
The UNION STANDARD

March, 2001

Vol. 9, no 3

The Newsletter of the 1st United States Infantry, The Regulars

The Major's Dispatch

Gentlemen, the campaign season has begun with a bang. The 1st got off to a rousing start at the Camp of Instruction and Twigg's Surrender. Company A did a fine job of surprising Company D during the tactical phase of the Camp of Instruction. Captain Gross and his "engineers" are to be commended for crossing the river and making a valiant flank march. Company D did a good job of recovering and holding the stonewall...hmm Stonewall Bassett, doesn't quite have that ring.

Elections are to be held this month at Muster. You will be choosing your leadership and direction for the next two years. Please join us or send a proxy. There are big plans for the future, but a committed and active leadership can only accomplish that. So judge and choose your officers and NCO's wisely.

Planning continues for Kaufman and Raymond. Your input is most welcome. And while we have a good number signed up for Raymond I am looking for 4 more volunteers to guarantee the 1st has two companies present and accounted for. So look at that calendar and join your parads for the event of the year.

Kaufman is important for the recruiting opportunities offered. Clark Kirby will be organizing our Living History/Recruiting activities at this event. Please encourage but most of all offer your help in bringing new blood to the 1st U.S. There will be a memorial ceremony at the cemetery that all members are requested to participate in.

Once again, I appreciate the way everyone has pitched in at the beginning of this new year. Twigg's was an outstanding success with 15 members and their families present. The tradition has now begun of meeting at Tomotillas for Saturday dinner. I

must recognize Carl Stang and Matt Noell and the outstanding work they did as musicians at this event. They provided a whole new dimension and added a dignity to the Union forces.

Everyone get that knapsack ready, roll those cartridges, and turn out for the long roll. I remain,

YOS,
Mark

**SEE INSIDE FOR DETAILS ON
MUSTER
ELECTIONS
KAUFMAN
CROSS TIMBERS
RAYMOND**

The Newsletter

As you have noticed the last 5 issues of the STANDARD have been made available electronically. If you would like to receive that format only please contact George Hansen. Paper copies will continued to be mailed unless you request otherwise.

COMMUNICATIONS

Currently major revisions are being considered for the webpage. If such changes take place each company will be able to establish a webpage. If that happens the Major needs volunteers to edit each page. A password and authorization for the service will be made available for maintaining these pages. If you have a fairly up-to-date computer with internet access and wish to volunteer please contact Mark Dolive



1st U.S. Calendar

2001

MARCH

3-4	Celtic Festival Recruiting	Fair Park, Dallas
16-18	1st Battalion Muster <u>UNIT ELECTIONS</u>	Honey Springs, OK
24-25	Cross Timbers Tactical	Gainesville, TX

APRIL

20-22	Kaufman Reenactment	Kaufman, TX
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MAY

3-6	Vicksburg Campaign II Official Frontier Brigade Event	Raymond, Mississippi
19 – 20	Grapevine "Muster & Recruiting"	Grapevine, TX

JUNE

9	Drill	TBA
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JULY

4	4th of July Parade	Arlington, TX
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AUGUST

	Live Fire	Mansfield, TX
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SEPTEMBER

29 - 30	Cabin Creek Reenactment <i>Official Frontier Brigade Event NOTE DATE CHANGE!!!</i>	Cabin Creek, OK
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OCTOBER

13	Drill	TBA
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NOVEMBER

17	Plantation Liendo Reenactment 1 st US Winter Soiree	Houston area, TX Point Winfrey, Dallas, TX
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DECEMBER

Drill		TBA
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*The above are subject to change. Not all events are Maximum effort.
For more information contact [Regimental Headquarters](#)*

Please join the Major and Officers of the 1st U.S. Infantry in wishing Mike Beard a rapid and complete recovery from his recent surgery.

Adjutant's Call

Please submit your annual \$25 dues ASAP if you have not already done so. If you have not paid your muster fee by now, do not send it to me as you will have to forwarded it to Kelsy Arnold. Contact me for her address. The Raymond re-enactment fee is now \$15 and I will take it until March 27th, as after April 1st registration is required at the event site provided the 6,000 re-enactor limit has not been reached.

Please register for Kaufman if you have not yet done so. See elsewhere in the newsletter for those registration instructions. I will register everyone for the Cross Timbers re-enactment, which is March 23-25. This sounds like a good event and note the agenda posted elsewhere.

A Round Table Report

The Dallas Civil War Round Table will occasionally feature a presentation in which the subject material is little known to mainstream history buffs. Such was the case on February 14th when R. Steven Ford talked about his book, *The Right Hand of Command: Use and Disuse of Personal Staffs in the Civil War*. Drawing from numerous primary resources, Mr. Jones delves into this little researched topic and provides a comparison analysis of the role of the personal staff in the commands of Lee, Sherman, McClellan and Grant. The book is Jones' PhD dissertation and he now serves as an assistant professor of history at Southwestern Adventist University in Keene, Texas.

Jones uses the Prussian General Staff as a comparative model when analyzing Civil War staffs. The Prussian Army was almost completely destroyed by Napoleon and key Prussian military heads determined formal training was necessary, so a college was formulated where staff instruction was given a high priority.

Generals Lee, Sherman, McClellan and Grant were chosen by Jones because of their strong

past Army experience before the war and because of their success in leading large armies during the war. The staff for these figures was often made up of a curious mixture of both West Point-trained soldiers to inexperienced civilians and political cronies. The ten members of Lee's staff all had military experience, but were relegated to routine chores like writing reports or filling out muster papers. Lee mostly performed instructions to his Corps commanders in person. McClellan's staff was mainly composed of West Pointers and engineers and his Chief of Staff was his father-in-law, Randolph B. Marcy. Agreeing with him was a trait McClellan required of all staff members and for the most part they did nothing. Sherman kept a staff simply because he was required to do so and considered them a waste of his time. He had no need for them and they solely did paperwork.

Gen. Grant, on the other hand, was the trendsetter during this period. His staff personnel at first consisted of friends, but were later replaced with more competent individuals; such as, lawyers, politicians and the military. Grant demanded efficiency so he expected his Corps commanders to take orders from him when delivered by his staff, as he viewed his time as too valuable to personally instruct a subordinate. Grant spent a lot of time with his staff so they knew what he wanted and what was expected of them. During critical moments in battle Grant's staff would instruct Corps commanders down to the brigade level; thus, immediacy of action could be implemented to Grant's liking when changing conditions warranted. As to be expected, most Corps commanders disliked staff personnel at the Army level with the most notable of these being Gens. George Meade and Benjamin Butler (Beast I).

Lee, Sherman and McClellan were very confident individuals and required little help from others. Grant experienced a tumultuous life after 1848 and struggled mightily just to make ends meet. Friends and associates often came to his aid. Jones contends this experience taught Grant to trust others and as a result, this

enabled Grant to effectively employ a staff organization.

What Grant does is not codified and it is only after the Spanish American War that Congress and the Regular Army see the need for a fully functioning staff in a “modern”-Army. Whether or not he knew it, Grant’s staff use was based on the Prussian model; and nevertheless, he must be considered an innovator.

Submitted by G. Hansen (Beast II)

Lesson from Lincoln

Getting rid of office-seekers:

My friend, let me tell you something: you are a farmer, I believe: if not, you will understand me. Suppose you had a large cattle yard full of all sorts of cattle, cows, oxen and bulls, and you kept selling your cows and oxen, taking good care of your bulls. By and by, you would find that you had nothing but a yard full of old bulls, good for nothing under heaven, and it will be just so with my army if I don't stop making brigadier generals.

ELECTIONS

Elections are to be held March 17th at Muster. The Leadership and direction of the 1st U.S. will be decided for the next two years. The nominations/qualifications list has been sent to all members by the Adjutant. Please let HQ know of any discrepancies.

NTRS/1st U.S. 2001 ELECTION PROXY VOTE

I, _____ release my Proxy to:
_____, Company _____

This proxy may be used for all Regimental Ballots and for Company _____ Ballots.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Remember, if you wear the straps or stripes you are put in a position of responsibility. Your appearance and awareness of drill and authenticity should be a cut above. Your level of participation is expected to of the highest order. Elected officials are expected to serve on the Board and in the Field and represent the 1st with honor and dignity.

Each NCO/Officer elected has a position on the Board. This Board approves the program and direction of NTRS and the 1st. There are 4 to 5 Board meetings each year.

Not only are officers and NCOs expected to be in the field, but also there is much work behind the scenes. Organizing for events, keeping tabs on the membership and communications are all integral duties and responsibilities of the position. In the next two years elected members are going to be expected to assist more with recruiting, so the ability to meet and sale our hobby is a much needed commodity. So before you put those stripes or straps on, ask yourself, “am I ready?”

Once again the vote will be for individual positions starting with Regimental office and working through the Company positions. **Signed** proxies are allowed, but must be turned in to the Election Committee Chair, or to any regular member who is attending the election meeting. The Bylaws state: “Regulars and civilians can give written consent for proxy voting to other Regulars. “ The Proxy form printed in the last two newsletters must be used. A copy is provided in this issue of the Standard. If you have questions, please contact Mark Dolive for more information.

Pleasantly Surprised

Carl Stang

By pure coincidence, I bought a book at the bookstore last week entitled An Illustrated History of Texas Forts (by Rod Timanus). According to this book, a mission at San Antonio was established in 1718. Through the years, the mission went through several modifications and destruction (wiped out in 1724 by a hurricane). A stone wall was built around the mission in 1762.

In 1803, the Spanish posted garrisons throughout north Texas (Tejas) in an attempt to stem the illegal immigration from the United States. The garrison posted at San Antonio was the "Second Flying Company of San Carlos de Alamo de Parras. This 100-man company settled with their families just south of the mission in an area known as La Villita (this is a shopping area now made up of craftsman etc. just a few hundred yards from the Alamo). The mission soon began to be used as a hospital by the troops. By 1810, modifications to the roofs and walls were completed. This was the beginning of the Presidio named the Alamo.

The Alamo changed hands several times over the next 20 years or so between Royalists (to Spain) and rebels (along with some American mercenaries). In 1821, Mexico gained independence from Spain. The immigration of Americans became much more liberalized and Texas had many new arrivals from the east. The rest as you know, is history.

The United States army took over the Alamo in 1840 and by 1850, large amounts of supplies and ammunition were stored on site. It was these supplies that the secessionists wanted when they took over the Alamo in February 1861. There were only about 180 U.S. troops present at the Alamo when Twiggs surrendered. The rest of the 1st U.S. and parts of other regiments were scattered about the state.

The point of recounting this piece of history is that it is unusual for Civil War re-enactors to be able to portray an event on the actual site where it occurred. It is even more unusual for the 1st to portray itself, especially at a place

where the 1st was actually located. Pile on top of all of this is the great history of the Alamo and San Antonio and you have something special.

I must admit that the primary reason that I attended Twiggs' Surrender was that it would give me a chance to get together with Matt Noel and practice our fife and drum routine. I wasn't too terribly interested in the actual surrender ceremony, but I was soon to change my mind. Something stirred inside of me as we recreated the surrender in the shadow of the Alamo. It is unusual to be able to portray an event with the spectators (and the event had about a 1200 packed into every nook and cranny around the Alamo) are within an arms length of the re-enactors. After the 3/4 of an hour long event was staged (twice - morning and afternoon), the people mobbed us to have their picture taken with us and to ask us questions. In between shows, we ate down on the river walk and again people would see our uniforms and come up and ask what was going on and where was the show going to be. This kind of contact with people gave the participants a very good opportunity to visit with people and enlighten them on this piece of Texas and United States history. I really enjoyed this.

It had been years since I had been in San Antonio, and I brought my entire family. Most of the other participants from the 1st also made it a family affair. My family and I stayed downtown in a hotel within walking distance of the Alamo, the River Walk and all kinds of other historical and modern attractions. The weather was perfect all weekend. This event brought out the motel militia in me and it was a nice change of pace.

The people of San Antonio were great. I had no complaints about any of the locals with which I had contact. Everyone seemed friendly and eager to please. I can't remember being in a place that had so much history, sights and great food in such a small area. For Saturday evening, Rick Brockman suggested that we all gather and eat at one of his old haunts named Tomatillos (about 10 minutes from down town). The food was great. After I had finished polishing off my carne cuisadas, I leaned back in my chair, closed my eyes and I could almost imagine myself

sitting by the campfire having savored one of John Schultz's culinary evening masterpieces! I'm telling you, the food was that good!

I would guess about a dozen soldiers of the 1st attended with almost as many civilian portrayals. There was a strong contingent from the 9th (some of whose companies were Union as well as Texas militia). All together there were probably about 150 participants. A good time was had by all. I'm marking this event on my calendar for 2002.

Strong rumors were floating around among certain troops that Company "D" was preparing a full fledged frontal assault upon Company "A" in an effort to displace it as the best fed company in the regiment. I like people to challenge themselves, but maybe Company "D" shouldn't try to extend themselves too far, too fast! Everyone in the Brigade knows that the best salt pork and hard tack can be found at Company "A's" mess. Sounds like there might be a cook off in the making. I'm brushing aside those weevils and shining up my plate and spoon! My stomach is growling with anticipation!

Trivia of the Month:

Early in the Civil War, a German observer was present in the Union Army. He was with Thaddeus Lowe while Lowe utilized his gas balloons for observation while assigned to the Army of the Potomac. The name of the German observer was Graf von Zeppelin

REGISTRATION

Below are those members who have paid for the muster and/or the Raymond re-enactment. A 'M' (muster) and/or 'R' (Raymond) beside the name indicates which event(s) they are attending. Please contact George Hansen ASAP if any questions at 972-529-5349 or at beast1st@home.com.

J. Bowen	R
S. Bowen	R
B. Brown	M R
K. Doughtie	M R
D. Gates	M R
J. Gigliotti	M R
A. Gross	M R
D. Gross	M R

J. Kreider	R
J. McLaughlin	M R
D. Nelson	M R
S. Nelson	M R
B. Nelson	M R
A. Prendergast	M
T. Quigley	M R
M. Rhodes	M R
A. Schultz	M R
J. Schultz	M R
C. Stang	M R
B. Thomas	M
D. Uebel	M
C. Vance	M R
M. Vance	M R
C. Foote	M
J. Foote	M
K. Bassett	M R
G. Benefiel	M R
K. Brazile	M R
T. Brazile	R
R. Brockman	M R
R. Cowgill	M
G. Fett	M R
T. Frazier	M R
B. Fuhrman	M R
S. Hardy	M R
C. Kirby	R
J. Kirkendall	M R
B. Martin	M R
R. Olszewski	M
M. Phineas	M R
E. Prejean	M R
D. Rogers	M
S. Sanders	M R
J. Saporito	M R
A. Smith	M R
M. Smith	M
M. Dolive	M R
G. Hansen	M
T. Mabry	R
L. Brockman	R
C. Dolive	R
P. Gigliotti	R
B. Kirkendall	R
J. Thomas	M
C. Uebel	M
P. Ziegler	R

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Hello All!

Tara and I want to let you know that Laura Kay was born 11 Feb at 5:17 PM and weighed in at 6 lbs 10 oz and is 20 inches long. Both mother and daughter are doing great and we expect them home tomorrow.

It's great to be a Dad

Tim Chyma

UPCOMINGEVENTS

MUSTER

The First Battalion, US Frontier Brigade Muster will take place at Honey Springs March 16- 18. As you know the site is on State Park land attempting to receive a National designation, hence our help. There are no barracks, so A tents and Sibleys are welcome.

The theme of this year's muster is campaigning. There will be presentations that include:

1. On the March – Packing that knapsack and taking a hike.
2. Wagons HO – Getting your equipment in the wagon in a timely manner that doesn't aggravate the QM.
3. Footcare – By our own Ed Prejean
4. Farbcamp – Care to guess?

Of course there will be drill with emphasis on flankers, piquettes, outpost and skirmishing.

Directions: Take the Checotha/Rentiesville exit off US HWY 69 (approx 2 1/4 miles north of I40); then take Business 69 north approx 1 1/4 miles to Rentiesville Road; Go east 2 miles to edge of battlefield and follow signs to the monuments and visitors center.

Please register upon arrival. Food is \$10.00 prepaid to Ms. Kelsey Arnold, Oklahoma State Historical Society. Contact Adj. for more details.

Cross Timbers

While not an official 1st U.S. event (that would be the Muster and Kaufman), this is shaping up to be a nice size North Texas event. Some of the better units will be attending this March 22 – 24 battle on an extraordinary site. There is plenty of land to maneuver, good camp spaces, and good access. Bob Fuhrman and Ed Zielinski of the 1st have both had a hand in organizing this event.

It is a recommended event and the Major hopes some 1st U.S. men can attend and get at take on the situation for next year.

Directions to Cross Timbers, Gainesville

From I-35 going north,
Take FM51/California St. exit, #496B,
Keep right at the fork in the ramp,
Turn right onto California St.,
Right on Grand Ave.,
Left on Anthony St.,

Anthony becomes Burns City Rd.,
Burns City Rd. becomes 372,
Look for the re-enactment signs.

This should be a good combined arms event. Doug Kidd of the 1st Ark Cav., Frontier Bde. will be the Union Commander

More information can be found at:
<http://users.bendnet.com/11texas/>

KAUFMAN

This is the April 20 – 22 maximum effort event for the 1st U.S. This will include the customary battles and living histories, but more importantly it will be a MAJOR RECRUITING event.

A special ceremony will take place at the Kaufman cemetery where over 100 Civil War veterans are interred, including several Union soldiers. Volunteers are needed to participate.

Major Dolive will command the Union forces and plans several surprises

Directions

Take HWY 175 southeast to Kaufman (30 Miles)
Take the HWY 34- Ennis EXIT. At STOP Sign turn left and go under bridge. Under bridge, turn right on the 175 Service Road, proceed _ mile. Event site is on the NORTH side of Hwy 175, east of Hwy 34 –
LOOK FOR EVENT SIGNS

More info can be found at
<http://www.kaufmantx.com/civilwar1.html>

RAYMOND

Final planning for the Vicksburg II scenario will take place on the March 10 walkthrough. The 1st battalion will be portraying Ohio troops through most of the 3-6 event. It is highly suggested to arrive Thursday evening. We will be on the march sometime between 11:30 a.m. and noon Friday morning.

Knapsacks must be light. We have one wagon and hopefully the 2nd will be ready in time.

Brigade orders are posted at:
<http://www.flash.net/~dskesslr/Vick2001.html>

Everyman should have 200 rounds for this event. Proper footwear is required. A knapsack or hobo roll is highly recommended, along with a good blanket and gum blanket. Companies are encouraged to establish messes.

MUSTER

MARCH 16 – 18TH
Honey Springs, OK
ELECTIONS WILL TAKE PLACE
ON THE 17TH

KAUFMAN

April 20 – 21ST
Major Recruiting effort
Maximum Effort Event

FRAZER BROTHERS

The Official Sutler of the 1st U.S. Infantry

More Information at:

Frazerbros.com

The Union Standard

Newsletter of the 1st U.S. Infantry

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M Dolive, editor