

## ABOUT THE 12<sup>TH</sup> US INFANTRY REENACTMENT REGIMENT

The 12<sup>th</sup> United States Infantry is a Civil War reenactment organization based in the Syracuse, New York region, formed for the purpose of promoting educational aspects of the American Civil War; to teach its historical significance through activities, programs, and living history demonstrations; to authentically portray both Union soldiers from the 12<sup>th</sup> US and Northern civilians—their life, clothing, equipment, actions, and battles; and to encourage family participation and the friendship of all who hold the same interest.

The unit was formed in 1987 and portrays Company “A” of the 12<sup>th</sup> United States Infantry...a regular Army command. Members come from all over Central New York and the Southern Tier. The 12<sup>th</sup> is the host unit for the annual Erie Canal Village Civil War Weekend in Rome, New York, the location of a period upstate canal village. The unit is also a member of the United States Volunteers (USV), the largest national reenactor organization in the United States.

### WHAT REENACTORS DO

Civil War living historians, or “reenactors”, engage in a variety of activities. Examples include:

- Participation in full scale battle reenactments, with up to 10,000 or more participants on the field. These are national events.
- Enjoy camaraderie of friends around the campfire, on the battle line and at various events.
- Provide educational presentations.
- Participate in “living history” demonstrations.
- Attend period “balls” and socials,
- March in parades with fife and drum.



## THE 12<sup>TH</sup> UNITED STATES INFANTRY

The numerical designation “Twelfth” has been borne by four regiments of infantry in the regular service of the United States. The first was organized July 16, 1798 and disbanded June 15, 1800. The second and third were raised temporarily during hostilities, the former in 1812, the latter during the Mexican War. The present regiment was organized by direction of the President in a proclamation dated May 4, 1861.

The 12<sup>th</sup> was an integral part of the V Corps notable “Regular Division” under General George Sykes. The 12<sup>th</sup> served with distinction in every major campaign in the Eastern Theatre of the War. In their years of service until being taken out of the field in 1864 due to significant losses, they participated in the following battles:

Siege of Yorktown, April 1862  
Gaines’ Mills, June 27, 1862  
Malvern Hill, July 12, 1862  
Cedar Mountain, August 9, 1862  
Bristoe, August 27, 1862  
Second Bull Run, August 29th and 30th, 1862  
Chantilly, September 1, 1862  
South Mountain, September 14, 1862  
Antietam, September 17, 1862  
Fredericksburg, December 13, 1862  
Chancellorsville, May 1st to 5th, 1863  
Gettysburg, July 2nd and 3rd, 1863  
Bristoe Station, October 14, 1863  
Rappahannock Station, November 7, 1863  
Mine Run, November 27, 1863  
Wilderness, May 5, 1864  
Spotsylvania, May 8th to 19th, 1864  
North Anna River, May 23, 1864  
Tolopotomy Creek, May 30, 1864  
Bethesda Church, June 1st to 5th, 1864  
Cold Harbor, June 2nd and 3rd, 1864  
Petersburg, June 18th to 30th, 1864  
Weldon Railroad, August 18th to 21st, 1864  
Pebbles Farm, September 30, 1864



## RELIVE THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR



# 12TH REGT. UNITED STATES INFANTRY REENACTMENT REGIMENT COMPANY “A” FIFE & DRUM CORPS

*INVITES YOU TO JOIN*

THE BACKBONE OF THE CIVIL WAR ARMY...  
THE REGULARS

THE 12TH REGIMENT, COMPANY A, INC.

## WHY BE A CIVIL WAR MUSICIAN REENACTOR?

Living history reenacting is a hobby with countless facets and people become reenactors for many reasons. All experience and enjoy reliving aspects of the American Civil War while in the company of new friends.

Musicians who portray fifers, drummers and buglers are unique in that they play a pivotal role in keeping up morale, keeping the troops in step and conveying critical battlefield commands. Life in the camps was regulated by music, the spirits and emotions of the soldiers were affected by music and every night ended with music. Some units just march in parades, with the 12<sup>th</sup> you'll be able to enjoy so much more.



## WHO BECOMES A REENACTOR?

People from all walks of life and of all ages become involved as reenactors. The 12<sup>th</sup> US Infantry includes men, women, children and families. Active members are as young as 12 and as old as 60. We include infantry soldiers, field music, medical corps and civilians. The hobby of reenacting has a role for nearly everyone.

The 12<sup>th</sup> US Field Music has developed a reputation for quality playing and is looking to grow and expand that role. Our goal is to increase the size of our Regimental Fife & Drum Corps. ***If you think you are interested please read on and learn more about us...we'd like to talk to you!***

## WHERE DO REENACTMENTS TAKE PLACE?

The 12<sup>th</sup> US Infantry participates in numerous local events around the Central New York region. We also take part in several large reenactments in Pennsylvania or Virginia every year. Some events are "maximum Effort" events where the entire unit is encouraged to attend. Attendance at all reenactments or parades is not compulsory, however certain minimum attendance requirements are included as part of your membership.

## ROLE OF THE FIELD MUSIC

Our duty as musicians is to give signal calls, encourage the troops and lift their morale. At many of the events the Field Music is an integral part of the field maneuvers and battle action. Through our music, we will honor the men and women that fought and died for the cause. By playing the songs that they marched, sang, and danced to, we will bring their musical history to life.

The 12<sup>th</sup> US Infantry Field Music seeks qualified musicians who are either currently playing fife and drum, or have experience and can learn the necessary repertoire. Some of the requirements include:

- Every musician will supply his or her own instrument and be responsible for the care of it.
- Levels of competency will be in accordance with "The International Association Of Field Musicians."
- Proper musical instruction is mandatory outside of Civil War Re-enacting such as private instruction, school, etc.
- Drummers must have a basic understanding of the 26- Fundamental - Rudiments of Drumming.
- Musicians playing the fife or other instruments are required to have a basic understanding of the rudiments of music, scales, etc.
- Musicians will be respectful and courteous to adults and fellow musicians.



## HOW DO I GET STARTED?



The 12<sup>th</sup> US Infantry reenactment regiment has programs in place to assist the new musician who may be new to reenacting. New members are shown the ropes by more experienced reenactors who teach practical aspects of reenacting, equipment procurement, and the organizations authenticity standards. We have made arrangements with an experienced local "sutler" to provide new recruits with a "starter" package to get them on

the field. The Principal Musician also provides further guidance on the proper music and accoutrements befitting a musician in the Regular Army of the 1860's. During the "off season" monthly regimental meetings and drills are scheduled along with field music instruction and drill. There are also period Ballroom Dance lessons to keep recruits and experienced alike up to standards.

*If you are a musician or musical student who wants to wear the proud uniform of an 1860's Regular Army field musician...If you want to learn more about our nations heritage....If you want to learn more about this wonderful hobby....*

## CONTACT NOW...

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❖❖ **Or E-Mail/Call** ❖❖

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- Or -

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