
The UNION STANDARD

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

First US XXI

"Reenacting . . . our favorite frontier. These are the voyages of the 1st Regiment of Infantry (reenacted), its continuing mission to explore strange new events, to seek out new recruits and new units, to boldly go where no reenactor has gone before . . ." All of the arguments are now moot - whether you believed that it began with 2000 or with 2001, it is now 2002 and we are inarguably in the 21st Century. Standing here at the threshold of a new century, a new year, we have a chance to look back at what we've accomplished and a chance to plan for the future and . . .

Sorry. Like everyone at this time of year, I've been as busy as a one-legged, long-tailed beaver/cat/man in an ass kicking, rocking chair contest. I started to use my notes from a commencement speech but even I was getting bored. So, here's the deal: What did 2001 look like and what the heck are we gonna do in 2002?

2001 was a wild year for the unit. We had a "major" alteration in the ranks of our leadership, one that has changed the unit dramatically. The question of whether or not we are going to wind up with one company or two is still hanging out there and I can't decide whether the spirit of competition between the units is good or bad for morale.

Recruiting has been great - we had ten guys join up in one fell swoop - but we still worry all the time about numbers. We have a crop of new guys that seem ready right now to become leaders in the hobby and how long has it been since someone published an article in Camp Chase? (Way to go, Mike Phineas!!)

Of all of the events this year, which was your favorite? I went down to Jesse Jones early on and really enjoyed this smaller, local event. I heartily recommend it and will probably go again unless it conflicts with our drill. This was my first Twigg's Surrender and it was a blast. The Muster started a couple of great traditions but you guys need to think

about who you're electing Company D First Sergeant a little more carefully next time - this guy we have now is a weirdo! Then there was Raymond . . . who will ever be able to forget that event? There is at least one member of our community that will have a reminder of it for the rest of his life. My memory of the event includes a very warm feeling listening to Steve Hardy professionally discuss the treatment he provided and thanking God, once again, that we have Steve in our unit. I don't worry anymore about getting prompt medical treatment in the field when Steve is with us. Then there was Liendo and a whole new definition of "farbie." This time it had nothing to do with the way anyone was dressed; instead, it related to the way some people try to re-write history in the tactics they employ.

The big talk lately has been on what direction the unit is going to take regarding authenticity and convenience. We have a vocal camp arguing the virtues of going hardcore and become "campaigners." There are those who are less vocal (although I for one am concerned that they might be voting with their feet) that believe that we can give an accurate representation of Civil War life without losing our tents and without eating things that look like they came out of something's nose. The debate and the search for the Golden Mean continue.

The title for this article came from a program that the US Army put into effect back in the late nineties - "Force XXI." It was an attempt to redesign the Army's structure to make it more effective, efficient, economical, and practical. We all need to take a look at the First and start trying to come up with a "design" for the unit. What do we want the unit to look like? Do we want to work more towards a campaign impression or do we want to go back to wall tents, covered ice chests, and meals that may not be period but are completely digestible and easy to prepare? Or is it possible to "go both ways" and keep our numbers up?

(Continued on Page 3)

1st U.S. Calendar

2001

JANUARY

12 9:30 am Drill
Veterans Park in Arlington

FEBRUARY

8-10 Muster
Ft. Washita, Oklahoma

Despair not ye eager warriors, veterans and fresh fish alike. There will be more events this year!...we here at the periodical department are just unaware of them at present Trust us, in true Army fashion, when the time comes to march away, you'll have the customary 3 hour notice to prepare yourselves and part with all the homey articles you've accumulated during winter camp.

ROLL CALL!!!!!! Roster Additions

Once more I lament we have no roster additions at this time. This is not a bad thing, it is perhaps reflective of the season, end of the year, holidays and all that. This has been a very regular section of the newsletter since I came on as editor and I see no reason to think that 2002 will be different than 2001 in that regard. So, be of good cheer as I'm sure millions of hardy souls abound even now who are as yet unaware that their hearts burn with great fervor to secure the benefits and blessing of a Reunited Republic for posterity. God Bless the Union.

E-Roster Changes/Additions:

Frazier, Troy frazier1863@attbi.com
Ogle, Arthur theunionforever@charter.net

Three cheers (and a tiger...grrr)

If you've been with us for any length of time, you've HEARD this cheer offered. We use it to cheer for senior officers after they've led us to slaughter with the boys in butternut. You've heard it for rank and file members who have done

something noteworthy (like not jumping bounty after 2 weeks of service, or joining despite the terrible losses we're rumored to suffer each time we take the field). We sometimes use it after we've sworn in palefaces, and we almost always use it when Steve Draper, that officer feller, is anywhere in the vicinity during a cheer. Those of you who know what it means please bear with me while I relate the history of this most curious celebratory offering.

The three cheers are obvious, but what's afoot with the tigerish appendage? Generally we give a rather subdued "growl" after someone adds "and a tiger". The original was intended as a "vociferous yell or howl added with utmost enthusiasm at the close of the cheering, perhaps emulating the roar of yowl of a genuine tiger". (Need I remind you all that our initial 'three cheers' is supposed to be a "manly" HURRAH!, not Rebel caterwalling and *not* a HUZDAH).

The story, related from Bartlett's Dictionary of Americanism's (1859) goes as follows: The Boston Light Infantry visited Salem, Massachusetts in 1822 and encamped in Washington Square. While there the soldiers indulged in some rough-and-tumble sports, probably playing to the gallery. One of the young lady spectators called out "oh you tiger!" to one of the more brawny young men. On the way back to Boston some of the vocalists struck up an impromptu song "Oh, you tigers, don't you know..." to the tune of "Rob Roy McGregor, O!" and the idea stuck. In 1826 the Infantry visited New York where, at a public festival, the men concluded some maneuvers with a howl, the tiger's growl, that they had been rehearsing for four years. Thereafter "'three cheers and a tiger' are the inseparable demonstrations of approbation in that city [New York]."

For fear of "yowling" like Confederates I think our use of the more subdued 'grrrrrr' is far more appropriate, if less than historically accurate. And as with the Light Infantry of former times, it has become something of a 1st U.S. tradition. (GRRRRRRRRRRRR)

2002 Events Reminders

Drill at the Veterans Park in Arlington will be THIS WEEKEND - the 12th at 9:30 am.

Please come out and join us, we long to see your freshly scrubbed and happy faces. McFuddy personally needs to see as many of you as possible so you can make good on the debts you accumulated during winter card playing. We know the Army frowns on gambling (heavily) but we also know those greenback dollars (faithpaper) aren't REALLY money, so exchanging them in a friendly games of cards can hardly be viewed as gambling. Officers debts will be overlooked in return for favorable treatment during inspections.

To get to the park (and settle your debts)...

Directions to Veteran's Park, Arlington

From I-20: North on Green Oaks Blvd. from I-20 in Arlington. Green Oaks is about 8 miles west of Hwy 360 and 3 miles east of I-820. Go to Arkansas and turn right (east). Turn right onto Spanish Trail; the park entrance is on the right.

From I-30: Take East Chase Blvd. south from I-30 (2 miles east of I-820). East Chase will become Dottie Lynn and then becomes Green Oaks. At 3_ miles turn left (east) on Arkansas. Turn right onto Spanish Trail; the park entrance is on the right.

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FIRST US XXI (continued from Page 1)

(Seems like some people don't go to campaign events and some people don't go to local events.) Is an event every month too much? Is it not enough? Are we too concerned with numbers or not concerned enough about having fun?

As Chevy Chase once put it: "These are all questions." And they are questions that somebody is going to answer. If you want to, you can sit back on your butts and let the Board answer all of them for you. If that happens then everyone, the membership and the Board and the western reenacting community, will all have to live with the answers and the consequences thereof. Instead, I

think it's high time that the membership starts providing some answers. That's my vision of First US XXI; a unit where everybody puts in their two cents and we all live with the decisions that we make as a consensus. Let's start out the new year strong - let's ALL show up for the January drill and vote on a slate of events that best meets our wishes. We won't go to every event that everyone wants to, that's impossible, but let's use this first drill to set a tone that we can continue throughout the year.

I'm having the best time of my life reenacting with you guys. This is, without a doubt, the best unit I have ever been connected with, and that includes the 23rd Virginia, the 3rd Virginia, the 19th Georgia, and the 20th Maine. I want everyone to be having just as good a time as I am. The only way to do that, however, is for each of you to let the unit know what you want to do. The Board really wants to know so that we can do whatever is possible to make this the best year of your life as a reenactor. Come tell us in January. I promise, we'll listen.

1st Sgt Steve Sanders

The Devil is in the Details:

Finding a Good Reproduction Civil War Era Pocket Watch

by C. Alan Kirby

During my seven years in the civil war reenacting hobby, I have searched high and low for a reproduction pocket watch that was authentic in every regard. Of course, there are original key wind, key set pocket watches available but they cost hundreds of dollars. That is just too much to spend for something that may take a licking on the "battlefield". I have bought a few pocket watches over the years from civil war sutlers and from regular retail stores. One of my favorites, bought at Penney's, was a "gold" one that had a Federal eagle on the hunter style case cover. But, alas, it was not the right size or weight and did not have the 1860's look to it when perusing its face. When it bit the dust, as so many of my \$20 marvels have over the years, I looked for one at a sutler. I finally decided that an infantry private should have a simple "coin silver" pocket watch secured

with a German Silver (nickel) or handmade hair or fabric chain. My reasoning for choosing the silver color was that "only officers had gold watches back then".

The period sutler, Jas. Townsend & Sons of Pierceton, Indiana sells a good reproduction of the "soldier's watch" for a reasonable amount, just \$29.50 + S&H. Although their watch is great in the looks department, (it is also an open face design) it too falls short in size and weight. And, it only comes in a brass finish. While looking for a modern wristwatch for my daughter as a Christmas present, I came upon a pocket watch that caught my eye. It is called the Timex "Yankee" and Timex is making them as a commemorative of the original watch of the same name "that made the dollar famous", originally selling for a dollar apiece in the late nineteenth century under the name of Timex's predecessor, Waltham. This open face pocket watch has everything I have looked for in a reproduction. It is battery operated, so if you fail to wind it daily it will not stop and will keep good time, but who will be able to tell this from a couple of feet away? It has the correct Roman numerals and the small dial for the second hand movement. But, more importantly, it comes in German Silver and is the closest to the originals' size and weight of any that I have ever seen. It is even hefty, as are the originals. However, it has one drawback: It has the large word "Timex" stenciled on the face. Since Timex was wanting to commemorate the production of one of their early production watches, I can understand that they would want their modern name on it. I am sure that they were not interested in the authenticity guidelines that civil war reenactors would impose. But, for any serious living historian, who does not want to use an original, this watch is for you. Check with your local Timex dealer for availability. Mine cost \$39.95 at Target (!?). If your local dealer does not have it, ask the manager to order one for you. Now, for a watch chain!

Civil War Phrases

(for the would-be First Person impressionists)
You find yourself in the field at a reenactment and portraying someone from the Civil War. Inevitably you

are going to want to drag out some stock phrase ("dumber than a bag of hammers", "treat it like a live grenade"...) that evokes the period. While the bag of hammers seems like it MIGHT be from the period, and I don't swear one way or another for it, the 'live grenade' reference is almost certainly from a more recent time.

Being a reenactor, and collector of almost totally useless information and trivia by nature I offer some selected phrases for your use when you find yourself wishing to make a casual observation in period style.

Critter company – A company of cavalry

Old Regular – a man who enlisted in the Union's Regular Army before the war. CF. New Regular

Owls – a facetious term for imaginary creatures who "captured" soldiers at night. A fanciful way of accounting for desertion. When a man slipped away under cover of darkness, it was said "the owls got him".

Old Woman – a playful name adopted by one or the other of the two soldiers in a dog tent. There were no sexual implications in this designation.

Coffee Cooler – a skulker.

Here's your mule – a nonsense slang expression used by Union troops to mean "we've been here".

Hunting quartermasters – a term used when enemy artillery was firing over the heads of the front line. Since quartermasters and their stock-in-trade were generally NOT on the front line the meaning becomes clear.

Open the ball – to start the battle.

Who wouldn't be a soldier? – A soldier's sarcastic expression, meaning "who cares".

Eight-day Man – a contemptuous term for a man who joined the army for a short period of time.

All in the three years – A Union soldier's expression, meaning "all the same to the average soldier".

Referring to the term of enlistment it was usually uttered when something went wrong.

Baled Hay – a Union soldier's term from desiccated (**desecrated**) vegetables because they included roots leaves and stalks. Also interesting because it demonstrates baled hay was period.

Blind Shell – a shell with no powder, used for target practice. Saying someone was a 'blind shell' would be equivalent to saying he was full of hot air.

Blue Mass – a fictitious religious service to which men on sick call were said to be going. So named by Union soldiers because a blue colored pill (known as blue mass) was frequently prescribed by the medical staff.

Bread Bag – a term for the cloth or rubber haversack.

To rag out – to dress up

To flank – to evade, deceive, sneak or escape. Soldiers

extended the military sense, to pass around or turn the enemy's flank. So to avoid irksome duty was to "flank it". To flank a farmer out of his pig was to steal it, to take unauthorized leave was 'to flank the guard'. A **flanker** thus becomes a thief. Another term for theft was "to Blenker", used after 1862.

Galliniper – an insect, especially a large mosquito.

French Leave – unauthorized furlough. From the 18th century French custom of leaving a social gathering without first taking leave of the host or hostess.

To go down the line – to visit a brothel.

God's Flag – a Union term for the U.S. flag.

Gasoline – Too volatile for regular use it was dumped into local rivers after obtaining the "useful" products like kerosene. Just don't talk about filling up your "tank".

To Skirmish – to dig lice off one's body or to **execute a flank movement** which was to evade lice by turning one's underwear inside out.

Somebody's Darling – a soldiers euphemism for a dead boy from the popular song "Somebody's Darling".

Contraband – a slave who sought protection or was confiscated by the Union.

To peddle lead – to shoot repeatedly and quickly.

Robbers Row – a soldiers term for the sutler tents in a camp. Sutlers were notorious for 'skinning' the troops.

The following terms are offered for our opponents and their attire, the clever amongst us may think we hit on these ourselves, but alas, 'here's your mule'.

Multiform – a sarcastic term (used by Confederate's themselves) to refer to their tattered attire.

Corn-fed-racy – A Union soldier's name for the Confederacy, derived from the large role of corn in the Southern diet.

Secesher, Secesh, Seceder, Secessioner- all Northern terms for secessionists.

Confed – used for both members of the Confederate armed forces, and Confederate paper currency.

Rag Pickers – Confederate troops, known to scavenge uniform parts after battles.

Gone in search of their rights – A Confederate retreat

Terms for Hard tack or pertaining to it –

B.C. - Brigade Commissary, but interpreted to mean Before Christ. This was a marker on containers of hardtack. **Hard Bread, Hard Cracker, Hardtack,**

Ironclad, McClellan Pie, Pilot Bread, Sheet-Iron Cracker, Softtack (actually soft bread), **Teethduller,**

Weevil fodder, Worm Castle.

Terms for strong drink – **Ardent, Ardent spirits, argee** (R.G. – rot gut) **Busthead, Bustskull, Condensed Corn, Corn Wine, Forty Rod** (Whiskey so strong it

could kill at forty rods), **Knock-em-stiff, nockum stiff, O-Be-Joyful, Pine Top** (supposedly made with pine needles), **Popskull, Rifle Knock-knee, Rifle Whiskey, Rock me to sleep mother** (whiskey), **Rotgut, Rot of Popskull, Scorpion Bile, Sheep-dip, Snake medicine, Spill skull, Stone Fence** (usually a mix of whiskey and cider), **Sudden death, Tarantula Juice, Turpentine, V.O.P.** (very old pale),

To have a drink of liquor is to "**Change one's breath**".

[Ted Turner takes a gamble](#)

Compliments of Beck Martin!

December 13, 2001

Turner takes a gamble on Civil War movie

By BOB LONGINO, Atlanta Journal-Constitution Staff Writer

BOONSBORO, Md. -- Dozens of Civil War re-enactors are in full military garb for this day's filming of Ted Turner Pictures' \$53 million "Gods and Generals," the first big-screen effort from Turner's new Atlanta-based independent movie company. They're extras, playing soldiers for a Texas brigade, and they're heavily armed -- with hidden cameras. Each time director Ron Maxwell calls for a break in shooting, the re-enactors whip out their cameras from beneath tattered, dirty-brown cloaks. They snap souvenirs of Oscar-winning actor Robert Duvall, who portrays Robert E. Lee; Jeremy London ("Party of Five"), who plays an aide to Stonewall Jackson; and especially Turner, who's ready for his cameo. Turner is in the same gray uniform he wore so briefly for his closeup eight years ago in TNT's "Gettysburg," the first in an expected trio of Civil War epics Turner has embraced. He's kept the uniform all these years. Pulled it out of a closet and dusted it off, he says, before flying here by personal jet from his New Mexico ranch. "Hi. I'm Ted," Turner says to Patrick Gorman, the actor who'll appear with him in his cameo. Turner poses and smiles for just about every re-enactor photo op.

The scene looks surreal, downright Fellini-esque. It's a buzzing mass of Civil War paparazzi swarming costumed celebrities in the middle of the 600-acre Flook Farm (about 70 miles west of Baltimore). All mere steps away from an authentic-

looking Confederate encampment of some 400 white canvas tents. "Over here, Ted," one of the re-enactors calls out. "Look this way, please," another urges. Many here call Turner "The Man." Capital T. Capital M.

Every nickel of the \$53 million that Turner estimates will be spent on this four-hour "Gods and Generals" is his. It's a big gamble. Civil War flicks haven't exactly been paying off since, well, "Gone With the Wind." "Gods and Generals," which began filming in August in Virginia and concludes in Maryland today, is the prequel to the 40-hour, \$25 million "Gettysburg," based on Michael Shaara's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel "The Killer Angels" and starring Martin Sheen. It played in theaters, earning only \$10.8 million and ranking as the 104th film of the year in total box office, before being released on home video and, ultimately, airing on TNT over two nights in summer 1994. Shaara's son, Jeff, then wrote two companion books, "Gods and Generals" and "The Full Measure." Aside from "Gettysburg," one of the last big-screen, high-profile Civil War flicks was 1989's "Glory," filmed partly in Georgia. It won three Oscars and still pulled in only about \$26 million, less than half of what Turner is spending on "Gods and Generals."

"I thought this movie needed to be done," Turner says. "If we don't get too badly hammered on it [at the box office], we'll do 'The Full Measure,' too." Especially in these days of war and terrorism, Turner thinks a film like "Gods and Generals" is what moviegoers need. "Young men and old men fighting and dying 100 years ago as they do today is a great tragedy," he says. "By watching movies and studying history, maybe we can avoid some of the mistakes of the past."

"Gods and Generals" spans the years 1858 to 1863 and involves the battles of Manassas I (or Bull Run), Antietam (where 23,000 soldiers either died or were wounded in the bloodiest engagement in U.S. history), Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville. It introduces John Wilkes Booth and includes John Brown's raid on Harpers Ferry. "It's a movie about smoke," Duvall jokes. He's referring to the effects crew's constantly pumping smoke machines and buckets of burning charcoal used to simulate the

area's natural ground-hugging fog mixed with battle smoke. At times the charcoal smoke is so thick it slightly stings the eyes and the crew hauls in fans to blow it away.

Duvall also says a recent overnight shoot -- a camp scene with warming fires illuminating the tents and dotting the landscape -- was one of the best sets he's ever worked on. And he has praise for the re-enactors, who've traveled here from across the country as volunteer extras. "You could not make these movies without these re-enactors," Duvall says. "They even wear vintage underwear."

While Turner's new movie company is a freestanding entity, several companies with AOL Time Warner, where Turner is vice chairman, will eventually be involved. Warner Bros. will distribute the film, which will likely debut in Atlanta, New York, Los Angeles and Washington next December and then go in wide release in January 2003. Deals have already been made with HBO and TNT for post-theatrical television. At a planned four hours and four minutes, it will be almost as long as "Gettysburg." "You have to understand, the longest movie is 'Greed,'" director Maxwell says of Erich von Stroheim's 1925 silent masterpiece that is well over seven hours. "Ted was a little upset that 'Gettysburg' was only the second longest film in history."

"Ted is undaunted when it comes to these things," says Robert Wussler, chief executive of Turner Pictures. "He'd be happy if it just lost a little money. Will the public like it? I don't know. But with DVD sales and such, over the long haul it could do very well."

Turner's cameo involves watching a minstrel show, full of corny jokes gleaned from newspaper accounts of the period. He and the rest of the cast join in during the singing of the chorus of the "The Bonnie Blue Flag." During a break, Turner is in the encampment away from the movie cameras, practicing the one line for his cameo. He says his self-proclaimed title of "two-take Turner," bestowed when he filmed "Gettysburg," is at stake. "I was singing the song last night," he says, "and repeating my line over and over. I don't want to screw it up." Take 1: "We owe you Texas boys a debt of

gratitude for putting on these shows," Turner intones to scene-partner Gorman, who plays Confederate Brigadier Gen. John Bell Hood. The movie cameras stop rolling. "That's it!" Turner shouts. But it isn't. Stephen Lang, who plays Stonewall Jackson, utters to the wind a three-word review: "Pure corn pone." Maxwell orders one more take. It goes without a hitch. Turner is ecstatic. "Way to go gang," he says. "We did it." As if on cue, the mass of Civil War paparazzi move in, recording every second.

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The Federal Civil War Shelter Tent

A Book Report by C. Alan Kirby

This writer learned about a new book about the shelter half tent when I ordered a new tent from C & D Jarnagin last summer. With my shipment came a flyer advertising this book's availability, but only from the publisher, not from Jarnagin. In June 2001, a civil war researcher, Frederick Gaede, published his monograph on the American Civil War issue shelter half tent through O'Donnell Publications of the South Mountain Press. Mr. Gaede, with the help of many other researchers, had at his disposal a total of thirty-two original shelter half tents with which to study. His work improves upon that of Kevin (Patrick) M' Dermott's "A Survey of Civil War Shelter Halves" that was published about thirteen years ago.

This work is the latest in research on this type of tent. The soft cover book is broken into four Sections (chapters) with Section 3 being the most useful in the study of the tents' details. And, after all, it is the details that make any reproduction item more authentic. The details that are thoroughly discussed are: Tent Size, Material (fabric), Reinforcements, Grommets (the holes, themselves), Seams & Hems, Tent Weight, Buttonholes, Buttons, Cords & Tensioners, Poles, Pins (stakes), End Pieces, and Markings. Whew! The first thing that this reader learned was that more than one model (type) of shelter half tent was issued. From the early war Type I (1861-1862) to the mid-war Types II-a (1862-1864), and the II-b, & III-a (1863-1864), to the late war type III-b (1864-

1865), made at four different depots (manufacturing plants), this book covers them all. One of the most interesting sections covers the development of this tent for the U.S. Army from the original French pattern (the "tente d'abri"). The French Army had used this type of tent since 1837 with satisfactory results. The U.S. Army adopted this tent in 1861 in order to reduce the amount of items carried on wagons. I must admit that the most striking aspect of this book is the numerous original photos and drawings that are reproduced. Also, modern made photos of the writer's database (the original tents he examined) were very helpful in stating his facts. You may obtain your own copy of this fine work by writing the publisher:

O'Donnell Publications 7217

Popkins Farm Road Alexandria, VA 22306.

You may also buy one from

The Haversack Depot of New Braunfels, Texas.

Their phone number is

(830) 620-5192 and their E-Mail address is: "

philc@wireweb.net ".

Be aware that Haversack Depot does not offer credit card sales, as stated on their website at:

<http://users.wireweb.net/philc/>

His new website, now under construction will be at:

www.haversackdepot.com.

Their price is \$19.95 + \$4.00 S & H.

A Follow-Up to the Book Report

by C. Alan Kirby

After reading the aforementioned book, "The Federal Civil War Shelter Tent", it is clear that reenactors still have some way to go to achieve authenticity in regard to tentage. While our unit has come a long way from the mid 90's when most members used wedge tents almost exclusively, to the latest event where I was the only one with a tent at all (!), there are still some factors to consider in improving our "impression through tentage". I have learned that the the most common aspects that are wrong on modern reproduction shelter half tents are:

(1) the existence of metal (brass) grommets used to stake down the tent,

(2) the lack of "stitched grommets" (the holes for

- the poles and ropes),
- (3) the lack of guy ropes,
- (4) the use of incorrect cordage for the ropes, and finally,
- (5) the use of incorrect rope tensioners of wood or metal when a simple Boy Scout "tautline hitch" is in keeping with the favored "less is more" approach.

It is also noted on a much smaller scale that more use is needed of issue poles, wooden stakes (especially "homemade" types), and some sort of tent end closure. The original photos published in the book show that the tents were closed by various methods, the use of ponchos/gum blankets, the rarely issued end pieces, brush (!), or more commonly, a third shelter half. Also to see more guy ropes without the metal or wooden tensioners now seen. A simple Boy Scout "tautline hitch" (knot) is all that is needed.

The Haversack Depot (\$75 + S&H per half) for a reproduction Type III-a and C&D Jarnagin (\$54.50 + S&H per half) for a reproduction Type III-b, both make what I consider authentic late war shelter half tents. Prices are subject to change without notice, of course. While both companies offer the cutting edge in detail, especially in regard to hand stitched grommets, the one from the Haversack Depot (H.D.) is closer to the correct weight material and has the more common bone buttons. But, it is considerably more expensive. In this case you get what you pay for. H.D. also offers a more correct Type III-b, the one that had a blue line incorporated into the bottom edge of the material, for \$110 + S & H per half. They also offer two other types for even greater sums. The Haversack Depot tents are the civil war tent zenith as far as I am concerned. Jarnagin counters with not only cheaper prices but more options. They offer their "Maynard Shelter Half" without the hand stitched grommets (but with brass ones) for only \$31.95 + S&H per half and gives you the option, at the same price, for one that has no grommets, but is ready for you to do the hand work. Jarnagin calls theirs the "Maynard" because they say that they have made their tents from the example in the Smithsonian that once belonged to Lt. Charles Maynard of the 20th Michigan Infantry. They also offer for sale the

very useful end pieces that are so important in keeping what is inside the tent dry. But, H.D. offers authentic hemp rope for your tent cordage at what I consider very reasonable prices and also offers for sale authentic issue poles. The price for these segmented poles was not available on H.D.'s website at the time this was written, but if memory serves me, are less than \$20 for a set of two 2-piece poles.

In conclusion, it is wished that all new members consider one of these two sutlers for their tent when the time comes. And, for all veterans who are thinking about upgrading their tent, to consider these two sutlers. While the prevailing mood at the most recent campaign event was of not carrying anything, especially a tent, it is this writer's opinion that even fewer would have stayed the whole weekend if it had been raining (as it had the Friday of the event) and/or had been much colder. Research proves that many civil war soldiers carried their shelter half and buttoned it up with a pard's half to erect this modest of shelters. It is even my hope to see more members share their tents with a pard in the future and even for each to share their blanket as those brave souls did so many years ago.

Unit Manuals at January Drill

Unit manuals will be available for purchase at the January drill. New members who have already paid for a manual may pick them up at Veterans Park, January 12. There are new slight revisions, but no major changes within the last year. If you don't have one, "then you need one!"

Muster & Annual Dues

It's time again to pay annual dues, which are \$25. **The muster fee is \$10 per person and it must be delivered to George Hansen by Jan. 21st.** You will be held responsible anytime after 1/21 (no exceptions) to mail the fee to Whit Edwards in Oklahoma City! If you don't want to pay both amounts all at the same time, then just bring the \$25 annual dues to the Feb. 9th muster. Whit is asking that the muster money arrive on time so he will know how much food to buy. Four meals are included at the \$10 price - a heck of a deal. That's three meals on Saturday and breakfast Sunday morning. Please use the 2002 Registration form found below.

NTRS

2002 DUES & EVENT REGISTRATION FORM

<i>FEE TYPE</i>	<i>Cost</i>	<i># of people</i>	<i>\$ Totals</i>
NTRS Dues	\$25		\$ 25
Muster Fees	\$10 x		\$ (Jan. 21 Deadline)
Unit manual	\$5		\$
TOTAL			\$

NTRS Member Name(s)

Muster Attendees

Feb. 9, Ft. Washita, OK – muster fee(s) due January 21st

2002 NTRS dues is \$25 per family and the muster fee is \$10 per person, which include four meals. Unit manuals available at January drill.

Make check payable to **NTRS** and mail this form to:

George Hansen
3407 Palmtree Dr.
McKinney, TX 75070

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