

Trans-Allegheny Dispatch

The newsletter of the West Virginia Reenactors Association
2020 -February - Edition II

Upcoming Events

Civil War

Sponsored

Beverly Heritage Days -- July 18-19,
2020

Sanctioned

None at this time

Other Events recommended by WVRA members

Manassas Gap - third weekend in March
is <https://www.tattnallcountyga.com/the-battle-at-manassas.cfm>

School of the Piece -- April 18, 2020 at
Jacksons' Mill - Contact Roger House for more
information

Morgan's Raid -- April 24-26, 2020 at
Meigs County Fairgrounds , Pomeroy , Ohio --
Contact Roger House for more information

Barboursville -- tentatively May 8-10
Contact Roger House for more information

Quantrill's Raid on Lawrence --
June 19-21 at Cronwells Turkeyville Resort
Marshall Michigan, Contact Roger House for
more information

McConnellsville - McConnellsville, Ohio,
July 10-12

Fort Mulligan - August 14-15 at
Petersburg. Contact Dave Judy 304-749-7957

Battle of Dry Creek - August 14 - 16 at
White Sulphur Springs W.Va
<https://battleofdroopmountain.com/2019-battle-of-dry-creek>

**Burlington (Apple Harvest
Festival)** - October 3-4. Contact Dave Judy for
more information 304-749-7957

Droop Mountain --October -11
<https://battleofdroopmountain.com/2019-battle-of-dry-creek>

Guyandotte -- Nov 5-8, 2020
(tentative) contact Roger House for more
information

Other Events

Bentonville - March 21 and 22

Appomattox 155th Event - Appomattox
Nation Park, tentatively scheduled for Easter
weekend.

New Market - May 15-17, 2020 - New Market, Va.
Gettysburg - July 4 and 5, 2020 - Gettysburg at
the Daniel Lady Farm, info@GBPA.org

Cedar Mountain (Slaughter on the Mountain) -
August 8 and 9. A Chris Anders event.

Cedar Creek, Oct. 17 and 18, 2020 -
Middletown, Va.

Fredericksburg, Dec. 11-13, 2020,
Fredericksburg, Va.

Chancellorsville May 1-2, 2021 - NPS Event

Other Time Periods.

18th Century – February 21-23. Prickett's Fort,
Prickett's Fort State Park, Fairmont, WV. 18th Century
Firearms and Accoutrements
Show. [http://www.prickettsfortstatepark.com/ev
ents.html](http://www.prickettsfortstatepark.com/events.html)

18th Century – April 2-5. School of the Longhunter,
Prickett's Fort, Rt. 3 Fairmont, WV 26554.
[http://www.prickettsfortstatepark.com/events.ht
ml](http://www.prickettsfortstatepark.com/events.html)

18th Century– April 23-26), 18th Century Market
Fair, Fort Frederick State Park, Big Pool, MD.
<http://www.friendsoffortfrederick.info/index.htm>

18th Century, May 16, Siege of Fort Randolph, Point
Pleasant, WV. www.facebook.com/fortrandolph,
Contact Craig Hesson, 304-675-7933,
chesson1774@suddenlink.net, or Deb Cassady,
ftrandolph@yahoo.com, [fortrandolph.weebly.c
om](http://fortrandolph.weebly.com)

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18th Century– July 3-5, [French and Indian War](#)

[Encampment](#), Old Fort Niagara’s annual recreation of the historic Siege of 1759. Old Fort Niagara, Youngstown, NY.

18th Century – July 9-12, Whiskey Rebellion Festival, Washington, PA. <http://www.whiskeyrebellionfestival.com/>

Misc. – May 2, Machine Gun Shoot. Sponsored by DNA Guns. Many historic weapons available for rent. Admission \$10.00. Trickett Hill Road, Morgantown, WV 26508. GPS 39.5137999, -79947000 (Sponsored by WVRA members.)

Timeline – November 7-8, Troops and Trains. RR Museum of Pennsylvania, Strasburg, PA. <https://rrmuseumpa.org/events/>

WWII – June 5,6,7, Reading Air Show, Reading Airport, Reading,

PA. <http://www.maam.org/maamwwii.html>

WWII – June 12-14, Bantam Jeep Heritage Festival, Butler,

PA. <http://www.bantamjeepfestival.com/>

WWII – July 31-August 2, Bridge at Remagen 75th Anniversary Reenactment, Tidioute,

PA. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/bridgeatremagentidioutepa/>

WWII – August 20-22, D-Day Reenactment, Conneaut, Ohio. <http://www.ddayohio.us>

Next Meeting

The next meeting has been scheduled for 1 pm, February 29, 2020, at the Weston Steakhouse. This restaurant is located at Exit 99, one-half mile east of I-79.

MINUTES
WVRA Meeting
January 25, 2020
Steer Steak House Weston

Eleven members were present. Vice President Ken Connell called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

Waved reading of the minutes from the November 10th meeting since they had been published in the newsletter and there were no additions or corrections.

The Treasure’s report was reviewed. There were no questions or corrections. Motion made, seconded and the report was approved.

Bill B. had made a motion to nominate the current officers for next year at the last meeting. This motion passed unanimously then. These officers are Jim Barnes – President, Ken Connell – Vice President, Jack Rush – Secretary/Treasurer, Chuck Critchfield – Newsletter Editor, and Peter Baxter – Webmaster.

Nominations were opened for officers for the coming year. There were no further nominations. It was moved by Dave J. to close nominations. Seconded by John W and the motion passed.

Bill B. made a motion to accept the nominations and it was seconded by Jim A. Motion passed. A vote was taken and the nominated officers were approved.

(Editor's Note: No candidates were nominated by absentee ballot and all votes were for existing candidates)

Old Business:

When the Liability Insurance is renewed a PDF copy will be emailed to all current members. Remember that you need to be a paid member of WVRA to be covered by the insurance.

Phyllis B. talked about the Beverly event. It will be held July 17-18. The event this year will be focusing on the less told voices of women, blacks, Native Americans, and other groups who are underrepresented in traditional history. An example she gave would be “woman suffrage”. She passed out a tentative schedule. As the event firms up more information will be communicated.

Bill B. made a motion to sanction the “Beverly Heritage Days: Centuries of History Forgotten Stories” event. It was seconded by Jim A. The motion passed unanimously. Phyllis B. clarified that the event is sponsored by Historic Beverly and

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hosted by the WVRA. (**Editor's Note: All absentee ballots voted to sanction this event**)

New Business:

Informal Unit meetings were held: The officers and unit reps for the 1st WV, the 25th Va and TASAS remain the same as last year. Dave Judy will be the unit rep for the Artillery.

Events:

Dave Judy mentioned that Fort Mulligan will be held August 14-15. Registered Reenactors will be given a pound of powder and a meal.

The Apple Harvest at Burlington will be held October 3-4.

Dave will provide further registration information.

There were no proposed activities from the other groups.

It was decided to have the next meeting at 1:00 On February 29, 2020 at the Steer Steak House in Weston. Any updates will be will be published in the Newsletter or posted on the Facebook Page.

Meeting adjourned and 2:30.

Respectively submitted,

J. Rush

January 29, 2020

Membership Renewal

It is also time to renew our memberships for the next reenacting year. Membership renewals are good from January 1 through December 31 of 2020. I will include a membership renewal application with this newsletter.

Keep in mind that in order to be covered by our insurance policy, you must be a member of record.

1. Dues: Dues are \$15 per year per person and \$25 per year for a family. If you wish to receive a paper copy of the newsletter there is an additional \$10 fee. The Email version of the newsletter is included in the membership.

2. Minors: All members under the age of 18 need the signature of a guardian to join. Those under 16 will not be allowed to carry a firearm. Those under 14 may not participate in reenactment battles. In addition the WVRA complies with the particular rules at specific events regarding age.

3. Meetings: Will usually be held at the first Saturday of the month during the off-season. During the Reenacting season, meetings may be held at particular events as needed.

4. Families: All individuals should have their own memberships, although family memberships, covering the entire family can be used to save cost. This is limited to members and their home-based children.

Memberships Received to date:

1st West Virginia Infantry

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Mike Phillips | Jack Rush |
| Rick Byrd | Keith Kopshina |
| Chuck Critchfield | Kevin Skaggs |
| Jim Barnes | Ed Chapdelaine |
| John Ziolkowski | Ralph McCready |
| Chris Carroll | Patrick Carroll |
| Bill Donegan | |

25th Virginia Infantry

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Tag Ireland | Bill Brisendine |
| Dirk Behana | Tim Glaser |
| Greg Watterson | John Webb |
| Jim Allman | Jeff Goff |
| Ken Connell | |

Trans-Allegheny Soldiers Aid Society

| | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Phyllis Baxter | Debbie Rush |
| Peter Baxter | Linda Barnes |
| Bill Snyder | Art Dodds |
| Pam Dodds | Jakob Lester |
| Sherry Goff & Kids | Linda Donegan |
| Brian Ward & family | |

Artillery

| | |
|-------------|------------|
| David Judy | Susan Judy |
| Roger House | |

General

| | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Larry Teets | Abraham Price |
| Erik Herb | Matthew Price |
| William Burruss | Hunter Lesser |
| Eric Satterfield | Daneen Satterfield |

If you think I have failed to list your membership and you have paid dues, let me know.

Treasurer's Report

January 1-31, 2020

| | |
|-------------------|------------|
| Beginning balance | \$3,074.88 |
|-------------------|------------|

Credits:

| | |
|------------|-----------|
| Membership | \$ 300.00 |
| Donation | \$ 25.00 |

Debits:

| | |
|------|---------|
| None | \$ 0.00 |
|------|---------|

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Ending Balance

\$3,399.88

Submitted by Jack Rush

do it around the end of March or beginning of April. they want Civil War and Colonial period reenactors. Contact me (Jim Barnes) if you are interested.

-Submitted by Jim Barnes

Upcoming Events

Beverly Heritage Days

Beverly Heritage Days: Centuries of History will be held in Beverly on July 17, 18, 19, 2020. This will again be a timeline event, with an emphasis on living history scenarios to bring stories alive for visitors. All periods from mid-1700s to mid-1900s are welcome, military and civilian. Demonstrations, displays, presentations, and children's activities are all welcome. Please share your ideas with us! info@beverlyheritagecenter.org

- Phyllis Baxter

McConnelsville

Good morning Chuck,

I am president of the Morgan County Reenactors Association. They have been putting on a reenactment in McConnelsville for the last 32 years (longest running reenactment in Ohio.) Last year instead of having the reenactment at a small park downtown which limited our camping space. We moved the reenactment to the fairgrounds. Last year we also had it the same time as Beverly.

This year we are having it one week before Beverly on July 10th, 11th, and 12th. I would appreciate it if you could list it on the events schedule in the newsletter. I will have more on the details at a later date.

Thanks, Ralph McCready, himself

Actors Needed

I was contacted by Mikey D'Amico of Mountain Craft Productions, which is a small film making operation. They are going to make a film for the Marion County Chamber of Commerce about the history of Harrison County. They want to

Civil War Roundtables

Stonewall Jackson Civil War Roundtable meets at Eat'n Park at the Bridgeport Exit(119) of I-79 at 7 pm. Come earlier if you plan to eat before the program. There is no charge for meetings, but if you plan to join the SJCWR, the annual dues are \$15.

February 11 - Steps to Secession by **Chuck Critchfield**

March 10 - Morality or War Experience? The Definition and Treatment of Mental Illness in the Union Army by Katie Thompson

April 14 - Captain John Young by Phil Hatfield

May 12 - A Desperate Fight for Life, The Skirmish at Middle Fork Bridge, July, 1861

Rich Mountain Civil War Symposium

April 4, 2020

Beverly, West Virginia

Noon until 5 pm

Dinner at 6 pm

Past Rich Mountain Civil War Symposiums have been held in the IOOF Hall near the Beverly Heritage Center followed by a dinner at the the BHC. The fee for the symposium will be \$30 and \$70 for the symposium AND the dinner.

For more information or reservations call 304-637-7424 or www.beverlyheritagecenter.org.

Steve French - McNeil Rangers

Allan Tischler - Sheridan Scouts

Hunter Lesser - Bushwhackers

Cameron Mallow - Swamp Dragons

Gettysburg

Apparently there is now only one event scheduled to replace the annual Gettysburg reenactment. The remaining event is being organized by the Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association at the Historic Daniel Lady Farm east of town.

This is not a site that has been utilized before and the farm is actually part of the edge of battlefield. The GBPA has 148 acres to stage the event and has already staged a "fall skirmish" as a dry run. The 157th event is scheduled

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for July 4 and 5 in 2020. Early registration is being accepted now.

The representatives from the GBPA put on quite an impressive presentation. It sounds like they have their stuff together. For more information see www.GBPA.org.

Where dry mummies of hard crackers
Are given to each man;
O hard crackers, come again no more!"
- Song lyrics from period song

"Four men was the number usually assigned to one of them (Federal A tent); but they were often occupied by five and sometimes six. When so occupied at night, it was rather necessary to to comfort that all should turn over at the same time, for six or even five men were a tight fit in the space enclosed, unless 'spooned' together."
- John Billings, Hard Tack and Coffee.

Other Time Periods

Nothing submitted or to report.

Other Features

For Sale

Tim Koch (or Cook?) a reenactor in the Morgantown area is selling a large group of Civil War reenacting equipment from weapons to clothing. As of October, he still had items remaining. For more information call Tim at 304-906-552.

#####

"They Said It (or didn't)"

"Don't believe everything you read on the Internet just because there's a photo with a quote next to it."

-- Abraham Lincoln, February 31, 1866

"We tend to create stories that appeal to us. Then we impose those stories on the past."

- A Wallace Collection video produced on the 500th anniversary of the battle of Agincourt found on You Tube

"Stand upon the ground;
Listen to the ground speaketh."

- Dennis Frye

"Preserve your memories,
keep the well,
what you forget
you can never retell."
- Louisa May Alcott

"Let us close our game of poker,
Take our tin cups in our hand,
While we gather round the cook's tent door,

Other Sites

American Battlefield Trust - www.battlefields.org
Beverly Heritage Center -
www.beverlyheritagecenter.org
Mason Dixon Civil War Roundtable -
www.wvmasondixoncwr.org/
Link to Clarksburg History Museum -
<https://clarksburgmuseum.wixsite.com/history>

WVRA Officers 2019

Jim Barnes - President
Ken Connell - Vice President
Jack Rush - Secretary/Treasurer
Diane Tennant - Unit Rep (TASAS)
Mark Tennant - Unit Rep (1st W. Va. Infantry)
Bill Brisendine - Unit Rep (25th Virginia Infantry)
Vacant - Dave Judy (artillery)
Webmaster - Peter Baxter
Editor - Chuck Critchfield

ATTENTION - Please do not send any correspondence to the PO Box in Buckhannon. Membership information can be sent to me. Remember you must be a member of record to qualify for membership benefits. To be covered under the liability insurance policy purchased by the WVRA, you must be a member. The other group is labeled simply West Virginia Reenactors Association. Tonya Daft is the administrator on the West Virginia Reenactors Association page. Please address all questions to her about that page. I am not sure who is administrator to the WVRA-TASAS page. I continue to use the WVRA-TASAS page to post announcements as it has been the page getting the most use.

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As newsletter editor, I encourage submissions from members or readers, that are related to American history. I retain the right as editor to make a final decision on the content of this publication. Abusive or political submissions will not be published.

Editor's Corner

The Editor's chance to speak

THANK YOU to Peter Baxter, Jim Barnes and Jack Rush. All three have faithfully assisted the editor or made contributions to the Dispatch. A SPECIAL THANKS to Jim and Linda Barnes for their efforts at the Clarksburg and Morgantown gun shows.

BEVERLY HERITAGE DAYS - Planning for next year's event is underway. If you have any ideas, please let me know or pass them on to WVRA member Phyllis Baxter. Beverly Heritage Center has kicked off its 2020 capital campaign to raise money for several projects including, replacement of HVAC systems, bank roof replacement, exhibit development, protection of Civil War graffiti, signage at Rich Mountain, and other related needs.

PERSONALS - Keep Jennifer Smith in your prayers. Keith Kopshina's mother passed away.

THURM SHAVER - does anyone have an address for Thurm? He is not on line at all and he moved to a new location. But the address he gave me is not correct - at least the USPS keeps returning emails. Has anyone heard from Bill Snyder??

LINCOLN DETRACTORS - There are a number of historians and others who make a career of tearing down Abraham Lincoln's image as a great president. There is no doubt Lincoln's legacy is shaped by his leadership in the Civil War, the Emancipation Proclamation and his martyrdom at the hands of John Wilkes Booth.

Some of these detractors will bring up Lincoln's statements at the beginning of the War as proof that we he was not the Great Emancipator and was as some maintain a racist. To these folks I say that Lincoln's politics on slavery did evolve. From 1860 when his number one goal was to preserve the Union even if that meant preserving slavery. However, it was clear that he followed the slavery plank in the Republican party platform which supported leaving slavery as it was in those states in which it was being practiced at that time. BUT the other part of that

plank was that slavery could not be spread to the territories and new states. Lincoln supported the Corwin Amendment. Lincoln pushed emancipation as a way of hurting the Confederate war effort. All of this is true and well known facts to serious students of the war. None of that changes the facts that Lincoln did push through the Proclamation and did push through the 13th amendment making him the Great Emancipator.

I WILL MAKE MY REGULAR plea to the membership (or non-member readers) to contribute to the Trans-Allegheny Dispatch. Especially those members from other periods than the American Civil War.

PLEASE SEND ALL MAIL TO MY ADDRESS and not to the PO BOX in Buckhannon. We have received some announcements recently at the PO Box which we do not inspect on a regular basis.

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This newsletter is available free to members by email. It will be mailed by US Mail for \$10 per year fee.

The views expressed here are not necessarily the views of the WVRA.

WVRA website - wvra.org

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"The lack of a sense of history is the damnation of the modern world - Robert Penn Warren