



The Fusilier

The Official Newsletter of the Royal Welch Fusiliers in America

May 2016

Friends and Fellow Fusiliers,

The opening volleys of the MMXVI campaign season were unleashed and now we begin our campaign in earnest. This past month the 23rd ably conducted two separate events on the same weekend, a living history encampment at Old Bethpage Village on Long Island and a British Brigade event at Mount Vernon.

Lance-Cpl. Justin Parker initiated this event last year and requested to do the same this year, which I happily gave him authorization to do. Below is Justin's report on the event:

"I just wanted to give you a follow-up on the Old Bethpage Village event yesterday. The day went off as planned and was a lot of fun. The opinion of all of those who attended was extremely positive and everyone agreed that this site is more than adequate for a RevWar event and offers an exceptional opportunity for expanding into a 2-day weekend event in 2017 or the near future. Myself, Mike Boyle, Mike Miller and his son [Alex] made up the 23rd's contingent. We had three from the 42nd present, one from the Queens Rangers and two from the 17th Light Dragoons. There were around 10-12 men at arms on the American side, plus around a dozen more civilians. The weather was absolutely perfect and the fact I did not have to spend hours and hours on the road to play made it even better. The Huntington Militia and the 42nd kept us well fed throughout the day. There is already talk about doing this event this time next year, so I'll keep you informed. Justin"

I think there are definite possibilities for the site and I look forward to helping support Justin in this endeavor next year. Simultaneously, the 23rd dispatched a force to Mr. Washington's

residence to deal with a rebel force gathering near there. The muster and the report from Saturday's battle:

Muster:

Maj. Reilly (Regt. Staff)

Maj. Siegel (on detached duty as ADC to Brigadier) (Colonel's Coy)

GV Eric Spaar (Capt. Horsefall's Coy)

RDM Joe Siegel (Regt. Staff)

Sjt. Bill Lucas (Capt. Grey Grove's Coy)

L/Sjt. Greg Urwin (Colonel's Coy)

L/Cpl. Alex Ivanchishin (Grenadier Coy)

Pte. Keith Spaar (Grenadier Coy)

Pte. Brandon Fisichella (Capt. Grey Grove's Coy)

Rct. Jon Spaar (Capt. Horsefall's Coy)

Rct. Ethan Spaar (Grenadier Coy)

Rct. Daniel Evans (Capt. Horsefall's Coy)

Rct. Eric Marqueling (Capt. Horsefall's Coy)

Report of Saturday's Action:

Account of the Actions at Mount Vernon, April 30th. The 23rd was brigaded into Major Loane's (commander of HM 43rd Regiment) division of the Army's Second Battalion under the command of Lieut. Col West of HM 84th Regiment of Foot. After fighting a brief skirmish in the morning, the 23rd was joined with our Hessian comrades in Regiment von Huyn. The Fusiliers began the afternoon action with lengthy march over rocky and rolling terrain. The 2nd Battalion paused briefly for a respite in the woods before being called to drive out rebel light troops from the forest. The rebels put up a tenacious fight, but were driven from the forest by the volume of our volleys. After exiting the woods, the 23rd, in the vanguard of the 2nd Battalion, laid a heavy fire into the right flank of the rebels main line, permitting the rest of the battalion to extend the Crown line. The 23rd quickly shifted to the right and joined up with the rapidly advancing troops of the 1st Battalion under Lieut. Col. Schnitzer, creating a solid red line, which closed quickly on the rebels, forcing them swiftly from the field. It was a glorious day for His Majesty's Arms and the actions of the men of the 23rd were recorded in the dispatches to Lord Cornwallis. General Rain, Mr. Washington's most reliable general arrived in a downpour on Sunday morning, allowing the rebels to avoid certain capture. The Army performed brilliantly and put the rebels to flight, but failed to capture the treasonous vagrants, who live to fight another day.

During Saturday night, heavy rain clouds moved in and continued into the morning. Fifteen of the heartiest of the King's troops remained to take on the rebels on Sunday afternoon. In response to the exodus of Crown Forces units (including the 23rd), Brigadier McGaughey is reviewing current Brigade policies regarding early release due to weather. The issue remains in discussion among the leadership. As the situation develops, I will keep the Regiment apprised.

Both events marked a promising start to the campaign season. It was encouraging to see good turnouts at both Old Sturbridge Village and Mount Vernon. I hope our numbers continue to grow and that Fusiliers continue to have fun and enjoy participating in events. Thank you all for your service and support. God save the King!

Your Humble and Most Obedient Servant,

Major S.P. Reilly

HM 23rd Regiment of Foot, Royal Welch Fusiliers in
America

I. Administrative

Personnel Actions:

--Rcts. Eric Marqueling and Daniel Evans of Capt. Horsefall's Company attended their first event at Mount Vernon. Both men did a great job in the ranks and we look forward to having them in the firing line in the future events. Please welcome them when you see them.

--Steve Raby resigned as a Gentleman Volunteer and requested to transfer into the Pensioner's Company; he still however wishes to serve as a Private in Colonel's Company. Both requests were approved.

--Maj. (ret) Ken Siegel requested to transfer from the Pensioner's Company into the Colonel's Company to serve as a Private. Major Siegel's request was approved.

--Pte. John Maass requested reassignment from Capt. Horsefall's Company into the Pensioner's Company. John's request was approved.

II. Operations

a. 2016 Schedule of Events:

- i. **21-22 May: Carlisle, PA:** This is a paid timeline living history event. It a fun, low-key event with large crowds...perfect for recruiting! Show time is 9:00 am on both days and the 23rd is occupying the Redoubt on the outdoor Army Heritage Trail.
Uniform: Late War Kit

Address: 950 Soldiers Drive, Carlisle, PA 17017

- ii. **June 11: Valley Forge Military Academy and College (VFMAC)**— This is a small ceremony sponsored by the British Officers Club of Philadelphia and the Commonwealth of Nations Society

commemorating the 90th Birthday of HRH Queen Elizabeth II. The event is held at the Chapel of Cornelius the Centurion at 2:00 PM. The ceremony is similar to the one we performed at the church in Center City Philadelphia. If you plan on attending make sure that your belts are whitened, gaiters are blackened, bearskins are brushed and brass is polished!

Uniform: 1768 Kit

Directions:

NORTH (from northern Pennsylvania, New York and northern New Jersey)

- Take the Northeast Extension of the Pennsylvania Turnpike (I-476 South), or the New Jersey Turnpike to the Pennsylvania Turnpike (West) to exit 334 Mid-County indicating I-476 South toward Chester/Philadelphia. Pay toll. *

SOUTH (from Washington D.C., Maryland, Delaware, and southern New Jersey)

- Take the Commodore Barry Bridge. Take I-95 North to Exit 7 for I-476 North (Plymouth Meeting).*

EAST (from New Jersey and eastern Pennsylvania)

- Take New Jersey Turnpike to Pennsylvania Turnpike (I-276). Head west on I-276 to Exit 334 indicating I-476 South toward Chester/Philadelphia. Pay toll. *

WEST (from Ohio and Western Pennsylvania)

- Take the Pennsylvania Turnpike East to Exit 326 (old exit 24), which essentially is taking I-76 East to I-476. Pay toll. Follow I-76 East-Philadelphia to Exit 333 for I-476 South (Chester). *

FROM THE PHILADELPHIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

- Take I-95 South to Exit 7 for I-476 North (Plymouth Meeting).*

FROM PHILADELPHIA

- Take the Schuylkill Expressway (Route I-76) west toward Valley Forge. Take Exit 331A, which will be on the left, for I-476 South (Chester). *

* Continue on I-476 South toward Chester/Philadelphia to Exit 13 (old exit 5) for Route 30 (St. Davids/Villanova). Turn left onto Route 30 West, then right at first traffic signal onto Radnor-Chester Road. Go to end of street and turn left at traffic signal onto King of Prussia Road. Drive to second traffic signal and turn left onto Eagle Road.

Proceed approximately one mile to first traffic signal and turn right onto Radnor Street Road. Drive past the Chapel on the right and the apartments on the left to the General Parking Lot.

- iii. **July 9-10:Hubbardton, VT--** For all of our members in the New England/New York region this is one event to definitely consider. Sponsored by our comrades in the 24th, this should prove to be a good event at a nice site.
Uniform: I initiated some spirited, but productive discussion among the senior leaders regarding the proper uniform for this event. The issue is that the battle at Hubbardton involved Gen. Fraser's advanced guard (including the 21st and Flank Companies of Gen. Burgoyne's Army) and what the most appropriate uniform for the battle would be. Since the RWFIA will most likely represent either the flank companies or the 21st, I consulted with both Greg Urwin and Eric Schmitzer of the 62nd Regiment of Foot and a Park Ranger (Interpreter) at Saratoga National Park. Both agreed that the gaitered trousers were appropriate and felt that the bearskin caps also were appropriate. Both the Fusiliers and Grenadiers had their caps in Canada prior to the start of the campaign, but it is unclear if the men took them on campaign. What is clear is that the cocked hats were converted into caps during the campaign, making our style of hats inappropriate for this event. *I made the decision that for this event the 23rd is wearing a hybrid uniform consisting of the gaitered trousers and bearskin caps.* Please don't get alarmed that uniforms will vary by each event. My intent is to select the uniform (within our current kit) most appropriate to the event. Our standard kit remains the early war of 1768 kit, but exceptions may be made based on historical evidence on a case-by-case basis.
- iv. **September 17-18: Mounmouth Courthouse—**This will be The Colour Event for the 2016 season and is not your normal Monmouth event. This event is based on the Battle of Brooklyn in August, 1776. It's a great site within reasonable commuting distance of the site for many of our members.
Uniform: 1768 Kit
- v. **October 1: Germantown (Philadelphia), PA—**Fast, furious and firing out of the house is a brief synopsis of Germantown. An annual event that provides great exposure in the Philadelphia area is definitely not one to miss.
Uniform: 1768 Kit

- vi. November 5-6: Hope Lodge, PA—Hope Lodge is a nice way to wind down the season. Laid back atmosphere and a couple of battles provide great opportunities to close out the season.

III. Quartermaster

Ordering Procedures: I received the Regimental Stores from Ron Turfitt. If you need to order anything, please make a check payable to the “Royal Welch Fusiliers in America” and mail it along with your order sheet to:

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

Once David receives your check, he will contact me regarding the order and I will mail it out. Recruits, if you have any questions regarding the uniform or purchasing items, please consult with your Company leadership.

Be advised that we are currently out of wool for Other Ranks coats and cap cords. We are in the process of ordering more wool and are looking for a new manufacturer for cap cords.

a. Regimentally authorized tailors/seamstresses

- i. Carl Johnson
3508 Mill Stream Place
Greensboro, NC 27410
Phone: (704) 957-9108
Email: carlivar@yahoo.com
- ii. Heather Chaffee
15010 Victory Blvd. #102
Van Nuys, Ca 91411
Phone: (201) 450-6153
Email: Heath51937@aol.com
- iii. Ben Beers
1195 Rogers Road
Mount Airy, NC 27030
Email: mbeers@surry.net
- iv. Steven Gardner
162 Puddin Lane
Mansfield Center, CT 06250
Phone: (860) 9428483
Email: flaming54th@att.net

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

BAR Dues (optional): \$25.00

Total Enclosed: _____

Primary Phone: _____

MailingAddress: _____

E-Mail Address: _____