



Vol. XVI. March, 2017 Issue II.

Captain's Column

The 2017 Reenactment Season has officially begun. No, we have not been in the field yet, but we have held our annual membership/business meeting. That was Saturday, 18 February at the Fort Harrison site just outside Richmond. It was well attended with fourteen members and/or recruits present. I thank everyone who was able to attend. At the end of the day, F Company had no less than four new recruits. In all my years of reenacting this is the most recruits I can remember coming into the unit at one time. It speaks well for the hobby and the future of F Company. This is life after the sesquicentennial after all. Welcome to the new guys. It's great to have some fresh fish in the unit.

As of this writing, the schedule for the season is being determined based upon the feedback and selection from members. The leadership for 2017 will remain the same as last year with Greg Hanson as Member-at-Large, Jack Alexander as Treasurer, Mike Vice as 1st Sergeant, and yours truly as Captain. Thanks to the membership for your confidence in the Executive Committee. Thanks also to the National Park Service at Fort Harrison, especially Bert Dunkerly, for allowing us to have our meeting at that site.

We have hit the road running. The first activity on our schedule is the fort work day set for 4 March. I am sure the 1st Sergeant will have more to say about that so I will leave it to him. The Camp of Instruction will be the weekend of 21-23 April. It's a little later than normal. We actually have an event before the Camp of Instruction and that is a living history program at the Appomattox National Park. This is for the weekend of 7-9 April. Let's keep these dates in mind. So it's time to start gearing up and I will see everyone at the fort work day.

Respectfully submitted,

1st Sergeant's Column

Well I'm back again this month putting out an improvised newsletter as F Co continues to look for a new editor for the newsletter. The major event for March is the Fort Work Day to prepare the site for the upcoming April Camp of Instruction. See the following.

Fort Work Day (Sat, 4 Mar 2017)- Everyone should be on site by 0900 and plan on working till around 1300-1400 hours. Primary work effort will be cleaning outhouse; movement of rotted oak planking; filling in powder magazine site; replacement of hardware and lanyard on flagpole; and general pick-up/clean-up in the interior of the Fort including brush clearing. This work fulfills our mission of both preparing for the COI, but also continued preservation of this historic Confederate earthen fortification. Remember this work effort is based on the 9 individuals who signed up, so be there!

Everyone needs to wear work clothes including work boots, long trousers and leather work gloves as your being exposed to brush and briars and possibly even ticks given the recent warm weather. You need to bring a quantity of water along w/any snacks or food that you want.

We need all participating members to supply the necessary work tools including brooms and dust pans for cleaning the outhouse. Other work efforts require machetes, axes and hatchets, brush hooks, heavy pruning hooks and loppers, wire cutters and fencing tools. Specifically we need shovels, picks and pick mattocks and heavy rakes for moving dirt and spreading into the powder magazine site. If in doubt bring it! If you leave it at home it ain't going to do us any good!

When arriving everyone needs to closely follow the dirt road around the farm fields to the Fort. Park you vehicles in an orderly manner at the entrance to the Fort. Directions to site:

For GPS purposes the address for the Fort is 12901 Coverly Road, Amelia Court House, VA 23002.

From I-95 South:

I-95 South

Take I-295 exit, Exit 84B, toward Charlottesville

Take US-1 S exit on the left toward Richmond

Merge onto I-295 N via exit on the left toward I-64 W/Charlottesville

Merge onto I-64 W via exit 53A toward Charlottesville

Merge onto VA-288 S via exit 175 toward Chesterfield

Merge onto US-60 toward Powhatan

Turn left onto Dorset Rd.

Dorset Road becomes Schroder Rd.

Schroder Road becomes Genito Rd.
Genito R. becomes VA 604 Chula Rd. Continue to follow Chula Rd.
Turn left onto Coverly Rd.
As you cross railroad tracks look for F Co directional signs

From I-95 North:

I-95 North
Merge onto VA-288 via exit 62 toward Chesterfield/Powwhite Pkwy.
Merge onto US-360 W toward Amelia CH
Turn right onto Chula Rd.
Turn right onto Coverly Rd.

USAHEC Re-enactor Recruiting Fair (Sat, 11 Feb 2017)- This was the 6th annual recruiting fair sponsored by the US Army at the History and Education Center at Carlisle Barracks, PA and the fourth year of F Co's participation. This one day affair saw everything from Vikings to Vietnam military living history both for public education as well as unit's recruiting members. Myself and Jack Alexander manned our booth w/support from the Weidman brothers, who managed to escape Lebanon County, PA, and help us out! We came away w/one serious member prospect w/Jack Alexander continuing to follow-up on recruitment of that individual. This venue continues to provide excellent facilities and support to our recruiting efforts.

Annual Membership Meeting (Sat, 18 Feb 2017)- Captain Turley has covered the highlights of the meeting, however, see the attached minutes of the meeting for details. Welcome to our new recruits and I look forward to your participation at the Camp of Instruction.

Payment of Membership Dues- Dues must be paid by 15 March 2017 per F Co By-laws otherwise your dropped from the membership roles. Dues for this year are \$85.00 payable to F Co, 21st VA Infantry. Send cheque to Jack Alexander, Treasurer, 6346 Bannister Dr., Frederick, MD 21701 ASAP if you haven't already done so!

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



Ode to Joe

