



The Tyrant's Foe

Newsletter of the Texas Rifles

Volume 54

Celebrating 35 Years of Excellence

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Captain's Post

The first thing I should state in this article dedicated to the unit commander portion of our newsletter is to express gratitude for having been elected to serve as the Captain for the third time. I hope that the practice taken to date will allow me to get it right this time. Realistically this is part of what gives our unit the tradition it has. We don't have one person rise to unit leadership and then keep that position until leaving the hobby. While we have been rotating Captains for the last six years, and now in this case, a third rotation, we are also bringing up new talent into leadership positions to ensure we have a future.

Generally speaking, Covid related restrictions have now been put behind us, and we once again take the field to events. This was reflected in our event schedule adopted at the muster where we have unfortunately lost events due to the political passions of the moment, but other opportunities exist, and we can make our own events. We will now face the same challenges many other groups will have to adjust to – the future of the living history hobby. Possibly, just as the Bicentennial of the American Revolution energized the reenacting of the events of 1861 to 1865 in the 1970s and 1980s, the pending 250th anniversary, and potential for related media productions will lead more of our fellow citizens to focus on our past and better understanding it.

Looking back at our schedule, the Galveston commemoration was an event we attended with good effect. We also had good attendance at Pleasant Hill, forming the base for a company in which our friends of the 6th TX of the RRB served with us. Unfortunately at this event, we made an error in conducting a battalion maneuver that we can't repeat. We expect of ourselves to be the most proficient company on the field, and we will have to ensure we meet our standards. There will be increased emphasis on drill – this is necessary as we have much of a new set of NCOs, and the sergeants must know their roles in the battalion maneuvers, and the corporals much know their roles in the school of the company. Also, while we voted to attend Port Jefferson, that fell apart. Our schedule needs to reflect the reality of what we are going to do.

Looking forward, our next event is the Memorial Day ceremony at the Houston National Cemetery. We will be the firing party for the 21 gun salute followed by Taps. We will also parade the colors of the 13th Infantry. It is a solemn tribute to those in rest there, and we are honored to be asked to participate.

After Memorial Day, we will be in the summer pause, and due to conflicts, Ft. McKavett has been rescheduled to the weekend before Thanksgiving. More about this event later.

Keeping History Alive





Lieutenant's Inkwell

It has been a long time since I have been an elected member of the executive board.

Now that I have gotten myself into this, I have been thinking a lot about the hobby. When I rejoined the ranks as a private, I never thought I would be an officer again. I sold or gave away some of my officer kit. Now I have to build my officer's impression again, and I find myself thinking about the things I will need. This is very much like a lot of our members who are building their own impressions. Of course I am fatter than I'd like, so I have been in touch with John Keahey and Frank Marek about new uniform pieces for my impression LOL!. Anyone else looking to upgrade or replace gear or uniforms should also think about contacting these fellows. They make great uniforms and clothing. I am also considering what I can do to create my Tex Rev impression. Like many of you, we have the same issues and expenses. What do I really need? Talking to experienced members can be very helpful in deciding just what to purchase.

There are lots of things we used to do in the company that we have let slide over time. One is the numbering of our gear. Each man is assigned a company number. This goes on his haversack, canteen, and knapsack. This is a very practical touch to add to our impression. Coming back from a canteen run with fourteen canteens is way easier if each canteen is numbered. The same thing goes with our other gear. Finding one's own gear in camp is easier if everything is numbered. We can easily do this at a

cartridge roll. All it takes is a bit of time to assign a number to each man, then we stencil on the numbers, easy

My period glasses are in need of an update. My vision has changed since I got these lenses. It is time for an update for me. How about your eyewear? Is it time to update them and get good vision in the field? Are your glasses period correct? How about footwear? Mine are shot and I need new brogans. How are your shoes? Is it time for a new pair or a repair? Maybe new heels or soles? Is your mess gear in good shape? Do you have a half dozen small ration bags for bringing items in your haversack? They are easy to make and very inexpensive to buy. Think about adding some to your kit in order to hide your medications, wallet ,and keys in your haversack.

It has been a long time since we have been able to go to events. Now we have some events coming up ,and I look forward to seeing you at Pleasant Hill or at the next event. Let's enjoy the hobby and try to have the most authentic impressions we can. We will rebuild the company numbers and enjoy the hobby the best we can. Whether we are at a living history event or a full fledged battle let's enjoy each other's company sitting around the ole campfire.

Keeping History Alive
Lt. Chris Strzelecki





FALL IN! ATTENTION COMPANY! QUIET IN THE RANKS!

Since it has been awhile since we've all taken the field together, I would like to introduce myself and express how much of a privilege it is to be elected as the new 1st Sergeant for the Texas Rifles/13th US. I am beyond excited to take the field and serve with all of you.

Just a quick background on myself; I started reenacting in 2004 while in college and continued until the end of 2006 before I enlisted in the Army. That led to a pretty good break in the hobby until 2018 when I was no longer tied down that I found my way back into the community. I am immensely excited to start this new year off with all of you.

We have had several members already take the field at Goliad this past weekend (March 25-27) and have had two well attended cartridge rolls at LT Strzelecki's home (thanks again for being able to cover down due to an unexpected work issue) and again at my home. It was great to get together and swap stories, eat some good food, get just over 800 cartridges rolled, and squeeze in some drill to knock some rust off.

With that, I know of a few members attending "Imprisoned on the Frontier" at Fort McKavett in April and several of us making the trip to Pleasant Hill, LA on April 8-10. I'd like to encourage everyone to attend if you are able. Speak up if you plan on attending so we can start to finalize rides and loaner gear. (I am also the Company Quartermaster so if you need something let me know as soon as possible please) Nothing beats a weekend in the field and sitting around the fire with your pards after a long day and telling stories and some great discussion.

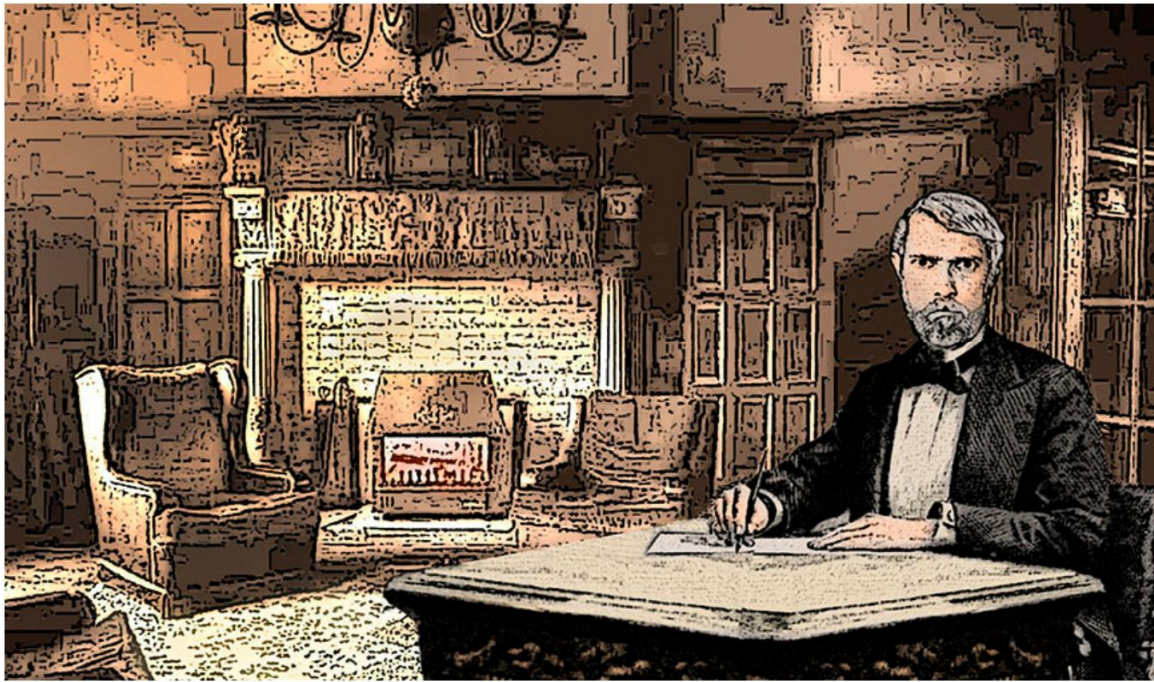
Thank all of you again for voting and electing me to serve in a leadership role in this terrific and respected organization. I sincerely hope to be able to live up to the excellent example set by the others who have held the rank before me and to the expectations of the current officers and men and women of our group. Looking forward to seeing all of you soon! Events are coming up quickly so now is the time for all of us to get our kits out, get our muskets clean, and ready to take the field again.

Thank you,
First Sergeant
Joey Alamia

To Tyrants Never Yield



To Tyrants Never Yield!



Thanks to everyone who contributed to the making of this edition of the Tyrants' Foe Newsletter. Without you it could not exist. Deadline for submissions for the next newsletter is scheduled for midnight June 26, 2022 – The Editor