



Vol. XVIII. May/June, 2019 Issue IV.

### Captain's Column

Alright Gentlemen, April is over. There were no events in April so in that regard there is nothing to report.

Please note that this is a two-month newsletter for May and June. We do have a couple of events coming up. First off is the New Market reenactment the weekend of 18 & 19 May. You can come in on Friday night if you wish. We only have 6 men signed up for this one. With that being the case, we will probably have to fall in with another unit so be expecting that. I will probably not get there until Saturday morning

There is a battle each day so bring adequate rounds and enough rations for the weekend. There are usually food vendors at the event. If you went last year you know how good the event turned out despite the weather.

Two weeks later, 1st & 2nd June, we have a living history program at the Cold Harbor Battlefield in Mechanicsville right outside Richmond. Please be aware that there is **NO REGISTRATION FEE** for this event so if you did not sign up for this you can still come and participate. We will not be the only unit there so if our numbers are too low we may again have to fall in with another unit. Let's see if we can prevent this from happening by having more guys show up.

This is the highlight event of the year for the National Park Service in the Richmond area. It had to be canceled last year due to severe weather concerns.

There will be alternating demos for the public both days by the Yanks and Rebs. There will also be cannon firings. Saturday night is the candlelight tour of the battlefield. It is usually very well attended with several hundred of the public coming by.

Remember, we have to turn in our rounds and caps to the Safety Officer so have yours in some type of bag or container with your name on it. Also, bring rations for the weekend.

These are our first real outside activities of the season with spectators so let's get things off to a good start by supporting the unit with your presence at each of these events. Hopefully I will see you all there.

Respectfully submitted,  
Captain Turley

### **1<sup>st</sup> Sergeant's Column**

We're making this a combined May-June newsletter since Cold Harbor will be coming the first weekend of June. The Battle of New Market is scheduled for 17-19, May and the living history program at Cold Harbor is 1-2 June. Note the following information on these two upcoming F Co events:

**Battle of New Market (17-19 May)**- This major event in the Shenandoah Valley is held on the original battle ground where the VMI cadets made Confederate military history! There will be one major battle each day, so you can expect to burn a lot of ammunition since you'll be serving w/Longstreet's Corps. Recommend that you bring 80-100 blank cartridges and probably 120 or more percussion caps so as to allow for needed safety clearing of muskets. Those F Co members already registered appeared in last month's newsletter, however, if you'd like to attend then walk-on registrants are permitted.

You'll find a schedule of events on the New Market website. It promises to be a fairly big event, so if you can arrive on Fri afternoon or evening then it's recommended that you do so to insure a good bivouac site. Sutler's row will be available, and probably some food vendors as well.

General Directions- New Market is located just off of I-81 at exit #264. If you're coming from the North then I-81 South is your route, and if coming from Richmond area then come out I-64 West until you reach I-81 and then take it North.

**Cold Harbor (1-2 Jun)**- This is a very traditional NPS supported event which F Co participates in each year. Several CS units are participating this year which promises this will be a larger than usual event. Confederates will be bivouacking at Tour Stop #1. You need to arrive on site, drop off your equipment and camp gear and then park your vehicle in NPS designated participant parking. We need a serious campaigner camp site as the public will be visiting the camps following each firing demonstration as well as during the candlelight tours.

I'm planning to arrive on Fri afternoon and will be set-up in our general bivouac site. As usual we will need to pick up firewood at the NPS Cold Harbor visitor center. Remember NO fire pits, only surface fires. Porta Johns will be available to us in the immediate area w/VC restrooms being open all night plus potable water will be available at that site.

Make sure your musket is clean as we will be having NPS weapon inspections each morning. Forty (40) rounds of blank ammunition along w/60 percussion caps or more should be sufficient for our three CS firing programs. See attached schedule of events. We will need to turn in our blank rounds and caps to NPS, so you need to bag your rounds w/your name on the bag. Ammunition will only be issued prior to each firing event, and any excess turned in following each firing demonstration.

General Directions: GPS address is 5515 Anderson-Wright Dr., Mechanicsville, VA 23111. Easy directions are to take Exit 34 from I-295 to first intersection, then turn right onto VA 156 and drive until you see NPS site on your left.

**Summer Schedule of Events**- The rest of our summer events schedule looks like this:

Battle of Gettysburg (4-7 Jul)- This is a Corp sponsored event, so we need to turnout, which will be held on old Gettysburg movie site east of Gettysburg. More to follow in next newsletter.

F Co Muster (Sat, 20 Jul)- This muster will wind-up the Gettysburg Campaign. We'll cover Longstreet's Assault (Pickett's Charge) along w/short visit to East Cavalry field which occurs on last day of fighting.

Winery at Bull Run (Sat-Sun, 3-4 Aug)- This "fun festival" occurs adjacent to the NPS Manassas battlefield, and seems to be a real favorite w/our members. More on schedule to follow.

Fort Work Day (Sat, 24 Aug)- Part of our on-going commitment to the Harvie family in maintaining, and preserving this Confederate earthen fort and our company training area.

Respectfully,

Michael L. Vice, 1<sup>st</sup> SGT

## Message from Bert Dunkerly:

Hello,

Everyone, we are so glad you can join us for Cold Harbor this year, the largest annual event we host in the park!

Here is some info for you to please distribute to your troops:

-Arrival is anytime on Fri, May 31. I will be on site around 3 pm. The event ends at 3 pm Sunday.

-Surface fires only, please... no fire pits. You will all be camping on the actual battlefield. Please don't leave any fires unattended, and have a bucket of water nearby. We'll also distribute foam fire extinguishers to the camps.

-Union troops: The 15th NJ will be at the county park, the rest will be camped at Tour Stop 2 in the park. I will let you make your own arrangements as to camp layout

-Confed Troops: There are a lot of you! The Confed Staff will camp in their usual spot along the trail. The rest of you are in the woods at Tour Stop 1. Again, please make your own arrangements as to camp layout. I am sending photos of both camp areas

-Chaplain Scott, you'll be set up on the edge of the woods near the Confed Staff. Access is via a mowed path from the tour road.

-Please do not set up anything in or on earthworks, they are original and fragile.

-Please have vehicles out of camp, and modern things put away, by 9 am on Sat. We would like camps to be military only, there will be an area for civilians during the day near the visitor center.

-There will be a porta john at the county park for the 15th NJ, and two for the Union/Confed camps. The visitor center restrooms will also be open overnight. Potable water is at the visitor center, as is firewood. The easiest thing to do is have someone bring a load of wood to your camp once they've unloaded their vehicle

-During public hours, we would like visitors to feel welcome to enter the camps, so any displays/talks/presentations you want to do/have in camps are appreciated.

-There will be a commanders meeting at 9 am Sat at the visitor center, please have a representative from each unit. We'll go over the schedule and answer any questions.

-Our black powder officers will inspect weapons prior to each demonstration. We would like to collect cartridges and store them in our trailer... please have each unit's cartridges in a labelled bag/box- I can pick them up Fri night or Sat morning. We are following standard NPS Black Powder regulations, let me know if you have any questions.

-We will do a walk-through for the candle light tours at 5:30 pm Sat. They run from 8-about 10. I will get more info to you in a separate message. We can use all of your units for the tours. If any of your units do not wish to participate, that is fine, just let me know.

-I am attaching the schedule of events here. When not otherwise part of a demonstration, any reenactors are welcome to go on the ranger tours.

If you have any questions or concerns let me know, we look forward to seeing you!!

Please encourage your members to carpool- we have limited parking  
The address is 6184 Cold Harbor Road, Mechanicsville, VA

Thanks!  
Bert

Bert Dunkerly

Park Ranger, Richmond National Battlefield Park & Maggie L. Walker National Historic Site  
3215 E. Broad St. Richmond, VA 23223  
Cell 804 221 3674

<b>Sat 6/1</b>	
0:900	Commanders meeting at VC- A representative from each unit needed
10:00	Ranger Tour- "One Regiment's Fate" 1 Hour- Begins at VC
11:00	Cannon/Rifle Demo- CS; followed by Ranger Tour to CS Staff Camp
12:00	Fife & Drum program- at cannon
13:00	Cannon/Rifle Demo- US; followed by Ranger Tour to CS Staff Camp Civilians set up in Civilian area, kids activities begin
14:00	Ranger Tour- "Attack of the 8 <sup>th</sup> NY Heavy Artillery"
15:00	Cannon/Rifle Demo- CS; followed by Ranger Tour to CS Staff Camp
16:00	Fife & Drum program- at cannon
17:30	Walk Through for candlelight tours- all staff/VIPs/tour speakers
17:30	Education/Exhibit Trailer opens Civilian area remains open for public till 21:00
20:00	Southern Horizon Concert begins Candlelight Tours (tours begin at 8:00, 8:10, 8:20, 8:30, 8: 40)
21:00	Civilians area closes, packs up
21:30	Southern Horizon concert ends
<b>Sun 6/2</b>	
0:900	Period Church Service (Chaplain Sturdivant)
10:00	Ranger Tour- "Grant's Greatest Regret" 1 Hour. Begins at Tour Stop 1
11:00	Cannon/Rifle Demo-US; followed by Ranger Tour to CS Staff Camp
12:00	Fife & Drum program-at cannon
13:00	Cannon/Rifle Demo- CS; followed by Ranger Tour to CS Staff Camp
14:00	Ranger Tour- "Grant's Greatest Regret, 1 hour. Begins at Tour Stop 1
15:00	Ranger Tour- "Attack of the 8 <sup>th</sup> NY Heavy Artillery" 1 Hour. Re-enactors begin to break camp

Ode to Joe

