



The Fusilier

23rd Regiment of Foot

The Royal Welch Fusiliers in America

www.rwfia.org

COLONEL OF THE AMERICAN BATTALION

Brigadier Anthony C. Vivian

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St. David's Day 2013

The annual St. David's Day Dinner on Mar. 2, 2012 at the Williamsburg Winery in Williamsburg, Virginia was a resounding success! We were 22 strong and in good voice and spirits. The leek was taken in moderation (at least while the Major was watching!) and the comradeship was palpable.

Earlier in the day, the Major had the satisfaction of seeing several prospective recruits to the regiment Tommy and Charlie Goldstein, parading with the Williamsburg Fife and Drum Corps and expressed his approbation of their conduct and decorum. We were most grateful that they also attended the dinner as they were able to help the Drum Major Joseph Siegel with his duties.

Attendees were Captain Pieper, Sergeant Lucas and Fusilier Coffey from Grove's Company, Major Morgan, Corporal Urwin, Drummer Shelly and Fusilier Wilkes from the Colonel's Company, Sergeant Raby from Light Coy, Grenadier Ivanchishin from Grenadier Company, Drum Major Siegel, Fusilier Coffey and Fusilier Rall from Southern Company and Captain Wilson from the Pensioners.

Special thanks to Fusilier Goldstein for helping with the arrangements, Majorette Lane for silver polishing and helping the Major to navigate, the members of Grove's Company who made the long haul and all who helped with the setup and breakdown.

Under The Redcoat 2013 Reconsidered (June 28 - 30 2013)

Sometimes the OR's decide what the regiment is doing despite the best efforts of the Major and other officers to move in the opposite direction! I am pleased to say that there appears to be fairly strong interest in doing UTR this year so I am going to put it back on the list. There are after all no major events in July thru September, so I am putting this back into the schedule for us and although it will not be a regimental event, I would like to see a good turnout. We already have five members that I know of who will attend, any

others with an interest please let me know asap so I can get an accurate return to Williamsburg. It will be late war uniform.

Personal Notes

Captain Paul Thomson of the Grenadier Company has retired to the Pensioner Company is being replaced by Sergeant Shane Reilly as commander of the Grenadier Company. Paul's wife Allison is fighting cancer and I know I can speak for everyone in wishing her a swift and speedy recovery. Our thoughts and prayers are with you both.

I also want to thank Paul for many years of hard service as our adjutant. It was an difficult job that required a great deal of time and effort. Our regiment was made stronger by Paul's efforts and we each owe him a hearty huzzah! There will always be a place by the campfire for Allison and Paul.

A BIG welcome home goes out to Shane Reilly following his deployment in service of our country. We are proud to have you back in our ranks. I know that there is a very happy family that is glad that you are home too!

Grenadier Mike Grillo has also requested and been granted a transfer to the Pensioner Company. Mike has been a mainstay in the Grenadier Company and a valuable member of the regiment. His work with Van Courtland manor and the New York Historical Society have helped to maintain our presence in Westchester County and New York City.

Command Structure

As Sgt. Reilly is now in command of the Grenadier Company and Grenadier Eric Spaar is in command of the Southern Company, they are both as of this date promoted to the rank of Gentleman Volunteer for which no change of uniform is required. They are to be accorded all the honors and courtesies of an officer while on the field. Congratulations to you both!

Guilford Courthouse After Action Report

The Guilford event on March 16 & 17 saw the following 23rd RWF's in attendance: Ben Beers, Joe Evans, Joe Phillips, Eric Spaar, Jon Spaar Jr., Brian Tate, Jeremy Brooks, Alex Ivanchishin.

We didn't have to march through the woods on Saturday as we did in the past which made it a little nicer. The weather was perfect and I used about 3/4 of the rounds in my cartridge box. Sunday was a little cooler but the battle was much better - Jeremy and I used up just about all our rounds against the Rebels. Special thanks to Gary Lowden for letting us use some of his kit for the new Fusiliers!!

Gent. Vol. Eric Spaar

Regimental Events 2013

There are two regimental events this year, each of which promises a unique reenacting experience. Both were presented at the joint British Brigade/Continental Line Meeting in January and received very strong support from the memberships of both organizations. I have made these the Regimental Events for 2013 as they have the promise of being larger and more eventful than most others.

14-16 June 2013 The 235th Anniversary of The Battle of Monmouth (in Freehold, New Jersey) will be played on a wider field and will not try to emulate the original battle but will be a bit more free wheeling according to the sponsors and the park. This will be our first regimental event of the year and will be in early war kit. More details to follow but please plan on this one if you are in the Mid Atlantic Region.

18-20 October 2013 Battle of the Hook - Gloucester Virginia

The second regimental event for the season will be the Battle of the Hook in Gloucester, Virginia on 18-20 October which some may remember from several years ago as a fine event. This year will be even bigger and better. The Royal Welch Fusiliers will again be defending their redoubt with zeal and panache as they did in the original encounter when under a ferocious Yankee bombardment a solitary Fusilier was seen to mount the ramparts and expose his backside to the advancing foe. Ah, the stuff of legend! How keenly did the other troops defend their position after such bold high jinx!

Well we are going to do it again, this time with our California Company taking part, and from everything presented at the BB/CL meeting it sounds like this is not one to miss!. It is across the York River from Yorktown and close to Williamsburg as well. The choice of an October engagement is perfect as we may see some relief from the summer's heat. Stay tuned for further details, the Major is entertaining suggestions as to whether this should be an early or late war uniform event.

Other Events

**** Please note: If you are planning to attend any event other than a regimental event, please alert HQ so that you are covered by our insurance!! You are not allowed to attend any other Rev War events in anything other than the approved 1775 kit, nor are you allowed to become part of the official strength of any other Rev War unit British or American. If there is not sufficient RWFA numbers and you are "brigaded" with another unit that is fine as long as it is perfectly clear to all that you are with the 23rd and only the 23rd!*

20-21 April Patriots' Day Weekend - Old Fort Niagara Youngstown, New York

3-5 May Gunston Hall, Lorton Virginia. The RWFA is registered in case any are interested. Please advise me if you are going so I can give them a final head count.

8-9 June King's Birthday Old Fort Niagara Youngstown, New York

*** 14-16 June 235th Anniversary of The Battle of Monmouth - Freehold New Jersey**

29-30 June Under the Redcoat, Colonial Williamsburg

6-7 July Battle of Hubbardton, Vermont (LHA)
20-21 July Salem Maritime, Salem Massachusetts
3-4 August Old Sturbridge Village -Sturbridge MA - (Invitation Only)
3-4 August Soldiers of the Revolution Old Fort Niagara Youngstown, New York
17-18 August Cricket Tournament: British Brigade. Johnson Hall, New York
24-25 August Battle of Newtown, Elmira, New York
24-25 August Fort at Number Four, Charlestown, New Hampshire
14-15 September Mount Harmon Plantation, Earleville, Maryland
14-15 September Brown's Raid, Fort Ticonderoga, New York
21--22 September Saratoga national Historic Park, Stillwater, New York (BAR)
5 October Battle of Germantown Chew House, Germantown, Pennsylvania
***18-20 October Battle of the Hook - Gloucester Virginia**
19-20 October Victory Weekend, Yorktown, Virginia
2-3 November Hope Lodge, Fort Washington, Pennsylvania
9-10 November Siege of Fort Mifflin, Philadelphia, PA

2014

March St Kitts, Caribbean

TBD Gunston Hall

TBD Cherry Valley, New York

TBD Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York

July/August Fort Taber/Fort Rodman, New Bedford, Massachusetts

TBD City of Worcester, Massachusetts

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TBD Mount Harmon Plantation - Earleville MD

Recruiting

We need to fill our ranks, so the mantra for 2013 will be RECRUIT, DRILL, RECRUIT, DRILL & REPEAT! The regiment has looked a little rusty in its last few appearances and I would greatly appreciate it if the officers and NCO's were to tighten things up. If we look good, we attract more recruits. If we have more recruits, we have a stronger voice within the British Brigade, if we have more recruits and look good on the field, then we can write our own ticket.

The importance of recruiting can not stated too strongly. I have left this to the company commanders' discretion in the past, but it seems that we have more members retiring into the Pensioner Company than we have new men coming onto the field. Look for recruiting opportunities in your area, gun shows, toy soldier shows, militaria shows, public events where a tent or table can be set up.

Follow up with all your contacts. Don't just assume that once you've handed them over to an NCO or officer that the job will be done, members often have events that happen in their lives which sometimes interfere with recruiting efforts. I will be putting together a new brochure for the regiment soon.

Regimental and Company Rosters

All company commanders and clerks must submit their 2013 rosters ASAP so that the full Regimental Roster can be completed. Please get your dues collected and get on it so it doesn't drag into summer!

Seamstresses and Supplies

Fran Wilcox 249 Cafferty Road, Pipersville, PA 18947 (267)885-4022
wfrantastic@gmail.com

Heather Chaffee 15010 Victory Blvd. #102 Van Nuys, Ca 91411 (201) 450-6153
Heath51937@aol.com