

Trans-Allegheny Dispatch

The newsletter of the West Virginia Reenactors Association
2021- April - Edition IV

Pool, MD. <http://www.friendsoffortfrederick.info/index.htm> (This event is currently still on. They expect a final decision by April 1.)

Upcoming Events

PLEASE NOTE that all of the events in 2021 are dependent on the status of the pandemic. Please ensure that the event is not cancelled before attending.

Sponsored

None at this time

Sanctioned

None at this time

Other Events recommended by WVRA members

160th Anniversary Bull Run, April 23-25

- Daniel Lady Farm, Gettysburg

Chancellorsville May 1-2, 2021 - NPS

Event - CANCELLED

New Market - CANCELLED

Stonewall Jackson Civil War

Roundtable, Second Tuesday of each month - PWA Building behind the Courthouse in Clarksburg

Gettysburg, July 1-3 - at the movie site in Gettysburg. - CANCELLED

Beverly Heritage/Rich Mountain, July 10. See below

Antietam, Sept 18-19 - Daniel Lady Farm, Gettysburg

Cedar Creek, Oct. 16-17 - Middletown, Va.

Other

18th Century - April 9-10-11. **School of the Longhunter**, Prickett's Fort, Rt. 3 Fairmont, WV 26554. <http://www.prickettsfortstatepark.com/events.html>

GWA Spring National Living History and Tactical Event. Great War Association Site, Newville, PA. Sponsored by GWA. - April CANCELLED <http://www.great-war-assoc.org/>

18th Century- April 22-25, **18th Century Market Fair**, Fort Frederick State Park, Big

WWII Weekend, Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge. 1601 Valley Forge Rd. Phoenixville PA, 19460 - May, date to be announced <http://ww2weekend.org/about-us/>

Misc. - TBA, **Machine Gun Shoot.** Sponsored by DNA Guns. Many historic weapons available for rent. Admission \$10.00. Trickett Hill Road, Morgantown, WV 26508. GPS 39.5137999,-79.947000

18th Century, TBA, **Siege of Fort Randolph**, Point Pleasant,

WV. www.facebook.com/fortrandolph, Contact Craig Hesson, 304-675-

7933, chesson1774@suddenlink.net, or Deb Cassady, ftrandolph@yahoo.com, fortrandolph.weebly.com;

Early 20th Century -TBA, Brownsville, PA. Brownsville Steam, Gas and Horse Association, 31st Annual Reunion, <https://www.facebook.com/pages/National-Pike-Steam-Gas-and-Horse-Association/141862562548542>

18th Century - May 22-23, **Revolutionary War Encampment.** PA Longriffl Museum, J. Joseph Henry House, Jacobsburg Historical Society 402 Henery Rd. Nazareth, PA 18064. Battles Saturday and Sunday afternoons. Campfires and vehicles welcome. Website: <http://www.jacobsburghistory.com/>

Civil War - TBA, **Julia Pierpont Day**, Marion Co. Historical Society, Fairmont, WV. <https://www.facebook.com/marionhistorical/>

Time line event - Sat May 29-30, **Soldiers Through the Ages** https://www.oldfortniagara.org/calendar/list/current_page,1/per_page,10

Time line event - May 29-30, **Military Timeline**, Historic Daniel Lady Farm, Gettysburg, PA. <https://danielladyfarm.com/events>

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June 3-6, **Blue-Gray Reunion**, Philippi, WV.
Contact Edgar Brown 304-457-4265.

18th Century -No events scheduled due to Covid restrictions. **Fort Frederick**, MD. <http://www.friendsoffortfrederick.info/calendar.htm>

WWII - June 4,5,6, **Reading Air Show**, Reading Airport, Reading, PA. <http://www.maam.org/maamwwii.html>

WWII - June 11-13, **Bantam Jeep Heritage Festival**, Butler, PA. <http://www.bantamjeepfestival.com/>

WWII – June 26-27, **Jacobsburg WWII Weekend. Living History and Tactical**. Boulton Historic Site and Jacobsburg Historical Society 402 Henery Rd. Nazareth, PA 18064. Battles Saturday and Sunday afternoons. Campfires and vehicles welcome.
Website: <http://www.jacobsburghistory.com/> .

Old West - TBA, **Wild West Weekend**. Old Bedford Village, Bedford, PA. <http://www.oldbedfordvillage.com/events.php>

18th Century- July 2-3-4, **French and Indian War Encampment**, Old Fort Niagara's annual recreation of the historic Siege of 1759. Old Fort Niagara, Youngstown, NY. https://www.oldfortniagara.org/calendar/list/current_page,1/per_page,10

Living History – July 3-4 – Droop Mountain – Sponsored by the 31st Virginia. Don't know if it's open to other groups

White Sulfur Springs (Dry Creek)– August 21-22, Greenbrier State Forest [2021 Battle of Dry Creek](#) | [Battle of Dry Creek](#)

160th Anniversary of Ball's Bluff, Oct. 9-10 - near Leesburg, Va.

Droop Mountain – tentatively scheduled for Oct. 8-10. [2021 Battle of Dry Creek](#) | [Battle of Dry Creek](#)

No Meeting Scheduled

No meeting is scheduled at this time. Because of concerns over Covid-19, the meeting is postponed until further notice. Any questions can be directed to the Executive Committee.

-- IMPORTANT NEWS --

Temporary Executive Committee Actions In Effect (October)

The following two proposals were approved by the five voting members of the Executive Committee in an email vote the last week of October.

PROPOSAL #1 "In light of the current pandemic and its effects on the hobby, the Executive Committee postpones the election of new officers of the WVRA until such time that the Committee determines that it is prudent to hold the 'annual meeting' in accordance with procedures described in the by laws."

PROPOSAL #2 "The President shall have the authority to temporarily appoint, until the next duly conducted Association election, members to fill vacancies on the Executive Committee."

If any member has a concern or question about this action, please contact President Jim Barnes or myself. These actions were simply in response to how the pandemic is affecting group meetings at the moment. Executive committee members are listed near the end of every newsletter. Members are encouraged to work through your Unit Representative. If you currently do not have a Unit Rep., work through an officer. Reminder to General Members, the WVRA President serves as your Unit Representative.

March

The five voting members of the Executive Committee voted and passed a proposal to send a \$25 memorial contribution in memory of C.E. Lynch.

Membership

I can report to you, that as of today, March 24, we have 42 members who have renewed. Last year we had 63 members. Keep in mind that you must be a member to be eligible for membership. And if there

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any questions about who is a member, refer to the list below.

It is past time to renew your membership in the WVRA for 2021. To be a member you must pay dues. To **be eligible for the group insurance you must be a member.** Return the membership form and dues to : C. L. Critchfield, 608 Skyview Drive, Clarksburg WV 26301

1. Dues are \$15 per year per person and \$25 per year for a family. If you wish to receive a paper copy of the newsletter there is an additional \$15 fee. The Email version of the newsletter is included in the membership. Family memberships are limited to family members college age or younger residing within the household.
2. **Minors:** All members under the age of 18 need the signature of a guardian to join. Those under 16 will not be allowed to carry a firearm. Those under 14 may not participate in reenactment battles. In addition the WVRA complies with the particular rules at specific events regarding age.

2021 Membership Renewals

Artillery

David Judy
Roger House

Susan Judy

1st West Virginia

Jim Barnes
Mike Phillips*
Chuck Critchfield
John Ziolkowski
Patrick Carroll
Bill Donegan

Keith Kopshina
Jack Rush
Kevin Skaggs
Chris Carroll
Ralph McCready
Ron Wenig

25th Virginia

Ken Connell
Dirk Behana
Tim Glaser
John Webb

Tag Ireland*
Jim Allman
Greg Watterson
Bill Brisendine

TASAS

Peter Baxter*
Bill Snyder*
Pamela Dodds
Debbie Rush
Abby Ward
Linda Donegan

Phyllis Baxter*
Linda Barnes
Art Dodds
Patty Carroll
William Ward
Debbie Wenig

General

Larry Teets
Matthew Price
Barry Miller

Senator Hunter Lesser
William Burruss
Rebecca Miller

Newsletter mailing

Bill Snyder

Tag Ireland

* - indicates lifetime members

If you think I have left your name off the list, please contact me.

Treasurer's Report

March 1, through March 31, 2021

Beginning balance	\$3,051.94
Credits	
Memberships	\$ 105.00
Debits	
Memorial (CE Lynch)	\$ 25.00
Liability Insurance	\$ 632.54
Ending Balance	\$2,494.40

Submitted by Jack Rush, Treasurer, WVRA

Liability Insurance

I received an electronic copy of the certificate of liability insurance for the WVRA just as I was preparing to email this edition of the Trans-Allegheny Dispatch. If you would like a copy, email a request to me (Chuck Critchfield)

Upcoming Events

Rich Mountain Fun Run Memorial March

Join the Beverly Heritage Center for the 160th anniversary of the Union victory at the Battle of Rich Mountain! For July 10th, 2021, we are recruiting reenactors to help with programming, participating, and public education. The March will start on the Battlefield at the top of Rich Mountain and continue for 5.1 miles, ending in the historic town of Beverly. As visitors arrive at the Battlefield in the morning, our hope is that our participants will be able to interact with you. After all the runners/walkers make their way down the mountain, the finale of the event will feature Union troops marching into Beverly just like they did after the battle was won. We will have a space reserved for reenactors to camp if they are interested. Please contact us for further details at the Beverly Heritage Center by phone at (304) 637-7424 or via email at info@beverlyheritagecenter.org.

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The Stonewall Jackson Civil War Roundtable

The SJCWRT has meetings scheduled for the second Tuesday of each month. The current scheduled location is the Progressive Women's Association located directly behind the Harrison County Courthouse. The location is subject to change in later in 2021. Anyone attending is required to wear a mask. I have no word on the Morgantown round table.

Living History Monroe County

There will be a Civil War encampment (CSA), and Living History demonstrations Friday thru Sunday. 1860's thru 1901 attire preferred but not mandatory. Saturday is the main event "Social" with ceremonies, demonstrations, Picnic BBQ, and remembrances.

This event is hosted by the 'Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp Beirne Chapman #148', Union, WV, and will occur on it's private property at Monument site. The Monument is located on north side of town, on US-219, across from Elmwood Manor and behind the Presbyterian Church.

Camp Beirne Chapman #148
PO Box #518
Union, WV, 24983

ACTORS NEEDED

I'm trying to find a few men, both Union and Confederate, plus some ladies to help with scenes from a film about Mother's Day. The scenes will be outside at the Anna Jarvis Birthplace in Webster. All that is needed is for the men to appear to be wounded and the ladies will be attending to their wounds. The other scene is the soldiers and their wives at a picnic making up after the war - handshakes, hugs, etc., whatever they are comfortable with in this COVID climate. No lines are needed as the scenes will have voice over.

The filming will be sometime the week after Easter, April 5-9 and will need to be done before 3 p.m.

I also need some kids around ages 12 and under for a scene inside of the International Mother's Day Shrine in Grafton, with 1870s clothes, so probably

similar to what they wore on the farms during the American Civil War.

JoAnn F. Peterson

Actor, Singer, and Amazing Women of History Portrayals
125 N Price Street, Kingwood, WV 26537
301-268-5116

COMMUNICATION FROM THE FIELD

Sorry to hear about Jeff. He really did a great job as Commanding Officer.

Also C.E. Lynch passed away a few weeks ago. (Charles Edward Lynch)

We went to Hargrave Military Academy a while back to do a living history to my son's class.

We are getting on in age aren't we.

- John Ziolkowski

CE Lynch

(The following was excerpted from his published obituary)

LYNCH, Charles Edward "CE" Lynch II, age 72 of Beaver was called to heaven on Thursday February 11, 2021 at the Bower's Hospice House following a long battle with Parkinson's Disease. C.E. was born to the late parents Charles and Margaret Lynch of Sprague on September 30, 1948. C.E. graduated from Woodrow Wilson High School in 1968, and later was a graduate of The College of West Virginia with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Interdisciplinary Environmental Studies. C.E. was a proud veteran of the U.S. Navy where he served as a Navy Photographer's Mate from 1969-1972. He was employed with Peabody Coal Company for many years and later retired with the USDA as a Biotechnician.

C.E. was an outdoor enthusiast who loved to spend his time hunting, camping and fishing. C.E. loved all sports and was actively involved in coaching his children at the Shady Spring Little League. He loved to umpire softball and baseball games, along with officiating football for many years through the Little League and local schools. C.E. was an avid history buff and nearly impossible to stump in Civil War History trivia. He enjoyed and spent many years participating

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at Civil War Reenactments and would speak to elementary schools in full dress about the life of the common Civil War soldier.

He was a beloved husband, father, grand-father, and brother and will be immensely missed by his family.

NOTE – The WVRA made a donation to the Bower's Hospice House of Southern West Virginia, 454 Cranberry Drive Beckley WV 25801

Hospice of Southern West Virginia, Inc

Thank you for supporting Hospice of Southern West Virginia by making a gift in memory of Charles E. Lynch. Your \$25.00 contribution allows us to further our mission to provide care to those with a life-limiting illness in southern West Virginia. Since our inception in 1981, it has been the generosity of the community that has given us the ability to move forward and expand our services to those in need.

Last year, Hospice of Southern West Virginia provided compassionate care to over 1100 patients and their families. Oftentimes, family members tell us that the opportunity to be at home with a loved one or at the home-like setting of the Bowers Hospice House was the greatest gift they could receive. We are only able to provide those comforts because of generous contributions such as yours.

We pledge to be good stewards of your contribution and are truly appreciative of your kindness. We are fortunate to have your support.

Janett Green, MBA
Chief Executive Officer

Event Reviews

None at this time

Other Features

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"Classified Ads" For Sale

(Editor's note: Jim Barnes sent this to me for Tyler Claypole. I have reprinted word for word. I assume the numbers in the last paragraph are prices for the respective items. So if you need clarification, contact Mr. Claypole)

one confederate officer complete jacket hat and pants and union naval uniform complete with pants And confederate artillery uniform with pants and hat And union cav officer uniform with pants and hat And confederate butternut gray uniform with pants and vest

Pants are 32 waist. Jackets are large.

The naval uniform is 150 Union cav officer 300 Confederate officer 500 Confederate shell jacket is 150 Butternut gray is 225
Contact Tyler Claypole at 304-376-9043.

From Bryan Cokeley

With regret, I am resigned to getting out of the hobby. 😞

I just don't seem to have the impetus to get to events with Hampton having left the state. He was in Texas; he now lives in Richmond. (Apparently, he took to heart those calls of "On to Richmond!") He turns 30 in May. He was 10 when we went to our first School of the Soldier. The passage of time. Maybe we all added 5 years this past year.

It seems wasteful for me to sit on all of this reenactment gear. I will keep my musket. I can make some young person a great deal on everything else – a whole kit to get started in the hobby. If you know of someone interested, please let me know.

Miss everyone!

Best,

Bryan (Cokeley formerly of the 1st West Virginia)

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Book Review **Southern Oasis at Gettysburg**

Bob O'Connor - author

Sometime just prior to the pandemic (I forget when, exactly) I heard this author speak at a meeting of the Mason-Dixon Civil War Roundtable here in Morgantown. Mr. O'Connor is an interesting and animated speaker and he discussed the basic outline of this, his latest book, and I was intrigued enough to buy a copy on the spot. I have quite a few books in my "to read stack," but I finally got around to reading it this winter.

The book is history-based fiction and concerns the hospital set up for General Edward Johnson's division of Ewell's 2nd Corps of the Army of Northern Virginia. This hospital was set up on the Daniel Lady farm near Culp's Hill outside of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. The Lady family left the farm just before the battle began to stay with Mr. Lady's sister up the road at Dillsburg until the fighting had ended.

The writing style is a bit odd in that the point of view begins in first person spoken by Pvt. Henry O'Bannon, 2nd Virginia Infantry, Stonewall Brigade, who is assigned to keep a record of what he sees for the duration of the battle since he is injured and cannot use a musket. Later in the book, the point of view shifts to third person and tells us what the Lady family is doing. Then it goes back to Henry, then ends up back in third person. It did feel somewhat disconcerting. The author also seems to get the military ranks confused and Henry seems to be saluting everyone, including other privates.

There are some other questionable things that happen, but if you can get by these, the book is quite readable and his discussions of specific events and individuals seem well-researched. The impact of the battle on the Lady family and their farm is quite sobering.

The Lady Farm is a historical site that is open to the public and is hosting a number of Civil War events this year. If you are planning on attending any of them, you may want to check out this book for some background. It is available on Amazon.

-Review by Jim Barnes

House Bill 2174

The West Virginia House of Delegates passed House Bill 2174 which it would make it illegal to remove, relocate or change the plaque of any statues on public grounds without a first obtaining a permit from the state Historic Preservation Office. I am not sure if the Senate has considered HB 2174 as of March 30.

In reading through several news articles, it seems that this bill will also apply to the naming of schools, streets and other public entities. Discussion over the bill in the legislature was centered around Civil War monuments and memorials, especially Stonewall Jackson on the State Capitol grounds

"They Said It (or didn't)"

Quotes, misquotes and fabrications attributed to the famous, nearly famous, not famous and infamous.

"Don't believe everything you read on the Internet just because there's a photo with, a quote next to it."

-- Abraham Lincoln, February 31, 1866

Other Sites

American Battlefield Trust - www.battlefields.org

Beverly Heritage Center -

www.beverlyheritagecenter.org

Mason Dixon Civil War Roundtable -

www.wvmasondixoncwrt.org/

Link to Clarksburg History Museum -

<https://clarksburgmuseum.wixsite.com/history>

Battle of Gettysburg Podcast -

Addressing Gettysburg podcast -

Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation -

www.ShenandoahAtWar.org

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Current WVRA Officers

Jim Barnes - President

Ken Connell - Vice President

Jack Rush - Secretary/Treasurer

Vacant - Unit Rep (TASAS)

Vacant - Unit Rep (1st W. Va. Infantry)

Bill Brisendine - Unit Rep (25th Virginia Infantry)

Dave Judy - Unit Rep (artillery)

Webmaster - Peter Baxter

Editor - Chuck Critchfield

Note - Webmaster and Editor are non-voting members of the Executive Committee.

ATTENTION - Please do not send any correspondence to the PO Box in Buckhannon. Membership information can be sent to me. Remember you must be a member of record to qualify for membership benefits. To be covered under the liability insurance policy purchased by the WVRA, you must be a member. I am not sure who is administrator to the WVRA-TASAS page. I continue to use the WVRA-TASAS page to post announcements as it has been the page getting the most use.

As newsletter editor, I encourage submissions from members or readers, that are related to American history. I retain the right as editor to make a final decision on the content of this publication. Abusive or political submissions will not be published.

Editor's Corner

The Editor's chance to speak

PERSONALS - Jeff Zickefoose has been moved from hospital to hospice care. As of March 30, I have heard nothing additional. CE Lynch passed away last month. I believe he was a member briefly in the 1990's. I knew him longer since he and I reenacted together in the 28th Massachusetts. It appears not many current members knew him or remember him.

THANK YOU - Thanks to Jim Barnes, Jack Rush and John Ziolkowski for their contributions to this month's Trans-Allegheny Dispatch.

IT APPEARS that some of the pandemic restrictions are beginning to fade away and we may have reenactments this year. However, I detect little interest among the WVRA membership to participate. Membership is down by 1/3.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE to create your own historical record, jot down your recollections of January 6, 2021 and keep it for future generations to read. I also invite you to submit for publication in this humble publication, any stories of your family military history or your favorite reenacting stories.

Trans-Allegheny Dispatch The official publication of the West Virginia Reenactors Association April 2021 - Edition IV

This newsletter is available free to members by email. It will be mailed by US Mail for \$15 per year fee.

The views expressed here are not necessarily The views of the WVRA.

WVRA website - wvra.org

Chuck Critchfield - Editor

608 Skyview Drive

Clarksburg, WV 26301

ccritch608@yahoo.com



The officers of the Kanawha Battalion from the 1990's. Seated Major Mike Butler, commanding. From the left: Capt. David Cooper, 83rd Pa., Capt. Jeff Zickefoose, 1st W. Va.; Capt. Jimmy Eppling, 91st Ohio and Jack Nuckols, Adj., 91st Ohio.

"We tend to create stories that appeal to us. Then we impose those stories on the past."

- A Wallace Collection video produced on the 500th anniversary of the battle of Agincourt - found on You Tube

"The lack of a sense of history is the damnation of the modern world."

- Robert Penn Warren