

The Haversack

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



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Commander's Comments

Greetings!

I hope this newsletter finds you and your families well. There is a lot of panic going around about the Corona Virus. Please remain calm, keep yourself healthy and above all, do not hoard supplies of any type. It is not necessary and it deprives your neighbors of much needed supplies. Use your head, and remember that even if you are exposed you will only self quarantine for about two weeks. That is generally the amount of supplies the wife and I buy when we do our normal shopping since we get paid semi-monthly.

Yesterday, we went to do our shopping and were shocked that the shelves were bare of toilet paper, milk, pasta and grill charcoal. That combination is puzzling and not necessary. White bread was also depleted. There was plenty of whole wheat bread left on the shelf. That is what I normally eat anyway. My wife eats white bread but I prevailed upon her to try potato bread since that was the closest thing left. She has found that she likes it. I like English muffins, and there were only four packages left. I did not buy all four! I only bought two which is what I normally do. It is our patriotic duty in this crisis to not panic and stay calm, and also not to spread panic. This disease will run its course as spring arrives.

Please be careful as you perform your duties at various events. Some have been cancelled, but some will go on. If you are performing duties at public events, protect yourself by washing your hands, and maintaining a respectful distance from strangers of about 6 feet. This crisis shows how quickly a situation can change. That certainly is the case with me. Recently my wife missed a step and severely injured her back. I am now assuming a new role as care taker for her. We will also be retiring sooner than planned and we will be moving out of the district some time in 2021. I will be announcing my retirement from the SVR effective September 1, 2020. This will allow me to fulfill SVR duties for the National Encampment in Atlanta this August.

We have many fine men that are more than capable of stepping into the District Commander Role as I depart. I am sure General Grimm will be contact some of you to discuss appointment as the District Commander. Remember that the District Commander serves at the pleasure of the National Commander, SVR.

That being said, I am asking our district members to be prepared to attend the National SUVCW encampment this August in uniform. We members of the SVR will be tasked with Provost Duties, as well as performing Color Guard and VIP Escort Duties.

Company Commanders please remember that your annual paperwork should arrive on my desk by April 15th so that I can sign it and pass it on to National HQ. The paperwork required consists of the Annual Unit Application, Annual Strength Report, Unit Roster and your unit check for dues payable to TAG-SVR.

I have enjoyed my time as your district commander and the fellowship of working with such fine men as make up the 7th Military District.

Major Eric Peterson
 7th Military District, Sons of Veterans Reserve, Commanding

CIVIL WAR DISEASES

With current events, it seems that everyone is focused on the mortality rate of the COVID-19 pandemic. Currently it is estimated that the mortality rate is 0.6 – 3.0%. For historical perspective, disease was the largest killer during the American Civil War. “It was found that between May 1st 1861-June 30th 1866, federal armies reported about 6,455,000 casualties, but more than 6 million of those incidents were for bouts with diseases. More than 157,000 Northern troops died from disease, compared to 38,115 death from battle or non-battle injury. (Gilchrist, MR. Disease & Infection in the American Civil War.) The primary diseases were dysentery, typhoid, pneumonia, measles, malaria and tuberculosis. Thankfully, times and situations have changed. The American Civil War helped us to learn (re-learn?) sanitation and sterilization; and we live in a world with much better medical care today.

2nd Lt. George Andrew Huttick,
Public Information Officer

(N.B. As a personal note, my ancestor, Cpl, Frederick Krieger, 1st New York Volunteer Engineers, Co. B died of typhoid at Hilton Head, SC)

*I do hereby certify on honor that Frederick Krieger, a corporal of Company B, First Regt. N.Y. Vol. Engineers, died at Hilton Head S. C. on the 9th or 10th day of September 1862, from the effects of Delirium produced by Typhoid fever. Contracted in the service and
Done of his duty.
New York Dec 16th 63.*

*John Joseph Bick
later Capt. Comp. B. N.Y. Vol. Engineers
Capt. Company B. N.Y. Vol. Artillery*

General Grant (a.k.a. Br. Curt Fields) meets a young trooper at the Battle of Olustee, (Ocean Pond) re-enactment, 2020



Historical Regulations ...

FROM CASEY'S INFANTRY TACTICS

Article II

PART SECOND

LESSON II.

MANUAL OF ARMS.

LESSON V.

TO FIRE AND LOAD KNEELING.

299. In this exercise, the squad will be supposed loaded and drawn up in one rank. The instruction will be given to each man individually, without times or motions, and in the following manner:

300. The instructor will command:

FIRE AND LOAD KNEELING

301. At this command, the man on the right of the squad will move forward three paces and halt; then carry the right foot to the rear and to the right of the left heel, and in a position convenient for placing the right knee upon the ground in bending the left leg: place the right knee upon the ground; lower the piece, the left fore-arm supported upon the thigh on the same side, the right hand on the small of the stock, the butt resting on the right thigh, the left hand supporting the piece near the lower band.

302. He will next move the right leg to the left around the knee, supported on the ground, until this leg is nearly perpendicular to the direction of the left foot, and thus seat himself comfortably on the right heel.

303. Raise the piece with the right hand and support it with the left, holding it near the lower band, the left elbow resting on the left thigh near the knee; seize the hammer with the thumb, the fore-finger under the guard, cock and seize the piece at the small of the stock; bring the piece to the shoulder, aim and fire.

304. Bring the piece down as soon as it is fired, and support it with the left hand, the butt resting against the right thigh; carry the piece to the rear rising on the knee, the barrel downward, the butt resting on the ground; in this position support the piece with the left hand at the upper band, draw cartridge with the right and load the piece, ramming the ball, if necessary, with both hands.

305. When loaded bring the piece to the front with the left hand, which holds it at the upper band; seize it at the same time with the right hand at the small of the stock; turn the piece, the barrel uppermost and nearly horizontal, the left elbow resting on the left thigh; half cock, remove the old cap and prime, rise, and return to the ranks.

306. The second man will then be taught what has just been prescribed for the first, and so on through the remainder of the squad.



Fort Donelson Camp Brother of the Year



As many of you know, Br. Gary Burke, 2nd Lieutenant and Chaplain 7th MD, is very active promoting Civil War issues, history, and preservation throughout Middle Tennessee. He has been on multiple Boards, and is often interviewed. Fort Donelson Camp honored Br. Burke with Brother of the Year for his efforts!

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Well, not all that intentionally.... Good news is, we have gone through all of the SVR Regulations! Yet, that means we won't have that material in upcoming editions. Thank you to the contributors this year for their submissions! It has been nice to see a book review in this edition – we haven't had one in several years. Our ongoing supply of Civil War Facts, Oddities, and back page clips is still strong. Memes have started to show up.

What's missing?

Well, honestly, it's the **articles about your** units! We have four active units within the 7th Military District:

- IX Corps Headquarters Guard
- Amzi D. Harmon Company
- 10th Tennessee Volunteer (U.S.) Infantry
- Major General Samuel P. Carter Company

There are things going on in your units! Photos and articles would be great!

In FC&L,

2nd Lt. George Andrew Huttick,
Public Information Officer

Social Distancing...

A Civil War Demonstration...



The Haversack is published quarterly as the newsletter of the 7th Military District, Sons of Veterans Reserve.

The Sons of Veterans Reserve (SVR) is the ceremonial uniformed military component of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW).

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

Any letters, articles, etc., published in The Haversack do not necessarily represent the views and/or opinions of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, officers, membership, guests, or the editor/publisher.

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Inquires / articles for The Haversack may be forwarded to:

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Departments in our District

[Department of Tennessee](#)

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Camps in our District

- [Gen. John A. Logan #4 \(NC\)](#)
- [Gen. James B. Mcpherson #1 \(GA\)](#)
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Click the link, and “Like” them!

(you’ll get lots of updates of what is going on!)

We want articles (with pictures!)

Thanks to all the contributors of this edition!

So... What's needed...?

Articles for the next Edition of the Haversack!

- Unit Activities
- Biographical Sketches
- Research methods
- Civil War era jokes / cartoons

Some editing may be done to long articles to fit in the space available

Email updates and articles (with pictures!) to [GAHuttick@netscape.net!](mailto:GAHuttick@netscape.net)

NEXT ISSUE JUNE 2020! (hopefully)