



# GAZETTE FRANÇOISE.

Du Decembre 2003.

## *Du BUREAU du PRÉSIDENT, from the President's Desk*

Mes Amis,

It's hard to believe that November is almost over and the annual meeting has come and gone! After attending the Northern Department Continental Line meeting, and The Battle Road Commanders Round Table meeting, it would appear that the up coming session is going to be jammed packed with great events. This will be the year for us to travel the east coast with events as far north as Quebec and as far south as Savannah, Georgia. We will be keeping everyone up to date as we learn more about these events.

Thanks for a great drill and meeting, and I want to wish everyone happy holidays. I hope to see you all in December!

Pour le Régiment et le Roi!

*Dana Rock  
Président du 85<sup>ème</sup> Régiment de SaintOngé*

## *Le RAPPORT du CAPITAINE, Captain's Report*

Hi Folks,

I trust everyone had a safe and plentiful Thanksgiving. Thanks to everyone who came to the drill and the meeting. If you didn't catch the local Northboro paper, the Regiment made the local section with a group of us trying to figure out how to execute a maneuver! Dana put together a great meeting – as you could see – we will be very busy next year.

The next drill will be on December 13 at the Stow Town hall starting at 10. Stay tuned for the start times for the

January and February drills – they may be starting at later times. Again, thanks to Dave Walrath for organizing the drill space. For the new folks we may be scheduling a firing session after this drill. Stay tuned to see if we can schedule this one in time. Along with drills, work parties will be starting during this off-season – the first work party will be Wednesday, December 17 at 7 PM at my place. We will be working on finishing white gaiters and starting some black gaiters. We will also be rolling and filling cartridges.

I am looking for recruiting ideas for the coming year. I have one original recruiting poster that I'm looking to have modified for our Regiment to post at the Park or like places. My goal is to use the poster and other methods to help augment our ranks for the upcoming campaign season. Look forward to seeing you all soon!

*Pour le Roi et le Régiment,  
Steven*

## *ÉVÉNEMENTS RÉALISÉS, Past Events*

*DE NORTHBOROUGH, le 22 Novembre. The morning drill, potluck and annual meeting were well attended on this beautiful day in November. How nice to have one last warm and sunny fall day and to get some drilling done out of doors! Many thanks to Les Malecki for arranging the location for us. Our outdoor antics even caught the attention of a local photographer and several members, including new recruit Brad Matthews, ended up in the Telegram & Gazette a few days later! The meeting went well and there was plenty to discuss. A review of 2003 and a look to 2004 were among the agenda items. The 2004 schedule is already filling up, with events including a muster in April, Borderlands and the Sutton event in May, Québec in July-August and Savannah in October...No one will have the chance to be bored next year! Stay tuned for more information in upcoming newsletters and emails as the 2004 schedule is finalized.*

## ÉVÉNEMENTS PROCHAINS,

### *Upcoming Events*

**REGIMENTAL DRILL, Saturday, December 13.** ~ **Arrival:** Please plan to arrive by 10 am at Stow Town Hall in Stow, MA. The drill will run from 10am to 12noon. Coffee will be waiting! **Directions:** Old Town Hall is on Route 117 in Stow, one block west of the intersection of Routes 117 & 62. There is limited parking on the street; additional parking is available at the "new" Town Hall directly across the street. From the East, take Rt. 117(W) to Rt. 62 (Stow Ctr.); Old Town Hall is on the right, one block west of the Rt. 117/62 intersection. From the West, take I495 to Rt. 117 (E) - Old Town Hall is about 8 miles on your left, just before the Rt. 62 intersection. From the South, take Rt. 62(E) to Route 117; turn right and it will be one block on your right. From the North, take Rt. 2 or Rt. 111 to Rt 62(W); take Rt. 62 to Rt. 117 and turn right for one block. **Details:** The drill in the morning will again focus on French maneuvers – please remember cartridge box, musket & hat. Please check your email for weather related cancellations. Hope to see everyone there!

**REGIMENTAL WORK PARTY, Wednesday, December 17.** ~ **Arrival:** The work party will be taking place at Steven's house in Framingham. Please plan to arrive by 7pm. The work party should last for approximately 2 hours. **Directions:** Take 495 to Route 20 East or Route 128 to Route 20 West. Follow Route 20 into Sudbury. At the set of lights immediately after the Shaw's Supermarket Plaza (heading east) or Sudbury Farms (heading west), turn onto Nobscot Road. Follow Nobscot Road into Framingham. (*It turns into Edgell Rd in Framingham*) Look for the Framingham Animal Hospital on your left. You will take the first real left after the Animal hospital onto Treeland Drive. (*Don't take the hairpin left turn onto Harrington.*) Follow Treeland Dr to the end, take a right and then a quick left onto Janebar Circle. Follow Janebar Circle down the hill and around the bend, take your first right onto Roundtop Road. #79 on the right, light grey with dark grey shutters. Park on the street. **Details:** We will spend the evening working on gaiters for our French uniforms. We'll be working on white and black gaiters so practice sewing on buttons those buttons! There will be several sewing machines available and there will be assistance with fitting as well. We'll also spend some time rolling cartridges – there's plenty to do! Come spend the evening with friends and catch up on the latest regimental news while getting your kit prepared for the soon to arrive 2004 season! Please RSVP to Steven at frenchfifer@rcn.com or by phone at 508.877.9648.

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Middlesex County Volunteers Fife & Drum Company will be performing music from their recent Christmas recording 'On Christmas Day' at a number of area venues this month. One concert in particular is being highlighted as ideal for the reeanactor community. It will be held on Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm at 51 Walden, the performing arts center in downtown Concord, MA. Tickets may be reserved through MCV's website: [www.mcvfifesanddrums.org](http://www.mcvfifesanddrums.org) and their holiday concert flyer is included later in the newsletter. Attendees are encouraged to wear 18<sup>th</sup> century dress to the Concord concert and the seating will be cabaret style with tables of four and six. Find some friends, come to the concert, and get into the holiday spirit! The concert is likely to sell out – so be sure to reserve your tickets today!



For those interested in an outdoor location to enjoy the holidays, the 10<sup>th</sup> Mass has issued an invitation to those interested in participating in the annual Candlelight Strolls at Strawberry Banke in Portsmouth, NH. The 10<sup>th</sup> Mass will be occupying the Pitt Tavern with friends on the evening on Saturday, the 6<sup>th</sup> of December. Participants are asked to arrive by 3pm (to make sure you can find someplace to park!) and the event itself lasts from 4pm until 9pm. Plan to dress warmly and spend the evening talking with friends and guests alike. To be sure there is enough room for everyone (and all our hats, cloaks & greatcoats) please let Henry Cooke know if you will be attending. He can be reached at [hcooke4@gis.net](mailto:hcooke4@gis.net). Directions can be found at [www.strawberrybanke.org](http://www.strawberrybanke.org). It's always a nice event – why not spend a winter's eve with friends at historic Pitt Tavern?

## GALERIE des IMAGES, *Picture Gallery*

*Do you have pictures to share? The editor is looking for images to help fill these pages - please send any photos you would like to see published in the newsletter to [gazettefrancoise@earthlink.net](mailto:gazettefrancoise@earthlink.net)*

*Many thanks!*

*85ème Régiment de Saintonge*  
*2003 Governing Board*

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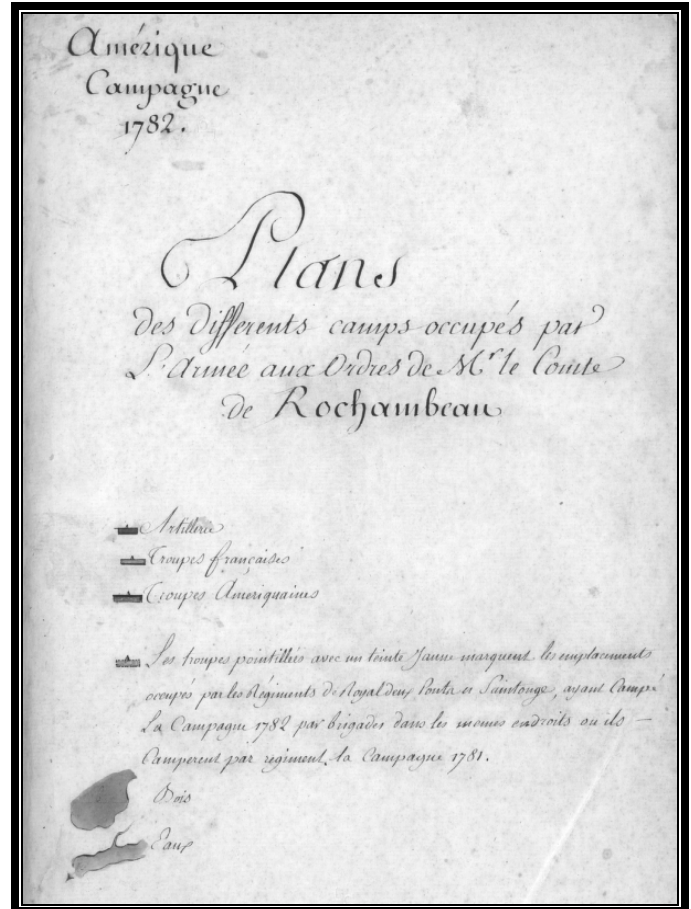


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*4th MIDDLESEX MILITIA,*  
*News and History*

Has anyone found any interesting tidbits that they would like share about the history of the 4<sup>th</sup> Middlesex Militia? Perhaps you could share your opinions about the research sources listed in last month's newsletter? Were your ancestors members of the original 4<sup>th</sup> Middlesex? The editor would love to hear from you! Please send your submissions to the editor at [gazettefrancoise@earthlink.net](mailto:gazettefrancoise@earthlink.net). Thank you for your help!

*THE RETURN FROM YORKTOWN,*  
*French Camps from Yorktown to Boston*



Some of the most informative maps and documents from the American War for Independence were completed by French hands, and the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. holds many of the originals. Due to the recent revival of interest in the Rochambeau March from Newport to Yorktown and back to Boston, many of these images and research sources are available online at the Library of Congress website. ([www.loc.gov](http://www.loc.gov))

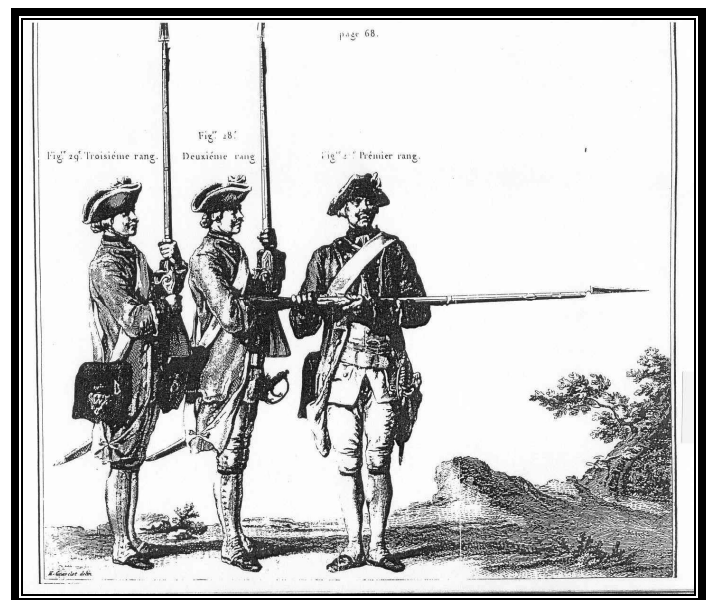
Among the treasures that can be seen are the scanned images of a book of hand-drawn maps, tracing the army from camp site to camp site on their return trip in 1782, following the victory at Yorktown, Virginia. Every camp that was used by the French is included and it is a fascinating study. Perhaps most interesting to New Englanders, are the final few pages of camp sites in Connecticut and Massachusetts. Although today's towns and cities bear little resemblance to their counterparts of 1782, you just might be able to recognize some local landmarks and geographically features in the maps of Dedham and Boston, among others. I encourage each and every one of you to take a look for yourself... you never know what other treasures you might stumble across!

*Le PROGRAMME,  
the schedule for 2003*

*EXERCICES et PRATIQUES,  
Drills & Practices*

Date	Unit	Event
Feb 8	All	<b>Regimental Meeting</b> , 1:00-3:30
Mar 16	85e	<b>Evacuation Day Parade</b> (South Boston).
Mar 22	4th	<b>Buckman Tavern Muster</b> <b>Cancelled</b> due to muddy field conditions.
Apr 19	4th	<b>Battle Road</b> . Assemble at Minute Man Voc Tech at 6:15 am.
May 3	85e	<b>Fife &amp; Drum Muster</b> : Lexington Green
May 10	85e	<b>MMNHP French Army Demonstration Day</b> at MMNHP Visitor's Center.
May 27	85e	<b>Memorial Day Parades:</b> <del>Somerville</del> (Sunday) <b>cancelled</b> . <b>Andover</b> (Monday morning). <b>Medford</b> (Monday afternoon).
Jun 7-8	85e	<b>Strawbery Banke, Garrison Weekend</b> Portsmouth, NH
Jun 21-22	85e	<b>March out of Valley Forge</b> , for any who are interested.
Jun 28-29	4th	<b>Monmouth—225<sup>th</sup></b> Freehold, NJ
Jul 26-27	85e/4th	<b>New Ipswich Encampment</b> , Barrett House, New Ipswich, NH
Aug 23-24	85e	<b>Fort Revere</b> Hull, MA
Aug 30-31	4th	<b>Battle for Rhode Island—225<sup>th</sup></b> (Labor Day weekend)
Sep 1	85e	<b>Marlborough Labor Day Parade (\$\$\$\$\$)</b> Marlborough, MA
Sep 1	All	<b>Post-Parade Cookout at Steven's</b> Framingham, MA
Sep 27	85e/4th	<b>Sudbury Faire &amp; Muster</b> Wayside Inn, Sudbury, MA
Oct 11	All	<b>Harvest Party (&amp; Drill)</b> Framingham, MA
Oct 21	BOD	<b>BOD &amp; Officers Meeting</b> Framingham, MA
Nov 22	All	<b>Regimental Meeting (&amp; Drill)</b> Northborough, MA
Dec 17	All	<b>Workparty -Gaiters &amp; Roll Cartridges</b> Framingham, MA

Date	Unit	Event
Jan 11	85e	<b>French Drill (10:30-12:30) - Stow Town Hall</b> , no musicians
Feb 8	85e	<b>French Drill (10-12) - Stow Town Hall</b> , including musicians (annual meeting to occur immediately afterwards)
Mar 8	85e	<b>French Drill (10-12) - Stow Town Hall</b> Stow, MA
Apr 5	4th	<b>Militia Drill (10-12) - Wayside Inn</b> . Sudbury, MA
Apr 17	4th	<b>Militia Drill (7:30pm) - Bemis Hall</b> Lincoln, MA
Aug 16	4th	<b>Militia - Battle of RI Drill</b>
Aug 27	4th	<b>Militia Drill (7:00 – 8:30pm) at the Wayside Inn with Sudbury CMM</b> Sudbury, MA
Oct 11	85e	<b>French Drill (10-12)</b> Framingham, MA
Nov 22	85e	<b>French Drill (10-12) Northborough VFW</b> Northborough, MA
Dec 13	85e	<b>French Drill (10-12) – Stow Town Hall</b> Stow, MA
Jan 11 2004	85e	<b>French Drill (TBA) - Stow Town Hall</b> Stow, MA



*From the 1776 reglements*

Conzco Arts Center, Concord, MA

51 Walker Street

Frost Center, Cambridge, MA

77 Garden Street, Harvard Square

All tickets general admission \$15. All 12th graders and students with valid ID.

For ticket information and concert updates, visit [www.mccfthesadadmissions.org](http://www.mccfthesadadmissions.org) or call 781-489-3206

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