

CAMP ANDERSON WAR-CRY

XIV No 1

41st Virginia, 2nd Company E
April 4, 2004

Our First Event of 2004 is Less than One Month Away!

Officers:

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Bulletin: Compiled by Terrence Lemke

Message from our NCO's

Marc Reed & Ken Soch

This year is going to be interesting. I look forward to this year and all the opportunities to help the company grow and revive itself. The events that you have voted on are all within most of our own backyards, so even though I will be missing some of the early events, I hope that all of you will find time to attend them. I would like to ask that you try to get your friends, your family, your coworkers to come out and spectate these events -- to show them what it is we do when we go off on these "crazy civil war weekends". See if you can maybe get one or two interested into maybe borrowing some kit and trying it themselves. All the events we have this year are excellent opportunities to recruit and help the company grow.

As far as the rest, I have some interesting ideas that need to be discussed with my co-NCO Munt. With luck and your cooperation, and attendance, some of them could be fun too.

So for now, dig out your kits if you haven't already. Go through them and figure out what you really used this last year and maybe get rid of some things that just took up space in your haversack. Take a look at your uniform, and equipment, is it time for a replacement or an upgrade?

See you around the campfire.

Woodchuck

Message from the President:

Greetings:

It has been a long cold winter and I am looking forward to warm weather and the smell of wood-smoke and jean-wool again; and of course to see my old pards from the

41st. Since last fall a lot has changed for many of us. We are not the same people that we were the last time we were in the field together. Tragic loss has twice struck the Terry Sorchy family and our prayers and thoughts are extended to them. A “thank you” to all those that were able to be there for him or who just simply sent a card or called. On the other hand some of us are changed because we have had the opportunity to grow. I, like I imagine most of you, have had an chance to read at least one Civil War book, purchased at least one new item of clothing, added at least one new thing for the kit, and did at least a little research. I look forward to seeing you all and having the opportunity to find what you have been doing in the hobby since we last met.

I am here to help, so give me a call or send an e-mail if you need something. Jim Schumann (Cousin Benjamin) has kindly agreed to act as my adjutant in a simply voluntary role and I appreciate the many other offers of help I have received.

Your humble servant, Terrence Lemke

BIG NEWS:

Please check the website for updates on the events we scheduled for the upcoming year. There is already one significant change. At our December meeting we voted to attend the Wauconda, IL event. Unfortunately, the August date we had for that event appears to be wrong. Unless I am mistaken and there are two such events, the Lakewood Forest Preserve event in Wauconda, IL is set for July 10th and 11th. This of course is a busy time with several other events surrounding that date. We will need to have a short company meeting at our first event at the Dousman Inn during May to discuss this. We will have to decide to keep the event with the new date or to find an August replacement, etc. Please keep other events in mind.

ON THE WEB: www.41stva.org

The web site has been updated in several aspects. One of the largest updates is in the Event Calendar web. Available information for each event has been added including, map, description, dates, and a registration form. The registration form is simply a place for you to easily fill in your name and other important information required for each event. Some of the events we simply need to know who is going to be there. Others we will need to know more because of pre-registration requirements. The form information is collected and sent to me in the form of an e-mail. It is simple and better than a phone call (because of short term memory loss – I will forget who called and said what.) and less expensive. The number of participants will be used not only to fill out the required forms but also for event planning and ration purchases. We know that things can change and a date can open up that was previously closed -- or that you need to cancel because of some reason. All we are asking is for you to let us know. If you do not register ahead of time you may find that you are the person who is short on rations. As always some events may exclude walk-ons or charge a registration fee for late registrations. You will find the event calendar on the web site under the membership link.

DECEMBER MEETING RECAP:

In December we had our last company meeting of 2003 and perhaps our first of 2004. I do not have the minuetts to refer to but briefly we decided the following:

By unanimous vote it was approved that the Company formally thank the Military Officers, NCO's and Parliamentary Officers for the efforts and fine leadership they provided in 2003. A round of applause followed.

Dues were set to \$20.00 for members and families, and \$15.00 for associate members.

Rations were discussed and it was decided that the company would concentrate on providing the meat ration and other simple rations such as coffee, flour and cornmeal. Each member is encouraged to augment these rations with other appropriate items for the scenario.

The floor was opened for events and a selection were posted and voted upon.

A motion to separate the unit in to two distinct groups, one military, one civilian was brought off the table and then defeated.

A motion was made to implement a different leadership structure for the 2004 season. This structure would be composed two NCO's and one Parliamentary Administrator. This motion was passed. It was also understood that if we were able to gather the required number of rifles to warrant an officer, or the scenario was planned for it, and we have a member able and willing, that we might have a volunteer act as an officer for living history and battlefield/drill operations. Marc Reed volunteered to be one of the NCO's and was voted in. Terry Lemke volunteered to act as president/administrator and was voted in. Ken Soch was contacted by phone, volunteered, and was voted in.

The meeting ended with thanks to Mike Russell for getting the fine accommodations and to those who brought the fine treats we all enjoyed.

Paymaster's Report:

At the company meeting a total of \$126.27 was turned over to Terrence Lemke as the company administrator by Brad Bodoh. Dues were collected to total \$70.00 for a year end balance of \$196.27 in our pay chest. Since then additional dues of \$115.00 were collected and some expenses of \$72.11 were disbursed. These disbursements covered \$12.17 for bank charges involved with setting up a new account, \$14.95 to renew the 41stva.org domain name, and \$44.99 for flowers to the Terry Sorchy family. As of April 1st, 2004 the balance in our account is \$219.16.

The following have been reported as having paid dues.

ANDY ACKERT
 NANCY TROXEL
 MARC REED
 JIM SCHUMANN
 JOHN FRITZE
 JOHN VAN BECKUM
 TERRY LEMKE
 KEN & BETH SOCH

BRAD BODA
DAVID BUSHMOLE

Thanks to those who have paid. For those waiting to pay, please wait no longer. Send your dues check to the following address:

Terrence Lemke
528 Willow Drive
Fond du Lac, WI 54935

Events:

May 1,2	Dousman Inn, Elmbrook Historical Society - Brookfield, WI
June 5,6	VA Administration, Milwaukee, WI - Company
June 11,13	Galloway House & Village (3rd Wisconsin) - Informational
June 26,27	Boltonville Sesquicentennial, WI - Company
July 10,11	Wauconda, IL NEW DATE! - Company
July 17,18	Old Falls Village, Menominee Falls, WI - Company
Aug 7,8	Boscobel, WI - Alternate
Aug 14,15	Wauconda, IL (This is the wrong date!) See above
Aug 14,15	Green Bay RR Museum, WI - Alternate
Sept 11,12	Lockport, IL - Alternate
Sept 25,26	Wade House, WI - Company
Oct 1,2	Spring Hill - Alternate
Oct 9,10	Coon Valley, WI - Company

The first event will be at the Dousman Inn and will be hosted by Elmbrook Historical Society. Last year we attended this event as an alternate event. Several of us had an excellent time performing living history with the 'taters and skirmishing with the Northern Aggressors. Unbeknownst to us, a small documentary on a Veteran from Sheboygan County was being filmed. Several of us made the 'cut' and ended up in the final video – including one close-up of your truly, Edward Gray, sending a northern son to an early but well deserved grave. Parking is in the bank parking lot to the south of the event grounds. Camping is available on the grounds but you may want to bring shebang poles if staying overnight. Last year a bus was running shuttle services between the event grounds and the parking lot. This is an excellent event for polishing up on our first-person and getting a little drill in before our 'big' events that follow.

Executive Meeting:

On March 13 Marc Reed, Ken Soch, and Terry Lemke met in Milwaukee to discuss the upcoming year. Many things were discussed but not to boar anyone I will only mention the following: We would like, as always, to work on our first-person impressions. We feel that events are the best places to not only practice but to improve. To this end the NCO's and the Administrator wish to work on several scenarios that might represent common events in the life of the military solider. These might be as simple as forming the company and announcing that a furlough was granted, and the lucky fellow named,

when in reality that member is simply leaving the event early. It may be more group singing, or mail-call.

To that end, take the time, or better yet have a loved one or spouse, write you a period letter and seal it in an envelope so that we may have a mail-call at the Dousman Inn. Those lucky enough to get a letter can read it alone or to their messmates. Those unable to read can have them read by a pard. Also study up on your favorite period tunes. Perhaps we can get a few songs together and make an attempt to perform them well. I am going to recommend "Just before the Battle Mother", one that we surprisingly did well enough not to send the crowds running last year.

Good of the Order:

As many of you may re-call last fall, just after the Wade House event, John Fritze's mother suddenly and unexpectedly passed away. At Coon Valley many of us shared our condolences with John. John has since moved to live with his sister and her husband. His new address and phone number are 501 Jefferson Ave., Sparta, WI 54656 - phone (608) 269-7090. I will send John the newsletter by snail-mail but please don't hesitate to drop John a line, or give a call.

Terry Sorchy lost his son Austin in March. Many of you were able to attend the services and send condolences. Brad has reported that Terry may reframe from re-enacting for a while. We just want him to know that he is a valuable part of our company and that we are ready to welcome him back at any time and in any capacity.

Brad Bodoh's better half, Sheri was seriously ill in March and was sent to hospital. Our last report indicated that she was improving slowly and we all wish her a fast and full recovery.

On happier notes:

Ken and Beth Soch are expecting a baby this summer. Ken is still figuring how he managed to mess up and failed to account for the birth taking place during the campaign season. We all join in congratulating them!

Jim Schumann and Terry Lemke, along with William Weinshrott (some of you may remember his son Kevin Weinshrott of our company) took a small trip to Madison, Wisconsin on March 25th. Our main goal was to visit the Confederate Rest Cemetery located within the Forest Hill Cemetery. While most of you know of the 139 confederate dead buried in Madison, those of us in our group did not know where they lie, let alone had we ever been there. We started off on a day the weathermen said would be filled with drenching rain. It was just overcast when we left so we raced to find the cemetery before the deluge began. We found the cemetery at the west end of Regent Street at the intersection of Regent and Speeway Road. Of course we pulled in somewhere convenient and drove up to the office -- only to find we were in the wrong cemetery. We were close however! On the S.E. side of Speedway road is the smaller Forest Hill Cemetery. A short stop at the office and a handy map awarded by the receptionist

showed us exactly where the Confederate Rest was located -- only a short way up the road.

The men buried here all died as prisoners of war while held at Camp Randall in Madison. Most had been captured in and around Island No. 10 when it fell on April 8th, 1862. During the short months of April, May and June 1862 almost 140 died of exposure, disease, and mistreatment. It is a sad blemish on the north that these men died almost one or two a day. It is true that many arrived already suffering from wounds, malnutrition, and diseases, but the camp did little to help these men withstand the cold of early April or May that Wisconsin can bring. Also buried at the site is Alice Whiting Waterman, a Southern born lady who spent almost 30 years of her life tending the then forgotten graves of "her boys".

After a somber inspection of the graves, we gave a final salute and went in search of several Union Graves including General Fairchild of the famed Iron brigade. We then left the graveyard and headed to the Great Dane Pub where we forced down a few Scotch Ales to fortify us



after the morning activities and to better prepare us for the afternoon's demands. The Great Dane is comfortably close to the Capital where we were able to visit and see the wonderful relics located in the Veterans Museum, which is directly on the square and at the terminus of State Street. There they have displays from the Civil War to The Gulf War. We did have a little excitement there. Jim and I were viewing the bullet ridden shafts of the Wisconsin regiment's Flag Staff's when a loud alarm went off. I thought for certain that Bill had reached over the rope and touched some artifact in order to examine it more closely. As it turned out, it was a Fire Alarm from some other part of the building.

This sent us out to the streets where several bookstores called to us like sirens out of some Greek myth. Soon we had our hands full of our own treasures: Mine included The Badge of Gallantry, Battles of the English Civil War, and two on Wisconsin History with the lovely titles of Hunting A Shadow – the Search for Black Hawk, and Massacre at Bad Axe. Jim's plunder was slightly larger than mine and Bill's was in the minority. Alas it was time to head back. But we had a very good day and the rain did not catch up with us until we were all in our respective homes and tucked safely in our beds.

Sources:

http://www.geocities.com/ad4os/WI_DIV_SCV/Confederate_Rest/index.html

<http://people.msoe.edu/~peterson/confederaterest>

<http://museum.dva.state.wi.us/>