



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

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NEXT ISSUE

January 26, 2006

UPCOMING EVENTS

The next event for the company:

January, 2006

ANNUAL MEETING

2006 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

The Company D, 1st Minnesota annual business meeting will be held on Saturday, January 7, 2006, from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. The location will be the home of James aunt at 10610 Nash Place, Kensington, Maryland. A map and direction can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

Topics to be covered will include:

- Future of the unit
- Election of officers
- Unit finances
- 2006 calendar of events

Please be sure to bring a notebook and pen, as well as your work-school-family schedule.

As customary, we will send out for pizza at lunchtime. Following the meeting there will be a tour of the Owens workshop and armory for those interested.

There is much to cover in this meeting so please try to arrive on time. Please RSVP James no later than January 3, 2006.

If you have any questions, contact James at jdo@npmhu.org, or (301) 681-7462.

POSSIBLE 2006 EVENTS

Included with this newsletter is a listing of possible 2006 events. Please take a moment to look this over. We can not do all of these events so think carefully about which ones you would like to do. As usual, the majority vote will determine which one we do. If there are any events you would like to add to this list for consideration, please contact James ASAP.

ON SALE

Complete sets of The Company Wag. Published from 1988-1992 by The Mudsills, this publication was ground breaking in its study of the material culture of the Federal Soldier, and paved the way for later publication like the Columbia Rifles Compendium. Although The Mudsills focus was the western Federal soldier, much of the information is also applicable to the east. Out of print for years now you can own a complete set (something James does not even have) for the modest price of \$15.00 postpaid.

Federal Infantry Overcoats. Right now Jersey Skillet Licker is taking orders for custom made overcoats by Mike Anderson. Based in Utah, Mike is has been collecting and reproducing uniform items for years, and has served with the 1st Minnesota on several trips to eastern events. The coat being offered is based on an original in Mike's collection and is marked 'E.

Tracy/Phil'a/Oct. 21st, 64'. Although produced late in the war, this coat does not differ from ones produced earlier. It is warm and serviceable and a bargain at \$295 plus shipping.
<http://www.skilletlicker.com>

Military vests remain on sale at the store of C.J. Daley. Normally \$130, the sale reduces the cost to \$85. Visit Mr. Daley's site at <http://www.cjdaley.com/vests.htm> For more information.

Matt Woodburn is offering his reproduction Julius Jones blankets for \$85 each plus shipping through the end of the year. They are regularly \$95 so you're saving \$10. This blanket was copied from the original carried by Pvt. Julius Jones of company C, 14th Illinois Infantry. All the details are at his website

<http://www.hometown.aol.com/rmwoodburn/myhomepage/sale.html>

In addition to the reduced price Jones blankets, Mr. Woodburn is offering seconds from a blanket run that he commissioned. These slightly irregular - see his site - blankets are available for \$75 while supplies last. If that was not good enough Mr. Woodburn also has a limited number of these very same blankets, with small holes for \$65. So, if you are really looking for that Campaign look, \$75 post paid gets you a blanket complete with ready made wear. Seriously.

MEMORIAL MARCH 2005

Let me start saying thanks to one and all. It did this old man's heart good to see all of you there. The weather was great for marching and the people attending were fantastic. As we left the Peach Orchard I took a rough head count and came up with 20 men in the formation. And I know that we picked up at least three more as we went along. Keeping in step was a little rough at times as this was our drummer's first time out. But on a whole we did ourselves and I believe those that we honored proud.

I have one sour note to pass on. Terri and I went back over the march route and found that at two of the monuments our flags and wreaths had been removed and replaced by others. Some people just don't get it!

So again let me thank you one and all for joining us on our march. And please consider joining us again next year.

The unit narrators contributed immensely to the success of our day-- Chris Benedetto, Dave Townsen, Joe Bordonaro, Chris Piering James Owens & Rob Grandchamp.

I would like to thank Kim Sebestyn for the cider, Teresa Piering for being our "embedded" photographer, & Deb Mosher for the bread, cheese & cookies (she knows we have a sweet tooth).

Your Obedient Servant;

Douglas A. Oakes

Potomac Legion Meeting
November 12, Elmira, NY.

The 2005 annual Potomac Legion business meeting was held at the home of John Toby in Elmira, NY. For a number of reasons it was not as well attended as in past years, but there was at least one person present from each PL group, with the exception of Company I.

Due to the need to have a quorum of officers present, the agenda was altered and the election of officers was made the first order of business. The Officers for 2006 are:

President, Dave Townsen,
Columbia Rifles
Vice Pres., Dave Myrick,
1st Maine Cavalry
Secretary, Bill Watson,
Company I
Member at large, John Pell,
122nd NY.
Member at large, Nic Ellis,
83rd PA.

A letter was read from former Vice President Mark Pflum, Ringgold LHA, concerning the disbanding of his unit. The representatives present gave Mark a vote of confidence and an invitation to participate with the PL whenever possible.

The 2005 season was reviewed, and it was felt that a number of issues conspired to make turnouts less than anticipated. However the official PL events went off fairly well and those present had a good time.

Events for 2006 were discussed and although there were a number of things happening, it was felt that few would be good ones for the PL as a whole. The following were voted as official PL events for 2006:

June 2-4

Cross Keys-Port Republic
Harrisonburg, VA.

July 14-16

Rich Mountain
East Central, WV.

August 11-13

2nd Manassas living history
Manassas NB, VA.

The PL insurance policy through the National Rifle Association will continue, with Marc Riddell of the 83rd PA handling that. A small price increase is expected but nothing excessive.

Other issues discussed included unit representation and a possible attendance requirement at events. It was decided no action should be taken on these issues at this time.

James' January Sale

At the annual meeting on January 7th, James Owens will offer his annual box of civil war items for sale. This years offering is bigger than last year, and includes books, eating utensils, poke bags, and many other items.

All items are priced to sell. If you don't like the price, make an offer.

PAST EVENTS

Remembrance Day, November 19, Gettysburg, PA.

The unit closed out its 2005 activities with a trip to Gettysburg for Remembrance Day. This year, instead of marching in the parade and then going to our unit monument, we participated in the 3rd annual Memorial March, sponsored by the Living History Guild of Elmira, NY. The march started from the famous Peach Orchard on the Emmittsburg Road, at 10:00. The column of 25 participants made stops at the monuments to the 2nd NH, 86th NY, 116th PA, 5th NH, 12th US, 1st PA Reserves, 83rd PA, 2nd RI, and 1st MN. At each stop a brief narrative of the unit's service was read and a wreath & flag placed. Support for the program was supplied by the ladies of the LHG and our own Kim Sebestyen, who provided us with an excellent lunch on the north slope of Little Round Top.

Following the end of the march at 2:00, we regrouped at the gatehouse of Evergreen Cemetery for a visit to the graves of Marcus Past and William Allen of Company D, who lie in the soldiers section of the cemetery. Following this we proceeded to the Minnesota plot in the National Cemetery where letters from 1st Sgt. James Wright and Lt. Col. Charles Adams were read and honors rendered.

After visiting the sutlers and drinks at the Holiday Inn bar, we gathered for dinner in the Abigail Adams room of the Dobbin House, where we were joined by Donna Nangle and Nic & Kate Ellis. After a delicious dinner and much conversation, we adjourned to our homes or various evening entertainments.

Present were Owens, Penrod, Schwartz, Sebestyen, with a delayed appearance by Bob Gresh.

Payne's Farm

Event report from Carter Bertone

On the afternoon of November 28, soldiers of the 151st New York Infantry began to assemble about 5 miles south of Payne's farm. The Regimental Color Sergeant immediately posted pickets, and began issuing rations in preparation for the anticipated march north. The 151st settled in for a cold night where the temperatures dropped into the upper 30's. The only action that night consisted of our pickets driving off an inebriated civilian who demanded entry to the camp.

Reveille was sounded promptly at 6AM on the 29th and the men commenced morning fatigue duty. After several hours of drill, the regiment began the march north buoyed by the martial strains of the regimental band. After nearly three miles, the Regiment halted in a grassy field about one mile from our planned destination. After an hour or so we continued the march. Upon arriving at our destination we were quickly formed behind a row of trees overlooking a large field.

Soon after arriving we came under fire from rebel forces concealed in the woods opposite our position. Our commander immediately deployed skirmishers and returned the enemy fire. Though they put up a gallant fight, our skirmish line was driven back and the regiment was rushed forward to engage the enemy force that was advancing to our front. The battle raged between our two lines for over an hour, and our casualties soon began to mount up as our ammunition supply was quickly diminished.

Realizing our force was running short of ammunition and dark was quickly approaching our commander ordered us to pull back to establish a defensive position. Pickets were sent out and soon parties were sent forward to retrieve our wounded comrades. Once brought back to camp, the

wounded where treated by the Regimental Surgeon and his assistants. They were made as comfortable as possible as the night settled in. Once again, the night was unbearably cold. Our shivering soldiers awoke early on Sunday and were marched back on to the field of battle to participate in a ceremony recognizing the organizers of the weekend's activities and commemorating those soldiers who fought and died in the actual battle. A great time was had by all that participated.

Vermont Civil War Documentary

The new documentary Noble Hearts: Civil War Vermont, premiered on Vermont Public Television on December 5th, and will be rerun on December 10, 11 & 14. Those of you who participated in the Burkittsville event in September will recall Caro Thompson and her crew from VPT filming the event. The film is now complete and was the subject of a special screening on December 1, in the state capitol, Montpelier.

The film focuses on the role of Vermont citizens in the war, both in the military and on the home front. Filmed on location in Vermont, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia, it is narrated by noted Vermont Civil War author Howard Coffin, with contributions by other Civil War authors.

For more information on this production, go to <http://www.vpt.org/programs/noblehearts.html> The film is not listed on the VPT online store, but check after January 1 for details on ordering a copy.

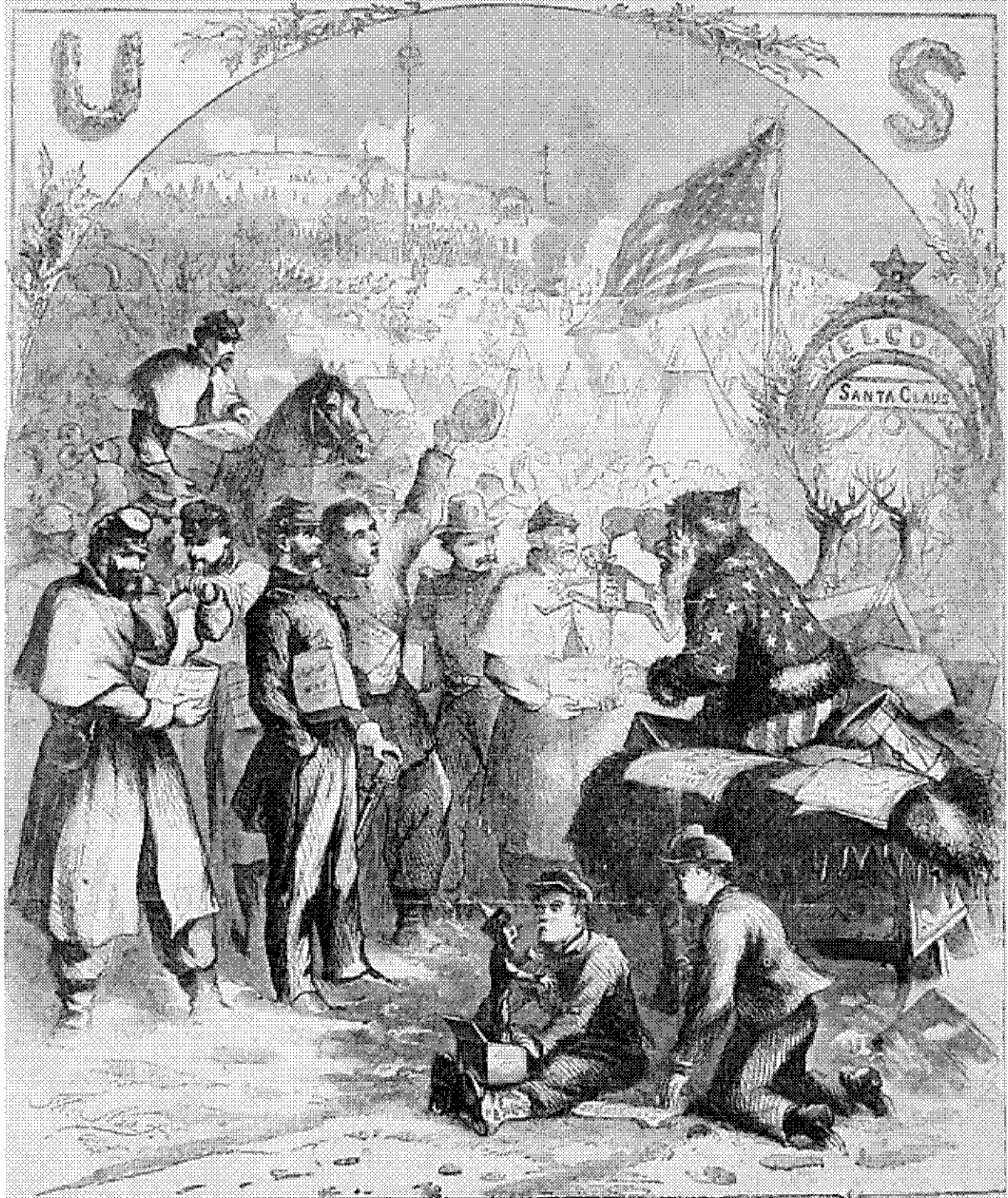
Civil War Historian

For those who have not seen it, Civil War Historian is the newest magazine devoted to our hobby and has already set a new standard for this type of publication.

A quarterly, full color publication, CWH features articles from around the country about events, material culture, museums and preservation. Its scope is broad and it features articles of interest to both men and women in the hobby. The magazine also has events listings, and ads for some of the better vendors of clothing & equipment.

The next issue will feature an article by James Owens about the Petersburg NB living history we hosted in July. Photos are by Bob Clayton of Sykes Regulars. What does James' article say? BUY THE MAGAZINE so you can find out! You will not be disappointed!

For more information on Civil War Historian, go to www.civilwarhistorian.com



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