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Captain's Column

Gentlemen,

The surrender at Appomattox was interesting, to say the least. The actual ceremony and the thoughts about what that weekend represented were quite emotional. The Corps did their best to ruin the whole weekend, jerking us around as they typically do. Now, to quote Forrest Gump, "That's all I got to say about that".

We have Endview Plantation coming up on May 1st – 3rd. I will be arriving on Friday afternoon. We are right on the edge as far as numbers go, so I beg you to show up if you signed up. If you did not, but want to go, they are fine with walk-ons. This is always a great little event.

We will also have Cold Harbor before the next newsletter goes out. That is supposed to be May 31st – June 1st. It will be the typical Cold Harbor event as far as I know. I will only be able to be there during the day for that weekend, as my wife is having back surgery on May 18th. I will need to be at home those nights to help her. I am trying to get someone to sit with her during the daytime on those two days to allow me to get out to the event.

Please see the 1st Sgt.'s article for details about your responsibilities. I believe I read about three battles the weekend of Endview and we usually have at least three demos at Cold Harbor consisting of around five rounds each. Remember, your rounds and caps must be bagged separately with your name on the bag for Cold Harbor.

I look forward to seeing you all out there.

Captain Gammon

1st Sergeant's Column

The 150th anniversary of the American Civil War has now come to an end for F Co. w/the Surrender at Appomattox CH. The Company Commander in his column has already covered that event in terms of our participation w/Longstreet's Corps. The time has now arrived for us to work on developing our own events schedule and to seek other opportunities outside of Longstreet's Corps for our future satisfaction and historical participation in CW living history. I certainly appreciated and want to thank all of you who participated at Appomattox, that is, enduring all the unexplained and uncoordinated changes, but fortunately, the final surrender ceremony was very moving.

Endview Plantation (1-3 May 2015)- An excellent location w/easy access from I-64, plus if you haven't registered then you can be a walk-on participant! Plan on three battles along w/a fairly large crowd of visitors to the site. Weather forecast is good w/possibilities of showers on Fri, but dry on Sat-Sun w/temperatures in low 70's during the day w/temperatures during the night in the mid-50's. The Co. Commander and myself will be arriving on Fri afternoon, and will establish a campsite for all of you to be looking for. If arriving on Sat morning then be present in camp by 8:00AM without fail! Plan on bringing 100-120 rounds of ammunition as we will be participating in three battles, and we will once again be "campaigning" so ponchos or dog tents only for shelters. Participants signed up for event are Alexander, Johnathan, Butler, Disimone, Firth, Gammon, D., Hanson, Kulikowski, Martin and sons, and Vice. Directions to site:

Take I-64 East toward Newport News/Norfolk
Take Exit 247- Yorktown/Lee Hall
Turn left onto Jefferson Ave. (VA-143)
Travel 1.2 miles to first stop light
Turn left onto Yorktown Rd. (VA-238)
Follow signs to Endview

Cold Harbor (30-31 May 2015)- As always part of our support of the National Park Service and especially Richmond National Battlefield. An excellent opportunity for living history on an original battlefield sight which is available to our co. due to our continuing support of NPS interpretative programs so let's turn out for this event!

Plan on 25 rounds of ammunition for this event w/supply of percussion caps including enough for clearing weapons prior to and after events. All ammunition along w/percussion caps must be stored in a paper bag or plastic bag w/your name on them which will be stored in a wooden ammunition box provided by the company. This is a specific NPS safety requirement, so no blank rounds or percussion caps in your cartridge box or cap pouch before or after events as you will be inspected by NPS Black powder Inspector for compliance. We will have a good campaigner campsite along w/available firewood and water for our use. Individuals signed up currently for this event are Alexander, Jack: Disimone, Firth, the Gammon's, Gunter, Kulikowski, Martin and sons, Touart and Vice. I will be arriving on Fri evening to establish a campsite. There is no registration fee for this event so turnout as once again you are getting access to an original CW site due to your F Co membership! Easy access to the site from I-64 w/directional signage.

Respectfully,
Michael L. Vice
1st Sergeant

Saturday Night Artillery Fire

While the Appomattox Event had its share of challenges, one of the bright spots for me was the Saturday night Artillery demonstration. Being the camera enthusiast (nut) that I am, I decided to venture out to observe and capture the event.

I am glad to say that my enthusiasm sparked the interest of others as Privates Turley, Alexander, Gunter and both Weidman brothers accompanied me. Even though it meant leaving the Dance and missing the adventures of *Colonel* Disimone and his quest for a dance partner, we were not disappointed. It was an amazing sight as we stood so close that the concussion of the guns pushed back our hair and pressed against our faces. On the video I took, you can hear, with every eruption of fire, the crowd go *ohh* and *ahh* (along with the occasional WOW and Holy S--t)!

Saturday night alone made the entire weekend for me and I thank my companions for venturing out with me to enjoy the experience!

Private Jeff Pennise



Ode to Joe

