

# Coates Chronicles

Communiqué of the 'Old' 11th Pennsylvania Regiment

April 1999



Greetings all. Here starts another season for the 11th Pennsylvania Regiment. This is mostly a "Letter of Introduction" as your new secretary, and to get out what information we have for April's events.



"I am displeased, sir." cries the captain. Lt. Greg Finn tries to lift the boss' spirits by proclaiming his praise and admiration for the 'Eastern Contingent'.

## New Board Members

The Annual meeting of the unit was held at Fort Mifflin on March 20-21. Elections were held for board positions and the year's events were voted on. The new board consists of:

President - Donah Crawford  
Vice President - Randy Smidt  
Secretary - James Bell  
Treasurer - Mitch Baker  
Members-at-large - Bill Treusch  
Terry Carnahan

The new military positions are:

Captain - Joe Craig  
Lieutenant - Greg Finn  
Sergeant - Bill Treusch  
Corporal - Daniel Craig

Lance Corporals - Terry Carnahan, Randy Smidt and Andy Drake

I would like to take this opportunity to tip my hat and give a grand HUIZZAH to the outgoing board members - Dana Baker, Steve Ehrmann, and especially, Greg Finn. As one of the founding members of the unit, Greg has served as President of the board since its inception, and it was obvious at the meeting that, although he felt it was time to step down, you could tell that he just didn't want to let go of those reins. Although no longer in control, we're sure he will keep a watchful eye on the new board.

Louise Bleil was voted in as Secretary, however, shortly thereafter she received additional responsibilities at Washington's Crossing due to manning shortages. This would have caused a severe conflict with her secretarial duties. As a replacement, the President nominated yours truly, James Bell, in a post session meeting, and it was unanimously carried. Louise will still be very active with the unit, and we are very grateful to have her experience.

For those who have met me, you know I will readily admit I am extremely new to the unit, and have as yet to even fire my musket in battle. This inexperience, I am sure, will rear its ugly head from time to time, so I ask everyone's patience if I ask stupid questions as I learn my new role as secretary as well as that of becoming a battle-worthy soldier within the unit.

## Events for the Year

This year boasts a full schedule of events, fourteen in all. There are twelve official events and two optional.

Official paid events are activities where the unit receives money to provide living history reenactors. We have five of them scheduled. Be sure to mark them on your calendar, for they are most important:

**July 3rd** - Freedom Blast, Fort Mifflin, PA

**September 3-6** - Head of Elk, Elkton, MD

**September 18-19** - Battle of Brandywine

**October 2** - Battle of Germantown

**October 18** - Assault on Fort Mercer, Red Bank

The following events are official unpaid events:

**April 17-18** - School of the Soldier, Washington's Crossing

**May 22-23** - Daniel Boone Homestead

**June 26-27** - Battle of Monmouth

**Oct. 23-24** - Montpelier Mansion, Laurel, MD

**November 6-7** - Hope Lodge

**November 13-14** - Fort Mifflin Siege Weekend

**December 11-12** - Corryell's Crossing

**Last week in December** - Battle of Trenton / Princeton

The following events are optional events because they require an admission or registration to get in. If you attend these events you will still get credit towards your annual attendance.

**April 22-25 - Market Days, Fort Frederick, MD**

**December 4 - Colonial Ball**

*We hope to see everyone there.*



What manner of a motley crew is this?

**Washington's Crossing  
School of the Soldier  
April 17 - 18**

*Come out to the School of the Soldier, the year's first official event hosted by the Mid Atlantic Department (MAD) of the Continental Line and their "It's a MAD, MAD, MAD Weekend" at Washington's Crossing. People can start showing up on Friday the 16th after 3 PM. See the enclosed flyer for all the details.*

**Fort Frederick's  
Market Days  
April 22 - 25**

*Have a few hundred dollars burning a hole in your pocket? Can't decide what to do with that HUGE income tax refund? Make the trek to Fort Frederick in Maryland and get all those accoutrements and camp accessories you've been doing without for too long. See the enclosed flyer to learn more.*

**From the Scribe ...**

*As this is my first time getting the newsletter out to the unit, I hope you enjoy it. In my real-life 20th century job, I am in the U.S. Air Force, and fly on the KC-10 Aerial Tanker. With world events being what they are, I honestly can't tell,*

*from one day to the next, whether I will be in town or flying half way around the world to support whatever humanitarian, peacekeeping, or other function deemed essential by my Commander-in-Chief. Although this may affect my appearance at some of the events, my wife, Kristy, has taken it as her personal task to see that the newsletter meets some sort of regular appearance in your mailbox. Anyone wishing to add information into the newsletter is welcome to send their thoughts to her at [Viffi@aol.com](mailto:Viffi@aol.com), or can call her at (609) 723-0462. Between the two of us we hope to keep the lines of communication flowing to all active members of the unit. On the battlefield, my son, David, will deliver these communiqués, as he is now the Captain's new runner.*

*This is kind of nice . . . it's been a long time since I've had a captive audience. One of my more 'modern' 20th century luxuries is a digital camera, and you will see this and future issues peppered with a spattering of visual delights to amuse, educate and ponder.*

*Soooooo . . . at the risk of embarrassing my captain and those officers appointed above me, here are a few of the more 'enlightening' reflections from this last gathering at Fort Mifflin.*



Terry Carnahan is ready to go hunting for dinner

**Coming next month ...**

*Anyone wishing to submit items to be published in the chronicles should have material e-mailed or snail-mailed to us no later than the 20th of the month prior to the desired publication. The more people put into the letter the more it represents the unit as a whole.*



The Captain and Lieutenant enjoy each other's company . . . who's leading?



Bill Treusch enjoys the break-neck pace of the annual membership meeting.