

The Haversack

December 2013

Fall 2013

Newsletter of the 7th Military District, Sons of Veterans Reserve



Major Eric B. Peterson

Commander

Gdy2shosflthybst@bellsouth.net

Captain David DuBrucq

Chief of Staff

sockettuem@comcast.net

1st Lt Jim Ward

District Adjutant

jw1638@gmail.com

2nd Lt Ted Golab

Inspector General

Tiger126@Bellsouth.net

2nd Lt George Huttick

Public Information Officer

GAHuttick@netscape.net

2nd Lt. Kenneth Early

District Chaplain

kve370@yahoo.com

Commander's Comments

Happy Holidays!

As we wind down the year I want to thank each of you for the work you have done to advance the mission of the SVR. Although small in number, our companies have been very active this year. It has been duly noted and appreciated by me as well as the National Command Staff.

I also want to thank General Grimm for his confidence in me as District Commander recently demonstrated by his conferring the rank of Major upon me in the SVR. I am humbled by the honor and owe that to the diligence of my staff and the three companies within the district for the hard work they do.

As most of you know by now, the National Encampment of the S.U.V.C.W. will be held in Marietta Georgia in August of 2014. We need assistance from the soldiers of the 7th district as many members of the 14th Corps HQ Guard in Georgia will be tasked with running the event through their membership in the various camps in the Department of Georgia S.U.V.C.W. This will spread them thin and may prevent them from being available for SVR duties during the encampment. We will need men in uniform as escorts for dignitaries, color guard for opening ceremonies, and the memorial service among other things. Please contact me if you are available to lend a hand at the encampment in 2014.

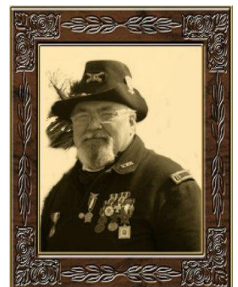
Lieutenant Huttick has asked the various commanders to share their thoughts on leadership at the company level so that he may print them in the news letter and we may share our ideas to strengthen the district. To that end I want to discuss Unity of Command in this issue. I have found that the best way to ensure that a project will be completed successfully is to assign a single project leader with full authority to take actions needed including giving directions to people involved who don't normally report to the project leader. Give you subordinates the authority they need to complete the assigned project and get out of their way. They will usually exceed your expectations! Don't micro manage, remember that two commanders on the field may be one too many.

To illustrate this point have you ever wondered why the Union armies in the field seemed to win victories early in the civil war that did not bear a great deal of fruit or were quickly reversed? The main answer can be seen in that each army commander was essentially working on their own uncoordinated by a single plan. Later in the war, when Grant became General in Chief one of the things that he did was to take a firm command over the "Grand Army" giving each of the field armies a goal that supported the grand strategy and then, in the main, allowing each field commander carry out his mission as he saw fit. He did not abdicate responsibility as the overall commander but he gave his subordinates wide latitude to carry out the tasks he assigned to them. This type of delegative leadership will win out over micromanagement.

I will close by wishing each of you and your families peace and joy in this holiday season.

In FC&L,

Major Eric Peterson
7th Military District, SVR
Commanding



Chaplain's Pulpit

Brothers of the 7th Military District,

The stories of soldiers during the Great Civil War are numerous and plentiful. They present a different view of battles and theaters each participated in. The story below is of one such individual but, in this instance he was a Chaplain. As I have said before, the story of an Army Chaplain is one that is not told often enough and deserves the praise of soldiers on both sides and historians in today's modern world.

As we approach the Christmas season I would like to ask that we never forget the principals our country was founded on and may we always remember the sacrifices of those who fought to preserve this great nation.

I would like to thank the website Freelance Historian for allowing me to print the biography below.

Merry Christmas to each of you and may you have a blessed New Year.

May God bless you and keep you safe,

Chaplain Kenneth Early
7th Military District, SVR



James Horton Dill (1821 -1863) 89th Ill Infantry

The 89th Illinois was known as the "Railroad Regiment," its men being drawn from the railroad companies and formed in Chicago in August of 1862. Its first major engagement was the bloody affair at Stone's River, TN, where the conduct of the men lent them instant veteran status. The regiment was again heavily engaged at Chickamauga and Pickett's Mill, and participated in the capture of Atlanta.

Rev. James Horton Dill, youngest child of James and Ruth (Cushing) Dill, was born in Plymouth, Massachusetts, January 1, 1821. He was educated at Yale College and Seminary, entered the ministry in Winchester, Connecticut, where he served six years, and afterward settled in Spencerport, New York. He began there a systematic work of visiting the entire region round about, with a view to awaken a popular interest in the faith and order of the Pilgrims, and chiefly through his indirect agency the large and influential Plymouth Church of Rochester was organized, and their edifice built. He delighted to make journeys at his own expense and suggestion, as a general missionary of the good cause. One of his contemporaries said of him: "Mr. Dill has done more to establish Congregational churches in Western New York than any other man in twenty years." He remained in Spencerport nearly eight years, and finally removed to Chicago and became the pastor of the South Congregational Church, when, after a three years' occupancy of the pulpit, he offered his services to the Army of the Republic. During his pastorate he was long the correspondent of the New York "Independent," writing under the nom de plume of "Puritan."

Soon after the breaking out of the war he joined the "Railroad Regiment," from Illinois, and died in the service of his country. "Pilgrim," the Chicago correspondent of the New York "Independent," said of him:

Your friend and my predecessor, Rev. J. H. Dill, has fallen in the service of his country. It was from motives of patriotism that he entered the army, having said to the writer that he "could not bear to have the war come to an end without having had a hand in it." Just before Forefathers' Day he was sent home on business of the regiment and was here taken sick, the seed of the disease having been planted in camp life. But as his leave of absence was wearing away, he started back, and at Louisville was ordered home as unfit for service. Back again, his disease became more malignant. Meantime, there came the report of the battle at Murfreesboro, in which his division was engaged. He was very restive from a desire to get back, and when the news came that his regiment had suffered much, he would resist no longer.

He feared his men would think he was staying away unnecessarily. He started for Louisville, where he took the "Lady Franklin" for Nashville, and died on board, January 14, near the destination of the boat. A gentleman from this city, who had gone down to look after a wounded son, took the remains in charge to bring home, but as yet he had not arrived, the son having come on before with the tidings. Mr. Dill seems to have had a rare preparation of late for his great change. Just before his acceptance of the Chaplaincy he came into the prayer-meeting and said that it was a more serious business than he had supposed to enter the army. The arranging of his business and domestic affairs, as though he might not come back, he said, had led him to a self-examination and to a new consecration to Christ, and now he had great peace and joy in him. He wrote back to his associate correspondent for the "Independent": "I am walking with God every day, and it is all the sweeter to walk with Him when so few around me are companions in that way." His last line to his wife, written the Sabbath evening before his death was: "Do not be concerned about me; only pray that I may come into full communion with the mind and heart of Christ." The lady who took care of him on the boat reports, as we might have expected, that his death was triumphant. Mr. Dill will be greatly missed by the ministers of the Puritan churches here. In their ministers' meetings, he always had some sprightly original thoughts. He was almost utterly devoid of anything like censoriousness or sectarianism. He was a true and good man.

Mr. Dill was one of the most earnest and useful men in the Congregational denomination, either East or West. His efforts for the building of new churches, his practical usefulness in conventions, councils and committees, his industry in gathering the statistics of the denomination, his constant, unremitting services in the general cause of Congregationalism, made him one of the staunchest pillars of the Western churches. He was a man of vigorous mind and body, energetic will, genial disposition, ever ready to do a kindness, shrinking from no labors, excellent in council and possessing a rare ability for organization and administration.

A Message from the Elias Moon Camp #2 Camp Commander

12 November 2013

Dear Brothers:

Greetings from Fort Hood, Texas! My current mobilization assignment here is serving as Soldier's Counsel representing wounded and injured Soldiers in their military and VA benefits claims. The past 4 months have been very busy here, as Fort Hood has one of the largest Warrior Transition units, as well as one of the highest Medical Evaluation Board (MEB) case loads, of any Army installation in the Continental United States. There are 11 personnel assigned to the Soldiers' MEB Counsel Office here, both attorneys and paralegals, including 5 of us who are mobilized Army Reservists.

The Medical Evaluation Board (MEB) process is the initial phase of the Integrated Disability Evaluation System (IDES) process. IDES is a streamlined program developed to ensure that the military disability and Veteran's Affairs (VA) disability processes run concurrently in order to ensure that wounded warriors receive both their military disability benefits and VA disability benefits more quickly than if the two processes were handled sequentially or independently. One key element of the IDES process is the use of a unified medical examination system where VA physicians conduct the Compensation & Pension (C&P) examination(s) that will be used both for the MEB and subsequent Physical Evaluation Board (PEB) processes, as well as for VA disability ratings.

Once a Soldier undergoes their C&P exams by the VA, the MEB issues a decision determining if one or more of the Soldier's conditions claimed on their VA application fails to meet the Army's retention standards set forth in Chapter 3 of AR 40-501. After the MEB issues their decision, and after all review and appeal rights have been exhausted, the claim is referred to an informal PEB (IPEB) for a decision whether or not any conditions failing retention make the Soldier unfit for duty. If the Soldier disagrees with the IPEB Decision, they may request a formal in-person hearing before the PEB. At each step of the process, both MEB and PEB, the Soldier has the right to exercise rights for review or appeal, and it is the role of MEB Counsel to advise and assist these Soldiers with preparing and submitting their appeals to challenge MEB, IPEB, and VA rating decisions.

MEB paralegals conduct initial screening interviews with clients, request off-Post medical records, prepare client files, and perform preliminary file review to ensure SMEBC attorneys are prepared for client counseling. At Fort Hood, SMEBC attorneys meet with an average of 4 clients per day for interviewing, counseling, and preparation of any appeals or review requests. Since the IDES process moves very quickly due to short suspense time frames, and since Fort Hood has a large case load, it is common for clients to come to our office on the last day their appeals or review requests are due. As a result, both SMEBC attorneys and paralegals must regularly ensure that appeals (along with relevant updated medical records) are prepared and hand-delivered for review by the MEB or IPEB on the same day as client meetings. For both paralegals and attorneys, this mobilization assignment requires skills in interviewing clients, analyzing medical records, reviewing Army and VA regulations, managing client expectations, and preparing appeal documents timely in order to meet imminent suspense dates. I've found that many aspects of the MEB process are similar to the issues and processes I encounter in my civilian practice with both Social Security disability and workers' compensation claims, particularly with respect to client counseling and analysis of medical evidence.

This has been a very rewarding and challenging mobilization assignment thus far. Knowing that what you do for your client could mean the difference in whether or not they qualify for a military disability retirement, and that getting the best possible result for your client will have a positive impact on them for the rest of their life, is an incredible responsibility and an awesome opportunity to honor the sacrifice made by our wounded warriors.

In FC&L,

Timothy M. Klob
Camp Commander; Elias Moon Camp #2



10th TN US Vol Infantry



The federal contingent with General Grant approaches the Carter House in Franklin, Tennessee, November 30th, 2013. The 149th anniversary of the "Gettysburg of the West"



Br. Dan Hughes Portrays General George H. Thomas



Federal and Confederate troops exchange a salute at the Carter House

149th Anniversary Battle of Franklin

The 149th Anniversary of the battle of Franklin was observed on Saturday, November 30th, 2013, in Franklin, Tennessee. Members of the 10th Tennessee U.S. Vols. SVR, Accompanied by General U.S. Grant (Dr Curt Fields of Collierville, Tennessee) and members of the East Tennessee U. S. Light Artillery marched to Carter House, scene of the most ferocious fighting in the Western Theater from the Fort Granger Marker in Franklin, while the confederate contingent marched from Winsted Hill.

The two groups march and meet at the Carter House as a sign of reconciliation and reunification at war's end which was a mere 5 months after this great battle.

Captain Dave DuBrucq, Commanding
10th Tennessee U.S. Volunteer Infantry

(ed. Note: This annual event, while short, is always memorable. I regret not being able to attend this year.)

Living History Festival

Members of the 10th Regt, Tennessee U.S. Volunteers, SVR participated in the annual Tennessee Living History Festival Sponsored by Tennessee State Parks at the Capitol Mall State Park in Nashville, Tennessee on October 18 & 19, 2013. Visitors were treated to a living history historical timeline from the early Cherokee nation, Spanish Conquistadors, Tennessee Long Hunters, Daniel Boone, the British at Fort Loudon, Davey Crockett, the American Civil War, Spanish American war, WWI, WWII, Korea, and Vietnam up to the modern day. Included in the demonstrations were early Cherokee living, a reproduction Spanish 16th century working cannon, axe throwing skills of the Tennessee long hunters, a .94 caliber British Wall gun, Civil War Musketry and Artillery both Union and Confederate and even included a mounted .50 caliber machine gun demonstration. The Tennessee Living History Festival is an annual event free of charge to the public. This is the second year the 10th Regt has participated in the eve

Captain Dave DuBrucq, Commanding
10th Tennessee U.S. Volunteer Infantry



Br. Curt Fields (General Ulysses S. Grant) and Captain Dave DuBrucq

XIV Corps HQ Guard



Maj. Eric Petersen portrays General George H. Thomas



Pvt. Bickham shows off his
Henry Rifle



Br. Wozniak leads the North
Pole Corps

Stolen from Social Media

(because the editor is resourceful! – and begs forgiveness!)

Charge of the Mule Brigade

Half a mile, half a mile,
Half a mile onward,
Right through the Georgia troops
Broke the two hundred.
Forward the Mule Brigade!
Charge for the Rebs! they neighed.
Straight for the Georgia troops
Broke the two hundred.

Forward the Mule Brigade!
Was there a mule dismayed?
Not when the long ears felt
All their ropes sundered,
Theirs not to make reply,
Theirs not to reason why,
Their but to make the Rebels fly
On! to the Georgia troops
Broke the two hundred

Mules to the right of them,
Mules to the left of them,
Mules behind them.
Pawed, neighed, and thundered.
Breaking their own confines,
Breaking through Longstreet's lines,
Into the Georgia troops ,
Stormed the two hundred.

Wild all their eyes did glare,
Whisked all their tales in air,
Scattering the chivalry there,
While all the world wondered.
Not a mule bestraddle,
Yet how they all skedaddled-
Fled every Georgian, Unsabred, unsaddled,
Scattered and sundered!
How they were routed there
By the two hundred!

Mules to the right of them,
Mules to the left of them,
Mules behind them,

Pawed, neighed, and thundered;
Followed by hoof and head
Full many a hero fled,
Fain in the last ditch dead,
Back from an ass's jaw,
All that was left of them,-
Left by the two hundred,
When can their glory fade?
Oh, the wild charge they made!
All the word wondered.
Honor the charge they made!
Honor the Mule Brigade,
Long-eared two hundred!

From:
Hard Tack and Coffee.
Charles W. Reed

Submitted by Pvt. Charlie Engle; 10th TN USVI

Upcoming Unit Events

XIV Corps HQ Guard

- Forthcoming!

Amzi D. Harmon Company

- Forthcoming!

10th Tennessee Volunteer Infantry

- 14 December 2013 – Commemoration – Battle of Nashville
Ft. Negley 10a – 3p
- 15 December 2013 – Commemoration – Battle of Shy's Hill
Nashville, TN 2:30p (note: difficult climb to attend event)
- February 2014 – 152nd Anniv. Battle of Ft. Donelson
Dover, TN

Department / National Events

- 11-12 April 2014 – Lincoln Tomb Ceremony and Luncheon
- 14-17 August 2014 – NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT
<http://www.2014nationalencampment.com/>

Sesquicentennial Events

- 14-16 February 2014 – Battle of Olustee
Sponsored by the L.L. Mitchell Camp no. 4, Dept of Florida

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The 7th Military District the states of Arkansas, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Tennessee, and South Carolina.

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Inquires / articles for The Haversack may be forwarded to:

2nd Lt. George Andrew Huttick,

Public Information Officer
7th Military District
Sons of Veterans Reserve
7620 Pleasant Hollow Ln
Cumming, GA 30041
GAHuttick@netscape.net

During the battle of the Wilderness the Capt. of a company of Confederates found a recruit standing behind a tree' trembling with fright, and crying as if his heart would break.

"Come out from behind that tree ," thundered the Capt. "Aren't you ashamed of yourself hiding here in the rear and crying like a baby?" "O Lordy!" blubbered the recruit, "I wish I was a baby, and a gal baby at that!"

From the :
BLUE and GREY
published 1884

We want articles!

New and Updated emails!
Articles for the Fall 2013 Edition of the Haversack!

- Unit Activities
- Biographical Sketches of your Unit or your Ancestor,
- Biographical Sketches of other Civil War units or persons
- Research methods
- Civil War era jokes / cartoons

Email updates and articles (with pictures!) to
GAHuttick@netscape.net!

NEXT ISSUE: MARCH 2013