



Battle Lines



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

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Welcome! Stephen Halliday Joins Co. H!

Stephen Halliday has informed us that he plans to participate in the Atlantic Outdoor Sports & RV Show in Halifax during the weekend of March 10-12. The commanding officer believes this notice qualifies him as a member of the company. During the past few months, since Stephen first contacted 1st Sergeant Gavel about joining Co. H, he has been referred to here as a potential recruit, but now, Co. H members are asked to welcome Stephen as a member of the company! Stephen is a former member of Co. I, 20th Maine and lives in the Halifax area. Stephen brings youth, knowledge, experience and enthusiasm to the group, and so is a welcome addition to our ranks. Hurrah, and welcome!

An Invitation to Join the 3rd Maine at Fort Knox in July



Captain Matt Bray leads Co. A, 3rd Maine at Fort Knox.

Captain Matt Bray of Co. A, 3rd Maine, has invited member-groups of the New England Brigade to join them at Fort Knox for the weekend of July 21-23. He has also sent an invitation directly to Co. H, 5th New Hampshire to do the same. Co. H can participate in this encampment as a unit, or individuals may go on their own. Either way, Matt says they would be pleased to have us fall-in with them. If we wish to participate as a company, please make your wishes known to Captain Titus. If individuals wish to participate on their own, please inform Captain Titus and he will, in turn, notify event organizers with the 3rd Maine. Please get your name in to

Captain Titus as early as you can, as this greatly helps event organizers with their planning.

Our schedule is currently quite open in July, with one of the two Gettysburg reenactments happening on June 30 to July 2, and we have been invited to march in the July 4 parade in Wakefield, Massachusetts. Other than those events set for early in the month, July remains wide open. We do have a Company H drill scheduled for July 29, but that event is tentative, and would be replaced by the Fort Knox encampment, if we choose to participate at that event as a Company.

In addition to Co. A, 3rd Maine, units invited to this event include Co. H, 5th New Hampshire; Co. B, 20th Maine; the 6th Maine Battery; the Liberty Greys; the 15th Alabama and the 35th Virginia.

Fort Knox is located in Prospect, Maine, situated on the west side of the Penobscot River, directly across from the town of Bucksport (population 5000). The fort is about a two-hour drive from Calais, and the Maine/New Brunswick border.

Construction on the fort began in 1844, and continued until 1869. Fort Knox was used to protect the Penobscot River, and during the Civil War, to train soldiers before they joined their assigned regiments. Some of those trained at Fort Knox served in the famed 20th Maine Regiment. Fort Knox has become a "home base" for Co. B, 20th Maine (reenactors) and sees multiple Civil War events each year. Several 5th New Hampshire and Co. I, 20th Maine members have encamped at Fort Knox numerous times over the past few years.

February is Black History, or African Heritage, Month

“Green Cards” Are Recommended for Border Crossings

With the 2023 reenacting season fast-approaching, and invitations arriving for Co. H members to participate in events in the United States, it is wise to make crossing the international border as easy as possible. Of course, you will need your passport, both to enter the United States and to return to Canada, but it's best to also look after your musket.

You should first declare that you have a black powder musket in your vehicle. It's far better to declare to border guards that you have a firearm, than to have them discover it in a search. Many times, if you explain that you are participating in an historical event, they will simply wish you well and send you on your way.

It is also wise to first obtain a “green card” on the Canadian side of the border, prior to leaving the country. This small, green card (although it may have changed over the years) certifies that you purchased your musket in Canada and that all duties and taxes have been paid. It eases your return to Canada when bringing the musket back into Canada, but has no purpose when entering the United States.

It is not difficult to get a green card, but you must go in to the Customs & Immigration building at the border (or in your community, if available) to obtain one. There is no cost for the card (at least there never used to be). So, you are wise to hold onto, and bring, your purchase receipt with you, as verification that the musket was purchased in Canada. Cards do not expire, so keep yours in a handy location when crossing the border for ease of access. Border officials may check to see that the serial number on the card matches that of the musket, but this process is far easier than pleading that your musket was not just purchased in the United States. Border crossings used to be so simple, but changing times call for advanced preparation.

Our New England Brigade Dues Are Paid for 2023

On January 22, Captain Titus paid the Co. H membership dues for 2023 to the treasurer of the New England Brigade. Dues are \$100.00 (US) for the year, and so cost us \$140.59 in Canadian funds. This transaction was done by PayPal, and paid from Captain Titus' personal account.

We Have Volunteers for the Outdoor Sports & RV Show

We have five volunteers (and possibly seven) for our first-ever Atlantic Sports and RV Show in Halifax, on March 10-12. They are Leigh and Loran Gavel, Stephen Halliday and Lindsay Titus volunteering for the weekend. Dave Bottos is available on Saturday. Steve Cochrane has also expressed interest in attending, and 1st Sergeant Gavel is also contacting Bob Keretschko.

The show is at the Halifax Exhibition Centre, located at 200 Prospect Road (Route 333) in Goodwood, just west of Halifax, toward Nova Scotia's South Shore. We will be indoors for the entire event.

The three-day event is expected to draw thousands of visitors, and so this is a potentially rich recruiting event. If you wish to volunteer, we will turn no member away! Contact Captain Titus by email at fifthnhvcoh@rogers.com. If you can be in attendance for just part of the weekend, please indicate which days or times. Event organizers require names of participants well in advance of the event.

No Halifax Citadel This Year for the 3rd Maine

In an email received from Captain Matt Bray of Co. A, 3rd Maine Volunteers, he informed Captain Titus that the 3rd Maine will be unable to travel to Halifax for an encampment in 2023. Matt Bray cited a busy schedule as the reason for this event being put “on hold”. There was discussion at their recent company meeting about coming to Halifax, but it was agreed that they should postpone the trip and examine the possibility of coming to the Citadel at an undetermined date in 2024. Co. H, 5th New Hampshire will be proud to host the 3rd Maine, should that event take place next season.

Although the 3rd Maine is unable to attend this year, Hal Thompson at the Citadel has been contacted, and he was interested in having us there this season. The Citadel is not “officially” on our schedule, but it could be, if Co. H members are interested in a Citadel encampment this year. Let Captain Titus or 1st Sergeant Gavel know of your thoughts on adding the Citadel to our schedule. It is a great place to camp and drill!

Canadians in the Ranks of the Fifth New Hampshire

Samuel Stephens was born in Saint John, New Brunswick, and as a twenty-three year-old, enlisted as a substitute on October 6, 1863. His enlistment was credited to Manchester. Stephens was mustered-in on the same day as a private in Co. H, but on April 23, 1864, in a return to his seaside roots, he transferred to the United States Navy as an ordinary seaman, serving aboard USS *Commodore Read*. He was discharged from the navy aboard a receiving ship at New York City on July 28, 1865.

Military Muster: The Latest News from Kings Landing

A 30-minute telephone call between Lindsay Titus and Amanda Stairs of Kings Landing took place on Tuesday, January 24. Amanda is the Director of Visitor Experience at Kings Landing, and is presently our primary contact for the Military Muster at Kings Landing, scheduled for the weekend of June 16-18. The telephone call must be classified as a very positive, honest and productive conversation.

Captain Titus will continue to serve as the reenactor liaison between Civil War groups and Kings Landing – groups on the east side of the settlement, while Steve Fowler will serve as liaison for reenactors (primarily Revolutionary War) on the west side of the site. The two group leaders will continue to work together to coordinate activities and logistics, as has been done in the past.

Company I, 20th Maine; the Greys and Blues of Montreal; Danks' Rangers and the Acadian Militia have been invited to participate in this year's event, as have some individuals.

Revolutionary War groups, led by DeLancey's Brigade, will encamp in the same location as last year (alongside the long Scott Barn), and their washroom will also remain the same. Civil War groups will encamp in the same field as last year, across from the Ingraham Barn (Theatre). This was done at the request of members of Co. H. The east side washroom will also remain as in 2022. Members of Danks' Rangers and the Acadian Militia, if they decide to participate, will form a third camp, to be located between DeLancey's campsite and the public entrance (the Welcome Centre). This will maintain the sense of historical continuity for the public.

Amanda Stairs would like representatives from the various groups to attend a meeting in May at Kings Landing, as was done the past two years. I will invite a representative from each of the Militia, Danks' Rangers and Co. I, 20th Maine, to attend, although the two groups (Co. H and DeLancey's) have handled it in past years. Following the meeting, time will be available to walk the site to locate a campsite for the Seven Years' War groups. No date has been set for this meeting, but Co. H members and group leaders will be notified, once the date is established.

Some other notes –

- We will adjust company musket firing times this year so as to not conflict with the Ingraham Barn Theatre presentations. We may move them back by 20-30 minutes - probably 30, just for ease of remembering them. Hopefully, we will also gain those visitors coming out of the theatre. We will also have to discuss if we want to maintain the “battalion” firing demonstration on Saturday and Sunday afternoon, as we've done in the past.
- We will again have complete access to the site, as in the past two years.
- A meal for reenactors will be provided again on Saturday night at the Kings Head inn. It appears the menu will be the same as last year. Captain Titus will need numbers of participants from all groups.
- Washrooms will be the same as last year for both east and west sides.
- Wagons will be available for those requiring early departure, but Kings Landing needs to know in advance of this need.
- Lindsay Titus asked Amanda about improvements they wish from us, but none were suggested.
- Lindsay Titus also asked about different interactions with the public, and Amanda emailed a list of ideas for the weekend, and we discussed communication about knowing when and where pies, etc., might be "borrowed" for this year. Nothing new was suggested; instead leaving that up to us. New ideas from participating groups will be considered. The details can be discussed at May's meeting..
- Before concluding the phone call, Captain Titus praised the General Store interpreters and the house interpreters who Co. H met last year, for their excellent interactions and hospitality.

War of 1812 Veteran Commemoration a Possibility

During the January 24 telephone call with Amanda Stairs of Kings Landing, she again asked about interest in reenactors firing a commemorative volley at a service for War of 1812 veteran, Daniel Morehouse. The Morehouse Farm (c. 1820) is located on-site at Kings Landing; it backs onto the field used as the Civil War campsite in 2022 (directly behind the location of Stephen Norman's medical display). Of course, the answer was returned in the affirmative. The family has requested volley fire at a plaque dedication at the site of his monument, located in a cemetery off-site, but nearby Kings Landing. The actual Morehouse grave, apparently, lies beneath the waters of the Saint John River, flooded upon the construction of the Mactaquac Dam back in 1967.

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War of 1812 Veteran, *continued...*

The dates and details of this event remain undetermined, so it remains unsure if this event will happen during our encampment at Kings Landing. Amanda Stairs is working with family members to sort out details. If it does happen, all reenactors are invited to participate. Although she believes a civilian minister may offer a prayer, it was suggested that either Steven Cochrane or Peter Gillies might be available for that role. More details will be shared, once they become available.

Co. H is Invited to the Wakefield 4th of July Parade

In an email received from Brian Fox, Chairman & Parade Coordinator of the Wakefield, Massachusetts 4th of July Parade, Co. H members were invited to participate in “the largest 4th of July parade in Massachusetts”. The event is scheduled for July 4, and begins in the evening at 5 PM (local time). The parade has been held for 76 years.

Wakefield is about 30 minutes north of Boston and is a five-hour drive from the international border at Calais, Maine/St. Stephen, New Brunswick.

If we wish to participate as a company, please let your wishes be made known to Captain Titus. If individuals wish to participate on their own, please inform Captain Titus of this and he will, in turn, notify event organizers, but, although it seems early, do not delay, as organizers are already seeking names and numbers of participants at this time.

Norlands May Dissolve as a Historic Site

Norlands is a historic 400-acre estate dating back to 1870, located near Livermore, Maine. Livermore is about a 45-minute drive west of the state capital of Augusta.

Every other year, for the past several years, the “Rally for Norlands” has been held, featuring what has been described as the largest Civil War event in the State of Maine.

However, a website visit on January 25, 2023, revealed that the organization running the site requires a “major capital infusion” of three million dollars by March 1, 2023 for necessary maintenance on the various historic structures. If pledges and donations are not forthcoming by that imminent date, “we must decide whether or not to begin the process of dissolution.”

What a sad day that would be, not only to lose a Civil War encampment site, but to lose a historic location.



! News of the War in the East !

- **Sullivan Press** – An email received November 22, from the sutler, Regimental Quartermaster, announced that they are now carrying products produced by Sullivan Press. Sullivan Press makes period-correct copies of Union, Confederate and civilian Civil War forms, stationery, envelopes, labels and books. Many of their products are available as actual paper products, while some are sold on a memory stick so that they may be downloaded from it, to a computer and printed in multiple copies. Products and service from Sullivan Press – you may also order directly from them – are excellent.
- **Newest Line Numbers** – Each member of Co. H is assigned a line number, as were soldiers in the original regiments. A list of Co. H line numbers was posted in the November 2021 issue (No. 38) of “Battle Lines”. With the recent additions of Dave Bottos and Stephen Halliday to our roster, their line numbers have been added to the list. Dave Bottos is enlistee No. 29. Stephen Halliday is No. 30.

