

150th Vicksburg Campaign

REENACTOR INFORMATION

Annex 4-E

Friends of Raymond

Updated 1/11/2012



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Updates: Save this link and watch this page for future updates.

Registration Information: Registration fee is \$20 per person. Those participants 14 and under can register free, but must be accompanied by a registered adult. The fee is necessary to ensure we have the resources needed to provide the logistics, infrastructure, and amenities you expect for a National Event. You may pay through PayPal or a Registration Form on Cleburne's website. **Registration Deadline: September 20, 2012**

[Additional information on registration at end of this circular](#)

Why October 2012 ? The final Vicksburg Campaign was fought in May 1863 – why is the event held in October? Several reasons: The back to back competition of 150th anniversary national reenactments in 2013 is extreme with Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, and Chickamauga. October offers better climate, less reenactment competition, and increased land access.

What is the Purpose of the Reenactment ?

Commemorate: To assist in bringing appropriate activities to central Mississippi in recognition of the 150th Anniversary of the historic Vicksburg Campaign of the American Civil War.

Educate: Highlight the historical significance of central Mississippi during the War Between the States and the sacrifices of those involved.

Preserve: Raise funds; since 1998 150 acres of the Raymond battlefield have been purchased and preserved for future generations by the Friends of Raymond, Inc.

Where will the Reenactment be held ? *On Hallowed Ground !* The Event will be conducted on the actual Battlefield of Raymond, fought May 12, 1863. It is located on Highway 18, sixteen miles south of Jackson, Mississippi, 2 miles south of Raymond, and 10 miles south of Interstate 20. Camp on the hill where Colonel Randall McGavock, commander of the 10th Tennessee Regiment was killed; or in the field where General Logan rallied a faltering Federal brigade; march across the ridge where 22 US guns massed their

fire; wade across the creek where hand to hand fighting occurred between the 3d Tennessee and 20th Ohio, and visit the Texas Monumentall within the confines of this reenactment site.

For those coming through central Tennessee or north Mississippi consider traveling south on the Natchez Trace. Take the exit at Hwy 462 four miles west of Raymond to reach the reenactment site. The Trace has no traffic stops and recreation vehicles are allowed – however, the speed limit is 50 mph.

There is a bill in Congress proposing that this property become part of the Vicksburg National Park. If this goes forward it will not affect this event on the date planned. However, it does mean that if funding is passed, that reenactment events such as this will not be possible on this property beyond 2012.

The Site. Over 900 acres, this site offers terrain very fitting for all three of the historic battles: hills, creeks, fields, woods, gravel roads, all on actual battlefield property. The main focus of the event will be THREE scripted battles on Saturday and Sunday; however, there is adjacent property selected for non-scripted soldier battles beginning Thursday morning. Sutler set up Tuesday and participant registration begins Wednesday. For those that have participated in previous Events at Raymond, this Event is using about 50% new ground not previously used.

For those who choose to camp garrison, campaign, refugee, or even modern - there are campsites available with running water. Whether your unit prefers to camp in the woods or company streets, these sites are adjacent to each other at all locations. Each of the respective US and CS commands will have an area adjacent or in the vicinity of their main camps to accommodate those who will camp Family/Garrison style. The Camp Harper area is set aside for Period Civilian impressions styled “the Town of Raymond”. For those interested, you will be required to adhere to specific guidelines as set forth by Robert Orrand and Terre Lawson. Please contact Ms. Lawson or Mayor Orrand for further details. The public will not have general access to the soldiers’ camps, but do have direct access to Camp Harper.

Campaigner Units: Participation of campaigner units is encouraged. Units to be depicted in all the scenarios are included in the information below. As a matter of protocol, the Commanders of each side should be notified of the intent to raise a campaigner unit to ensure your desires are understood. Looking for units to camp in the 2d Texas Lunette the entire event.

Registration Check In on-site. Located on the battlefield directly off Highway 18 and will be well marked. A hard gravel road with one way traffic will take you directly to registration check in tent which is located centrally to the entire site and adjacent to the civilian camp at Camp Harper. At registration you will sign a release form and will be given a map with directions to the location of your unit camp. All registration payment will be performed on-line, but it is **important** you come to registration prior to going to any camp. Without formal registration check-in you are trespassing. **It is suggested that you bring a copy of your PayPal receipt to the event with you if applicable.**

Check in will consist of signing each participants name to a liability waiver, receiving a map of the camp areas and event site. Coggins paperwork will be checked for all equine participants. Health Certificates are not required at this point but are always a safe bet to get before leaving home. Horse hay will be issued at the registration check-in tent on arrival – at rate of ½ bale per horse/mule per day.

Parking is adjacent to each of the major camps and bus shuttles will be provided to drop you off after you park. The shuttles will be operated the entire weekend and will go to all camps, battle sites, sutlers, and adjacent to a convenience store.

Battles Scenarios, Organizational Needs, Units Depicted.

For the **Battle of Raymond**, the Federals were the aggressors and there were four Federal batteries to the one Confederate battery with cavalry on the flanks on May 12, 1863. Expect to fight across Fourteenmile Creek several times in the same manner as the original battle. Units Depicted: CS – Bledsoe’s Mo Battery; 3d Tennessee Infantry; 7th Texas Infantry; Hall’s Militia Cavalry. US – 3d Ohio Battery; 11th Ohio Battery; Co. D, 1st Illinois Artillery; 8th Michigan Battery; 20th Ohio; 23rd Indiana; 68th Ohio; 20th Illinois; 2nd Illinois Cavalry. Reference. Winschel: *Triumph and Defeat*, 2006.

Which Federal regiment was the only one to lose its colors in this battle ? Both of the opposing senior commanders in this battle were later killed; can you name the battles they were killed in ? What occurred to the only Whitworth cannon on the field during the battle ? Both sides had an “Irish Regiment” in the battle – can you identify them ? What CS regiment suffered 50% casualties?

In the **Battle of Champion Hill** the key action will depict the fight for the “crossroads” around Waddell’s Alabama Battery and will culminate in Bowen’s grand assault on the afternoon of May 16, 1863. Expect to see a battery change hands several times in a corn field and fight up a hill and across sunken roads. Artillery will be equally matched and cavalry will assail the flanks. Units Depicted: US – 16th Ohio Battery; Co. D, 1st Illinois Artillery; Co. A, 1st Missouri, 6th Wisconsin Battery; Slack’s Brigade (24th Iowa, 28th Iowa, 56th Ohio); McGinnis’ Brigade (11th, 24th, 34th, 46th Indiana); Foster’s Provisional Cavalry Battalion. CS – Waddell’s Battery; Cherokee Artillery; Landis Mo Battery; 56th Georgia, 57th Georgia; 3rd Missouri; 5th Missouri Infantry
Reference. Smith: *Champion Hill-Decisive Battle for Vicksburg*, 2004.

Who was the Alabama infantry sergeant that served one of Waddell’s guns single handedly ? What Federal Battery was briefly captured ? What Federal General called the Champion place a “hill of death” ? During the battle, the land owner (Champion) was away serving in what Confederate Regiment ?

The **Vicksburg Assault on the 2d Texas Lunette** starts with a long Federal artillery barrage; 2 Confederate pieces will be in the trenches, with others supporting the Confederate works. The Lunette and the Cox House Battery works will be built to full scale for the reenactment of the May 22nd assault. This Lunette was one of only two points on the Vicksburg line that was penetrated on May 22nd. Units Depicted: US – Chicago Mercantile Battery; Co A, 2nd Illinois Artillery; 1st Indiana Artillery; Benton’s Brigade (33rd & 99th Illinois, 8th & 18th Indiana) and Burbridge’s Brigade (16th & 67th Indiana, 83rd Ohio, 23rd Wisconsin.). CS – 1st Mississippi Artillery; 2d Texas Infantry; 37th Alabama; 1st Arkansas Cavalry Battalion – dismounted. Reference. Bearss / Hills: *Receding Tide: Vicksburg and Gettysburg: The Campaigns That Changed the Civil War*, 2010.

How many cannon were in the Lunette ? How many different Federal Brigades attacked the Lunette over the course of the day ? How many muskets did each man in the Lunette have issued to him prior to the start of the assault?

Cavalry: Mounted cavalry will be used in all scenarios.

Artillery: Thirty full scale artillery pieces are needed, divided into about 6 batteries. Artillery powder reimbursement will issued to all guns that register 7 crew members and participate the entire weekend. Some galvanizing will be required to meet historical scenarios.

Infantry: Some galvanizing is needed to ensure appropriate numbers for historic scenarios. Organizing Campaigner Company or Battalions is acceptable; please make your intentions known early to the overall commanders.

Battleflags: Flags flown during the reenactments should be historic to the actions depicted and be carried by your better soldiers at least 17 years old. For example – during the Battle of Raymond there were only five Confederate Regiments so only 5 flags should be used of the Stars & Bars pattern only. For the

Vicksburg assault, only one Confederate flag should be in each of the two Confederate forts. The Champion Hill battle should depict a couple of the blue and white flags of Bowen's Missouri Division and a couple of the flags of Lee's Alabama Brigade.

Special Activities:

Medical – Demonstrations are planned, to include pill making, at the Raymond Courthouse on Saturday. Built in 1857, the Courthouse was a primary hospital following the battle and the tables in the courtrooms still have bloodstains. All medical demonstrations welcome in a very stable, secure, and historic site. Please contact Dr. Steinbach.

Cemetery Memorial Service – Noon on Sunday

Dance – A period ball will be held in the field at the activities' tent Saturday evening from 7 – 8:30 pm. All participants in period dress are welcome to participate.

School Day – Thursday/Friday – Local schools will make scheduled visits in the morning and afternoon to the 2nd Texas Lunette site and will tour the Vicksburg Cave area. US or CS Volunteers are needed to occupy the fort to give artillery and musket demonstrations. Please contact Col. Grosson if interested. He can be reached at 615-283-3491 and by email at joseph.grosson@comcast.net.

Naval Demonstrations - Are planned for the School Days, at the Raymond Courthouse on Saturday, and in the field at key events. Those interested in participating in naval / marine impressions should contact Tom Grinsell and note as appropriate on your registration.

Lectures – General Parker Hills (ret), well known author and battlefield guide, will present an overview of the campaign in the activities' tent on Saturday 11:30 am – 2 pm.

Vicksburg Caves – Several caves are being prepared to demonstrate civilian cave life at Vicksburg. Space is very limited and will require adherence to specific guidelines as set forth by Terre Lawson and Amy Clark. Please contact Mrs. Clark for further details.

Church Services – At the activities' tent 10:00 am Sunday. Following these services buses will take those who wish to participate in a noon memorial service to the Confederate Cemetery one mile away.

Author Signing – A number of authors will be on-site at the Activity Tent to autograph copies of their books. The books will be on Civil War and other historical interest.

Camp Site Descriptions

Camp sites are currently being cleared, fences removed, roads prepared or repaired, and water piping installed and tested. Shuttle buses will be ran continually to the different camp sites on the periphery paved roads and 8 shuttle stops have been prepared including one at a convenience store. The main soldier camps are ½ mile from the sutler, food concessions, and civilian camp which is geographically placed between the US and CS camps that are 1 mile apart. The battlefield areas are ¼ mile from the camps.

Camp Stevens. Primary US Camp. This is the primary camp of all US forces and is located on the property of the late Earl Leggett of NFL fame. In rolling fields adjacent to forest and has running water. Adequate parking on-site, but out of view. Camp Harper and sutlers are ½ mile away. *Named in honor of Capt Victor Stevens, 20th Ohio Infantry, KIA in the fight at Fourteenmile Creek 12 May 1863. His ancestor, John Hall is a residence of Raymond and still has the foot officer sword Capt Stevens was carrying when killed (his brother, also a soldier, relocated here after the war in search of his brother's grave; married and settled here).*

Camp Harper. Registration, Civilian Camp, "Town of Raymond", Camp Dance, Civilian Demonstrations, Lectures, Sutlers, Thurs & Friday Skirmishes. Camp Harper is located on newly acquired 66 acres of the core battle field area where Logan rallied his division when his lines were temporarily broken by the 3d Tennessee. Site has running water, plenty of old growth shade trees, and a very good internal gravel road. Reenactor Registration, Hay Storage, Lectures, and Sutlers will be co-located on site and one food vendor nearby. Located between the main US and CS Camps and is ¼ mile from primary battle sites. *Named in honor of Mr. George Harper, editor of Raymond's Hinds County Gazette; his presses were thrown into the Raymond town well by Union troops polluting the water for more than 20 years. Mr. Harper assisted in the*

Raymond hospitals following the battle and was grandfather of the late Willie Morris, well known prolific Mississippi writer. This site is the central part of the battlefield where Genl Logan reinvigorated the Federal troops. Site was purchased for preservation in 2010; the internal roads were constructed for a housing development that fortunately did not occur.

McGavock Hill Camp. Primary CS Camp. Has running water on site, shaded areas, internal gravel road. Adequate parking nearby. Camp Harper and sutlers are ½ mile away on dirt road. Horse and artillery trailers will enter by special entrance on Dry Grove Road. *Named in honor of Lieut Colonel Randall McGavock, 10th Tennessee Infantry, KIA at this site 12 May 1863. Colonel McGavock had been the mayor of Nashville, Tennessee prior to raising his second generation Irish Regiment. Site purchased for preservation in 1998.*

2nd Texas Lunette. The Vicksburg National Military Park is being consulted on the layout and construction of the earthworks. The Vicksburg Caves are nearby. Troops are expected to camp in the works over several days and the site will be used for School Day demonstrations on Friday. Below is a first-hand description of this fort and its appearance the day of the assault on May 22, 1863 in the after action report written July 10, 1863 by Col. Ashbel Smith, commander of the 2d Texas: *“Our fort was a regular lunette....or it may be considered a redan with a large pan coupe, having its left thrown forward and its right retired....its interior was exposed to an enfilading and reverse fire from the enemy approaching by the valley, which debouches on its left. Its parapet was about 4½ feet high on the inside, its superior slope about 14 feet thick. It is surrounded by a ditch 6 feet deep, with an irregular glacis made by the natural slope of the earth to the ferry road. There were two embrasures for cannon, with a traverse between them...the men of my regiment were stationed as follows: The two right companies occupied the rifle pits tending off from the right of the fort; the next four companies manned the fort; the four remaining, or left companies occupied the lines next to our left separated from the fort by the interval of 100 yards. At the commencement of the siege two gun detachments were placed in the fort from the 1st Miss Artillery....a ditch two feet deep was dug on the inside of the parapet, to enable the men to stand without being exposed to the enemy’s fire.....after all improvements the interior of the fort was swept within 2 feet of the ground by the enemy’s Minies. This did not prevent the men from bivouacking at night, lying flat on the ground; but during the day safety compelled them to seek the protection of the ditches next to the parapet and traverses.”* Private Evans of Company I noted that the Texans were armed with Springfield rifled muskets, but each man had five smoothbore muskets loaded with buck and ball next to him on the wall.

Will there be adequate water, firewood, and hay ? Yes ! Water is hard piped to battle and camp areas with 18 different fixed manifolds. Camp and battle sites will have horse troughs. Hay for horses and sleeping straw has been contracted for and shall be delivered a week prior to the event. Fire wood is being prepared for all sites and there is a significant amount of tree fall at all sites. Horse hay will be available for pick-up when you register.

Emergency Services: Medical and Emergency plans with local fire, EMS, and on field medical personal have been arranged complete with on-site Emergency Management Center.

Expected Weather: The average temperature for this area mid-October is 64F with a high of 76F and a low of 48F. October is the month with the lowest annual precipitation. However; we have arranged for several large pieces of towing equipment as an emergency plan should unforeseen occur so no one will have undue difficulties at or after this event.

Local Accommodations: Historically, Events of this size book all hotel rooms between Vicksburg and Jackson. For reenactors, hotels in the Clinton area are recommended and are only 10 miles from battlefield. The Hinds Community College Eagle Ridge Conference Center, only two miles from the reenactment, has 35 hotel rooms available for reservations - call Peggy Lofton at 601.857.7100. Raymond also boasts several Bed and Breakfast locations that can be found on www.raymondms.com

/business_directory/bedand_breakfast_inns.html. If you have friends or relatives visiting the Event, please have them make accommodation reservations early.

Road Network: State Hwy 18 is a four lane highway from I-20 in Jackson to Raymond about 10 miles. The highway actually bypasses downtown Raymond. As Hwy 18 approaches the Event site it reduces down to two lanes. Unless you are arriving from the south or from the Natchez Trace through downtown Raymond, all traffic to the Event should come south on Hwy 18 from Jackson area. There will be adequate directional signs to make finding registration and your camps sites easy.

Natchez Trace: The Trace is a great way to arrive or depart the event if you are coming through central Tennessee or northeast Mississippi as the Trace is less than 3 miles from Raymond. Horse trailers can be pulled on the Trace along with small utility trailers (5 x 8). There are no stop lights; just remember the speed limit is 50 mph. Exit the Trace at milepost 79 onto Highway 467 and travel east to the town of Raymond.

Local RV Camp Sites: The nearest location for motor homes and modern camping trailers is Springridge RV Park in Clinton 601-924-0947 8 miles away on I-20 (see <http://www.springridgemhp.com/>).

Modern Camping on Site: Modern tents and camper trailers are welcome to use the reenactor parking areas, but no amenities are planned.

Staff Horses: By personal arrangement, local staff horses for the Event can be rented. These are not “war horses”, but are used frequently by other groups. Contact: Alvin Woods 601.857.5988 or 601.371.3165; located adjacent to the Federal Camps.

Hot Food Concession: Beginning Thursday hot food concessions are located near the Sutlers and can be accessed directly from all camps ½ mile away, from the battlefields ½ mile away, or by riding the shuttle.

Groceries/Gas/Stores: Downtown Raymond has a “Sunflower” grocery store that has a deli. There is a “Pit Stop” convenience store just north of the Event site on Hwy 18 that is included as a “stop” for the shuttle bus that will run between camps. There is a Walmart at the Hwy 18 exit off I-20 in Jackson and there are numerous brand name gas stations and fast food locations in the 10 miles on Hwy 18 between Jackson and Raymond.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Registration: After Opening: 1-888-543-1863

Hinds County Sheriff Dept: 601-857-8041

Raymond Police Dept: 601-857-8041

Pharmacy: Raymond Drugstore, Mr. Raymond Baugher, 601-857-8773

Mississippi Highway Patrol: 601-987-1212

Auto Repair Services (& Towing): Magnolia Wrecker & Auto Repair 601-373-2724 or
Raymond Motor Service (Traweek’s) 601- 857-5302.

Auto Parts

ATM Location: Merchants & Planters Bank on Hwy 18 one mile north of registration

Veterinary Medicine: Farr Animal Clinic, Dr. Farr, 601-866-7158 on call for emergencies

Vicksburg National Military Park: 601-636-0583

Dentist: Dr. Hiram Gatewood Jr 601-857-5021; Home 601-857-8640

150th Vicksburg Campaign

REENACTOR SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY

8:00 AM Registration Open Camp Harper Activities Tent – Sutler Set Up

10:00 PM All Quiet Every Night

THURSDAY

8:00 AM – 3:00 PM School Days at Lunette and Vicksburg Caves

Registration Continues

Unscripted Skirmish Scenarios

FRIDAY

8:00 AM – 3:00 PM School Days at Lunette and Vicksburg Caves

Registration Continues

Unscripted Skirmish Scenarios

SATURDAY

8:00 – 5:00 AM Public Demonstrations

- Medical Displays Courthouse Lawn
- Civilian Camps – Camp Harper
- Vicksburg Caves and Lunette
- Author Book Signings - Camp Harper

9:00 AM Reenactor Registration Closes

10:00 – 11:00 AM *Battle of Raymond*

11:30 – 2:00 PM Vicksburg Campaign Lecture – Camp Harper Activities Tent

3:00 – 4:00 PM *Battle of Champion Hill*

7:00 – 8:30 PM Dance in Camp Harper Activities Tent

SUNDAY

8:00 AM – 1:00 PM Vicksburg Caves and Lunette open to Public

10:00 – 11:00 AM Church Call – Camp Harper Activities tent

2:00 – 3:00 PM *Assault on 2d Texas Lunette - Vicksburg*

Register to Participate in the Vicksburg Campaign 150th Anniversary Reenactment!

Registration amount: \$20 per person (14 and under free when accompanied by a registered adult)

Registration Deadline: September 20, 2012

There will be no Walk-ons at this event. In order to pre-plan accordingly all reenactors and participants **MUST** pre-register by the registration deadline.

There are a two different ways to register for this event.

1. You may register online using PayPal by clicking on the registration form link below. You will be prompted to enter all necessary information and then directed to the PayPal site to complete the transaction. No transaction is considered complete until payment is rendered. Please check the REGISTERED REENACTORS link on the web site to ensure your name appears within two days after you register online. If your name does not appear or you believe there was an error in registration, please contact Mark Way (markway00@aol.com) and ask for verification of your registration. All confirmed registrations will appear in the REGISTERED REENACTORS area without exception.
2. You may fill out the online registration form, print it, and mail it with check or money order to:
Vicksburg Campaign
P. O. Box 1000
Raymond, MS 39154

If you are registering more than one person (i.e., a company or battalion) ensure that a complete name for each participant is included, along with rank or designation as a civilian. All persons age 14 and under should also be duly noted so that they may be properly registered.

It is of vital importance that you properly fill in the name of the Brigade or Battalion your company will be falling in with. Every effort will be made to appropriately sort the registrations and compile a master list of member units as they pertain to the Brigades or Battalion in attendance. This list will be posted at the reenactor check-in area at the event. Please make sure that each member of your company is fully informed about who you will be falling in with at the event and that they list the same on their registration. This will help to stem any confusion for your members once they arrive on site.

Any company that registers without a Battalion affiliation will be assigned to a Battalion for this event in order to facilitate organizational structure. Rank for reenactors should be commensurate with the number of subordinates under your command. It is possible that those companies with and without a Battalion assignment may be blended by command of the Battalion commander to which they are assigned.

You may print the registration form and mail it with registration payment no later than September 20, 2012. Make all checks or money orders payable to Friends of Raymond. If you have questions call us at 888.543.1863.

Sutler Registration:

All sutlers interested in participating in this event should contact the sutler coordinator, Andy Fulks, Fall Creek Sutlery, AJF5577@aol.com. Sutler registration fee will be \$100 plus twenty cents per square foot of canvas. Andy Fulks can provide the sutler registration forms and the other required information. Space is limited so be sure you contact Andy soon with your inquiries.