

**NEXT EVENT - BAR GRAND ENCAMPMENT, FORT NIAGARA JULY 15,16**

For you new guys and gals, this is a spectacular site with great 18C buildings. It was one of the original regiment's garrisons, so it has special meaning for the KRR. The staff are most welcoming to reenactors. The fort has a good bookstore and an OK food concession for lunches and breakies. The Yorkers usually organize a trip out of the Fort for the evening meal for those who want to go and I suspect we will do the same this time. We drive into Youngstown or Lewistown to a local grocery and have a good social time for about \$20US.

By the way, don't get caught without US Funds. No one down there likes to take Canadian funds with our dollar being so, so low. I repeat, don't come without Yankee \$\$.

For many of you this will be your first large Brigade of the American Revolution event. There are a few differences. The BAR prides itself on being super accurate - so all you guys who persist in wearing elastic suspenders and have obvious safety pins turning back your coat, try to do something about it so you won't be an embarrassment. Of course, they won't be very impressed with all the rubber soled boots we have either - but, that's a lot more difficult to change.

Don't bother to bring any of the canvas water buckets. The BAR have proven that these are an anachronism. Especially, don't roll your cartridges from bloody newspaper or coloured paper - you know that's wrong and they get hot about it. Of course, all of you know that cartridges are not to be made with staples, so don't do it!!

Don't get the wrong idea, the BAR is a lot of fun and I would expect a fair turnout at Niagara - let's say 150 muskets including us. There may be a good sutlers' street as a faithful group of them seem to follow the BAR around.

For those of us who have been there so many times before, we must not expect any miracles. There is simply not one single thing the BAR can do that will make the tacticals any different. To assuage any possible boredom of the veterans - *we have the POU-L'EAU Match*. Another exercise in insanity!

For any of you who haven't stopped at Canada Customs and obtained a Form Y 38 "Identification of Articles" form (which happens to be coloured green) onto which a Customs official will write the serial number of your musket - do so. Don't take your Musket into the building!! Have the serial number written down and the musket available for verification should they want to look at it. This procedure doesn't take a lot of time and is quite painless. The reason - we find that a lot of American Customs Agents expect you to have this little green 'registration' card. Of course, it's also proof that you owned the piece before you entered the States.

How to get there: from any direction, drive the QEW to the Queenston/Lewiston bridge. Get your form at Canada Customs. As soon as you get through American Customs there's a turnoff to the right onto a climbing ramp that takes you towards the Robert Moses Parkway, Lewiston, Youngstown and Fort Niagara. Don't miss this turnoff - it's a long, long diversion. Once you're onto the Robert Moses, it will take you right to Fort Niagara; however, you might want to get off at the only Youngstown exit that takes you to Yankee Spirits for some cheap grog or a supermarket for cheap beer and ice. When that road deadends just beyond Yankee Spirits, you turn to the right, follow your nose and you'll quickly come to Fort Niagara.

For those of you who don't want to sleep in the dirt - Bed & Breakfast - Cameo Inns, River Road, between YOUNGSTOWN & LEWISTOWN 716-745-3034 on the riverfront road. Rates - \$55 USF per night.

**SON OF A ....!! - ANOTHER CALENDAR CHANGE**

Telephone number for Gord Fricker

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**SOME SERIOUS SAFETY HAZARDS**

A TENT FIRE - one of our guys was recently heating up some coffee with a can of Sterno in his tent - I can't f..... believe it - and, of course, there was a fuel spill and his tent caught on fire. Folks, our tents are tinder-dry in the kind of hot weather we've been having. Any sort of flame inside the tent, including smoking, is just crazy. Think!

Another pointer, when you retire for the night, be sure to put out the candle in your lantern that's hanging on the hook beside your tent. If you've ever felt the bottom of one of our lanterns after the candle has burnt down to a flaming wax puddle, you'd never leave an unattended candle burning again.

On this topic, if everyone has hit the sack and you get up to take a whiz and find a lantern guttering beside someone's tent - do us all a favour and put it out. (anyway you'd like)

**GIVING YOUR MUSKET TO THE PUBLIC** - All of you should know by now that you must never surrender control of your musket to a member of the public. If they get a shower of flint shards in their eyes, or they point the firearm at someone and cause a complaint - or if you let them fire it and they burn someone - your Liability coverage that we have through our Museum policy is voided. Why? because you have willingly surrendered control of your firearm and endangered those around you by placing it in the hands of an untrained individual. The Liability coverage you're paying for is yours, not some other bozo's. Enough said?? I truly hope so, cuz it's been said over and over again.

**LOOSE LEAD BALL** - Any of you that carry a loose lead (or steel, or glass) ball for demonstration purposes for the public in your Cartridge Pouch, or a pocket, or a tool box is endangering our unit's reputation and taking the very real risk that you may be told to immediately leave an event and perhaps to never come back. The process of loading a musket for live firing using loose powder from a horn, or from a blank cartridge and then 'running' a loose ball into the muzzle was quite common in the 18C. This procedure was called, 'loading with running ball'.

Therefore, if you have a loose ball and a blank cartridge in close proximity (ball in your hand and blank in your cartouche) at events where blanks only are being used for tacticals, you are in fact carrying a de-facto live round. You are committing a gross safety infraction and **YOU MUST NOT DO THIS**.

At live shoots, loose ball is never carried about behind the firing line, just in the same manner as people do not carry live cartridges at modern shoots behind the firing line. Such a practice reeks of danger and is terribly poor firearms' etiquette.

### WHY THE BRITISH WEAR RED UNIFORMS - HERE'S ANOTHER ITERATION

Paul Rodgers has found another theory as to why the Brits wore red coats. Apparently, in the year 1544 Henry VIII decided that his men who were going to be sent to fight France would be uniformed in the colours of the Royal Arms of England - red, yellow and blue rather than the colours of his family, the Tudors, which were green and white. Hmmm... OK... - is this 'it'?

### YOU GOTTA WATCH THEM GOAT RIDERS

From the book by John Christopher Guzzardo, *Sir William Johnson's Official Family: Patron and Clients in an Anglo-American Empire, 1742-1777* the following:

"... was St. Patrick's Masonic Lodge which Sir William founded in 1766. Masonry was a British social institution, brought to America by the British Army. A hierarchical arrangement of local, regional, and provincial chapters emphasized the subordination of colonial masonry in the mother country. It, thus, paralleled the political organization of empire...

Here's three prominent names of individuals who joined St. Patrick's Lodge. Jelles Fonda, later a Captain, 3 Tryon County Militia; Frederick Fischer (Visscher), later the Colonel of the 3rd Tryon County Regiment; Nicholas Herkimer, later BGen of the whole Tryon County Militia Brigade. I just mention these few from the list of members as they in particular ignored their vows to the King. Makes you think don't it? Let's hope our Masonic members have a better memory!

### IN THE WORLD OF DEFAULTING Robertson, Croucher & Henry at 'work'

#### OVERBOARD

