

July-September 2011

# Company F Forward!

A Living History of Co. F, 14th Connecticut Volunteer Infantry



## Message from the President's Desk

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The May 31, 2011 edition of the Record-Journal carried a front page story entitled. "What's the use of taking social studies in high school? The article describes how the students in the two Wallingford high schools were taking fewer social studies classes than their peers at other districts. In the most recent set of data for 2009-10, 17.2% of Lyman Hall and 34.1% of Sheehan graduating seniors had taken four or more credits compared to the state average of 53.2% The superintendent of schools said that although more courses are now being offered, students aren't interested. Unfortunately, this appears to be part of a larger trend across the state and country.

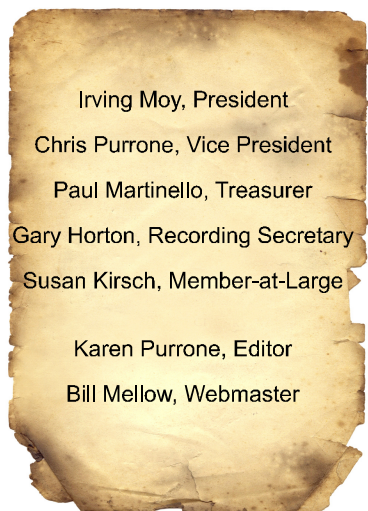
I gained an appreciation of US History in sixth grade that has never left me. With a deep appreciation and deep respect for the sacrifices of countless unknown individuals who contributed to the historical fabric of our country, I was taught to believe how important it is for a person living in this country to know its history in order to come to a better understanding of how we have come to be who we are today as a Nation and to appreciate the privileges we enjoy as Americans.

Though our living history events and classroom presentations where our audience can see and touch the uniforms and equipment and be able to hear and ask questions about the contributions of both civilian and military and events that shaped that conflict, an interest where they more about the Civil War and ultimately our Nation's history.



Irving and Gary at Shelton Historical Society, 2010

The article ends with a quote by John Tully, president of the Connecticut Council for Social Studies and a professor at CCSU, who believes that social studies teach students things they can't learn anywhere else, build critical thinking skills and teach how to analyze arguments, "It teaches the skills you need for the 21st century. You need these skills to be an ef-



Irving Moy, President

Chris Purrone, Vice President

Paul Martinello, Treasurer

Gary Horton, Recording Secretary

Susan Kirsch, Member-at-Large

Karen Purrone, Editor

Bill Mellow, Webmaster

### Message from the President's Desk, con't.

fective citizen in whatever field you're going to be working in."

I thank all of you for the joy and commitment you have as living historians with Company F in conveying this to the public at our events.

Your Obedient Servant,  
Irving Moy  
President, Co. F, 14<sup>th</sup> CVI

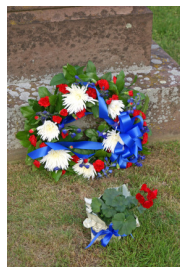
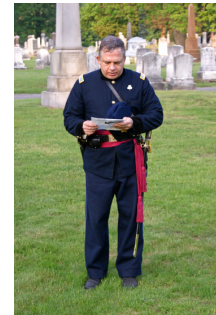


### After Action Reports

#### *SUVCW Flag Laying Ceremony at Grove Hill Cemetery, Rockville*

Gary, Irving and Paul met for burgers in Rockville, then met Chris, Karen and Susan along with the members of the Sons at Grove Hill Cemetery. Together we placed flags on the Veterans graves. The weather was pleasant and sunny. We completed our task then donned our uniforms and leathers. As 2nd Lt., I inspected the rifles and we were ready. The Sons started the ceremony and I as Chaplain, said the Benediction. A reading by Camp Commander John Lazzeri, then the placing of a wreath at the base of Colonel Burpee's monument was then followed by a three volley salute. I closed with a prayer and concluded the ceremony. All in all, a worthwhile yet somber undertaking by members of Co. F, who came out to support the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War in their annual Memorial Day activities. We will also be supporting them in their Rockville Memorial Day parade on Monday May 30th.

Paul



**After Action Reports, con't.**

**Rockville Parade**

For the first time in ten years the Rockville Memorial Day Parade was cancelled due to heavy rain. However, our commitment to march with the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War was fulfilled, as Paul Martinello, Susan Kirsch, Mike Conlin, Irving and Julie Moy and Jake and Tom Sullivan, and Karen and Chris Purrone patiently under a roof overhang with other SUVCW marchers until word was received that the parade was cancelled. Tom and Jake receive the prize for waking up early enough to make the drive to Wallingford from Stratford to carpool with the Moys at 7:00 a.m. to Rockville. Thank you Company F members for your faithfulness in meeting a commitment.

Irving



**Seymour Historical Society Open House**

Company F conducted its first living history event as a new company on the grounds of the Seymour Historical Society on May 29, 2011. Members began arriving around 10:00 a.m. to see Paul setting up our company banner in front of the Katherine Matthies Home where the society is located. Those attending helped one another to setup in their areas, which gave us all enough time to enjoy lunch provided by the society, as we awaited the public to make its way to the site after the Seymour Memorial Day Parade. Although Dog Robber did not need to prepare a meal for this event, the public gathered around the cook's tent area to hear him discuss the duties and responsibilities of a company cook. There was a great deal of anticipation to have Bill return when he publishes his Civil War Era Recipe Cookbook and to do a demonstration. 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Martinello and Privates Moy, Horton Purrone and Ivanoff demonstrated the manual of arms, loading by the 9 times and comparison of the knapsack and blanket roll. The public was encouraged to touch and feel the items discussed to have a better understanding. Officer Martinello also was able to begin drilling new recruit Ivanoff at his first event. Pvt. Purrone demonstrated his considerable knowledge of weapons used by the 14<sup>th</sup> Connecticut through his weapons display. The soldiers interacted with the public throughout the entire afternoon.



### After Action Reports, con't.

The civilians were also heavily engaged by the public as Carolyn portrayed Civil War nurse, at her first event with our company and spoke about Cornelia Hancock, a nurse with the 14<sup>th</sup> Connecticut and medical care of the wounded. The Ivanoff's nephew, Joey Adiletta, attended in his Civil War uniform and according to Carolyn, through the powers of observation memorized her presentation. He is welcome to portray her orderly, as young boys who were regimental drummers, served as stretcher bearers. Julie spoke to the public about the contributions of the US Christian Commission, an organization that many people had no idea existed during the Civil War. Besides engaging the public on the contributions by women in the home front, Susan was busy making cockades to sell to raise monies for the society. Many visitors were seen walking the grounds proudly wearing their cockades made from materials donated by Susan. Karen, the company's official photographer, setup her own table with event pictures, our newsletters, information on Civil War photographer, Mathew Brady and contact information for recruitment purposes. There was no admission charge for the event and the society generously divided the donations received to surprise us with an honorarium of \$75.00.



A tired but very happy group of people after packing up gathered at the Trestle Tavern for a time of good food and conversation. Those attending the event were Paul Martinello, Bill Mellow, Susan Kirsch, Carolyn and Nick Ivanoff, Gary Horton, Chris and Karen Purrone, Irving and Julie Moy. We would like to thank Roland Brochu, Julie's brother for coming to help us setup and pack up at the end of the event and Joey Adiletta, a young boy with a love of Civil War history, for spending a beautiful Sunday afternoon in a wool uniform with us.

—Irving



### AAR West Haven Veterans Museum and Learning Center

On June 4, 2011 Company F was invited to conduct a living history event at the newly opened Veteran's Museum and Learning Center, located at 30 Hood Terrace, West Haven. The museum that is closely associated with the 102<sup>nd</sup> Regiment was located in the New Haven Armory that the State closed over 10 years ago. Its collections were stored in a warehouse, while the board members looked for a new home. Thanks to the efforts of Beth Sabo and the City of West Haven grants were obtained and the museum now has a permanent home, located across from the proposed West Haven

## After Action Reports, con't.

train station. The Museum's mission is to honor the men and women, who served our State and Country during times of conflict and natural disasters, and to collect and preserve artifacts that can help explain to future generations how our fighting men and women lived and survived while serving our Nation.



Susan

Our event attracted over 120 visitors the most attendance in a single day. Many came to see our presentations not knowing about the museum. Many came to see the museum not knowing about our program. Needless to say we were thrilled with the results for recognition of both our organizations. It was an experience I can't describe accurately to see us setup in areas amongst all the museum displays. Susan's area was by the army jeep, as she made cockades to benefit the museum. Carolyn and Marge's areas were near the displays for Vietnam and Desert Storm, Bill setup his cook's area adjacent to the WWI supply carts, Julie by the Korean War bunker and the military and Karen occupied the area in front of the Wall of Honor. I can only say that we presented history in the midst of history. We had a steady stream of visitors at all our areas throughout the five hours of the program.



Bill



Carolyn



Julie



Marge

Afterwards a number of us still full of adrenaline went to Lorenzo's Ristorante where we were treated exceptionally well by our waiter who gave us a choice of either salad or soup on the house, to relax and to enjoy each other's company. Thank you to Susan Kirsch, Carolyn and Nick Ivan-



Company F

off, Joe Adiletta, Marge Bucholz, Bill Mellow, Julie and Irving Moy, Chris and Karen Purrone, Gary Horton and Paul Martinello for their many contributions to another successful event. Gratitude also goes to Frank Carrano and the museum board for its invitation to us to present a living history program and to Beth Sabo, Bob Ellis and Amy Ellis who were in charge of publicizing the event and guaranteeing its success.



## Company F Picnic at Lincolnshire

June 11, 2011

The annual company picnic was another successful social event for members and friends. Unlike previous years when the temperatures were in the 90's with hot and humid weather, the weather was cool as we took advantage to be outdoors underneath the canopies between rain bursts and back inside in Lincolnshire if the weather was too wet and cool to be outdoors. A good time was had by all outside of wool and period clothing, although the weather was cool enough for wool!. So there was no need for period air conditioning of fanning oneself or rocking back and forth to create a breeze underneath the hooped skirts! The bountiful fest included burgers, hot dogs, sausage and peppers, Mexican tortilla dip, chip and pretzel bits, potato salad, lime Jello with sour cream and pineapple,

## After Action Reports, con't.

strawberry shortcake, lasagna, cannoli dip with wafers, broccoli casserole, citrus cake and a strawberry rhubarb dessert. Amazingly, there was little food left over!

Julie and I want to thank all who came for their good company, conversation and food items contributing to a great day! Those attending were Mike and Kate Conlin, Gary and Cathy Horton, Carolyn and Nick Ivanoff, Paul and Lauren Martinello, Chris and Karen Purrone, Jake, Emma, Lisa and Tom Sullivan, Dane and Carol Deleppo, Bill and Nancy Mellow and Roland Brochu, who along with Paul exquisitely grilled the burgers and "tube steaks" per the Dog Robber!. Our next door neighbors, Henry and Brooke Cadette, were planning to come but they left for the hospital early in the morning to have their first



child, Ava.



Abe Lincoln and family at a "picnic"



## Southington Historical Society

June 26, 2011

It was good to be out again with the unit. What came about as a "chance" living history day actually turned out very well. My thanks to Mike Conlin, Karen and Chris Purrone, Carolyn and Nick Ivanoff and Irving Moy for supporting this on such short notice. The Historical Society display inside the building was great with weapons, photos, artifacts and many things to pay tribute to the Civil War. The Company F display outside was the level of excellence that sets the standard. We set up a representative company street, Chris' firearms table was simply outstanding and Carolyn's display rounded out things perfectly. We had a steady, moderate number of people come through the camp and two local reporters showed up and asked lots of questions and took many photos. The stories are slated to be in The Southington Observer and The Citizen. I had fun doing my favorite challenge of starting fire with flint and steel and a period magnifying lens and had kids helping me at one point tearing birch bark into strips. Irving, Nick and I were invited in for the closing ceremony of the display in which the 14th CVI was credited with having men from Southington serve in it's ranks. The past President of the Society spoke with Irving in regard to having members of Co. F do some presentations in the future. In all, it was a good day for something that we were invited to 10 days ago. My sincerest thanks to all who attended.

--Warren Stevens





## Home Front

Liz Shapiro, Executive Director, CHLO presents a 2011 Award of Merit to Carolyn Ivanoff at the June 6, 2011 Annual Conference at the Connecticut Historical Society.



Each year the Connecticut League of History Organizations presents awards of Merit in recognition of outstanding institutional and individual contributions, in keeping with current professional standards, that enhance and further the knowledge and understanding of Connecticut history. The purpose of the Awards of Merit is to recognize the care, thought and effort invested in these contributions and to inspire and encourage others by acknowledging exceptional contributions to state and local history. Carolyn Ivanoff, Shelton Intermediate School Housemaster and board member on the Shelton, Derby and Seymour Historical Societies received an 2011 Award of Merit at the June 6, 2011 CHLO Annual Conference at the Connecticut Historical Society for her Educational Program: A Hard Road to Travel: From Connecticut To Gettysburg, 1863. A Hard Road to Travel consists of two education programs that began with forty-two Civil War letters. Presented in various venues around the State, the programs combine compelling visual images with a rich narrative. Through the program, 21st Century citizens experience the 19th century and the local and national events of the Civil War through the words and eyes of four Connecticut men who served as members of the 17th Connecticut Volunteer Infantry. It also preserves in electronic format artifacts, words, and images that would have otherwise remained covered and obscured by time, eventually becoming lost.



**Home Front, con't.**

**MOVIE REVIEW**

**T**he Conspirator", an account of Mary Surratt's trial following Abraham Lincoln's assassination was released April 15, 2011. The planned release date for DVD/Blu-ray is August 16, 2011. The film stars Robin Wright as Mary Surratt ("Moll Flanders", "Forrest Gump"), James McAvoy ("Becoming Jane", "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe"), and Kevin Kline ("A Fish Called Wanda", "In and Out"). In this version of the tale, Mary Surratt's attorney reluctantly agrees to take on her defense, and she is manipulated in an attempt to ferret out her son, John, whom the authorities feel is one of the true conspirators.

The movie's release closely coincided with the commemoration of the firing upon Fort Sumter and, locally, with the kickoff of Connecticut's Sesquicentennial event at Stanley Quarter Park and CCSU. In this writer's opinion, it did not stay in theaters very long and did not receive much critical attention. For those of us with an interest in history, however, the DVD/Blu Ray release provides another opportunity to see the film and consider its points of view.

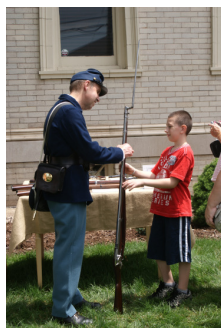
--Susan Kirsch



**Honorary and Returning Members of Company F**

**A**t it's June 18, 2011 Executive Committee Meeting, the members voted to approve the conferring of honorary member status to Bob Bee, Marge Bucholz, Arthur and Richard Carter, Nancy Eddins, Brad Kuene, James Lighthizer, Tom Reimer and Chris Sullivan. Congratulations to this deserving individuals for their contributions to both the hobby and to Company F. A certificate acknowledging this honor will be sent to each recipient. Three cheers for the recipients, Huzzah, Huzzah, Huzzah!

We also want to welcome back Warren Stevens. You can see his first After Action report in the previous section of this newsletter. Here are more photos from the Southington Event!







## Hincks' Mess

*While Dog Robber goes off in pursuit of provisions for our next engagement, the ladies of Company F have very graciously provided us with two of their own favorite recipes: Mexican Dip from Cathy Horton and Rhubarb Crunch from Susan Kirsch.*

### MEXICAN DIP

- Cover the bottom of a 9 or 10 inch glass or ceramic pie plate with 4 oz. softened cream cheese (regular or light).
- Add one can beef chili with beans and spread over cream cheese
- Add one small can chopped green chiles (do not drain)
- Add one small can chopped black olives or chop whole black olives and spread on
- Add about 8 oz. shredded extra sharp cheddar cheese

Bake at 350 for 20 minutes until hot and bubbly



You can do variations of this recipe by adding or substituting a layer of cilantro cooking base, a 15 oz. can drained tomatoes, refried beans or whatever suits your palate. Enjoy.

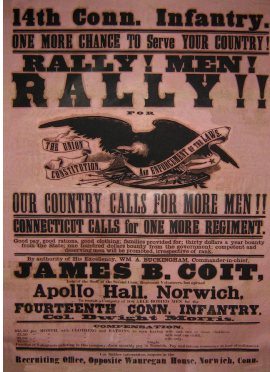
### RHUBARB CRUNCH

- 3 C. diced rhubarb
- 1 Tbsp flour
- 1/2 C. sugar
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 1/8 tsp salt
- 1 Tbsp water
- 1 C. minute oatmeal
- 1/2 C. sifted flour
- 1 C. packed brown sugar
- 1/2 C. butter or margarine (room temp)



Susan, the hostess with the most-est!

Mix together rhubarb, flour, sugar, cinnamon, salt and water. Set aside.  
Combine oats, flour and sugar, cut in butter until mixture is crumbly. Place half the oats mixture in a greased 8x8x2 pan. Cover with rhubarb and top with remaining oats mixture. Bake at 350 degrees about 45 min. Serve hot squares with whipped cream or vanilla ice cream.



## Scheduled Events

### Scheduled Events in July, August and September 2011

The majority of Company F's living history events takes place this quarter. I am asking for maximum participation for these events to demonstrate to the Public what we do best and why we are newly formed as a Company. Following is our Event Guidelines we should follow as a Company to make the event as enjoyable and stress free as possible.

#### July 16 *Old Saybrook Historical Society Living History Event*

This was the event in 2010 that we saluted the bride and groom with a volley and Dog Robber feasted the happy couple with Sally Lund bread as their first piece of "wedding cake." Our turnout at this event was truly outstanding in ALL aspects, attendance and presentation-wise with wonderful support by the public and members of the historical society. The location of the event will be on the grounds of the Captain William Hunt House on 350 Main Street located between the Episcopalian and Congregational Churches. A call for attendance with further information will be sent out to you by Irving Moy.

#### July 22-24 *NR 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Battle of First Manassas*

This reenactment is the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first major battle of the Civil War, the Battle of First Manassas or the Battle of Bull Run. This is a National Regiment event. Paul Martinello will send us information as it is received.

#### August 13- 14 *"On to Richmond" Reenactment, Woodbury, Connecticut*

Peter Hrechanyk will issue out a call for attendance and further information for this battle reenactment sponsored by the 2<sup>nd</sup> CVI. Here's an opportunity to have a "powder burner" without leaving Connecticut.

#### September 10 *Shelton Historical Society Living History Event*

This will be the third year we have been invited back by the society to present an event with a Civil War theme. Come out and support its efforts to educate the public about this important era in our Nation's history on its grounds located at 70 Ripton Road. Carolyn Ivanoff is on the Board of Directors. Irving Moy is the coordinator of this event.

## Message from your Editor

I would like to introduce our new Company F, 14th CVI logos, designed by our own Bill Mellow. Now he can add Graphic Designer to his list of accomplishments in our Regiment. You'll see that he's included our new website under the trefoil. The blue and white design is meant to be used on t-shirts and decals and the blue and gold one would be more appropriate for mugs.

