



# Ye Olde Goate's Gazette

Official Newsletter of 4th Company, Brigade of Guards

June, 2008

## Boone Homestead After Action Report 17-18 May 2008

The 4<sup>th</sup> Company traveled to the hills of Pennsylvania onto participate in the British Brigade – BAR – Continental Line sponsored event at Daniel Boone's Homestead in Birdsboro on 17 and 18 May. Members participating in the trek to PA included our illustrious Captain/Lieutenant Colonel Geoff Sheffer accompanied by Goodwife Sheffer, a resurrected Sjt Grumpy Pants (this time from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Foot Guards), Corporals Galus and Vanderbeek, Drummer Cole, Guardsman Vanderbeek Primus and recruits Weissinger and Theis. We had the pleasure of being joined by an equal number of members of the 1<sup>st</sup> Foot Guards who traveled all the way from the city of Boston in the colony of Massachusetts. The combined Guards formation fielded 12 muskets, one Sjt and two officers.

For those who have not attended an event at Boone's Homestead, the facility boasts nearly 580 acres of open space, forests, trails, streams, ponds, bridges, houses and out buildings which are representative of period structures. All of this was available to the event organizers for use in the tactical demonstrations. I think it is without a doubt the best available location for reenactors. I've always wondered why more events are not staged there.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Company advanced party arrived Friday and staked our claim in the Crown Forces camp area. The campsite had great access by auto, which facilitated dropping off tents and camp materials. The company shared its street with the 23<sup>rd</sup> Royal Welsh Fusiliers who were able to field about 30 members. The Doodles' campsite was sited about 250 meters west of the Crown camp, with the sutlers occupying the space between the two organizations. The main body arrived Saturday AM and immediately set up the remainder of the tents and the Bell of Arms. Interestingly enough, only one other unit set up their bell as well. The camp site

showed significant wear and tear as early as Saturday morning due to the heavy rain that fell throughout the previous several days. Good thing the company procured enough straw to ensure our sleeping areas were elevated above the ground water and mud – lots of mud.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Company members immediately met with the Boston Guards for introductions and to review the day's schedule, iron out differences in our interpretations of the manual of arms and maneuvering, and do some basic dismounted drill. I think this was the biggest success of the weekend as both units found it easy to reach common ground regarding our interpretations of these evolutions. The 1<sup>st</sup> Guards were very accommodating and adopted the 4<sup>th</sup> Company drill procedures without missing a beat. It is probably worth further discussion to explore taking additional steps to develop a more common understanding of the various drill and maneuver evolutions among the different Guards units so we can work better together in the future. *(Continued on page 3)*

## Upcoming Events

**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

## 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.

### **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>

### **July 12-13: Battle of Huck's Defeat-Historic Brattonville, Brattonville, SC**

Re-enactment of the ambush and defeat of Christian Huck's Loyalist Regiment in 1780 on the grounds of the site. This is a very reenactor friendly site and the event will feature a barbeque dinner for participants on Saturday night and period music by Ken Bloom and his merry band. The organizers also promise...BEER...in an outdoor tavern setting.

### **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/>

## **Crossing of the Catawba/Weitzell's Mill AAR Rural Hill Farm, Huntersville, NC 17-18 May 2008**

Most of the Crown Forces from NC were working in the beautiful weather at the Boone Homestead this weekend, leaving a skeleton force from HM 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot and me to reenact the Crossing of the Catawba and the Battle of Weitzell's Mill. For the second year in a row, the weather was beautiful for this event: sunny skies and highs barely reaching eighty degrees. For the second year in a row, the event was poorly attended by the public, most likely due to the presence nearby of the 600-mile NASCAR race, which is a major civic festival in NC.

The opposition for the battles was provided by the 6<sup>th</sup> NC Regiment, contingents from the 2<sup>nd</sup> NC and 2<sup>nd</sup> SC Regiments (they were also providing opposition to the King's main force in Pennsylvania), and several of the local militias. The commemoration of the Catawba Crossing was on Saturday with the Battle of Weitzell's Mill on Sunday. The Catawba Crossing was fairly straightforward and the Crown Forces had to be augmented by a number of militiamen of suspect loyalties, as there were only eight to ten redcoats in the field. Sunday's reenactment suffered from an even greater deficiency of King's soldiers, but we took neither casualties nor prisoners and chased away the pesky Yankees for a second day, exhausting our supply of gunpowder, before finishing them with the threat of cold steel.

I enjoyed the opportunity to get to know some of our colleagues in the Fusiliers as well finding a surprising number of people I knew among Mr Washington's force. Apparently, the King suffers some from desertion and disloyalty among his men in certain of the numbered regiments I will not name. The site provided a meal on Saturday night (no barbeque this year-boo hoo) along with copious amounts of beer, much to the pleasure of all involved. It was a fun event at a site well suited to our pursuits.

*Flash, Pte., 1st Regiment of Foot Guards*

# Boone Homestead AAR

*(Continued from page 1)*

While the company was drilled by Sjt Grumpy Pants, the Brigade officers met to stand around in the middle of the fields to iron-out the day's tactical (they're good at that – the standing around part). It was interesting to see that quite a few other Crown units also took the time to polish up on basic drill and marching. That's the first time I can remember seeing a good portion of the brigade doing what I would expect – practicing. Also I noticed that we are getting better at making on the spot corrections during drill. That's a good thing as it reinforces high standards. By the time we broke for nooning, the composite formation was looking pretty good, better than the rest that I could observe.

Our noon meal was great. Many thanks go out to Goodwife Sheffer for exceeding all known standards in the food provision area. The 1<sup>st</sup> Guards were generous enough to share their mess tent and fly (both of which would come in handy later in the evening and on Sunday) and helped out with the presentation of the meals. Great food and camaraderie were the order of the weekend it just doesn't get any better than that.

Shortly after the noon meal, a few of the company ventured off to the sutlers to see what was offered. Unfortunately, the heavy rain that came down on Wednesday through Friday made the sutler's area a virtual swamp. That surely cut down on the volume of their business. There were many of the familiar vendors set up for the event, plus a few I had not seen before.

The Crown Forces assembled around 1300 to conduct a safety inspection and a color ceremony. Not sure of the utility of the safety inspection – the only thing I could see that was checked was that each musket had a hammer stall and a flash guard. I still can't figure out what good the cursory cartridge inspection was – I know for a fact that there were cartridges out there with significantly more than the British Brigade - allowed 100 grams of powder in them. The combined Brigade officers and NCOs need to agree upon the procedure for executing commands in a large formation. There are still too many people echoing both **preparatory** and commands of execution, and not allowing enough time for the echoed commands to be completed before execution. This adds to the confusion as no-one can determine when to execute what command. I would recommend that the Brigade Officers review their own published procedures on the color ceremony prior to the next attempt. We could all use additional work on formal facing movements - our company should work on these more during our scheduled drill periods.

Following this formation, and the distribution of the King's Ration, the Brigade marched off to the battlefield for the afternoon's tactical demonstration, with the Guards in the lead - naturally. Despite the previous day's rain and threatening clouds, there was a good turn-out of spectators – one park official estimated about 2,000 to be in attendance.

The tactical scheme of maneuver was .....confusing. The fortified Coy started off on the right of the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade defending a narrow road leading to a slight hill top position occupied by a battery of Crown artillery. I think we were opposed by the 1<sup>st</sup> Virginia Regiment at this point. Our initial understanding of the scripted tactical was that this was supposed to be a slow-to-develop scenario, but it didn't work out that way. After the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade exchanged a few volleys with the 1<sup>st</sup> VA, the Coy was directed to advance up the road and dislodge the entire 1<sup>st</sup> VA from their position,. Although outnumbered by about five to one, we considered we had the advantage. We began the advance using street firing techniques but were quickly ordered to withdraw after moving about 50 meters down the road. Apparently we got too far in front of the cannons, which normally would not have been a problem. However, in this case the park commission would not let the cannons move during the tactical for safety reasons, sooooo....we had to withdraw behind the guns to allow them to continue their scripted engagement with the Doodle Artillery, positioned about 200 meters away. So much for our advance – foiled by the safety regulations. COL Mallet, our Brigade Commander, then ordered the Guards to reposition to the left flank of the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade to defend against an expected advance by the Continentals. The 23<sup>rd</sup> Royal Welsh Fusiliers, the Hessians and the Jaegers remained in place and continued to exchange volleys with the 1<sup>st</sup> VA. By the way, I think the 1<sup>st</sup> VA consistently had the best volleys of **any** unit out there all day long, maybe even the best I have seen to date anywhere. Funny incident occurred about this time. While in extended ranks in a copse of trees on the brigade's left flank, Sjt. Grumpy Pants received several harried requests from a horseman to move forward to protect the cannons of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade which were under attack to our left front. Our good Sjt said nothing to the messenger but turned to the company and ordered us to reform at close interval. Upon seeing this, the rider turned around and rode off, presumably to report that the Guards were on the way. However, Sjt. Grumpy Pants'

# Boone Homestead AAR

next order was “right about face, front quick march,” and away we went in the opposite direction to again take up a new position on the right flank of the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade. I would have liked to see the horseman’s face when he turned around and saw us headed off in what he thought to be the wrong direction.

Once in our new position on the Brigade’s right flank, we were again ordered to occupy another position back on the left flank – just where we came from. However, now there was no room for the unit to do so. We began to see a pattern develop where we were marched from one flank of the Brigade to the other and back again. Instead, we marched back to the tree line where we were when the horseman rode up to us, to again defend against an expected Doodle advance. After a few minutes, our Brigade leadership realized that the real Continental push was coming at the center of the Brigade position. The Coy was directed to “right about face” and engage the right flank of the advancing 1<sup>st</sup> VA, which was now behind us. The Coy actually executed this extremely well, and delivered several smashing volleys into the flank of the 1<sup>st</sup> VA as we crested a small hill that separated the units, halting their attack. The hill masked our advance so we surprised the Continentals when we appeared on their flank. We then stood our ground and were ordered to protect the withdrawal of the Brigade from their position. This leads to funny incident □2. After halting the 1<sup>st</sup> VA advance and forcing their subsequent withdrawal, we had no idea where the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade went. We became orphans on the battlefield.

Since there appeared to be a pretty good fight going on to our left flank, in the area we previously occupied on a couple of occasions, our good captain hurled the Coy into that melee in support of what turned out to be the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade. The unexpected appearance of the Coy in the flank of that Brigade’s line halted another Continental advance, again temporarily complicating the scripted scenario. Our job done there, we headed out to find our lost Brigade, very proud of ourselves that we were able to single-handedly stop two Doodle advances, despite what the script said.

We espied the lost Brigade, now on the extreme right flank of the Crown Forces, across a meadow about 400 meters away, and hurriedly marched to rejoin their lines. After forming up behind the center of the Brigade, the company was ordered to the left flank to engage a continental brigade advancing through a wood line to the front – the 1<sup>st</sup> VA again. The brigade began a series of movements to reposition itself to better meet another developing threat

to the right flank. Before long, the company found itself again “orphaned” as the rest of the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade moved out to meet yet another Continental Brigade advancing on the far right flank. This brings us to funny thing □3. The Coy found itself alone and unafraid facing an entire Continental Brigade. After exchanging a few volleys, we moved to our left about 150 meters and joined the right flank of the remainder of the Crown 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade in its fight against the 4<sup>th</sup> Continental Brigade. Since all Crown brigade commanders seem to treat us the same, our “new” brigade commander ordered us to his left flank. We then fired a few volleys and the entire force began an orderly withdrawal under Continental pressure. The Coy had now supported all three Crown Brigades in the fight - - that wasn’t in the script. During this withdrawal, we were once again ordered to resume our position on the flank of the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, which was, as usual, on the other side of the battlefield. The stalwart men of the company once again set off cross country to rejoin the brigade. We arrived no worse for the wear and began to make ready for additional action. We were placed once again on the flank of the brigade and fired several volleys in an attempt to slow the rebel advance, but by now we had taken a few casualties and were outnumbered by at least 3 to 1. The brigade began a withdrawal and once again we found ourselves ordered off across the battle field to support the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade again, where we found ourselves at the conclusion of the 90 minute battle. The Coy marched proudly off the field as a separate formation, cause we had no idea where the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade disappeared to again, to begin weapons cleaning, interaction with the spectators, and preparations for the evening meal.

Despite the confusion of the battle and our marching all over eastern Pennsylvania in ankle deep mud, the event was great! We managed to fire a complete cartridge pouch of rounds, and then some. Muskets performed reasonably well enough given the high humidity – in fact Guardsman Weissinger’s new long land went the entire day without a misfire, with a severely damaged flint no less.

Several times following the battle I was approached by other members of the Brigade and even some of the Continentals with compliments on the unit’s performance.

The dinner meal was another gastronomical event – roast beast provide by the British Brigade and all

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the toppings. Of course more complements are due Goodwife Sheffer for her cooking of desert and preparations of several unbelievable salads.

After dinner, we had ample opportunity to become even better acquainted with our Boston comrades. Captain Morgan and several of his friends appeared and of course, with their help, the stories got more unbelievable as the night wore on. It was a great evening and hopefully we can repeat it with "Boston Guards" in the near future. The rain, which had threatened throughout the day, began to fall around 2130 and continued throughout the evening and into the early morning. It rained heavily enough to extinguish most of the campfires.

Sunday morning broke sunny and breezy; at least it was at 0530. By 0900, the clouds had rolled back in and we began to prepare for the worst. The day's schedule called for Brigade church services and a safety inspection in the morning, followed by a memorial formation and Brigade formation at 1300 to start the day's tactical demonstration. Unfortunately, the weather would not cooperate, and the rain came down in buckets around 1200. At 1230 the event organizers cancelled the day's schedules and the order was given to strike camp. The combined company broke down the kitchen tents and camp in near record time despite torrential rain. It's much easier when all lend a hand. We bid a good-bye and offered many thanks to our Boston friends and the Coy was on the way to points south by 1330.

Despite the cancellation of the second day's activities, I think this was a great event – well worth the soaking and the 3 and ½ hour ride. I'd do it again this week at the drop of a hat.

Some observations, in no particular order:

**Doctrine:** We as a group (brigade, battalion, company) need to read and understand the Standing Orders of the British Brigade available at <http://www.britishbrigade.org/orders/colour.html>. These documents dictate the procedures for Brigade ceremonies. This includes learning a complete grasp of correct commands. I have participated in at least a dozen color ceremonies, and no two have been the same, despite having well written procedures in the British Brigade manuals. It reaffirms what my boss says here at the Pentagon; "no one reads S# \* t." There should be more to being a brigade leader (officer and NCO) than purchasing a fancy uniform and mastering the strut and the perpetual scowl.

**Organization:** I like the way our combined units manned the ranks. We had two officers, one Sjt, and 2 Cpls, despite having guardsmen in the ranks that have been one or more of those positions in the recent past. It appeared to me we all worked together and did a good job supporting the chain of command.

**Tactics:** (See doctrine, above). We need to work out this street firing thing – too many versions of the "proper" procedure running around out there. Brigade officers also need to have a better understanding of time-space relationships on the fake battlefield. Once you start a unit moving, its difficult to get it stopped and reformed.

**Logistics:** Food was great – other than the feast at Guilford 225, the best I have seen. Many, many thanks to Barb Sheffer for her hard work and multiple trips between VA and PA to keep the King's Guards fed. She's too good for you Captain/Lieutenant Colonel Sheffer. Thanks go out to all for pitching in with camp set-up, clean-up and tear-down. Can't believe we ran out of rum though – but that was probably a good thing, as someone could have drowned on the way back to the tents late Saturday night or early Sunday morning.

**Leadership:** Great job from our Coy commander – not sure how he figured out the tactical, but we did well despite the mud, confusion, mud, conflicting commands, mud, funny safety rules, and more mud because of his on-field directions. Thanks from all of us for throwing the BS flag Sunday around 1130 in regards to the rain formation. Not standing out in the pouring rain for 30 minutes sure made the musket cleaning a lot better without all the rust. Our corporals did a *great* job. On the spot corrections, accounting for people, drill knowledge, weapons safety and care, and control on the battlefield all show me that we have the best team of corporals in the hobby. Sjt Grumpy Pants of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Guards deserves much more credit than I will write about. Ted, great job mentoring the corporals before and during the event, it really paid off in the quality of their performance. Thanks also for opting to stay with the company when you were called to be the Brigade Sergeant Major on Sunday. You displayed great demeanor and composure at all times, the perfect picture of a British NCO. Our corporals should take additional notice on how the company was led by the Sjt. in drill – take care and note that the Sjt. stayed in one place to give

# Boone Homestead/School of Musick AARs

instructions and orders – to the front right of the formation – which is the best place to both give commands, and observe performance. Only fault I can find is that we need work on command voice – our young guys were hoarse by mid-battle. I think Ted and I can fix that with a short lesson or two.

**Maintenance:** I think we did well with musket maintenance. I for one will take it up a notch after seeing George's musket and the care he takes in maintaining it. That is the new standard for the Guards – I think. We all could use more Brasso or Mothers – our brass was not as bright as it could have been, and I noticed we could use some shoe and wig maintenance. SGP states in plain text it is time to get some more Hoffco.

**Facilities:** Do we need more tents? I have two, Grumpy Pants has one (I'm making new poles for your tent), the Chamberlains have one, Briggs has one, Lloyd has one, Jay has one. Is that enough?

**Music:** Thanks Andrew for your fifying. It really does make a positive difference when the Coy has a good cadence to for marching. Now to work on the drummer!

**Summary:** a truly enjoyable weekend – that's what I'm talking about. I'm sorry the rest of the Coy missed the event, there is no doubt in my mind that if we had a full turn-out we would have been the most impressive unit on the field. Oh yeah – the mud does come out of the white trousers, well, most of it does.

Respectfully submitted by:  
*Vanderbeek Primus, Pte,*  
*Coldstream Regiment of Foot Guards*

## School of Musick AAR

It was a dark and stormy night. Suddenly a shot rang out. A scream was heard, and a pirate ship appeared over the horizon... Well, ok, so maybe there was no shooting, and; ok, so the pirate ship was definitely a stretch, but it was most certainly dark and it was stormy. The scream was more like a moan when the alarm went off at 3 am for the drive to North Jersey. So it was that we set off for the 5 hour drive to Patterson New Jersey so that young Master Quinlan might get some training in the proper techniques of 18<sup>th</sup> century military drumming.

The drive up was relatively uneventful, as we headed further north the weather broke and it was looking like

we were in for a pleasant day. Although, at one point I turned to Quin and politely asked to either not do that in the car again, or at the very least have the courtesy to role down a window. To which he denied doing anything then attempted to blame the odiferous stench on me, at which point I realized that neither were to blame as I realized we were just in Elizabeth.

Shortly after, we arrived at Dey Manor, a wonderfully restored example of 18<sup>th</sup> Century architecture, which at one point served as General Washington's headquarters. The manor sits on a 600 acre estate (most of which is now a modern golf course) and a prime example of what can be done with a historic site when the renovation funds are not misappropriated by the town.

Having arrived much earlier than the rest of the participants (as only a good Guardsmen would) we took the time to do some marching drill. After a few other musicians began to arrive, we were introduced to our host Erik Lichack the BAR organizer for the event. There was a good mix of both British and Colonial musicians about 20 in all. Once everyone was geared up and introduced Quin was presented with the BAR's new music book. A well done piece complete with a historical overview of each of the various pieces. As was explained, part of what they had done in this new volume was that all the music used by the BAR was gone over and was either confirmed as having its origins in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century or was removed from the music book. After going over some of the finer details of the music the musicians set up in a small room to practice

directly off of the music. After some practice they set off in formation and marched around the manor green attracting many onlookers and despite the presence of the Colonial fifers and drummer, they kept very good formation and sounded like a well practiced fife and drum corp.

Lunch and snacks were served courtesy of the BAR and we made short work of the fine Jersey pizza that was delivered from one of the local mom & pop pizzerias. Once lunch was consumed the novice musicians were sent off for some individual lessons from some of the more veteran participants. There Quin picked up on some of the finer techniques that with practice will make him a fine drummer. Compliments were give at how quickly he was picking thing up.

# Company News

The day ended with each attendee receiving a complimentary copy of the new music book. Everyone was very pleased with the day and we parted company and began our long drive back to the Shenandoah.

*Ben Theis, Pte., Coldstream Regiment of Foot Guards*

## Wool Update

More delays, but there is "light at the end of the tunnel"...and it's not an oncoming train. Quality control and cost issues forced Jim Kochan to find a new mill in the UK to produce his historic woolens and that change has pushed out delivery dates. The good news is his new mill will be delivering bolts of madder wool some time in July. I'll update the unit once we have final numbers. That should give Lloyd plenty of time to make room in his workshop for 40 yards of fabric.

## Guards Abroad

Or "Where in the World is Jane Manzano?" \$800 and the corner square if you answered -- Italy. Yes, Jane is not quite half way through her whirlwind Grand Tour of the Cradle of Western Civilization. Thanks to a plummeting dollar, her university is doing it's best to fit an entire semester's worth of learning into a mere five weeks of real time. Photos of Sienna, Rome, Pompeii and other cultural must-sees coming soon to her Flickr site. Emails from the states are always welcome but Internet access is spotty the art school they're using for home base so responses won't follow as quickly as they normally do.

## Recommended Reading

For those few of you who are not subscribed to Dr. Greg Urwin's (known to us in the hobby as Cpl. Urwin of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Foot) "Redcoat Images" email newsletter, I pass on his email about the following new study of the British Army during American Revolution. Your editor has already placed his order.

Dear Friends:

As you know, I edit the Campaigns and Commanders Series for University of Oklahoma Press. This fall, we are publishing an important new book:  
"With Zeal and with Bayonets Only: The British Army on Campaign in North America, 1775-1783" by Matthew H. Spring.

I have handled a lot of excellent titles during my nearly nine years as editor, but "With Zeal and with Bayonets Only" is so good I wish I had written it. As series editor, I realize that I have a vested interest in promoting this book. But Matt Spring has consulted with many of the scholars and reenactors on this list over the years as he wrote the dissertation that forms the basis for this work, so I am not the only one who can testify to the depth of his scholarship and the brilliance of his analysis.

"With Zeal and with Bayonets Only" does for the American War of Independence what John Keegan's classic "The Face of Battle" did for the battles of Agincourt, Waterloo, and the Somme. Spring's book will forever revolutionize the way we look at the Revolutionary War battlefield, and it should have a profound impact on both the way scholars and reenactors interpret combat in North America from 1775 to 1783. I attach a copy of the book's front cover, which features Don Troiani's stirring rendition of the 3rd Foot's light infantry battling the 3rd Continental Light Dragoons at Eutaw Springs. The back cover will feature another one of Don's beautiful paintings, and several more will appear inside the book in black and white.

I have received permission from University of Oklahoma Press to offer a special pre-publication discount to readers of Redcoat Images and members of the American Revolution living history community. Anyone who pre-orders *With Zeal and with Bayonets Only* by August 1, 2008, will receive a 30 percent discount off the book's retail price of \$34.95. That's \$10.47 off - or a purchase price of \$24.48.

To take advantage of this offer, you have to mention source code OMDLV.

[Editor's Note: The book is not available for discount pre-order online, but you can read a summary of it at [www.oupres.com/bookdetail.asp?isbn=978-0-8061-3947-0](http://www.oupres.com/bookdetail.asp?isbn=978-0-8061-3947-0). Call 1-800-627-7377 to pre-order your copy at the discounted rate listed above.]

Since I value the friendship of all the people who receive this e-mail - and have to face so many of you in many reenactments to come - I would not push this book so enthusiastically unless I believed every word I am saying.

"With Zeal and with Bayonets Only" should be out by November 2008, but you can save enough to buy two or more gallons of petrol in the USA by ordering now.

Gregory J. W. Urwin  
Professor of History, Temple University

# Foot Guards History

## Guards Brigade Fights at Monmouth June 28, 1778

As the British army abandoned Philadelphia in June of 1778, Mr. Washington sought to test his recently re-trained troops against lively opposition. General Clinton was less inclined to fight and more focused on withdrawing his troops to New York.

The armies came into contact early on the morning of June 28th, near the Monmouth Court House. General Charles Lee was ordered to engage the British before the army could march northwards on that day. Washington told General Lee that he would move the remainder of the Continental army up to support his attack. Lee sent dispatches to Washington that he felt certain he could cut off the British rearguard.

Unfortunately, General Lee began the engagement without much organization or the development of a clear plan of attack shared with his lieutenants. During much positioning and repositioning of the forces, General Lafayette's troops appeared to be retreating, leading the other American regiments to fall back as well. Lafayette later, in fact, received orders from Lee to retreat, but the other generals had not. The example of Lafayette's division, however, led to a general retreat by Congressional forces that resulted in General Lee being relieved permanently from his command.

The British moved against the retreating Americans, with the Light Infantry and the 42nd Regiment leading the attack on the left of the American line, such as it was at this point. American artillery halted the advance. The British brought up several fieldpieces and an artillery duel ensued. For the next hour, the British and Americans constantly poured fire into each other, with the Americans proving the value of the military discipline they had received since the previous winter.

The Guards Brigade came into action at this point. They were ordered to attack the right of the American army, along with the 1st Battalion British Grenadiers, German Grenadiers, the 37th and 44th Regiments. This proved to be a particularly hot part of the battle, with the advancing British receiving fire from the Continentals to their front and enfilading fire from six guns placed on Comb's Hill to the left of the British position. As a result of the heavy fire, the attack failed to budge the right flank of the American position. Losses were heavy for the British in this attack and included a Colonel of the Coldstream Regiment.

This attack was supported by the British Light Infantry Battalion and 45th Regiment, which moved against General Anthony Wayne's position at the center of the American second line. This attack was effectively repelled by proficient musketry from Wayne's men, finally halting the British advance.

At this point, Washington wanted to continue the attack, but darkness had fallen. His men remained on the field in preparation for moving against the British. About midnight, General Clinton renewed the British retreat towards New York and was in Middletown, NJ by 10:00 am the next morning.

The British reported 8 officers and 61 privates killed, 19 officers and 142 privates wounded. Three sergeants and 59 rankers died from the heat, which has been estimated to have been between 96 and 105 degrees Fahrenheit.

Clinton's retreat was particularly timely, as a French fleet arrived in Rhode Island about the time the last of his army reached New York the first week of July.

Though the Guards were unable to help break the American position, they played a prominent role in the battle and displayed professionalism and coolness under fire. American historian Christopher Ward notes that their attack was launched in the usual formal fashion, in line, despite being under enfilading artillery fire. Despite receiving heavy fire from the enemy to the front as well, the attack was pursued for over an hour, showing their position as one of the top corps of the British Army was well deserved.



*Washington Rallying the Troops at Monmouth  
By Emmanuel Gottlieb Leutze*

## Notices for the July Issue

Please submit any notices for the July issue of the Gazette by July 4th—the King does not grant this holiday to his subjects. 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).