



Most Celebrated American
Hero of World War I

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 931-879-3657

QUARTERLY ISSUE 1, 2008

Upcoming Events...

16th Annual Black Powder Shoot
 March 29, 2008 in Pall Mall, TN

90th Anniversary Celebration at
 the York Homeplace in Pall Mall,
 Tennessee on October 18, 2008.

Commemorative and special
 edition knives and t-shirts will be
 available in 2008! Visit the new
 website compliments of Ruble
 Upchurch III.

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Special thanks to Bill Bowden at *The
 Fentress Courier* for printing this
 newsletter.

Sergeant York Says



Pall Mall, Tennessee



Enfield Model 1917 Rifle



Châtel Chéhéry, France

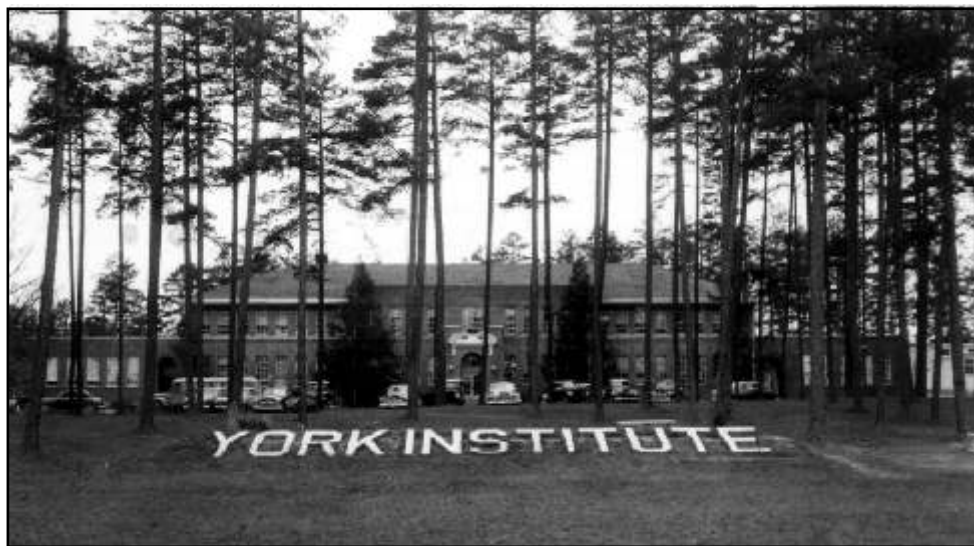


12-13-1887 to 9-2-1964



Company G, 328th Infantry, 82nd Division

Congressional Medal of Honor • Croix de Guerre • Legion of Honor • Distinguished Service Cross
 War Medal (Montenegro) • French Legion of Honor • Légion d'honneur



York Institute—A Legacy in Distress

Known as the greatest hero of World War I, York avoided profiting from his war record, choosing, instead to give something back to his nation and his home state. (On 8 October 1918, Corporal Alvin Cullum York and sixteen other men under the command of Sergeants Harry Parsons and Bernard Early were dispatched to capture the Decauville railroad near Châtel Chéhéry in the Meuse-Argonne. After a brief firefight [nine Americans died in the melee] the confused Germans surrendered to what they believed to be a superior force. In all 132 Germans were captured and delivered to U.S. Army headquarters by the seven survivors led by Corporal York. The army singled out York as the hero of World War I and presented him with the Congressional Medal of Honor.) Upon his return to the United States, York found himself being wooed by Hollywood, Broadway, and various sponsors who clamored for his endorsement. York turned his back on quick and certain fortune in 1919, and went home to Tennessee to resume private life and pursue a dream that consumed the rest of his life.

The story of York Institute is one filled with triumph and tragedy, and deserves greater circulation. When Alvin York responded to his draft notice, he typified the underprivileged, undereducated conscript who traveled to France to “keep the world safe for democracy.” Possessing what he called a third grade education—a subscription school education which amounted to only nine months’ total schooling over three years—York discovered a larger world beyond his ken in the army. Before leaving for Camp Gordon, Georgia, and beyond, York’s world consisted of the area within a one-hundred mile radius of his home (the furthest he had been from home, had been Albany, Kentucky to the north, Celina to the west, Jamestown to the south, and Harriman, to the east where he boarded the train bound for Atlanta, and basic training). The war introduced him to a progressive, mechanized, industrial world, and prolonged exposure to it made him realize the important contributions education could make for his friends and relatives at home. Literally a stranger in a strange land, York recognized that he

was ill equipped to fully understand or appreciate his foreign surroundings. Initially, he immersed himself in the Bible, hoping that his simple religious faith would see him through, but by the war's end he longed for something more than just his faith.

Largely unknown to most Americans, and, sadly, many Tennesseans, was the fact that York returned to America with a single vision. He wanted to provide a practical educational opportunity for the mountain children of Tennessee. Understanding that to prosper in the modern world, people needed an education, York sought to drag Fentress County into the twentieth century. Thousands of like-minded veterans returned from France with similar sentiments and, as a result, high school and college enrollments shot up immediately after the war.

As early as 1920 York formed a non-profit organization, the York Foundation, and embarked on a series of speaking tours on its behalf. He hired a private tutor, Arthur S. Bushing, who played a crucial role in improving York's education. A pamphlet issued in 1926 stated, ". . . it will be the aim of the Institute to afford an opportunity for mature men and women to get an education, regardless of how backward they may be, and also to send out only such graduates as are prepared to succeed in the work they have chosen to do."

In 1925 the York Foundation drafted plans and proposed a site for the school one mile north of Jamestown near the newly constructed Highway 127. Taking the \$12,000 he had raised on speaking tours, York purchased 400 acres, including the Poor House. The first students enrolled at York Institute began taking classes in the fall of 1925.

In 1927, the Nashville Banner announced the launching of a \$100,000 fund-raising effort to insure York Institute's completion. Supported by the recently organized American Legion, each post promised that it would deliver one dollar per member. University of Tennessee president H.A. Morgan pledged his unwavering support as well.

On the other hand, York faced extreme adversity from local leaders and said in a fund-raising speech that he survived war and achieved fame because he had been chosen to perform a specific mission: "When I went out into that big outside world I realized how un-educated I was and what a terrible handicap it was. I was called to lead my people toward a sensible modern education. For years I have been planning and fighting to build the school. And it has been a terrible fight. A much more terrible fight than the one that I fought in the war. And so I head into the frontline and fight another fight. And I can't use the old rifle or Colt automatic this time. And it has been a long hard fight". Armistice Day he spoke to a packed audience at Carnegie Hall in New York about the importance of his work and the benighted souls who stood in his way back home, comparing the Fentress county elite to a pair of mules working against each other.

After a protracted series of legal challenges, York opened the new school in the fall of 1929. The school's opening coincided with the onset of the Great Depression, and in 1931 the state ended all appropriations for bus transportation, effectively crippling the struggling Institute. The very nature of the school, a mountain school, where children could come for a free education required buses. York went before the County Court and asked for help; the Court refused.

On two occasions, first in 1931 and then later in 1935, York secured a mortgage on his farm from his political enemy and banker, W. L. Wright—to hire drivers, buy buses, and even pay teachers' salaries. This was true

heroism, endangering the fate of his family to ensure that the school stay in operation. As the Depression worsened Wright badgered York, ultimately declaring him delinquent in his business transactions, and moved to foreclose on his farm. Had it not been for his longtime friend and neighbor, Susie Williams, York would have lost his farm, for she twice loaned him the money necessary to pay off his note.

Far from crediting York for his selfless efforts, the state never reimbursed York for his altruism. Rather, he was criticized for his behavior which led to a fact finding investigation in 1933, that resulted in York's eventual removal from the school in 1937. The investigating committee recognized that York was the driving force behind the school and feared its demise if he were removed from the picture. They also acknowledged that if the school were turned over to Fentress County, the situation would be worse. As a result the state of Tennessee assumed control of the school and assumed operation of York Institute. They removed York as the school's administrator, but named him "president emeritus," because he did not have a college degree. The title which recognized him as the school's founder but stripped him of any power.

In spite of his loss of position, York continued to promote York Institute, raising private donations for expansion of the school facilities and, when possible, contributing his own money. Legislation forced the state to have a vested interest in its success and York's dream of free education for Tennessee's mountain children at last became a reality. He presided over every graduation ceremony until his stroke in 1948, but continued to make regular visits to the school up into the late 1950s, until he grew too frail.

York fought valiantly in a war waged not on distant battlefields in France, but on his own doorstep. Because his tenure in the military made him painfully aware of his intellectual limitations, York dedicated the remainder of his life to the improvement of education—his own, and his region's. York Agricultural and Industrial Institute, north of Jamestown, stands as a monument to his embattled dream. Yet the condition of the building that he helped build, digging its foundation by hand, and overseeing every aspect of its construction, now stands in near ruin. Though it should be a lasting tribute to his hard work and dedication to assist the citizens of the state he loved, it is now on the brink of collapse. York lost many battles over the course of the war to build York Institute and make it viable. Though he lost control of the school in 1937, he continued to be its biggest booster, and dedicated his life to its success.

Because of his vision, thousands of York Institute graduates went on to become leaders in communities. The foundation he helped dig, and walls he helped build remain solid, though bricks are falling from its facade. The building which should be a monument now sits as a derelict shell. We can save the symbol of its greatest 20th Century hero's life's work! Sgt Alvin C. York, when asked "How do you want to be remembered?," always replied, "For improving education in Tennessee."



collar disk

Scientific Detection and Historic Evidence Reveal Probable Location of Sergeant Alvin C. York's World War I Battle in Châtel Chéhéry, France

Discovery of a U.S. Army collar disk stamped "328 Infantry G," Sergeant York's own company, added to a preponderance of evidence gathered by an international team of archaeologists, geographers, historians, and interested parties, of the location of the battle that occurred near Châtel Chéhéry October 8, 1918. The team- French archaeologists Yves Desfosse and Olivier Brun; Belgian archaeologist Birger

Stichelbaut; geographer Tom Nolan of Middle Tennessee State University; historians Dr. Michael Birdwell of Tennessee Technological University and Michael Kelly of Great Britain; Jim Deppen of Nashville, Tennessee; and military artifact experts Eddy Browne and Ian Cobb of Great Britain; Frederic Castier, historian and official representative of the First Division Museum; as well as the mayor of Châtel Chéhéry Roland Destanay and the mayor of Fleville who is also the regional forester for the Argonne. Damien Georges uncovered over 1400 items over a period of nine days in the field. In addition to the collar disk, the team recovered artifacts consistent with historic documents, describing items discarded by German soldiers as they surrendered to Sergeant York and the seven survivors of Company G. Items recovered included German gas masks, German gas mask filters, German bayonets, Mauser rifle bolts, fired German and U.S. rifle rounds, and spent Colt .45 rounds.

The excavations in November were a follow-up to work that began in the area in March, 2006. Using state of the art mapping technology, Tom Nolan used historic maps from the period (including French and German battle maps, trench maps, and maps annotated by York's commanding officers Colonel G. Edward Buxton and Major E.C.B. Danforth) to create overlays graphically depicting the action. The first foray into the Argonne recovered enough material to indicate that the team was looking in the right place, but time constraints made it impossible to search any further. In the

interim, Nolan and Birdwell continued to conduct historic and geographic research, and seek expert advice from the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation and the Tennessee State Museum. Affidavits taken in 1919 were re-examined as well as correspondence and significant documents from the National Archives in Washington. Archivist Mitch Yockelson, a

World War I scholar, provided valuable assistance. Tom Nolan discovered the burial records of the six Americans killed on October 8. Those documents played a key role in refining the search area. Additionally, the correspondence between Colonel Buxton and Captain Henry O. Swindler, discussing the re-enactment of the October 8, 1918 battle at the U.S. Army War College in 1929 proved crucial. Buxton and Danforth's participation in the investigation for York's Medal of Honor made them the most credible sources for the precise location of the engagement.

The battle map they annotated were similar in the pattern they depicted, but the base map they used varied significantly from the current topography. Using his knowledge of GIS, Nolan constructed a map which included data points gathered in March, which included the location of artifacts found in March and during this expedition. Most artifacts were photographed in situ by Michael Birdwell or Jim Deppen. After being recovered, all artifacts except live grenades and artillery shells were given an identity number and re-photographed by Birdwell.

Finding the burials became the first priority of the November excursion. Beginning at the location where the American rounds were uncovered by Nolan and Birdwell in March, the team continued their search to the south. Roughly one-hundred yards from there, Eddy Browne uncovered a number of live and fired American and German rounds. His discovery led to an intensive investigation along both sides of the creek uncovering more ammunition, as well as a nearly



searching for the graves of 6 Americans who died in France 10-8-1918

complete German gas mask and a number of gas mask filters. Proceeding eastward up the hill, more significant discoveries were made. Birger Stichelbaut found the first of many .45 rounds, falling in line with the historic record. Percy Beardsley stated in his 1919 affidavit that there were a number of machine gunners "halfway up the hill. The German machine gunners kept up a heavy fire, as did the German rifleman on the hillside with the machine gunners." Beardsley said that he saw York fire "rapidly with rifle and pistol". After finding the .45 rounds, ascertaining the location of the machine gun positions became another priority. When moving their machine guns around to defend against Company G, the Germans took advantage of existing features on the landscape. The hillside is pocked with ancient charcoal pits that go back centuries. Dug into the sides of the hill, charcoal pits allowed a vantage point where the machine gunners could see down the hill to the valley below, and also provided them a degree of protection. Michael Kelly, historian, Royal Marine veteran, and former police investigator, used his estimable skills to find the location of the machine gun pit, in full view of the probable location where Alvin York shot the German gunners. Jim Deppen helped Kelly recover ninety-one fired machine gun rounds and over one hundred live rounds.

Yves Desfosse and Alain Jacques, archaeologist for the area near Arras and well-respected World War I expert, played a critical role in helping to identify unknown objects, such as German grease tins. Desfosse joined the team in the field on three occasions, and he provided the use of a backhoe, expertly operated by Sebastian Berchard. Desfosse and his assistant Olivier Brun, oversaw the use of the backhoe, while helping Kelly, Birdwell and Deppen dig. They



l to r: Tom Nolan, Jim Deppen, Michael Birdwell, Michael Kelly, George Edward York, Andrew York

witnessed the finding of the Company G collar disk. Tom Nolan immediately geo-referenced its location, adding it to the database he collected in the field.

Finding complete U.S. cartridge belts with full ammunition pouches, tunic and collar buttons, were highly indicative of the location of one of the six American casualties. Those items, found in the flat area on both sides of the creek in full view of the machine gunners, most likely belonged to soldiers on the left flank of the attack.

Evidence uncovered in this investigation created a great deal of local interest, for the York story is part of a much larger saga in the immediate region. If it had not been for the plight of Captain Charles Whittlesy of the 77th Division, the 82nd Division might have seen action at another place and Sergeant York's exploit might never have happened. Likewise, the actions of the 28th Division, which fought around Chatel were significant. The Meuse-Argonne offensive saw more American troops in one area over a longer period of time than the Normandy Invasion, yet is little known in the U.S. The type research being conducted by this team can and should be utilized to shed further light on other World War I engagements in the immediate area, at Apremont, Cornay, Fleville and beyond. Visit www.sergeantYorkproject.com for full details.

OVC Announces Annual Sgt York Trophy

On Tuesday the Nashville Sports Council announced the formation of the Sergeant York Trophy which will go to the winner of the quadrangular season football series between the four Ohio Valley Conference schools located in the state of Tennessee – Austin Peay State University, University of Tennessee at Martin, Tennessee State University and Tennessee Technological University.

The award is only the second traveling trophy that involves more than two teams in college sports; the other is the Commander in Chief's Trophy which has been contested between Air Force, Army and Navy annually since 1972.

"We are very appreciative of the Nashville Sports Council for sponsoring this award," said Dr. Jon A. Steinbrecher, Commissioner of the Ohio Valley Conference. "I believe that this will become a unique and distinguished honor for the involved teams to compete for. Alvin York is a hero, not only for serving in the military in World War I, but also for his passion and energy he brought to facilitating educational opportunities and championing the cause of education. He is a tremendous role model for our student-athletes."

The award is named in honor of Alvin C. York, the most decorated soldier in World War I. As a corporal in the 2nd battalion, 328th Infantry, in the Battle of the Meuse River-Argonne (Oct. 8, 1918), York captured 132 prisoners, was promoted to sergeant and received the Distinguished Service Cross, the French Croix de Guerre, the French Legion of Honor, the Croce di Guerra of Italy and the War Medal of Montenegro. Upon his return to the United States in 1919, he was bestowed the Congressional Medal of Honor.

After the completion of the football season, the Sergeant York Trophy will be awarded to the institution with the best head-to-head record in the match-ups with their fellow Tennessee schools. In the event of a tie, the award will be shared; however, the previous winner will retain



OVC Coaches, Commissioner, Dr Michael Birdwell & York Family

the trophy if they are part of the tie. If the tie is between two other institutions, the trophy will go to the institution that has gone the most seasons without winning the trophy.

The award will be presented to the winning institution annually at the O'Charley's Dinner of Champions, which is hosted each spring by the Nashville Sports Council. The event was created in 1999 and salutes amateur and professional sports in Tennessee.

The competition for the inaugural Sergeant York Trophy coincides with the return to OVC football for Austin Peay, who left the Conference to play non-scholarship football following the 1996 season. The program returns 50 players from last year's team and is under the direction of first-year head coach Rick Christophel. Also with a new head coach is Tennessee Tech, who hired Cookeville native Watson Brown to guide the program during the off-season. The Golden Eagles return 12 starters from last year including a pair of first-team All-OVC picks. Tennessee-Martin is coming off its best season of football at the Division I level, as the Skyhawks shared the OVC crown last season and made its first Football Championship Subdivision (FCS, formerly I-AA) playoff appearance. Tennessee State enters its third season under head coach James Webster, Jr. The Tigers return 50 lettermen from last year's team that won six games for the first time since 2003.

The four teams have played each other a combined 167 times over the years, dating back to the 1927 season when Tennessee Tech and Tennessee-Martin (then a junior college) squared off. Austin Peay played Tennessee Tech and Tennessee-Martin for the first time in the 1938 season while Tennessee State's meetings with its now conference-mates did not begin until much later. Tennessee State first played Tennessee-Martin in 1976, Tennessee Tech in 1984 and Austin Peay in 1988.

2007 Sergeant York Trophy Contests

- Sept. 15 – Tennessee State at Austin Peay, 6:00p.m.
- Sept. 22 – Tennessee-Martin at Austin Peay, 6:00p.m.
- Sept. 27 – Tennessee Tech at Tennessee-Martin, 6:00p.m.
- Oct. 6 – Austin Peay at Tennessee Tech, 1:30p.m.
- Oct. 11 – Tennessee State at Tennessee Tech, 7:00p.m.
- Nov. 17 – Tennessee-Martin at Tennessee State, 12:30p.m.



Letter From The Board

Greetings from Fentress County,

The New Year brings with it much exciting news for the Sergeant York Patriotic Foundation.

First as you may notice, a revitalized new forum in the newsletter you are now viewing produced by a dynamic mixture of new and experienced foundation volunteers. This quarterly newsletter will offer many valuable insights into the upcoming events and will continue to take a look back and revisit the extraordinary life of this American legacy.

Exciting news includes finding and confirming the battle site in France, the many artifacts recovered from the site and the twining of the two communities of Fentress County (Pall Mall) Tennessee and Châtel Chéhéry, France as sister communities confirmed unanimously by both the Fentress County commission and the Tennessee State Assembly.

Along with these accomplishments is a list of many more great things up and coming; a new and updated website and online store, the first annual Sgt. York Day, the annual black powder shoot, the new bust and trophy, the Veterans Day Celebration at the home site and much more!

Many of the items that are referred to in the previous paragraphs are detailed currently in this issue for your reading enjoyment, one of the most notable projects "in the works" is the quest to bring a full time Executive Director on board as a Foundation employee to work on this at a level that even our most dedicated volunteers can not match. For this we must find a particularly qualified individual and the stable funding to support the appropriate compensation for this position.

In this regard, we would ask for your support however great or small. If you have previously been a member supporting this cause, we ask that you would consider "re-uping". If you have not previously been a member please consider joining us in this worthiest of causes to continue the legacy of the most decorated soldier of World War I and a truly great American Citizen.

Sincerely,

The Sergeant York
Patriotic Foundation
www.sgtYork.org
SYPF@sgtyork.org (email)

Sgt York Board & Committee Members

Chairman, Gerald E. York

Vice-Chairman, Lou Lattanzi

Treasurer, Angie York

Secretary, Edie Tinch

Committees-

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George York, Chair

Ivy Scarborough, Prayer/Religious Guidance

John B. Mullinix, Religious History

Executive:

Gerald York, Chair

Lou Lattanzi, Board & Store Oversight

Angie York, Edie Tinch, George York

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Ruble Upchurch, Chair

Troy Gammon

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Andrea Burckhard, Chair

Janet Hopson, Advertising/Graphic Design/Photography

Ruble Upchurch, Events/Product Development

Dallas Reilly, Press/Media/Corporate Sponsor

Lou Lattanzi, Bob Harriman

History:

Dr. Michael Birdwell, Chair

George York, Andrew York, Ruth York, Betsy York Lowery

State Park:

Andrew York, Park Ranger

Robin Peeler, Park Manager

Pat Wright, Store General Manager

Bob Harriman, State Volunteer Coordinator

Nancy Schelin, State Volunteer Coordinator

Finance:

Angie York, Chair

Gerald York, Payroll/Taxes

Lorene Cargile, Pat Wright, Lou Lattanzi

The Christian... "Never parting ways with his beliefs, Alvin C. York was the embodiment of a true Christian. Alvin felt that his faith was the reason for his success in both the war and in life."

The Legacy... "If there ever was an individual whose life embodied the maxim that character is destiny, it was Alvin Cullum York. That character was his true and greater legacy to the nation, not his exploits in the Argonne Forest. But those who remember York's life - and they are fewer with each generation - persist, by and large, in seeing only its colorful surface of martial glory." Learn more about Sgt. York the movie, the tank named in his honor, and the school which he helped create at www.sgtYork.org.

**Become a Member of the
Sergeant York Patriotic
Foundation (SYPF)**



The SYPF is a non-profit corporation funded by voluntary contributions and was established to continue historical research; preserve the Sgt. York Homeplace, farm and artifacts; and offer educational scholarships. The new foundation is off to a good start and needs your assistance to accomplish these tasks.

Each member will receive a quarterly newsletter and see additional benefits below. Thank you for your contribution! Please select your support level and mail the tax deductible contribution to:
Sergeant York Patriotic Foundation
P.O. Box 100, Pall Mall, TN 38577

- Recruit** - \$25.00, Membership Certificate, Quarterly Newsletter.
- Private** - \$50.00 Membership Certificate, Quarterly Newsletter, Sgt. York T-Shirt.
- Corporal** - \$100.00 Membership Certificate, Quarterly Newsletter, The book Sgt. York and His People.
- Sergeant** - \$500.00 Membership Certificate, Quarterly Newsletter, The book Sgt. York and His People and the Sgt. York DVD both signed by a Sgt. York family member.
- Medal of Honor** - \$1000.00 Membership Certificate, Quarterly Newsletter, Copy of Sgt. York DVD and Book signed by a Sgt. York family member and a Sgt. York print signed by artist Butch Hodgkins.

A new group of dedicated professionals (see page 5) are guiding the SERGEANT YORK PATRIOTIC FOUNDATION (SYPF) which began in November 1993. As a result, a lot of good things have been happening and more are on the horizon.

If you have not heard of the Sergeant York Patriotic Foundation, it is not surprising. Personal accolades are not what its members seek. Simply stated, the organization is committed to four things: 1) Preserving the many treasured memories of the life of Sgt. Alvin C. York, a Tennessean who emerged from WWI as the country's most acclaimed hero, a distinction that continues today 2) Assisting with improvements to the York home and farm 3) Acquiring, preserving, displaying and interpreting the personal property of Sgt. York and his family 4) Providing for ongoing research into the life and times of the legendary military hero.

Volume 1, Number 1 of Sgt. York Says, was ready for

distribution on March 1, 2000. Sgt. York Says is eight full pages of interesting information, much of which has not been published before. The name Sgt. York Says was taken from Sgt York's nationally syndicated column. A reprint of one of his columns will appear in future editions of the newsletter along with unpublished love letters that he wrote from the trenches to Miss Gracie. Information about research, current activities at the York Historic Home Site in Pall Mall, Tennessee and much more will be published.

This newsletter is an official publication of the SERGEANT YORK PATRIOTIC FOUNDATION and will be published quarterly and is mailed to all SYPF members.

The SYPF web site www.sgtyork.org is developing rapidly with new information being added regularly. The work of the foundation is exciting and we welcome your participation. Should you have questions or want additional information, our email address is syprf@sgtyork.org. We look forward to hearing from you.

Comments:



Annual Black Powder Shoot

16th Annual Sgt. York Memorial Black Powder Shoot
Valley of the Three Forks of the Wolf River
Sgt York Homeplace, Pall Mall, Tennessee
March 29, 2008

X-CENTER / OVER-THE-LOG / 60 PACES
TRADITIONAL MUZZLE-LOADING RIFLES

SCORE: TOTAL MEASUREMENT OF ALL 10 SHOTS
GRAND PRIZES FOR TOP OVERALL SCORE !
SPECIAL PRIZES FOR BEST 'X' OF THE DAY !
FRESH CUT BEEF FOR THE TOP 40 PLACES !!!

DRESS: 1920-30'S ATTIRE - MEN: BIBBED OVERALLS,
WIDE TIES, OLD SUITS JACKETS W/ WIDE LAPELS,
WIDE BRIMMED FEDORA HATS, ETC. WW1 UNIFORMS
WELCOMED.

LADIES: FANCY OLD DRESSES, HOSE W/ SEAM UP
BACK, BONNETS. LOOK LIKE MRS. GRACY !
PRIZES FOR BEST DRESSED - BOTH MEN AND WOMEN

Dear Shooters,

We would like to invite you to the 16th Annual Sgt. Alvin York Memorial Shoot, a re-enactment of the Jim-town match as described in Walter Cline's book, "Muzzleloading Rifle, Then & Now".

Mel Hankla and Ron Borron attribute the great success of this shoot to each and everyone that makes the annual pilgrimage, often traveling hundreds of miles to the world's largest one-day muzzleloading shooting match!

Everyone is greatly appreciated, from donating prizes, helping set up the range, donating time during the shoot to help with registration, scoring, recording, tabulating, collecting targets, and not to forget the essential responsibility of range officer.

Also...don't know what we would do without Jim & Judy Franks and daughter Jessica, who enter scores on the computer for tabulation. The shoot is so big; tabulating the scoring for over 2000 targets just could not be done without them. Thanks so much for your hard work thru the years.

Registration will increase to \$35.00 this year for 10 1 shot matches. The registration will be cut off at 230 shooters. That's just all we can safely handle. Pre-registration cut-off is March 15.

Campers may setup anytime after noon on Thursday with range setup Friday morning. Saturday safety talk is 7:25 AM CST and the shoot starts at 8:00 AM CST. We still ask everyone to please focus on clothing, accouterments and shooting boxes. Let's all look the part, this is a re-enactment. Also bring loading benches or tables if you have one.

Remember, SAFETY FIRST!

SPECIAL NOTE: Shooting chunks are to be flat on top. Grooves in the chunk that hold or cradle the rifle is going too far. Cant blocks that clamp to the rifle and sets on top of the chunk are OK. The rifle & cant bar should be able to slide side to side and back and forth on the chunk. No grooves or rails on chunk!

No set ups are to be left on the range Friday night. They

will be removed by the staff. There has been a major concern brought to our attention:
NO SALES OF ALCOHOL ON THE GROUNDS - YOU WILL BE PROSECUTED!

Also, when you arrive at the range please setup your camper, tents or motor homes at least 60 ft. behind the loading area of the range. We would like to leave room for shooters to park directly behind the loading area the morning of the shoot. Please take your trash with you or securely bag it up and leave it near the range.

LODGING:

Branham Motel: Albany, KY, 606-387-6606
Royal Inn Motel: Albany, KY, 606-387-6853 (5366)
Garden Inn/Best Western: Albany, KY, 606-387-723
Cargile Motel: Jamestown, TN, 931-879-8181
East Fork Stables: Jamestown, TN, 1-800-978-7245
Jordan Motel: Jamestown, TN, 931-879-8129
Mountain Lodge: Allardt, TN, 931-879-0399

Anxious to see everyone in the Valley of the Three Forks of the Wolf. Good Shooting! Mel and Ron

Past Winners:

1. 1993 - William L. Burtt - 5.052
2. 1994 - Randall Cantrill - 8.557
3. 1995 - Raymond Scites - 7.013
4. 1996 - Raymond Scites - 5.901
5. 1997 - George Mitchell - 4.618
6. 1998 - Dave Brandenburger - 6.362
7. 1999 - George Mitchell - 6.332
8. 2000 - Richard Lanning - 5.515
9. 2001 - Michael Medjeski - 5.675
10. 2002 - William Disbro - 4.393 -
Second Highest Score - Held Record for 5 years.
11. 2003 - Charles Bowers - 4.681
12. 2004 - Paul Griffith - 4.988
13. 2005 - Paul Griffith - 4.839
14. 2006 - Albert Derks - 5.237
15. 2007 - Paul Griffith - 3.443 -
Shoot record by almost an inch! Shooting a "Spider-matic".

RULES: Traditional rifles - flint or percussion, either traditional hunting or 'old style' traditional target type, no limit to weight or caliber. No false muzzles, no sealed ignition, no in-line actions, no thumbhole or adjustable stocks and no padded buttplates. Rifles must shoot black powder w/ patched lead round balls, no bullets. Shaders are permitted, but must not extend past the rear of the breech. Rear sights: fixed and open - at least 6" in front of the breech. Front sights: blade, pinhead or post. The use of barrel rests (cant blocks) or sandbags on the chunk are permitted and encouraged. Only the shooter's hand may support the butt of the rifle, no sandbags or blocks of wood are allowed under the butt of the rifle and no gloves of any kind. The butt of the rifle may not touch the ground.

REGISTRATION: \$35.00-\$5.00 membership in Alvin York Rifles & \$30.00 match fee.

Pre-registration before March 15 is \$35.00. Please send to: Ron Borron, 496 Village Drive, Bargersville, Indiana 46106. Phone: 317-422-9750. Important cut off date for pre-registration is March 15.

Online Store

Are you looking for a gift, are you a WWI buff, do you just want to help promote the Sgt. York Legacy? Look no further! The online store has books, movies, posters, toys, and even items autographed by Sgt. York's family. We invite you to browse the collection at www.sgtyork.org.

Featured Item: Sergeant York (Two-Disc Special Edition)

Gary Cooper plays Alvin York, the real-life country lad and sharpshooter drafted to fight during World War I but blocked from killing by his pacifist sentiments.

Howard Hawks makes a rousing, heroic film out of the tale, and Cooper gives one of his best performances (for which he won an Oscar). The 1941 feature seems as much a valentine to wartime America (and a not-so-subtle piece of propaganda) as anything, with Hawks capturing splendidly shot scenes of life in York's home state of Tennessee, which in turn provide a striking contrast to the battlefield. A key scene in the film, in which York is presented with an argument in favor of killing in war, is still thought provoking. Price: \$29.99

"Sergeant York and the Great War"
By Tom Skeyhill and Richard "Little Bear" Wheeler after World War I, this unknown Tennessee soldier was thrust into the annals of living history as the soldier who "captured the whole German army." Compiled from multiple sources, including Alvin C. York's own wartime journal.

"Sgt. York: An American Hero"
In this well written biography, David D. Lee has firmly established the simple facts of Alvin York's life, distinguishing them from the myths which have grown up around the man. He has reexamined the sometimes conflicting accounts of the famous exploit, finding in his research a hitherto unknown report of the skirmish from German military archives. Lee goes beyond that single wartime episode, however, to consider its consequences on York's later life—his efforts, not always successful, to better his mountain community; his involvement in making a motion picture of his life; his difficulties with money and taxes. But Sergeant York is better known as a symbol than as an individual, and in this study Lee connects the man and his life to an American heroic ideal. With his rural background, his

refusal to take commercial advantage of his fame, and his simple piety, Alvin York exemplified the traditional values of an agrarian America that was in his own day already receding into the past.

"Sgt. York: His Life, Legend & Legacy"
In a world desperate for authentic heroes, the story of Alvin C. York reminds us of the true meaning of heroism. York's bravery on the battlefield made him famous, but it was his decision to turn down the easy riches of celebrity that secured his position as one of history's greatest Christian patriots. Based on new interviews with all of York's living children, and York's own diaries, this exhaustive biography follows the young soldier from the hills of Tennessee to the battlefields of France, down Broadway in a triumphant ticker-tape parade, and back home to his family farm where he spent the rest of his life in service to his community and his God.

Plus limited edition watercolor signed by the artist Butch Hodgkin's and Andrew York, son of Sgt. Alvin C. York. Shop with us today and support the preservation of a legend.

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