

THE SOUTHERN COMPANY  
23<sup>rd</sup> Regiment of Foot, Royal Welch Fusiliers in America  
**Dispatch**

Volume V, #2

APR 2023

## Event Schedule 2023

*(Bold/Black events are set / others are tentative / Red completed)*

**January 8 – Battle of Princeton, Princeton, NJ**

**January 13 & 14 – LUSO Movie production, Charlotte, NC**

**February 18 & 19 – American Heritage Festival, Lake City, SC**

**March 11 & 12 - Battle of Guilford Courthouse, Greensboro, NC & St. David's Day Dinner (Saturday 11 March)**

**March 25 - British occupation of Hillsborough, Hillsborough NC**

*Apr 29 & 30 – Market Fair, Fort Frederick, MD*

**May 6 & 7 - Mount Vernon Revolutionary War Days, Alexandria VA**

*June 10-12 – Old Stone House, Salisbury, NC*

**June 17 & 18 – Battle of Monmouth, Monmouth, NJ (BRITISH BRIGADE EVENT)**

**June 25 - Historic Hillsborough Excursion Day, Hillsborough NC (One day event)**

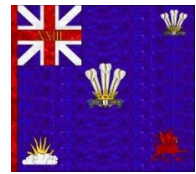
**July 22 – Boone, NC -Hickory Ridge History Museum-British Occupation**

**July 20-23 – HISTORICON Wargaming Convention, Lancaster, PA**

*Sept 23 & 24 – Endview Plantation, Yorktown, VA*

*Sept 30 & Oct 1 – Fort Loudoun, Fort Loudoun, PA (BRITISH BRIGADE EVENT)*

**TBD Oct / Nov – Revolutionary War Day Redeemer School, Winston-Salem, NC**



## **November 11 & 12 – Battle of Camden/Hobkirk’s Hill, Kershaw, SC**

# Upcoming Events

**May 6 & 7 - Mount Vernon Revolutionary War Days, Alexandria VA** – Our annual event at Mount Vernon is almost upon us. We anticipate between 12-17 Fusiliers in attendance. We will have some new members in formation on Saturday to include Mike Lung (former 23<sup>rd</sup>), Robert Clarke Sr. (former 23<sup>rd</sup>), Robert Clarke Jr. and Vincent Wolf. Please contact Eric Spaar for any uniform items you may need and if you need a tent to sleep in. Robert Clarke and his family will be setting up their fly tent and cooking equipment. Our former Regimental Commander, Shane Reilly, will lead us on Saturday and Captain Alex Ivanchishin on Sunday. If you are coming in on Friday let Alex or Eric know so we can make sure we are on the lookout. The schedule for both Saturday and Sunday includes a tactical demonstration at 11:30am and at 3pm – if it is like previous years the 11:30am is smaller and the main tactical is at 3pm. This is one of our paid events for the year so attendance is crucial to maximize the payout to our treasury. The website for Mount Vernon Revolutionary War days is below.

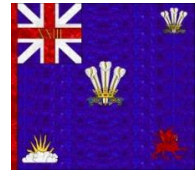
Attached to the Dispatch are some preliminary arrival and camp information from the British Brigade organizers including arrival and camp info and map.

<https://www.mountvernon.org/plan-your-visit/calendar/events/revolutionary-war-weekend/>

Call Alex or Eric with any questions or concerns.

## **June 17 & 18 – Battle of Monmouth, Monmouth, NJ (BRITISH BRIGADE EVENT)**

We are still planning on sending a southern contingent to Monmouth in June. The thought process is to get an VRBO for some of us who do not want to camp out in mid-June in New Jersey (Eric says he’s done that / not really looking forward to doing it again) – so please let Eric know if you are interested in the VRBO option – he will start searching for possible billeting. The sooner we get a head count on a



VRBO option the sooner we can secure a place. I suspect these homes book-up fast for the summer due to their proximity to the shore. Also, we are planning a BBQ night for Friday and Saturday evening at a Loyalist home (happy to host the 23<sup>rd</sup> Foot) just 15 minutes south from the Monmouth encampment. This will include food, libations, music, fire pit and swimming for those interested. More details to follow on these and other logistics and deployment matters.



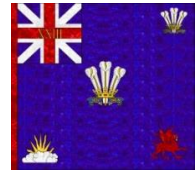
## After Action Report

### **March 11 & 12 - Battle of Guilford Courthouse, Greensboro, NC & St.**

**David's Day Dinner (Saturday 11 March)** – What can we say about Guilford Courthouse – probably the best turnout (16 in attendance) and weekend we've had as a unit. Attendees included Alex Ivanchishin, Eric Spaar, Ben Beers, Tim Brieady, Kevin McClain, Shane Watson, Denis Messier, Jordan Rowland, Jon Spaar, Jr., Richard Coyle, Lance Davis, Nolin Jones, Rory Moran, Graeme Barclay, Gabe Everman, and Joe Siegel. We rented a VRBO that housed most of us for both Friday and Saturday nights. We played wargames on Friday night and late into the night Saturday after St. David's Day dinner.

On Saturday morning we drove a short distance to the battle site for the day. Had perfect weather and fired all our rounds at the Americans. We took heavy casualties coming out of the tree line. However, we on the left flank rallied, counterattacked driving the rebels off the field. After the successful completion of the battle and some time spent talking to the crowd, we returned to the VRBO and enjoyed a St. David's Day dinner. Music was provided by our resident fiddler, Fusilier Shane Watson, who did an outstanding job as did our Regimental Drum Major, Joe Siegel, drumming in the Leek Party. Also, a big thanks to Sheila Spaar, Jeannette Brown, Rebekah Brieady and Anne Everman for cooking and serving the meal.

We had two special invited guests in attendance, a former Captain of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Jay Calaham and Vincent Wolf (our German friend / who joined us after the battle). The Sunday battle was cancelled because of inclement weather, but I don't think



that had any effect on how we rated the weekend: overall, outstanding with a very successful and much anticipated return of our annual St. David's Day celebration.

**March 25 - British occupation of Hillsborough, Hillsborough** – Another good event attended by Alex, Eric, Kevin, Denis, Ben, and Jordan. We did our standard drill and firing demonstrations for crowds that were steady all day long. The event site also hosted an 18<sup>th</sup> century living history group out of Raleigh and they had cooking, games, and clothing displays.

## Personnel Matters

Personnel updates within the Southern Company:

### **Promotions** – N/A

### **New Joins**

Mike Lung – VA (former 23<sup>rd</sup>)

Vincent Wolf – NC

Robert Clark Sr. (former 23<sup>rd</sup>), Robert Clark Jr. and Family - VA

### **Happy Birthday**

April – Eric Spaar,

May – Tim Brieaddy

June – Graeme Barclay, Alex Ivanchishin, Denis Messier II, Jordan Rowland

## Uniform Matters / Military Items

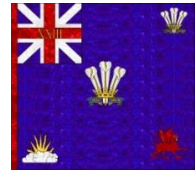
One of our own Southern Company members is an 18<sup>th</sup> century master tailor so if you need any uniform items contact **Sergeant Ben Beers**.

**Fusilier Tim Brieaddy** has his own company that makes t-shirts and patches – check out his website at: <https://redheadedtshirts.com/>

### **Regimental authorized tailors/seamstresses**

**Ben Beers** / [mbeers@surry.net](mailto:mbeers@surry.net)

**Mike Grillo** / [rfffuz94@aol.com](mailto:rfffuz94@aol.com)



Carl Johnson / [carlivar@yahoo.com](mailto:carlivar@yahoo.com)  
Heather Chaffee / [Heath5197@aol.com](mailto:Heath5197@aol.com)  
Lynn Bull / [Lynnbull12@yahoo.com](mailto:Lynnbull12@yahoo.com)

### Sutlers

G Gedney Godwin - <http://gggodwin-com.3dcartstores.com/>  
Townsend's - <https://www.townsend.us/>  
Avalon Forge - <http://www.avalonforge.com/>  
Sampson Historical - <https://www.samsonhistorical.com/>  
Najecki's - <https://www.najecki.com/repro/reproindex.html>

## Websites of Interest

The Royal Welsh - <https://www.army.mod.uk/who-we-are/corps-regiments-and-units/infantry/royal-welsh/>

23<sup>rd</sup> RWFIA - <http://rwfia.org/wp/>

British Brigade - <https://www.britishbrigade.org/>

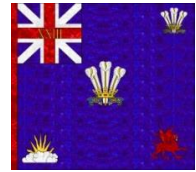
The Royal Welch Fusiliers Museum at Caernarfon Castle –  
<https://rwmuseum.org.uk>

**\*\*\*The Regimental Museum has a way for individuals to support the museum's work - it's called Friends of the Museum. They will be having speaker events that may be of interest to the members. Use the following link to sign up.**

**The link: <https://www.rwmuseum.org.uk/friends-of-the-museum.html>**

## Commander's Comments

We are having a great start to the campaign season. Attendance at events is up and recruiting new and former reenactors is continuing strong. I attribute this to you the members, whose dedication and enthusiasm for our hobby is obviously infectious--in a good way. So now we have two big events coming up: Mt Vernon and Monmouth. Mt Vernon weekend is always a good event for camping and two battles each day when it's not raining. For those traveling into the Washington DC area it's also an opportunity to do some touristy stuff with your family or friends. The Battle of Monmouth is a stretch deployment for the southern company, but a battle reenactment that



takes place on some of the actual battlefield—worth the trip. The event is usually well attended by Continental and British units with large crowds. The Park Service has a very nice museum and gift shop on site as well. Like the actual battle, it's going to be very hot and humid. I've attended probably 10 of these and survived them all.

As an added incentive this year for attendance at Monmouth, I'm arranging for a BBQ at a Loyalist home for early arrivals on Friday evening and also for Saturday evening for those interested in food, drink and swimming in cool waters. The most important thing we need from the membership right now is a head count for attendance at Monmouth soonest possible for logistics and equipment needs, and for those interested in renting a VRBO instead of camping or hotel accommodations. Contact Eric Spaar with your plans for the event. Stand by for more information on the Monmouth deployment as details become available from the organizers.

I hope to see you all in camp and on the field once again ***For God and Country—God Save the King!***

*ICH DIEN!*

Your Most Humble Servant,

Alex Ivanchishin, Captain  
23<sup>rd</sup> Regiment of Foot, Horsefall's Company  
RWFIA

**Message from Commander of the British Brigade, Jim McGaughey**

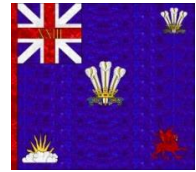
RE: Mt Vernon Arrival and Encampment

Attached, please find a map for arrival on Friday and Saturday. Please share this with your unit members so that have an idea where to go upon arrival.

All cars out of camp Saturday morning by 0845. Cars may come in during the evening, but only if loading out. Absolutely no cars in camp overnight.

If staying on site for the weekend, you will be directed to the larger parking lot after you unload.

If day tripping, you will be directed to come in through the Hearst Gate, at the end of the public parking lot, just off the round-about circle on the right. Identify yourself to security as a participant.



The registration table will be at the entrance to the camp for all. You will find your registration packets there that will include discounts, site information, etc. Discounts will be available in the gift shops, food court, and outside food vendor.

As usual, the site will stay open later Saturday evening so that re-enactors may take buildings tours and visit the museum. No weapons in the home of His Excellency, please. The free pass for tours also applies to the Grist Mill and Distillery down the road. Worth a visit.

I will be putting out an army schedule in the coming days that you may share with your members as well.

Matt West, of the 84th RHE, will be my second.

Bill Johnson will be DQMG for the event, ably assisted by Ray Helge, and Pat Updike.

Ice, wood, and straw are available on site. If any are out, please notify Matt, Bill, or myself. More of what is needed will be delivered.

The coming information will contain an army schedule, along with company assignments and company officers.

For those that haven't been, this is a huge public event. It is not unusual for them to get 14,000 more over the two days. It should be noted that a few years back, Tom Cruise and Dan Snyder (owner of the Washington Commanders) came to see us. You never know who will be there.

As usual, the wedge area will be filled in upon arrivals. We do not reserve spots for tents, as often they don't show up and we want to avoid a ragged appearance.

For those campaigner camping (no tents), please check with Bill first, but I believe that area under the trees at the entrance of the camp worked out well last year. No brush for huts is available, given the time of year.