Company F Forward!

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





Message from the President's Desk

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Dear Friends:

Our 2012 campaign season for Co. F is drawing to a close as we prepare for our winter hiatus before our spring campaign begins in earnest in April 2013. I want to thank our members and friends who came out to events for their commitment of time and talents to make 2012 a most successful year. Much appreciation goes to the Jeff Lawrence Family of the 22nd MAVI, who joined us at many of our events driving from MA. I, especially, thank our friends at the various community organizations that extended an invitation to conduct living history events, march in parades and to give our individual members the opportunity to present at their public programs. Thank you to the Booth-Dimock Library in Coventry, the CT Episcopal Diocesan House, Seymour Historical Society, Rockville SUCWV, Wallingford Historical Society, Easton Historical Society, Middlesex County Historical Society and Shelton Historical Society.

Irving Moy, President
Chris Purrone, Vice President
Paul Martinello, Treasurer
Gary Horton, Recording
Secretary

Karen Purrone, Newsletter
Editor and Facebook Admin.

Bill Mellow, Webmaster

Our schedule also offered opportunities for both our military and civilian reenactors to take part in other events offered through our membership with the Civil War Trust and New England Brigade. New members joined veterans in participating in the National Regiment, 150th Anniversary of the "Maryland, My Maryland," Battle of Antietam and the State of Connecticut 150th Commemoration Committee's two day reenactments of the Battles of Antietam and Fredericksburg in Wickham Park in Manchester. Many will be participating in the National Regiment activities and parade at Remembrance Day in Gettysburg the weekend of November 17-19, 2012.

2012 marked the first year that The Civil War Trust had a Connecticut site for its Park Day Program. Co. F was the event coordinator for Fort Trumbull in New London. There was over 40 volunteers including cadets from the Coast Guard Academy. Our appreciation and thanks to Park Superintendent Jon Lincoln, his staff and the Friends of Fort Trumbull for supplies and behind the scenes planning to make the day a complete success in sprucing up the fort and its grounds.

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

We will be returning on April 6, 2013 to Fort Trumbull for CWT Park Day 2013. Come and join us and volunteer.

In keeping with our mission of having honorariums go toward preservation projects and battlefield preservation, we made over \$1,700+ in donations and in the process became a CWT Regimental Color Bearer on the \$1,000 giving level. Members also donated their time in taking part in the "Timeless Tales of Fairview Cemetery" at Fairview Cemetery in New Britain in support of efforts to establish an historical society in New Britain. New Britain has significance in the history of the 14th CVI, sending 76 of its sons to join its ranks and the cemetery contains the final remains of 25 Co. F members, including Captain Samuel A. Moore, who led the final assault against the Bliss Barn and Farmhouse on the same field of battle in Gettysburg just before Pickett's Charge.

Company F's "esprit de corps" and feeling of family for each other is unique. Our annual picnic at Lincolnshire and Holiday Open House are formal extensions of our dinner outings after events and other social gatherings. And we are pleased to have added to our "family" in 2012 newest members the Adiletta Family, John and Kathy Morrison and Greg and Barbara Wanamaker.

Finally, thank you to our board members, Karen Purrone, Co. F newsletter editor and photographer, and Bill Mellow, Dog Robber, our webpage master, for all the behind the scenes work necessary for the success of an organization. 2013 is shaping up to be another exciting year with requests for events from the Seymour Historical Society, Somers Historical Society, Friends of Fort Trumbull, Bristol Historical Society, Weston Historical Society and the West Haven Veterans Museum and Learning Center and participation in the 150th Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg and other commemoration events. Our annual meeting will take place on January 12, 2013 at the General Joseph Mansfield House in Middletown. Please join us in the "field" at our events in 2013.

Wishing you and your families our best wishes for the upcoming holiday season and health in 2013.

Your Obedient Servant,
INLING MOU



Our first Living History of 2012, Coventry Library



Our first re-enactment, Wickham Park, Manchester



After Action Reports

Easton Historical Society Living History Event Military After-Action-Report **July 21,2012**

ally for the Fourteenth Regiment Company...and RALLY they did as the largest turnout of the public since 2009 for a society event and the largest turnout ever by Company F took place on July 21, 2012 on the beautiful grounds of the Bradley -Hubbell House in Easton across from a scenic view of the Aspetuck Reservoir.



Members began arriving before 7:00 a.m. to setup the campsites with the military within view of the public as they ap-



the command of 2nd Lt. Martinello and Sgt. Purrone. The manual of arms was performed followed by weapons inspection and firing by the "nine times." The fighting 14th then marched off to the open field to conduct firing demonstrations, followed by a presentation of the clothing and equipment of the Un-

ion infantry man. What followed were questions by a very engaged public ranging from questions about the 14th CVI, troops from Connecticut and the Civil War in general. We then marched back to camp to interaction with the public followed by another delicious lunch of pan fried chicken. cornbread with bits of corn in the bread itself and ginger snap cookies prepared by "Dog Robber." For the first time ever, Bill Mellow's book, "Hincks' Mess" was on sale at this event. Our civilian women were heavily



engaged by the public with a constant stream of children trying and playing with Marge Bucholz's period toys. A separate after-actionreport for our civilians follows this report for the military unit.





We repeated the military demonstrations in the afternoon and the afternoon's activities also featured a recital by Miss Jenny Doyle accompanied by Pvt. James Lawrence in the northern version of "Dixie" and a presentation of the story of Joseph Pierce by Irving Moy. The highlight activity was a town ball game between Co. F and any youngster under 4 ft. tall. Corp. Moy, Privates Horton, Conlin, Morrison,

James Lawrence and Kathy Morrison gamely took the field with Pvt. Jeff Lawrence officiating after giving a brief

history of the game and rules. Any ball hit regardless where it was hit was fair; there are no strikes or balls and one out per inning is allowed per team. It was a rousing and fun game with a lot of slipping and falling trying to avoid being hit by a ball, as in dodge ball, that counted as an out! Pvt. Horton was crafty as our hurler, Pvt. Conlin was stroking the ball into the distance and Pvt. James Lawrence was playing a crafty game of hitting them "where they ain't!" Corp. Moy kept slipping and sliding to see if the youngsters could hit him with the ball. But the highlight of the game was when Kathy Morrison had the ball and talked a young lad off the "stick" and hit him out! As she so eloquently said, "Lesson learned...don't trust a woman!" All Pvt. Morrison could do was smile! The game was called as the 2nd Lt. needed his men back for the afternoon's military demonstrations with the youngsters ahead in "tallies."





A very special treat took place as we were surprised by a visit by Joseph Pierce's great great-granddaughters, Mimi Vargas and her husband Al and Joyce O'Neil, whom we last saw at the dedication of the Martha Morgan Pierce gravesite marker on June 10, 2007. After the event a tired but happy group of fourteen had a wonderful time together at Mancuso's on Kings Highway in Fairfield.

Attending the event for Co. F were Chris and Karen Purrone, Paul and Lauren Martinello, Carolyn and Nick Ivanoff, Jeff, Jen and James Law-

rence, Bill Mellow, Gary Horton, Marge Bucholz, Greg Wanamaker, Peter Garafalo, Mike and Kate Conlin, John and Kathy Morrison and Irving and Julie Moy. Two members who were scheduled to come but could not due to last minute unforeseen circumstances; both Mark Marganski and Warren Stevens were missed.

I want to thank Lisa Burghardt for working with me on this event since January and on the other details needed to ensure a successful event, to Emlyn Duemmler, publicist for the society, for all the articles send to advertise the event with local media, to the society for all the volunteers at the event and for its invitation to conduct a living history event and for its generous honorarium that will go towards battle-field preservation with The Civil War Trust.

Bradley Hubble House – Easton, CT Civilian After Action Report July 21, 2012

Lijah and Elizabeth Bradley built the house in 1816. The Hubbell family moved into the house in 1917 during what is called "the reservoir age." This was the period during which the Bridgeport Hydraulic Company built the reservoirs in the area. Franklin Hubbell worked for Bridgeport Hydraulic at the time. He was responsible for planting the pine trees that surround the Aspetuck Reservoir. He also planted apple orchards and sold his apples at a stand about 1/2 mile north at what has become the Aspetuck Valley Apple Orchards' Apple Barn. The yard overlooks the Aspetuck Reservoir and has a beautifully manicured garden.







We spent a perfect July summer day on the grounds. The weather was gorgeous affording us a break in the humidity of late. Even though the house was in a remote location, the event was well attended throughout the day due to extensive advertising by the Easton Historical Society. Some visitors stayed for a couple of hours enjoy all the presentations and join in on the fun. We had some very good questions from parents and children about the American Civil War era. The civilian contingent included displays and discussion relating to medicine of the time by our nurse Carolyn, the US Christian Commission by our delegate Julie; and a

display and general discussion about the home front by me. A hands-on display of period toys was presented by Marge Bucholz of the 2nd CT, many of which she hand made. Marge had two beautiful young ladies from the Historical Society as volunteers to help with the games. It's always a joy to see the youngsters enjoying themselves at play. We also enjoyed performances of period songs by Jen Eastman -Lawrence of the 22nd MA, with son James joining in on a Northern version of "Dixie", and a rousing game of 'town ball', which is an early version of modern baseball by Jeff Lawrence. It was our soldiers vs. the town folk, with the latter being the victorious team. Better luck next time boys! Our lunch was provided by Company F's illustrious cook, Bill—affectionately known by the soldiers as 'Dog Robber'.

We enjoyed a fabulous lunch of exceptional fried chicken, warm corn bread,

and tasty cookies. Kudos to our photographer, Karen, who with the challenges of a recent injury still managed to perform her duties top rate. It was a wonderful day of history and fun and enjoyed by all, followed by a delicious dinner at Mancusco's Restaurant.





School of the Soldier July 28 and September 9, 2012

A "mini" School of the Solider was held on July 14 at the home of Karen and Chris Purrone for the 14th's newest recruits, Greg Wanamaker and John Morrison. As it was too hot to stand outside in the yard, the Purrone's horses, Cal and RC graciously allowed Sgt. Purrone and his recruits to come inside their barracks (barn) to drill.

Basic drill was reviewed. To assist in the learning process, Greg video taped (using his iPhone) Chris running thru the drills. He shared a copy of his video with John to help in the review.

Both men were attentive students and caught on quickly, despite the heat.

A second School of the Soldier was held on September 9 again at Fiddler's Green, for the rest of the members of Company F. Marching and drilling were the order of the day. In attendance, were Paul, Irv, Greg, John, Gary, and Chris. The new recruits fired their rifled muskets for the first time and were shown how to clean them.

Karen Purrone



Drilling inside the barn



Greg preparing to fire



Greg video taping the drill



Cleaning muskets



Discussing soldier's acutraments



Paul demonstrates his technique

Maryland My Maryland 150th Anniversary of the Battle of Antietam September 7, 8 and 9, 2012

hris and I traveled down together Friday and arrived in camp around 2:30pm. We found the NR camp site and set up my dog tent in officer's country, next to Steve Hanson, Adjutant Tim and Col. Tom Downes. Mark McNerney and I were to share my dog tent. Chris then departed to check into his hotel. I was about to portray a 1st Lt. with the NR in the field for the first time, serving as Captain McNerney's LT and here I am hanging out with the colonel and his staff. Very cool! I even got to share in a couple of toasts to the event. The stars were out as we hung out by the fire and when we turned in, it was actually mild. Saturday morning arrived early with coffee for the colonel, and Chris, John, and Greg marching into camp. Warren didn't make



it this weekend though registered, he was in the "field hospital". Chris drilled John and Greg, preparing them both for their first big event. They were about to see the elephant for the first time.

Chris, John and Greg had taken the horse-drawn wagon ride from the parking lot to our camp that morning. In an ironic twist of fate, the other soldiers on that wagon were from the 26th North Carolina. The original 26th attacked the wall on Cemetery Ridge just left of 14th the 3rd day of the battle at Gettysburg.

Co. F was falling in with the 6th NH with Matty Cronin as our 1st SGT and 1st PA Reserves supplying our 2nd SGT, to form 4th Company in the NR. Soon we were forming up for dress parade, and marching out to do some drilling. We then broke for camp, but Capt. Mark wanted us to drill a bit more. It was a bit much for Greg who decided for health reasons, he should sit out the first battle. We got back to our company streets, did a bit of sutler shopping and got back just in time. We formed for battle as the sky started getting darker. We formed up, march to our staging area and stacked arms. As we waited to go into Fox's Gap some lightening came, then the wind and then down came the rain! We all grabbed our swords and muskets and ran for cover! I made it under a near by fly while the others headed for company streets. By the time it stopped, most were wet if not soaked. I fared well. The battle was rescheduled but the NR decided not to go out, with more rain reported coming our way. Capt. Mark asked 4th Co and we said why not, we're already wet. So we hooked onto another battalion going out and formed on their left of the line. We picked up a few others from the NR and together fought the Rebs well. Unfortunately, Chris and John had departed on the word that the NR wasn't going out and missed it. 4th Co. returned and tried to dry out what was still wet. I hung out with the 6th NH at their fire until dark. With it getting cooler at night, Mark and I hunkered down in the dog tent expecting more rain, but we were colder but not rained on. Sunday morning, we were up at 4:30am with Chris and John rejoining the ranks ready for battle. Forming the battalion in the dark, we marched off to our staging area. We made a fire and cooked breakfast.

Then the attack through the Wheatfield began. Artillery and musket smoke darkened the sky and blocked the sun. As the first assault failed, we went in following the corn stalks. We engaged the Rebs and put up a good fight, but fell back when pressed on out left flank. We returned to our fire/staging area to await the battle with A.P. Hill. We formed and marched out along the very cornfield we had earlier fought in, stacked rifles and waited some more. When we were ordered in, there were the spectators to our left and the Rebs on a rise directly to our front.



We engaged with John and Chris seeing the Rebs for the first time. Chris was lucky but John went down. Slightly wounded he was able to rejoin our ranks. Afterwards, with photo-ops and farewells, we bid our pards of the 1st PA Res. and 6th NH a safe trip home. Co F members along with John's wife Kathy and son walked back to the sutler's. The Morrison's went to shop a bit more while Chris and I walked back to break down my tent and say farewell to the staff.





With knapsack on my back and poles with Chris, we walked to our car and to the hotel. After freshening up, Chris took me to the same restaurant he took Greg and Barbara Saturday night. Good food and dessert for sure!!! We turned in early. Monday we had breakfast at the hotel, checked out and drove the back roads to Gettysburg. We hit S&S Sutler, a bakery, a Gettysburg wine shop, The Horse Soldier and O'Rourke's for lunch. Last stop, a sweet shop, then we headed for home. Great weather for Sunday and Monday made for a great end to our 150th Antietam. Thanks to Chris, John, Greg and Warren for committing to this event. I hope to see more of you next year at the 150th Gettysburg.

Paul Martinello

The editor would like to thank Kathy Morrison for providing the photos. Great job, Kathy!!







General Mansfield House Middletown, CT After Action Report September 15, 2012

ompany F, 14th CVI had an excellent turnout...both military and cilivian at the General Mansfield House in Middletown, CT. Many thanks to all the boys in blue who volunteered for duty that day. They were: Lt. Paul Martinello (commanding), Sgt. Chris Purrone, Cpl. Irving Moy (Joseph Pierce), Privates Gary Horton, Bill Mellow (company cook), Nick Ivanoff, Mike Adiletta (Sr.), Mike Adiletta (Jr.), Joe Adiletta (aide de camp), John Morrison, Jeff Lawrence, James Lawrence, John Patten, and Matt Patten (drummer). This represented one of the largest turnouts by soldiers in our living history events this year.

Besides 14 soldiers "protecting" the General Mansfield house, we also had Julie Moy representing the Christian Commission, Lauren Martinello as the typical Civil War house wife, Carolyn Ivanoff as the Civil War nurse, Jennifer Eastman-Lawrence, "the Nightingale of Colt Meadows", and introducing Kathy Morrison coming today in her new red dress. This wasn't Kathy's first reenactment, but this was the first time she got dressed up to play the part. We also had the pleasure of two young people, Molly and Jim from the group "That Which Remains". We know them better as the fifer (Molly) and



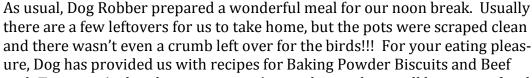
drummer (Jim) from the Connecticut Valley Field Music, the fife and drum group that usually leads us in the Rockville Memorial Day parade. It was nice that they could join us in Middletown.



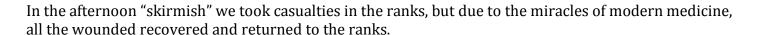
During our morning drill, Mayor Dan Drew officially proclaimed Saturday, September 15 to be Civil War Day in Middletown. He presented a plaque to Debby Shapiro, the Director of the Middlesex County Historical Society. It was an honor for Company F to be part of such a special presentation.

The day was warm and sunny, but a little bit too windy...our displays were constantly blowing over and had to be propped up. Even the musicians, Back Swamp, had problems

with their sheet music blowing away. Pvt. Jeff was kind enough to act as a "music stand holder" during their performance. Jen Lawrence also serenaded the troops with several Civil War classics (despite the smoke from Dog Robber's fire that kept blowing in her face!)



with Turnips. And in the next quarter's newsletter, there will be recipes for the Maple Glazed Carrots and Bread Pudding!





After our traditional "group photograph", a tired but happy group broke camp and walked over to The First and Last Tavern (conveniently across the street from the General Mansfield House) and enjoyed a fine meal before leaving for home.

Karen Purrone

CT Sesquicentennial Event- Wickham Park September 29, 2012

oul weather greeted those who were coming in to set up Friday afternoon, including myself and Chris. The grassy fields muddied up quickly and the moister switched from drizzle to rain on and off. Our Co. Street was placed next to the 2nd CVHA, whom we were forming a company with, in the left wing of the battalion. We in turn helped set each other's canvas up. I offered my fly to them for Friday night, which they used. Chris and I left soaked.

Saturday morning Chris and I arrived, as did Lauren and Karen, the Adiletta's, Morrisons, Moys, Ivanoffs, Peter Garafalo, Bill Mellow and Mick Bedard, who set up his Surgeons display under our fly. Saturday was dryer and improved as it went on. As we fell in to form company with 2nd CVHA and Co K 28th MA, I was to be it's 1st LT to Captain Scalora, but before I even fell into my position, battalion commander Bryda called for an officer for his right wing. Without knowing the plan, I was put in command of 1st Company, filling in for Captain Perlotto, who was now right wing commander. I left my boys in good hands though, and both Captain Scalora and 2nd SGT Woods both confirmed the boys of Co F marched and fought well. We all formed for Battalion drill then returned to our streets. Some drilled, others hit the settlers, while Mick





gave his medical talk to large crowds. We formed up the battalion and marched up to the log cabin, then into the woods. The right wing went in first against the left of sunken road. Then the left wing came in and hit them in the middle. We pulled back and around the artillery and hit the Rebs on their right flank. Then we all went in and over ran the sunken road. Victory!, and the crowd cheered us on as we regrouped and marched up the hill back to camp. We did photo-ops and also with President Lincoln. Then we bid farewell to those pards who were leaving Saturday. The Adiletta soldiers, Peter and I stayed. We cooked over the fire and raided the sutlers. There were toasts to our fallen brothers and

shared times by our fire as well as the 2^{nd} CVHA's fire. The stars came out with a full moon enclosed by haze. A very comfortable evening was had by all.



Sunday was the best day weather wise, with sun and blue skies. Reveille woke us. We formed up for inspection arms. I turned over 1st Co. to the 11th CT captain for the dress parade and pass in review by the Widow Runk in memory of the passing of her husband. I then stepped back in when we stepped off stopping by the sutlers area to receive flags and streamers, and then to the cabin for dignitary speeches and battalion photos with Lt. Governor Nancy Wyman, the Governor's Foot Guard and National Guardsmen with the Hartford city skyline in the background. Then back to camp where we formed up for Fredericksburg at 12:30pm. The sunshine made the day. The battalion marched down the drill field, across the road and into a hidden field where we stacked arms. The first engagement was by the kids attacking and being involved. Then the left wing went in and attacked Marye's Heights on the right, then we came in on the left. Half of us went down, as we fell back and reunited with the left wing, and with the remainder of the battalion went in and we all eventually went down including the colors.

After the battle we returned to our company streets to break camp, all the canvas having dried. I thanked the command staff for the opportunity to command in the field again. It was a good experience working with a combined company of 8^{th} CT, 11^{th} CT and 10^{th} MA soldiers on Sunday and they all performed well. I was out of there by 4pm just beating the shower that came through during my ride home. I hope the rest of Co F looks forward to next year's sesquicentennial as I do.

Paul Martinello







Shelton Historical Society October 6, 2012

VV ell here we are, completing our last living history event for 2012, the second full year of Co F 14th CVI. Though limping in without brake lights, I arrived first to start setting up. Then, the Moy's and Bill Mellow arrived. First went up the canvas, then the fire pit and fire. As others arrived, we continued setting up till we were ready to start our program.



Sgt. Purrone drilled the soldiers as I looked on. The ladies were busy talking to a few spectators and Bill was preparing our noon meal. With the spectators a bit light in the morning and after quite a bit of instructional drilling, we broke ranks and went back to the company street.

Chris manned his weapons display while Gary and Irving started singing period songs with Gary on guitar and Carolyn and I joining in.

Peter Garafalo portrayed a soldier in handcuffs for stealing, while under the watchful eye of Joe Adieltta's trusted Remington rifle. Later, when President Lincoln came through the camp, that scoundrel Pete convinced the president to pardon him. Keep a sharp eye...on that Peter Garafalo.



Shortly after we started our separate presentations,, the gathering of spectators increased, so I decided to gather what soldiers were free, to give a firing demonstration, while others remained at their particular stations. All went well but for one musket. After firing and returning to camp, I examined the bad musket and removed the plate, working the spring and tumbler with oil and wrench till it was working again. This process was passed on to the soldiers watching, so that they might have a better understanding of how their muskets work and to understand how to care for it and understand how to fix certain issues.

We were then called to eat yet another fine meal prepared by Bill. Then Irving with the aid of Gary, gave the Joseph Pierce presentation, along with President Lincoln's presentation. We noticed the sky getting a bit darker and with the spectators moving from one stage towards ours, we formed up to give our second firing demonstration. After successfully maneuvering and firing, and taking questions from the spectators, we broke ranks while rain drops began coming down. But to our luck, it stopped and we were able to break camp with dry canvas.

I bid farewell to all, for I was in a hurry to get home without brake lights before dark. I was unable to go out afterwards to eat dinner, but I assume a good place was found and enjoyed by all attending! Thanks to all the soldiers and civilians who attended and for making our last living history for 2012 a success.

Paul Martinello











Baking Powder Biscuits

2 Cups flour

1 Teaspoon salt

1 Tablespoons baking powder

1/3 Cup shortening

3/4 Cup milk

Pre-heat the oven to 450 degrees F.

Mix the dry ingredients together.

Cut shortening into the mixture until crumbly.

Add milk and stir.

Roll out on a floured cutting board to $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch thickness. The biscuits will expand to about $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch in thickness.

Cut with a biscuit cutter or teacup.

Place in an un-greased baking kettle and bake for 12-15 minutes.

Yields approximately 18 biscuits.



3 pounds beef

8 to 10 turnips

2 teaspoons of salt

3 to 5 potatoes

Cover meat with cold water in heavy kettle.

Heat rapidly to boiling; remove scum.

Add salt; place on low heat, and simmer, covered, until tender; about 2 hours.

Peel turnips and potatoes and quarter.

Remove meat from kettle, cut from bone, cube and return to kettle along with turnips.

Simmer, covered, about 45 minutes.

Add the potatoes 20 minutes before serving.

Serves 12





Scheduled Events

With the Remembrance Day parade behind us (the after action report will appear in the January –March 2013 issue of our newsletter), next year looks to be jampacked with excitement between the many living history events and a couple of big battles for our soldiers to participate in, all of which will be discussed at our at annual meeting on January 12, 2013 at the General Joseph Mansfield House in Middletown. Hope to see you all there!!

