



The Fusilier

Winter 2021

–From the Commander–

Gentlemen,

It is my duty to report that Mary Jo Lucas, wife of Serjeant Bill Lucas (Capt. Grey Grove's Company) passed away earlier this week. Please keep Bill and his family in your prayers during this difficult time.

This edition includes events from an active last quarter of the 2021 campaign season. Reports from the Fort Loudon (PA), Hope Lodge (PA), and Camden (SC) reenactments are included later in this issue.

First and most importantly, I have the honour of welcoming Areg Varzhapetyan as a (fifer) recruit into the Grenadier Company. Areg is from Brooklyn and joins Serjeant Mike Miller's combined contingent in the New York City metropolitan area. Please welcome xxx when you see him at an event. His recruiter, Kyle Parker, is his sponsor. Private Nick Usenko relocated to the Southeast and transferred companies from Capt. Ferguson's to Capt. Horsefall's. He participated in his first event with his new command at Camden in November.

There are some new initiatives underway for the new year. Regimental dues for 2022 are now \$35.00. After reviewing our finances, including expenditures and revenue, the new amount is sufficient to cover our current spending requirements, including unit insurance. Current policies are required to register for events.

We also began the process of transitioning the RWFIA over to wool smallclothes (waistcoat and breeches) with the Regimental conversion completed by March 1, 2025 (start of the 250th Anniversary of the War). I take uniform transitions or changes very seriously. During my command tenure, I viewed a number of lectures and presentations by professional historians and materiel culture experts that concluded that British Army regiments of the period wore wool, sometimes referred to as "broadcloth" in contemporary documents. I made this decision with the hope that new members can procure these items from a wide range of tailors and seamstresses while gathering their kit. For members who have linen small clothes, the established timeframe should provide an adequate period to save for and obtain the required clothing items. Please consult with your officers or NCOs for more information.

Finally, thank you all for a fantastic campaign season. This year marks our first calendar year, post an unprecedented Pandemic and the smiles and growing turnout indicate greater activity in 2022. The British Brigade announced two major events for the upcoming season. The first one, scheduled in May, is planned for Mount Harmon Plantation in Maryland. This is an idyllic site, located on the Chesapeake. The other will be at Sandy Hollow Park near Brandywine and marks the location of the British attack on the Continental right flank on the afternoon of September 11, 1777.

I hope that you and your families have a joyous holiday season. I look forward to see you all in 2022!

Ich Dien!

Shane

-- Operations: 2022 Event Calendar-- (TBD)

Fort Loudon Event

Fort Loudon is recreated French and Indian War provincial fort located 59 miles west of Gettysburg. The site's remote location provided the event organizers with an opportunity to use a scenario-centric event instead of the traditional schedule-based reenactment. Site operators also served as game masters and relayed changing conditions to the commanders of Crown and local militia units. The setting was a small frontier outpost in 1774. British Brigade units served as the fort's garrison with local militia units in the surrounding wooded areas amidst a period of growing tensions.

Three companies and a section of two guns provided served under the command of Major West. The 23rd contingent consisting of John Crawford, Kyle Parker, and I were brigaded in First Company with Major Loane's 43rd Regiment of Foot. Each company performed one of three duties: picket guard, roving patrol, or in reserve for sixty minutes before rotating. Soldiers were expected to rest, eat, and be prepared for action while in reserve. While guard duties and patrolling seemed to last longer than the required hour, the time in reserve seemed to be much shorter. Guard posts were established in a semicircle about 200 yards from the fort's walls. These sentries guarded the main thoroughfares and stopped civilians (non-uniformed personnel) to inquire about contraband; there were additional guards posted in the fort's interior.

From Saturday morning until mid-afternoon, it rained. Sentries in the field took cover under nearby trees and those in the fort ducked under the upper level firing platforms, although everyone remained at their post. Later in the afternoon and after the

weather had cleared, First Company embarked on a reconnaissance patrol of the surrounding area. Heading east of the fort our detachment ascended a 600-foot hill, nearly 700 yards from the fort. Our return route brought us near the back of the militia camp and both parties exchanged shots while returning to the garrison.

Sunday morning once more found our company on sentry duty. John Crawford taunted the advanced militia guards with promises of cheese with the hope of causing them to desert their posts. John's harassment helped escalate tensions as the militia grew unruly and emboldened to test Crown resolve. The situation reached a boiling point on Sunday afternoon and militia units began engaging the pickets. After the attack, the militia once more faded into the woodline and later reappeared in force moving toward the fort. Major West assembled all three companies and two guns, leading them to drive the threat off, forcing a parley, and end to the event.

Fort Loudon's remote location, lack of event promotion, and weather patterns resulted in a sparse amount of visitors. This added to the realism with all areas being open to participants. The lack of a set event schedule combined with changing scenarios added to the uncertainty and tension between the opposing forces. Overall, it was an excellent event and I think everything went well for the first multi-unit British Brigade event at the site. This location may be under consideration for another event in 2023.

-- Quartermaster--

Ordering Procedures: 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 form to:

Shane Reilly
17 East Eppley Drive
Carlisle, Pennsylvania 17015

Recruits, if you have any questions regarding the uniform or purchasing items, please consult with your Company leadership.

a. Regimentally authorized tailors/seamstresses

i. Mike Grillo
9 Shady Lane
Scarsdale, NY 10583
Phone: (347) 804-9763
Email: rwffuz94@aol.com

ii. Carl Johnson
4202 Shoal Creek Drive
Greensboro, NC 27410
Phone: (704) 957-9108
Email: carlivar@yahoo.com

iii. Heather Chaffee
16700 Nordroff St.
Northridge, CA 93343
Phone: (201) 450-6153
Email: Heath51937@aol.com

iv. [Ben Beers](#)
[1195 Rogers Road](#)
[Mount Airy, NC 27030](#)
Email: mbeers@surry.net

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 **\$35.00**; which does not include Company Fees.

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:

**Capt. 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: \$35.00

Total Enclosed: _____

Primary Phone: _____

MailingAddress: _____

E-Mail Address: _____