

The Fusilier

23rd Regiment of Foot
The Royal Welch Fusiliers in America

www.rwfia.org

COLONEL OF THE AMERICAN BATTALION

Brigadier Anthony C. Vivian

Volume XL No.3

April 3rd, 2011

The Major's New Address

The Major has moved to a new address at 793 Street Road, New Hope, PA 18938. He hopes that all who wish to correspond with him by letter will do so at that address. His email remains gmorgan@epix.net and he may be reached on cell phone at [215 262-6013](tel:2152626013).

St. David's Day and Annual Officers Meeting

The annual St. David's Day dinner was well attended and went off without a hitch....

Well almost without a hitch, as there apparently was a Tory ghost who was so excited by the leek ceremony that he collapsed a table that was twenty feet away from where one of the member had just taken the Leek. While this was (fortunately) unoccupied at the time of its demise, it did send plates, glasses and silverware crashing to the ground in a confused pile and sparing only a single bottle of Guinness Stout that somehow managed to balance at an impossible angle on the edge of oblivion.

The Black Bass once again rose to the heights of culinary art in providing a meal that was enjoyable and memorable!

On the following morning the officers of the RWFA held their annual meeting at the Major's residence. In attendance were Sgt. Shane Reilly, Captain Thomson, Major (Ret.) Richard Ford, Major (Ret.) Kenneth Siegel, Major Morgan, and Corporal Robert Price in his capacity as Adjutant.

The officers voted to retain Major Morgan in his present rank.

It is asked again that all company newsletters be sent to all the serving officers of the Regiment.

It was decided that the "late war" uniform would be worn at events where it was historically feasible ie: the Southern campaigns or the time period of 1780 – 1783 with the exception of the Siege of Charleston. At other events that are either earlier in the regiment's history or in the Northern Campaigns of 1773 – 1779, the earlier 1775 uniform will be worn.

At events that are NOT based on historical campaigns (i.e. Military Timelines, Township, County or State Anniversary Festivities etc.) it will be at the discretion of the Major except in the case of Ferguson's Company, which being based in California, will be directed by their commander under the provisos of the original chartering of the uniform (i.e. All men fielding be either in the same uniform and the uniform to be compete.) Needless to say, those that reside in the south or those who are interested in attending southern events, should have the late war uniform as it will no longer be acceptable to wear the 1775 kit at every southern event.

The possible inclusion of appropriately attired family members and others attending events under the group insurance policy is being looked at by Major Ford under the terms of our policy a copy of which has been forwarded to him by our Adjutant. While this would not give membership to all, it will hopefully extend a basic coverage to any family members that are 1. On site 2. Appropriately attired 3. Signed in with the senior NCO. We will advise further on this and at the present time, we can not confirm that family members are covered, but it is the goal of the Major and his officers that this should be the case and we appreciate the members forbearance.

All dues should have been paid by this time and company officers and clerks are asked to forward updated rosters to RHQ.

After Action Reports

We have heard that the turnout at the two events in the South (Guilford and Richmond) was good and that a basis is being formed for a new Southern Company. The Major would like to thank the efforts of Captain Pieper and Fusilier Maass in coordinating with the attending members and with RHQ to ensure that all ran smoothly.

Personnel Notes

Captain Dan Gates of Light Company has transferred to Pensioners. Sgt. Stephen Raby will command in the interim while Light Coy rebuilds its strength.

Recruit Stephen White has joined the Colonel's Company as a Musician/Fifer. Stephen has been a member of the 12th NJ Volunteer Infantry in the Civil War and has founded and directed several fife and drum corps. He has been active with the Fort Mifflin Guard.

Attention to Orders

JUNE 24 -26 UNDER THE REDCOAT

All officers and company NCO's are to check with their men as to attendance at Williamsburg. We need an immediate head count and remember, it will be the late war kit! I need to know ASAP if we have enough interest to warrant attending. Ferguson's will not be coming east for this.

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*****Event Schedule*****

April 9-10 Battle of Bound Brook, Middlebrook, NJ

April 16-17 Battle Road, Lincoln, MA Battle Road 2011 North Bridge and Hartwell Tavern

IF YOU ARE PLANNING ON GOING, I NEED TO KNOW IMMEDIATELY SO THAT I CAN PUT YOU ON THE ROSTER!! IF YOU SHOW UP AND YOUR NAME IS NOT ON THE ROSTER YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE – THEIR GAME, WE PLAY BY THEIR RULES!!

Those attending, please coordinate with Ken Siegel ([781 444-2589](tel:7814442589)) as he will be the officer in charge. There are to be NO walk-ons. If you think you might be going, please let him know even if you decide later that you can't.

There is a lot of information for attendees to consider. This is a NPS site and below are the rules which WILL be followed. (Believe it or not I condensed this down from 13 pages to 4.5!!)

New Stuff: In order to enhance the participant and visitor experience of the events of April 19, 1775, we have introduced the following additions to this year's Battle Road:

1. Enhancement of action along the Battle Road from Bloody Angle to Hartwell Tavern and Hartwell House, with more opportunities for the Regulars to send their flankers out, and the addition of action at Parker's Revenge, near the Battle Road Visitor Center. While we had hoped to expand the action further, we hope that the success of the Parker's Revenge scenario may allow the action to eventually be expanded to include the historic Whittemore House, Trainor Field, and Fiske Hill.
2. Amalgamation of units to re-create the companies that actually served at the North Bridge, Bloody Angle/Hartwell Tavern, and Parker's Revenge. Excellent research over the years has made it possible to place a number of the local minute and militia companies in the sectors where they served. We hope to form historically appropriate sized companies under the command of capable officers.
3. Use of a "zone defense", especially for those units participating in the actions at the Bloody Angle/Hartwell Tavern sector. This will mean that fewer units will be maneuvering the field, and more will be fighting in looser order from fixed positions. If space and time permit, some units may be able to leapfrog to another position, but this is not guaranteed. A few units will be designated to pursue the Regular column from a safe distance, engaging them lightly along predetermined lanes of fire.
4. Expanded interpretive activities for civilian participants under the direction of Steph Smith and her team at Hartwell Tavern, with emphasis on domestic arts of 1775, and Smith House, which we hope will become a sort of mini visitor center, with special programs on Redcoat uniforms and equipment, militia clothing and equipment, the dress of women and children, and other activities that help to enhance the visitor's understanding of life in 1775.

Schedule:

7:00 - 9:30 a.m. April 16th - Registration opens. All participants must sign in at the appropriate venue, check their name off the list, and receive an event tag which they must keep with them at all times. All participants must pre-register. Walk-ons may not participate in the event.

- North Bridge Participants will register at North Bridge upon arrival
- All other British register at Smith House
- All other Colonials register at Hartwell Barn

7:00 a.m. Participants for North Bridge Fight load buses at Paul Revere Capture Site

8:00 a.m. Arrival at North Bridge, inspection and ammunition distribution (full load)

8:30 a.m. Units deploy for North Bridge scenario

9:15 a.m. Clear weapons

9:30 a.m. Board Buses and depart for Hartwell Parking Area

9:30 a.m. Hartwell / Smith House event site opens to public. Interpretive activities at Hartwell Tavern and the Captain William Smith House begin.

10:30 a.m. British and Colonial small arms inspection and ammunition distribution (units from North Bridge have already been taken care of)

- British at Smith House
- Colonials at Hartwell Parking area

11:00 a.m. British march to Bloody Angle. Colonial combatants clear the road.

• Colonial units deploy after the British have gone by.

11:30 a.m. Bloody Angle Tactical Scenario begins

12:30 p.m. Bloody Angle Tactical Scenario ends. British and Colonial units clear weapons and collect unused ammunition at Smith House. British units taking part in Parker's Revenge Scenario will retain sufficient ammunition for that purpose. Interpretive activities resume.

12:45 p.m. British and select units march to Paul Revere Capture Site.

1:10 p.m. nooning at Paul Revere Capture Site

1:40 p.m. British and Colonial units resume their march to Parker's Revenge. LTB arrives at Parker's Revenge – inspection and ammunition distribution

2:00 p.m. Parker's Revenge Scenario takes place

2:30 p.m. British and Colonial units march to Fiske Hill Parking area, clear weapons, collect remaining ammunition and board buses to Tower Park. Units not taking part in Parker's Revenge will board buses at Paul Revere Capture Site.

4:00 p.m. Tower Park

5:30 p.m. Event site closes

Battle Road Authenticity Standards 2011

General Protocol

During living history programs/encampments at Minute Man National Historical Park, historical authenticity

standards will be observed and in effect during hours when visitors are on the grounds: generally 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. unless otherwise stated.

Participants are required to dress in as authentic and appropriate manner of clothing for the 1770's period for Eastern Massachusetts as is proper and possible. Western frontier and native dress are not acceptable; this includes hunting shirts with fringe, beads, and a general "buckskin" or Native American appearance. No anachronisms such as: cameras, cell phones, cigarettes, plastic items, wrist watches, modern jewelry, sleeping bags, coolers, non-period glasses or sunglasses, etc., will be used in sight of any visitor during hours of operation. (Because of the expense of period glasses, modern glasses will be accepted if not too obvious [wire frames only].)

For safety and authenticity purposes clothing must be of natural fiber such as wool, linen or cotton. Polyester, nylon, Velcro, or other synthetic fabric presents a safety hazard and may not be worn. Any modern accoutrements such as company pins, logos, nameplates or any other paraphernalia are not authentic to the period may not be worn. Bales of straw (provided for bedding) will be opened and spread out. Full bales are out of period, especially when tied with brightly colored nylon cord.

Men's Clothing

Frock coat or workman's jacket is required for all military impressions: of wool, linen (flax or hemp), or cotton. Soldiers may not turn out in their waistcoats and shirtsleeves. Likewise, farmers smocks will not be allowed. Militia/minute companies may not take the field in matching coats, or uniforms of any kind. Leather coats and frontier/rifle/hunting shirts (the garment with the cape and the fringe) are not acceptable.

Shirt and neckwear: long, full sleeved, closed neck with stock, cravat, or neck cloth: Linen, cotton, wool in white, natural, or checked. Laced-trimmed jabots and ruffled stocks sold by several sutlers are not acceptable.

Waistcoat: wool, linen, cotton (or silk if appropriate to the overall impression). Waistcoat must be worn with frock coat, but is optional with buttoned workman's jacket.

Breeches: wool, linen, leather, or cotton (or silk if appropriate to the overall impression). Trousers are acceptable as part of a lower class impression. Fringed suede frontier-style trousers are not acceptable.

Stockings: over the knee, wool, cotton or linen (or silk if appropriate to the overall impression), white or colors, held up with leather or cloth tape garters. Horizontally striped stockings and athletic socks are not allowed.

Shoes: period-style leather shoes with buckles or 2 hole lace up, black or brown (appropriate modern leather shoes may be worn if covered with gaiters)

Gaiters: Farmer's half boots or half gaiters of dark brown or black wool, or linen canvas may be worn over period style shoes. Knee length F&I or Rev. War style gaiters are not appropriate for wear at Battle Road.

Hat: Must be worn out of doors. Cocked hat (civilian or military, depending upon your particular impression,) uncocked hat, knitted cap, workman's cap.

Knapsacks: Knapsacks are recommended for militia impressions. Snapsacks, market wallets and work bags are also appropriate, as is the use of your pockets. Haversacks were military camp equipment for carrying rations and not appropriate for civilian and militia impressions. If you portray a minute/militiaman or colonial civilian, you may not wear a haversack.

Proper Fit: The fit of clothing was extremely important to the 18th century person. Should you go out today to buy a suit, it is highly unlikely that it would fit perfectly off the rack. At a minimum, you would need the pants and sleeves hemmed, jacket taken in, etc. It's the same with your 18th century kit. Unless your clothing was custom made for you by a tailor, alterations are necessary for them to fit you properly. Breeches should fit well and snugly around the leg and knee band, and should not be too long (i.e., the knee band should close about three fingers' width below the knee cap - and not extend down the calf). Coats should fit well about the body and should move with you unlike modern coats where you move within the coat.

Facial Hair: Beards and moustaches are not appropriate for 18th century New England. We strongly recommend shaving before attending this event out of respect for your fellow reenactors, and, most importantly, the people we portray. If you do decide to shave, 1.) We very much appreciate your sacrifice. Thank

you! Your beard or moustache WILL grow back.... we promise!

Women's Clothing

Sleeved outer garment: such as gown, jacket, caraco, bed gown, or riding habit of wool, linen, or cotton (or silk if appropriate to the overall impression). Because of the difficulty of obtaining period-appropriate prints, it is recommended that you avoid prints unless you have studied them in detail or can find exact replicas (such as Williamsburg replicas though not all their offerings are authentic); paisleys, cabbage roses, and 19th century calicoes are not correct. The sleeveless so-called "French bodice" and "English bodice" are not acceptable. A sleeved outer garment is required.

Petticoats: recommended 2.5-3 yards in circumference, longer than mid-calf; high-ankle/low-calf suggested. At least one petticoat with full-length gown; otherwise at least two. See above concerning prints. Print petticoats are only acceptable if worn with a gown or jacket of the same fabric.

Shift: low necked, sleeves reaching slightly below elbow. Linen, cotton, or wool in white or natural color.

Stays or Jumps: highly recommended. If wearing a fitted garment like gown, caraco or jacket, stays or jumps are necessary.

Neck handkerchief: recommended. Triangle or folded square of linen, cotton, or wool (or silk appropriate to the overall impression) in white, natural, solid color, or small checks, stripes or period block print. Shawls are not acceptable.

Apron: Wool, linen, or cotton (or silk if appropriate to the overall impression) in solid color or small checks or stripes. No eyelet or bibbed aprons.

Stockings: over the knee, linen, wool, silk, or cotton, white or colors, held up with leather or cloth tape garters. Horizontally striped stockings and athletic socks are not allowed. (As stockings do not show above low calf at most, plain modern knee socks are acceptable and garters are optional.)

Shoes: Period-style leather or cloth shoes with buckles or 1 hole lace up, black or brown (appropriate modern leather shoes may be worn if petticoats reach ankles or lower).

Cap: White linen or organdy. Acceptable cap styles are too numerous to list here, but "mobcaps" (a single circle of cloth gathered with a casing and/or elastic to form a ruffle) are not acceptable. Note that a plain cap with front band and gathered back is the simplest to make. A cap or hat is required except for fine ladies with dressed hair. No eyelet.

Hat: Low-crowned women's style in straw, or felt, plain or covered; or bonnet. A cap or hat is required except for fine ladies. Hats typically were simply decorated; flowers, and feathers should be avoided, unless doing a gentry interpretation.

Hair: Either long, pulled back from the face, and put up, or hidden with a cap. Long or thick bangs should be pulled back off the face. Obviously-dyed hair (a color not naturally occurring in hair) should be well-covered by a cap.

Make-up: If worn at all, should not be noticeable.

Cold weather gear: Optional. Period-pattern cloaks, mantles, tippets, hoods, etc. Wool kerchiefs. Woven or knitted wool, linen, or cotton (or silk appropriate to the overall impression) mitts, mittens, or gloves. Wool

and/or fur muffs. Kinsale cloaks are discouraged as are Celtic pins and penannular brooches. Wearing a man's military uniform coat is unacceptable. To keep warm, we highly recommend wearing layers underneath your clothing where they are not seen, for example, silk or polypropylene long johns, and/or tights.

About lace: Eyelet and tating are not authentic to the period. Crochet is not acceptable in any form (lace, shawls, etc.). Machine-made lace is acceptable if it is in imitation of period-style lace.

Baskets, market baskets and workbags: Baskets should be made of wood splint or willow,; metal parts are discouraged. Also use of pockets is strongly encouraged.

Children's Clothing

Babes in arms: Shirt or shift, and cap, of linen, cotton, or wool, in white. A frock and petticoat are optional but preferred. Shoes and stockings are optional. If plastic diapers are used, cover with a cloth.

Young children: (unbreached boys from toddlers through age 3 to 7 and girls from toddlers through early puberty) shift of linen, cotton, or wool, in white or natural with a child's frock (back closing for either gender/front closing for boys only) and petticoat. Cap and / or hat for girls (optional but preferred), workman's cap or uncocked or single cocked hat for boys optional). Stockings, as per women (above). Period-style shoes; due to the expense of children's shoes, any black or brown leather lace-up modern shoes are also acceptable. Shoes and stockings are optional but strongly recommended.

Historic Weapons/Black Powder Safety Regulations

Acceptable Weapon Types: Only reproduction firearms may be used at this event. The use of original firearms is prohibited. Reproduction small arms that will be allowed for this event are:

- Early to mid-18th century flintlock muskets, fusils, or fowling pieces.
- British Long Land Pattern

- British Short Land Pattern
- French Charleville

Unacceptable Weapon Types

- Pistols
- Blunderbusses
- Rifles
- Percussion-cap weapons
- “Belgian Bombs”
- Dog lock muskets

Prohibited weapons brought on site will be returned to the owner’s vehicle, or secured by the NPS and returned after the event.

Weapon Safety and the Public

- Visitors are not allowed to handle or touch a loaded weapon.
 - **DO NOT HAND YOUR WEAPON TO VISITORS.**
 - No weapon is to be left unattended.
 - **NEVER** point your weapon (firearm or edged weapon) at anyone at anytime.
- Participants under the age of 16 may not handle weapons (firearms or edged weapons) or powder.

Ammunition

Do not bring ammunition with you on site. All ammunition for the event will be provided by the NPS (except for Tower Park which is off-site).

Small Arms Inspections:

Morning inspection: 10:30 a.m. Provincials at Hartwell parking area. Crown at Smith House.

Post demonstration inspection: 12:30 p.m.

All small arms used in firing demonstrations will be inspected by the NPS once in the morning to ensure serviceability, and then just prior to and immediately after every firing demonstration to ensure the weapon is clear. Weapons that pass the first morning inspection will be “tagged” by the NPS. Weapons that do not pass, may not be carried and must be returned to the owner’s vehicle. Weapons must meet the following standards to pass inspection:

- weapon must be clean and free of fouling
- no excessive rust or corrosion on the barrel, lock and touch hole
- secured flashguard and hammer stall
- no cracks or splits in the stock
- furniture and barrel fit securely to stock
- no missing stock pins or screws
- lock is flush with the barrel with no charring around the mortise
- half-cock position works properly
- flint is secured by leather or lead
- barrel free from visible dents or cracks

Firing Procedures

- All firing demonstrations taking place on park property may only be done under the direct supervision of the NPS.
- Ramrods may not be drawn on the field during firing demonstrations.
- No soldier may carry a loaded weapon when crossing over stone walls or passing through woods, as doing so may cause an accidental discharge of the weapon. Officers, when leading their troops over or through the aforementioned obstacles, will either order a volley to empty weapons or have their troops dump charges and priming.
- Range safety standards will be observed at all times.
- No opposed firing or casualty portrayals (elements of simulated combat) are permitted.
- Firing will commence or cease at the discretion of the NPS.
- If you even suspect that your weapon has missed fire, dump the charge and priming. “When in doubt, dump it out.”

Edged Weapons

- Edged weapons may be drawn and brandished in a safe and prudent manner, when the bearer and the weapon are behind a barrier in a secure area out of the reach of visitors, i.e. officers carrying swords during the tactical demonstration, or infantrymen in a bayonet demonstration.
- At no time may participants engage in simulated combat with edged weapons or simulated edged weapons.
- When not behind a barrier, out amongst visitors, swords, knives, bayonets and the like may not be fully drawn. They may be partially drawn enough to expose some of the blade for visual inspection for interpretive purposes, but no visitor may touch the blade.
- Soldiers on sentry duty may fix bayonets but must keep the musket in a vertical position and the bearer must maintain control of the weapon.
- At no time may muskets be fired with the bayonet fixed.

Reenactor Parking will be at Paul Revere Capture Site. A shuttle service will be provided for those participants unable to walk the distance to the event site. Priority will be given to Provincial participants whose camping and parade area is much further away than the Crown.

Buses

Participants for North Bridge will board buses at Paul Revere Capture Site at 7:00 a.m. Drop-off after the scenario will be at Hartwell. These buses are generously provided by The Friends of Minute Man National Park.

Buses for Tower Park will arrive by 2:30 at the Fiske Hill / Rt 2A parking area and Paul Revere Capture Site (see schedule for details).

April 16 -17 Patriot's Day Weekend, Old Fort Niagara, Youngstown, NY

****Also ** Battersea House, Petersborough, VA**

All wishing to attend please coordinate with John Maass.(202 685-2337)

20th Annual Battersea Revolutionary War Reenactment - The City of Petersburg, VA proudly invites you to attend the 230th anniversary of the Reenactment of the 1781 Battle of Petersburg. This is an open event for all Revolutionary War re-enactors and sutlers. Our weekend encampment and re-created battles are held at Battersea, the home of Colonel John Banister, the first mayor of Petersburg and a signer of the Articles of Confederation. While Battersea is not the actual site of the 1781 battlefield, it was utilized by the British troops when they occupied the town in May of 1781.

Battersea consists of 35 acres of excellent camp and tactical ground for foot, horse and artillery. Wood, straw, water, hay, a Saturday evening meal and dance are provided by the City. There will be the reenactment of the 1781 battle, battle skirmishes, period music, children's activities and games, blacksmith demonstrations and much more. The event will be held from 10:00am to 6:00pm on Saturday and 10:00am to 4:00pm on Sunday.

****Also ** BAR School of The Soldier, New Windsor Cantonment, Vails Gate, NY**

April 30-May 1 The Siege of San Juan, Puerto Rico (1797)

May 14-15 BRITISH BRIGADE ACADEMY, Fort Montgomery, NY - Fort Montgomery 690 Route 9W P.O. Box 213 Fort Montgomery, NY 10922

This event creates an opportunity for Officers and Senior NCOs to meet, exchange ideas and participate in discussions that contribute to the improvement of our collective presentation and structure.

At this Academy bring your tent. The meetings will take place in the Site's new visitor's center. Share your tent as we'll be inside! Dinner, lunch and breakfast (Saturday and Sunday) are provided for those that wish to partake in the Mess for a reasonable cost and for food fit for a king (eating ware provided • Brigade history, philosophy and command structure - Marketing ourselves, how to recruit - Command structure at events - Brigade level commands, formations and maneuvers - Battlefield communication - Army Commander to Sergeants - Interaction with Artillery, the Navy, Music and Horses - Construction of field fortifications - Battle scenarios - how can we improve - An evening of gaming, eating and carousing.

Strongly recommended for officers and NCOs

Please contact Delos Wheeler todelos@gmail.com 585 709-1420

Also on May 14, 15th Colonial Plantation, Media, PA

The scenario: It is the spring of 1778, and amidst rumors of Howe leaving Philadelphia, the battles for resources in the local countryside is an ever present reality as foraging parties from both sides clash in small firefights over farms to feed their respective armies. In an area largely made up of Quakers, the inhabitants often find no relief from either side as they go about their normal lives.

What you will see/be a part of: Located on a beautiful working farm operating as one from the 18th century Zero modern intrusions seen in a 360° view

Tacticals both Saturday and Sunday through the farm

Wood and Straw and flush toilets

Plenty of space to encamp

Firepits/cooking demonstrations encouraged

Friday setup is available after 2 pm

*******MAY 21 -22 NEEDHAM, MA BAR INVITATIONAL*******

This is from the BAR's website.

Celebrate a town's three centuries with three battles and a formal ball

BAR units and members are invited to participate in one of the central events in the 300th anniversary celebration of the Town of Needham, Massachusetts.

The event will be held at Ridgehill Reservation, in Needham, Mass., on Saturday and Sunday May 21st and 22nd, 2011.

Event Coordinator Ken Siegel (23rd RWF) and host unit, the Tenth Massachusetts Regiment, promise that if you want an action packed weekend, you will not be disappointed!

The event is a BAR invitational event, meaning that non-BAR units will be invited. Why? Because we need troops, and recent turnouts suggest that we need to augment BAR participants. We wish we didn't have to do so, but that's the way it is. The local invitees are some of the best units

that participate in the Battle Road event each year, and this is the BARs way of thanking them for inviting the Brigade to their event in 2010. That said, we strongly encourage BAR units to make the trek to participate in this memorable event, and Brigade units will have priority of place on the field of battle.

LOGISTICS

Arrival and set up will be possible from Friday morning on, but everything must be done before the event site opens to the public at 10 am, Saturday morning, May 21st.

Normal camp amenities will be provided to include water easily accessible close to each camp, ample firewood, straw for tents, and plenty of portable latrines, to include the larger ones beloved of the ladies.

There will also be a good number of high quality sutlers present, under the supervision of Roy Najecki of the 40th Foot.

Parking will be about 300 yards away, through the woods, and entirely out of sight... SO... the Needham Police WILL patrol the parking area, to include at night!

THE CAMPS

The American camp will be a focal point of the event on both days. It will be a well set up, fortified encampment a la Steuben, as per the camp seen in Charles Wilson Peale's portrait of Walter Stewart.

We hope to have the entire 100 yard front- age of the camp fortified with a fascine wall, augmented by fleches or gabioned embrasures for artillery at the front and corners of the camp.

Guards will be mounted in camp and troops on duty will be 'manning the lines', patrolling, or working to complete the fortifications or other camp duties.

Musick will practice their duties in the front of the camp or as directed by the Drum Major.

During Saturday's battle, the defense of the lines around camp will be a critical element of the actions. Pioneers bring your implements, and start making fascine bundles this spring, if not sooner!

We plan to have period camp kitchens as have been used successfully at Monmouth, Green Spring, Charleston, and other first rate events.

We ask that unit kitchens be kept to a minimum. We are working on having brush available for arbors so you don't have to erect a large dining fly. If you must bring your dining fly and other impedimenta, your kitchen will be located behind the main camp, where there will be room for such things.

Because the American camp will be the principal attraction for the public on both days, we need your help to make it come alive!! In addition to the usual military activities described above, we need a camp laundry, petty sutlers or traders, visitors to camp, etc., all of which can combine to create vignettes that will be sure to challenge the order of the camp as well as its officers! On Sunday, order will be restored as the Chaplain will hold a drumhead service at the head of the camp that is being advertised to the public, to which will be attended by all troops not on duty.

The Crown camp will be an authentic marching camp, set up so that the Crown Forces participants have a place to sleep, cook, eat, and relax when off duty. As with the American camp, we are working on having green brush available on site for the construction of arbors, wigawams, or other shelters. The camp will be out of sight of the public, especially on Saturday morning, when we ask all crown participants to remain in camp, or to remove your coat and equipment if you wish to leave the camp area, in order to preserve the drama of your "arrival" in the afternoon. On Sunday, the camp will be open at the discretion of the camp commander, since the British will be the 'occupiers' of the town.

Modern camping will also be available in the parking area. A separate area will be set aside and a porta-john will be provided since this is three hundred yards from the main, encampment area. This area will besuitcampers, trailers, and RV's. Men of the 10th Mass. Light Infantry company

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:

Here is the historical setting which will be well advertised to the public, very well in advance in the local media, and also will be explained at the event to include explanations by the narrator and 'role playing' by the American forces.

THE SITUATION IN MAY, 1778:

The War for American Independence was in its fourth year. The main British Army, now commanded by General Sir Henry Clinton, was preparing to leave Philadelphia and march North to join the British garrison in New York City.

The main American army, commanded by General George Washington, had passed an unpleasant winter at Valley Forge. After the American victory at Saratoga, and the surrender of Burgoyne's army in the fall of 1777, France came into the war and immediately began sending badly needed supplies and equipment to the Americans. Washington's men were no longer a so called rabble in arms, but were experienced, battle hardened soldiers who, though still not trained to the level of the British Regulars, were far from the woefully inept amateurs of two years earlier. And the British, though still confident of their superiority, knew this.

In the fall of 1776, General Henry Clinton was sent North from New York to capture Newport, Rhode Island. This provided the British with a seaport close to Boston and posed a constant threat to all of New England. By May of 1778 the British forces in Newport were commanded by Major General Lord Robert Pigot. His three thousand men were watched, but not particularly bothered by the one thousand man American force commanded by Major General John Sullivan, headquartered near Tiverton. The closest other American force was in and around Boston, which was defended by strong artillery and a sizeable militia force. Although General Sullivan had some good Continental Line troops, and Light Infantry, the elite of the American forces in 1778, plus decent artillery, his main force was comprised of local militia units. Most Continentals were serving with Washington so the New England colonies were largely on their own.

THE PRESENT:

The "it never happened but it could have" situation, May 21, 1778.

General Pigot has learned that a large amount of newly arrived supplies and equipment provided by French ships that have reached Boston, is currently being moved Southwest toward the Hudson Highlands in New York, where they will greatly aid the American forces guarding the Hudson River North of New York City.

The Patriots, according to Loyalist spies, are moving these supplies slowly and carefully, with guards provided by the various towns as the caravan moves, along with an assigned force of Continentals and some artillery. General Pigot sees an opportunity and believes that a fast moving raiding force might be able to find, capture, and destroy these supplies.