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### Captain's Column

Gentlemen,

Well, another season is in the books. We participated in the Gettysburg parade in November as well as the civil war show in Richmond on the same weekend. I worked the show on Sunday and it was quite slow compared to some we have seen. Tony indicated that there were a few people who expressed interest on Saturday and may have taken fliers. We will see what comes of it. I did manage to secure myself a copy of Worsham's book while I was there, so not a total loss.

Mr. Vice will be conducting his NCO class on Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at my Church. That is the Church where we have our annual meetings. The class begins at 9:00 A.M. and is slated for 4 hours. Please see Mike's article for details.

Please take advantage of the off season to check your gear and either repair or replace any items that need attention.

Respectfully,

Captain Gammon

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

Our one event for November, the Remembrance Day Parade went off well. While the weather was cool, nonetheless, it was sunny and perfect for marching. Reference marching, that went pretty good throughout most of the parade without the constant starting and stopping! Additionally, the drummer with the unit to our rear managed to maintain a decent cadence thru

most of the parade. It was good to have two members of our New England Contingent, Mark Riemer and Bob Gorgone, with us along w/former member Joe Pearson! I want to commend Jeff Pennise for his military bearing as our color bearer.

Note that the F Co Non-Commissioned Officer training course will be held this Saturday in Ashland, VA. Notices have already gone out to those that previously registered with all pertinent information needed for participation. A change in participation is that you should not bring your musket and accoutrements as originally requested, so yes leave those items at home. An additional NCO course will be conducted sometime in 2015 as some F Co members were unable to attend the course in December.

All members now have sometime without active campaigning till March. It's time to take advantage of this temporary respite to improve your kit w/needed replacement items from company inventory, or have those brogans refurbished w/soles or heels. Also a good opportunity to get that rifle-musket in shape w/a good cleaning and oiling before being stuck in that dark closet! Now is certainly the time to have your uniform dry-cleaned, just remember no crease in those trousers!

#### Bits of Useful Information

*Blue and Gray Marching.com* You may well find this website interesting and informative as it has some interesting materials concerning the CS Army taken from records in the National Archives. In particular the Ordnance and Ration Returns give us a much better picture of what service was like in the Army of Northern Virginia.

*Sutler at Ft. Scott.com* This sutler has a very nice CW rubber raincoat currently available in stock which is hard to come by, but very authentic and serviceable. I've owned one since I made a purchase at the April 2012 150<sup>th</sup> Shiloh and have found it most useful. They won't last long!

Rubberized Ponchos and Ground Cloths- Reference the Sutler at Ft. Scott, very shortly 6 ponchos and 3 ground cloths will be available in co inventory, and selling for \$60 for ponchos and \$55 for ground cloths from this sutler. These are produced from the period correct light weight rubberized cloth, and are much lighter and easier to carry than the usual heavy duty stuff usually available to us. Now having said that you need to remember that you have to work at maintaining these rubber cloths, that is, they are constantly curing so they must be stored with corn starch (low cost compared to talcum) or talcum powder coating between the folds. Fail to use the corn starch or talcum powder, and one day the poncho will just stick together and not separate! These are well priced rubber goods and very authentic, but are a special order item for F Company!

*Butternut and Blue.com* An excellent Civil War book dealer dealing w/both currently published and out of print Civil War books in a wide variety of topics. Go on line and request their printed catalog to explore their offerings at your leisure.

Mike Vice  
1<sup>st</sup> Sergeant

#### Ode to Joe

