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**FIRST CALL**

By Brad Bodoh

It is coming up on our annual planning meeting, where we will be making decisions on where we go, what we do, and who leads us for the 2003 season. The annual business meeting is an opportunity for us to get together and socialize. It is also an opportunity to critique the previous year and get things off our chest. I have heard various complaints from various members about various topics and various people. Why do I bring this up? Because I am sick of watching my company build up, start to get strong, then be ripped apart by people who have issues with how things are going or with other members of the company but never say anything about it. I have watched as a couple different factions have developed in the company this year. People going one way or another or simply stopping coming to events because they do not want to deal with it. I have watched it happen twice before in this company and I am not about to sit back and simply watch it happen again. So, what I am proposing is that if you have something to say then let's talk it out like the friends and family that we have been and can be again. If we bitch behind each other's backs and let problems grow, nothing will be solved and it will become destructive. If we talk about problems in a constructive way and try to come to a consensus, we can build a stronger company and get back to having fun together. So

come to the meeting and, together, let's plan next year to be the best in recent years.

With that said, I would like to announce my desire to serve the 41st as Company Commander in the 2003 season. I have been 1st Sgt. for 6 years. As Andy pointed out to me, there are very few members who have known a 41st without me as 1st Sgt. It is time for a change. While I have enjoyed serving you in this capacity I am ready to try something else. I believe that with a change in leadership positions in the company and the subsequent adjusting to a new command style we can reinvigorate the company and continue to grow. The enthusiasm created by key leadership learning new positions is sure to spread throughout the company. It will be my mission, should you choose to elect me, to continue and strengthen the environment of a martial military camp. At the same time I intend to keep in mind that we portray a civilian volunteer military which would create a unique environment, a little less military in some ways than the regular army. We need to face the issues and concerns of all the members of the company while continuing to stay current in our authenticity. We also need to concentrate on regaining our first person ability. It poked its head out several times this year, proving we can still do it, but for the most part we all let this slip quite a bit this last year, me included. In all, the main thing we need to work on is doing all of this together, because together we succeed and become strong—apart we will fail. Should you elect me Company Commander, I promise that I will

Hope you enjoy this newsletter. Please send submissions to Sheri Bodoh at 41stbabe@joltmail.com or 330 Neville Dr. # 1 Grayslake, IL 60030 by the 15th of each month.
Thank you!
My regards,
The Letter Lady

do my best to be the military commander that this company deserves. I am sure that I will mess up occasionally but when I do I intend to mess up at full speed. I hope that I will receive your vote for Company Commander.

In closing, I would also like to invite you all to consider running for a military or parliamentary position. To run for parliamentary office you need to have attended at least 3 official company events last season. To run for military office you need to be a military member and have attended at least 6 official company events last season and have served in the previous rank (either through election or brevet) for at least 3 events.

I wish you and your family a happy holiday season. I look forward to seeing you all at the company meeting.

Your Humble Servant,
1st. Sgt. Thomas Clements
Co. E 41st Va. Vol. Inf.

Up on the Stump

Friends of the 41st,
Another season comes to an end, and we have begun yet another winter garrison. Looking forward to the next campaign, I have done some soul searching, and have decided I would like to run for 2nd Sergeant for the next year. I have served with the Company for four years, serving as a private for my first two years and as a corporal the last 2 years. I sincerely believe I am ready to move up the ranks once again, and believe that I could be an asset to the Company in the role of the 2nd Sergeant. The upcoming campaign looks to be a quality year for the 41st, and I look forward to being present no matter where in the ranks I may serve. I plan to spend this winter studying drill (yes, even that nasty battalion drill we rarely get to), and I hope that we can all have an excellent campaign as soon as the spring rains cease and the roads dry enough for our army to travel with haste.

Yours, most truly,
Geo. W. Hall
A.k.a. Andy Ackeret

Annual Meeting

Date

To

Be

Announced

