

Trans-Allegheny Dispatch

The newsletter of the West Virginia Reenactors Association
2015 – Edition 15 – Droop Edition

Upcoming Events

More information will be added later if made available to the editor

Sanctioned Events

None at this time

Events Recommended by WVRA members

Locust Grove – October 23-25, Walkersville, Va. (ANV max effort event)

<http://www.peninsulaartillery.com/locustgrove.htm>

Guyandotte – Oct. 30-Nov. 1

<http://www.guyandottecivilwardays.com>

2016

1st Bull Run – July (at Cedar Creek Battlefield)

Bulltown – October 7-9, 2016 – Hosted by 10th W. Va. and Army Corps of Engineers, contact Sam Krafft for details

Next Meeting

The Executive Board hopes to meet in November or December.

Droop Mountain

The Droop Mountain reenactment was another success for the WVRA. Our hats are off to the WVRA members (and others) who made the event a success. President Mark Tennant and Treasurer Tim Glaser worked hard to organize, register and guide the event. Jim and Linda Barnes and Chris Johnson made the perilous journey into Marlinton on Saturday to pick up the food. Thanks to Kevin Mullenex and family for preparing the main course for the dinner. It was a great.



Figure 1-The view during dinner time on Saturday

This year's event seemed like a reunion of sorts as we saw some former members we had not seen for a while.



Figure 2 – “Smiling” Jim and Noah Barnes

This year's dance was very well attended. At times the dance “floor” between the Museum and the new monument was overflowing with dancers. The Rich Mountain String Band was superb and Phyllis Baxter was at her best teaching many new dancers the steps.



Figure 3 - The Rich Mountain String Band performs at the dance

Thanks to the units that did attend: 13th Virginia; 17th Virginia Cavalry; 25th Virginia, Co. A; 31st Virginia, Co. H; 31st Virginia, Co. I; 36th Virginia, Co. A; Bryan's Battery and Chapman's Battery. In Blue: 1st West Virginia Co. A; 7th West Virginia; 9th and 10th Pennsylvania Reserves; 4th

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Ohio; and 83rd Pennsylvania. Some of these units are long time supporters of Droop and there were some new units, whom we welcome to the historic battlefield and the beautiful West Virginia fall scenery.

And of course, we have to thank Ranger Mike Smith and his staff of dedicated workers who were scampering around the mountaintop all weekend making the reenactment run smoothly.

Finally, thanks to anyone I missed. When you name people and organizations, there is always somebody missed.

From Chris Johnson

I would like to thank all of the Confederate Brigade for mustering on the fields of Droop Mountain and for those who endured my 'instructions' on how to give the 'proper "Rebel Yell".

2016

It is not too early to be talking about the 2016 reenacting year. Reminders to renew membership, appeals for members to volunteer for officer positions, questions about the WVRA future and will there be a Rich Mountain event next year will be forthcoming. The next issue will include a membership form. Just a reminder that memberships expire on December 31, 2015 and officer positions stop on the same date.

WVRA Officers 2015

President – Mark Tennant

Vice President – Bill Brisendine

Treasurer – Tim Glaser

Secretary – Jack Rush

Newsletter editor - Chuck Critchfield*

Website – Peter Baxter*

1st W. Va. Rep – Chuck Critchfield

25th Va. Rep – Chris Johnson

1st Va. Cavalry – John Brasuk

Artillery – Sam and Connie Krafft

TASAS – Diane Tennant

* Non-voting member of executive board

Editor's Corner

Personals from Droop. We were sorry to see JR Moore was not able to attend. It was good to see some former members in uniform again. On the Federal side, we saw Steve Allen and Andrew Rush and visiting was Noah Barnes. We are hoping they rejoin and come out some next year. Thank you to the members who took time to comment on the Trans-Allegheny Dispatch. I appreciated the feedback.

The “Shop” at Droop is always a very popular place. The free doughnuts, coffee and the constant Civil War videos make it a great place to gather. Not to mention, it is sometimes the only warm place around on cold mornings. Mark Tennant provides the videos and dvds. This year, his Gettysburg video was missing in action after all had left on Sunday.

New to this year's Droop Mountain reenactment was Sunday's memorial service in which local Pocahontas County folks joined in a ceremony honoring the men who fought there in 1863. We gathered around the new monument to read the names of the dead and to make a few appropriate remarks. Chris Johnson's recital of the “Bivouac of the Dead” was particularly appropriate and touching.

I have “borrowed” from Facebook, pictures of this year's Droop reenactment. Thanks to those who shared those pictures. I believe Sherry Skidmore and Diane Tennant posted these pictures.

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 respective insurance policies that the 1st West Virginia and the 25th Virginia infantry units participate in, you must be a member of record.

The newsletter is being sent by email to members of record who provided a VALID email address. It is posted on the WVRA website also. It is mailed to anyone who pays the \$15 mailing costs. It continues to be my plan to publish related articles of interest in addition to the items mandated by our by-laws (meeting minutes, treasurer's report, etc.).

Yours truly, has no connection to the TASAS-WVRA Facebook page and takes no responsibility for it. Nor do I have any responsibility for the WVRA Facebook page. I would suggest

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that the TASAS-WVRA Facebook page seems to have more up to date information.

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

WVRA website - wvra.org

Facebook – [WVRA – TransAllegheny Soldiers Aid Society](#)

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Droop Mountain Scenes - 2015



Figure 4- Chris (CJ) Johnson reads Bivouac of the Dead



Figure 5 - Federals getting ready on Sunday



Figure 6 - Veteran Sergeant Greg Watterson



Figure 7 - WVRA President Mark Tennant



Figure 8 - Army commanders conference - Kevin Skaggs and Jeff Goff

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Figure 9 Confederate camp early on Sunday morning



Figure 10 - Mike Butler, Chuck Critchfield, Jay Kelly, Mark Tennant, Ed ChapdeLaine, Jack Rush, Debbie Rush and Andrew Rush



Figure 11 - Tim Glaser



Figure 12 – Thurm



Figure 13-Just before the battle mother....Steve Allen, Jim Barnes, Ed ChapdeLaine, "George" and Ralph McCready



Figure 14 - Thanks to everyone who made dinner successful



No words necessary