



# *The Fusilier*

## January 2017

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Friends and Fellow Fusiliers,

I hope this note finds you and your loved ones recovering from a very festive holiday season. I decided to wait until after the Annual Grand Meeting of the British Brigade (BB) to issue a new edition of *The Fusilier*. This edition contains updates regarding the BB meeting and the event schedule for 2017 along with prospective events for 2018 and 2019. I also incorporated a column on the wear and appearance of hair as required by uniform regulations and finally information on the St. David's Dinner in March.

### Colonel Vivian

Gentlemen, Colonel Vivian expressed a desire to step down from his Colonelcy due to health issues. I assured him that the members of the RWFIA would support his decision. He also suggested Lieut. Gen. (retired) Jonathon Riley to assume the office of Colonel, although I have not had any contact with General Riley. Col. Vivian also donated a silver statue of a Royal Welsh Fusilier Serjeant during the Napoleonic War. It is modeled on the one on the base of the General Wellington statue in London. The Fusilier stands about a foot high and is a very handsome addition to our silver collection.

The RWFIA is also in the process of donating a small token of appreciation to Colonel Vivian for his friendship and support of the recreated 23<sup>rd</sup>. Erik Goldstein very generously donated a replica of an original Royal Welsh Fusiliers officers gorget. We are in the process of getting it framed and mounted with a small placard expressing our thanks to Colonel Vivian for his dedication to our organization. Very special thanks to Erik for donating the gorget, permitting us to express our sincere gratitude to our Colonel. David Leslie-Hughes will take the framed gorget with him to the UK and present it to the Colonel in person.

### British Brigade Meeting Notes:

On January 7, Joe Siegel, Paul Astle and I attended the annual British Brigade meeting in King of Prussia, PA. Most of the time was spent finalizing the 2017 event schedule, and looking at prospective events in 2018 and 2019. The Brigade is in the process of attempting to "fix" a month for a large event. The intent is that this will aid members in planning both their personal schedules and logistics, hopefully resulting in an increase of attendance. The Brigadier, however was cautious not to designate a specific weekend as is done with the Great War Association events in November and April. Instead, he suggested (and the quorum concurred) that we hold a large Brigade event in

September, selecting among the last three weekends of the month. Reasons for selecting September include fairer weather, lack of competition from events of other time periods and reduced conflicts with personal schedules (i.e. vacations). Nothing is codified, it is in the *experimental phase*.

After a group discussion, there were breakout sessions for Northern, Mid-Atlantic and Southern events. Joe attended the brief on Northern (i.e. MA, NY, CT); Paul attended the Mid-Atlantic (i.e. PA, NJ, DE, VA) event discussion and I attended the Southern (i.e. NC, SC, GA) session. The Southern group is experiencing a resurgence in AWI events, as you will see in the 2017 schedule. I spoke with Eric Spaar about it and we are ready to support these events and hopefully will continue to grow our ranks.

Overall Brigadier McGauhey seems pleased with the progress of the Brigade. He continually reinforced the importance of social media (i.e. Facebook, website) to inform, educate and recruit.

#### Hair, Hair and Hair:

A growing trend within the 23<sup>rd</sup> seems to be the omission of wigs/long hair, which are required as part of the early war kit. Fusiliers *are required to* wear their hair queued (braided) with the tail tucked under the back of the cap. Contemporary sources such as “The Death of Major Peirson” by John Singleton Copley shows a company of Grenadiers on the left side of the painting with their hair queued and tucked underneath their caps. This is a required uniform piece and not wearing it because it is hot, itchy or uncomfortable is unacceptable. The queue (natural or wig) is a critical piece of the uniform just as the coat or bearskin is. The queue is not required for the late war kit, which authorizes hair to be short or “cropped”. There are a number of wigmakers available including G.G. Godwin and the wigdresser.com. Wigs for the early war kit should be of natural hair color; white wigs, typically reserved for formal occasions are optional. I advised the officers and NCOs to start enforcing this requirement at events. The present seems to be an opportune time to repair/upgrade your uniform and kit. Thank you all for your attention to this matter.

I am contemplating a loaner wig program, Commander’s Hair Club, for those who don’t have one or habitually forget theirs. I’ll have a couple of my old enlisted wigs on standby and will loan them out for the duration of the event. Most of the infestations have left or perished ...I think. I also encourage those with extra wigs to bring theirs to aid the less fortunate and help improve our appearance.

#### Spatterdashes/Half-Gaiters:

This season marks our transition to the half-gaiter, officially effective August 1<sup>st</sup>. We are wearing the seven-button pattern with black horn buttons. The gaiters should be painted and adjusted so that they fit snugly against the ankle and foot. Until then long gaiters should be worn, please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Dues: Yes, it’s that time again. Follow the same procedure you used in the past. The costs have not changed. Have to pay (a nominal fee) to play.

St. David's Day Warning Order: This year's dinner will be held at the Old Barracks Museum in Trenton, NJ on Saturday, March 4th. Keith and Eric Spaar are working out the logistics. I'll send out a flyer once I confirm the costs with Eric. If we provide a few troops during the day on Saturday, we'll be permitted to stay overnight at the site. More to follow.

Schedule (2017):

Company Designations: GLICC-Grenadier/Light Infantry/Colonel's Companies; GG- Capt. Grey Grove's Company; FR- Capt. Ferguson's Company; HF-Capt. Horsefall's Company

February 19—Fort Ward Park-- Alexandria, VA—(HF)  
March 18-19—Battle of Guilford Courthouse--Greensboro, NC—(HF)  
March 4, 2017—St. David's Day—Old Barracks Museum, Trenton, NJ—(GLICC)  
May 6-7—Mount Vernon, VA (HF)  
May 20-21—Army Heritage Days—Carlisle, PA—(GLICC)  
May 20-21—Brattonsville, SC (HF)  
April 29—Ridgefield, CT Event—(GLICC)  
June xx-xx—Cedar Creek, VA (HF)-More to follow  
June 24-25—Battle of Short Hills--Edison, NJ—(GLICC)  
August 5-6—Old Sturbridge Village—Sturbridge, MA—(GLICC)  
September 16-17—Battle of Brandywine (Sandy Hollow)—Brandywine, PA—(COLOUR)  
October 7—Battle of Germantown—Philadelphia, PA—(GLICC)  
November 4-5—Hope Lodge Encampment—Fort Washington, PA—(GLICC)

Schedule (2018):

July 14-15—Fort Ticonderoga, NY  
September 15-16—Mount Harmon Plantation, MD

Schedule (2019):

May 4-5—Mount Vernon, Alexandria, VA  
Sep ??—Battle of the Hook, Gloucester, VA

## II. 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](mailto:carlivar@yahoo.com)
- ii. Heather Chaffee  
15010 Victory Blvd. #102  
Van Nuys, Ca 91411  
Phone: (201) 450-6153  
Email: [Heath51937@aol.com](mailto:Heath51937@aol.com)
- iii. [Ben Beers](#)  
[1195 Rogers Road](#)  
[Mount Airy, NC 27030](#)  
Email: [mbeers@surrv.net](mailto:mbeers@surrv.net)
- iv. [Steven Gardner](#)  
[162 Puddin Lane](#)  
[Mansfield Center, CT 06250](#)  
Phone: [\(860\) 9428483](tel:(860)9428483)  
Email: [flaming54@att.net](mailto:flaming54@att.net)

His Majesty's  
23<sup>rd</sup> 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 23<sup>rd</sup> 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.*

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Cut and mail along with payment to Company Commander

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Regimental Dues: \$20.00

BAR Dues (optional): \$25.00

Total Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_