

Trans-Allegheny Dispatch

The newsletter of the West Virginia Reenactors Association

Volume 26, Number 2 – February, 2015

Upcoming Events

More information will be added later.

WVRA Sponsored Events

Rich Mountain – July 10-12

On line registration coming

Event Flyer on WVRA.org

Droop Mountain – October 9-11

Droop Clean-up – August 8

Events Recommended by WVRA members

Bentonville, March 20-22

Appomattox – April 10-12

<http://www.appomattoxhistoricalsociety.org/150th.htm>

Grand Review – May 17th

<http://grandreviewparade.org>

Hurricane Bridge/Scary Creek

March 26-29

<http://www.putnamcountyparks.net/special-events.html>

Beverly – March 21

Winter Raids Symposium

Philippi – (no word yet)

Old Bedford Village – June 12-14

McConnellsville, Ohio – July 10-12 (Contact

Ralph McCready for more information)

Fort Mulligan Days – August 15, Petersburg, WV

Carnifex Ferry – Sept. 11-13 (FULL IMMERSION EVENT)

Zoar – Sept. 19-20

Next Meeting

Our next meeting is February 21, 2015, 1 pm at the Weston Steak House, Exit 99 off of I-79. Please complete your unit leadership ballots and get them back to your unit rep.

Membership

Please renew your membership. A membership form should be included with this newsletter if you have not paid your dues for 2015. My name is on the membership form and you can mail it to me or Tim Glaser, the treasurer at 41 Union Street, Huttonsville, WV

26273. DO NOT mail to the PO Box in Buckhannon.

Newsletter

This February newsletter is being mailed to every 2014 member of record – if we have a mailing address for you. Remember, after this issue we will return to emailing the newsletter to those members for whom we have an email address. Those members who have paid the \$15 fee to have it mailed, will continue to have it mailed to them. Predictably, Peter promptly posts this periodical punctually in its position on the WVRA website.

Minutes from the January Meeting

January 3, 2015 WVRA Meeting

Steer Steakhouse, Weston.

Meeting was called to order by Chuck Critchfield, in the absence of President Mark Tennant, at 1:00 pm. There were 14 people in attendance.

1. The minutes of the last meeting were in the newsletter. No corrections were noted. Chris Johnson proposed that the reading of minutes be suspended. John Brasuk seconded and the motion passed.

2. See the treasurer's report in the newsletters for the latest financials. Motion to accept the report was made by John B. and was seconded by Chris J. Motion passed

3. Peter Baxter had no comments about the website.

4. Chuck C. said that the newsletter will be published in PDF format so that more people can read it. If you have not been getting the newsletter, Chuck does not have your email.

5. WVRA Officer Elections

a. There were no additional nominations for officers from the floor.

b. Phyllis Baxter made the motion to approve the slate of officers as nominated. Seconded by John B. [The motion passed.](#)

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- c. All officers were elected as proposed.
- d. President, Mark Tennant; Vice President, Bill Brisendine, Secretary, Jack Rush; Treasurer, Tim Glaser; Website, Peter Baxter; Newsletter, Chuck Critchfield
1st W. Va. Unit Rep – 25th Va. Unit Rep – Chris Johnson
1st Va. Cav. Unit Rep – Artillery Unit Rep – TASAS Unit Rep

6. Military Officers - There were no nominations for military officers. Nominations received to date:
1st W. Va. Captain, Chuck Critchfield, 1st. Sgt, Ross Wetherell
1st Va. Cav. Captain, John Brasuk
1st Va. Cav. 1st Sgt, Aaron Edwards
25th Va., no proposals
TASAS, no proposals
Artillery – no nominations
The Units will need to elect officers

7. New Units

- a. The 2nd Va. has inquired about joining the WVRA.
- b. They will need to make formal proposal to the Executive Committee following the groups Bylaws.
- c. Three current members, not in the new group, must make a recommendation.
- d. Discussion about the current make up of the 2nd Va.
- e. Discussion about integrating with the 25th Va.
- f. No formal presentation has been made yet.
- g. Discussion about multiple units. The 2nd only has 2 guns. They are interested in having a “veterans group”. Still go to events and camp but not necessarily fighting. The 10th W.Va. has pulled out of the Stonewall Jackson Reenacting Unit. It is expected that 2nd Va members will become members of the 25th Va.

8. Rich Mountain

- a. Phyllis is proposing to do a site tour, to areas not normally seen, on Saturday morning instead of doing a tactical. The group seemed to be in favor of this. This will be scheduled.
- b. Rich Mountain wants to do a structured living history at the event like in past years.
- c. They talked about setting up online registration to get a better handle on the registrations.
- d. Phyllis wants a committee from the WVRA to help with planning. Planning will be done via email. Chris J, Chuck C, Mark T, and Diane T, were proposed.
- e. Rich Mountain will coordinate as always.

9. WVRA paying for members registration fees.

- a. Should we go back to each individual paying? This has been confusing over the years with people saying they are WVRA but they are not.
- b. Rich is going to go to online registration. They will have a way for the person to indicate they are WVRA.
- c. All members will be verified from the current membership list.
- d. Tim Glaser proposed that the WVRA continue paying for the early registration fee of sponsored events. John B seconded. The motion passed.

10. Droop Mountain

- a. We need a committee. The following volunteered. Mark Tennant – head of committee; Tim G. – registration; Phyllis B. – dance; Jim and Linda Barnes – dinner; Chris J.; Lady’s tea - ?
- b. Need registration forms. Peter B. will update them
- c. We have received \$1500 from Pocahontas County.
- d. Need a clean-up date. Tentatively set August 8, 2015. Will check with Mike Smith.
- e. At the last reenactment we had a problem with the Sutlers using part of the dance area. Need to talk to Mike Smith to keep the area clear. The new memorial is at the edge of the area.
- f. Last year most of the fire wood at the confederate camp disappeared before the reenactment. Need to make arrangement to have it delivered the day before.
- g. Does powder still need to be given out to the reenactors? Powder cost is getting high and hard to get. A powder ration will not be mentioned in the registration material. A decision will be made at a later date.

11. Both Droop and Rich are the same year in 2015.

May want to consider doing them alternate years. We should be able to fix this in the coming years.

12. School of the Soldier

- a. Nobody has been coming.
- b. Probably should not schedule one.
- c. The Unit Commanders can do Drill as needed for review or new members.
- d. Phyllis B. made motion that since we are sponsoring two events this year we should not have

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a School of The Soldier. Individual units will be responsible for training and review of their troops. Tim G. seconded. Passed unanimously.

13. Bull Town Reenactment

Ken Connell gave a report. For all intents and purposes the Stonewall Jackson Reenactment Unit has ended. They pulled all of the donated items by their members and others from the Bulltown Museum. The reenactment was hosted by the 10th W. Va. It was reported that they had only two visitors.

14. Events

- a. Phillipi: Uncertain if the event is being held.
- b. Carnifex Ferry: No information yet.
- c. March 21, 2015: Rich Mountain one day symposium about the winter battles. Possibly include a dinner and dance. More information later.
- d. March 20-21, 2015: Bentonville. March 26-29: Battle of Hurricane Bridge and Scary Creek
- f. April 10-12, 2015: Appomattox
- g. May 17, 2015: Grand Review

15. Next meeting 1:00, February 7, 2015, at the Steer Steak House, Weston. **(Note: subsequent to the January 3rd meeting this date and the next Saturday is not available. The next meeting time, date and location will be announced).**

16. Tim G. moved to adjourn, John B. seconded, passed unanimous

Submitted by Jack Rush

WVRA Executive Committee Meeting Minutes January 3, 2015

(Editor's note – much of this is repeated in the General Meeting minutes above.)

Steer Steakhouse, Weston Meeting was called to order by Chuck Critchfield, in the absence of President Mark Tennant, at 12:00 pm.

In attendance were Chuck Critchfield, John Brasuk, Aaron Edwards, Chris Johnson, Phyllis Baxter, Peter Baxter, Jack Rush, Debbie Rush, Tim Glaser (Quorum not present)

1. New Units

- a. The 2nd Va. has inquired about joining the WVRA.
- b. They will need to make formal proposal to the Executive Committee following the groups Bylaws.

- c. Three current members, not in the new group, must make a recommendation.
- d. Would be good to have new members, how many do they have?
- e. How will they integrate with the 25th Va.?
- f. No formal presentation has been made yet.
- g. Have we ever had multiple units before? Only could remember having multiple cavalry units (17th and 1st Va.)
- h. Will discuss during the General Meeting.

2. John Brasuk talked about the 17th and 1st Cavalry to update those of us not familiar with them.

3. Officers for the Units

There were no nominations – going to try to fill them during the General Meeting.

4. Rich Mountain

a. Conflicts with the Ohio reenactment being organized by Ralph McCready. The Rich reenactment can not be changed.

b. Phyllis is proposing to do a site tour, to areas not normally seen, on Saturday morning instead of doing a tactical. She would like a decision today so that they can do the web site. Discuss at General Meeting.

c. Rich Mountain needs a better accounting of who is coming and which fee they paid. Registration \$5 early, \$10 regular, and \$15 late. Dinner \$6 early, \$8 regular, and \$10 late. They talked about setting up online registration to get a better handle on the registrations.

e. Any substitutions would need to be in writing.

f. Discussion about WVRA paying for members registration fees for Rich. Should we go back to each individual paying? Will discuss at General Meeting.

5. Droop Mountain

a. We need a committee.

b. Need a clean up date.

c. Need registration forms.

d. Lady's Tea?

e. Dance?

f. Mark Tennant is head of committee.

g. Jim and Linda Barnes will handle the meals.

h. We have received \$1500 from Pocahontas County.

i. Will discuss at General Meeting.

6. Both Droop and Rich are the same year in 2015. May want to consider doing them alternate years. Will discuss at General Meeting.

a. Nobody has been coming.

b. Probably should not schedule one.

c. The Unit Commanders can do Drill as needed

d. Meeting adjourned at 1 pm.

Submitted by Jack Rush

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25th Virginia Update from Chris Johnson

The 25th Virginia is seeking acceptance in the 2nd Battalion, Army of Northern Virginia. This 'joining' of the company into a larger 'umbrella group' will present us with the opportunity to acquire insurance liability coverage. Our company's obligation to the 2nd Battalion, ANV to maintain membership is to have at least five (5) members of the 25th Va. attend one (1) ANV 'Maximum Effort Event' in the year 2015. I understand those events to be: 150th Bentonville, NC (20-22MAR15), Old Bedford Village, Bedford, PA., (12-14JUNE15) and Locust Grove, Va. (23-25OCT15). I will endeavor to keep all members abreast of any developments.

We need to elect/appoint military officers for the company. Unless there are objections, I propose these officer 'Nominees' to be voted upon ASAP.

Captain: Jeff Goff, or write in

1st Sgt: Greg Watterson, Bill Brisendine, or write in

Corporal: Jay Allman, or write in

Unit Representative: Chris Johnson, or write in

Any others, please let me know. We need to get this to the 2nd Battalion, ANV by the end of January! Please reply to this e-mail with your 'vote' As Soon As Possible. Also, If You have not done so already, please send in your WVRA membership applications to Chuck Critchfield ASAP.

Your Obedient Servant,

Pvt. Chris 'CW' Johnson

25th Va. Inf'y Reg't
Unit Representative

Appomattox

The reenactment is scheduled for April 10 and 12 about 2 miles from the Appomattox National Park. The event, entitled "The Long Road Home" will feature a Saturday reenactment of Gordon's attempted breakout and on Sunday morning the stacking of arms. In the afternoon, we have been invited by the National Park Service to participate in their reenactment of the stacking of arms ON THE ACTUAL GROUND. (I heard the invitation myself from a NPS ranger) We are to be bussed to within a mile of the Park, and then march down the old Lynchburg Road to the ceremony. No ammunition/loads. Whether any Rebs show or not, remains to be seen. I see it is NOT on the ANV maximum effort list.

Grand Review

All parade participants will meet at 7:00 am on Sunday, May 17th at RFK Stadium, just outside of Washington. Registration and all inspections will take place there. Participants will be given IDs and all weapons and horses will be inspected. Due to the security concerns and prohibitions against moving in the city with such weapons, troops will form and be loaded into shuttle busses, by unit, for transport to the parade start. It is the same approach used for all inaugural parades. Cav and artillery horses will be inspected at RFK as will invited artillery guns. Once inspected, horse and gun trailers will proceed as directed into DC to unload and – having unloaded – move to the pick-up points. NO AMMUNITION/LOADS
Overall, this is a parade of 10 city blocks down Pennsylvania Ave- about 1 mile.
Registration email address list above.

Wenig Demands Satisfaction

Also I was going to email you to let you know or who ever wrote the caption (editor's note....it was me) under the picture in the newsletter after Ceder Creek, that I was supporting that "Copperhead" Gen George Mc Clelland, I WAS NOT SUPPORTING THAT POMPOUS _ _ _! You, or someone had me mixed up with Col. Dave Childs who was in full support of that "Copperhead" _ _ _ . That wooden sign that I was holding in that picture was for Ol' Abe Lincoln, made by Lt. Col. Kevin Skaggs. Because I'm sure that picture came up at

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Gettysburg too. I would like satisfaction a rebuttal or some thing in the next news letter.

I'm joking about the picture but I'm not a Copperhead supporter and I know its a bit late after the fact, but it is a good newsletter.

Ron Wenig

Editor's note – Thanks Ron for the compliments. Sorry to connect you to that Copperhead!!

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 – pending election

25th Va. Rep – pending election

1st Va. Cavalry – pending election

Artillery –

TASAS –

* Non-voting member of executive board

Editor's Corner

Happy new year!!!

This edition is primarily a business edition. And of course, if anyone has any event review, book reviews, historical articles, etc. I will consider them for publishing. I have not been able to publish all pictures since the format does not always cooperate

We are doing everything to reach out to members of record with this newsletter.

The WVRA Trans Allegheny Soldiers Aid Society Facebook page is being monitored by a few members. Please monitor it for up to date announcements. I AM NOT THE ADMINISTRATOR, so I am not sure if anyone is responding to friend requests. The other Facebook page (WVRA) doesn't seem to get any activity.

Please renew your membership so we know who the members are going to be. Please don't mail your membership form and dues to the PO Box in Buckhannon. Send to me (address on membership form) or Tim Glaser at 31 Union Street in Huttonsville, WV26273

Recommended by Jim Barnes. Book about one of the Cushing brothers, the other brother is of Gettysburg fame as commanding Cushing's batytery at the angle against Pickett's charge. Here is the web address. Copy and paste. <http://www.civilwarprofiles.com/commander-will-cushing/>

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2015 – No. 1. January, 2015.

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

WVRA website - wvra.org

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

Chuck Critchfield -editor

Ccritch608@yahoo.com

At the annual United States Volunteers meeting in Gettysburg, Jan. 10.



West Virginia Reenactors Association

PO Box 2133, Buckhannon, WV 26201

Mail completed form and payment to:
 WVRA Treasurer Chuck Critchfield
 608 Skyview Drive
 Clarksburg, WV 26301

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____

Date: _____

Address: _____

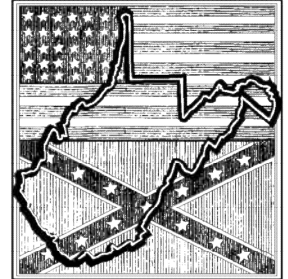
Street

City, State, Zip Code

Phone: _____

Home/Cell, Work (optional)

Email: _____



Medical/Special Conditions:

UNIT MEMBERSHIP: (Which unit of the WVRA do you want to join? Check one...)

WVRA
(General)

TASAS
(Civilian)

1st W.Va. Inf.
(Federal)

25th Va. Inf.
(Confederate)

Artillery
(Dual Impression)

Cavalry

Not Sure
(Undecided)

BACKGROUND & INTERESTS

Reenacting Experience?

Other Reenacting Groups?

Particular Interests?

Special Skills?

PARTICIPATING FAMILY

(please see notes 2 & 4)

Name

Age

Relation

NOTES and DETAILS:

- DUES:** Dues are \$15 per year per person. Family dues are \$25 per year. There is an additional cost of \$15 per year if you must have a paper copy of the newsletter mailed to you. (Email version of same newsletter is included in membership.) For group insurance purposes, all dues must be paid by or before March 1st. The reenacting year is from March 1st to February 28th of the following year, and membership files must be updated each year.
- MINORS:** Any member under the age of 18 needs the signature of an adult parent or guardian to join. Those under 16 will not be allowed to carry firearms, and members under 14 may not participate in reenactment battles. In addition, rules at specific reenacting events may restrict or deny participation by reason of age, and the WVRA will comply with event rules.
- MEETINGS:** Regular meetings are held, usually on the first Saturday of each month. During the reenacting year, meetings may be held at the various reenactments. Ask for meetings times and places when you join or check for info on the website (www.wvra.org).
- FAMILIES:** Each "soldier" should have their own membership, dues, and form on file. Individual Civilian Reenactors should also have their own complete membership. To encourage family participation, the special Family Membership dues rate (above) can be used to save cost. All family members are welcome to participate informally at WVRA events without paying individual dues. Persons who do not pay dues will naturally have no voice or vote in Association matters, however.
- DIRECTORY:** Member images and photos may be used for the newsletter, website, and WVRA public relations releases. However, detailed information like addresses and phone numbers will ONLY be listed in the directory circulated to other members. Such information will never be used in press releases or put on the website. If you still have privacy concerns and don't want your information used in any form at all, you must send a simple written request to that effect to the newsletter editor, secretary, and webmaster before April 1st of each year.

 Signature of Member Applicant

 Signature of Adult Parent or Guardian