



The Company Informer

Rebellion to Tyrants is Obedience to God

Sept., 2002



Commander's Message

Members - allow me to express my sincere thanks to those who have attended some important shows this summer. The efforts and dedication to the Newgate site have put the location on the map for state tourism. It helped to elevate it in the minds of the public and politicians on Sept 20, 21 & 22, CPTV (public TV) will air Saturdays' show with the escape and wedding. We are all invited to attend New Gate's Halloween program. A great family event . Call Mike Plattner at 653-7911. The Sherman show was this years largest soldier turn out and was enjoyed by all. The tavern was memorable. We close the year with some big "hobby" events and I will be attending the October shows. West Point includes the sail ships Providence and HMS Bounty. BAR music will team up with West Point cadets. Saratoga is covered by Tom Castrovinci whose writings are contained in this Informer. I couldn't be more pleased by your efforts this campaign season. Come late fall it will be time to consider moving up into open board positions for 2003. If the 5th is to continue as a proud unit all need to "bite the bullet" during your service and donate a campaign in an administrative role. There is nothing to fear and time of service doesn't exclude anyone.

YMHS
Tom Traue

Campaign 2002

- Sept 27-29 Encampment at Saratoga (National Park) [\(CL\)](#)
- Oct. 5-6 West Point/ Fort Montgomery (Tom Traue) [\(BAR\)](#)
- Oct 12-13 Battle of Saratoga (Tom Castrovinci) [\(CL\)](#)
- Oct 19-20 Burning of Kingston NY [\(CL\)](#)
- Oct 25-26 NewGate Halloween (Mike Plattner 653-7911)



From Saratoga...

"This day General Burguine signed the articles of capitulation...and the whole army capitulated and the General officers in the fore Noon & in the afterNoon the rest of the arney came out and thay wair two hours a marching out."

-Solomon Dwinell



Colonel Bradley's Headquarters
August 1st 1780

Parole _____
Countersign - Milford

Commanders orders...

Officer of the day tomorrow...Captain Morgan of Colonel Well's Regt. Guards as usual. All pillaging of gardens and digging of the inhabitants potatoes or wasting of destroying the property of any person whatsoever is strictly forbidden.



From the Adjutant's Desk

Some notes and thoughts. Do you have any 5CR fellow members clothing borrowed? Please contact Quartermaster Hukill or said owners and plan to return it after your last attended event. Much effort is involved tracking down these items and if the system becomes too laborious it will not continue.

This is my last year as adjutant. I believe the future is emailing Informers to the membership. This saves money and labor. It will allow more effort put into event follow-up and the relaying of 5CR minutes. All you need is a desire to keep our very spread out members tied together. I will assist whoever takes the position next year

Keith Jones and the two Mike Zaps attended Sherman. Their assistance was most welcome and all three showed the enthusiasm and interest needed in the hobby.

CPTV dates on page one. Check listings for evening times.

West Point and Saratoga directions and schedule are found in the latest BAR Courier.

Toni Johnson can always use extra hands in the camp kitchen where our fine ladies can be found (including Tom 1 who is too lazy to carry and clean his musket! Last show at Sherman he was a self appointed ensign leading at a dead run the militia into full retreat.) Toni does bring the kids along and has her hands full so any help is welcome.

It was wonderful to see Sandie Tarbox back entertaining the masses at Sherman. By the way I cooked two apple pies and they were more than edible. (Beats cleaning a musket)

Thanks to Paul Carmen's efforts at procuring two water kegs. They are five gallons and beautiful. Paul's desire to rid the camp of the red and white plastic cooler (15+ years old) moves us into the 18th century. For the old timers the cooler was a great companion. Goodbye old friend.

Thoughts for next years shows?? Your opportunity to help fill the 2003 schedule is soon at hand. If you have seen a sight that would be conducive to our presentations, pass this along to the board. You will also most likely become the coordinator for the program. How about Old Fort Saybrook, Fort Griswold or Fort Trumbull.

Recruiting...do you know someone who is interested in history? Pass my phone number along 314-1936 while there are still some shows left. New members are needed and during the off season they can begin to acquire gear for 2003.

A personal friend, Jeff Dwyer, took many photos at the Sherman show. They will be sent to Paul Carmen to add to the website photo gallery in a few weeks.

Yours in colonial spirit,
Tom Angels



What's with the hair??

They stood like soldiers, erect with a military bearing, so still that we were greatly amazed...not one of them was properly uniformed but each man had on the clothes in which he goes to the field, the church or the tavern...the officers wore very few uniforms and those they did wear were of their own invention. All the colors of cloth are usable, eg. Brown coats with sea green facings, white lining, and silver sword knots; also grey coats with straw facings and yellow buttons were frequently seen...(some of them had) snow white wigs with mighty long bushy hair at the sides and thick lambs-tails behind! There were glistening black abbot's wigs, which especially set off red or copper colored faces! There were also white or grey English pastors wigs whose horse or goat hair was done up in a dangerously huge roll standing up in the air. You think such a man has a whole sheep under his hat and hanging down the back of his neck. -Saratoga

SARATOGA!

Now the men in the ranks were to meet, in a manner of speaking. The prisoners were approaching with fifes and drums playing, and the waiting Americans lined both sides of the road, standing with muskets at their sides, eyes looking straight ahead or lowered in deference to the defeated men, though it was 'a very agreeable sight' according to Ephraim Squire. Brigade by brigade, regiment by regiment, the British and Brunswickers paraded through this gauntlet, their jaws tight with anger, and pride, arms swinging freely now that they had no weapons to carry, seeing for the first time the face of destiny.... Along the road, stretching out as far as the eye could see were those rows of rebels, and American fifers suddenly struck up the shrill notes of "Yankee Doodle"... All Gates regiments and his artillery were standing at arms and 'not a one of them was regularly equipped' a German officer wrote. "Each one had on the clothes which he was accustomed to wear in the field, in the tavern, the church and everyday life". But he was quick to see that 'they stood in an erect and a soldierly attitude. All their musket had bayonets attached to them, and their riflemen had rifles.'

Several other things impressed the seasoned European soldiers. "There was absolute silence in those rgts. as only can be demanded of from the 'best disciplined troops"....

A description of the Crown forces surrender in Saratoga by Richard M Ketchum

Such descriptions never fail to inspire and remind me of how much I truly enjoy this 'hobby'. I do not want to wish away one single day of the dwindling summer but I can't help but look forward to the 225th anniversary reenactment of the Battles of Saratoga. The two day event is October 12 & 13, Columbus Day Weekend, taking place at a revised location in Fort Edward, New York. In addition there will also be an 18th century Living History Demonstration event at the actual NPS site in Saratoga on September 27~29.

I was fortunate enough to experience my first battle reenactment at White Plains last October. The Saratoga reenactments planned for the October 12~13 show have all the portent of being as impressive.

The 5th Connecticut will certainly have it's place in the line and I look forward to seeing many of you there. It appears we will be forming with the 5th Division, Poor's Brigade, in the 1st Company under our own Gene Frechette. Brigaded with us will be the 3rd Mass, 3rd Jerseys and Herrick's Rgt from Vermont. The total men-at-arms count at present anticipates over 1,600 rebel and 1,100 Crown participants. I am not sure of Crown artillery but the rebel count is now at 7 guns.

I have not been informed so formally but I believe the portrayal, as per Ketchum's description, is 'militia'.

Due to the large size of the show and some misadventures with local government [which the local Albany press seems predisposed to instigating] it was necessary to move the site to Fort Edward about 19 miles North of Saratoga. Reenactors will be allowed on the site beginning 7 am on Friday the 11th. Saturday with include a Mourn Arms ceremony, various vignettes, the Freeman's Farm battle, Tavern, Dance and Musik. Sunday adds an 8am war game and the Bemis Heights Battle.. The organizers are inviting Music and Period demonstrations as well as various gaming participants. If you would like to offer time or services send an email to delos64@yahoo.com.

The Saratoga area is a wonderful place to visit in all seasons but at peak foliage time in the autumn it is spectacular. There is plenty of history in the area including the Saratoga National Park, Fort Ti, Crown Point and a number of lesser known sites nearby. Lake George, Saratoga Springs and the Adirondack mountains are also at hand. Since Monday is a holiday for some, you might think about lingering on an extra day.

In early August, Capt Traue forwarded on to us information from the Saratoga 225 organizers, which included a description of the new location with maps, schedules &tc. If anyone needs a copy please feel free to contact me at home 203 966-7651, work 203 329-6500 or email tcast@amsyn.com, For more information you can check the BAR website at brigade.org but a very thorough and detailed description of the event is offered by the organizers at saratoga225th.org.

The Saratoga225th website gives the usual schedules and pertinent information but also provides a listing of all the attending units and the complete order of battle; including the latest attendee count. The list of units coming looks like a comprehensive directory for the hobby with enthusiasts enroute from Europe, Canada and literally from all across the U.S. A neat photo-recon type map of the Fort Edward site is provided with overlays of the battle plan, re-enactor camps &tc. By the way, I have used the Saratoga

website as an intriguing educational and recruitment tool. It gives interested parties a real feel for the diversity, nature and extent of our AWI reenacting.

Now if anyone wants further information, and is truly blessed and fortunate enough not to have email or website access, please feel free to call me and I will help dig up a pertinent phone contact for your questions.

Here's a parting excerpt from Ketchum's *Saratoga*...

What most impressed and gratified the tired, defeated soldiers of Burgoyne's ranks was that "not a single man [amongst the victorious rebels] gave any evidence or slightest impression of feeling hatred, mockery, malicious pleasure or pride for our miserable fate." On the contrary, "it seemed rather as though they desired to do us honor"... "They behaved with the greatest decency and propriety, not even a Smile appearing in any of their Countenances, which circumstance I really believe would not have happened had the case been reversed."

I am grateful that we all in the hobby 'desire to do honor' to all sides involved in our War for Independence. But far more importantly, herein is found a singular noble national character of Americans that is present at Saratoga and again at Yorktown and has been echoed throughout our history. Whether at Appomattox or Germany and Japan after World war II, it is not in the values of the Americans people to play the oppressive conqueror. Instead it is in our better nature to offer a hand of friendship, compassion and charity to our former enemies...even when it "would not have happened had the case been reversed". It is this national trait which rises in incontrovertible response to the often heard criticism of our country throughout the world. This, amongst many other things that makes me the most proud to be an American.

See you at Saratoga.

Tom 7

Directions to the Fort Edward site:

The Battles of Saratoga site is approximately 50 minutes north of Albany, NY. It is southeast of the Village of Fort Edward, just 1 mile off RT 4 on County Road 46.

From the south

From the New York State Thruway (I87) take exit 24 at Albany, NY onto I87 (Adirondack Northway). Continue north to Exit 17N onto Rt 9 North. Continue north on Rt 9 to Intersection of Rt 197, turn right onto Rt 197. Continue east on Rt 197 until you cross the Hudson River into Fort Edward. Turn right onto Rt 4 South. Continue south on Rt 4, out of Fort Edward, over the Champlain canal to the intersection of County Road 46. Take a left onto County Road 46, the event site is about 1 mile on the left.

From the north

From the I 87 North (Adirondack Northway), take exit 17N onto Rt 9 north. From here the directions are the same as from the south.

From the east*

From I 90 West take exit 1N at Albany, NY onto I87 North (Adirondack Northway). Continue north to Exit 17N onto Rt. 9 North. From here the directions are the same as from the south.

From the west

From the New York State Thruway (190 East) to I87 take exit 1N at Albany NY onto I87 North (Adirondack Northway). Continue north to Exit 17N onto Rt 9 North. From here the directions are the same as from the south.

* Note: these directions are from the organizer. I might consider a reality check. I am rather certain that in order to reach exit 1N you must first exit I90 at exit B1 well before getting to Albany. Exit B1 starts a by-pass extension off of I90 which proceeds north/east meeting the "Adirondack Northway" on the western side of Albany at exit 1N. Double check with your own maps!

In any case an alternate I use about 20 times a year is shorter and may avoid some Friday afternoon traffic. I exit at B1 off I90 westbound but then take I787 just after crossing the Hudson River in Albany. This is well before reaching exit 1N. Proceed north on I787 a few miles then exit onto Route 7 west. Route 7 west intersects with I87 (Adirondack Northway) somewhat above Albany.