



The Company Informer

Rebellion to Tyrants is Obedience to God

October 2001



Commander's Message

The events of the past few weeks have changed the perspective of many people's lives. I know it did to me. After the shock & grieving start to fade however, the sense of who we are as Proud Americans have grown stronger and will sustain us. Justice will be done, both here and in the afterlife, for those responsible. I have no doubt. We may be, from this point on, more cautious of our new world. But not fearful. I pray that our Nation and the men & women in our military services and law enforcement will be guided by Divine Providence in their mission as were the Founding Fathers and the people of this new nation.

Some members of the 5th attended the Town of Windsor Event on Sept. 15th. The town initially was going to cancel it, due to the Terrorist attacks and the resulting loss of at least 6 of its townfolk. The planning committee, however, chose to continue because, as they said, "If patriotic events such as this were canceled, the terrorists have won." I think it was a wise decision. I have never seen more enthusiasm and American Flags from the spectators at a reenactment! At the close of the skirmish, both Crown & American Forces mourned firelocks for a prayer, then went quickly to present at the singing of God Bless America. To put bluntly, emotions were high!

Rich Jenkins, from the BAR, and I attended a meeting in Ridgefield Thursday night (Sept.20) to finalize the Battle of Ridgefield event in April 27 & 28, 2002. We're right on schedule, more info to follow.

Our Web site continues to play a very important part of our recruitment, Thanks to our Web Master/ Treasurer, Paul Carmen. With the recent surge in new membership (10,at least), I ask that all of the established members lend a hand to help these new recruits define themselves as men at arms, camp followers, craftspeople or musicians. I foresee the 5th CT playing a Big roll in BAR & CL decisions due to our growing numbers and honorable reputation.

Campaign 2001

- Oct 27-28 BAR Battle of White Plains, Pound Ridge Reservation, Lewisboro NY
- Nov 10 Veteran's ceremony New Hartford Green
- Dec ? Trenton
- Jan ? Annual Meeting – site tbd
- Feb 24 Washington Ball – site tbd



Just imagine, right now, if we had every member who portrays a soldier out on the field at White Plains, we would have 25, not including an Officer, Sergeant & Corp.!

Our camp followers continue to do a great job in educating the public. They are self-motivated and add so many dimensions to our portrayal of 18th Cent. life. They have kept this unit going strong for nearly 30 years. And their numbers are growing.

As an Organization, we continue to do very well in our fiscal health, thanks mostly to our paid shows this year. Get ready for next year; it looks to be a busy one.

I'll be coordinating the White Plains event so please call or e-mail me and let me know if you're coming or not.

Remember, we are portraying early war, so your Battle Road Attire (New England Civilian) is the correct clothing, no Blue Regimentals and we will hone our skills on the 1764 drill on Drill Day (Oct 20) I look forward to seeing you there.

Your Humble Servant,

Tom Traue
Commander

From the Company Surgeon: Removing Warts. You can get rid of warts by rubbing them with a live toad every day until they are finally drawn into the toads skin. You can also rid them if you rub them with the inside of a brown paper bag, close the mouth of the bag tightly, and throw it away. If some one picks up the bag and opens it, he will get warts, and yours will disappear.



From the Adjutant's Desk

If I may lead off by thanking all for the privilege it's been to be adjutant. It was Mike Fillers role for many years and I can appreciate the time commitment to put out an Informer that reflects the quality organization we share.

The season winds down, but a flurry of activity remains. The White Plains show is going to be a tremendous event for us. With many veterans in our ranks please make an effort to welcome the new people in camp and to help them with any questions or purchases they may make. If you can remember your first big show it can be intimidating.

Proceeding this is a very important drill day. This must not be passed up. Consider this a mandatory event the first of the season. We are not on the same page currently in the field and it showed at Newgate. Many have experienced sergeants dating back to our favorite Mannie Padin. Its perhaps-human nature to want to leave ones marks when in the position of leadership. All our NCO's have endeavored to teach and have served the 5th well serve. Huzzah to those who made the commitment to our unit. Now with the size of our group, it's important to work as one body on the field. Our past commander Tom Linskey said "we are in the hobby to educate, and accurate drill presentations are one facet of this". To portray it poorly is a disservice to the men we honor. Steve Johnson has the experience and is willing to teach. Commander Traue has asked little of us this year while dedicating much time behind the scenes to keep us in the forefront of the hobby. He now asks for your help in this. Plan on coming with a full tummy, as we will be eating in the late afternoon (the 5cr is buying). Directions in informer. The 5th is doing well financially according to the paymaster. Paul continues the good work of Tom Traue and we are in very capable hands. He gave a very detailed report at a board meeting and its great to see someone take a new position as Paul has and run with it. Remember our 5CR newspaper will start production this winter. We will be looking for tidbits from all of you so please submit to me in the near future. Coming to a tavern near you, winter of 2002.

Yours in Colonial Spirit – Tom Angels



John Ahrens invites us to a truly wonderful event. The veterans of new Hartford will hold a ceremony on November 10th at 10:00 on the New Hartford green in Pleasant Meadow. Its on route 44 with arrival at 9:00. It's a paid event and food to follow at the firehouse. They were trilled to have us last year and we were more than honored. With glassy eyes the vets formed a line and each shook our hands. As these citizen soldiers dwindle in numbers lets share their love for America and each other by gracing their special morning

Where's the party? Our Washington ball will be held on February 24th 2002. We need to form a committee of 2 people interested in helping Paul Carmen find a site. Call Paul for details.



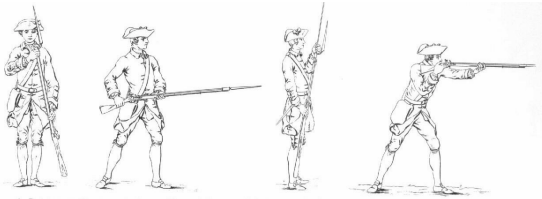
New Members

T.J. Bruno, Kathy and Marshal Smith and sons Tom (thats right # 5) and Bill.

T.J. Bruno-(related to that famous German boxer of the 20's), T.J. first met us at Newgate. He fell in with the Tory's and the rest is history. A great guy who anticipates a long run with us. His father Tony hope's to join us soon and will be falling in on the 20th drill day. (As will Sam Gedge, Marshal Smith, Mike McGuire and T. Castrovinci) The Smiths--Kathy's first venture into the hobby. She is gearing up for White Plains with borrowed clothing (as will Marshal) and is planning on doing candle demo's next year. Tom will be carrying a musket and Bill will take the field in many different roles. A terrific family with much enthusiasm to learn and participate.

Info on new members Mike McGuire, Tom Ouellette (no joke # 6), and hold on to your tricorns folks Tom Castrovinci (# 7) will be in next Informer.

P.S. Please bring any extra clothing to White Plains to loan for the day. The loaner bin is empty.



From the Sergeant's Tent

Greetings Fellow Patriots,
As you know, the Battle of White Plains is fast approaching. We are gathering as many men at arms as possible to fight King George's Army. Commander Traue has informed me of a "Training Day" to which all men at arms are strongly encouraged to attend. Going back to colonial days here in the Connecticut Colony, New Haven referred to such days as "Squadron Days" and in other parts of New England they were called "Muster Days".

About eight times a year, as determined by local authorities, all men from ages 16 to 60, as members of the militia, were required to drill. Quite often they were mustered at the town green, close by the tavern, which every town was required to have by law to aid travelers. So fellows, we have been asked by Governor Trumbull to gather at the Linskey Tavern in Portland, Connecticut, on October 20, one week prior to White Plains. We need all new members, veterans and everyone in between!

Think of this as dress rehearsal for White Plains, Fort Lee, and the New Jersey Events. You shall bring your early war uniform, frock or smock, sleeved waistcoat, jacket or coat, hat, shoes, haversack, musket, bayonet, cartridge box, canteen and any other item in your kit that you are planning on using on the march. It is best to wear everything while you are drilling so you will be accustomed to it in the heat of battle! The importance of everyone being there can't be stressed enough. After the last couple of season, some of our veterans have continued on with new ventures in the hobby and we have added several new ones. We are on an upswing in men at arms. Do you realize that we have thirty men at arms on the roster? That's the highest since the Bicentennial! At this rate we will need more N.C.O.'s, better trained, well schooled mentors to get everyone on the same page and unified. We have some with experience, but many lack the fine points of the manual. I am more than willing to teach if you have the desire to learn. I have had several excellent mentors in the past. Mike Thompson from the Second Mass, for one took me under his wing and taught me how to teach. He told me it was equally important to teach not only what to do, but why to do it. It makes it easier to remember and to learn. It is not hard if you put your mind in the 18th century.

We will concentrate on marching together, loading and firing, breaking off into sections, etc., etc. Keep in mind; this site is an absolute blast. It is one of the most challenging and breathtaking sites we've ever played on. Hills, woods, meadows, plains, the whole nine yards! The more quality practice we can get in the better we will maneuver on the field, the more powder we can safely burn, and out play our opponents.

See you all soon.

Your most humble Sergeant,

Stephen A. Johnson



A notice to all: When food is being prepared by our "cooking demonstrators", everyone will wait for the signal to get your food. It's not fair when the food preparers are left without a morsel. I have learned over the years; never get the one who prepared your food angry or there'll be hell to pay!!
The Commander

Injured Reserve list: Francine has called to ask for help at the big show. She currently suffers from two ailments, a pain in the neck (Johneus Ahrenus) and wrist problems (carpal tunnel). Any assistance is GREATLY appreciated.

Library News: Tom Angels has taken on the homeless books issue. He has foolishly volunteered to deposit them at his Bristol home. Arrangements for loaning will be worked out at the next board meeting. Until then no lending is possible. With over 300 books it will take time to set something up but its worth the wait.

Thanks Paul Carmen

At the time of publishing this latest newsletter I have decided that although I have enjoyed working on the newsletter, I need to take a break from my duties. Paul Carmen will be publishing the last newsletter of the year in December. I also want to thank Trish Soucy for all her assistance in making this possible. Her talents have added greatly in making this a first class publication. Thank you Sweetheart. I'll be back in February. -Tom Angels



From the Sergeant's Tent

Good day to you brothers in the cause of Liberty. To better our training day, I am including a little "homework" to practice at home before drill.

1. Get used to your musket, do a barbell curl with your left hand with the musket at the swell and bring the lock opposite your right breast. Do ten reps at a time, slowly to keep control and keep the musket's muzzle up. I didn't say it was easy, but in the long run it will develop your muscles and avoid fatigue on the field!
2. Remember to point your left foot straight out and your right foot directly to the right, heels in a line left to right.
3. Always keep your shoulders back. Proper posture is necessary to fight fatigue regardless of how much your accouterments weigh. If your posture is poor, all aspects will tire and get sloppy.
4. Get out and walk, wear wrist weights or what ever you can to get in marching shape. Remember, there are lots of hills at Ward's Pound Ridge Reservation.

The better prepared you are for the event, the more you will enjoy it.

Your overweight Sergeant,

Stephen A. Johnson

P.S. Check your canteen to be sure it is serviceable. Fix or repair as necessary, a.s.a.p.

After Action Report

Some excerpts from Private Effros' report...

On July 28-29 I attended the British occupation of Staten Island in Historic Richmond Town.

I arrived early on the first day, my first intention was to sign in and find other members of the Fifth. Knowing that this was a British occupied town I was cautious as I entered. Not long after entering the town I found some members of the Captain Jn. Outwater's Militia Company. They immediately asked me to be part of a small party needed to rescue a member of the Militia who had recently been arrested by the British. It sounded like fun so I agreed, only to end up captured myself. As I was escorted under guard with other captives Dale Bennett spotted and waved to me. I had to advise him to stay back and avoid capture. Eventually another member of the Militia was able to sneak in and with only a small knife (imaginary of course) free me and sneak me out.

Shortly after lunch we headed over to the Militia camp to assemble. A British Officer came over and warned us that our Militia activities would not be permitted and then read us a document regarding loyalty. This in turn made us determined to retake the town. We marched and advanced on the backside of town where we ran into some British forces, we were evenly matched at first. But the red coats held the field, the situation was less improved when Queens Dragoons were brought in. When artillery was brought up we had to leave them the field and town. Most of us were rounded up and forced to sign a loyalty oath to the King or risk prosecution. I did manage to double cross the redcoat's by putting "Alexander The Great" in place of my name on the loyalty oath. As we were escorted away a few local loyalist ladies made a comment or two to me. I stopped to ward her that someday the rest of our American comrades would return to set things right

Our last scenario of the day, we Patriots with Lieutenant Sieradzki in command, again tried to take the town. It was pretty hopeless from the start. The Lieutenant was ready to send us to our deaths, The men grew uneasy. Fearing a route and our eventual capture the men seized him and relieved him of his command. I ordered a cease-fire, and met with the British Commanders. We negotiated the trade of Lieutenant Sieradzki in exchange for a field pardon. We were allowed to leave with arms and equipment. Soon after the Lieutenant was forgiven and released. He rejoined us at the Militia camp later, in the meantime I did a safety inspection and dismissed the men.

Your most humble servant,

Jesse Effros