



The Dispatch

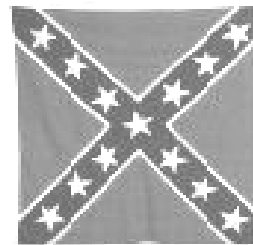
Newsletter of the

9th Texas Infantry Regiment

January, 2005

Volume 3, Issue 1

Fred Yokubaitis, Editor



From the Colonel

Gentlemen,

I know it's been a few months since you have seen a newsletter, but if you are like me, you needed a few months to recover from the 140th Franklin event. I'm kind of glad big events like that only come around about once a year.

For better or worse, that one is now in the history books. Actually, I think it is one of the best events we've had in a while. Our battalion fielded 10 companies, campaigned the entire weekend, did some special things that have not been tried before, and pulled it all off almost flawlessly. We also got our name and notoriety for our achievements in several publications. Not too bad! The rest of the reenacting community might not know what it's like to be a part of the RRB, but they sure know who we are and what we can do. My hat's off to the RRB.

I hope that everyone has had a wonderful holiday season and received sufficient rest and supplies while on leave. With the busy year ahead of us, you're going to need it.

A new year brings on change. As you all should know by now, our beloved Col. Mark Griffin has passed on..... to command our brigade, that is. You can now address him as General Griffin. He drug off Lt. Tom Stuart as well. He will serve as the brigade adjutant. At the Plantation Liendo event last October, I humbly assumed command of the Red River Battalion. Brad Quine has accepted the role of Lieutenant Colonel, and Tom Corll the roll of battalion adjutant. The role of Major will most likely be filled by Rob Williams of the Texas Rifles. I have complete faith in these fine gentlemen to serve the battalion well in the coming years. Lord, help us all!

Now it's time to start preparing for the 143rd Battle of Corinth....UUUUGGGGHHHH! It's just around the corner. Hey Mark, how long do you have to be in this position until you get Vacation?

Your most obedient servant,

Col. Fred Yokubaitis

Upcoming Events

(See inside for detailed information)

February 5-6, 2005 – Livingston, TX

February 12, 2005 – Twigg's Surrender

February 19-20, 2005 – Jesse Jones Park, Humble, TX

March 12-13, 2005 – Spring Battalion Muster

April 2-3, 2005 – Port Hudson, LA

April 30 – May 1, 2005 – Jefferson, TX

May 21, 2005 (9:00 A.M.) – Drill at Old City Park

May 21-22, 2005 – Grapevine Main Street Days

June 4-5, 2005 – Texas Scottish Fest & Highland Games

June 11-12, 2005 – Tribbey, OK

June 25-26, 2005 (9:00 A.M.) – Drill at Old City Park

September 10-11, 2005 – Fall Battalion Muster

October 1-2, 2005 – Corinth, MS

** Important Reminders **

9th Texas Infantry Year 2005 Dues:

Year 2005 dues are now due. Payment deadline is January 31, 2005. Dues are \$30.00 per family. Checks should be made out to '9th Texas Infantry'. Submittal of payment and Enlistment/Waiver forms by mail may be sent to:

Tom Corll
4302 Aspen Dr.
Killeen, TX 76542

Leftover Ammo from the 140th Franklin Event:

There is still unused ammo in the company boxes leftover from The 140th Franklin Event. Battalion Quarter Master Dan Hastings will have the ammo boxes at the Spring Muster in March. Any remaining ammo after Muster will be put into a Battalion ammo fund.

Remember to check

the

Battalion's Web Page:

www.9thtexas.tripod.com

For the latest Battalion news, event information,
and message board.

Recent Event Attendance

July 4, 2004 – 4th of July at OCP: 19 people
July 24, 2004 – Drill: 37 people
August 21, 2004 – Drill: 70 people
September 11-12, 2004 – Muster: 65
October 1-3, 2004 – Franklin: 214 people.
November 20-21, 2004 – Plantation Liendo: 40 people

2005 Event Information

Battle of Long King Creek Reenactment February 5-6, 2005 Pedigo Park, Livingston, TX (Optional / Recruiting Event)

This is a fun little East Texas event. Our impression will be Western Confederate. Our focus for this event will be recruiting. Attendance at this event is optional. If you can only make one event during this month please forgo this event in favor of the Twiggs' Surrender Reenactment. See the event flier in this issue for more information.

Twiggs' Surrender Reenactment February 12, 2005 The Alamo, San Antonio, TX (Battalion Effort)

This is a one day event hosted by the 6th Texas. The event reenacts the surrender of The Alamo, a pre-war Federal arsenal, to local Texas militia. The event allows for a great opportunity to interact with the crowd, as well as recruit. Downtown San Antonio, the River Walk, Mexican cuisine, and carrying guns around The Alamo; what else could one ask for? Come out and help support our battalion members! See the event flier in this issue for more information.

Jesse Jones Park Reenactment February 19, 2005 North Harris County, Houston, TX (Optional)

This is a small, one day festival at a North Harris County Park put on by our parads in The Texas Rifles. It is a nature park with an 1840's period farm. The landscape is great for skirmishing through the woods. Attendants are encouraged to bring both Confederate and Federal uniforms. More information forthcoming.

Battalion Spring Muster March 12-13, 2005 Location TBA (BATTALION MAXIMUM EFFORT!)

Our Spring Muster will be held in preparation for the Port Hudson event. More information forthcoming.

Siege of Port Hudson Reenactment April 2-3, 2005 Port Hudson, LA (Battalion Maximum Effort!)

This event will be hosted by our very own Mississippi Valley Brigade. We will portray the 165th NY Zouaves. We will be in a full garrison camp for the weekend: including commissary, medical corps, and quartermaster department, among other things. We will also have an opportunity to do historical scenarios within the park. More information forthcoming.

Jefferson Reenactment / Living History April 30-May 1, 2005 Jefferson, TX (Battalion Effort)

This event will be hosted by our very own Mississippi Valley Brigade. Our impression will be Western Confederate. More information forthcoming.

Battalion Drill May 21, 2005 Old City Park, Dallas, TX

This will be a regular monthly drill at Old City Park. The park schoolhouse will be open starting at 4:00 PM for those wishing to stay out Friday night (bedding recommended). There will be an Office & NCO meeting in the schoolhouse at 8:00 AM. Drill to start promptly at 9:00 AM. Light marching order for drill.

Grapevine Main Street Days May 21-22, 2005 Grapevine, TX (Recruiting Event)

We will need volunteers to help recruit for the weekend. More information forthcoming.

Texas Scottish Fest & Highland Games June 4-5, 2005 UT Arlington Stadium, Arlington, TX (Recruiting Event)

We will need volunteers to help recruit for the weekend. More information forthcoming.

Tribbey Reenactment, OK June 11-12, 2005 Tribbey, OK (Battalion Effort)

As we all remember from last time, this event is will well worth the trip. We will portray Western Confederates. Those gearing up Trans-Mississippi impressions for Corinth are highly suggested to use it. The land provides for a great event and the snow cone vender can't be beat.

Battalion Drill
June 25, 2005
Old City Park, Dallas, TX

This will be a regular monthly drill at Old City Park. The park schoolhouse will be open starting at 4:00 PM for those wishing to stay out Friday night (bedding recommended). There will be an Office & NCO meeting in the schoolhouse at 8:00 AM. Drill to start promptly at 9:00 AM. Light marching order for drill.

Battalion Fall Muster
September 10-11, 2005
Ft. Parker / Groesbeck, TX
(BATTALION MAXIMUM EFFORT!)

Our Fall Muster will be held at Ft. Parker in Groesbeck, Texas (just south of Mexia). We will dedicate this time finalizing our preparation efforts for the 143rd Battle of Corinth Reenactment. More information forthcoming.

143rd Battle of Corinth Reenactment
October 2-4, 2005
Corinth, MS
(BATTALION MAXIMUM EFFORT!)

This is the Big Division event for the year. We will portray the 2nd Texas Infantry. More information forthcoming.

Announcements

Battalion Dues Information

The time of reenlistment is upon us. Year 2005 Battalion Dues are now due and need to be paid by January 31st. Battalion dues are currently \$30.00 per family.

Included at the end of this newsletter are the Enlistment and Waiver forms needed to process a new or reenlisting member. Those unable to attend a 9th TX event by the due date should mail them, along with the dues payment (check or money order), to the battalion adjutant at the following address:

Tom Corll
4302 Aspen Dr.
Killeen, TX 76542

All forms must be filled out, signed, and included with the dues payment in order to be processed. We no longer accept forms without dues payment. Also attached are the **General Rules & Regulations of the 9th TX**. Please take a minute and read all forms before signing.

<p><u>Attention 9th Texas – THE DISPATCH Needs Your Input!!!</u></p> <p>The editor needs your help in creating the most informative newsletter possible. Please send your announcements, articles, information, updates, and suggestions to:</p> <p>Fred Yokubaitis 7427 Marble Glen Ln. Houston, TX 77095 Fredy@ev1.net</p> <p>Remember, this is your newsletter!</p>
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Articles

Return to Franklin-140th Anniversary- Battle of Franklin October 1-3, 2004

by David M. Weaver, Co. G, 9th Texas Infantry, Camp #1384, Gaston-Gregg Camp, Sons of Confederate Veterans

Tension mounts as our lines are formed to march forward in the attack on the Yankee line around the cotton gin to our front here in Franklin, Tennessee. "Load!" The hair rises on my neck at the command and it seems others in the ranks experience the same feeling. We are men of the 9th Texas Infantry Regiment, re-enactors, who have left modern times and are now at the 140th Battle of Franklin portraying the 6th/15th Texas Consolidated under Granbury's Texas Brigade, Cleburne's Division. Our battalion's companies have been matched to the original 6th/15th Texas Consolidated companies as close as possible in both strength and designation. Each man in the ranks has drawn by lottery a slip of paper listing a name from the original roster of the company we portray. Officers and NCOs have been assigned a name based upon the historic rank they hold. Our battalion will take casualties, killed, wounded, and captured based upon historic losses of the 6th/15th Texas at the Battle of Franklin fought on November 30, 1864. [FN1] The slip of paper I have drawn bears the name of Private William Tinnin, age 24, who was wounded in the right hip at Franklin. We are instructed to not tell anyone of the fate of the men we portray. Dead and wounded are to remain on the battlefield at the conclusion of the battle and only those who survived will march away. Men captured by the Yankees will spend the night in captivity. In preparation for this re-enactment, we have trained to portray hand-to-hand fighting with a federal unit. The federal unit is also to be trained. There are rules to be followed to avoid emotion overtaking us and a real fight commence. We tie our bayonets or drop them to avoid injury in the confusion that will surely ensue as these armies collide.

This reenactment event takes on a larger meaning as we represent our ancestors in such an awful day. There are many in the ranks that have ancestors who were in the Confederate Army, and we do not take lightly the responsibility to correctly portray them today. We know the history of what had happened here and quietly have laid aside our modern world and now fade back in time to another moment. We are now in Franklin, our modern day identity gone.

The Battle of Franklin

Sam Watkins described Franklin: "Kind reader, right here my pen, and courage, and ability fail me. I shrink from butchery. Would to God I could tear the page from these memoirs and from my own memory. It is the blackest page in the history of the war of the Lost Cause. It was the bloodiest battle of modern times in any war. It was the finishing stroke to the independence of the Southern Confederacy. I was there. I saw it. My flesh trembles, and creeps, and crawls when I think of it today. My heart almost ceases to beat at the horrid recollection. Would to God that I had never witnessed such a scene...The death-angel was there to gather its last harvest. It was the grand coronation of death." [FN 2]

It is an eerie feeling as we try to accurately portray what had happened here. There will be plenty of smoke from the fire of the artillery and black powder rifles, but the carnage will simply be portrayed today where blood ran so on that day.

These men knew the horrible carnage they would face. Honor would not let them leave. As we try to walk in their footsteps, the men in the ranks now quietly shake hands and some say their good-bye as if death has already come for the men they portray and they know it. Although we are not supposed to let others know the fate of the man whose name we have drawn, their good-byes seem to tell us their message. My heart races as I recall the events of 1864, what I know happened to the man I portray, and my past experience in the Franklin Reenactment in 1995. It had been my first large reenactment event. I had experienced what some re-enactors experience, that is, "I saw the elephant" as the actual veterans had said of their first battle. [FN 3] My mind quickly drifts, for there are not many here who I had marched with in 1995. How much more intense the feelings of the actual veterans as they marched into this fight, their lines thinned with so many friends and comrades gone. Surely as they had waited to go forward, they had reflections of the past battles in which they had fought, and dread of what was facing them in this battle. Just for a brief while, I am no longer in 2004 but indeed have moved back in time.

There is a Confederate band near us beginning to sound out their instruments. We bid them play "Yellow Rose," but they strike up "Dixie" and all men cheer, followed by "The Bonnie Blue Flag." Franklin was one of the few battles where both the shooters and the tooters marched into battle together. "It was the most magnificent sight he had ever seen, the veteran corps commander Benjamin F. Cheatham remembered many years later. An almost unheard of occurrence, where an entire attacking army could be seen from high ground, the frontal assault at Franklin would be remembered by some as the most imposing martial spectacle of the entire war. Bands were playing, 100 battle flags were waving...while 20,000 brave men were marching in perfect order against the foe." [FN 4]. The band at Franklin had indeed played "Dixie."

Our colonel shouts to us: "The enemy is to our front. Forward!" There in front of us near the cotton gin is the blue line of Yankee infantry into which we will throw ourselves headlong, true to history. We march at the double quick as the rattle of musketry cascades across our front. We cross the trenches that had been quickly occupied by another Confederate unit in the charge. There is confusion in our lines, and we are quickly engaged in hand to hand fighting. I lock rifles with the Yankee in front of me as I cross the trenches. I butt stroke this Yankee with my rifle and push him away.

Wiley Sword described the action in the trenches: "For five minutes it was a hand-to-hand melee. Bayonets, clubbed muskets, revolvers, broken gunstocks, even bare hands became the weapons of that furious moment." [FN5]

I look around for my comrades in Company G, but cannot find them. The blue line in front of me is now falling back from the trenches, and I leap forward. There are only a few of us charging forward. I see the white smoke from their rifles as the Yankees pour a volley into the few of us who have jumped into their lines. The five of us who had ventured so far into the Yankee lines go down. There is no movement from the young man in gray who has fallen right beside me. Once again the battle intensifies in the trenches. We are now the 6th/15th Texas Consolidated, Granbury's Texas Brigade, Cleburne's Division charging the federal lines at Franklin, Tennessee. William Tinnin was 24 years old, a private in Company G when he was wounded in the right hip at Franklin, Tennessee. I have drawn his name in the casualty lottery. A federal chaplain kneels down beside me and asks if I am hurt. I reply: "Y'all have about done poor William Tinnin in today. Please say a prayer for William Tinnin." He knowingly nods when I tell him I have been wounded in the hip. This federal chaplain quickly says a prayer for William Tinnin, gives me the last rites, and moves to the others scattered on the ground nearby.

I had undergone hernia surgery four months ago and the day's long marching has stretched and caused me pain on the right side and hip. It seems fitting that I have such pain, for it mimics the wound sustained by the man I now portray.

I watch as captured Confederates are led by their captors past me into the Yankee line. I cry for help, but only Corporal Benjamin F. Wilkes (Sean Harla in the 21st century) breaks from his Yankee restraint, lifts my head and gives me water from his canteen before he is pulled away. I see J. Farmer (in modern life he is "Skip") and cry for help, yet his Yankee captor pushes him forward. A middle aged man in gray has twisted his ankle and sinks to the ground to my left. He tells me that he is from Fredericksburg, Virginia. As we talk, a Yankee officer tells his men in line that they are going to offer the oath of allegiance to these Confederates and hang those who refuse. I shout, "To hell with the Union." The man beside me says that such remark will probably get us both beaten by these Yankees. They are too busy to tend to us and focus again on the battle raging around them. Smoke covers the battlefield as the firing intensifies. Cannon blasts echo constantly.

Wiley Sword quotes Brigadier General George W. Gordon: "It seemed to me that hell itself had exploded in our faces." Gordon said the air "was hideous with the shrieks of the messengers of death." [FN 6]

After what seems a mighty long while, there is a lull in the battle. I am directed to a nearby Confederate aid station, and I half walk, half crawl there. The battlefield is filled with the wounded and dead. As I approach the aid station I see General Mark Griffin laid out on the ground. Mark had portrayed Brigadier General Hiram Granbury. General Granbury had led his brigade into battle when he was shot just under the right eye while on foot urging on his Texas Brigade. Shot just under the right eye, the bullet passed entirely through his head. Granbury had thrown both hands to his face and sank to his knees in death. [FN7]. Nearby are two freshly dug graves. Our aid station is posted right beside an actual old cemetery with gravestones dated in the 1840's.

A man in a bloody white apron, the surgeon, is tending to the wounded. This surgeon does what would have been done here, an early "triage" to determine the severity of each man's wounds and condition. When I tell the surgeon that I have been wounded in the hip, he does nothing for me and goes to the next wounded. The surgeon tells a young assistant to give me laudanum (the opiate pain-killer of the period). I am aware of what faced a man who had been wounded in the hip. If the bone was fractured, it was generally a fatal wound. Next to me is Sgt. Samuel W. Morris, age 20 (Ron White in the 21st century). He has been severely wounded in his right knee. The surgeon ties a piece of bloody cloth around the leg as a tourniquet and then takes a knife and traces around the circumference of the leg as was done to amputate the leg below the knee. Close by is Lieutenant William Dunson (Dennis Young), our company commander. Dunson was 22 years of age at Franklin where he was shot in the abdomen, but had survived. The surgeon then discusses with us what he would have done after the battle in 1864. The surgeon tells us that his knife is an actual surgical knife from the period, but it is now dull. The surgeon tells Ron that his wound and amputation of the leg would probably have become infected and caused his death. He explains that typically the surgeon would have done multiple surgeries, and would not have cleaned his knife and would not have had sterile conditions for surgery. In fact that is what had actually happened, and Sgt. Samuel W. Morris died three weeks later. The surgeon tells me what I had known, that a hip wound was generally fatal if the bone was broken, and that is why I had received no medical attention but the laudanum. If surgery was required for a hip wound, 1 in 99 survived. The higher the wound in the hip the less the chance of survival for the wounded soldier.

After the Battle

Slowly we returned from 1864 as the battle was now over. It would soon be dark, and we directed our attention to preparations for shelter in the event of rain. We strung my piece of canvas and Ron White's poncho in between the two parts of the cemetery, as close to actually sleeping in a cemetery as any of us had ever done. The wounded and dead were to stay here, the survivors had marched off to another location after the battle, and those who had been captured spent the night with their federal captors. This was a new experience and drove home further the reality of what we had portrayed here. It was sobering to see the dwindled ranks of our battalion when the survivors marched into our area in the morning.

Until Sunday morning I had subsisted on peanuts, parched corn, and beef jerky. Sunday morning I cooked my salt pork, and used its grease to cook the potato and onion. It was a veritable feast. Chapel services were conducted Sunday morning in front of the cemetery and where the casualties had spent the night. A man in the ranks secured a mandolin and led us in several hymns of the era including "How Firm a Foundation" and "Amazing Grace." Mark Griffin led us in prayer and in his sermon talked of these men whom we had portrayed, what faith and honor meant to them and the revival that had swept the Confederate Army about this time.

Our time at Franklin was filled with long marches and the regimen which would have been second nature to these men. It was sometimes taxing with the marching but only because we in the modern world do not regularly march like our ancestors had marched. We had had several forced marches with "heavy marching order" (all accoutrements, rifle, bayonet, haversack, cartridge box, cap pouch, and knapsack or blanket roll). We are on campaign and carry no tents. If it rains we will get wet.

On Friday night rations had been issued. We had been given one potato, an onion, molasses cookies, parched corn and a piece of salt pork. Some men immediately cooked and ate their rations, which is what often actually happened in the war. The men were usually hungry, and probably preferred not to have to carry the food, when it could be eaten, and they might be wounded or killed anyway. I wrapped my salt pork in the brown "wax paper" made from candle wax heated over a burner to melt the wax. In today's world we have become accustomed to meat spoiling if not handled quickly. In the 1860's meat was preserved with salt and could last a long time without spoilage. I put my rations into my haversack, and we quickly formed to march.

We had marched till it was long past dark on Friday night and slept the night on the actual site of the Spring Hill battle. Unfortunately, this site is to be developed soon. Our lines were formed in the dark, arms were stacked and orders given to line the men so that we simply lay down from our formation to the ground on which we were to sleep. It was with foreboding that I observed clouds covering the stars, but rain did not come till we were on the move in the morning. I gather canteens from the men in Company G and walk to the water wagon. There in a horse drawn, period correct, wagon is a wooden barrel with water. It goes dry quickly as only a few are able to get water. Upon tasting the water in my canteen it is obvious that this barrel had come from a whiskey distillery for my water had the taste and smell of fine Tennessee whiskey. I laugh as I think of reading stories of veterans who had filled their canteens with whiskey and the morning headaches they suffered thereafter. After a short rest, our company pulled guard duty, first simply in a state of readiness in camp prepared to move out if needed, and then for another hour or so we man forward picket lines. We rise in the dark in the early morning hours and form our lines for another march, a battle and intermittent rain.

During this event there were six horse drawn wagons used for supply that again would have been second nature to the men of the 6th/15th Texas who marched here before us. During the war, horses, mules and wagons were used to transport the various supplies an army needs.

Postlude

There was an ad for the Sons of Confederate Veterans in the Civil War Courier for the 140th Franklin event. The ad recites: "Out-manned, out-gunned, and out-supplied-but never out-fought-Confederate soldiers wrote a proud chapter in this nation's history for independence, toughness, bravery, patriotism, and honor." [FN 8] This seems a fitting tribute for these fine men of honor that we had portrayed at Franklin.

Sources-

1. "The Dispatch, Newsletter of the 9th Texas Infantry Regiment," September 2004, Volume 2, Issue 5
2. "Co. Aytch" Side Show of the Big Show. By Sam Watkins, Private, C.S.A. Original Edition Nashville 1881, at page 218
3. "Recollections of the Battle of Franklin 1864-1995," D.M. Weaver, 1995, at p. 1.
4. The Confederacy's Last Hurrah, Wiley Sword, 1992, p. 187
5. Id. at p. 222.
6. Id., at p. 222.
7. Id. at p. 222.
8. "Civil War Courier-140th Anniversary of the Battle of Franklin, October 2004.

Engaging the Enemy on the Battlefield

By Capt. Tom Corll, Adjutant, 9th Texas Infantry, RRB



As a young boy in school I remember my teacher talking about the Battle of Bunker Hill. One of the stories related to that battle was the commander's infamous directive to not fire any muskets until each soldier could see the white's of the enemy's eyes. While this sounds heroic, many re-enactors realize the underlying truth for this statement. The limited effective range of smoothbore muskets and the rate of fire from the militia were so poor, that the commander wanted to ensure maximum effectiveness was achieved with every shot fired.

During the years of 1861 through 1865, commanders faced similar situations. Large groups of men were placed in companies and told to point and fire their rifles at the enemy. For some men this was an easy task. They were used to hunting game to feed their families. For others, especially those from the city, the rifles were cumbersome and heavy. The idea of holding this rifle horizontal with the ground, much less aligning the rear sight with the front site, was near impossible. As a result many soldiers had a tendency to hold the rifle in an elevated, upward angle causing their shot to go over the enemy's head. It was not uncommon for an officer to direct his men to fire at the enemy's feet. The commander in 1861 had the same objective as the commander in 1775—to ensure that maximum effectiveness was achieved with every shot fired.

The use of Napoleon Tactics required every officer to become familiar with judging distances. In his book, "The 1862 Army Officer's Pocket Companion: A Manual for Staff Officers in the Field," William Craighill provided directions on this subject in Article 31.—Action and Effect of the different Arms. In this article Craighill provides the following insight:

*"In forming a good marksman, the first and one of the most important steps is to instruct him how to estimate distances."*¹

Craighill then provides guidance on how to estimate distances. He explains, in simple terms, a method by which a commander could determine the best time to engage the enemy and a means for deciding when it would be best to assault the enemy. Again, Craighill provides the following information:

*On a clear day, and with ordinary light, at from 190 to 200 yards, every part of a man's body can be seen. From 400 to 480 yards, the face can no longer be distinguished, but the head, body, arms, and movements, as well as the uniforms and muskets can. At 600 yards the head, and upper and lower parts of the body can be made out; and of the uniform, the accoutrements and white pantaloons only can be seen. From 750 to 800 yards, the body appears of an elongated form. Extended arms can be seen in profile, as also the legs of men in motion. The uniform can no longer be distinguished at 900 yards, but the files can still be seen, as well as the movement of troops, and the dust thrown up by a projectile ricocheting on dry ground. From 1,100 to 1,200 yards, the files can be scarcely distinguished, and the troops appear like solid masses, the movements of which can still be followed.*²

For the line officer, who actually led his men on the field, judging distances was necessary knowledge, especially when assaulting the enemy. A well trained infantryman could load and fire his rifle three times per minute. According to Craighill "A foot soldiers travels in one minute—

common time 90 steps = 70 yards
quick time 110 " = 86 "
double quick 140 " = 140 "³

Craighill writes:

*We may deduce from these facts the number of discharges of a body of infantry which is charging another body of infantry before it reaches it."*⁴

During the course of the war companies often shrank so small that there were barely one commissioned and three or four non-commissioned officers to command, say, 40 men.⁵ Presuming that there are ten companies in a battalion, there would be a potential of 400 riflemen on the firing line. Under optional conditions, each rifleman firing 3 times per minute would send 1,200 minié balls per minute into the oncoming assault force. In 1864, the U.S. Army would start firing into a confederate assault force once it came within 250 yards. Thus, a confederate commander could estimate that in just 3½ minutes, 4,200 rounds of ammunition would be fired into his assault line. Depending on the size of his command, a determination would have to be made on whether he could afford the risks of losing too many soldiers.⁶

As re-enactors our goal is two-fold: first, to experience first-hand the rigors and challenges faced by our ancestors during these years; second, to educate the public and provide first-hand opportunities for them to learn about this period of time. Learning more about this era, and studying such areas as the battle tactics will enhance our knowledge and allow us to be better educators for the public.

¹Craighill, W., "The 1862 Army Officer's Pocket Companion: A Manual for Staff Officers in the Field," Art. 31. Action and Effect of the different Arms., D. van Nostrand, 1862, pp. 71

²Ibid, pp. 71-72.

³Ibid, pp. 72.

⁴Ibid, pp. 72.

Plantation Liendo

By 1st Sgt. Greg "Dusty" Lind, 6th Texas Infantry, RRB

The Red River Battalion recently attended the annual reenactment at Plantation Liendo as the 165th New York Infantry. The weather proved to be quite the stinker and at times I thought I was involved in Burnside's Mud March versus a strike by Union Forces deep into the heart of Texas.

We had enough men to form three companies and were joined by the Texas Rifles and various assorted other Union forces to form a small battalion. This was the swan song for Mark Griffin and Tom Stuart and we were determined to send them in high style.

We camped static for the weekend under a myriad of A-frames, wall tents, dog tents, and a hodgepodge of canvas which acquired the name "Harem Tent". Even though the camp was fixed, there were few if any modern food containers and such popping up. I even knew of one man who dragged a cooler a good twenty five yards away behind a tree to keep it out of sight (hmmmmmm The Sgt Major words are finally paying off). Period cooking in style for the weekend as well. Soups, stews, crackers, salt pork and seasonal vegetables were the mainstays.

The Battalion has come along way in getting their impressions right both on and off the field. The little things the battalion is doing are paying off big rewards. I observed several other organizations are not only awed by us but some are almost downright scared of how we look, behave and drill.

The battles were of course mainstream, but we got to burn a lot of powder. On Sunday we were joined by two drafted recruits Privates Griffin and Color Corporal Stuart. Private Griffin gets my vote for the best dying impression. It took him what seemed like minutes staggering around the battlefield, (maybe he was just looking for a dry place to die?). Color Corporal Stuart out ran the whole Battalion during the route phase.

The ladies of the 6th Texas, Donna Straus and Pam Lind, served up their hungry guests a period meal that was much appreciated. Their hard work has often been overlooked by us, but this is the second year in a row they have opened their camp to feed us.

All and all, and despite the weather, it was a great but muddy weekend. We met new friends, got back together with old possums, had the Gray Boys to serenade us, got to see an organ grinder with his monkey, and say good bye to our dear Commander.

ENLISTMENT FORM FOR THE 9th TEXAS INFANTRY

<u>Adjutant's use only</u> Paid: cash / ck# _____ Date: _____ Roster: _____ ID: _____

Company: _____

Rank: _____

Last: _____ First: _____ Middle: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home #: _____ Work #: _____ Cell #: _____

Email: _____

Allergies: _____

Medical Conditions: _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Relationship: _____

Emergency Contact #: _____

Dues are \$30 per year per family residing in one home. We consider college students "at home" for the purpose of dues. Though the 9th Texas Infantry strongly encourages the participation of wives and daughters in support of their husbands and brothers in the field, dues only cover, and are only required for, military participants. The 9th Texas Infantry does not accept dues from civilian re-enactors who do not have a member serving under arms.

Acknowledgment of Regulations

I, (print) _____, have read the **General Rules & Regulations for Members of the 9th Texas Infantry**, and agree to follow each of them. I understand that I am subject to disciplinary action and possible dismissal should I violate said rules.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Signature of parent/legal guardian required if enlistee is less than 18 years of age.

Parent or Guardian (print): _____

Parent or Guardian (sign): _____ Date: _____

**ASSUMPTION OF RISK, RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY
FOR
MEMBERS OF THE 9th TEXAS INFANTRY.**

I UNDERSTAND, ACKNOWLEDGE, AND AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

NOTICE: THIS IS A LEGALLY BINDING AGREEMENT WHICH IS INTENDED TO PROVIDE A COMPREHENSIVE RELEASE OF LIABILITY, BUT IS NOT INTENDED TO ASSERT ANY CLAIMS OR DEFENSES WHICH ARE PROHIBITED BY LAW. By signing this Release, you give up any right you may have to bring a court action to recover compensation or obtain any other remedy for any injury to yourself or your property or for any death however caused arising out of participation with the 9th Texas Infantry.

Reenacting can be a hazardous and dangerous activity, and events and activities related to or associated with reenacting can expose me to hazards and risks, both natural and artificial, which may result in harm, damage, personal injuries or death. _____ (INITIAL)

My participation with the 9th Texas Infantry is entirely voluntary and I understand that participation, involves hazards and dangers that can result in harm, loss, damage, personal injuries, or death resulting from, arising out of, or related to all such usage. _____ (INITIAL)

**** READ CAREFULLY ** READ CAREFULLY ** READ CAREFULLY ****

I recognize the dangers involved in reenacting. I realize I am subject to injury from this activity and that no form of preparing can remove all of the danger to which I am exposing myself. I am aware of the safety policies of the 9th Texas Infantry and I assume responsibility in following them. _____ (INITIAL)

I acknowledge and understand that the Officers and NCOs of the 9th Texas Infantry will take every precaution to ensure my safety, however, that responsibility ultimately falls upon me. _____ (INITIAL)

In consideration of being permitted to participate with the 9th Texas Infantry, for myself and on behalf of my heirs, personal representatives and assigns, I hereby assume all risks and waive, release and discharge forever the 9th Texas Infantry, its Officers, NCOs and members from any and all liabilities, claims, demands, or causes of action of any nature, whether known or unknown, for any harm, loss, damage, injuries or death, due to negligence or any other cause, resulting from, arising out of, or in any way related to my participation in any drill, muster, reenactment, living history or recruiting function. _____ (INITIAL)

I will obey and comply with all rules, regulations, or instructions of the 9th Texas Infantry and its Officers and NCOs, and I have a responsibility to ask questions and clarify any rules, regulations, or instructions if I do not understand, fully comprehend, or have any doubts about any rule, regulation, or instruction. _____ (INITIAL)

I have an obligation and responsibility to myself, as well as other members of the 9th Texas Infantry, to conduct myself in a safe and responsible manner, and I will NOT participate in any event while under the influence of drugs or alcohol or suffering from or experiencing any condition that might impair me. _____ (INITIAL)

I REPRESENT AND ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE READ THIS ASSUMPTION OF RISK, RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY AND FULLY UNDERSTAND EACH AND EVERY PROVISION AND THAT I AM SIGNING THIS AGREEMENT OF MY OWN FREE WILL.

Name (print): _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signature of parent/legal guardian required if enlistee is less than 18 years of age.

Parent/Guardian (print): _____

Parent/Guardian (sign): _____ Date: _____

GENERAL RULES & REGULATIONS FOR MEMBERS OF THE 9th TEXAS INFANTRY

Below are the general rules and regulations for the 9th Texas Infantry. Any member who violates any section or part of the rules may receive disciplinary action or dismissal. Disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to, suspension, probation or fatigue duties for minor offenses. It is the common practices of the 9th Texas Infantry command staff to dismiss members of the battalion by recommendation of his Company Commander and by formal order of the Battalion Commander. However, the Battalion commander reserves the right to refuse or revoke membership for violation of the rules or for insubordination.

The term "member" refers to individuals serving under arms that have paid dues to the 9th Texas Infantry or who are participating in a drill, muster or reenacting event.

General Rules and Regulations of Participation:

- 1) Members shall obey the orders and commands of the officers and NCOs appointed over them.
- 2) Proper Military courtesy shall be observed at all times in the field.
- 3) Roll call and drill sessions, at events, are mandatory.
- 4) Report to the 1st Sergeant upon arrival at an event.
- 5) Do not leave camp for any reason without notifying an NCO of your company.
- 6) Members should follow the instructions of Officers and NCOs of the 9th Texas Infantry **ONLY**.
- 7) No one under 16 years of age will be allowed to carry a weapon in the line. Young men under the age of 18 must have a signed parental release.
- 8) Boys from 12 to 15 years of age may participate as functioning musicians if they demonstrate the appropriate skill. A parent or guardian must accompany boys under 16.
- 9) Active members of the 9th Texas Infantry will participate in four drills and two events a year. Inactive members, who continue to pay dues, will receive a copy of the dispatch but will be placed in line at the pleasure of the Battalion Commander if they attend an event.

General Rules for Safety:

- 1) Any member of the battalion can command the line to cease-fire if a dangerous situation arises that the leaders do not see.
- 2) Do not take a hit with a loaded musket.
- 3) Do not fix bayonets unless ordered to do so.
- 4) Never draw a rammer on the field.
- 5) No member will participate, in an action, without a full canteen of water.
- 6) No weapons will be discharged without clearance from a 1st Sergeant or above. The Sergeant will take care to warn the camp or spectators.

- 7) No member will engage in hand-to-hand combat on the field, unless prearranged and choreographed by the Battalion Commanders of each side.
- 8) All line weapons are to be "three banded" percussion type muskets. No carbines, musketoons, civilian or Zouaves will be carried. Flintlocks and shotguns are only authorized by the Battalion Commander during specific events.
- 9) No loose powder is to be carried at an event. All cartridges should be wrapped correctly without the use of glue, tape or staples.
- 10) All Cartridge boxes will have tins to store rounds.
- 11) **Absolutely no live rounds will be carried onto the field by any member.** Violation of this rule will result in immediate dismissal from the unit.
- 12) No modern weapons will be carried into an event.
- 13) Drunkenness, substance abuse, or possession of controlled substances will not be tolerated, and will lead to dismissal from the unit.
- 14) Only Officers, the Sergeant Major and members of the mounted infantry company are allowed to carry pistols.
- 15) No swords, cutlasses, bowie knives or other edged weapons (other than bayonets) shall be carried by member of the line infantry. Officers and senior Non-commissioned officers may carry the appropriate period sabers.
- 16) Members who use their weapons for live fire **MUST** inform their company commander upon arrival to the event. These weapons must under go a thorough inspection to ensure that the muzzle is free of lead particles.

General Rules of Authenticity:

- 1) Members' uniforms and equipment will conform to the guidelines of the battalion. Items not authorized by these guidelines will not be allowed.
- 2) Any member who has not met the authenticity guidelines (including proper head gear, shoes and glasses) after 1 year of service will not be allowed to participate in events until the guidelines are met.
- 3) All non-period items should be kept out of site at all times.
- 4) Modern flannel shirts, Dockers, jeans, suspenders or other modern clothing shall not be substituted for authentic attire, except by new recruits when necessary.
- 5) Only officers and mounted infantry are authorized to wear period leather boots.
- 6) Members should take care to purchase items from recommended sutlers or to seek the approval of their officers before buying uniforms and equipment. The officers of the 9th Texas Infantry reserve the right to not allow inferior or incorrect gear purchased from an unauthorized sutler.

Battle of Long King Creek Reenactment Pedigo Park, Livingston, Texas February 5-6, 2005

Schedule of Events

Saturday, February 5, 2005

9:00 AM – 5:00 PM Camps open to the public
2:00 PM Battle of Long King Creek

Sunday, February 6, 2005

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM Camps open to the public
1:30 PM Battle of Long King Creek

General Information:

This is a fun little East Texas event. Our impression will be Western Confederate. Our focus for this event will be recruiting and living history. Attendance at this event is optional. If you can only make one event during this month please forgo this event in favor of the Twiggs' Surrender Reenactment. Please register in advance for the event by going online to:

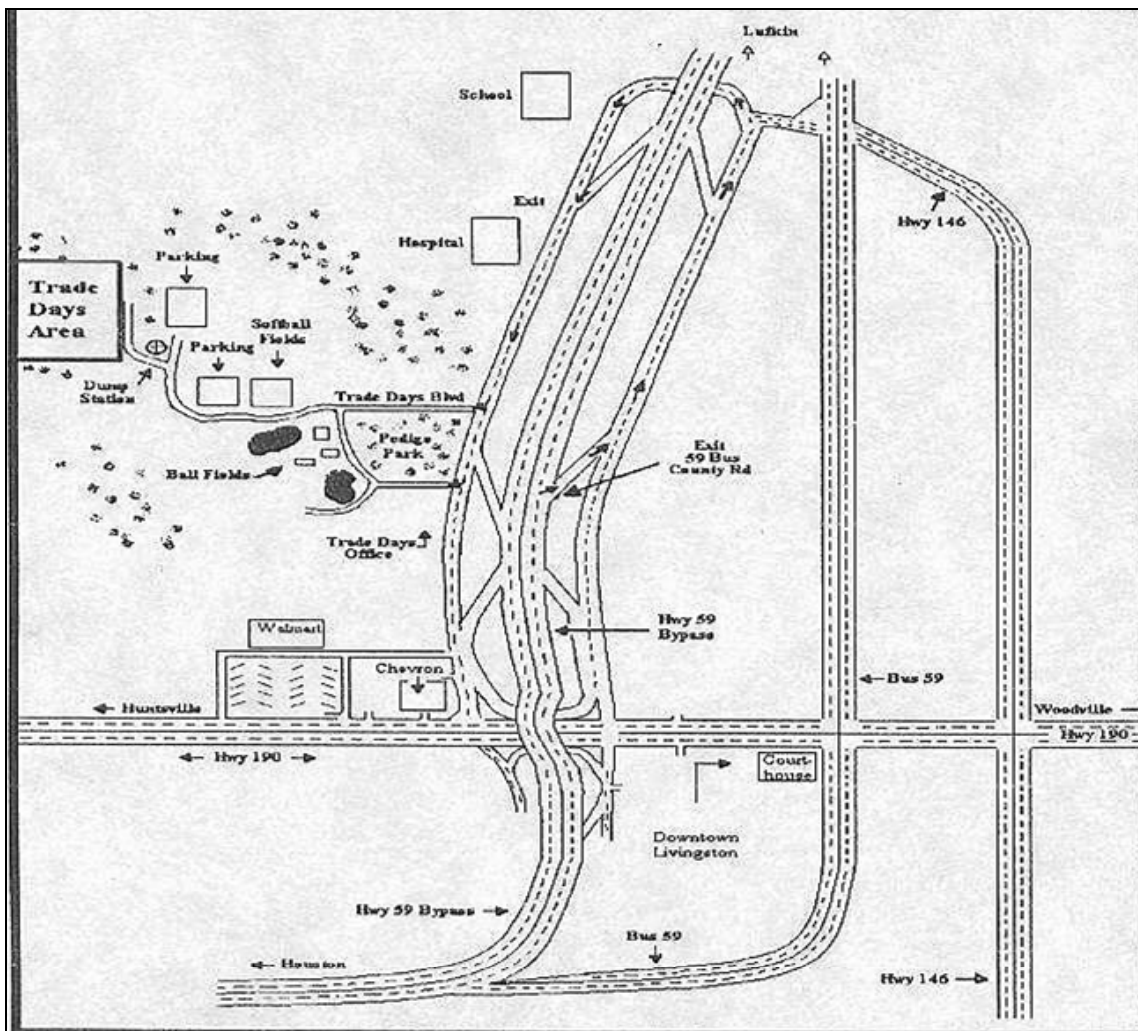
<http://www.cityoflivingston-tx.com/civilwar.htm>

Uniform and Equipment:

Our impression for the event is Western Confederate and heavy marching order. A-frame tents and shelter halves are acceptable.

Amenities:

Indoor restrooms, hay, wood, and water are available on site.



Twiggs' Surrender

The Alamo Plaza, San Antonio, Texas

February 12, 2005

Schedule of Events

Saturday, February 12, 2005

7:30 – 9:30 AM On site registration
10:00 AM Surrender Reenactment
2:00 PM Surrender Reenactment

General Information:

This is a one day event hosted by the 6th Texas. The event reenacts the surrender of The Alamo, a pre-war Federal arsenal, to local Texas militia. The event allows for a great opportunity to interact with the crowd, as well as recruit. Downtown San Antonio, the River Walk, Mexican cuisine, and carrying guns around The Alamo; what else could one ask for? Come out and help support our battalion members! For more information visit the 6th Texas website at: <http://www.6thtx.org/Twiggs>.

Uniform and Equipment:

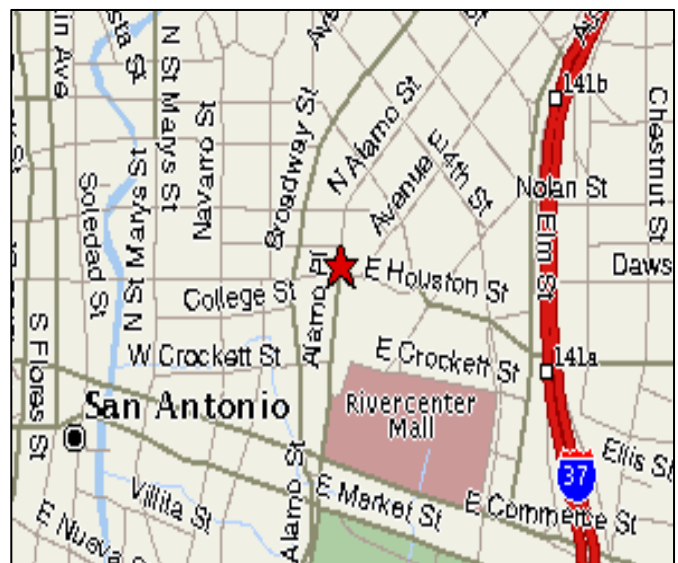
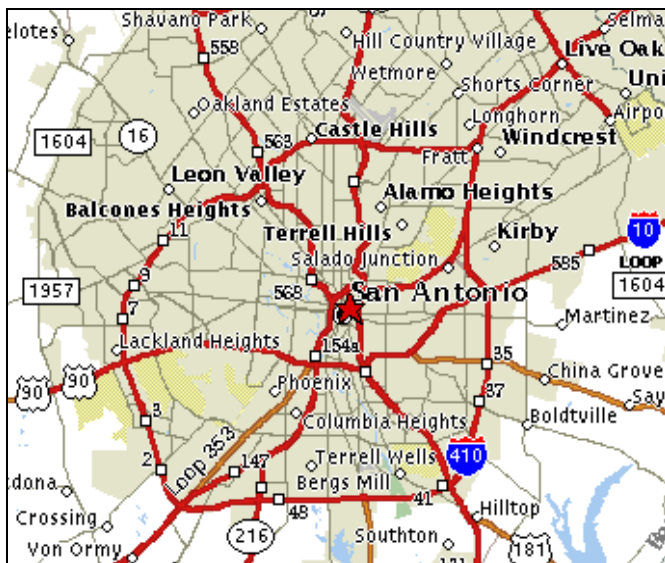
Our primary impression for this event is Western Federal and light marching order. If the only federal uniform you have is your 165th NY Zouave uniform please dress as militia or civilian. The easiest way to do a militia or civilian impression is to leave the Confederate shell jacket or frock coat at home and come with usual period trousers and shoes, in a shirt with either a period civilian coat or a vest. No Confederate kepis. Insignia of rank will be U.S. style and very rare among the militia. Weapons may include shotguns and civilian rifles of the period, although many militia companies had Model 1842 musketst.

Event Guidelines:

Please pre-register with Rudy Krisch III; 1423 N. San Jacinto St., San Antonio, Texas 78207; Fax: 210-736-6943, Phone: 210-736-0924. On-site registration will start at 7:30 AM, and will end at 9:30AM. Event registration will be in the Alamo Plaza directly west of the Alamo mission. Weapons inspection and safety precautions will be strictly enforced. This is a non-firing event and NO GUN POWDER WILL BE ALLOWED ON SITE. All reenactors must register and have their weapons checked, have their dress approved, and sign a release agreement upon arrival. Also, the Daughters of the Republic of Texas have established certain rules and guidelines for reenactors who operate on their property (the Alamo). Each reenactor must make him or her self familiar with these and agree to abide by them. This will be part of the registration procedure.

Directions and Parking:

The Alamo is in downtown San Antonio a few blocks west of I-37 / US281, west of the Alamodome, and at the east end of downtown You can find parking at several commercial lots a couple of blocks north of the Alamo; or in the two parking garages at River Center mall. You can not park on Alamo Street next to the Alamo



RED RIVER BATTALION

YEAR 2005 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

January 15, 2005 (9:00 A.M.) – Drill at Old City Park

February 5-6, 2005 – Livingston, TX (Optional / Recruiting effort)

February 12, 2005 – Twiggs' Surrender (Battalion effort)

February 19-20, 2005 – Jesse Jones Park, Humble, TX (Optional)

March 12-13, 2005 – Spring Battalion Muster (BATTALION MAX EFFORT)

April 2-3, 2005 – Port Hudson, LA (BATTALION MAX EFFORT)

April 30 – May 1, 2005 – Jefferson, TX (Battalion effort)

May 21, 2005 (9:00 A.M.) – Drill at Old City Park

May 21-22, 2005 – Grapevine Main Street Days (Recruiting effort)

June 4-5, 2005 – Texas Scottish Festival & Highland Games (Recruiting effort)

June 11-12, 2005 – Tribbey, OK (Battalion effort)

June 25, 2005 (9:00 A.M.) – Drill at Old City Park

July 4, 2005 – 4th of July at Old City Park

July 23, 2005 (9:00 A.M.) – Drill; location TBA

August 6-7, 2005 – Athens, MO (Individual optional)

August 13, 2005 (9:00 A.M.) – Drill; location TBA

September 10-11, 2005 – Fall Battalion Muster (BATTALION MAX EFFORT)

October 1-2, 2005 – Corinth, MS (BATTALION MAX EFFORT)

October 22-23, 2005 – Texian Market Days

November 5-7, 2005 – Old Washington, AR (Proposed)

November 19-20, 2005 – Plantation Liendo (Battalion effort)

December, 2005 – Drill; date & location TBA

December, 2005 – Battalion Party; date & location TBA

Baker's Haberdashery

<i>Department of Alabama Jacket</i>	<i>\$170</i>
<i>Jeans with blue collar (late war jacket)</i>	
<i>Columbus Depot Jacket</i>	<i>\$170</i>
<i>Grey jeans with blue cuff and collar</i>	
<i>Commutation Jacket</i>	<i>\$155</i>
<i>Plain jean or cassimere, no color trim</i>	
<i>Penitentiary Jacket</i>	<i>\$155</i>
<i>Plain jacket of undyed cotton jean</i>	
<i>Civilian Sack Coat</i>	<i>\$140</i>
<i>Sack coat of cassimere or sattinete</i>	
<i>Confederate Winter Overcoat</i>	<i>\$250</i>
<i>Shin-length winter coat of jean or corduroy</i>	
<i>Trousers</i>	<i>\$150</i>
<i>Civilian w/side seam pockets, constructed of jean wool or cotton jean</i>	
<i>Trousers</i>	<i>\$150</i>
<i>Military w/mule-ear pockets, constructed of jean wool or cotton jean</i>	
<i>Shirts, 100% Hand-sewn</i>	<i>\$85</i>
<i>Shirts, Visible Hand-stitching</i>	<i>\$65</i>

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