

THE COMPANY K 67th NEW YORK VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

FROM GARRY OWEN TO GLORY

WELL BOYS, I HATE TO SAY YOU MISSED IT. HOWEVER, YOU MI-S-S-S-SED IT!!!!!!!!!!!! WE BRAGGED AND CROWED ABOUT LAST YEARS LIVING HISTORY EVENT ON THE GETTYSBURG BATTLEFIELD AND WE WERE WRONG. WRONG ONLY BECAUSE THIS YEAR'S EVENT BLEW LAST YEAR AWAY. THE WEATHER WAS AWESOME. THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE HELPED US IN EVERY WAY IMAGINABLE, AND THE MIFFLIN GUARD WAS, AS ALWAYS, FIRST RATE. IF YOU WANTED AUTHENTIC CAMPING, YOU HAD IT. FARBINESS WAS IN VERY LOW EVIDENCE. IF YOU LIKE GOOD FOOD AND COMRADERIE, YOU HAD THAT TOO. IF YOU LKE LIVING HISTORY, THIS EVENT IS TO THE CIVIL WAR REENACTOR WHAT EVEREST WAS TO HILLARY OR THE TITANIC WAS TO BALLARD.

THE FARR BROS., CPL. OBRIEN, PVTS. CASEY AND BRYSON AND 3RD SGT. COLLINS FELL IN WITH THE 61ST NY FOR THE WEEKEND AND FELT MOST WELCOME. IT WAS A HUGE STROKE OF LUCK TO FALL IN WITH THESE BOYS ON THIS PARTICULAR WEEKEND, BECAUSE, WE REENACTED THE CHARGE OF CALDWELL'S BRIGADE IN THE WHEATFIELD AND THE ORIGINAL 61ST MADE THAT CHARGE! SATURDAY, WE PERFORMED TWO BATTALION DRILLS FOR THE SPECTATORS. AFTER THAT, SOME OF US WALKED UP TO THE ANGLE TO TALK WITH THE PUBLIC. SATURDAY NIGHT, WE DINED AT THE GINGERBREAD MAN AND DID THE TOWN. SUNDAY MORNING WE MARCHED OFF WITH TWO BRIGADES OF CIVILIANS IN TOW TO RECREATE CALDWELLS CHARGE. WHAT AN AWESOME FEELING IT WAS TO BE MARCHING THROUGH THE FIELDS AND WOOD LOTS OF THE ORIGINAL BATTLEFIELD. VISITORS TO THE PARK WERE AWED BY THE SIGHT OF A VERY AUTHENTIC APPEARING CIVIL WAR REGIMENT, WITH MUSIC LEADING THE WAY, ON THE MARCH ACROSS THE BATTLEFIELD.

AFTER THE WHEATFIELD CHARGE AND AN APPROXIMATELY 5 MILE MARCH YOU MIGHT THINK WE WERE DONE FOR THE DAY, BUT, NO! AFTER ABOUT AN HOUR OF DOWN TIME, WE PERFORMED ANOTHER BATTALION DRILL AND THEN RECREATED THE CHARGE OF THE 1ST MINNESOTA ON THE SECOND DAY, IN WHICH, THEY TOOK 82% CASUALTIES. WE WERE EACH GIVEN A CARD ON WHICH OUR FATE WAS WRITTEN. MY CARD READ, "SERIOUSLY WOUNDED NEAR THE END OF CHARGE." WE FINALLY HIT THE ROAD AROUND 6:15 P.M. AND I GOT TO BED AT 1:30 A.M. YES, I MADE IT TO WORK AT 7 A.M. MONDAY. WHAT A GLORIOUS WEEKEND. BY THE WAY, RYAN CREAMER TOOK PART IN THE CHARGE IN THE WHEATFIELD ON HIS SIXTEENTH BIRTHDAY. CAN YOU THINK OF A BETTER WAY TO MARK THAT DAY IF YOU'RE A CIVIL WAR BUFF.

PATRICK COLLINS

