

FRIENDS OF FORT DAVIDSON MEETING 03/26/2011

held at Fort Davidson State Historic Site, Pilot Knob, MO



THE FAMOUS "GRANT OAK "

On Col. John W. Emerson's grounds at Ironton, Mo., under which Colonel Grant received his commission as Brigadier-General, August, 1861, while there in command. The spring flows out beneath the statue of the Angel, to the left of the oak. " Sylvan Lake " is seen through the openings, in the background.

Present: President Terry Cadenbach, Carl Warren, Dawn Warren, Steve Schulte, Scott Killan. Guests: Robin Coventry, Tyler Sappington and Tim Sappington. Fort Staff present: Walt Busch and Brick Autry. Walt said he would take notes.

- A. Minutes to the last meeting were reviewed and approved by voice vote.
- B. Treasurer Report was reviewed and accepted subject to audit by voice vote.
- C. Unfinished Business
 - 1. Website Update www.battleofpilotknob.org is up and running. Terry wants all the music off as it can cause problems and takes up band space.

Dawn suggested we have a blog for comments about visits to the fort. Walt has concerns with a "blog" and suggested an e-mail form instead. Walt to check with Glee to see if she can do it.

Terry to review forms for next re-enactment and will have them posted on the web pages as well. Walt to continue to get some updates to Glee to add to the webpages.

2. Memorandum of Understanding. Has been signed by the state park's director which allows Friends to supervise Civil War events at the site including the next re-enactment
3. Pilot Knob Mountain. We received updates from Robin Coventry and Tim Sappington. But it looks like the project is temporarily on a back burner.
4. Terry brought up the potential name change of the site to Battle of Pilot Knob SHS. Walt said hadn't heard anything on it yet, but one issue is that some of the expense of pulling stock that says "Fort Davidson SHS" as it is no longer accurate. Carl suggested that instead of pulling them that they should be considered collector items and sold as such. Walt liked that idea and said he would pass that up the chain.

D. New Business

1. Election of Officers
The list was presented and under the new by-laws the term of office runs from re-enactment to the meeting after the next re-enactment. The below \ list was accepted and passed on voice vote.

Chairman: Charles "Terry" Cadenbach
Vice-Chairman: Carl Warren
Secretary: David "Christopher" Warren
Treasurer: Sandra L. Walther
Board Member: R. Scott Killen
Board Member: Steve Schulte
Board Member: Terry Hammer
2. Trail of Tears Marker. Robin spoke about her efforts to get a Trail of Tears marker for the area and mentioned that instead of just one marker that National Park Service would like the highway trail signs put up. The group thought that they could apply for a grant from Taum Sauk Fund for this. Walt suggested possibly the Edgar Grant, but also cautioned that this starts to exceed the mission of Friends. He then suggested that maybe such a grant could be one for the Trail of Tears and also Price's Raid Route from Fredericktown to Caledonia as that is in keeping with the mission of the group. Group discussion was generally positive about this. Walt, Brick and Robin to continue to work on project.
3. Evening Programming at Fort Davidson. Walt presented a list of summer

programs he proposes to hold at the fort. He says that all but the first program are confirmed.

4. Reenactment/Living Histories
Reenactment --- Walt said that 2014 would most likely be his last reenactment and he would like to see us pursue having events for an entire week, not necessarily tied to the fort and going throughout the valley. Some of these included:
- a. a dinner train coming down
 - b. maybe one day where a bus runs between the fort and the historical society
 - c. plays, walks up the mountain, speaker's series,
 - d. etc.

All liked the general idea; Carl said he would camp out down here for a week if all that stuff was going on.

Living Histories:
Carl said he was still trying to get a Confederate Muster this spring at Fort Davidson. All were glad to hear that.

Turner Brigade spring drill will not be as big due to a joint commitment At SIU-Edwardsville.

Walt talked about US Grant Camp SUVCW's plans to hold a service at the Grant monument here honoring the 150th of his obtaining his brigadier's star. Walt also suggested that it would be great to have some community involvement such as a school band, etc. Carl said he could get some Confederates to serve as joint honor guard with the Union re-enactors. Terry said he could get Stan Prater to play Grant as he has in the past. Tim Sappington said he would try to get something going with the local tourism committee.

As the clock was now at 2:30, the meeting closed.

ABBREVIATED TREASURER'S REPORT FROM SANDRA WALTHER

Amount Paid Out	First State Community Bank #	Ozark Federal #
	\$4,302.19	\$3,621.25
TOTAL ALL	\$7,923.44	

[PROPOSED EVENTS]
Ladies and Gentlemen, For Your Pleasure...
Evenings of Entertainment Delights
at
FORT DAVIDSON STATE HISTORIC SITE

The following evening programs will feature topics mainly of Civil War interest, but will also include two music and one natural history program. Programs will begin at 7 p.m. They are free and open to the public.

Thursday, June 2 - "The Shoestring Band." Performance by a group of state park employees on guitar, hammered dulcimer, banjo, etc.

Thursday, June 9 – "Colonel/Governor Thomas Fletcher" Author Gary Scheel (*Rain, Mud and Swamps* and *66 Miles in 39 Hours*) will present the story of Thomas Fletcher, the Union's second in commander at Pilot Knob and 1864 candidate for Governor.

Thursday, June 16 – "Political Cartoons of the Civil War" Robert Schultz, the author and editor of several Civil War books most recently editing *Army Life* and *Sterling Price and the Confederacy*, will present highlights from his recently published book on political cartoons.

Thursday, June 23 – "Civil War Money and Stamps" Collector Tom Grimminger talks about his passion: collecting money and stamps from the Civil War.

Thursday, June 30 – To The Batcave! Brad Pendley, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service stationed down at Mingo Wildlife Refuge, will cover the importance of bats to humans and the endangered bats of Pilot Knob Mountain.

Thursday, July 7 – "Pass Da Cornbread N Taters" It's time once again for a musical interlude with Matt Shoemaker as he discusses and performs old minstrel songs on his banjo and guitar.

Thursday, July 14 – "Controversial Custer" Father Vincent Heier, a Custer aficionado since the age of seven, and author of several articles and books about the general talks about the other tumultuous times in his life. But we're sure Little Big Horn will be somewhere in the talk as well.



Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Division of State Parks