

THE MESSENGER

The Fifth Missouri Infantry, Company A (CSV)
431 SE "Y" Hwy, Warrensburg, MO 64093

816-747-5728

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CONTENTS: Latest on Perryville & Cabin Creek, minutes from Sep 22, reports on Warrensburg, Huntsville, Keytesville & Pilot Knob, a column of special interest to the Ladies, & a sign-up sheet for the fall banquet.

PERSONNEL: Congratulations to Pvts Ryan Wade & Kevin Zimmerschied, who achieved Veteran status. Welcome to Jim Houk, a Clinton fireman, recruited by John Sherrer, and to John Ross of Ironton, who walked into our camp at Pilot Knob, enlisted & saw the elephant.

BORROWED GEAR: If you have borrowed ANYTHING from another member, or from the company, you need to return the borrowed items as soon as you can; e.g., patterns as soon as you've used or copied them, weapons or clothing immediately after the event for which you borrowed them. It's not fair to the owner of the items to deprive him/her of the opportunity to decide on its use. Don't make the owner of the item have to ask for its return!

BANQUET: David K. & Sandra have got the banquet scheduled. It will be similar to last year's, only in a bigger ballroom with lots of places to display your pictures & see event videos. Cost is \$10.00 per person, all inclusive. More details on the sign-up sheet. *Please plan on attending - it's lots of fun!*

JOHNSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY: We no longer have a Board member to guaranty access to the Old Courthouse where we've traditionally held our meetings. We can still use it, but need to look for alternatives.

QUANTRILL INTERMENT: The State has given permission to inter some remains of Bill Quantrill at the Confederate Cemetery in Higginsville. We've been asked to provide the honor guard at 10:00 AM (arrive by 9:30) on October 24th (Saturday). You can still do this event, then go down to Warsaw for the living history camp. Lots of publicity promised. *THIS IS A DATE CHANGE!*

MCWRA ELECTIONS: The new ballot is out with the omitted name. Please vote - Bill will have a ballot box at all October events. Only 77 ballots were received on the cancelled vote! If you want your candidates to win, please VOTE! [Bill's voting for Kesinger for Pres-Elect, Allie, Cadenbach & Conner for directors].

NEXT MEETING: We may have a small meeting after our October events, but the next main meeting will be at the banquet. We're looking for a place to schedule weekend meetings in January & February, for the elections & so we can have a good drill before Murfreesboro.

Minutes of Meeting held September 22, 1992

A meeting was held on 22 Sept 1992; at the Warrensburg Old Courthouse Museum. The President called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM: present were Veterans Ballman, Bears, Kisner, Lee, Olson, Riggs, Sherrer, Tucker & Wayne; Recruits Baker, Gilger, Houli, Moore, Wade & Zimmerschied; Non-combatants Pam Baker, Debbie Bears, Jeanie Gilger, Cindy Lee, Connie McKay & Sandra Wayne; Associates Conner & Kesinger. Paul Hawkins & Eric Sunderstrom of the CMSU Theater Department were guests.

The guests requested the Ladies' assistance as ushers for "The King & I" on Wednesday, Oct 7; a number of ladies agreed to serve.

On Recommendation of Staff & authenticity officer, Sherrer moved, Lee 2nd that "Kevin Zimmerschied be accepted as a Veteran". Passed. Bears moved/ Tucker 2nd "Ryan Wade be accepted as a Veteran". Passed.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as published.

The Treasurer's report was accepted as read. After considerable discussion, Tucker moved/Sherrer 2nd that "the Organization staff is authorized to purchase, at the best prices possible, one musket, two sets of leathers, two bayonets, a shell jacket, three pairs of pants, a canteen & two 'A' tents." Passed.

Further discussion of additional uses for funds centered on endowing a scholarship or fellowship at CMSU. Discussion was generally favorable & CMSU's History department is very receptive; however, this should occur after we obtain our IRS exemption.

The possibility of holding a brat sale was discussed; the fundraising committee will discuss appropriate dates & contact people to participate. T-shirts & MCWRA decals are still available.

Upcoming events at Pilot Knob, Perryville, Cabin Creek & Warsaw were discussed. Sandra & George briefed on the Fall Banquet, scheduled Saturday, Nov 21, at Sedalia. All members attending were asked to bring a door prize/present not over \$2 in cost; David Kesinger was authorized to solicit gift certificates from publications & sutlers. Announcements will be in the next Messenger.

Bill was authorized to officially support the Quantrill memorial service at Higginsville on October 31st.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: The authenticity committee reported that our skill at drill & our appearance were significant in getting lots of camera time at Killer Angels. The Ladies' Committee requested that an announcement to return all patterns on loan be placed in the Messenger.

OLD BUSINESS: Incorporation: Still in process.

OTHER BUSINESS: MCWRA elections: The ballot in the last Campaigner is invalid; use the one in the October issue. The Johnson County Historical Society issue was discussed; our representative was not included in the nominating committee report. All members who will not be present at Sunday's meeting signed a proxy to George or Sandra.

Powder policy: A question had been raised that some members objected to paying for powder that had been earned at an event. No specifics were available, but the policy decided last winter was that when powder is issued at 1 lb per man, it will be issued immediately to those attending. Bulk issues (uncanned) and partial issues (1/2 or 1/3 lb/man) will be retained by the company to prepare cartridges for new recruits; any surplus may be resold to members at a discount [i.e., \$5/lb vs \$ 8 current retail]. A discussion of the policy and its rationale will be published in the Messenger.

The date/time/location of the October meeting has held in abeyance.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Submitted 10:47 PM, Sept 22 1992. Bill Wayne, Secretary

TID-BITS from the cartridge party:

We rolled over 800 cartridges after Keytesville, in Charley's basement. Bill creased almost every one of them & got a strained left thumb.

A Yank forager raided Sandra's ice box & carried off a whole bunch of goodies to the party.

EVENT DETAILS

PERRYVILLE, KY, October 9-11. I registered 33 positions, which is well over our commitment; anyone who hasn't paid, do so next time you see me. Max camp authenticity required. Military weapons only (no Zouaves). Military impression is our generic Confederate. Civilian impression must be functioning! Battalion Max effort. They asked that we double up in tents & not bring wall tents; company streets will be only 6 ft wide. Traffic will be one-way out on back gravel roads on Sunday; you'll be unable to leave the area until the event is over once you get situated. We'll need to bring our own food rations & anyone going will be expected to contribute. To get there: I-70 to St Louis, I-64 to Louisville, I-65 so to exit 112, KY 245 to Bardstown, US 150 e to Perryville [71 mi from Louisville]. (550 mi approx total). Emergency phone: Battle of Perryville SHS - 606-332-8631.

CABIN CREEK, OK, Oct 17-18. Two attacks on federal supply trains at critical creek crossing, including some wagon burning. Rations delivered by wagon, pre-rolled cartridge issue, prepared meal Saturday night. Voluntary parade Sat AM, ladies' tea Sat PM. Impression is late war (generic) for a generic action Saturday, Sunday's battle is mixed US/CS uniforms to civilian. Expect lots of coordinated infantry/cavalry action. Camps will close to vehicles at 090 Saturday, late arrivals will be carried in by wagon. From Carthage: I-44 west to Big Cabin exit (US 69), US 69 south to Adair, OK 28 east about 7 miles.

WARSAW HERITAGE DAYS, Oct 24-25. Set up near Hooper House near visitor center, do periodic drills & recruit. Generic CS impression. Go to Warsaw after doing honors at Higginsville.

PRAIRIE GROVE, AR, Dec 5-6. 130th Anniversary of Gen Hindman's attempt to whip 2 small armies under Blunt & Herron, at the same time. Original battlefield (Ark state park), Generic CS impression best, overcoats may be helpful. To get there, US 71 so to Fayetteville, US 62 west to Prairie Grove.

TID-BITS from PILOT KNOB:

Corp's Lee & Bears served admirably as battalion QM, passing out generous helpings of food. They didn't like the hours, though: they were up about 5 on Sunday & the food didn't come until 7!

The 15 men firing during the Ironton Races had some awfully crisp volleys during, or else one man was firing a 900 grain load.

Promotions went up & down the ranks on Sunday, as we tried to get every possible rifle in line: recognition is due Acting Lt Yoakum, 1Sgt Riggs, 2Sgt Lee & Corp (?) Tony [the only one Jerry's shell would fit].

On Saturday evening, we were entertained by a short but heavy rain, some strange songs from a neighboring company, & a torchlight raid on the cavalry camp by Baldknobbers.

We had 23 men, 5 ladies, and two try-outs (Jason & Matt Jarvis of Potosi) at the event. Rcts Meoli & Ross observed the pachyderm.

Bill's thanks to John Sherrer for the loan of the Major's frock he used at Pilot Knob.

THIRD ANNUAL BANQUET

Saturday, November 21st

WHEN: Social starting at 5:30 PM, dinner at 7:00 PM, meeting at 8:00 PM.

WHERE: Sedalia Best Western Motel, US 65 South (corner of 'B' hwy), Sedalia.

WHAT: Our annual banquet to celebrate the year & socialize together, look at pictures, & see Cindy's videos (There'll be 2 VCR's going!).

MENU: A buffet dinner at an excellent restaurant, 2 meats (beef & chicken), lots of side dishes, salad, etc. Bar is next door.

DRESS: Dress out or not, as you wish, at whatever rank you wish. Suggested modern clothes for men are sport jacket or sweater.

PROGRAM: During social hour, look at everyone's pictures from the year or view videos of the year's events. After dinner, a short meeting to discuss plans for next year & report on the MCWRA meeting, followed by social hour again to see the rest of the pictures.

DOOR PRIZES: Sandra & David have been collecting door prizes, but your contribution (CW related are best) to the door prize collection will be appreciated. Keep the cost under \$2 (free is best!) & be creative in wrapping. Call Sandra if you have questions.

COST: \$ 10.00 per plate, including tax & gratuity.

OVERNIGHT ROOMS: Reserve directly with the Sedalia Best Western, 816-826-6100, identify yourself as a member of the 5th Missouri Infantry & ask for the discounted rate. Cedarcroft Farm B&B, Warrensburg, 816-747-5728, \$35 double with breakfast. Sedalia has lots of small motels.

TO ATTEND: Call Bill (816-747-5728), by November 1st. Then, send your check by November 12th!

tear off at line & return the bottom

NAME: _____

NUMBER ATTENDING: _____ x \$10.00 = AMOUNT DUE: \$ _____

MAKE YOUR CHECK OUT TO 5TH MO INF & RETURN TO BILL BY
NOV 12.

YOU CAN PAY YOUR 1992 DUES NOW, TOO! (Just \$20 individual/36 family)

IDLE HANDS - ARE A DEVIL'S PLAYGROUND

By Debbie Bears

Many of you ladies have asked 'what shall we do?' To answer your questions, I've listed a few activities appropriate for ladies at reenactments and living history demonstrations. If you wish to discuss any of these activities further, please give me a call. We have many ladies within the Group who have period skills who would be happy to instruct you individually.

The CLO [Confederate Ladies' Organization] always has fundraisers at the large events. In the past, they have served breakfast, held basket auctions, and even had a bath house. They're always looking for volunteers.

At most reenactments, there is generally a tea, seminar or fashion show. They are always enjoyable and usually are held in the afternoon.

Sign up to volunteer at the candlelight tours. They will definitely keep you very busy.

A laundress group has recently been formed and is looking for new recruits. These ladies do a great job and have lots of public contact.

I have also visited with the Medical Corp. They are always looking for a few good nurses. They also need volunteers to assist with tours, etc.

Read period literature and the Bible.

Handwork including mending, crocheting, tatting, knitting, spinning, weaving, quilting.

Wrap bandages.

Write letters to soldiers and loved ones, or write letters for the soldiers.

Write a journal (including poems you

have written, visitors, etc.).

Pass out ice to the soldiers (from a muslin ice bag, of course) or pass out cookies to the soldiers.

Prepare fresh squeezed lemonade for soldiers (after the battles).

Roll cigarettes (wheat straw papers) and sell them to the soldiers.

Hold temperance rallies.

Sew flags (The Fifth has a First National and Sterling Price [trans-miss - cross] flag. We need a Second & Third National, Battle flag, Van Dorn flag, State Guard flag).

Hold cooking demonstrations (something as simple as homemade noodles can be a very good interpretive role).

Sing alongs, parlor games or croquet.

Church services are held on Sunday.

Most importantly, talk to the public when they come into camp. From past experience, I have found that the public has plenty of questions and loves to talk. There have been times that we have been hoarse for two days following an event from talking to so many people!

You can work on your persona, write articles for the newsletter, and ALWAYS, ALWAYS there is plenty of research that can be done.

I hope this gives you a few ideas. As mentioned earlier, please contact me if you are interested in a specific skill (spinning, bonnet making, etc.) and I'll put you in touch with individuals who can help you.

Remember ladies, boredom is a state of mind!!!

APPEARANCE REPORTS

HUNTSVILLE, September 12

Submitted by Corp Faught: On Sept 12, Corp Faught, Pvt Block & Rct Meoli were joined by members of Co K, 2nd MO Inf and a gun crew from Collins' Battery to reenact the execution of a Southern partisan by Union militia in Huntsville. Pvt Block is to be commended for his thorough research of the event & command of the detail of militia, although it is recommended that he review Hardee's Tactics to distinguish between 19th & 20th Century military commands. Following the execution, the detail donned the gray and marched splendidly in the local parade.

WARRENSBURG, September 12;
submitted by Lt Wayne.

I had the honor to command a contingent of a dozen men in a drill demonstration at the Warrensburg Fall Festival. We demonstrated both standard and inverted maneuvers, firing drill, safety inspection, & manual of arms. We then sent a conscription detail into the crowd, bringing forth a goodly number of potential soldiers, who quickly learned the basics of manual of arms, marching by the front & flank, and basic moves into line. The recruits were invited to attend the next meeting, then dismissed with a hearty Tiger.

Suttler sources: Dave Schmitt nows calls his uniform sewing operation Missouri Military Impressions - 816-732-5725.

Don't forget The Dixie Belle [Julie Swigart; 816-584-6126] or Clear Creek Sutlers [Judy Riggs; 816-429-1448]

KEYTESVILLE, September 19;
submitted by Lt Wayne.

Twelve men & 3 ladies traveled to Keytesville on the 19th inst. to do honors to our beloved Gen. Price. When we arrived, the field was already occupied by members of Co K, 2nd Inf, Jackman's Rangers, & the medical unit from the Co I (remember Macon?). We conducted a safety inspection & drill, then coordinated with Co K to assist them in a wreath laying ceremony. We fired two crisp volleys & one rendered ragged by the premature firing of a musket from the other unit; however few local inhabitants were on hand so no damage to our reputation was done. I then dismissed the troops to forage for food; the countryside must have been exceedingly poor judging from their comments after a time-consuming search. Later, we marched in a parade, demonstrating both our skill in maneuvers and our skill in firing, but the local people might well have been unionists for their response, both during the parade & in the few that visited our camp. I commend to your attention Corp Bears, who acted in the 1st Sgt position, & Pvt Dressel, whose contribution as drummer aided immeasurably to our success. Notable also was Mr Kesinger's performance representing Gen Price, at least until a strutting group of contrabands happened by, and he joined them!

See the latest Confederate Veteran for an article on the white uniforms issued the Missouri Brigade & others during the war!

DRILL COMMENT:

Here's a few things needed fixing after Pilot Knob:

BY COMPANIES INTO LINE: As soon as each company arrives in line, the company commander needs to command 'Dress Left.' The left guide moves to directly behind the left guide of the leading companies. Dressing left helps you maintain the right interval and keeps the companies from accordioning when they move 'Forward into Line.'

FIRE BY COMPANIES: Just as in 'fire by files' or 'fire by rank' the intent is to keep up a constant fire with companies in various stages of loading and firing at all times. Therefore, the order of firing is 1st company, 3rd company, 5th company, 7th company, 2nd company, 4th company, 6th company, 8th company Each commander should wait until the preceding company has fired before commanding 'Aim' & 'Fire.' As we are normally the third company in battalion formation, we should be the 2nd company to fire.

UNIT ELECTIONS:

Our annual elections will be held in January, as usual. Since we have so many out of area members now, I'd suggest we establish a postal voting system for those who won't be present at the meeting; this can be adopted/modified at the Banquet meeting.:

1. An individual may be nominated (by himself or by another, with consent) for Captain, Lieutenant, 1st Sergeant, 2nd Sergeant, Quartermaster Sergeant, or corporal (at least 4 to be selected). An individual may be nominated for more than one position.

2. A ballot will be sent out in the January newsletter, to be returned by the January meeting, either by mail or in person. The newsletter will include publish a short profile of the candidates' reenacting experience, if provided.

3. If the candidates for a particular position includes individuals nominated for a higher ranking position, voters may rank their votes 1-2-3 etc. If a person with multiple nominations is elected to the higher position, the next ranked vote would be counted.

4. The Ladies will count the votes, at the meeting.

The people holding rank are expected to perform duties such as Authenticity Officer, Safety officer, Ordnance Officer, Personnel Officer, etc. Only Veterans may nominate & vote for the field staff.

We must also elect a President & Vice-President, to serve for two year terms or until we adopt our official incorporated By-laws & elect the officers under its terms.

POWDER POLICY:

Early this year, we established a policy on powder issues. We need to always have some company powder & cartridges for recruits who haven't had time to obtain the supplies & skills to roll their own; this alleviates the problem of continuously giving out your personal cartridge suppli for those who don't have any. Another purpose was to have an economical supply available for those who use a lot more powder than others because they participate in more living history events, parades, presentations & small events without issues.

Our policy is: If there is a 1 lb per man issue, each person attending gets a pound (but if you leave early, make sure you have someone get your powder for you; that's not the ordnance officer's responsibility).

If the issue is bulk (not in cans), it all goes to the company.

If the issue is less than 1 lb per man, the powder goes to the company; however, if two men living nearby each other outside our main area wish to split a can, we'll issue them one jointly.

Company powder will be issued without charge to a platoon/section or concentrated group who wish to roll cartridges for company use.

Company cartridges will be issued without charge to a recruit in his first couple of events and to 'try-out' recruits.

For everyone else, a \$5 per pound reimbursement is requested; this augments company funds and helps those who burn more powder obtain it at well below retail cost. If someone needs a pound of powder at an event with a half-issue, he can buy the other half of the can for \$2.50, quantity & demand permitting.

We intend to begin asking \$1 reimbursement for each 10 rolled company cartridges from members who have participated long enough to have begun rolling their own.

If you want to change the policy, I suggest you present your desired changes in writing through the Messenger for discussion the next major meeting.

After Action Report, PILOT KNOB

To Col John Beck, Commanding 4th Btn:

In the absence of the senior staff and the in view of the desire of the company commanders to remain in command of their own companies, I accepted the honor of commanding the Confederate Infantry at Pilot Knob. Our force included elements of four units with about 75 effectives from your battalion (3rd & 4th Missouri consolidated under Lt Prather of the 4th, Capt Koffman's 5th Missouri & Capt Jacobs' 9th Missouri). We were joined by an additional 65 men from Capt Chartrand's 11th MS, Capt Goman's 10th MO & the 7th Ark under Lt Flowers. We were opposed by about 70 - 80 infantry from the Holmes Brigade, 22nd Ill & 9th Ill, all serving under Capt Strother. Capt Reed of the 2nd Mo Cav commanded cavalry forces consisting of his unit plus Capt Tinsley's 7th MO & Capt Talburt's 8th Ark; Capt Yancey gathered, I think, 7 guns.

Our campsites were in a small grove of pine trees, with space enough for the units encamped, but for no additional units. Rations were generous, powder supplies were adequate, the sinks were well-located & did not become overly offensive, & the water supply was provided from a piped spring. A number of well-stocked & audacious sutlers set up shop between the opposing forces. Weather was damp & cloudy on Saturday, the obligatory rainstorm occurred Saturday evening, washing out the expected tour of the camps by civilians, with a cool Saturday night and a sunny & warm Sunday.

On Saturday morning, we conducted a btn drill, emphasizing movement from marching at the flank into btn front, enemy to the front & enemy to the right & ensured that all weapons were safe & operable. We soon learned that the wagons expected to take us to the expected starting point for the day's action would not be provided; Federal cavalry action interfered with those plans. Consequently, after the cavalry assured me that the march was only 1.5 miles, I led the battalion on a 3 mile march to a point from which we initiated the drive toward the fort. The Federal infantry stood well for a time at Ironton's courthouse square, so I dispatched Capt Jacobs' & Capt Chartrand's companies to initiate flanking actions. Capt Jacobs, in particular, pushed his movement so aggressively that the enemy were forced into a precipitous retreat, depriving the main force of the opportunity to close & engage. Capt Chartrand took the lead as we crossed the railroad, continuing the rapid push until we reached a small bridge, where we expected

the Yanks to make a spirited stand. Indeed, they prepared a small breastwork of brush, but abandoned it before I was able to prepare my assault. They stood briefly, again, near the recrossing of the railroad, but retired in face of our superior weight of numbers. This portion of the battle was conducted with such great rapidity that both sides left numerous stragglers at what has been referred to as the "Ironton Races."

Because of our celerity in driving the foe into the fortifications, we had to delay our major assault until civilians could be ushered to a safe location. I placed the left wing, under Capt Jacobs, behind the artillery to mount an assault on the south face of the fort, while the right wing under Capt Chartrand attacked the east face. When all was ready, the cavalry drove in the enemy's pickets & videttes after a sharp action. Both wings advanced across the field at the quicktime, halting to fire crisp volleys into the works. This assault reached about half way to the fortifications, but faltered as casualties grew heavier. I recalled the men to a tree line, where we prepared a second and more determined assault. This time, many of the brave lads reached the moat, only to fall like leaves in autumn from Yankee fire; a final, foreorn hope assault yielded only more casualties. The Federal command graciously granted my request for a truce to succor our wounded.

Early Sunday afternoon, with reinforcements in hand, we prepared a second assault, this one to be made in full battalion formation. The order of battle was 5th Mo, 3rd/4th Mo, 9th Mo, 7th Ar, 10th Mo, 11th Miss. We selected a hidden staging area, screened by cavalry. In order to fully bring the troops under cover, & expecting to march from cover at the flank before initiating battle, I placed the left wing in front of the right wing. However, the Federals had sent a large party of infantry into the woods beyond our position; we briefly considered assaulting the fort in their absence, but refrained fearing an attack from our rear. Our cavalry screen was engaged by the enemy cavalry for some time, when the missing infantry appeared and deployed across our front. I immediately caused the left wing to open fire while I extended the right wing into firing position; the right wing then supported the deployment of the left wing through the cover. Again, the foe retired rather than face our numbers in the open, so we advanced to the scant treeline selected for our jumping-off point. We fired several volleys by btn & company, then advanced,

PILOT KNOB, Cont.

wheeling slightly to the right to drive off their infantry, then to the left to correct our alignment against the fort. We drove to within 100 feet of the ditch before enemy fire began to break down some of the units. We retreated to the trees in an orderly fashion, reestablished our lines, then again advanced. As we grew near the fort, the enemy's fire grew so intense that we must either advance to conquer or fly; the companies all surged forward together, gaining the ditch but leaving the field littered behind them. A few managed to gain the summit of the fort, but were all pulled down in fierce hand-to-hand fighting. Those few who remained pulled back, with our colors & with honor.

I lay our failure to take the fort to faulty communication; indeed, in the absence of an overall commander & the regular branch commanders, we lacked the fine coordination we have normally expected between branches. I was left without staff or mounted couriers, nor did I have the view of the battlefield that a mount provides. Nevertheless, every man did his duty and fought with the gallantry and elan expected of a Southern soldier. I happily lay aside the Majority temporarily assumed and return to service with my Company.

I remain, yr obdt Svt, W. Wayne, Lieutenant.

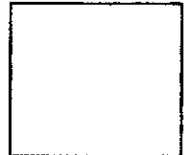
STILL AVAILABLE:

- Company T-shirts (only \$10 donation)
- MCWRA Window stickers; (@ \$2.50) *SEE BILL!*

THE MESSENGER

5th Missouri Infantry, Co A
Rt 3, 431 SE "Y" Hwy
Warrensburg, MO 64093

FIRST CLASS



DATES TO REMEMBER: Oct 17-18, Cabin Creek reenactment.

Oct 24: Quantrill honors, Higginsville

Oct 24 - 25: Warsaw living History

Nov 21: Annual Banquet!