



# The Company Informer

Rebellion to Tyrants is Obedience to God

May, 2001

## Upcoming Events that need our attention

- Memorial Day Parade in Ridgefield is being promoted by the sponsors with press releases. The organizers are thrilled to see our return after four years absence. Following the parade there will be a brief Q&A with the public and a short demonstration. They've asked for a few of us to participate in this and Commander Traue will ably lead us. Directions are on page 3 of this newsletter.
- Wethersfield – this is a show we need maximum turnout for. It is in our backyard and brigade will be expecting to see a good turnout by us. Starting with Ed and Gene, these Commanders have increased our participation with the BAR which has been good for us and I believe GREAT for BAR. We are a group that others respect. Please do your best to attend. Directions in BAR newsletter.
- Hurd House – One of our newest members, Sandra Tarbox, is active with this historical society. It is well cared for and a great site to spend the day. It will be a recruiting day for our group and recruiting is something that we are becoming very good at. Let's help this fine new member and fill her request for us to add to the days demonstration. Directions on page 3.
- School show – Everything is in order and what a great excuse for a three day weekend. This is where children first get bitten by the "historical bug". Let's make this a memorable day by playing hooky and going to school.

★★★★★★★★★★

### Recruiting Results:

**Sam Gedge** has joined our unit and participated at school of instruction. He is a drummer.

5<sup>th</sup> CT looks forward to **Jill Padelford** joining the ranks. She is a member of the Noah Webster House in West Hartford and brings a craft that the 5<sup>th</sup> hasn't seen recently, spinning. She looks forward to joining in six weeks. And we look forward to her presentations in our camp.

These artisans expand our camp demonstrations and bring colonial life alive in our state to a diverse public. Jill did experience three of the four "Toms" in our communications...if she can get past that confusion she'll survive the season!!! We welcome them both. Thank you for becoming part of the 5<sup>th</sup> family.  
HUZZAH

## Campaign 2001

- May 19-20 Whitpain Township – 300<sup>th</sup>
- May 28 Memorial Day Parade, Ridgefield CT
- June 2-3 BAR Encampment, Wethersfield CT
- June 10 Hurd House, Woodbury Recruitment Show
- June 15 School Show – Mead School, Ansonia
- June 24 Bristol CT, Recruitment Show/Camp
- July 21-22 Fort No. 4, Charlestown NH
- July 28-29 British Occupation of Staten Island  
Historic Richmond Town, Staten Island NY
- July 28-29 Nathan Hale Homestead, Coventry CT
- Aug 4-5 Old Newgate Prison, E. Granby CT
- Sept 9 Stratford Historical Society, Stratford CT
- Sept ? Battle of Fairfield, Fairfield CT
- Oct 27-28 BAR Battle of White Plains, Pound  
Ridge Reservation, Lewisboro NY
- Nov 17-18 Fort Lee NY
- Dec 29-30 Trenton NJ



Ladies and Gentlemen: In my efforts to clothe my daughter Sara, I have spoken to and will soon meet the seamstress Doreen Demeyer. Her address is 566 Devotion Road, Baltic CT 06330. Phone number is 860-450-0607. Her name was passed along by the Lebanon Town Militia and she is well versed in period clothing, and understands the need to do it right the first time. My phone conversations with her have been very pleasant and I look forward to meeting her this month.

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### From the Adjutant's Desk

May's dispatches

With the upcoming school show, (we need your attendance if possible) I am reminded of a very fulfilling weekday at two Bristol schools in mid February. Over one hundred and ten children between the two schools!! One reason it played out as well as it did is because I took the time to set up shows with quality teachers. I received seventy thank yous and glowing letters from the teachers. What the kids wrote was enlightening. They all saw the demonstration differently and many picked up on the smallest details. Another point to ponder was the number of girls who showed the same enthusiasm with history as their male counterparts. I did stress children's clothing and the youth's role in the period. The following is one thank you.

*Dear Mr. Angels,*

*Thank you for giving the presentation on the Revolutionary War. It was really educational. Just the way we like it. We are used to squishing information about history into our noggin, so don't think we can't take some more. I absolutely loved when you dressed Mr. Harrigan up.*

*Sincerely yours,  
Amanda*

Newgate prison will be open by the time you receive this mailing. For those who are not aware, it stood closed with no state commitment to open for the season. The good ol' boys played politics in Hartford over a hiring freeze. It appears that under pressure from the Friends of Newgate to create a foundation, they have stepped up and done the right thing. They will go to any length to keep the coppers in their pockets and prevent citizens from taking charge. **REBELLION TO TYRANTS IS OBEDIENCE TO GOD!**

Thanks to Walt Stutzman for passing on the musician's coat to the drummer Sam Gedge. It is in pristine condition and is a perfect fit. Thanks to Gene for picking it up and passing it along.

Tom Angels

### Profile of a Musician

A fine young man is added to our ranks, Sam Gedge. He may be attending Wethersfield, and as our only musician can't be missed. A drummer, he impressed the BAR's music director who showered praise on Sam's ability to our commander. Five and a half years serving the Marquis of Granby. Three years with the Brunswick group, Spect (what's up with that... a spy in our very bosom??!) And all this talent at the age of fifteen and a half. Sam fondly reminds us of those young men before him, Jim Freebairn? Phil Mead, Ben Gwork and Jessie Effros. Welcome Sam and thank you for your participation. By the way, Sam's parents assist at the Halloween program at Newgate. Mike and Judy are terrific folks. Mike's the pirate for the underground tours. Don't ask him to scratch that hard to reach itch, for he wears a hook.

Ps Ben Gwork is currently being held by the king and suffering untold agonies of captivity. We'll see him mid-summer, according to agents.



### Do I feel a draft?

In the fall of 1780, it was clear that even drafts from the Militia could not effectively keep all the regiments at even minimal strength as effective combat units. Even the manpower pool at home was running low. Whole towns had fewer men of acceptable age and health available to be forwarded to the army, yet there was no end of the war in sight.

Connecticut solved this problem the only way it could – by combining its nine under-strength regiments into five new ones. The 5<sup>th</sup> joined with another unit to form the new 2<sup>nd</sup>. A new 5<sup>th</sup> CT regiment, under the gallant Isaac Sherman, was formed from the remaining three year or “for the war” men of the old 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> regiments. But even this new consolidation could no longer keep enlisted men up to authorized strength. The long war had taken too long a toll of the long-term veterans and new enlistments barely trickled into camp. During 1781, the new 5<sup>th</sup> had to rely upon 68 short-term draftees, 20% of the regimental strength. Finally, during the regiment's last year in service, in 1782, a final 24 levies were added for field duty.

-Excerpt from My Country Society, Inc. Litchfield, CT 1985

### **Whitpain Show:**

Directions from the Pennsylvania turnpike: Exit turnpike at Exit 26 known as Fort Washington. This exit is approx. 22 miles from the PA/NJ turnpikes Delaware River Connector Bridge. After tolls, stay straight for .4 of a mile to Pennsylvania Ave. The Cherry Tree Hotel will be right in front of you. Turn right onto Pennsylvania Ave., and continue for .5 of a mile to where it ends at a light. A Mobil gas station will be on your left, and Toners Beef & Beer will be on the right. Turn left onto Bethlehem Pike and go 1 mile to Route 73 West (Skippack Pike). The Bent Elbow Tavern will be on your right. (Prior to Skippack Pike, you will pass Hope Lodge on your left). Turn right onto Route 73 /Skippack Pike, and go 2.4 miles to Prophecy Park. The park will be on your right.

### **Memorial Day Parade:**

The parade is Monday the 28<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am. Lineup is on the grounds of the Jessie Lee United Methodist Church on the corner of Main St. and King Lane. Lineup starts at 10:30 am. It is sponsored by the American Legion Post 78. Please be there early.

### **Wethersfield Show:**

Wethersfield: can be found in BAR mailer.

### **Hurd House:**

Directions from Rt. 84 to the HURD HOUSE, WOODBURY: Going west on I84 get off exit 15 and take a right off the ramp to east on Rt. 6 (northerly direction). Go about 5 miles and you will see the Curtiss's house restaurant on your left. Slow down and take the left just before the Pilgrims Mall on to Hollow Road (this is so small you might miss it). If you go by the green and the cannons you have gone to far. Turn back around and go down the other road at the other end of the green. We are the first house and we are surrounded by lots of green grass and a barn. You can't miss us and everyone knows where it is.

**Jim Freebairn** has a show he will be attending the same weekend as the Wethersfield event. It is at Putnam Park in Redding CT. While we as a unit need to attend the scheduled show, for anyone that can't make it call Jim Freebairn for more info.

### **School Show:**

SCHOOL SHOW, ANSONIA: For those attending Tom Traue will e-mail directions.



### **Profile**

#### **Sandra Tarbox**

Where does ones interest in Rev War start. While doing my husband family genealogy I learned that his forefathers, were Captains and Ensigns in all the early war. They helped settled the section of South Britain in Southbury where I now reside with Allan my husband. Our house has been lived in by 5 generations of his family. I could not go down the road without going by one of his ancestor's houses. This set me off into the Museum world. I became President of the local Historical Society and went on to become a board member of the Glebe House Museum and a docent.

As a Docent for 7 years I have picked up quite a bit of information on the early history of America from taking classes and going to seminars. I've become well skilled in hearth cooking, candle making, and doing other 18c crafts. I worked at a 1750 site for about 4 years. I am now the Director of the Junior Docent program at the 1680-1720 Hurd House in Woodbury. Like most museums members we all wear many hats. I can still be found in the kitchen, off at a school site, or giving tours and demonstrations as needed.

As a member of the Culinary Historians of Connecticut I had the pleasure of working with some great ALFAM members. From them I learned of the 18c woman's list and I was off on a historical adventure. The computer became an obsession and my link to many good sites one of which was the 5<sup>th</sup> CR. I wanted to be cautious and make sure I signed up with a group that fit my needs and that I would have something to offer them. The first thing I did was join the BAR so I would know where events were being held. I visited several groups. Last spring I went to New Gate and found that the 5<sup>th</sup> CR was the most family like group and wasn't so macho that women were only a side interest. I waited till December and joined and have been very please.

On a personal side my first love is my family. I have a daughter and son-in-law who live in New Hampshire and have three children 11, 9, and 1. My other love is old houses, painting, and gardening. Fitting this all into one life is a challenge that I love and hope to continue for many years.

