

Trans-Allegheny Dispatch

The newsletter of the West Virginia Reenactors Association

2017- Edition 2 - February

Upcoming Civil War Events

Sponsored Events

Rich Mountain – July 14-16 Beverly and on the battlefield, July is PROPOSED

Sanctioned Events

Living History – University High School, April 21, Morgantown is proposed

Events Recommended by WVRA

members

New Market, Va – May 20-21 USV sanctioned

McConnellsville, Ohio – July 8-10

War Comes to Monroe County - Union, W. Va., August 25-27

Cedar Creek – October 6-8 USV Sanctioned

Other – 2017

On to Richmond – June 2-4

Gettysburg – July 1-3

Jackson's Mill – Labor Day Weekend

Next, no members were elected to the following offices: President, Vice-President and Artillery Rep. No members of the Artillery were present and no votes were received by mail for Artillery Representative so that office remains vacant.

Because no nominations were received for the office of President and Vice President, the **Executive Board** called a meeting at the conclusion of the General Meeting to discuss the way forward without these two offices filled. At that meeting Jim Barnes volunteered to step down from the Treasurer's position to which he was just re-elected to run for President. Jack Rush and Jim suggested that in the new by-laws the Secretary and Treasurer position be combined into a new position Secretary/Treasurer. Should that change be approved when the by-laws are voted upon, Jack Rush has agreed to run for that position. John Brasuk volunteered to run for Vice President. (After the meeting I heard from Bill Brisendine who asked his name be placed on the ballot for Vice President again).

Since no Artillery Rep was elected, Stormy Brasuk asked that her name be placed on the ballot for next meeting. This gives us two candidates for the position of Artillery Representative.

As a result of these actions taken during the Executive Board meeting, the offices of President, Vice-President and Artillery Unit Representative will once again be voted upon at the February meeting.

Getting back to the General Meeting, also discussed was a proposal to incorporate other time period reenactors into the WVRA. Jim Barnes reported interest from 6-10 reenactors from other time periods in joining the WVRA. After discussion, and vote of confidence was held and the decision made to proceed with that process. Until it is submitted to the WVRA for the full ballot procedure, it is not official.

The Rich Mountain/Beverly event will be placed upon the ballot this issue for approval as a SPONSORED event. The living history at University High School will be placed on the ballot for approval as a SACNTIONED event.

School of the Soldier is scheduled for the living history at University High School, outside of Morgantown, W. Va. on April 21.

NEXT MEETING

Saturday, February 4, 2017 at 1 pm. The meeting will be held at the Christ Episcopal Church Parish House on the corner of Sixth Street and Traders Alley. Parking is available next to the Parish House. This is the building where we have held the annual dance in the past.

IMPORTANT INTELLIGENCE!

Just Received from the Annual Meeting

Over 20 members attended the annual meeting earlier this month at the Weston Steak House. Several issues were discussed and minutes of those meetings can be found later in this newsletter. First, I will summarize some important points.

Most importantly, elections for officers in the WVRA and the individual units were held. To start, let me list those offices that were filled.

- Treasurer **Jim Barnes**
- Secretary **Jack Rush**
- Unit Rep 1st W. Va. **Mark Tennant**
- Unit Rep 25th Va. - **Tim Glaser**
- Unit Rep 1st Va. **John Brasuk**
- Unit Rep TASAS **Diane Tennant**
- Newsletter – **Chuck Critchfield**
- Website **Peter Baxter**

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Other issues that were discussed can be found in the minutes.

VOTE

Please note the ballot attached to this issue. If you are unable to attend the February meeting, you can send this ballot to me at ccritch608@yahoo.com or 608 Skyview Drive, Clarksburg, 26301

We are voting on President, Vice-President and Artillery Rep. Only dues-paying members may vote and only dues-paying members can hold office. Also we are voting on sponsoring one event and sanctioning one event.

Minutes From Annual Meeting

January 7, 2017

WVRA Meeting

Steer Steakhouse, Weston

Meeting was called to order by President Mark Tennant, at 1:00 pm. There were 21 people in attendance.

1. The minutes of the Executive Board Meeting were in the newsletter. No corrections were noted. It was proposed that the reading of minutes be suspended. Jim Brasuk moved that the minutes be approved and it was seconded and passed.
2. The treasurer's report was read. Motion to accept the report was made by Chuck Critchfield. John B. seconded. Motion passed.
3. WVRA Officer Elections
Chuck C. went over the nominations received for officers.
 - a. There were no additional nominations for officers from the floor.
 - b. Chuck C moved that the nominations be closed. Jack Rush seconded. Motion Passed.
 - c. Jack R made the motion to approve the slate of officers as nominated. Seconded by Chuck C. The motion passed.
 - d. All officers were elected as proposed. Still need President and Vice President.
 - e. President,
Vice President,
Secretary, Jack Rush
Treasurer, Jim Barnes

Website, Peter Baxter

Newsletter, Chuck Critchfield

1st W. Va. Unit Rep – Mark Tennant

25th Va. Unit Rep – Tim Glaser

1st Va. Cav. Unit Rep – John Brasuk

Artillery Unit Rep – Stormy Brasuk

TASAS Unit Rep – Dianne Tennant

4. The units broke into separate meetings. The results were as follows:
1st West Virginia Infantry
Captain – Chuck Critchfield
Sergeant – Ross Wetherell *
Corporal – Vacant

1st Virginia Cavalry

Captain - John Brasuk

Sergeant – Stormy Brasuk **

25th Virginia Infantry

Captain – Jeff Goff

Sergeant – Greg Watterson ***

Trans-Allegheny Soldiers Aid Society

Union Representative – Debbie Rush

Confederate Representative - Vacant

(Editor's note: * - pending renewal of membership dues; ** - pending change of unit; *** - pending his acceptance)

John B did buy JR Moore's cannon. They will be the 1st WVva Battery B. They are looking for a Confederate designation.

Some of the events the units are considering are UHS Living History, New Market, Rich Mountain, Philippi, Beverly, Droop (Stauts unknown), Barboursville, Covered Bridge in Kirby PA, Guyandotte, Gettysburg Remembrance Events (April, July, November).

5. Old Business – None

6. New Business

- a. The Soldiers and Sailors Monument in Wheeling is looking to move to a new

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location. The projected cost for the move is \$75000.00. Chuck C made a motion to contribute \$200 to them. It was seconded by Jim Allman. The motion passed.

- b. Mark T suggested that we sanction the April 21 Living History at University High School. Phyllis Baxter moved and Jim Barnes seconded. Approved

The reenactors can set up Thursday night. The first group visiting will be at 10:00 Thursday. The teacher, Phil Caskey, is taking students to Gettysburg the next weekend. Mark T suggested that we give a scholarship to allow two students to attend. The amount was not to exceed \$400. Jim B moved and Dianne Tennant seconded. Motion passed.

- c. Talked about sponsoring the Rich Mountain (Beverly) event, July 14-16. It is being proposed that a timeline event will be held in the town of Beverly and a reenactment at the Battlefield. Civilians and living history in town and military at the battlefield. Proposing a memorial (ceremony) to be held at Mt. Isner during the Beverly weekend. Suggested that activities be in town on Saturday and reenactment on the mountain on Sunday.

Chuck C made the motion to sanction the event and Mark T seconded. This will be put in the next newsletter for a vote.

- d. Membership is about 50 people now. In the past, membership usually was about 75 at this time. What is the future of the WVRA? We can continue as is but we need to fill the office vacancies.

We can let other groups become members of the WVRA. Jim B talked to and did a survey via Facebook of other reenacting groups (WWII, French and Indian, Frontier). About 10 people expressed interest.

More people in the WVRA will allow more people the opportunity to be officers. The WVRA will give the new units the opportunity to have a website, a newsletter, be a member of a 501 c3 tax exempt organization for donations, and possibly more people to support their group.

There was no objection to allowing other groups into the WVRA. Jim B and Phyllis B will work on the needed modifications to the bylaws. This will be discussed at future meetings.

- e. Phyllis B. mentioned the Civil War Symposium being sponsored by the Rich Mountain Foundation. It will be held in Beverly on April 1. The cost is \$30 for the symposium, \$45 for the evening dinner, or \$70 for both.
 - f. It was proposed the annual School of the Soldier be combined with the Living History at University High School on April 21. Jim B moved that they be combined and Phyllis B seconded. The Motion Passed.
 - g. It was mention that there were three other online presences for the WVRA other than WVRA.org. They are Facebook, Conference of West Virginia Reenactors and TASAS-WVRA Facebook.
 - h. Can we have some WVRA Meetings in Clarksburg? No one expressed a problem with this. The next meeting will be held at 1:00 on February 4, 2017, at the Christ Episcopal Church Parish House in Clarksburg.
7. The meeting was adjourned. The Executive Board was asked to stay after the meeting for a short meeting.

Executive Board Meeting

Discussed not having candidates for President and Vice President. It was suggested that the

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positions of Secretary and Treasurer be combined. Jack R would run for the Secretary/Treasurer position. If this happened, Jim B would then run for President. John B would then run for Vice President. We would need to change the Bylaws to combine the offices of secretary and treasurer. This would have to be voted on by the group.

Stormy B. also expressed interest in running for Artillery Unit Rep. The Artillery must vote to choose her or Sam Krafft for this.

Respectively submitted,

J. Rush

January 15, 2017

Membership

Memberships for 2016 expired on Dec. 31, 2016. Please renew your membership. Annual dues continue to be \$15 per individual; \$25 per family and \$15 per organizational membership. Family memberships are limited to family members college age and below. Membership forms and dues can be sent to me at 608 Skyview Drive, Clarksburg, WV 26301. To date the following have renewed their membership:

TASAS

Bill Snyder
Linda Barnes
Peter Baxter
Phyllis Baxter
Tonya Daft
Art Dodd
Pam Dodds
Linda Donegan
Brian Ward family
Gary Goetze
Mildred Goetze
Debbie Rush
Jennifer Smith
Diane Tennant

First West Virginia Infantry

Jim Barnes
Mike Phillips
Chuck Critchfield
Jedediah Smith
Larry Smith
Kevin Skaggs
Mr. and Mrs. Burdell Waffler
John Ziolkowski
Ed ChapdeLaine

Christopher Carroll
Patrick Carroll
Bill Donegan
Jack Rush
Mark Tennant

25th Virginia Infantry

Jack Daft
Tag Ireland
Ken Connell
Tim Glaser
Jim Allman
Jay Allman
Thurman Shaver *
Mark Poling
Dirk Behana
Greg Watterson
Jim Shaver
John Webb

1st Virginia Cavalry

John Brasuk
Ed Falvo
Arlene Falvo
Jeff McCord
Charles McCormick

Artillery

Stormy Brasuk

General Membership

Hunter Lesser
Elizabeth Swiger
Ron Wenig
Debbie Wenig
Chris Taylor

Members who have paid to have newsletter mailed rather than sent electronically.

Tag Ireland
Charles McCormick

Treasurers Report

January 5, 2017 and before any action taken at the Annual Meeting

Beginning Balance:	3955.80	
Credits:	330.00	
Debits:	212.74	(Regular Checks
paid - 189.79)		(Web.com -
22.95)		
Bank Service charge:	3.00	
Ending Balance:	4070.06	

Submitted by Jim Barnes
Treasurer

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Centuries of History featuring the Battle of Rich Mountain

We will be voting at the February on whether to sponsor this event on July 14, 15 and 16 at Beverly and Rich Mountain, West Virginia. This year's events will be a bit different than what we have experienced in the past as the organizers plan to make it a joint effort between Beverly Heritage Days' timeline of history event and the Rich Mountain Reenactment. The following is from the proposed event flyer.

This year will be a "better-than-ever joint event to commemorate the Battle of Rich Mountain and history of nearby Beverly, Randolph County. Civil War camps and reenactment on the Battlefield park property will be joined by timeline living history and multi-period camps in Beverly. Battle reenactment, living history scenarios, displays and music from the range of periods will bring exciting and educational activities for our visitors. Activities for spectators and participants will be shared between the two locations."

WVRA Officers 2017 as of January 7, 2017

(executive board)

President - Vacant

Vice President - Vacant

Treasurer - Jim Barnes

Secretary - Jack Rush

Newsletter editor - Chuck Critchfield*

Website - Peter Baxter*

1st W. Va. Rep - Chuck Critchfield

25th Va. Rep - Vacant as of Nov. 13

1st Va. Cavalry - John Brasuk

Artillery - vacant

TASAS - Diane Tennant

* Non-voting member of executive board

155 Years Ago

I will hopefully have room for this feature next issue.

Editor's Corner

The Editor's chance to speak

THANK YOU - Thank you to Peter and Phyllis Baxter for their donation. Thank you to Mark

Tennant for serving as President for three years. Thank you to all members who volunteered to run for office within the WVRA. Lets make the WVRA great again.

MEMBERSHIP - Please renew your membership for the 2017 reenacting season. A blank membership form is included in this email. Please return the membership form to the address on the form.

NEXT YEAR - The USV is pushing New Market, Gettysburg and Cedar Creek.

THANK YOU - Thanks to Peter Baxter for his help with the Dispatch. Thanks Jim Barnes and Jack Rush for their contributions.

FOR SALE - Hunter Lesser has advised that anyone who wants a signed copy of *The Civil War in Lewis County, WV*, by Roy Bird Cook, he might be able to oblige.

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. TASAS members who are also spouses of 1st W. Va. members are covered under the USV insurance.

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 annual 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 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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Ballot

For February 4, 2017 Meeting 1 pm, Christ Episcopal Church Parish House

Please send this ballot to Chuck Critchfield if you are unable to attend the meeting. c/o C. L. Critchfield, 608 Skyview Dr, Clarkburg, WV 26301 or ccritch@yahoo.com. You should be a dues-paying member to vote and **must** write your name in the following blank.

Name of member voting:

President

_____ Jim Barnes

_____ Write – in _____

Vice President

_____ Bill Brisendine

_____ John Brasuk

_____ Write-in _____

Unit Representative Artillery Only Artillery members should vote

_____ Stormy Brasuk

_____ Sam Krafft

_____ Write in _____

SPONSORED EVENT

Beverly Heritage Days featuring Battle of Rich Mountain Reenactment, July 14-16, 2017. "Civil War camps and reenactment on the Battlefield park property will be joined by timeline living history and multi-period camps in Beverly. "

_____ Yes, I am in favor of the WVRA sponsoring this event

_____ No, I am not in favor of the WVRA sponsoring this event

SANCTIONED EVENT

Living History at University High School near Morgantown, West Virginia on April 21, 2017

_____ Yes I am in favor of making this a WVRA Sanctioned Event

_____ No, I am not in favor of making this a WVRA Sanctioned Event

PER THE BY LAWS

Sponsored event - those that the WVRA may initiate, organize or administer on its own authority and responsibility. All WVRA members are expected to attend and to assist with the work of sponsored events

Sanction event - are those event not planned or organized by the WVRA, but approved by the Association for official participation . Attendance at sanctioned events is expected of all WVRA members.