

## *Research Committee Meeting | Sunday, January 28, 2024*

The meeting on January 28 began at 8:04PM. Attendees were:

- Ken Gulick
- August Marchetti (Secretary)
- Brendon Stead
- Chris Rasmussen (Chair)
- Don Madar
- Bill Weidner

The meeting began when the Chair began by investigating each committee member's interest in the Pennsylvania Reserves, in order to determine which sort of research projects would suit them in the future.

He elaborated that he had recently published an article on the Pennsylvania Reserves in the Defenses of Washington, and was working on developing another article in relation to the election process of that organization.

The conversation was started with August Marchetti, divulging his interests in the small, minute details of the soldiers life, as well as in the origins of each company within each regiment. The First and Seventh Regiments of the Pennsylvania Reserves he identified as his strong points. He also mentioned his currency projects, "Missing in Action: The 7th Pennsylvania Reserves at the Battle of Wilderness," and an introductory history of the Venango Grays, Co. C, 10th Pennsylvania Reserves. The Wilderness piece, in conjunction with another article written by Bill Wiedner on the same subject, will be posted in May of 2024 on the anniversary dates.

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Don Madar brought up a recent book that was published by Randy Watts in relation to the History of the Carlisle Fencibles, Company A, 7th Pennsylvania Reserves. After some questioning in relation to Shippensburg soldiers who served in that particular company, it was discerned that the war correspondent known as “Nix Nax” was John Kenyon, who died in 1862.

Next the conversation moved to Ken Gulick, who expressed his overall interest in the war in General, from both sides. He elaborated on a book he is presently reading on General James Longstreet, in which a report was written of giving Longstreet’s impression of the tenacity of the Pennsylvania Reserves at Glendale. Ken’s point I believe was an interest in looking at the Reserve Corps from multiple perspectives, not just from the Union side. Ken also explained that since our previous Board Meeting of the PRVCHS, he has found upwards of over 30 members of the 7th Reserves between two cemeteries.

Brendon Stead followed up, expressing his interest in the 10th Pennsylvania Reserves, as a result of learning of his ancestor who served in that regiment. He remarked that he was very interested in correspondence of the men, and was working on transcribing biographical information of these men to be posted to the website. August Marchetti made mention of a lengthy article of a Company C man - of which Brendon asked to be forwarded. Brendon also mentioned living in Wilksburg, being originally from Pittsburgh - and a cemetery nearby having the grave of Frank Horner of Company H of the 12th Pa Reserves, whose grave he is hoping to find.

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Next we moved to Don Madar. Don's interest has been drawn to the Pennsylvania Reserves out of research he had done on a member of Company A, 7th Reserves who was from Shippensburg, Hendricks. Aside from the Randy Watts book, Don also brought up a book composed of letters from Leo and John Faller, of Co. A, 7th Reserves. He stated that his latest interest has been what happened to the men who were shipped north from the Peninsula, some of which arrived (and died) at Rhode Island, and other locations.

Don made mention of a few individuals who some of us are familiar with; Roland Frodigh, Ron Baumgartner and Dane DiFebo. Since the end of the meeting, he has contacted Baumgartner and DiFebo, the former who might be interested in playing a role in our organization, and the latter in reference to resources at the American Civil War Museum in relation to content concerning the PA Reserves and 190th and 191st PA - at Bill Weidner's request.

Lastly, Bill Weidner elaborated on his latest focus which has solely been on the 190th and 191st Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers. He expressed his hopes that with his latest articles on the men who went to Salisbury Prison, that his plea for more information on these men from our audience might allow him to formulate a broader historical accounting of those regiments where information is lacking.

The remainder of the meeting was general conversation. Brendon Stead was informed on newspapers and viewing said papers at historical societies which may not be available online. Utilizing the interlibrary loan program throughout Pennsylvania to borrow manuscript film with these newspapers on them.

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*The final question asked by the Chair, Chris Rasmussen was as to the frequency in which Research Committee meetings shall be held. After our committee members have some time to consult their schedules, they are asked to report back to the Chair with that information.*

Meeting was adjourned at 9:04pm.

Submitted by August Marchetti, Committee Secretary.