

## Membership Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Will spouse and/or children participate?: \_\_\_\_\_

If Yes:

Spouse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Children's Name(s)\*:

\_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you belonged to another reenactment or living history group before? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes:

Name of group(s): \_\_\_\_\_

### Consent for Release of Personal Information on the Fairfax Rifles Website

The Fairfax Rifles website contains personal information provided by each member such as names, titles, pictures, etc. I hereby consent to the posting of this information on the website. I have noted\* any information I do NOT consent to be posted on the website.

Signature (Parental signature required for minors) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

\* attach additional sheet if needed.

## Safety

Health and safety are our chief concerns. We adhere to serious weapons and fire safety practices. However, if you have any serious medical condition or physical limitation, you may want to consider a different hobby.

Civil War Reenacting is a strenuous, physically challenging hobby which often takes place in adverse weather conditions. Events are not called off due to extreme heat, cold or rain. Military marches of several miles occur on occasion. Additionally, we camp in 1860s style—this means tents and very few modern conveniences.

### Join "Northern Virginia's Own!"

If all this sounds like a lot to ask, it is!

This is not a cheap hobby. New re-enactors can expect to spend \$800 - \$1,000 to get started—almost half of that is for a rifle.

If you are a student of the Civil War, perhaps you have felt the desire to travel back in time and actually experience what it was like to be a soldier or civilian during America's bloodiest conflict. If you have had these emotions and would like to experience a window to the past, then we are looking for you.



Complete and return the form at left with dues to:

**Fairfax Rifles**  
c/o Linda Lacy, Treasurer  
9273 Linden Court  
Manassas, VA 20110

For additional information, contact Rudy Segaar via e-mail at [president@fairfaxrifles.org](mailto:president@fairfaxrifles.org)

Annual dues are \$28 for individuals or \$38 for families.

Make checks payable to **Fairfax Rifles**

# Civil War Reenacting with the 17th Virginia Infantry Regiment



[www.fairfaxrifles.org](http://www.fairfaxrifles.org)

## Who We Are

The *17th Virginia Infantry, Co. D, "Fairfax Rifles"* is a non-profit reenactment organization incorporated to educate the public on the lives of ordinary American citizens of 1861-1865 and preserve the history of the Civil War as it relates to the Commonwealth of Virginia, and Northern Virginia in particular. We are a family-oriented group based in historic Fairfax Court House, Virginia (now the City of Fairfax).

## What We Do

We educate the public by transporting ourselves (and hopefully them) back in time. We demonstrate the experiences of the men and women of the period. From dress, to speech, to actions, we attempt to recreate the flavor of the times.

The *Fairfax Rifles* are a member unit of the Provisional Army of Confederate States (PACS). As part of this larger group, and separately, we participate in Civil War reenactments, living histories, parades, memorial ceremonies, and other civic functions to aid museums, battlefields, and other related groups in the presentation of historical events of the period.

Our membership is comprised of individuals from all walks of life. We all share one goal and are dedicated to the accurate portrayal of military and civilian life in Virginia during the War Between the States. Many of our members have ancestors who served the Union and/or Confederacy.

## History of the Original 17th Virginia Infantry Regiment

The men of the original Seventeenth Virginia Infantry were the true Northern Virginians in Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia. Ten companies of volunteers from Alexandria, Fairfax, Fauquier, Loudoun, Prince William, and Warren Counties comprised the 17th Virginia Infantry Regiment:

Co. A Alexandria Rifleman - Alexandria County  
Co. B Warren Rifles - Warren County  
Co. C Loudoun Guard - Loudoun County  
**Co. D *Fairfax Rifles - Fairfax County***  
Co. E Mt. Vernon Guards - Alexandria County  
Co. F Prince William Rifles - Prince William County  
Co. G Emmett Guards - Alexandria County  
Co. H Old Dominion Rifles - Alexandria County  
Co. I O'Connell Guards - Alexandria County  
Co. K Warrenton Rifles - Fauquier County

A portion of these companies were garrisoned at Alexandria, Va. in May, 1861. After Virginia seceded on May 23rd, Federal troops crossed the Potomac and occupied Alexandria. The Virginia troops retreated to Manassas, Va.—for many, it would mark the last time they would see their homes!

The 17th Virginia was eventually designated Corse's Brigade, Pickett's Division, Longstreet's Corps, Army of Northern Virginia, C.S.A. In four terrible years they were in some of the most infamous battles of the war.

Company K of the 17th was at Fairfax Court House on June 1, 1861 in the first skirmish of the war. This event also marked the death of Capt. John Quincy Marr of the Warrenton Rifles—making him the first Confederate officer killed in battle.

At Second Manassas on August 30, 1862, the 17th captured an enemy battery and no less than 5 stands of colors! At Sharpsburg, Md. on September 17 of that same year, the Seventeenth suffered 57% casualties and still captured the colors of the 103rd N.Y. Infantry.

Even though they were a part of Pickett's Division, the Seventeenth escaped annihilation in "*Pickett's Charge*," because they were—at the insistence of the Confederate War Department—sent to guard Richmond, Va. bridges and railway stations, keeping them out of the Battle of Gettysburg, Pa. on July 1-3, 1863.

The 17th Virginia Infantry also participated in actions in North Carolina and Tennessee.

From Fairfax C.H. to Appomattox C. H., the Seventeenth Virginia tried valiantly to defend their native state. In the end, of the 750+ Northern Virginians who served, only 50 were left. Of that number, only 22 had served since June of 1861.

## Membership Requirements

Membership is open to any individual age 18 or older, possessing an earnest interest in the period. Individuals under the age of 18, may join with the participation of a parent or guardian. Prospective members must apply in writing. Upon acceptance by the Executive Committee, new members are accepted into the company. Dues are immediately payable in full. Within one year, new members are expected to:

1. Acquire the minimum uniform (or appropriate civilian clothing).
2. Participate in at least three events.
3. All military members must demonstrate a proficiency in handling black powder weapons and performance of basic period drill.
4. Possess a basic knowledge of the original 17th Virginia Infantry and historical events of the period.
5. As soldiers, all military members are required to take and execute commands from all officers and NCOs\*, keep their weapon and gear in good working order, and participate in company, regimental and/or battalion drill. (\* NCOs = corporals and sergeants.)

A probationary period exists for one year or until such time as the Executive Committee becomes satisfied with the new member's performance, appearance and knowledge. A member becomes established with full voting rights at the end of the probationary period.

