



Vol. XIII. February, 2014 Issue II.

1st Lieutenant's Column

Gentlemen,

Well, here we are at the beginning of February. Hopefully spring is right around the corner. Meeting time is also just around the corner. Our annual meeting will be held on Saturday, February 22nd at 9:00 A.M. at the Ashland Church of God. I encourage everyone that is a member and anyone that wants to be a member to attend. The Church is located at 407 Myrtle Street, Ashland, Va. 23005. I have the large room in the Family Life Center reserved, which is where we normally meet. In the event of a Church emergency, we will move the meeting across Myrtle Street to the youth building. Please do your best to be on time. We normally try to go out for a late lunch in town after the meeting. The Executive Committee will meet at the Church on Friday evening, February 21st at 6:00 P.M.

I would like to welcome another new member to the F Company family. Mike Touart has joined our ranks. Mike lives in Maryland and found us through our new website. Please welcome Mike as well as Chris and Stephen who recently joined as well. Please try to assist them with getting their gear as well as learning the ropes in their newfound hobby.

Our camp of instruction will be held at the fort from Friday, March 21st through Sunday, March 23rd. I strongly encourage everyone to attend the camp of instruction. We all need to brush up on our drill and our impression. Please mark your calendars and make every effort to be there all weekend. Remember Gentlemen, you play like you practice. We will be doing a company mess for Saturday's breakfast and supper, and for Sunday's breakfast. The food will be purchased by the totals obtained from the event sheets you turn in. We always pitch in to help pay for our share of this food, so please bring some cash to camp to help reimburse the 1st Sgt. for his expenses. Friday night's supper and all lunches will be your own responsibility. I will leave the details for this to the 1st Sgt. who will no doubt explain this thoroughly in the March newsletter.

There will be a fort work day on Saturday, March 1st at 9:00AM to get the fort ready for the camp. We usually shoot for the first weekend of March, but that will be nailed down very shortly. Please come out it possible to pitch in.

We also have feelers out about an event coming up in September 2014. We are trying to get feedback from the membership to get an idea of who would be interested in attending. If we get our registration in by February 15th, we can secure a spot and save the company a great deal of money. The event is called, **BATTLE OF NEW MARKET HEIGHTS & CAMPAIGN BEFORE RICHMOND 1864 REENACTMENT**.

It will take place on the weekend of September 26th – 28th. If you would be interested, please let your Corporals know if you haven't already. The event takes place on County land near the Malvern Hill Battlefield. For the new recruits who are not assigned to a platoon yet, you will be in contact with the 1st Sgt., Matt Gammon. You will be assigned to a platoon once the new roster and platoons are finalized.

I am looking very forward to the upcoming season. I look forward to seeing everyone again and getting the wool on again. There are some nice events on the radar for this year and some new ones as well. Let's make a stand this year and show Longstreet's Corps and the reenacting community who F Company is.

Respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,

1st Lt. Gammon

Chaplain's Corner

I don't know about you guys, but sometimes I can feel like I am overloaded with the cares and struggles of this world. Sometimes I feel like I am about to go under, and it seems like I just can't see that light at the end of the tunnel. That's when God steps in and proves His love for us. He is always there and ready to help. Like the scripture says, "casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you". Don't go under, just go as far down as your knees. Humble yourselves and ask for help. God answers "knee-mail".

Enjoy the following devotional about dealing with the cares of life.

1st Lt. Gammon

Load Line

January 23, 2014 — by *Bill Crowder*

Read: [1 Peter 5:5-9](#)

Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you. —[1 Peter 5:6-7](#)

In the 19th century, ships were often recklessly overloaded, resulting in those ships going down and the crews being lost at sea. In 1875, to remedy this negligent practice, British politician Samuel Plimsoll led the charge for legislation to create a line on the side of a ship to show if it

was carrying too much cargo. That “load line” became known as the Plimsoll Line, and it continues to mark the hulls of ships today.

Sometimes, like those ships, our lives can seem overloaded with fears, struggles, and heartaches. We can even feel that we are in danger of going under. In those times, however, it is reassuring to remember that we have a remarkable resource. We have a heavenly Father who stands ready to help us carry that load. The apostle Peter said, “Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you” (1 Peter 5:6-7). He is capable of handling the cares that overwhelm us.

Though the testings of life may feel like a burden too heavy to bear, we can have full assurance that our heavenly Father loves us deeply and knows our load limits. Whatever we face, He will help us to bear it.

Heavenly Father, I sometimes feel as if I can't go on. I am tired, I am weak, and I am worn. Thank You that You know my limits better than I do. And that, in Your strength, I can find the enablement to endure.

God may lead us into troubled waters to deepen our trust in Him.

1ST Lt. Gammon

1st Sergeant's Report

Gentlemen,

We are about two weeks from our Annual Meeting to kick-off the 2014 reenacting season. I hope all of you are doing well and looking forward to a great year. I will keep my segment brief, I have a couple of important matters to share.

First off, we have put together an effort to get registered for one of our events early. You should have gotten an email from me by now, and you may have heard from your corporal as well. New Market Heights is set for September, but registration must go in this month. I will stress again, we need to hear from everyone by February 8th, whether you intend to go, or not, I would like to hear from you. Again, that is a February 8th deadline. Thanks again in advance for your cooperation.

Secondly, we have a fort workday scheduled for March 1st. We are planning to arrive at the fort by 9:00am that morning. Nate usually provides most of the tools and such for the workday, but I would recommend dressing for the weather appropriately, bring a pair of gloves, heavy shoes or boots, a few items for a bagged lunch, water and some basic implements if you have them, such as a leaf rake or pruners. Please come ready to work. If we have a good turnout the day will go rather quickly.

Lastly, our annual meeting is February 22nd, 2014. You may find all the details for this in the 1st Lt's column. Also, New Members and Old Members alike should plan to be at the meeting. This meeting is very important to get us kicked off in the right direction for 2014.

Thank you all for your attention to these details, and again I thank you in advance for your cooperation. I will see you all at the annual meeting in February.

Respectfully,
1st Sgt. M. Gammon

Uniform and Equipage Committee

The following is being provided by the F Co Uniform and Equipage Committee in support of F Company's military impression w/authentic and serviceable military equipment.

Care and Maintenance of CS Wood Canteen

Cherry wood canteens are coming into the F Co inventory again which require seasoning and continued maintenance in order to be useable. Please note the following:

To prepare your wood canteen for use you need to soak it for 5-7 days w/water so that all the joints swell completely. Fill canteen w/water and check daily to refill as it will leak and loose water thru evaporation. If after a full 7 days the canteen will still not hold water without leaking then following the next step:

Totally impress the canteen in container of water w/a weight to hold it down so that inside and outside of canteen body is completely filled/covered in water. Soak again for 5-7 days checking daily to see if it is holding water. The wood will discolor and bands will rust, but this is necessary at this point to get canteen to hold water. If after a full 7 days of immersion the canteen still won't hold water then contact Mike Vice at michaelvice_16@msn.com or better call him at 210-683-7323 (Cell) and we'll discuss return of canteen for a replacement.

Once you've gotten your canteen to hold water then it requires continued maintenance, that is, you must keep it full of water when not in the field otherwise if it dries out it will be very hard to get it to swell again and hold water and in fact it might not work at all. This means that thru the winter months when canteen is stored you need to periodically check it to make sure it is full of water at all times. You've spent a lot of money on this item so take care of it!

Source for Canvas Shelter Half

Shelter halves can be had again from a former F Co member, Phil Cavanaugh, who previously owned and operated the Haversack Depot. These shelter halves are as authentic as other sources and are slightly cheaper. You will need to purchase these shelter halves on EBay, so follow these steps. Go onto Ebay and type in "civil war shelter half" which should take you to his site. You will know you're on Phil's site when you see shelter half priced at \$79.00 plus \$9.50 for shipping as well as site being located in Conroe, Texas and mentioned as being the former Haversack Depot. Remember you are bidding on this item, but you should be able to get it for the price I've shown. Also remember you only get one shelter half without any poles or stakes. If you want a full tent then you need to buy two or get your messmate to buy one w/you so that both shelter halves button up together.

Fort Workday Report

I will be hosting our annual Fort Work day to prepare the Fort for Camp of Instruction. The work day will be held on March 1st at 0900. If you are traveling from afar, then a later arrival time is sufficient. Please bring food and water. If you wish to bring tools or equipment please do so and a list is provided below. If you have questions please feel free to call or e-mail me. Gloves, Rake, Pruners, Ax, Hatchet, Machete, Broom, Plastic Tarps, Splitting Maul, Shovel

Your humble servant
Cpl. Pate

Directions to the Annual Meeting

February 22 at 9:00 AM
Ashland Church of God
407 Myrtle Street
Ashland, VA. 23005

From Points West of Richmond:

Take I-64 East toward RICHMOND
Merge onto I-295 South via EXIT 177 toward AIRPORT/WASHINGTON/NORFOLK
Take the I-95/US-1 exit, EXIT 43, toward RICHMOND/WASHINGTON
Take the US-1 North exit, EXIT 43C, on the LEFT toward ASHLAND
Merge onto I-95 North via the exit on the LEFT toward WASHINGTON
Merge onto VA-54 West via EXIT 92B toward ASHLAND
Turn LEFT onto US-1/South WASHINGTON HWY
Turn RIGHT onto MYRTLE ST
407 MYRTLE ST is on the LEFT

From Points East Of Richmond:

Take I-64 West toward WILLIAMSBURG/RICHMOND
Merge onto I-295 North via EXIT 200 toward WASHINGTON
Merge onto I-95 North via EXIT 43A on the LEFT toward WASHINGTON
Merge onto VA-54 West via EXIT 92B toward ASHLAND
Turn LEFT onto US-1/South WASHINGTON HWY
Turn RIGHT onto MYRTLE ST
407 MYRTLE ST is on the LEFT

From Points North Of Richmond:

Take I-95 South toward RICHMOND.
Merge onto VA-54 West /ENGLAND ST via EXIT 92 toward ASHLAND
Turn LEFT onto US-1/South WASHINGTON HWY
Turn RIGHT onto MYRTLE ST
407 MYRTLE ST is on the LEFT

From Points South Of Richmond:

Take I-95 North toward Richmond.
Merge onto VA-54 West via EXIT 92B toward ASHLAND
Turn LEFT onto US-1/South WASHINGTON HWY
Turn RIGHT onto MYRTLE ST
407 MYRTLE ST is on the LEFT

Fort Directions
Nate 804-512-5882

Coming from the North via I-95

I-95 South

Take the I-295 exit, EXIT 84B, toward CHARLOTTESVILLE. 0.4 mi

Take the US-1 S exit on the LEFT toward RICHMOND. 0.2 mi

Merge onto I-295 N via the exit on the LEFT toward I-64 W/CHARLOTTESVILLE. 8.5 mi

Merge onto I-64 W via EXIT 53A toward CHARLOTTESVILLE. 2.5 mi

Merge onto VA-288 S/WORLD WAR II VETERANS MEMORIAL HWY via EXIT 175 toward CHESTERFIELD. 12 mi

Merge onto US-60 W toward POWHATAN. 8.5 mi

Turn LEFT onto DORSET RD. 1.6 mi

DORSET RD. becomes SCHROEDER RD. 3.3 mi

SCHROEDER RD. becomes GENITO RD. 3.6 mi

GENITO RD. becomes VA-604/CHULA RD. Continue to follow CHULA RD. 1.8 mi

Turn LEFT onto COVERLY RD.

Beginning at the corner of Chula Rd and Coverly Rd follow the F Co. signs.

Coming from the South via I-95

I-95 N

Merge onto VA-288 N/WORLD WAR II VETERANS MEMORIAL HWY via EXIT 62 toward CHESTERFIELD/POWHITE PKWY. 14 mi

Merge onto US-360 W toward AMELIA. 18 mi

Turn RIGHT onto CHULA RD. 3.0 mi

Turn RIGHT onto COVERLY RD.

Beginning at the corner of Chula Rd and Coverly Rd follow the F Co. signs.

Ode to Joe

