

THE MESSENGER

5th MISSOURI INFANTRY, COMPANY A
Rt 3, Box 130
Warrensburg, MO 64093
816-747-5728

VOL 2, Number 12 ++++++ DECEMBER 1991

CONTENTS: The final issue of our second year, with 52 members on MCWRA books! As usual, we'll have words about the mud-bath at Belmont, projected 1992 events, & the MCWRA meetings.

APOLOGIES: For the several errors in the last issue. I apparently worked it too close to deadline. If some of y'all would give me some input then maybe I wouldn't have to scratch so hard to keep filling this thing up!

PERSONNEL: Welcome to Tina Douglas, a friend of Ryan Wade & Lara Burch & who christened her new dress at Belmud. Our media connections continue to expand with John Gilger & family. John works at KDRO, Sedalia. We have several new Veterans: Jerry Lee, Sam Hafley, Nick Davis.

UPCOMING EVENTS: Our annual elections in Sedalia on Saturday, January 25th, 6:30 PM. You cannot vote if your dues aren't paid! The MCWRA scheduling meeting is in Jeff City on Saturday, January 11, 1992, 9:30 AM. I've also contacted Resaca GA & Glorieta NM in response to interest in an event out of the area. Those are the only interesting ones listed in the May-July time frame, so far. Glorieta has already responded.

FUND RAISING: Now is the time to start planning next year's fundraisers! We ought to do another raffle, maybe another Brat sale. We can also see about getting a share of donations for helping out some things that the Johnson County Historical Society & Warrensburg chamber may be planning.

T-SHIRTS: We have 9 left! Place your order NOW!

DUES: If'n you haven't paid your 1992 dues yet, the notice is enclosed. If you're not paid in time for me to get them in to MCWRA by January 15th, you won't get a February MCWRA newsletter!

BANQUET: The annual banquet was a moderate success, with 33 in attendance. Unfortunately, we had a real shortage of pictures to share. Perhaps next year, we'll shoot for early December after deer season.

SPRING DRILL: We tentatively set it for the first weekend in April at Arrow Rock. I've heard from the site administrator, who likes the idea (he belongs to Holmes Brigade) & is working to clear it within DNR.

NEXT MEETING: Our annual elections are scheduled for Saturday, January 25, 1992 at 6:30 PM at either Farm & Home Savings or the Pettis County Courthouse, Sedalia. If your dues aren't paid, you don't vote. Make sure you check the event listing to check on your events attended last year, & if you're eligible for Veteran status make sure your sponsor (& the 1st Sgt) knows that you have your gun, shoes, shirt & pants. If you attended events or gave presentations in addition to those on the list, make sure Bill knows so you can qualify for 'High Private' status.

CROWLEY'S ELECTION UPDATE: Since we work so closely with Crowley's, we need to stay up on who their leaders are: Capt Tom Dyer, Lt Dave Weaver, 1Sgt Clayton Murphy, 2Sgt Kent Nelson, 3Sgt Joe Broski, Corps Bob Burnos, Chris Hulett, Sam Kimmeyer, David Schmitt, Color Sgt Richard Taylor. Nelson & Schmitt live near Pittsville! A good bunch to work with.

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

"We all went down to Belmont town for mud, for mud
We all went down to Belmont town for mud, says I
We all went down to Belmont town, little expecting that we might drown.
And we'll all drink stone blind, Georgie fill up the bowl"

That about expresses our weekend at Belmont. We did get in a few things that need to be remembered. When we're in column at the right flank (i.e., in 4's) & the command "By Company Into Line" is given, the right company guide keeps marching straight ahead, just as though we were the only company on the field, until the command 'Dress Left' is given. Then, we align on the left guide, who is following the left guide of the preceding company. When told to go forward into line, we'll do either a left oblique or a left half wheel, march to our proper position, then either forward march or right half wheel into line. The mud made it very difficult to execute anything there!

When Col Beck sent us to the right end of the line, he didn't tell us why. Had I known that he wanted us to drive against the enemy cavalry, we would have done things a little differently. In any case, it's perfectly legal to be inverted & fire on the enemy. In such a case, the rear rank is still the rear rank, even though they're in front temporarily.

AFTER ACTION REPORT, Belmont, Missouri

To: Capt Koffman: Sir: On or about the 25th inst of October, 19 members of our company proceeded to the Mississippi County area to help repel an expected raid out of Cairo, to be led by a certain officer known in the old army more for his consumption of spirituous beverages than for the excellence of his leadership. While the delta country had been suffering from a severe drought, just as the rest of our state, the heavens picked that day to begin a deluge that was to turn the delta soil into the gumbo it is notorious for. Our campsite, originally placed in the middle of a recently cultivated field, was quickly relocated to a dry spot along an abandoned railroad line, thanks to the initiative of acting Corp Geo. Ballman. We soon had a line of tents established, with space reserved for the cook tent & command tent. The following morning, we took roll and prepared ourselves as best we could for at the day's activities. Since we were joined by several raw recruits, including Messrs Allred & Heidgertaen (acquaintances of Corp Yoakum) & private Zimmerschied, we performed a short weapon inspection & firing drill, but were unable due to the pervasive mud to perfect our ability to perform any complex evolutions or maneuvers. At last, the word came that the Federals were nigh upon us. We looked about in vain for our leader, but again you were detained by other catastrophes (this time, we understand, pertaining to your transport), so I was again reluctantly thrust into command of the company at the moment of battle. The men performed generally well under excessively adverse circumstances, as the mud made one's feet grow in size & weight with each pace taken. However, there was one serious lapse when the men broke under fire & raced (?) for the rear as fast as their mud-massive brogans would carry them, despite my threats & imprecations. However, they redeemed themselves in a counterattack soon afterwards, marred only by the devastating volley poured into the rear of an advanced formation of Col. Johnson's batallion. The field being ours, we slogged off in victory with heads and muskets high. While we had expected a resumption of hostilities on Sunday, it appears that many on both sides deserted overnight rather than face the mud again. Consequently, the army dispersed without the need of doing battle again. I commend to your attention Acting First Sergeant Riggs, who gallantly fell in battle (& the mud - while wearing MY shell jacket), and recruit Ryan Wade, who managed to cover with mud his musket, his leather gear & his poncho (all of which he had borrowed from me) as well as himself. I would also like to specially commend those fairer persons who braved the circumstances to aid and minister to the troops: the ladies Bears & Lee, as well as the misses Burch & Douglas.

Yr Obdt Svt, W. Wayne, Acting Lieutenant.

ELECTION CONSIDERATIONS: At the January meeting, we will elect a Secretary/Treasurer, as well as all the field officers. For your information, I've extracted the appropriate part of the By-laws with the responsibilities of each office. Appropriate rank should attach to these offices. We can have other positions with rank, as well, since we've grown to the point that we field enough men. It does not appear that we'll be authorized a permanent LT slot, but we will need at least 2 sergeants & 4 corporals, all of whom can move up a slot or so as needed at events. These people will also need responsibilities, such as ordnance officer, or specific additional field responsibilities (cook, assistant to one of the named positions, etc.). In any case, the individuals selected should attend most events, be dependable, and be safe & competent on the field (i.e., should know the basic drill & manual of arms & have the aptitude for learning & teaching same to recruits). Anyone whose name is placed in nomination for a position must be willing to perform that position's duties & to occasionally move into a file closer position on the field. Plus, all field positions go to Veterans! Consider your votes carefully!

V - OFFICERS

There shall be two sets of officers, the Organizational Staff and the Field Staff. Individuals may serve on both staffs.

A. Organizational Staff: The Organizational Staff shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, and a Secretary/Treasurer. They shall be elected for terms of two years; the President & Vice-President in odd years and the Secretary/Treasurer in even years.

1. The President will represent the Unit in all official matters, preside over meetings, preserve order and enforce the By-laws.
2. The Vice-President will preside over meetings and represent the Unit in the absence of the President. He will perform such other duties as the members may designate.
3. The Secretary/Treasurer will be responsible for all Unit records, including membership and minutes of meetings. He shall collect all dues and other revenue, sign all checks, and maintain such accounting records as are required.

B. Field Staff: The Field Staff shall consist of such persons at such ranks as the membership shall decide. However, there shall be no more than one commissioned officer position for the first ten and each twenty additional Veterans. All members of the Field Staff will be Veterans. They shall be elected by secret ballot for terms of one year at the January meeting. The following functional positions, which may be combined with the consent of the individual elected, will be filled by the field staff:

1. The Commander will be a Commissioned or non-commissioned officer. He has overall responsibility for the conduct of the Unit at events and will represent the unit in Commanders' meetings. When the Unit serves alone, he will act as on-field commander. When the unit serves with other units, he will fill such positions as may be designated by the overall commander based on rank and experience.
2. The Personnel Officer will normally hold the rank of First Sergeant if such position is authorized. The personnel officer is responsible for recruiting, overseeing the upgrade of Recruits, and assuring that event reporting requirements are met.
3. The Quartermaster will normally be a non-commissioned officer. He is responsible for all Unit-owned gear and for ensuring it is transported to and from events. He will ensure that unit-owned personal equipment is properly controlled when issued to unit members.
4. The Safety Officer is responsible for enforcing all safety rules required by the event sponsors or by the Unit. He will hold such rank as may be decided by the members.
5. The Authenticity Officer is responsible for providing guidance to the Staff and members on proper equipment and impressions. The rank associated with this position will be decided by the members.

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

Feb 8, Excelsior Springs: annual ball.

March 7-9, Pea Ridge Nat'l Battlefield, AR. 130th Anniversary living history on original site. Non-opposing firing.

APRIL 4-5, ARROW ROCK STATE PARK, Spring drill, Watch for more information.

* April 25-26, Butler, MO. First MCWRA action of the year. Last 2 events ('86 & '89) were good. Federal trenches, candlelight tour, etc.

May 2 (?) Jeff City heritage days living history.

May 2 & 3, Ft Scott KS: Federal annual encampment.

May 16-17: Grandview: Harry's Hay Days parade, living history & skirmish.

* May 15-17: Battle of Resaca, GA. Information requested.

* June 13-14. Grand Island Nebraska (Stuhr Museum) - a fun event in a restored town (1880's vintage), street fighting.

* July 4th weekend: Glorieta Pass, NM - 130th Anniversary event, information requested.

July 11. Concordia: Town wants us to reenact two separate massacres of their ancestors. They'll furnish direct descendents whom we'll dress & then shoot! Good recruiting op.

* Aug 1-2. Glasgow wants a max effort event with all amenities, dance, etc.

* Aug 15-16: Lone Jack: A max effort request with possible benefit thrown in. 130th anniversary right down the road.

Sep 19-20: Cabin Creek, OK wants this date, but it may conflict with Pilot Knob, in which case we're committed to Pilot Knob as a state DNR event.

TIDBITS FROM BELMUD: This would have been the best event of the year had the rains not come. Food was plentiful, sanitary facilities abundant, water buffs refilled as needed, nice powder issue (25 lbs).

In honor of my first opportunity to use the low range on my 4WD, I've composed the following song: sing it to the tune of "Cumberland Gap"

Refrain: "Sit down boys & have another bud, sit down boys & have another bud, sit down boys & have another bud; listen to my tale of the Belmont mud"

"Went to Belmont during a drought (rpt twice), Never thought we'd be rained out" Refrain.

"It rained all day & it rained all night (rpt 2), & wiped out a darn good fight" Refrain.

"They laid out camp in a field of muck (rpt 2), then disked it so it'd bog a truck" (ref)

Your additional verses are solicited.

MAILING LIST CHANGES:

Additions:

John Gilger & family (Jeanie, Julie, Alex & Beth). Rt 3, Box 422 AB, Warsaw, MO 65355. 816-438-3398 (H), 816-826-5005 (O). Sponsor: Koffman.

Tina Douglas, 229 Ely Hall, William Jewell College, Liberty, MO 64068.

Sep 26-27: St Charles (haven't applied, but this is their usual date).

* Oct 3-4: Perryville, KY 130th anniversary & national event. Full military impression required. They do an annual event so should know what they're doing. This is the BIG one for 1992.

Oct 17-18: Alternate date for Cabin Creek, OK

* Oct 24-25: Mine Creek, KS (west of Butler) site of 1864 debacle. Big cav. event.

* Dec 5-6: 130th anniversary Battle of Prairie Grove, AR. Always good, on original field.

Mar 1993 National Event: Murfreesboro TN

5 TH MISSOURI INFANTRY, CO A
 EVENT ROSTER - 1991 (a/o 11/26)

Combatants

NAME	TAC	DRL	WES	ic	col	pea	SHCK	wbg	CC	WLCK	lj	ff	LEX	brat	ROS	shel	BEL	band
KOFFMAN	.	Y	Y	.	Y	.	.	.	Y	Y	.	y	Y	.	Yl	.	Y	y
WAYNE	.	Y	Y	y	y	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	y	y	Y	y	Y	.	Y	y
CONNER	.	Y	Y	y	y	.	.	Y	Y	Y	.	y	Yc	y	Yc	y	Yc	y
RIGGS	.	Y	Y	.	Y	.	.	Y	Y	.	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	.	Y	y
YOAKUM	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	.	.	.	Y	Y	.	.	Y	.	.	.	Y	y
AGEE
BALLMAN, GE	Y	Y	Y	.	Y	.	.	Y	Y	Y	.	Y	Y	Y	.	.	Y	y
BALLMAN, GR	Y	.	Y	.	.	.	.	.	.	Y	.	.	Y	.	.	.	Y	.
BEARS	.	Y	Y	.	.	.	Y	y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Yc	y	Yc	.	Y	y
BLOCK	Y	.	.	Y	.	.
BRIGGS	Y	Y	Y	.	.	.
CHASTAIN	.	Y	Y	.	Y	.	.	Y	Y	Y	.	Y	Y	.	.	.	.	.
CUNNINGHAM
DALEEN	.	Y	Y	.	.	.	.	.	Y	Y	.	.	Y	Y	.	.	Y	.
DAVIS	Y	Y	.	.	.	.	.	.	Y	.
DURRILL	Y	.	.	Y	.	.	.	.	Y
FAUGHT	Y	.	.	Y	Y	Y	Y	.	Y	.	.	.	Y	.
GOLDSBERRY	.	Y	Y	.	Y	.	Y	.	Y	Y	.	.	Y	y	Y	y	Y	y
GRIFFIN
HAFLEY	Y	.	Y	.	Y	.
HAWKINS, B
HAWKINS, R
HAWKINS, BEN
ISAM	.	.	Y	.	.	.	.	.	Y	Y	.	.	Y	.	.	.	.	Y
KEOWN	Y	.	.	.	Y	.	.	.	.	.
KERKSIEK	Y	Y	.	.	Y	.	.	.	.	Y
KINSEY	.	Y	Y	.	Y	.	.	Y	Y	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
KISNER	.	Y	Y	.	Y	.	.	Y	Y	Y	.	y	Y	Y	Y	.	.	Y
LEE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
LOESCH	Y	.	.	.	Y	.	.	.	.	.
MELOT	.	Y	Y	.	.	.	.	.	Y	Y	.	.	Y	.	.	.	.	.
MILLER	Y	.	Y	.	.	.
MULLENS
POWELL	.	Y	Y	.	.	.	.	Y	.	Y	Y	.	Y	.	.	.	.	.
PRICE
RIGGS, CHIP
ROBERTS, B	Y	.	.	Y	Y	.	.	.	Y	Y	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
ROBERTS, D	.	Y	Y	y	.	.	.	.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	.	.	.	Y
ROBERTSON	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	.	.	.	Y	Y	.	.	Y	.	.	.	Y	Y
ROOT	Y	.	.	.	.	.
ROUSH	.	Y	Y	.	.	.	.	.	Y	Y	.	.	Y	.	Y	.	.	Y
SHANKS	.	.	Y	.	.	.	.	.	Y	Y	.	.	Y	.	.	.	Y	Y
SHERRER	.	Y	.	.	Y	.	.	.	Y	Y	.	.	Y	.	Y	.	.	Y
SIEFKAS	Y	.	.	.	Y	.
THOMAS	.	Y	Y	.	.	.	.	.	Y	Y	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
TILLMAN	Y	.	Y	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
TUCKER	.	.	.	Y	Y	.	Y	y	Y	Y	y	y	Y	y	Y	y	Y	.
VICK, A	.	Y	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
VICK, R	.	Y	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
VIESSMAN
WADE	Y	.	.	Y	.	.	.	Y	.
WELLER
WOODY
ZIMMERSCHIED	Y	.
NAME	TAC	DRL	WES	ic	col	pea	SHCK	wbg	CC	WLCK	lj	ff	LEX	brat	ROS	shel	BEL	band

FIFTH MISSOURI INFANTRY, COMPANY A (CSA)

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD November 16, 1991

The meeting was called to order by the President at 7:55 PM at the Sedalia Best Western after conclusion of the banquet. In attendance were veterans Riggs, Koffman, Wayne, Conner, D. Roberts, Sherrer, Ballman, Isam, Goldsberry, Kisner, Roush, Robertson, Yoakum, Shanks & Bears; Recruits Durrill, Kerksiek, & Lee; non-combatants Horton, Cindy Lee, Deb Bears, Lorraine Kerksiek, Debbie Thompson, Martha Roush, Judy Riggs & Sandra Wayne; associate Kesinger. Guests were Cathy Isam, Barbara Kisner, Melissa & Cheryl Sherrer, Barbara Halley, & Doris Koffman.

Nick Davis, Jerry Lee & Sam Hafley, having met all criteria for Veteran status, were accepted as Veterans. We now have 29 Veterans.

The minutes as published in the October Messenger were accepted. The Treasurer reported a bank balance of \$1171.90 with \$168 owed to MCWRA & approximately \$300 for the banquet. We had sold 39 T-shirts & have covered the cost. The Bratwurst sale netted \$251.78.

The proposed 1992 event schedule was discussed to provide guidance for the scheduling meeting in January. It was decided to support Butler, Glasgow & Lone Jack as Max Effort events, in addition to the State event at Pilot Knob and the national event at Perryville. The Secretary was requested to check into Eastern events during the dead period in June-July. It was moved & unanimously voted that the 5th will not sponsor any events in 1992.

Bill briefed on the MCWRA policy changes on under-16 participants & dangerous incidents. Spring Drill was set for April 4/5, 1992, preferably at Arrow Rock.

Charlie brought up the need to start thinking about our rank/position structure for 1992, especially the quartermaster slot because of the responsibility involved. The suggestion that we investigate a company trailer was again raised; Debbie Thompson said that her father could build a custom trailer for us if desired, so a committee of George Ballman & Dave Bears was appointed to research the situation & report at or before the next meeting.

Bob Koffman, using the Commander's prerogative, issued Secession cockades for meritorious service to Bill Wayne, George Ballman, Keith Daleen, Nick Davis, Kevin Zimmerschied, Larry Shanks, Gaylen Goldsberry, Charlie Riggs, Greg Ballman & David Kesinger.

The next meeting & annual elections are set for 6:30 PM Saturday, January 25th, 1992, at Farm & Home Savings or the Pettis County Courthouse, Sedalia. The meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Submitted 11/17/91, 2:40 PM, Bill Wayne, Secretary

non-combatants		TAC	DRL	WES	jc	col	pea	SHCK	wbg	CC	WLCK	lj	ff	LEX	brat	ROS	shel	BEL	bang
NAME																			
AGEE, B		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
BALLMAN, K		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
BEARS, DEB		.	.	.	.	.	.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	.	Y	Y	Y	.	Y	Y
BURCH		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
DOUGLAS		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
HORTON		Y	Y	Y	Y	.	.	.	Y	Y	Y	.	Y	Y	Y	.	Y	Y	Y
KERKSIEK, L		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	Y	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	Y
LEE, C		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	Y	Y	.	.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
MCCLINTOCK		.	.	.	.	Y	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
RIGGS, J		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	Y	.	.	Y	Y	.	.	Y	Y
ROBERTSON, D		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
ROUSH, M		Y	Y	.	.	.	.	.	.	Y	Y	.	.	Y	.	.	.	.	Y
ROWE		Y	.	Y	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	Y	Y	.	.	.	.	.
SHANKS, B		.	.	Y	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
THOMPSON		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	Y	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	Y
WAYNE, S		Y	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	Y	.	.	Y	Y	.	.	.	.	Y

CHRISTMAS GIFT LIST: Now's the time to get your favorite soldier something that he really needs for Christmas. Something that will help him be a better reenactor. Something that he'll be able to use for the whole year (or even longer!). Something to read. Here for your consideration are a few books & reenactment-oriented magazines which might be worthwhile purchases. The books are probably available from Don Durham at Facts & Figures, 913-441-2309 or from Del Warren, 816-781-9473. The magazines are available from the publishers.

History of the Missouri Brigade: Anderson's The First Missouri Confederate Brigade is annotated by Edwin Bearss. It & LtCol Bevier's The Confederate First & Second Missouri Brigades date from right after the war & are great primary sources for the war through the Vicksburg campaign & secondary sources thereafter. The new history by Columbia resident Phil Gottschalk should be ready momentarily (I'm anxiously awaiting this one - I have the others). Call Jim Robertson (314-874-5711) to get details. Expect to spend \$35 or so on any of these.

Missouri Guerrilla war: The best source is Brownlee (Gray Ghosts of the Confederacy). Fellman's Inside War is pretty scholarly, covering causes & effects rather than battle stories. Miles' Bitter Ground covers Benton, Henry & St Clair Counties (anecdotes). Monaghan's Civil War on the Western Border is a little too Yankee for my taste. All are paperback, \$13 or less.

Reenactor Pubs: Camp Chase Gazette, by far the best magazine on what's happening in reenacting. PO Box 707, Marietta, OH 45750, or 614-373-1865. \$24/year.

Civil War News is a tabloid covering historic preservation, book reviews, skirmish assn, & round tables as well as reenacting. Not pro-Yankee despite its address, Cutter & Locke, PO Box C, Arlington MA 02174, 617-646-2010. \$21/yr.

5 t h M I S S O U R I I N F A N T R Y , C O M P A N Y A
Rt 3, Box 130, Warrensburg, MO 64093

D U E S N O T I C E

Your 1992 Company and MCWRA dues are now due. MCWRA membership is required of all our members. Your dues must be paid before you can vote at the January meeting. If any member of your family plans to dress out for events, you must have a family membership for them to be covered by MCWRA insurance. If you pay MCWRA dues through another unit or directly to MCWRA, let me know.

(tear off & mail before January 1st)

NAME: _____

ADDRESS/Phone: _____

INDIVIDUAL: \$12 UNIT, PLUS \$ 8 MCWRA (\$20 total) \$ _____

FAMILY: \$20 UNIT, PLUS \$16 MCWRA (\$36 total) \$ _____

List names/ages of family members to be covered, if lady is CLO member:

ASSOCIATE (newsletter only): \$8.00 \$ _____

Do you have a tent? Y/N A military musket? Y/N

List the type, maker & serial number of all guns (for our data base):

Make checks out to: 5 T H M I S S O U R I I N F A N T R Y