

# **COMPANY C DISPATCH**

**VOLUME V**

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**NUMBER 2**

## **FEBRUARY MEETING – Most Important Meeting**

This month's company meeting will take place on Wednesday, 22 February 2017 at The Colonial Heights Public Library located on the northeast corner of Ellerslie Avenue and Conduit Road in Colonial Heights. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m.

This month's meeting is of critical importance. At a minimum these critical issues must be considered:

- Amended Bylaws revision concerning *quorum* rule adopted at the annual board meeting
- School of the Soldier Plans
- Additional 2017 events

## **January Meeting**

A *quorum* being present, official business was conducted. The highlight of the meeting was the induction of two new full members of the company.

Welcome them to Company C and make them glad they joined. Not only do we have one more military member, but Melodie brings the number of civilians to three.

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Adjutant Liz Watkins-Morris presented the financial report and it was approved. With the receipt of member dues and the posting of income from the 50-50 raffle less Corps dues, the treasury now totals \$723.19. Deposits of additional funds from dues, reimbursements from the Gala, and the 50-50 raffle have been made. An updated balance will be reported at the February meeting.

# **CAPTAIN'S REPORT**

## **Annual Elections**

Elections were conducted and Ryan Beasley was elected first sergeant. Liz Watkins-Morris will again serve as Adjutant and Civilian Coordinator.

Ryan will only serve into June pending his departure for active duty with the United States Marine Corps. At that point the company will have to elect another first sergeant. Please give Ryan your complete cooperation in carrying out his important job as first sergeant. He already has considerable experience as first sergeant in one of the Army Junior ROTC companies at Dinwiddie High School. He served well at the 2016 School of the Soldier.

The captain elaborated on the Corps meeting and upcoming events. Details appeared in the e-mail sent out in January.

## **REGIMENTAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

The annual 12<sup>th</sup> Virginia Board of Directors met on Saturday, 4 February 2017 at the Petersburg National Battlefield Maintenance Building at 11:00 a.m. The following board members were present:

President Mark Allen (Company B captain)  
Board Secretary Kathy Maitland  
Member: Randy Watkins  
Company B Director: Bill Edwards  
Company C Director: Don Wells

Business conducted:

- Mark Allen re-elected as president of the board
- Kathy Maitland re-elected as secretary
- Financial Report – \$340.00 in regimental account with no outstanding expenses
- Company B reported on their company events for 2017
  - School of the Soldier (Petersburg National Battlefield) = 25-26 March
  - Stanardsville (Corps sanctioned) = 1-2 April
  - Endview (“On to Richmond”) = 3-4 June
  - Malvern Hill (Richmond National Battlefield) = 1-2 June
  - Crater = 29 July

- Food Drive (Meadow Farm) = 9 December

School of the Soldier:

- Invitations to go out to invited units
- Planning meeting to be held as soon as it can be scheduled
- Same basic plan as last year but expanded to battalion and skirmish drill if sufficient troops in attendance
- Additional instructors needed

Bylaws rule adopted:

- Three different versions were discussed
  - Current rule = simple majority of members in good standing present physically or by proxy
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Proposal = simple majority of members in good standing present physically or by proxy
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Proposal = Percentage of number of full members on roll plus at least one elected official (captain, adjutant, first sergeant, civilian coordinator, director, or other NCO)
- Board adopted a modification of the 2<sup>nd</sup> proposal:

Ten per cent (10%) of the number of members in good standing physically present or by proxy plus one elected official at any official business meeting shall constitute a *quorum* for the transaction of business at any regular or special meeting of the membership. An act by a majority of the members represented at any regular or special meeting at which there is a *quorum* shall be the act of the membership unless a greater percentage is otherwise required by law or these bylaws. In elections of commissioned and noncommissioned officers and adjutant, those receiving the greatest number of votes shall be deemed elected even though not receiving a majority.
- Board adopted measure to correct another minor typographical error.

Company C will be responsible for providing coffee and light refreshments for the 2018 Board of Directors meeting.

## **LAST EVENT**

Lee-Jackson Honor Guard – Saturday, 21 January (Unofficial Individual Event)

The honor guard was canceled due to lack of sufficient honor guards and the threat of interference by forecasted roving bands of demonstrators who were going to target the Lee Monument on Saturday.

Hopefully, next year with more notice, and possibly the assumption of responsibility for the arrangement of the honor guard by Companies B and C, we can conduct a proper honor guard for Generals Lee and Jackson. The honor guard will be held on Saturday, 20 January from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Please put it on your calendar. You will be asked to serve a minimum of one two hour tour of duty at one or the other of the monuments.

## **NEXT COMPANY EVENT**

- School of the Soldier – 25-26 March 2017 at Stop 3, Petersburg National Battlefield – More information to follow after Company B and C planning meeting, date, time, and location to be announced.
- Fort Clifton Arts and Crafts Festival – 13-14 May 2017 in Colonial Heights. Company B has been invited.

## **FUND RAISING EFFORTS BRINGS IN MORE \$\$\$\$ TO THE TREASURY –**

### **Surplus Member Equipment Sale**

Some if not all of the Severin donation items will be on display and for sale at the December meeting. CDs containing photos of all the available items were distributed to those attending the November meeting. Photos will be made available on the internet soon. A binder with the photos is also available for viewing at meetings. Surplus donated uniforms and

equipment will be offered at a maximum of 75% of retail value with a negotiated minimum of 50% retail.

## **Black Powder Sales**

The company FFG rifle powder and percussion caps for sale. There have already been some powder and cap sales. There is a limited number of 100 cap cans of percussion caps available. As long as the supply of caps holds out, the price for a pound of powder and a can of caps will be \$20.00. If you wish to purchase only one or the other, the powder will be \$18.00 per can and the caps \$5.00.

See the Quartermaster to make a purchase.

## **50-50 Raffle**

Jodie Williams won (again) the 50-50 raffle at the January meeting and donated his winnings to the company treasury. There will be a 50-50 again in January. Remember, if you buy a ticket you **may** win. Don't purchase a ticket and you **won't** win. The more tickets purchased, the more the company wins.

Tickets sell for \$1.00 each or six for \$5.00. The pot equals half the ticket sales going to the winner. Donation of the winnings is a nice gesture, but don't feel you have to donate anything to the treasury if you win. You bought your tickets and deserve the winnings. Of course, if all you want is your name in the newsletter, feel free to donate all or a portion of your winning to the treasury. But you'll get your name in the newsletter even if you keep your winnings.

## **Membership**

Adding Melodie and Kenneth Bage to our roster in January was a good start for 2017, but we lost Sam Watkins. That puts us one up, but we need to work harder to attract more members. Contact was made with two potential members at the January Pegram's Company shoot. Their contact information was collected and they will be contacted and invited to our February meeting. Another invitation will be extended to the Massorellas who attended a few months ago.

## **Emergency Contact Information**

Be sure to keep your Emergency Contact Information forms and medical forms up to date. If you need a form, see the adjutant. Keep one on your person at events in case an emergency arises some distance from camp and/or the company trailer.

## **Membership Applications**

Membership applications are available from the adjutant. Get a couple and keep them handy in case you run across a potential recruit. **If you give someone an application make sure they include their e-mail address, if they use one, on the top of the first page.**

## **Meeting Agenda – February 2017**

**The following is a proposed agenda for this month's meeting.** If you have something you wish put on the agenda, e-mail the captain at [RangerWatkins74@gmail.com](mailto:RangerWatkins74@gmail.com) or call him at 804-615-0107.

- Call meeting to order 7:00 p.m.
- Welcome of guests and potential members
- Adjutant's Report
  - Minutes of previous month's meeting
  - Financial reports
- Membership Report
  - Introduction of guests and prospective members
  - Membership actions
    - Acceptance of applications
    - Introduction of prospective members
    - Applicants who have met the attendance requirement and have submitted their application leave meeting room for deliberations by membership
    - Membership discusses merits of prospective members and votes on admission or rejection ▪ Prospective members notified of decision
- Captain's Report –
- NCO Reports
  - First Sergeant

- Ordnance Sergeant -
- Quartermaster Sergeant – Trailer report
- Civilian Coordinator’s Report
- Event Reports
  - Dances
  - Other Events
- Old business
  - Membership dues
  - School of the Soldier
  - Additional events to be added to the 2017 schedule
- New Business
- Announcements
- 50-50 Raffle
- Trivia Contest
- Adjournment

## **Civil War Etiquette (A CONTINUING FEATURE)**

### ***Street Etiquette***

While walking on the street no one should be so absent-minded as to neglect to recognize his friends. If you do not stop, you should always bow or, touch your hat, or bid your friend good day. If you stop, you can offer your hand without removing your glove. If you stop to talk, retire on one side of the walk. If your friend has a stranger with him and you have anything to say, you should apologize to the stranger. Never leave your friend abruptly to see person without asking him to excuse your departure. If you meet a gentleman of your acquaintance walking with a lady whom you do not know, lift as you salute them. If you know the lady, you should salute her first.

- Martine’s Hand-book of Etiquette, and Guide to True Politeness. Page 128.

## Recipes –

## HOPPIN' JOHN

2 cups black-eyed peas or cowpeas  
10-12 cups of water  
Ham or bacon (optional)  
2 onions, chopped  
2 cups rice  
Salt and pepper

Pick over and rinse the peas; put them in a pot.

Boil the peas, salt and pepper, meat and onion, uncovered, 1 ½ hours, (don't let the peas get mushy).

Add rice to the pot, making sure there is about 4 cups of water left in the pot. Cover and simmer over low heat for 20 minutes.

Remove the pot from heat and let it sit for about 15 minutes (keep pot covered).

- Civil War Cookin', Stories, 'n Such, Page 98.

If you have any recipes you thing might be of interest to members, send them to [RangerWatkins74@gmail.com](mailto:RangerWatkins74@gmail.com).

## Training

This is a new format. It consists of the instructions in Gilham's Manual for Volunteers and Militia broken down step-by-step. It should be much easier to follow. Almost the entire Manual of Arms form the School of the Soldier is complete and will be e-mailed to members as soon as it is. Then the same thing will be done for the School of the Company.

### Manual of Arms for Musket

#### 94. Shoulder---ARMS (from Order---ARMS)

- Turn the piece with the right hand, the barrel to the front
- Support it against the shoulder with the right hand
- Drop left hand under the butt
  - Middle, ring, and little fingers under the butt plate



- Heel of butt between index finger and thumb
- Thumb covering the butt plate screw
- hand resting on, but not grasping the small of the stock
- Drop the right hand quickly into its position on the right side
- Toe of butt should be near hip
- Lock plate high into arm pit
- Muzzle only canted slightly to the rear and almost vertical

## 12<sup>th</sup> VIRGINIA HISTORY

### MAJOR GENERAL WILLIAM MAHONE

Brigadier general, P. A. C. S., November 16, 1861.

Major general, P. A. C. S. (temporary rank), June 1, 1864; declined.

Major general, P. A. C. S., July 30, 1864.

Died at Washington, D. C., October 8, 1895.

Commands.

Brigade composed of the Third Alabama, the Sixth, Twelfth, Sixteenth and Forty-first Virginia, and Second (afterward the Twelfth) North Carolina Regiments Infantry, Anderson's Division, A. P. Hill's Corps, Army of Northern Virginia.

Division composed of Wright's Georgia, Weisiger's Virginia, Saunder's Alabama, Harris' Mississippi and Finegan's Florida Brigades, Army of Northern Virginia, 1864-1865.

Source: General Officers of the Confederate States of America

Major-General William Mahone was born at Monroe, Southampton county, Va., December 1, 1826. His family in Virginia was descended from an Irish progenitor of the Colonial period.

Both his grandfathers served in the war of 1812, and his father commanded a militia regiment during the Nat Turner insurrection.

He was graduated at the Virginia military institute in 1847, after which he taught two years at the Rappahannock military academy. He then entered upon a career as civil engineer in which he became distinguished, engaging in the construction of new railroads in Virginia, notably the Orange & Alexandria and Norfolk & Petersburg lines.

Overcoming obstacles that had been pronounced insuperable in

the construction of the latter line, he subsequently became president of the railroad company. He then conceived his great project of consolidating various roads into a system from Norfolk to Bristol, Tenn., with the ultimate object of extending connections to the Mississippi and to the Pacific coast.

But these enterprises were brought to a sudden check by the political events of 1860-61. He promptly offered his services to Virginia, was commissioned lieutenant-colonel, and soon promoted colonel of the Sixth Virginia regiment.

Serving first at Norfolk, he was promoted brigadier-general November 16, 1861. After serving in the defense of Drewry's bluff, he fought his brigade in Huger's division at Seven Pines, where his men and Armistead's struck the enemy a telling blow on the second day.

He participated in the Seven Days' battles before Richmond, and in Anderson's division of Longstreet's corps conducted his brigade into action at the battle of Second Manassas with conspicuous gallantry, receiving a severe wound which prevented his participation in the Maryland campaign, though his famous brigade was distinguished in the valorous defense of the South mountain passes.

Returning to his command, he served through the succeeding struggles on the Rappahannock and in Pennsylvania, and during the first day's fighting in the Wilderness was intrusted with the command of his own, Wofford's, Anderson's and Davis' brigades, in an attack on the flank and rear of Grant's advance, which rolled Hancock's command back in confusion and promised to repeat the victory of Chancellorsville, when Longstreet fell, as Jackson had fallen on the former field.

When his division commander was called to fill Longstreet's place, Mahone was given command of Anderson's division, and Longstreet added his voice to that of A. P. Hill in recommending the promotion of the dashing infantry chieftain. As a division commander, though without the official rank, he was distinguished in a successful attack upon Hancock, May 10th, and the severe repulse and almost capture of a portion of Warren's corps on the North Anna.

Before Petersburg he brilliantly defended the Weldon railroad, and at the time of the breaking of the Confederates lines by the explosion of a mine, July 30th, he was specially distinguished. Moving promptly with his division to the relief of Gen. Bushrod Johnson's men, he engaged in repeated desperate charges, which finally resulted in the utter repulse and terrible slaughter of the enemy.

Here the tardy promotion arrived, he being promoted major-general on the field by General Lee, which was promptly confirmed by the President and Congress. Of Mahone's part in the battle of the Crater, Col. W. H. Stuart, of the Sixty-first Virginia, has said:

"The whole movement was under his immediate and personal

direction, and to him, above all, save the brave men who bore the muskets, belong the honor and credit of recapturing the Confederate lines."

To the last he held his men together in a remarkably spirited and unified organization, which was inspired with a strong esprit du corps, and distinguished for readiness to take all chances in either defense or assault.

He surrendered at Appomattox, and returned to the railroad management from which he had been called four years before. Becoming president of the two lines extending from Petersburg to Bristol, Tenn., he consolidated the three companies into the Atlantic, Mississippi & Ohio railroad company, which he managed until the financial crisis of 1873, when a foreign combination gained control and the system became known later as the Norfolk & Western.

Though defeated in this great enterprise he managed that upon the sale of the lines \$500,000 was paid to the State of Virginia for her claim, the whole amount of which he subsequently caused to be appropriated for educational purposes.

Before the close of the war General Mahone had served in the Virginia senate in addition to his duties in the field, and during the reconstruction period he exerted a very powerful influence toward the comparatively peaceful restoration of home rule which was brought about in his State.

In 1878 he was defeated in a contest for the Democratic nomination for governor. In 1879, under his leadership, the "Readjuster" party was formed in Virginia, which for a time controlled the State, and General Mahone was elected to the United States Senate, where he soon became identified with the Republican party, which through his efforts carried the State elections in 1881.

He led Virginia delegations to the Republican national conventions of 1884 and 1888, and in 1889 was nominated for governor by his party, but defeated. He continued to retain political leadership, and in his later years made his home at Washington, where he died October 8, 1895.

Source: Confederate Military History, vol. IV, p. 634

## **CIVIL WAR TRIVIA – None This Month!**

### **Future Company Meeting Dates**

22 March 2017  
26 April 2017  
24 May 2017

28 June 2017  
26 July 2017  
23 August 2017

27 September 2017  
25 October 2017  
November (TBD)

December 2017 (TBD)  
25 January 2018  
28 February 2018

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