
The Maine Bugle

The Maine Cavalry Newsletter

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Trevilian Station

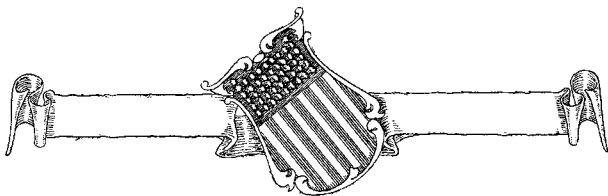
Phillip Sheridan with 6,000 cavalry moved from Cold Harbor on June 7th, northwest to link with David Hunter's forces coming from the Shenandoah Valley. After joining, these forces were to proceed to destroy the Virginia Central Railroad and the James River Canal, both vital supply arteries for Lee's Army of Northern Virginia. In the meantime, Wade Hampton marched 5,000 Confederate cavalrymen to intercept Sheridan.

North-east of the station the two forces met about 5am on the 11th. A division from each side was dismounted and sent into the woods in what became a very caotic and hot fight. Men of both sides found themselves in the enemy's lines, tangled in the thick undergrowth, and wandering blindly about. Sheridan sent in a second division breaking Hampton's front. As the Confederates fell back they encountered Custer and his Michigan brigade at the depot rummaging through Hamptons baggage train they had just captured. Enraged, the Confederates charged and a furious fight ensued. Outnumbered and nearly surrounded when Confederate reinforcements arrived, Custer's men fought off several attacks until they finally broke out and escaped. Fatigue from the hard fighting in stifling heat, and low ammunition brought the day's battle to an end.

Sheridan attacked the railroad the next morning, and in the afternoon resumed the action against Hampton. The Confederates counterattacked and sent the Federals reeling, ending the largest all-cavalry action of the war. The morning of the 13th, Sheridan turned back to Cold Harbor. He had not seriously damaged the railroad, or the canal, and he had not linked with Hunter, but he did deny Lee use of his cavalry while the Army of the Potomac was crossing the James. Trevilian also demonstrates the hard hitting force the Union Cavalry had become.

This June 13th-15th, on a site three miles from the actual battlefield, the Trevilian Station Battlefield Foundation will host the first annual reenactment and living history of the battle to help preserve the site. This will be a cavalry and artillery event, there will be no infantry. Planned are the usual demonstrations and maneuvers, period music by the Ethiopian Serenaders, and a dawn ride through the Green Springs Historic District.

The event is located 1 mile east of Boswell Tavern which is the intersection of routes 15 and 22 in Louisa County, Virginia.



President Street Station



April 12th marked the official opening of the Baltimore Civil War Museum at President Street Station. The event opened with a parade from the square at the foot of Broadway in Fells Point to the station on President Street near Little Italy. Major Bunker led the column with a mounted detachment that included Sgt. Schumacher. Sgt. Todd's detail, consisting of privates Dave Geslois, Pete Humphrey, Mark Rooney, and Ken Unitas, rode escort on the two carriages that carried some fortunate civilians. Bugler Chuck Rough marched with Wayne Wolfe, the infantry commander, while Rich Ray and Eugene Willey marched within the column. Despite the fact that it began raining just as we arrived at the station, everything went very well and pretty much on time.

Several folks spoke at the dedication, the ribbon was cut and the museum opened for business, bringing 2nd Maine's twenty years of involvement in the effort to save the station to a notable milestone. Now we are looking at conducting living history demos at the site and continuing our involvement with the preservation of President Street Station.

The ball that night to celebrate the opening of the museum at President Street was a grand success. The efforts and coordination of Mark & Maria Rooney, and Kathleen Cimino resulted in all going according to plan and everyone having a good time. Held the same place as last year, the Polish Alliance Hall in Fells Point, The crowd of 100-150 seemed just right for the place.

Continuing their efforts to keep the yellow piping industry in the black are, (left to right); Sgt Gerald Todd, Pvt Dave Geslois, Bugler Chuck Rough, and Pvt Ken Unitas.





Upcoming Skirmishes

May 23-25	Brandywine, Wilmington, DE	
June 13-15	Trevilion Station, Green Springs, VA	
July 4-6	Gettysburg, PA	\$6.00
August 1-3	2nd Manassass, Leeburg, VA	\$5.00
August 29-31	Boonsboro, MD	\$5.00
September 12-14	Antietam, Hagerstown, MD	\$5.00
September 26-28	Monmouth, Freehold, NJ	\$5.00
October 17-19	Cedar Creek, Middletown, VA	\$6.00
November 22	Remembrance Day, Gettysburg, PA	

If you want to attend any of the above listed events, you have to tell me **NOW** and cover your registration fees.

There are a couple of new events on the list you should note. Boonesboro and Monmouth should be good events. I've been hearing good things about Boonsboro, and Monmouth has always been fun in the past. This does fill up August and September, but then again, it gives you more to choose from as well.

If you are going to the Antietam event you should plan to get there as early as you can. This is going to be a major event; getting in will become a major hassle Friday evening, and nearly impossible Saturday morning.

The weekend of October 3rd there is a small event at Rising Sun in Cecil County Maryland. This is a little shoot 'em up that's not on our schedule, but if you would like to attend on your own, the registration is \$5. Contact: John Houck, 400 Schucks Road, Bel Air MD 21015, 410-836-2642.

Brandywine

The 5th annual event at Brandywine State Park in Delaware will be May 23rd - 25th. I've always heard good things about this event though something has always conflicted with it to keep me from going - this year it our scheduled vacation. At any rate, go, have fun, bag a reb for me! Brandywine Park in Northwest of Wilmington, Delaware at the intersection of **routes 100 and 92**. The main entrance is on **Adams Dam Road** just east of that intersection. It's a popular park and there should be decent signage leading you there. One way is up 95 past Wilmington to exit 11; west on 92 to 100 and Adams Dam Road; east on Adams Dam to the park entrance on the left. A Delaware state map might show a better route, so don't hold me to this directions.

Fort McHenry

Because of a mix up in who the organiser thought we were, this event was scratched from our schedule. Lester fell in with the 5th US for the weekend, and Bunker went as a "visiting officer" accompanied by Dave Geslois. All reported generally favorably, so maybe next year we'll go en mass.

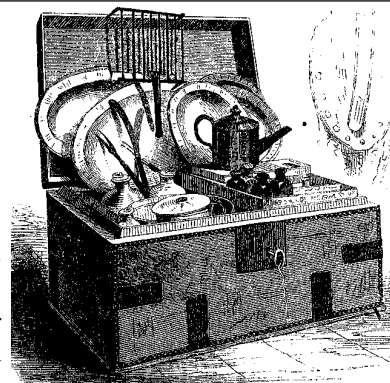
The Company Mess

At Oakridge Estates, (Stanardsville), this April attendance was, disappointing. Barb and I had arranged for feeding the number that said they were coming and there was more food than was needed, to say the least. This isn't going to happen again.

The only system that seems to work in a fair manner is for the weekend's meals to be planned by the "cooks" and for everyone to bring their portions of the same items. For instance, if we're grilling chicken breasts, then everyone has to bring chicken breasts for themselves, or eat with the hotdog vendors. Hopefully we will be able to post the "forage list" for each event in the Bugle so everyone will have plenty of lead time to get their vittles.

For Trevilion plan for ham steak, canned yams, and canned corn Saturday night; eggs for breakfast, and lunch is up to you.

Every member of the outfit should own, at least, a *cup*, a *plate*, and a *fork*. A *spoon* and a *knife* are very handy to have, and a small *boiler* and/or a small *frying pan* can make one cavalryman completely self-sufficient. One other item that should be noted is a can opener of some sort, like a "p38." There will be events, especially tactical situations, when there will be no company mess equipment available and the above items will be highly valued. All of them can also be carried in or on your haversack without adding undue burden.



Living History at President Street Station

Folks not doing anything the last weekend of May should get into their gear, military or civilian, and go to President Street Station. The Museum opens at 1000, when you get there see Mark Trunk of the 2nd US Infantry and tell him who you are and who you're with and be ready to spend the day talking to folks about the war, the station, the riot, and what you're wearing. This is the first living history weekend at the station with plans for many more.