



# 79<sup>th</sup> NYSV, Company A

Newsletter for December, 2011



## Merry Christmas

Season's Greetings Highlanders,

2011 is just about over and we turn our attention to the coming year. This past year was busy and challenging to all of us. From The Cape Henry Light House Raid to the fields of Walkerton, the 79<sup>th</sup> saw action in the first year of the 150<sup>th</sup> Sesquicentennial of the Civil War.

To recap the last few months of the company's actions:

October found the company in some of our old stomping grounds of the Newport News Park providing security and a living history display at the annual Fall Festival.



The camp at the Newport News Festival



Marty Coffman explains life of a Civil War Solder to an inquiring person.



Bob Cain Explains the difference between a Min-Ball and a standard ball to an interested visitor.



Ken Roger kicken back.



Bruce Hagerman Strikes a pose.



Larry McCauley sharing a laugh with visitor and friend Ken Ehrsam and son Jamie

Each year at Halloween the company takes Portsmouth Ghost Walk. This very popular event is enjoyed by all and is a real scare to the good folks of Portsmouth. This year we were joined by new members Truman Boyd, Bentley Boyd, Michael Straus, Rick Solee and Denise Harrell.



### The Provost and his guard.

Clockwise from the top: Mark Miller, Truman Boyd, Ken Ritton, Larry McCauley and Ken Roger  
(Oh how scary!)



New member Michael Straus strikes a determined and menacing look.



Someone you don't want to trifle with, Rick Solee scans the crowd with a cold eye



Bentley Boyd did a more than convincing job portraying the deranged and dangerous crazy rebel.

# Company Christmas Dinner 2011



**Thank you all for all your hard work and support of the mission of the 79<sup>th</sup> NYSV Infantry Regiment Company A. It was a great year; now let's turn our attention to 2012**

## 2012 Schedule of Events (tentative)

This is a list of events that are schedule for the coming year. If anyone has any knowledge of any event let us know so that it can be listed and voted on by the membership at the annual meeting.

January 21 -22	USV meeting, Harrisburg PA
February 4th	Company Meeting (location TBD)
February 11 <sup>th</sup>	Living History, Elizabeth City
March 10 <sup>th</sup>	150 <sup>th</sup> Commemoration of the Monitor / Merrimac Mariners Museum NN
March 17 <sup>th</sup>	St. Patrick's Day Parade, Norfolk VA
April 7 & 8	The Belfield & Hicksford Raid, Emporia
April 21 & 28	Peninsula Campaign , Endview Plantation
April 21	Portsmouth Garden Club Walk, Pass House Portsmouth VA (paid event
May 5 & 6	Battle of Williamsburg, TBD
May 12 & 13	Battle of New Market
May 26 & 27	Civil War weekend at Yorktown, VA Living history
August 4 & 5	15 <sup>th</sup> Battle of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Manassas, Cedar Creek
September 7 - 8	150 <sup>th</sup> Antietam, Boonsboro, MD Registration before March 31 \$10 thereafter 20 Limited to only 1,800 Confederate, 4,000 Union
October 5 - 7	Fall Festival Newport News, Paid event

October 20 & 21	Driver Days, Driver VA, Fun Festival
October 26	Portsmouth Ghost Walk, Portsmouth VA Paid event
December 8 <sup>th</sup>	Company Christmas Party
December 29 <sup>th</sup>	Scottish New Years Walk, Portsmouth

We have not received any information as to Cape Henry Lighthouse or the exact date of Driver Days

## **Annual Company Business Meeting**

The company's annual business meeting is scheduled for the 4<sup>th</sup> of February. The location is still not set. If anyone has knowledge of or has a place we can use please let me know.

All the following positions are open for election. If you wish to be considered for any position or wish to nominate some please let me know. Nomination can be made the night of the company meeting.

The following positions are needed to be filled:

President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

Company Commander

Company Sergeant

One or two persons cannot do all that there is needed to be done to make our organization run. We need members to step up and make the commitment to the company and its members and help to make it happen.

### **Changes / Amendments to our By-Laws**

In addition we will be voting to accept changes to our By – Laws. At last year's meeting it was discussed and proposed that the bylaws be reviewed and any changes or proposals be made for approval at the coming meeting.

**In accordance with Article IX of the By-Laws the proposed changes/additions are included here. New or amended By-laws are highlighted in Yellow.**

# BYLAWS COMPANY A, 79TH NEW YORK VOLUNTEERS

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## ARTICLE I

The organization shall be known as Company A, 79th New York Volunteers, "Cameron Highlanders". Here after referred to as Co A 79th NY.

## ARTICLE II

The purpose of Co A 79th NY is to preserve the Civil War heritage of our country and the historical role played by the ordinary soldier from 1861 to 1865. To achieve this purpose, Co A 79th NY will present to the general public a historically accurate and educational picture of the average Union Army soldier. Through participation in historical reenactments, living history events, and first person demonstrations, members of the Co A 79th NY will strive to recreate an accurate portrayal of the soldier's experience. The objective being to help the general public understand the dedication and sacrifices our forefathers committed to the Union cause.

## ARTICLE III

Organizational Structure. Co A 79th NY is organized into two distinct components. The first component is the "Club" organization, and the second is the "Military" organization. Co A 79th NY is a member of the United States Volunteers (USV).

- A. The club organization shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and the general membership.
- B. The Club President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer are to be elected annually by vote of the general membership.
- C. Duties of Elected Officers:
  1. The President shall perform the following duties:
    - a. Preside over the monthly business meeting.
    - b. Coordinate club activities and participation in Civil War related events.
    - c. Serves as a point of contact with other living history organizations.
    - d. Represent the clubs interests at the annual business meeting of the USV.
  2. The Vice president shall assume any or all of the duties of the President in absence of the President.
  3. The Secretary shall perform the following duties:
    - a. Maintain an accurate roster of club members. Provide members copies of the current roster of members twice a year.
    - b. Edit a monthly newsletter. In the event the elected secretary lacks the facilities to publish a newsletter, this responsibility may be filled by a volunteer.
    - c. Conduct any correspondence for the club that may be required.
  4. The Treasurer shall perform the following duties:
    - a. Receive and disburse funds from and for club activities.
    - b. Maintain a checking account with a reputable financial institution, to deposit and disburse club funds.
    - c. Maintain a detailed record of all club financial transactions.
    - d. Provide the Secretary with a monthly balance in the checking account for inclusion in the newsletter.
    - e. Provide a detailed accounting of club financial transactions at the first business meeting of each calendar year.
  5. The elected offices of Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer may be combined.
- D. The military organization of Co A 79th NY shall be determined at the first business meeting of each calendar year. Positions in the military organization are filled by election at that meeting. **Members may hold an elected position as a Club Officer and a Military Officer at the same time.** The military organization of Co A 79th NY shall closely conform to the Company organization of the United States Army, circa 1861. **These positions shall be: Company Officer (Captain) and a NCO (First Sergeant or Sergeant) depending on the needs and size of the company.**

## **IV**

Membership: General membership is open to all persons, 18 years of age or older with an interest in the goals and objectives of Co A 79th NY. Persons younger than 18 may participate on a case by case basis. Membership is maintained by participating in a minimum of two business meetings and two events per year.

## **ARTICLE V**

Elections: All officers in the club and military organizations are to be elected to those positions annually. Any member of the club is eligible to run for any of the elected positions. The annual election is to be held at the first business meeting of the calendar year. Election is to be by majority vote of the membership attending the first business meeting of the calendar year **and who have maintained their membership as per Article IV of these by laws**. There is no specified limit to the number of times that a member can hold an elective office. Members may offer themselves up as candidates for office or they may be nominated for office by other members. Individual members of Co A 79th NY may be elected to responsible positions in other organizations such as the USV. **Election to such positions in other organizations does not confer any special privilege or rank within Co A 79th NY. If a vacancy should occur before the end of the yearly term, the company shall meet at such place and time or manner (via internet & etc.) called for by the highest club officer(s) to nominate/appoint and vote/approve the replacement for that office to serve the remainder of that term.**

## **ARTICLE VI**

~~Co A 79th NY does not collect dues from the membership.~~ **Dues for the organization shall be \$10 a year.** No member of Co A 79 NY may make any fiduciary gain from their membership in the organization while participating at a scheduled Co A 79th NY event. Individual members may be reimbursed for participating at a Civil War event as long as that participation is not under the guise of Co A 79th NY.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### Standards of Authenticity

- A. Basic Uniform: The official uniform of Co A 79th NY is the infantry privates fatigue uniform of the United States Army circa 1861, as issued. All members of Co A 79th NY will have this uniform, as a minimum, to participate in Events sponsored by Co A 79th NY or in which Co A 79th NY is participating as a unit.
- B. Accouterments are to be of patterns issued to troops by the United States Army circa 1861.
- C. Insignia, if worn, is to be that prescribed by Army Regulation.
- D. All members of Co A 79th NY will hold the rank of private, unless elected to a position of rank by the membership. Insignia of rank are to be worn only by those members elected to a position of rank. Members elected to positions of rank in other organizations and not holding a similar position in Co A 79th NY may only wear the rank insignia while participating in the other organizations events.
- E. The official uniform is the only uniform authorized to be worn to events sponsored by Co A 79th NY or events in which Co A 79th NY is participating. In some instances, for educational purposes, members may be asked to wear uniforms in their possession, other than those specified above.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

Members of Co A 79th NY who violate the rules of the organization may be asked to leave the organization. The decision to ask a member to leave will be made by a majority vote at any regular scheduled business meeting.

## **ARTICLE IX**

The bylaws may require modification at times. To modify the bylaws, the proposed modification will be printed in the monthly newsletter. At the next regular business meeting, a majority vote of attending members is required to incorporate the proposed modification into the bylaws.