

April-June 2014

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:

When the 150th anniversary of the commemoration of the Civil War began three years ago, it was with the hope that the celebration and events planned would captured the renewed interest of the public to the history and relevance of the Civil War as the early 1990's did with the publication of "Battle Cry of Freedom", the movie, "Gettysburg" and Ken Burns' series, "The Civil War." But recent articles bemoan what many consider a losing battle against apathy for the most defining event in our nation's history, which shaped and defined our national character.

Limited government funding to hold events, widespread ignorance, attention elsewhere by younger Americans from social media to fixation on superheroes, and diverse racial issues that the war represents are factors cited for low turnout for events. As Gary Gallagher, a Civil war historian from the University of Virginia, is quoted as saying about the anniversary being anemic" in part because Americans still find the subject uncomfortable, *"It's hard to talk about if you don't mention race, emancipation and slavery."* Even at Gettysburg attendance has decreased from nearly 7,000,000 at its peak year in 1970 to 1.2 million in 2013 according to the NPS.

As living historians of Co. F, as long as the divisive issues of the role of federal and state government in people's lives, race relations, red vs. blue states, etc. that were not resolved during the Reconstruction Period, continue to persist, our mission to educate and keep alive the collective memory of the Civil War Era will continue. Failing to do so will result in the loss of the war's meaning to those advocates of Southern heritage and a "politically correct" agenda for those who gave their "last measure of devotion." Our appreciation goes to the organizations who support us by holding events and to you for attending them.

Your Obedient Servant,

Irving Moy

Irving Moy, President

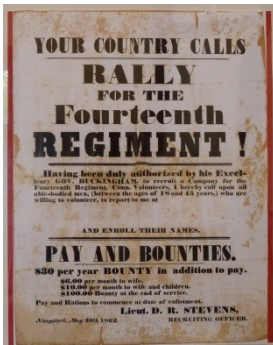
Chris Purrone, Vice President

Paul Martinello, Treasurer

Gary Horton, Recording
Secretary

Karen Purrone, Member-At
Large
Newsletter Editor and Facebook
Admin.

Bill Mellow, Webmaster



Scheduled Events

Come Visit with Company F in 2014

Our remaining events in 2014 are listed below with the addresses of the event. All living history events begin at 10:00 a.m. and end at 3:00 p.m. Come and join us if you are in the area and see the collections and learn of the programs offered by the various sponsoring organizations

June 28	Cromwell Historical Society 395 Main Street, Cromwell, CT	Look for the After Action Report for Cromwell in the 3rd Quarter Newsletter!!
July 26	Cornwall Historical Society 26 Pine Street, Cornwall, CT	
Sept. 20	375 th Anniversary Town of Stratford Stratford Historical Society 967 Academy Hill, Stratford, CT	
Oct. 11	300 th Anniversary Town of Ashford Ashford Historical Society 22 Pompey Hollow Road, Ashford, CT	
Oct. 17-18	150 th Anniversary Battle of Cedar Creek Cedar Creek, VA	
Nov. 14-16	Remembrance Day Weekend Gettysburg, PA	

2015 Schedule of Events

Our 2015 schedule of living history events is complete. We are actively scheduling events for 2016. Let us know if you want us to hold a living history event by contacting irvingmoy@yahoo.com We will be holding events with the following organizations in 2015.

- 05/16 300th Anniversary of the Town of Tolland, Tolland Historical Society
- 06/06 Wallingford Historical Society
- 07/11 Old Saybrook Historical Society
- 07/25 200th Anniversary Town of Griswold
- 09/12 Middlesex County Historical Society
- 09/26 Weston Historical Society
- 10/17 West Haven Veterans & Learning Center

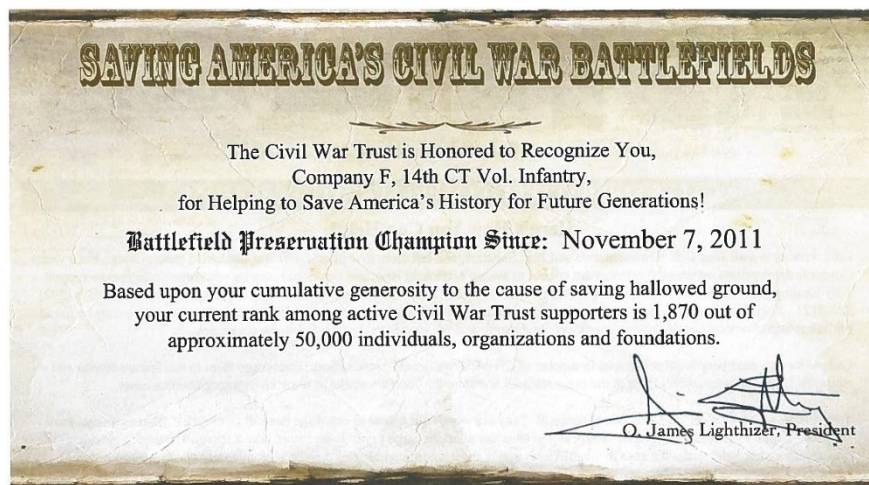


Noteworthy

Preservation Donations in 2014

Preservation Donations in 2014

To date Co. F has donated **\$1,600** to the Civil War Trust and other preservation projects. We are on our way to exceeding our 2013 total of \$3,394. Since its inception in 2011 donations have been made totaling \$8,416 from event honorariums and individual donations.



School Programs

Co. F has added school presentations to its educational programming of living history events and program speakers. Our presentations include a review of this major event in our nation's history, presentations by our military soldiers, company cook, "The Dog Robber" and civilian contributions on the home front. The "Co. F Traveling School Team" recently conducted programs on May 22nd at East Catholic High School in Manchester, on June 5th at Harborside Middle School in Milford and on June 16th at HALS (House of Arts, Letters & Sciences) in New Britain. Co. F is fortunate to have seven educators of which four are history teachers, on its membership roster.

Be sure to read the Behind the Scenes Report by Warren Stevens about his "adventures" with the Travel Team



East Catholic High School



Harborside Middle School



HALS, New Britain



After Action Reports

CWT Park Day at Fort Trumbull April 5, 2014

This year's CWT Park Day clean up was once again held at Ft. Trumbull in New London. But this year, the weather cooperated...it was slightly overcast and cool, but not rainy or terribly cold as it had been our last two years. This year, Company F was ably assisted by 55 US Coast Guard Cadets, six DEEP staff and several other groups that volunteered to come down and help us, for a total of 72 people. Quite a turn out!

This year marked a milestone. Jon Lincoln, Park Supervisor of the Fort Trumbull Management Unit, announced his retirement in September 2014. Board members Irving Moy, Chris Purrone, Paul Martinello and Karen Purrone presented to Jon a certificate of an honorary membership to Company F, a certificate of appreciation from the CWT and a Company F mug. Irving summed it up by saying "It's been a team effort all along since we began holding CWT Park Day three years ago. Ku-



dos go to our academy coordinators, Cadets Martin and Flynn and, especially, to you for the daunting tasks of coordinating affairs from your end with the Friends of Fort Trumbull and the CT Dept of Environment & Energy. You will be missed greatly by all of us when you retire in September."



Seymour Historical Society Living History Event

"I want to thank you again for a wonderfully successful encampment Saturday (April 26th) at the Seymour Historical Society. Although the day was gray and miserable, everyone's spirits were bright and joyful as our guests engaged with all of your very professional re-enactors. It was a pleasure to host your fine group again this year. Please thank all of your members for a great day."

Evelyn Roy, SHS Board Member

For the fourth consecutive year we started our campaign season with our Friends of the Seymour Historical Society. The day began in rain, but cleared for a good attendance in the late morning and afternoon. Rain did not detour the soldiers from drilling or lessen their ability to adapt to the rain, as a shelter half was setup under the protection of a fly to continue our presentations. Our civilians setup their presentation displays and interacted with the public inside the lovely Katherine Mathies House. We welcomed our newest civilian re-enactors to their first event, Nancy Mellow, Jackie Bacon, Kate Conlin,



Jenn Bartlett, who portrayed spy, Kate Warne and author, Karl Bacon. Our seasoned campaigners attending were Julie Moy, Marge Bucholz, Carolyn Ivanoff, Karen Purrone, Mick Bedard, Paul Martinello, Chris Purrone, Mike Adiletta, Sr., Mike Adiletta, Jr., Nick Ivanoff, Bill Mellow, John Morrison, Mike Conlin, Mark Marganski, Jeff Lawrence and Irving Moy. Again, our thanks to the Seymour Historical Society.



After Action Reports, con't.

150th Anniversary Spotsylvania Campaign May 2nd – May 5th

Chris Purrone and I traveled down from Connecticut on Friday morning, while Nick Ivanoff and the Adiletta's, Mike, Mike, Jr. and Joe traveled down together from Gettysburg, PA.

The conditions for this entire event were so much better than the 2013 150th Chancellorsville event. The field was softer, the scenarios better and the weather much warmer at night with and a nice breeze both days. We were to form a company with our friends from the 6th NH and the 1st PA Reserves, but changes were made to the original orders. I was informed upon my arrival that I was moved up to company captain. Any change can happen like that, so always be prepared to move up a rank when in the field.

After camp was set up, the Major gathered a volunteer company to go out on night skirmish duty. I was captain of the volunteers. We stepped off just after dusk into the woods, built light breastworks of downed limbs, overlooking a creek. We stayed in position listening for rustling leaves to indicate movement by the Rebels, heard them, but no shots were fired in our vicinity until 10:30pm, off to our right. So we retired from the line back to camp.

Saturday morning, we were up at 4:30a.m., formed as the National Regiment and conducted a tactical in the woods which was part of the original battlefield. We crossed the creek on a log, engaged the Rebels in some fast moving back and forth fighting, with the enemy trying to constantly get around our left flank. Our Colonel, however, kept out maneuvering them till they were all around us, but we attacked in another direction. The battle was then over, and we were back to camp by 9am. It was quite a morning! We then ventured into town via wagons (horseless) to check out the settlers etc.

The main battle of the day was at 2:30 p.m. Our original order was to go in on the second attack but we were reassigned to make the first attack. We charged the rebel entrenchments but all were cut down by Rebel fire, with only some reaching the head log. We returned to camp licking our wounds. Later that evening there was an officers meeting that lasted till 10p.m.; I returned to the company street to fall asleep to singing around the camp fire.

For Sunday's battle, we were ready for some revenge! We were ordered to charge the same Rebel fortifications as before, but this time following the Major, we didn't stop, and charged right into the Rebel works, over the head log, and in amongst them. Then we went out the other side pushing them back further. We rallied in the field when the bugle. The battle was over. We parted ways with fond farewells, and Chris and I set off for hotel rooms. We dined at Fishbone and then parted for some need rest. On Monday's journey back to Connecticut, we visited the Stonewall Jackson Shrine for an informative tour of the home he died in. We then stopped at the Spotsylvania Court House Battlefield that our reenactment replicated and then headed home. It was another successful 150th Anniversary battle event. I hope you can all make the 150th Anniversary Battle of Cedar Creek this October for it may be the last big battle reenactment of the 150th sesquicentennial.

Paul Martinello



The attack at the Bloody Angle constituted the horrific climax of the Battle of Spotsylvania Court House.

Caption and picture courtesy of the NPS, Virginia website

After Action Reports, con't.

AAR: Decoration Day Ceremonies

On the 23rd of May this year in honor of Decoration Day, elements of Co. F, Fourteenth Connecticut-recreated continued an annual tradition, visiting the gravesites and cenotaphs of the late members of our antecedent unit, honoring the fallen and survivors alike, placing a flag where one may have been missing, saying a few words over the site, and singing a relevant song from the regimental history. To echo the words of our sixteenth President, it is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

The band's first stop was at Center Cemetery in East Hartford, the final resting place of Loren H. Goodrich, a private with the original Company F. Goodrich fought with Co. F in its first year of service, culminating in the Gettysburg campaign that he survived, but collapsed in the pursuit of Lee to the point where he was briefly assigned to the Veteran's Reserve Corps, but never served, instead being honorably discharged due to his wounds in late 1863. In his later years, he was a resident at Fitch's Home for Soldiers, the first such veteran's hospitals of its kind in the United States, before passing in 1909 at the age of 69. Having invested some time in discovering and researching Goodrich, this correspondent is personally grateful to the members of Co. F for adding Goodrich's gravesite to the itinerary, to remember this common soldier.

The middle stop on the memorial tour was Maple Cemetery in Berlin, where stands a cenotaph to Congressional Medal of Honor winner from the original Co. F, 14th Connecticut, Elijah Bacon. Surely, Bacon's actions in capturing the battle flag of the 16th North Carolina Infantry is a story well known to all members of our reenacting group—and if not, well. There is a brilliant bit of history still awaiting your reading in our regimental history. Bacon fell on May 6, 1864 in the horrific tangled mess of the Battle of the Wilderness, and received his MOH posthumously in December of that year.

The final stop of the day was at Fairview Cemetery in New Britain, where a tremendous number of old Fourteenth men are marked and remembered. Amongst those visited by our troupe was the stone of Samuel Perkins, Lt. Colonel with the 14th, who was grievous wounded at Fredericksburg. His gravesite marked with his December 9, 1874 passing is noted with a stone, but was without a flag or indication of his service. The men and women of Co. F addressed this shortfall and presented Col. Perkins with the honor he had justly earned.

Most of those present retired from the cemetery to the East Side Grill for libations and nourishment.



Something I would care to share with the members of the company, and indeed anyone seeking to remember our fallen forefathers, is a recollection that for every story of a soldier we uncover and can relate to the public, there are dozens that are unrecorded, misplaced, or forgotten. In our lore that we build around those whose tales remain, we have overrepresented those whose moments of heroism or positions of power made headlines, gained awards, and just recognition. But, there are those masses of ill-remembered lives of the common soldier who made the same sacrifices and suffered the same deprivation and horrors that our better remembered kin have. To them, I would offer this reprint of an old poem written just after the war that is every bit true now as it was then—and it addresses those memory holes in which so many men and lives have fallen. It too is altogether fitting and proper that we should remember *them*. The author is unknown, the title; 'The Common Soldier.'

THE COMMON SOLDIER

*Nobody cared, when he went to war,
But the woman who cried on his shoulder;
Nobody decked him with immortelles:
He was only a common soldier.*

*Nobody packed in a dainty trunk
Folded raiment and officer's fare:
A knapsack held all the new recruit
Might own, or love, or eat, or wear.*



After Action Reports, con't.

*Nobody gave him a good-by fete,
With sparkling jest and flower-crowned wine:
Two or three friends on the sidewalk stood
Watching for Jones, the fourth in line.*

*Nobody cared how the battle went
With the man who fought till the bullet sped
Through the coat undecked with leaf or star
On a common soldier left for dead.*

*The cool rain bathed the fevered wound,
And the kind clouds wept the livelong night:
A pitying lotion Nature gave,
Till help might come with morning light—*

*Such help as the knife of the surgeon gives,
Cleaving the gallant arm from shoulder;
And another name swells the pension list
For the meager pay of a common soldier.*

*See, over yonder all day he stands—
And empty sleeve in the soft wind sways,
As he holds his lonely left hand out
For charity at the crossing ways.*

*And this is how, with bitter shame,
He begs his bread and hardly lives;
So wearily ekes out the sum
A proud and grateful country gives.*

*What matter how he served the guns
When plume and sash were over yonder?
What matter though he bore the flag
Through blinding smoke and battle thunder?*

*What matter that a wife and child
Cry softly for that good arm rent?
And wonder why that random shot
To him, their own beloved, was sent?*

*O patriot hearts, wipe out this stain;
Give jeweled cup and sword no more;
But let no common soldier blush
To own the loyal blue he wore.*

*Shout long and loud for victory won
By chief and leader staunch and true;
But don't forget the boys that fought—
Shout for the common soldier too.*



After Action Reports, con't.

2014 Naugatuck Memorial Day Parade

For the first time Co. F marched in the Naugatuck on May 26, 2014, said to be the largest state parade, led by Naugatuck residents, Karl and Jackie Bacon. President and Mrs. Lincoln (Lew Dube and Karlee Etter) marched with us and drew enthusiastic applause and attention. Others marching were Mark Marganski, also a Naugatuck resident, Chris and Karen Purrone, Warren Stevens, Gary Horton, Paul Martinello, Mike Adiletta, Jr., Mike and Kate Conlin, John and Kathy Morrison, Joe Adiletta, Julie and Irving Moy. It was a wonderful way to help remember the sacrifices of all men and women who served in our armed forces.



375th Anniversary Town of Guilford: May 31, 2014

Co. F 14th CVI was honored to be chosen as the host reenacting organization for its "Guilford and the Civil War" living history event on its 6+ acre town green. Over the course of the 6 hr. event over 5,000 people entered our military and civilian camps to interact with us. All 27 active civilian and military members of Co. F were in attendance. The following account is from Pvt. John Morrison.

After Action Reports, con't.

Camp Guilford, May 31st

Dear Mother:

It was so good to receive your latest letter. You needn't worry so, for I am with the boys of Company F from the 14th CA, the grandest regiment in the Army of the Potomac, if not, the entire Union army. For example, the unit's recent sojourn to Guilford along the Connecticut shoreline should suffice to allay any of your concerns. There we spent a splendid Saturday afternoon among so many citizens that the Town Green instead was a rainbow of many colors, not just one. Only a brief noon shower interrupted a perfect day, although I think some of the lads needed a bit of cleansing after our recent march.

I wanted to visit the peninsula of Sagem Head in Guilford; I remember Father's stories about the colonists' interactions, both good and bad, with the natives there. However, a side trip was not possible, as the good people of Guilford were so interested in having an infantry unit visit that they showered us with attention and questions throughout the day. This type of bombardment was a welcomed change from the norm. The locals were in a particularly festive mood, as the small town was celebrating its birth in 1639.

Apparently, it was such a huge event that even President Lincoln was present. Just like any politician, the president didn't waste an opportunity to make a speech and the response from the audience indicated it was received warmly at the very least. To be honest, it seemed as if the applause was muted somewhat by concern for us and all the men in blue still appearing across the country.

The advance platoon set up in camp the night before along the edge of the Town Green. Some rain and noisy constables around 3 o'clock in the morning made sleep intermittent at best, I was told. I arrived with the rest of Company F on Saturday morning; dog tents were pitched quickly to form the company street. We were joined by our frequent partners, the 6th New Hampshire and 119th New York, to the delight of the townspeople. How grand it was to see again the men with whom we've marched and fought so many times before. The officers instantly fell into a hierarchy familiar to all, with Lt. Martinello sharing leadership duties.

Sgt. Purrone saw more action that Saturday than he did at Gettysburg, believe it or not. After our first firing exhibition, Sgt. Purrone was inundated with questions at his gun display. During the course of the day, the locals nary left him 10 minutes to eat lunch and were as much as five deep at times. Had the townspeople been rebels, I fear the brass wouldn't even attempt a rescue mission since it seemed impossible to get through his crowd.

Since the posted guards assured there weren't any rebels in the area, townspeople were invited onto the company street to see our equipment and ask any questions, which - again - were many. Some engagements with the crowd were so long we began to wonder if rings were involved. The spectators genuinely appeared grateful for our war efforts, as they smiled continuously and shared pleasant conversation. Although I met several ladies squired by gentlemen, there were a few without a beau. However, let Kathy know she need not be concerned, as her love is all I need.

After Action Reports, con't.

Since the citizens were such gracious and attentive hosts, we regaled them with various military drills, which included a 34-star flag raising ceremony, firing demonstrations, and marching exhibitions. With our numbers swelled by the additions of the 6th NH and 119th NY, we were able to hold such drills hourly (with the exception of the rain) until the sun reached its highest point. Starting around 1 p.m., we were released to enjoy several other activities on the Town Green: these included a farmer's market, a smithy using his anvil, several 10-minute plays about famous people in our times (including John Brown), and many musical interludes. The leader of the 14th MA band surely was intrigued by the number of fiddles and guitars used by various groups on stage throughout the day.

Around 4:30 p.m., we thrilled the crowd once again with a parting firing demonstration. Perhaps at the behest of the boys from New Hampshire, another contest was held to see how many shots a soldier could fire in a minute. Company F represented itself quite well in this endeavor: for example, Pvt. Adiletta Sr. even took an early lead in one such competition.

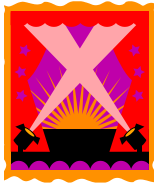
With orders to pack before chow was served, we broke camp after a most-satisfying respite from action. Perhaps it was the mood created in part by the appreciative locals but we seemed to load the wagons in record time. Within minutes, several were able to have supper at a local bistro and recount the day's events. Then it was time once again to be on the move to our next destination. I can't tell you where we're headed by I can give you a hint: it's a rosy place.

Please give my love to Molly and Father. Let him know the razor he sent has enabled me to keep my boyish charm. While many of my comrades sport long beards, the itch prevents me from doing so.

Know that I miss you all dearly and hope to see you soon.

*Your loving Son,
John*





Behind the Scenes

On The March with Co. F: The Traveling Civil War School Team

When I first replied I would do this, I had no idea just how rewarding this experience was going to be. Our first presentation occurred at East Catholic High School in Manchester on May 22nd. It rained so we set up inside. I was paired with Pvt. Gary Horton, and we came up with the idea of suiting up a couple of students. After doing the history of the 14th and some on the Civil War in general, we asked for volunteers. Two young men came forward and we suited them out in our spare gear and clothing. It was a big hit with the students. We did this for 2 groups of 50 students each. Bill and Nancy Mellow, aka Mr. and Mrs. Dog Robber, did their presentation on the Civil War cooking and Irving on the causes and effects of the Civil War on our national character in the school's auditorium. All presentations were well received by students and teachers. In fact, a small group of students stayed over after school to visit the display and do a little more one on one with us.



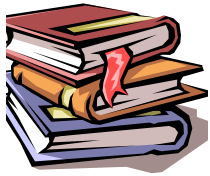
Our second school visit was Harborside Middle School in Milford on June 5th. Again, it rained so we set up inside, and I was paired with Cpl. Irving Moy. This was the first time I was able to view the presentation by Mr. and Mrs. Dog Robber and it was impressive to say the least. Cpl. Moy and I did the soldier presentation. I started as a soldier returning home from the war in the first week of May, 1865. Reflecting on my time served with Co. F and the many battles we were in and how many friends we lost along the way, I read letters from home (the ones my daughter, Bridgette, and wife, Becky, wrote to me in Gettysburg last year) and displayed the tintype photo of the daughter I haven't seen in 3 years. Then the Corporal and I asked for volunteers and "enlisted" them into service. This seems to really work as it gets the students involved with a hands-on situation. Cpl. Moy had them stand on a piece of paper with the number "16" written on it, so when they were asked if they were "over 16" (to ensure they were of legal age to join) they could truthfully answer "yes". In all, we had nearly 200 students at this one and again we had many that came up to our displays with a wide range of questions. Some of the girls told me they had tears in their eyes when I read the letters from home and showed the tintype. Particular interest was shown regarding the contents of the haversack and the food types the soldiers ate.



The last presentation was at the House of Arts, Letters and Science Academy (HALS) in New Britain on June 18th. It was a nice day and we finally got to set up outside. I was paired with Sgt. Purrone and he had his fine display of firearms, and did the history of Co. F and the war. I set up a dog shelter and did a campaign impression once again portraying a soldier returning home in 1865. The students showed interest in the contents of the haversack and food types. My satisfaction for the day was having 2 different groups of students assist with the flint and steel fire making. It appears in this day and age of texting and IPODs, making a fire with your own hands is still really something for them to see. Mr. and Mrs. Dog Robber did their display inside and the classes were rotated. Sgt. Purrone suited up several students from each class, once again a big hit with the classes.

I am grateful to have been a part of this team. Hopefully we touched the minds of a few kids. Also, I have come to fully appreciate the talent of so many people in Co. F. Bill and Nancy Mellow, Chris, Irving (who also does all the contact and prep work), Gary and all of the photos taken by Karen Purrone and Bill Mellow. This has me looking forward to the start of the next school year and Traveling Team again.

Pvt. Warren Stevens



Book Review

The Definitive Work on Petersburg

The Petersburg Campaign Volume II: The Western Front Battles September 1864-
April 1865

Edwin C. Bearss and Bryce A. Suderow

Savas Beatie, 582 pages, 2014

ISBN: 978-1-61121-104-7

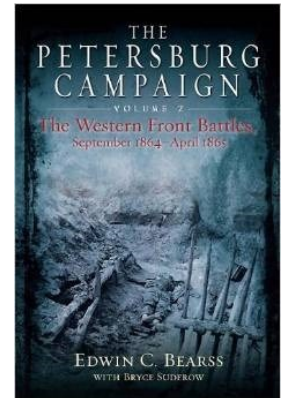
Every once and a while, a work comes out about a campaign that redefines how we think about certain battles and how we study these events. With the Petersburg Campaign Volume II, the chronicle of battles from the campaign comes to a finish and the excellence put forth in Volume I continues in Volume II.

Edwin Bearss is one of the most respected Civil War historians of our age and got his start at the Vicksburg National Military Park. From there, he has stretched himself all around the Civil War world as an authority on the campaigns and the people. A Marine who has served in World War II, he was severely wounded in the Pacific. From 1981 to 1994, he served as Chief Historian to the National Park Service and has authored many works and was pivotal to raising the USS Cairo. Bryce Suderow is a Civil War writer and researcher and has published many articles and is considered one of the finest archivists in the country. If it were not for Suderow, this work might never have come to light.

The battles studied in this volume show how the slow decline of the Confederate army not only destroyed their numbers but brought down morale as well. Bearss mentions the importance of the campaign because the excessive number of engagements not only makes it one of the longest sieges in American history, but one of the most violent. But one thing noticeable in the work, both in Volumes I and II, is the politicking going on in the Union army compared to that in the Confederate army. There seemed to be more to step around in the Union army while the Confederate army held a high regard for each other. Once again, as in Volume I, Bearss narrative is sometimes interrupted or introduced by Suderow which is a positive thing for the reader. For those not aware of what was happening during the campaign, these editorials throughout the narrative aid in the understanding of the battle. Bearss essays written for the use of the park service in Virginia, show us that even though they had been written years ago prove that there is something new to learn not only about the battles, but about the war as a whole. Those readers familiar with the Gettysburg Campaign will notice many characters reappearing in higher rank showing their talents and how much they have grown since those three days in July. In the essay about the Battle of Fort Stedman, one in particular, John Brown Gordon, shows that he is a capable commander in the field and is well trusted by his superiors. Once again, Bearss gives more of a narrative of Gordon's actions at Fort Stedman instead of giving you too much background information. The importance is not his actions previous, but his actions at Petersburg.

As stated before, this collection should be on the bookshelf of every Civil War historian. Much like his work on the Vicksburg Campaign, this two volume work is the definitive source on the Petersburg Campaign and a great introduction into the decline of the Confederate army in Virginia. Bearss and Suderow have created something which will be talked about among Civil War historians for quite some time.

—Matt Bartlett





Hincks' Mess

Ginger Cakes



These are **crisp, sugar coated cookies** and are delicious.

Ginger cakes or breads were popular. Some were soft and others were hard or crisp. Some recipes could be rolled out and cut into shapes and hung on the tree.

$\frac{3}{4}$ Cup shortening
1 Cup sugar
1 beaten egg
 $\frac{1}{4}$ Cup molasses
2 Teaspoons Baking Soda
1 Teaspoon cinnamon
1 Teaspoon ginger
2 Cups flour

Pre-heat the oven to 350 degrees F.

Cream the shortening and sugar together.

Add the egg and molasses and mix well.

Sift together the dry ingredients and add to the shortening mixture.

Mix until combined. Roll into walnut sized balls and roll in sugar.

Bake for 7 - 10 minutes.