



Vol. XXI. October 2022 Issue VI.

Captain's Column

Gentlemen,

Fall is here, the leaves are turning, and the weather is perfect for driving the Yankees out of the Shenandoah Valley. The General has ordered the army forward to Cedar Creek on Oct. 14-16th. All of F. Co at the moment are veterans so you do know the location, timing etc. I will be arriving on Friday afternoon, and I expect that our usual fence line will be available. If you arrive on Saturday morning, please be in camp by 8. There is a morning Parade and we have enough participating to be our own company, so we need to have time to form the company and a few minutes for drill so we can shake off the rust. We have not had so many registered in a while, so I hope you all do make it. Corporal Hansen is helping Julius Caesar slay barbarians at the moment so I am not sure he will be calling you but that does not mean you cannot call the 1st Sgt or myself to keep us informed of your plans.

If you do come on Friday afternoon, they are having a skirmish in Middletown and we could do that, but if you want to do that bring extra rounds. I always found three rounds is enough for a decent sized battle so you might need nine! Regardless, October is usually beautiful, and I do hope everyone registered turns out, the General needs us! From the looks of the website the sutler numbers are up if that interests you. (I am pulling out all the stops to get you there).

In Sept we had the muster and Jack has written a report on the event. It a tour of Sharpsburg and the South Mountain Battles hosted by Ray Hanson as guide and Susan Hanson as hostess and general all around get it done batman. If you missed the tour - and the corn on the cob and fried chicken - you missed a very good time, and I don't know what to say except what could possibly be more fun than an F. Co muster?

In November we have the Gettysburg Parade. I don't think there has ever been an F. Co member who has not done the Parade and not felt a combination of pride, respect, honor, and a strange sense of, I don't know exactly how to explain it, maybe veneration, after the parade. It is the one thing each year I will not miss and have not for at least 15 years. It is not a "sign up" even so please make an effort to be there. Last year Greg and Kendall stayed the night and said that it was an experience to have the town alive with Yanks and Confederates after the parade. They were talking about doing that again so if you want to do that you probably will not be alone.

So, to conclude, I hope to see everyone at Gettysburg and at the Parade. I did talk to Mark Reimer and his feet are getting bad so I don't think he will make the Parade this year nor Bob Gorgone so we need everyone else we can to make the Parade and bring along any warm bodies you can!

See everyone at Cedar Creek,

Travis Clements Captain F. Co 21st Va.

1st Sergeant's Column

Happy October Gentleman,

We have the following members registered for Cedar Creek, CJ Alexander. (Sat.), G. Hanson, R. Hanson, K. Chapman, C. Arrington, JP Alexander, T. Clements, M. Ciascai. It looks like it will be a good crew. I plan on arriving on Friday along with the captain. Be sure to have a minimum of eighty rounds of ammunition for the weekend.

See you all on the field.

1st Sgt Alexander

**On the Way to Antietam
Or**

A visit with Ray

Our muster began with a visit to our host's city council meeting room. We got to see his chair; Ray gave a wonderful outline of the battle and our tour agenda. Next, we visited a must see, one of a kind museum called **Boonsborough Museum of History** owned by Doug Bast. The place was packed with stuff, from an amputated arm, an original John Brown's pike from Harpers Ferry to a foldable WWII motorcycle. Anyone who would like to volunteer (see Ray) at the museum will be able to see a very large and unusual collection of memorabilia.

We loaded into the "wagons" and with our Confederate flags proudly flying visited, Turner, Fox and Crampton gaps all part of Lee's delaying action in preparation of his stand at Sharpsburg, waiting for his dispersed forces to concentrate. Next, we visited the Upper, Middle, and Lower (Burnsides) bridges, stopping at a local tavern for lunch. Ray provided insight and narrative to complement the scenery of the battlefield. After visiting Lee's Headquarters, we traveled to a small cemetery in Shepherdstown, (following lines of Lee's retreat) where we discovered the graves of 281 Confederate soldiers (112 from the Antietam battle, including one from Company H, 21st Virginia.

Finally ending the trail at Ray's home where his wife Susan and friends provided a delicious fried chicken dinner with dessert. Yummmm! A great time was had by all.

Many thanks to Ray and his wife for hosting this event.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack



The Adventure Begins



Time to take the guns



Final Resting place for a member of the 21st

Ode to Joe

