



The Flash

Col's Co, RWF in America

October/November 2011

Germantown

I will admit to being disappointed by the low turn out at my favorite event. The RWF was kindly brigaded with the grenadiers of the 42 and between misstated orders from the Scottish commander and some friendly connivance from a Scottish corporal, I managed to mainly have someone in the uniform of the 23rd in our traditional spot at Germantown on the far right of the line, but it was a near thing. Our Major we interviewed on a local radio program set up there and while the DJ's were clearly deficient in their knowledge of the war hopefully their listeners were able to appreciate an educated view.

Between that and a smaller than expected turn out the week before at the brigade event I'm a little concerned at our turn out late in the season. Please let me know what it is that is stopping you from making to events or what it will take to get you to turn out.

Hope Lodge

November 5-6 marks the traditional end of our season event at Hope Lodge Pennsylvania. This goes for two days with a total of three battles just over the border from New jersey, close enough for people who want to make it just a day trip from New York to do so. Beyond the event it is also a chance to hit the sutlers one last time to make up those items that you lost or broke during the season.

Obviously I can't promise what the weather will be but I live a few miles from there and the weather has been darn near perfect for reenacting all month. Some

light rain but nothing too bad, pleasant temps and light winds. Just perfect. As an observation the last couple of years we've actually had a better turn out on Sunday than on Saturday which is, as we all know, a reverse of what is normal in the hobby but it goes to show that you can't always predict how things will go down.

To get to the site take the New Jersey turnpike to exit 6 and turn onto the Pennsylvania turnpike for about 20 miles to the Fort Washington Exit. Through the toll booth just follow the road straight ahead until it ends at a t-intersection less than a mile. Turn left and follow the Bethlehem Pike 1 mile. Hope Lodge will be on the left.

Dues

Yes that time of year has rolled around again and dues are needed. Please remember we do need these. They help cover costs of regimental equipment, offset costs of food at events and such but mainly and most importantly it is needed to cover the cost of our insurance. You know that pesky but convenient stuff that lets us turn out in a field somewhere with guns, sharp pointy things and play with explosives-otherwise known as gun powder. This is not gratuitous and we do try to keep expenses down-remember when I'd mail these things out hand addressed with a postage stamp on it? Now to encourage getting the money in quickly we've introduced a graduated system of regimental dues. If you get the dues to me BEFORE St. David's Day it is on \$20. That is a \$5 dollar savings to you. So right now The dues are as follows:

Regimental dues: \$20

Company due: \$10

BAR (Optional) \$25

Total: \$30

With BAR: \$55

The check should be made out to:
Col's Company, RWFIA

And mailed to me at:
Paul Astle
1103 Oxford Cir
Lansdale, PA 19446

We need to pay the insurance in full and on time so while someone might be delaying getting their fair share in, the officers have to pay this out of pocket. They don't have the luxury of waiting so help them out and get it out of the way now, m'kay? Now if you wait until after St. David's Day, between That and April

15 the regimental dues will be \$25. What you've been paying for years. Between April 15 and May 31 it will be \$30. This helps make up what the officers have had to pay out of pocket. After May 31, that's well into the season and probably after the first Brigade event the officers will start ordering names to be struck. I truly don't want to get that order guys. PLEASE get it in early, help the regiment, save yourself a few bucks and spare your sgt from having to think of new ways to mention dues.

Clean up

And as the sun sets on Hope Lodge we need to put away our gear but only after it's had a good going over. Strip and clean your musket-apply wood oil to the musket around the lock especially where the heat of firing dries it out. Clean and polish brass work before wrapping it up for the season with some of those silicone gel packs. Brush your wig and bearskin. Check small clothes and regimentals for tears, missing buttons and give them a good cleaning. Make sure that this stuff is safely taken care of for the long winter nap before we turn out again in the spring.

Start making that Xmas list for family members. Things you need to replace or maybe those little things that would make the encampment nice that you never got around to picking up.