

The Rebellion Crier

Newsletter of 16th Virginia, Co D. and 41st Virginia, Co F
Volume 2, Number 5 – Nov. 09, 2007

A Letter from the Colonel



Attention
Brigade!

As you were!!

Hello, men of
the 16th, the
41st, and soon
to be added
to the news
letter, the

61st Virginia. Well, let's start with hello everyone! I hope this letter finds everyone in good spirits and good health! We are now winding down from the 2007 season. With Cedar Creek and Ft. Branch behind us, it only means one thing. OUR CHRISTMAS EVENT will soon be here. We are almost ready. We will have a one day work day out there at the old fair grounds where we had the event last year. The date will be Sunday December 2, 2007 at 9 am. Now, on to Cedar Creek. We arrived Friday afternoon and put up our tents. Just in time for the heavy rains that fell that evening. Saturday was a beautiful day. We re-enacted the battle of Cedar Creek on Saturday this year. I personally thought it sucked. It just did not seem to have the same feeling as in the past. We had our Battalion meeting and the first 2nd Battalion Dinner after the meeting. It was great to see everyone having such a good time together. As for the meeting, we passed the new bylaws. We also had our elections. No changes were made to the field staff. Later we went to the Heater house and told ghost stories and placed the Halloween jack o' lantern on the porch as we have for many years. Thanks Mark for not forgetting the pumpkin. On

Sunday we presented the 41st Va. its first battle flag. Also, Chaplin JC Kimmer conducted church services in the camp. He did a great job! Thank you JC. The battle Sunday was better than Saturday's battle. Over all on a scale of 1 to 10, I give it a 5. I have seen better Cedar Creeks!! Now on to Ft. Branch! We arrived Friday evening. It was windy and chilly. We got our tent up and soon went to bed. We got up early Saturday morning for the guys to drill that they would never use. The battle for the public was done on Saturday afternoon. Not like the old days when it was done on Sunday. The battle sucked!! The commander that I will not name was a command hog. He never allowed for wing commanders or did he let the company commanders command their troops. He screwed up constantly. Lt. Rejuney and I stood in the rear taking note of how much of a command hog he was. The dinner Saturday night was OK! We had fun in the camp as always. Sunday we were up early again for a tactical that was more scripted!! It sucked as well. After this so called tactical we went back to camp and packed and went home. I was home by 2:30. That was weird! On a scale of 1 to 10 I give Ft. Branch a 4! I know now that I have not missed anything in the past 10 years at Ft. Branch. It will probably be 10 years, if then, if I ever go back! The 41st and the 61st have done their elections. Congratulations to all. The 16th will be having theirs at the Christmas event. We will also have an election for Mahone Brigade Commander. I will be heading to the ANV Convention November 9-10 to represent our Battalion. Your company commanders will be there to

represent your companies as well. After the meetings, we will know what events for next year to look forward to. I wish a Happy Thanksgiving to you all and to your families. I will see you all soon. Until then! Keep warm & get those rounds made!

I remain your obedient servant,
sirs!

Colonel Billy Smith

A letter from Captain Pierce

Well, let's start with Cedar Creek. As you know, they started with Saturday's battle and it was a great fight. I thought it would never end. And Sunday's fight was just as good. And as always the camp life was as fun as always even the two skunks that were running around.

Fort Branch - well, it didn't do a lot for me. I have seen better there, but as always being with the guys made up for things. The meal was great. Christmas - please guys don't forget to bring your food, and as you know we haven't had elections yet, but we will have them at this event.

Until next time

Your obedient servant

Capt. Ron Pierce
16th VA. Co. D

A letter from Captain Dufresne

Gentlemen!

Greetings from the Captain.

Gentlemen, I am proud to tell you the 41st was presented our colors by Col. Smith at Battalion formation. The 41st was Color Company for the weekend. We were a fighting color company. The weather was nice. I

want to thank JC for the wonderful service he gave on Sunday morning. The Battalion meal was very nice Saturday night. Of course, we had the Battalion elections. The officers will remain the same for next year. Sunday morning the IWSAS provided breakfast for those who signed up. The battles were good. Now on to Fort Branch. Our turn out was not very good, only two of us from the 41st. I understand those who had to work. We did the BLUE suit thing, felt funny but just remembering that the Carolina boys did it for us at Cold Harbor, it felt right to return the favor. It was nice to live in my dog tent for a change. Light was the way to go for this event. Our camps were split, half over here and half over there, but it all worked out in the end. The weather was nice, just right for the great coat. I won't comment on the battle or the tactical on Sunday. Come out to the Christmas event to hear the story from me. The good part was we all went home early Sunday. As of this date, it looks like the 41st will have about 15 men for the Christmas event. We have two old friends from the 32Va Co I Provost one of our sister companies who will be joining us for the weekend and may be permanent members as well. Remember, we all need to recruit to build up the company. If you have somebody you know, talk to them. Looking forward to seeing you all next month. Have a Happy Thanksgiving.

Yours in Service

Capt. Armand Dufresne
41st VA. CO. F

**From the desk of the
Quartermaster**

Hope this letter finds all of

you doing well. I have a few days off from work because of a shipyard accident in the foundry. The furnace was burning a type of metal that smokes very badly and I got caught in the crane and ingested too much smoke. By the time I got out of the crane, I got to take a ride in the ambulance to the hospital. The doctor's don't believe that any long term damage has been done to my lungs but the results of the x-rays and blood tests have not come back . The big problem right now that could keep me out of work is that I coughed so hard that I my have a Hernia. That would require that I have an operation. Anyway, we have a lot to cover this month. The wheels are turning wide open concerning the Christmas event. The beginnings of the spring event are also in the works and will pick up after the Christmas event. I am working on several things at this time concerning the unit. Capt. Smith checked with members at Fort Branch about what food to bring at Christmas. I will list only the names that were not confirmed at Ft. Branch :

Tommy Mullen ham
Gary turkey
R. Cox ham
Alton turkey
RJ ham
Scott turkey,
Steve Gates rolls
Greg Smith ham
R. Jones turkey
Sadecki turkey
Jim Iman ham
Troy Brewer turkey
Bryan Cole ham
Adam Zalonis turkey Remember, these are the people that have not been confirmed. Also remember to bring two large cans of green beans and potatoes. The 61st as a unit will be bringing breads, pies and paper plates. Also the ladies will be bringing deserts At the end of this

letter I will put my e-mail address so you can contact me if you have any problems with my list. Next item to cover is we are still saving aluminum cans. We will be turning these in during the month of December after one year of collecting. I am also working on the Christmas parade through downtown Smithfield. This year the 61st will also be joining us and I hope we can pick up a few more. We are also going to have a bus from the County to take us to the event so we will not have to ride in our own cars. Along with the duties of the Quartermaster I will also be performing the duties of the 2nd Battalion Engineer with the rank of Captain during ANV events. I will also take on the responsibility for the recruiting for the unit. I will not, in the beginning, do the 41st, they are doing quite well on their own, but will try to help to increase the numbers of the 16th and to start the 12th when the time is right. I will recruit for all the companies trying to place these new guys where the fit is the best. Now is the best time to make sure everyone understands that it does not matter to me where they would go, but what would be best for the unit and the new recruit. We all know that picking up new people and then keeping them is very difficult to do. Mark has added a "button" on our web site that can be clicked on if someone wants more info about us. I have made up information sheets that can be given out at events or be mailed out and I am also working on a "brochure" that we can have on hand to give out to people that might like to join us. I am sure that most of us understand this but it bears repeating - we are all recruiters for this hobby. It is up to all of us to promote this unit and hobby and to take

any new members under our wing
to help them learn and to make
them feel like a part of us.
If you find someone who might
like to join us please let me
know and if you don't want to
handle it give me the
information and I will send them
the information about joining
us.

See ya at the Christmas event.

Quartermaster Sgt. Tim Downey

2007 Schedule

Dec. 8th - 9th - Christmas event. IWC