

THE LEGACY

VOLUME XXXII ISSUE 3 MAY JUNE 2012

THE FRONT PAGE NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS to Lisa and David Sansone on the birth of their first child, daughter Rebecca Elizabeth. We hope to see them all soon.

BREAD, CHEESE, and BEER—Ruth Williams, Jan Potera, and Sue Erdle attended the 'Ploughman's Lunch' Historic Foodways Symposium at Genesee Country Museum, cosponsored by 'Deborah Peterson's Pantry'. Lectures and workshops on 18th and 19th century beer brewing, baking, and cheesemaking were offered, as well as the opportunity to network with the other participants (reenactors and museum staff from Canada and the northeast US) and shop at vendors specializing in 18th and 19th century food and cooking related items.

NEW MEMBER Tim Hughes joined the Unit as a Social (Civilian) member at our March meeting. Tim is a self described history buff and enjoys discussing the Civil War. Welcome Tim.

ROSTERS on the website have recently been updated. Please contact Chris Chamberlain if you have any questions.

ALSO WELCOME new member Sean Rosenberry who will be joining as a Civilian member. Sean is a student at Nazareth who plans on becoming a music teacher. He is a talented violinist and has a strong interest in Civil War history.

THANKS to the Barbers, Olneys, Lisa Sansone, Ruth Williams, PJ Hanley, and Sue Erdle for participating in the GCV Maple weekends. PJ helped out with the outdoor maple demonstrations and the rest of the group portrayed a typical farm family during maple season in the early 1860's.

NEXT UNIT MEETING—Their will be NO Unit meeting in May. The next unit meeting has been rescheduled for June 24 and will be the 'pre-Mumford' meeting. If you are planning on attending the Mumford event this year PLEASE attend this meeting (and sign up on the roster before May 25). Once again the museum is handling all registrations this year and if you are not pre-registered you will not be allowed to participate.

THE SCHOOL OF THE COMPANY is underway this weekend at the 'Winter '64' camp in Newfane. We're hoping its not too 'wintry' and that a good time is had by all.

THE SOCIETY FOR WOMEN AND THE CIVIL WAR is holding their 12th annual conference July 27-29 at Duquesne University in Pittsburg PA. The topic this year is "Women of the Civil War: Sacrifice and Service". Among the many workshops and lectures scheduled—Juanita Leisch will be presenting a workshop on Work Clothing, and Raina Kellerman will speak on 'Women and the Allegheny Arsenal Tragedy'. If you are interested in this group and / or this conference please contact Meg Galante-DeAngelis at athomeandinthe-field@yahoo.com.

GEAR FOR SALE See the insert for a list of military gear for sale. Contact Dave George for details.

UPCOMING EVENTS

UNIT MEETINGS ARE AT 7 PM AT THE TRINITY EMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

- ◆ APRIL 21-22
SCIO TACTICAL
- ◆ MAY 4-6
MCDOWELL
- ◆ MAY 19
MILITARY
THROUGH THE
AGES
GENESEE COUN-
TRY VILLAGE
- ◆ MEMORIAL DAY
WEEKEND
ROCHESTER OR
WATERLOO OR
CALEDONIA?

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COMMANDER'S CORNER

Spring has sprung and the calendar has the members of the 140th NY taking the field. Several of our civilian members enjoyed the Sugaring weekends at the Genesee Country Village and Museum. The military is in the middle of drill season busily preparing for the days when we will face off with our Southern counterparts...

The Mumford committee is busy with more changes this year. All good if you ask me. Feedback from last years' participants has been discussed and I think the event is moving in the right direction by raising some standards, and working toward many win/win results for the participants, visitors and the museum. Also, our good friend Pat Schwartz of the 33rd VA has accepted the role of overall Confederate commander this year at Mumford. We are excited about this opportunity and look forward to working with him.

Planning is continuing for the celebration of 30 years for the 140th NYVILHO. Laurie Pellittieri and Ruth Williams are hard at work, heading up the commemorative effort. I hope you all will join us when the time comes to celebrate this milestone in our history. Stay tuned for details...

Thanks to all who are paid up and on the official roster for 2012. Our numbers look great with 24 family units and 37 individuals who make up the active 140th NY this year. We can make a pretty good splash at events this year if we concentrate our efforts. The military is somewhat steered by our battalion affiliation, but there are also plenty of extra opportunities out there. See our events list at www.140thNY.org. Register early and register often! This 150th anniversary commemoration of the events of 1862 will never come again!

Finally, for those looking for military gear at a great price, I am currently working to secure a complete set from a past member. Stay tuned and make sure you are at our next meeting (June) to have a look and make a purchase or two...or three...please bring cash or check.

See you all in the field soon!

David W. George

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EDITORS CORNER Please remember to send me news about what you are doing so that it can be included in the 'Front Page News' of The Legacy.

Your Lady Editor, Mrs. Erdle

Secretary's Corner:

Hello everyone! We are gearing up for another exciting and busy year. In this issue of the Legacy you have probably noticed a mail in event registration form. This is for anyone who wishes to register for events, but may not have a computer readily available to sign up. To keep the formatting to just one page, the 'major' events are on the list. If you would like a mailed copy of the event schedule, please contact me directly.

Thank you! Julie

From The Home front

As we begin preparations for another season of reenacting we need to make sure our cooking is as authentic as our clothing and behavior. The following receipts from Godey's Ladys Book are easy, tasty, and appropriate for spring and summer events.

A Bengal Omelet (1862)

Take half a dozen fresh eggs, beat the whites and yolks up well together in a clean basin; chop half a dozen young onions fine, a little fresh parsley, three green chilies, and add a teaspoonful of catsup. Mix all together, and fry them after the form of a pancake. When done, brown, take a fork to roll them up, and send to table.

Macaroni Cheese (1861)

Boil the macaroni in milk; put in the stewpan butter, cheese, and seasoning; when melted, pour into the macaroni, putting breadcrums over, which brown before the fire altogether.

To Dress Cucumbers (1861)

Pare one or two cucumbers, cut it equally into very thin slices, and commence cutting from the thick end; if commenced at the stalk, the cucumber will most likely have an exceedingly bitter taste, far from agreeable. Put the slices into a dish, sprinkle over salt and pepper, and pour over 3 tablespoons of salad oil, and 4 of vinegar, in these proportions; turn the cucumber about, and it is ready to serve. This is favorite accompaniment to boiled salmon, and makes a pretty garnish to lobster salad.

Potato Salad (Hot) (1861)

Boil as many potatoes as will make a dish for your family; when done, peel them carefully, and slice while hot into a deep dish; cut in very small pieces young onions or shives, and mix them among the slices, distributing a little salt and pepper; pour over the whole, good vinegar, scalding hot, and send it to the table immediately. A wholesome and pleasant dish for spring and early summer.

A Spring Dish (1860)

Upon a toasted bread place a layer of well boiled spinach about an inch thick; upon this place at equal distances poached eggs. This forms a pretty, light, and nourishing dish; but be careful that the yellow of the egg is not broken, or the appearance will be lost, and the eggs not worth eating.

Mrs. Erdle

From the head of the street

Mike Dudkowski and I were the only 140th that made the trip to Shiloh. An almost member, David Reid fell in with us there. I also had the happy occasion to speak to our old pard Kevin Ganz. There were the normal mega-event challenges, but I think everyone that went

is pleased that they did. Unfortunately, our intelligence for the Confederate route of march on Thursday afternoon was incorrect. While Colonel Minton, Major Sharp and I watched across the actual Fallen Timbers battlefield for the Confederates to approach from the opposite direction, a squadron of Confederate Cavalry suddenly appeared in our left front within easy pistol shot range. Scampering to the rear I ordered the battalion to open fire. The Confederates outnumbered us roughly five to one and drove us back.

Friday morning we returned to Fallen Timbers for a semi-scripted tactical. This time we turned the tables and drove them from the field. If you've never had "the moment", Saturday's battle would have provided it. There was so much smoke and mist on the field that it was impossible to see beyond ten feet. When the Cavalry on our right collapsed, we were forced to once again fall back. This time through the Union Camps with Confederates close on our heels. Saturday afternoon we lined up for the Peach Orchard and again were driven back; this time through the woods. By Sunday, we'd had enough running, at least in the backwards direction. Two batteries of cannon were in our immediate front with nary a supporting musket. We drove off a weak line of Confederate horse and then pitched into the real work overrunning both batteries. Colonel Minton split the battalion attempting to block Confederate infantry extending to our left. The cry lets get'em

rang through the right wing. Drawing my saber and ordering a slight left wheel, in we went at the double quick driving the rebels that remained right into the crowd. Doom on you Johnnie!

Registration for Scio and McDowell are closed. People are needed for the filming at Zoar.

The event for June is Lee Takes Command. Check the website for details. As always, register early, register often.

I'll see you in the field,

Tim

MANNERS PLEASE!

Something that came up in our civilian survey earlier this year was the importance of manners and behavior. At living history events we need to behave as the men (both military and civilian), women and children of the 1860's would have behaved. The following 'approved rules' are from "Etiquette, and the Usages of Society" published in 1860.

The true principals of Etiquette are to regulate your conduct towards others so as never to give offence, or cause a disagreeable feeling—never to show your temper or make a remark that you think will create an unpleasant sensation in the listener, and on all occasions to religiously refrain from gratuitous intrusions of any sort.

True politeness is perfect freedom and ease—treating others just as you like to be treated.

If you meet a friend in the street, or in any public place, do not call him by name loudly, as "Ah, Brown, how d'ye do?" It is not even necessary to speak his name at all so that strangers may hear, as modest people do not desire to attract notice from any one.

We find a great many people who delight in retelling remarks made by one party upon another, thus stirring up discord and strengthening hatred wheresoever they appear. Such characters are the bane of country society.

Another class of tattlers are those who visit their friends and take note of all the habits and customs of the family, the conversations at table, the government of children, treatment of servants, family expenditures, employments and dress of the mistress, and even the late hours of the male members, should their be any who stay out late. These are told in detail at the next visiting place. It is almost unnecessary to say that such people are contemptible.

In walking with ladies in the street, gentlemen should treat them with the most scrupulous politeness. It is customary to give them the inside of the walk, but there may be places where the outside would be safer, and you should then change sides.

You should offer your arm to a lady with whom you are walking whenever her safety, comfort, or convenience may seem to require such attention on your part.

If a lady addresses an inquiry to a gentleman on the street, he will lift his hat, or at least touch it respect-

fully, as he replies. If he cannot give the information required, he will express his regrets.

When walking over the pavement, a lady should gracefully raise her dress a little above the ankle. With her right hand she should hold together the folds of her gown and draw them to the right side. To raise the dress on both sides, and with both hands, is vulgar. This ungraceful practice can be tolerated only for a moment when the mud is very deep.

It is not polite for a lady to speak too quick or too loud. When seated, she ought neither to cross her legs, nor take a vulgar attitude.

In receiving guests, your first object should be to make them feel at home. Begging them to make themselves at home is not sufficient. You should display a genuine, unaffected friendliness. Allow their presence to interfere as little as possible with your domestic arrangements; thus letting them see that their visit does not disturb you.

This last rule is how we should relate to members of the public at our events, as welcome guests.

Members of the public often hesitate to approach a group of reenactors involved in an activity for fear of disturbing them. Since our mission is to educate the public about life during the Civil War it's important to encourage them to observe and ask questions. A 'genuine, unaffected friendliness' is not only period correct etiquette but a good modern way of interacting with the public. If you are part of a group involved in a first person scenario you may need to have one member of the group act as a 'greeter' or narrator to help the public understand what is going on and to encourage them to ask questions. Even if you are just casually chatting with another reenactor you should stop your conversation (especially if it's a modern one) and welcome any members of the public that come near. Conversations on modern topics should be avoided when any member of the public is within earshot (or if you're with a group of reenactors doing 24 hour authentic) since it detracts from their experience of the 1860's. This is something we've all been guilty of, especially when catching up on the news from a reenactor friend that we haven't seen in a while.

Etiquette of the 1860's was based on modesty, not drawing attention to yourself by the way you acted or the clothing you wore, respect towards women and older people, and 'treating others just as you like to be treated'.