



The Fusilier

The Official Newsletter of the Royal Welch Fusiliers in America

June 2015

Commander's Column

Huzzah My Fellow Fusiliers!

Campaign season is now in full swing and there are a number of exciting developments to update you on. Last month Paul Astle, Greg Urwin and I attended the Army Heritage Days event in Carlisle. We occupied a recreation of Redoubt #10 and spoke with a number of visitors, including the only British Officer in this year's Army War College class. He is a member of the Royal Tank Regiment and was very interested in our impression. We were even able to outfit his boys with some extra coats we had! One thing did occur to me though, even though there were only three of us, we all had a great time (not so much in getting acclimated to the heat) catching up and educating the public. The point is, is that events are what you make of them, whether it is three Fusiliers or 50. Yes, the numbers may be small at some events as we try to grow the ranks, but don't let that discourage anyone from attending. The only way to grow the ranks is to talk to people and the best place to do that is at events.

Speaking of events, I added two to our schedule: Boone's Homestead (14-16 August), which is a BB sponsored event and a living history day at Old Bethpage Village (10 October), which Justin Parker is taking the lead on. Right now the event is still tentative. Once Justin solidifies things, he will give me the information, which I will provide to you. This appears to be a great opportunity to help kick start our recruiting efforts for the GLICC in the NYC metro area. Also, we have two events on the radar for 2016: St. Kitts (), the Ken Siegel sponsored tropical getaway and Guilford Courthouse (), which will definitely be on Capt. Horsefall's schedule. I will contact Brigadier McGaughey to ascertain his guidance on major BB events for 2016 and where Guilford CH falls into the schedule.

Staying in the South, Dr. John Maass, one of our Fusiliers in the DC Metro area (and a Historian at the Center of Military History), just released a publication *The Road to Yorktown*. John sent me a short description of his work and generously offered to autograph copies. My check will be in the mail shortly. Congrats John on all of your hard work and getting your book published. I look forward to reading it (except the chapter on the tragedy at Yorktown). More information on the book and how to purchase a copy is listed in Section IV.

Moving from academic publications to the World Wide Web, Mike Miller continues to press ahead on our new website, which I would estimate is about 80-90% complete. Mike has done yeoman's work on getting text and photos transferred over from the old site to the new one and adding new content. The COs have the weblink and password to the developmental website. I think we should be ready to launch the new site on 1 August—Minden Day. COs be sure to take a look at the new one and provide me with your concerns and/or recommended changes.

Finally, two gentlemen interested in joining the RWFIA contacted me. I don't want to release their names until their membership applications are approved, but it is exciting that we are getting potential recruits to fill the ranks. I certainly hope that by the next edition of *The Fusilier*, we will finally welcome them into our ranks.

Hope to see you all at some point this year and thank you for your service.

Ich Dien!

Major Shane Reilly

I. Administrative

Dues (REMINDER)

Ensure that you send your dues is ASAP so that you can participate this season. Grenadiers and Lights, send your dues payments into Serjeant Astle of the Colonel's Company

II. Operations:

Colour Event: Fort Ticonderoga, 12-13 Sept 15

This will be our main effort this year. A large brigade event combined with a scenic area and the largest 18th Century fortress in North America should make this one of the better events this season. The scenario is based on the raid of Colonel John Brown and the Massachusetts militia against the Crown Forces garrison in September of 1777. The change of command ceremony will also be conducted this weekend.

Secondary Events:

30-31 May (NE Coy): Battle of Bunker Hill (BB event), Epping, NH (page 10)

20-21 June (GLICC): Battle of Monmouth, Freehold, NJ (page 11)

4-5 July: (Calif Coy): Freedom Festival, Orem, UT

11-12 July (Midwest Coy): Fort Laurens Event, Bolivar, OH

25 July (CLICC): Nathan Hale Homestead, Coventry, CT

1-2 August (GLICC/NE Coy): Old Sturbridge Village, Sturbridge, MA: Nine paid hotels rooms available for musketmen. First come, first serve!

14-16 August (GLICC): Boone's Homestead, Birdsboro (near Reading), PA—more info to follow next month

3 October (GLICC): Battle of Germantown, Philadelphia, PA

10 October--Tentative (GLICC): Old Bethpage Village, Old Bethpage (Long Island, NY)—Justin Parker is setting up this event and is in the process of finalizing the details—more to follow in the upcoming months

18 October (GLICC): Fort Mercer, Red Bank, NJ

7-8 November (GLICC): Hope Lodge Encampment, Fort Washington, PA

22 November (GLICC): Retreat Day, New Bridge Landing Park, Rivers Edge, NJ.

2016 Events:

24-28 February (ALL) St Kitts--Here is information (from Ken Siegel) on the event:

“Gentlemen of the Recreated 23rd Regiment of Foot, the Royal Welch Fusiliers in America;

Wednesday, 24 February - Sunday 28 February 2016 are the dates for Brimstone Hill Fort, St Kitts. The event is the same as in the past, but there will be many more West Indian Regiment soldiers this time, properly uniformed and armed.

The following invitation is for fully uniformed in late war kit, musket firing, ENLISTED

soldiers of any company. Officers may come but must appear and field as enlisted men. There will be only two British Officers, one of whom will command the French when the battles take place. NCOs will assume leadership roles as are necessary based on actual turn out at the event. The Drum Major will attend and up to two (2) more musicians may come BUT, they must be fully uniformed, with appropriate instrument AND be completely competent and pre-approved by the Drum Major. All rules and regulations of the 23rd apply. Safety regulations are those of the British Brigade.

All members of the 23rd who participated last time, in early March 2014, and members of the 23rd who are coming for the first time are invited on an almost all expense paid basis. That means \$700 toward air fare to and from your home airport and St Kitts, on island transportation, supper on 24 February, all meals on 25 and 26 February, and breakfast on 28 February (you're on your own for food on Saturday 27 February which is a day off for you to enjoy the island). You get a cot inside a barracks room in the fort with modern plumbing to include showers next to the barracks rooms. By the way, the view when you walk outside the barracks rooms is spectacular. Ask those who have been there before! Black powder will be provided for cartridge making.

Up to but not more than forty (40) members may come.

Regimental women properly costumed, who are wives of significant others, or GROWN children of members participating (meaning at least teen aged adolescents) may come at their own expense regarding air fare, but will receive food and lodging and transportation, and only will have to 'perform' on one of the two event days, Thursday or Friday. NO CHILDREN!!! There are separate bathrooms for ladies but no separate barracks. Women will bunk with their soldier/sponsor.

MEMBERS WHO WISH TO TRAVEL ON THEIR OWN TIME AND ARRIVE AND LEAVE EARLIER OR LATER MAY DO SO BUT THEY ARE THEN RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR OWN GROUND TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM THE FORT.

The way the travel to and from the island works is simple. Each member is responsible for making his own airline reservation, with arrival on Wednesday 24 February and departure on Sunday 28 February... or sooner and later if you want but then you're on your own for lodging and meals until the event dates begin. You send a copy of your paid, reservation to me (Ken Siegel, 27 Grant Street, Needham, Massachusetts 02492) and I will immediately send you a check for Seven hundred dollars (\$700.00). Check with those who went last time if you don't believe this is for real! If you can do it for less than \$700 good for you, you still get \$700... some may have to spend more... but \$600 is what you'll get. Right now the American Airlines round trip fare on the event dates from New York City is \$771.00.

The 23rd has until October 1st to do this. After that the event will be opened to other units and since those who went last time will be offered the same deal, the numbers will fill up quickly. It's first reserve, first get a place. And please, make sure you can really go before buying your ticket. If you have to cancel I'll want the money back! (because this is entirely from me just by the way) ...so make sure you're coming!

Get a rigid ski case for your musket. You can get at least two inside each plus bayonets and other stuff. there is NO!!!! problem bringing muskets in and out of the US or to St Kitts. We're the invited guest of the St Kitts government, Fort, and military.

Now then...what will you be doing?... that's easy. You'll be garrisoning the fort along with the West Indian Regiment (all of whom are real soldiers in the St Kitts and Nevis Defense Force who Don Beale and I have been training and drilling for literally years, and will again this fall.) you will fight two battles on Thursday and two on Friday. Some of you will remove your 'red' and play French each time... we'll alternate this. I command the french. We froggies lose... badly... oh well :-). Figure on a formal review each day, formal guard mounts, and other related stuff...but also plenty of time off to just enjoy the place.

Don Beale is in over all command. I'm 2IC and always the French commander for the battles. No other officers!

That's it...and it's fun...again, ask those who have been there.

Sincerely,

Ken Siegel”

11-13 March: (Capt. Horsefall’s Company)—Battle of Guilford Courthouse

III. Quartermaster

a. Regimentally authorized tailors/seamstresses

- i. Carl Johnson
3508 Mill Stream Place
Greensboro, NC 27410
Phone: (704) 957-9108
Email: carliver@yahoo.com
- ii. Heather Chaffee
15010 Victory Blvd. #102
Van Nuys, Ca 91411
Phone: (201) 450-6153
Email: Heath51937@aol.com

IV. Miscellaneous

A. Reading Suggestion: Here is the info John Maass sent on his new publication:

"In July, The History Press of Charleston, S.C. will publish my new book, "*The Road to Yorktown: Jefferson, Lafayette and the Invasion of Virginia*."

This book explores the 1781 British invasion of central Virginia in the campaign leading up to the Siege of Yorktown in October 1781. In this campaign, Virginia Governor Thomas Jefferson and Major General the Marquis de Lafayette desperately tried to counter the active operations of the invading redcoats led by Lieutenant General Charles, Lord Cornwallis, whose march across the Piedmont and Tidewater regions devastated much of the Old Dominion. This dramatic story also includes many key figures of the Revolutionary War, including Patrick Henry, Nathanael Greene, "Mad" Anthony Wayne, Jack Jouett, Baron von Steuben, and even Daniel Boone. The 23rd Regiment also figured prominently in this campaign!

As most of you know, I am a military historian with the U.S. Army in Washington, DC, and have published numerous books and articles on 18th century military history and the American Revolution. I've also been in the 23rd since 1995.

If you want to buy a copy through me, I can sign and/or inscribe it, pack it, and ship it to you for a discounted price of \$19.50. Let me know what you want me to write and to whom. Send a check made out to me to 8708 Yardley Drive, Alexandria, VA 22308.

I will NOT cash the check until I ship it to you. E-mail me with any questions--and thanks!

Ich Dien"

A. 1764 Manual Exercise (as taken from Grenadier Coy NCO Manual)

1. Poise your Firelocks
2. Cock your Firelocks
3. Present
4. Fire
5. Half Cock your Firelocks
6. Handle your Cartridge
7. Prime
8. Shut your Pans
9. Charge with Cartridge
10. Draw your Rammers
11. Ram down your Cartridge
12. Return your Rammer
13. Shoulder your Firelocks
14. Rest your Firelock
15. Order your Firelock
16. Ground your Firelocks
17. Take up your Firelocks
18. Rest your Firelocks
19. Shoulder your Firelocks

20. Secure your Firelocks
21. Shoulder your Firelocks
22. Fix your Bayonet
23. Shoulder your Firelocks
24. Present your Arms
25. To the Right Face
26. To the Right Face
27. To the Right About Face
28. To the Left Face
29. To the Left Face
30. To the Left About Face
31. Shoulder your Firelocks
32. Charge your Bayonets
33. Shoulder your Firelocks
34. Advance your Arms
35. Shoulder your Firelocks

His Majesty's
23rd Regiment of Foot
Royal Welch Fusiliers in America

Reenlistment for the Conflict in America

One of His Majesty's most distinguished Regiments is offering you the opportunity to obtain honour and glory known only to the 23rd through noble service in the present conflict. The term of this contract is for one year and encompasses supporting Army and Regimental operations throughout the troublesome 13 Colonies.

Each Fusilier is expected to help fund the Regimental treasury through the payment of Regimental dues of **\$20.00**; which does not include Company Fees. An addition fee of \$25.00 is required for membership in the Brigade of the American Revolution.

Company Commanders will consolidate their Company's funds and send the requisite amount to the Regimental Adjutant **no later than 15 March**. Make the check payable to: "Royal Welch Fusiliers in America". His post is:

Lieut. David Leslie-Hughes
P.O. Box 73
Mechanicsville, PA 18934

Failure to pay Regimental dues will result in being dropped from the Regimental muster rolls and prohibition from Regimental activities.

Cut and mail along with payment to Company Commander

Name: _____

Company: _____

Regimental Dues: \$20.00

Company Dues: _____

BAR Dues (optional): \$25.00

Total Enclosed: _____

Primary Phone: _____

Mailing Address: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Battle of Monmouth (27-28 June)

Website: <http://friendsofmonmouth.org/schedule15.html>

RWFIA POC: Shane Reilly (grenadier23rd@yahoo.com)

Schedule of Events:

Saturday, June 27

9:00AM	Camps open to public
10:00AM	Company and battalion drill
11:00AM	Artillery drill
11:00AM	Wreath laying in honor of the fallen (at flagpole)
11:30AM	Horse drill (Amphitheater on hillside)
12:00 noon	Children's wooden musket drill
1:00PM	"Over Here, Molly Pitcher" program (Auditorium)
1:15PM	British army formation and march
1:30PM	Continental army formation and march
2:30-3:30PM	Battle reenactment
4:30PM	Retreat. Camps close to public

Sunday, June 28

9:00AM	Camps open to public
10:30AM	Horse drill
11:30AM	Artillery drill
12:00 noon	Children's wooden musket drill
12:15PM	Continental army formation and march
12:30PM	British army formation and march
12:30PM	"Over Here, Molly Pitcher" program (Auditorium)
1:30-2:30PM	Battle reenactment
3:00PM	Camps close, reenactors depart

Directions/Transportation:

Located approximately 12 miles east of Exit 8 of the New Jersey Turnpike on business Route 33. From the Garden State Parkway, take exit 123 to Route 9 south for 15 miles to business Route 33 west. The Park is located 1.5 miles on the right. From the southeast, take Bypass NJ Route 33 west to the Wemrock Road exit. Turn right .4 mile to business Route 33, then left .25 mile to the park entrance.

The Park's mailing address is:
Monmouth Battlefield State Park
347 Freehold-Englishtown Road
Manalapan, NJ 0772