



# Ye Olde Goate's Gazette

Official Newsletter of 4th Company, Brigade of Guards

May, 2008

## Sjt Manzano Reviews the Company

## Petersburg 2008: After Action Report from the Serjeant



4<sup>th</sup> Company's "spring drill" was relocated from our normal Sully Plantation location to Battersea Plantation in Petersburg, Virginia, where it was promptly crashed by a host of other Rebel and Crown forces. While a small affair as always, Saturday's reenactment of the Battle of Petersburg went well and actually reflected the historic outcome of the battle – unlike the last time 4<sup>th</sup> Company participated several years ago. 4<sup>th</sup> Company took its normal position of honor at the right end of the British line, our friends the 42<sup>nd</sup> Royal Highland Regiment were the steel-tipped steamroller in the center and a composite unit stood at the left. A substantial contingent of Queen's Rangers skirmished and harassed the rebels from the extreme left of our line, finally turning the rebel right flank at which point the main body pressed forward with bayonets fixed sending the rebel militia haring off into the woods. 4<sup>th</sup> Company did themselves proud by repeatedly subjecting the King's enemies to deafening and perfectly timed volleys, unequalled by any other unit on the field.

We were also pleased to have with us that day a prospective recruit whom we had first met at the Ft. Ward skirmish – Scott Ellis. Scott performed admirably, learned the rudiments of the 18<sup>th</sup> century manual of arms quickly (he has both Civil War and modern US Army training to un-learn), showed zeal and attention to detail as befits a potential Guardsman and we note with great satisfaction that he has expressed his desire to continue pursuing membership. 4<sup>th</sup> Company looks forward to having him back in the ranks at an event in the very near future.

Special thanks are again due to Lady Barbara Sheffer for keeping the troops fed and watered. And with any luck the Officer's Mess and unsuspecting townsfolk will never miss those chickens as we had a meal that was the envy of most every unit attending.

## Upcoming Events

**May 17 – 18, Revolutionary War Encampment at the Daniel Boone Homestead** All indications are that this will be one of the bigger events of the year and many senior members of the unit have fond, rum-fogged memories of previous battles fought here.

**June 27 – 29, Under the Redcoat** The membership elected to participate in this centrally located, *paying* event rather than travel to NJ for the Monmouth reenactment being held that same weekend.

**September 20 – 21, Jerusalem Mills** Located just outside of Baltimore this is an easy commute for the Virginia platoon.

**October 18 – 19, The Battle of the Hook** The Big 3 event of the 2008 season, located in Gloucester, VA, across the James River from Yorktown. A huge turnout is expected

## Notices for the June Issue

Please submit any notices for the June issue of the Gazette by May 28th. The editors would particularly like to solicit articles elaborating kit maintenance tips from some you experienced reenactors. Please submit any notices or articles by email to [ed\\_niven@bellsouth.net](mailto:ed_niven@bellsouth.net).

## 2008 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 4<sup>th</sup> Company's official calendar and brigade with other Crown units. More details will be posted on future events as they become available.

### **May 17-18: Revolutionary War Encampment, Daniel Boone Homestead (Birdsboro, PA)**

This looks to be one of the major events for 2008. Watch the second URL below for detailed schedule information.

<http://www.danielboonehomestead.org>

<http://www.battlesatboone.com/index.html>

### **May 17-18: "Spirit of the Hornet's Nest" Rural Hill Farm (Huntersville, NC)**

Commemorates the Battles of Cowan's Ford (The "Catawba Crossing" led by the Guards, where Rebel General Davidson was killed and O'Hara's horse took a tumble) and Weitzell's Mill (prelude to Guilford Courthouse). There will also be a ceremony commemorating the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence (which antedated the one in Philadelphia by some weeks).

This is a fun event at a good site with historic buildings and few modern intrusions. It's convenient to interstates and hotels within a reasonable drive. While the battles are not being done at the appropriate time of year (February and March respectively), the weather is a LOT better. Free Saturday evening meal is included along with free BEER! It's been a smaller event, but with a lot of good action over varied terrain. If you have any junk furniture that looks somewhat period and want to dispose of it, they do the "Ramseur's Mill bonfire" as part of the "Race to the Dan" scenario that is worked in with the Catawba Crossing scenario. Since there is very little other activity, it's a great event for taking it easy and socializing between drills and so on.

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

Crash space with some of us who live nearby (about an hour drive for me; very close to Lloyd and close to Flash).

Cheers!

Jay

### **June 7-8: Fort Frederick Encampment, Tactical Exercise & Firelock Match (Big Pool, MD)**

Now that Company has unearthed a cache of 200+ "war rounds," we may wish to attend this to get a feel for actually firing ball while in formation.

### **June 27-29: Under the Redcoat (Colonial Williamsburg) – official event**

Our traditional high summer event featuring infernal temperatures and scads of tourists in desperate need of education.

<http://www.history.org/visit/eventsAndExhibits/specialEvents/#jun>

### **Summer Drills**

~ Dates and times to be announced ~

### **August 16-17: BAR National Encampment, Fort Ligonier (Sturbridge, PA)**

<http://www.brigade.org/barcal/2008/FortLigonier2008.html>

### **September 20-21: Jerusalem Mill (Kingsville, MD) – official event**

<http://www.jerusalemill.org/events.htm>

### **October 18-19: Battle of the Hook (Gloucester Point, VA) – official event**

What looks to be the "Big Three" event in our area during the Fall.

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

# Company News

## Jack Callaham Wedding

Captain / Lieutenant Colonel and Mrs. Callaham announce to the Company that a date has been set for the event which will cause the musician formerly known as The Jack of Hearts to change that moniker! On Saturday, the 9<sup>th</sup> of August 2008 at 3:00 p.m. Jack Callaham and Heather Nicole Allen will join in holy matrimony at Centenary Methodist Church in Greensboro, North Carolina. Captain and Mrs. Callaham ask that members save the date pending issue of the formal invitations. Members of the Company are invited to the church service and the reception following. Members traveling from afar, who arrive on Friday, are likewise invited to the rehearsal dinner on Friday evening.

Jay notes that “many of the company have literally watched Jack grow up”. That is quite true and this correspondent remembers first seeing Jack, at the tender age of five, fully clothed, standing in the watering trough at Tryon Palace, emptying said trough one splash at a time. Years later Jack re-appears a grown man, takes the King’s Shilling and brings Heather to the camp fire of the 4<sup>th</sup> Company. We note with appreciation that Heather is not one to shy away from hard camp work and pitches right in with tents, water, firewood and anything that needs doing. She is most welcome! Well Done Jack!

Congratulations to Jack and Best Wishes to Heather

## Crossing of the Dan Exhibit Opens in July

Throughout 2007 4<sup>th</sup> Company provided support to a new museum exhibit being put together by the Halifax County (Virginia) Historical Society chronicling the Race to the Dan River between Cornwallis and Greene in winter of 1781. Jay Callaham provided a great deal of research assistance to them so that the Crown Forces would be accurately portrayed and the Crown perspective intelligently presented. The display will include a mannequin dressed as a soldier of the 4<sup>th</sup> Company, Brigade of Guards, from the Coldstream Regiment. The editor notes with great satisfaction that a coat made by regimental tailor extraordinaire Lloyd Morris will uniform the British mannequin and that several of the items belonged to Lonnie Wetherington. Numerous members of the unit donated or sold items for this display as well. The new exhibit will officially open on July 26, 2008.

<http://www.prizery.com/RacetotheDanExhibit.htm>

## Report on Absent (Coast) Guardsmen

Thanks to Ted Sahlin for a timely report on the whereabouts of two comrades we have not seen lately:

### *Pvt Gaudio:*

A lot of things are going on and I thought I would write and give you all an update on the Gaudios, aka 3rd Guards California detachment.

I have just returned from an Eastern Pacific Counter Drug Patrol, we call them EastPacs for short. The ship’s boarding team conducted some boarding operations and we returned home without casualties. We got a lot of good training in. I was able to conduct several gun shoots and Combat Systems Drills which brought up the ship’s proficiency score to roughly 85 percent.

We are expecting our third child in mid September. I should be home for the birth and then departing for workups and patrol. Valarie and the girls are really enjoying San Francisco, though I think all of us look forward to heading back east.

Isabell and Evelyn are both doing great, my oldest starts kindergarten this fall and Evelyn will enter preschool. They are both sharp as a whip and frequently leave me speechless at the thoughts they formulate and verbalize.

### *Pvt Bernhardt:*

4th Company Guardsman Jonathan Bernhardt finished Active Duty with the US Coast Guard in December. He says it was a fast paced “3.7” years. First he enlisted and graduated as the Honor Recruit. He was then commissioned and served an interesting tour during significant change in the Coast Guard. During the three years he served as: 1) pollution investigator; 2) Marine Investigator; 3) 1st Sector Safety Officer; and lastly, 4) Contingency Preparedness Planner. He continues to serve in the USCG Reserve. During his active duty he was awarded the Coast Guard Recruit Honor Graduate (ribbon), CG Achievement Medal, Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal, CG Commendation Medal, and was cited for two different Meritorious Team Commendations.

He further earned the new CG Presidential Unit Commendation (with Hurricane device—one wonders what that must look like!), Global War On Terror Service Medal and the National Defense Service Medal. In March, Jonathan was selected to fill a vacancy at the local Coast Guard command as the CIVILIAN safety officer! The Coast Guard used a Veteran’s Direct - Hire Program to expedite the hiring process and now Jonathan has a paying job with a wife and home in an area they both love. He reports that he is jockeying his reserve unit drills to be sure he can fall in at Under The Red Coat and that he really missed seeing the lads at Guilford this year!

# Thomas Lobster's World

## Lost Language

## Coffee Houses

I was taught in English class in high school that the English language has undergone a process of evolution over the years. Originally, inhabitants of the British Isles didn't speak English at all. Ostensibly the first work of English literature, the epic poem Beowulf was written in a language that would sound more like German to us than English. In the Medieval period of history, I was taught, English sounded very much like French, thanks to the influence of the Norman aristocracy of the land.

All of this set me to wondering about the nature of the English language as spoken during the eighteenth century. I wonder how much it sounded like modern English or if it might have had many more regional dialects than we would recognize today. In my initial inquiries into historical linguistics, I ran across a work called Bailey's English Dialect Words of the Eighteenth Century.

Following are some eighteenth century words and their meanings, which might be interesting for the practitioner of living history.

*After-math*-the After-Grass, or second Mowings of Grass, or Grass or Stubble cut after corn  
*Ale-shot*-a reckoning, or part to be paid at an Alehouse  
*Atter*-corrupt matter, gore, snot  
*Badger*-one that buys Corn or other Provisions in one place in order to sell them at another; a Huckster  
*Baker-Leg'd*-bowlegged  
*Barm*-the Head, or Workings out of Ale or Beer, Yeast  
*To sell a Bear*-to sell what one does not have, used most frequently by stock-jobbers  
*Beer, Birre*-Force or Might, e. g. as with all my Beer, meaning all my Might (common in Cheshire)  
*Bellswagger*-a swaggering fellow, a Bully  
*Bid Ale*-an invitation of friends to drink at a poor man's house, to get their charitable assistance  
*Billingsgate*-a scolding, impudent slut  
*Bleeding Cull*-one that will not quit gambling once he has lost money until he has lost all  
*Bob*-to strike, also cheat. A "dry Bob" is a taunt or a scoff  
*Bouched him*-stopped his mouth  
*Brindled*-spotted, being of several colors  
*Budge*-one that slips privately into a house to steal  
*Burled*-armed  
*By-Blow*-a bastard child  
*Canker*-an eating spreading Sore; also the Rust of Iron, Brass, etc...; also a disease in trees  
*Carfax*-any place where four several Streets or Ways meet together

Sometimes the difference between the 18th century world and the 21st century doesn't seem so great. One of the burgeoning industries of recent years in the United States has been the proliferation of Starbucks and their imitators. Oddly enough, coffee houses were a booming industry in 18th century England, if not in North America as well.

Coffee Houses, like their modern counterparts, were places where people gathered, not just to drink coffee, but also to discuss and explore matters of interest with fellow patrons. Since there was no Internet access in the eighteenth century, lectures and scientific demonstrations were commonly given as ways to entice patrons to coffee houses, or perhaps were the result of their popularity.

These establishments were inevitably places of political agitation as well. The phrase "Coffee House Crowd" became synonymous with political troublemakers and those who would disturb the status quo in political or social values. Whigs and Tories each had their own favorite establishments.

They also provided venues for entertainment, and, much like taverns, were the site of gambling on cards or dice. According to Rosamond Bayne-Powell, coffee houses that had the sign of a woman's hand holding a coffee pot were invariably brothels.

The first coffee house had opened in London in 1652 at the sign of Pasqua Rosee's Head in St Michael's Alley and was frequented by the diarist and politician Samuel Pepys. By the 1700s, many of London's coffee houses were clustered in Drury Lane and Covent Garden. The Cocoa Tree and Orsinda's were popular with Tories and the Coffee-House of St. James with Whigs. Scots preferred the British Coffee House with City men patronizing Robbins' and Garraways. The literary crowd could be found at Old Slaughters in Martin's Lane, as well as the Bedford, or the Turk's Head. Thanks again to Rosamond Bayne-Powell for her article on "Inns, Lodgings, Coffee-Houses, and Clubs" for these notations of popular coffee-houses.

An evening at a coffee house would generally cost about 8 d, sometimes with about 4 p to pay the cost of hiring a singer for the entertainment. For a soldier, such an entertainment would represent more than a day's wages, but was easily within the means of middle class merchants, stock-jobbers, solicitors, and the like.