CAPTAINS LETTER
April 2010

Discipline is the soul of an army. It makes small numbers formidable; procures success to the weak, and esteem to all.
George Washington

At the Narcoosee Event, the 3rd Fl represented itself most superbly. Many compliments were bestowed on the membership not only from the spectators but from the leadership of other companies as well. Comprised of veterans and new members, we marched to colors and to the battlefield with an impressive 35 manned company. We demonstrated good order in our deployment before the enemy. This does not happen by accident. Why do we perform well, march well and receive compliments?

During the Lake City Parade as part of the Olustee Event, we heard spectators commenting on how well we marched and carried ourselves. And remember, we had many new recruits that day. What makes us so special? One word  DRILL. I ‘ll say it again DRILL

Yes, like the soldiers before us, we don’t like to drill, but, we like the fruits of its labor. It is also a safety issue too. Many thanks to 1st Sgt Joe Drost, 2nd Sgt Rex Derin, Sgt David Pinkstaff and Cpl Jeff Gary for ensuring that the rank and file are well versed in the discipline of military protocol.
This is my pledge to you as Captain. We are going to drill at every opportunity. It maybe 20, 30 minutes or it maybe 45 minutes at each event. Consider it just part of the hobby. There is a truism; “things done well, often and with care, exempt themselves from failure” It will be my duty to you that we will follow that course of action when it comes to DRILL. We will conduct and present ourselves like soldiers and not as a rabble.

See you on the Field of Honor.

Captain Short.

Visit our New Website for 3rd Fl /35 Mass Heritage Inc. http://3rdfloridainfantrycsa.yolasite.com. Thanks to the efforts of Robert Dyer (aka Mississippi) we now have a website that will add another tool of communication to promote the 3rd Fl / 35 Mass. The website is a continued work in progress. We will constantly add photos and update our information format. Since this is your website, your comments and advice is necessary in order to ensure that the site meets your approval. I welcome your input.

Special note: The music you here on the website was composed by the US Army Band entitled Tribute to the Fallen

**Kyle Besser, USMC, Has been deployed to Afghanistan. He will be gone for almost a year. Please keep him in your prayers for a speedy and safe return home. God Bless you Kyle. Simper fi.**

Uniforms and Weapons Request_: If you have a friend that would like to try Re enacting ,please let me know one week prior the event. This will ensure that we have enough uniforms, powder, and equipment to meet the need. For just a $35.00 donation to the Company, a novice can be fully outfitted to experience Civil War Living History. We have enough equipment to fully equip 12 soldiers. Let us try to fill each one at every event. We also have 5 tents available too.
Voices from the Past: “Through life let your principal object be the discharge of duty.” Stonewall Jackson.

Cartridges available at each event: Jeff Mathis continues to provide pre-rolled cartridges for members of the company. This provides an enormous service for all of us and helps put money in the treasury. The cartridges are prepackaged 40 round per pack at $5.00. So if you forget to roll your own cartridges or just wish to take advantage of the convenience that Jeff provides, be assured that rounds will be available.

Insurance Cards: For those who elected to take the insurance, please be advised that the insurance cards have arrived and will be given out at each event until everyone has received their card.

For those who wish to purchase the insurance ($10.00/year) you may still participate.

Department of Gulf Meeting and a look forward to an extensive and exacting campaign: The annual Dept of Gulf Officers meeting was held at Dade Battlefield. Representatives of all the Companies were present. The following bullet points were discussed. At the next event (Suwannee River) we will have a Company Meeting to review decisions and get your input

- Narcoosee will become a Dept of the Gulf Event.
- Beginning this year all reenacting participants at State & National Parks Events must be 16 years old to fire a rifle musket. Those under the age can participate in the battle but will not be allowed to shoot
- Lake City Parade: It is imperative that all reenactors participate in the Lake City Parade prior to the Saturday Battle. That includes Federal Units as well
- The Dept of Gulf Companies will Galvanize for the Saturday Battle at Olustee next year.
• Battalion Muster will be held at the Dade Battlefield in May 14th 2011. No uniforms required but bring your rifle and leathers. This is a combination of picnic and drill and drill and drill. That is 2011.

• Standardization of the in-place rest position when rifles are loaded. This will be demonstrated by the 1st Sgt in the field.

• 150th National Anniversary Events we will participate in as a battalion (see Long Campaign).

THE LONG CAMPAIGN: This is a brief overview of the NATIONAL EVENTS that we intend to participate in over the next four years. More details will be provided as the event dates get closer. If you have an event in mind that does not appear on this list let us know. “Remember, pencils come with erasers.”

*April 2011
July 2011
April 2012
August 2012 2012
July 2013
September 2013
May 2014 2014 2014

Fort Sumter Charleston SC
1st Manassas Manassas VA
Shiloh Shiloh TN
2nd Manassas Manassas VA
Fredericksburg Fredricksburg VA
Gettysburg Gettysburg PA
Chickamauga Chickamauga GA
Spotsylvania Spotsylvania Co. VA
Battle of Franklin Franklin TN
Cedar Creek Virginia
Battle of Atlanta Georgia

* A non participation event.

In many of these events we will either fall in with the Army of Northern Virginia or Longstreet’s Corp. For these events we may purchase a Confederate Battle Florida Flag that represents one of the Florida Units that fought with the Army of Northern Va. I will leave the selection of that Flag to both Bob Flanigan and Arthur Roberts. If anyone knows battle flags its those two. They are walking history books.
Fort Clinch Federal Weekend: May 01 & 02, 2010. It is not too late to participate. I will be at the Fort on Friday setting up camp.

FRONT GATE COMBINATION: 2969

1. Registration begins at 3:00 Friday.
2. Reenactor participation fee: $12.00.
3. Meals: Breakfast (2 days) eggs/sausage, Sat. dinner: sandwiches, Sat. supper: steak, potatoes, green beans and carrots. Coffee, lemonade & Gatorade will be served throughout the weekend.
4. Front Gate Combination: 2969
5. Civilian/Military Camp. This camp is located directly outside the fort and is filling up quickly. This is an "Authentic Camp". There will be a military order for arranging this camp. Please ask for assistance before setting up. There is another location closer to the parking lot road for additional camping spaces.
6. Fort sleeping quarters:
   a. The “Bastion” has been reserved for the Marine Guard.
   b. NCO barracks - downstairs on the left.
   c. Officer barracks - downstairs on the right.
   d. Enlisted barracks - in both rooms upstairs.
7. Company 1st Sergeant: LeRoy Sherman
8. Officer/Platoon assignments.
   ● Lieutenant Ken Giddens: 48th NY, 17th CT, Co. B, 3rd Maine. (Sergeant Jeff Kirkland)
   ● Lieutenant Dennis Short: 35th Mass. (3rd FL)
   ● U.S. Marine Guard: Corporal Tom Jessee.
9. Weather: The State Park Service has issued warnings for rain throughout the weekend...starting Saturday and to continue through Sunday. (The original report was for rain starting on Friday, but has been changed. Keep your fingers crossed and maybe it’ll change again for the better!)
10. LATE ARRIVALS: Please report to the post commander, any officer or NCO if you arrive AFTER Saturday Morning Colors…which is at 9:00 a.m. (Reveille: 7:00, roll call: approx. 7:15)
11. For riflemen: Please bring at between 10-20 cartridges/caps for firing demonstrations.
12. UNIFORMS: Infantry is the 157th NY. They relieved the 97th PA from duty outside the fort in May 1864. Sack/Fatigue coats, forage caps/kepi are encouraged. NO SLOUCH HATS PLEASE. Common sense rules apply for uniforms as well as eye ware, time pieces, foot ware, etc.
13. Saturday Candle Light Tour: Please participate in this
living history. There will be many spectators that night. Please make arrangements to go into town after the tour.

May 14, 15, and 16 2010: The Battle of Resaca/Atlanta Campaign: 146 Anniversary For registration information go to www.georiadivision.org. This is a Department of the Gulf Event. If you are going let me know. We are going Union. If we do not have enough to make a company we will all go as privates and fall in with a Union outfit. Great place to campaign camp.

Civil War Expo: Olustee Battlefield Park September 11th: This will be a recruiting event. It is a one day event, however, you will be allowed to camp out through the weekend. We will drill and perform various military maneuvers for the public.

November 19, 20, 21, 2010. Raid on the Suwannee River. Live Oak, Florida. Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park. New Re-enactment. Maximum Effort Hardee Corps Event. Usual amenities, plus RV hook-ups (electric and water - no sewer) and cabin rentals. General store, restaurant, and showers on site. Battlefield clear of modern intrusions. Original Confederate earthworks nearby. This park offers everything a camper could ask for. Way too much to list here. Special cavalry information: Cavalrymen make sure you read all the items about mounted cavalry. There are some different cavalry requirements at this event. When you arrive at registration with your horse, you will have to pay a $25 per horse refundable barn stall fee. At the end of the event (Sunday) if your stall is cleaned, your $25 fee will be refunded. No picket lines are allowed and all horses must be kept in their barn. There will be a $15 bounty paid for each horse used in the battles. All redactors must pre-register through the US Mail. A special website has been set up for the Suwannee Raid. You can print out registration forms and find out a lot more about this event at
http://www.floridareenactorsonline.com/SuwanneeIndex.htm Check out the Park’s website for additional details at http://www.musicliveshere.com/ Directions: From I-10, take exit #283 and go north on US 129 for 4.5 miles. From I-75, take exit #451 and go south for 4.5 miles. Look for the signs - “Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park”. The park is located between I-10 and I-75. The park’s address is 3076 95th Drive, Live Oak, Florida 32060.

Captain D.B Short
2955 Gobbler Road
Middleburg Fl
32068

Home Phone: 904-291-3014
Cell Phone: 904-403-8225