



The Flash

Col's Co, RWF in America

April 2019

Spring Actions

While the fall is looking pretty packed, there have been, so far few enough events in the northeast in spring. I know a lot of us are waiting for the June event on Long Island at Old Beth Page, but if other smaller local things come up. Please let me know. Even if you don't think people can show let us know what you're doing.

I know I've said the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend I'll be at the Morgan Log House in Lansdale. This is not something we need to be doing as a group-in all honesty we'd fill their small space, but it's just one red coat helping out at a local site that needs it. If you have other such happening, spread the word.

In the mean time you are planning on Old Beth Page in June, right?

Saint David's Day

Hopefully you passed a nice time on the first Saturday. As already mentioned, we did not have a regimental dinner to mark the annual saint's day of Wales, but hopefully you were able to note the day.

Several of us around where I am showed up for a dinner at a local restaurant. The funny thing for this night was that as we dissolved into the typical conversations that can happen when we get together, the staff kept apologizing for delays in the food. We hadn't noticed-the drinks had kept coming. The food when it came was great but the manager feeling terrible about it said we'd be

comped for drinks and dessert. That's right, our bar bill was free. Certainly, we were not going to tell him that we hadn't noticed the delay and were perfect gentlemen too him. Then the cheesecake several of us ordered turned out to be frozen, hard as a carp. I thought the manager was going to commit ritual suicide to atone for the fact. Instead the entire meal was comped. That's right in a deal any Welshman would be proud of, We had great food, wonderful drinks and the entire dinner for all of us was free! I'm pretty sure I've set a record for cheapest St. David's Day dinner in the entire history of the regiment.

I did leave a good tip for the wait staff.

The Regiment

The date you received this should stand out as being significant.

*On the 18th of April in '75
And hardly a man if now alive
Who remembers that famous day and year.*

Beyond the significance for the nation it was also an important day for the regiment as we were involved in all levels of the opening of the revolution. The Grenadier and Light Companies were among the troops who marched out to seize colonial weapons in an attempt to defuse the growing tension.

The great irony of the day is when the redcoats approached Concord the Minute men pulled back out of town. The colonials were in no mood to face off with the regulars after the reports of shots already fired at Lexington.

Unmolested we were able to round up and start burning contraband items. When the fire did spread to one structure the British tried to put it out. They were fighting the fire, but the colonials, thinking the British were firing the town got up the nerve to engage, to right a wrong that hadn't been committed.

*You know the rest, in the books you have read
How the British regulars fired and fled.*

Men who'd been up all night and were supposed to be on a sweep to destroy contraband weapons not fight a battle were suddenly fighting a withdrawal outnumbered ten to one. Although the British were regulars and disciplined, they were for the most part not veterans. It had been 10 years since the end of the Seven Years war and by the time they'd fought their way back to Lexington they were breaking down.

What's given little note was the British Light Infantry on the retreat, several times ambushed the pursuing colonials despite running around in woods in red coats.

As word of the trouble spread to Boston a relief column marched out, a brigade of hat companies under Lord Percy and this is where the rest of the 23rd came into the fight. They set up at the edge of Lexington, collected in the shattered grenadiers and lights and covered the retreat back into the city, a solid block of fresh troops the colonials had no desire to close with.

The war was on and the 23rd was in at the very start.

Dues

I'm still waiting to hear from far too many people about their dues. Please. if you're planning on turning out this year, we need to get the dues in just to pay for insurance so we're allowed to run around in fields shooting guns and waving pointing little things on them. 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
Paul Astle
1103 Oxford Cir
Lansdale PA 19446

And yes, it's col's company even if you're a grenadier or light bob-it's how I set up the bank account when I was the Colonel's company sergeant and that's how the checks go in.