

Fall, 2016



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE BRIGADE OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NORTH-WEST DEPARTMENT

B.A.R. SHOT

Commander: Bob Cairns (330) 455-9722

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NWD Commander's Corner



Photo from
Ted Filer

Approx.
1994, Fair
at New
Boston

Don
Eisenbraun
is the
first soldier
on the left.

I will start out this missive on a sad note. Long time NW Dept. member Don Eisenbraun passed away October 5th in Warren, Ohio. Don was a U.S. Army veteran, and retired from the Packard Electric company where he was a machinist. I got to know Don when he and I joined the 8th Pennsylvania Regt. in 1978. Shortly after the end of the Bicentennial, Don began the 1st Jaeger Company. He and his wife Lana were extremely active in B.A.R. functions. Don served in several positions on the NW Dept. Board and ran for a post on the Main Dept. Board. Lana was for many years the NW Dept. CCS. Lana preceded Don in death, passing away in 2009. Don had a fine sense of humor, and enjoyed using his hands to build many of the things he needed for reenacting, including a number of Jaeger rifles for the men in his unit. He also was very interested in coins of the Revolutionary War period. Our thoughts go out to Susan and Steve Vargo, Don and Lana's daughter and son-in-law, and their children, who shared Don's love of living history, and the rest of his family. Don's public obituary can be seen by googling "Don Eisenbraun obituary, Warren, Ohio". I am sure that all of you that knew Don will share in mourning his passing.

As our 2016 event season comes to a close, I've thought about the highlights and there were quite a few. First, we began by attending the Mount Vernon event in early May. What a way to kick off the year! We had a great time, and in a very special moment marched to General Washington's tomb, rendered honors, and laid a wreath at his sarcophagus. We were joined on the field by two new NW Dept. units, the 13th Va. and Butlers Rangers, Caldwell's Coy. Both are very welcome additions to our numbers. We renewed our relationship with the **NorthWest Territorial Alliance**, as well as returned to Fort Meigs, a fine site used to dealing with living history groups. We lent our support and knowledge to help with the sieges of Ft. Randolph and Ft. Henry. To complete the season we have our Fall Firelock Match, another opportunity to experience what you and your firelock can do. All in all, another very successful season for the NW Dept., B.A.R., in which all but two of our units participated. Thank you to ALL NW Dept. members for attending our events and supporting the NW Dept. HUZDAH !!! to you all.

In closing, although it is only October, I won't have another chance in the **B.A.R. SHOT** to wish you all a very Happy Holiday Season before the holidays are actually here. So, best wishes to you all, and may you have a great "off-season" repairing old clothing and gear, making new, and reading and researching all the books you've collected. Pride in the history of the units you portray is enhanced by continuing to learn and research, so that you can make the best possible presentation of your unit's history. Making sure the fit of your clothing is accurate to the 18th c., and your kit is appropriate to your unit's documentation also help make us as good as we can be.

I'll see you all at the first formation at our next scheduled event, and

HUZDAH the NW DEPT. B.A.R. !!!

Bob Cairns, 8th PA Reg't, Ft. Laurens Det.
Cmdr., NW Dept., B.A.R.



Fort Laurens
2016

Photo by
Dianne Miller

Log Cabin Firelock

November 5/6 2016



Log Cabin Shop Museum & Range 8010 Lafayette Rd, Lodi, Ohio 44254

STOP!!!

Don't go into Winter Quarters!!! The NWD will be returning to the Log Cabin range for the final Event of 2016. This Fall Firelock will be another great time and learning experience for new shooters and experienced shooters alike. Last year we had two brand new shooters each win a relay. This is a FUN shoot with some new challenging targets this year. Our primary goal is to have a SAFE, Fun time with our muskets, fowlers, rifles and pistols. The more you experience the better you will be able to interpret your persona. Everyone is welcome! Those needing assistance will be provided a mentor to get the most out of their experience and make sure they are safe and have FUN. We will be "camping" inside the Museum Saturday night. Yes there is inside plumbing!!!

Arrival Sat: 0900-0930hrs Range will be open for practice

0930hrs Safety Meeting-Range Masters: Bob Kashary & Joe Forte

1000hrs Individual Matches Muskets and Fowlers range 15-50yds

Rifle Match 15rounds 25-50yds Pistol Match 10rounds 10-15yd

1630-1730hrs School- presenter Ric Kindig on Log Cabin Museum

Sunday: 0930hrs Safety Meeting Teams will be assigned

1000hrs Team Match- relays 15-50yards we should be complete by 1200-1300hrs depending on the number of shooters.

***Accommodations: Food and Beverage is not supplied. Bring your own haversack lunch Saturday. We will not stop the relays for lunch.

1630hrs I hope to have Ric Kindig give us an hour School of the History of the Museum. Supper is on your own. There are many restaurants nearby in Medina and Lodi. After Supper there will be an NWD Board Meeting. All shooters are welcome to attend. We will be camping in the Museum Saturday night, bring a cot and bedding.

Sunday breakfast is on your own. We will have use of the store/museum and bathrooms Saturday (when they are open to the public) and Sunday for as long as we need (the Store will be closed) This is a rain or shine 18th C event. The range is covered, but dress accordingly for weather. Please REGISTER for this Event by calling: **Bob Kashary** at 440-546-9184 or **Joe Forte** 740-474-6183 ASAP. Mark the date on your calendar **NOV. 5/6 2016**. Joe says: Let's have some Fun!!!

After Action Reports

Fort Meigs

This past August 6-7, units from the Northwest Department, Brigade of the American Revolution and the Northwest Territorial Alliance, joined together for an event at Fort Meigs. Fort Meigs, located in Perrysburg, Ohio is located on a bluff, over-looking the Maumee River. It is the largest enclosed fortified fort in Ohio.

The weather was sunny and humid. It was fortunate that there were several clumps of trees, within the fort which provided plenty of shade. The fort had large areas for setting up the camps and drilling. A large area located outside of the fort was used as the tactical area.

We had demonstrations on drill, artillery, military uniforms and distaff clothing, as well as a drill for new young recruits. While the fort did not provide rations there were restaurants within easy driving distances and modern facilities were available.

Although the troop turnout was light, I believe everyone had a good time. Units participating were:

5 th Va. Reg't.	Butler's Rangers, Caldwell's Coy.
King's 8 th Reg't.	Delaware Reg't.
8 th Pa. Reg't., Ft. Laurens Det.	Jaegers
10 th Va. Reg't.	Logan's Coy.
13 th Va. Reg't	Royal Naval Landing Party

We will be returning to Fort Meigs in 2017, so mark your calendars for August 19th & 20th.

Bernard B Borowski, 5th VA Reg't
Event Coordinator





Fort Henry Days

Labor Day weekend once again found the North West Department at Fort Henry Days in Oglebay Park, Wheeling, West Virginia. The North West Department presented programs on rifle / musket operation in linear tactics along with an artillery demonstration. This was in addition to our participation in the recreated siege of Fort Henry.

The recreated battle this year focused more on linear tactics in the field and less on the massed firing of muskets from the fort. Members of the NWD Congressional forces were assembled as a single company of Regulars. This company took the field against a force of NWD Loyalists supplemented by a group of Native Americans. The B.A.R. Congressional forces were made up of men from: The Westmoreland County Militia, Crockett's Western Battalion, the 13th VA Regiment, Delaware Regiment and the 8th PA Regiment, both Ft. Laurens and Ft Pitt Dets. The B.A.R. Loyalists had members from the 4th NJV, 23rd Royal Welsh Fusiliers, Royal Naval Landing Party and Butler's Rangers. In all the NWD had 29 men and 5 distaff members present. The battles were spirited and well directed. The effort of the reenactors was well received by the public. The siege was reenacted on both Saturday and Sunday.

On Saturday evening we enjoyed a very nice meal of baked chicken, potato casserole, salad and desserts. For those wishing to take advantage of some nice modern amenities showers were again available.

Again this year, on Sunday morning, several of us drove to a nearby cemetery to see the grave of Samuel Brady, Captain in the 8th Pennsylvania Regiment. While there we fired 3 volleys and stood on reversed arms.

At this point it has not been decided as to whether the NWD will attend in 2017.

Joe Forte, 8th Pa. Reg't, Ft Laurens Det.
Event Coordinator





Fort Henry Days

Photos by

Barb Eakin



Brecksville Fallfest

The Brigade again was the star of the show at the Brecksville Fallfest on Sunday Sept. 25th. A beautiful day, cool, bright and rainless, and the usual large crowd kept us interpreting almost constantly.

Lady Stephanie Miller provided glamour with her beautiful silk gown while the ladies educated the public on the fine points of 18c dress. The troops united to give a demonstration of 18c tactics and firepower starring the gun of the RNLP, which wowed the crowd.

Participating units were:

5th Va. Reg't civilians

Crockett's Western Bttn.

8th Pa. Reg't, Ft. Laurens Det.

Delaware Reg't.

23rd R.W.F.

Jaegers

Butler's Rangers, Caldwell's Coy.

Royal Naval Landing Party

Thanks to all who came and hope to see you again next year!

Bill Lucas, 23rd Reg't of Foot, R.W.F.

Event Co-coordinator





TAVERN BISCUITS – AN 18TH CENTURY TREAT

Modern cookies were not invented yet in the 18th C., but here is a tasty and filling “biscuit” my wife makes that I have shared for years at events. Don’t ask me how many years.

½ cup soft butter

¾ cup sugar

2 - 3 tablespoons brandy (cherry is good, Virginians usually have peach brandy in hand)

¼ teaspoon mace

2 ¼ cups flour

8 – 9 tablespoons milk

350 degree oven, 15 – 20 minutes

Cream butter and sugar. Add brandy and mace, then flour and milk, a spoonful at a time, to make a stiff dough. Refrigerate until dough is firm enough to roll out easily. Roll dough to an even thickness, about ¼ inch or more, as it does not rise. Cut out in small circles. 3-inch circles produce about 2 ½ dozen biscuits. Prick with a fork, and bake in a 350 degree oven about 15 – 20 minutes until they are firm. They should be brown on the bottom, but the tops remain pale.

Source: Early American Cooking. Early American Life magazine, 1977.

Bruce Egli, Westmoreland County Militia

NW Dept. Unit Commanders Meeting

When; Saturday, 21 January 2017

Where; Zoar, Ohio

Very shortly the unit commanders and adjutants of all of our NW Dept. units will be receiving invitations to attend a meeting in Zoar, Ohio, just outside Bolivar, the home of Fort Laurens. The reason for the site is that over the years Fort Laurens has been our mostly well-attended annual event, and a large part of this is its location. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the future of the NW Dept. and how we can plan events to accommodate our units and

their members. We will also be looking at ways to improve recruiting and how units might assist each other with new recruits. We will also open the discussion to anything those present

believe is relevant to our purposes. To make attending this event easier, the NW Dept. with

pay for hotel rooms and an evening meal Saturday evening. If you are a unit commander or adjutant, please plan on attending so that your input can be added to the discussions.

In addition to unit commanders and adjutants, *any* interested member of the B.A.R. is invited to attend the meeting. You will need to contact Bob Cairns for information and to let the Board know you plan to attend.

Bob Cairns

Commander, NW Dept., B.A.R.

Thank you to all the units and individuals that have supported the NW Dept. this season by participating in events. Also, remember that we still have one event reaming in the 2016 season. It is:

What: Fall Firelock Match

When: 5-6 November, 2016

Where: The Log Cabin Gun Shop, Lodi, Ohio

The site is one of the oldest muzzle-loading shops in the country. The shooting will be done on a standard range at paper targets. Please note that you will be able to sleep over Saturday night in the shop, but the shop is only open on Saturday, being closed Sunday. See the Log Cabin Shop's website for general information, and contact either Joe Forte, jjorte@frontier.com, or Bob Kashary at K9Kash@roadrunner.com. I'll see you all there,

Bob Cairns, 8th Pa. Reg't, Ft. Laurens Det.
Commander, NW Dept., B.A.R.

NOTES FROM THE INSPECTOR

Someone is Always Watching

The fact that when we are at events we are always being watched isn't news to anyone in this organization. After all, isn't that why people go to historical reenactments, to see the reenactors. While we may like all the attention, it comes with a price. That price is that while we are on display, people are looking to see if we are really as authentic as we, the B.A.R., say we are.

In the opening paragraph of the Section describing the Office of Brigade Inspector in the B.A.R.'s Soldiers Manual it states that, "The standard in all matters is safety and authenticity."

Recently while at a non-B.A.R. event a non-BAR friend of mine told me that he had lost a lot of respect for the B.A.R. While I know that his statement was as much to poke fun it carried some amount of truth. When I asked him what caused this change in his attitude he told me that while he was at a NWD event he saw two things that were not correct and thought that we would know better. He proceeded to describe both instances and I agreed that we should know better, and we do. One item was an item of clothing, the other a piece of camp equipment. Before you start with the authenticity Nazi, thread counter comments, please consider that he was correct in his observation. The items in question are not correct for the time period we choose to recreate. Both of the items could have been easily corrected. The clothing item could have been made in a period manner with correct material, the piece of camp equipment could have been replaced with a period correct piece.

In the NWD we are asking all units to inspect their member's clothing and equipment. We have started this process in my unit, the 8th Pa Regiment. The results have been mostly good, but we have identified some areas where changes need to be made. And, to my pleasure many of the changes have already been completed.

Now that the season is essentially over I would ask that each individual look at his or her kit and eliminate those items that are incorrect. If you don't know or aren't sure, ask. And while you are asking, get the documentation if you can, that helps all of us.

Please remember the Firelock Matches on November 5 and 6 at the Log Cabin Shop in Lodi, Ohio. This promises to be a great event.

Joe Forte, 8th Pa. Reg't, Ft. Laurens Det.
NWD Inspector

Adjutants Freshest Advices

Have you gone to the new updated Brigade Website? www.Brigade.org Check it out and see what is new! Make sure that YOUR Personal information is correct. The BAR Commander will be able to send BLAST information to all BAR members when needed, similar to what the NWD has been doing for several years. There are some units that have not updated their webpage on the Brigade site in many years. Time to freshen' things up and bring them up to date.

NWD Commanders and all Members: the Main Department is currently in the Election process; the NWD is beginning the Board Election 2017 process. The Election Committee has been appointed and will be looking for candidates. Are YOU someone who wants to be involved in the direction the NWD is taking, and willing to attend NWD Board Meetings and Events? Contact any Election Committee Member: Tom Pieper (tip@neo.rr.com), Tom Hornbrook (tphornbrook@yahoo.com), or Cyndie Sizemore (oscarmomm@gmail.com) before the December 17, 2016 Board Meeting.

YMHS,

Bob Kashary, 5th Va. Reg't.

NWD Adjutant



Fort Meigs

Smell Like George Washington!

Looking for a tasteful gift for the holiday season? I am a fan of Caswell-Massey Number Six, a men's cologne from 1752, and a favorite of George Washington, who gave it as a gift to the Marquis de Lafayette. The company now offers it as cologne, after shave, talcum powder, and soap. You may call upon the company at caswellmassey.com. Just the thing for your man!

Bruce Egli, Westmoreland County Militia

2017 NW Dept. Schedule

At the October 8th NW Dept. Board meeting, the following events were approved for the 2017 season. All the events listed are approved for the 2017 calendar, but some additional events are still in the planning stages, including a school and firelock matches. Watch the B.A.R. SHOT for additions.

21 January, **NW Dept. Unit Commanders Meeting**, Zoar, Ohio. Please look elsewhere in this issue of the B.A.R. SHOT for details regarding this important event.

18-19 March, **Kalamazoo, Mich. Living History Show**. This very large indoor show, in its 42nd year is an opportunity for our units to present their recruiting information to thousands of spectators. Google the show site for much more general information, and contact Dan O'Connell, King's 8th Regt. for specifics regarding NW Dept. involvement. todanieloconnell@juno.com

6-7 May, **Ohio Civil War Show**, Mansfield, Ohio. One of the largest militaria shows in the country, and a chance to both demonstrate what we do and see a huge volume of military artifacts, including many pieces from our chosen period. At our last show there in 2015 there was an original British bearskin grenadiers cap to see. This show also has a fine website for general information, and contact Bob Cairns 8th Pa. Regt., Ft. Laurens Det., for specific details. robtcairns@cs.com

19-21 May, **Siege of Ft. Randolph**, Point Pleasant, W. Va. This is the site's big event, and we participated last year. It is a three-day event, with Friday being a day for school groups, and Saturday portraying the events of the siege. Sunday is much more relaxed, and if you want to come for Saturday, or Saturday and Friday, that would be great. Google the Fort Randolph site for general information, and check with Joe Forte, 8th Pa., Ft. Laurens Det., for specifics of our participation. jjforte@frontier.com

3-4 June, **Fort Niagara**, Youngstown, N.Y. We will be participating at this outstanding military site that was in continuous use from the early 1700's to the 1960's. We had a fine time in 2015, and hope you will all join us. No one interested in 18th c. U.S. military history should go through their lives without seeing this site. Check the Ft. Niagara website for general information, and Dave Miller, Va. Reg't., will be handling all our NW Dept. registrations. david.miller2@cox.net

5th

8-9 July, **Fort Laurens**, Bolivar, Ohio. This is annually our most well-attended event. Held

at the site of Ohio's only fort commissioned by Continental Congress, it also has a nice museum and the Tomb of the Unknown Patriot of the American Revolution. In addition, no other site we visit can say that so many of the units we recreate were involved at the actual site. These units include the 8th Pa., 13th Va., King's 8th Regt., Butlers Rangers, and the Westmoreland County Militia. As in the past, we will hold our annual general membership meeting at the event. For more information, contact Bob Cairns, 8th Pa., Ft. Laurens Det., robtcairns@cs.com

19-20 August, **Fort Meigs**, Perrysburg, Ohio. We will again get together with the

NorthWest Territorial Alliance for a joint event at Ft. Meigs. You can see the event report on our 2016 event elsewhere in this issue of the B.A.R. SHOT, and we are hoping

for an even better turnout from both organizations in 2017. Fort Meigs is the largest wooden stockade in North America, and there is a fine museum on the site. Please visit the site's website for general information, and contact Bernie Borowski, 5th Va. for registration and other information. boro42@sbcglobal.net.

24 Sept., **Brecksville Fallfest**, Cleveland Metro Parks, Brecksville, Ohio. See the event

report on the 2016 event. A fine site with very large, interested crowds provides a chance for you to sharpen your interpreting skills. Contact Bill Lucas, 23rd R.W.F. for information at blmj@sbcglobal.net.

As I said we are still looking at some other event sites and planning for two firelock matches and a school. As soon as these are approved the information will be sent to the unit commanders, to everyone on the BLAST list, and to our B.A.R. SHOT editor.

Bob Cairns, 8th Pa. Reg't, Ft. Laurens Det.

Commander, NW Department



The Sew & So...

I recently read a book entitled *God of Liberty* by Thomas S. Kidd, and it got me thinking about the mindset of the American colonists in the years leading up to the Revolution. Written in 2010, it highlights the role of religion in the colonies as The Great Awakening of the 1730s (and subsequent rise of non-Anglican churches) that helped lay the groundwork for the growing spirit of independence. We are very familiar with colonial attitudes regarding taxation and dissatisfaction with English government, but the underlying foundation supplied by religion has not been emphasized before.

Kidd claims that "The Great Awakening of the 1730s and 1740s was the most profound social upheaval in colonial America." Before this time the role of the church in the private lives of the colonists had been the bedrock of their society, be they northern Puritans or southern Anglicans. Religious behavior was carefully monitored in many of the colonies as church attendance was required and taxes were collected for the support of the church. The clergy dictated moral behavior from the pulpit and even seating in church was determined by social standing. It was all quite orderly, hierarchical and rigid. But the emotion, freedom and excitement of the Great Awakening challenged all that. Controversial preachers called for new freedoms: a re-birth of spirit and society, the formation of new ways to worship, and freedom from the staid and orderly. This was a time of personal self-examination, a call to be "born again", church meetings under the trees, excitement, emotional sermons, and personal involvement in religion. It was a call to action, and it breathed a breath of self-determination into colonists who had been willing to live with the religious status quo for so long.

As time went on, the total authority of the established churches weakened. In fact, Kidd claims that "the birth of American evangelical Christianity in the 1740s resulted in the first widespread popular uprising against established authority in the history of British colonial America..."

As time went on, many equated religious liberty with civil liberty. The freedom to live as one chose under the Law of Man was equated with the freedom of spirit under the Law of God. The freedom of choice was paramount. The next step in this logic was that a church that did not allow for personal freedom threatened civil liberty.

The result was that the Roman Catholic Church, never popular with the British or her colonists, became the Antichrist. Catholics were persecuted in many colonies and reviled in others. Personal freedom of religious choice did not extend to those who followed the dictates of the hated Pope and the Roman Catholic clergy. And the Anglican Church, the offspring of the Roman Catholic Church, was also distrusted more and more. These two churches required obedience from their members, and the colonists were, more and more, seeking freedom, not obedience.

Things began to come to a head in the 1760s. The Anglican Church wanted to appoint a bishop for the colonies in order to easily ordain more clergy. But the colonists saw this as an attempt by the Church of England to re-gain lost souls, authority, and tax support. Rightly or wrongly, emotions were strong and accusations flew. The colonists were afraid that the civil bonds to England would be tightened to the point that personal freedoms would be lost. There was no place for a strong, orderly church in a society that sought freedom. The proposed appointment of a bishop was a huge threat to the colonists and became a rallying cry in the sermons and tracts of the religious "free."

The Quebec Act of 1774 was a second rallying cry for the colonists. The Quebec Act gave the French Canadians in Quebec (recently acquired from the French in the Treaty of Paris 1763) the right to worship as Roman Catholics. The colonists, especially those in New England, came to the conclusion that they would all be Roman Catholic before long.

And that was unacceptable. And feared. By mid-1774 fears about the incursion of Roman Catholicism and the intentions of the British government had reached fever pitch. Rational arguments were dismissed outright, and pastoral calls to action threatened an imminent loss of religious (and therefore civil) freedoms. Combined with dreaded taxes and a lack of adequate representation in Parliament, animosity was at an all-time high.

The mindset of docile, fairly comfortable colonists had changed. The colonists were now discontent. God was surely on their side as they argued against the loss of freedom and God-given rights. The old ways were not satisfactory. This was a time of change, and change was now desirable. Radical Patriots were able to "take command of the escalating momentum for independence."

And that brings us to the brink of Revolution. *God of Liberty* explains the role of religion during the Revolution and on to 1800. Well researched and documented, I thought it gives another dimension to the mindset of the people who moved from complacency to revolution.

Dianne Miller, 5th Va. Reg't.

Thomas S. Kidd, *God of Liberty*, (New York: Basic Books, 2010), 21.
Ibid., 23.
Ibid., 70.

The NWD B.A.R. SHOT

Editor: Karen Kashary

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Contact the editor for advertising rates (\$7-\$40, depending on size and placement). The Brigade of the American Revolution was established in 1962 as a not-for-profit association dedicated to recreating the life and times of the common soldier of the War for Independence, 1775-83. The NWD was established in 1973. Extracted passages are scholarly comment only.