



N° XVII

GAZETTE FRANÇOISE.

Du Février 2005.

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

*Le RAPPORT du CAPITAINE,
Captain's Report*

Is anyone up for a winter encampment? If this snow keeps up, we are going to run out of places to put it. Speaking of snow, the Continental Line meeting took place the same weekend as the big storm. Annapolis received about 4 or 5 inches of snow, while New England got hammered. I believe that this meeting, the 18th Annual, was the shortest meeting yet. Jeff Lambert was kind enough to keep the meeting short so we could all get out of Annapolis and get home. Even though the meeting was kept short, many of us still were stranded in Annapolis for the weekend. Although most people were stuck at the Airport I was lucky enough to enjoy the Patriots game at private lounge at the Hotel with some folks from South Carolina.

The Continental Line meeting went very well. There is currently only one event this year, which will be sanctioned by the Continental Line. That event is the 225th anniversary of the Battle of Camden in South Carolina. The Continental Line also had a change up in the administrative staff. Brad Chetwynd is the new Treasurer and Sam Ricco, from Proctor's Artillery Company, is the new Adjutant. The Continental Line also voted in three/four new members, those members are the 13th Massachusetts Regiment, Augusta County Militia, 6th North Carolina, McCracken's Regiment.

The Annual February Regimental Meeting is right around the corner. We will be meeting on February 26 from 10:30 to Noon in Berlin, MA. The meeting will be held at the Community Center across the street from the Marini's house. Thank you Frank and Rosemary. This meeting will be a voting meeting. We will be electing Officers and Board members, as well as voting on event for the up coming 2005 event session. Keep in mind we will also be voting on the Membership proposal, which has been brought forth by the Board of Directors.

*Your Humble Servant,
Dana Rock, Président Régiment de SaintOnge*

Framingham on the Sudbury

Looking out from my snow-covered yard, I can tell that winter camp is here. Hopefully we've all dug ourselves out to venture into the New Year.

Thanks to all who attended the drill and distaff gathering despite the snow (see a trend?). We had a great turnout and we were able to get through most, if not all, of the drill. All the new folks are doing great! If this is any indication of the things to come, we'll be a force to be reckoned with.

Dana and I had the pleasure of attending the Continental Line meeting at Annapolis Maryland. We started the weekend's activities by going to the Smithsonian's American History Museum to take in the "The Price of Freedom" exhibit based on a recommendation from Myles and Bill Rose. It was a great exhibit that actually included a display depicting a chasseur from our Regiment! The exhibit is highly recommended. After the exhibit, we met up with Glenn Cook for dinner. Glenn is still thinking of us and is looking forward to this year's activities. On Friday evening, we were treated to the Southern Hospitality Suite hosted by the Second South Carolina. The buzz at that meeting was the Northern Department participation at Savannah and the upcoming Southern events.

The official Continental Line meeting was on Saturday – but was cut short to, you guessed it, a blizzard. Even with impending doom from the skies, we were still able to get through this and next years events. Dana has all of the detailed information that will be uploaded to the website shortly. The way home was an adventure - suffice it to say that Dana and I have a lifetime's worth of "planes, trains, and automobiles" stories for a while.

Lastly, we have a drill coming up early in the month and an annual meeting at the end. This newsletter has all the

details for the drill and the meeting. Please review the events for the coming year and the membership proposal.

Thanks to all for allowing me to be your Captain this past year. Between Sutton and Quebec, we've established ourselves as one of the premier Regiments in the Hobby and we continue to improve. I look upon the next year with great anticipation as we head towards Yorktown!

*Pour le Roi et le Régiment,
Steven*



ÉVÉNEMENTS PROCHAINS, Upcoming Events

*DRILL & DISTAFF GATHERING,
Saturday, February 12. ~ Arrival:* Drill & distaff gathering will begin at 10:30am. It will be only 90 minutes long so please try to arrive on time. **Directions:** We'll be at the Old Town Hall in Stow, MA – many thanks to Dave Walrath for securing the location. 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 I-495 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:** A dual purpose meeting time from 10:30 – 12:00 will give every member a reason to go out into the cold on this January Saturday! For the soldats - the French Drill will be worked on during this time, so please remember to bring cartridge box, musket & hat. If the weather looks good, the drill will take place out doors – so keep that in mind when getting dressed... you might want those regimentals if the weather is chilly enough! For the distaff members of the regiment – we'll be meeting indoors for another gathering. This time around we'll be having a 'From the Neck Up' vanity session as we poke, prod and preen before the mirrors! Plan on bringing accessories for hair and dress (such as jewelry, flowers, caps & kerchiefs) and get and give advice about how best to wear these accessories. Also feel free to bring gowns and other clothing to compare

and contrast different combinations. Several dressmaker dummies will be on hand to save us from getting dressed and undressed all morning! This is a great chance to get to know your fellow distaff members a bit better and to ask questions and share ideas about projects and upcoming events. Coffee & tea will be available for all – hope to see you there! If the weather is nasty – call Steven at 508.877.9648 for any change or cancellation info.

REGIMENTAL WORK PARTY, Tuesday,

February 8 ~ Arrival: Doors open at 7pm. Folks are invited to stay until 9pm. **Directions:** Bill & Cori Rose will be opening their home to us for the evening. Their address is 36 Rocky Dundee Road in Bolton and the phone number is 978.779.5488. (*Editor's note: These directions are my best recollection on how to get to Bill's – if you haven't been there before, please email the list to verify the directions*) The best route to Bill's house is from Route 495. From Route 495, take Exit 27 (Route 117) and head west on Route 117 into Bolton. In Bolton center, at the blinking light, take a left onto Watoquodoc Road. You will pass Nashoba Valley Winery and Orchards on your left. Take your next left onto Old Bay Road – it's a sharp turn and easy to miss. Follow Old Bay Road to the end and take a right. You will pass Rocky Dundee Farm (or something with a similar name) and the road will end a bit further ahead at a dead end/dirt path. Take a left turn immediately before the dead end. Follow the road around the island and continue straight on the far side. Bill's house is the large colonial on a slight rise - #36. **Details:** Bill Rose is generously offering his home for a series of winter workparties over the coming months. They will be held on the second Tuesday of each month, from approximately 7pm to 9pm – any changes will be published to the email list and in upcoming newsletters. This month, Bill has suggested the following projects to work on: Hats and/or French Musket Slings. For those that aren't in need of either, Bill has also offered to conduct a brief lesson on constructing 17th-Early 18th century Six Board Chests. It's a great chance to get a bit accomplished and enjoy the company of fellow members, as well as get to know new friends! Hope to see many people there – call Bill, Steven or Dana with questions.

www.brigade.org or forms will be available at the meeting in February.

REGIMENTAL WORK PARTY, Tuesday, March 8 ~ **Arrival** : Doors open at 7pm. Folks are invited to stay until 9pm. **Directions** : See January 11 Work party directions. **Details**: Bill Rose is generously offering his home for a series of winter workparties over the coming months. They will be held on the second Tuesday of each month, from approximately 7pm to 9pm – any changes will be published to the email list and in upcoming newsletters. Bring whatever project you are currently working on – cartridge boxes, gaiters, hats, musket repairs, leatherwork or sewing – whatever could use a few more hours of work! Projects that will be given special attention will be listed in the February newsletter – call Bill, Steven or Dana with questions or suggestions.

DRILL & DISTAFF GATHERING, Saturday, March 12. ~ **Arrival** : Drill & distaff gathering will begin at 10:30am. It will be only 90 minutes long so please try to arrive on time. **Directions** : See January 8 Drill directions. **Details**: A dual purpose meeting time from 10:30 – 12:00 will give every member a reason to go out into the cold on this January Saturday! For the soldats - the French Drill will be worked on during this time, so please remember to bring cartridge box, musket & hat. For the distaff members of the regiment – we'll be meeting indoors for another gathering. Topics for discussion are still undecided – so send a message to the list if you have any ideas! Coffee & tea will be available for all – hope to see you there! If the weather is nasty – call Steven at 508.877.9648 for any change or cancellation info.



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

☼ **BAR DUES ARE DUE** – For Saintonge members who also hold membership with the Brigade of the American Revolution (BAR), 2005 membership dues will be collected at the Saintonge regimental meeting in February. Dues are \$25 for the year and include subscriptions to their bi-monthly newsletter and quarterly research journal. A membership also permits participation in BAR events throughout the year. Checks should be made payable to Regiment Saintonge. If you can't attend the meeting, please mail your dues to Regiment Saintonge, PO Box 854, Sudbury, MA 01776. If you are interested in becoming a new member with the BAR, you can download a membership form at



SAINTONGE HISTORY *A Short History Quiz (Answers)*

- 1) What is the name of the French city that the Régiment de Saintonge departed from in 1780, headed for America?
-Brest, France
- 2) During the American campaign, who is the commander of the Régiment de Saintonge?
-Adam Phillipe Jarreck, the Count de Custine
- 3) What month and year did the Régiment de Saintonge depart the United States?
-December 1782 (Christmas Eve to be specific)
- 4) The Americans' victory at what battle helped Benjamin Franklin negotiate a Treaty of Alliance between with France?
-The victory at Saratoga in 1777
- 5) Where did the Régiment de Saintonge travel to after leaving America?
-The French Antilles in the Caribbean, and then eventually returned to Brest, France.
- 6) What is the name of the ship that brought the Régiment de Saintonge from France to America?
-Saintonge soldiers and officers were divided between several ships: La Felicite, Le Cazamov, Le Pere de Famille, L'Amazone, La Cybelle, La Fantasque, Le Jason, Le Conquerant, Le Neptune. La Fantasque carried the largest number: 19 officers and 198 men. The other ships ranged from 6-15 officers and 97-132 men.
- 7) On the march down to Yorktown, which brigade did the Régiment de Saintonge become part of and which regiments made up the rest of that brigade?
-Initially the French troops marched in divisions, but while approaching New York, Rochambeau re-organized the troops into brigades. Regiments Soissonnais and Saintonge made up the 2nd Brigade for the remainder of the march to Yorktown.

8) During the American campaign, what location, other than Yorktown, did the Régiment de Saintonge engage in an armed conflict?
-Kings-Bridge New York

9) All French troops were issued white cockades for their hats. What color cockade was issued to the troops destined for America as a sign of France's allegiance?

-Black cockades represented the alliance with America.

10) During the period of the American War for Independence, France was allied with a second country. What country was it, and what color cockades were used to signify that alliance?

-France was allied with Spain as well as the US. The Spanish cockade is red and was worn over the black cockade of the Americans.



*Comparison of Facing as Found in
 Von Steuben, Pickering,
 Manual Exercise 1764
 and Ordonnance du Roi, 1776/1779*

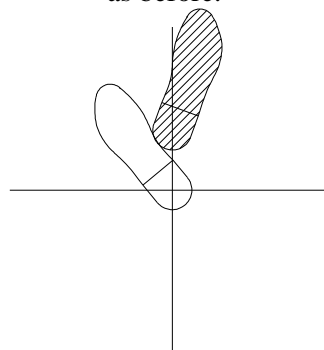
This comparison based on a running difference of opinion of the different drills used during the War of American Independence. The drills have been separated into two categories based on their motions. The first grouping will be Pickering and the '64, the second grouping Von Steuben and the Ordonnance du Roi - 1776/1779.

A. The First Grouping (British)

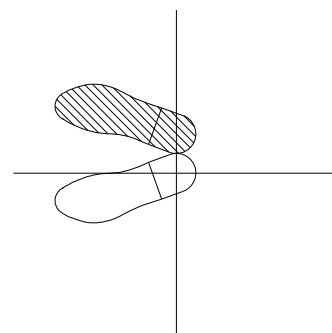
The first drill grouping is British in origin. Timothy Pickering was a Salem based Militia commander and a military historian in his own right. His drill, which is known by his name, is a combination of all the drills that he was exposed to at the time. Since he was an English speaker, these drills were English in origin, namely; Bland's Discipline (1727 improved in the 1740's), the Norfolk Discipline (1759), and the Manual Exercise 1764. In this grouping we will compare the left and right facings, illustrating the Pickering and the '64.

Left Facing

| Count | Pickering | Manual Exercise 1764 |
|-------|---|--|
| 1 | Bring the right heel forward to the hollow of the left foot, and close to it. | Step forward with the right foot so that the heel is pointing into the instep of the left foot, the heel being about an inch away. |
| 2 | Raising the toes a little, turn round on both heels to the left. The heels must be even and close together as before. | Lift your toes and turn the body to the left. |



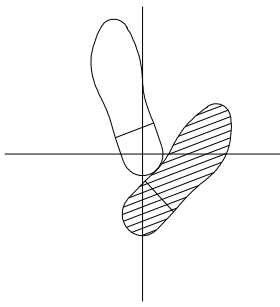
First Position



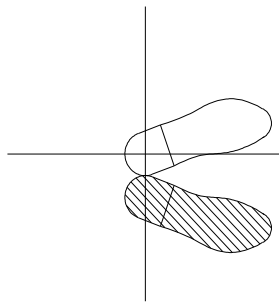
Second Position

Right Facing

| Count | Pickering | Manual Exercise 1764 |
|-------|---|---|
| 1 | Carry back the right foot, till the hollow of it is behind the left heel and close to it. | Step backward with the right foot so that the heel of the left is pointing into the instep of the right. The heel of the right should be two inches directly behind the left. |
| 2 | Raising the toes a little, turn round on both heels to the right. The heels must be even and close together (or within half an inch, for such trifles are not to be regarded in practice) 'tis a proof that they were placed right in the first motion. | Lift up the toes slightly and turn the body to the right. |



First Position



Second Position

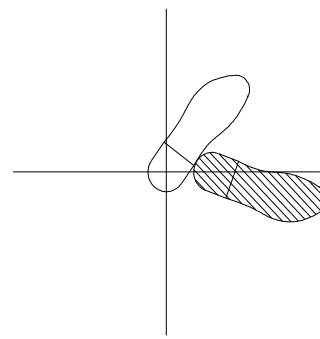
B. The Second Grouping (Prussian Influence)

The second grouping of facing maneuvers has a distinctive Prussian influence. Since Baron Von Steuben was a Prussian, his drill was influenced by his background in the Prussian Army and by other armies he has served with, or observed, on the European Continent. The other countries, which he had come in contact during his career, were Austria, France, and the various German principalities.

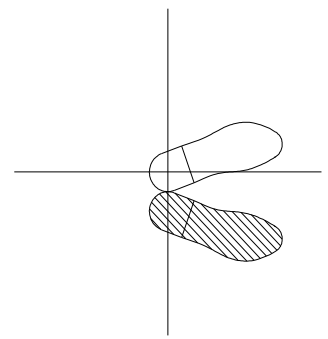
After the disastrous defeats of the Seven Years War, the French Army was reorganized in the 1760's under the ministrations of de Choiseul and his successor Saint-Germain. The French army began to copy the Prussian example by tightening the clothing, then tightening the drill (believe it or not, the two are not mutually exclusive). In 1766 the first of the "Prussianized" drills were published in an illustrated manual, illustrated due to its radical departure from the "traditional" French manuals previous. The drill was further improved on in subsequent regulations. The drill used by the French during the American Revolution was the Ordonnance du Roi of 1776 and Ordonnance du Roi 1779.

Right Facing

| Count | Von Steuben | Ordonnance du Roi of 1776 |
|-------|--|---|
| 1 | Turn briskly on both heels the right, lifting the toes a little, and describing the quarter of a circle. | Turn 90 degrees to the right by elevating the tip of the left foot and turn on the left heel, at the same time bring the right heel to the side of the left and on the same alignment without stamping. |
| 2 | Bring back the right foot to its proper position without stamping. | |



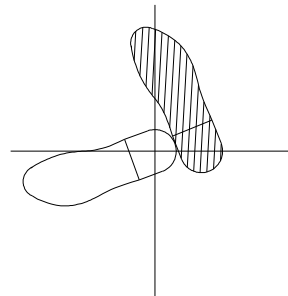
First Position



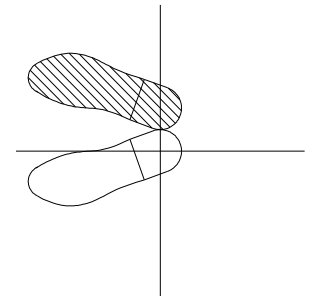
Second Position

Left Facing

| Count | Von Steuben | Ordonnance du Roi of 1776 |
|-------|--|---|
| 1 | Turn to the left as before to the right. | Turn 90 degrees to the left on the left heel, bring the right heel to the left on the same alignment. |
| 2 | Bring up the right foot to its proper position without stamping. | |



First Position



Second Position



Perhaps an example of how not to hold your musket

85ème Régiment de Saintonge
2004 Governing Board

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Dana Rock

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Steven Taskovics

Treasurer

Abe Fisher

Clerk

Kevin Collins

Safety Officer

Dana Rock

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Nelia Newell

Adjutant

Nelia Newell

NCOs

Abe Fisher – Fusilier Coy

Dana Rock – Chasseur Coy

Bill Rose – Grenadier Coy



85ème Régiment de Saintonge

Post Office Box 854

Sudbury, MA 01776

www.saintonge.org

Looking Back at the 2004 Season



A view of the 1st Battalion and French camp.
(Courtesy of the 2nd Massachusetts Regt.)



*The French marching into battle along side of
the Militia at the Siege of Savannah*
(Courtesy of the 2nd South Carolina Regt.)



*Le PROGRAMME,
the schedule for 2005*

The events listed below are the unofficial schedule for 2005 – the official schedule will be printed after it has been approved at the annual meeting.

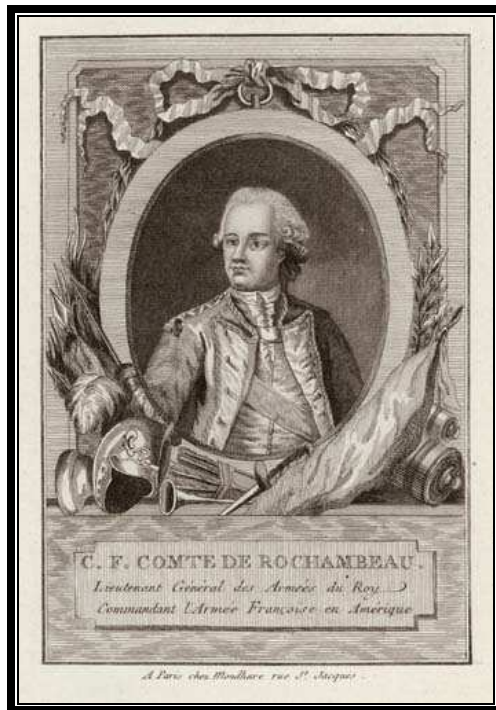
| Date | Unit | Event |
|--------|------|--|
| Jan 11 | All | Work Party at the Rose's (7-9) Bolton, MA |
| Feb 8 | All | Work Party at the Rose's (7-9) Bolton, MA |
| Feb 26 | All | Regimental Annual Meeting (10-12) Berlin, MA |
| Mar 8 | All | Work Party at the Rose's (7-9) Bolton, MA |

*EXERCICES et RENDEVOUS,
Drills & Distaff Gatherings*

| Date | Unit | Event |
|--------|------|---|
| Jan 8 | All | French Drill & Distaff Gathering (10:30-12) Old Town Hall, Stow, MA |
| Feb 12 | All | French Drill & Distaff Gathering (10:30-12) Old Town Hall, Stow, MA |
| Mar 12 | All | French Drill & Distaff Gathering (10:30-12) Old Town Hall, Stow, MA |
| Apr 10 | All | French Drill & Distaff Gathering (TBA) TBA |
| May 8 | All | French Drill & Distaff Gathering (TBA) TBA |

*TENTATIVE SCHEDULE
FOR 2005*

| Date | Unit | Event |
|-----------------|-------------------------|---|
| Mar 5 | 85eme | St. Patrick Day Parade Boston, MA |
| April 16 | 4 th | Battle Road Lexington, MA |
| April 23 – 24 | 4 th 85eme | Battle of Bound Brook Bound Brook, NJ 4 th 85eme |
| April 30, May 1 | 4 th / 85eme | 227th Battle of Crooked Billet Warminster, PA |
| May 13 – 15 | 4 th | 225th Siege of Charleston Charleston, SC |
| May 21-22 | Music | Drummers Call Williamsburg, VA |
| May 21-22 | 4 th / 85eme | Little Farm Newbury, MA |
| May 29 | 85eme | Memorial Day Parade Somerville, MA |
| May 30 | 85eme | Memorial Day Parade Andover, MA |
| May 30 | 85eme | Memorial Day Parade Medford, MA |
| Jun 5 | 4 th / 85eme | Battles of Oldwick Oldwick, NJ |
| Jul 8-10 | 85eme | Landing of Rochambeau Newport RI |
| Aug 20 – 21 | 4 th | 225th of Camden Camden, SC |
| Sept 5 | 85eme | Labor Day Parade/ Regimental Birthday Party Marlborough, MA |
| Sept 23 – 25 | 4 th / 85eme | Rehoboth Rehoboth, MA |
| Sept 24 | 85eme | Sudbury Muster Sudbury, MA |
| Sept 25 | 4 th / 85eme | Brandywine Chadds Ford, PA |
| Oct 1 | 4 th / 85eme | Germantown Philadelphia, PA |
| Oct 7 -9 | 85eme | Warren Farm Chelmsford, MA |
| Oct 7 – 9 | 4 th / 85eme | The Battle of Whitpain Whitpain, PA |
| Oct 23 | 4 th / 85eme | Fort Mercer Woodbury, NJ |



C. F. Comte de Rochambeau. Lieutenant General des Armées du Roy Commandant l'Armée Française en Amérique.

*85ème Régiment de Saintonge
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