



MINUTES

12TH US INFANTRY, CO. A - BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING Liverpool Masonic Lodge, Vine Street, Liverpool, NY

July 11, 2006

Board Attendance: Maria Killius (President), Paul Killius, Jim Hurd (CO), Neil MacMillan, Peg Reilly (Treasurer), Charles Poltenson (Secretary), Bill Mayers, Carol Mayers, Pamela Crane (Civilian Coordinator), Jim Duran, Jan Reichert, Harold Reichert.

Non-Board Attendees: Rachel Rock-Blake, Daphne Stowe, Bruce Stowe, Hilary Chartrand.

Attachments:

A - Treasurers Report

B – Section Reports

- **Call to Order/Additions to Agenda:** Jim Hurd called the meeting to order at 7:40 PM in the absence of President Maria Killius who arrived shortly after the start of the meeting. Additions to the agenda included a PR update, the report of the Audit Committee, Marching Music, Public Relations Committee and a report on the Manlius Historical Society Living History.
- **Approval of Minutes of May 13, 2006:** Minutes have been posted on the website Member Section since May 16th. Motion to approve by Neil MacMillan and seconded by Carol Mayers. Minutes were approved.
- **Treasurers Report (Peg Reilly):** We have a balance of \$3,384.47 as of 6/30/06. The books were present for review by anyone present. The Treasurer's Report is attached. Charles Poltenson moved for adoption and was seconded by Neil MacMillan. Treasurers' report was approved.
- **Secretary's Report/Correspondence (Charles Poltenson):** No correspondence to report.
 - **Insurance Policy issues for new candidates.** This was discussed with our insurance carrier and guidance provided. Individuals who wish to come out and "try us out" may do so. Any specific questions may be addressed to the Secretary.
 - **Venture Training for Adult Leaders.** Both Venture New Start and Venture Specific Youth Protection are available on-line and the Venture Crew Leaders are encouraged to take them. An additional three-hour course on a weeknight is

required to be fully trained. Sgt. Poltenson will continue to harass the leaders for completion.

- **Gettysburg:** The Crew has obtained a permit to camp at Macmillan Woods at Gettysburg National Military Park on Labor Day weekend. Only youth groups are allowed on this site, which is behind the Confederate lines where they prepared to march towards the clump of trees. The Crew may provide assistance to some other units and function as guides on the battlefield. The whole Crew, including the Leaders, are looking forward to a great trip. There are also plans to lay a wreath at the 12th's monument on Houkes Ridge.

Capt. Hurd moved to accept the report and was seconded by Pamela Crane. Secretary's Report was approved.

- **Overview of Sections:**

- **1st. Sgt. MacMillan:** No major activity at this time. Report attached.
 - **Capt. Hurd:** Capt. Hurd has restructured the Oneida Section and has placed Private Rowlands in charge. The section report is attached.
 - **Lt. Killius:** Is working on turning over his section to someone else. Due to severe constraints on his time both at work and with the American Red Cross, he wishes to back off and indicated he would not be attending events beyond Erie Canal, Bull Run and possibly Newark Valley. Discussion ensued regarding who should take over section. Paul suggested Rachel Rock-Blake who has been working with him. Rachel indicated appreciation, but noted that next season she will be back at school out of state and would not want to take on the responsibility. Additional discussion ensued regarding Cpl. Stowe and his abilities. Although also going to school, he will be attending Syracuse University. Sgt. MacMillan suggested assistant section leaders. Further discussion will take place and no changes for the moment will be made to the Syracuse section. Sgt. MacMillan made a motion that Paul Killius retain his rank and position. Seconded by Peg Reilly. Motion passed unanimously.
 - **Cpl. Stowe (Venture Crew):** Absent due to Management Training. Report attached.
 - **Sgt. Duran:** Sgt. Duran provided an update on southern tier events and condition of his section. Detailed report attached.
 - **1st Sgt. Boris:** Absent. Report provided by Sgt. Poltenson and is attached.
 - **Civilians (Pamela Crane):** The mess for Mumford is arranged with a menu planned. Food will be purchased upon arrival. A detailed Civilian Section report is attached.
- **Bull Run (Capt. Hurd):** Registrations are in and it looks like a good turnout. He has rented a van from his Church and needs six riders to make it work. Rachel Rock-Blake offered to go with him. Pamela Crane mentioned that Private Bell needed transportation and Capt. Hurd offered a ride both ways. Cost to riders is about \$45 each. Field opens to vehicles at 9:00 AM on Friday. At 8:00 AM on Saturday all vehicles need to be out of camp and no re-entry until after Sunday's battle.

- **Old Business**

- **Erie Canal 2006 (Lt. Killius/Maria Killius):** Maria reported that she had contacted all of the attendees from last year's event. Currently there are minimal registrations. There are two conflicting reenactments the same weekend and currently we are a bit shy on registrations. The contract has been signed for *Kitchen Chair* and a caller has been contacted for hiring for the dance. Pamela Crane indicated she had an additional scenario for the evening candlelight tour if it held again this year.
- **Peterboro 2006 (Carol Mayers):** The count for both visitors and reenactors was down this year. A discussion ensued about who should be running the event and who should be handling registrations. Further discussion is anticipated. A wrap-up meeting for the event is scheduled soon.
- **USV Website (Capt. Hurd):** Site is current and is maintained. Sgt. Poltenson suggested that the USV required incident form actually be posted on the USV site. It is currently on the 12th US site.
- **Roster Updates (All):** Sgt. Duran has been updating the roster. He has suggested that another block be created to note enlistment date so we can track service. The idea was heartily endorsed and it shall be done.
- **1st Aid Kit (Bill Mayers):** The first aid kit is currently in a tackle box and was inadvertently left in the rain. Much of the contents had to be replaced. Capt. Mayers has suggested replacing the box, which was endorsed by the Board. Pamela Crane raised a question regarding location of the kit and usage. Sgt. MacMillan suggested those who are First Aid certified use the kit. It was determined that the kit should be located in the Quartermasters tent. Sgt. Poltenson asked if we had previously approved purchase of a tent for that usage and was advised the Board had done so. Since we had previously approved it no further motion was required and Sgt. Poltenson will talk to Nancy Ferry at Mumford.
- **Sale of old trailer/purchase of new trailer (Sgt. Poltenson/Capt. Hurd):** Larry Allen has offered to purchase the old trailer from the unit. A price of \$500 was discussed. A motion was made to sell the trailer and purchase a smaller trailer and hitch that would allow smaller vehicles to haul it. We only need one to accommodate the cook boxes and miscellaneous gear. Current trailers are too large and limit the ability to have it hauled. The motion was approved and Neil MacMillan will be contacting Larry to arrange the sale.
- **Audit Committee (Maria Killius):** The Audit Committee, under Chairman Steve Neth, has reported that the treasurer's books were audited and that all is in order and correct. A motion to accept report was made by Sgt. MacMillan, seconded by Capt. Hurd and approved.

- **New Business**

- **Corporate Officers/Restructured Sections (Capt. Hurd):** Maria Killius submitted her resignation as President and Chair of the Erie Canal Weekend due to serious constraints on her time. It was noted that her resignation would be a loss to the unit. No action was taken on the resignation and possible course of action on this subject at this time. As noted above the sections have been restructured with new section leaders for Oneida and the Southern Tier. The Oneida Section will be led by Private Tim Rowlands, and the Southern Tier Section by newly promoted Corporal David Edwards. Further changes will be made as necessary.
- **Non-Commissioned Officers (Sgt. Duran):** Sgt. Duran brought up the subject of rewarding those with five years of service with promotion to Corporal if deserving. Sgt. MacMillan suggested that we consider service stripes as per the Army Regulations. Jim Duran articulated that by providing promotions it provides an incentive for people to stay in the unit and those who achieve will rise to the top. No action was taken at this time and further discussion is anticipated. The CO will take it under advisement.
- **Ordinance (Sgt. Duran):** Jim Duran reported on availability of powder and issues with attempting to find German Caps. Sgt. MacMillan noted that Navy Arms caps are impossible to find and are no longer listed on the Navy Arms website. Local prices are nearly \$14 per tin. A motion was made by Capt. Hurd to allocate \$150 for purchase of caps seconded by Maria Killius, and directed Lt. Killius to check it out.
- **Nancy Ferry Status (Sgt. Duran):** The recent devastating flood that hit the Southern Tier caused extensive damage and heartbreak to Nancy Ferry. Her home and that of her Mother (adjacent to hers) were extensively damaged. Sgt. Duran has been helping in the flood clean up, which is slow and difficult. He has included further information in his attached section report.
- **Marching Music (Sgt. Duran):** Apparently now that the Regulars know how to march and dance, it is desirable that we know how to sing. A discussion ensued that each section should know three songs that they can march to. Suggested and agreed to were; The Girl I Left Behind Me (a documented song of the Regulars played when they left camp), and Battle Cry of Freedom. There is debate on number three, which could be either Minstrel Boy or Kemo Kimo. Further discussion will ensue.
- **Matt Gurniak Status (Sgt. Poltenson):** Matt took the Oath of Allegiance as a member of the Class of 2010, June 26th at Trophy Point at the USMA. U.S. Corps of Cadets Commandant, Brig. Gen. Robert L. Caslen, Jr., administered the oath during the ceremony. Matt is now immersed with his classmates in six weeks of Cadet Basic Training before the Corps of Cadets formally accept them Aug. 12th. It was brought up that letters addressed to him have to indicate “Cadet Gurniak” and not include his first name.

- The new address for Matt is:

**New Cadet Gurniak
P.O. Box 1489, CBT Co. F-2
West Point, NY 10997-1489**

- **Manlius Historical Society (Carol Mayers):** The 117th NY participated with members of the 12th US in a Living History at Manlius during the July 4th weekend. Doc Mayers and 1st Sgt. MacMillan held court to an appreciative crowd. Compliments were received from the organizers and the unit has been invited to another Living History later this year.
- **Public Relations (Jan and Harold Reichert):** Jan and Harold have been busy. They have initiated a dialogue with the Make-A-Wish Foundation to offer a day out with the unit. They provided information on establishing a scholarship in the unit's name. Capt. Hurd suggested a Committee be set up to establish guidelines for the scholarship. Capt. Mayers is Chair. Other members will be determined at a later date. Ads can be had through the Scotsman Press for four weeks in 35 papers and in two counties for approximately \$90. Capt. Hurd expressed a desire to consider this later in the year when we are drilling. There was also a discussion of having a magician, Santa Claus and modern music at our Christmas Party. No final decisions were made and further discussion will ensue. It was pointed out that we need to update our recruiting brochures.
- **Good of the Order:** There was nothing to report for the Good of the Order.
- **Next Meeting Date:** Tuesday, August 8th at 7:30 PM with the September meeting on September 19th at 7:30 PM. Locations to be determined.
- **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn by Capt. Hurd. Seconded by Bill Mayers. Motion approved and meeting adjourned at 10:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted;



Secretary

ATTACHMENT A
TREASURERS REPORT

**12th US Infantry Civil War Living History Co.
Financial Report 2nd Quarter 2006 (3/1/06-6/30/06)**

Opening balance 1/1/06		\$3254.63
<u>Income</u>		
Dues collected		\$281.00
Members - 20		
Insurance collected		\$146.50
13 x \$7.50, 7 x \$7.00		
Peterboro registration		\$300.00
Peterboro mess		\$190.00
Mumford registration & mess		\$127.00
Massena registration & mess		\$172.00
Erie Canal registraton & mess (12 th US)		\$ 95.00
Erie Canal registration (other Union)		\$90.00
Erie Canal Sutlers		\$50.00
Total income		\$1451.50
<u>Expenses</u>		
First aid kit		\$80.00
Postmaster – annual rent PO Box		\$74.00
Venture crew dues pd by T Anderson		\$10.00
Website fee		\$166.80
Stamps		\$ 7.02
Jennifer Dotson (dance for Erie Canal Event)		\$150.00
Smithfield Committee (Peterboro Registration)		\$351.00
Peterboro mess		\$236.14
Deposited returned check (D Jeffrey)		
Check \$125.00, redeposited 7/3/06; Fee, \$5.00		\$130.00
Holly Chantry (refund of mess fee for Bull Run)		\$75.00
Registrations paid		
Bull Run	\$20.00 (1)	
Mumford	\$ 72.00 (9)	
Massena	\$ 30.00 (6)	
Total		\$ 122.00
Total expenses		\$1401.96
Balance		\$3304.17
Checking account ending balance 06/30/06		\$3384.47

Peggy Reilly, Financial Officer

ATTACHMENT B
SECTION REPORTS



CAPTAIN JAMES D. HURD
12TH REGT.
UNITED STATES INFANTRY, COMPANY A
CIVIL WAR LIVING HISTORY AND REENACTMENT COMPANY
10085 CAROUSEL CENTER, SYRACUSE, NEW YORK 13290-0061

July 11, 2006

Oneida Section Report

As a part of the overall section restructuring, I have approached Tim Rowlands with the prospect of taking over the administration of the Oneida Section. I have explained to him the duties involved and proposed that he not receive stripes until I see how he does with this new responsibility. Tim has agreed to this and I will be mentoring him into that position.

Respectfully Submitted

Capt James D. Hurd

From: 1st Sgt. MacMillan
To: Capt. James Hurd, Mrs Maria Killius
Subj.: Section report

I have contacted my people within the last eight days. Major Allen, Capt. Hurd, Sgt. Poltenson and myself are attending Bull Run. There are no extraordinary conditions to report. I do need to know what section to place Pvt. Norman in.



12th United States Infantry Company A

STATUS REPORT, SECTION 3, A COMPANY

I am very pleased with the addition to the section by Privates Del Armstrong, Ryken Ruuspakka and Ray Morgan. These people have displayed an initiative to duty, camaraderie and a sincere love of the hobby that will surely be a great asset to the Unit. I have been on the field with all three at Elmira and Walton along with my veterans, Privates David Edwards and Kyle Telfer. We have had the greatest time, fought gallantly, laughed a whole bunch and at the end they have left me filled with pride by their attention to dress, execution of maneuvers and especially by the compliments I have received from the unit commanders with whom we served.

We tried to save one day every other week for a drill, going over the tactics and maneuvers practiced at previous regimental meets. Unfortunately, it has not worked out quite as planned and now since the flood, these drills have had to be put on hold. Private Del Armstrong along with Kristen and Corrine, who are fire fighters, have been assisting people in bailing out cellars and homes, distributing water and ice. Being that Privates Telfer, Edwards and Morgan are also Volunteer Firemen, they have had similar duties plus David and Kyle have been attending a crash course at the Fireman's Academy at Montour Falls, NY. The two of them will be graduating this coming Friday, after which they will rush home, pack up and head directly for Mumford Friday evening. I'm sure they will be wanting to sleep in Saturday morning.

STATUS REPORT, JUNE 06 FLOOD

Broome County was severely hit by the rising Susquehanna and Chenango Rivers. Conklin Road was classified as the most severely hit area in the County. Well over 1,000 families have suffered a great loss and are still suffering to get their lives back to pre-June 26th. Our dear friend Nancy Ferry of Old Sutler John, and her mother Rosemary live on a most devastated stretch of Conklin Road. Clean up is very slow, tedious, filthy work. A chore so monumental and disgusting that it takes great effort every day for these people to wade into the task. It is not just the cost of replacing peoples material things, but it is going to take weeks, months to clean and repair their homes while at the same time, being obligated to continue to work at their jobs for that paycheck we all need. There are literally mountains of debris or should we say memories, long cherished heirloom furniture, expensive appliances, just any thing you would find in your own home being crushed under the wheels of giant bucket loaders, loading tractor trailers waiting in line, trying to keep ahead of the numerous pickups, trailers, etc, bringing and dumping their tragic cargo.

The Red Cross has been great in helping out with donated cleaning supplies, a pretty darn good bag lunch in the afternoon tow which I can personally attest, and to some a credit card to

purchase everyday necessities. And there are the heroes, Churches and Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and other clubs, holding pancakes breakfasts, lunches and assisting with clean up. I am proud to commend our Sgt. Charles "tote that stove" Poltenson and Pamela "spick and span" Crane, for coming down on Saturday and putting in a very tough day. Nancy, Jim, Richard Ferry and his wife Sharon, were very touched and so thankful for their help.

STATUS REPORT, NEWARK VALLEY

The kickoff meeting for the Newark Valley event will take place at Pierce Creek on 12 August. We will attempt to get all of the committee members up there for this. Being that this has been held for so many years, most everyone knows that it will be held again this year. I am going to try and get out the flyers by mail and e-mail as soon as I get a breather between Bull Run and Erie Canal. I would like to suggest that the proceeds this year be used for disaster relief and in particular, if feasible, for those in the Civil War Reenactor Community.

STATUS REPORT, MUNITIONS

From my first event this year I have had trouble finding a good supply of percussion caps. My regular supplier, Montrose Sports, had only two cans of "Dynamite Nobel German Caps", which I purchased. He informed me at first that he was having trouble re-supplying and now has informed me that he can not get them at all. Navy caps have been unavailable since last year and I have become very concerned as to why and where this is going. I have spoken to Sgt. Poltenson of possibly using Regimental funds to buy up whatever the law allows, from suppliers in Syracuse, for resale to the Regiment. In the same week I have ordered 10 boxes of caps from Blockade Runner, the only sutler where I have found them available. My order was accepted and I hope that they can indeed become a supplier for us.

I have not seen any problem in purchasing FFF powder.

In closing, I want to express my deep appreciation for presenting me with the honor of Sergeant in this 12th Regiment. Receiving the rank of Corporal was a thrilling and proud highlight in my reenacting career. Achieving the rank of Sergeant is the ultimate honor, because I am aware that is given out of recognition to duty and respect from my peers.

I thank you All!

Your Humble Servant,

Sgt. James D. Duran



12th US
FIELD MUSIC
REPORT

July 4th, 1863

1st Sgt. Of Musicians Peter J. Boris

Gentlemen,

Field Music reports as follows:

The 3 new recruits for 2006 are Brad Burgher-Drummer, Chris Waid- Drummer, and Emily Markstein- Drummer.

Chris is a current student of mine and has been playing drums for approx 4yrs. Chris attended The Don Hubbard School of Field Music at Ft. Delaware the weekend of June 16th, and received his certificate of accomplishment at the intermediate level. Chris is a good solid drummer and will be an asset to the Field Music.

Emily Markstein is our newest recruit. Emily is under current instruction with a local instructor in her area. She will also be studying Field Music with me. Emily has a good understanding of the basic rudiments and reads well. She will also be a strong asset to the Field Music. She was unable to attend Ft. Delaware this year as she had just joined. Her mother Gail will also be participating as a civilian. Gail is a music teacher at one of our local schools.

Brad Burgher attended Ft. Delaware this year along with Chris, Mike, and myself. We under went intense instruction together in the advanced group. Brad is an outstanding musician and a wealth of information in drumming. He has been Rev War drumming for 60yrs. Brad is proud to be a part of the 12th US Field Music Section.

On June 16th, Brad Burgher, Chris Waid, Mike (my son), and I attended the Don Hubbard School of Field Music at Ft. Delaware. The Field Music School attendance was down considerably this year. There were alot more buglers this year than previously. We had approx 35 drummers and as many fifers. The instruction is intense, yet always incredible for all levels. The weather was good and we had a great time!

I feel that the Field Music Section is growing. We are currently acquiring musicians that are under professional instruction and are learning the Civil War Music. Time, distance, and several other issues such as higher gas prices, work load, family health issues, the recent major flood in our area and for some, purchasing the equipment to be eligible to take the field, have deterred us in being able to get together on a regular basis. Unfortunately, my attendance at the events has been down due to the above listed factors, and I humbly apologize for that. However, I continue to recruit and train the musicians in the Binghamton area, and will be attending the Pierce Creek (Binghamton) August 11- 13, and Newark Valley (on the event list), which will also serve as Field Music Drills as well.

When I'm not in attendance at a re-enactment, Both Charlie Poltenson Sr. as well as, Brad Burgher are capable of taking the Field Music on the field.

The most important issue for the field music is for the individuals to know the music before they get to the field. During the reenactment, is not the time to be learning the music, but in polishing it as a group, also for drilling and having fun!

In closing, I sincerely thank you for your patience and understanding.

As always, I will continue to do my best to serve the 12th US!

Regards,

Peter J. Boris

1st Sgt. Of Musicians/ 12th US



Report on Venture Crew 4

Members:

- Cpl. Alexander Stowe – Crew President
- Pvt. Charles Poltenson
- Pvt. Colin Cron
- Pvt. Joe Jadhon
- Recruit Tyler Anderson
- Hillary Chartrand
- Corinne Armstrong
- Elizabeth Steeley

- Cadet Matthew Gurniak is on detached duty

Prospective Events:

- 1st Bull Run
- Erie Canal Village
- Trip to Gettysburg on Labor Day weekend

- Some members will be attending Mumford this weekend

- We need to finish the training for the adult leaders

- We need to arrange to have parents come and chaperone

Huzzah for the Regulars!

Cpl. A. M. Stowe

Civilian Section Report
July 11, 2006

I have made limited contact with members of my section.

Linda Hurd and I have been in touch regarding Mess for Mumford. A menu has been planned and the food will be purchased after we arrive at Mumford.

Sarah Vanderhoof from Canastota, introduced herself to me at Peterboro. She is very interested in participating in living histories and reenactments. She got her first taste of our hospitality on July 4th at the Manlius Historical Museum where the 117th had set up a living history. Sarah borrowed some clothes from the Crane wardrobes and spent several hours chatting, sewing and eating the delicious picnic with us. She plans to attend at least one day at Erie Canal. She is a delightful young lady (interested in learning to play the tin whistle, fiddle or the bones) and will be attending the nursing program at SUNY Morrisville.

Elaine and Colin Cron's address is:

1773 Joplin Lane,
Virginia Beach, VA 23464

(unfortunately the email address I have for her is not correct.)

The need for a Welcome Packet has arisen again. Carol and Peg have offered to help. Carol has already sent me some information. I am not able to find the "Day in the Life of a Civilian" piece that Peg wrote a few years ago. Sorry. I have put together an outline of contents.

Mess

The cook boxes have been inventoried. Draft inventory sheets have been created. The expired foods have been thrown away. I suggest at the end of each season, the perishable foods and soon to expire foods be tossed before the boxes are packed away for the winter.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Crane
Civilian Coordinator