

53rd Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry

Company C

"The Sentinel" June 2017

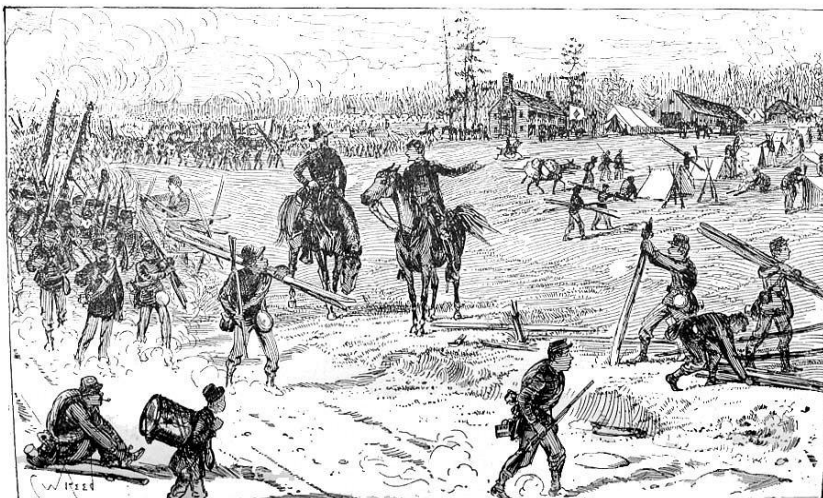
Newsletter of The James Creek Guards



"Clubs Are Trump!"

This Month:

1. Officer/NCO School Presentation - Medallions and Corps Badges
2. A word from our president...
3. Corbit's Charge Event
4. New Market Event Photos
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Please forward whatever content that you'd like to contribute (research info, articles, photos, book reviews, etc) to me as "The Sentinel" is our newsletter. Also, I am looking for more members to contribute for the "Get To Know Your Pard" segment. Please review prior editions of "The Sentinel" to see prior questions/answers and send in your info for inclusion in a future edition. We have a new official member as voted on at the post-Memorial Day parade debriefing. Congrats to Michael Fedorshak! Thank you to Mike and Carol for once again hosting the debriefing meeting. Editor – Matthew Steger

Medallions and Corps Badges

At the NR's 2017 Officer/NCO School, Capt. Michael Kraus did a presentation on medallions and corps badges. I snapped this photo of a corps badge belonging to a member of the 53rd PVI, Company E (Joseph Getz). The center's red paint is mostly missing but a little bit still exists. This was likely private purchase from a jeweler possibly after the war.



A word from our president.....

The first major event of the year is now in the books. The battle of New Market reenactment was held in New Market, VA May 19th-23rd. The 53rd was assigned to 2nd Company along with our parads in the 8th OH under the command of Capt. Rick Betley. After a brief shower during set up on Friday afternoon, we had near perfect weather for the duration of the event. Overall, the event was well-planned and organized. After the Saturday morning battle of Kernstown, the NR had the privilege of being selected to execute a "non-scripted" surprise flanking maneuver during the afternoon scenario. We also had the privilege (sarcasm intended) of marching an addition mile just to end up right back where we started thanks to the General's courier delivering orders to Col. Downes that were intended for another battalion. The NR showed a strong presence and Col. Downes expressed his gratitude to each unit for their turnout. Those in attendance were: Sgts. Mark Fansacht and Marc Benedict, Corp. Mike Espenshade, Eric Ford, Brent Miller, Pat Rose, Jeff Marks, Joe Marks, Michael Fedorshak, Steve Dillon, and Ryan Rentschler.

The 53rd had the honor of once again participating in the Hummelstown Memorial Day parade. For those not present, Mike Espenshade shared with us his extensive research on the Civil War Veterans who are buried in the town's cemetery. In total, Mike has identified all of the 154 soldiers. I could not begin to do justice to all of his findings and the details he presented to us. If you have the opportunity please reach out to Mike in the future. Most, if not all of us, have been to this service at least one time and it really is incredible to learn how much information Mike was able to assemble. Thank you, Mike!

As we look forward the schedule is relatively light until we reach the end of July. I got an invitation from ELF Co to fall in at the Corbit's Charge event in support of the 3rd MD. The event details are listed in this newsletter. If you plan to attend one or both days please let me know so I can keep them up to date. Also, it was announced at New Market that the 1st PA reserves will be attending the Gettysburg reenactment this year. This is NOT an official event on our schedule or the NR's schedule. If you do attend the ENTIRE event, your registration fee for next year will be waived. Again, let me know if you are going so I can keep the 1st PA well informed. *Please keep in mind that we have Landis Valley scheduled for July 22-23. This is an official 53rd event and we are the host unit. We'll be supported by ELF and the 1st MN. I'm reaching out to ELF and the 1st MN in the next week to start planning the daily schedules. I'm counting on a very strong attendance since we voted to make this a max effort event and we are the host unit. I encourage all of you to support our parads in the NR with their efforts but please do not let adding their events interfere with our own.*

I hope all of you enjoy your Summer!

Eric

Corbit's Charge Event -

Sgt. David Bloom from the 3rd MD has invited the 53rd PVI to their living history event in Westminster, MD next month. Members of the 3d MD, 1st MD and 7th PA will be attending.

You are invited to the **Corbit's Charge** living history event June 24 and 25:

Emerald Hill Mansion
1838 Emerald Hill Ln
Westminster, MD 21157

Directions / Parking: from route 140 turn south onto N. Center Street, turn right at Willis Street, go two blocks to Emerald Hill Lane. Official parking is up the hill behind the mansion, but the best unofficial parking is the parking lot just below the mansion by the intersection of Longwell and Distillery Drive.

Arrival time: no later than 8:30 a.m. Saturday, June 24. You are welcome to check in on Friday if convenient. There will be some 3d Maryland people on site on Friday.

Victuals / Impedimenta: bring enough rounds for two skirmishes (40 rounds should suffice). We won't have a company mess so bring food for breakfast and lunch. Those interested will go as a group to a nearby restaurant for supper Saturday evening

Registration: Just send a quick email to 3rdMDreg@gmail.com to say you are coming. **No charge!** Background information on the event is at <http://pipecreekcivilwarroundtable.weebly.com/corbis-charge-encampment.html> but IGNORE the stuff about registration.

Campsite Location: Right in front of the Mansion.

Schedule:

Saturday, June 24th

8:00 am – Staff meeting

9:00 am – Open to the public

10:00 am – Lecture - Wet-Plate Photography

10:30 am – Reenactors - Formation for the parade

10:45 am – Parade to Courthouse

11:00 am – Memorial Ceremony near Courthouse / Ascension Church Cemetery

12:00 pm – Tour – Westminster Historic Sites leaving from Ascension Church

12:00 pm – Lecture - Wet-Plate Photography

1:00 pm – Tour - Westminster Cemetery

1:00 pm – Ladies Fashion Show – Sherry Hartman

2:00 pm – Tour - Historic Sites of Westminster

2:00 pm – Lecture - Masons in the Civil War

2:00 pm – Children's Activity – Joining the Army – Drilling with US 3rd MD

3:00 pm – Lecture - Post Cards from Gettysburg

3:00 pm – Lecture - Wet-Plate Photography Demonstration

4:00 pm – Artillery Demo / Skirmish – City Park

8:00 pm – Corbit's Dance - Armory Building – 11 Longwell Ave

Sunday, June 25th

8:00 am – Staff Meeting

9:00 am – Camps open to public

10:00 am – Civil War Church Service

11:00 am – Lecture - Wet-Plate Photography Demonstration - John Milleker

11:00 am – Tour - Historic Sites of Westminster

11:00 am – Children’s Activity – Joining the Army – Drilling with US 3rd MD

12:00 pm – Tour - Westminster Cemetery

12:00 pm – Lecture - Spies in Western Maryland - Matt Borders

1:00 pm – Lecture - Wet-Plate Photography

1:00 pm – Lecture - Pratt St. Riot

1:00 pm – Tour - Historic Sites of Westminster

2:00pm - Artillery Demo/Skirmish

3:00 pm – Lecture - Antique Sewing

4:00 pm – Event Closes to public

New Market Event photos (courtesy of Eric Ford): (I’ve pulled a few to include to the newsletter. You can see many more event photos posted over at the 53rds Facebook page): <http://www.facebook.com/groups/53rdPVI>





Upcoming events -

Landis Valley 'Civil War Days' -

22 - 23 July 2017 - Landis Valley Museum (Lancaster)

Landis Valley Museum has graciously invited the 53rd PVI, Co. C back to their 'Civil War Days' event again for 2017. We look forward to another 2-day event to portray normal camp life, drill, and interaction with museum visitors. The final schedule is still being worked on, but plan on bringing your normal kit including approx. 50 rounds which will normally cover 3 firing demos each day. Our friends from the ELF units and the 1st MN will be attending as our guests.

Gruber Wagon Works -

30 July 2017 - Gruber Wagon Works (Reading)

A one-day event near Reading. Firing demos, camp life, some drill, and interaction with site visitors. Schedule is not yet finalized, but plan on bringing your normal kit and approx. 25 rounds which should cover the day. We will likely be able to set up Sat. evening after 5pm. More details to come from Eric.

2017 Calendar of Events -

4 February – Winter Drill – Landis Valley Museum – Lancaster

25 February – Cartridge Rolling Party

25–26 February – NR Officer/NCO School of Instruction – Gettysburg

1 April – 53rd Monument Cleanup – Gettysburg, PA

6–9 April – 155th Shiloh Reenactment – Shiloh, TN

29–30 April – Spring Drill – Antietam (ELF Event)

5–7 May – 155th McDowell Reenactment – McDowell, VA

20–21 May – New Market Reenactment – New Market, VA (NR Event)

20–21 May – Army Heritage Days – USAHEC – Carlisle, PA

29 May – Memorial Day Parade – Hummelstown

2–4 June – On to Richmond – Richmond, VA

24–25 June – Corbit's Charge – Westminster, MD

1–4 July – Gettysburg (GAC) Reenactment – Yingling Farm – Gettysburg

15–16 July – Civil War Days at the Winery – Manassas, VA

22–23 July – Landis Valley Museum 'Civil War Days' – Lancaster

30 July – Gruber Wagon Works – Berks County, PA

15–17 September – South Mountain Reenactment – Burkittsville, MD

7–8 October – Gettysburg Living History – Spanglers Spring – Gettysburg NMP

14–15 October – Battle of Cedar Creek Reenactment – Middletown, VA

5 November – 53rd Monument Cleanup – Gettysburg NMP

18 November – Remembrance Day Parade – Gettysburg

2 December – Annual Membership Meeting

(**RED** colored events are considered 53rd PVI 'Max Effort' events)

(**GREEN** colored events are NR 'Max Effort' events)



"Get To Know Your Pard"

The purpose of this segment is to help the members of the 53rd learn a little more about a '53rd member of the month'. I hope to feature a different member every month or so, assuming each member in the unit is willing to tell us a little about himself. We have likely learned something about each of our pards (a little or a lot) over time while sitting around the camp fire at events, but this feature should help us dive a little deeper. If you have not already done so, please email me your 'profile' for use in a future newsletter.

This Month... **Mike Espenshade**

1. Where were you born? **Elizabethtown, PA**
2. How long have you been re-enacting? **Co I 116 PVI (1984-1995), Independent/Campaigner (1994-1999), Co B 4th Texas Inf (1999-2013), Co C 53 PVI (2000-present).**
3. What is your favorite part of the hobby? **Longer Marches, non-fixed camps, authentic food, tactical battles, making friends.**
4. Favorite Author(s)/Book(s)? **Any work by Harry Pfantz and William Frasanito, and Hard Tack and Coffee.**
5. Have you ever taken part of a Civil War movie, TV, or other production? **"Glory", "Gettysburg", "Soldiers All", Antietam and Fredericksburg NPS Visitor Center Movies, History Channel/A&E chapters: Fredericksburg, Antietam, Chickamauga.**
6. Do you have a favorite or most memorable CW event? **The 125th reenactments (was fortunate to fight in 11 of them), the movies (learned a great deal!), and Antietam mega 1992/1997.**
7. Do you have a Civil War photo (wet-plate or tin-type image) to share? **See below**



53rd PVI Contacts

President: Eric Ford (reenactor53@gmail.com)

Vice President: Croce Volpe (vafomedic@aol.com)

Secretary/Treasurer: Pat Rose (p.m.rose@comcast.net)

Newsletter Editor: Matthew Steger (n3ntj@comcast.net)

Webmasters: Steve Dillon (steve@gofoxpro.com) and Matthew Steger (n3ntj@comcast.net)

Website: <http://www.53rdpvi.org>

53rd PVI Member Facebook Page: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/53rdPVI>

National Regiment Phone line: 800-777-1861 (code 61)

National Regiment Website: <http://nationalregiment.com>

Still need to pay your dues?

Mail checks payable to "53rd PVI" to:

Pat Rose

919 North 26th St.

Reading, PA 19606

