

MINUTES
12TH US INFANTRY, CO. A - BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Liverpool Masonic Temple
608 Oswego Street, Liverpool, NY

DECEMBER 6, 2005

Attendance: Jim Hurd, Neil MacMillan, Peg Reilly, Paul Killius, Maria Killius, Jim Duran, Pamela Crane, Charles Poltenson

- **Call to Order/Additions to Agenda:** The meeting was called to order by Jim Hurd at 7:05 PM. There were no additions to the agenda.
- **Treasurers Report (Peg Reilly):** We have a balance of \$2,066.14 as of 12/6/05.
- **Secretary's Report (Sgt. Poltenson):** USV Dues were paid. A sympathy card was sent to Col. Rathbun on behalf of the unit. Rich's Dad was killed in Harrisburg on I-81 returning from Cedar Creek. Our insurance policy is renewed and current. The Minutes of the previous meeting from June was provided.
- **Section Reports**
 - **1st. Sgt. MacMillan:** Need to revise section. The only communication to date has been with Major Allen.
 - **Capt. Hurd:** Communicated with Sgt. Browka about taking over section. Tom is willing but primarily for administrative purposes. Tom wishes to focus on recruiting Sgt. and Chaplain duties.
 - **Lt. Killius (includes Venture):** Will call everyone prior to drill. Will coordinate with Sgt. Poltenson and Cpl. Stowe. Requested Private Rock-Blake be added to his section form the Field Music.
 - **Pampered Chef Fundraiser (Deadline December 7th):** This fundraiser concludes tomorrow and the Venture Crew can use the support.
 - **Cpl. Duran:** There was a discussion of Newark Valley and the issues we dealt with in 2005. There is a need for the military to have the field for its activities. Further discussion will ensue. There was also a discussion of a possible live shoot at the 2006 event. Improved facilities are being constructed. David and Kyle are doing well but are involved in many activities. They hope to be back for Bull Run. Armstrongs are doing very well.
 - **1st Sgt. Boris:** Was absent, but Cpl. Duran gave a report for him. Fifers are doing well. Pete bought the equipment formerly held by the Terry's.
 - **Civilians:** No report at this time.
- **12th US Command Update (Capt. Hurd):** Major Allen has stepped down as CO. Jim Hurd is acting CO. Capt. Hurd requested that the CO to be elected at the February meeting along with the Corporate officers. The board concurred with that action. Maria Killius and Peg Reilly will be Co-Chairs of the Elections Committee for 2006. It was

also determined that Jr. Officers and non-coms will serve at the pleasure of the CO. It was recognized and agreed that a new CO could make changes if he so desired.

- **USV Update (Capt. Hurd):** The USV elections are coming up in January and Captain Childs has been nominated to be a wing commander with the rank of Major. This will open up the Line Company Commander position. The board agreed that we would support whomever Dave Childs recommended. A brief discussion ensued regarding possible by-laws changes to bring the USV into lin with the structure of the ANV. However that may cause issues with our alliance with the 4th US. Further information will be coming out of the USV meeting and will be reported at a following meeting.
- **By-Laws Amendments (Capt. Hurd):** A discussion of how to address by-laws changes regarding elections took place. A suggestion of creating a By-Laws Committee annually to review and bring forth proposals was made and adopted. Neil MacMillan was requested to head up the By-Laws Committee. Currently he is the only member, but additional members will be added.
- **Old Business**
 - **Christmas Party (Pamela Crane):** The ladies will have a contingent setting up the decorations at the Lodge on Friday the 16th. Sgt. Poltenson will look for the tree. The Lodge is having a “Breakfast with Santa” on Saturday, but the Ballroom will not be used. Any last minute setting up can be taken care of after BWS. Section Leaders will call all their sections and get reservations as Saturday the 10th is the cut-off. Neil suggested an award for lifetime achievement be given to Major Allen. The Board approved a sum, not to exceed \$100, be provided to obtain a plaque. Capt. Hurd will take care of it.
 - **Erie Canal 2006 (Lt. Killius):** Maria and Paul Killius will be managing the event in 2006. The event is invitational due to the growing size. The artillery unit that was a safety hazard last year has disbanded. Several items were discussed including the elimination of porta-johns by opening up some of the houses with facilities, restricting use of walkie-talkies on the filed, artillery fire in the town, and crowd control. There was also a discussion on whether to provide rations. A Committee of Lt. Killius and Sgt. Hurd will research and advise the Board. Pamela Crane provided the names of a caller and Dulcimer player to provide music for the dance.
 - **Peterboro 2006 (1st Sgt. MacMillan):** Confederates are still an issue. A pass-in-review has been proposed in lieu of flag raising/impaling of non-coms. A discussion of providing rations also took place for this event. The Committee of Two noted above will report on feasibility.
 - **Roster Updates and Restructuring (All):** Capt. Hurd requested everyone to look at the database and roster and send updates. Neil requested they be sent to him and then he will send them to Jim. Dues need to be paid before February 1st to remain on the roster. Any Section restructuring must be on a regional basis.
 - **Elections (All):** This was covered under “Command Update”.

- **Phone Tree (All):** The Board determined that a flow chart be developed so that everyone can be contacted in a timely manner.
- **Newsletter Progress (1st. Sgt. MacMillan):** Neil is working on one. Does not anticipate one getting out until after the holidays. Has received some articles. Has asked Larry to do an outgoing “Commanders Column”. He wants to do a civilian column in each issue.
- **New Business**
 - **Committees for upcoming season events (Lt. Killius):** A discussion took place regarding expanding the active committee members to general membership, not just the board. This would avoid burn-out and give a greater sense of buy-in from the general membership. It also allows us to use the talent that’s out there and underutilized. Members of Committees can attend Board meetings.
 - **Retirement/Promotion of Major Allen (All):** Neil suggested that Larry be given the rank of Colonel for local events. A discussion of his USV rank also ensued and the Board left the decision until after the USV meeting. Larry may be given that or a different rank as USV staff. A message from David Childs indicated he would like to see Larry get his rank at Bull Run. Rank was deferred until the next meeting.
 - **Gettysburg Casino Letter (Sgt. Poltenson):** At Remembrance Day we were approached by the No-Casino Gettysburg campaign. The Secretary thought it might be useful to write a letter opposing the casino on behalf of the unit. The letter was written and submitted to the Board. A suggestion was made that it be brought to the drill session on December 10th and have anyone who is there sign it. Two letters will be written. One for the governor of Pennsylvania and the second for the Gaming Commission. Two versions will be provided. One for single signature in case drill is light and a second in case turnout is solid.
 - **Propose making a donation at the end of 2006 to Cedar Creek's preservation or battlefield preservation in general. (Pamela Crane):** Pamela suggested this might be a worthy use of any fund raising activities or profits to enhance preservation. It was noted other units do this from time to time. A supporting suggestion was to look at donating to the Civil War Preservation Trust where matching dollars are involved. Further discussion ensued that we might not want to use 12th US dues or funds to achieve this. Concern was expressed about the impact on our budget. The item was tabled for future consideration. As we have never had a budget a Budget Committee was established with one member, Peggy Reilly. Additional members will be solicited later.
- **Good of the Order:** Jim Hurd, Linda Hurd, Charles Poltenson and Pamela Crane attended Remembrance Day in Gettysburg. The hospitality of the Thigpens was most appreciated and a good time was had by all.
- **Adjournment:** No further business to be conducted the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted :

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charles A. Poltenson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'C' and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Charles A. Poltenson, Sr.

Secretary