



N° 36

GAZETTE FRANÇOISE.

Du Septembre 2006

Du BUREAU du PRÉSIDENT, from the President's Desk

Well it's September already, next month we have the main event Yorktown. Dana and I (and Steven in his role as French commander for the event) need to have a final count of who is going by September 23rd at the very latest. Dana has a form you will need to fill out and bring with you to Yorktown; we also need serial numbers for the muskets you're bringing to the event and your intended arrival time. The regiment will provide a van to bring gear to the event if it's needed, so tell us no later than September 23rd if you will need this service (note the regiment may ask people taking advantage of this to share some of the cost). We also need to know if you are planning to do both Williamsburg and York town and if you will be camping that week with us at Williamsburg.

We are looking into organizing some field trips to Jamestown, local winery or maybe Mount Vernon, tell us if you would be interested in any of these or if you have any ideas for such trips during that week.

The Regiment strongly encourages every one to make it to at least one of the following events; Marlboro Parade, Hull, or Sudbury Faire in full French kit or appropriate civilian attire so we can 'approve' people's kits for Yorktown. This is similar to the process for the 225th of Battle Road in 2000. I know everyone will pass muster but we are doing this as a check on ourselves to make sure we are the Best unit at Yorktown.

Sue and Liz are heading up a team that will take care of Commissary in Virginia for us. Please contact them to help out. Due to the size of our camp we will be assigning camp/kitchen duties to make sure the burden doesn't fall on a handful of people. Our camp is too big to run things in the manner we usually do.

It's also been suggested that we keep camp furniture to a minimum, especially if it's anachronistic. Keep such items in the tent during the day.

It's been suggested that over the winter we arrange some fun social events such as a regimental party, movie night or even paintball (possibly with a few other regiments). Please tell us if this would interest you.

Finally looking ahead to next year, the regiment always needs people who are willing to step up help out in the leadership of the regiment. While I do plan to run for the position of president again, I do not wish to run unopposed, especially as I feel there are many in the regiment that can handle this job at least as well as I can. Please think about serving the regiment as an officer or member of our board next year. A nominating committee will be looking for volunteers before long.

*Your Humble Servant,
Adam Carriere,
Président Régiment de SaintOnge*

Le RAPPORT du CAPITAINE, Captain's Report

Well folks, Williamsburg and Yorktown are a month away. As Adam stated, the Regiment is planning on renting a cargo van for the trek to Virginia. The van will be leaving on Oct 12th in the afternoon and returning on Oct 23rd. If you wish to have some of your personal gear transported down south, you will need to let us know no later than September 23. Included in this newsletter is a Returns form. This form MUST be filled out and sent to the Command Staff before September 23rd. If this form is not filled out and returned to us, we will not be able to accommodate you and your family for transportation of gear and/or commissary. If this form is not returned, via

email or mail we will assume you are not coming to the event.

I know that you are all looking for information about the two events. We have created a booklet for the Virginia Campaign. The booklet is available on the Yahoo Group Web Site; a paper copy will be available by request. You will notice that the Williamsburg Schedule is outdated. This is due to the fact that they have yet to supply us with a schedule for this year. As soon as we have it, we will send it out.

Before the writing of this newsletter the regiment participated in the Marlborough Labor Day Parade. I'd like to thank every one who made it out that day. We had a great looking line, I counted 19 uniforms. Also, let's extend a big thank you to Steven and Heather for hosting the Regimental Birthday Party. We have two more scheduled events this month; Fort Revere in Hull, MA, and the Sudbury Colonial Faire in Sudbury, MA. The Board has asked that all members attend these events. We are making a big push to make sure that everyone is properly outfitted and drilled for Williamsburg and Yorktown.

There was some sad news in Regiment last month. Jean Rice, Wife of former Commanding Officer Palmer True, passed away after a year long struggle with cancer. Also, the passing of Bob Mclean, former Colonel of Sudbury and a founding member of the Regiment Saintonge, and the Uncle of Bryon Bausk. Our thoughts are with their families.

For Massachusetts and Congress
et
Pour le Roi et le Regiment!
Dana Rock



ÉVÉNEMENTS PROCHAINS, Upcoming Events

**FORT REVERE PARK, Hull MA,
September 9th ~** **Arrival:** The event starts at 10am, please try to arrive at 9:30 to help setup a dinning fly. Lunch will be provided, so no need to pack to a lunch. Abe will be acting as Commanding Officer. **Details:** The event will start at 10 AM. Sometime around 10:30 to 10:45 we will march down to the memorial site in the old graveyard. The memorial event will start roughly at 11:00 AM – they have actually asked me to come up with something for the memorial service – so this should be interesting. In attendance will also be members of the

French Council from Boston. We will also be joined by the Bourbonnais Regiment, who is making this a required drill and inspection.

The memorial is for 2 members of the Angoumois Regiment (82 in the Line) who died in 1782. Now, for folks who know their Regiments, the Angoumois is not one of the Regiments mentioned at Yorktown. This is in fact a fate of history, since the Angoumois served as marines in de Grasse's fleet. After doing a little research, it turns out that some detachments of the Angoumois were used in Gloucester, VA as part of the marine force and also did serve at Yorktown as well as allied actions in Florida and Alabama as part of the Spanish. These particular individuals were most likely marines that were part of the fleet that moved the French Army from Boston to the Caribbean. Most likely these soldiers died aboard ship while anchored at Nantasket Roads and were transported off ship to be buried in Hull. After the memorial, we will be treated to a buffet style lunch at the Fort, so I will need to know if you are coming by this Thursday –August 31 – at the latest. When lunch is complete, we will continue drilling with the Bourbonnais at regular intervals throughout the day. The current plan is to end the event sometime around 3 PM. From Rt 3 South, take Rt 228 through Hingham into Hull. In Hull, Rt 228 will turn into Nantasket Ave. Follow the Fort Revere/Lifesaving Museum signs, bearing left through several splits. When you cross the causeway at the base of Allerton Hill, bear left onto Fitzpatrick Way; at the treatment plant/ Cemetery, bear to the Right; 0.3 miles past the Lifesaving Museum, bear right on to Harbor View road, past the Jacobs School to Nantasket Ave. Farina Rd. is across the intersection, up to the left. The website for the fort is: http://www.mass.info/hull.ma/parks/fort_revere.htm

The Fort itself is very interesting and has 3 of the original walls intact. The entire site was completely intact until early 1940, where it was razed and leveled for anti-aircraft batteries. There is also an intact shore battery that we built at the turn of the 20th Century at the base of the original fort. Sometime in the future, the spall from the razing will be studied and sifted, with hopes that the dirt will be put back into the fort as part of a restoration. One can only hope. Finally, this event will conflict with the memorial service for Bob McLean. I know some of you will be at the service, which I too would like to be at if I hadn't committed myself to this event and the memorial service at Fort Revere. For the folks who are not going to be at Bob's memorial, I do hope that you will make it to the Fort for a good showing and to work with the Bourbonnais on our first combined drill. **Directions:** From Route 128: Proceed southbound to "the split" in Quincy. Take Route 3 South to Route 228. See directions for "Route 3 North or South". From Route 3 North or South: Take Route 228 (exit 14)

which takes you north along scenic Main Street in Hingham, taking several sharp turns along 228, past Glastonbury Abbey to the waterfront at Hull, where the road becomes *Nantasket Avenue.

Fort Information can be found at www.fortreverepark.org

COLONIAL FAIRE & MUSTER of FYFE & DRUMS, Saturday, September 23.

~ **Setup:** Volunteers are requested to help with camp setup on Friday evening. If you are available to help, please try to arrive at the field across from the Wayside Inn between 5 and 5:30 on Friday, September 22. We plan to set up wedges & the fly that evening. **Arrival :** The faire is open to the public from 10am to 4pm. Plan on arriving on site by 9:00 am to ensure plenty of time to get you and your car unloaded and parked as needed.

Directions: The Colonial Faire and Muster of Fyfe and Drums is held at the Wayside Inn.



Arriving from the North/South: Exit Rt. 20 West from 128 (US 95). Follow Rt. 20 through the Towns of Weston, Wayland and Sudbury. Follow signs to Wayside Inn Road on right. **Arriving from the West:** Massachusetts Turnpike to Rt. 495 North. Exit Route 20 East. Follow through the town of Marlborough to Sudbury. Wayside Inn Road is on the left. **Details:** The Faire day is a recruiting day for the regiment so plan to bring your full kit and anything that you might like to show off to spectators. It will be a great opportunity to meet many local visitors who have the potential to become new members! Due to the busy schedule of the day, there will be no commissary arrangements – so plan on bringing (or buying!) your food for the day.



I'd like to thank Steven, Adam and Ellie for their contributions to the Newsletter. Also, a special thanks to Holly who has been editing the newsletter now for well over a year. Please continue to send articles and pictures. All articles and pictures should be sent to stonge85@comcast.net



ÉVÉNEMENTS RÉGALIENS, Past Event

Verplank, New York, King's Ferry

Alone in the tent Friday night, the only Frenchman in camp, the soldier wondered if the rest of the troops had been ambushed by the metal warriors on the turnpike in Massachusetts. As the thoughts rambled on, a voice was heard in the darkness, "Are there any French here?" Recognizing the voice of the captain, the weekend mood was instantly lifted and the arrival of the Meets family shortly afterward set everything aright. The metal warriors had indeed harassed the troop movements on the way to Verplank. The tents were set up and everyone settled in for the evening.

The next morning was overcast and as the Hudson River flowed by, it was decided to dig a communal fire pit for all the reenactors who were present. Pvts Hutchinson and Mees, naturally in step, brought three loads of wood and soon a fire was going. Before the coffee could be made, the leader of a knot of laundresses commandeered the location of the fire pit for the laundry tent. After a second fire pit was made and the fire again going nicely, the fire itself was appropriated for the kettle of water to boil the laundry. An exquisite example of grace under fire, Mistress Mees brought out her brazier and coffee was soon with the troops and a breakfast was started. Bill Rose and Frank Marini joined our small but merry group.

In nearby Cortlandville, there is a cemetery that holds the graves of eight French soldiers. We were joined by the Dillion's regiment (AKA as DNA) and the French representation was marvelous. Our drill was sharp and was only lacking the music, as the bus somehow failed to return to the camp to pick up Steven Taskovics. With Bill Rose commanding we showed the Continentals how marching is properly done. The ceremony was even attended by a Congressman as well as a French consulate.

Back in camp, Steven put his time to good use ascertaining the activities for the weekend. We were to have a formation, a short parade and then row across the Hudson River to Stony Point. The formation was reviewed by none other than General Washington and Admiral De Grasse played by a quick changing Bill Rose. The parade was to a nearby house that was the same place that Washington awarded medals to those three soldiers who captured Major John Andre. A real highlight was the direct descendent of Van Wert who

proudly displayed to the assembled troops the original medal that she had inherited. The medal was in pristine condition and inspired awe as it passed by the troops who presented their muskets.

After a bountiful repast, we were loaded into bateaux to begin the crossing to Stony Point. We had all the French in one boat and we quickly fell into a rhythm that resulted in a speedy crossing. Our fifer was able to get off a tune or two and we tried out our voices with singing. It started to rain when we reached the other side. There was a brief ceremony dedicating a plaque to mark the spot where the French had landed on the other side. In spite of the rain, we received the orders to prime and load. Matthew had mud in his pan, Bill managed to get off a shot before an angel peed in his pan and Will's musket went off all three times. We then got back into our very wet bateau and rowed our way back to the other side. We were the last to leave Stony Point, but we overtook the other four bateaux and were the first to arrive back on the other side. We all engaged in some much needed musket cleaning.

That evening, after wine and cheese in camp, we were fed at the Verplank firehouse. The meal included shaved beef, barbecue chicken, potato salad, beans, corn, rolls, and any number of desserts and three kegs of Sam Adams. The last of the kegs managed to make it back to the camp and a small tavern was set up. Madeleine Mees and Steven were part of a "People of the Brigade" show followed by a concert and then spectacular fireworks over the Hudson for a steady thirty minutes. There was a thunderstorm that night and we enjoyed listening to the rain on the tents.

Sunday morning started with a huge breakfast, once again hosted by the Verplank Fire Department. We returned to our camps and it started to rain steadily. The morning formation was cancelled. However, the French were impressed into the British marine unit that was to fire from the environmental sloop "Clearwater". They abandoned their rules of no firearms or ammunition aboard the ship. Of course, we had our music with us as we pulled away from shore. We grounded our muskets so that we may learn to haul and hold the lines and the sails were raised. We headed down the river, turned around and cruised close to the shore so that we could fire on the rebels waiting for us with their own muskets loaded. After the order to engage in independent fire, we began to load and fire in earnest. Matthew guessed that Steven managed to fire about three rounds per minute and Will about two rounds per minute. Steven ran out of powder and had to reload his block, as did Will. However, since Steven was firing so much faster, his barrel heated up to the point that he actually burned his hand and had to soak it

in the water barrel. Matthew fired as best he could, but the rain got the best of his musket. He also claimed that he couldn't fire on women who were shouting, "Vive le Roi." We disembarked and made our way back to camp where we began to strike camp. The Mees women attended the ladies tea as well as a DAR ceremony commemorating the French participation in the Revolutionary war. We finished packing up the camp in the pouring rain and eventually took our leave of Verplank, having had a wonderful weekend.

Your Humble Servant
Will Hutchinson

*85^{ème} Régiment de Saintonge
2006 Governing Board*

President

Adam Carriere

Commanding Officer

Dana Rock

Treasurer

Steven Taskovics

Clerk

Eliz Mees

Safety Officer

Bill Rose

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Abe Fisher

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Beth Mixer

Adjutant / 225th Coordinator

Bill Rose

NCOs

Abe Fisher – Fusilier Coy

Bill Rose – Grenadier & Chasseur Coy



85^{ème} Régiment de Saintonge

Post Office Box 854

Sudbury, MA 01776

www.saintonge.org

Williamsburg & Yorktown Returns

Name(s)

First Name	Last Name

Attending Williamsburg: Yes No Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date: _____
 Camping on site Yes No
 If yes do you require a Regimental Tent Yes No
 How many tents will you bringing _____

Meals

	Saturday			Sunday	
	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Breakfast	Lunch
# Adults					
# Children					

Attending Yorktown: Yes No Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date: _____
 Camping on site Yes No
 If yes do you require a Regimental Tent Yes No
 How many tents will you bringing _____

Meals

	Saturday			Sunday	
	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Breakfast	Lunch
# Adults					
# Children					

Musket Serial Numbers:

Member's Name	Serial Number

Mode of Transportation: Auto Train Plane

If Traveling by Automobile:

Auto Make	Auto Model	License Plate

Do you need use of the Regimental Van: Yes No

Currently possess a signed Yorktown Registration form Yes No

If no, please provide a mailing address _____

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Sudbury, MA 01776

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*Le PROGRAMME,
the schedule for 2006*

The events listed below are the official schedule for 2006

WORK PARTIES

Date	Unit	Event
Jan 24	All	Work Party (7-9) Bolton, MA
Feb 21	All	Work Party (7-9) Bolton, MA
Mar 11	All	Work Party (12-3) Bill Rose's House (Bolton, MA)
April 8	All	Work Party (12-3) Bill Rose's House (Bolton, MA)
May 13	All	Work Party (12-3) Bill Rose's House (Bolton, MA)
June 3	All	Work Party (11-2) Taskovics' House (Bolton, MA)
June 7	All	Rolling Party (7-9) Mixer's House (Bolton, MA)
June 10	All	Work Party (12-3) Rose's House (Bolton, MA)
July 8	All	Work Party (12-3) Taskovics House (Framingham, MA)

**EXERCICES et RENDEVOUS,
Drills & Distaff Gatherings**

Date	Unit	Event
Jan 14	All	French Drill & Distaff Gathering (12:30-2:00) Stow Town Hall
Feb 11	All	French Drill & Annual Meeting (10:30-2:00) Berlin, MA
Mar 11	All	French Drill & Distaff Gathering (10:30-12:00) Bill Rose's House (Bolton, MA)
Apr 8	All	French Drill & Distaff Gathering (10:30-12:00) Bill Rose's House (Bolton, MA)
May 13	All	French Drill & Distaff Gathering (10:30-12:00) Bill Rose's House (Bolton, MA)
June 10	All	French Drill & Distaff Gathering (10:30-12:00) Bill Rose's House (Bolton, MA)

Date	Unit	Event
Mar 5	4 th	Boston Massacre Boston, MA
Mar 19	85eme	Evacuation Day Parade South Boston, MA
Mar 25	4 th	Muster Day Concord, MA
April 8	4 th	Liberty Pole Bedford, MA
April 15	4 th	Battle Road Lexington, MA
April 17	4 th	Patriots Day Ceremonies Concord, MA
May 20 & 21	85eme	Wethersfield, CT
May 28	85eme	Memorial Day Parade Somerville, MA
May 29	85eme	Memorial Day Parade Andover, MA
Jun 17 & 18	85eme	Providence, RI W3R
Jun 17 & 18	85eme	Southbury, CT
July 1 & 2	85eme	Ridgefield, CT
July 22 & 23	85eme	Grand Reconnaissance White Plains
July 29	85eme	Fort Revere Hull, MA
Aug 5 & 6	85eme	From Redcoats to Rebels Sturbridge, MA
Aug 26 & 27	85eme	Crossing at Verplank 225th, Verplank, NY

Sept 4	85eme	Labor Day Parade Marlborough, MA
Sept 4	85eme	Regimental Birthday Party Taskovics House
Sept 9	85eme	Fort Revere Hull, MA
Sept 9 & 10	4 th	Brandywine Chadds Ford, PA
Sept 23	85eme	Sudbury Muster Sudbury, MA
Sept 30	85eme	Wilmington, DE
Oct 13 -16	85eme	Prelude to Victory Williamsburg, VA
Oct 20 - 22	85eme	225th Victory at Yorktown Yorktown, VA
Nov 18	85eme	Plymouth Time Line Plymouth, MA



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