



The Dispatch

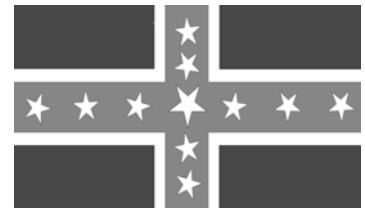
Newsletter of the

9th Texas Infantry Regiment

June 2006

Volume 4, Issue 3

Fred Yokubaitis, Editor



From the Colonel

Gentlemen,

I hope everyone is having an enjoyable summer and preparing for the fall campaign season. I'm sorry about the tardiness in the newsletter, but it has been a busy past couple of months for me. Hopefully the July edition will be out sooner.

The recent Bellmead reenactment was once again a success. Everyone in attendance had a great time and didn't seem to mind the intruding Home Depot building too much. The battalion (actually two companies) was comprised of assorted members from all the 9th TX companies, a lot of 6th TX (good job guys), and a few Texas Rifle scoundrels. Hey Bosworth, we're still here by the tree waiting for the free beer you promised to serve us tomorrow! Yours truly attended the event as a lowly private, and had a great time! My weekend was spent being shoved around by NCOs and told what to do - Ahhhh, the good old days. Somewhere in the back of my mind a song repetitively played - Yo ho, yo ho, a private's life for me. Hum, I'm thinking theme song for Reenactors World. Anyway, Capt. Dennis Young took the helm and led the battalion for the weekend. All hats off to Captain Young for accepting the spur of the moment promotion and doing a great job. This just goes to demonstrate the depth of competent leadership possessed by the RRB. Hey officers, let this be a lesson: always be up to date with your drill, because you never know when.....

Speaking of Bellmead, this is the tentative location for our 2006 Fall Muster. Being in September, Fall Muster always tends to be hot. This site offers ample tree shaded open areas for both camping and company drill, while having just enough room for battalion drill. It also has bathrooms and a water supply. The fact that is centrally located is another plus. This site is well worth giving it a chance. More information will be posted as soon as we make a final decision on this site. As for the 2007 Spring Muster, we are taking a hard look at going back to Fort Richardson in Jacksboro.

Registration information for the 144th Perryville reenactment is contained in this newsletter. We only have until July 21 to turn in the early registration list. Our apologies for the short registration time-frame, but the procedures were changed several times over the past few months by the event sponsors.

(Continued on Page 2)

Upcoming Events

(See inside for detailed information)

July 4: The Fourth of July in Dallas Heritage Village

July 15: Battalion Drill

July 21-23: 145th Manassas Reenactment

~~July 29-30: NSA Meeting **CANCELED**~~

August 12: Drill & Officer / NCO School

September 9-10: Fall Battalion Muster

October 6-8: 144th Perryville Reenactment

November 11-12: America Goes to War

November 18-19: Plantation Liendo Reenactment

December 9: Drill and Holiday Party

** Important Reminders **

145th Battle of Manassas Registration Deadline:

The late registration deadline for the optional 145th Manassas event is June 30, 2006, and is \$25 per person. See inside for more details.

Battleshirts & Accoutrements needed for 145th Manassas:

Battleshirts and other pre/early war accoutrements are needed by those attending the upcoming Manassas event. Please contact Bill Pecena at (972) 771-3119 or (214) 747-2428. Please bring loaner items to the July 15th drill.

144th Battle of Perryville Early Registration Deadline:

The RRB early registration deadline for the 144th Perryville event is July 21, 2006, and is \$12.00 per person. Payments are to be made to Battalion Adjutant Tom Corll. See inside for more details.

Officer and NCO School – August 12th, 2006:

All RRB officers and NCOs are reminded to make plans to attend the Officer and NCO School on August 12th. Please mark your calendars now!

July 29-30 North/South Alliance Meeting Canceled:

All RRB officers are hereby notified that the North/South Alliance Meeting scheduled for July 29 – 30 has been cancelled. It has been rescheduled to occur briefly on Thursday evening at the Perryville event.

Recent Event Attendance

- January 14, 2006 – Drill: 42 people
- February 18, 2006 – Twiggs Surrender: 21 people
- March 17-19, 2006 – Muster & Beaumont Ranch: 64 people
- April 1, 2006 – Drill: 46 people
- May 6, 2006 – Drill: 23 people
- May 20-21, 2006 - Bellmead Reenactment: 43 people
- June 10, 2006 - Battalion Drill: 24 people

2006 Event Information

The Fourth of July at DHV

July 4, 2006

Dallas Heritage Village, Dallas, TX

- Living History / Recruiting Event.
- Early-war impression.
- See www.dallasheritagevillage.org for park information.

Battalion Drill

July 15, 2006

Dallas Heritage Village, Dallas, TX

- Mid-war Army of Tennessee impression.
- Drill to start promptly at 9:00 AM.
- Light marching order.
- Schoolhouse opens at 4:00 PM Friday for overnight stay.
- www.dallasheritagevillage.org for park info.

145th Battle of Manassas Reenactment

July 21 – 23, 2006

Middletown, VA

- Optional Event.
- Early war impression.
- www.cedarcreekbattlefield.org/reenact/bullrun.php

North/South Alliance Meeting

July 29 – 30, 2006

Location TBA

- Annual Meeting for Battalion Staff.
- Attendance by all RRB staff is requested.

Battalion Drill / Officer and NCO School

August 12, 2006

Dallas Heritage Village, Dallas, TX

- Mid-war Army of Tennessee impression.
- Drill to start promptly at 9:00 AM.
- Officer and NCO School 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM.
- Light marching order.
- Schoolhouse opens at 4:00 PM Friday for overnight stay.
- www.dallasheritagevillage.org for park info.

Fall Muster

September 9 – 10, 2006

Bellmead Reenactment Site (tentative)

Battalion Maximum Effort!

- Mid-war Army of Tennessee impression.
- Garrison camp.

144th Battle of Perryville Reenactment

October 6 – 8, 2006

Perryville, KY

Battalion Maximum Effort!

- Mid-war Army of Tennessee campaign impression.
- Static camp.
- www.nsalliance.org
- www.perryvillereenactment.org

America Goes to War

November 11 – 12, 2006

Dallas Heritage Village, Dallas, TX

9th Texas Maximum Effort!

- Living History / Recruiting Event.
- Mid-war Army of Tennessee or Zouave impression.
- www.dallasheritagevillage.org

Plantation Liendo Reenactment

November 18 – 19, 2006

Hempstead, TX

Battalion Maximum Effort!

- Reenactment / Recruiting Event.
- 165th NY Zouave impression.
- Garrison camp
- www.11texascav.org/liendo/liendo.shtml

Battalion Drill / Holiday Party

December 9, 2006

Location TBA

Battalion Maximum Effort!

- Mid-war Army of Tennessee impression.
- Drill to start promptly at 9:00 AM.
- Light marching order.
- Schoolhouse opens at 4:00 PM Friday for overnight stay.
- Office & NCO meeting in the schoolhouse at 8:00 AM.
- www.dallasheritagevillage.org for park info.
- Holiday party 6:00 PM to ???

(Continued from Colonel - Page 1)

We did not want to start our registration process until we were certain the procedures would not change again. So, please register ASAP! The registration fee goes up to \$22.00 after the July 21 deadline!

Your most obedient servant,

Col. Fred Yokubaitis
Red River Battalion

Remember to check

The Battalion's Web Page: www.9thtexas.org
For the latest Battalion news, event information,
and message board.

The Fourth of July at DHV
Dallas Heritage Village, Dallas, TX
July 4, 2006

Schedule of Events

8:00 AM	Park opens for reenactors
10:00 AM	Park opens to public
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM	Living History and drill

General Information: The RRB will once again attend the annual 4th of July celebration at DHV. This is a fun day event for the entire family. Our activities include regular drill exercises, recruiting, camp life, firing demonstrations, living history demonstrations, and interaction with the public.

Event Registration and Admission: No registration is required. Reenactors in period dress will be admitted free of charge. Ticket prices for non-period dressed attendees are Adults \$7.00 / Children 4-12 \$4.00.

Arrival Times: Reenactors may start arriving at 8:00 AM the morning of the 4th.

Recruiting Booth: Jeff Gibbs will coordinate the recruiting booth and volunteers will be needed to help man it during the day.

Uniform and Equipment: Our impression shall be our standard 9th Texas mid-war Army of Tennessee uniform; Columbus Depot jackets only, no Trans-Mississippi or civilian impressions, and absolutely no Federal impressions. All officers and NCOs are to bring uniform and equipment to portray a private, should the need arise.

Camp & Tentage: The RRB will set up a living history camp located just east of the pavilion. Shelter halves or “under the stars” is preferred. Please keep an authentic looking camp with all farb out of site!

Ammunition: Everyone will need to bring a minimum of 20 rounds of blank ammunition. Don't forget to bring caps.

145th Anniversary Reenactment of the Battle of First Manassas
Cedar Creek Battlefield Park, Middletown, VA
July 21 - 23, 2006

General Information: This is an optional event for members of the Red River Battalion. We will be falling in with our battalion members from the 37th NC. If you are attending this event please contact Bill Pecena, if you have not already done so.

Please visit the event website at www.cedarcreekbattlefield.org/reenact/bullrun.php for event schedule, directions, parking information, site map, and additional updated information.

Event Registration: Register for the event is on an individual basis. Registration forms, waivers and event regulations can be found on the event website. Registration deadline is June 30, 2006. The late registration fee is \$25 and can be paid by phone by calling 888-628-1864 with credit card information. Please reference the 37th NC or 4th Regt. ANV when registering. No walk-ons permitted.

Arrival Times: Reenactors may start arriving at 9:00 AM Friday morning. Saturday arrivals should be no later than 8:00 AM.

Uniform and Equipment: We will portray pre/early-war North Carolinian Confederate troops for this event. Our impression shall consist of civilian trousers, civilian undershirt, and battleshirt (The Wilson's Creek battleshirts of Co. H are preferred, but any battleshirt is acceptable). Please contact Bill Pecena at (972) 771-3119 or (214) 747-2428 if you are in need of a battleshirt, OR if you have one you are willing to loan! Pre/early war accoutrements with white buff are preferred.

Weapons & Ammunition: Pre/early war weapons are preferred. No flintlocks allowed. Bring a minimum of 150 blank rounds.

Camp & Tentage: We will have an authentic campaign camp with shelter halves and tent flies only. ABSOLUTLY NO FARB!

Rations: No rations will be provided. Please bring your own food.

144th Battle of Perryville Reenactment

Registration Information and Procedures

The official event sponsored website for the 144th Anniversary Battle of Perryville is up and running and reenactor registration has begun! The event web address is www.perryvillereenactment.org. The website contains information pertinent to the event, as well as reenactor registration information and forms. **DO NOT FOLLOW THE REGISTRATION PROCEDURES OR USE THE FORMS ON THIS WEBSITE!!! I REPEAT, DO NOT FOLLOW THE REGISTRATION PROCEDURES OR USE THE FORMS ON THIS WEBSITE!!!** The AoT (Army of Tennessee, formally the 1st Confederate Division), of which we are members, will handle registration differently from the procedures detailed on the aforementioned event website. The RRB registration procedures are detailed in the following paragraphs and must be to properly register for the event. These procedures will satisfy all registration requirements of the AoT.

Additional Perryville information and announcements will be placed in future editions of The Dispatch and on the 9th TX website.

MILITARY REGISTRATION PROCEDURES:

Registration for Red River Battalion members, as well as all affiliated military falling in under the RRB, will be conducted through the RRB Adjutant, Capt. Tom Corll. **Do not attempt to register electronically via the Perryville web site or directly through the AoT!**

Only use the Registration and Waiver Forms attached herein or available on the 9th Texas web site! **DO NOT use the forms found on the NSA or Perryville web site!** Fill out BOTH the Registration and Waiver Forms completely!

The **EARLY** registration fee is \$12.00 per person through July 21, 2006. All early registration submittals must be received by Adjutant Corll no later than Friday, July 21, 2006. The **LATE** registration fee \$22.00 per person from July 22 through September 1, 2006. All late registration submittals must be received by Adjutant Corll no later than Friday, September 1, 2006.

All military registration fees include an additional \$2.00 AoT fee. This fee is to reimburse the AoT for event costs incurred by the organization and not covered by the Perryville Battlefield Park. FYI – the Perryville Battlefield Park has refused to pay for certain necessities of which we have become dependent at national events, and therefore must be provided by the AoT.

The aforementioned registration deadline dates are earlier than the registration deadlines listed on the Perryville and AoT web site (July 31 and September 8). This is due to the fact that all registration forms and payments received by Adjutant Corll must be processed and mailed to the Perryville registration organization in time to meet the later deadline. It does take a tot of time to organize the information and complete the additional forms that must be submitted. Therefore, please respect the earlier deadline dates!

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS OR MONEY ORDERS PAYABLE TO “9TH TEXAS”. SUBMIT THE REGISTRATION FORM, THE KENTUCKEY PARKS WAIVER FORM, AND YOUR PAYMENT TO:

Tom Corll
2979 County Road 4935
Kempner, TX 76539

DO NOT MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDERS OUT TO "NSA", "FIRST CONFEDERATE DIVISION", "ARMY OF TENNESSEE", OR "BATTLE OF PERRYVILLE". DO NOT SEND REGISTRATION FORMS AND WAIVERS TO “PERRYVILLE REGISTRATION” OR DIRECTLY TO THE AOT!

PLEASE NOTE: This registration procedure only applies to AoT military participants. AoT affiliated civilians must register through the Perryville web site (see CIVILIAN REGISTRATION PROCEDURES below)!

CIVILIAN REGISTRATION PROCEDURES:

ALL civilian participants will need to register separately through the Battle of Perryville web site: www.perryvillereenactment.org/pv-rules.php (Yes, this is the First Federal Division registration site, but this is where ALL civilians must register). Read the rules, go to the bottom of the page and click "civilian" and follow the instruction. Registration fee is \$10 per registrant until July 31st. After that date Late Registration fees will be \$20 until registration CLOSES at midnight September 8th. There is no \$2.00 AoT fee for civilians.

PLEASE NOTE: If a soldier and his spouse are both participating in the Perryville event, the civilian spouse must register separately via the Perryville web site!

**Army of Tennessee
Battle of Perryville
October 6-8, 2006
Confederate Military Registration**

Instructions: Go to www.perryvillereenactment.org/pv-rules.php and read the rules. Make checks out to: "9th Texas". Submit this form, the KY Parks waiver and payment to:

Tom Corll
2979 County Road 4935
Kempner, TX 76539

Registration is \$12.00 per person through July 21, 2006. From August 1 – September 1, 2006, registration is \$22.00. There will be no walk-ons, substitutions or refunds for this event.

Check one: **Infantry** _____ **Cavalry** _____ **Artillery** _____ **Medical** _____

Name: (First) _____ (Last) _____ Rank _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone (H): _____ Phone (M): _____

AoT Unit (Co. / Regt.): _____ Co. Commander: _____

AoT Battalion: Red River Battalion _____ Commander: Col. Fred Yokubaitis _____

AoT Brigade: Mississippi Valley Brigade _____ Commander: Gen. Tom Stuart _____

AoT Division (check one): General Rambo _____ General King _____

Emergency Information:

Name(s): _____

Phones: (Home): _____ (Mobile): _____ (Other): _____

Medications: _____

Existing Medical Conditions (diabetic, etc): _____

Participation is contingent upon registrant meeting AoT impression standards and weapon(s) passing required safety inspection. No Federal uniform parts will be permitted on Confederate Troops. The Army of Tennessee reserves the right to deny participation to any person who fails to meet event standards and regulations.

I have read and understand the Rules and Regulations for The Battle of Perryville 2006 and agree to abide by them.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

**2006 Battle of Perryville
Perryville Battlefield State Historic Site
Perryville, Kentucky**

Release of Liability, Hold Harmless Agreement & Indemnity

**IMPORTANT...PLEASE READ AND SEND A COPY
FOR EACH PERSON ATTENDING!!!**

PARTICIPANT'S NAME (PLEASE PRINT):

Reason for being on Event Site (PLEASE CIRCLE ONE):

Reenactor

Sutler

Volunteer

Food Vendor

Other _____

Name of Reenactment Unit (Co. / Regt.) _____
--

(PLEASE PRINT)

In case of emergency call: _____ at () _____ - _____

I, _____ (participant), or if minor, the parent or legal guardian of

_____ (minor), recognize that black powder, firearms, cannons, and edged weapons can be dangerous if not used in a proper manner and that reenacting in general may be considered a dangerous activity. While it is the intent of the Kentucky Department of Parks to make the event or work on the event site as safe as possible, there can be no guarantees of absolute safety. This event is held on undeveloped land that cannot be made completely safe without destroying its rustic character. In addition, this event may be considered strenuous and held in prevailing hot and/or wet weather conditions. In exchange for being allowed to participate in the event activities or volunteer to work on the event site, I release the Commonwealth of Kentucky, Tourism Cabinet, Kentucky Department of Parks, and agents, officers, and employees thereof, from any and all claims for personal injury or loss, financial loss of any kind or suffered, or damage to personal property suffered or sustained by me.

I also agree to assign to the Battle of Perryville/Kentucky Department of Parks, or its assigns, the rights to use my image in recorded photographic images of the event without restriction and do hereby waive all rights to compensation for the same.

I further understand that this event is by invitation only and that I have read and understand all of the event rules and any violation of those rules will result in a revocation of invitation and, as a result, I can be evicted from the event without notice.

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN: _____

WITNESS: _____ DATE: _____

Announcements

165th NY Zouave Uniform Sources for the Red River Battalion

The Red River Battalion's standard Federal impression is that of the 165th NY Zouaves. While this is our preferred federal uniform, purchasing one is not mandatory; a generic Western Federal uniform is acceptable. It is our intention to continue the 165th NY Zouave impression indefinitely. A list of sources has been compiled in order to assist new and current members in procuring a quality garment, while maintaining consistency in our Zouave uniform impression. The following information is provided for those who would like to purchase all or part of the 165th NY Zouave uniform.

Many thanks go to Phil McBride and Tom Corll for the many hours researching and tabulating this information.

<i>Item</i>	<i>Clint Brunt</i>	<i>Coon River</i>	<i>Timeless Stitches</i>
Pantaloon	\$ 150*	X	\$ 80
Jacket	\$ 160*	X	\$ 125
Vest			\$ 30
Sash**	\$ 45*	X	\$ 40
Tassel	\$ 20		
Total	\$ 375	\$ 295	\$ 275

NOTE: Vendors are listed in order of uniform quality – from best to acceptable.

* - Bulk order price for 10 or more uniforms = pantaloons \$120, wool jacket \$125, sash \$30.

** - Sash is 12 ft long and 9" wide.

X - Offered as complete uniform price for these items only. Individual item prices are not available.

Vendor Information:

- ✪ **Clint Brunt** is a member of the 5th NY Zouave reenacting unit and makes their uniforms. He will soon have a new Zouave sutler website, with the intent of branching out beyond his own Zouave unit. He also provided the source information on the jambieres, correct leggings, & fez (see Additional Uniform Pieces below).
- ✪ **Coon River Sutlery** made the second batch of Zouave uniforms for the Red River Battalion two years ago. The majority of the sutler purchased Zouave uniforms have come from this sutler and the quality is quite good.
- ✪ **Timeless Stitches** is a new sutler source. Very few uniforms have been purchased from them to date. The quality is acceptable and the uniform color may vary slightly from our existing uniforms.

Vendor Contact Information:

Clint Brunt: Email: duyveezouave@yahoo.com

Coon River Sutler: Gerald – Email: coonriver@iowalink.com

Timeless Stitches: Lynne Harriman – Website: <http://www.tstitches.com> / Phone: 360-966-5132

NOTE: Neither Timeless Stitches nor Coon River Sutler advertises the 165th Zouave uniforms on their website. You must e-mail or call and ask about them. Be assured, both are eager to make them.

Additional Uniform Pieces:

- ✪ **Correct leggings:** C&D Jarnagin - Ask for 5th New York Leggings, and the code word you will be asked for is "GRUNDEL." These are about \$45.00- give them a month lead time. Leggings based on the photos and an existing pair documented to the 76th Pa. WELL worth the price, and Carolyn uses a special machine to make the buttonholes look like they are done by hand.
- ✪ **Jambiere:** Heritage Leather/Bill Doner at heritageleathercw.com. Because each man's leg is different, these should be ordered in person, so Bill can measure your leg. They run small, and cost about \$45.00. I'd almost suggest your unit buy a few pair in different sizes and then resell them to the individuals that they fit, as this avoids a LOT of headaches when they don't fit.
- ✪ **Fez:** S & S Sutler in Gettysburg. Tall fez with yellow tape around bottom edge with large tassel (must ask for a blue tassel for the 165th NY Regt.) - \$105. Timeless Stitches sells a fez with large blue tassel for \$55. Clint Brunt sells a dark blue tassel, but no fez.

Help Conserve the Regimental Colors of the 165th New York Volunteer Infantry

As some of you may be aware, the New York State Military Museum in cooperation with the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation (OPRHP), is currently working to professionally conserve and store the entire NYS Battle Flag Collection. This cooperative effort, known as the NYS Battle Flag Preservation Project, started in 2000 and has conserved and placed into flat storage nearly 400 of approximately 1700 flags from the collection. To learn more about the conservation process and view conserved flags, please visit the Project's web site <http://www.dmna.state.ny.us/historic/btlflags/btlflagsindex.htm>.

The 9th Texas Infantry has the opportunity to support the preservation of the 165th NYVI's Regimental Colors. The NYS Battle Flag Preservation Project actually has three 165th NY flags, two in relatively excellent condition which were probably end of war standards, and one which has battle scars, and is believed to be the flag carried during combat duty in the Department of the Gulf from 1862-1864. We have been given an opportunity to preserve a piece of our unit's history; to be in a way, more closely connected with the past we portray.

So what is needed? Due to the size of the colors, the cost of the preservation is \$4000. A first glance the money we are talking about is significant. But if we have 100 donors at \$40 each – that is a lot less burden. And if we do some fund raiser events, that makes it even more manageable. Several folks have come forward with some ideas how we can raise money – and of course, more ideas are welcome.

So what is the benefit to the 9th Texas? As soon as the amount of \$4000 is received by the NYS Battle Flag Preservation Project, the 165th flag will be removed from flat storage and moved into the conservatory and unwrapped. Digital images will be taken of both sides of the flag, as well as measurements. The 9th Texas will receive exclusive copies of the images and information (from which the intent is to produce an accurate facsimile for our re-enacting purposes). Upon completion of preservation (approximately 6-9 months), the flag will be available for public display, with the donation made by the 9th Texas as a group (with individuals noted) included as part of the history of the flag. As part of this process, it is our intention to also write an article for an appropriate magazine (like Civil War Historian) for publication and to demonstrate the active role the 9th Texas Infantry is taking in preserving our heritage.



Private Bill Graswich of Company I is heading up the effort to raise the funds and has set up a special bank account solely for that purpose. 100% of donations will go to the preservation. He may be reached at: willgraswich@hotmail.com. Address: Bill Graswich, 5509 Vinewood Drive, Garland, Texas 75043. Cell: 972-207-9024. More information will follow in future Dispatches.

July 15th Meeting for Those Attending the 145th Manassas Reenactment

Those attending the 145th Manassas reenactment are highly encouraged to attend a brief meeting in the DHV schoolhouse after the July 15 drill. Final event updates, coordination of our drill with the 37th NC, and uniform and equipment checks will be covered.

Battleshirts and Accoutrements Needed for 145th Manassas

Battleshirts and other pre/early war accoutrements are needed by those attending the upcoming Manassas event. Anyone willing to loan items is asked to please contact Bill Pecena at (972) 771-3119 or (214) 747-2428. Please bring loaner items to the July 15th drill.

Updates to 9th TX Member Contact and Personal Information

All 9th TX members are reminded to make timely updates to any change in their contact and/or personal information on file with the battalion. Please submit any changes to Fred Yokubaitis (fredy@ev1.net) or Tom Corll (Thomas.Corll@ctcd.edu). Failure to do so may prevent you from receiving the newsletter or important battalion emails!

The 9th Texas Infantry Roster – Updated June 2006

The long awaited 9th TX Infantry Roster is presented on the following pages. Only 9th TX dues paid members are listed on the roster, and therefore considered members of the 9th TX in good standing. If you notice someone in your company who is not on the roster please encourage them to pay their dues and submit their necessary forms.

The information contained in the roster is for the use of 9th TX/Red River Battalion members only and is not to be distributed outside of the Red River Battalion organization. In consideration to the privacy of our members, the roster will not be included in the published on-line version of The Dispatch.

Articles

A Trip to the Bayonet Store

By: Capt. John M. Keahey, Co. G, Texas Rifles, RRB

Recently, I wanted to purchase a bayonet for an Enfield P1853 Musket. I already had the scabbard to put the bayonet in and the musket to put the bayonet on, but I did want the bayonet to complete the concept. I called two shops in the Houston area that I figured might stock Enfield bayonets; Collector's Firearms and Rebel Arms. It was good that I called first. Collector's had no Enfield bayonets in stock either antique or new.

"Rick" answered the phone at Rebel arms. Rick is an archery specialist. His sum knowledge about bayonets was that they were pointy things that mysteriously attached to the small end of a gun and that, with a little work, he allowed they might make decent arrow holders. Rick was able to verify that Rebel Arms did have bayonets in stock, but they were of different sizes and he did not know if any would fit an Enfield musket (whatever that was). Ron, who did know what a musket and bayonet are, was out of town. I spent the next five minutes educating Rick over the phone about Civil War era bayonets; their shapes, sizes and differences. I placed particular emphasis on how to tell an Enfield from a Springfield model bayonet. My hope was that Rick could confirm that there were Enfield bayonets for sale at Rebel Arms before I made the 70 minute round trip voyage to the site. The mistake I made was in using big words and confusing technical terms in my conversation with Rick; Big words like, "elbow," "socket," "ring," and "blade", and technical terms such as isosceles triangle versus equilateral triangle, used when describing the cross-sectional shape of the blade hilt. I lost Rick after about two sentences and soon realized that not only had I exceeded Rick's vocabulary, but his attention span as well. He suggested I come down to the store and look for myself.

So, two weeks later, after the flood that left two inches of water in Rebel Arms, I spent 35 minutes and a dollar in toll to reach the bayonet store. Ron was still out of town. I secretly believe that Rick shot Ron to death with arrows and buried the body behind the archery butts. Upon arrival I was happy to discover that Rebel Arms did indeed have Enfield pattern bayonets. All the bayonets were kept on the lowest shelf of the center aisle, which left them about one inch above high tide during the flood.

The bayonets came with and without scabbards, locking rings, locking ring screws, rust, bends, and price tags. After sorting the Enfield from the Brown Bess and Springfield model bayonets I had about ten Enfield bayonet candidates and I proceeded to try them on my musket. Happily, I had brought along both the musket and the bayonet scabbard because I needed both. Now here were ten Enfield bayonets from the same Indian manufacturer. Same styling, shape and maker's marks, but they were all different. Four of the ten would not fit over my musket barrel. Of the six that would fit over the muzzle, two I couldn't get past the front sight. Of the four that would fit over the muzzle and sight; some placed the muzzle above the socket and some flush with the muzzle. Only two of the ten would slide into my bayonet scabbard; needless to say neither of these two particular bayonets were ones that fit the muzzle. Most locking rings were missing. I made the best compromise choice, paid and left the bayonet store.

The moral of the story is this: don't purchase a bayonet for your musket by mail. It probably will not fit. Go some place where you can try them on, or mail order from a small establishment that will fit a bayonet to your particular weapon.

Attention 9th Texas – THE DISPATCH Needs Your Input!!!

The editor needs your help in creating the most informative newsletter possible.
Please send your announcements, articles, information, updates, and suggestions to:

Fred Yokubaitis
7427 Marble Glen Ln.
Houston, TX 77095
Fredy@ev1.net

Baker's Haberdashery

<i>Department of Alabama Jacket</i>	\$170
<i>Jeans with blue collar (late war jacket)</i>	
<i>Columbus Depot Jacket</i>	\$170
<i>Grey jeans with blue cuff and collar</i>	
<i>Commutation Jacket</i>	\$170
<i>Plain jean or cassimere, no color trim</i>	
<i>Penitentiary Jacket</i>	\$160
<i>Plain jacket of undyed cotton jean</i>	
<i>Civilian Sack Coat</i>	\$170
<i>Sack coat of cassimere or sattinete</i>	
<i>Confederate Winter Overcoat</i>	\$225
<i>Shin-length winter coat of jean or corduroy</i>	
<i>w/ exterior pockets, add</i>	\$30
<i>Trousers</i>	\$145
<i>Civilian w/side seam pockets, constructed of jean wool or cotton jean</i>	
<i>Trousers</i>	\$145
<i>Military w/mule-ear pockets, constructed of jean wool or cotton jean</i>	
<i>Shirts, 100% Hand-sewn</i>	\$85
<i>Shirts, Visible Hand-stitching</i>	\$65

Combine any jacket and trousers and save a few bucks!

*Compare my work and prices with any of the highest quality vendors
in the hobby. I guarantee that you won't be disappointed!*

To order, contact Fred Baker at baker@hendrix.edu

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