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Captain's Column, April 2016

I hope everyone enjoyed the Easter Holiday. I hope also that you took some time to reflect on what we really celebrate on Easter which is the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. More on this during Church Call at the COI.

I do want to thank everyone who helped with the Fort Work Day on 12 March. I think it was the best work day ever. Thanks to Greg, Ray, Jonathan, and Eldridge for the almost assembly-line like production in replacing about one third of the planks on the bridge. Thanks to Travis for trimming the growth inside the fort, making trips to the hardware store, and for all the equipment he brought with him. And thanks to Jack for climbing up the ladder several times to get the flagpole in working order and for cleaning the outhouse. A special thank you goes to Greg for picking up the needed supplies, replacement boards and nails, and for all the equipment he brought with him also

Coming up real quick is the annual Camp of Instruction. It is 8-10 April. Try to arrive before dark on Friday afternoon / evening or first thing bright and early Saturday morning (6:30 AM). The First Sergeant will have the schedule and other particulars for the COI contained in this newsletter

If you want some follow-up training, we have been invited to a living history program at Appomattox the weekend after the COI. That is 15-17 April. As of this writing we have three people attending. The First Sergeant and myself will be attending as privates. We will be falling in with the 24th VA. I hear that there is a Saturday morning tactical.

We have been trying to get our feet in the door at Appomattox for a long time. It is a special site just by virtue of what happened there. If you can attend any or all of the event that would be great. Remember, our numbers have been somewhat diminished so we need to make an extra effort to have decent attendance at events this year. Please let the First Sergeant know if you can come.

In the way of other company news:

Congratulations to Kyle Weidman and his wife on the birth of their first child, a baby boy, Jackson Cole Weidman. Awesome name and future F Company recruit.

That's all for now. I will see everyone at the COI. Take care and God bless!

Respectfully submitted,

Captain Turley

1st Sergeant's Column

Fort Clean-up Day (12 Mar 2016) - Our work day at the Fort went extremely well w/all of our tasks being accomplished in record time! Interestingly enough, the party of the Alexander's and myself left Jack's house at 0630 on clean-up day which was in plenty of time to arrive for work, but had to immediately return to Jack's house due to a flat tire! Then it was unload all the tools to get at the spare tire and jack to change the tire. After a delay of a little over an hour we had reloaded all the tools and we were back on the road! Despite our late arrival everyone was at work w/the two Hanson's pulling up rotted bridge decking and hammering out square nails for reuse for putting down new planking. Greg Hanson purchased pressure treated decking for bridge and hauled to the site for our F Co's use.

The bridge team of Johnathan Alexander, Eldridge Firth, and the two Hanson's, Greg and Ray got into a really good working rhythm laying down, squaring up and nailing new bridge planking into place. Ray Hanson and I worked on pulling old square nails for reuse. The availability of a generator from Travis Clements made drilling pilot holes for square nails a nice neat process which lead to good nailing work. Travis Clements provided all kinds of good support running back and forth to local hardware store for needed hardware to repair lanyard rope on flagpole. Tony Turley's 32 foot ladder was invaluable for the needed repairs, but the hero of the hour was Jack Alexander! Jack was up and down the ladder at least three times to make needed repairs, and Tony and I were more than happy to let him do that due to the height of the flag pole! Additionally, Jack did a real good job of cleaning up the outhouse, while Tony repaired string pull latch w/binder twine I provided.

Everyone involved brought any and everything we needed what w/two generators, electric drills, heavy duty extension cords, chain saws, heavy hammers, crow bars, shovels, picks, and whatever else was needed to get the tasks done! We were done by 2:00PM w/everyone leaving satisfied w/a good days work on behalf of the Fort and F Company!



Camp of Instruction (8-10 Apr 2016)- The training schedule for the upcoming Camp of Instruction is attached, but for your individual soldier planning purposes you need to note the following:

A tents or dog tents are permitted for your use at this event.

Sleeping pads and/or sleeping bags are permitted, but they must be covered at all times by a period correct blanket. Straw will be provided for event.

Monies needed for COI:

\$15.00 for rations which gives you two hot breakfast and one hot supper meal. Noon meals are on your own or from haversack. Bring correct cash amount for rations.

Co. Inventory sales will take place on Sat morning. Bring cash or cheque book for payment. Absolutely, NO CREDIT!

Be prepared for a Full Field Layout on Sun AM for inspection by 1st Sergeant w/all uniform and equipment called for in the Soldier Handbook.

Muskets must be clean prior to COI and all needed musket cleaning gear including cleaning rods, worms, patches, oil, etc. must be provided by individual soldier for cleaning prior to and after range firing.

Respectfully,
Michael L. Vice
1st Sergeant
F Co., 21st VA Infantry

**F Company, 21st Virginia
Camp of Instruction
8-10 April 2016**

Friday 8 April 2016

<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Instructor (s)</u>
1500-2300	Set-up Camp Start Cooking Fires Erect Tents Supper Meal in Town or Camp	Captain and 1 st SGT
2300	Quiet in Camp	

Saturday, 9 April 2016

0630	All Troops in Camp	Captain
0650	First Call	1 st SGT
0700-0710	Reveille Formation	1 st SGT
0715-0800	Prepare and Serve Breakfast Meal	Cook 1 st Platoon
0800-0830	Inventory Sales	Quartermaster
0830-0900	Kitchen Police	Cook 2 nd Platoon
0900-0930	Company Philosophy and Purpose	1 st SGT
0930-1000	School of the Soldier Stationary Drill, Form Co, Manual of Arms, Stacking and Inspection	Captain 1 st SGT
1000-1100	Firing Drill Load in Ten Times Fire by Company	Captain 1 st SGT
1100-1200	Company Drill Marching in Formation Re-form Company Facings and Wheels Flank Movements	Captain 1 st SGT
1200-1230	Noon Meal from Haversack	
1230-1330	Review of all Previous Drill	Captain
1330-1400	Musket Firing and Safety Procedures/ Cleaning of Musket	Safety Officer
1400-1430	Target Set-Up	Corporals
1430-1500	Musket Live Firing	Safety Officer
1500-1600	Target Removal and and Musket Cleaning	Corporals
1600-1700	Preparation of Supper Meal	Cook 2 nd Platoon
1700-1730	Serve Supper Meal	
1730-1800	Kitchen Police	Cook 1 st Platoon
1800-1830	Musket Firing Results	Captain
1830-2230	Soldier Time	1 st SGT
2230	Quiet in Camp	

Sunday, 10 April 2016

0650	First Call	1 st SGT
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0700-0710	Reveille Formation	1 st SGT
0715-0800	Prepare and Serve Breakfast Meal	Cook
0830-0900	Kitchen Police	2 nd Platoon Cook
0900-0930	Church Call	1 st Platoon Captain
0930-1015	Training Classes Soldier Rag- The Bandana Care and Polishing of the Army Brogan	Chairman Uniform Committee
1015-1100	Inspection Full Field Layout	1 st SGT
1100-1130	Noon Meal from Haversack	
1130-1215	Bayonet Drill	2 nd SGT
1215-1315	Skirmish Drill	Captain
1315-1400	Final Formation Strike the Camp Police the Fort	Captain 1 st SGT
1400	Departure	

Ode to Joe

