

THE FUGELMAN

**NEWSLETTER OF THE
SECOND WISCONSIN
VOLUNTEER INFANTRY
ASSOCIATION**

THE BLACK HATS

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THE IRON BRIGADE

THE IRON BRIGADE

VOLUME NO. XIX

ISSUE 8

AUGUST, 2011

**FU-GEL-MAN: A well-drilled soldier placed in front of a military company as a
model or guide for others .**

PASS IN REVIEW



Stepping into sweltering heat, the 2nd Wisconsin took one step into camp and the 150th anniversary of Bull's Run [Manassas]. (See After Action Report).

Another grand journey to a national event! The bus carried 36 of us to Virginia and we met a few more at the site. Many thanks go to Dave Seilski for planning the trip's agenda, and John Dudkiewicz for registering the association. Thanks also to Jason, the bus driver, who was our hero as he was able to drop us off on site and at the foot of our company street and pick us up in the same manner EARLY! Adding to this, Jason could find many restaurants with a great menu (personally tested by Jason himself). All should be pleased, as the months of preparation produced Uniforms, equipment and an esprit de corps, which enriched the experience of the event. Each member should be proud in his manor in camp and on the field. Arriving on site in gray, Wisconsin state issue uniforms were most impressive.

Morning parade following the action of the day prior brought it all home when the names of the killed were read aloud. Our regiment's, 'Three cheers for the Second Wisconsin', brought a solemn chill as it echoed in the surrounds of camp while we stood in the 97degree heat.

Well done, 2nd Wisconsin, well done.

Your Obedient Servant,

Lt. Co. PD Seielstad

COMPANY & REGIMENTAL CAMPAIGN SCHEDULES

AUGUST

5th-7th Muskets & Memories Reenactment (Co. K & Battery B) Boscobel WI

13th-14th Fish Creek Living History (Co. E) Fish Creek WI

REGIMENTAL DISPATCHES

BULL RUN/MANASSAS AFTER ACTION REPORT JULY 22-24, 2011 By Lt. Col. Pete Seielstad

Arriving in mass on Friday at 5 o'clock and establishing camp, I reported to Col. De Craine that the 2nd Wisconsin was ready for duty.

For the event, we were assigned to portray 5th Massachusetts, a 90-day regiment that wore grey uniforms. Our two companies were comprised of members from: 10th Tenn., Poor boys' Mess (BSA), and 2nd Wisconsin companies; B, E and K. Second Company was uniformed in federal blue while 3rd company (color company) wore the gray, state issue frock coat and trousers. *Note: Great lengths were given to augment the state gray uniform. Men added to the uniform having early war Wisconsin haversacks, green wool canteen covers, gray forage caps with black stripe. Some members still carried the Austrian Lorenz musket while others cherished the 1861 Springfield rifled musket that was issued a few weeks earlier.)* Other units completed the 2nd battalion: First Company; 17th & 24th MI of the BHB, Fourth Company; 125th Ohio and Fifth Company; 1st Illinois Battalion.

Heat was the greatest concern for all involved. Temperatures were in the 100's and a heat index even greater. Picket and guard duties were eliminated by order or by error. Either way suited the men, as it was too hot for any volunteer to stand in the heat of the sun.

As with all national events in which the 2nd is historically attached, the 2nd Wisconsin Association would like to have the honor to fill the Second Wisconsin's position in the order of battle. This may be our

wish but it cannot always materialize as such. Our assignment was to portray the 5th Mass along with the Cumberland Guard as the 1st Minnesota. Dave Shackelford who portrayed Gen'l Franklin commanded us and our unit designation was: Third Division, First Brigade, Second Battalion.

Reveille was called at 0600 followed by parade at 0700. Orders to be on line at 0930 were given and the men were dismissed to prepare for the battle at hand. The mood of the men in the 2nd and 3rd companies was high because in their hearts laid the spirit of the Wisconsin badger boys of 1861.

Under the command of Col. Craig De Craine, our men entered the battle and demonstrated its coolness under fire and the ability to maneuver about the battlefield. In our ranks there were a few who would see the 'Elephant' for the first time. They were not disappointed.

I will leave the main body of the report to Col. De Craine now and direct my report to that part of the battle of which I became commander of the battalion.

Ordered to dis-engage with the enemy and withdraw from the field, Col. De Craine lead the van. *(For safety measures due to the heat)* I halted the right wing and restored order in 2nd and 3rd Companies. Major Earl Zeckman also brought his wing of the battalion together and the regiment marched off the field in order. Just before we had reached the creek Captain Andy Roscoe of First Company came to me and presented me with orders from Gen'l Franklin (Shackelford) to return the regiment and fill a gap in our lines. Returning, I formed the regiment in reserve. We were quickly ordered to the fill the breach in our lines. "By the right of companies to the front, Battalion-Right face, Forward-March", our regiment marched through cannon and placed ourselves in a collapsing front line position.

Soon the order came to withdraw from this position and support the 69th New York. We then held our position, allowing the retreating Irishmen of the 69th to pass through our lines. Our regiment [now the 2nd Wisconsin] gave a steady hail of fire to the rebels. It was difficult in the extreme to hold this position as the enemy moved forward. Great relief came as I received orders to withdraw with the 1st Minnesota to cover our retreat. What a great scene unfolded as I saw the Minnesota boys form a square with magnificent precision. As we reached relative safety, it was apparent that the Black Horse Cavalry (real or imagined) was still on our heels. Collecting all of our wounded, the 2nd made a direct march to Centerville then to

Washington where we found our beloved Colonel, who greeted us upon our return.

Weary, defeated and exhausted the men tended to their wounds, wrote home and looked to the task at hand and realized the 'Road to Richmond' will be a hard road to follow.

Overview

It may be impossible to re-create tactical movements and mirror the original units that took part in the battle in 1861. However it doesn't take much to simulate the confusion of large troop movements. As a result, we accomplished some actual events that occurred with in the 2nd Wisconsin at Bull Run. 1) As we went onto the field to await orders, the column was inverted. To correct this, the regiment was counter-marched 'By files left, Halt, Front' to face the enemy. 2) After we returned to the field the regiment found itself behind the 69th New York, a sister regiment to the 2nd Wisconsin in Sherman's brigade. 3) The commander of the regiment who fought well with his men, somehow made to Washington (camp) well ahead of the retreat i.e. Lt. Col. Henry W. Peck.

At Sunday parade our regiment held a brief ceremony for its killed in action at Bull Run on 21 July 1861. A letter was read by Capt. Strong and followed by the representatives for each of the companies of the 2nd Wisconsin. As they stepped forward, they read that company's roll of honor.

**Co. A – Cpl. John M. Carhart,
Pvt. Edgar Stafford**

Co. B – Pvt. David M. Knox

Co. C – Pvt. Thomas D. Cox

**Co. D – Pvts. Jason Brown,
Charles E. Brown & Hugh D.
Perry**

Co. E – Pvt. John Barton

**Co. F – Pvts. Henry E. Benson,
Charles Filer & Marion F.
Humes**

**Co. G – Pvts. Henry R. Coffin,
John Noonan, William H.
Williams & John Chrystie**

Co. H – None

Co. I – None

**Co. K – Pvts. Theodore F.
Baldwin, William H. Hyde,
Jacob F. Oatman & Charles E.
Tucker**

Followed by a moment of silence, the ceremony concluded with the words, “Send them home tenderly.”

Col. De Craine and the regiment gave three cheers for the Second Wisconsin. This brought a solemn chill as it echoed in the surrounds of camp while we stood in the 97degree heat.

Personal reflection and report

With long travel time, excessive heat and humidity, the Second Wisconsin did well. Using the ‘buddy system’, no man was left on his own. Each man was watching the other and saw to it that water, shade and aid was administered. Only one man went to the aid station with heat exhaustion and soon returned. It could have been worse. The aid station handled nearly 300 participants and spectators during the event.

Compliments came to us via Dave Shackelford as he made it down the line and thanked each soldier. Our regiment was complemented in appearance, dedication, and our ability to quickly advance and deploy. Noting our position on the field by the 69th New York, he said, “ You were the Second Wisconsin!” I asked Gen’l Shackelford if I should thank God or him. His reply was, “Yes.”

I cannot say enough about our fellow brethren at Bull Run. The Black Hat Battalion and elements of the 125th Ohio, 1st Illinois Battalion continues to enthrall me. Co-operation, attention to detail in drill and on the field and the over-all respect for one another cannot be surpassed. The fruit of our efforts honors the individual soldier who served in the companies, regiments, brigades and divisions that we portray.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Lt. Col. Pete Seielstad
2nd Wisconsin**



HISTORIANS, AT LEAST IN THE ACADEMIC REALM, TEND TO LOOK AT THE BIG PICTURE WHEN WRITING ABOUT THE CIVIL WAR ERA. THE CAMPAIGNS, THE GENERALS, THE IMPORT OF CAMPAIGNS AND BATTLES, POLITICAL INFLUENCES ON LEADERS AND STRATEGY. THE MEN OF THE SECOND WISCONSIN CARE ABOUT THOSE THINGS, BUT WE ARE FAR MORE INTERESTED IN THE STRUGGLES DAY-TO-DAY OF THE SOLDIERS WHO SERVED DURING THE WAR. THEY GIVE US A MUCH CLEARER PICTURE OF WHAT IT WAS LIKE IN THE FIELD, ON THE MARCH AND IN BATTLE. LT. COL. SEIELSTAD HAS PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING LETTER OF A CORPORAL IN THE LACROSSE LIGHT GUARDS (COMPANY B, SECOND WISCONSIN VOLUNTEERS). IN LIGHT OF THE RECENT NATIONAL EVENT AND THE SESQUICENTENNIAL OF THE FIRST BATTLE OF BULL RUN IT DOES PROVIDE A CLEARER PICTURE OF THE EVENT ITSELF AND THE EXPERIENCE OF THE MEN WHO ENDURED THEIR FIRST BATTLE. THANK YOU TO PETE FOR THE EFFORT TO GET THIS LETTER, HIS PASS IN REVIEW AND THE AFTER ACTION REPORT TO THIS MONTH'S NEWSLETTER—AND AFTER THE EDITOR GAVE HIM A PASS!

A LETTER HOME

Corp. William H. Collins enlisted in the La Crosse Light Guard on April 18, 1861, and served with Co. B until he was discharged as disabled in May 1862. Collins, who later returned to La Crosse and opened a Pearl Street jewelry store, described the battle of Bull Run in a letter to his wife dated July 23, 1861, and reprinted in a 1930 edition of the La Crosse Tribune and Leader-Press.

My dear, dear wife:

You will perceive that I am still alive, after helping to fight one of the greatest battles that was ever fought in this country, or any other, except the battle of Sebastapol. Old men say that the battle of Waterloo was nothing to it.

On Saturday evening we received orders that we were to march at 2 o'clock the next morning, although it was Sunday. We marched precisely at 2 o'clock. We intended to surround the same batteries we fought on Thursday afternoon. We go five miles on the right of them expecting to surround them...

Our company were acting as scouts and skirmishers through the woods in advance of our column on the right side of the road to make any discovery we could. We came across eight different masked batteries ready to receive us. We also discovered that the rebels were 80,000 strong, where we were only 35,000. We crept back to our column and reported ourselves.

Col. (Daniel) Tyler after he commanded us before, was as I told you in my last, court-martialed for losing the battle, was acquitted and he also commanded us in the battle Sunday with as little success. We marched up to a turn in the road on the far side of a wheat field. (Col. William T.) Sherman's battery took up its position on the edge of a long wood while the enemy had a masked battery one mile up the road on the far side of a wheat field....

The different regiments then fell into a line of battle each side of the road extending from the road facing the enemy through the woods so that they could not see us, and we could march out of the woods at a moment's warning. The large gun fired shell into them for one hour and a half before they fired one shot into our lines...

We cut through, then the right opened another masked battery right opposite to us as we were advancing on the right of the wheat field. We were halfway across the field when we stopped to put off our blankets and the cannon balls were whizzing over and among us. The first ball cut one of our men in two.

As they kept up a continued fire on us and Ellsworth Zouaves (the 11th New York infantry), we laid down out of range of their guns.

Our colonel then gave the orders to up and march in front. From that time out it was every man for himself though we all kept the ranks all the time. The enemy kept throwing shell and ball from two of their batteries. We kept on advancing steadily on their lines until we got within shooting distance with our rifles, when the order was given to fire - I believe every rifle brought down a rebel. They fell thick and fast. We continued to advance and load.

At the first fire 1st Lt. (Frank) Hatch was wounded by a shell bursting right in front of him. The next round that we fired told on the enemy's ranks as before. Hatch was wounded a few minutes afterward by a rifle, tearing the flesh from his arm.

After we had red two rounds the rebels opened a fire upon our troops from seven different batteries; still we kept on. We were ordered at about 2 o'clock in the evening to charge on a battery, which we did at point of the bayonet, and succeeded in taking it after a desperate struggle when we turned the canon on the enemy and commenced firing upon them. Poor (Samuel) Jackson got his arm broken by a canon ball in taking this battery, and our company lost several of its number.

(Edwin) Brewster (killed the following year) is all right; so is (Lt. Robert) Hughes, they say, though I have not seen him since we were on the field. We have only got one surgeon left. Capt. (Wilson) Colwell is all right; there is not a scratch on him. We cannot tell all we have lost out of our regiment.

As for myself, thank God I am still alive, after many hair-breadth escapes. One ball passed through my cap, another through the skirt of my coat - but not a scratch on my skin.

At 4 o'clock the rebels got reinforcements from Richmond and Manassas; but we still kept at them until 6 o'clock, when the enemy, who were at that time one-half stronger than we were, by a maneuver of their own, and having so many more men than we had, came very near surrounding us all, when an order was given to retreat.

Then it was that the butchery of our troops commenced in earnest. Everyone that could got out of the field as quick as possible. Even the wounded, all that could, dragged themselves from the field into the woods or road.

The dead and wounded that could not help themselves were left on the field as we retreated, and many of the wounded were praying for us to carry them with us, some cursing us for leaving them. The enemy commenced a murderous cross fire upon us from canon, rifle and musket as we retreated the same road we took to go on the field. Between the wheat field and the wood where we threw off our blankets, the battery commenced throwing grape shot among us. I had just got my blanket when two men who were only four feet from me were stooping down to get their blankets when a canon ball went through both of them at once. They fell and died without a single moan or groan. I started to gain the road as fast as possible when I met Jackson and Frame. Frame was helping Jackson along, whose right arm was all shattered to pieces. I told him to get out of the field as quickly as possible or he would get killed. Just at that moment the enemy commenced a terrible fire of musketry. Still we kept on retreating. I looked around: Jackson and Frame were still advancing. We got through the woods and struck the road. Just at that moment the enemy's cavalry made a charge on us all, some 200 strong, and most of our men had not loaded their rifles again. All that saved me was that I had loaded mine while running. One of them made at me with his saber, which I guarded off with my bayonet and in a moment after he dropped from his horse a corpse. One of our boys seized his horse and rode off toward camp with him. I looked around and the last I saw of Jackson was that he and Frame were taken prisoners and surrounded by cavalry. Neither of them have been seen or heard from since. We had to fight our way back to the camp where we had encamped the night before at Centreville. All the time the men kept falling around us, even the ambulances that were carrying off our wounded were fired into and taken, and they even throwed shells into the building that we were using for a hospital, and God only knows what became of the wounded inside, for in a few minutes the building was on fire. I then took to the woods with some others, a few had made a stand of the different regiments. We could still see the enemy coming up toward us. I still kept on the road for I was completely done up

from undergoing so much fatigue from 2 o'clock in the morning. I kept on the road a mile and a half further to Centreville where all was confusion....

It commenced to rain just as we got to Fall's Church. You can form no idea what a sight it was to see so large an army retreating. It rained all day and we were outside the fort without tents or anything, our tents being three miles from here and it was expected that the enemy would follow us up and for that reason the colonel would not let us go back to our old camp so we had to stay all night in the rain. Yesterday we got our tents and are now camped just outside the fort. Hughes has just come in. He was slightly wounded but got safely through the woods.

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COMPANY REPORTS

COMPANY K IS ON FACEBOOK

Ryan Schwartz and Kevin Hampton have put a great deal of effort into creating a facebook page for Company K, Second Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. Members from Company K and Company B have visited the site and left messages. It contains photos of our events. Kevin has been posting a day-by-day account of the experiences and events surrounding the dates in 1861. Captain Mann has also been using the site to get headcounts and provide details of upcoming events. Come and visit us there and leave a message. And thank you to everyone who has left messages, photos, links to music and many other items.

**BOSCOBEL "MUSKETS & MEMORIES" EVENT SET FOR
AUGUST 5TH—7TH, 2011**

The members of Company K, the Skirmishers and Battery B are scheduled to attend the event in Boscobel, Wisconsin. In the past Company B has had representatives at the event as well. Many of the fellas from Company K consider the Boscobel event as one of the best organized and operated events of the year. This year Larry Werline, affectionately known to most of us as General U. S. Grant, will be the overall Union commander.

One of the things “Muskets & Memories” does for its events is come up with interesting scenarios. This year is no exception. On Saturday the scenario will play out around the siege of Vicksburg. It will include cave dwelling civilians. Guests will be invited to visit the caves after the fall of the city and Saturday’s fight. On Sunday the scenario will involve the terrible fight at Spotsylvania in 1864.

The editor would conclude this article by wishing great success to our comrades on the skirmish team over the weekend. Good luck and good shooting!

Schedule of Activities, August 5-7, 2011

Subject to Change

Fri Aug 5	Activity	Location
9:00 am	Reenactor Registration begins	Kronshage Park
9:00 am - 4:30 pm	GAR Hall open to public	GAR Hall
5:00 pm	ACWSA Mortar Competition	Sportsman’s Club
5:00 pm	Officer’s call	Kronshage Park
8:30 pm	Gatling Gun Night Firing	Sportsman’s Club
Sat Aug 6	Activity	Location
8:00 am	Reenactor Registration continues	Kronshage Park
8:30 am	Officer’s call	Kronshage Park
9:00 am - 5:00 pm	Camp opens to public/Living history demonstrations	Kronshage Park
9:00 am - 4:00 pm	Guided Encampment Tours	Kronshage Park
9:00 am - 4:30 pm	GAR Hall open to public	GAR Hall
9:00 am - noon	ACWSA Indvl.Comp. "Hands on history" public participation	Sportsman’s Club
9:15 am	Revolver Team Competition	Sportsman's Club

10:00 am	Workshops throughout the day	Kronshage Park
10:00 am	Infantry drills, regular	Kronshage Park
10:00 am	Cavalry drills	Kronshage Park
10:00 am - 2:30 pm	Children's activities	Children's Tent
10:15 am	Smoothbore Team Competition	Sportsman's Club
11:00 am	Artillery drills, regular	Kronshage Park
11:00 am	Feature for Youth, Bob Welch, Entertainer	Event Tent
12:00 noon	Family Dance Lessons & Maypole Dance	Event Tent
12:30 pm	Safety inspection	Kronshage Park
12:30 pm	ACWSA Team Commanders Meeting	Sportsman's Club
12:45 pm	ACWSA Carbine Team Competition	Sportsman's Club
1:00 pm	Battle Reenactment - Vicksburg MS	Kronshage Park
2:00 pm	Visit caves of Vicksburg refugees	Kronshage Park
2:00 pm	Feature for Youth, Robert Welch, entertainer	Event Tent
2:15 pm	Medical scenarios at encampment hospitals	Kronshage Park
2:30 pm - 4:30 pm	Ladies' Garden Party (period dress required)	TBA
3:30 pm	ACWSA Shooters vs. Boscobel Sportsman Club All-Stars	Sportsman's Club
4:00 pm	Gatling Gun and Punt Gun Demonstrations; Candy Mortar for kids	Sportsman's Club
4:30 pm	Cannon competition	Sportsman's Club
5:00 pm	Camp closes to public	Kronshage Park
7:30 pm - 9:30 pm	Pie & Ice Cream Social	Tuffley Center Downtown
8:00 pm - Midnight	Military / Civilian Ball (period dress)	Downtown
8:30 pm	Candlelight Tours	Downtown
9:45 pm	Grand March	Downtown
Sun Aug 7	Activity	Location
8:30 am	Officer's call	Kronshage Park

9:00 am - 5:00 pm	Camp opens to public/Living history demonstrations	Kronshage Park
9:00 am - 1:00 pm	Guided Encampment Tours, on the half-hour	Kronshage Park
9:00 am - 4:30 pm	GAR Hall open to public	GAR Hall
9:00 am	Church Call, 1860's Ecumenical Service	Event Tent
9:00 am	ACWSA Team Commanders Meeting	Sportsman's Club
9:15 am	ACWSA Opening Ceremonies	Sportsman's Club
9:30 am	ACWSA Musket Team Competition	Sportsman's Club
10:00 am	Pay Call	Kronshage Park
10:00 am - 2:30 pm	Children's activities	Children's Tent
10:00 am	Infantry drills, regular & competitive	Kronshage Park
10:00 am	Cavalry drills	Kronshage Park
10:00 am	Fashion Show & Period Garment Displays	Event Tent
11:00 am	Memorial service, 1st WI Cav.	Cemetery
11:30 am	ACWSA Closing Ceremony and Awards	Sportsman's Club
12:00 noon	Band Concert - Marengo, IA Civil War Band	Event Tent
12:00 noon	Artillery drills	Kronshage Park
1:00 pm	Safety inspection	Kronshage Park
1:30 pm	<u>Battle Reenactment</u> - Spotsylvania VA	Kronshage Park
2:15 pm	Medical scenarios at encampment hospitals	Kronshage Park
4:00 pm	Camp closes until August 2012	
Home-cooked breakfast & lunch, Sat. & Sun. at camp entrance.		

Admittance to the encampment by the public during "closed" hours is by invitation only.

Note: Everyone is invited to honor the Civil War Veterans by visiting their gravesites, which are marked with flags, during daylight hours in the Boscobel Cemetery, adjacent to the encampment area.

CIVIL WAR MILESTONES

AUGUST

Aug. 5, 1864	Battle of Mobile Bay
Aug. 9, 1862	Battle of Cedar Mountain
Aug. 10, 1861	Battle of Wilson's Creek
Aug. 17, 1862	Uprising of Sioux Indians in Minnesota
Aug. 21, 1821	Gen. William Barksdale, CSA, born
Aug. 28, 1861	Fort Hatteras falls
Aug. 28, 1862	BATTLE OF BRAWNERS FARM. . . the men forming the Black Hat Brigade and Battery B engage in their first engagement as a unit. Col. Edgar O'Connor mortally wounded.
Aug. 29, 1833	Col. Edgar O'Connor, USA, born

Dear Jim:

I came across this and thought that it may make an interesting little note for the newsletter.

It is important because it is part of Wisconsin History and a nice little side note to history.

David

WELL DAVID YOUR TIMING IS IMPECCABLE! AS YOU WILL NOTE GENERAL BARKSDALE WAS BORN ON AUGUST 21ST, AND IT IS GOOD TO RECOGNIZE THE FELLOW THIS MONTH FOR THAT REASON. YOUR COMRADES IN THE 2ND THANK YOU FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION TO THE NEWSLETTER!

Hey all ~ this excerpt come from the Spring 2011 issue of American Heritage, an article entitled "When Politics Was Not Only Nasty . . . But Dangerous." It is mostly

**about Duels, but it also has
an account of the caning of Mass. Sen. Charles Sumner - following this
account:**

**Tensions in Congress came to a boil in 1858, when President
Buchanan asked it to admit
Kansas as a slave state, an initiative backed by the Supreme Court's
1857 Dred Scott decision,
which denied Congress the power to prohibit slavery in the territories.
Intemperate shouting
matches sometimes wracked the Capitol until dawn. Finally a South
Carolina congressman told
a Pennsylvanian that he was a "black Republican puppy."
At least 50 members began punching, kicking, shoving, and hurling
obscenities. The sergeant
at arms waved his mace, with its spread-winged eagle, and bellowed in
vain for order. Representative
John "Bowie-Knife" Potter of Wisconsin tried to seize William
Barksdale of Mississippi by the hair,
where-upon his entire scalp came away -- the gentleman was wearing a
wig. "I've scalped him!"
howled the delighted Potter. Everyone stopped fighting to stare at the
bald Barksdale, and then erupted
into laughter.**

**(Don't know if you have ever heard this one, I was unfamiliar with it,
a great bit of history!)**

ATTENTION HISTORY ENTHUSIASTS!

COME CELEBRATE THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY

MUSTER OF THE FOX LAKE RIFLES:

COMPANY D, 8TH WISCONSIN VOLS.

**Tom Klas sent the following information to the newsletter on a
presentation that may be of great interest to our members. Please
consider attending this event. The author has reportedly done a fine
job and it is a good read.**

The Fox Lake Historical Society cordially invites all to our Sesquicentennial Civil War lecture, book signing, and candlelight preservation walk in Fox Lake, Wisconsin on Friday August 26th starting at 6:00 P.M. at the Fox Lake American Legion Hall.

In late August of 1861, Captain William J. Dawes (Cousin to Rufus Dawes of the 6th Wisconsin) of the Fox Lake Rifles issued the following order to his militia in Fox Lake:

**Headquarters Volunteer Rifle Co.,
American House, Fox Lake
August 20th, 1861**

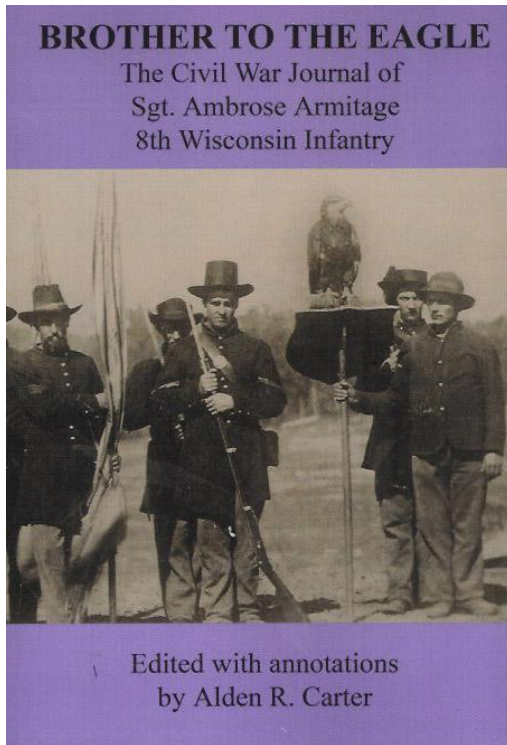
Company Order

The American House in Fox Lake will be the quarters and place of rendezvous for company until ordered into camp at Madison! Members will come into quarters at this place at their earliest convenience, but in every instance certainly before the morning of Saturday, August 31st. You will bring nothing except the clothing you may need to wear, as full supplies will be issued on your arrival in camp. Strict military discipline will be enforced in quarters and regular drill established.

**Wm. J. Dawes,
Capt.**

At six o'clock P.M. we will begin with a robust dinner pork chop dinner with all proceeds going towards *preservation*. Following our dinner at 7:00 P.M. we will be treated to an historic lecture from author Alden Carter on the Fox Lake Rifles – Company D 8th Wisconsin.

Alden Carter edited the Civil War book Brother to the Eagle: The Civil War Journal of Sgt. Ambrose Armitage; 8th Wisconsin Infantry. Armitage enlisted in the Fox Lake Rifles, Company D, 8th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry here in Fox Lake and served in the 8th Wisconsin until the close of the 8th Wisconsin's service in the war. Alden's lecture will overview the actions of the 8th Wisconsin in the Civil War through the journal of Ambrose Armitage.



Here is a link to Alden Carter's Website for further information on this excellent Civil War Journal of over 700 pages in length.

<http://www.aldencarter.com/eagle.htm>

After Alden's lecture we will have a book signing at 8:00 o'clock in the evening followed by a candlelight walk stopping at the historical Civil War sites in Fox Lake featuring several prominent soldiers in the Fox Lake Rifles. Fox Lake raised three different infantry companies for the Civil War and 1/5th of the men in Wisconsin's United States Sharpshooter's Company. Our event will conclude with a militia drill of the Fox Lake Rifles at 9:30 P.M. hosted by members of the Fox Lake Historical Society.

Tickets will go on sale in July for the price of \$20.00 per person or \$23.00 at the door. This will include the robust dinner, lecture by Alden Carter, book signing, and the candlelight tour of Fox Lake's prominent Civil War buildings and events. All proceeds to support preservation including the Congregational Church that Ambrose Armitage writes about in his journal during his time as a college student in Fox Lake from 1860-1861.

Please contact Tom Klas at (920) 885-9313 - fallriversoldier@hotmail.com or Scott Frank at (920) 296-0254 - scottfrankdesigns@hotmail.com to reserve your tickets. We hope to

see you at this special event to celebrate the muster of the Fox Lake Rifles and the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War in Fox Lake.

WISCONSIN PRESS REPORTS FOR 1861

The following reports appeared in the LaCrosse Tri-Weekly Democrat and were provided through the Company B newsletter *The Light Guard Lantern*.

May 10—Camp Randall—Monday May 3rd— Dear Brick, . . . No preparations were made in Madison to receive us, and it was proposed to run the train up to the fairgrounds, but we said no and marched up. The barracks are erected over the pens made for cattle, fitted up with berths, and we are just “old pie”. All is clean, neat and comfortable, neat but not gorgeous-tasty but not extravagant. We sleep there in a bunk on ticks filled with straw, and an abundance of blankets to keep us warm. Our mess room is in the mechanical rooms fitted up with tables, and our grub is baked beans, bean soup, more beans with pork, and pork and beans, corned beef, beans, coffee, baked beans, beef steak, beans, baked bread, beans. We have plenty to eat, and plenty of time to eat it in . . .
.

May 13th—Camp Randall—May 10th— Dear Brick, Our camp is now full, ten companies being stationed within the grounds. . . .

Considerable liberty has been granted the volunteers for the reason that it was hard bringing them down to the necessary stringency all at once . Men who have all their lives enjoyed the largest kind of liberty don't like to be checked up at once. . . . All seem to understand the requisites of guard duty, and take delight in playing tricks upon the sentinels who don't know their bis.

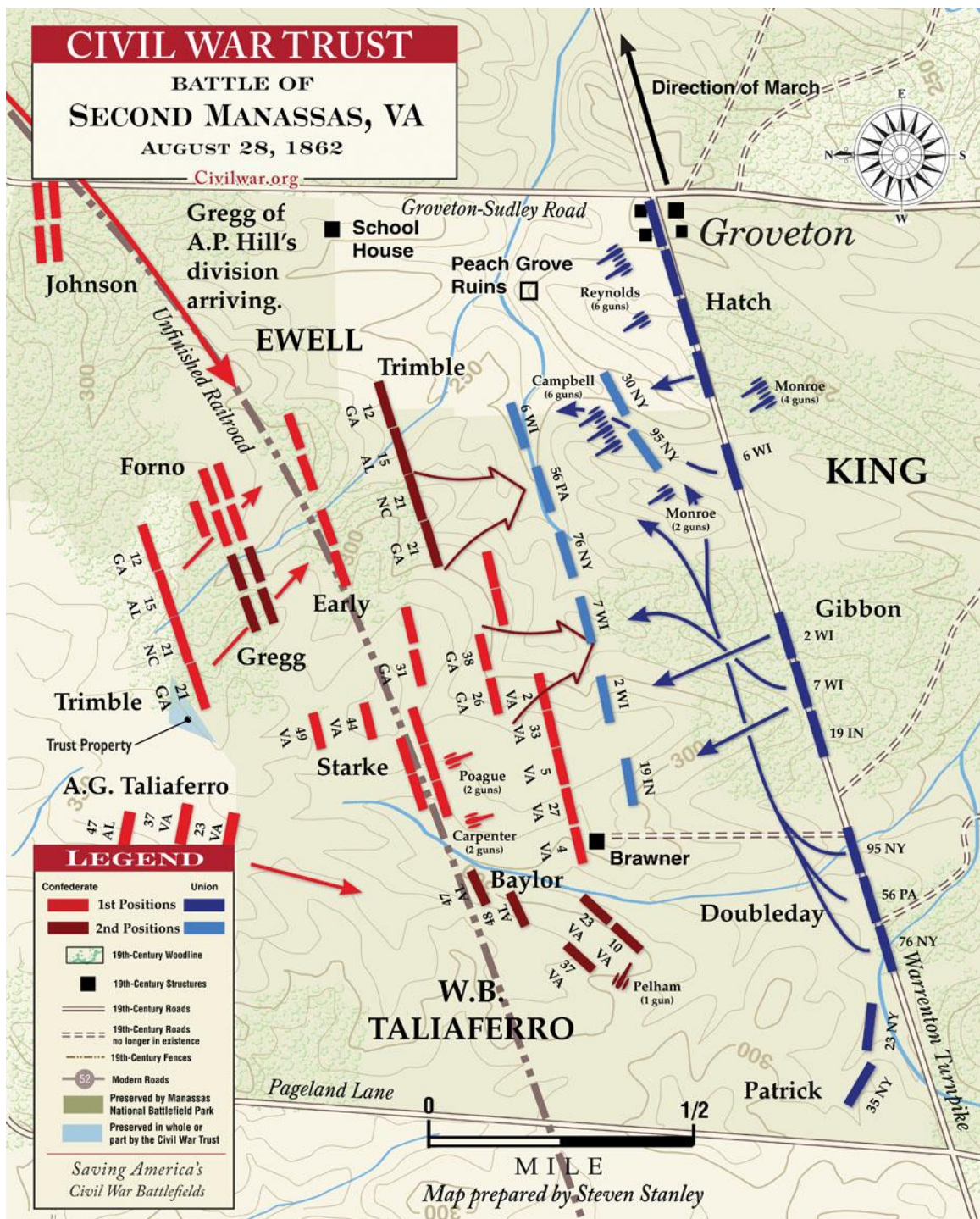
A night or two since our little corporal Bob Burns, made a bet he could get a musket away from a sentinel at the gate, a particular spot, for which the best men are chosen. The bet was readily taken, and down went the corporal and up to the sentinel. “Here” said the corporal, “you don't know how to carry your musket— let me show you.” The unsuspecting sentinel ashamed that he was ignorant of the manual passed out the musket and the corporal walked off with it. Down came the sergeant of the guard, mad as blazes that the sentinel was without arms. The dumbfounded sentinel explained matters. “You— fool!” was the sergeant's reply and then followed a string of the tallest blowing up. The poor sentinel will not be caught napping again. Similar tricks and tricks of all kinds have been tried on the sentinels taken from our ranks but without success, consequently we have had a full share of guard duty to do.

A day or two since orders were given to pass no man. Down went Frank Lee and Bun Webb, determined to get out. Approaching the sergeant of the guard Bun told him that one of the Lieutenants of the Light Guard was over at the brick house and they wanted to go over and hunt him up, fearful that he was getting "tight." They were consequently passed— went out and returned to laugh at the joke, and blackguard the sentinels for being so easily lip-salved. As neither of our lieutenants do anything in the drinking line it was a joke on them which they failed to see the point of and consequently could not appreciate.

THE BLACK HAT BRIGADE SEES THE ELEPHANT

A BAPTISM OF FIRE AND AN INTRODUCTION TO THE BROTHERHOOD OF VALOR!

Below you will find a summary of the Second Bull Run Campaign that took place at the end of August, 1862. Although the Second Wisconsin Regiment had been engaged in the fighting at First Bull Run, the remainder of the Black Hat Brigade made up of the Sixth and Seventh Wisconsin Regiments and the men of the Nineteenth Indiana had not seen action as a regiment or a brigade.



<http://www.civilwar.org/battlefields/secondmanassas/maps/brawners-farm-map.html>

August 28th marks the 149th anniversary of the start of the Battle of Second Manassas. For three days in August 1862, death revisited the fields north of Manassas Junction, Virginia. Barely a year after US Brigadier General Irvin McDowell was turned away, by CSA Brigadier General P.G.T. Beauregard, at the First Battle of Manassas, an even deadlier affair would be fought on the same rolling hills.

This time the Federal troops were commanded by US Major General John Pope. Designated the Army of Virginia, they were opposed by CSA General Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia. Pope, strong willed and bombastic, was reeling from his bloody repulse at the Battle of Cedar Mountain on August 9, 1862. With his army widely scattered, he was searching for CSA Major General Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson's Left Wing. According to intelligence Pope received, Jackson was bivouacked at Centreville, Virginia – approximately five miles east of the plains of the First Manassas Battlefield. Late in the afternoon, on August 28, portions of US Major General Irvin McDowell's III Corps were attacked as the pushed east on the Warrenton Turnpike, near Groveton, Virginia. Still west of the Manassas battlefield, US Brigadier General John Gibbon's brigade was surprised by the volley of artillery slamming into their left flank – from the north. Believing the fire was coming from Confederate horse artillery, Gibbon deployed his brigade and advanced north towards Brawner's Farm, unaware that he was opposed by an entire division of Jackson's detachment. The fighting quickly escalated with Gibbon being reinforced by US Brigadier General Abner Doubleday's brigade. The Battle of Brawner's Farm was extremely brutal, with some of the most desperate fighting of the war occurring while the Federal army was spread out and very vulnerable. Brawner's Farm, while considered a separate battle, was the prelude to one of the largest battles of the Civil War – Second Manassas.



US Major General John Pope
Commander - Army of Virginia

Get comfortable, and relax. Take a journey with me to August 1862, to the fields north of Manassas Junction where one of the bloodiest battles of the American Civil War took place. The following essay comes from my other website, BattlefieldPortraits.com. Enjoy.

BATTLE OF SECOND MANASSAS
(ALSO KNOWN AS 2ND BULL RUN)

Location: Manassas, VA

Dates: August 28 – 30, 1862

Union Commander: John Pope, Major General

Confederate Commander: Robert E. Lee, General

BATTLE SUMMARY:

Robert E. Lee had accomplished the unimaginable. He had pushed US Major General George B. McClellan's massive Army of the Potomac, from the "Gates of Richmond." After CSA General Joseph Johnston was wounded, at the battle of Seven Pines, Robert Lee would take over command of the Army of Northern Virginia. During the Seven Days battles, Lee would hammer McClellan's larger army until it was pushed to Harrison's Landing, on the James River.

In the west, after earning a victory at Island #10, US Major General John Pope would be brought east, by Abraham Lincoln. Creating the Army of Virginia, Lincoln determined to pressure Robert E. Lee, from northern Virginia. Lee would detach his 2d Corps, commanded by CSA Major General Thomas Jackson, to keep Pope from reinforcing McClellan. This would culminate in the Battle of Cedar Mountain, where US Major General Nathaniel Bank's detachment, from the Army of Virginia, would be badly trounced by Jackson.

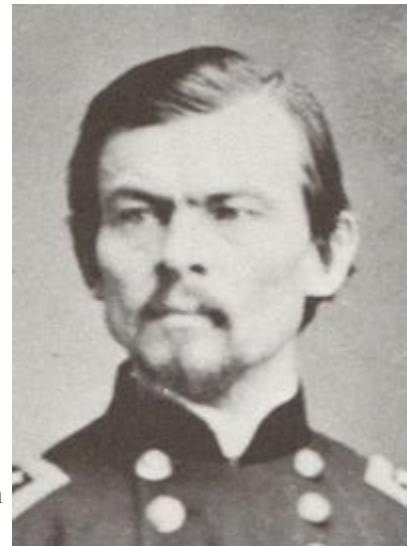
Pope would consolidate his army, north of the Rappahannock River, and await Jackson's next move. In the meantime, with George McClellan's Army of the Potomac retreating from the peninsula, Robert E. Lee quickly moved to consolidate his army, and deal with John Pope.

For several days, in late August, after the consolidation of the Army of Northern Virginia, John Pope did not know where Lee's army was. Still camped near Culpeper, Virginia, Pope would learn quickly about the speed Thomas Jackson's "foot cavalry." Having "forced marched"

his 2d Corps northwest, through Thoroughfare Gap, Jackson attacked Pope's supply line, at Bristoe Station. Pope would not learn of this until a train, destined for Bristoe Station, would rapidly return to Pope describing the terrible destruction of his supply line.

This news broke John Pope's lethargy. He quickly put his Army of Virginia into motion, in an effort to defeat Jackson's lone 2d Corps. Using separate roads, Pope's army quickly pushed north. US Major General Franz Sigel's I Corps, and Irvin McDowell's III Corps, represented the left army wing. Nathaniel Bank's II Corps would push north on the army's right flank. Additionally, US Major Generals Joseph Hooker and Jesse Reno's divisions, from the Army of the Potomac, would be in the army's right wing.

As McDowell's III Corps pushed north, US Brigadier General James Ricketts would detach his division, from McDowell, and push west. Ricketts' concern with protecting the Army of Virginia's left flank, would culminate in a short, but brutal battle, at Thoroughfare Gap, against CS Major General James Longstreet's 1st Corps division, commanded by CS Brigadier General Cadmus Wilcox. Facing the entire 1st Corps, of Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia, Ricketts' division did not stand a chance. Once he was pushed aside, Robert E. Lee could consolidate his army to fight Pope. Speed was essential as Lee recognized that Pope could defeat his two wings piecemeal.



US Major General Franz Sigel
Commander I Corps - Army of Virginia

Certain that he would find Jackson at Centreville, Virginia, John Pope pushed his army towards the familiar fields near the Bull Run Creek. Late on August 28, approaching from the west along the Warrenton Turnpike, Irvin McDowell's III Corps would find Thomas Jackson's 2d Corps. Marching east were US Brigadier General John Reynolds' division of Pennsylvanians, followed by US Brigadier General Rufus King's division. Just west of the old battlefield, near Pageland Avenue,



The Brawner Farm Ln - the 19th IN and 2nd Wisc would be posted here.

Union troops spotted what appeared to be Confederate cavalry, north of the turnpike, scouting their movements. Soon thereafter, the Rebels disappeared and King's division started to receive cannon fire from the same ridge. The battle of Second Manassas had opened. In what would later be known as the Battle of Brawner's Farm, US Brigadier Generals John Gibbon, and Abner

Doubleday, would engage the entire right flank of Jackson's 2nd Corps. These Federal brigades would hold Jackson to a draw, during a battle that would last long past sunset. Gibbon's all western brigade, then called the "Black Hat Brigade" (they wore black hats similar to the regular army) would start earning the reputation that would lead to their designation - after the battle of South Mountain - the Iron Brigade. Absent from the field near Brawner's Farm was division commander Rufus King, who suffered a seizure, corps commander, Irvin McDowell and army commander, John Pope. Gibbon, and Doubleday, would fight this battle without any senior command structure. The Confederacy would temporarily suffer a significant loss when CS Major General Richard Ewell would sustain an injury to his leg, that would require amputation.

When notified of the evening's fighting, Pope and McDowell were sure that King's division had fought a detachment of cavalry - and perhaps a small amount of infantry. They were positive that Jackson's Corps was in Centreville. Overnight they would bivouac east of Sudley Road, near the Stone House, and move on Jackson the next day. What they did not know was that Jackson's entire Corps was hidden in an abandoned railroad cut, just west of their position. From there, Jackson would fight much of Sigel's I Corps, on August 29. In what would be piecemeal attacks, Sigel would engage Jackson. After the battle, Jackson would be criticized for not launching a larger attack against Sigel - perhaps collapsing Pope's right flank, and



Fields north of Warrenton Turnpike - From this position Franz Sigel would attack Stonewall Jackson's Corps in the Railroad Cut

quickly destroying his scattered Army of Virginia. The day's fighting would end with the two armies in essentially the same position as they started in – with the exception that Robert E. Lee had arrived with the rest of his army. James Longstreet's 1st Corps was positioned north to south along Chinn Ridge, south of the Warrenton Turnpike. Late in the afternoon, CSA Brigadier General [John Bell Hood](#) would attack John Reynolds' division, along Chinn Ridge. Pope was still not convinced that he faced the entire Army of Northern Virginia – he would find out otherwise, the next day.

On August 30, John Pope would send a large force, nearly 10,000 men, against what he now believed was just Jackson's 2d Corps. Attacking north of the Warrenton Turnpike, against the railroad cut, Pope would experience some success. Robert E. Lee, seeing his opportunity to crush John Pope, wheeled James Longstreet's 1st Corps on its left flank, and like a giant scissors slammed into John Pope's left flank – a direction Pope was warned to expect attack - but refused to believe a threat existed. Pope's entire army, including US Major General [Fitz John Porter's](#) recently arrived V Corps, from the Army of the Potomac, were sent reeling. The unexpected attack would rout Pope's Army of Virginia, resulting in another retreat back to Washington DC along the Warrenton Turnpike – the same route that Irvin McDowell's army took when defeated at First Manassas.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

[Mike's Photographic Essay on Second Manassas](#)

[Second Manassas Battlefield Maps](#) from the [Civil War Preservation Trust](#)

Campaign: Second Manassas

Outcome: Confederate Victory

Troop Strengths

Union: 63,000

Confederate: 55,000

CASUALTIES (ESTIMATED):

Union: 13,826 (killed, wounded or missing/captured)

Confederate: 8,353 (killed, wounded or missing/captured)

BATTLE AFTERMATH:

With John Pope's retreat back to Washington City, the Army of Virginia was badly dispirited and disorganized. This army would be combined with the Army of the Potomac. Lincoln, once again, would turn to George McClellan to straighten out the army tasked with protecting the nation's capitol.

Robert E. Lee, in an effort to recruit new troops and move the fighting out of Virginia, would invade Maryland. McClellan would chase Lee, fighting him at South Mountain on September 14. On September 17, the two huge armies would again clash, this time near Sharpsburg, Maryland along Antietam Creek. The fighting at Antietam would be brutal, providing the country its single bloodiest day of battle – a record that still survives today. Lee would barely escape Antietam. His primary goal of recruiting soldiers was a failure. While modern historians consider the Battle of Antietam a draw, Lincoln used the quasi-victory as an occasion to issue his Emancipation Proclamation, altering the war's objective from reunion of the states to reunion with slavery abolished.

<http://thismightyscource.com/2009/08/28/second-manassas-again-the-fields-turned-red/>

NO NATIONAL REENACTMENT FOR THE ANTIETAM CAMPAIGN FOR THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY?

The editor has had a number of conversations with Association members during the season about the hope and desire to participate in

a National event commemorating the Battle of Antietam in 2012. It appears, at least at this time that such an event will not likely occur. See the item below for an article on the question of such an event taking place. . .

SEQUICENTENNIAL NEWS---NO PLANS FOR 150TH ANNIVERSARY REENACTMENT OF ANTIETAM



NO LARGE-SCALE BATTLE OF ANTIETAM RE-ENACTMENT PLANS FOR SESQUICENTENNIAL,

**Heather Kells, Hagerstown Herald-Mail,
April 9, 2011.**

Herald-Mail Editor's note: It has been 150 years since the first shot of the Civil War was fired at Fort Sumter, S.C. In observance of the beginning of hostilities on April 12, 1861, The Herald-Mail has prepared a package of stories about how that conflict affected those who lived in the Tri-State area during those times. The first stories

are being published today and Monday. The package will culminate with a special section in Tuesday's newspaper. Is it possible the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Antietam could come and go next year without the thunder of hoofbeats, clank of bayonets and the sights of thousands of re-enactors in blue and gray marching through Washington County fields?

Not only possible, but likely, according to local historian Dennis Frye, who said he had not heard of any large-scale Battle of Antietam re-enactment plans for the battle's sesquicentennial in September 2012. Frye said he did not anticipate anything on the scale of the public re-enactments that were staged in 1997 and 2002, which each attracted about 13,000 re-enactors and as many as 100,000 spectators. "If anybody wanted to do something at Antietam in 2012, they're already way behind," he said.

Planning for the 1997 and 2002 re-enactments began about two and a half years before each event, he said. Frye, now chief historian at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, chaired those two re-enactments, which were nonprofit events coordinated by the Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites in 1997 and the Antietam Commemoration Committee in 2002. Thomas B. Riford, president and CEO of the Hagerstown-Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau, and Liz Shatto, director of the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area, said they had not heard of any public re-enactments planned for Antietam in 2012.



"We are putting more emphasis in general on emphasizing the product that's available 365 days a year, rather than putting a lot of effort into sort of a one-time, big blowout event," Shatto said. "But if a partner organization came forward and had the wherewithall and the interest, we certainly would do what we could to make their project known."

One obstacle to staging a re-enactment today is finding suitable land for it, Frye said. National Park Service policy prohibits re-enactment on the battlefields themselves, and much of the nearby farmland used for the 1997 and 2002 re-enactments has since been developed. "Our bloody lane battlefield is now a data processing center, and the union campground is now a satellite facility," Frye said.

Staging a large-scale re-enactment requires an "enormous" amount of land with space for not only battles, but encampments, parking and support services such as food and toilets, he said. The 1997 and 2002 re-enactments used nearly 1,000 acres of land on Rench Road, south of Hagerstown. "It would be a real challenge to find a large property in Washington County of 1,000 acres that has very good access to the interstate and could facilitate all of the logistical requirements of a massive public re-enactment," Frye said.

The National Park Service prohibition against re-enacting on

battlefields was put into effect in 1962 after a 100th anniversary re-enactment of the Battle of Antietam because of the amount of damage the event caused on the historic land, Frye said. "Basically all battlefields are cemeteries without stones, so the National Park Service believes they're sacred ground — hallowed ground — and that they should be commemorated, but not re-enacted upon," he said.



Another obstacle to re-enactments is their cost, according to Thomas Clemens, a history and political science professor at Hagerstown Community College. "It counts on someone talking a financial risk because you put a lot of money in up front and if bad weather or anything else happens, then you lose a lot of money," he said. "There's nobody interested in sticking out their neck these days." Clemens said he thought cultural factors had also played a role in curbing some of the enthusiasm for re-enactments.

"Re-enactors are, from my experience, aging, like the rest of the population, and you don't see nearly as many young people as you did, even in the 90s and early 2000s," he said. "I think that there's just sort of a change in culture to some extent." Amid a shifting political climate, the attractiveness of Civil War re-enacting is becoming more controversial, Clemens said, citing a column last spring in which writer Leonard Pitts criticized Confederate "apologists and battle flag fetishists" for sweeping the issue of slavery under the rug with "heritage not hate" rhetoric.

"The idea of the Confederacy as a defender of slavery is becoming much more of an inflammatory issue than it was eight, 10 years ago," Clemens said. "I don't think that's a big factor in the lack of re-enactments, but it's another thing to keep in mind. People are just a little more politicized about it than they used to be."

Text Source: [Hagerstown Herald-Mail, April 9 2011](http://civilwarlibrarian.blogspot.com/2011/04/sequicentennial-news-no-150th.html)

<http://civilwarlibrarian.blogspot.com/2011/04/sequicentennial-news-no-150th.html>

The Red Badge of Courage

BY STEPHEN CRANE

CHAPTER IX. (CONT'D)

"Lord knows!" cried the youth. He was shaking his hands helplessly.

He ran forward presently and grasped the tall soldier by the arm. "Jim! Jim!" he coaxed, "come with me."

The tall soldier weakly tried to wrench himself free. "Huh," he said vacantly. He stared at the youth for a moment. At last he spoke as if dimly comprehending. "Oh! Inteh th' fields? Oh!"

He started blindly through the grass.

The youth turned once to look at the lashing riders and jouncing guns of the battery. He was startled from this view by a shrill outcry from the tattered man.

"Gawd! He's runnin'!"

Turning his head swiftly, the youth saw his friend running in a staggering and stumbling way toward a little clump of bushes. His heart seemed to wrench itself almost free from his body at this sight. He made a noise of pain. He and the tattered man began a pursuit. There was a singular race.

When he overtook the tall soldier he began to plead with all the words he could find. "Jim --Jim--what are you doing--what makes you do this way--you 'll hurt yerself."

The same purpose was in the tall soldier's face. He protested in a dulled way, keeping his eyes fastened on the mystic place of his intentions. "No--no--don't tech me--leave me be--leave me be--"

The youth, aghast and filled with wonder at the tall soldier, began quaveringly to question him. "Where yeh goin', Jim? What you thinking about? Where you going? Tell me, won't you, Jim?"

The tall soldier faced about as upon relentless pursuers. In his eyes there was a great appeal. "Leave me be, can't yeh? Leave me be fer a minnit."

The youth recoiled. "Why, Jim," he said, in a dazed way, "what's the matter with you?"

The tall soldier turned and, lurching dangerously, went on. The youth and the tattered soldier followed, sneaking as if whipped, feeling unable to face the stricken man if he should again confront them. They began to have thoughts of a solemn ceremony. There was something rite- like in these movements of the doomed soldier. And there was a resemblance in him to a devotee of a mad religion, blood-sucking, muscle-wrenching, bone-crushing. They were awed and afraid. They hung back lest he have at command a dreadful weapon.

At last, they saw him stop and stand motionless. Hastening up, they perceived that his face wore an expression telling that he had at last found the place for which he had struggled. His spare figure was erect; his bloody hands were quietly at his side. He was waiting with patience for something that he had come to meet. He was at the rendezvous. They paused and stood, expectant.

There was a silence.

Finally, the chest of the doomed soldier began to heave with a strained motion. It increased in violence until it was as if an animal was within and was kicking and tumbling furiously to be free.

This spectacle of gradual strangulation made the youth writhe, and once as his friend rolled his eyes, he saw something in them that made him sink wailing to the ground. He raised his voice in a last supreme call.

"Jim--Jim--Jim--"

The tall soldier opened his lips and spoke. He made a gesture. "Leave me be--don't tech me--leave me be--"

There was another silence while he waited.

Suddenly, his form stiffened and straightened. Then it was shaken by a prolonged ague. He stared into space. To the two watchers there was a curious and profound dignity in the firm lines of his awful face.

He was invaded by a creeping strangeness that slowly enveloped him. For a moment the tremor of his legs caused him to dance a sort of hideous hornpipe. His arms beat wildly about his head in expression of implike enthusiasm.

His tall figure stretched itself to its full height. There was a slight rending sound. Then it began to swing forward, slow and straight, in the manner of a falling tree. A swift muscular contortion made the left shoulder strike the ground first.

The body seemed to bounce a little way from the earth. "God!" said the tattered soldier.

The youth had watched, spellbound, this ceremony at the place of meeting. His face had been twisted into an

expression of every agony he had imagined for his friend.

He now sprang to his feet and, going closer, gazed upon the pastelike face. The mouth was open and the teeth showed in a laugh.

As the flap of the blue jacket fell away from the body, he could see that the side looked as if it had been chewed by wolves.

The youth turned, with sudden, livid rage, toward the battlefield. He shook his fist. He seemed about to deliver a philippic.

"Hell--"

The red sun was pasted in the sky like a wafer.

CHAPTER X.

THE tattered man stood musing.

"Well, he was reg'lar jim-dandy fer nerve, wa'n't

he," said he finally in a little awestruck voice. "A reg'lar jim-dandy." He thoughtfully poked one of the docile hands with his foot. "I wonner where he got 'is stren'th from? I never seen a man do like that before. It was a funny thing. Well, he was a reg'lar jim-dandy."

The youth desired to screech out his grief. He was stabbed, but his tongue lay dead in the tomb of his mouth. He threw himself again upon the ground and began to brood.

The tattered man stood musing.

"Look-a-here, pardner," he said, after a time. He regarded the corpse as he spoke. "He 's up an' gone, ain't 'e, an' we might as well begin t' look out fer ol' number one. This here thing is all over. He 's up an' gone, ain't 'e? An' he 's all right here. Nobody won't bother 'im. An' I must say I ain't enjoying any great health m'self these days."

The youth, awakened by the tattered soldier's tone, looked quickly up. He saw that he was swinging uncertainly on his legs and that his face had turned to a shade of blue.

"Good Lord!" he cried, "you ain't goin' t'-- not you, too."

The tattered man waved his hand. "Nary die," he said. "All I want is some pea soup an' a good bed. Some pea soup," he repeated dreamfully.

The youth arose from the ground. "I wonder where he came from. I left him over there." He pointed. "And now I find 'im here. And he was coming from over there, too." He indicated a new direction. They both turned toward the body as if to ask of it a question.

"Well," at length spoke the tattered man, "there ain't no use in our stayin' here an' tryin' t' ask him anything."

The youth nodded an assent wearily. They both turned to gaze for a moment at the corpse.

The youth murmured something.

"Well, he was a jim-dandy, wa'n't 'e?" said the tattered man as if in response.

They turned their backs upon it and started away. For a time they stole softly, treading with their toes. It remained laughing there in the grass.

"I'm commencin' t' feel pretty bad," said the tattered man, suddenly breaking one of his little silences. "I'm commencin' t' feel pretty damn' bad."

The youth groaned. "O Lord!" He wondered if he was to be the tortured witness of another grim encounter.

But his companion waved his hand reassuringly. "Oh, I'm not goin' t' die yit! There too much dependin' on me fer me t' die yit. No, sir! Nary die! I CAN'T! Ye'd oughta see th' swad a' chil'ren I've got, an' all like that."

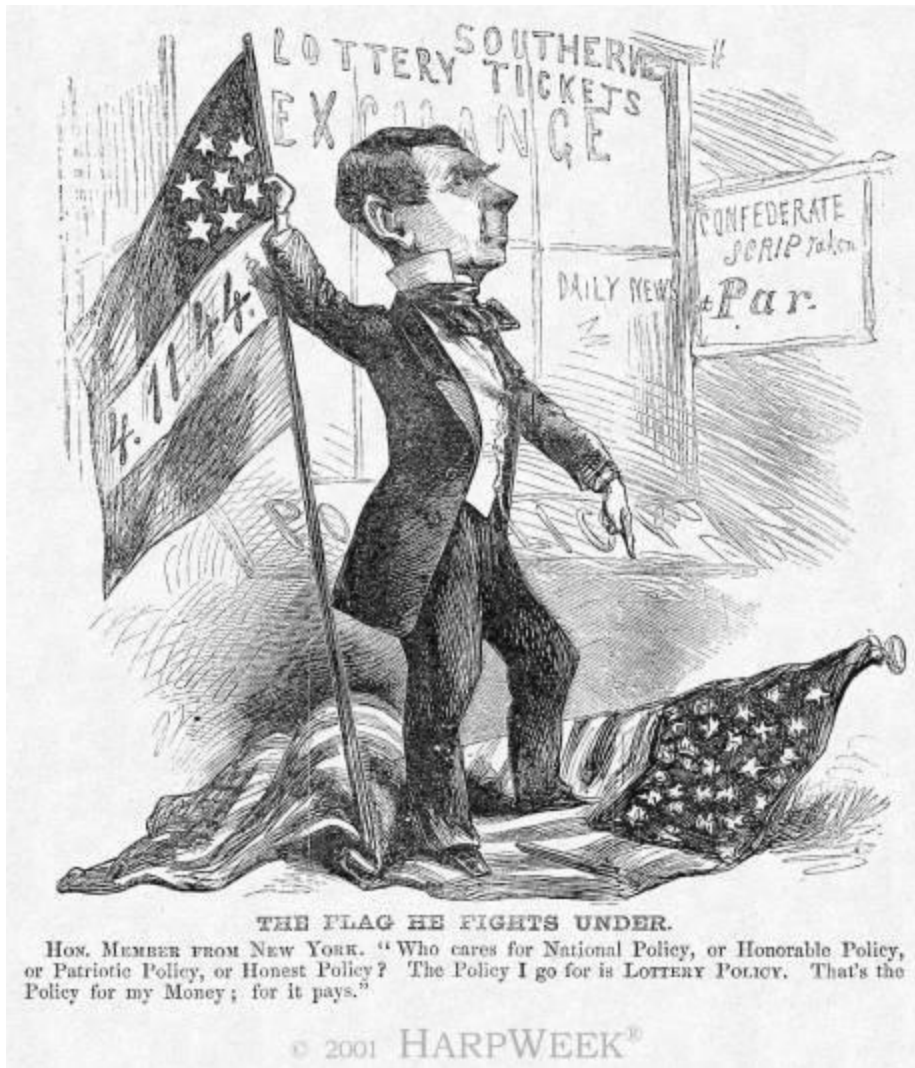
The youth glancing at his companion could see by the shadow of a smile that he was making some kind of fun.

As they plodded on the tattered soldier continued to talk. "Besides, if I died, I wouldn't die th' way that feller did. That was th' funniest thing. I'd jest flop down, I would. I never seen a feller die th' way that feller did.

"Yeh know Tom Jamison, he lives next door t' me up home. He's a nice feller, he is, an' we was allus good friends. Smart, too. Smart as a steel trap. Well, when we was a-fightin' this atternoon, all-of-a-sudden he begin t' rip up an' cuss an' beller at me. 'Yer shot, yeh blamed infernal!'--he swear

horrible--he ses t' me. I put up m' hand t' m' head an' when I looked at m' fingers, I seen, sure 'nough, I was shot. I give a holler an' begin t' run, but b'fore I could git away another one hit me in th' arm an' whirl' me clean 'round. I got skeared when they was all a-shootin' b'hind me an' I run t' beat all, but I cotch it pretty bad. I've an idee I'd a' been fightin' yit, if t'was n't fer Tom Jami- son."

Then he made a calm announcement: "There's two of 'em--little ones--but they 're beginnin' t' have fun with me now. I don't b'lieve I kin walk much funder."



The Flag He Fights Under

Hon. Member from New York. "Who cares for National Policy, or Honorable Policy, or Patriotic Policy, or Honest Policy? The Policy I go for is LOTTERY POLICY. That's the Policy for my Money; for it pays."

Artist: unknown

In August 1861, four months into the Civil War, the *New York Daily News* and four other New York publications faced a grand jury on charges of giving aid and comfort to the Confederate enemy. In this cartoon, *Daily News* editor Benjamin Wood, a Democratic congressman, tramples on an American flag upon which he has planted a Confederate flag with lottery numbers on it. Congressman Wood ran a lucrative lottery that sold

tickets throughout the Southern states, a business interest which the artist blames for his anti-war stance.

Benjamin Wood (1820-1900) was the older brother, advisor, and business partner of Fernando Wood, a major Democratic politician who was mayor of New York when this cartoon was published. With an eye on national office, perhaps the vice presidency, Fernando Wood bought the *New York Daily News* in early 1860, and installed his brother as its editor. Within a few months, Benjamin Wood had purchased controlling interest in the newspaper from his brother. He breathed life into the nearly moribund paper, eventually transforming it into the nation's highest-circulation daily with a large readership among the white, urban working-class.

Wood's pro-Southern sympathies and racial prejudices were evident in his 1860 editorials in which he defended slavery, endorsed its expansion into the Western territories, praised the slave-based Southern culture, and opposed civil rights for free blacks. In early 1861, he supported the right of secession and seconded Mayor Fernando Wood's threat to declare New York a free city. After the firing on Fort Sumter, Benjamin Wood's disapproval of the war provoked a mob to threaten the *Daily News* if the newspaper did not fly the American flag above its headquarters. He refused to give into the demand, and continued to condemn the Civil War as foolish "national fratricide." His strongly worded rhetoric, combined with a commitment to freedom of the press, led to problems with the government.

In May 1861, the New York City Board of Aldermen voted to rescind the status of the *Daily News* as the city's official paper. Wood sustained the journal's position as a leading voice for the peace wing of the Democratic Party, derisively known as "Copperheads." Although the grand jury did not indict Wood in August 1861, the postmaster general prohibited distribution of the *Daily News* through the U.S. mails. Wood employed the railroads to deliver his papers, but the federal government seized shipments in Philadelphia and Connecticut, compelling him to cease publication for 18 months. During the hiatus he wrote an anti-war novel, *Fort Lafayette; or, Love and Secession*. To his dismay, though, the book was little noticed, and its message went unheeded. In May 1863, he renewed publication of the *Daily News*.

Wood's two consecutive terms in the U.S. House of Representatives coincided with the duration of the Civil War (1861-1865). He used his office to urge a peaceful resolution of the conflict, and to oppose all attempts at emancipation. He was a vehement critic of the draft, especially the exemption fee that allowed the wealthy to avoid military service. However, during the bloody New York City [draft riot](#) in July 1863, he helped save the *New York Times* building by standing in its doorway, armed with a revolver, and instructing the rioters on the fundamental right of property. Still, his name was linked with an alleged Confederate plot to foment the riots, although an investigation found no such evidence.

Wood's pro-Southern sympathies continued to be manifested in the *Daily News* during the Civil War. He reprinted news from Southern papers, and in January 1864 named

Phineas C. Wright as a *Daily News* editor. Wright was one of the founders of the Order of American Knights, deemed by the Lincoln administration to be a pro-Confederate cabal hatching seditious plots against the Union. Wood's persistent anti-war rhetoric and policy proposals generated so much suspicion that the House Judiciary Committee investigated him on allegations of passing valuable information to the enemy. Its findings were not reported, thereby leaving lingering doubts about his loyalty.

Wood was a consistently harsh critic of Abraham Lincoln, whose policies violating civil liberties spurred the editor to label the president "a dictator." Yet during the 1864 presidential election, Wood also refused to endorse the Democratic candidate, General George McClellan, after the nominee repudiated the peace plank of the Democratic platform. Wood, facing almost certain defeat at the polls, declined to run for reelection to Congress.

In early 1865, the War Department concluded that Confederate spies had been transmitting coded messages through the personal columns in the *Daily News*. Threatened with arrest and court martial, Wood was forced to suspend the column. His controversial editor, Phineas Wright, was arrested in May 1865. Wood was not charged, but many Northerners considered the publisher to be a traitor, and were dismayed that he had not been imprisoned during the war.

Wood expressed sincere abhorrence of the assassination of President Lincoln. The publisher initially considered the new chief executive, Andrew Johnson, to be a national embarrassment, but soon began calling for him to return to the Democratic Party. When Johnson declined the offer, the *Daily News* curtailed coverage of the president and his travails. In general, space allocated for political news in the journal decreased over the post-war years, although Wood continued to wield some back-room political power. Poor and working-class immigrants formed his political base, electing him to the New York State Senate in 1866, and to a final term in Congress in 1880.

The success of Wood's paper brought him considerable wealth, but gambling caused him to file for bankruptcy in 1879 and sell 43% of the *Daily News* stock to William J. Brown. The federal government twice put liens on his lottery profits for failure to pay back-taxes. In 1898, Wood sold the rest of his newspaper stock to his wife, although he continued as editor-in-chief until just before his death in February 1900.

Robert C. Kennedy

<http://www.nytimes.com/learning/general/onthisday/harp/0831.html>

