



The Adjutant's Call

The Official Monthly Newsletter of the 4th Kentucky Infantry Regiment Company "F"

"CAPTAIN'S REPORT"

August 2011

Pards, I needed to get this newsletter out to you as fast as I could- we've got 3 events coming up in September! Sorry I didn't have time to put pictures in this one. I'm extremely busy at work. This is also the reason our website hasn't been updated with pictures from the last few events. My office staff just hasn't had the time to upload all the photos.

Our next event coming up is one that we did not have on our schedule. It is a ceremony/Living History in Frankfort, Kentucky on September 3rd-4th (Saturday and Sunday). Be aware this is Labor Day weekend. I had originally planned on taking one of the cannons up & having about 5 guys help- but as I got more details, I found out this will be a truly enjoyable event for us reenactors.

This is the kickoff of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War in the state of Kentucky. The City of Frankfort has hired six of the premier Civil War bands in the nation to play concerts on Saturday & Sunday at various locations in downtown Frankfort. There will be a parade at 3:00 on Saturday, with all 6 bands marching in it. They have only invited the 4th Kentucky to represent the Confederates in this parade. We are Kentucky's Official Confederate Reenacting Unit. The only Federals that have been invited are the 7th Kentucky & the 12th USCHA. Its important to the 4th and to the state, that have as many 4th Ky members as possible to show up to this parade. There will be a dinner and Civil War ball (at no cost to us) on Saturday night.

Sunday at 1:00, they are having what they call "The Battle of the Bands." During the Battle of Bands, we are to fire muskets & cannons as often & as fast as we can. This could be quite interesting. My plans for the 4th Kentucky are to make it a 2-day living history. I plan on bring both cannons up & being downtown at the old state Capitol in downtown Frankfort at 9 a.m. NOTE: This is NOT the new Capitol, where all the politicians are. We have special permission to camp in the front lawn of the old Capitol. We can use tents or campaign, whichever you would like to do.

I intend to go listen to as many of these bands as I can before the parade on Saturday, march in the parade, go back & listen to the different concerts, and then go to the dance on Saturday night.

Sunday morning, we'll move the cannons from the Capitol lawn over to the amphitheater where the Battle of Bands will take place, and break camp. After the 1:00 Battle of the Bands, we will load the cannons and go home. I need everyone that can, to come to this.

Uniform: Confederate Depot or frock coat.

Food: Bring something to eat. I'm note sure we'll have a fire to cook on, but we will have the ability to go out eat at the restaurants in town.

Ammo: 20 rounds

Fees: None

Other items: As a side note, Frankfort is having a kick-off ceremony on Thursday, September 1st at the History Museum in downtown Frankfort. As part of this, I need a total of 5 soldiers to act as Color Guard in Confederate uniforms. I only have one, Bill Barnett, who has committed so far. I need you email & let me know if you are coming on Saturday. As long as you are there, by 2:00, its fine. If you can only come for the parade, that also is fine. Please let me know if you can help on Thursday from 6-10 p.m.

Boys, I promise you we'll have a good time at this one. Fat Anne's is directly across the street.

The next weekend after Frankfort, September 9-11, is the artillery living history at Camp Nelson. This is another one that wasn't on our schedule, because I wasn't certain they were going to have it. The crew from Somerset is going. If enough of you email me that you are going, I will bring both cannons.

Uniform: Federal

Tents: yes

Food: Bring your own. They will feed us one meal.

Ammo: None needed- we are doing artillery.

Fees: None

This is our typical living history weekend, arriving on Friday and leaving on Sunday. It will be a lot like the Mill Springs artillery living history we had in June. They have a "skirmish battle" on Saturday and Sunday. They've invited us to bring our Confederate uniforms and weapons and fight if we want. I'll leave that up to you as individuals to do what you want.

Event #3- Last but certainly not least, is our MAX EFFORT Living History at Chickamauga National Battlefield on September 16-18th.

IMPORTANT!!!!!! IF YOU CAN ONLY MAKE ONE EVENT IN SEPTEMBER, THIS IS IT!

This is the 1st time we've been able to do a Living History event at this Park in several years. This is a battalion MAX EFFORT event. I've included an email I received from the Colonel elsewhere in this newsletter that has other info.

Continued on back.....

Uniform: Frock coat preferred, Columbus Depot if that's all you have.

Tents: yes

Food: Bring your own. There are no sutlers or modern fast food vendors close by. You'll be required to stay in camp. Bring your coolers to put in your own tents. We will be able to cook on a fire. They will feed us lunch both days.

Ammo: 80 rounds

Fees: None

Other items: The 4th will make a march over to the Kentucky monument and the Helm monument to pay our respects to the original Orphans who died on this battlefield. Our camp will be next to the Illinois Battery, that the original 4th captured at the Battle of Chickamauga, which gave them the honors of putting crossed cannons on their battle flag. Boys, this is sacred ground to the 4th Kentucky. Every member needs to be here at this event. This is what makes us different than most reenacting units. We do this to honor the men of the original 4th.

Pards, we've got a lot going on in September. Obviously, Chickamauga is the most important, followed by Frankfort, and basically, Camp Nelson is an event you want to do because its artillery & we want to help our pards in the 12th USCHA.

Please let me know by email which events you will be attending. I need a firm head count.

Your Obedient Servant,

C.H. Johnston

C.H. Johnston Captain

Gentlemen:

Everything is progressing nicely for the Chickamauga Living History program slated for the weekend of September 16-18. I do not have a final schedule yet; however, we will be conducting several infantry battalion demonstrations similar to what we have done in the past at Shiloh and Stones River.

We will be camping in a wooded area just south of the Visitor's Center (part of a Boy Scout camping area). We will have parking closely adjacent. There will be a water supply close by the camp, as well as port-a-johns, and water and restrooms will also be available to us at the Visitor's Center around the clock.

A hand drawn map of the layout is attached. We will perform our demos in the field immediately south of the Visitor's Center parking area (about a quarter mile march from camp), which will allow the spectators to observe us from an elevated position, which allows them to get much more understanding of the movements. Speaking of spectators, our living history program is taking place on not just the battle anniversary weekend, but also during a special tour of the field that is being conducted for high-level contributors to the Civil War Trust. This should make our audience a bit more knowledgeable and interested than usual. While we admittedly more or less invited ourselves, the Park has gotten excited about our helping round out their program for the anniversary. By the way, our good friend Jim Lewis will have his Stones River artillery crew on hand to do artillery demonstrations, so we will be able to visit with Jim and see him in action in something other than a green uniform and smokey bear hat!

We will be using our own rounds (each man should bring about 50 rounds) and caps; however, the Park is going to want the men to carry only what is needed for each demo at any one time. We will work out those details.

The park is providing fruit and sandwiches on Saturday and Sunday. I intend to be on site by mid-morning Friday to assist you all in setting up on arrival, and yes, I have requested that they arrange for a nice FALL weekend with clear skies and balmy breezes.

In addition to the demos, there is also the potential for at least a portion of the battalion to assist in conducting a portion of a ranger-led military staff ride by forming a picket line in the area where Cleburne's night assault halted. This will be Saturday evening around dusk.

More details to follow when I receive the final schedule. I look forward to seeing you all on the field.

Your obedient servant,
Col. Neel

FIRST SERGEANT'S REPORT

July 23-24th, 2011- Battle of Manassas
Manassas, VA

The 4th KY had 27 members present for the MAX EFFORT event. We served in the Hampton Legion of South Carolina. There were 8,000 reenactors and 70,000 spectators each day. It was hotter than Hell.

Highlights

- Starting of by touring the Shenandoah Valley, Washington & Lee College, Lee's Chapel, Stonewall's grave, stopping at New Market, and seeing the Breckenridge Relic, the UDC Museum, in Frount Royal, and eating at the mill.
- Battle first day- being 1st Sgt., starting early, long wait, new flag, red & green shirts, great battles, and burned a lot of powder. How the reenactment followed the real battle.

2nd day battle

- Where did everyone go? Green & red shirts. The Battle was very fun- one of the best in a long time. Interacting with the spectators. A lot of Yankees and we got up real close.
- Gen. Bee coming and talking with us.
- Seeing Col. Nick.
- Special thanks for the ice & water from the ladies.

Your Obedient Servant,

D.L. Smith

1st Sgt. D.L. Smith

2011 4th KY Events

September 3-4th: Artillery Living History at Fort Hill (Frankfort, KY)

September 9-11th: Artillery Living history at Camp Nelson (Nicholasville, KY)

September 16-18th: Living History at Chickamauga Battlefield (GA) (Confederate)
Battalion Event Company MAX EFFORT

October 20-23rd: 150th Anniversary of the Orphan Brigade Enlistment@ Clarksville, TN
(Confederate) Battalion Event Company MAX EFFORT

November 5th: Mill Springs Ghostwalk

January 20-22, 2012: 150th Anniversary of the Battle of Mill Springs Reenactment

March 30-April 1, 2012" 150th Anniversary of the Battle of Shiloh Reenactment- National Event

FIRST CORPORAL'S REPORT

150th Anniversary of the Battle of Wilson's Creek, Missouri
August 12-14, 2011

The 4th Kentucky had 6 members and 2 recruits at this event. There were 3 guys from the 19th Ala. And 2 Mississippi boys who fell in with us. The weather was good except for the gentle rain that fell Friday after bedtime.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Lady riding a purple Harley in a period dress thru the rank before our battle (twice).
- Two battles per day (no drilling, just powder burning)
- Every scenarios (battle) was different
- Bridges and real cornfield to fight in
- Rounds and water delivered by horse-drawn wagons
- Short guard duty on Friday night
- Toured a monument-less battlefield
- Used over a 100 rounds
- Both sides evenly numbered
- We were some of the last visitors to tour the General Sweeny's Museum collection
- Great numbers in the crowd, very close to the action

Lowlights

- Vehicles in camp all weekend
- Poor signage
- Light numbers for Max Effort
- Semi-tractor truck for the water buffalo

Personally it was a learning weekend because I had several hats on for the weekend. I was 1st Sarg, 2nd Sarg, 1st Corp, and Corporal of the Guard.

Your Obedient Servant,

3rd Corporal Robert R. Peebles