

Teens make history come alive

By **BECKY LOCK**
Sentinel correspondent

History really can come alive — just ask the teen members of the 148th PA Regiment Field Hospital Venture Crew.

Girls make and wear period garb — complete with corsets — while boys learn how to handle and fire muskets, minus the live bullets. They cook meals over a campfire — the same sort of foods that soldiers in the Civil War would have eaten.

Venture Crew is affiliated with the Boy Scouts of America but is open to both boys and girls ages 14 to 21. Activities are varied and may depend on other groups, such as the 148th PA Regiment Field Hospital, to which this local Venture Crew is attached.

The regiment is a Civil War re-enactment unit.

Because it is attached to the regiment, the Venture Crew gets to experience Civil War-era life and help educate others about it.

“It’s really eye-opening,” says Janie Shaffer, 17, of Lewistown. “It’s a different take on history, not the boring classroom style.”

“Instead of just being told about history, you get to experience what they did,” she says.

The crew is more active in the summer than in the winter. They’ll elect officers early in the new year and plan activities for the



Sentinel photo by BRADLEY KREITZER

Some of the teen members of the 148th PA Regiment Field Hospital Venture Crew are, from left, Rachel Jost, David Monsell and Janie Shaffer.

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