



Joshes and Chubs



Co. D 1st Arkansas Infantry Activities Volume 7, March 2006

“So, as you go into battle, remember your ancestors and remember your descendants”

COMMANDERS CORNER

Comments from Captain K

Gentlemen, it is now time to prepare to take the field with a vengeance!!!! We have had a short break the past month thanks to the weather canceling our Winter Encampment. A small number went to Pea Ridge and represented the 1st Ark very well. But now it gets busy. This past weekend our artillery battery attended the Camden Daffodil Festival and blasted away on the banks of the Ouachita River. On Saturday, myself and 1Sgt Hutcheson attended the Battalion meeting in Texarkana. (I will have more on that next month) This coming Saturday, March 18, we will be in Helena for the 21st Annual Cleburne Memorial Service. We will once again rendezvous at the Jefferson County Courthouse and leave at 8:00am. We will meet up with who ever is coming from other points at the McDonalds in West Helena (just tell them your Amish) at approximately 10:00am. From there we will proceed to the Cemetery. The service begins at noon. You will have the weekend of March 25-26 OFF!!! April 1 is Park Day, with cleanup activities taking place at Marks' Mill and White Sulphur Springs. Also that day, we will be set up at the Pine Bluff Arsenal for the Kids Fest. they seemed to be impressed with us at the Homecoming parade. 1Sgt Halfcock will be contacting you about this. On April 7-9 we will make the journey to Pleasant Hills, LA for their annual event. It is always a good show. We currently have 10 infantry and 5 artillery registered. Anyone else wishing to go can register upon arrival. On April 15, we will be at the State Capitol for Confederate Flag Day. It is important that we have a good showing at this if we want it to continue. We will meet at the Capitol at 11:00am. We are looking to reschedule our encampment for possibly April 22-23. We will let you know more as plans unfold. You may have noticed that I have mentioned "Artillery" on a couple of occasions. Since the last newsletter, we have grown from Edgar's one gun to 6 guns with the addition of Bill Farmer and his boys and Hays Swayze and his 4 guns and crewmen. We now have our own battery with 6 guns and about 15 gunners. It will be designated the "1st Arkansas Light Artillery, Rivers' Battery". So the 1st Arkansas Infantry and Artillery have on the roster 34 active members. Keep recruiting because I would like to see that number grow so that by the time we hit Prairie Grove in December we are the largest Infantry and Artillery Units on the field!!! Isn't life great!!! Capt K

Calendar of Events

- * **March 18th**
Cleburne Memorial Helena AR.
- March 31st – April 1st**
Oak Grove LA. Living History
- * **April 7th – 9th**
Pleasant Hill LA.
- * **April 15th**
Confederate Flag Day
- April 25th**
Confederate Memorial Day
- May 5th – 7th**
Chalk Bluff
- * **May 12th – 14th**
Battle for Yellville Yellville Ar.
- June 9th – 10th**
Warren Pink Tomato Festival
- * **June 16th – 17th**
McGee 100 Yr Centennial
- July 21st-23rd**
145th Manassas Reenactment
- * **August 26th**
White Hall Founders Day
- * **September 9th – 10th**
Arkansas Post NP North and South Living History
- September 22-24th**
Pocahontas Civil War Days
- October 6th – 8th**
Perryville Kentucky (National Event)
- * **October 14th – 15th**
White Sulphur Springs
- October 27th – 29th**
Lake DeGray
- * **November 4th, 5th**
Old Washington
- * **December 1st – 3rd**
Prairie Grove

If you have not paid your \$20.00 dues for 2006 please get them to Capt. K as soon as possible.



* Denotes Maximum Effort Participation



What a year we have had so far! We have been rained out, iced out and even tommy-hawked out yet we seem to keep coming back for more. For those of you who could not make the Pea Ridge event you really missed a good one. Even though only 4 out of the 10 who told me they would come showed up we still had a good time. We were able to camp out on the site of the original Leetown and then had the entire park to ourselves after it had closed. Read Mike Lewis' thoughts on this in this newsletter. We have registered 15 people for Pleasant Hill next month and have the dates for Lake DeGray. I have the forms for DeGray if anyone wants to go they need to give me a holler. Manassas is creeping up on us and for those of you going who want to wear battle shirts, you need to give Sherri at Galla Rock a call NOW! You know how slow she is so if you wait till the last minute to order your shirt you will not get it. Your Captain and I went to the Battalion meeting last Saturday at Texarkana and we will be telling you more about that in the next newsletter. We are tentatively invited to participate in a "Kids Fest" activity on the grounds of the Arsenal in White Hall on April 1st. I do not have a lot of info on this right now, but will see what I can come up with and will either e-mail you what I come up with and/or have each section leader call you when I find out more. I don't know too much more to pass on to you right now, so let's all get together for the Cleburne Memorial this Saturday.



A mouse looked through the crack in the wall to see the farmer and his wife open a package. "What food might this contain?" The mouse wondered - he was devastated to discover it was a mousetrap. Retreating to the farmyard, the mouse proclaimed the warning. "There is a mousetrap in the house! There is a mousetrap in the house!" The chicken clucked and scratched, raised her head and said, "Mr. Mouse, I can tell this is a grave concern to you, but it is of no consequence to me. I cannot be bothered by it." The mouse turned to the pig and told him, "There is a mousetrap in the house! There is a mousetrap in the house!" The pig sympathized, but said, "I am so very sorry, Mr. Mouse, but there is nothing I can do about it but pray. Be assured you are in my prayers." The mouse turned to the cow and said "There is a mousetrap in the house! There is a mousetrap in the house!" The cow said, "Wow, Mr. Mouse. I'm sorry for you, but it's no skin off my nose." So, the mouse returned to the house, head down and dejected, to face the farmer's mousetrap alone. That very night a sound was heard throughout the house like the sound of a mousetrap catching its prey. The farmer's wife rushed to see what was caught. In the darkness, she did not see it was a venomous snake whose tail the trap had caught. The snake bit the farmer's wife. The farmer rushed her to the hospital, and she returned home with a fever. Everyone knows you treat a fever with fresh chicken soup, so the farmer took his hatchet to the farmyard for the soup's main ingredient. But his wife's sickness continued, so friends and neighbors came to sit with her around the clock. To feed them, the farmer butchered the pig. The farmer's wife did not get well; she died. So many people came for her funeral, the farmer had the cow slaughtered to provide enough meat for all of them. The mouse looked upon it all from his crack in the wall with great sadness. So, the next time you hear someone is facing a problem and think it doesn't concern you, remember -- when one of us is threatened, we are all at risk. We are all involved in this journey called life. We must keep an eye out for one another and make an extra effort to encourage one another.

THE CAMPAIGNER

When I read the following article, this Bible verse which I have clung to many times came to my mind;

Eccl 4:8-10

There is one alone, and there is not a second; yea, he hath neither child nor brother: yet is there no end of all his labour; neither is his eye satisfied with riches; neither saith he, For whom do I labour, and bereave my soul of good? This is also vanity, yea, it is a sore travail.

Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour.

For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up.

It was the private soldier who taught me not to step on the heels of my file-closer. He also taught me how to make a feather bed out of two oak rails. How to grind coffee in a tin cup with the shank of a bayonet.

How to boil roasting-ears in their own husks in the ashes.

How to drink boiling coffee without blistering my throat.

How to conceal my person behind a sapling not half as thick as my body.

How to fill my canteen from a warm pond and let the water cool in the sun of the hot day.

How to march eighteen or twenty miles over rough roads day after day without getting an ache in my feet.

How to make one day's rations last three days without getting hungry.

How to get a refreshing drink of water without swallowing a drop.

How to lift a nervous hen from the bosom of her family without any outcry from herself or relatives.

How to fool the sergeant on roll-call, (once). That trick was like a limited ticket, good "for this day train only".

How to explain things to the captain. How to launder one's linen, which was woven of the coarsest flannel, in cold water.

How to make oneself clean when it was muddy, and how to look fresh when it was dusty.

How to divide the last pint of water in your canteen so as to get a drink and a sponge bath and have enough left for coffee. How to make two months pay – twenty six dollars – last till the next pay day, two or three months away, after you had sent half of it home and spent the remainder.

How to stay awake on picket all night when your dry eyes ached and burned for sleep.

How to sleep like a tired workingman under the guns of a battery shelling the enemy's lines.

How to light fire in the woods with wet twigs in a pelting rain and fretful wind with your last match.

Robert J. Burdett, 47th Illinois

Bits N' Pieces

Each newsletter from now on will feature a report from a selected participant on an event that happened that month. This month's report is from Mike Lewis on the Pea Ridge event.

Reflection of the Pea Ridge Living History event (Mar. 3-5)

Our numbers were few (4) yet the event had to be considered a success. Friday evening camp was set up on the original site of the of Leetown.

Two of us in a small way tried to experience what our ancestors must have felt like after their forced march on the "Bentonville road" as they hiked from camp to the visitor center and back with full "field gear" (approx. 4miles).

Later that evening we were visited by two "ladies" who played music, told stories, and participated in what will become the "What the ----" phone call.

Saturday the 1st Sgt. gave a presentation on the battle, then a firing demonstration followed by what became the most popular part of the program the "Spoonings" demonstration. We even had the Federal Artillery unit attend some of the programs just because they had heard about the "Spoonings". The total attendance Saturday was estimated at around 600 people. Our uniforms not being gray prompted many questions from the crowd. The crowd seemed to be very impressed and pleased with the program.

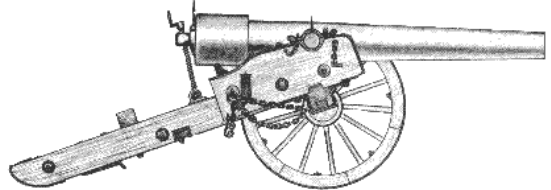
Saturday night was finished up with the cleaning of weapons, a pot of stew, and a wine tasting session.

Sunday we left early because of the long drive back but it was felt by all that a good time was had.

Mike

Welcome New Members!

Some of you have really been busy recruiting this month! We now have six artillery pieces in the company and enough people to form our own "1st Arkansas Light Artillery Rivers Battery". At the time being until they have had time to meet I have assigned Edgar Colvin as the "Squad Leader" go-between for the section. They will in turn elect their own section leader. We have added some familiar names to the section. Tommy McCool from Benton (who already looks like an actual veteran). Hays Swayze and Bill Farmer. With their respective family members and others I have moved into that section we have at anytime somewhere in the number of 15 people just for artillery. I must say I am impressed with the way ya'll have gotten out there and beat the bushes for members. Anyway, welcome aboard new guys!



Joshes and Chubs
C/O 13100 Dollarway Road
White Hall, AR. 71602

INPUT NEEDED!

Please submit all articles, photos, corrections,
For Sale items and suggestions for insertion
into *Joshes and Chubs* to lawdog@seark.net.

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