

Czech American Civil War Association invites you to

Battle of New Hope Church

September 4th-7th 2014



Re-enactment of an episode of Sherman's Atlanta campaign in 1864.

You can look forward to trench warfare in wooded terrain, bivouacking in the field and maximum authenticity.

Battle of New Hope Church

Our corps came here in advance on Wednesday, and the advance regiment of the 2nd Division hit upon the enemy and had a sharp conflict. In the afternoon, our corps was all up and we formed and moved forward to the attack. We drove the enemy back steadily a considerable distance, but finally came to a ridge where he was strongly posted and it was not easy to dislodge him. We attacked quite fiercely and fought a sharp battle which lasted until night, when we held all the ground we had gained. We were first in the second line, but soon took the front, where we sustained and kept up a heavy fire for about an hour, when night closed upon the scene [...]. Of course, such an ordeal could not be undergone without loss; I lost five men killed, one officer and thirty-two men wounded, and one sergeant who was out on picket after dark and ordered to reconnoiter the rebels' lines missing, probably he went too far in the intense darkness and was taken prisoner.

Let me repeat that our corps had a fierce fight here near Dallas on Wednesday afternoon; since then our army has been getting in position and thrown up heavy breastworks all along the line. The enemy confronts us also behind breastworks, and there we stand. There is constant watching, constant skirmishing between the lines, which some times changes into severe fight; neither party seems inclined to attack the other. What the result of this will be, I don't know.

F. C. Winkler

Extracts of letters written by Maj. Frederick C. Winkler, 26th Wisconsin Infantry, May 27 and 30, 1864



Confederate breastworks at New Hope Church



Confederate „Rifle pits“ at New Hope Church

What you can look forward to

- building breastworks
- fight in dense terrain
- shelter in battle position
- constant fighting activity from Friday till Saturday afternoon.

Arms, ammunition and safety

- only arms of category D can be used according to EU restrictions
- we recommend at least 200 rounds of ammunition per soldier
- using ramrods during the battle is prohibited
- using bayonets in contact with the enemy is prohibited
- using plugs for cannon shooting is prohibited, cannon rounds can be only wrapped in tinfoil.



Building of trial breastwork in spring 2014

We insist on proper equipment

- all unauthentic equipment (e.g. Indian, trapper, cowboy etc.) is banned
- please, avoid uncommon types of uniforms (e.g. zouave), which disturb the overall appearance of units
- Union infantryman should wear standard equipment including sky blue trousers, dark blue sack coat or frock coat, black leather equipment, bull's eye canteen and black haversack; with respect to the Western Theater of the American Civil War, we recommend using civilian hats or Hardee hats instead of forage caps
- with regard to good supplying of the Confederate army at the beginning of the campaign, we recommend to use proper and not tattered uniforms for the Confederate soldiers.

Other equipment

- bring rubber ponchos/blankets and shelter tents in addition to normal tents
- number of regimental colors will be limited; please, consult their use in battle with organisers
- authentic musicians are welcome; pipes are banned as unauthentic instrument on the battlefield of the American Civil War
- because of breastwork building, we recommend to individual units to bring tools such as axes, saws and sledgehammers with wooden shafts, as well as leather gloves

Event schedule

- Thursday: arrival of reenactors, building camps, evening entertainment in tavern
- Friday: arrival of reenactors, building camps, drill of units, construction of Confederate breastworks, closing of the tavern in the afternoon, dress parade, units leave camps in full marching order to the first battle, fortification of positions on both sides, patrols and night watch, shelter in battle positions (optional).
- Saturday: fighting activity may begin from dawn, rotation of units in the first line and reserve, end of fight in the afternoon, dress parade, re-opening of tavern
- Sunday: dismantling of breastworks, departure

We want to get an authentic experience

- items such as plastic bottles and modern cigarettes are banned
- please, use your mobile phones only in privacy
- keep the basic military etiquette, salute officers etc.
- we recommend to bring along authentic stuff such as playing cards and dice, Bibles, authentic newspaper copies etc.



Pvt. Jonathan Coker of 3rd Tennessee Infantry Regiment

Organisation information

- located near village Valdíkovo (near Třebíč), Czech Republic, GPS N 49°14'38.4" E 15°59'34.5"
- arrival possible from September 4th
- water, toilets, fire wood and straw provided; excluding the time of fight, a tavern will be available.



Participation fee

- soldiers paying in advance along with sending the form: 17 €
- soldiers paying at the spot: 21 €
- civilians in authentic clothing: 4 €
- children up to the age of 15: free
- send the payment (together for whole units if possible) on the following bank account

Registration form

- can be downloaded at <http://www.cacwa.cz/bitva2014/>
- send the forms on the following e-mail address: cacwa@cacwa.cz
- the form and payment in advance must be sent until the end of July
- we would appreciate if you send the registration forms until the end of June.

international transfers: 7491434594
IBAN: DE76600501017491434594
BIC (SWIFT):
SOLADEST
BW Bank, Stuttgart



Union company defending breastworks



Confederate infantry fighting in dense terrain