



TAKE CARE

Officers, esteemed members & guest of the Continental
Line:

Take note that
The 18th Annual Meeting
of the
Continental Line
is to muster in
Annapolis, Maryland
January 22nd (a mere 7 weeks away)

Bring proof (a copy for CL files) of your unit's 2005
insurance coverage

Bring your completed unit census form if you have
not forwarded it already

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***Buttonbox Farm,
Dresher, PA
Greetings:***

Dear All,

Thank you for your kind words regarding the first issue of the *e- Soldier*. I look forward to including many more of your words in future issues. You all have a lot to say - write some of it down. Share it with folks who were not around your campfire that particular night.

This publication will post to the web four times a year. It is our communication tool, and like all good tools, only useful if used. I hope to help make it a tool you will be proud to use, and share with friends.

Many thanks to all who have shared their words this issue, especially Jeff Lambert, our Chairman, who so very effectively inspired many to send missives.

Please look to the last issue for the minutes of the 2004 Continental Line Meeting, and the Treasures report, if you have not done so.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Meeting next month.

Kindest regards,
Donah Zack Crawford, MA
Editor, eSoldier
President, 11th Pennsylvania Regiment
Member, German Regiment
Member, British Detached Hospital

Caught in the Web...

Things you might want to know before heading out to the meeting:

<http://www.visit-annapolis.org/area-maps.shtml#2>

If you are looking for some new recipes:

<http://oldsite.library.upenn.edu/etext/collections/diaries/doro/recipes/>

Useful information from the "Enemy"

<http://www.british-history.ac.uk/>

Take Care (Part One)

February 29, 2004

Officers, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I wish to thank you for letting me serve you as your Chairman for the next two years. I think it is fair for you to have a bit of my background as it pertains to our 18th c. life and also see what I wish to strive for.

I got involved at the tail end of the Bicentennial, 1980. I participated in Cowpens, Guilford Courthouse, Yorktown and the famous Paris trip. I was weaned under the command of Bill Brown of the 1st MD and Tom Deakin of the 1st VA, both organizers and movers and shakers in this community in its formative years. The First Maryland was one of the creators of the Corps of the Continental Line and the First Virginia was instrumental in making Yorktown 1981 happen. Both Bill and Tom were subject of much criticism and scorn as they both had successful units and they both helped the hobby move forward in ways that may not have happened for many years. They were not in this for a popularity contest as they were to get things done. I have had people say a lot of less than flattering things about me and I find comfort in knowing that I am in good company. Frankly, if this weren't the case I'd think that I wasn't getting anything done.

I have served in Line & Rifles. I have sponged a cannon or two on land as well as onboard the USF Constellation & HMS Victory. I have taken some time learning about the mounted troops. Fortunately I have managed to stay in the saddle more than out. Having edited a video or two I have taken the opportunity to look at this avocation of ours in painstaking detail. I am a member of the Sons of the American Revolution (Chapter President), Sons of the Revolution (State Secretary), and Society of the Cincinnati. I plan to bring my re-enacting/history to these groups, as many need some help after I hang up my musket. I have slept in Patrick Henry's house and on grounds in much more austere settings.

I have organized an event or two and developed a "cookbook" to help anyone with too much time on their hands wishing to do the same. My theory is: "I am having a party with 1,000 of my best friends and they all have guns!" That raises the bar doesn't it?

I am a product of a mixed marriage: my Father's from Virginia and my Mother is from Rhode Island. I am a Yankee and/or Corn-fed depending which side of the Potowmack River I find myself. I am proud of both names as it allows me a unique position to appreciate both points of view. Was it the "War to save the Republic" or "War of Northern Aggression"?

With all that being said and you have a better understanding of where I come from; you can better understand what I hope to promote during my term:

1. As it relates to the 225th, the war in North has historically reached a stalemate and it has been a while for the Southern Department to offer events that are worthy of your time. We down in the land south of the Potowmack call this the Southern Campaign.

2004	October (Columbus Day weekend)	Savannah, GA
2005	May	Charleston, SC
2006	January (MLK weekend)	Cowpens, SC
	March	Guilford Cthse, NC
	October (4 day)	Yorktown, VA

2. I understand units are sovereign. The Continental Line will not run units and does not run events. We are like a confederation with a gentlemen's agreement to work together for the common good. As such I will work for that common good.

3. I expect Liaisons, Representatives & Department Coordinators to wear many hats. These hats are they are:

- Members of units
- Represent units within the departments and the Line.
- Facilitators to communicate regional and national issues
- Recruiters of Units
- Promoters of Events and how CL works

Item 2 and 3 may seem at odds at times but they are very much working for the common good of the Line and the community of re-enactors that we make up.

4. Strengthen CL in dealing with other umbrellas: I have already started a dialog thru the liaisons of the BAR and BB. This has already proved very beneficial. I have also started direct talks with the BAR and BB leaders themselves. I look forward to working with them and making events worthy of your time, talents and monies.

5. I wish to see a growth in the units.... Not the number of the units in the Continental Line, but the numbers within the existing units and the quality of the same. I will forward the organizational papers to the *Corps of the Continental Line* for the next Soldier and you will see that their goal was to have strong units working together. The *Corps* was made up of 3 units (1st MD, 2nd PA and 9th VA) and fielded 3 cannon and up to 200 muskets at any event. In unit size and strength I see familiarity and safety in working together.

6. I want to foster a better understanding between the various services: line, rifles, lights, dragoons, artillery and better appreciation of what scope of Continentals, States, Militia and French. This can be done in part thru white papers written by the leaders within their service and published in the Soldier. In understanding the role of these organizations, we better utilize them, keep people happy and give a better presentation to the public. Dismounted Dragoons do not do the same thing as Light troops, Militia performed differently in various parts of the war, and safe operation of Artillery is certainly of interest to us all.

7. When we started out some 17 years ago, we had a small group of officers and as such we communicated with each other often and on any subject. As we have grown, it is more difficult if not impossible to do this today. I am looking to have this e-list for unit officers that will allow us to discuss things that are pertinent to the Line, our units, and events. Presently there are 70 some units in the Line. Therefore this e-list will only be 70 some people on this list so we are not as busy with all the input as some other lists. It will allow us to address issues quickly and in a secured fashion. If this sounds elitist to some, I'm sorry, it is to help information move quickly when it has to.

8. I want to see that we have a culture at events that security and safety are assumed. Authenticity and education is not a problem. Yet, there have been recent instances where respect for private property has been violated. If this is allowed to go on unchecked the once peaceful "Camelot" that we use to inhabit will slip into a less desirable atmosphere and we will loose participants thanks to a very few.

9. HAVE LOTS OF FUN!!!!

Again, it is a privilege to serve you and I will do my best to deserve this honor.

Until we meet on the field of honor I remain,
Your most humble & obedient Servant

Jeff Lambert
Chairman

Take Care (Part Deux)

Itz'a French thing. Ya had to be at Savannah

November 30, 2004

Fellow Compatriots and Patriots,

Happy Holidays! It has been some months since I last had the opportunity to address you and I would like to take this to review some things with you.

When I was given the opportunity to serve you at the last meeting in Allentown, we had a schedule of some outstanding events for 2004 and the promise of some great 225th events in the upcoming years. This is what makes me enjoy this so much.

I also adopted some problems that had not been cleared up. Some got cleared, some cleared themselves up and one remains a work in progress. They all dealt with the sanctity of personal property. As we attend events, we have nothing more than a thin layer of canvas and our word that protects ourselves from each other. There is a camper's credo that you don't mess with another's gear cause they can mess with yours. When the Continental Line started a mere 18 years ago, we got together on the premise of we wanted to get like-minded units together to portray the Continental army and put on larger shows. Most of us were vets of the Bicentennial and knew what it was like to do large events and field large numbers of troops. We also know that these "mini-cities" bring with them some problems of logistics and such, but misbehavior is not acceptable, period as it betrays our trust. I pray we haven't let a less savory group creep into our organization. Time will tell. I rather think that these misdeeds have been not so much the result of premeditation or malicious intent, but more practical jokes that have not been thought out and have gone bad. I am very much for having fun and good jokes like the snowball attack on Paul Hutchins at Monmouth and the talent show at Newtown.

I will get off the pulpit and get to more enjoyable task of highlighting some events of note and looking to the future. I regret I missed you at Sutton, but my son was in the midst of an emergency at college and he need a hand from dear ol' Dad. HEY! How many time will I get to be a hero to a 20 year-old son. And when Quebec came, well, we had some Southern boys (and girls) make the trek and cross the boarder. I made the Newtown event and had the honor of participating in the retiring of the 1st NY DeWitt's Coy. After serving on Knox's gun I have a lot more respect for luggin' that puppy up hills than I did before. We were the pilot for a new reality show called "Cardiac Arrest". More fun than any daytime activity was the fantastic camaraderie (someone tell me fellowship sounds too much like a church gathering) Friday evening upon arrival, the wedding and subsequent talent show.... I don't think I said that right. You who were there know what I mean and the rest of you will just have to wonder what they missed. Savannah was a Great event and I am sorry for those who missed this event. It's the most fun I've had in mud in years. If anyone wanted to shoot more, they can't ever be satisfied. Thanks to our efforts there, the original Spring Hill Redoubt is being reclaimed as we speak with a \$6m grant. Well Done!

The Continental Line has been recognized by the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR). Former Chairman Jim Garner and Vince Hawkins of the First Virginia received the Bronze Good Citizenship Award from the DC Society for their outstanding work. I wrote an article about the Continental Line for the SAR magazine, which is to be out by the spring edition.

I attended the 114th Congress of the SAR held in Pittsburgh, PA this past 4th of July week and among the activities I participated in, I attended meetings of the 225th Celebrations Committee,

W3R Committee, and Historic Celebrations Committee. I established contacts and as these committees do have overlap, they afford coverage that we will not be forgotten in efforts and exposure. Can you say benefactors? I also had the opportunity to have lunch with some folks looking to join the Continental Line and I think we will be seeing them shortly.

This past April Chip Gnam, CO of the First Virginia and I attended the Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route (W3R) meeting held at the national HQ of the Daughters of the American Revolution. In a nutshell we established contacts with that organization which will be hosting events from Rhode Island to Virginia from 2005 to 2006. The forces of the King of France will be in much demand and I can see these guys are going to be tire troopers by Yorktown. As a result of the meeting, I was contacted by parties for the ground braking of the Freedom Towers on the 4th of July. Regrettably, government moves very slowly.

Looking forward to the 2005 Campaign, we have a great slate of opportunities not only for 225th events, but some others as well. I will allow the Department Coordinators to report on the events, but I will bring the spotlight on one of those "other" events. Mount Vernon has completed a new visitor where a video of George Washington's life will be shown to visitors. The storyboard for the shoot is to include Braddock's Defeat, Trenton and Yorktown. Filming is to take place in Feb, April and May. I very strongly recommend you check out the website for casting: www.fatherofhiscountry.com They are looking for 500 re-enactors. The Director is Ron Maxwell of "Gods and Generals" & "Gettysburg". Oh! did I say that you will be paid? Check it out! ☺

I look forward to seeing all of you at Annapolis the January and wish you and yours a great holiday season.

I remain
Your most humble & Obt Svt.
Jeff Lambrey
Chairman

Southern Department Report

11/30/04

Gentlemen,

As many of you are aware, my family recently suffered the loss of our Betsy. There is nothing in life that can prepare you for such a tragedy, and we wish to thank all of you who have been so very kind in showing your support in your cards, letters, & flowers. For this we are truly grateful and blessed. Your support is greatly appreciated. Betsy was a re-enactor during the Bicentennial and would have enjoyed getting to know all of you, as you would have enjoyed getting to know her. I am dedicating my efforts in this hobby to something we all loved for so many years.

We successfully put on an event at Savannah the likes they have not seen for many decades. Because of your efforts, the city of Savannah secured a \$6million grant to restore the Spring Hill Redoubt to its appearance in 1779. The weather did not dampen the spirits of those who travel to a land far far away. Artillery reported shooting over 500 rounds that weekend and many a cartridge box ran out before the charge upon the redoubt. The City of Savannah, as well as the Georgia Historic Foundation wishes that I extend my most sincere thanks to all who helped and attended this event. The event for Charleston, is finally coming together, we have not only a fine site that is reenactor experienced as well as reenactor friendly, but they even have dug 300 yards of trench works and are going to dig the advances and parallels for the siege and fall of Charleston. That plus a stand up battle on an open field, as well as a little swamp fight. Heck we are event talking with the host about a night walk where everyone gets to “play in the earthworks” at night just as it was done.

Cowpens is shaping up to be a real show in 2006, with the encampment on the original site. We also plan a small local event for the Beauford’s Massacre in the Waxhaws with a ceremony on the original site at the original time with the 225-year offset. This is again a reasonably small event, but anyone whose unit was involved is certainly invited. The Guilford information is not firmed up yet, but I hope to be able to present it better at the meeting in Annapolis.

We also plan to present another Artillery unit for membership at the meeting. See you there, hopefully with another hospitality suite for the Southern Campaign.

For 2005 – 1780 we have some great events at the regional level for you to look for those who wish to join us in the fun:

March 12	Guilford Courthouse, Greensboro, NC
April 16	The Fall of Charles Town , Boone Hall Plantation, SC
May 28	Waxhaw – Buford’s Defeat, Lancaster, SC

We are also looking forward to taking part in the filming in April – May at Yorktown / Williamsburg for the new film for Mount Vernon

For 2006-1781 we have the finale of the Southern Campaign 225th

January ??	Cowpens, SC
March ??	Guilford Courthouse
October 16-	Yorktown, VA

(Cowpens and Yorktown will be full Line events)

As for units to be voted in for full membership, we are proud to have the 6th NC who has been a constant source of support for shows and had over 30 muskets at Savannah, GA this past October.

We look forward to Yall comin’ down share to some of our events to broaden your geographic horizons and enjoy some Southern hospitality.

I remain
Ymh&os
Herb Puckett
Second South Carolina Regt
Southern Department Coordinator
sgtmaj2@sccoast.net



Please take-note the two “soldiers” in the rear rank having over 55 years of re-enacting experience & still having fun! Frightening eh? The AARP Detachment (l-r) Jeff Lambert, Herb Puckett, Chirs Lewis (the kid)

Mid Atlantic Department Report

11/18/05

Greetings from the M.A.D

It is with great pleasure that I announce that Pat Jordan has been elected to be the Mid Atlantic Department Coordinator. Thank you Pat for taking on the department. On November 14th we held our fall meeting at Fort Mifflin and it is shaping up as a busy campaign season. We have a number of events to consider for this New Year. We have the Battle of Crooked Billet, 4/30 - 5/1/05 that was proposed as a MAD event. We have Whitpain for 10/8 - 10/9/05. The Township has promised to make this event even better than the last one, with more ties to the local schools who will be using the event as a History Bee to attain a scholarship, it should add a new dimension to this show. This event has been presented twice at the Continental Line meeting and was accepted as a full Line Show. I hope we try to support this effort. We also talked about a Basto Village Show in June 05 and once again Monmouth, but in Early July. The N.P.S and the Second New Jersey Regiment are hoping for a Spring Encampment at Morristown, April 05. More info at the Line meeting. The 11th Pa Regiment is looking to do the Manahawkin, NJ event the weekend after Labor Day. Contact the 11th for more information. The 11th also mentioned that there is once again a new administrator at Hope Lodge who is trying hard to help bring back that site and make it user friendly again. Let's all hope so. It was a fun event. There will be a Medical Conference at Washington's Crossing the first weekend in April. Contact the Crossing for more information. It was mentioned that Mount Vernon will be shooting a new film in February, look for more to follow on this. If this Dispatch is posted soon enough the 6th Pa Regiment will be at Valley Forge on December 19th and it will be a day light program from 1-6 at the Muhlenberg Huts behind the Visitor Center and we can always use a few more people. If interested please contact George Radecky.

I would also like to remind everyone to make sure that your E-mail address is current and most of all correct. I have tried to contact several different units these past few months and have had the messages come back. Also on the subject of the electronic community, I would like to ask once more to not use the RevList as a means of setting up events. It is the most wonderful place to exchange ideas and the AAR's are always good reading, but to set up events it is not the way. Please use direct contact with those you wish to invite

As always I have managed to jump around and ramble from one subject to another. If you read all the words you will get the required information with out being too bored. So I would like to thank all of you for putting up with me for the last several years. After all, anyone who has been to one of my officers meeting knows that I would apologize ahead of time for offending them. Oh well, maybe I'll get to do it again some day. Hope to see you all in Annapolis in January.

Y.M.O.& H.S.

George Radecky, M.A.D. (Retired)

Mid Atlantic Department Report

Part Deux

From the Mid-Atlantic Department Coordinator

For all those who don't know me, my name is Patrick Jordan. I am a member of the 3rd Pennsylvania Light Infantry Company and various other regiments as well.

I would like to thank the membership for voting me into this position at Fort Mifflin this past November and I think we should all thank George Radecky for the great job that he has done for the Mid-Atlantic Department and representing each and every one of us throughout his years of service.

Since I have been elected to this position, many people have asked what is my platform for the years ahead and three things come to mind, which are Safety, Authenticity and Having a Good Time.

On Safety, I already know that the Mid-Atlantic is one of the safest organizations out there but there is always room for improvement, On Authenticity I think we need to move ahead and raise the bar further than we have done in our past years. And last but not least, Having a Good Time speaks for itself and I would hope that we as living historians can bring out our best presentation to the public and return to our homes after events feeling satisfied.

I am looking forward to serving in the Mid-Atlantic Department. I will need all of your cooperation and request that all unit commanders please drop me an email with your information so that I may keep in constant communication with you. My email is p_jordan@webtv.net or you can call me at (215) 704-9232 and I will be able to answer all your comments, questions or concerns.

If anyone has any event scheduled for next year please let me know as soon as possible so that we as a Mid-Atlantic Department can support these events to the fullest. I am also looking forward to greeting you at the Continental Line Meeting on January 22, 2005, in Annapolis, Maryland.

Your Humble and Obedient Servant,
Patrick J. Jordan
Mid-Atlantic Department Coordinator

Northern Department Report

The Northern Dept. meeting was held on Nov 6th at the Paper City Brewery (yes, a brewery!) in Holyoke, MA.

The Dept has sanctioned the following as Dept. Level events for the 05 season:

- May 21-22: Little Farm, Newbury, MA
- July 9-10: Chrysler's Farm, UCV, Ontario, CA
- Sept 23-25: Rehobeth, MA
- Oct 8-9: Chelmsford, MA
-

There was mention of potential CL events in Charlestown and Whitpain, but no definitive information was available.

The Dept. approved the name change of Dearborn's Company to Third NH Regt, pending receipt of new insurance - result of unit reorganization.

The following Units are recommended for advancement to full membership:

- Herrick's Rangers, sponsored by Whitcomb's/UTA/Knox's
 - 13th MA Regt, sponsored by 2nd/10th MA
 - 5th NY Regt, sponsored by 3rd/1st NY
- Eames' Rangers introduced for applicant status sponsored by 10th MA.

Yours truly was railroaded, uh, elected to another term as coordinator.

Onto Annapolis,
YHOS,
Bob B, NDC

Medical Department

The 11th Pennsylvania Regiment is proud to sponsor the next Medical Conference at Washington's Crossing Historic Park (PA side), the first weekend in April, 2005.

All things medical, surgical, sanitary and not, are to be presented in a collegial, and lively manner.

Should you be of a mind to attend this goodly gathering, be assured that your time will be well occupied, and you will be in grand company. This conference is open to all with an interest in the good, the gory, and the grim state of healthcare, science, and wellness in the 18th century.

Those wishing to participate as attendees or presenters are urged to contact this humble servant at your earliest convenience. Full schedule will be completed and presented at the Continental Line Meeting. Modest fee of \$75.00, which will include all meals and merriments, as well as lectures and workshops will be charged.

Kindest regards,

Donah Zack Crawford, MA

Editor, CL eSoldier

dzcrawford@aol.com

President, 11th Pennsylvania Regiment

**The Continental Line, Inc.
2005 ANNUAL MEETING
JANUARY 22, 2005**

**To be held at
Sheraton Barcelo Annapolis
173 Jennifer Road
Annapolis, MD 21401
(401)266-3131**

**Registration cost is \$30.00 per person
A continental breakfast &
Buffet lunch will be served.**

Please bring gifts for the raffle table.

**Hotel Rooms are available at a corporate rate. Make sure to mention you are attending the
CL meeting.**

**You can reserve a room on-line at
<https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/cl> or call(401)266-3131**

**Please complete the form below & mail with payment to
Bill Myers
Treasurer/CL MTG
1610 South 2nd Street
Phila. PA. 19148**

Email: CIA1777@AOL.COM Phone # (215)468-4023

Name of Unit : _____
(as in CL records)

Contact Name: _____

Contact phone # (_____) _____

Contact Email: _____

of attendees: _____ X \$30.00 = _____ TOTAL ENCLOSED

Make Checks payable to: The Continental Line Inc. Reply by January 10, 2004

Agenda for the 18th Annual Meeting
of the
Continental Line. Inc
Annapolis, Maryland January 21 - 22, 2005

Friday evening

20:00 Meeting of the Board & invited guest

Saturday

08:00 Registration Opens, Continental Breakfast, Raffle Tickets go on Sale

10:00 Call to order

Welcome to Membership and Guest – Jeff Lambert

Opening Prayer

Pledge of Allegiance

Order of the Day (Agenda Approval) – Mark Magiera

House Keeping and Role Call - Mark Magiera

10:15 Old Business

Acceptance of the 2003 Meeting Minutes

Chairman's Report – Jeff Lambert

Adjutants' Report – Mark Magiera

Treasurer's Report – Billy Meyers

Liaison's Report – Brad Chetwynd

10:30 Department Coordinator's Report – 5 min each

Southern Dept – Herb Puckett 2nd SC Regt

Mid Atlantic Dept – George Radecsky 6th PA Regt

Northern Dept – Bob Balcius – 2nd NH, Cherry's Coy

Western Dept - Tom Edwards 10th VA Regt

Medical Department – Marjy Wienkop

10:55 Committee Reports – 5 min each

Web Site

Safety Guidelines – Jim Garner

SAR Re-enactment – Jim Garner

20th CL Anniversary - NEW

11:05 Reports of 2004 Events (issues only)

Full CL Sanctioned

- Quebec Brad Chetwynd 2nd MA

- Savannah Herb Puckett 2nd SC

Dept Sanctioned

11:45 New Business

Vote on Sponsored Applicants to Full Members

- 13th Mass Regt, Smith Coy (2nd & 10th Mass Sponsors)

- Augusta County Militia (2nd NJ, Helm's Sponsor)

- 6th NC Regt (2nd SC Sponsor)

- Herrick's Regt (Whitcomb's Rgrs Sponsor)

- 5th NY Regt (1st NY McCracken's & Graham's Coy Sponsors)

Election of Officers

Treasurer

Adjutant

Introduction of Sponsored Applicants

12:15 Adjourn First Session

12:30 – 13:30 Lunch

13:30 Proposed Events for 2005 (and beyond)

Full Sanctioned

Southern Department

Cowpens Jan '06 2nd SC Regt

Yorktown Oct '06 1st VA Regt

Mid Atlantic Dept

Whitpain, Oct '05 6th PA Regt

Northern Dept

Western Dept

Dept Sanctioned

Southern Department

Guilford Cths Mar '05 2nd NC

Fall of Charles Town April '05 2nd SC

Waxhaws May '05 2nd SC

Mid Atlantic Dept

Crooked Billet April

Medical Conf Washington's Crossing Apr

Morristown, NJ April

Basto Village June

Monmouth July

Manahwkin Sept

Northern Dept

Little Farm, Newbury, MA May 21-22:

Chrysler's Farm, UCV, Ontario, CA July 9-10:

Rehobeth, MA Sept 23-25:

Chelmsford, MA Oct 8-9:

Western Dept

14:15 Department Meetings (30 minutes)

14:45 Introduction of New Business from the Floor

15:00 Raffle

15:15 Meeting Adjourns

15:30 Meeting of Board and Committee Members

**Continental Line
2005 Unit Census**

CL Department Affiliation: (So,MAD, No, W)

Name of Unit:

Unit Web address:

Unit Commander

Address

Street:

City:

Zip:

Phone

Home:

Work:

Cell:

Email:

Second

Address

Street:

City:

Zip:

Phone

Home:

Work:

Cell:

Email:

Safety Officer:

Address

Street:

City:

Zip:

Phone

Home:

Work:

Cell:

Email:

Directions:

- 1. Cut & Paste this page to email body and return to: DZCrawford@aol.com no later than Dec 31, 2004**
- 2. Include your "Second" to join the "CL Officer's Mess" chat room. More details later.**

Proposals for Consideration

1. Authenticity Guidelines

While it's my understanding that the Continental Line has a policy of not endorsing authenticity "regulations," (which I agree with) I suggest that the Line provide some basic authenticity guidelines. The CL has some of the best units in the hobby, and it's natural that individuals, and new units, look to the Line for this kind of information. With the many talented individuals among the membership, I think the Line is missing an important opportunity to provide some real help to the hobby.

These guidelines would be intended to provide helpful research information to individuals, as well as new units, covering such re-enactor basics as original source documents, research suggestions, correct fabrics and patterns, etc. These guidelines should be put together and reviewed with the help of volunteers from the Line, including people like Henry Cooke, as well as outside "experts," so that the information can be considered relatively "state of the art." The material can be assembled and perhaps posted on the web site, or provided in printed form.

This would be something of an ongoing effort since our research is never really finished. Providing this kind of useful information will also go a long way toward improving the hobby and guaranteeing that authenticity "regulations" are generally not needed.

2. Drill Guidelines

Similar to the authenticity guidelines, this idea is to find a group of interested volunteers to assemble a set of drill instructions for use of the Line at our events. The Line has done a great job of assembling all of our units into authentically sized battalions at large events. And we are all fairly well versed in the basic musket manual and platoon maneuvers, but we frequently struggle when we try any complicated battalion drill. These guidelines would be used to standardize and distribute the larger drill maneuvers to be used when we're assembled in large formations.

I have seen some printed material that's been put together by the Line, and I know that individuals like Paul Hutchins, and others, have done a great job of pushing this kind of drill. I'd like to see the effort taken a little further, and include more individuals in the effort, so that we can really begin to learn and use some of these more complicated maneuvers at our events. I also think this will require a commitment from most of the units in the Line to be willing to participate in this effort, but I also think that once we start to make this effort together, we'll wonder why we didn't do this before now.

The first thing needed for both of these proposals is to find individuals among the Line who want to help with either, or both, of these ideas. We can then discuss the scope of each effort, and how best to proceed. Interested individuals can contact me at: info@1va.org; or by telephone at home: 703-437-9409.

Your most humble & Obt Sv
Carl Gnam
Captain
First Virginia Regiment of the Continental Line

Flying Camp

Gentlemen:

We are sure that you all have seen over the past few years that small groups of individuals have been opting to forego the use of heavy camp equipment, tents and encamp along the wood lines. They sometimes will make brush huts, lean-tos and dig small field kitchens when allowed. We were wondering if there is a way that this could be done on a more organized / centralized way at events as a type of “flying camp?”

This camp would be used by interested individuals as an area to cook and sleep in while exchanging ideas and expanding their knowledge of the life of a continental soldier. The men would return to their individual units for all drill, tactical, and other unit activities. This group of individuals will not field as a unit, so man power will not be taken away from the member units of the CL.

The camp could be located in such a place that would allow the public and other troops to visit and learn from. This camp is not meant to take away from the main camp only to add a new facet of the experience for our members and the public. The camp could also demonstrate how the army camped without the use of tents and such, which they had to do many times as the wagons were far to the rear for protection.

This would not be a requirement at an event, as many sites are very tight on space, rather it would only be a request for sponsoring units to set aside an area during their planning of the events if space allows. At events folks usually look for an area to use on their own, they also ask the host unit if it is ok to dig a smaller version of the field kitchen. If the host unit will allow this before the event then an area can be set aside for the “flying camp”, when people register they could be directed to this camp site if they are so inclined.

What do you think of this concept? How should this be presented to future event host units? Again the “flying camp” is already being done at events in different locations. We are only looking to organize a single area at events where like minded individuals can go and exchange ideas to expand their knowledge for the benefit of all.

Please let us know your thoughts about the concept and how to proceed if you are supportive of this measure.

Thank you for your time,

Kevin Coyle
Matt Murphy

George Washington Wants YOU

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I hope this finds you all well as we start to go into winter quarters. By now most of you have probably heard about a film project being done for Mount Vernon. If you have not or want more information here's what's going on.

Mount Vernon is building a new theater(s) for its visitors and instead of just showing that historically acclaimed movie "The Patriot" they decided to produce their own short film. It will be called "Father of his Country" and will be directed by Ron Maxwell of Gettysburg / Gods and Generals fame.

My involvement is through Historical Entertainment. H.E. has been tasked with providing the troops and I will be one of the trainers / coordinators. H.E. was started by re-enactors and is run by re-enactors and have the re-enactor's and history's best interests in mind.

Here is where we come in. The films is to show The Crossing of the Delaware / Trenton, The Yorktown surrender, and Braddock's defeat from that forgotten world war of the 1750's. The filming will take place in Yorktown Va. during three weekends. The Crossing / Trenton will be held February 5th and 6th 2005, Yorktown will be April 30th and May 1st 2005, and Braddock's defeat will be May 7th and 8th or vice versa

For the February shoot we will need 200 Continental / Militia types and get this. 150 Hessians. The plan is to provide hats and coats to those that have small clothes that will pass for Hessian. For Yorktown we will need 550 total troops made up of Continentals, French, British and their allies.

This is a paid gig. The pay starts at \$125/day for trained soldiers with continental/militia and there will be extra \$\$\$ for those that can portray Hessians and/ or British. In addition to pay you will receive meals for all shoots and hotels for the winter shoot (we will set up a camp for the spring shoots).

Of course we are looking for younger, thinner guys. However, if you are long in the tooth and less then thin like me, please still apply. We can still use you. The young thin guys will most likely get to be closer to the camera for the military stuff, but we will also be casting many featured extras and historic acquaintances of GW not to mention the House of Burgesses. In any case please take the time to check out the web site, and if you want to be famous (or at least paid to do what we love to do) fill out the application and upload a picture of yourself.

As usual the producers wanted all the troops on board yesterday so if you are interested please apply ASAP. Go to <http://www.FatherOfHisCountry.com> and check it out.

I Remain Your Servant,
Paul Hutchins,
2nd NJ, Helm's Coy

And a Follow UP!

Dear members of the Continental Line,

Thanks to all those on RevList who have already submitted their bios and photos for this project, following Paul Hutchins' post a couple of weeks ago. I thought it might be helpful to post an update.

1. If you're interested in taking part but haven't applied yet, PLEASE go to our Reenactor Recruitment Center website at www.FatherOfHisCountry.com and fill out the online application form and upload photos of yourself. Ideally, we'd like a picture of you in uniform and/or period civilian clothing, as well as a "headshot" photo that shows what your face looks like. This be either a modern or period picture, either would be great.

We're still casting some roles of look-alikes for famous personages, so knowing what you look like is crucial. However, slots are filling up FAST, so get your data in ASAP if you're interested, please.

2. There are still slots available in the military core group for the Winter Shoot, but that's also filling up fast - if you're interested please get your info in. The primary "core group" will be young guys -- who can pass for 18-30, slim & soldierly looking. As so many of the really good reenactors out there are fellow Baby Boomers or older Gen-X'ers, a young core group will help to bring the average age of the guys on the field down a bit.

3. We need 150 Hessians for the Battle of Trenton scenes. As you all know, there AREN'T that many Hessian reenactors in the whole hobby. If you're interested in "galvanizing" Hessian - we'd like to hear from you, as we pursue various strategies, in conjunction with the Wardrobe dept, to round up the necessary gear. If you've already got appropriate small clothes and would be interested in a workshop to make an authentic Hessian uniform coat for Rall's regiment, we're putting a workshop together for anyone who would be interested in developing this impression for the longer term.

3. The movie will be filmed in two phases, Winter and Spring. The Winter shoot is more military-oriented but there are nonetheless some roles for female civilians, a few slots for children and quite a lot of roles for male civilians in the Winter Shoot. There's a BIG civilian scene in the Spring shoot, which is going to be F&I War era.

If you have trouble uploading photos or need technical assistance, email me at whigrose1860@aol.com and I'll help you, and add your photos to your bio form if needed. If you don't have digital copies of your photos, you can also mail them to the Reenactor Office where the staff there can take care of getting them scanned.

Father of His Country Reenactor Office
c/o Piedmont Productions
508 Kendrick Lane,
Front Royal VA 22630-2907.

Hope this is helpful. If you have questions about the military side of the project, contact Paul Hutchins. If you have questions about civilians or the website, contact me.

Best wishes,
Kathryn Coombs
Civilian Coordinator & Webmaster, Father of His Country
www.FatherOfHisCountry.com

Savannah takes search for Revolutionary War remnants high-tech

Associated Press

Story last updated at 7:12 a.m. Sunday, November 7, 2004

SAVANNAH--Dragging radar equipment behind a John Deere tractor, scientists recently scanned the site of Savannah's bloody Revolutionary War battle for buried remnants of the 1779 siege.

Local historians hope the virtual excavation will reveal trenches and earthen fortifications used by British troops to fend off an allied force of French soldiers and Colonial militiamen who tried to reclaim the city 225 years ago.

Often overshadowed in the South by the Civil War, the American Revolution left a bloody legacy in coastal Georgia.

The city and the nonprofit Coastal Heritage Society are developing 9.5 acres of the battlefield into a park, located on Savannah's western edge where Interstate 16 ends in the downtown historic district.

They hope the survey gives them a more precise picture of where the British placed fortifications that allowed them to win the second-most lopsided victory of the revolution, after Bunker Hill.

"It all happened in 55 minutes. And every minute, five to eight people are being killed on the average," said Scott Smith, director of the Coastal Heritage Society.

As many as 5,000 French troops arrived at Savannah in September 1779 to join roughly 2,000 Colonists seeking to take back the city, which had been seized by the British the previous year.

On Oct. 9, the allies charged British fortifications and were gunned down in five waves. About 300 died on the spot, and hundreds more were mortally wounded.

Savannah historians have a general idea of the battlefield's layout. To get a more accurate picture before the park opens next year, the city hired a Charleston, S.C., engineering firm to take a three-dimensional snapshot of objects and soil disturbances up to 10 feet underground using ground-penetrating radar, or GPR.

"It's the Mac Daddy of GPR," said Jorgen Bergstrom, a geophysicist with the firm General Engineering Geophysics LLC. "We can tell the shape and the form of underground objects much better than with standard radar."

Gail Whalen, curator of the Savannah History Museum, said the radar findings will be compared with maps of underground sewer pipes and electrical lines to try to identify any battlefield remnants.

Let's Go Shopping!!

How many times have I heard, “*In the ‘olden days’ people made everything they needed, they didn’t have to buy anything.*” HOGWASH! While malls as we know them did not exist, Front, Water, and Second Streets in Philadelphia may have been the first “strip malls” in America. Eighteenth century shopkeepers offered anything you could possibly wish to buy. So, let’s go shopping 18th century style!

First, let us visit the local shops. Nathaniel Newlin operated a store in Concord Township and based on his 1729 estate inventory he offered an extensive range of merchandise. Nathaniel’s inventory included a variety of fabric: linens, wool, calico and silk. He offered thimbles, sewing needles, thread and silk ribbons. If you had need of farm equipment or a saddle these were also available. Joseph Trimble, also of Concord Township, offered a vast amount of fabric, among which was Irish Linen, India Calico, and silk taffeta. He also sold stockings and silk and cotton handkerchiefs, silk mitts, and ivory combs. At Joseph’s shop you could easily refill your larder with cinnamon, ginger, and sugar; or buy new “potts,” and frying pans; or new cutlery and dishes for your table. Should you need to build something he offered hinges, nails, hammers, files, saws and window glass.

But perhaps you were planning on accompanying your husband on a trip to Philadelphia. What could be found in the shops of Philadelphia? Just about anything! In 1750 Joesph Redmond advertised brushes, brooms, maps, tea tables, sauce boats, diamond rings, paintings, china and glassware, toys, perfume, fans and leather gloves. In 1759, James Dundas on Second Street advertised, in addition, to the regular fabrics, velvet, tartan plaid, and “plain, spotted, sprigged and flowergauze.” He offered sewing silk, necklaces, and patterns for clothing. At the same time *Wharton and Story* on Front Street advertised beaver coating and bearskins, damasks, Russia and Irish sheeting, silk bandanas, garters, shoe binding, and “gilt, lacquer, silver fashioned coat and jacket buttons.” Writing paper, stockings for men and women, gunpowder and musket balls, knives and pistols, razors, scissors, sewing and knitting needles, ivory combs, snuff boxes and playing cards were also available. Other merchants offered women’s bonnets, shoes and shoe buckles, books, soap, candles, dyestuffs, snuff and tobacco, molasses, quills, pewter and china, tea, coffee, chocolate, nutmegs, rum, cordial, furniture, and clocks. You could even purchase a variety of medical treatments such as Bateman Drops, Daffy Elixir and Anderson Pills; what they cured I haven’t a clue. You could even purchase capers and anchovies, lemons and oranges!

But there weren’t just shops, there were also plenty of service providers within easy walking distance. Shoemakers, Ezekiel Morrell and Alexander Rutherford, plied their trade on Market and Water Streets respectively. Mary Hinshelwood and Lucy McCormick offered their services as mantua makers (seamstresses). Lucy also offered her services as a milliner (hat maker). John Hunter on Front Streets advertised his services as an accountant and as an instructor of “Algebra or any other Part of Mathematicks” There were tailors, printers, silversmiths and goldsmiths, grocers, physicians, bakers, coopers, blacksmiths, cabinetmakers, tinmen, as well as inn and tavern keepers.

Then there is the second hand market. Perhaps you have some items you wish to sell for “ready cash” or purchase a second hand item cheaply. I like a good bargain as well as the next person. For this you could visit the “Friendly Office.” Here a variety of items were offered over the years, a feather bed, a silk gown, many different kinds of books, shoes, a clock and more.

For myself, I think I’d like to browse the fabrics and sewing implements, pick up some spices for the larder, and stop by Lucy McCormick’s to order a new hat. Oh, and of course I must have some chocolate!

Beth Rump
Director, Brandywine Battlefield