

## AAR for Remembrance Day

This past weekend (20-23 November) saw: Darwin, Lisa, Ron, Emily and Wayne attend the Remembrance Day activities at Gettysburg, PA.

Weather: The mid-part of the trip down on Friday and the end-part of the trip on Monday had rain, heavy at times. While in Gettysburg however, it was in the low to mid 50's during the days and low 40's at night. Saturday morning we woke up to frost and temps around 34. For late November could not have asked for much better weather.

**Friday:** Darwin, Lisa, and Wayne, meet at the Gettysburg NPS Visitor's Center around 1030. We saw the movie, cyclorama, visited the gift shop and had lunch. Then it was off to sign into the Battlefield Motel. Not much on extras, but we did not spend a lot of time there and the price was good. We then proceeded to the Richmond Howitzers' Marker and cleaned the leaves from and around the cannon and marker. After a little raking we returned to the Visitor's Center to take in the museum. We meet Ron & Emily at the Gettysburg Hotel for dinner. We did a little walking around, but with a very early start to the day it was very soon time to return to the hotel and well deserved rest.

**Saturday:** We were out of the motel by 0830 and went to Lincoln's Dinner for breakfast. After breakfast, we went to the Richmond Howitzers' Marker and held a brief ceremony. Captain Wayne read a few moving words and Miss Emily placed a flag beside the marker. After some pictures it was off to see the sights. Ron & Emily went to the Visitor's Center, while Wayne, Darwin & Lisa visited the 9<sup>th</sup> MA (Bigelow's) Battery positions on Wheatfield Rd and near the Trostle Farm. We then traveled to the area called "The High Water Mark" where we looked at the area where the 4<sup>th</sup> US Battery A (Cushing's Battery) were located in addition to where General Armistead was mortally wounded. Wayne and the Robinsons went separate ways to meet later for the parade. Wayne went to the US Christian Commission Museum, and the birthplace of Jenny Wade. He also visited the Sgt Amos Humiston's and Children's Monument, plus the Mural and statue to the 154<sup>th</sup> NY regiment, which Humiston was a member. After a very nice parade, see lots of pictures in the photo gallery, We went to the National Cemetery where we found the graves of George Nixon (Great Grandfather of the former President), Sgt Humiston, Medal of Honor winner Captain Miller and several Confederates mistakenly buried in the National Cemetery. During this time Ron & Emily did an auto tour. We meet at General Pickett's buffet for dinner and then attended the Luminary at the National Cemetery, once again see the pictures in the gallery. The Luminary is always one of the highlights of the trip and with the playing of taps every half-hour and the reading of the soldier's names; it is a very moving experience. The night was not over yet as Wayne, Darwin & Lisa went on a Ghost Tour of Seminary Ridge. You be the judge if we saw any ghost by checking out the pictures Lisa took on the tour. Late night, but a great day.

**Sunday:** Found us at Lincoln's Dinner one more time and being joined there by Ron & Emily. After breakfast, we said our goodbye to Ron & Emily who needed to return home and Wayne, Darwin & Lisa visited the Wills house, which is the place where Lincoln stayed when he came to Gettysburg. Then it was off to do some shopping. We gathered at 1300 for our Guided Walking Tour of the Town of Gettysburg. With only us three and the guide we had a very nice tour. Around 1445, we once again went our separate ways to meet up for dinner at 1700 at the Hoss Steakhouse. Wayne visited, the RHs marker one more time (say his goodbyes) then to off to the Little Round Top to sit and enjoy the view. He visited

the PA Monument and went to the top to take some pictures, you guessed it, and they too are in the gallery. From there he went and spends more time at the High Water Mark area. After a nice dinner it was back to the motel to pack the cars and get ready for the trip home. Wayne downloads Lisa's pictures onto his laptop. Between us we had over 500 pictures. I have an album (hard copies) of 94 pictures to share next time we meet, plus there are 47 in our online gallery.

**NOTE:**

This is Gettysburg – This is Remembrance Day weekend – It does not get much better than this.

Originally we had many more people who wanted to attend, but due to many reason they could not. You were all missed and thought of frequently while we were there. We hope in the future we can make this trip with more of the RHs attending.

I am looking into a 3-day weekend (TBD), when the weather is warm, to come back to Gettysburg to do a horseback riding tour of the battlefield. Maybe this will allow more people to attend. We can talk about this more at our Annual meeting in January.

Thanks for all who made the trip and made it an enjoyable time.

NEXT EVENTS: The Brady's are hosting a RH Christmas party at their home on 12 December. Still looking to hold our Annual meeting on Saturday, 23 January at my folk's home in North Stonington, CT.

I wish everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

Respectfully submitted

Captain Wayne

Commanding Officer

1<sup>st</sup> Co., Richmond Howitzers