

RANK & FILE

THE VOICE OF THE 49TH INDIANA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY COMPANY F



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RANK & FILE

THE VOICE OF THE 49TH INDIANA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY COMPANY F

VOLUME 45 | ISSUE 7

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49TH INDIANA COMPANY F

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CAPTAIN

- ◆ ROB VAN

1ST SERGEANT

- ◆ IAN FULFORD

2ND SERGEANT

- ◆ ROBBIE VAN

CORPORALS (2 STRIPE WEARING, 1 BREVET)

- ◆ ANTHONY WYROBEK
- ◆ LOGAN BANKS
- ◆ COWBOY BOB

The mission of the 49th Indiana, Company F is to preserve Indiana's Civil War heritage and to educate the public, as living historians, about the vital role the events of the civil war played in directing the course of our nation.

The 49th Indiana, Company F is Indiana's oldest and largest nonprofit organization devoted to portraying life during the American Civil War. Since 1974, we have represented Indiana's civil war heritage in movies and documentaries, for newspapers and TV, and at schools, museums and reenactments across the US. For more information, please contact Greg Swank at 765-404-1603 or visit our website at <http://www.49thindiana.com>. The Rank & File is the membership magazine of the 49th Indiana Company F.



FIND US ON THE INTERNET

49THINDIANA.COM

THE OFFICIAL WEBSITE OF THE 49TH INDIANA CO. F



COMPANY DUES

Membership dues are due at the beginning of every year. If you write a check, please make it payable to "Robert Van", NOT "49th Indiana"

\$15 : Membership with eNewsletter
\$20 : Family Membership with eNewsletter

Send payment (check preferred) to :
49th Indiana
C/o Rob Van
6085 Walnut Court
Brownsburg, IN 46112

Questions? The Captain can be reached at:
ROBERT.R.VAN@GMAIL.COM
317.557.2244 (m)



YOU CAN ALSO FIND US AT:



@49THINDIANA

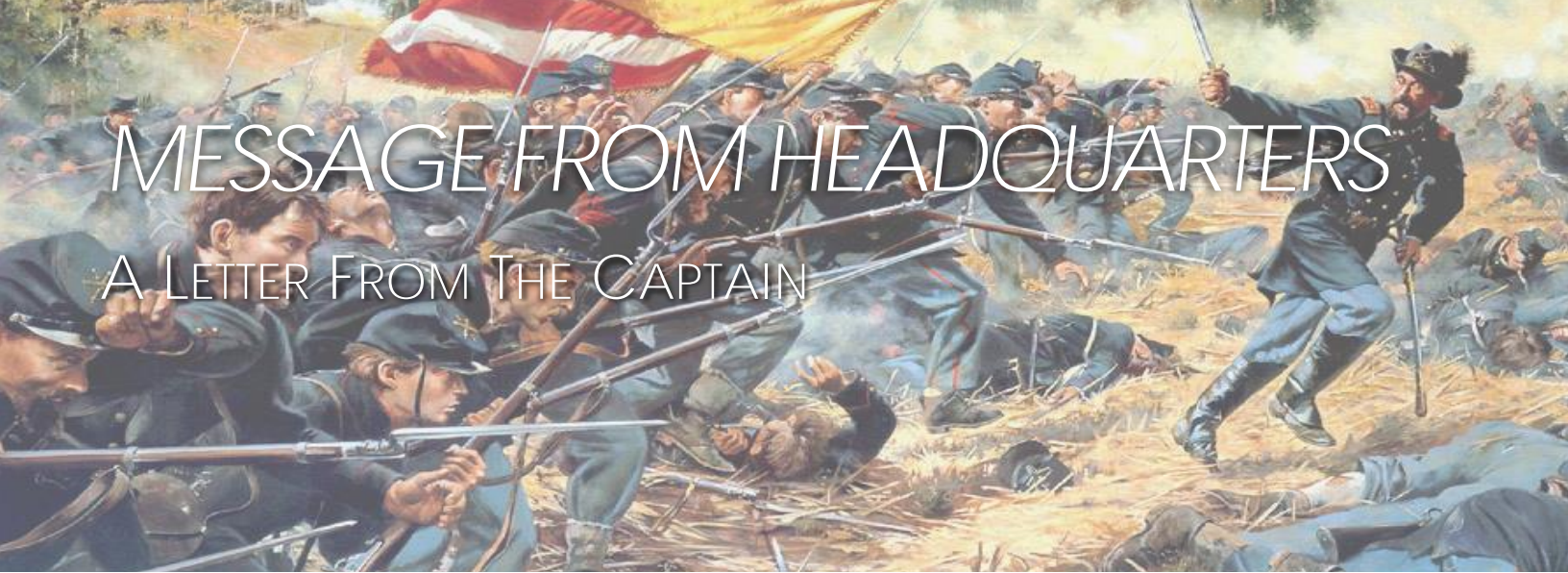


FACEBOOK.COM/GROUPS/49THINDIANA



PAY YOUR DUES VIA PAYPAL
SUBMIT TO ROBERT_R_VAN@YAHOO.COM





MESSAGE FROM HEADQUARTERS

A LETTER FROM THE CAPTAIN

What a great year 2017 was for us. I appreciate everyone who came out to Lebanon as well as those who helped out at Belzer (I could not make Belzer).

We have a LOT to do at our meeting in January, and it really sets the stage for us in a 'next chapter' for the 49th Indiana as we elect a new Captain. As I have mentioned many times, please expect to see me around at all the events just as I always have been. This evolution gives the 49th an opportunity to evolve and grow and I could not be more excited. Sure my 'tent' may change a little (from the canvas one to the fiberglass one), but I am just as excited because Bonny will be more inclined to go

with me to events, which will only increase my participation.

As always I would ask you to look deeper into the newsletter to see what you can bring to the Winter Meeting, and I also hope you plan on attending and supporting the AOW meeting as well. I'll be just as involved as I always have been as it relates to regional events as well as to the new partnership we have with the GAR (Grand Armies of the Republic).

If you are NEW to use (and we received a LOT of email addresses for recruits in 2017), I would suggest you attend our Winter Meeting to get to know us better. If you are OLD to us, and we haven't seen you for awhile, please attend. Meet the newer folks in the 49th as well as see what course we chart in 2018 as we elect a new Captain.

The hobby overall has seen a few struggles in 2017, but I am very excited to see where we go in 2018 in the 49th Indiana as well as re-enacting overall in 2018.

Drive safe to Muncie, see you there!

Captain Van



MKSHOWS

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Promoters of Quality Shows for Shooters, Collectors, Civil War and Militaria Enthusiasts

Presents The Finest Military Collectible & Gun & Knife Shows



Bring this page with you
and receive
\$1 off admission

Charleston Gun & Knife Show

Exchange Park Fairgrounds
9850 Highway 78
Ladson, SC 29456
Nov. 25 & 26, 2017



Middle TN (Franklin) Civil War Show

Williamson County Ag Expo Park
4215 Long Lane
Franklin, TN 37064
Dec. 2 & 3, 2017

Columbia Gun & Knife Show

South Carolina State Fairgrounds
1200 Rosewood Drive
Columbia, SC 29202
Dec. 9 & 10, 2017



Asheville Gun & Knife Show

WNC Ag Center
1301 Fanning Bridge Road
Fletcher, NC
Jan. 13 & 14, 2018



Dalton Civil War Show

NW GA Trade Center
2211 Dug Gap Battle Rd
Dalton, GA 30720
Feb. 3 & 4, 2018



Mike Kent & Associates, LLC • PO Box 685 • Monroe, GA 30655
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FROM THE TRENCHES

MEMORIAL DAY, 2018



The Ben Harrison Camp of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and the Eliza E. George Auxiliary to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War will hold a special Memorial Day ceremony at the National Cemetery at Crown Hill Ceremony at 11 a.m. on May 28, 2017. They will be re-enacting the events that occurred at Crown Hill Cemetery in Indianapolis and Oak Hill Cemetery in Evansville on the first Memorial Day on May 30, 1868. Costumed re-enactors are welcome to join them in the procession that will begin at the Gothic Chapel.

ANNUAL SPRING MILL CIVIL WAR CONFERENCE

The first (2017) conference was a huge success with one hundred people registered from fifteen states. Reviews were outstanding and twenty-seven people have already signed up for 2018. Next year's event will be held August 16-18 at Spring Mill State Historic Park in Mitchell, Indiana. Speakers will include:

Stephen Lee Ritchie
Bruce Allardice
Kent Masterson Brown
Stephen Davis
Gary Ecelbarger
Leslie Goddard
Scott C. Patchan
Dale K. Phillips
James I. "Bud" Robertson
Brian Steel Wills

The cost will be \$395. For more information, visit [Civil War Association](#) and [American History Forum](#) and view the 2018 calendar.



MADISON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE

They meet on the third Monday each month except July, August, and December at 7 p.m. at the Madison County History Center, 15 West 11th Street, in downtown Anderson.

HAMILTON COUNTY CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE

They meet at the Carmel City Hall, located at 1 Civic Square, Carmel, IN 46032. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., and the program will start at 7:00 in the Second Floor Counsel Room. Meetings will be on the second Wednesday of the month, September through May, excluding December.

January 10, 2018 - Brian Dirck, "Lincoln and the Constitution"
February 14, 2018 - Mike Murphy, "The Fighting Kimberlin Family"
March 14, 2018 - John Heiser, "1913 Gettysburg Reunion"
April 11, 2018 - Dave Finney - "Stonewall Jackson's Last Days"
May 9, 2018 - Dr. E.C. Fields , "General U.S. Grant"
September 12, 2018 - Tom Williams , "The Crater from the Confederate Perspective"

INDIANAPOLIS CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE

Amateur and professional historians in Central Indiana dedicated to studying and understanding the American Civil War. We welcome anyone interested in the American Civil War to join the ICWRT. Annual dues are \$30 for an individual, \$35 for a family, or \$15 for a student. The dues are used to defray production costs of our newsletter, Hardtack, and other programs. We invite you to attend a meeting as a guest and we feel that you will enjoy your visit and enlist.

Dec. 11, 2017	The Kimberlins Go to War: A Union Family in Copperhead Country Mike Murphy
Jan. 8, 2018	Surveillance and Spies in the Civil War: Exposing Confederate Conspiracies in America's Heartland Stephen Towne
Feb. 12, 2018	Indianapolis and the War of the Rebellion Fred Schaefer
Mar. 12, 2018	58th Indiana and their role at Stone's River Kraig McNutt
Apr. 9, 2018	Cold Blooded Envenomation of 1861-65 Mark Laubacher
May 14, 2018	Above Us or Around Us: The Story and Men of the Bloody Eighth Jenny Thompson
June 11, 2018	On a Great Battlefield: The Making, Management, and Memory of Gettysburg National Military Park, 1933-2013 Jennifer Murray

FOR SALE!!

MUSKET CAPS & GUNPOWDER



◆ 1 lb. of Goex Powder : \$17 per pound

◆ 1 Tin of 100 caps : \$10 per tin

See the Captain
For Purchase.

HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY?

Want to make your voice heard? Have something to share? The newsletter wants your stuff!! We're always looking for pictures or info of members at work, rest or play. Send art, photos, announcements, letters, opinions, articles or ads to the editor at:

IVARGAS21@GMAIL.COM



1ST SGT'S REPORT

By Ian Fulford

Well, it's December a couple of months into the "offseason", does that mean it's time to start the steroid cycle to pump up for the Rebs next year? Discuss what new innovations or tactics to use? Hope that everybody had a wonderful Thanksgiving and an upcoming Christmas! Look forward to seeing everybody in January at the winter meeting.

Back on the last weekend of October Logan and I went to a reenactment down near Knoxville, Tennessee for one of the reenactments that doesn't have any well, many spectators. The battle that we reenacted was the battle of Wauhatchie, which was a part of the opening of the Cracker Line to break the siege of Chattanooga in late 1863.

The reenactment was held on some private property pretty much in the middle of nowhere, or at least that's what it felt like. We fell in with some gentlemen from Michigan and a few other places from around the country that we had marched with prior. The beginning of the journey started off well enough, with a trip on a trailer bed down some Tennessee roads to our camp site. Being dropped off we went about setting up camp, building some shelter as there was rumor that there might be rain. The night turned out to be beautiful, perfect sleeping weather.

About 4:30 or so I felt a drip of water on my face and that was just the beginning, reveille was played about 5 where we munched on some food cooked from the night before and tried to make some coffee. We struck camp around 8 or so with some rain, yet all was not too bad. It was one of those nice somewhat warm rains with the temperatures maybe in the low 50's. The march itself wasn't too bad, probably less than 5 miles with some on and off rain. Once we moved off the main roads and into the woods the action picked up a bit as Logan and I were sent off as part of the advance guard. We pretty much saw nothing except a barb

wire fence (which if you're counting at home is inaccurate). With us in advance we reached our campsite and our company was sent off for picket duty.

For me this was the best and the worst part of the event if that makes sense. By this time the temperature had dropped and the rain kept coming and our line was along a ridge that offered little cover. I'm not sure how long we were out there, but it felt like a while, it could have been 30 minutes. The Lt. received the ok to create a small fire, which by the time he got going we immediately were given the ok to come off the picket line and setup our camp.



The Lt. then transferred the small amount of coals in his plate to our camp and then began to work on a fire at our camp. This was pretty much the rest of our afternoon, standing around the fire, building it up and trying to dry out and stay warm all the while still raining. It was a really good experience.

After a while the company was formed up to see if our rifles were in working condition at all. I believe out of the 18 rifles, maybe 1 or 2 fired on the first try. After working on the nipple for about 15 minutes (insert joke here) I was able to get my rifle to function properly. This being done we retired back to camp. Sometime after dark, the Rebels assaulted our position. We all rushed to the works that had been built and a fire fight commenced. It's hard to describe the battle, but it was worth everything we had been through the day. Seeing the Union and Confederate volleys at night, then with the artillery going off near us followed by shell bursts (aka fireworks). Just an experience that I was glad that both Logan and I had stuck around for. After the battle, we were released from the event as that was the last scheduled part of the reenactment. With that Logan and I stayed around camp for a little bit talking with those who were left and then made a retreat to the wagons. Overall, had a great time with the company that we were in, it was one of those experiences that was miserable, but wonderful at the same time. See y'all in the new year!

Respectfully submitted,

Ian Fulford

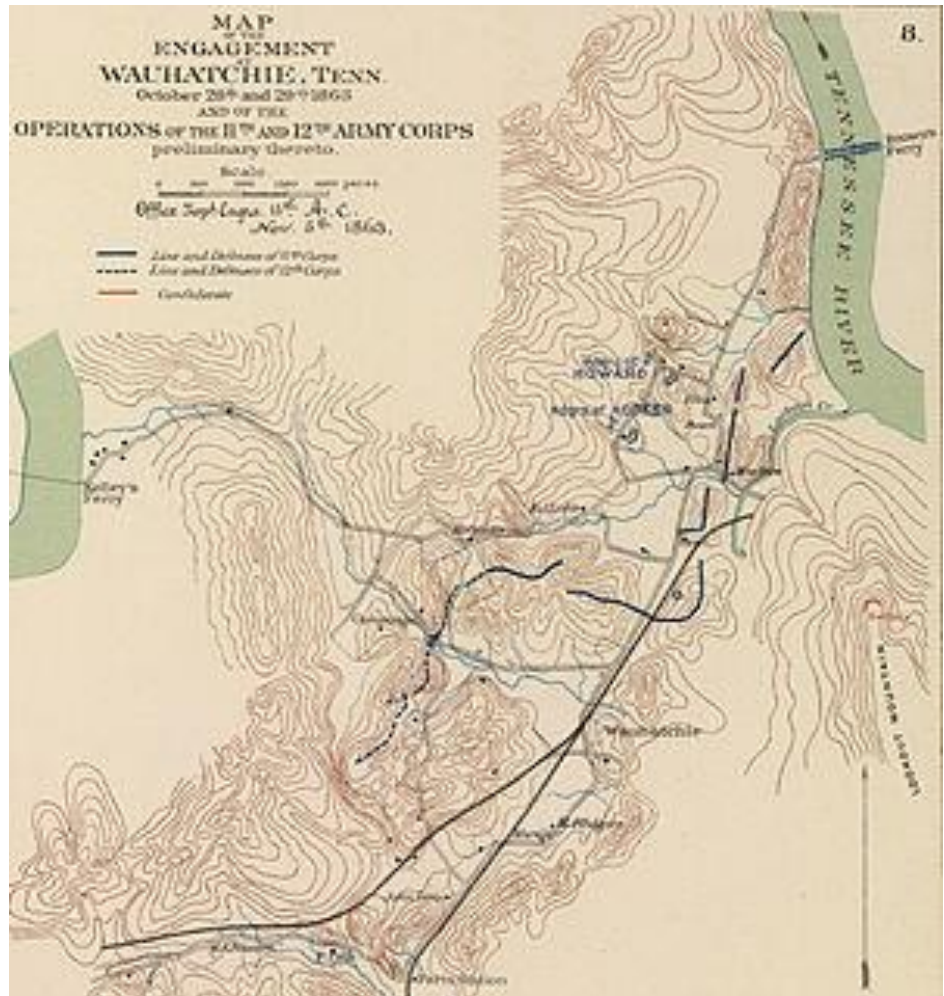




PHOTO M

By R.

[HTTP://PHOTOMEMORIESBYRHAYS.ZENFOLIO.COM](http://PHOTOMEMORIESBYRHAYS.ZENFOLIO.COM)



MEMORIES HAYS

NORTHERN VOICES

By Scott Lawalin

The Confederate raider "Alabama" was recently defeated and sunk by the USS Kearsarge. What do you think?



"Alabama defeate? I didn't even know the University of Kearsarge had a football team."

Paul Finnick

Bottle Scraper



"Kearsarge? How long have we been naming things after things I've never heard of?"

Tracy D'Angolo

Bank Teller



"Beats what happened to the raider Auburn, which was detained in port for academic fraud and point-shaving."

Fitz Pergummon

Dance hall Attendant

WEB LINKS OF INTEREST

49th Indiana Company F. Webpage:
<http://www.49thindiana.com>

49th Indiana Company F. Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/49thindiana>

Other Interesting Sites :

http://www.zipcon.net/~silas/links.htm#N_17

<http://www.civilwarteaser.blogspot.com>

Our own Corporal Swank

<http://www.authorsden.com/visit/viewArticle.asp?id=31792>

Article on the steamer the 49th was on

<http://18thindependentbatteryindianalightartillery.weebly.com>

Great article on leather care

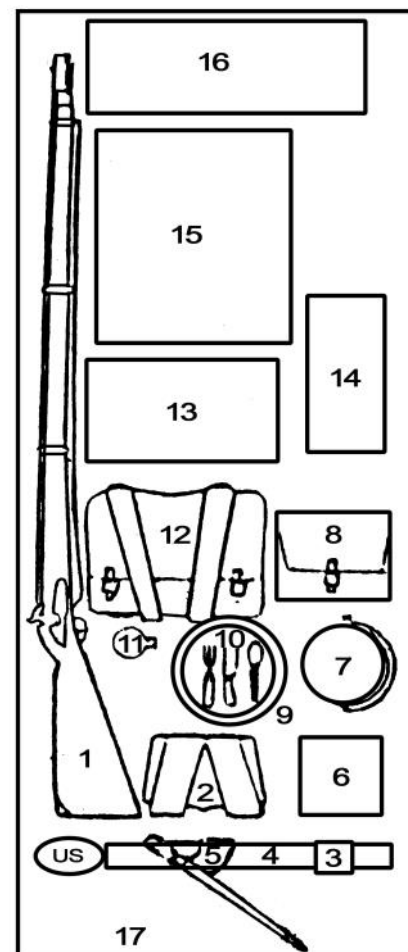
<http://thebalticforge.weebly.com/>

Blacksmith—The Baltic Forge

Camp Inspection

Layout Plan for Inspection of
Two Man Dog Tents

1. Rifle Musket
2. Cartridge Box & Sling
3. Cap Box
4. Waist Belt
5. Bayonet & Scabbard
6. Cleaning Equipment
7. Canteen
8. Haversack
9. Plate
10. Fork, Knife, & Spoon
11. Cup
12. Knapsack
13. Greatcoat rolled
(in season & if not worn)
14. Personal items:
 - a. Hygiene Items
 - b. Writing Material
 - c. Candles
 - d. Small amount of food
15. Additional Clothing
16. Bedding folded
17. Poncho (black down)
Items 1-16 to be placed on
the poncho



NEXT EVENTS

EVENT TYPE

Meeting (uniform not required but optional)

DATE AND TIME

Saturday January 20, 2018 @ 6:00p

LOCATION

Shrine Club, 3671 N. Shrine Drive, Muncie, IN 47303

PLEASE BRING

A covered dish for the pitch-in dinner

Your own drinks

Items for donation for the raffle

Any information on other 2018 events

Money to renew your membership (\$15 individual, \$20 family)

Money to purchase raffle tickets (this is our major fund raiser for the year)

THE COMPANY WILL PROVIDE

Plates, napkins, eating tools.

AGENDA

Opening remarks, prayer

Dinner

2017 in Review

2018 Elections

2018 events

2018 Camp of Instruction

2018 ELECTIONS

Nominations for 2018 are as follows:

Captain

Ian Fulford

Greg Swank

1st Sergeant

Ian Fulford

Greg Swank

Scott Lawalin

2nd Sergeant

Ian Fulford

Greg Swank

Scott Lawalin

Dennis Wyrobek

Anthony Wyrobek

Corporals (2 Corporals and 1 Brevet)

Ian Fulford

Greg Swank

Scott Lawalin

Dennis Wyrobek

Anthony Wyrobek

Logan Banks

Mark Benning



CALENDAR

49th Indiana Potential 2018 Schedule		
Cumberland Guard Annual Meeting	Fort Wayne, IN	01/13/2018 @ 10:30a Eastern
AOW Annual Meeting	Munice, IN	01/20/2018 @ 3:00p Eastern
49th Indiana Annual Meeting	Munice, IN	01/20/2018 @ 6:00p Eastern
Winter Spring Mill State Park	Mitchell, IN	02/16/18 - 02/18/18
Sassafras Tea Festival	Vernon, IN	04/27/18 - 04/29/18
Hartford City	Hartford City, IN	05/11/18 - 05/13/18
Cynthiana, OH	Cynthiana, OH	06/01/18 - 06/03/18
Spring Mill State Park	Mitchell, IN	06/08/18-06/10/18
Gettysburg - GAR		07/05/18 - 07/08/18
Charlton Park / Hastings	Hastings, MI	07/20/18 - 07/22/18
Brandenburg	Brandenburg, KY	07/06/18 - 07/08/18
Hale Farm	Bath, OH	08/10/18 - 08/12/18
Jackson, MI	Jackson, MI	08/24/18 - 08/26/18
Battle of Richmond	Richmond, KY	08/24/18 - 08/26/18
Sidney, OH	Sidney, OH	09/14/18 - 09/16/18
Avon Public Library	Avon, IN	09/22/18
Lebanon Civil War Days	Lebanon, IN	09/28/18 - 09/30/18
Piney Acres	Fortville, IN	10/12/18 - 10/14/18
49th Indiana Potential 2019 Schedule		
Stone's River		Late October
49th Indiana Potential 2020 Schedule		
Sidney, OH	Sidney, OH	09/18/20 - 09/20/20



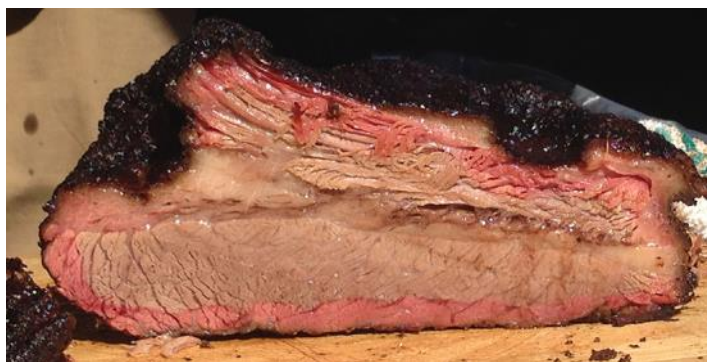
THE GREAT BRISKET FIRE OF '17

By Ivan G. Vargas

Where to begin

Early this year, my brother loaned me a book he purchased from Conner Prairie. Inside, various different outdoor colonial cooking methods are described. Curiously, I saw some of the same methods outlined in an old army survival book I had. In my army book, a method of smoking meat in a teepee was demonstrated using three poles, and a canvas wrap. I've been owing Benning and Cowboy a steak for a while, so I figure this might be something fun . . .different . . .unique to do at event. So off I went.

Over the course of the summer, I've probably cooked 5 or so beef briskets using this teepee method. Each time I've done it, I've refined my method. In some cases, I've used three poles, in others, four poles. In some cases, I used one wrap, in others, two. Only once did the teepee catch on fire, and not in a terrible way. So with



my planned approach, I decided to create a feast at Piney Acres Civil War event. (Never mind, what happened at Lebanon, IN.)

My recipe is fairly simple. I usually buy a fairly small cut of brisket, about 4 lbs. Two days prior to the cooking, I trim the fat off the meat and apply a fairly hearty coating of olive oil and Stubb's beef seasoning. I wrap in aluminum foil, and let it sit in the fridge. On the day of the cooking, I constructed my 6 foot tall, 4 poled teepee, with two canvas wraps I purchased at Lowes. In addition, I had two electronic thermometers carefully hidden; one for the meat, and one for the temperature of the inner teepee itself. I also use charcoal, as the flames from wood tend to be too hazardous to the process. (Again, a lesson I've learned from experience.) Through trial and error, I've learned that 15lbs of charcoal in a horseshoe shape generates the right amount of heat and stays hot enough for the 4 hours needed to slowly cook the meat. I use wood chips soaked in water overnight to generate the smoke. The charcoal takes about 1 hour to get to the needed minimum of 180 degrees Fahrenheit.

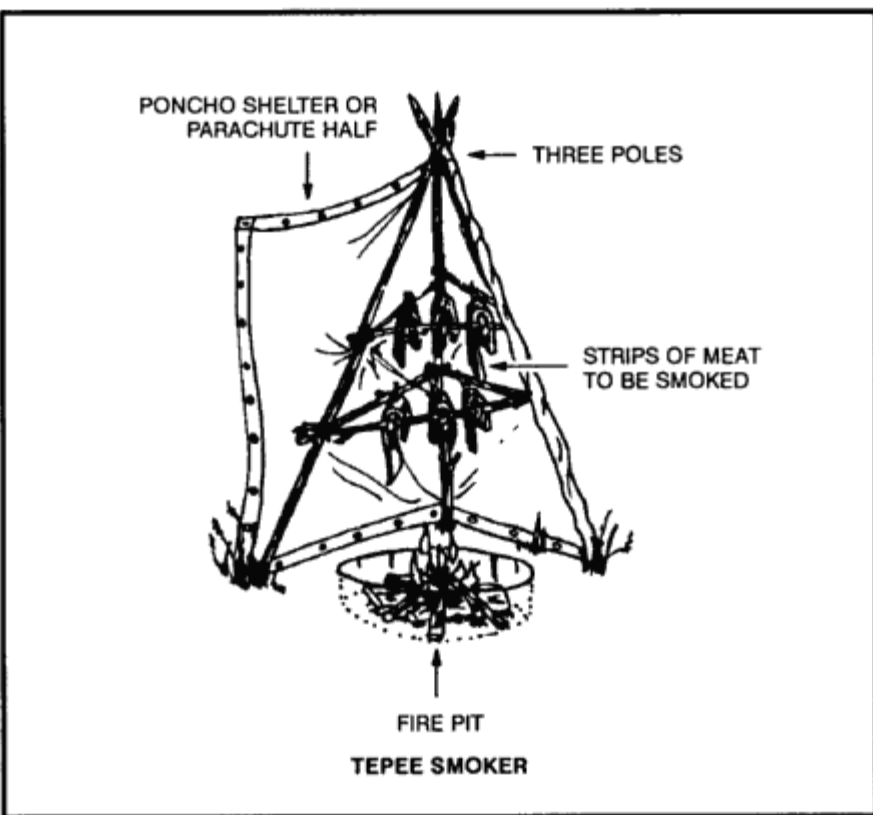


Figure 8-27. Smoking meat.

To balance out the meal, I created several loaves of artisanal bread, and found a simple recipe for Irish salt potatoes.

On the morning of the Piney Acres event, I ran behind schedule. Javy was kind enough to help me build my firepit. However, I did not surround the pit itself with stones or dirt. In my haste, I figured it would be fine, and off I went lighting my charcoal and placing my brisket on the hanging grate.

The winds were heavy that day, and the grass around us was freshly mowed. But no issues occurred in the first two or three hours of the smoking process. The 2pm battle came and went, and I set up my table and chairs directly next to the teepee. My cooking utensils, cooler, instruments, uniform and gun were all stashed underneath another pair of canvas tarps. I pulled out my banjo and began to play. That's when the trouble started.

I few times, as I played, I noticed the grass around

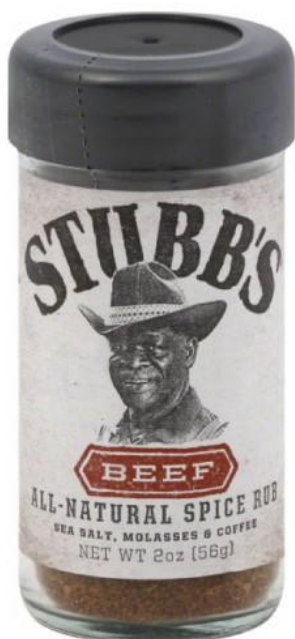
the firepit caught on fire. This was manageable. When I noticed the grass had begun to burn, I merely stomped it out once or twice. Each time, the crisis was averted. But finally, Beau directed my attention to the fire. "Ivan, looks like the canvas has caught on fire." Again, no worry, I'll merely stomp it out. Only, this time it wasn't working. Several stomps, and I couldn't put it out. I stood up from my chair



My practice teepee at home.

and calmly put my banjo down. I immediately turned to see the teepee completely engulfed in flames. People began shouting. I had brought with me two 1 gallon jugs of water for any such issues. I swiftly flipped open the canvas which covered my collection of items, and grabbed one of the jugs. Opening it, I positioned myself next to flaming Viking pyre and began to dose the flames. It did nothing.

More people shouted. I felt the intense heat burn my right arm, my nose and the right side of my face. I backed away, unable to endure the heat. More shouting. I began to see little pieces of burning canvas become airborne and slowly land in various places. In the grass next to me, in other patches of grass, on the canvas



THE GREAT BRISKET FIRE OF '17

By Ivan G. Vargas

covering my gear, on my coat laying on the ground, on my banjo. I began to stomp these gremlins out. Others helped too. More shouting.

At some point, Cowboy Boy, with his bare hands, knocked the pyre down and pulled the burning canvas off. Dropping it to the ground, people began to stomp on it. I ran to protect my instruments, my chairs, my table, my hat. The fire became contained to just the firepit, and people shouted to let it burn out. I was dumbfounded. How could that small fire suddenly consume my teepee so quickly?

As the fire burned out, I sat in the shade for a moment, dumping what remained of my water on my arm and face. The brisket itself had landed in the hot coals. Using my tongs, I fished it out of the fire, and wrapped it in tinfoil. Cowboy Bob lathered it in butter and placed it on Scott's cooking grate on the other fire.

We made the best of the situation, and proceeded to cook the potatoes and prepare the bread. At last, I took out the brisket, and sliced it up. It wasn't perfect, but it was still good. Someone stopped by and dropped off some apple butter, and we began to feast. I was surprised, but it all turned out great. The truth was I had never made the potatoes before, and the few loaves of bread I had made before were a bit hit or miss.

Everyone was very appreciative of the meal, and the effort, and said many kind words. But many people were burned in the process, and many of my personal items were damaged too. (Thankfully, not too bad.) I felt thoughtless. I was greatly saddened that something I had thought about and planned so much for had not gone properly. In the end though, most everyone got to at least try the food, and we spent most of



the night laughing and joking about the event. Many people thanked me for giving another new and fun experience. So in the end I guess it went ok, and I was fortunate the situation wasn't worse. Thanks to everyone who gave a helping hand.

Cheers!!





COMPANY FINANCIALS

Powder Cans In Stock	Caps In Stock	Debit / Credit	Balance	Date	Comment
49	100		\$ 1,200.61	9/17/2017	Reported at September 2017 Newsletter
		\$ 200.00	\$ 1,400.61	9/23/2017	Donation from Avon Library
39		\$ 170.00	\$ 1,570.61	9/23/2017	10 Cans of Powder Sold @ \$17 each = \$170
38		\$ 20.00	\$ 1,590.61	9/23/2017	1 Cans of Powder Sold @ \$17 each = \$17, \$3 donated
	87	\$ 130.00	\$ 1,720.61	9/23/2017	13 Containers of caps Sold @ \$10 each = \$130
		\$ 120.00	\$ 1,840.61	9/30/2017	2017 Hale Farm Registration RECEIVED: Kyle Wilson, Todd Wilson, Ian Fulford, Logan Banks, Mary Bedwell, Les Bedwell, Brian Bedwell, Ivan Vargas, Mark Benning, Scott Lawalin, Laura Curtis, Dennis Curtis
		\$ 100.00	\$ 1,940.61	9/30/2017	Donation from Lebanon for 2017
38	87		\$ 1,940.61	9/17/2017	Reported at December 2017 Newsletter



49th Indiana Company F



49th Indiana Volunteer Infantry, Co. F The Premier Central Indiana Civil War Reenacting Unit Established in 1974

The 49th Indiana is seeking individuals who have an interest in the Civil War and a willingness to portray the life of a Union Soldier

Meet The Members - Contact us by phone or email, or simply visit us at one of our upcoming events and let us know you're interested.

Acquiring Equipment - We do not expect new members to purchase all of their equipment at once. Start slowly, and ask other members for advice on where to purchase your basic uniform. We allow new members a year to fully equip themselves. Under some circumstances we can offer to loan gear to those wanting to test out the hobby before they spend too much money.

Become a Member - Once you have attended a few events, attained all of your necessary gear, and paid your yearly dues, you will have become a full member!

If you are interested in joining, please feel free to contact us or visit us at one of our upcoming events.

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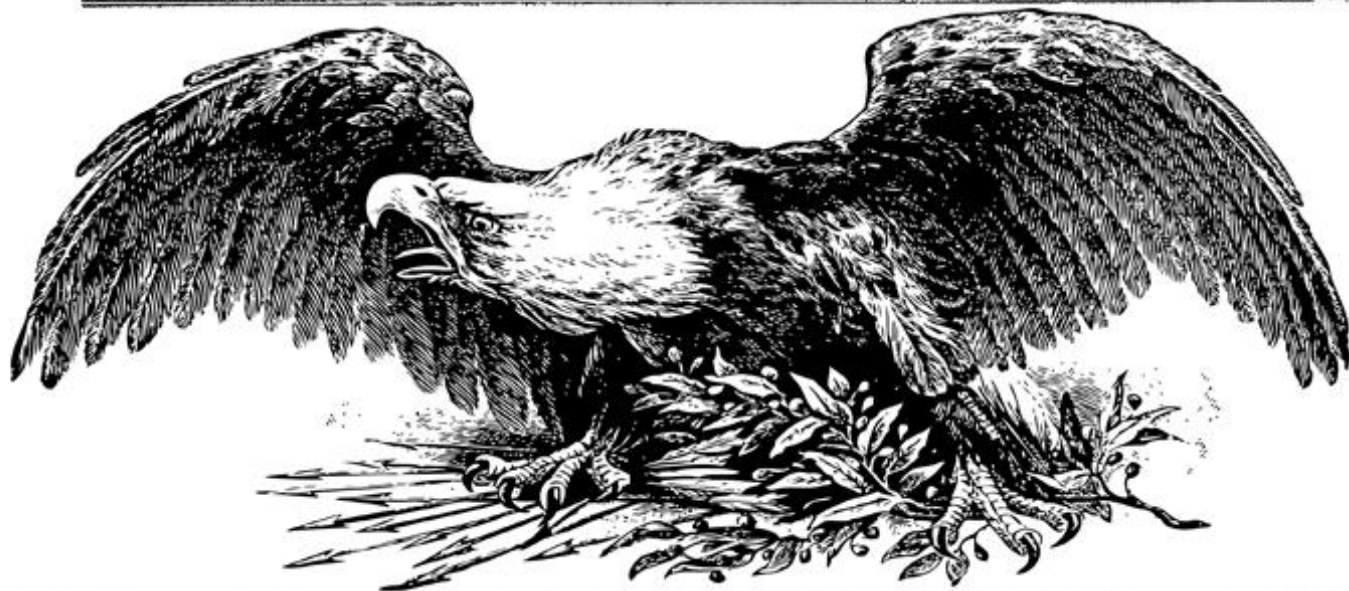
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www.49thindiana.com

TO ARMS!

TO ARMS!

YOUR COUNTRY CALLS.



49TH INDIANA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY
COMPANY F

is enrolling new recruits in this city under the command of

Capt. ROB VAN

Recruiting Officer: GREG SWANK

Those who come to their country's call in her hour of peril will live in her pages of history. The Roll is now open, and will be found with the undersigned.

A MEETING TO BE HELD AT

TO BE ADDRESSED BY

THE \$25 BOUNTY PAID BY THE GOVERNMENT,

And the Advance Pay and Enlisting Premium will be paid to each Recruit on being mustered into service.

 **PRINCIPLE RECRUITMENT OFFICE - JEFFERSONVILLE, INDIANA**

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