

THE UNION VOLUNTEER

NEWSLETTER OF THE 7TH MICHIGAN VOLUNTEER INFANTRY, CO. B, INC.

Volume XXXVI No. 8 August 2017



The Jarrett family at the Military Ball – Jackson Civil War Muster, August 2012
Photo submitted by Bill Jarrett.

August Events:

“Play in the Park,” Sharp Park, Delta Township (Lansing) Living History –
Sat. Aug. 26, 1-4 PM –
Jim Kirschensteiner, coordinator (see pg. 6)

Jackson Civil War Muster, Cascades Park,
Jackson, MI – August 26-27 (Map pg. 7)
Shall we support Jackson again?

Club Leadership

New Member Chairs:

Daniel Malick (military)
dmalick12@gmail.com
Julie Everett (civilian)
dikeverett@comcast.net

President: Dave Downing
Vice President: Steve Church
Secretary: Doug McComas
Treasurer: Don Everett
Military: Doug McComas, Captain
Civilian Coordinator: Sue Colegrove
Board Members-at-Large:
Dan Conklin, Joy Henderson,
Bill Jarrett
Quartermaster: Don Everett
Club Historian: Doug McComas
Webmaster: Dennis Zank

Website: www.7thmichigan.us

Annual Membership Dues:

\$16.00 – single

\$19.20 – family

\$6.00 – to receive newsletter as
non-participating/non-voting member

Mail payments or inquiries to:

7th Michigan Volunteer Infantry, Co. B, Inc.
P.O. Box 16206, Lansing, MI 48901-6206

Newsletter Submission Guidelines:

Thanks to all who submitted
information for this month's issue.

Deadline date for submissions is the 25th
of each month. Please have all reports,
articles, notices, etc. in print-ready form.

I am able to accept documents in most of the
usual word processing programs or formats.

If accompanying maps or images are
needed, **please** include them (in jpg
format), if possible. Be sure to ascertain
that any items coming from another source
are properly credited, or have obtained
reprint permission.

Personal news items are welcomed and
encouraged, or photos of special
events. Original articles (800-1000 word
limit) pertaining to the Civil War or
reenacting are also desired.

Email submissions to me at:
7thminewsletter@gmail.com

Or mail to:
736 Gettysburg Ave.
Jackson, MI 49203

Thank-you.


Ellyn Painter, Editor

I was looking back over the May issue recently, trying to find a more complete list of events for the remainder of the season, and noticed what an appalling proofreading job I did on that issue!! Numerous errors! (Like who is "Gordon" Carlson?? Don't know where that came from!) Sooo ashamed. Must have already been brain dead by the time I got that issue out. I hope I have been doing better since then. Thank you all for your patience and support!



Military Report

Hard to believe we are half way through the season! August brings Jackson and "Play in the Park." Look for info on Facebook for both. I miss some of my old pals but am excited to see young men and fresh fish in the ranks. We are in a new and exciting time in the hobby.

Hastings After-Action Report

First the weather. Not your typical Charlton Park. The weather was picture perfect. We had a great turnout of military and were in a combined company with our friends from the 1st Michigan and the 17th Michigan. We were 5th/4th company and had a 20 man company throughout the weekend. Saturday morning drill was a bit rough as your captain had a little synapse issue that seemed to short out between hearing, understanding and executing, but the men were patient and helpful and it did not affect our battle performance. Special thanks to the 17th's captain Nick Miner for helping clear the fog.

The battle was interesting and enveloped the crowd. We pushed the rebs across the field and made a run at capturing the cannons until the action was stopped just short of that objective. Saturday evening we were treated to an amazing potluck dinner from our civilians and the boys had their fill and then some, especially with the cookies. Many of us participated in the candlelight tour and unfortunately both our 1st sergeant and 1st corporal were dead. I appropriately received a head wound and wandered around looking for the Colonel, who had placed us here. When he arrived he was appalled, but assured us that we would drill in the morning. The long anticipated derringer duel with [Ryan VanMaldegen](#) took place with the Colonel as the referee. My peashooter misfired and I was rescued by my son [Andrew McComas](#) whose .44 held the Lieutenant at bay. Since we all were wonderful shots, the duel (photographic evidence) ended in a hug and a promise for a rematch at Holland this September.

Sunday

Sunday's tactical saw us chasing running rebs all morning and we were treated? to Nick Medich popping up on our rear completely undetected and blasting the hell out of us. The pm battle was a treat, as always, and the confusion that takes place often adds to the realism. Things didn't go as planned for them, either. I am grateful for the men in the ranks, the friendship and support of Colonel [Rob Van](#) and the guidance and friendship of our GLB family. A special thank you to Bill Jarrett. He pinch hit as 1st sergeant most of the weekend and too often got the wrath of the captain when I was frustrated with myself. Thank you, Bill, for taking on the task, and your patience with me over the weekend. You are a good man and great friend. Thank you to our friends in the 1st Michigan. I was presented with some new tokens for my collection that included the phrase "10 cents lookie". LOL. Thanks, [Nate Taylor](#).

All in all a great weekend. Look forward to our continued partnerships and friendships through the rest of the season. Next stop Jackson!

Gratefully in your service,
Captain McComas



Photos by Sue Colegrove

Meridian Village July 1, 2017



To the ladies and gentlemen, our soldiers of the Michigan 7th, and the soldiers of the 102nd U.S. Colored Troops. Thank you for a great day!!!! I had a lot of good comments on the role plays and the battle.

The U.S. troops defended our cabin from the Rebs that were trying to steal our food. The Rebs were tired and hungry, but we had nothing to share. We had to run them off but thank goodness the Union soldiers heard our cries for help and came to defend our cabin and the people in it.

It was a great day for all. The most fun part was watching Vonda chasing the Rebs off with her parasol, and Julie with her pistol. Bob turning the barber in for a Reb informant was also exciting, as was the Union soldiers winning the day!!! I so enjoyed spending time with everyone.

Thank you for all your work and participation.

One further note: Meridian Village will be having their Dec. 10, and would like our participation. More info to follow..





Photos above & at right (Bob Smith) by Ronnie Tomalia (Bob & Carol's grandson).



Charlton Park

July 15-16, 2017



Poor dead Dan Malick-shared on Facebook by Cyndi Carlson. This one got LOTS of comments!



Christina & Gilbert Carlson, also by Cyndi Carlson.

Below: Carol Smith and Vonda Warren. Photo by Ronnie Tomalia.





Above photo submitted by Sandra McCarrick

*More **Charlton Park** photos....*



Working on the raffle quilt. Photo submitted by Dave Downing.

Below, 7th MI men, led by Capt. McComas. Photo shared by Cyndi Carlson on Facebook.



The weather was the best we have had in Charlton Park in a long time.

The members' turn out was a good one. We had a pot luck dinner on Saturday night for the members. The food was great (Thank you, Vonda, for the sloppy joes). I want to thank everyone who brought food to the dinner. It was a good one; lots of food and good company. After the dinner we had a club meeting.

During the weekend, the ladies worked on the quilt, and started to tie it. We will work again on it soon. The quilt is looking good. Thanks to all the ladies that worked on the quilt. We also presented children's games again between 11 am and 1 pm. The kids at the park had a good time. Thanks, Ronnie, for the help (playing games with the little kids).

I am so sorry that we do not have another event weekend other than Jackson in the schedule; wanting to spend more time with good company and friends.

Joy Henderson, Civilian Co-coordinator

Announcements



Congratulations, Kyle!

Editor's Note: For those of you newer members to the club, who may not know Kyle, (at right, above) he is one of the 7th Michigan's "kids," who grew up in the reenacting hobby. We are all proud of his accomplishments!

Photos courtesy of Tom & Joan Emerick



The "Delta Play in the Park Day" Event is August 26 Sharp Park, Lansing, MI

We are doing a living history school type event that will be good for recruiting on Saturday, August 26th, from 1 to 4 pm at Sharp Park, the Delta township park behind the Lansing Mall. We'll be setting up in the morning. The ladies will be working on the quilt. The event is called Play in the Park and will have 22 activities and events such as story telling, jazzier-size light, making books, crocheting with plastic bags, and several games to play. Anson will be doing Victorian kids' games and the military will be drilling the kids with the wooden rifles, among other things. We have permission to dig a fire pit and shoot our muskets.

Please contact me if you are going to attend so we'll know who's going to be there.

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