

**THE NEXT EVENT - QUEEN'S YORK RANGERS CHANGE OF COMMAND PARADE
AURORA COMMUNITY CENTRE, AURORA HEIGHTS DRIVE, AURORA ONT
1000HRS SUNDAY, MAY 3/92**

It is important that the 1Bn supports this event with a solid turnout of troops. We will field, the Colours; Fifes & Drums; one Section of Grenadiers; one Section of Lights and two Sections of Col's Coy. A Section will comprise its NCO and no less than 8 and no more than 10 troops. Extra troops will be very welcome to balance short Sections and/or act as Guard to the Colours. NB: our 20th Bn, CEF is also appearing at this event. A lunch is supplied prior to the Ceremonies and a Reception at the Aurora Armouries after. (yes, there is a Mess facility)

To get there - go north on 400 to King Rd. Take King Rd. east to Yonge and go north to Aurora. If you're travelling 404, Wellington is the exit road. You go west to Yonge. The Community Centre is left onto Aurora Heights at the first light north of Wellington (main intersection). As soon as you turn left, the Community Centre is directly ahead and obvious. Lots of parking. Forming Up if raining, inside; if not, in Parking Lot.

1. The detachment will be commanded by Himself, unless he has to narrate, at which time Capt James will step in. The Colours will be carried by CaptLt Bourget and 2Lt Steele.
2. Sjt Visser; Sjt Henry; SjtMjr Moore & Sjt Moore will phone in a Return to LtCol Watt.
3. D'r Rigby will organize 2 fifers & 2 drummers from NOTL area and confirm their attendance to me.
4. F'r Johnson will organize Holt, Putnam & Laing and confirm their attendance to me.
5. Cpl Maybee will be very welcome.

Troops will parade without Canteens and Haversacks. All troops will have 15 rounds blank, every man with a Bayonet and a clean Firelock. We are in Review Order and no funny feathers, woven garters, exotic knives, pipes in back of bicorns or other oddities will appear.

**THE ALL-UP CANADIAN EVENT: THE SIMCOE LANDING, NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE
JULY 4, 1992**

The Simcoe Landing will be without doubt the most spectacular ceremonial event that this unit has enjoyed since the Queen's visit in 1984. The visual impact of seven 18C style sailing vessels anchored off Fort Niagara and the sound of three batteries firing vice-regal, 15 round salutes in the mouth of the Niagara River will be spectacular. The event is totally supported with an excellent camp site, all meals supplied, a superb 18C medal and a grog issue after hours.

The day starts with the three Brigades marching to the Court House to receive Freedom of the Town, followed by a return march to our cantonment with Colours Flying, Drums Beating, Fifes Shrieking, Bayonets Fixed.

After lunch, the Landing takes place. We march, as above, through elements of the town to Queen's Royal Park, directly opposite Fort Niagara. The ships will be anchored between our troops and the Fort. On a signal, the shore batteries begin the salute. As Simcoe boards the ship's boat, the fleet begins its salute. When he lands, our Brigades (200+ muskets) fire Three Vollies of Celebration and offer Three Cheers.

There's lots more, such as a tactical demonstration of our prowess at Fort George; a formal inspection and march past; and after dinner a dusk tactical against fireworks; a grog-up; and period dance.

OK, so that's the Saturday, ho hum.. is that all there is? Nope! Read on--

**THE ALL-UP CANADIAN EVENT: THE TOWN OF QUEENSTON WARGAME, QUEENSTON
JULY 5, 1992**

So, the next day we board buses and drive for 20 minutes to the unique little town of Queenston. The Artillery and Infantry Brigades, augmented by Naval Parties, will be divided roughly into two elements and we will initiate two or three schemes. We have free use of the town's roadways and the open ground on the riverfront. At both ends will be tactical targets. The forces will be expected to defend their position and attack the other. The public will safely watch from their front yards, etc... A free lunch will be offered inside the town. This is a weekend you shouldn't miss!

Both days are going to be the subjects of extensive, professional video taping.

THE PARTIES IN REVIEW

The Ottawa Winterlude event was definitely a success with representatives of five different Museum of Applied Military History units in attendance. While everyone enjoyed the tour of the Cdn War Museum and a shopping in the book shop, the highlight of the Saturday efforts was the firing of a Volley of Heartfelt Thanks into the front face of the American Embassy in celebration of Free Trade.

The Party on Saturday night went very well and the trip to the Cdn War Museum warehouse, Vimy House, was superb. Harry Martin took the group through an excellent tour of artifacts, including small arms and uniforms and the massive war art collection. Hands were laid upon the Jeremiah French coat, Second Battalion, KRR NY. Shivers! A very successful weekend. Thanks to Al Joyner and his team for this organization.

As far as himself is concerned, the Annual Winter Party in Oakville was a super affair with wonderful period dancing led by the staff of Fort York and much good socializing. The event was marred by the absence of a great number of regimental stalwarts who were missed by all.

It would be unlike himself not to mention the fact that a distressing number of members chose not to wear period uniforms and kit to the party. I am sure that all of them had a very good reason for not doing so, and certainly we would prefer to see them in civvies than not at all; however, please remember that this is a Regimental dinner and the correct dress is 1 or 2Bn uniform or Refugees' clothing.

YORKER OF THE YEAR

I am pleased to announce that the winner of the Trophy for 1991 is the notorious Jon Wannamaker whose untiring efforts to promote the Royal Yorkers in the Kingston/Napanee area and amongst the rebel campfires is hereby recognized. Congratulations Jon!

The Runners-up for this award were: Ron Atkins, Johan Klyndyk and Jean Plamondon. Congratulations to these fellows as well.

1992 CALENDAR

Everyone should now have a copy of the 1992 calendar. If you don't, contact me.

TRANSFER

Dan Duquette has decided to join the Major's Coy as he now lives a sniff away from Ottawa, the HQ of the Army of the East.

RESIGNATION

I am sorry to advise that the veteran soldier, Don Reed, has decided to hang up his canteen. Don has served in the Royal Yorkers for 8 years, in both the 1Bn Colonel's and Crawford's 2Bn. From the outset, Don's experience as a professional soldier brought an immediate competence and a wry sense of humour with constructive criticism to the unit's efforts.

If Don was complaining, himself listened carefully, as there was always a damn good reason. Personally, I will miss Don Reed a great deal.

Don will remain active in the Perth Regt as the leader of the Mortar team in the active displays and as a key participant in the unit's static displays.

CAR POOLING

You will all note in the calendar that there are a number of long distance drives coming up this Campaign. Many of us worked hard last season to put together car pools and the results were a) lots of company on the drive, and b) dramatically lower costs. (the fact that Glenn Hunt wears perfume on these trips should not deter any of you)

MARKING YOUR ACCOUTREMENTS

Some of you guys have asked about painting your Regimental Rack Number on pieces of your kit. I've answered, "No, you'll make a mess of it!"

At the very least, don't mark any of your accoutrements where your lettering will be visible because there is a 'right way' and a 'wrong way'.

What we do know about how this was done back in the 18C was that one man was given the contract to mark all of the kit in the battalion. Therefore, there was one style of lettering and one only. Get my point? Unless you're a pro and can copy exactly my style of lettering, then don't do it.

Also, many of our Coy Rack Numbers are going to change, so if you start painting your old number it may be wrong and have to be changed.

What accoutrements should have a standard style of painting on them? Haversack & Canteen.

For items that have that tendency to look the same and which you want to identify - like your bicorn, slouch hat, waistbelt, cartouche pouch, tent, tent bag, belly box - put your initials in black, block printing on the backside, completely out of sight. Dark pencil is OK and even better is black enamel. If you have to use a felt tip pen, check on something else first whether it's going to run when it gets wet. *Whatever you do, don't use ball point pen!!!*

ITEM IN STOCK

Ramrods for Italian Brown Bess Muskets - two of these in stock for those with ratty ramrod buttons that are in danger of falling off or of doing you a grievous injury - \$17.00, delivered at next event.

TELEPHONE NUMBER ADDITIONS, CHANGES & CORRECTIONS-

NOTE THESE ON YOUR CALENDAR!!

Drums

Henry Cary 519-622-9651

Doug McRae 416-358-5624

PHONE NUMBERS CONT'D

Grenadiers, Staff

Peter Walker 416-934-8430

Al Morrow 416-828-9653

Light Infantry, No.1 Section

Fil Walker 705-435-0632

Colonel's Coy, No.2 Section

Wayne Gardner 416-237-1270

Major's Coy, No.1 Section

Dan Duquette 613-258-1975

THE FIRST LEGISLATURE OF UPPER CANADA, NIAGARA 17 SEP, 1792

Amongst the first members representing the new province of Upper Canada were many former Loyalist soldiers. Some of these were:

John McDonell (Abercalder) of Glengarry as Speaker of the House, formerly 2nd senior Capt. Butler's Rangers.

Hugh McDonell (Abercalder) representing Glengarry, formerly 4th senior Lieut, LtCoy, 1Bn.

Jeremiah French representing Stormont, formerly 7th senior Lieut of a flank Coy, 2Bn.

Ephraim Jones of Leeds & Grenville, formerly Private soldier, Maj's Coy, 1Bn.

Hazelton Spencer likely representing Fredericksburgh, formerly 9th senior Lieut, 2Bn.

MORE BREEDING!

Bev and Rick Pepin, Adjutant of the Light Coy, are happy to announce the birth of a son on Valentine's Day (no Rick didn't induce it). James Roland is the name and the baby weighed 8lb 4 1/2oz. I caught a Pickerel about that size once.

Cyndie Paul & Todd Girdwood have a daughter, Sarah Susan Grace, born on March 7. In the weight contest, the Girdwoods beat the Pepins - Sarah was 8lb 12oz at birth. Cyd enjoyed 41 hours of labour and remains immensely thankful to Todd for this great experience.

CANVAS FOR NEW HAVERSACKS

Gord Weaver has donated a supply of superb canvas which will be directed towards the above noted project. This gift saves the unit several hundred bucks. Thanks Gord!

OUR INTERPRETATION STINKS

I would like to find a member with a) leadership skills & a desire to use them, b) sound historical knowledge, c) some artistic creativity and d) reserves of energy & patience who e) attends most of the larger events and f) can organize a medium to large vehicle. This person would put together a small team of similarly interested individuals who will devote themselves to the improvement of the unit's Historical Interpretation for the public. This individual and team will not be drawn from amongst the currently serving Officers or NCO's of the regiment.

In recognition of the fact that our public is very often reticent about asking questions and all too often our members are too preoccupied with themselves, or disinterested, to be effective Canadian History missionaries, this group will address these problems by, for example, preparing two or three, large, portable signs in simulated 18C styling which will include maps of the actions, campaign routes, garrisons, refugee towns and final settlements of the Royal Yorkers and their associated regiments. The signs could include samples of the Proclamation Against Sedition & Rebellion; a Commission Certificate; a Discharge Certificate; layout of a Cantonment; Genealogical info, etc... said material being intended to inform the public about who the Loyalists were and why they have some significance in Ontario's early history.

The Interpretation group would be responsible for the construction, maintenance, transportation, erection, manning and storage of this display. They would choose an unobtrusive, cool location near to, but not in, the action in which to place the display material and they would themselves man the display during active public hours, of course with additional volunteer help as required.

In turn, the Officers & NCO's of the regiment would be very aware of the need to coordinate this display into the schedule of regimental activities, ie. there will have to be some understanding given that the manning of the interp display will sometimes conflict with Section duties. Common sense will prevail.

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY PARADE, TORONTO MAY 18/92 NOON

This parade is especially good for all the new members who have enough kit to participate. This is an opportunity to get some time in with a minimum of difficult manoeuvres.

Grenadiers & Col's Coy with help from Toronto area LtInf and Drums are the usual participants. Section Commanders (Hurley; Visser; Henry; J. Moore) will coordinate with the SjtMjr please.

Drummers - Holt; Johnson; Putnam & Laing to advise their attendance w/SjtMjr Moore please.

Ian Rodgers - can you bring a contingent of Drums from NOTL for this one?? Advise SjtMjr Moore please.

A FASCINATING QUOTATION - Major H. Everard, History of Thomas Farrington's Regiment subsequently Designated the 29th (Worcestershire) Foot 1694 to 1891 (1891) p.79.

Background-

The 29th Regt was part of Carleton's army which forced the Americans from Canada in 1776. This regiment had been sent to occupy Montreal and arrived there about two hours before Sir John and his band arrived. Johnson's party had come from Akwasasne, or St. Regis, on the St. Lawrence River near where present day Cornwall is sited. They had arrived destitute and starving after their escape from Johnstown and a 19 day trek over the Adirondack Mountains. After regaining their strength and obtaining additional arms and reinforcements of Canadiens and Indians, they marched against rebel held Montreal.

"They [the 29th] had not been long in the town when a very strange noise was heard. This was found to proceed from a party of Loyalists and Indians, who, with Sir John Johnson, had arrived from his estate on the Mohawk River...a brass 6-pr...with them. Every one was much surprised and amused at the arrival and dress of this new kind of force. The Indians consisted of about 100 very fine young men, all highly painted. The dress of the Loyalists was nothing more than their ordinary clothes, but that of Sir John Johnson was somewhat remarkable, it being made of dressed deerskins, and fitted him as tight as skin. In his hand he carried a tomahawk, and on his breast hung a scalping knife, whilst the skin of a rattlesnake was twisted round his hat, with the rattle in front."

Not quite the picture, which we so often have presented to us, of a spoiled, upper-crust British American who was unable to mix it up with the lower classes and the Indians. Far more like Gabriel Dumont, Simon Girty or Jim Bowie. One tough customer dressed in the frontier fashion and prepared for guerilla war in the bush.

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