite you to participate in this National event to be held October 1-3, 2004.

First, and of most importance is that we want you to talk this event up among your men, and then register. The event hosts are trying something new with registration procedures, in that if you send in the form AND the waiver you will receive a participant's pass that let's you proceed directly to camp upon showing said pass. This should shorten registration time dramatically.

The Civil War Courier, event host and registration coordinator has established two avenues that your units can use to register for the event. Please remember that there will be NO WALK ONS! When you go to the event website, www.battleoffranklin.com, you have the opportunity to download a printable .PDF file that can be mailed in with your information and funds, or, you can opt to register electronically. All waiver forms will need to be submitted before a participant pass will be mailed. I urge you to have your men register as soon as possible as the number of troops helps determine placement and participation, and, it will make things easier for the registration staff.

After your registration and waiver forms have been received, your unit representatives will be mailed a participation pass for each person of their unit who is a paid registrant. Although to date, no registration deadline has been set, please allow at least 2 weeks for the passes to be mailed out. In the event that a pass is lost prior to the reenactor checking-in at US registration, a master list will be available to verify the individual's status. All reenactors, be they

the salutation by lifting his, whereat the crowd of negroes who followed him gaped in wonder to see a white man uncover to a black. civilian or military, must have a pass to enter and remain on site during the time specified for the event. If event personnel or Provosts request to see a participant's pass, it must be shown. Participants who are not registered and attempt to enter the site prior to, or during the event will be asked to leave.

When arriving at the site and Federal parking area, it is recommended that your units travel as light as possible and pack in their gear. While this is not possible for all reenactors, it will help the road network remain free of congestion during peak arrival times. A white, three sided, roofed structure will act as Federal registration and check-in area. Volunteer staff will assist in checking passes. Once checked-in, participants may proceed to the camp areas.

A marked drop off zone has been established just South of the camp area to provide a safe area to deposit gear and keep vehicles out of camp. A time frame of 20 minutes has been allotted for cars, and 30 minutes set aside for trailers to unload their cargo. Vehicle owners who exceed the time limit will be asked by event staff or Federal provosts to move their vehicles to the parking area. Vehicles not moved may be subject to being towed to the parking area. Safety concerns about vehicles in the camp area after dark has resulted in the road network being closed to only authorized vehicles. However, participants who arrive after dark may pack in their gear or catch the shuttle to the drop off zone. No participant will be penalized for arriving late, but safety of all is paramount.

Registration will remain open until midnight on Friday evening and will reopen briefly on Saturday morning. A gate will block access to the camps beginning at dusk on Friday and only be opened for emergency/support vehicles or on a case-by-case basis. As the road network is one-way, all vehicles will follow marked signs back to the parking area. The road network will be opened on Sunday afternoon following the final battle. The time will be announced by the NSA command structure. This does not prevent

participants from packing their gear back to the parking area.

General Dolive has directed the Provost Marshal to do his best to insure cars are out of camp Saturday and Sunday morning. This includes towing if cars are left unattended beyond limits set by the event hosts. This has been one issue that has garnered the most complaints at both small and large events and 1st Federal Division staff ask your cooperation in addressing this problem.

There will be a large number of support personnel for the event. These volunteers include unpaid civilians, Tennessee State Guard, Emergency Medical and Law Enforcement personnel in addition to the US and CS staff members who have been tasked to assist. Their purpose is to see that your units enjoy a safe time at the event. Please cooperate and help them do their jobs so you can have fun.

Cartridge Rolling

Nine hardy souls spent a good part of Saturday last rolling cartridges for the unit. This small band of merry men (and it was merry at times as only the 1st can be) roll 330 blank cartridges and 250 live rounds. Not bad for half a days work!

Kip Bassett, Kevin Doughtie, Don Gates, Mike Gristina (potential recruit), Don Gross, Jim Kirkendall, Ron Myers, John Schultz, and Aaron Smith get a gold star for their efforts.

Note from Greg Fett

Hello Everyone!

I am writing this from sunny Rochester! I arrived here about two weeks ago and am slowly getting acclimated to my new job and the area in general. I just got my internet/cable service hooked up a couple of days ago which is why I haven't sent my update sooner.

Everyone at work seems to really nice and I am starting to get busy. The number of meetings I have to go to is growing and I have taken over a project that has a very aggressive schedule. Seems like old times.

I haven't started up any outside activities yet, but now that I am getting settled in I am planning to. I made contact with a Civil War reenacting group in the Rochester area before I left Texas and plan to hook up with them. I hope to start reenacting again soon. My new company also has a golf league and I plan to join that also. I also need to scope out the area. I haven't ventured too far away from my residence yet as I figure I would get lost.

Well, I will end for now. Here is my new contact info:

Home email: gfett@rochester.rr.com
Work email: Greg_Fett@mksinst.com
Cell Phone: 585-355-1020
Work Phone: 585-292-7526

Regards,
Greg Fett

.....

Newsletter Costs

Members who receive the newsletter by mail can help the First US save money by requesting a newsletter copy only by e-mail. The postage and printing costs will help the treasury pay for a needed national flag and other items essential to our impression. Should you wish to contribute to this goal contact G. Hansen at beast1st@comcast.net.

.....

Newsletter contributions - 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 newsletter, beast1st@attbi.com or (972) 529-5349.

Address/Telephone changes – any mailing/e-mail address changes or telephone number changes should be submitted to John Bowen, jbowl1stus@comcast.net or (972) 539-6167.

Texas Tinworks

"BEST CAMPAIGN LANTERN
KNOWN TO MANKIND"

(817) 451-7780

Gregg Benefiel, proprietor
sutler motto:

“A ‘Free Press’ is a vital to any liberty-loving
nation.”

FRAZER BROTHERS

The Official Sutler of the

1st U.S. Infantry

More Information at:

(214) 696-1865, or

Frazerbros.com

The Union Standard

Newsletter of the 1st U.S. Infantry

1403 Barclay Drive

Carrollton Texas, 75007