



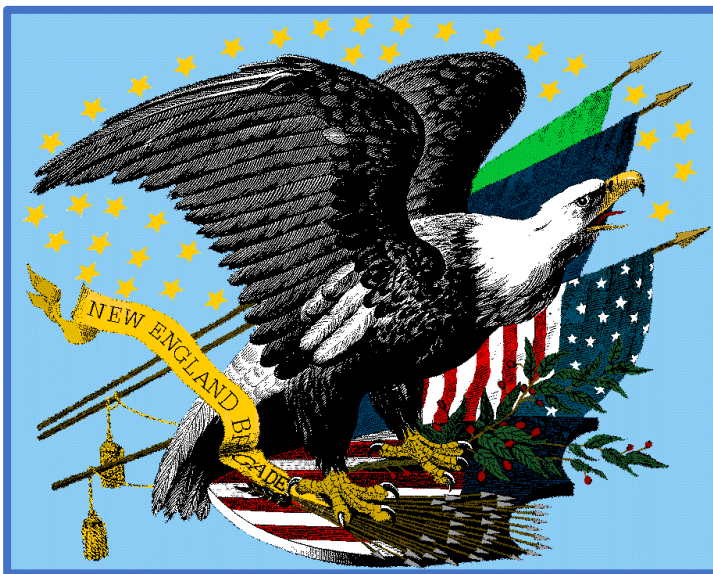
# Battle Lines



Newsletter of Co. H, 5<sup>th</sup> Reg't. New Hampshire Vol's.

• Mustered-in March 17, 2002 •  
• *Issue No. 41 • February 5, 2022* •

## We Join the New England Brigade!



On January 15, 2022, Co. H, 5<sup>th</sup> New Hampshire was accepted on a probationary basis as a member of the New England Brigade (NEB). This is, indeed, a milestone event in the history of the present-day Company H. Membership in the NEB provides us with an “umbrella” group to be a part of, when participating in large Civil War events, particularly larger, anniversary events, such as 160<sup>th</sup> Antietam (2022) or Gettysburg (2023). It also provides us the opportunity to be a part of, and gain experience in, the various aspects of drill and troop movements in a larger, battalion-size setting.

Following is a timeline of how we became part of the New England Brigade:

- **August 5, 2021** – An article printed in the August 5 issue of “Battle Lines” asked the question: “The NEB – Is this a group we should try to join?”
- **August 28, 2021** – At a drill held in Sussex, Co. H members discussed joining the New England Brigade; also brought up was the possibility of increasing Co. H membership dues to \$30.00 (up from \$25.00) to help offset the annual NEB membership dues. It was agreed to place these two ideas on the agenda of our 2021 Annual General Meeting.
- **September 5, 2021** – The information discussed at the August 28 drill was published in the September 5 issue of “Battle Lines” for all members to consider.
- **September 19, 2021** – The Co. H AGM was held at Kings Landing on Sunday, September 19. At this meeting, and in the email vote that followed over the next few days, it was decided by a vote of 9-0, with one abstention, to apply to the NEB for membership.
- **September 24, 2021** – An extra edition of “Battle Lines” provided the Minutes of the Co. H Annual General Meeting, held at Kings Landing on Sunday, September 19, and announced the vote results to the membership.
- **December 28, 2021** – A draft of an NEB application letter composed by Captain Titus was emailed as a PDF file to both Dave Adams and Leigh Gavel as executive members for their consideration.
- **December 28, 2021** – Captain Titus received email responses from both Dave Adams and Leigh Gavel, approving of the application letter, and suggesting no changes.
- **December 29, 2021** – Lindsay Titus emailed Paul Dudley of Co. B, 20<sup>th</sup> Maine, to ask if Co. B belonged to a larger “umbrella” group, and asked if there might be interest in starting one regionally. As of February 1, 2022, no response to this question had been received.

- **December 29 & 30, 2021** – Emails to update the progress of our application were exchanged among Lindsay Titus, Dave Adams and Leigh Gavel.

***Timeline, continued...***

- **January 3, 2022** – An application for membership email was sent to Matty Cronin, president of Co. E, 6<sup>th</sup> New Hampshire Volunteers, asking if they would be a sponsoring unit for our application to the NEB. Attached as PDF files were (a) a letter of introduction and application; (b) a copy of our press information handbill; and (c) a copy of our December 2021 newsletter, the last two items intending to give them a sense of who we are.
- **January 5, 2022** – Captain Titus received an email response from Matty Cronin of the "Bully Sixth", stating that he was pleased that we wished to join the NEB, and that he and NEB president, Todd Bryda, would be speaking by telephone about our application.
- **January 5, 2022** – Captain Titus replied by email to Matty Cronin, thanking him for his quick response, and also attaching the just-released January 5, 2022 Co. H newsletter.
- **January 5, 2022** – Co. H members were informed by email that our application to join the NEB had been sent to the 6<sup>th</sup> New Hampshire as a potential sponsoring unit.
- **January 14, 2022** – The Co. H membership was informed by email that earlier this day, Captain Titus found a posting on Facebook of the NEB's agenda for their AGM, scheduled for Saturday, January 15. One line on the agenda simply read: "5<sup>th</sup> NH".
- **January 14, 2022** – Dave Adams responded positively to this news.
- **January 14, 2022** – In another email, Dave Adams sent to Captain Titus a screenshot from the NEB Facebook page, showing a posting about the 5<sup>th</sup> NH and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Maine both joining the NEB.
- **January 14, 2022** – Captain Titus emailed Dave Adams to ask if he could forward the screenshot to Leigh Gavel. Dave agreed to this idea.
- **January 14, 2022** – Lindsay Titus forwarded the screen shot to Leigh Gavel.
- **January 15, 2022** – Leigh Gavel and Evelyn Fidler responded enthusiastically to the news from January 14 that we were listed on the NEB AGM agenda.
- **January 15, 2022** – Co. H was approved for membership in the NEB. Part of Colonel Todd Bryda's email read, "Good morning, Capt. Titus, I am the president and military commander of the New England Brigade. I was very intrigued with your communication with our Matthew Cronin about NEB membership. Your paperwork and story certainly are impressive. I had a long phone conversation with Matthew and exchanged emails with my Board of Directors, and everyone shared the same opinion. We would like to offer you probationary membership in the NEB for the 2022 season. Congratulations!" (*Todd Bryda*) A membership application form was attached, and he requested a copy of our muster roll.
- **January 15, 2022** – The membership application form and a copy of the Co. H muster roll were emailed as attachments to Todd Bryda.
- **January 15, 2022** – Initial membership dues of \$100.00 (US) were paid to the NEB.
  - Dues of \$100.00 (\$130.94 Cdn) were paid through PayPal via the NEB website.
  - The PayPal payment was made by a credit card account of Captain Titus.
- **January 15, 2022** – Lindsay Titus emailed Todd Bryda to explain that Co. H membership dues were paid via PayPal on the NEB website and asked for a response, if that was not the correct procedure.
- **January 15, 2022** – Lindsay Titus informed the membership of Co. H of our acceptance into the New England Brigade.
- **January 15, 2022** – Responses to the news of our acceptance were received by Captain Titus from Leigh Gavel, Loran Gavel, Dave Adams and Evelyn Fidler. Evelyn Fidler asked for the web address of the NEB, which was provided.
- **January 15, 2022** – Lindsay Titus emailed Todd Bryda to thank him for his efforts and support of our application to join the New England Brigade.
- **January 15, 2022** – Lindsay Titus emailed 6<sup>th</sup> New Hampshire president, Matty Cronin, to thank him for his efforts on our behalf and for his support in Co. H becoming a member of the New England Brigade.
- **January 15, 2022** – Todd Bryda, president of the NEB, responded to the email sent earlier today by Lindsay Titus with a "thank-you". He also said, "We are so happy for you and the 5th to join our family!"

- **January 15, 2022** – Matty Cronin of the 6<sup>th</sup> NH replied, “Thank you for the nice email. I am really looking forward to meeting you and your guys. I think your unit will be a great asset to the New England Brigade.”

### ***Timeline, continued...***

- **January 15, 2022** – Captain Titus responded to Todd Bryda to express the happiness of Co. H to be accepted as a member of the NEB.
- **January 16, 2022** – Lindsay Titus emailed Mary Baruth, to inform her of our news and to let her know how this might positively affect Kings Landing encampments in the future.
- **January 17, 2022** – Lindsay Titus emailed Dave Adams and Leigh Gavel to inform them of the “thank-you” emails to Matty Cronin and Todd Bryda, and to the informational email sent to Mary Baruth.
- **January 17, 2022** – Dave Adams responded to the email sent by Lindsay Titus, thanking him for the update.
- **January 18, 2022** – Captain Titus received an email from Todd Bryda as part of a group-mailing to NEB member-groups. Attached was a report of the AGM, a summary of the 2021 season, a proposed schedule for 2022 and a ballot to vote on the proposed schedule. Membership has begun!

### **Co. H Schedule is Forming**

In the midst of a winter freeze, there are signs of spring and, yes, even summer! Some dates are now known for some of our key events, so we may start to put together a possible schedule. Plus, on January 18, a preliminary schedule of events for the New England Brigade was sent out to member-units for consideration and voting. However, the NEB schedule won't be finalized until February. Once it is known, information about it will be shared in “Battle Lines”.

Below is an overview of our potential schedule for 2022. Known dates are listed first, with other suggested events following. Member comments on events or dates, or suggestions of other events, are encouraged.

- **April 30 (Saturday)** – Company H Drill (#1)
- **May 28 (Saturday)** – Company H Drill (#2)
- **June 16 (Thursday PM)** – Kings Landing Set-up
- **June 17 (Friday)** – Kings Landing Student Day
- **June 17-19 (Weekend)** – Kings Landing Military Muster
- **July 30 (Saturday)** – Company H Drill (#3)
- **August 27-28 (Weekend)** – Air Show Atlantic – Debert, NS
- **September 16-18 (Weekend)** – Battle of Antietam – Gettysburg, Pa.
- **October 1 (Saturday)** – Tomlinson Lake Hike to Freedom – Carlingford, NB

### **Suggested, tentative or possible events –**

- **September 16 (?)** – General Caldwell Graveside Visit – St. Stephen, NB
- **September 17-18 (?)** – Charlotte County Fall Fair – Ganong Nature Park; St. Stephen, NB
- Planning Meeting at Kings Landing
- Pre-Muster Information Table at Kings Landing
- Encampment at the Halifax Citadel
- Drill on Prince Edward Island
- Drill in Point Pleasant Park, Halifax
- Co. H Annual General Meeting – Date & location to be determined

### **In Command of the Army of the Potomac**

- **Brigadier General Irvin McDowell** – Commander of the Army and Department of Northeast Virginia; May 27 – July 25, 1861.
- **Major General George B. McClellan** – Commander of the Military Division of the Potomac; later, of the Army and Department of the Potomac; July 26, 1861-November 9, 1862.
- **Major General Ambrose E. Burnside** – November 9, 1862-January 26, 1863.
- **Major General Joseph Hooker** – January 26, 1863-June 28, 1863.
- **Major General George G. Meade** – June 28, 1863-June 28, 1865.

Lewis La Point was Canadian-born, but a resident of Lancaster when he enlisted at age 19 on September 16, 1861. He mustered-in as a private on October 23 and was assigned to Co. B. Lewis LaPoint was killed about seven months later, on June 1, 1862, at the Battle of Fair Oaks, Virginia, while participating in the Peninsula Campaign.

## Company H Drills in April & May

A reminder that with our return to Kings Landing in June 2022, we are planning to hold two pre-event drills in the spring of 2022. These drills are, of course, subject to suitable weather and ground conditions, but are intended to “clear the cobwebs” of the winter layoff, in part as preparation for the Military Muster at Kings Landing, but also as preparation for the new season in general.

The tentative location for the drills is at the home of Captain Titus in Sussex, New Brunswick, but that is subject to the will of the membership. The dates are Saturday, April 30, and Saturday, May 28, 2022, so members are urged to put those dates on your calendar. The start times will be 12 noon for each, to allow for travel time.

A planning meeting for the new season will form part of the day’s activities in April; and a planning meeting for Kings Landing will form part of the day at the May drill. First Sergeant Leigh Gavel has confirmed his availability for these two dates.

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## ! News of the War in the East !

- **Greetings from Co. B, 20<sup>th</sup> Maine** – On December 23, we received an email from Paul Dudley, president of Co. B, 20<sup>th</sup> Maine, wishing us a merry Christmas and a happy new year.
- **Caldwell’s Division at Gettysburg** – During the Battle of Gettysburg, the 1<sup>st</sup> Division of Hancock’s Second Corps was commanded by General John Curtis Caldwell. During the three days of battle (with most occurring on July 2<sup>nd</sup>), Caldwell’s Division lost 18 officers (including Colonel Cross) and 169 men killed; 82 officers and 798 men wounded; and 6 officers and 202 men captured, for a total casualty count of 1275 officers and men. General Caldwell survived the war, and is buried in St. Stephen Rural Cemetery in New Brunswick.
- **“Nevr-Dull” Metal Cleaner** – “Nevr-Dull” metal cleaner is an effective brass cleaner. Long available at Home Hardware stores, it lately has been difficult to find. However, during a recent trip to Canadian Tire’s automotive section, it was found on the shelves there. (It’s also available from Amazon.ca.) The container has changed colour to silver and blue, but a quick look at its contents revealed that it’s the same useful product

While some reenactors will stick with the more authentic rottenstone, or wood ash and water, or will use modern paste brass cleaners, Nevr-Dull remains a good product when used to maintain relatively clean brass, or as the first step in a thorough brass-cleaning project. It consists of petroleum-infused cotton, of which the user tears a small piece to rub on the brass, let sit, and then polish with a soft cloth. A Dremel polishing tool also works well for the last step. Use in a ventilated area, and gloves might be helpful. The product is made by Eagle One.

- **Time Capsule Found in Pedestal of Lee Statue** – A statue of Robert E. Lee was removed from its base in Richmond, Virginia, some time ago, and inside the pedestal was a time capsule made of lead. After five hours of work to open the box without damaging it any more than necessary, its contents were revealed, which included a couple of books and a coin. The historical significance of these artefacts is being studied. In a puzzling turn, a newspaper account of the time described a different box in a different location within the statue, with different contents, leading people to wonder if a second time capsule remains hidden within the base.
- **Dues Paid** – On January 6, Dave Adams paid his membership dues of \$30.00 for the 2022-23 campaign. On January 10, dues were paid by e-transfer by Sylvain and Nicolas Tétrault. As family members, Suzanne Guay and Elodie Tétrault were also continued on the muster sheet. This brings our membership total for 2022-23 officially to six. Although it is good to have these payments in early, remember that the current membership year (2021-22) continues until the end of June.
- **Civil War Civilians Facebook Group** – Those Co. H members who portray civilians, or who have an interest in this aspect of the era, may wish to join a Facebook group called “Civilians of the New England Brigade”. It is a closed group, meaning only group members may see, read and share content. Pressing the “Join Group” button and explaining that you are part of the 5<sup>th</sup> New Hampshire, a new NEB member-organization, should allow you to be a part of this group.

- **The First-year Report of Colonel Cross** – The second part of the “First-year Report of Colonel Cross” of the 5<sup>th</sup> New Hampshire, begun in the January issue (No. 40) of “Battle Lines”, and originally to be continued in this issue (No. 41), is delayed until the March issue, due to space limitations.
- **The New England Brigade Website** – The Internet address of the New England Brigade is – <https://mb1020.wixsite.com/newenglandbrigade>

## The New England Brigade!