



When the email went out for suggestions for the FGC website, I thought it may be interesting to have an interview with members of FGC in the vein of the Actor's Studio. If you have ever watched this show, it is an intimate setting in which a host interviews a well known actor or director. The audience consists of film and acting students and, at the end of the interview, the students ask questions of the guest. As living historians, we are both actor and student. With the hustle and bustle of events, we rarely have an opportunity to have a one-on-one with a fellow member. My goal is to share a side of the member you may not know. For this month's interview Hannah Opdenaker is highlighted. She portrays Miss Tillie Pierce.

Welcome to : The Re-enACTORS Studio interview with Hannah Opdenaker

1. *How did you get started in reenacting/living history?*

Sue and Joe Sodomini.

2. *Hong long have you been involved?*

8 years.

3. *Who is your persona?*

Miss Matilda (Tillie) Pierce.

4. *Why did you choose her? What drew you to that particular person?*

Tillie was the same age as me and she had a great story to tell – Tillie later wrote a book titled "What a Girl Saw" which chronicled her experiences during the Battle of Gettysburg.

5. *How long have you portrayed Tillie Pierce?*

A little over 6 months.

6. *What keeps you in the hobby?*

Family.

7. *What changes would you like to see in the hobby?*

I would like to see more recognition of the civilians who experienced the war.

8. *What one thing would you like the public to know about your persona?*

Tillie was 15 years old and forced to grow up too fast because of the war.

9. *What one thing would you like your fellow reenactors to know about you personally that they may not already know?*

My love of History has become an obsession. For fun I research as much as I can and I sew most of my 19th Century clothing. I also enjoy researching about other things besides the Civil War. My favorite time periods are the Renaissance era and Ancient India.

10. *Anything else you would like to add?*

None that I can think of.

Find out more about Tillie Pierce at http://www.federalgeneralscorp.com/FGC_MEMBERS/Tillie_Pierce_rev.pdf