

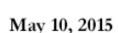
# The Tyrants' Foe



## Newsletter of the Texas Rifles

Volume XXVIII







We have now had two events from this year's schedule pass. The surrender of Ft. Blakeley marks the end of our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary observance. Additionally, we had our re-union event under trying circumstances. And Palmito Ranch has been cancelled. The spring season has not been what we have anticipated.

We had good weather throughout the Alabama event. The ration issue, with the exception of those who function under the influence of coffee went well, and rations were plentiful. We combined with the 1<sup>st</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Texas to form a company. Saturday saw us skirmish from the rifle pits, and we then re-created the assault in the afternoon, taking our opponent's works. This set the stage for the surrender ceremony on Sunday morning and the conclusion of the event. I'm happy to report the event went generally well, and the park was very much pleased with our efforts. As we were told of the Palmito Ranch decision at the event, this event then had to be our finis for the Sesquicentennial.

The middle of April saw our return to pioneer Farms. The weather was somewhat uncooperative, although Saturday afternoon was clear. We had to contend with the scouts being unable to use the parts of the site intended for their use, which made them the main spectators for our activities, which proved problematic. I did receive a nice note back from the staff to my communication as to the challenge that

we faced in presenting the type of program that we wished to portray to the park visitors. Most of us were able to make our escape Sunday morning before we had a repeat of the evening storms.

For me personally, the loss of the Palmito Ranch event is quite a blow. We will not be able to show the last of the ground combat on site – at best the last ground action of the war, taking place in the state of Texas, would have been an opportunity to put the last touch in a way meaningful to us as Texans. Or, one could remark that the story of this event has been much the story of attempts to mark the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary in general. One of the key events in the history of our country is reduced to tweets, Facebook, and two minutes on television. Such is the nature of the world in which we currently live.

Looking forward to the summer events:

The end of the war will get notice at Camp Mabry as a substitute for Palmito ranch. The Red River Battalion will muster to mark the occasion

There is the one-week walking tour of Arkansas scheduled for June. Sure to be a memorable experience for the participants.

In July, we can put on a historical educational program for the Beaumont Historical Society. This lets us go into pure teaching mode, and could reach some young people and give them a love for living history.

#### Capt. Tommy Attaway



I found this nice article about what was going on in Texas while you boys were away fighting for four years. Kinda funny with the way things are in the states today and how they compare 150 years ago. For example state officials going door to door to inventory all weapons and stores are required to turn in all ammo to the state government. A very nice written article, gives you a perspective to what the men returned to face in Texas after the war. <a href="http://www.texasmilitaryforcesmuseum.org/wortham/4345.htm">http://www.texasmilitaryforcesmuseum.org/wortham/4345.htm</a>



#### Why Authenticity?

I've been a member of the Texas Rifles for 16 years now and I have seen highs and lows of authenticity levels amongst our group. The high started for me during the Texas Rifles Renaisance of 2002. We strove to lift up the authenticity level of the battalion we were in at the time only to be met with a lot of head butting and name calling. The Renaissance made us turn inward and become the best we could be with the most current research of uniforms and equipment. The work we did rang bells that were heard for a few years. Port Gibson, Sharpsburg, Franklin, Banks Grand Retreat and the Piney Woods march are all products of us placing a high emphasis on authenticity. We were simply the best.

Unfortunately, we cannot rest on those laurels unless we are done. Our numbers are down, recruiting is minimal and honestly I can see why. History is not the big sell that it once was, there are no movies to motivate the hobby like Gettysburg. Southern history is learned by today's youth by movies like Django and Abe Lincoln, Vampire Killer. Ad that to the fact that those few, those glorious few of us that do still come out to events are getting older and have "been there, done that" and we start to see boredom in the hobby. With the boredom comes the question "Why?" Should I sleep in a shelter half, pay more for quality uniforms/equipment, opt out of guard duty and marches, cook my period rations over a campfire, skip drill?

My Brothers, I am guilty of all the above and for every finger I point I have four more pointing at myself. My point is that without DOING any of the things mentioned above we simply turn into a drinking club who likes to wear funny old timey clothes. That might be fine and dandy but it was a love of HISTORY that brought us all together. What are the chances that I would get to share an interest in history with a federal prosecutor, microbiologist or college professor if not for the Texas Rifles? (Chances are I would a bumped into a Pasadena cop sooner or later...)

So what is the answer? Quite simply, AUTHENTICTY. That means researching and attempting to cook the same things soldiers would have eaten on campaign. That means volunteering for guard duty even if there is no threat coz that's what soldiers had to do. And it means finding new/replacing old uniforms and equipment with quality items so that we do not look like extras in a B-grade movie but more like the men and women we wish to portray.

Mike Lucas told me once, a long time ago, "Re-enacting is escape-ism." We are escaping from the modern era and going back in time. Authenticity is the vehicle that takes us there. Look for the details, read biographies and memoirs. They might not all be perfect but you just may find a little nugget that enriches your impression.

Why authenticity? Because we are LIVING HISTORIANS. Let's motivate each other to LIVE HISTORY!

F.J.Marek

1st Sgt of Texas Rifles



### Civilian Report

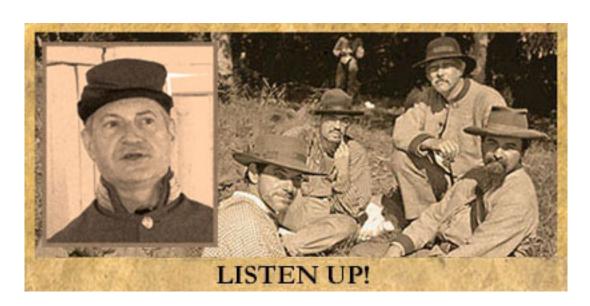
Our last Civilian max effort event for the spring was the "Reunion" held in April. Thank you to Uncle Jimmy and Boz for hosting the event. Also a thank you to all who attended. As we all know there are times when we face obstacles at events. At Pioneer Farms those obstacles are typically sharing the site, especially when sharing with the scouts. The weekend of the "Reunion" was a bit different. We shared the site with Brownies and Daises (future Girl Scouts). However those who attended made the best of the weekend and still had a good time. The rain and hail storm on Saturday night did spice things up a bit.

Our next Civilian event, also a Civilian max effort, is the weekend of September 12th. This event will also be held at Pioneer Farms. We are looking at a double scenario for the event. Scenario one will be the "Davis/Byler Feud" and two will be "A Day in the Life/Work Day". The feud scenario speaks for itself, The "A Day in the Life/Work Day" will simply be cleaning and minor repairs. This may be a Civilian event, but military impressions are welcome. There are structures to stay in, and space for tent/shelter if this is your preferred lodging.

The best way for us to potentially not have to share the site is going to be getting our numbers up at our events. Perhaps our work day will also help. If you have not been to one of our Pioneer Farms events, this will be a great one. For those who missed the last feud, here is your second chance. We hope to see you all there.



HolliBeth Marek, aka Peach, Civilian Coordinator



The Articles of War

During the American Revolution, and later as established under the Constitution, one of the powers of Congress is to make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces. These rules were established in 1775 as 69 Articles of War. The rules were revised in 1806 as The Articles of War, with enacting 101 Articles of War, which were little changed for some 100 years. The Congress had as a model, the Articles in use by the British for some hundred years before the Revolution. In 1950, the current US military law, the Uniform Code of Military Justice was adopted, and the Articles of War passed into history

The Constitution of the Confederate States of America had the same language regarding rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces. The Confederate version has a few differences and can be found here:

http://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=dul1.ark:/13960/t15m71w8d;seq=3;view=1up

Many of the punishments prescribed by courts martial were the common corporal punishments of the day – floggings, branding, and the "to be ridden off post on a rail" as the last act of dismissal from the service. Thus, the origins of such idioms of "branded a coward" or "ridden out of town on a rail". <a href="http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/">http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/</a>

In the spirit of Article 101, which required that the Articles be read to every soldier at least once every 6 months, here are some of the Articles of War: <a href="http://www.ancestry.com/s33216/t10989/grid1000/rd.ashx">http://www.ancestry.com/s33216/t10989/grid1000/rd.ashx</a> An Act for establishing Rules and Articles for the government of the Armies of the United States.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That from and after the passing of this act, the following shall be the rules and articles by which the armies of the United States shall be governed:

**Article 1**. Every officer now in the army of the United States, shall, in six months from the passing of this act, and every officer who shall hereafter be appointed, shall, before he enters on the duties of his office, subscribe these rules and regulations.

Article 2. It is earnestly recommended to all officers and soldiers, diligently to attend divine service; and all officers who shall behave indecently or irreverently at any place of divine worship, shall, if commissioned officers, be brought before a general court martial, there to be publicly and severely reprimanded by the president; if non-commissioned officers or soldiers, every person so offending shall, for his first offence, forfeit one sixth of a dollar, to be deducted out of his next pay; for the second offence, he shall not only forfeit a like sum, but be confined twenty-four hours; and for every like offence, shall suffer and pay in like manner; which money, so forfeited, shall be applied by the captain or senior officer of the troop or company, to the use of the sick soldiers of the company or troop to which the offender belongs.

**Article 3.** Any non-commissioned officer or soldier who shall use any profane oath or execration, shall incur the penalties expressed in the foregoing article; and a commissioned officer shall forfeit and pay for each and every such offence *one dollar*, to be applied as in the preceding article.

Article 5. Any officer or soldier, who shall use contemptuous or disrespectful words against the President of the United States, against the Vice President thereof, against the Congress of the United States, or against the chief magistrate or legislature of any of the United States, in which he may be quartered, if a commissioned officer, shall be cashiered, or otherwise punished, as a court martial shall direct; if a non-commissioned officer or soldier, he shall suffer such punishment as shall be inflicted on him by the sentence of a court martial.

Article 7. Any officer or soldier who shall begin, excite, cause or join in any mutiny or sedition in any troop or company in the service of the United States, or in any party, post, detachment, or guard, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as by a court martial shall be inflicted.

**Article 9.** Any officer or soldier who shall strike his superior officer, or draw or lift up any weapon or offer any violence against him, being in the execution of his office, on any pretence whatsoever, or shall

disobey any lawful command of his superior officer, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as shall, according to the nature of his offence be inflicted upon him by the sentence of a court martial. Article 10. Every non-commissioned officer or soldier who shall enlist himself in the service of the United States, shall, at the time of his so enlisting, or within six days afterwards, have the articles for the government of the armies of the United States, read to him, and shall, by the officer who enlisted him, or by the commanding officer of the troop or company into which he was enlisted, be taken before the next justice of the peace, or chief magistrate of any city or town corporate, not being an officer of the army, or where recourse cannot be had to the civil magistrate, before the judge advocate, and, in his presence, shall take the following oath, or affirmation: "I, A.B. do solemnly swear, or affirm (as the case may be) that I will serve them honestly and faithfully against all their enemies or opposers whatsoever, and observe and obey the orders of the President of the United States, and the orders of the officers appointed over me, according to the rules and articles for the government of the armies of the United States:" which justice, magistrate, or judge advocate, is to give the officer a certificate, signifying that the man enlisted did take the said oath or affirmation.

Article 12. Every colonel, or other officer, commanding a regiment, troop or company, and actually quartered with it, may give furloughs to non-commissioned officers or soldiers, in such numbers, and for so long a time as he shall judge to be most consistent with the good of the service; and a captain, or other inferior officer, commanding a troop or company, or in any garrison, fort or barrack of the United States, (his field officer being absent) may give furloughs to non-commissioned officers or soldiers, for a time not exceeding twenty days in six months, but not to more than two persons to be absent at the same time, excepting some extraordinary occasion shall require it.

**Article 15.** Every officer who shall knowing make a false muster of man or horse, and every officer or commissary of musters, who shall willingly sign, direct, or allow the signing of muster rolls, wherein such false muster is contained, shall, upon proof made thereof by two witnesses, before a general court martial, be cashiered, and shall be thereby utterly disabled to have or hold any office or employment in the service of the United States.

**Article 20.** All officers and soldiers, who have received pay, or have been duly enlisted in the service of the United States, and shall be convicted of having deserted the same, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as by sentence of a court martial shall be inflicted.

Article 25. No officer or soldier shall send a challenge to another officer or soldier, to fight a duel, or accept a challenge, if sent, upon pain, if a commissioned officer, of being cashiered; if a non-commissioned officer or soldier, of suffering corporeal punishment, at the discretion of a court martial. Article 27. All officers, of what condition soever, have power to part and quell all quarrels, frays, and disorders, though the persons concerned should belong to another regiment, troop, or company; and

either to order officers into arrest, or non-commissioned officers or soldiers into confinement, until their proper superior officers shall be acquainted therewith; and whosoever shall refuse to obey such officer, (though of an inferior rank) or shall draw upon him, shall be punished at the discretion of a general court martial.

**Article 29.** No suttler shall be permitted to sell any kind of liquors or victuals, or to keep their houses or shops open for the entertainment of soldiers, after nine at night, or before the beating of the reveilies, or upon Sundays, during divine service or sermon, on the penalty of being dismissed from all future suttling.

- **Article 30.** All officers commanding in the field, forts, barracks, or garrisons of the United States, are hereby required to see that the persons permitted to suttle, shall supply the soldiers with good and wholesome provisions, or other articles, at a reasonable price, as they shall be answerable for their neglect.
- Article 34. If any officer shall think himself wronged by his colonel, or the commanding officer of the regiment, and shall, upon due application being made to him, be refused redress, he may complain to the general, commanding in the state or territory where such regiment shall be stationed, in order to obtain justice; who is hereby required to examine into the said complaint, and take proper measures for redressing the wrong complained of, and transmit, as soon as possible, to the department of war, a true state of such complaint, with the proceedings had thereon.
- Article 38. Every non-commissioned officer or soldier, who shall be convicted before a court martial, of having sold, lost, or spoiled, through neglect, his horse, arms, clothes, or accourtements, shall undergo such weekly stoppages, (not exceeding the half of his pay) as such court martial shall judge sufficient, for repairing the loss or damage; and shall suffer confinement or such other corporeal punishment as his crime shall deserve.
- **Article 46.** Any sentinel who shall be found sleeping upon his post, or shall leave it before he shall be regularly relieved, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as shall be inflicted by the sentence of a court martial.
- Article 47. No soldier belonging to any regiment, troop, or company, shall hire another to do his duty for him, or be excused from duty, but in cases of sickness, disability, or leave of absence; and every such soldier found guilty of hiring his duty, as also the party so hired to do another's duty, shall be punished at the discretion of a regimental court martial.
- **Article 49.** Any officer belonging to the service of the United States, who, by discharging of fire-arms, drawing of swords, beating of drums, or by any other means whatsoever, shall occasion false alarms in camp, garrison, or quarters, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a general court martial.
- **Article 50.** Any officer or soldier, who shall, without urgent necessity or without the leave of his superior officer, quit his guard, platoon, or division, shall be punished according to the nature of his offense, by the sentence of a court martial.
- Article 51. No officer or soldier shall do violence to any person who brings provisions or other necessaries to the camp, garrison, or quarters, of the forces of the United States, employed in any parts out of the said states, upon pain of death, or such other punishment as a court martial shall direct.
- Article 52. Any officer or soldier, who shall misbehave himself before the enemy, run away, or shamefully abandon any fort, post, or guard, which he or they may be commanded to defend, or speak words inducing others to do the like; or shall cast away his arms and ammunition, or who shall quit his post or colours to plunder and pillage, every such offender, being duly convicted thereof, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a general court martial.
- Article 53. Any person belonging to the armies of the United States, who shall make known the watchword to any person who is not entitled to receive it, according to the rules and discipline of war, or shall presume to give a parole or watchword, different from what he received, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a general court martial.

Article 54. All officers and soldiers are to behave themselves orderly in quarters, and on their march; and whosoever shall commit any waste or spoil, either in walks of trees, parks, warrens, fish ponds, houses, or gardens, cornfields, enclosures of meadows, or shall maliciously destroy any property whatsoever, belonging to the inhabitants of the United States, unless by order of the then commander in chief of the armies of the said states, shall (besides such penalties as they are liable to by law) be punished according to the nature and degree of the offence, by the judgment of a regimental or general court martial.

**Article 60.** All suttlers and retainers to the camp, and all persons whatsoever, serving with the armies of the United States in the field, though not enlisted soldiers, are to be subject to orders, according to the rules and discipline of war.

Article 83. Any commissioned officer convicted before a general court martial of conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, shall be dismissed the service.

**Article 85.** In all cases where a commissioned officer is cashiered for cowardice or fraud, it shall be added in the sentence, that the crime, name, and place of abode and punishment of the delinquent, be published in the newspapers in and about the camp, and of the particular state from which the offender came, or where he usually resides, after which it shall be deemed scandalous for an officer to associate with him.

Article 87. No person shall be sentenced to suffer death, but by the concurrence of two thirds of the members of a general court martial, nor except in the cases herein expressly mentioned; nor shall more than fifty lashes be inflicted on any offender, at the discretion of a court martial; and no officer, non-commissioned officer, soldier, or follower of the army, shall be tried a second time for the same offence. Article 101. The foregoing articles are to be read and published once in every six months, to every garrison, regiment, troop, or company, mustered or to be mustered in the service of the United States, and are to be duly observed and obeyed by all officers and soldiers who are, or shall be in said service. Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That in time of war, all persons not citizens of, or owing allegiance to the United States of America, who shall be found lurking as spies, in or about the fortifications or

encampments of the armies of the United States, or any of them, shall suffer death, according to the law

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That the rules and regulations, by which the armies of the United States have heretofore been governed, and the resolves of Congress thereunto annexed, and respecting the same, shall henceforth be void and of no effect, except so far as may relate to any transactions under them, prior to the promulgation of this act, at the several posts and garrisons respectively, occupied by any part of the army of the United States.

Approved, April 10, 1806.

and usage of nations, by sentence of a general court martial.





John Keahey
Captain Emeritus

#### TO WALK WITH GIANTS

There are pluses to being a long time reenactor. One of them is the people with whom you associate. By definition, reenactors are counter-cultural and non-politically correct. To my addled mind this is a good thing; it makes for people who are individualists and willing to think outside of the prescribed social box. Some of these people were true giants in their impact upon their chosen hobby.

Perhaps your first living history units make the deepest impression because they are your first experiences in a new hobby. Captain Attaway and I were talking this past July about some of the leaders we were blessed to have encountered during our earlier years in reenacting, primarily during the American Revolution Bicentennial. As in all aspects of life there were those who drifted in and out of the organizations, having no greater impact than a roll call number which went from 33 to 34 due to their presence. And then, of course, there were the very few giants who led, organized and provided inspiration to others within their organizations and to outside groups. To serve with these men and women was an experience unlike all others and provided a lifetime of ongoing inspiration.

Frankly, Civil War reenacting is declining into an age of midgets, not giants. Any hobby in which the so called leaders can't put aside personal aggrandizement long enough to provide one large 150<sup>th</sup> Gettysburg experience, as opposed to two smaller ones, is not thriving.

Some of the memorable giants I fondly recall are:

G. GEDNEY GODWIN- When the Civil War Centennial was over in 1965, many thought that reenacting and interest in history would fade away. One man who looked ahead, not back, was G. Gedney Godwin, or Ged to his friends. After one of the final Civil War reenactments a couple of Ged's friends saw him walking around with a strange looking, large caliber musket. They asked him what it was and he replied, "It is a Brown Bess; the next big thing will be the Bicentennial of the American Revolution and it starts in just ten years." Everybody thought he was nuts, but he was right! By 1975 Ged had built his Sutler of Mount Misery business into THE supplier of high quality American Revolutionary War uniforms, equipment and personal items the likes of which no Civil War reenactor

of the 1960's era ever dreamed existed. He almost single handedly set the tone for the American Revolution (Am Rev) units to be on a much higher plane of authenticity and safety then most Civil War units had ever attained. When I met him he was the Colonel of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Pennsylvania/43<sup>rd</sup> of Foote Regiment; a unit that did both American Continental and British regular infantry impressions. That was another of his radical ideas predicted to fail, due to expense of obtaining not one, but two costly uniforms. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Pa/43<sup>rd</sup> already had hundreds of members when I joined in 1975. His name in the reenacting community was legend, yet he still took the time to take me aside and give me extra instruction on the Facing Movements until I got it right.

WILLIAM BROWN III- Bill Brown was an expert on 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century American clothing, a Fellow (an honorary title given to acknowledged expert) of the Company of Military Historians (CMH), National Park Service administrator at Harper's Ferry, founder and colonel of the 1<sup>st</sup> Maryland Am Rev Regiment. He was instrumental with Craig Nannos in assembling the multi-unit cooperative Am Rev regiment known as The Corps. The Corps was an American Mid-Atlantic States Continental Infantry regiment at full strength: 540 + men under arms with associated artillery, staff, field music and campfollowers. When I marched with it in the July 4, 1976 parade in Philadelphia, Pa. we had a full regiment of nine 60 man companies, completely authentic and led by the greatest assemblage of 18<sup>th</sup> Century military knowledge since Washington sat down to dinner with his staff: two Follows of the Company of Military Historians and one retired U.S. Navy captain.

MAJOR JOHN C. NANNOS- Craig Nannos was a "staff rat." A major and Adjutant in the Pennsylvania National Guard, and the active commander of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Pa/43<sup>rd</sup> Reg. Being a behind-the-scenes type organizer, Craig Nannos got things done for his unit. We always had PNG trucks to travel in and an armory in which to drill. He got The Corps overseas twice; once to Britain and once to Paris. He was a Fellow of the CMH, collector, military historian, good friend, owner of the oldest U.S. Army battle flag in existence, entrepreneur, film consultant, and leader. He had our unit doing a large number of educational events in local communities in addition to reenactments.

CAPTAIN ERNEST PETERKIN (USN RET) - Ernie Peterkin was a retired U.S. Navy captain. When an instructor at Annapolis he set his students to work on a little problem in navigation: calculate where the U.S.S. Monitor sank in 1862. The result was the discovery of the wreck of one of history's most important warships. Ernie served as the Sergeant Major of The Corps. He looked and acted the part; every inch the consummate soldier and oozing authority from every pore. On one memorable occasion before the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reenactment of the Battle of Monmouth, he marched The Corps to a hill overlooking the actual battlefield, had us "Front" and "Present Arms." He then strolled to the center of the regimental line in front of the colors, pointed with his Sergeant Major's silver headed cane to the battlefield and said, "Gentlemen; the Field of Honor." Those five simple words in that setting resonated with every person privileged to hear them. If he had ordered us at that moment to frontally attack a tank battalion armed only with can openers, we would have done it. He instinctively knew what to say and do. At times like that, you gain insight into the awesome power, responsibility and mystery of inspirational leadership. It explains how a military insanity such as Pickett's Charge could happen: Lee wanted it and the men he inspired would try anything for him.

CELESTE MORROW & KATHY PHILBRICK- Unlike the Civil War, during the American Revolution and earlier wars women and children followed the armies and shared their fortunes good or ill. Celeste and Kathy did the original research on these forgotten people and brought them back to life.

Not for them the silk ball gowns and high hair styling of the upper classes; they portrayed campfollowers and got down to the rags, dirt and lifestyle of the not rich, not famous and not literate. They wrote "The Compleat Campfollower Primer," a guide to the accurate portrayal of the women and children who followed the British and American Armies through eight years of war. Their research was frequently plagiarized and used by others because no one before them had ever thought of war as anything but a male activity and the word "campfollowers" was a polite term for prostitutes. Until they revealed these hard people from a hard world in a different and deservedly heroic light, the women's role in the America's early wars was largely ignored. They were clever delightful creative women and born leaders who demanded the best from themselves and their civilian followers.

DANNY SESSUMS- Danny was instrumental in forming The Confederate Guard, the finest rebel reenactment unit of its day and the mother unit of the Texas Rifles. He was the archetype of the Southerner: anti-authoritarian, individualistic, humorous, not particularly well dressed, aggressive and a person who led from the front. He could command a corporal's guard, company, battalion or museum staff with equal skill. His very serious real injury in the opening moments of the 125<sup>th</sup> Manassas Battle while leading his battalion forward added a sense of realism to the experience that no one wanted. I have served under only one other man who could lead a battalion as well as Danny could, and that person did not have the knowledge base that Danny did in all aspects of the Civil War.

DON TROIANI- Don was a member of the  $2^{nd}$  Pa/ $43^{rd}$  and served in the ranks. He never made corporal, sergeant or an officer. His musket was generally dirty and misfired often. His drill was sloppy, but he was (is) an artist. He illustrated the  $2^{nd}$  Pa/ $43^{rd}$  drill manuals; newsletter; painted knapsacks, leather caps and flags; and grew in his artistic skills. He is now the inarguably greatest military history artist and collector of our times and his original canvases and prints are eagerly collected. He put researched military artwork on the map.

I understand that these people are primarily American Revolution reenactors, but they had a tremendous influence on people doing other periods and many were Civil War experts both before and after the Bicentennial. They were the giants of their day, yet they were also real people and had personality clashes just like everybody else. But they were also willing to share their considerable knowledge and skills, to educate others and to make our hobby work better. And they managed to do it without portraying themselves as superior, or their listeners as insignificant.

It was a privilege to share the path with these giants for a while.

Who are the current giants?

Who are your giants?

jmk, 7/27/2014



