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### Captain's Column, August 2016

I would like to begin by thanking everyone who helped with the fort work day; Mike, Jack, Johnathan, Eldridge, and Greg. Special thanks to Greg for bringing all his equipment and getting all the supplies, boards, nails, and such. We couldn't have done it without you. The bridge is now two-thirds replaced.

Now looking at our schedule, we originally did not have an event for the month of August. Now we do. For those of us that attended the Cross Keys/ Port Republic event in June, you will remember that we fell in with former F'er, Glenn Courson's unit commanded by Captain Austin Williams of the Stonewall Brigade. As most of you know by now Captain Williams has invited us to participate in their living history program at the Winery at Bull Run on Sunday, 21 August. It is just the one day, that Sunday, from 10am to about 5pm. Captain Williams would like for us to be there no later than 9:30am. The address of the Winery is 15950 Lee Highway (Rt 29), Centreville, VA 20120. Directions will be forthcoming in a later email.

As I said this is a living history event and there will be heavy emphasis on skirmish drill so you may want to review that in your mind and hopefully we will be able to practice it before we demo it for the public. Also this is August in Virginia so it will be hot and humid so be prepared. And make sure you have a full cartridge box.

Our thanks to Captain Williams for the invitation. We have eight members that have indicated that they will be attending. That is a fantastic response. Hopefully, I will see you all there!

With kindest regards,  
Cap Turley, 21st Va,w21

## 1<sup>st</sup> Sergeant's Column

**Fort Work Day (16 Jul 2016)**- Despite the heat and humidity the Fort Work Day went extremely well! The work crew was all in place between 0800-0830 and hard at work. Another 1/3 of the original bridge oak decking was pulled up and replaced by new treated lumber. While the “pulling crew” of Jack Alexander, Turley and Vice were at it, the “nailing crew” of Johnathan Alexander, Firth and Greg Hanson were coming in right behind them! Decking was all down by 1045 hours. While everyone was taking a break, Greg Hanson was dealing w/the weeds in the Fort's interior. Then we were all treated to root beer by Jack Alexander which tasted great after our bridge workout! We've now got a great pile of deteriorating oak planking for use as firewood at the next COI.

Following this work project, the F Co Executive Committee met primarily to deal w/ how to increase our membership numbers. Johnathan Alexander and Eldridge were asked to participate since they were present at the work day w/their additional input on this key issue to F Co's future. The meeting saw all kinds of ideas and courses of action explored which proved very valuable in grappling w/this key issue. The final outcome was the allocation of \$300.00 from the F Co. General Fund to provide additional recruiting and promotional material including business cards, brochures, and flyers. Additionally, I accepted the task of starting to outline a recruiting campaign for the company which will involve all the membership.

**Upcoming Events: (1) Winery at Bull Run (Sun, 21 Aug 2016)** - See the Company Commander's column for needed details. We are participating in this event at the invitation of the 33<sup>rd</sup> VA (Southern Brigade) for the expressed purpose of recruiting at this one day event which is something we are “trying out” as it certainly doesn't fit the usual F Company scenario.

More details in the Sep “Regimental Dispatch” on the following events:

**(2) Company Muster (Sat, 10 Sep 2016)** - An educational one day program dealing w/the Battle of Cedar Mountain near Culpepper, VA, and

**(3) Fort Harrison- Richmond National Battlefield (Sat-Sun, 24-25 Sep 2016)** - Part of our continuing support of Richmond NB and its important interpretive programs.

Respectfully,  
Michael L. Vice  
1<sup>st</sup> SGT, F Co, 21<sup>st</sup> VA

Ode to Joe

