



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF CO. D, FIRST MINNESOTA REGIMENT, RECREATED



Volume XV Number 3

March 24, 2005

Page 1

### **DUES ARE DUE NOW!**

We are nearing the end of the first quarter of 2005, and there are still folks who have still not paid dues. If you have a red 'X' on the cover of your newsletter, it means that the Treasurer has still not received your 2005 membership dues. If you have not done so, please send your dues to:

Company D, 1st Minnesota  
c/o Bob Gresh  
1715 Cody Dr.  
Silver Spring, MD. 20902

Those failing to remit their dues will be dropped from the rolls and will not receive future newsletters.

Thank your for your cooperation.

### **NEXT ISSUE OF THE LINCOLN GUARDIAN**

Issue number 4 - April 25, 2005



### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

The next events for the company on the 2005 calendar are:

April 16-17, 2005  
Living History Sailor's  
Creek, VA

[HTTP://WWW.DCR.STATE.VA.US/PARKS/SAI  
LORCR.HTM](http://www.dcr.state.va.us/parks/sailorcr.htm)

- See page 2 for more details -

May 6-8, 2005

Battle & Living History  
McDowell, VA

[HTTP://WWW.BATTLEOFMCDOWELL.ORG](http://www.battleofmcdowell.org)

Federal Commander: Chris Piering  
CPIERING@TWCNY@RR.COM

### **WHITE OAK MUSEUM LIVING HISTORY**

By; Sgt James Owens

The weekend of March 5-6, saw 13 soldiers and 6 ladies gather at the White Oak Museum in Stratford County Virginia. The soldiers portrayed members of the 4th New Jersey Volunteer infantry, while the ladies portrayed members of the US Christian Commission. Present from the 1st Minnesota were James Owens and Gary Schwartz.

After a breakfast of oatmeal, bread, fruit, and coffee provided by the Christian Commission, we were divided into squads and in shifts were either drilling or

walking guard. About 12:30, we were formed for lunch and marched to the CC for bean soup, cornbread, fruit, carrot pie, and coffee.

Soon after lunch, we were reformed for foot inspection, and them giving assignments for fatigue duty. Later we were formed for company drill, and gave a firing demonstration for a group of about 10 visitors, many of which were US Marines from nearby Quantico Marine Base. Saturday concluded with a dress parade, after which many participants went into Fredericksburg for supper.

Snow flurries and cloudy skies during the day on Saturday were harbingers of a cold night and that's exactly what we had. However, there was a plentiful supply of firewood and everyone was well equipped with blankets, so there was no great suffering. Sunday morning we awoke to find our parade ground covered with frost and everyone was quick to rekindle fires and shake off the chill. Again we were provided with an excellent breakfast by the ladies of the Christian Commission.

As the sun rose in a cloudless sky, we began our morning routine of squad drill and camp housekeeping.

About 11:00 we were formed up and told to prepare to break camp. At 11:30 we were read orders assigning the 4th NJ as division provost and wagon guard. This ended the event as folks packed up and headed for home.

Thanks to the planning of John Pagano and the other members of the Hardtack Society this event was a success. The only down sides were glitches in the food plan that left everyone uncertain as to what would be provided. In addition, the huts that were allotted to every four men,

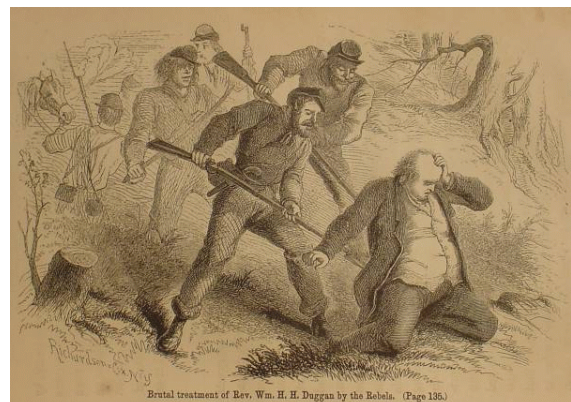
proved neither deep nor wide enough to handle more than three people.

However, despite the minor problems encountered everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. It is planned to have this event again next year and I strongly recommend it to everyone. In the meant time, if you have not visited White Oak Museum, their collection of dug artifacts from Federal camps is well worth the trip.

### ARMS SUPPLIERS INCREASE PRICES

Sgt Owens reports that he recently received the 2005 price list from Taylor & Company, leading wholesalers of black powder firearms. The new dealer price for the reproduction 1861 Springfield is \$465. This is a \$75 increase from the 2004 price. Oddly, the price of a reproduction Springfield bayonet has only gone up \$1 from \$88 to \$89.

Bear in mind that these are dealer prices and do not include shipping. By the time the shipping charges are added on, a price of \$575 for a musket and bayonet is likely for the near future. This is truly bad news for people trying to get into the hobby. It may be prudent for the unit to consider establishing a revolving fund for the purchase used muskets.



**MINNESOTA MEN IN NEED OF SOCKS****U.S. NAVY COME TO THE RESCUE**

For those of you in need of period socks, the below listed socks are among the best factory made examples available today. They are cream color and made of 75% wool and 25% cotton, with ribbing only found on the last 2" from the top. This style, versus the style with ribbing the whole length, is commonly found on original 19th century socks.

US NAVY WOOL SKI SOCKS, stock 8403, price \$6.95 per pair. Available from Soldier City Inc: [WWW.SOLDIERCITY.COM](http://WWW.SOLDIERCITY.COM), or call 1-877-765-2489.

**OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST****MAY 14<sup>th</sup>**

Friends of Fort Ward, civil war book sale, Saturday, 10 am to 3pm. Fort Ward Museum & Historic Site, 4301 West Braddock Road, Alexandria, VA. 22304. 703- 838-4848. Used books available include: Reference, classic & recent publications, biographies, regimental histories, historical fiction.

Donations of Civil War books for the sale are being accepted at the Museum. Receipts are available for tax purposes. All proceeds benefit Fort Ward Museum and Historic Site.

**FREDERICKSBURG, JULY 4 WEEKEND**

We recently received an update on the Fredericksburg event, set for July 4th Weekend. There is an opportunity to buy Hardee hats for this event at a discount. This hat is the preferred headgear for the event. See the link below for more details.

Registering now too, would not be a bad thing.

[HTTP://WWW.122NDNEWYORK.COM/FRED/FRED.HTML](http://WWW.122NDNEWYORK.COM/FRED/FRED.HTML)

For this event a complete Hardee Hat and a leather canteen sling are required. Arrangements have been made to make a special purchase of hats from Tim Bender.

Sgt. Owens has a cheaper source that we have used in the past. It is about half the cost, but requires some work. Interested parties should contact the sergeant for details.

Sgt. Owens can also place a bulk order of hat cords, eagle pins, and hunting horns. In order to get the best price he needs at least six interested buyers.

Finally, Sgt. Owens still reproduces leather canteen slings. The cost to unit members is \$12. These items must be ordered by June 1, for timely delivery.

**Paynes Farm**

You all might recall an article in the January issue of the Guardian in which this event was mentioned. More specifically, an offer for the special purchase of New York State jackets was detailed for your consideration. By the time this issue arrives in your mailbox we will be less than a month from the deadline for ordering a New York State jacket for about \$55 off the regular price. As with the Fredericksburg event your early registration is encouraged. Get in early or get left out. Additional information on this event can be found at the following link:

[HTTP://WWW.STONEWALLBRIGADE.COM/PAYNESFARM.HTML](http://WWW.STONEWALLBRIGADE.COM/PAYNESFARM.HTML)

**ITEMS FOR SALE**

Sgt. Owens offers the following items for sale to the membership. Please contact him directly if you are interested in any of them.

Sack Coat, size 40-42, made of Runt Ann Van Horn indigo blue wool. Use two seasons- \$75.00

Civil War period original "Warranted Flask" with classic separately applied lip, needs cleaning- \$8.00

18th Century 3 tine forks with wood handles, need cleaning but in good condition- \$3.00 each

Handkerchiefs, various colors 20"-22" square, hand sewn- \$3.00 each or 2 for \$5.00

poke bags, various colors, approximately 5X8 inches, \$3.00 each, or two for \$5.00

Civilian drawers made of cotton drill with antique milk glass buttons, size 38, made by Ruth Owens, \$40.00.

**MCDOWELL & BURKITTSVILLE  
REGISTRATION**

At this point we are less than eight weeks from McDowell (May 6-8) if you have not done so, please send in your registration for this event. To do this, go to the event website at

[WWW.BATTLEOFMCDOWELL.ORG](http://WWW.BATTLEOFMCDOWELL.ORG). As of today, there are approximately 150 federal troops registered, 90 of which are from the Potomac Legion.

The registration for Engagement at Burkittsville [September 9-11] is now \$20 per person [effective 3/15]. If you are looking at attending this event, save yourself some money and register early. This event is under two driving time for most of our members so it should be easy to make. It is an outstanding site and the event will be drawing

some quality troops. US Commander is James Owens, CS Commander is Mike Hendricks. To register go to

[WWW.MAINECAV.ORG/EAB](http://WWW.MAINECAV.ORG/EAB).

**FIRE KINDLERS**

To make very nice fire kindlers, take rosin, any quantity, and melt it, putting in for each pound being used, from 2 to 3 ozs. of tallow, and when all is hot, stir in pine saw-dust to make very thick; and, while yet hot, spread it out about 1 inch thick, upon boards which have fine saw-dust sprinkled upon them, to prevent it from sticking. When cold, break up into lumps about 1 inch square. But if for sale, take a thin board and press upon it, while yet warm, to lay it off into 1 inch squares; this makes it break regularly, if you press the crease sufficiently deep, greasing the marking-board to prevent it from sticking.

One of these blocks will easily ignite with a match, and burn with a strong blaze long enough to kindle any wood fit to burn. The above sells readily in all our large towns and cities, at a great profit.

Most of the published recipes call for rosin 3 lbs.; tar 1 qt.; and 1 gill of turpentine; but they make a black, sticky mess of stuff, which always keep the hands daubed. On the other hand, this makes a rosin-colored kindler, which breaks nicely also when cold; and they are decidedly a nice thing; and much more certain to start a fire than shavings. If the tar plan is used, 1 pt. is enough for 5 lbs. of rosin

Taken from: Dr. Chase's Recipes or, Information for Everybody; A.W. Chase M.D.; Tenth Edition; Ann Arbor Michigan, 1864

## **SAILOR'S CREEK LIVING HISTORY ENCAMPMENT.**

With the cancellation of the Pamplin Park program, this will be our April event. At this event we will focus on soldier life on the Appomattox campaign. Our portrayal will be the 49th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry of the 1st Division, 6th Corps, Army of the Potomac. Please be sure you have a red 6th corps badge on your hat or cap. For more info on the 49th, go to (<http://www.rootsweb.com/~pamerker/PA/Military/CivilWar/bates.htm>. Select Volume One and then go to page 1236).

For those of you who have not been there, Sailor's Creek battlefield is located about one hour west of Richmond. It is the site of the April 6, 1865 engagement between the 6th Corps and Cavalry Corps, Army of the Potomac, and Ewell's Corps, and Anderson's & Johnson Divisions of the Army of Northern Virginia. Known as "a black day for the army" the ANV lost nearly 3,400 men killed, wounded, and captured. Robert E. Lee upon watching the fighting from a distance and seeing the disorganized survivors exclaimed to his staff "My God! Has the army been dissolved?" The ANV surrendered three days later at Appomattox.

Today Sailor's Creek battlefield is located in the middle of countryside little changed from 140 years ago. Our camp will be located at the 1771 Hillsman house due north of the creek. This was the site of the start of the battle, and the house was later used as a field hospital. In addition to the normal soldier's life and drill demonstrations, we will be given a special tour of the park by resident Ranger David Born.

Uniform and equipment for this event will be the standard US fatigue uniform with either a forage cap or slouch hat, full marching order and 40 rounds of ammunition. We will not be parking near our camp, so please be prepared to carry in what you need. Remember, the Federals were traveling fast and had cut down their baggage to the minimum needed, so pack carefully. Also watch the weather to see if you need an overcoat.

Rations of salt pork and hardtack will be provided, so we need a head count. Corporal Penrod ([tristan\\_503@hotmail.com](mailto:tristan_503@hotmail.com)) will coordinate getting folks in southern Virginia to the event. Sergeant Owens ([jdo@npmhu.org](mailto:jdo@npmhu.org)) will coordinate the folks from the Washington area. Citizen Westbrook ([rwestb@mfire.com](mailto:rwestb@mfire.com)) is organizing a carpool from his home in Manassas. Please contact one of these folks if you plan to attend.

We need a good turnout from the group for this if we are to do any meaningful drill. Also this will be change for us to get a new photo for our recruiting brochure, so please give this your best effort.

For more information on the battle I recommend The Appomattox Campaign, March 29-April 9, 1865 by Chris M. Calkins. Great Campaigns Series, DaCapo Press, 1997. Available at all major bookstores or from [www.EdwardRHamilton.com](http://www.EdwardRHamilton.com).



**LIVING HISTORY -  
SAILORS CREEK LIVING HISTORY, RICE, VA.**

**DATE:       APRIL 15-17, 2005**

**DETAILS:   Friday, April 15**

          11am - 2pm School Programs

**Saturday, April 16**

          9am:           Camps Open to the Public

          11am:          Drill at Confederate Camp

          2pm:           Drill in the Union Camp

          9am to 5pm: Camp and Soldier Life

          9am to 5pm: Hillsman House - Civilians

**Sunday, April 17 Activities**

          9am:           Camps Open to the Public

          1PM:           Drill at Confederate Camp

          2pm:           Drill in the Union Camp

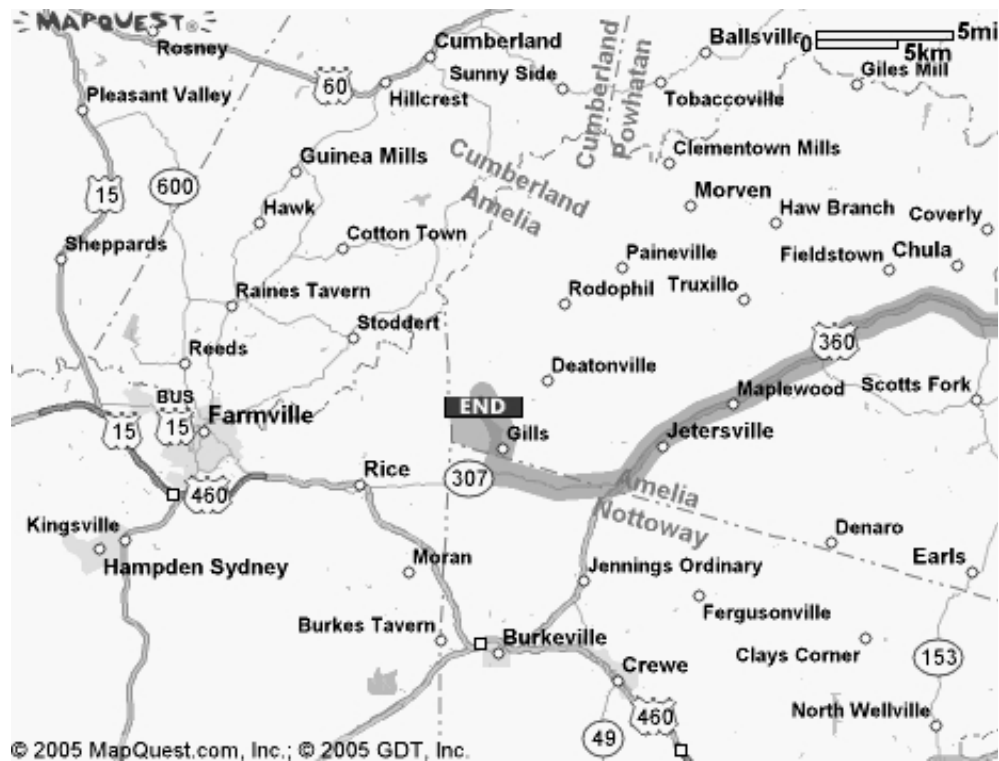
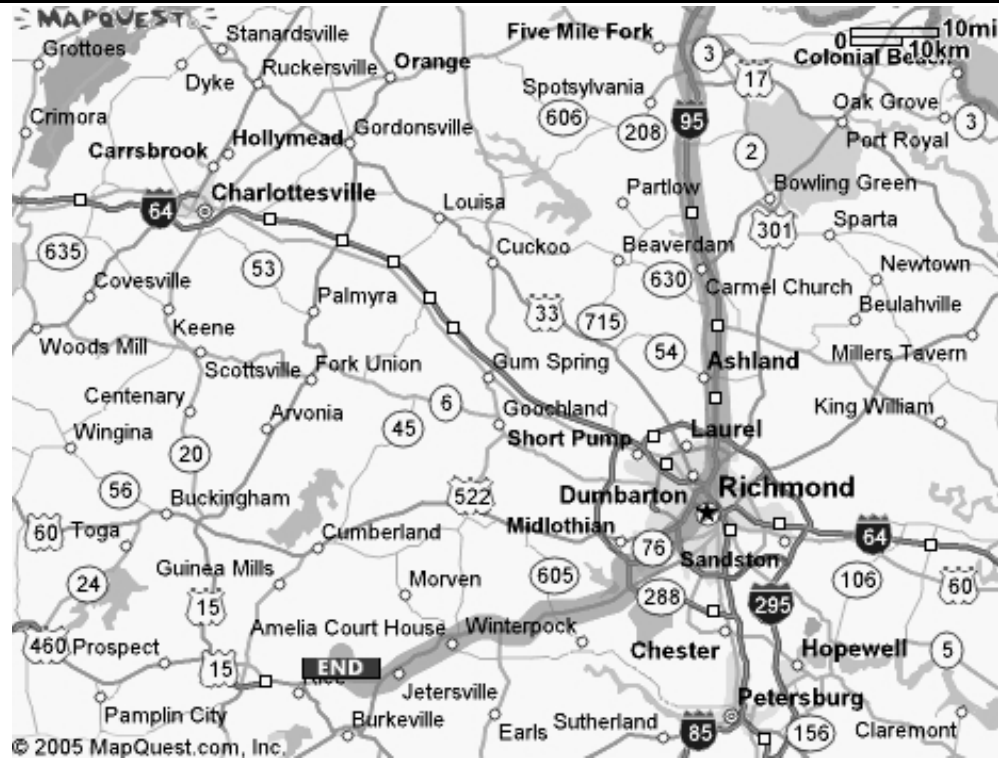
          9am to 3pm: Camp and Soldier Life

          9am to 3pm: Hillsman House - Civilians

**DIRECTIONS:**

**From the Washington DC area:** Take I-95 south(about 74miles) to the I-64 West/I-195 South exit- EXIT 79- toward Powhite Parkway/Charlottesville. Merge onto I-195 South via EXIT 186 on the LEFT toward Powhite Parkway. Take VA-76 South/Beltline Expressway toward VA-150/Powhite Parkway/US-60/US-360 (about 12 miles). Merge onto VA-76 South. Merge onto VA-288 S toward I-95/Chesterfield/VA-360/Amelia(about 31 miles). Merge onto US-360 West toward Amelia. Turn slight right onto VA-307. Turn right onto North Genito Road. Turn left onto James Town Road. Total distance about 155 miles.

**From the Richmond area:** Directions are largely the same as above excluding references to I-95 South. Take VA-76 South/Beltline Expressway toward VA-150/Powhite Parkway/US-60/US-360 (about 12 miles). Merge onto VA-76 South. Merge onto VA-288 S toward I-95/Chesterfield/VA-360/Amelia(about 31 miles). Merge onto US-360 West toward Amelia. Turn slight right onto VA-307. Turn right onto North Genito Road. Turn left onto James Town Road. Total distance about 57 miles.



**Robert Westbrook, Editor  
The Lincoln Guardian  
11201 Rienzi Place -203  
Manassas, VA 20109**