

Trans-Allegheny Dispatch

The newsletter of the West Virginia Reenactors Association
July 2024 – Edition CLXVII

Next Meeting

**The next Scheduled meeting is
at Beverly Heritage Days, July
20 at 4 p.m.**

Upcoming Events

Important note about the official calendar below. After some discussion at a recent meeting, it is the opinion of the group that liability insurance is more likely to cover events sanctioned by the WVRA. It is our opinion that to be sanctioned the event should at the minimum be listed on this calendar. Addendum, January 2022. I discussed this issue with the insurance expert of the USV and he agrees that this is a gray area. There is some question whether the liability insurance would cover WVRA members only at sanctioned WVRA events or all events. He further agreed that publishing events in the newsletter may help to make them "official."

Sponsored (per by laws)

Beverly Heritage Day, July 20

See www.beverlyheritagecenter.org

Other Events recommended by WVRA members

All events are subject to change of date and cancellation.

JULY

5-7 **Gettysburg 161st Anniversary** at the
Daniel Lady Farm -Gettysburg Pa. **
12-14 **Fight at Funkstown Md.** **
20 Beverly Heritage Days

AUGUST

16-18 **Fort Mulligan Day** weekend
(2024) Petersburg WV **

SEPTEMBER

??? **Monterey Pass Battlefield** Living
History, Waynesboro Pa. (Washington
Township)**
22 -24 **Hardy County WV Heritage
Weekend.** Lost River State Park, Mathias WV
or/and Reenactment Moorefield WV City
Park.**

OCTOBER

11-13 **Droop Mountain Battlefield, Re-
enactment Droop Mountain Battlefield WV****

18- 20 **160th Cedar Creek**, Middletown
Va**

24 – **Moorefield Middle School @@**
NOVEMBER

18-24 **Remembrance Week** with Saturday,
Parade - Gettysburg Pa.@@

DECEMBER

7 – 8 **Harper's Ferry WV Christmas.****

**** events above were submitted by Rick Byrd. Rick
advises that more information can be found at the
following: <http://myplace.frontier.com/~thirdwvcav/>**

**@@ events submitted by David Judy –
ranger749@yahoo.com**

Beverly Heritage Day:

Centuries of History

Traditions for Today

July 20, 2024

Beverly, West Virginia

PLEASE SEE THE FLYER

ATTACHED TO THIS EMAIL

If you plan to attend, please let Chuck Critchfield now.
He has been asked to coordinate the Civil War
reenactors.

See www.beverlyheritagecenter.org

Things to Ponder

At the annual meeting, there were a number of lively
discussions about a few issues – the need for insurance;
the amount of dues; the process of sponsorship of events.
Those members present were in agreement, that further
discussion of these issues is needed and the annual
meeting did not provide a venue for that discussion.

So, maybe at the meeting at Beverly, it is time to begin
the discussion about the following:

1. The question of liability insurance. Is it needed
when many members also belong to other
organizations that offer insurance? And some
members tell me their personal liability insurance
will cover their limited reenacting activities.

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However, some members join the organization because of the insurance.

2. If we decide to continue to purchase insurance, the current dues are not sufficient. Eventually the insurance would drain the WVRA treasury. (By my quick reckoning, we were \$200-250 short of covering the insurance this year.)
3. The by-laws dealing with sponsorship, sanction, etc. are out of date. Or we just that we are no longer able to sponsor events. We get very little support for the one event we sponsor each year.
4. General membership now equals the 1st W. Va. and TASAS membership. General members have no unit representative. The President is their unit rep. Is it time to amend the by-laws to create a unit rep. for the General members?
5. Do we need a total re-write of the by-laws?

I have been in a few organizations that questioned the need for by laws. Some sort of structure and guidelines are needed and would suggest we need to restructure ours.

- THE EDITOR

Secretary/Treasurers Report

For the time period May 1-31, 2024

Beginning Balance	\$1,153.34
Deposits	
Memberships	\$ 80.00
Debits	
None	\$ 0.00
Ending Balance	\$1,233.34
As reported by Rick Byrd, Treasurer/Secretary WVRA	

Upcoming Events

For the complete list, see above. The following is any additional information submitted to the editor for the events listed above.

Letter to the Editor

Hello Chuck,

Just a note to let you know that me and the wife have moved back to WV. What an ordeal the move has been. We went from a 3 bedroom to a 2 bedroom house that was built about 1870. Internet is terrible here, my

upload speed is 1 Mbps thru the day time. I no longer have a hard wired network. So my server that contains a lot of my civil war stuff is not available, hopefully in a few weeks I'll find a way to get it back in service. Unfortunately, that server contains all of my summaries so it may be a while before I can send you newsletter stuff.

I have the Beverly event on my calendar and plan on coming down to meet the 1st WV Re-enactors.

AL ... (Allen Lloyd)

OTHER FEATURES

Top Ten Myths About Gettysburg

10. Lee had diarrhea during the battle
9. General Longstreet was ordered to attack at dawn on July 2nd.
8. General Richard Ewell was ordered to attack Culp's Hill on the evening of July 1.
7. General Meade did not pursue the Southern army after the battle and was fired.
6. J.E.B. Stuart failed to attack the rear of the Union army during Pickett's Charge which caused the attack to fail.
5. The vultures you see on the Gettysburg Battlefield today are the same vultures that were there during the battle.
4. General John Buford's men had repeating rifles and that is how they held back the Southern Army before the Northern infantry arrived.
3. GHOSTS!
2. The hooves of the horses on monuments indicate whether the officer was wounded or killed.
1. The Confederate army came to Gettysburg for shoes.

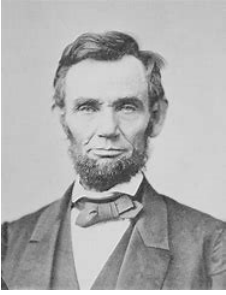
-Tim Smith, Adams County Historical Society YouTube video.

They Said It (or didn't)

Quotes, misquotes and fabrications attributed to the famous, nearly famous, not famous and infamous.

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

- Abraham Lincoln, February 30, 1866
Google shareholders meeting

"Yes, the soldier looks upon a letter from home as a perfect God send – sent as it were, by some kind ministering Angel Spirit, to cheer his dark and weary hours.

- Robert Goodyear, 27th Connecticut Vol. Inf.
Feb. 14, 1863.

"My colored man I don't think I could get along without. He is a capital good boy, belongs to the Methodist church and is trusty and faithful. Every morning a little after light he comes and gives me a gentle shake and says 'Lieutenant? Will you have tea or coffee this morning?' I tell him which I will have and turn over and go to sleep again. In about an hour he wakes me again and says, 'breakfast is most ready.' I get up and wash and comb my hair and by that time has the table all set. This morning I had baked beans, green apple sauce and hot biscuits with a quart of good tea..

- Lieutenant John Sturtevant, 14th New Hampshire Infantry, Halltown, W. Va, August 9, 1864.

"It cannot be emphasized too strongly or too often that this great nation was founded, not by religionists, but by Christians; not on religions, but on the Gospel of Jesus Christ. For this very reason, peoples of other faiths have been afforded asylum, prosperity and freedom of worship here,"

- This quote has been circulating on Facebook and is wrongly attributed to Patrick Henry. This quote first appeared in 1956 in a publication titled The Virginian.

For Sale

From Bryan Cokeley

With regret, I am resigned to getting out of the hobby. 😞
I just don't seem to have the impetus to get to events with Hampton having left the state. He was in Texas; he now lives

in Richmond. (Apparently, he took to heart those calls of "On to Richmond!") He turns 30 in May. He was 10 when we went to our first School of the Soldier. The passage of time. Maybe we all added 5 years this past year.

It seems wasteful for me to sit on all of this reenactment gear. I will keep my musket. I can make some young person a great deal on everything else – **a whole kit to get started in the hobby. If you know of someone interested, please let me know.**

Miss everyone! Best,

Bryan (Cokeley formerly of the 1st West Virginia)

New Civil War History of Harrison County
A Civil War History Of Harrison County, West Virginia 1961-65; Harrison County, Virginia in the Civil War 1856-65. By Pete Taylor

This new book focuses on the years just prior to and during the war between the states. Despite the rich history of the region, no book had ever been written solely focusing on this area for that time period. Therefore, I undertook the task of researching and creating this account. As a resident of Harrison County, I had access to local historians and resources.

The book is available through Amazon for \$28.00. The manuscript has been donated to the Harrison County Historical Society and all proceeds go to support that organization.
July 2022

Rifles

Here is the info on the rifles: Thanks so much for your help. If you need anything else - just let me know.. 03A3 Springfield \$975.00 Smith Corona Model 30-06

1903 30-06 \$1800.00 Double Heat Treated Receiver Serial # 822355 Excellent Condition.

For Further information, please contact: Steve Manos at 304-753-9306 or email at dmanos@wvva.net

Thank you!

Dottie Manos

February 2024

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This was sent to me by a former WVRA member. I am printing it as it was sent to me. I do not know the seller.)

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>

Battle of Gettysburg Podcast -

Addressing Gettysburg podcast -

Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation -

www.ShenandoahAtWar.org

2024 WVRA Officers

Art Dodds - President

John Arnold - Vice President

Rick Byrd - Secretary/Treasurer

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Pam Dodds – (TASAS) Unit Representative
Chuck Critchfield - Unit Rep (1st W. Va. Infantry)
Bill Brisendine - Unit Rep (25th Va. Infantry)
Dave Judy - Unit Rep (artillery)
Webmaster – Tim Glaser
Editor - Chuck Critchfield
Note - Webmaster and Editor are non-voting members of the Executive Committee.
Unit Field Officers
(Continue in effect until further notice. See minutes of January, 2022 meeting)

ATTENTION - Please do not send any correspondence to the former 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. Karl Mulac is the administrator of 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.

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

I DID NOT receive a reply to my emails from Rick Byrd this month and do not have updated treasurer's report. I hope Rick is doing OK.

LITTLE ROUND TOP in Gettysburg has reopened. The two-year project to restore and update the area is done. Little Round Top is one of the most visited parts of the battlefield. While it was closed Culp's Hill received more attention and visits.

ADDRESS – The WVRA has a new official address. The new address is WVRA, PO Box 227, Beverly, WV, 26253. However, any correspondence about dues, membership, newsletter, etc., should be sent to me. If any mail comes to the Beverly PO Box, the Beverly Heritage folks will contact me. My address has changed to 193 Eastgate Road, Morgantown, WV, 26508.

IF YOU WANT TO KNOW who is a member of the WVRA and who is not, please ask Rick Byrd or

myself. I usually publish the membership list in the newsletter for a few months for all to see. But some members are uncomfortable with names, email addresses, phone numbers etc., being published. So I just list names.

ANY UNIT REP wishing to have the contact information about their individual unit, please let me know. Any Association officer wishing to have the WVRA contact list for the purpose of reaching out the members for Association business, please let me know.

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This newsletter is available free to members by email. It will be mailed by US Mail for \$15 per year fee. The views expressed here are not necessarily the views of the WVRA.

WVRA website - wvra.org
Chuck Critchfield - Editor
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"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

"History is dangerous. It goes after our myths and our identities."

- Brig. Gen. (ret) Ty Seidule after receiving death threats for writing about history

"The lack of a sense of history is the damnation of the modern world."

- Robert Penn Warren

All history is revisionist. By its very nature, the moment it is committed to memory it has been revised.

- Paraphrased from several historians

"The People made their recollection fit in with their suffering"

-Thucydides, History of the Peloponnesian War

"History and memory aren't the same thing."

- Me