

THE MESSENGER

5th MISSOURI INFANTRY, COMPANY A
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Warrensburg, MO 64093
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VOL 2, Number 8 ++++++ **AUGUST 1991**

CONTENTS: Our Pre-Wilson's Creek Issue includes minutes, schedules, etc. some Tid-bits from camp & field & a report on the Battle of Cole Camp. The Drill column has a major reinterpretation of rear rank firing procedure.

SYMPATHY: To two of our members for whom the real world forcibly intruded while at Cole Camp: Charlie Riggs, whose sister died after a long illness & Jeff Tucker, whose brother was injured in a car accident on Saturday.

PERSONNEL: We talked to lots of people at Cole Camp, & sent out 10 packages. Welcome to Jerry & Cindy Lee, D.E. & Lorraine Kerksiek, Kevin Zimmerschied, & John Durrill. John Kinsey is transferring to Alabama, where I'm sure he'll find plenty of folks to reenact with.

UPCOMING EVENTS: We have the major event at Wilson's Creek upcoming, plus Lexington & Belmont. Wilson's Creek is covered elsewhere, & we should get information directly from Brigade. Lexington is close enough where I can estimate our attendance. However, we need to get our Belmont sign-up done right away. This should be an excellent event - lots of amenities and another chance to reenact on the original battlefield. If I don't have your Belmont intentions by Wilson's Creek, I'll not send in your name & even if you go you get no amenities.

MCWRA NEWS: We had a big meeting on the 27th, but not enough space in the newsletter for the minutes. Ask to read them at the meeting. Also, director ballots will be out in the September Campaigner. A lot of unit leaders are on the ballot - see Bill to find out which of these folks regularly attends meetings now.

FUND RAISING: We sold \$319 worth of tickets, with a cost of \$125 for the gun, \$5 for the book, \$5 for the tickets, and whatever it's going to cost for shipping the prizes. George hasn't given me the winners' list yet.

MUSKETS: We highly encourage recruits who are buying their first percussion gun to bite the Minie & get a 3-band military rifle. Larry Shanks now can get Enfields through Navy Arms for \$335 plus tax & shipping (about \$20-25 combined). You can reach him at 816-885-2946.

THE MESSENGER needs you to contribute event reports, tid-bits, ideas, history, columns, etc. I could use a new masthead design, too. We may also to revise where we print it as the JCHS copier isn't doing well right now. We have 7 reams of paper left - any volunteers to handle printing/distribution? Speaking of the JCHS, your membership and attendance at the September 29th meeting would be welcome.

NEXT MEETING: Warrensburg, Tuesday, August 27th, Old Courthouse (Main & Gay St). 6:00 PM drill, 7:00 PM meeting. To get there, take MO 13 to Gay St (Circle K), turn west, go to top of big hill (Main St) turn left.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD July 30, 1991

To: Capt Koffman

The meeting was called to order by the President at 7:30 PM at Farm & Home Savings, Sedalia. In attendance were veterans Koffman, Wayne, Conner, Riggs, D. Roberts, Thomas, Shanks, Sherrer, & Chastain; Recruits Weller & Faught; non-combatant Horton; associates Kesinger & Delcour. Guests, all of whom joined the unit at the conclusion of the meeting, were Jerry & Cindy Lee, D.E. & Lorraine Kersiek, Kevin Zimmerschied & John Durrill.

No additional recruits met all criteria for Veteran status.

The minutes as published in the last Messenger were accepted. The Treasurer reported a bank & cash balance of \$640.53, about \$200 of which is held for food or event fees. MCWRA owes us \$42.50 & Cole Camp \$51.46. The raffle grossed \$319, with approx expenses of \$150. It was voted to purchase a second water barrel & a large water pot from Larry Shanks for a total of \$27.

The event schedule was discussed: Wilson's Creek food contributions are expected from everyone who signed up to attend unless they cancel ASAP. Don Roberts will talk to Knob Noster & see what time they'd like us on Sep 14th, since our demo is scheduled for noon in Warrensburg. All other event details are covered in the Messenger. A cartridge party was set for Sunday evening, 6:00 PM, at Todd's.

Bill brought up copier problems he's finding at the Historical Society - he's looking for another place to print the Messenger. The unit also needs a T-shirt that we can wear going to events, at MCWRA meetings, etc. John Sherrer will come up with some serious designs for our consideration.

Safety concerns were discussed at length. They are to be covered in the DRILL column of the Messenger.

Bill & Bob Koffman reported on the MCWRA meeting held last Saturday. The key items covered were unit size criteria for voting purposes (shouldn't affect us), and units on/off probation. Members of the 8th MO Inf, an offshoot of the 9th Texas, applied for membership as a new unit, but did not have an infantry sponsor. The 8th MO wanted to come in with a dual CS/US designation, which was questioned by the Holmes Brigade & the 9th Texas. We were asked to sponsor them, but declined until we our membership could discuss it. Based on knowledge of people involved, it was decided that we could sponsor them.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 27th, at the Old Courthouse in Warrensburg. Drill at 6:00, meeting at 7:30.

The meeting concluded at 9:00 PM.

Pursuant to direction from Hq, 4th Btn, I proceeded on a scout to Cole Camp on the 11th inst, where I surveyed the field of operations and prepared to establish camp. I was joined by Corp Riggs, but before we could establish the camp, the drought broke & we were forced to return to Warrensburg without accomplishing our mission. I returned to the vicinity of Cole Camp the next morning, and succeeded in establishing the camp, setting up picket posts, etc., with the help of Pvt Kisner & others. Both our army & the Federals continued concentrating all night and a continuous stream of refugees poured through our check points. By morning, it was apparent that almost 150 Confederate infantry, supported by 5 guns and 50 cavalry would be opposed by a Federal force of 65 infantry, 25 cavalry & 3 guns. Reviewing our morning reports, Co A of the 5th Infantry fielded 26 men & was joined by 3 conscripts & 2 stragglers from other units. However, our available rifles were greatly reduced by the 5 men we furnished to the color guard. Pvt Kinsey was given the honor of bearing the colors, in view of his upcoming special assignment to Alabama. In the Saturday morning action, our army, despite numerical superiority and superior position, left the field in control of the enemy, for what reason I am still unable to ascertain. Late in the afternoon, we made a surprise assault against Dutchmen quartered in a barn and routed them with heavy casualties but small loss to ourselves. A Dutch spy from Warrensburg, named Kesinger, was taken out and executed after his capture. He apparently had a twin, for we executed him again on Sunday. On Sunday afternoon, the Lord saw fit to deliver the enemy into our hands in a climactic battle which resulted in his annihilation. Col Beck, redeeming his unaccountable retirement from the field of the previous day, devised a tactic in which the infantry maneuvered to allow the cavalry and a flying battery to pass between our files and strike the enemy at close quarters. We then pushed the Yankees off the field, with great slaughter. During our advance, you apparently sustained a wound which put you hors d'combat and I was forced to take charge of the company. Due to our greatly depleted numbers, I placed us under temporary command of Capt Chartrand and we continued to drive the enemy until a well-executed volley dropped their rear-guard to a man. The victory shout, I am certain, revitalized our wounded who littered the field behind us. After the victory, we returned to assist the wounded and discovered that you had merely been rendered unconscious by some means; you revived miraculously after the firing ceased. After the rousing success of our arms, our army broke camp & dispersed

Yr Mst Obdt Svt: B Wayne, First Sergeant

D R I L L F A C T S , by the 1st Sgt

Because certain safety problems arose at Cole Camp, I will forego maneuvers for safety (but good drill is safe drill). In doing the research for this column, I arrived at a major reinterpretation of Hardee's!

FIRING FROM LINE OF BATTLE: There are several potential problems here, each of which we violated at some point at Cole Camp:

1. Front rank positioning. You can put yourself in jeopardy even if the rear rank man does everything right. On the command "READY" you are to make "a half face to the right on the left heel; carry the right foot to the rear, and place it at right angles to the left, the hollow of it opposite to, and against the left heel." (SOS 171) If you step out on your left foot, you make it difficult for the rear rank man to do his job.

2. Back rank positioning. If the back rank's musket is too far forward, you'll assault the eardrums of the front rank men with the sharp crack of the cap. If you're too far back, you stand a chance of seriously injuring someone with your muzzle blast. The book says that when you aim, you're to "carry the right foot about eight inches to the right, and towards the left heel of the man next on the right, inclining the upper part of the body forward" (SOS 176). The standard interpretation of this has been to step forward toward the front rank man to your right. Unfortunately, this sometimes puts your lockplate too far forward. You need to get that gun placed so the front rank man's ear is between the two bottom barrel bands. My reinterpretation: rear rank, on the command READY, does the same thing as the front rank man; on the command AIM, you step sideways toward the REAR RANK man to your right - this might even take your right foot a bit to the rear! Whatever you do, don't move your left foot, but make sure your right foot puts your musket in a safe place.

3. Firing over wounded. If you've ever felt the shower of hot particles or been lifted off the ground by muzzle blast, you'll treat this as important. When there are casualties in front of you, aim high!

4. Firing at close range. When we're too close to whomever we're firing at, fire either up in the air or off to one side.

5. Firing at angles. If we're not lined up perfectly with the enemy, we have a tendency to individually decide to fire at an oblique. Unfortunately, the man next to you may still be doing the proper thing & firing straight ahead. In such cases, you endanger him. Answer - if the commander doesn't tell you to fire by oblique, DON'T! If you think it looks stupid to fire in an unoccupied direction, protest by taking a hit.

6. Firing without thinking. Whenever you have the slightest doubt about the safety of what you're doing, DO NOT FIRE!

UNTRAINED MEN: This scares me. I don't want to see ANYONE in line of battle who hasn't drilled with us! I know that getting a recruit into battle is a sure way of setting the old hook, but people who haven't drilled don't know the difference between safe and unsafe. If your buddy doesn't arrive in time for drill & instruction, we don't dress him out. This goes for members in Recruit status if they can't be vouched for by a sponsor or an NCO.

INSPECTION ARMS: We do this every time we go out, but maybe it's time to think again about why we do it. On the second day at Cole Camp, I encountered an obstruction in Jeff's barrel (company gun, purchased used from Jim Green of the 2nd MO). I reversed the ramrod, it went to the bottom satisfactorily, so I let it go thinking it merely dirty. Someone also used the gun on Saturday, which means it was supposed to have been checked then, too. When Jeff cleaned the gun at home, he couldn't dislodge the obstruction - turns out it was a Minie ball skirt! From now on, any gun I inspect is condemned for the event if the ramrod won't properly spring [this can apply to a DIRTY gun, too]. I regret that I (& whoever inspected on Saturday) let this one get by.

A POLICY SUGGESTION: Perhaps we need to recognize our dedicated, fully-equipped soldiers with a designation higher than 'Veteran.' As you know, a veteran takes 90 days, a shirt, shoes, pants & shoulder arm, plus two events. People can meet this criterion with a civilian arm, civilian clothes, etc. There's nothing wrong with this impression, but it's very limiting. To encourage members to obtain the full military impression and participate regularly, I'd suggest the position of HIGH PRIVATE be bestowed on those who:

- 1) Have been a member of the company for at least one full year.
- 2) Can do a full military impression, including shell jacket, military weapon with bayonet, canteen, haversack, & tent.
- 3) During the previous year, participated in at least 10 events (reenactments, living history, & presentations), five of which must involve battle reenactments including 2/3 or more of the unit max efforts.
4. Generally meet unit standards of safety, authenticity, & conduct around camp (this is NOT meant to curtail anyone's consumption of malt beverages at appropriate times!).

This honor would be bestowed by the Commander after consultation with the rest of the Field Staff. It would recognize those who participate regularly yet do not hold rank, and would be announced at the Spring Drill each year.

EVENT ROSTER

CHECK YOUR STATUS. LET BILL KKNOW IF YOU'RE GOING TO ANY REMAINING EVENTS & YOU DON'T HAVE A 'Y'

NAME	RANK	TAC	DRL	WES	CCP	WLC	LEX	ROS	BEL
KOFFMAN	CPT	N\$	Y	Y	Y	Y\$f	Y	Y	Y
WAYNE	1SG	o	Y	Y	Y	Y\$f	Y	?	Y
CONNER	QSG	o	Y	Y	Y	Y\$	Y	Y	Y
RIGGS	CPL	N\$	Y	Y	Y	o\$	Y	Y	Y
YOAKUM	CPL	?\$	Y	Y	Y	Y\$f	?	o	Y
AGEE	rec	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
BALLMAN, GE	PVT	Y\$	Y	Y	Y	Y\$	Y	.	Y
BALLMAN, GR	PVT	Y\$	.	Y	o	Y\$	o	o	Y
BEARS	PVT	.	Y	Y	Y	Y\$	Y	Y	o
CHASTAIN	PVT	o	Y	Y	Y	Y\$f	.	.	Y
CUNNINGHAM	rec	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
DALEEN	PVT	o	Y	Y	Y	Y\$f	Y	.	Y
DAVIS	rec	-	-	-	Y	Y\$+	.	.	.
DURRILL	rec	-	-	-	-	Y\$+f	.	.	.
FAUGHT	rec	-	-	-	Y	Y\$+f	Y	.	Y
GRIFFIN	rec	-	-	-	.	.	.	.	.
GOLDSBERRY	PVT	o	Y	Y	Y	Y\$f	Y	Y	o
HAWKINS, III	rec	-	-	-	.	Y\$	.	.	.
HAWKINS, B	mus	-	-	-	.	Y\$	.	.	.
HAWKINS, R	rec	-	-	-	.	Y\$	.	.	.
ISAM	rec	-	-	Y	Y	Y\$+f	Y	.	.
KEOWN	rec	.	.	.	Y	.	Y	.	.
KERKSIEK	rec	-	-	-	-	.	.	.	.
KINSEY	PVT	o	Y	Y	Y	o\$	o	o	o
KISNER	PVT	o	Y	Y	Y	Y\$f	Y	Y	Y
LEE	rec	-	-	-	-	Y	.	.	.
MELOT	PVT	o	Y	Y	Y	Y\$	Y	Y	o
POWELL	PVT	.	Y	Y	N	Y\$	Y	.	.
PRICE	rec	-	-	-	N	.	.	.	.
RIGGS, C	MUS	.	.	.	.	o	.	.	.
ROBERTS, B	PVT	Y	.	x	Y	Y\$+	.	.	.
ROBERTS, D	PVT	o	Y	Y	Y	Y\$f	Y	Y	Y
ROBERTSON	PVT	Y\$	Y	Y	Y	Y\$	Y	o	Y
ROUSH	PVT	o	Y	Y	Y	Y\$f	Y	Y	o
SHANKS	PVT	o	x	Y	Y	Y\$	Y	Y	.
SHERRER	PVT	o	Y	x	Y	Y\$f	Y	Y	o
THOMAS	PVT	N\$	.	Y	Y	Y\$f	Y	.	Y
TILLMAN	rec	-	-	-	Y	.	.	.	.
TUCKER	rec	-	-	-	Y	Y\$+f	Y	Y	.
VICK, A	rec	-	Y	.	.	.	.	.	.
VICK, R	rec	-	Y	x	.	.	.	.	.
VISSMAN	PVT	.	.	.	o	.	.	.	.
WELLER	rec	.	x\$	.	.	.	.	.	.
WOODY	rec	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
ZIMMERSCHIED	rec	-	-	-	-	.	.	.	.
(nr committed)		7	21	20	26	30	22	13	15

KEY: Y is Yes (will or did attend), ? is questionable, o = No, . means no commitment received.
 N means said Y, but did not attend.
 TAC=tactical, DRL=drill, WES=weston, CCP=Cole Camp,
 WLC=Wilson Creek, LEX=Lexington, ROS=Roscoe,
 BEL=Belmont

NAME	RANK	TAC	DRL	WES	CCP	WLC	LEX	ROS	BEL
AGEE, B	civ	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
BALLMAN, K	civ	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
BEARS, DEB	civ	.	.	.	Y	Y\$	Y	Y	.
HORTON	civ	o	Y	Y	Y	Y\$	Y	Y	Y
KERKSIEK	civ	-	-	-	-	.	.	.	.
LEE	civ	-	-	-	-	Y	.	.	.
McCLINTOCK	civ	.	.	.	N	Y\$+	Y	.	Y
RIGGS, J	civ	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
ROBERTSON, D	civ	.	x	.	.	.	Y	o	Y
ROUSH, M	civ	.	Y	Y	Y	Y\$f	Y	Y	.
ROWE	civ	.	Y	x	o	Y\$	Y	?	o
SHANKS, B	civ	.	.	Y	.	o\$	.	.	.
THOMPSON	civ	.	x	.	.	.	.	.	.
WAYNE, S	civ	.	Y	.	Y	.	.	.	.
			4	3	4	6	6	3	3
totals			25	24	30	36	28	16	18

BULLETIN: CARTRIDGE PARTY & OPTIONAL DRILL

We've scheduled a cartridge rolling party for Sunday at 6:00 PM at Todd Conner's. Our new recruits are encouraged to come early (say 5:00 PM) and practice some drill & firing. This is a great opportunity for anyone who wants to go to Wilson's Creek (but is afraid he isn't competent) to learn enough to be safe (the State Guard didn't know their drill, either). Bring clothes, weapons if you have them, so we can give you advice & fit you.

To find Todd's place, take US 50 to just east of Knob Noster, then 'D' south. You'll pass 'Y - east', 'AB', then 'Y' - west. Take the first gravel road to the right [west] (about 1.5 miles south of 'Y' west), go 2.3 miles. House is on the south side of the road, under trees.

From Windsor, take 'NW' north to 'D', then north on 'D' to first gravel road on left (about 2 miles), then 2.3 miles west.

Battle of Wilson's Creek

A brief summary of what happened

It's Aug 10, 1861. The Missouri State Guard has been forced to the southwestern part of the state, but defeated Sigel at Carthage en route. Gen Price has been negotiating with Gen McCulloch, trying to get Confederate forces to help rescue Missouri from Gen Lyon. McCulloch finally agreed to advance when Old Pap allowed him to take overall command of the joint expedition. The southern force advanced toward Springfield, fighting a skirmish at Dug Springs, which didn't endear the ragtag MSG troops to McCulloch. By Aug 6, McCulloch had set camp at Wilson's Creek along Telegraph Road, only 12 miles from Springfield. He planned to move out on Aug 9 for a dawn attack. Rain caused him to postpone the movement, since the MSG generally had no means of keeping their cartridges dry. The units didn't send out their pickets when the move was cancelled. The total forces were estimated at 12,000-13,000.

Meanwhile, Gen Lyon had been pleading for reinforcements. When none were forthcoming, he decided that he would be unable to successfully withdraw to the railhead at Rolla unless he'd checked the southern forces, so he set out the evening of Aug 9 to launch a dawn attack on McCulloch & Price. He had only about 5,400 men, and split his forces, sending Sigel with 1,200 around behind the southern position.

At 5:00 AM, Lyon was in position & launched his attack on the camps of Gen Rains' MSG troops. The first camps, mostly cavalry, scattered. However, some of the infantry (including troops from Johnson County) were placed in position to oppose the first advance. Meanwhile, Sigel had snuck around astride the road leading south, and when he heard Lyon's assault, began shelling the Texas cavalry camps, which dispersed. Price & McCulloch immediately began sending troops into line to oppose the main attack from the north. The Federals had the advantage of high ground, training, & military weapons, while the MSG's shotguns were deadly in the close range combat the thick undergrowth required.

As the battle developed Capt Plummer's US regulars advanced down the east side of Wilson Creek & into the Ray cornfield. The 3rd Louisiana moved into the cornfield to oppose them, and after trading volleys, charged with bayonet & routed the regulars. They then came under artillery fire from Totten's battery & withdrew (This is the Friday scenario). The 3rd La, along with some MSG troops, was then sent to the southern part of the battlefield to meet Sigel. Sigel's artillerymen thought that the 3rd La was the 1st Iowa, who had gray uniforms, & allowed them to reach close range. The 3rd La fired a volley & charged the guns, capturing them and routing Sigel's forces (this is Saturday's battle).

By 9:00 AM, the only action left was on the by-now "Bloody Hill" where fighting had been continuous since 5. The MSG had attacked Lyon's right twice but gained no ground due to the effectiveness of the Federal artillery. There had also been a cavalry charge by Greer's Texans, who were badly cut up before they could reach the guns. Lyon & Price had both been slightly wounded by now, Slack seriously wounded, & Weightman killed. Price & McCulloch massed almost 6,000 men & began a general push, while Lyon put everyone possible into line. While leading forward the 2nd Kansas, he was hit by a Minie and killed. The assault was beaten back, Sturgis (now commanding) withdrew the Federal troops leaving his casualties on the field, and by 11:00 the battle was over. Official casualty lists show for the Federals: 258 killed, 873 wounded, 186 missing (1,317 total, 24.5%). The confederate total was 277 killed, 945 wounded (1,222 total, 12%). The MSG had 5171 engaged, took casualties of 173 killed, 551 wounded (14%). The 2nd Brigade, Rains' Div, had 87 casualties of 1,210 engaged.

After the battle, the Union troops retreated precipitously toward Rolla, leaving Lyon's remains in Springfield. McCulloch refused to pursue, so Price started north toward Lexington without Confederate army help.

The other side of this info sheet has a map from Battles & Leaders.

Other activities scheduled for the event include a Memorial Program at dusk on Aug 10th.

UNIFORMS

For the Ray Cornfield (Friday evening), impression is 3rd LA (gray uniforms & regular gear) or Ark Mounted Rifles (similar to MSG).

For Sigel's Rout (Sat PM), 3rd LA or MSG.

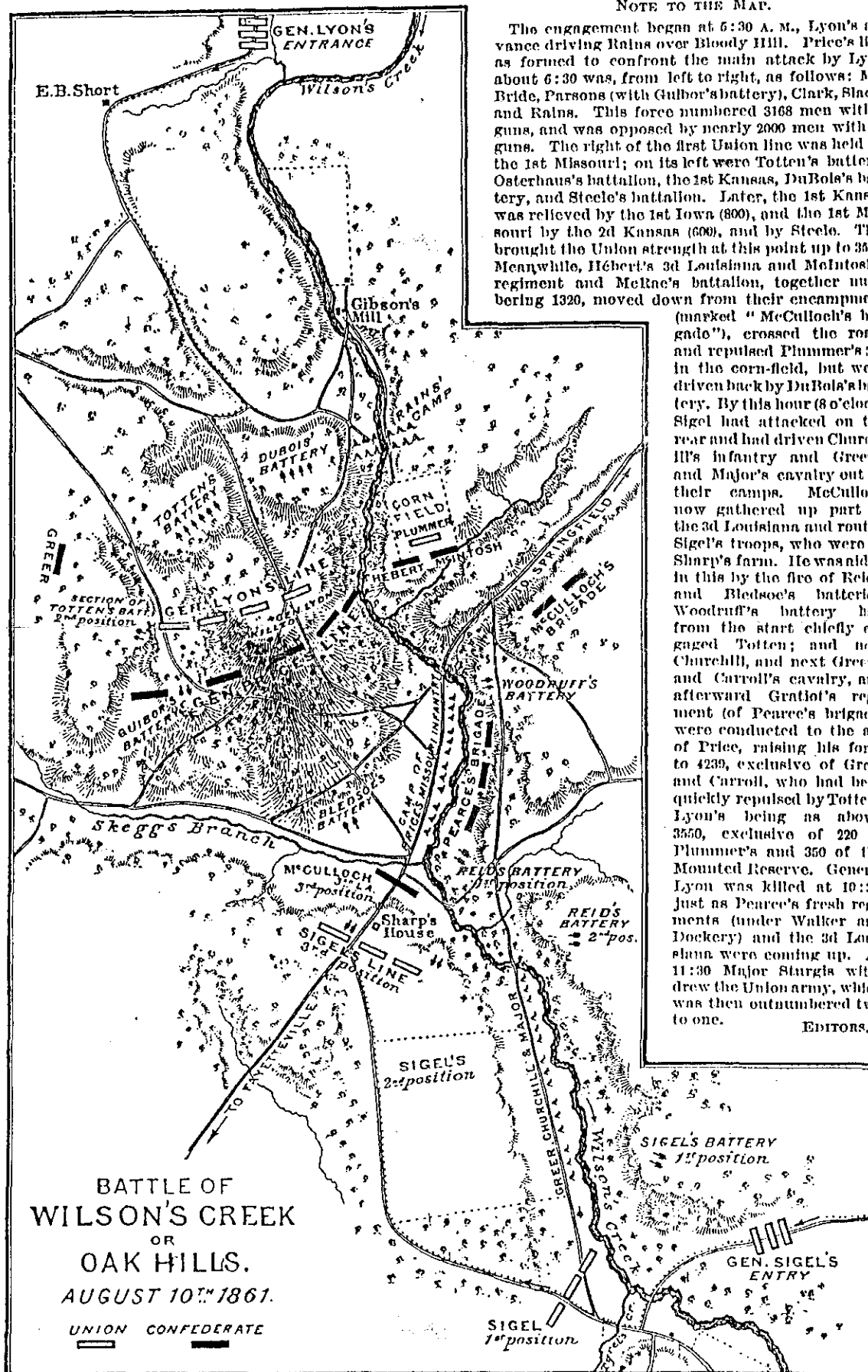
For Bloody Hill (Sunday), MSG. Civilian arms if possible, otherwise military weapons OK. Mixture of civilian & military accouterments - carry an EMPTY powderhorn for your squirrel gun (all powder must be in cartridges). Blue shirts as agreed. No gray shell jackets or hats.

NOTE TO THE MAP.

The engagement began at 6:30 A. M., Lyon's advance driving Raina over Bloody Hill. Price's line as formed to confront the main attack by Lyon about 6:30 was, from left to right, as follows: McBride, Parsons (with Gulbor's battery), Clark, Slack, and Raina. This force numbered 3168 men with 4 guns, and was opposed by nearly 2000 men with 10 guns. The right of the first Union line was held by the 1st Missouri; on its left were Totten's battery, Osterhaus's battalion, the 1st Kansas, DuBola's battery, and Steele's battalion. Later, the 1st Kansas was relieved by the 1st Iowa (800), and the 1st Missouri by the 2d Kansas (600), and by Steele. This brought the Union strength at this point up to 3550. Meanwhile, Hébert's 3d Louisiana and McIntosh's regiment and McKee's battalion, together numbering 1320, moved down from their encampment

(marked "McCulloch's brigade"), crossed the road, and repulsed Plummer's 300 in the corn-field, but were driven back by DuBola's battery. By this hour (8 o'clock) Sigel had attacked on the rear and had driven Churchill's infantry and Greer's and Major's cavalry out of their camps. McCulloch now gathered up part of the 3d Louisiana and routed Sigel's troops, who were at Sharp's farm. He was aided in this by the fire of Reid's and Bledsoe's batteries. Woodruff's battery had from the start chiefly engaged Totten; and now Churchill, and next Greer's and Carroll's cavalry, and afterward Gratiot's regiment (of Pearee's brigade) were conducted to the aid of Price, raising his force to 4239, exclusive of Greer and Carroll, who had been quickly repulsed by Totten; Lyon's being as above, 3550, exclusive of 220 of Plummer's and 350 of the Mounted Reserve. General Lyon was killed at 10:30. Just as Pearee's fresh regiments (under Walker and Dockery) and the 3d Louisiana were coming up. At 11:30 Major Sturgis withdrew the Union army, which was then outnumbered two to one.

EDITORS.



BATTLE OF
WILSON'S CREEK
OR
OAK HILLS.
AUGUST 10th 1861.

UNION CONFEDERATE

1991 ANNOTATED SCHEDULE as of 7/30/91

Symbols: * means battle, **Bold Face** MCWRA sanctioned or max effort, ALL CAPS 5th Mo Max effort, \$ - 5th Mo local commitment, ? - Participation questionable.

* AUG 9-11, **WILSON'S CREEK**. 130th Anniversary national event. See EVENT DETAILS.

Aug 17-18, Lone Jack. Annual commemoration, LH. Possible skirmish, recruiting opportunity. Contact Todd if you'll attend.

Sep 7-8, Salbatha, KS (50 mi W of St Joe). LH, skirmish. Limited space.

\$ Sep 14, Warrensburg. Fall Festival drill demo, noon. Knob Noster also requests our presence.

* Sep 21-22, Lexington, 130th Anniversary battle, state sponsored. See EVENT DETAILS.

* Sep 28-29, St Charles. Annual battle. Will use Goldenrod showboat for dinner/dance.

Sep 28-29, Kansas City. Wornall House camp, LH.

Sep 28-29, Amsterdam, MO. Camp & LH.

* Oct 5-6, Roscoe. Battle & LH. See EVENT DETAILS.

Oct 19-20, Arkansas Post NM (50 mi SE Pine Bluff). LH.

* Oct 26-27, Charleston, MO. MCWRA MAX, 130th Anniversary battle of Belmont, original site. See EVENT DETAILS.

Possible 1992 events:

March: Elkhorn Tavern 130th
Late April: Butler
May 3: LH at Jeff City
Late July: Glasgow
Mid-August: Lone Jack 130th
Mid-Sept: Pilot Knob
Early Dec: Prairie Grove 130th
Others Interested: Windsor, Nevada, Warsaw, Concordia?
National Event (?): Iuka, MS; Murfreesboro TN

MAILING LIST UPDATE:

John Kinsey to 1654-B Snead Rd, Gunter AFB, AL 36115.

New Members - all to 1st platoon, 2nd section:

Jerry & Cindy Lee, RT 3, Box 194-B, Cole Camp. MO 65325. 816-668-3635. (S - Thomas)

D.E. & Lorriane Kerksiek, PO Box 731, Stover, MO 65078. 314-377-4133. (S - Thomas)

Kevin Zimmerschied, 2000 S. Kentucky, Sedalia, MO 65301. 816-826-1249. (S - Koffman)

John Durrill, 619 W. 7th, Sedalia, MO 65301. 816-826-7599 or 7195. (S - Chastain)

T I D - B I T S : A quote from the Crowley's Courier: "At the Weston event a good recruit from Independence was recruited by the 5th Mo. Apparently anyone who is sending recruits from Johnson and Laffayette (sic) counties to the 5th need not bother!" This comment got my dander up a bit, especially since we walked one fellow into their camp at Weston & Jeff's brother is thinking about signing on with Crowley's. Then again, they've never referred anyone to us anyway, so why worry? (follow-up: the opinion doesn't seem to be universal there, & they did send us a few at Cole Camp).

Todd & Dave Bears rode with the cavalry on Sunday's rout, and Larry went Yank.

One lesson learned: don't schedule battles to interfere with the cook's cooking activities - Saturday lunch dried out in everyone's absence.

We ate pretty well, & so did the chiggers. Bring your LittleJohn's bottle to Wilson Creek (& maybe Lexington).

I am told that Miss Kathryn's tent attracted a crowd - it seems that it sported the 'Soiled Dove' sign, compliments of the Ladies of the Ninth Texas.

If I start acting like I want to sponsor a major event next year, tie me up! Too much work takes the fun out of reenacting, even when things go well.

EVENT DETAILS

WILSON'S CREEK, August 9-11. The BIG EVENT for 1991. We'll need our blue shirts for our State Guard impression, but should have a generic reb available for 2 of the battles. They'll furnish basic amenities only, no food or powder. We will bring food as a unit, and everyone who attends will be assessed a \$10 pro-rated share. Since there are 4 battles, bring lots of powder. We preregistered 25 men, 5 ladies (& will send in 5 supplementals); anyone else will cost \$7.50. More details on fights in later issues. To get there, go west on I-44 to exit 70, South on MM across US 60 to M & ZZ, south on ZZ & look for signs. If you get there early, be sure to tour the battlefield so you can appreciate the reenactment more. If you have time, read The Battle of Wilson's Creek by Edwin C. Bearss.

LEXINGTON, September 20-21. Will be an excellent event. We'll camp close to Anderson House, but arrive early to prevent delays such as we had at Weston - no vehicles into camp! Saturday skirmish through town, Sunday battle, absolutely first class candlelight on Sat PM. Usual foodstuffs, state DNR amenities, even some indoor plumbing. Just up the road, too!

ROSCOE, October 5-6. A nice local event, about 10 miles southeast of Osceola on MO 82. They expect one prepared meal, raw foods, porta-johns, 2 actions. More info should be out soon.

BELMONT, Mississippi County, Oct 25-27. MCWRA MAX. Looks like best of the year as far as amenities, etc. All meals prepared, shuttle across river to Columbus KY. Masked Ball SAT nite, Battles Sat & Sun, candlelight tours & night fire demo. Sat afternoon tea & fashion show for ladies. To get there: I-70 to St Louis, I-55 past Sikeston to Mo 80, Mo 80 east to site. About 170 miles from St Louis. OUR DEADLINE: Aug 15!

T H E M E S S E N G E R
Fifth Missouri Infantry, Co A
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