



28th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry Company B

TO: Membership
FROM: Joseph Pankey, Captain
DATE: January 14, 2026
RE: Captain's Report for 2025

I am honored to present my report for the 2025 Campaign Season.

We attended two reenactments recognizing the 160TH anniversaries of battles that occurred in the year 1865:

- A large contingent of our members attended the 160TH Bentonville Reenactment.
- At Saylor's Creek Battlefield Park we portrayed a company of the 2ND Rhode Island. It was unseasonably hot, and we marched quite a few miles during the weekend.

Two other reenactments were attended during the year:

- A large number of our members attended the 163RD Anniversary of Cedar Mountain. Joe Abernathy and Tim Faudree led our contingent.
- We fielded a Company for the 161ST Anniversary of the Battle of Cedar Creek.

We participated in two Living History programs:

- The living history program on the Gettysburg Battlefield was a significant highlight of the year. Our camp was almost exactly where the Irish Brigade was located prior to their march to the Wheatfield. Over the last few years, several attempts to hold an Irish Brigade event at Gettysburg never materialized, but Rob Calhelha and the Interpretive Rangers of the National Park Service organized an outstanding event that was accurate in detail, and included five firing demonstrations. Rob has already secured a 2026 date to continue our success!
- An additional living history was attended at Fairfax "His-Tree Day." Unfortunately the Fairfax Civil War Interpretive Center is discontinuing this particular event, but plans for us to hold an event there in the fall are being explored.

We participated in five parades, and two ceremonies:

An Independence Day Parade in Fairfax City was added to our schedule this year, joining our traditional Alexandria and City of Manassas St. Patrick's Day Parades. Though our marching was good, our music was better! In addition, many of us participated in the Remembrance Day Parade in Gettysburg, making this a four parade year.

We honored the Regiment in ceremonies at Gettysburg on Remembrance Day in November, and at Fredericksburg on the anniversary of the battle in December

As always, our success would not be possible without every member's efforts. I will mention those who had direct responsibilities during the past year, but many others have my thanks as well:

- Our Non-Commissioned Officers were First Sergeant Madole; Sergeant Aaron Harvey; Corporal Rob Calhelha; Corporal Tim Faudree; Corporal Jason Forbes; Corporal Ben hood; Corporal Hal Lapham; Corporal Barney Mahaney and Corporal Brian O'Shaughnessy.
- This year saw an increased effort from our Corporals conducting basic drill, and this resulted in a marked improvement in the skill of both established and new members.
- Joe Abernathy was an essential leader in two events where Sergeant Madole and I were not able to attend.
- We are extremely fortunate to have the skilled musicians we have, and that they have deep connections in the Fife and Drum community. Thanks particularly go to Joe Abernathy and Principal Musician Brian Mitchell for their organizational and instructive efforts. Three Parades are on the prospective schedule for 2026, and you should not miss the opportunity to march in them.
- Rob Calhelha tirelessly recruited new members, as well as worked on many projects for the good of the Company.
- Aaron Harvey has continued to efficiently manage our rations.
- Hal Lapham managed our loaner gear despite personal obligations that took him out of the area for periods of time.
- Jerry Lynes handled our communications, keeping up the Company Facebook Page, our website and our group email system.

In closing, I want to express my admiration and thanks to all who have supported me over the past six years. The commitment you have to the recreated 28TH, and to the memory of all those who fought for the future of the United States brought us together. The personal associations we have developed are an added gift.

Company B is an outstanding organization which has proved itself over many years. We have the opportunity to continue as leaders well into the future.

As always, please let me know your thoughts, and any questions you may have.



Joseph Pankey
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28TH Mass. Vol. Infantry
(Recreated)