



Battle Lines



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

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It's 2024! A very Happy New Year to all Co. H members and their families, and to all friends of Company H! It promises to be an excellent year for the Company, which already includes a strong membership base, invitations to return to selected events, and a return in June to Kings Landing Historical Settlement. See you soon!

Co. H Finances: A Year-end Report

A usual feature of an organization's Annual General Meeting (AGM) is the reading, or providing by the Treasurer, of an annual financial report. We are not that formal, but it was on the agenda to provide such a review to the membership. However, with only three members there, the financial report was not presented.

With Lee (the hurricane, not the general) forcing the cancellation of the Charlotte County Fall Fair, we most likely missed out on a financial donation to Company H. Last year's donation was \$200. However, with Leigh Gavel providing sizeable donations to the Company through his outstanding workplace fundraising efforts, and with all members having paid their dues, we find ourselves in a reasonably strong financial position. Leigh Gavel reports that additional funds are forthcoming, also because of his fundraising efforts.

As of November 1, 2023, the Brunswick Credit Union on-line record of our account shows a balance of \$1561.40. Records maintained by Lindsay Titus show a balance of \$1555.81, a difference of \$5.59 in our favour. An informal audit is underway to discover why any discrepancy exists at all.

As of December 31, 2023, our known expenses for 2024 are:

1. Registration fee for the Atlantic Outdoor Sports & RV Show; Halifax.
 - a. Leigh has cash for this payment; the fee will not require a withdrawal from our account.
2. Dues payment for membership in the New England Brigade, estimated to be \$100.00 (USD).
3. Payment of NFA group membership and insurance in June on behalf of the membership.
4. Completion of the agreed purchase of Dave Adams' wedge tent, poles & pegs @ \$200.00.
5. The purchase of flags, poles, finials and accessories; the cost to be determined.

Rick Jamer Returns Home

On November 27, Co. H member and Prince Edward Island resident, Rick Jamer, put up a Facebook posting, stating that he was back home in Summerside, PEI, following his vacation to various sunny places in Europe. Some Co. H members may have seen his many Facebook postings and photographs that chronicled his travels to Spain, Italy and other fabled locations (along with his son, former Co. H member, Ricky); all of which were interesting and produced more than a bit of envy on this side of the Atlantic. However, one last photograph (*right*) caught the attention of "Battle Lines": that of two field artillery pieces located in a Summerside park. That might be a good place for us to drill sometime. It seems to have the right atmosphere! Welcome home, Rick!



Air Show Atlantic Returns to CFB Greenwood in 2024

Air Show Atlantic will be celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Royal Canadian Air Force in 2024, and will be doing so at Canadian Forces Base Greenwood, located near the western end of Nova Scotia's Annapolis Valley, near Kingston. Air Show Atlantic has been at this location previously, and what better place to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the RCAF than to do so on an active Air Force base (and the future home of the newly-ordered P8 Poseidon patrol and anti-submarine warfare aircraft)!

Air Show Atlantic has posted their schedule as follows:

- August 22 (Thursday) – Media Day
- August 23 (Friday) – Practice Day (camp set-up day for Co. H)
- August 24 (Saturday) – Day 1: Open to the public from 10 AM to 5 PM
- August 25 (Sunday) – Day 2: Open to the public from 10 AM to 5 PM



An initial enquiry into our participation for 2024 was emailed some time ago, but no reply was received. Further contacts will be made throughout the winter, so we will do our best to return to the event as a participant. This is potentially a great recruiting event, with thousands of visitors during the weekend, and the vast majority of them being from the Maritimes. A strong Co. H turnout will help our recruiting efforts. Besides that, you get a front row seat for all air and static activities!

Because of the addition of this event to our calendar, we will not hold a drill in late August (unless we are unsuccessful in our bid to be a participant).

(At Least) Two Major Reenactments to Consider

As stated in an email to Co. H members in December 2023, the 160th anniversary reenactment of the Battle of the Wilderness is coming up this spring in Spotsylvania County, Virginia. Scheduled for May 4-5, 2024, we first received news of this event from Matt Bray of Co. A, 3rd Maine Regiment. Organizers of this event have named it, "A Devilish Entanglement"; a good name for the reenactment of a gruesome battle. Registration is currently underway, and you may recall that Matt Bray invited Co. H members to fall-in with them, if you so choose. Detailed information about the event may be found on the website of Civil War Historical Impressions, Inc., located at cwhi.org. Scroll down the opening page and click on the large rectangular "button" on the right side of the screen that reads, "A Devilish Entanglement". Along with the Civil War Historical Impressions group, the event is also sponsored by the Friends of the Wilderness Battlefield.

On the same website (cwhi.org), you will also find information about the annual Cedar Creek reenactment being held in Spotsylvania County, Virginia on October 4-5, 2024. Just scroll down the opening page and continue past the Wilderness button to find, on the left, the "button" for the Cedar Creek event. This event is always popular among reenactors for at least three reasons: (1) the cooler weather; (2) the organization of the event, and (3) the event is unique in that it is held on the actual Cedar Creek battlefield.

Other events, including Gettysburg, are presently being scheduled, so, if you want to be busy in 2024, you'll have lots of choice: you may attend Co. H events locally, travel in New England for NEB events, or go to major reenactments down south (or all three). The choice is yours!

NFA Membership Rate to Increase in 2024

A letter from the National Firearms Association (NFA), dated November 24, 2023, notified us of a group membership rate increase of \$2.00 per person, effective in January 2024. Group membership in the NFA is a requirement to obtain liability insurance for all member-organizations, including Company H. Here is the pertinent text of the letter:

"To all NFA Associate Club Members: Canada's National Firearms Association (NFA) sincerely appreciates NFA Associate Club memberships."

"Unfortunately, the NFA must increase the cost per associate club member by \$2 effective January 01, 2024. The cost per associate member, starting in January, will be \$7.00 per member. The liability insurance will continue to be \$12.95 at this time."

"Therefore, if your club associate members include the NFA insurance, the total per associate member will be \$19.95 (that is, \$7.00 per membership + \$12.95 insurance)."

"We thank you for supporting the NFA with your membership."

2024 • Preliminary Co. H Schedule of Events • 2024

- **March 8-10** – Weekend – Atlantic Outdoor Sports & RV Show; Halifax, NS
- **April 27** – Saturday – Co. H Drill (*event and location depends on weather & ground conditions*)
- **May 4-5** – 160th Anniversary Reenactment of the Wilderness; Spotsylvania County, Virginia
- **May 25** – Saturday – Co. H Drill (*event and location depend on weather & ground conditions*)
- **June 7** – Friday – Student Day at Kings Landing (*the site is also open to the public*)
- **June 8-9** – Weekend – Military Muster: 50th Anniversary Season of Kings Landing
- **July 12-14** – Fort Knox; Prospect, Maine (*Organized by 3rd Maine, Co. A*)
- **July 27** – Saturday – Co. H Drill (*If our Schedule of Events allows*)
- **August 24-25** – Weekend – Air Show Atlantic; CFB Greenwood, NS
- **September** – Friday – Graveside visit: General John C. Caldwell; 2:00 (*date to be determined*)
- **September** – Weekend – Charlotte County Fall Fair (*date to be determined*)
- **October 5** – Saturday – Tomlinson Lake Hike to Freedom; Perth-Andover, NB
- **October** – Saturday – Fredericton North Heritage Fair (*date to be determined*)

Co. A, Third Maine Presents Captain Bray with Sword



In a mid-November Facebook posting, Matt Bray, captain of Co. A, 3rd Maine Infantry, announced the receipt of a very special gift from the membership of his company. Matt wrote, “This past weekend I was presented with a very special gift. This 1850 foot officer’s sword (*left*), which has been well-preserved and cleaned-up, was gifted to me by the men of the 3rd Maine Regiment. Leading this group of amazing people has been such an honor and I’m so fortunate to have their faith and support. I will carry it with pride, always. Thanks, guys.”

Captain Titus responded to Matt’s posting by writing, “Hurrah! That’s well-deserved, Matt! I do hope to see you on the field this year. (*signed*) Lindsay Titus; Co. H, 5th New Hampshire.” Matt soon replied, “Lindsay, any time, my friend. Thanks for the kind words.”

Some veteran members of Co. H shared the field with the 3rd Maine (more than once) at Fort Knox a number of years ago as members of the 20th Maine. It is not known if Matt was among them at that time. What is known, however, is that the 3rd Maine was always a strong unit; a unit with class and pride. It is long-overdue that we do more with our “cousins” from Maine. We have Co. I, 20th Maine right here in the Maritimes; Company B, 20th Maine home-based at Fort Knox (in Prospect), and Co. A, 3rd Maine, also in the state. We can get bigger (figuratively) and do more, when we team up with our brother-units here and in Maine.

2024 New England Brigade Proposed Events Schedule

This schedule is to be voted-upon by the NEB Board of Governors at the Annual General Meeting, being held in January 2024. Note that the NEB may be returning to Fort Knox in July.

- **January 13** – NEB annual Meeting at Davis Hall; Nichols College; Dudley, Massachusetts
- **April 15** – Patriots Day Parade; Concord, Massachusetts
- **May 4** – Drill at Wickham Park; Manchester, Connecticut
- **May 17-19** – South County Museum; Narragansett, Rhode Island
- **May/Sept. (?)** – Abington Island Grove; Framingham, Massachusetts
- **July 12-14** – Fort Adams; Newport, Rhode Island
- **July 12-14** – Fort Knox; Prospect, Maine
- **July 28-30** – Fort Tribute; Madrid, New York <https://www.forttribute.org>
- **August 16-18** – History Alive; Hillsborough, New Hampshire
- **September** – Burrville, Rhode Island
- **October 4-6** – Mason, New Hampshire
- **October 19-21** – Battle of Cedar Creek; Middletown, Virginia
- **November 16** – Remembrance Day Parade; Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

2024 Brings 160th Anniversary of 1864 Events

This year 2024, marks the 160th anniversary of all campaigns, battles and events that occurred in 1864 during the Civil War; a year often overlooked by casual Civil War “buffs”. Key events of 1864 include:

- **November 1863 to late-May 1864** – The 5th New Hampshire is assigned to guard duty at Point Look-out, Maryland
- **February** – The submarine, CSS *Hunley*, attacks and sinks the USS *Housatonic*. The *Hunley* is also lost in this battle
- **March** – Ulysses S. Grant is promoted to Lieutenant General, and the next day is named commander of all U.S. armies
- **April** – The attack on Fort Pillow (the Fort Pillow Massacre), in Tennessee
- **May-June** – General Grant’s Overland Campaign
- **May** – The Battle of the Wilderness, in Virginia
- **May** – General Sherman starts his Atlanta Campaign
- **May** – The Battle of Spotsylvania Court House, Virginia
- **May** – The Battle of Resaca, Georgia
- **June** – The 5th New Hampshire rejoins the Army of the Potomac
- **June** – The Battle of Cold Harbor
- **June** – The Battle of Brice’s Crossroads, in Mississippi
- **June** – The siege of Petersburg begins.
- **June** – The USS *Kearsarge* sinks the CSS *Alabama* off the coast of France
- **June** – The Battle of Kennesaw Mountain, Tennessee
- **July** – The Battle of Monocacy, in Maryland
- **July** – Confederate General Jubal Early leads a failed assault on Washington, DC
- **July** – Gettysburg veteran, General John Bell Hood, replaces Joseph Johnston as commander of the Army of Tennessee
- **July** – The Battle of Atlanta begins
- **July** – The Battle of the Crater; Petersburg, Virginia
- **August** – A Union naval victory at Mobile Bay, Alabama
- **August** – The Battle of Weldon Railroad, Virginia
- **August** – The Battle at Ream’s Station, Virginia
- **September** – The Fall of the City of Atlanta to General William T. Sherman
- **October 19-21** – The Battle of Cedar Creek; Middletown, Virginia
- **November** – Abraham Lincoln is re-elected President of the United States.
- **November** – The Battle of Franklin, Tennessee
- **December** – Sherman arrives in Savannah, Georgia, thus completing his “March to the Sea”
- **December** – Union victory at Nashville, Tennessee

! News of the War in the East !

- **Regimental Quartermaster**– Regimental Quartermaster, has been in the business of providing items to Civil War reenactors for many years. Aside from their walk-in store in Gettysburg, they, of course, have a presence on the Internet. Recently, their website showed only a few items and there was concern here that they might be shutting down their business. However, they have just opened a new (and much-improved) website, and, although there remain many “sold out” labels attached to certain items, the situation is looking much brighter. Their web address has changed twice recently, and it is now “regimentalquartermaster.com”, so it should be easy to remember. “Battle Lines” has no special interest in this business, but, except for one oversight a couple of years ago with an order placed by Dave Adams, they have proved quite reliable.
- **I Dread the Thought of the Place** – Scott Hartwig’s second volume of the Antietam Campaign is now available at bookstores and through Amazon. His first volume (over 800 pages) dealt with the Antietam Campaign up to the day of the battle on September 17, 1862. This new volume covers the battle and its aftermath. Volume 2 is more than 900 pages in length. Together, these books are destined to become *the* standard for works regarding the Battle of Antietam. Hartwig is an excellent, scholarly, yet readable author.
- **Dave Bottos**– Our best wishes are extended to Corporal (Sergeant) Dave Bottos, as he deploys to Latvia with the Canadian Army. Dave hopes to be back home in time for Kings Landing.