

TO ARMS!



Now is the Time to VOLUNTEER

The Cedar Forks Rifles Preservation Society, Inc. consists of a group of members who are interested in preserving and presenting the history of the Sixth Regiment of North Carolina State Troops. We do this through Battle reenactments, living history, school and other civic presentation and interacting with other like minded individuals and organizations.

As one of the first 10 regiments to respond to North Carolina's call to arms, the 6th North Carolina Regiment earned the unique title of "State Troops". Originally formed to protect North Carolina's borders, they were transferred to the Confederate Government, where they participated in most of the major battles of the Eastern Theatre earning the honorable name "the Bloody Sixth"

Today we honor their heritage. Some of our members had ancestors in the 6th NCST, but that is not a requirement to join. If you are interested in learning and teaching others about the lives led by the young men who answered the call to service by their state government, then join us in our mission to preserve their memory.

So you want to join the Cedar Fork Rifles? Well, first take a few minutes to find out what its all about.

Battle Reenactments

Battle reenactments are events where the soldiers life is re-created on the field in an historical combat setting. A typical event opens on Friday evening, but many reenactors may not arrive until Saturday. Plan to arrive no later than 9:00am Saturday if possible. The location of many reenactments are on historical sites and require a several hour drive. Carpooling with other members of the regiment can help make the trip seem shorter and is a great way to get acquainted. Upon arrival, you will need to register if you have not already done so. Pre-registration with the Adjutant is preferred and can save both time and money. After registration you need to find the regiment camp area and get settled. You may be assigned picket duty or asked to help late arrivals. It is also a good time to greet acquaintances or make new ones when you have free time in the evening. Saturday starts with reveille at 6:00 followed by breakfast at the company or regiment commissary (if available). Usually following breakfast is a time of policing the camp and assembly for drill. Once drill is over there is frequently time to visit the Sutlers (they sell supplies and love Federal greenbacks). After a midday meal the unit typically forms up to participate in the afternoon reenactment. A march of several hundred yards to several miles will be made to engage the opposing force on the line of battle. You now get to see *the elephant*, a term used during the war to describe seeing the enemy under the baptism of fire. Hearing the rattle of musketry and seeing the smoke billow from a volley will quickly draw you into the excitement of the battle. Artillery and cavalry add to an experience that only being there can describe. Suddenly, the enemy's colors approach and you are ordered forward. You are given the command to load and fire; the opposing line falters, and you continue your advance. The thrill and confusion of battle quickly makes you forget the long march to get there. All attention is given to keeping your line intact and pushing forward. The experience of that first engagement is not something you will quickly forget. Once back in camp, you will have an opportunity to rest, relax and cool down. An evening meal will be much welcomed as will a chance to visit new acquaintances to discuss the afternoons excitement. Some events sponsor an evening dance or you can take advantage of the evening to sit around the campfire and talk

Sunday begins much the same as Saturday. There will be a non-denominational church service available for those who wish to attend. Another session of drill may be scheduled to work out problems or mistakes from the previous day. The company will usually form up after lunch for an afternoon battle. By 3:00 or 4:00 the event is finished and it is time to pack up, say goodbye and head home. You will probably be sore on Monday, a reminder of the excitement of the weekend.

Living History

Living History events take place at schools, museums and historical sites. At these we present programs on uniforms, flags, weapons and drill. We may portray the daily routine of the soldier or talk one on one with interested spectators. It can be somewhat intimidating at first; a lot of questions are asked, and you may not know the answers to all of them. That's OK. The War Between the States is a large subject, and there are few that can answer them all. Be honest and answer those that you can. Read as much as you can during your spare time to gain knowledge of basic history and the soldiers life. There are a large number of books available. Later in this handbook, we will give a list of resources available to learn more. Also, listening to other reenactors at events can give you valuable information on a number of topics. After all, we are in this hobby to learn too.

For More Information on how to join the **Cedar Fork Rifles** please contact our recruiting NCO [MARC CHEEK](#)

Ready to sign up? Complete the attached membership application and send to the address on the form.

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