



## The Second NJ Brigade

New Jersey's Civil War Brigade

Spring Issue  
Volume 4, Issue 1

The Second NJ Brigade is a 501c non profit organization. The board meets once a month and is represented by members of all Impressions. The Executive Board: President Mike Milling, Vice President Matt Belcastro, Treasurer Lin Kaufer, Secretary Abby Belcastro.

# THE ADVANCE

## Spring Issue



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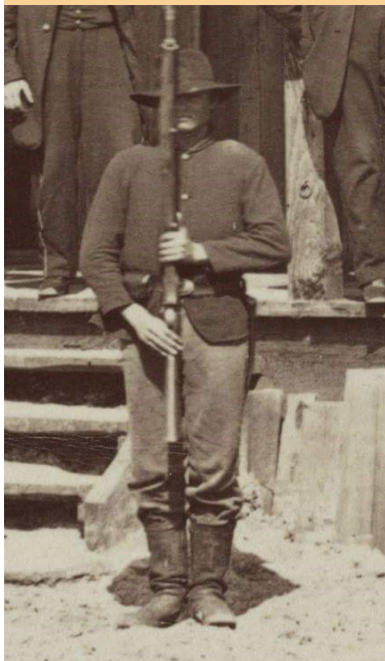
# 2019 Infantry Events

## What Does MAX Event Mean?

- Max event means we would like you to give priority to these events as they are either our biggest events of the year, a new event that we're trying out, or an event that is giving the brigade a large donation.

## What is a PAID EVENT?

- these events provide us a donation that is split evenly between the impressions that attend.
- These donations help pay for supplies & equipment the brigade provides such as tents, food, cooking implements, etc.



## April:

April 6 & 7 – Training Camp – Morristown, NJ – MAX Event

## May:

May 4 & 5 – Wall Historical Society – Wall, NJ

May 18 & 19 – Lambert Castle – Clifton, NJ – MAX Event  
: PAID EVENT

May 19 – Speedwell Fashion Show – Morristown, NJ  
: PAID EVENT

May 27 – Jamesburg Parade – Jamesburg NJ – MAX Event

## June:

June 8 & 9 – Speedwell Village – Morristown, NJ – MAX Event

June 29 – July 4th Parade – Randolph, NJ - MAX Event  
: PAID EVENT

## July:

July 6 & 7 – Gettysburg Battle – Gettysburg, PA

July 20 – Brigade Picnic – Roxbury, NJ

: Captain Matt will be hosting at his house. Bring a BBQ side and a lawn chair.

## August:

August 24 – Canal Day – Wharton, NJ

## September:

September 28 – Lacey Apple Fest – Lacey, NJ

## October:

October 12 & 13 – Allentown Battle – Allentown, NJ – MAX Event

## November:

November 2 & 3 – Barnegat Encampment – Barnegat, NJ

November 8 & 9 - Turkey Brook Park – Mt. Olive, NJ

November 11 – Veterans Day Parade – NYC  
: PAID EVENT

November 23 – Remembrance Day – Gettysburg, PA

## December:

December 7 – Cold Springs Christmas – Cape May, NJ – MAX Event

# 2019 Artillery Events

## **April:**

April 6 & 7 – Training Camp – Morristown, NJ – MAX Event

## **May:**

May 4 & 5 – Wall Historical Society – Wall, NJ

May 18 & 19 – Lambert Castle – Clifton, NJ – MAX Event : PAID EVENT

May 22 – Markham School – Little Silver, NJ

May 27 – Jamesburg Parade – Jamesburg NJ – MAX Event

## **June:**

June 1 & 2 – Camp Geiger – White Hall , PA

June 1 & 2 – Allaire Village – Allaire, NJ :PAID EVENT

June 8 & 9 – Speedwell Village – Morristown, NJ – MAX Event

June 29 – July 4th Parade – Randolph, NJ - MAX Event : PAID EVENT

## **July:**

July 5 - 7 – Gettysburg Battle – Gettysburg, PA : PAID EVENT

July 20 – Brigade Picnic – Roxbury, NJ

: Captain Matt will be hosting at his house. Bring a BBQ side and a lawn chair.

## **August:**

August 24 – Canal Day – Wharton, NJ

August 31, Sept. 1 – Museum Village – Munroe, NY :PAID EVENT

## **September:**

September 14 – NJ History Fair – Monmouth, NJ

September 14 & 15 – Cold Springs – Cape May, NJ : PAID EVENT

September 21 & 22 – Daniel Lady Farm – Gettysburg

September 28 & 29 – Ridley Creek Park – Newtown, NJ

September 28 – Lacey Apple Fest – Lacey, NJ

## **October:**

October 12 & 13 – Allentown Battle – Allentown, NJ – MAX Event

October 18 – 20 – Cedar Creek – Cedar Creek, VA

## **November:**

November 2 & 3 – Barnegat Encampment – Barnegat, NJ

November 8 & 9 - Turkey Brook Park – Mt. Olive, NJ

November 23 – Remembrance Day – Gettysburg, PA

## **December:**

December 7 – Cold Springs Christmas – Cape May, NJ – MAX Event



Rest in Peace  
Bill Piper, 2019





## 2018 AWARD CEREMONY



*"Our Friend, Our Captain"*  
By Jeff Rodriguez

On the Saturday evening of Speedwell Christmas, President Mike Milling presented our first Medal of Merit Awards in the carriage house decked in traditional holiday splendor. With a ceremonial reading of the recipients' biographies from the website, President Milling bestowed Medal of Merits 001 and 002 upon Captain Lou Kaufer, and Quarter Master Sgt. Brian Egbert.

Lin Kaufer received Lou Kaufer's 001 posthumous awards in the form of a black cockade and plaque holding his Merit Challenge Coin and captain's bars.

Brian Egbert received his yellow cockade, representing the Signal Corps, and engraved with the 2D logo. His plaque will be coming out in 2019.

The bestowing of these lifetime achievement awards reminds our community of the passion and dedication it takes to keep our hobby going. Many thanks to both Lin (Lou) and Brian for their continued support and dedication to the 2D Brigade. Congratulations!





## Event Reports: Timeline at the Old Barracks, Cub Scout Awards Dinner By Bob Bowell



On February 23, 2019, I was honored to take part in two different events. The first was to represent the brigade at the Revolutionary War, Old Trenton Barracks in Trenton. Later that afternoon Michele Catona, the head of our hospital unit, Jim Lynch, of our Artillery unit and I conducted a presentation at a Cub Scout troop in Stockton, NJ. Both were satisfying in different ways.

The Old Barracks event was a time-line that depicted the involvement of African American military personnel from the American Revolutionary War through Vietnam. Black reenactors presented a time line of US soldiers and sailors starting with a member of the US army and a sailor in the Revolution as well as Civil War soldiers and a sailor, A WW I doughboy, WW II soldier and an (actual) retired Sgt. Major from the Vietnam War. The Sgt. Major was one of the few ground pounders who was a prisoner of war in North Vietnam for two and a half years. I thought I knew a lot about this history, but this event reminded me that there is so much more to learn. The WW I presentation impressed me the most. The gentlemen presenting showed pictures of African Americans dressed in French uniforms and later the same troops wearing their own American uniforms. He spoke about the first Metal of Honor recipient of WW I being an African American. His story was fantastic, but also brought home the tragedy of those times in that when he came home after the unbelievable acts of courage he performed for our country, he could not buy a cup of coffee in certain restaurants in the capitol of the USA. The whole program was educational, enlightening and spiritual in its entirety.

The second event was our presentation to the Stockton Cub scouts awards night and pot luck dinner. I deny that my reason for going was the great variety of homemade dishes, but yes, it was sweet. The gathering consisted of almost one hundred parents and children.

The Brigade received a donation of \$100, which our Board voted to add to our own donation fund for Civil War Trust Preservation sites. Michele and Jim both presented excellent talks about their respective disciplines. Each brought items to display and discuss. (Getting that cannon inside the building was not so easy... no just kidding but it would have been sweet too).





They really kept the kids attention. Michele gave her usual riveting account of Civil War medicine and the techniques used at the time to lessen the pain and suffering of the fighters. Jim attacked his subject with an assertive presentation that had the kids jumping in surprise and immense enjoyment. I brought the 22nd 's flag and talked about the role of black troops in the Civil War.

Afterward the kids surrounded us with questions and truly showed their sincere interest. Their ages ranged from 7 to 12. They all wanted to pick up the display items and I am sure we had some who would have marched away on the next campaign with us if their parents allowed them to. We took great pains to hand our new pamphlets/folders for the Brigade and the 22nd USCT.

I remember that Lou Kaufer used to say that the most important point of our hobby is to do things that remember and honor the real heroes who performed the actual deeds during that terrible war by attending grave site memorials, parades (in their honor) and education of children and adults. The last on the list was our battle reenactments. I hope you all remember Lou's belief and take the opportunity, when your real life priorities allow, to attend these types of events. We do it for ourselves, the fun we have, for our friends the memories we create and share, for the public we educate and for the children to bring it forward for future generations. Please let us not forget what Lou would have thought of as his legacy. Come out and educate as often as you can.

(edited by Abby Belcastro)





# IN MEMORIAM

By Jim Jennings

*The Muffled drum's sad roll has  
beat The soldier's last tattoo:  
No more on Life's parade shall  
meet That brave and fallen few.  
On Fame's eternal camping-  
ground Their silent tents are  
spread. And Glory guards with  
solemn round. The bivouac of the  
dead.*

*W. O'Hara*

*LEST WE FORGET*



## In memory of **William Piper** 1948 - 2019

William "Bill" Piper, past commander of Battery A, 1<sup>st</sup> New Jersey (Hexamer's Battery) passed away on Tuesday, January 22, 2019 at his home in Lakewood, New Jersey. He was born in Hoboken, New Jersey to William and Hildegard Piper. A graduate of Dickinson High School he was the owner of AAA Alarm Services until his retirement in 2018. Bill enlisted into the United States Army in 1967, served in the Signal Corps and was honorably discharged with the rank of SP-5 in 1973. He was a Viet Nam veteran and was awarded the National Defense and Viet Nam Service medals.

Bill enjoyed Civil War reenacting and was one of the founders of Hexamer's Battery in which he served as commander for many years until his retirement in 2016. He was affectionately known to all in the hobby as Uncle Billy and Capt. Jack. He loved taking photographs and would pose for pictures taken with a vintage camera he kept in his haversack. He loved the artillery and was a master of his craft as an artillery officer. Bill will always be remembered for his kindness and gentle ways. His death has caused a void in the hearts of those who knew him and loved him. We can take solace in that he has returned home and is with his beloved wife Maureen, his nephew Andy and brother-in-law Ray.

Bill is survived by his loving and devoted sister Phyllis; two brothers, Paul and Peter; nieces and nephews, Cheryl, Stephanie, Rebecca, Kylie, Shalini, Chapin, Fred, Jeff and Daniel. A memorial service will be held at BG William C. Doyle Veterans Cemetery in Wrightstown, NJ on Monday, February 4, 2019 at 1 P.M. In lieu of flowers, the family has request that a donation be made in Bill's name to St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

The members of the United States Artillery Reserve, 2<sup>nd</sup> New Jersey Brigade and the United States Volunteers extend to Bill Piper's family and Battery A their most profound condolences and deepest sympathy. Please know that during these days of bereavement you are in our thoughts and prayers





# Another 7th Infantryman Found

By Don Lopuzzo

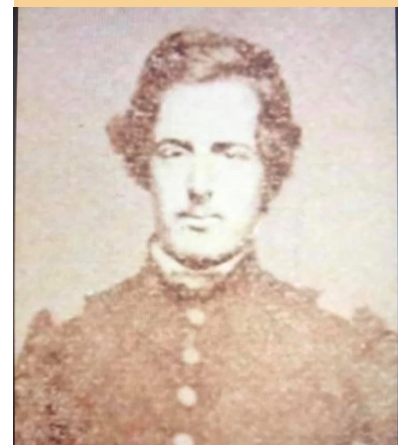
I found this hero's grave right by my house at Mount Hebron Cemetery in Montclair. His service was incredible!

Paul Babcock entered his Civil War service when he was mustered in as a Corporal in Company H, 2nd New Jersey Militia on May 1, 1861. The unit, a three-month enlistment regiment raised days after the Confederate bombardment of Fort Sumter, served first in the defenses of Washington, DC, then in reserve during the July 1861 First Bull Run Campaign. He was mustered out when his enlistment expired on July 31, 1861.

He then enlisted in the 7th New Jersey Volunteer Infantry, being mustered in as its Sergeant Major on September 10, 1861. He did not serve as the regiment's top enlisted man long, being promoted to 1st Lieutenant of Company B, on November 4, 1861, replacing the resigned Lieutenant William N. Fitzgerald. He served with Company B through the battles and campaigns of the spring and summer of 1862, as the 7th New Jersey saw combat at the Battles of Williamsburg, Fair Oaks, Malvern Hill and Second Bull Run. On July 24, 1862 Company D's Captain John J. Fritschy resigned, and a month later, August 28, 1862, Paul Babcock was promoted to Captain and transferred to lead the Company. He commanded the unit through the December 1862 Fredericksburg Campaign, the May 1862 Battle of Chancellorsville, and the July 1863 Battle of Gettysburg, where on the Second Day of the battle the 7th New Jersey was heavily engaged near Emmitsburg Road.

On September 24, 1863 he resigned his New Jersey commission and was appointed as a Captain in the United States Signal Corps. He was then named Chief Signal Officer for the Army of the Cumberland, a role he performed until his resignation. On March 13, 1865 he was brevetted Major, US Volunteers for his war service.

Edited by Abby Belcastro





## REMINDER: “TIMELINES” IMPRESSION

Have you signed up for our new Timelines Impression yet?

For existing Civil War members who would like to join this new impression, we're excited to have you on board! Please contact Mike Milling at [millingm@punj.org](mailto:millingm@punj.org) so we can get you on the roster.

### Timeline Impressions we're looking for:

- French & Indian War
- Revolutionary War
- War of 1812
- Spanish – American War
- World War I
- World War II



If you, or someone you know, has an impression for any of the wars above, they can now become a dues paying member of our organization. After becoming a member, they will have insurance coverage at events, even if the 2D brigade is not present. However, as they are members of our organizations, they are representatives of the 2D brigade, and will be expected to comply with all safety regulations of the 2D Brigade, as well as the regulations of the hosting organization.

In our 2019 season, we will have at least two time-line events:

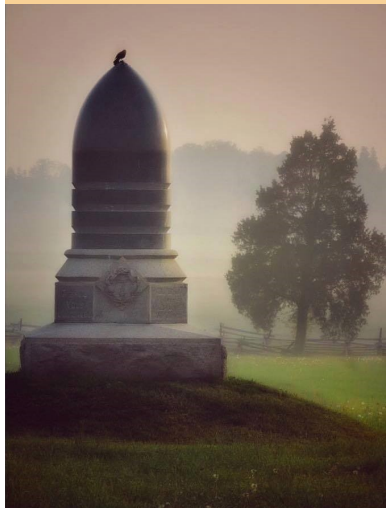
- May 19, 2019 – “Fashion Wars: A Review of Wartime Clothing”
- November 11, 2019 – Veterans Day Parade, NYC

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## REMINDER: VETERANS RESERVE IMPRESSION

Are you still interested in re-enacting, but don't want to go out in the field? Do you like interacting with the public, and hanging around the campfire? If so join the new Veterans Reserve Impression under our Headquarters.

Contact Veterans Reserve Sgt. Brian Egbert for more information! [vrccsarge@aol.com](mailto:vrccsarge@aol.com).





## THE CIVILIAN CORNER

On January 5th, Abby Belcastro represented the Society of the Jersey Blues at a Girl Scout meetup in Florham Park. Members of the Florham Park troop met at the local library and learned how ladies dressed during the American Civil War, enjoying an interactive program where they learned about each layer of clothing and helped Abby 'dress' the mannequin. This was followed up by a hands-on fashion-plate experience, where the troop got to pretend to work for Godey's Ladies Magazine by painting their own fashion pictures. The troop learned how to use watercolors, and how women of the 19th Century got information about fashion. Afterwards, the girls learned about famous women of the Civil War followed by an open Q & A where they asked fantastic questions about how women washed their clothes, how much clothing cost in the 1860s, and what kinds of hats and bonnets were most popular.

The troop was excited and engaged, and the program was a smashing success. The Girl Scouts donated \$150 to the Jersey Blues for the program, and we thank them for the opportunity to teach their girls about women's lives in the 19th Century.



## The 2D Board

Is there something you'd like to bring to the Board's attention? A new idea? A new impression? Something that can make the brigade better?

We'd love to hear what you have to say! Please contact your impression head and ask them to bring your idea to the Board's attention. Or, contact president Mike Milling, and ask if you can make a special presentation to the board at one of our meetings.

## COMMITTEES

We have created three new committees as part of our Board this year:

### Advertising:

Abby Belcastro  
Paul Egbert  
Amery Vasso  
Brian Zilinski

### Recruiting:

Brian Zilinski  
Rich Walker  
Lin Kaufer  
Tim O'Grady

### Safety:

Matt Belcastro  
Hans Artz  
Michelle Catona  
Marie O'Grady  
Rich Walker

Have ideas for how we can advertise our programming better, recruit more members, or work on our safety? Please contact our committee members with your ideas!



*Looking forward to a great  
2019!*