

◆ THE MESSENGER ◆

The Newsletter of the Fifth Missouri Infantry (CSA), Inc.

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EVENT REPORT: FREDERICKTOWN

The 135th Anniversary Reenactment of the Battle of Fredericktown took place September 7-8. In spite of the event's designation of both a 4th Battalion and 5th Missouri "Maximum Effort" event, the effort -- although larger than the first attempt three years ago -- proved to be somewhat less than maximum.

In the absence of Col. Beck, Major Bob Koffman commanded elements of the 4th Battalion, made up of the 2nd & 6th MO Consolidated, 3rd & 5th MO Consolidated, and 4th MO/Newton's Consolidated. Federal opposition was provided by a company-sized element of Holmes Brigade. Add to this a fair number of cavalry (7th MO sponsored the event) and a few artillery pieces, and you've got your basic event.

After being detained unavoidably in Jefferson City Saturday morning, your correspondent arrived just in time for Saturday's "generic" action. It was the standard "skirmish a bit, push'em a bit, fall back & eventually win" scenerio. The federals advanced their howitzers on their infantry's flanks. A successful tactic until the blue infantry marched off leaving both bull-pups unsupported, allowing our cavalry to swoop down upon them and capture them without opposition.

Sunday's "historic" scenerio called for the federals to rout the state guardsmen and then sack & loot the nearby town. In order for the first part of this plan to look believable, galvanization would be necessary. The 3d/5th was chosen for this role, and we formed the "1st TransMississippi ConFederal Zebra Infantry (U.S.)" for the task at hand. Between Crowley's four NCOs & two Pvt's, and our three NCOs, five Pvt's & two Officers, we boasted more than the usual number of stripes & bars. One thing of note: with better than 100 years of reenacting experience on the rear rank alone, we were regularly popping some of the crispest company vollies heard on any field.

The scenerio went much as planned, with plenty of firing but little maneuvering. (Ever notice how Holmes Brigade just seems to stand in ranks & fire?) We drove the secesh from the field, took their artillery, and proceeded to sack & loot the "town." Sort of. After first passing THROUGH the spectator line, we had to run UP a rather

steep incline to get to the makeshift "town." At the end of a weekend, there wasn't a lot of excess energy to be expended looting & pillaging. Nor was there much participation/involvement by the "townspeople." So the scenerio just sort of petered out and broke up.

Though lacking in many respects, Fredericktown still provided the elements that make this hobby attractive to us all -- the friends under the tent fly, the commeraderie, and the memorable incidents. Like the sight of Gene Dressel first PURCHASING, then actually WEARING, a blue uniform. Or the cozy, "quiet" atmosphere of Friday night arrival in the Civilian camp. And the curious shape of the Captain's firepit grate after some yank used it as an exit ramp. On to Shelbina!! Huzzah!!

Submitted by 1st Serg't Dennis Faught



APPEARANCE REPORT: UDC CONVENTION

1st Sergeant Dennis Faught was invited to present a luncheon program to the recent State Convention of the United Daughters of the Confederacy. The UDC, which met September 28 at the Columbia Ramada Inn, is a philanthropic, social and educational organization made up of women who are descendants of individuals who rendered service to the Confederacy.

Sgt. Faught's presentation focuses on the exploits of the Missouri Brigade, from the perspective of a fictional member of the unit. He combines his own family history, published reports, and his reenacting experiences to provide listeners with a first-person account of a typical Missouri Confederate soldier. This is followed by a question-and-answer period about reenacting. Dennis has given variations on this presentation to civic organizations, retirement homes and children's library groups. If you've done similar appearances, forward them to the Messenger so we can all read about them.

EVENT REPORT: HIGH POINT

Ten soldiers & three spouses answered the call to put on a small living history at the High Point Homecoming August 31. Activities included a scheduled drill performance, talking with recruit prospects, a generous noon meal, and a parade.

PREPARATION FOR TACTICAL

This report contains important final details about the upcoming Western Tactical to take place November 1-3 near Central City, Kentucky. The Rules of Engagement have been sent to those who pre-registered. If you did not pre-register but would like to participate, contact the First Sergeant.

Organization: Our unit, including Sgts Faught & Dietzel, Cpls Bowling & Plowman, and Pvs Hamilton, Hafley, Heidgerken, Meoli, Yoakum & White will fall in with the 4th Missouri Infantry under Captain Ted Prater & Lt. Bill Dedmon. With Capt. Prater's 23 men, our consolidated company will field at least 30 muskets. Sgt Faught will serve as company First Sergeant. Our company will be part of Col. Weaver's Battalion (5th/Orphan Bttn). He was commander of our 7th Wisconsin at Wilderness.

This is a campaign event, however there will be fixed camps for those who choose not to go "hardcore." The fixed garrison will act as a supply depot and will be an objective of the opposing forces. If you want to bring an A-frame and set it up as a foul-weather alternative, you may do so. Our company however, as a part of Weaver's Battalion, will be campaigning and maneuvering in the field.

PREPARATION

Equipment: Pack light. In addition to the clothes on your back, the only additional clothing you'll need will be a clean/dry pair of socks. Other necessities include one wool blanket and one rubber blanket, canteen, haversack & mess kit. Beyond the obligatory musket & leathers, anything else is purely optional, depending upon your willingness to carry it over various terrain, and possibly into battle. Some suggestions might include a clean/dry pair of underdrawers & shirt, an overcoat, knife, small hatchet, frying pan (a tin canteen half doubles nicely as a bowl/frying pan), twine or rope, firestarter/kindling, and of course chuck-a-luck dice.

Another item for consideration is a shelter tent half. Such tents are technically "farb" for this early-war event (set pre-Shiloh), but will probably be used anyway. Knapsacks are very appropriate, and highly recommended if you have access to one.

Ammunition: Orders from Brigade Headquarters for this event specify that each man is to carry only 40 rounds on his person. Other ammunition will be stockpiled, carried in the "trains", and re-supplied as needed. **ALL ROUNDS BEYOND THE 40 IN YOUR CARTRIDGE BOX MUST BE WRAPPED IN 10-PACKS!** We will pool these in a marked ammo box upon arrival, and check them with the Battalion ordnance officer for later issue. If you do not have pre-wrapped ten-packs upon arrival, we have some company-wrapped packs we can swap with you.

Based on experience at the 1992 Western Tactical, a total of 100 rounds per man will probably be more than sufficient. Don't forget caps. Percussion caps should be rolled up along with the cartridges (12 in a separate, marked tube in each ten-pack), but if you can't do that, just carry a tin of caps with you.

Rations: The 4th Missouri will be in an "every-man-for-himself" mode for the event. In the 5th Missouri we have chosen to form "messes", but if you and your mess parads want to go it individually, that's fine. Just make sure you get together and agree before the event.

Here are the messes: Faught/Bowling/Dietzel/Plowman, Hamilton/Hafley/Meoli, and Yoakum/Heidgerken/White. Each mess can pool its cooking equipment, rations, & duties like wood-gathering & fire-building as they see fit. Try to keep your rations "period". If you can't, make any modern food/packaging as unobtrusive as possible. For example, remove modern can labels, carry food items in poke bags instead of plastic baggies, &c. You'll need two days rations in your haversack. The "regulation" daily ration for a soldier on campaign includes a pound of hard bread (hard tack) OR 1 1/2 pounds of flour or corn meal; a pound of beef OR a half-pound of bacon or pork; plus about an ounce of coffee, two ounces of sugar, an ounce-and-a-half of rice, 2 1/2 ounces of beans, and a half-ounce of salt. These amounts are approximate, and you would of course double them for two days. (Tip: good, safe substitutions for the beef or pork ration are jerky or country-cured ham.)

Arrival: Everyone must be on site no later than 5 p.m. Friday, November 1 for final organization of the battalion and arrangement for ammunition re-supply. You will NOT be allowed on site prior to 12 Noon Friday. Upon arrival you will report to Prater's Company of Weaver's Battalion in the fixed Confederate camp. We might set up one company A-frame in this camp for storage and weather contingencies. Saturday morning at 8 a.m. the battalion will march out, and "the ball will be opened."

Miscellaneous: Parking will be available in a designated area near the fixed camps and on hard-packed roadways bordering the site. The site is composed of rolling hills, open grassy fields, and dense wooded areas. Cutting of live trees, however, is PROHIBITED. Instead, firewood will be supplied. Water supplies will be plentiful, but also a tactical objective of opposing forces. There will be a "sutler" village in a neutral area, and both armies will be allowed time to visit them -- separately -- Saturday evening. Saturday's fighting should end by 4 p.m., although there may be company-sized sorties probing the lines until as late as 2 a.m. Sunday's fighting will end by 12 Noon to allow time to gather the forces and get on the road at a decent hour. This is shaping up to be a fantastic event. If you need to know anything more, or did not receive your 'Rules of Engagement', contact the First Sergeant.

T-SHIRT ORDERS

The company will not be buying any more shirts for some time. So if you need one for the holidays or what ever get me your order now. I only have one order. I need 12 before they will process it. I know some of you have asked for shirts. This is your chance.

The Fifth Missouri is cordially invited to witness the exchange of vows of Jennifer Caviness and Max Routh on Sunday October 20th, 1996 at 2:00 pm. The Ceremony will take place at the Visitor's Center during Warsaw Heritage days.

SUTLERS CORNER

If any one is looking for a kepi I have one for sale. It a mixed gray with a skyblue band, it has never been used. Ill let it go for \$15.00. I'm also taking offers on a CVA Kentucky Rifle .50 cal. Larry Dietzel (573) 449-6443

Period footwear is now available from the Merchant that supplies Silver Dollar City. The cost is \$25.00+ shipping and handling. Call Deby Faulkner at (417) 863-7678

We have recived a notice from a suttler going out of business. Contact Carolyn Powell at 201 East Marceau St, St Louis 63111 For remaining items.

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5TH MO CLOTHING ITEMS

☆☆ If you're intersted in purchasing an article of clothing with ☆ the 5th MO markings, here is your chance. I will be ☆ taking orders for T-shirts in the sizes we are out of. The ☆ following is the price list: ☆

- ☆☆ T-Shirt.....\$11.00
- ☆☆ for sizes overXXL add \$1.00
- ☆☆ T-Shirt Childrens sizes.....\$10.00
- ☆☆ Sweat Pants 7oz.(only the Bugle on the front).....\$18.00
- ☆☆ SweatShirt 7oz.(Like the T-Shirt).....\$18.00
- ☆☆ for sizes over XXL add \$2.00
- ☆☆ Ball Cap (only the Bugle on the front).....\$9.00
- ☆☆ GolfStyle Cap (only the Bugle on the front).....\$10.00
- ☆☆ Jackets several styles price range from \$25.00 to \$55.00

☆☆ I will need 12 items minimum to order. I will ☆ need your money at the time of order. The deadline is ☆ October 1st 1996. ☆

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NEW ADRESS

☆☆ Mike Hamilton & ☆ Denise Murdock ☆ 3102 Oakbrook Circle, # C ☆ Sedalia, MO 65301 ☆ (816) 829-2230 ☆ (soon to be) ☆ Max & Jennifer Routh ☆ 710 South Orchard ☆ Clinton, MO 64735

1997 MCWRA SCHEDULE SET

The Missouri Civil War Reenactors Association met August 24 in Springfield, and set the 1997 reenactment schedule as follows:

- Jan 11-12 Battalion Staff/Officers Meeting. Kansas City
- Feb 8 MCWRA Board Meeting. Springfield.
- Feb 22-23 Battle of Middle Boggy - Atoka, Oklahoma. MAXIMUM EFFORT.
- Apr 4-6 Shiloh, Tennessee. National Event. LISTED.
- Apr 19-20 Battle of Indian Creek - Rocky Mount, Missouri. SANCTIONED
- May 17-18 Carthage, Missouri. MAXIMUM EFFORT.
- Jun 14-15 Columbia, Missouri LOCAL
- Jun 21-22 Jefferson Barracks - St. Louis, Missouri. MAXIMUM EFFORT.
- Sep 13-14 Battle of Moore's Mill - Fulton, Missouri. SANCTIONED.
- Sep 20-21 Lexington, Missouri. SANCTIONED
- Sep 27-28 Leasburg, Missouri. SANCTIONED
- Oct 3-5 Battles for Nashville - Spring Hill, Tennessee. National Event. LISTED
- Nov 6-9 Camp Gruber, Oklahoma - Campaign Event. MAXIMUM EFFORT.
- Date TBA Malvern Lake, Kansas. LISTED.

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Becki Jean Biggerstaff Daughter of William J. Swayne and the late Earle D. Biggerstaff along with Mr. And Mrs. K. William Fink request the honour of your presence at there wedding.

October 26, 1996 at 4:00 p.m.

in the amos chapel

10113 Lenexa Drive

Lenexa, Kansas

The pleasure of your company is requested at the Reception immediately following the ceremony Amos Activity Center.

DETAILS OF 5TH MO UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct 18-20 WARSAW HERITAGE DAYS. Popular living history at rustic site near Truman Dam. Camp life and drill demonstratons plus skirmishing in the woods. Bring federal and confederate impressions. Corporate Board and Company meetings Saturday evening after provided meal.

18 Military and 7 Civilians & Dependents committed.

Nov 1-3 WESTERN TACTICAL -Muhlenberg County, KY. (See article this issue for more details. Complete packet has been mailed to those pre-registered.) Roughly midway between Owensboro & Bowling Green, adjacent to Western Kentucky Parkway. Entrance is just under a mile north of exit 53.

10 Military paid and registered.

Nov 11 MOBERLY, MO. Parade and dedication of statue of Gen. Omar Bradley. Federal and Confederate color guards. Parade 1:30. Dedication 3 p.m. at Rothwell Park. Notables invited to attend include Gen. Norman Schwartzkopf and Gen. Colin Powell. Contact Neil Block. (816) 277-3111.

Dec 7-8 PRAIRIE GROVE, ARK. (Battalion Max Effort) Site is on actual battlefield in state park. Southwest of Fayetteville in NW Arkansas on US 62. Weather has ranged from snow & sleet (in '91) to sunshine & 60's (in '94). No rations provided. Ladies & childrens activities. Saturday evening social. Battles at 1:00 p.m. both days. Impression is transmississippi confederate. Commit to the 1st Sgt by October 13. Event is by invitation only and we must apply early.

7 Military and 3 Civilians & Dependents committed.

Apr 4-6 SHILOH, Tennessee. National Event three miles from National Park. Site is located off Highway 22 in McNairy County, on the route that the Confederates both approached and withdrew from the battle 135 years ago to the day. Scenarios will include the opening attack on the Federal camps, the repeated assault on the Hornet's Nest and action from the second day, including the Federal counter-attack and perhaps including Forrest's rear guard action at Falling Timbers.

Early pre-registration has been sent in. For late registrants, Fee is now \$7 per person. Galvinization of the Battalion will be required for one scenerio.

12 Military and 9 Civilians & Dependents pre-registered at reduced fee.

