



# *The Flash*

*Col's Co, RWF in America*

**January 2017**

## **Winter Quarters**

So this is the quiet time of the year, the shootings stopped and we're waiting to hear what events are ahead of us. I know there will be events in June and September and some of the regular events but I'll leave it to the major to give the main details.

This is the time to make sure you're kit is good to go. There are nearly 2 months until St David's day and this is plenty of time to give your gear the once over looking for wear patches, missing buttons and the like.

## **British Brigade Meeting**

On Saturday January 7, I along with the Major and Drum Major attended the British Brigade planning meeting. I'll leave it to command to explain what events we'll support but parts of it were quite interesting. And parts of it were akin to having root canal from an unemployed member of the Spanish Inquisition. See what I go through for you.

## **Regular planning**

Something really helpful to come out of the British Brigade meeting was that going forward they intend for the big events to be held at the same weekend each year regardless of where it is: the third weekend in September.

What this means is WE CAN PLAN TO MAKE THE EVENTS! Instead of

wondering *when* something will happen and maybe missing out on it because of family issues or the like we can set aside that weekend as the weekend we know we'll be turning out. I missed Mount Vernon last year because I'd scheduled a vacation with my wife in April thinking it would be a date safe from an event. WRONG! But going forward we can plan along those lines. Encouraging eh?

### Gaiters

Remember we are going to the short gaiters, splatterdashes, as of August 1. You can get these from Godwin easily and the horn buttons from Townsend. Now is the time to get these. Paint them, fit them and sew the buttons on.

I'll admit I bought mine last fall and still need to get the latex paint on them but I've got them and need just to do the work.

Sure we lose a little on looking elegant but OMG we lose the whole 18 buttons on each leg? We can move out knees on the field like normal people? Bring it!

### Wigs

This has been something brought to my attention by the major. Now I will admit the wigs are my least favorite part of the entire uniform but it is a part of the uniform. When wearing your bearskin or the light infantry helmet, it *IS* required.

Now we don't require you to, if follicley challenged, wear the wig over a toupee as one member did. No I'm not naming names, either you knew him or you didn't.

It is not required when you are in your forage cap or the late war uniform but for the bulk of what we do in the field, it is a part of the uniform and your headgear should be fitted to having the wig ON. If I wear my bearskin without the wig and it slides down over my eyes like some sad sack.

I know some of you bought bearskins second hand and took what you could get for fit but we still expect a cue to be showing. I know you can't refit the hat and it is expensive to get a new one but we still need that uniform look.

The way around this is something we have seen. About 10-12 years ago Geoff Morgan had to cut his hair, prior to that he'd just braided his own hair but to keep his regimental appearance he bought a que. This was like a mini-wig but it was just a que that he tied on at the back of his head so he had the needed look even though he'd cut his hair.

That having been said, they are out there. So if you do not have a wig and your bearskin or helmet is fitted to your head size without a wig, then you do *need* to get that que for the uniform look.

## **St David's Day**

This will be the weekend of March 4-5 and it will be at the old barracks in Trenton NJ. A nice central location with the ability to sleep over. I did this for last year's dinner. The idea you don't have to drive after the event is certainly...liberating.

## **Dues**

Ok the holidays are past and the year is ahead of us. Please, we need this to cover our operating costs. Without insurance we can't go out and play. It's that simple.

The dues are

Regimental	\$20
Col's company	\$10
Total	\$30

If you want to also have BAR membership for 2017 that is an additional \$25.

For a total of \$55

Make the check out to Colonel's Company RWFIA and mail it to me at  
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