



Ye Olde Goate's Gazette

Official Newsletter of 4th Company, Brigade of Guards

December, 2008

Time to Pay Your Dues

By Tony Vanderbeek

It's that time of year again!! The December BAR Newsletter contained dues information for the coming campaign year. To stay ahead of the power curve this year, and to take advantage of this "opportunity," I would once again like to execute the following procedure to both collect and disperse BAR and Company dues and develop a more accurate unit roster and data base. It is a three-phased operation.

1.) I will send all Company members the Company Membership Application Form. The current BAR and Company membership dues rates are listed below. Each member is required to complete the Company membership form (again) and return it to me. I will file and use the information to update our unit membership roster as well as provide the required data to the BAR and BB for the unit membership roles. As in the past ***I WILL NOT*** provide individual SSN data or any other contact info if the member requests that it be excluded from submission.

2.) Each Company member will indicate if they plan to join / renew Company and BAR membership for themselves and any members of his family. BAR dues rates will remain the same as they were last year - I don't think we need to raise our rates either. Since this is close to the holiday period again, and we are still solvent, I will write a single check for the entire unit membership (including family members) to the BAR and another check to the BB to cover those dues requirements for 2009 based upon provided information. I will expect individual / family reimbursement by 1 March 09 for both Coy and BAR dues. That will give those who need it, some recovery time from the holiday drain on the check book.

3.) I will attempt to send the membership checks to the BAR and the BB by 01 February, so everyone should get their data to me no later than 31 January. The BB rate is \$25.00 per unit plus \$1.00 per member. All will enroll - no options, but the unit will cover this payment, no need to send the extra \$1.00.

The following dues rates are provided for your information:

Company Dues: \$25.00 per "head of household" or individual PLUS \$5.00 to include the rest of the family

(regardless of numbers) who are active. We are such a bargain!!!

BAR Dues: \$25.00 for the "primary member," PLUS another \$5.00 for each additional member of the same household, up to a maximum of four paid members (including the "primary member"). All others above four dues-paying members are free.

Company Dues Examples: Cpl Vanderbeek (individual) = \$25.00; Pte Grump Pants (\$25.00) and wife (\$5.00) = \$30.00; Pte Morris (\$25.00), Margaret + 3 kids (\$5.00) = \$30.00.

BAR Dues examples: Cpl Vanderbeek ("Primary member") = \$25.00; Pte/Sjt Grumpy Pants as the "primary member" (\$25.00) and wife (\$5.00) = \$30; Pte Morris as the "primary member" (\$25.00) and Margaret (\$5.00), and Jason (\$5.00), and Allie (\$5.00) and Travis (no additional charge, as there are already 4 paid family members) = \$40.00.

So, using the above examples for both Coy and BAR membership dues requirements: Cpl Vanderbeek = \$50 due; Pte/Sjt Grumpy Pants and wife = \$60.00 total due; Pte Morris, Margaret, and 3 kids = \$70.00

Some thoughts:

1. You must be paid up to vote in the company meetings. We will have several this year as we are very overdue electing our corporate officers.

2. The Company leadership strongly encourages BAR membership because: Their publications are good; They provide additional event insurance - both liability and injury - at their events; and They host interesting and unique events - many open ONLY to paid-up BAR members. It's worth it.

Make checks payable to: 4th Company, Brigade of Guards in America, LTD. (Just as it is written here)
Mail to: Tony Vanderbeek 11004 Highridge Street Fairfax Station, VA 22039

Company Business and Edification

New Wool Arrives This Month!

By Rich Manzano

After numerous delays and a logistical effort that rivaled Wellington's Peninsula Campaign, we expect to take delivery of our bolt of Kochan & Phillips madder red wool this month. All new and replacement coats, with the possible exception of musician's coats, from this day forward will be made from this fabric, raising the Guards turn-out to new heights of authenticity. Stay tuned for more details. (So the pressure is off 4th Company's flock in Scotland for now, who can now graze to their woolly hearts' content and will be shorn, woven and dyed at a more leisurely pace.)

Save the Date

Guardsman Vanderbeek and goodwife Vanderbeek request that all members of the 4th Company note that we will host the 3rd annual pasta-palooza on the evening of 14 February (Saturday) 2009 at Chez Vanderbeek from about 1800 hrs to 2400 hrs or whenever. This social event will officially mark the start of the 2009 campaign season and offers a great opportunity for members and families to meet for food, drink and fellowship. The dinner falls on the night before the annual City of Alexandria celebration of Washington's Birthday and reenactment at Ft Ward. As in the past, ample bed-down space will be available for those members and families traveling from out-of-town for the weekend. There will be several new high-carb recipes rolled out for consumption this year in addition to the usual selection of hors d'oeuvres, breads, wines, beer and of course rum. No health foods allowed here! More details will be made available as the event draws near.

Roll of Contributors

Editors-Rich Manzano, Ed Niven

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Notices for the January Gazette

Please submit any notices or articles for the January issue of the Gazette by December 31, 2008. Any information for the issue should be emailed to ed_niven@bellsouth.net. How-to and kit maintenance items are particularly solicited. Other types of items may be acceptable.

Recommended Reading, Second Stocking Stuffer Edition

By Rich Manzano

As viewed from the British perspective:

After nearly two centuries of largely polite and embarrassed silence about the whole affair, British historians are finally producing insightful books on "the American rebellion" and the British army tasked with defeating it.

"With Zeal and With Bayonets Only: The British Army on Campaign in North America, 1775-1783" by Matthew H. Spring

"A Few Bloody Noses: The Realities and Mythologies of the American Revolution" by Robert Harvey

"Redcoats and Rebels: The American Revolution Through British Eyes" by Christopher Hibbert

"Those Damned Rebels: The American Revolution as Seen Through British Eyes" by Michael Pearson

Recommended Reading, Culinary Edition

By Barb Sheffer

Hey! In case anyone is interested in the wench's list:

The Pennsylvania Housewife English Household Receipts in the Middle Colonies: Past Masters in the Early American Domestic Arts ISBN: 0-9720388-0-9

<http://www.pastmasters.info/>

This is a good read before the 2nd Symposium Feb 28, 2009:

<http://www.deborahspantry.com/>

History and Culture Pages

Harmony and Pulchritude: 18th Century Aesthetics

By Ed Niven

In the coming months, I hope to use this space to help us enter, to some degree, into the ways that eighteenth century people experienced their lives. What did they eat? How did they cook it? What was it like to live in an eighteenth century home? What were the common chores to be attended? How were they undertaken? My research so far leads me to believe that their lives were very different from ours, yet unexpectedly familiar at the same time. Some aspects of a human life, it seems, are universal, while some are oriented specifically to time and place.

Throughout my adult life, I have read that the English are much more concerned with matters of class than their American cousins. The proposition seems to be that class, in British society, is still a defining and immutable characteristic of the individual, which he may not transcend. In American society, we expect the reverse, that an individual may attain any status in society he is able to acquire through talent, commerce, guile, or sheer bravado. Thanks to the historian Emily Cockayne for many of the observations that follow are from her book: Hubbub: Filth, Noise, and Stench in England.

To the Englishman (or woman) of the 1700s, the notion of individual attractiveness was inextricably woven into awareness of the object's station in life. A wealthy macaroni was expected to be slight in build, almost feminine in manners, dressed in gaudy fashion, and free of visible dirt on either his clothing or person. A workingman, in contrast, was expected to be large if his vocation involved heavy physical labor like a longshoreman or a smith, and slightly disheveled and worn in appearance. A tailor or a teacher, however, would be almost sickly in appearance and disposition for their constant work indoors and involvement with relatively non-physical tasks. A hulking teacher or a slightly built blacksmith would be met by a reduced level of social acceptance due to their appearance not fitting their station in life.

An eighteenth century English person viewed with particular opprobrium what is known in the twenty-first century as the "trophy wife." The marriage of two people of unequal age and status in life was considered unnatural and expected to be a sign of the moral degradation of one or both partners. Even the attempt by a person beyond youth to dress youthfully was met with severe scorn.

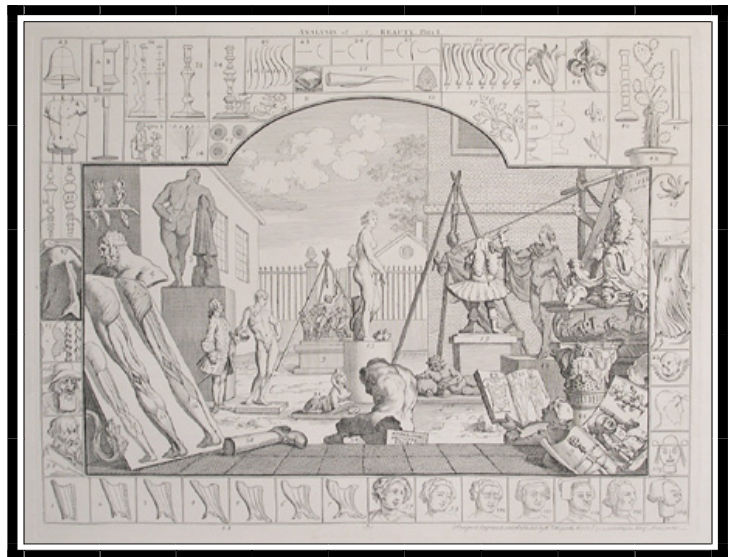
A man's looks, then, were generally sized up in terms of his station in life. A workingman could be attractive even with facial blemishes and as long as his frame wasn't somehow deformed. A slight and effeminate scholar or macaroni could qualify as attractive where the same attributes in a butcher would be detestable and likely lead to a loss in trade due to lack of acceptance and lack effectiveness in the performance of trade.

A woman's looks would be evaluated in a similar fashion. Among eighteenth century writers there is some divergence on the appearance of an attractive woman. In general, though, an attractive woman would have an appearance appropriate to her station in life.

Upper class Georgian women would be considered attractive if smallish in stature, pale in complexion, and dressed in fairly clean and well kept clothing. A working class woman, on the other hand, would have to meet different standards of attractiveness. London's milkmaids (sellers of milk) were esteemed for being large (but not fat) and strong of limb. Spending more time outdoors, they would not be esteemed for the pale complexion of the upper class wife, but would be expected to exhibit some sign of living in the outdoors in the color tone of their skin. She would not be penalized for greater simplicity in dress than the upper class wife.

Unblemished skin, fine facial features, and good teeth would be esteemed in either, and it seems, may have been somewhat rare at all levels of Georgian society. Voluptuousness or its opposite, seems to have been a matter of taste, judging by written evaluations of feminine beauty.

In general, it seems that eighteenth century notions of attractiveness for both men and women were rooted in harmony: with social expectations and with the object's perceived station in life, in terms of both age and social status. English people of the 1700s seem to have had little tolerance for those who tried to reinvent themselves or present themselves in a manner at odds with their status in life. Status seems to have been externally orienting to the individual rather than deriving from qualities of the individual, as we have come to expect in our time and place.



Analysis of Beauty-Plate 1 by William Hogarth

Calendar of Events

The Guards will not participate in every event listed here. Individual Guardsmen are, however, encouraged to support nearby small-scale events that are not on 4th Company's official calendar and brigade with other Crown units. More details will be posted on future events as they become available. A couple of "heads up" for event notices that have cropped up on the Mid-Atlantic Crown Forces discussion group. Watch your email and future editions of the Gazette for details and discussions about attendance.

February

Washington's Birthday Weekend – Alexandria, VA

Featuring all the usual suspects: Pastapalooza 3, Ft. Ward Encampment & Skirmish, Washington's Birthday Parade

March

Battle of Guilford Courthouse – Greensboro, NC

Also featuring all the usual suspects: Our second home at Tannenbaum Park, Natty Greene's, etc.

April

Battle Road/Patriot Day – Boston, MA

Potential "road trip" Event

Battle of Bound Brook, April

*From John McNaulty, 1st New Jersey Volunteers:
It's a good time. We are treated like kings. Worth the effort.
When I get more info I will post it to you.*

*From Jim McGaughey, Royal Marines:
Battle of Bound Brook, April 18-19, 2009.
I think the event serves two meals too. Sounds good to me.*

May 16-17

Jerusalem Mills – Baltimore, MD

(Big 3 event)

Battle of Eutaw Springs/Cowan's Ford – Rural Hill, NC

<http://www.ruralhillfarm.org/nest.htm>

June 27 - 28

Under the Redcoat, 2009. Colonial Williamsburg, Williamsburg, VA

230th Commemorative of the British Raids of 1779 -- New Haven, CT

Potential "road trip" Event

Rock Ford Plantation, September

"On behalf of Historic Rock Ford Plantation, I would like to extend an invitation to our friends at the Continental Line and British Brigade to encamp at General Edward Hand's Rock Ford Plantation on the banks of the Conestoga River in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, on the weekend of September 12 & 13, 2009."

Répondez s'il vous plait at your earliest convenience. -

Ray Bradley

Revolutionary Rock Ford Coordinator

September 26-27

Siege of Yorktown, Newport News, VA

(BAR event)