



## Communique of the "Old" 11<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Regiment June 1999

### The President's Heart

Greetings all. I will be setting up a wall tent with fly as a QM tent, and bring full kitchen gear, plus two coolers of ice to Monmouth. My mission for the weekend is to keep us from reenacting the heat stroke of the original encounter. To that end, I will be encamped from Friday on, and ready to provide any 18<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century support services required. Please come well prepared to be pleased.

Be on the lookout for rumors. One former female member has been telling folks, notably the administration at Washington's Crossing, that the 11<sup>th</sup> is no more! Reassured, they invite us to join them on the 4<sup>th</sup> if any are so inclined. They will be announcing their new Washington, and are trying to make it a big media event. Come be part of the moment! Rumormonger to be held captive at Bowmen's Tower for the day.

Thanks to those of you expressing an opinion on our Red Bank/Montpelier Mansion conflict. Red Bank it is. Always a good time, they promise to pay us promptly this year, as well as feed us as usual.

We had a dandy time at Daniel Boone despite lack of wood, water, and straw. I believe they were trying to provide us with the foraging experience. Numerous raids on the British camp's supplies were authorized and carried out. Certainly provided lots of opportunities for bonding with other deprived units. On the other hand, the daily rushes of the video were very well done, with the members of the 11<sup>th</sup> appearing very handsome on camera. Huzzah to Bill Truesch and Mitch Baker who fell out as privates with the 6<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania.

Late breaking news: Dory McMunn, executive director of Fort Mifflin has requested the assistance of the 11<sup>th</sup> PA in planning the Freedom Blast. Our Officers have been drafted to plan the battle, and coordinate the action of the land and sea forces, which will be narrated by yours truly. After all the good will and free lodging supplied to the Unit by the staff at the Fort, it is wonderful to have the opportunity to repay them in such a visible, and desperately needed, way.

*See you all at Monmouth.  
Most Fondly, Donah*

### I Love a Parade

Capt. Joe would like to inform the 11<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania of a parade in Easton, PA. This parade will occur July 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> and would pay the unit \$35 per participating reenactor, minimum 10 people. Interested parties should contact Kristy Bell ([viffi@aol.com](mailto:viffi@aol.com) or phone (609) 723-0462), or Donah Crawford ([DZCrawford@aol.com](mailto:DZCrawford@aol.com) or phone (215) 646-4572) prior to 30 June.

### Quote of the Month

*Not gold, but only man can make  
A people great and strong;  
Men who for truth and honor's sake,  
Stand fast and suffer long.*

*Brave men who work while others sleep,  
Who dare while others fly-  
They build a nation's pillars deep  
And lift them to the sky.*

- Ralph Waldo Emerson,  
A Nation's Strength

### You Should've Been There



Bill Truesch and Mitch Baker pause for a picture

With our valiant Lady Donah leading the way, a small but courageous contingent from the 11<sup>th</sup> PA braved the heat, humidity and, ultimately, the rain to take on the British forces at Daniel Boone Homestead.

Donah broke ground for our small group, arriving first and staking out territory for all followers. The leader that she is, she had the dining area fully furnished and stocked with food and water even before the fly was raised. Huzzah!

*Chronicles  
Donah*



Bill (center, back) and Mitch (back, right) drill with the 6<sup>th</sup> PA

# Monmouth Battlefield

Monmouth Battlefield State Park  
 347 Freehold-Englishtown Rd.  
 Freehold, NJ 07728  
 Monmouth County

Hours: Dawn to Dusk  
 Visitor Center: Summer 9 AM till 5 PM  
 Craig House: Summer, Weekends 9 AM till 5 PM

Attractions:  
 Visitor Center, 1520 Acres, Craig House (built in 1710, restored house of NJ militia paymaster), Owl Haven Nature Center and Trail

Bill and Mitch fell out with the 6<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania for drills and the afternoon battle, with both gentlemen looking very professional. Donah and I agree that Mitch's hat trim is just too clean and bright, making him a perfect target for British fire. Numerous threats were made about tossing it in the nearest mud puddle, but nothing came of them. Donah walked through the crowd providing them with ear safety tips and participating in a bit of street theater with Kristy Bell, who turned out as an Indian for the event.

After the battle, a truant Lee Van Dusen returned to camp in time to be flogged (It may be truly said that he screamed well and put on a great show for the tourists) and our fearless Donah led raids on the British camps for much needed wood.

Sutlering, food and good spirits capped the day as storm clouds began to close in. The rain held off long enough for some good food, camaraderie, business discussion and a bit of "camp cruising" before turning in after a long hot day.



A tired Miss Kate Crawford drifts as the others chat

On June 28, 1778, the last and longest battle between the two main armies was fought at what is now Monmouth Battlefield State Park. Both sides had about 350 men killed, wounded or captured, and both sides also showed heavy losses due to heat exhaustion. This battle also proved to be the downfall of General Lee, who was court-martialled in its aftermath

(From the Internet)  
 "During the Winter of 1778, Washington's troops had suffered a number of defeats in the field, due in part to superior British tactics. The colonists retreated to camp in Valley Forge, cold and barefoot and sick. Morale was low--the problem was poor organization and not enough horses and wagons to bring supplies to camp. However, General Friedrich von Steuben volunteered to train the troops. Von Steuben posed as a baron and former lieutenant general in the army of King Frederick of Prussia, but was in fact only a captain and not a noble. Yet he was an excellent soldier.

Von Steuben taught Washington's troops how to maneuver in the field and how to use bayonets properly. He was very strict with the Americans and knew little English, and drilled the soldiers for hours cursing at them. But the Americans appreciated his devotion, and he taught them well.

In May 1778, while the British General Clinton's troops were marching across New Jersey, Washinton attacked. His victory at the Battle of Monmouth Court House was a small one, but it gave a boost to American morale, as they applied their lessons learned at Valley Forge from Von Steuben."

It is hoped that many will brave the heat to participate in the re-enacting of this important battle June 26-27 at Monmouth Battlefield State Park in New Jersey.

## Upcoming Events

July 3 - Freedom Blast, Fort Mifflin, PA (Paid Event)

4<sup>th</sup> of July at Washington's Crossing