



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.5

August 17, 2011

SEPT 24 – 25 ON TO MOUNT HARMON !!! EARLEVILLE, MD.

This is the second ‘regimental’ event for 2011 and I would like to encourage EVERYONE to attend. When our numbers are high we command respect and we look great so be part of the action. Perhaps even some of our California brethren will make the journey.

Mt. Harmon will be based on the 1777 campaign that culminated with the seizure of Philadelphia and therefore we will be in early war kit.

The Campaign of 1777 began when the British fleet anchored at the mouth of the Sassafras River and landed at Oldfield Point, as part of the largest amphibious landing of the Revolutionary War. General Howe marched his British troops onto Head of Elk, and continued north toward the then American Capital of Philadelphia. General Howe’s goal was to bring George Washington and his army to battle by forcing him to defend the rebel capital and the Congress then meeting there. Howe hoped to destroy the main army under Washington, capture or disperse the Congress, and bring an end to the rebellion in the colonies once and for all.

This is one of the most visually striking re-enactment sites in the country! Just off I-95, one hour south of Philadelphia, it screams 18th century amidst rivers and streams and is just south of where Admiral Howe landed his brother’s army to march on Philadelphia in 1777. Come join us for one of the best regional events of the year. Amenities include straw, water, wood, and port-o-johns. Rob and Nan will be running the kitchen, I will need a head count

ASAP from Officers and Sergeants so we know how much food to bring.

The Major’s New Email 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 gmorgan53@comcast.net

After Action Reports

“Escape from Wyoming” was an action packed thriller with a fast moving battle and a number of unusual tactical challenges including a Thermopylae type of situation where 300 rebels might have held us off all day if they had had any backbone! But a resolute British charge saw them off in no time. The Major was not able to attend Sunday’s battle, but it was quite spectacular from all accounts.

I have it on reliable information that Sturbridge village was a success as well with a number of Fusiliers turning out to support Ken.

Safety Issues

Proper cleaning of muskets has become an issue once again. All officers and sergeants are hereby put on notice that you will be responsible for seeing that the men know the proper manner in which a musket must be cleaned.

I would remind all ranks that nothing but water or a black powder solvent such as CPL, WD-40, or another approved solution should be used as a

cleanser and put down the barrel. Windex, windshield wiper fluid and other substances are NOT suitable for black powder.

You should clean your barrel immediately after a fight, NO EXCUSES!! Do it and it is done.

The best method I have found is to block the touch hole with the cardboard end of a broken Q-tip. Then pour HOT water down the barrel and using a pump (available from Godwin's) on your ramrod, swirl the water vigorously and then dump it out. Repeat this process until the water comes out clean. Then taking a dry cotton swab (12 guage works pretty well) on the end of your ramrod, dry out the interior of the barrel. Then a small amount of WD40 or other sealer/cleaner can be applied to the swab in the same manner, and the interior treated to prevent rust. Make sure your barrel has time to dry, there is nothing worse than a wet barrel, it creates hangfires, flash in the pans and a world of misery.

Personnel Notes

Brigadier Vivian has assured us that he and Jackie were far from the recent unpleasantness in London, which is good news indeed. We look forward to having them visit with us again soon!

The RWFA would like to thank Fusilier Dennis Murphy for his past service as a regimental cook, and on my orders, he is researching a pioneer outfit for future campaigns. We will be looking at further implementation of this portrayal in the future.

New and Noteworthy

This is where reminders, new implementations and gentle nudges and not so gentle nudges go.
DUES.

Many of you are about to be dropped for non payment of dues. The regiment needs your dues in order to pay its insurance. Without insurance, we can't take the field. **THIS IS THE LAST REMINDER.** As of the end of June, all non paying members have been dropped from the roster.

This will result in several inconveniences.

You will not take the field with RWFA. You will lose whatever rank you have attained. You will be required to pay a penalty into the Color Fund for readmission to the ranks. Color fund? Did he say color fund? Yes, I did, and we are reinstating it thanks to the need for new colors, and the absolute need to impress upon people that the regiment does not function without dues. From this point forth, those paying their dues

before St. David's Day receive a 5.00 deduction per head. Those paying after St. David's Day until April 15th pay the normal 35.00/head. After April 15th, there will be a 5.00 per head penalty to paid into the color fund. At the end of May, you will be dropped from the rolls. No exceptions.

St. David's Day

Saturday, March 3rd at the Dobbins Tavern in Gettysburg, PA. Many thanks to Sgt. Shane Reilly for his help in setting this up!

RECRUITS

Having noted the need for recruits, it is necessary to add some words of caution. It has recently come to my attention that non members have been outfitted and put into the field with firearms and powder. This will cease. A person who is not on our rosters as a recruit, may not take the field. Our insurance won't allow it. If a person completes an application and medical form, pays their 35.00 application fee and there is a complete uniform available, then they can be taken under arms and drilled in safety procedures. They are NEVER to be put into the field until the commanding officer of their company says they are ready. No exceptions. Again, if the forms are filled out at an event, the application fee submitted and the proper safety training under a senior NCO provided, then it is still feasible that we can field interested parties at events, but ALL of the above steps must be fulfilled.

August 27-28 Battle of Newtown, Elmira, NY (wargames) The Newtown Battlefield State Park sits high on a forested hilltop with a commanding view of the Chemung River Valley. It is located in the beautiful southern-tier area of New York State, near Elmira along the Pennsylvania border. The site is full of pristine, quiet, natural beauty and rich with history and of course it was one of the most important battles of the war. The site has been a favorite of reenactors for many years. The many trails, fences, defense works and woods have always delivered exciting wargame experiences. We are incorporating the public into our battle program with interaction with the spectators. So far this has proven very popular with the public and wargamers alike. There is a recreated Indian village. The buildings are period correct and in a opportunity, a must go to event for a great woods fight! You will have access to flush toilets and showers. Dinner and breakfast are provided.

Many of the hobbies best Sutleries along with several 18th century demonstrators will be in attendance, providing an excellent shopping opportunity. Not to forget the lively nightlife at its lodge.

****Also**** BAR Battle of Long Island, Tentative
September 3-4 Labor Day weekend Latta
Plantation, Charlotte NC

****Also**** BAR-NWD at New Boston Fair,
Springfield, OH, Tentative

September 10-11 Fort Ticonderoga, NY

September 17-18 Fort Michilimackinac,
Mackinaw City MI (Invitational)

October 1-2 Chew House, Germantown, PA
(Saturday only) Paid

Full and probationary members of the British Brigade and Continental Line are invited to participate in the annual commemoration of the Battle of Germantown scheduled for Saturday, October 1. The event takes place on the historic grounds of Cliveden, home of the Chew family and center of the 1777 battle, at 6401 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia. This lively, legendary event includes two lively tactical demonstrations, lunch provided by the sponsor and an honorarium for each participating unit. Please note the following: All units and sutlers should be in place by 11 a.m. from the field.

****Also**** Fort #4, Charlestown, NH

****Also**** BAR at Nathan Hale Homestead,
Coventry, CT

October 15-16 Burning of Kingston, NY

October 22-23 Ft. Mercer, Woodbury, NJ
(Sunday only) Full and probationary members of the Continental Line and British Brigade are invited to participate in the annual commemoration of the 1777 assault on Fort Mercer on the grounds surrounding the original fort in National Park, New Jersey. Your unit should find this an especially interesting and action-filled event. Troops should be at Fort Mercer no later than 11 a.m. An officers meeting will take place in front of the Whitall House at 10:30 a.m. Two lively tacticals are scheduled for the afternoon. As in previous years, the sponsors will provide lunch to all troops and authentically-dressed campfollowers. The increased honorarium will be continued and your unit will receive a stipend of at least \$20 for each uniformed soldier present on the field and significant additional funds for artillery. Antique dealers, sutlers kept off the field by county

employees and there is immediate battlefield cleanup by park staff. Fort Mercer is located in National Park, New Jersey, just South of Woodbury and only two miles directly off Exit 23 of I-295, via Hessian Avenue. One of the Delaware River defenses of Philadelphia, it was unsuccessfully attacked by Hessian forces on October 22, 1777. The site is a fine, open county park on the river bluffs nearly opposite Philadelphia's Ft. Mifflin.

October 29-30 BAR at West Point, NY

November 5-6 Hope Lodge in Fort Washington,
PA.

All full and probationary members of the British Brigade and Continental Line are invited to participate in the annual commemoration of the "Whitemarsh Encampment" on the grounds of historic Hope Lodge, in Fort Washington, Pa. This great weekend of living history features three action-filled engagements that include assaults on an earthen redoubt, as well as nearly two dozen sutlers and the fabled Crown vs. Patriot tug-of-war! Hosted by the 43rd Regiment of Foot and First Continental Regiment, it is sponsored by the reenactor- friendly Friends of Hope Lodge. Musketmen, artilleryists, fifes, drums and distaff will all find this an event tailored for enjoyment with spacious ground for camping and a huge battle area.

As last year, the Friends will again offer a reenactment of the highest quality to the living history community. Additional information can be found at the Friends' website: www.ushistory.org/hope. Muster is at 10 a.m. both days. There are two battles on Saturday and one on Sunday. The event ends Sunday at 4 p.m. The grounds open for camp set-up on Friday at noon and participants may stay until Monday morning. Wood, water, straw, etc. are provided. There is also a small stipend daily for each artillery unit. Two hotels are within minutes of the site near exit 339 of the Pa. Turnpike: Holiday Inn (888/890-0242) and Best Western (800/448- 9274).

****Also**** Camden Revolutionary War Field
Days, Camden SC

November 12-13 Siege of Fort Mifflin,
Philadelphia, PA

Amenities: 3 meals (Saturday Dinner, Sunday
Breakfast & Lunch) Indoor Sleeping facilities
available. Firewood for fireplaces. Indoor toilet
facilities. Four Tactical demonstrations (2 on
Saturday, 2 on Sunday.) Commemorative

Ribbon. The volunteer staff can gladly feed up to 200. The sleeping quarters (barracks, casemates, blacksmith and guardrooms) have accommodated the same numbers. We would be appreciative if car pooling can be done. We are always working on improving the parking situation. Absolutely, no last minute calls or walk-ins will be accepted.

November 19-20 BAR at Fort Lee Historic Park, Fort Lee, NJ

December 3-4 The British Night Watch, St. Augustine, FL

December 10-11 Mount Holly, NJ, Battle of Ironwork Hills (Saturday only)

December 17-18 Weekend before Christmas

December 24-25 Christmas

December 27 Battle of Cedar Bridge, NJ. Paid. But looks like for Loyalists only. Barnegat, NJ Any interest let me know I will find out more.

Dec. 31-January 1 Battles of Trenton and Princeton, NJ

2012

St. David's Day

Saturday, March 3rd at the Dobbins Tavern in Gettysburg, PA. Many thanks to Sgt. Shane Reilly for his help in setting this up!

Late March – St. Kitts, Caribbean

Brimston Hill, St Kitts Invitation only event, numbers of troops not to exceed 250-300 on a side...BUT, a lot smaller works ok. Local transport and meals provided, lodging in the fort Garrison, siege, battles, attacking fort, etc...similar to Fort George, but an older, masonry fort. Air fare will be around \$480 to \$580 round trip, plus or minus.

May 18 -20 2012

Washington Crossing, PA TACTICAL

Date & Time May 18-20 Sponsors- 5TM Pennsylvania Regt. Light and Rifle Co's Continental line

23rd Royal Welch Fusiliers, British Brigade

Pennsylvania Historic Museum Commission

The Friends of Washington Crossing Park

Object of Event- To reintroduce the reenacting community to this site and to do something unique for re-enactors. Draw the public back to the Park with something visual and exciting to Venue- first part of weekend- event will start as tactical on Friday night and continuing thru night

lasting for 24 hours till 5pm Saturday night. British shall have set camp and colonials are on campaign. Objective is to capture or destroy enemy. This event is closed to public. There are structures on site(houses, pavilions, barns and a grist mill) we would like to incorporate them in Second part of weekend- Sunday will be open to public with a scripted battle for public viewing. Those choosing not to take part in tactical and campaigning may arrive on Saturday afternoon and set up tents or arrive Sunday to participate in battle.

Access- Site is easily accessible from interstate 95 and parking shall be within walking distance of scenarios

Infrastructure- water, straw, and sanitation will be provided. Amenities and attractions- the towns of New Hope, Pa. and Lambertville N. J. are 7 miles upriver with many unique shops, restaurants and taverns. There are many bed and breakfasts in the area as well as hotels and motels. Trenton N.J. is just 15 miles. To the south on the Delaware River with lots of history including the historic Trenton Barracks (location of Hessian Forces during the Crossing period) Terrain- everything you can imagine, river and canal running thru whole area, wooded plots (dense and open) deep ravines, dirt roads, open pastures, homesteads, etc. - Saturday night tavern at one of the Parks pavilions. Jollification's provided by 5th Pa. Sutlers will be set up close to British Encampment.

July 21 2012- Prescott, Ontario

The British Brigade and Continental Line are invited to return to Prescott, Ontario—Home of Loyalist Days—to hold a major event in 2012. Although much of the area is commemorating the War of 1812, Prescott wants to celebrate its Revolutionary War Heritage. They will tie in with the region-wide 1812 programs and have scheduled this program to avoid any 1812 event conflicts. The last time the British Brigade and Continental Line were in Prescott, it was 1988, and a very enjoyable time was had by all. This event is jointly sponsored by the Town of Prescott, Parks Canada, the Kings Royal Regiment of New York, the 64th Regiment of Foot, and Continental Line Units TBD.

In 1787, Edward Jessup came to settle here on the 1,200-acre land granted to him by King George of England. Major Jessup had a portion of this grant surveyed as a town site in the year of 1810. He named the new settlement "Prescott" in honour of General Robert Prescott who had

been governor-in-chief of all Canada between 1797-1807.

Prescott, Ontario is right across the St. Lawrence River from Ogdensburg, NY. It is 7 hours from Boston, 6 hours 35 minutes from New York City, 8 hours 45 minutes from Washington, DC, and 4 hours from Toronto. The town and fort site are going all-out to ensure that you and your family have a wonderful time. As with Fort George and Niagara-on-the-Lake, we recommend that you take vacation time and make this at least a long weekend, enjoying the local area.

Participants will be camped in open parkland around the fort, and within a few minute's walk of lovely downtown Prescott, with restaurants, B&Bs, groceries, and every other amenity you would expect. Interpretative programs will be run for the visiting public. Battles will be run each day. In the evening, an artillery bombardment of Fort de la Presentation in Ogdensburg, NY will take place using town-provided powder. Artillery will be placed on town-owned land under British Brigade and Continental Line firing rules. Arrangements for return fire are being made.

The surrounding area will be delightful for vacation time Besides Prescott itself . (<http://www.prescott.ca/>), you are near Montreal, Ottawa, the boating and fishing resort area of the Thousand Islands, Cornwall, Upper Canada Village, and other places of interest to our members. The battlefield (seen at right) is a natural amphitheatre with excellent public viewing. The terrain is natural and will make for interesting field battles. As in 1988, we will be camped around the Fort, leaving room for tactical actions against the fort. Event staff will have access to the site Wednesday to lay out camps, and participants can arrive Thursday afternoon. Camps will be kept open until Monday at noon to accommodate those volunteers who travel a long distance.

August – Oriskany 235th at Gelston Castle, Mohawk, NY

The British Brigade and Continental Line are invited to hold a national event at the Gelston Castle Estate to commemorate the 235th Anniversary of the Battle of Oriskany and Relief of Fort Stanwix, 1777. This premier event in the Mohawk Valley is in the town of Warren, just south of the villages of Herkimer, Mohawk, and German Flatts. This event is sponsored by

the First New York Regiment, McCrackens Company of the Continental Line and the 24th and 64th Regiments of Foot of the British Brigade, in partnership with the non-profit Center for Green Leadership,

with funding from local companies. Herkimer was the site of Fort Dayton, from which Nicholas Herkimer and the 800 men of the Tryon County militia marched to relieve Fort Stanwix, but were ambushed at Oriskany instead. By mid-August, Arnold's relief column arrived and the siege was lifted. As a private site, BB & CL Safety regulations apply.

We promise a fine time (with cooperation from the gods of weather). There are three open battlefields, a ravine for the ambush, two ponds, and lots of open woods. The open woods throughout the site will provide for campaign camps and woodland skirmishing. The main battlefield is quite large, 43 acres. The northern battlefield (for public demonstrations) and the eastern battlefield are only slightly smaller. All battlefields are connected for incorporation into elaborate scenarios, so battles will flow from one part of the estate to another, providing varied and interesting campaign opportunities. By comparison, at the September CL/BB event, the entire Brandywine Creek battlefield was on 17 acres. Besides full-scale battles on Saturday and Sunday afternoons, we will run this as a campaign event, with small unit scenarios scheduled throughout the day. At the same time, interpretative programs will be run for the visiting public.

The site management and administrative team at the Gelston Castle Estate are very excited about the event. Wood, straw, and potable water will be available in abundance. A new system has been installed to pipe water directly to the camps. They have an excellent infrastructure for camping. This event will commemorate the historic events of the Mohawk in 1777, including the resistance to the St. Leger campaign (Battle of Oriskany, Siege of Fort Stanwix, and Arnold's relief). The Valley was also the site of the Andrustown Massacre (1778) and the other valley raids of that year, the Clinton-Sullivan Expedition (1779), the Cherry Valley massacre (1779), Johnson's Raid of 1780 with the battles at Stone Arabia and Klock's Field, and the raids of 1781. Several key battles of the Mohawk Valley will be included, with the Battle of Oriskany being the keynote. With other demonstrations, this will provide two full days of

interpretative, ceremonial, and educational programs for visitors. The Gelston Castle Estate Site is 330 acres of rolling terrain, mixed woods, fields, and a few acres of developed grounds, just a few miles south of the NY Thruway. The original community, Hendersontown, was founded in 1739 by a Surgeon in the British Army named Henderson, who purchased 20,000 acres of land in the hills here. The Gelston Castle Estate is only a few hundred yards from the Andrustown Massacre site (1778). Although the homes were burned in the raid by a troop of Loyalists and Iroquois under Joseph Brant, a barn on the property survives from circa 1750, and a wood frame house from 1787, when the

area was resettled. Please visit their website at: www.gelstoncastleestate.com/.

2013

June – Monmouth 235th Anniversary

2014

Summer 2014: Color Presentation for The Royal Welsh (Get your passports!!)

Best to all!

Ich Dien,

Maj. GF Morgan