

53rd Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry Company C

"The Sentinel" August 2017

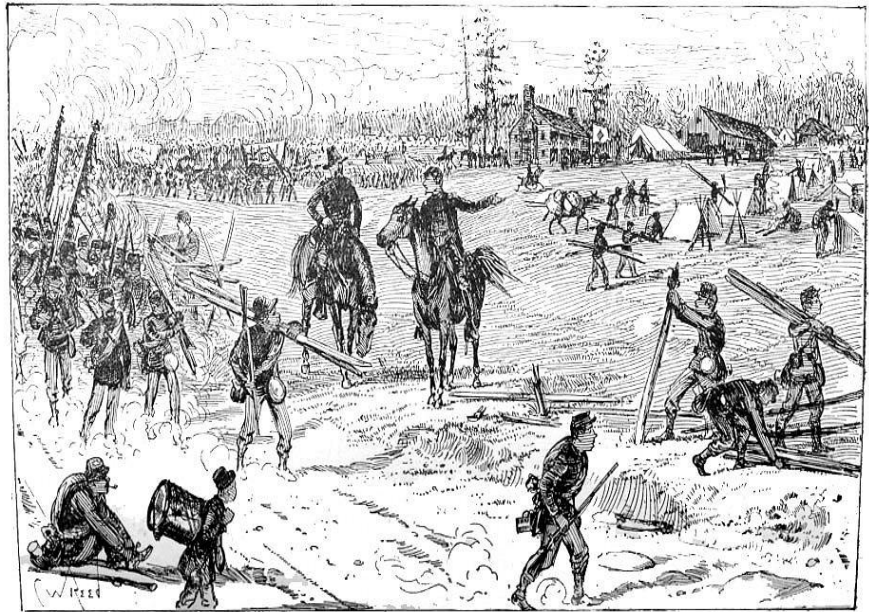
Newsletter of The James Creek Guards



"Clubs Are Trump!"

This Month:

1. Book Review –
"Searching For George Gordon Meade"
2. Photos from the Landis Valley event
3. Period Biscuit Recipe
4. A word from our president...
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I am looking for content, so please forward your articles, book reviews, photos, stories, etc. to me for inclusion in a future edition of "The Sentinel" – editor (Matthew Steger)

Book Review – "Searching for George Gordon Meade – The Forgotten Victor of Gettysburg"

Author: Tom Huntington

Reviewed by: Cathy Steger

This is not your typical history book. What I liked about this book is that the author not only tells the history of Meade's life, but also shares how he researched the book and gives first-person accounts of the museums and battlefields he visited along the way. Often the author is meeting with a park ranger or following a Civil War Trails map to locate a hidden battlefield or tracking down the archives of Meade's letters that he wrote to his wife.

There is a lot of insight in this book, quoting from these letters, to show Meade's thoughts throughout the war. There are also a lot of descriptions and quotes provided in this book from Theodore Lyman who was on Meade's staff. Lyman wrote many letters and journals and provided detailed, interesting descriptions of the people and events he encountered during the war. Lyman called Meade "the Great Peppery" due to his infamous temper. Lyman's descriptions of people he encountered throughout the war are often quite amusing. Huntington's book is well-researched and footnoted and I learned a lot about the Civil War and Meade while reading it.

Landis Valley “Civil War Days” 2017

Landis Valley “Civil War Days” 2017 has come and gone and, once again, it proved to be another good event. The museum had a good turnout of patrons. The 53rd PVI also had a good turnout and our ELF friends assisted. Special thanks to Tim Boyd and Tony Aldinger for being the weekend cooks.



53rd PVI group photo: (rear row L – R): Surgeon Kerry Willard, Pvts. Eric Ford, Michael Fedorshak, Doug Raab, and possible new recruit Adam Mitchell. (front row L-R): Sgt. Marc Benedict, Corp. Mike Espenshade, Pvts. Rick Kramer, Joseph Marks, Jeff Marks, Corp. Matthew Steger, Sgt. Mark Fasnacht. Photo courtesy of Cathy Steger. 53rd PVI members also in attendance but not present for the photo: Steve Frey and Steve Dillon.

Some other photos courtesy of Chip Smith (7th PA Reserves):



Camp at Landis Valley



Prv. Steve Frey, Corporal Matthew Steger, and Sgt. Mark Fasnacht taking a breather from the hot weather.



Rations issue... pork, beans, coffee, onions, potatoes, hard tack, and some bugs.



Lt. Nick Grimm - did someone play a joke and put something odd in there when he wasn't looking?



This photo, taken at last year's Landis Valley event, was used by the museum in their marketing material on their website to advertise this year's event. Photo courtesy of Landis Valley Museum. Included: Pvts. Eric Ford, Ryan Rentschler, Jeff Marks, Corporal Matthew Steger, and Pvt. Steve Dillon.

Biscuit Recipe -

This biscuit receipt was submitted by Sgt. Marc Benedict. It is a period biscuit receipt used by CSA soldiers. In lieu of reprinting the entire lengthen thing, I figured I'd post the URL for you to check out:

<https://sandramervillehart.wordpress.com/2017/02/27/biscuit-recipe-used-by-confederate-soldiers/>

A word from our president.....

Gentlemen,

We've had a great last couple of weeks. First, Landis Valley Civil War Days was a huge success. Turnout was strong and we had exceptional support from our pards in ELF Co. I'd like to extend a huge thank you to all of their members who made the trip to Lancaster. Chia Lincoln and Tony Albright for their efforts in keeping us well fed for the event. They went far beyond expectations. The feedback from Tim Essig was nothing less than positive and he has asked that we give strong consideration for the event in 2018.

This year's event at Gruber Wagon Works was also a great success with almost 100% turnout! We were very happy to welcome Dave Sweigert back into our ranks for the day. John Nyeste even decided to visit and spent most of the day reminiscing with us in camp. Visitor turnout for both events was excellent and we had the opportunity to meet and chat with a 53rd descendant and met a possible new recruit. Win win!

Next up is the headstone dedication to the veteran from Co B outside of Philadelphia on Saturday, September 9 at 1:00. This is a great opportunity for all of us, current and past members, to be a part of. We're planning to meet and carpool from my house. Please watch for details to come soon. If you plan to attend, please let me know. The cemetery is asking for a count of vehicles that will be coming.

I'm pretty sure we have those accounted for who plan to attend Burkittsville but if you have not committed and plan to attend you'll need to register independently. If this is the case, let me know so I can keep Col. Downes updated with our attendance.

Eric

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Upcoming events -

Cedar Mountain -

5 – 6 August 2017 – near Culpepper, VA

The 155th Cedar Mountain living history is scheduled for the original battlefield located five miles south of Culpepper, Virginia, on US Route 15. Saturday activities will include firing and drill demonstrations and a tactical demonstration. Sunday morning will feature a semi-scripted tactical for the participants. Activities are expected to wrap up about 12 noon on Sunday.

If you would like to participate in this program, please go to www.facebook.com/Cedar-Mountain-155th-Anniversary-Living-History-Weekend . The registration fee is \$20 and helps with logistics for the event. Cedar Mountain is privately managed by a small volunteer organization that receives no state or federal funding. Contact James Owens for more info: JDO@npmhu.org

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 – Corbitt'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~~

5–6 Aug. Cedar Mountain – Culpepper, VA

9 September – 53rd PVI, Co. B Veteran's Monument Dedication (near Philadelphia)

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)



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)

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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 53rd PVI dues?

Mail checks payable to "53rd PVI" to:

Pat Rose

919 North 26th St.

Reading, PA 19606

