



*The Newsletter of the 121<sup>st</sup> Ohio Volunteer Infantry and the 9<sup>th</sup> Ohio Independent Battery*

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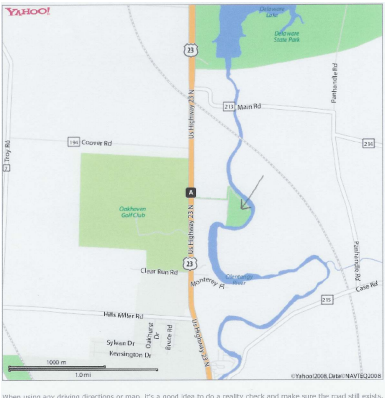
*“Tell my wife I have been a good soldier.”*

Private Chester Bartholomew, Company D, to his friend Private Charles Holt as he died in Holt’s arms, June 18, 1864 near Kenesaw Mountain, Georgia. Bartholomew was 43 years old and left a wife and four children.

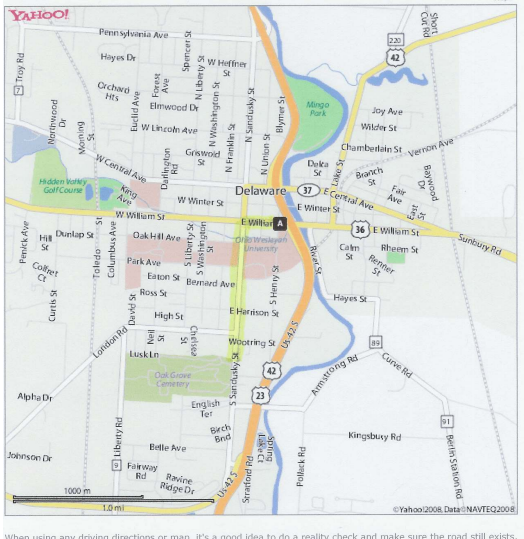
*Remembering our Fallen Heroes!*  
*Victory Belongs to the Brave!*

**Sunday, May 24: Memorial Day Ceremonies, Delaware. 3PM.** Well, we finally got a Memorial Day ceremony lined up for the unit. The Delaware VFW has accepted us at the last minute into their program. The thing that throws the monkey wrench into it is that they backed it up to Sunday at 3PM, making some of our men who stated that they would be there unable to attend. We could really use all the help we can get. We will start on East William Street near St. Mary’s Catholic Church at the

corner of East William and Henry Streets. It will then proceed west on William to Sandusky Street and then south to Oakgrove Cemetery for the final ceremonies. This is color guard so we could use every man available. Mic is unable to attend but Stephen will be on the drum. The 121<sup>st</sup> has always done well when honoring our fallen heroes, and while the captain realizes that this is at the last minute, he knows that the company will pull through.



When using any driving directions or map, it’s a good idea to do a reality check and make sure the road still exists.  
**Riverview Park is just north of Delaware. It’s address is 3080 U.S. 23.**



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**Saturday, June 20: Company Drill, Riverview Park, Delaware. 10AM-2PM.** Since June’s rather blank, the captain thought it might be a good to have a drill to prepare better for Mumford. This will focus solely on infantry. Like the last, we will break for a lunch. Riverview Park is opposite Oakhaven Golf Club. This is currently tentative until approval by the Delaware Parks and Recreation office.

**Wednesday, July 1: Marion County Fair, Marion County Fairgrounds, Marion. 10AM-5PM.** Once again, the 121<sup>st</sup> puts up a display at the Log Cabin. While we have gotten away with having a few people there for the past decade and a half, if we’re going to pull off what we want to do, we’re going to need more. Mark and Gale both think it would be a great idea to do a time-line that day, covering from the American Revolution to the Second World War. So, we’re going to need volunteers. As of now, Mark, Jared,

and Pete are the only one's planning attendance. So if you can come, please let the captain know. Otherwise, we won't be able to do this. At least, according to Mark, it's one day less in Purgatory that you'll have to spend.

**Saturday, July 4: Independence Day Parade, Sunbury.** Jeff is working on getting us a parade in Sunbury for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Color guard and music. More details as they come.

**Saturday & Sunday, July 18 & 19: Genesee Country Village, Mumford, New York.** This is just a great event, plain and simple. Where else do you get the experience of fighting in a 19<sup>th</sup> Century village that about 100 buildings big. It's fun, relaxing, and the lake breeze keeps the summer day cool. It's relaxing because you're not on a hectic schedule. And you just can't say enough about fighting street to street, building to building, over fences, through gardens and yards. There's just plenty of excitement. We have 11 men signed up so far: 9 rifles and 2 musicians. So let's see if we can't have a really good turn out and have a few more. This is definitely something to come see. Registration is \$10 and comes with Saturday and Sunday morning

rations.

**A Successful Night**

Gale reports that the historical society's "A Night at Heritage Hall" was a complete success. The event



**Pete, Rob, and Lew, or should I say John, Bill, and well, John, stand around the fortifications at the base of Kenesaw Mountain. Ok, they're in the Military Room in Heritage Hall. Use your imagination people!**

had 273 visitors raising a total of \$1745.94, minus expenditures. Thrivent gave a donation of \$300, bringing the total raised to \$2045.94. So far, every year, the event brings more and more people, and the 121<sup>st</sup> is still one of the highlights of the show. Everything went well. The breastworks that



**The laughing gas got to Mark before he could get to his mask.**

Mark

constructed worked well and looked pretty good for fighting in a museum. Thanks to all of you who participated.

Those that portrayed members of Company B, 121<sup>st</sup>:

- Jared Haudenschild - Pvt. H. Newton Mounts
- Pete Haudenschild - Cpl. John J. Davis
- Lew Holland - Cpl. John H. Boyd
- Chris McLernon - musician
- Michael McLernon -

- Mus. Peter Khune
- Robert McLernon - Pvt. William C. Rapp
- Joe Young - Sgt. Lyman Weeks
- And our world wars:
- Mark Melroy - Pvt. Shirley E. Kane, 166<sup>th</sup> Infantry (WWI)
- Mic Szabo - WWII ball-turret gunner

**A Third Show for Drill**

The captain is proud to say that about one-third of our rifles showed up for the drill on April 18. Seven rifles and our two new musicians out of our total paper strength of 24. It went from about 10:30 to 3 and we covered the manual of arms, skirmish drill, bayonet drill, loading and firing, and artillery. A well-received lunch was had about noon. Everyone seemed to have a good time and brushed off some accumulated winter rust. Thanks go to Dan Merchant and his bosses at New Vision Fire & Rescue for the use of their grounds.

**Gallipolis**

**by Pete Haudenschild**

On April 25 and 26, Jared, Greg Patterson, and I went to Gallipolis for the 91<sup>st</sup> Ohio encampment to honor the original men that was

formed there at the park in the city. Jared and I arrived on Saturday about 10:00AM with Greg there a little later. We were in time for some skirmish drill that Scott Sharp [captain of the 91<sup>st</sup>] was going to use in the battle at 2:30PM. We drilled until noon then it was time for "shakes" at a local establishment that the 91<sup>st</sup> makes for a regular stop. Plus the food and milkshakes were good too, but you cannot beat the service, especially for the aforementioned "shakes." After lunch we had a short drill for maneuvers. Then we broke for batting practice for the Rounders



game after the battle. The battle went as planned as the Rebs overran us and won. The Rebs were from West Virginia and were pretty good old boys. They had a good time as we all did. We tried to get them to play Rounders with us but they declined so we broke up into 2 teams (1 and 2) with 7 and 8 men on a team. The number one team beat two by five



The night firing toward the river. The light show following the blast was courtesy of steel wool.

runs, I think. The night came quickly so the artillery could do their night firing, which was a sight to see, 'cause they were using steel wool, plus the sound echoed off of the hills across the Ohio. They were using a mountain howitzer and the other was a 10 pounder I heard someone say. It was hard trying to sleep due to the park being lit up like day and the glorious sounds of thunder from all the Harleys, and also the car traffic. Sunday was a laid-back day with most of us sleeping in due to the short night. The Rebs left and the schedule was light except for the memorial ceremony for the veterans of the 91<sup>st</sup>. The "big attendance" was overwhelming to the troops.

Bob Evans supplied the biscuits and gravy for us and Kyle Sharp said they do it every time they put this on.

We had battalion drill under Scott Sharp with little wooden blocks that Scott had made to practice with. The weekend ended at about 12:30. Everybody packed up and wished everyone a farewell; then we put the car into the wind and headed north for home. I have to say it was a very

relaxing weekend with good people.

### Civil War Show Is Still Pulling Through

Despite bring in additional wars, such as WWI and WWII, the Ohio Civil War Show still packs the buildings. The Army of the Ohio once again put up a recruiting table and Colonel Minton reports that in many units recruitment is up, so there is hope for us all yet. There were plenty of things to see and to keep you entertained. Camp Chase Fife and Drum was there playing music and there was a battery of artillery doing firing demonstrations. Unfortunately, they will be fighting against us at Zoar in September.

The Revolutionary War guys joined in with a 3 pounder gun. The Brigade of the American Revolution put on demonstrations and American and German WWII mortar teams had a really incredible set-up. The 41<sup>st</sup> Ohio put on displays for the AotO, which consisted of marching from one point to another firing volleys. The 121<sup>st</sup> provided only two uniformed soldiers to assist with these efforts.

There were still a lot of people there, and this is one of the best places to recruit. These are Civil War enthusiasts with extra cash: two things generally needed for reenacting. This is a great place to get people already interested in us. The 121<sup>st</sup> has always put on good demonstrations, and with enough people, we could put on an excellent display and demonstrations. This is something to think about for next year. We just need the forces to do it with.

### School Programs

The captain can not thank the unit enough for all it did over the past two weeks in doing three all-day school programs at Fairbanks, Highland, and

Big Walnut. Grant Middle School in Marion did not contact us this year. The Ohio Historical Society ran their school program and budget cuts ended that program as far as we know. Everything went really well and all the school were extremely happy with our performance. Nearly three quarters of both Fairbanks and Highland's student class joined us in infantry drill, and the Fairbanks students were anxious to do more when the program ended. Fairbanks gave us a \$200 donation and Big Walnut gave \$150, which includes our artillery fees. We still have to hear from Highland. Schools do not have the resources to teach the next generation the story of the Civil War soldier, so it is up to us, and the 121<sup>st</sup> has always stepped up to the task. The captain would like to thank all those who took the time off from work to help out with these programs:

Jeff Craig  
Pete Haudenschild  
Bill Lynn  
Gale Martin  
Robert McLernon  
Mark Melroy  
Stephen Melroy  
Mic Szabo



Claudia Bartow, our contact at Fairbanks, fires the James at the end of a very successful program on Friday, May 8. Courtesy of the Marysville Journal-Tribune.

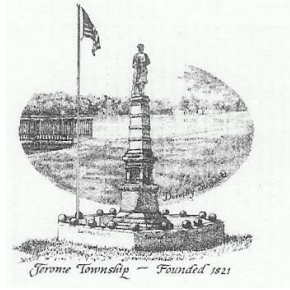
### A Little Something for Gale

Mark has proposed that since Gale has helped us on our school programs, always in the spirit of cooperation, that we give her \$100, as we did last year and which she donated to the historical society. Gale's help was immense, and a little

thank you to her would be good. So everyone put in your vote of yeah or nay.

### Memorial Day Mess

Memorial Day is probably the most important holiday in Civil War Reenacting. For 16 years, the 121<sup>st</sup> has been present at Memorial Day dedications throughout the counties in north-central Ohio. Over the past couple of years, requests for our participation have declined; the reason is still unknown, so the command has had to actively seek out ceremonies. This year, however, the city of Dublin contacted us at the beginning of April to "attend our Veterans Memorial dedication." They also expressed a desire for us to stay after the dedication, put up a display and do some demonstrations as they wanted to keep people in the park. For over a month, the captain inquired into the details of the ceremonies, with replies that details were coming the following week and inquires into what we could do. At the Civil War Show, it was discovered in a conversation Sgt. Bernie Biederman that the 30<sup>th</sup> OVI was also attending the dedication. Further inquires yielded little, until the captain talked over the phone with the gal in charge on May 14. Here, he learned that we were not to be in any of the dedication ceremonies. We were to put up a display and do demonstrations for the crowds afterwards. On any other day, we might have gone, but this is not what we do on Memorial Day. After over a month of working with these people to get this done, the whole thing came to knot. This cause the captain to work hard at the last minute to get the unit a ceremony and landed this one on Sunday. But from what is heard, many areas are shifting their ceremonies to Sundays, so this is something that we might have to be prepared for.



### Right Place, Right Time

Jerome Township, Union County decided to rededicate their Civil War monument in New California in a meeting on Friday, May 8. Trustee Ronald Rhodes wanted to find reenactors to be there at the rededication. As he was driving along State Route 38 passing Fairbanks Middle School, what should he see but a group of Civil War reenactors doing a school program. Just another case of being at the right place at the right time. Unfortunately, they currently want to hold it on Saturday September 19, which conflicts with Zoar, but the Long Roll will keep you updated if there are any changes that will allow us to participate. Jerome Township provided troops to three companies in the 121<sup>st</sup> Ohio: A, C, and I and the monument contains the names of several members of the unit we represent and honor.

### New Web Site

The current web site, listed on the front page, is the unit's fifth site in its history. Two were under Steve Eck's management, two under Dan Merchant's, and now it looks like it will be the same under Jared Haudenschild's. Yahoo! has announced that it will be shutting down its GeoCities web browser later this summer. So, the 121<sup>st</sup> will once again have to change its web location. Yahoo! suggests changing to their Yahoo! Hosting and they will assist in transferring the site to that browser. Currently, for ad-free GeoCities we pay \$6.95 per month, or \$83.40 per year. With Yahoo! Hosting that fee would increase \$3.00

a month, bring the annual payment to \$119.40. It would also give us a better domain name. We could get [www.121ovi.com](http://www.121ovi.com), which would be an improvement over our long domain name currently held. If anyone has any other ideas, the captain is open to them.

Also, if you have any ideas for the design and look of the web site, please share them. As this is your unit, it is also your web site. Give us your ideas.

### More Recruits

Since the last issue, the company has gathered in two more recruits. Chris McLernon, Robert's oldest son, has decided to join us as a drummer. And clear from Meadesville, PA., Pvt. James D. Miller joins us.



**Pvt. Peter Boger of Company B, Jim Miller's ancestor, at around the turn of the century.** Originally from Marion, Miller had an ancestor in Company B, Pvt. Peter Boger, and he wanted to be apart of his ancestor's unit. Miller is also serving with the 150<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Infantry and will be joining us at Mumford. Welcome both of you to the company!

### Requested Participation

The 121<sup>st</sup> has been asked to help one day at the Cub Scout Day Camp at Lowe Volk Park off State Route 598 near Leesburg in Crawford County on Saturday July 11. Most likely they want us to show the cub scouts the maneuvers of a company and etc. etc. This lands on the weekend between the 4<sup>th</sup> and Mumford, so it would make for a busy July. However, if we can get enough volunteers we'll support this effort.