

Southern Heritage

Newsletter of 32nd Virginia, Co H. (Warwick Beauregards)
Volume 12, Number 5 – November 17, 2005

A Letter from the Captain

Attention Company!

At Ease!



Well, it's hard to believe that we're at the end of another season. This will be the final issue and will cover the last few

events and our last event for this year. First off, Cedar Creek. The company voted to change our unit designation from 32nd Virginia, Company H to 16th Virginia, Company D, effective January 1, 2006. We also held our company elections. All positions remain the same. Ray Steveson was voted Ordnance Sgt. and Tim Downey was voted Quartermaster. Congratulations to all who were nominated and elected. I, and the officers and NCOs, are all looking forward to working with you next year. Battalion officers were also selected during this event. I was honored to be selected as Colonel. Al Kasper will be Lt Colonel. Bill McElwee was selected for Major. I look forward to working with my new staff and to an exciting 2006 season. And it will be exciting, as you'll see. The event itself was a good one. We had a good turn out from the company. On a scale of one to ten, I'd give it a seven. The battle was somewhat "iffy" on Saturday, but Sunday's was really good.

Ghost Walk. Many folks have said this was the best Ghost Walk ever done! That's funny because we basically just

threw it together at the last minute! I want to thank all of you who came out to help. Although we were rained out on Friday, we raised \$5000.00 on Saturday – over 760 people came through on Saturday night. Many thanks to Endview for providing our dinner of Domino's pizza on Saturday. No drinks, no plates, no napkins – just pizza in the box. Sounds like Endview, doesn't it? Next year, we will be doing our Ghost Walk and the money will be going into the company coffers!

Next, Locust Grove. We portrayed Federal and I got to be a rifle toting private again. And I loved it! We got to burn powder and it felt great to have the old smoothbore .69 on my shoulder, even if it was like hauling around a gun from the *Bismarck*. There were some loud reports coming from our ranks and I asked the 79th N.Y. if it was artillery behind us. They said "Heck no, the artillery shut down after you started firing that cannon you're carrying!" Over all, it was a great time. The weather was perfect. The battles were a bit silly, but what did you expect? After all, we were dismounted cavalry, right? Mike Kelly commanded the 79th, and we learned about dismounted cavalry tactics. This event brought back many good memories and gave me a new enthusiasm for re-enacting. I'd give the event a 6.

Next, the ANV convention. Tony represented the company and I represented the Battalion. Greg Smith of the 61st was also there as Adjutant. We went up for the day. We arrived just as the meeting got started. Insurance rates will stay the same for next year. For your

information, there are over 3400 members in the ANV, making us one of the largest groups on the East coast. We have 10 Battalions of infantry and 44 field pieces, with 5 more possibly by the end of the year. General Tolar was re-elected. The big event next year is First Manassas. It will be held at Cedar Creek. The ANV is hosting and putting it on - by re-enactors - for re-enactors! It will not be like the last First Manassas fiasco. The registration fee is \$15 each and I have to have the money in hand at our Christmas event. This \$15 will be deducted from next year's dues (see dues section below). There is a cutoff limit of 12,000 participants, so it is critical that if you want to go, you have to pay at our Christmas event. We also had a Battalion meeting while at the convention. We decided to have battalion dues - a one time fee of \$2.50. This will be used to start up the pot of funds that we'll use to fund 50-50 raffles, etc., which will then go back in the pot, building up a fund chest for the Battalion. The ANV decided that 12 year olds will be allowed on the field, unarmed, if under the supervision of an adult, and only in the following positions: color guard, messenger, guidon, drummer or field music. No rifles and no side arms permitted. A significant ruling is, if the Colonel feels unsafe conditions on the battlefield warrant, he may pull his troops off and take them back to camp, no questions asked. A good example was the fiasco at the last First Manassas when they had us standing in the heat, baking for two hours while they got organized. Also, morning tacticals will be at the Colonel's discretion. Finally, the Battalion schedule for next

year is set (see schedule section).

Our last event for this year is Christmas in the Field at Endview. Each man must bring a fully cooked and sliced ham or turkey. Which you bring will be assigned by Armand. You must call him at 366-8907 as soon as possible to find out what is needed. Again, whichever you bring, it has to be cooked and sliced. You must also bring a can of Hanover green beans and potatoes. This is going to be our last Christmas event at Endview, so let's all make sure it is our best ever. We will be doing the battle of Young's Mill on Saturday and Newmarket Bridge on Sunday. These were early war events, so let's keep it as close to period as we can, uniform and equipment wise.

In closing, I wish for each of you, and your families, the best for the Holiday season, and hope you all have a wonderful and prosperous New Year.

I remain your obedient servant, sirs!

Capt. B. R. Smith
Commanding Officer
Company H
32nd Regiment of Virginia
Volunteers

SCHEDULE 2005

December - 10th and 11th -
Christmas in the Field

POWDER

I have powder available for \$7.00 a pound. Contact me if you want any. Much better deal than

the \$7.00 a pound Mark charges.
Billy Smith.

SCHEDULE 2006

March 18-19 Endview Battalion
event

April (days TBD) Plymouth, NC
Company event

May (days TBD) Ft. Pocahontas
Company event

June 9-11 Hanover, NC - Dixie
Days - battle of Shady Grove
Road - Battalion event -
battalion going Federal and
being paid for it!

July 21-23 at Cedar Creek -
First Manassas - ANV event

August - open

September 9-10 - Chesapeake
Civil War Days - Company event

September 23-24 Stanardsville -
Battalion event

October 20-22 Cedar Creek ANV
event

November 4-5 Locust Grove
Company event

December 9-10 Heritage Park,
Isle of Wight - Company event.

DUES

Dues for next year are due by
January 31, 2006. Total dues are
\$62.50. (\$2.50 battalion, 62.00
ANV). For those going to First
Manassas, who pay their \$15.00
at the Christmas event, your
dues will be \$47.50, due by
January 31, 2006.

MONEY OWED

The following owe \$7.00 each to
Billy:

Scott Downs
Jim Iman
Jonathan Shepard
Brett Taylor
Robert Vernon
Kathy Dufresne
Bob Vazquez

Doughty Christmas Open House

Mark and Missy have once again
extended their gracious
hospitality and are holding a
Christmas open house on December
17th. Please contact Mark at
markd32nd@yahoo.com with numbers
of attendees.

Company History Donations

If any one has photos or any
items from any events that they
would like to donate to the
company history, please get them
to me. The history is only as
good as you help make it.
Thanks. Vince Abruzzese.