



Battle Lines



Newsletter of Co. H, 5th Reg't. New Hampshire Vol's.

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NB Minister of Heritage: "What a Wonderful Organization!"

On Tuesday, October 6, Lindsay Titus made contact with Tammy Scott-Wallace, the newly-elected Conservative MLA for the constituency of Sussex-Fundy-St. Martins. She is also the newly-appointed Minister of Tourism, Heritage and Culture, and just happens to be a near-neighbour of Lieutenant Titus. In his email, Lt. Titus introduced himself and Co. H, and sent her a PDF file of our handbill, "The Fighting Fifth". Later the same day, he received this reply from Tammy Scott-Wallace: *Thank you, Lindsay, for reaching out to tell me about the 5th NHV. What a wonderful organization. I was familiar with it when I worked as a reporter in this community.* [Note: probably when Lt. Titus was a member of the 20th Maine].

*I wish you all well in your future activities and thank you for your contribution to our community and history.
Good-bye for now, Tammy*

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be by email for 2020. As this is not an election year, and there are no pressing issues, it was decided by an email vote to hold this year's AGM by email. The one major topic of discussion is our schedule of events for 2021, but this most likely may be resolved by email voting.

The informal survey was emailed out on October 20, and a week later (October 27), a total of six votes were received. No one felt the need for an in-person meeting; five agreed to a meeting by email; one suggested a meeting by Zoom; and one individual stated that he was not in favour of meeting by Zoom.

Article 1.2 (3c) of our Company H *Regulations* states that: "The AGM shall normally be an in-person meeting, but may be held by other means should circumstances so dictate (the Covid-19 pandemic being an example)."

Emails regarding finalizing the AGM agenda are being received by members. Emails for voting on items on the AGM agenda will be coming to members throughout the month of November. Time will be allowed for discussion. You may either "reply all" or reply privately to Lindsay Titus with your votes, questions or concerns.

According to our by-laws, only dues-paying members may vote. This means that our voters for 2020 are Dave Adams, Aaron Bouma, Steven Cochrane, Greg Fekner, Leigh Gavel, Loran Gavel, Joe Gee, Edmond Grenier, Barry Hippenstall, Brannson Hippenstall, Rick Jamer, Ricky Jamer, Bob Keretschko, Stephen Norman, Nicolas Tétrault, Sylvain Tétrault, Lindsay Titus and Nathan Titus – 18 voters. Family members are not eligible to vote, although they are encouraged to be involved in family discussions regarding a vote. Family members are Suzanne Guay, Marie Keretschko and Emilie McDonald. Further, I have been counting Nick Skinner on our muster roll, but he has not yet officially joined. With 18 voting members, a simple majority would be ten (10) votes for, or against a motion. Typically, we have been getting six-to-eight responses to emails, so we will need more voters to come forward for motions to be properly considered. Please plan to let your voice be heard!

Windsor Militaria Show: November 14

On October 7, Sergeant Gavel emailed Lt. Titus that he is reserving four tables at the Militaria Show in Windsor, Nova Scotia. The event is being held November 14 from 9 AM to 1 PM at the Hants County War Memorial Centre at 78 Thomas Street. Three of the tables are for selling his own items; the fourth is for Co. H to use as a recruiting table. Lt. Titus sent an email to the membership the same day, announcing the event. Some interest in attending has been shown by members; Lt. Titus plans to travel there with his wife, who will be doing some fabric shopping in nearby Avonport!

- ***Militaria Show - Windsor, NS - November 14, 2020*** ●
- ***Annual General Meeting by Email - November 2020*** ●
- ***Military Muster - Kings Landing - June 18-20, 2021*** ●
- ***Air Show Atlantic - Debert, NS - August 2021*** ●

Air Show Atlantic to Return in 2021

In an announcement shown live on Facebook on October 28, organizers and sponsors of Air Show Atlantic met to unveil their early plans for the air show's return to Debert, Nova Scotia in August 2021. No precise date was announced, just "late August", and many questions about the format of the 2021 air show remain to be answered. The air show had to be canceled in 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Sergeant Gavel highly recommended that Co. H, 5th New Hampshire participate in the event, as the 2019 air show in Greenwood, Nova Scotia drew 15,000 spectators. The Debert airport is located near Truro, Nova Scotia, and is easily accessible from the Trans-Canada Highway, so is reasonably central for our membership throughout the Maritimes.

Company H had applied to participate in the 2020 air show prior to its cancellation, and a new application will be sent to organizers as soon as it is appropriate. Although not a Civil War event, this is an opportunity for us to be seen by thousands of Maritimers, many of whom have an interest in all things military, so it has the potential to be a strong recruiting event. Once dates and details are known, they will be shared with Company H membership.

! News of the War in the East !

- **A Visit from Joe Gee** – Lt. Titus received a visit on Sunday morning, September 13, from Joe Gee and Tracey Connors. It was good to see Joe again, to meet Tracey for the first time, and to discuss many of the details of the then-upcoming Tomlinson Lake Hike to Freedom. Also, Joe paid his Co. H membership dues on this day.
- **Press Coverage Part 1** – Co. H, Fifth New Hampshire received prominent press coverage in an article in the Grand Falls-Victoria *Star* newspaper two weeks prior to the Tomlinson Lake Hike to Freedom.
- **Press Coverage Part 2** – The Grand Falls-Victoria *Star* printed an extensive article on the Tomlinson Lake Hike to Freedom in their October 6 edition, using the headline, "Civil War Reenactors Pay Tribute to Freedom Trail" Although no photographs of Co. H were used, the article places the company in a very positive light. Subscribers to any of the Irving newspapers may find the article in the on-line version archives under "Grand Falls". Joe Gee also posted the article on the Tomlinson Lake Hike to Freedom Facebook page. Subsequently, photographs of the combined battalion at Tomlinson Lake appeared in follow-up issues.
- **Hardtack Boxes & Ammunition Boxes** – Cummings' Cutting Corners, a woodworking business located near Sussex, New Brunswick, has offered to build hardtack boxes and ammunition boxes for us. One of each will soon be ordered and once we see the finished product and obtain a price, notice will go out to the membership, if anyone is interested. They will be sold unpainted and unlettered.
- **"Grant" DVD's Available** – A text message from Greg Fekner on October 14 set off a flurry of activity among Co. H members as they searched for a DVD copy of "Grant" that had just been released. After alerting the membership to the availability of the History Channel video mini-series, emails were received from Dave Adams, Rick Jamer, Sylvain Tétrault and Lindsay Titus about ordering, or finding the video at Walmart stores in Summerside, Moncton, Saint John and Sussex. Thank you, Greg, for sharing your discovery.
- **Delancey's Brigade** – Steve Fowler, president of Delancey's Brigade (Revolutionary War) has sent an email to their membership with the intent of gauging that group's interest in joining us at Kings Landing for the Military Muster scheduled for June 18-20.
- **Book Suggestions** – During October, Greg Fekner read and shared on Facebook some books he had read. They include Canadians in Blue, by Michael Phifer, and African Canadians in Union Blue, by Richard M. Reid. He has also recently read In Armageddon's Shadow, by Greg Marquis. Marquis is a professor at the University of New Brunswick's Saint John campus (UNBSJ), and some members of Co. H and Co. I, 20th Maine met Professor Marquis during a couple of Civil War-related events in Saint John not too many years ago.

Canadians in the Ranks of the Fifth New Hampshire

John E. Young was born in Canada, but was residing in Claremont at the time of his enlistment. Among the original enlistees, Young signed-up on September 6, 1861 and was mustered-in to Co. G on October 12, 1861 as a corporal. He was later promoted to sergeant, and was wounded and captured at Cold Harbor on June 3, 1864. He was exchanged in December 1864 and discharged on February 15, 1865 in Concord, his enlistment having expired. His postal address upon mustering-out was given as Claremont.

Powder & Caps Available from Sussex & Halifax Sources

Moffett's Hardware in Sussex is known as a place you can find just about anything. Lt. Titus spoke with Tina at Moffett's on September 15, and, following a check with her supplier in Ontario, she said that both percussion caps and black powder are available through them. The caps are the good ones: RWS No. 1081 four-wing musket percussion caps, made in Germany. They are running a little higher in price than they were a short time ago, at \$30.00 per container of 200 caps. If you recall, Lt. Titus sold some recently for \$26.00 per tin, which was his cost plus tax. Moffett's supplier had only four containers in stock, so Lt. Titus ordered all four. These were sold at cost, which, with tax, was \$34.50 per container. If members find caps at a better price, let us know your source. Lt. Titus bought the caps with the company in mind, but not with company funds.

Moffett's supplier also carries Goex black powder - also considered among the best. It has also gone up in price and is available to order for \$55.00 per one-pound can. With tax of \$8.25, the total cost of a pound of powder is \$63.25. Some veterans of the group will recall paying \$12.95 (US) at one time for the same amount of powder. Still, expensive powder is better than no powder at all. None was ordered, but Moffett's will be pleased to do so if you want some. There is no minimum order for either powder or caps. This is real black powder, not Pyrodex.

An email was also received on September 16 from Loyalist Arms in Halifax. It read, "We sell Goex black powder. Our current price \$32.00 for a 1-pound can, but we are extremely low on 2F & 3F black powder. We will be ordering more soon. We also sell CCI #301 four-wing musket percussion caps for \$ 13.95 per 100, and we have plenty in stock."

Note that the usual recommendation is that 58-calibre muskets use FFg (2-F) black powder and revolvers use the finer-grained FFFg powder. Three-F powder may be used in muskets, but when firing blanks, it tends to leave more powder in the barrel, thus fouling the musket more quickly. Some black powder shooters even recommend Fg (courser) powder for muskets of 58-caliber and larger when only firing blanks. Remember, rolling and making cartridges is a great winter project!

Is it Time for Company H Powder & Caps?

With costs rising for the purchase of both black powder and percussion caps, and with both increasingly more difficult to find, the question may be asked, "Is it time for the company to buy powder and caps?" Using company funds for the purchase of these necessities does not reduce the price of either, but it does distribute the cost more evenly throughout the company and would mean we could take advantage of a good price when it came along. While this may be a positive result, the problem then becomes, who, or how, do we cut, roll and fill cartridges so that this chore is also evenly distributed among the membership? There are solutions to most every problem, but as we head into the winter season, it might be a good time to consider the possible positive and negative results when making the purchase of powder and caps, and the rolling of cartridges, a company responsibility.

Dave Adams Donates Hand-made Bulletin Board



Dave Adams has donated a bulletin board (shown at left) to Company H. In an email to Lt. Titus on October 17, Dave asked if the company would like to have the bulletin board he made some time ago. It consists of board facings (not plywood), a wooden frame and wooden structural supports on the back. Dave wrote that the bulletin board is approximately four feet in length and a little over eighteen inches in height. It will add to our indoor displays and will even look appropriate in encampments, such as the Kings Landing event in June. Thank you, Dave, for this generous donation to the company!

In Command (1 of 6): The Fifth New Hampshire at Fair Oaks

- ♣ **May 31-June 1, 1862**
- ♣ **Army of the Potomac** – Major General George B. McClellan
- ♣ **II Corps** – Major General Edwin V. Sumner
- ♣ **1st Division** – Brigadier General Israel B. Richardson
- ♣ **1st Brigade** – Brigadier General Oliver O. Howard
- ♣ **5th New Hampshire** – Colonel Edward E. Cross (w: 5/31); Lt. Colonel Samuel G. Langley



Company H Commander Lindsay Titus, Colin Moore, Dave Menton, Bruce Barber, Rick Jamer, Dave Adams, Ricky Jamer & Leigh Gavel CiCo. H, 5th are back again, this time with members from Co. I of 20th, Maine



You'd see the bright orange flash of burning powder if I could print in colour... T

Photography by Corinne Fitzherbert; the Grand Falls-Victoria "Star".