



Battle Lines



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

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! Happy New Year !



A very Happy New Year to all members and friends of Co. H, 5th Regiment, New Hampshire Volunteers! Thank you to all members for what you have done, and continue to do, for the good of the Company.

Although this reenacting group can trace its roots back to 2002, the present Co. H began in 2018, with first one, then six members. We now stand at nearly 20, and have had a presence at events in both Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and our membership hails from all three Maritime provinces. With events such as Kings Landing and Air Show Atlantic putting us before the public eye, and our membership in the New England Brigade, greater growth is ever-possible. Congratulations to all for your many and varied contributions to Company H, and best wishes for a happy, healthy

and safe new year! See you on the field!

Major Changes at Kings Landing!

We have learned that Mary Baruth has left her position as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Kings Landing Historical Settlement. Mary was the driving force behind having military reenactors, including Co. H, return to Kings Landing for encampments in what she termed their "Military Muster". As a former reenactor herself, she knew what we stood for and the value we bring to a site like Kings Landing, and so she will be missed. Thank you, Mary, for your enthusiastic support of reenactors in our region, and especially for welcoming Co. H, Fifth New Hampshire back to Kings Landing.

Also leaving Kings Landing is Stephanie Price-O'Donnell, who was our primary contact there for the 2022 Military Muster. Her energy and kind nature shown toward us made for another enjoyable encampment. As with Mary, we wish her the very best.

As of the publication date of this newsletter, no replacement persons have been made public.

We Are In! The Atlantic Sports & RV Show

In a pre-Christmas email exchange, 1st Sergeant Leigh Gavel notified Captain Titus that we have been accepted as a participant in the 2023 Atlantic Sports & RV Show, and that our participation fee has already been paid. The show will be held at the Halifax Exhibition Centre (HEC), located at 200 Prospect Road (Route 333) – the highway that runs from Halifax, along the South Shore toward Peggy's Cove and beyond.

The show is held over three days, from March 10-12 (Friday, Saturday and Sunday), and at this point, we assume we will be able to set up on Thursday, March 9. Details will be emailed to Co. H members as information becomes available. Let's all hope for good weather!

Event organizers are already seeking names of participants, and so we are asking all members to let Captain Titus know as soon as possible of your availability at any time during that weekend. If you can come for a day, or even part of a day, that's great. If you can come for the weekend, that's excellent! With three full days of talking with what is expected to be a large and steady crowd of people, we will need members there to meet the public and talk about who we are and what we do. Also, the more uniforms present, the more striking will be our display booth.

It is Captain Titus' plan to set up a dog tent on a wooden frame as part of our display, depending on available space. If you have ideas for our display table, please pass them along to Captain Titus or to 1st Sergeant Gavel as soon as possible. We also have a blue table cloth with "Co. H 5th NH Reg't." sewn along the front, made by Denise Titus, which will be present at the event. Further, Captain Titus has a newly-updated PowerPoint presentation on his computer about both us and the original regiment, which may be shown, depending on space.

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Atlantic Sports & RV Show, *continued...*

This is a terrific recruiting opportunity in our region's largest city, in front of people who are adventurous and interested in camping and hiking, so a good turnout of Co. H members will "kick-off" our 2023 season in good style. Please contact Lindsay Titus of your availability as soon as you are able. Thank you to Leigh Gavel for his work in setting up this event! The website for this event may be found at sportsandrshow.com.

Air Show Atlantic 2023 • Date & Location Announced!

Organizers of Air Show Atlantic announced on December 21 that Air Show Atlantic 2023 will be returning to Debert, Nova Scotia, with the weekend of August 26-27 reserved for the event. It was also announced that the Snowbirds will be participating in the 2023 air show. They were scheduled for the 2022 show, but technical and safety concerns prevented their participation.

Company H, Fifth New Hampshire has already been invited to return to the event, but contact with organizers will be made shortly. We drew a strong positive response from the public last year and gained for us eight potential recruits and contacts. Only three reenactors were present in 2022, so a larger number of troops would greatly help our recruiting efforts, plus, it's a lot of fun! Plan now to attend!

Planning is Underway for a Halifax Citadel Encampment

Several members of Co. H have encamped within the stone walls of the Halifax Citadel in years past. The military atmosphere of the place literally surrounds you. There is a certain comfort in hearing the city sounds during the night while knowing that you are protected by a hill, a ditch, stone walls and a reputation of strength.

Currently, plans are underway to encamp at the Citadel at some time this coming season. Months ago, Matt Bray of Co. A, 3rd Maine suggested both groups combine for an encampment and drills at the Halifax Citadel, as he now has a sister living in Halifax, and would like to visit. Since that initial contact, emails have been exchanged between captains Bray and Titus, and with Hal Thompson, the Visitor Experience Product Development Officer for the Halifax Defense Complex. Hal confirms that the Citadel is open to a Civil War encampment, and is checking on possible dates with other representatives. Matt Bray reports that June, July and early August are already quite full on the 3rd Maine schedule, and suggested either May or September as possible months for consideration. In the past, Citadel officials have always liked us being there during the so-called "shoulder seasons", as a Civil War encampment can attract visitors during times that aren't quite as busy. All this remains to be worked out.

Hal Thompson suggested we encamp on the ramparts, as the ditch will be occupied by a World War II display. Captain Titus has encamped there before (beneath the massive flag pole), and it is a good, highly visible, location.

Watch future emails and newsletters for updates as they become known. This will be a great opportunity to drill with greater numbers and with a highly-experienced Civil War reenacting organization. Company A of the 3rd Maine is a fellow-member of the New England Brigade.

Competing 160th Gettysburg Reenactments

Two competing 160th anniversary Gettysburg reenactments are now being organized for the summer of 2023. The first of these, "Acts of Valor", is being organized by the Patriots of the Civil War Association, and is scheduled for June 23-25. It will be held at 1289 Blackhorse Tavern Road, Gettysburg. This three-day event is the one in which Co. A, 3rd Maine has invited Co. H members to join them. The website for this event is 160thbattleofgettysburg.org.

The second reenactment, also a three-day event, is organized by the Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association (established in 1959), and is scheduled for June 30 and July 1-2. It is being held at the historic Daniel Lady Farm, located at 1008 Hanover Road, Gettysburg. This is the same location where an Antietam event was held in 2022. The website for this event is gbpa.org.

Members wishing to attend either event should register early, as registration fees increase as the event date approaches.

Canadians in the Ranks of the Fifth New Hampshire

Albert St. Dois was Canadian-born and a resident of Montreal when he enlisted on December 7, 1863. Credited to Alstead, he was mustered-in on the same day as a private in Co. G. St. Dois was wounded on June 3, 1864, at Cold Harbor, Virginia, but remained with the Fifth, to be mustered-out with the regiment on June 28, 1865.

Fredericksburg!

December 13 marked the 160th anniversary of the Battle of Fredericksburg, fought in and around that Virginia city in 1862. According to Colonel Cross, the Fifth New Hampshire entered the battle with 249 rifles and 19 officers. By roll call the next morning, just 70 men of the regiment answered to their names. The Fifth New Hampshire made it as close to the Confederate defenses at the infamous stone wall as any regiment that day, but, under a constant and withering fire, could advance no further. Colonel Cross was seriously wounded in the fight; color bearers fell repeatedly. General Caldwell was wounded twice in the assault, shot, first in the left side, and then in the left shoulder. Major Sturdevant was killed, as were six other officers of the Fifth. In all, the regiment lost 51 men killed, exceeded only by Cold Harbor (69) in 1864. When, a few days after the battle, a burial party came to collect the Union dead, the bodies found closest to the stone wall were soldiers of the 69th New York, the 5th New Hampshire and the 53rd Pennsylvania.

“In the Air” – According to the Dictionary

While browsing Civil War books at **Amazon.ca** early in November, a title “jumped out” that I had not seen before. It was a book, entitled Dictionary of the Infantry Tactics, written and published in 2022 by Jeffery Stewart, a Civil War reenactor since 1994. The book, in paperback, sells for \$16.69, and consists of 492 pages. It is well-documented, with references to manuals that include Casey, Hardee, Mahan, Gillam, Scott, and many others. Some entries are brief; others encompass several pages. The following initial entry is found on page 226.

From time-to-time, we will include entries from the Dictionary of the Infantry Tactics in the pages of “Battle Lines”. Here is the brief definition of “In the Air”, to start us off.

In the Air – The phrase *In the Air* means that a flank of a battle line is not secured or protected by other friendly forces or by a natural feature [such as a rock formation, hill, or a river].

Helpful Reenacting Videos on YouTube

If you have some “downtime” this winter and wish to learn more about Civil War reenacting, three YouTube video series are worth exploring, both by newcomers to Co. H and by veterans of the company who wish to further refine their impression or simply learn something new.

The first set of videos is by **Co. D, 2nd USSS** (United States Sharpshooters). These videos provide detailed information about reenacting, military protocols, authenticity, “how-to’s” and carpentry (like making an authentic ammunition box or a cracker box).

The second video series is by **Civil War Digital Digest**. These videos are an excellent source of information on topics ranging from stacking arms, to uniforms, to examining a Civil War-era cornfield, to making a variety of authentic Civil War-era foods. These videos are well-researched and very well presented.

A third suggestion comes from the **11th Ohio Volunteer Cavalry** (OVC). Although much of their content deals specifically with cavalry “how-to’s”, other videos deal with reenacting in general, and offer details about topics like period-correct canteens and shirts, or how to fit-in as a new reenactor.

These organizations offer quality, well-documented video topics, but they are not alone. There are other quality Civil War informational videos out there, but one must always be cautious about the information presented. If you are unsure about a video’s content, do some research using period-photographs or other original sources, or, ask a fellow-member of Co. H. That’s what campfire talk is for!

Co. H Muster Roll as of January 5, 2023

Dave Adams – <i>Private</i>	Loran Gavel – <i>Private</i>	Marie Keretschko – <i>Civilian</i>
Dave Bottos – <i>Private</i>	Joe Gee – <i>Private</i>	Stephen Norman – <i>Hosp. Steward</i>
Aaron Bouma – <i>Private</i>	Suzanne Guay – <i>Company Cook</i>	Elodie Tétrault – <i>Child</i>
Steven Cochrane – <i>Chaplain</i>	Stephen Halliday – <i>Recruit</i>	Nicolas Tétrault – <i>Private</i>
Evelyn Fidler – <i>to be decided</i>	Barry Hippenstall – <i>Private</i>	Sylvain Tétrault – <i>Corporal</i>
Leigh Gavel – <i>1st Sergeant</i>	Rick Jamer – <i>Corporal</i>	Lindsay Titus – <i>Captain</i>
	Bob Keretschko – <i>Private</i>	

• First Event of 2023 •

• Atlantic Sports & RV Show • Halifax • March 10-12 •

“Rally ‘Round the Flag, Boys!”



- **March 10-12 – Atlantic Outdoor & RV Show – Halifax, NS**
- **April 29 or May 27 – School of the Soldier – Shediac or Sussex, NB**
- **May 27 and/or July 29 – Company Drill(s) – Shediac or Sussex, NB**
- **June – Ross Farm – New Ross, NS**
- **June 16-18 – Kings Landing – Prince William, NB – (June 16: Student Day)**
- **June 23-25 – Gettysburg 160th – Blackhore Tavern Rd., Gettysburg**
- **June 30-July 2 – Gettysburg 160th – Daniel Lady Farm, Gettysburg**
- **June (?) – Rally for Norlands – Livermore, Maine**
- **Halifax Citadel National Historic Site – Halifax, NS – w/ the 3rd Maine**
- **August 26-27 – Air Show Atlantic – Debert, NS**
- **September – Gen. Caldwell Graveside Visit – St. Stephen Rural Cem.**
- **September – Charlotte County Fall Fair – Ganong Nature Park**
- **September – Ross Farm – New Ross, NS**
- **October – Tomlinson Lake Hike to Freedom**
- **October – Fredericton North Heritage Fair – Devon, NB**
- **Events in Prince Edward Island**
- **Events of the New England Brigade**
- **Events Organized by Co. A, 3rd Maine**
- **Events Organized by Co. B, 20th Maine**
- **Events Organized by Co. I, 20th Maine**

! News of the War in the East !

- **Internet Cautions** – While looking up “Casey’s Infantry Tactics” on YouTube recently, I found two nicely-produced videos depicting the formation of a Civil War company. However, something looked “off”, so I investigated by bringing out a printed copy of Casey’s from the original. The YouTube video had corporals in the number one position on the right of the line, and also on left of each platoon, as they should, but showed them in both the front and rear ranks. My check of Casey’s showed very clearly that corporals are placed in just the front rank. However, one source notes that by 1864, Casey had modified the placement of corporals to both front and rear ranks. It was a lesson in using critical thinking skills when viewing information found on the Internet. – *L. Titus*
- **Monthly Pay, Addendum** – Issue No. 50 of “Battle Lines” included a pay scale for many of the positions found within the Union Army. Since then, the pay of Hospital Stewards in 1861 has been found. Their grisly work brought them an additional \$17 per month over that of a private, making their monthly pay \$30.

Buy, Sell, Trade or Donate!

Reenactors wishing to buy, sell or trade any personal or camp equipment, uniform items, Civil War books, etc., may contact “Battle Lines” with their list of available items. As appropriate, please include price, size, condition, and any other pertinent information. These items will be included in upcoming issues of the newsletter, as space permits. This is being done as a service to reenactors; “Battle Lines” does not receive payment for this service, nor does it make any claim as to the value of items advertised, or to the accuracy of descriptions.

In addition, Co. H is looking to expand its variety of “loaner” equipment for potential and new recruits. If you have any items you wish to donate for use by the Company, let “Battle Lines” know by email, or bring them to the next event, and thank you!