

AAR for Fort Sumter Commemorative Event

On Tuesday, 12 April 2011 Dan, Darwin, Lisa, Mike, Michelle, Andy, Ellie, Peter, Bob and Wayne traveled to Hartford, CT and participated in the 150th Anniversary “Connecticut in the Civil War.” We were honored to have General Robert E. Lee (Kent) also join us.

We all arrived around 0615 behind the CT State Capital and with six other cannons position ourselves on the north-side parking area overlooking the rolling hills and the city of Hartford.

We ran through some gun drills with QmSgt Darwin as Gunner, Pvt Peter as #1, CPL Mike as #2, Pvt Dan as #3, Pvt Bob as #4 and Pvt Lisa on the ammo box and #5. Captain Wayne was the section chief of the section made up of Richmond Howitzers and Morton’s Battery. Major Karl was the Chief of Artillery.

After two short speeches by CCSU Professor Matthew Warshauer and CT Governor Daniel Mallory, at about 0810 the Cannoneer were ordered to their cannons.

We fired four rounds, first was by the battery, second was by the piece (2 second interval), third was by the section and the fourth was by the battery. After the first shot by the battery, a nice crowd of around 150 people cheered with pleasure as the rolling thunder of the sound moved across the city and echoed in everyone’s ears. It was nice to hear them cheer with appreciation after each round.

Each member got a 150th CT Commemorative Service Ribbon and Pin.

By 0900 the cannon was safely on board the trailer and five cars and eleven people were off to Central Connecticut State University for the QmSgt had arranged to have our trailer stowed in a secure parking area at the University due to its location next to Stanley Quarter Park where on Friday we will setup camp for the New Britain Civil War Reenactment. This effort saves some extra hauling of the trailer by the Company.

Once the trailer was secured, it was off to Goldroc Diner in West Hartford for a well deserve and needed breakfast. The meal of choice was either pancakes or omelets. The food and the company was wonderful. The food always taste better when you are extra hungry. And sharing a meal with the members of the Richmond Howitzers is always a pleasure.

After we had our fill and paid our bills, we said out goodbyes and went our separate ways home knowing for most of us we will meet again on Friday.

Thank you to those who got up very early and made the trip - it was a BLAST!

Next up:

Friday, 15 April – Sunday 17 April is the New Britain, CT Civil War event

Many of us will be meeting Friday afternoon/night to setup a minimum camp [3 A-frames for stowage & changing and our fly], go out to dinner, do a night firing around 7:15pm and most will then be going to near-by homes or hotels for the night. – It is going to get cold at night – count on it! Dress warm and bring your rain poncho in case the weatherman is right.