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# The UNION STANDARD

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June 2007

Vol.15, no 2

*The Newsletter of the 1<sup>st</sup> United States Infantry, The Regulars*

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## From the Field

Pards of the 1<sup>st</sup> US Regular Infantry, It was a pleasure to see many of you in Jefferson, TX. I know you will agree with me the leadership did an outstanding job in this uniquely challenging event. Street firing was a particularly moving portion of our weekend. I don't know about you but I also enjoyed the Sunday battle fought entirely in the shade. Wonder if that will ever happen again? We weathered the weather well and even caught the butternuts snoozing in camp. Pvt. Pete Graham ably guided our column to the rear of the plantation for a surprise attack. Major Gross placed us into line and swept us forward through the nervous horses, screaming southern ladies with frying pans a swinging and chased the dismounted troops to surrender. All in all we had an outstanding weekend.

Our next event is near Tribbey, OK. June 8 -10. The site is about 45 minutes Southeast of Oklahoma City. They have named it "Battlefire: Indian Territory's First Battles of the Civil War". As this is a 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion and 1<sup>st</sup> US Infantry MAX EFFORT event we will have larger numbers and therefore greater flexibility with scenario. The ground is outstanding with gentle slope and tree lines to maneuver in as well as good shade to rest under.

The organizers have requested everyone pre register. This is not required but offers them the heads up on how much wood and water they need to plan for.

To register and review site maps please link to <http://www.wildfiremusicfestival.com/>

Set up June 8<sup>th</sup>, Friday evening looks to be in the same location we had two years ago. Check the links with a marked photo overlay. This will be particularly important should you roll into camp after sunset. This location has it all, good shade, open areas for A tents and plenty of trees to set up the dog tent under.

Additional attention has been placed on close access to wood and water so we will have all we need to settle in and focus on the battle. If not already communicated with us mess and camp style will be conveyed to us from our Officers.

Saturday morning looks to be Company and Battalion drill followed with a publicly viewed battle commencing at 1 PM. Rumor has the always interesting and exciting Tactical Battle

moved to Sunday morning. This allows better use of drill time prior to the Saturday battle. Somewhere in the schedule look to see a game of Rounders. The Sunday battle is again at 1 PM.

Our good friends the 9<sup>th</sup> Texas will oppose us and with Major Gross in charge who knows, maybe he can arrange for some hand to hand interchange up close to the crowd.

Spring in Oklahoma can bring a wide array of conditions, be prepared to enjoy whatever Mother Nature has in store for us, including the bugs. It should be a very nice time of the year considering the recent cool weather of late. Please do not discount this event. We need every one of us to be in line for this role call. Buddy up with another and share fuel costs. Let's enjoy our hobby and fellowship. Directions noted on page three.

See you in the ranks,

Henry Rochford, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sgt, Co. A  
1<sup>st</sup> Regiment US Infantry

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## FORT CHADBOURNE LIVING HISTORY DAYS

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While everyone else was at Jefferson, yours truly was fulfilling a promise elsewhere. Last year, at the not so annual anymore Live Fire and Musket championship, Garland Richards asked me if we as a group would consider coming out to his living history days at Fort Chadbourne. Fort Chadbourne is unusual for Texas Forts in that it is not owned by the state, but is in private hands, Garland Richards' hands to be exact. At the time of his question, I told Garland that I could not speak for the 1<sup>st</sup> US, I could promise that I would come out and help him.

Since Fort Chadbourne is in private hands, they need to raise money outside of tax revenue that other forts have available. This is where the Living History Days come in. During the weekend of May 4-6, friends of Fort Chadbourne come out to raise money for the restoration and upkeep of a fine old fort. This Living History weekend is a mixture of drill, living history, live fire and county fair. There are reenactment groups from several eras represented. From

American Indians, pre-Texas Revolution pioneers (complete with bows, tomahawks and flintlocks) to confederates, as well as post war Cav and Federal infantry and artillery were represented. There were foodstuffs as well as bands and sutlers. There was also a live fire line and, after hours, was ours to play with.

Overall the weather and the experience was great. On Friday about 1200 school kids came out and, thankfully, were well behaved as well as organized. Saturday and Sunday was opened to the public and it is their admission that pays for the continuation of the Fort. OH, did I mention that the 1<sup>st</sup> US was at Fort Chadbourne? All our food was provided, water was plentiful and there was plenty of free time to look around. The days were started with a parade and morning cannon shot and ended the same. By the way, I found a company K 1<sup>st</sup> US there as well. I know it is not the usual powder burn or drill, but let me ask that we consider this event to help out a family and Fort that has been very nice to the 1<sup>st</sup>.

YOS, Pvt Yeager (Kip Bassett)

### Notes from the 1<sup>st</sup> Sergeant:

Since the last newsletter...

- We had a fair turnout for the drill at the Ft. Worth Museum on 14 April, but Saturday morning was not the time to be recruiting and by 1 PM, all were gone. Perhaps we can "mix it up" with the 9<sup>th</sup> on a day where high traffic is anticipated. Kudo's for all who attended.
- On Wednesday, 25 April, Lt. Doughtie and I, along with members of the 9<sup>th</sup> responded to a Living History at a Middle School in Mesquite. We ran through 300+ students in the course of about 4 hours.
- On 5-6 May, we had our usual turnout of regulars for the Jefferson reenactment and a contingent of folks from our unit doing a living history at Ft. Chadborne. Not bad for a weekend spread all over Texas.

The last event prior to the summer break is Tribbey, OK on 9-10 June and would encourage all to prepare for this small event. Most times the smaller events afford more action and a better play than do larger events.

Respectfully,

Paul Mattoon  
1stSgt, 1<sup>st</sup> US Infantry

## 1<sup>st</sup> U.S. Calendar

2007

### June

**9<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> - Reenactment, Tribbey Oklahoma**

### July

TBA

### August

Unit Social TBA

### September

Drill TBA

### October

**27<sup>th</sup> -28<sup>th</sup> Bentonville Arkansas, Battle of Pea Ridge**

*Note: **Bold** are scheduled maximum effort events. Italicized dates are available events or recruiting activities. **\*\*See website for full event calendar\*\****

### July and August Events:

Your Board is working on getting details out in the near future about a possible July event and our Unit Social held each August

### Community Service



Corporal Beck R. Martin spoke to the River Trails Elementary (Hurst, TX) Fourth Grade Class about the Life of a Civil War Soldier on May 18th

# ***Directions to Tribbey***

**Coming from the east or west on I-40, look for the Dale exit (Hwy 102). Go South on 102 approximately 18 miles to a Wildfire Banner in Tribbey. At the sign turn east and go approximately 1.7 miles to the site.**

**-or-**

**Coming north on I-35, get off at Purcell and travel east on Hwy 39 approximately 19 miles to Hwy 102. Turn north and travel approximately 10 miles to a Wildfire Banner in Tribbey. Turn east and travel approximately 1.7 miles to site.**

**-or-**

**Going north or south on I-35, take Hwy 9 East for approximately 25 miles to Hwy 102. Turn south on Hwy 102 and go approximately 10 miles to a Wildfire Banner in Tribbey. Turn east and travel approximately 1.7 miles to site.**

**-or-**

**Coming North on Hwy 177, turn west on Hwy 39 in Asher. Go approximately 6 miles west to Hwy 102 turn north towards Tribbey.**

**-or-**

**Coming south on Hwy 177, you can either go west on Hwy 9 to Hwy 102 or go south to Hwy 59B and travel approximately 6 miles west to Hwy 102. Turn south to Tribbey.**

## **Hardtack**

I started reenacting after a class George gave in 1995, in Plano, called "So, You want to be a Reenactor". I have always been interested in history and it wasn't a hard sell. I started to collect information on minutia of the civil war, what they did and how they did it. One of my first uses for the internet, Jan was working as a library aid for the school district and had access. She found this article for me in 1996 and I have been using it ever since. So here is my lead in article on things you can make for reenacting, I will start out with food and you let me know what you think.

## **Hardtack Recipe**

Probably the one, first, and most requested recipe on the net, in the discussion groups, or anywhere ACW enthusiasts get together, is for hardtack (also known as 'tack, ironplate biscuits, army bread, and other colorful names). OK, out of the 1862 US Army book of receipts, is one that is guaranteed to keep your dentist happy with bridge and upper plate work, and not satisfy your culinary hunger. But these actually work and stay fresh for eons.

- \* 5 Cups Flour (unbleached)
- \* 1 Tbsp Baking Powder
- \* 1 Tbsp Salt
- \* 1-1 1/4 cups Water
- \* Preheated Oven to 450

In a bowl, combine the ingredients to form a stiff, but not dry dough. The dough should be pliable, but not stick a lot to your hands. Take this mound of dough, and flatten it out onto a greased cookie sheet (the ones with a small lip around the edge... like a real shallow pan...), and roll the dough into a flat sheet approx. 1/2 to 1/4 inch thick.

Using a breadknife, divide the dough into 3x3 squares. Taking a 10-penny nail, put a 3x3 matrix of holes into the surface of the dough, all the way thru, at even intervals ("Village Tinsmithing Works" sells a cutter that does all of this.. works great!).

Bake in the oven for approximately 20 Min., till lightly browned. Take out and let cool. Do this the day before your go on the field, and your will have enough tack to fill your haversack. It will be somewhat soft on Saturday morning, but, by Sunday, you should soak it in your coffee before eating, else you will have a hard time chewing.

I let it sit out for about 6 hours on a wire cooling tray, its dry by then and won't break up on you. If you want to cut it up for samples at shows and events do it while it is still fairly warm, 5X5 or 6X6 cutting grid works well. If you want your tack more like a cracker then fold the dough like pastry 5 to 10 times as you roll it out, I got that off the Bent Cookie Factory website.

## History of a Pennsylvania Cavalry Company

By Bob Zebian

Company A of the Fourth Pennsylvania Cavalry had a long and notable service in the Civil War. Organized in August, 1861, it saw service through most Eastern campaigns, including Malvern Hill, Antietam, Fredericksburg and the Mud March, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Grant's Virginia campaign, and Appomattox. It was also one of the units in which my great-grandfather Condy Gallagher served (we'll talk about his adventures in the next issue).

The company was organized by W. E. Doster, an attorney in Bethlehem Pennsylvania. The majority of the recruits were from either the anthracite coal mining region or the German farm land of the state. It was officially mustered in on October 18, 1861, and Doster was appointed Major. The other ranks were filled by election and political appointment, including a First Lieutenant who never appeared for service (no, his name wasn't McFuddy).

Despite not having any military service, Doster was apparently a very efficient officer, and by the end of the year Companies A and B were detached to serve as escort to the Brigade commander, General Erasmus Keyes. In February, 1862 they were sent to Washington D.C. as the capitol's mounted Provost Guard. Doster was appointed Provost Marshall. Company

A did its duty, "breaking up whiskey saloons and houses of ill repute" (probably reluctantly). However, its company history also notes that the men were very proficient at avoiding the infantry provost after curfew.

In June their provost duty ended and they were sent to McClellan's army in the Peninsula. They performed reconnaissance duty during the army's retreat and took part in several skirmishes. At Harrison's Landing, while on picket duty, the company suffered extremely from disease and fever. (This is where Condy may have first picked up the dysentery that was to plague him the rest of his life.) The company eventually moved to Yorktown, from where they were evacuated by ship back to Washington D.C.



*Officers of the Fourth Pennsylvania Cavalry at Westover Landing, Virginia, August, 1862.*

When Lee began his Maryland campaign in 1862, the Fourth Pennsylvania was formed as escort to Burnside and marched west. The regiment served at Antietam in support to the artillery batteries, and although it had a fine view of the battle, suffered few casualties. The unit then camped in Hagerstown Maryland for the winter. Again, the company suffered heavily from disease, and many troopers were sent to the hospital. It's interesting to note that by the end of 1862, two company members had died from combat, two had been discharged for wounds, but twelve had been discharged for "physical disability."

A reduced company accompanied the Federal advance into Virginia in late 1862, fighting several skirmishes on the way. Along with most of the cavalry, they were posted at Falmouth while the infantry fought the Battle of Fredericksburg, where they acted as dispatch riders.

Following Burnside's replacement by Hooker, the company advanced during the Chancellorsville campaign, destroying Confederate supplies at Culpepper. After Hooker was defeated at Chancellorsville, the company retreated to camp at Potomac Creek Station. During the campaign, a portion of the company was left there due to illness and lack of horses. These men, while on picket duty, were attacked by Moseby's Raiders and suffered several casualties.

After several changes of camp, the company marched to Gettysburg in July.

Arriving on the second day, they were posted to the right flank of the Union position between Seminary Ridge and the Round Tops, where they skirmished for two days. A marker indicates their spot on the battlefield today, and the unit's members are named on the Pennsylvania Monument.

With the rest of the army, they followed the retreating Confederates south. In early October they were near Sulphur Springs, Virginia. The regiment proceeded south towards Jefferson, where they came across the Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry already in combat. The Fourth deployed in a skirmish line to assist. Apparently they did not think they were facing large numbers. However, later in the evening they found themselves surrounded on three sides by a much larger Confederate cavalry force. The troopers conducted a fighting withdrawal, launching a series of desperate charges. Most of them escaped across a river in small groups. However, a total of 300 Union cavalymen, and 13 members of Company A were captured. This included Lieutenant William Hyndman, author of the unit's history, and my great-grandfather Condry.

The remnant of the company remained with Meade's army and participated in more skirmishes. On December 31, 1863, the original three-year enlistments expired. The next day, these men were mustered again into the company as veteran volunteers.

In March, one hundred picked men were chosen from the Fourth Pennsylvania to accompany General Kirkpatrick's force of 2,000 troopers on a raid towards Richmond. Returning from the raid, the force stopped at the plantation of the ex-Governor of Virginia, Henry Wise. They found numerous barrels of recently opened oysters. They filled their hats, haversacks, and horses' feedbags and enjoyed quite a feast.

The company accompanied Grant's advance into Virginia, participating in various skirmishes. During this time the company encountered a new foe – the guerilla. Foragers were found with their throats cuts and bodies mutilated.

The unit stayed with Grant and Meade, and did not accompany Sherman on his march to western Virginia. They spent early winter in camp and on picket duty around Proctor's Hill. In January, the regiment charged a Confederate position at Hatcher's Run in grand old cavalry fashion, sabers drawn and trumpets blaring. The charge broke through the enemy's line, but was not supported and the troopers found themselves isolated. They retreated with heavy casualties. The Union Fifth Army was then brought up and forced the Confederates back.

Sheridan was now in overall command of the Union cavalry. The Fourth Pennsylvania was under his direction as it harassed Lee's retreat from Petersburg. On

April 6, the regiment attacked and destroyed much of Ewell's wagon train. On April 9, preparations were under way for another assault on the rebels, when word of Lee's surrender reached them.

The company began a slow return to Pennsylvania. Along the way, they were again detached for provost duty in pursuit of Virginia Governor William "Extra Billy" Smith, no doubt motivated by a \$25,000 reward. Unfortunately, Governor Smith turned himself into the authorities before the company found him, earning the company's eternal wrath.

While on this patrol they stopped at a mansion outside of Lynchburg, owned by one William Johnson. Johnson was a very wealthy man who had owned over two hundred slaves. Noticing a similar light-skinned appearance among many of the ex-slave women, Lt. Hyndman learned that not only was Johnson their father, but that he was also the father of their children.

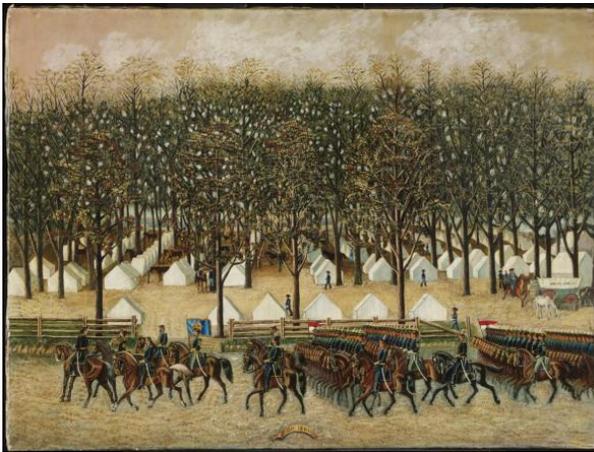
At this time, Johnson appeared and ordered the soldiers to leave. Hyndman ignored him and told his men to help themselves to anything they wanted. Company A pretty much cleaned out the dirty old man.

The company was mustered out with the regiment on July 1, 1865, at Lynchburg. When originally formed, the company contained 99 men and officers. During the war, 15 left due to expired service, 19 were discharged due to illness or wounds, and 26

died in action or from wounds, including 10 in Confederate prison. Recruiting helped fill the ranks, because when mustered out the company numbered over a hundred men.

Next issue, I'll write about my great-grandfather's service, including his three captures, his escape from Andersonville, and the mystery of his final enlistment. How's that for a tease?

Most of this information is taken from *History of a Cavalry Company: A Complete Record of Company "A", 4<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Cavalry* by Captain William Hyndman.



*Fourth Pennsylvania Cavalry on Review*

## **FRAZER BROTHERS** The Official Sutler of the 1st U.S. Infantry

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# **The Union Standard**

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