THE CANNON'S MOUTH

newsletter of the California Kistorical Artillery Society "Mike Johnson Chronicles"

JUNE 2014

Commander's Call

Capt. Terry Thompson

Greetings to my troops,

The Gibson Ranch Campaign was quite interesting. I am not sure if we have turn-coats in our midst or a band of Rebs that have stolen Union uniforms. We suffered great casualties in some battles and delivered great losses in others. My heart swells to see the gallantry of my soldiers! One of our shots took down a Reb Cavalryman' while another removed an entire cannon crew from the earth. The First Sergeant has requested a Commendation and I have that in my hands to take to the President.

Pay heed to any and all Call to Arms. The Executive Officer lead the charge at Roaring Camp; no horse event. Our spies try to keep close tabs on the Confederate movement, but we can't always determine what plans are afoot.

In two short months, we will be in the grips of a great battle. We have it on good authority that the Rebels will be heading to Duncans Mills and expect the war to end there in a resounding Southern victory. We have lots to do to prepare. In the past, the city has set bleachers and encouraged the town folk to come out and watch. This is a great opportunity for us to increase our troop strength and explain the Union cause. Leave of absences will not be granted. All soldiers will need to get personal affairs in order. I need each of you to be at your best both during the preparation and for the battles.

Finally, I must promote a couple of new gun sergeants. You need to be precise, accurate, and efficient in operating a gun but more importantly, you must be able to train and maintain control of the privates.

(Continued on page 7)

Dispatches from the Dos Tent

El Duce Ted Miljevich

Civil War Days at Duncan's Mills is the word. Yes, in less than two months, July 19 & 20, our organization's biggest event of the year and our biggest fund raiser of the year is here. We need maximum effort from all members for this big event. This event is always a challenge as we host one of one of the largest annual reenacting events on the west coast. Along with portraying our normal role as Union mounted artillery, we also perform a myriad of duties to keep the event running smoothly. This means double duty as we need members to staff the various jobs in sponsoring the event and portray our usual cannoneer and driver duties. We need maximum manpower efforts. Some members who cannot make the event have sent donations. This greatly helps as we have extra projects like wood splitting and advertising that we use donated money to get done in lieu of manpower. So whatever way you can help the event, we need. Watch for the Digital Bugler with the call for help or projects to get done. Thank you all in advance for your support of our great event.

Next board meeting will be June 15th,10:00 am, at the San Ramon Marriott hotel. Any member in good standing may attend and or send along any ideas of issues with a member at large.

Thank you,

El Duce





ED NOTE: Yes El Duce, this IS the only photo we need...

Letters from the Front By Private Toni

Dear Third Artillery,

Please accept my most sincere thanks for the friendship with which you welcomed and honored me during my assignment with your unit. I am very much looking forward to my July reassignment to the 3rd Artillery, but much may happen until then because in June I am returning to my 7th Cavalry Regiment. And (as the enclosed 6 photos show in sequence, from left to right, then down), things became very precarious for the 7th Cavalry already last year towards the end of June in Montana, as you read the following below.

Due to my customary enthusiasm, I even made sure no-one in the camp missed the morning bugle call. Since noone was able to oversleep the cannon, we made preparations, and in due time we were leaving the fort. Things looked bright still as we rode up the ridge above the hostiles' village, but the situation became very ugly, very fast. As we started down the hill towards the village, it turned out that our scouts did not exaggerate, and the village was indeed much larger than General Custer had expected. Still, we charged at great speed, with me riding right alongside General Custer, who might have been still hoping for the success of his proven surprise attack tactic. Long story short, after we lost our horses, our carbines jamming and running out of ammunition, our remaining small group tried to protect the colors using side-arms (with me on the very right). For a while I was even the last member of the 7th on the battlefield, but that was indeed only for a very short time...

It remains my only hope that the year of 1862 comes before the year of 1876, and therefore I should be in good health when re-joining the 3rd Artillery at Duncan Mills.I am already looking forward to resuming my driver's duties, with the motto: "What can be better than riding a horse? Riding two horses!"



Ed. Note~ This is the same Private Toni that is organizing the Fun with Horses Day at Camp Casini this Saturday! (6/1/14)

Did You Know??
We have SAVE MART
SHARE cards!
We get a % every time you
shop. If you have one nearby,
let Janice Neikirk know and
she'll send you one!

"Leave the artillerymen alone, they are an obstinate lot..."

~ Napolean Bonaparte



THE ARTILLERY BUGLER

Pot. Michael Berry

The Bugle is a brass wind instrument played by varying the player's embouchure. The bugle call has only five notes and it this is called the bugle scale. The Bugle is used as form of military communication to sound off certain events, when to wake up or to go to bed or important calls as, "to arms or charge." Soldiers were able to learn the calls on a routine basis, at least four and up to about eleven calls a day. The bugle call evolved from the Revolutionary war by the English and the French armies. In 1812, Reveille was a drum call, but it later became a flag raising ceremony. So, by the end of the Civil War, the Cavalry, Artillery and the Infantry all had separate bugle calls including the Navy and the Marrines too.

This is the daily sequence of events:

5:50 AM – "First Call," or assemble the buglers. Assembling of the buglers to get ready to play Reveille. This comes from the French, "La Garde a Vou." Formally known as the horse racing track call to the start gates.

6:00 AM - "Reveille." On the last note, the flag was raised, the cannon were fired and all soldiers were out of bed, dressed and shaved.

6:15 AM – "Assembly." Assemble all soldiers for morning roll call.

6:30 AM - "Mess Call."

7:00 AM - "Sick Call."

7:30 AM – "Fatigue Call." Soldiers that were assigned to a work party must report in.

7:35 AM – "Stable Call." Soldiers in the cavalry report to the stable to feed their mounts hay groom and pick hooves. (Usually called just before or just after mess call)

8:55 AM - "Guard Mounting." Soldiers assigned to guard duty must report in.

9:00 AM – "Guard Mounting and Adjutants Call." Guards march to posts.

9:15 AM – "Water Call." Water your horse.

9:55 AM – "Drill Call." Soldiers would practice manual of arms, bayonet drills.

11:00 AM – "Recall or Disperse." Drill would stop.

12:00 PM - "Mess Call."

1:00 PM - "Fatigue Call."

1:30 PM – "First Sergeants Call." Company sergeants report to headquarters with their morning reports.

 $2:00\ PM$ – "Boots and saddles." Cavalry soldiers sable up and mount horses.

3:30 PM - "Recall."

4:30 PM - "Water Call."

5:30 PM – "Assembly." All soldiers' line up for retreat ceremony.

5:45 PM – "Adjutants Call." All soldiers march to paradel grounds and wait for retreat.

6:00 PM - "Retreat." Lowering of the flag.

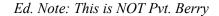
6:15 PM – "To the Color." Played if no band is present and used to render honors to the nation. Have the same courtesies as the national anthem.

7:00 PM - "Dinner Call." This sounds different than Mess Call.

9:00 PM – "To Quarters." All soldiers not authorized to be absent to be in their quarters for the night.10:45 PM – "Tattoo." All lights, loud talking and other disturbances will be discontinued within 15 minutes.

11:00 PM – "Taps." Last call of the day. All unauthorized lights are to be extinguished







AFTER ACTION REPORT

FIELD NEAR GIBSON MAY 3 & 4 1864

Sir: In compliance with the request of Capt. Thompson, Battery Commander, I have the honor to submit a somewhat detailed report of the operations of the 3^{rd} US Artillery, L Battery, in the battle of Gibson on the 3^{rd} of May, 1864.

At approximately 4 o'clock in the waning of the afternoon, our battery was going into position. One gun was placed in the outskirt of the battlefield, while the other gun was being brought around and placed further downfield, near a grove of trees. It was at this time that the friendship that had been developed amongst the artillerymen suddenly turned as half the battery exposed their true colors! With a rebel yell, and the rebel battle flag unfurled, one entire gun crew proceeded to turn their gun on the unsuspecting battery that was being brought around into the grove. There was a massive cannonade between the two guns; however, our gun was able to be limbered up and moved back to the high ground. We immediately commenced firing upon the traitors. Sadly, and not in large part to the turncoat gun, the Confederates took the field that afternoon. Two brave cannoneers forfeited their lives due to the traitorous crew, and Chief of the Piece, Sqt. Wm Entriken, was also killed in battle (by Confederate Cavalry).

The gun crew served gallantly under the most extreme conditions I have ever encountered. I am recommending a citation to read as follow:

FOR GALLANTLY UNDER EXTREME CANNON FIRE GUN CREW: SGT WILLIAM ENTRIKEN (POSTHUMOUS), CPL IGGY NEIKIRK,CPL WES FAUBEL

PVT JOHN GILLICH (POSTHUMOUS), PVT MABEL GILLICH, PVT BEN GUMBLEY (POSTHUMOUS), PVT CARL DRAKE, PVT PHILLIP THORNE, BUGLER RAY AHRENHOLZ

Also to be commended for bravery are the drivers who drove the horses through gunfire with no concern for their own safety and were able to pull the gun and crew to higher ground.

Especially to be commended: Cpl. Garth Neikirk who, with disregard for his own safety, directed

the drivers, putting himself in direct gun fire while the gun crew limbered up.

I am recommending a citation to read as follow:

FOR GALLANTLY UNDER EXTREME CANNON FIRE DRIVERS: PVT MIKE BERRY, PVT TONIE DVORAKOVA, PVT BUD CARLISI, OUTRIDER: CPL GARTH NEIKIRK

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant, 1st Sergeant George S Duncan



	3rd US	Roster As	signments 20	14	
Role	Name	Report To	Role	Name	Report To
Commanding Officer	Thompson, Terry		Qtr Master Sgt.	Entriken, William	1st Sgt.
1st Lieutenant	Foster, Scott	Captain	Stable Sgt.	Winfrey, Dennis	1st Sgt.
1st Sergeant	Duncan, George	Captain	Teamster	Bailey, Wendy	Stable Sgt.
Company Clerk	Neikirk, Janice	1st Sgt.	Teamster	Casini, Paul	Stable Sgt.
Provisioner	Gumbly, Nancy	1st Sgt.	Teamster	Martinez, Tom	Stable Sgt.
Assistant Provisioner	Lisa Sullivan	Provisioner	Teamster	Mettler, Jon	Stable Sgt.
Gun/Team 1			Gun/Team 2		
Chief of Piece	Vacant	1st Sgt.	Chief of Piece	Vacant	1st Sgt.
Gun Corporal	Scott Alto	Gun Sgt.	Gun Corporal	John Boyd	Gun Sgt.
Cannoneer	Creager, Mike	Gun Sgt.	Cannoneer	Ahrenholz, Ray	Gun Sgt.
Cannoneer	Gillich, Mabel	Gun Sgt.	Cannoneer	Ebert, Robert	Gun Sgt.
Cannoneer	Johnson, Wm D	Gun Sgt.	Cannoneer	Gillich, John	Gun Sgt.
Cannoneer	Murphy, Brooke	Gun Sgt.	Cannoneer	Gumbley, Ben	Gun Sgt.
Cannoneer	Murphy, Sierra	Gun Sgt.	Cannoneer	Krsh, Steve	Gun Sgt.
Cannoneer	Thorne, Phillip	Gun Sgt.	Cannoneer	Lenz, Dennis	Gun Sgt.
Team Corporal	Faubel, Wes	Gun Sgt.	Team Corporal	Rejaian, Katie	Gun Sgt.
Driver	Bradford, Bryan	Team Cpl.	Driver	Berry, Mike	Team Cpl.
Driver	Burtz, Dan	Team Cpl.	Driver	Czarnowski, Jill	Team Cpl.
Driver	Carlisi, Deb	Team Cpl.	Driver	Hewitt, Norm	Team Cpl.
Driver	Czarnowski, Pete	Team Cpl.	Driver	Moretti, Teri	Team Cpl.
Driver	Fischer, Pete	Team Cpl.	Driver	Murphy, Dee	Team Cpl.
Driver	Horton, Jim	Team Cpl.	Driver	Neikirk, Garth	Team Cpl.
Driver	Miljevich, Ted	Team Cpl.	Driver	Thompson, Karla	Team Cpl.
Driver	Virga, Tony	Team Cpl.	Driver	Young, Karyn	Team Cpl.
Artificers			Soldier's Aid	Supporting	
Artificer	Ahrenholz, Ray	1st Sgt.	Boling, Judith	Lewis, Thomas	
Artificer	Boling, Roger	1st Sgt.	Owens, Evelyn	Pico, Sharon	
Artificer	Little, Rylan	1st Sgt.	Thompson, Donna		
Artificer	Weston, Mark	1st Sgt.	Medical		
		-	Rogers, Keith Rogers, Laurie		
Unassigned					
Unassigned	Amari, Gary	Unassigned	Foster, Karen		
Unassigned	Bowles, Keith	Unassigned	Ginos, Alan		
Unassigned	Burnham, Nancy	Unassigned	Ginos, Barbara		
Unassigned	Byrne, Jeanne	Unassigned	Hawkins, Bill		
Unassigned Unassigned	Dombroski, Ken Dunne, Cary	Unassigned Unassigned	Hawkins, Virginia Langman, Chip		
Unassigned	Ensign, Sue	Unassigned	Moretti, Scott		
Unassigned	Faubel, Carolyn	Unassigned	Morgan, Jeannine		
Unassigned	Faubel, Melinda	Unassigned	Thelen, Carl		
Unassigned	Forseth, Phillip				



2014 Schedule of Events Some Dates Subject to Change

June		December	
1 - 22	NCWA Battles & Encampment 150th Anniversary		HAPPY HANUKAH, HAPPY CHRISTMAS & MERRY NEW YEAR
	Angel Island, San Francisco, CA		2015
	Equipment TBD	January	2010
	Contact TBD	18	Annual Meeting
		TBD	Old Town Sacramento
Rı	Russian River Rodeo & Living History	100	Contact Ted Miljevich
	Russian River Rodeo Grounds, Duncans Mills, CA		
	Contact TBD	24 - 25	NPS Living History
			Fort Point, San Francisco
8 - 29	CHAS Civil War Days Work Party		Contact TBD
D	Duncans Mills, CA	February	
	Contact Ted Miljevich	1 or 7	CWRS Live Fire
uly	J		Orosi, CA
2 - 18	CHAS Civil War Days Work Party		1 Cannon
	CHAS Civil War Days Work Party Duncans Mills, CA		Contact Scott Foster
	Contact Ted Miljevich	March	
C	Contact Ted Wingevien	21 - 22	Equipment Maintenance Work Party
Dur 2 Ca			Camp Warhorse, Salinas, CA
	CHAS Battles & Encampment 'Civil War Days'		Contact William Entriken
	Duncans Mils, CA	April	
	2 Cannons, 2 Teams, Ambulance, Wagon, & Forge	04 - 05	SCCWA Battles & Encampment
	Contact Ted Miljevich		Prado Regional Park, Chino Hills
ugust			2 Cannons, 2 Teams & Ambulance
6	NPS Living History		Contact Terry Thompson
	Fort Point, San Francisco, CA	0.4	
	Contact John Boyd	04	FOCWA Alcatraz Living History Day
eptember			San Francisco
6 - 07	NCWA Battles & Encampment		Contact John Boyd
	San Benito Historic Park, Tres Pinos, CA	TDD	D : C D 1
	1 Cannon & 3-5 Horses for Wagon/Hearse	TBD	Pacific Grove Parade
	Contact TBD		Contact TBD
BD	DACW Battles & Encompant	25 - 26	ACWA Battles & Encampment
	RACW Battles & Encampment Hawes Ranch, Anderson, CA	20 20	Mariposa
	1 Cannon, 1 Team		2 Cannons, 2 Teams, Ambulance, Wagon, Forg
	Contact Terry Thompson		Contact Terry Thompson
October	Contact Terry Thompson		The state of the s
4	FOCWA Alcatraz Living History Day	TBD	CWRA Battles & Encampment
	San Francisco, CA		Mooney Grove Park, Visalia, CA
	Contact John Boyd		1 Cannon, Forge
	•		Contact Roger Boling
	Fort Mervine Living History & Encampment	May	
	Lower Presidio Historic Park, Monterey, CA	02 - 03	NCWA Battles & Encampment
	1 Cannon, 1 Team, & 1 Wagon/Ambulance		Gibson Ranch Park, Sacramento, CA
	Contact Katie Rejaian		2 Cannons, 2 Teams, Ambulance & Wagon
0 10	FIIC % ACWA Daulas & Francisco		Contact George Duncan
	FHS & ACWA Battles & Encampment		
	Kearney Park, Fresno, CA	02	Ford Ord Warhorse Day Living History
	Equipment TBD Contact Pager Rolling		City of Marina Equestrian Center, Marina
	Contact Roger Boling		1 Cannon, 1 Team
	Bass Bowl Football Game		Contact TBD
	Lakeport, CA	22 25	ACWA D. (d 0. E.
	1 Cannon, 1 Team	23 - 25	ACWA Battles & Encampment
	Contact Alan Ginos		Roaring Camp, Felton
ovember	Contact Atan Onios		1 Cannon, No Horses
	Equipment Put Away Work Part		Contact Scott Foster
(Camp Warhorse, Salinas, CA		
	Contact William Entriken	TBD	Cal Expo Fundraising
	Connect William Entrice		Cal Expo, Sacramento, CA
A COLUMN	G		1 Cannon, No Horses
-	THE PLANT OF THE PARTY OF THE P		Contact Katie Rejaian



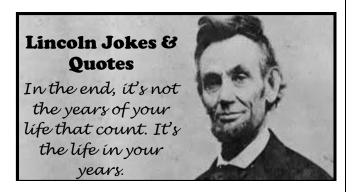
From Page 1

Capt. Terry

I noticed at the last campaign, even though, the saloon was off limits to enlisted personnel, the privates smuggled vast quantities of alcohol into camp. I had to listen to complaints from the other camps regarding the rowdiness and excessive giggling that resounded from the 3rd US. If you are interested in a field promotion, please speak to the 1st Sergeant, XO or myself.

To all my troops, your service is greatly appreciated. Thank you for your loyalty to the Union.

Capt Terry Thompson



At first glance BELOW it appears that this Marine's head was blown off by the mighty gunfire of the 3rd US, at which point the onlookers applauded with a tremendous HUZZAH...actually it was more like (wait for it)

"Go Cannon, Go Cannon"



Horse Watch 101 or The Ultimate Primer for Standing The Watch for the Novice and Non-Horse Trooper

By Corporal Casualty aka Wes Faubel

CHAS is one of the few reenacting clubs in the US that utilizes horses as they were used during the Civil War. Horses add immeasurably to our historical impression; it is difficult to imagine living history without them since the horse was ubiquitous during the 19th Century. Military horses filled the role of the jeep, motorcycle, and truck in our modern armies. They provided the motor power to move the bread, guns, ammunition, and wounded.

While our horses make us unique, they also come with a disadvantage. Horses require care and watching. Think of a picket line as a playpen full of twoyear old children to get an idea of the level of monitoring required. This necessitates the posting of a horse watch at all times that the horses are on the picket line. During the day and early evening the watch is not obvious to the non-horse troopers. The watch is stood by the drivers and teamsters in the course of their normal duties. It is only when "the horse watch roster" is posted that everyone takes note and the strategy begins. This primer will take you through the entire process, from the strategy of getting the watch you want to the mechanics of the watch itself. I will also attempt to share tips for comfort during watch.

First is your attitude toward the watch. While it is entirely period accurate to avoid all watches and fatigue duties on general principles, the horse watch provides a chance to experience part of Civil War military history. They watched their horses as closely as or more closely than we do ours (in part to prevent unauthorized remount acquisitions by neighboring batteries!). When viewed in this light, horse watch is an important part of the reenacting experience. It helps separate us from "actors" and makes us living historians. As you will see below, the fact that you may not be a horse trooper does not disqualify you.

Horse Watch Primer cont'd

Next is the strategy for signing up. There are two general strategies followed by most individuals. The first strategy involves moving quickly to the roster and signing up for the most desirable (or least objectionable) time period. The second strategy is to hang back and hope that all of the slots will be filled prior to you getting near the roster. Troopers seem to follow both strategies about equally, but only one is really workable. If you successfully manage to avoid the watch on Friday night it will be noted and you will be expected to sign up for a Saturday night watch, particularly by those who receive the least desirable watches on Friday.

You will find that the most experienced troopers will quickly move to the roster in order to claim the best watches. The best watch will vary according to the individual. Some prefer an "early" watch between 11:00 and 1:00 and some a "late" watch between 4:00 and 6:00am the following day. This leaves the "mid" watches between 1:00 and 4:00 as generally the least desirable. Troopers standing the mid-watches tend to be cranky and tired the next day and will become very vocal about persons who successfully avoided a Friday night watch and try the same strategy for Saturday.

I have my watch. Now what?

Once you have your watch, what are you expected to do? First, get your number from the 1st Sgt to mark where you sleep so that you can be woken up at the appointed time. Second, find out who will be your relief and where they sleep so that you will not become the Lost Dutchman of horse watches; wandering seemingly forever among the tents trying to find where your relief, Trooper Jones, has bedded down.

The duties of the watch are really very basic:

- 1. Make sure the horses do not get loose or tangled on the line
- 2. Keep the fire going

We will not discuss keeping the fire going here since that seems to be a self evident task requiring no additional instruction....except to note that a bonfire is not required.

Duty number one is mistakenly the primary barrier for the non-horse trooper. I say mistakenly, since the watch does not necessarily require you to either untangle a cluster of tangled horses or catch a loose horse. We do not expect anything from the horse watch that they are not either not physically capable of or uncomfortable doing. All we ask is that an eye is kept on the line and a problem either corrected or a horse person awakened to deal with a serious issue. Having said that, the Team Corporals and Drivers will appreciate it if you are willing to take care of minor matters. Remember, they will probably either have already stood their watch for the night or will have one after you.

The on-coming watch should find out from the off-going watch how many horses are on the line. Then, arming themselves with a flashlight, periodically count the number of horses tied to the line. There should be the same number as your relief told you. Other than that, you only have to keep an ear out for any commotion like fighting or thrashing from your charges. Normal commotions will tend to be brief and sharp. If you hear squealing, stomping, or horses pulling, it should settle quickly. Once the rumpus settles, check to see that a horse is not down or tangled. If two horses are continually fighting then they need to be separated. If you are not comfortable taking care of separating and retying then wake a Team Corporal or Driver

Horses lying down are normal. Some do and some don't. The only time to be concerned is if the horse is struggling to get up and can't. In that case notify a Team Corporal or Driver immediately.

Horse Watch Primer Cont'd

If you spot a loose horse, you should catch it (if you feel able). Normally, this will be no great task since loose horses tend to congregate at the hay pile to get a midnight snack. Remember that the loose horse may not be one of ours. Prior to tying it back on the line, count the number of horses you have. Tying a strange horse in the midst of our herd will definitely cause fighting.

While the above is all that the watch entails, some additional information will help you make your watch safer and pleasurable.

Watches should be stood in brogans or boots to protect the feet from hooves and various other substances lying around the line. Also, candle lanterns, oil lamps, or any other flame type illuminator should not be used around the horse line to lessen the potential for fire should it be knocked over amidst the bedding. Flashlights only! If you don't have one then someone will lend you one.

While marching to and fro would make the watch more realistic, it is certainly not required (or even encouraged). Generally, a chair by the fire or a recumbent position upon a bale of straw wrapped in your great coat helps the hour pass quickly. There is a pot of coffee on the fire that is for the watches, so feel free to partake. Between your rounds (every 10-15 minutes), sit back and relax. View the grandeur of the night sky or contemplate your actions of the day and anticipate the events of the morrow. (Just don't get too comfortable or you risk taking the next persons watch!) Remember, your ears are more effective than your eyes; you'll hear the commotion before seeing it.

Hopefully, this has cleared up some confusion around what has unjustly gained the repute of an arduous duty which in reality is simply an excuse to stay up and enjoy the camp night-life, a quiet time by the fire, or, a chance to watch the sunrise.

Remember, if something happens that you don't know how to deal with, the whole unit is there as a resource. All we ask is that you give some of us a shot at a good night's sleep.

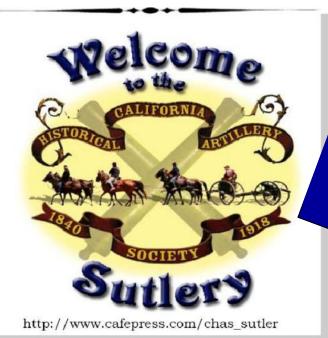
Now get up there and sign in!





Ed. Note~ Welcome back Cpl. Casualty! Look forward to more INFORMATIVE articles from the esteemed Cpl. in coming editions!





For ordering info of these four items email: warhorse.org







\$15.00

\$5.00

\$15.00



The CAFÉ PRESS stuff is REALLY cool. You can get license plate frames, tote bags and other CHAS accounterments. Who knew!

CHECK IT OUT!!!!

P.S. New RAY A. designed T-shirts will be available at CWD this year...and a new supply of ball caps! AWESOME!



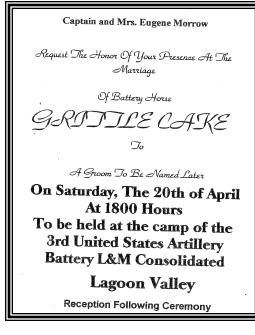




BY STABLE SGT. DENNIS WINFREY

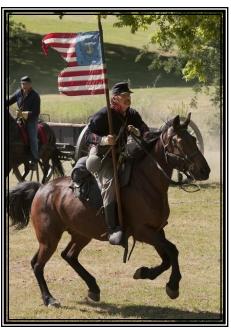
(Belated Notice, my Abject Apologies - Ed.)

On March 2nd, Grittlecake finished her career with the Unit. Funeral arrangements were provided by Salinas Tallow Works. She made Lead Horse her first year with the Unit, and was a Charter Member of CHAS. She is best known for her first year when it was discovered that she was in a family way. As the Unit could not BEAR the shame of an unwed mother, it was decided to hold a drawing among the unwed Unit members as to make a honest woman of her. (Copy of Wedding Invitation below). Joe Justiniano was the "lucky" man. After a son, "Biscuit," was born, Justiniano deserted and went South. Biscuit served with the Unit for several years, but the humiliation of having a dead-beat Dad and workaholic mother was such that he was transferred to the Cavalry. In honor of our fallen comrade, all members of the 3rd wore a black armband at Prado - in memory of her years of service.



Wedding Announcement from many moons ago

Grittlecake
pic is on
next page,
but here is
her bouncing baby
boy proudly
bearing the
colors! (With
step-papa
Garth)
→



(Ed. Note~upon learning that Biscuit indeed had a FATHER, service of a back child support lien was attempted upon said father at Prado, and was rumored to have deserted - the SCOUNDREL.)



Great meals prepared by the best cooks in this man's army!!! Thanks Lisa and Nancy



a Heartfelt Goodbye was said to one of our 4 legged comrades



Carlisi ready for battle!!!

Gibson Ranch 2014



Team 1 ready for Battle



Newest recruit Antonie Dvorakova



Cool beverages were tasted from our Unit Brewmaster.....
Thank you Carolyn!

Fort Ord Warhorse Days May 3, '14 Pvt. Dee Murphy

It was an early start to a long day, with the hope of a pink box in our near future. As I headed to the shop, I saw Stable Sgt Winfrey approaching, ready to commence battle with the cannon and limber. Further on, Bryan (Bradford), was leading two horses to the blue trailer. As I walked past Ted's truck I saw IT!!! The pink box! I grabbed a donut and quickly consumed said donut as Brandy ate my last donut from a previous event. Off to gather more horses.

We loaded all 7 horses in nothing flat and headed out with the cannon trailer to Marina. Heidi (the horse shoer) would be riding Bingo. She is always ready to participate in any event, as our Outrider. After another lesson from Dennis on how to correctly fold a red saddle blanket, the tacking went smoothly. We were tacked, hitched up, mounted and in position right on time. As we drove the horses up the road, we passed Hussar's horses. Now they danced and pranced about at the new noises, but all went well. The weather was cloudy and cool - perfect for wearing wool!! The horses were well-behaved for the flag salute and introduction of dignitaries. Our team consisted of: Wheel Driver, Ted M., Swing Driver, Bryan B., Lead Driver Dee M., and Heidi (our Horse shoer) riding as Outrider. Stable Sgt Dennis W. was our command staff with Brooke and Sierra "gleefully" handing out fliers and Dona Esther coupons to all visitors. With only 7 of us involved in Fort Ord Warhorse Days, we saw a WHOLE lot of saddle time!!! (All 4 hours). As FOWD grows each year, we are seeing more and more visitors coming out for a wonderful day of history. New to this year's event were motorized vehicles (jeeps) and a fully restored Half-Track. With the clouds lifting and the crowd growing, it was time to take a few turns around the old veterinarian barn. We did cause quite a stir as everyone watched! We drove in between numerous vehicles with inches to spare and everyone took pictures as we drove past. People lined up to pet our horses and try and feed them popcorn. Some succeeded. The Hussar horses danced and pranced while all the CHAS horses stood quietly, awaiting their next piece of apple from Stable Sgt. Winfrey.

Time for a few more rounds of the barn to the delight of the crowd but NOT the cowboys and their horses! As we came around past a metal chain link fence, there were three cowboys sitting astride their horses. Two of these horses stared at the noisy contraption coming at them but stood their ground. The third cowboy's horse decided it was time to rodeo and began bucking and twisting in the sand (probably a good place for that). As we passed by, his horse tried as hard as it could to bolt but the cowboy, being a strong and knowledgeable horseman, stayed in the saddle and held on tight. We pulled up to a stop and rested from our arduous exercise.

Picture time! We pulled up next to the Half Track and it was tricky getting everyone into the ensuing pictures. Seeing as the Half-Track was the machine that began the transformation from horse and cannon to vehicle and guns, our team was eyeing the stranger warily. But we all decided to let bygones be bygones, and stood strong and proud for all to see.

Two gentlemen approached our team and I asked them to take a few fliers and to please come out to our fundraiser on June 18th in San Juan Bautista where we planned on bringing our cannon to show all the visitors. They then introduced themselves as Marina Mayor Bruce Delgado and also the City Manager of Marina. They thanked all of us for attending and invited us back next year. You just never know who might show up and come to our events!

To all who want a fun and easy event, please make sure to attend next year's Fort Ord Warhorse Days. We had a great time and hope next year the two events (Gibson Ranch) will be on different days so more can come on out for the beautiful weather! Come on over to Pinterest to see all the great pictures...no membership or signup needed just follow the links on www.warhorse.org

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Submissions for the next issue are due soon. Hopefully we'll have a real editor as well!

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