



# The Black Knot

First, we have information on the Regimental Event at Mount Vernon, followed by that for the second Regimental Event at Newbury, MA. As I am certain you have heard from your company commander and representatives, the Mount Vernon event on May 4-5 and the Battle of Newbury event at Spencer Peirce Little Farm on June 8-9 have been made our two Regimental events for 2019. As we always attempt, the Board of Officers carefully selected two premier events to be Regimental events, such that every member could attend one or the other, knowing that they would meet members from other companies than their own. It is expected that every member of the Regiment will attend at least one Regimental event each year. It is an important part of your identity as a member of the Regiment.

I also include my final report to the Board of Officers on my view of the state of the Regiment, and notes about governance of the 64th Regiment. Ltd., which I find is unfamiliar to many members.

## **MOUNT VERNON EVENT, May 4-5, 2019**

Mt. Vernon's Revolutionary War Weekend—George Washington's Estate at Mt. Vernon on the Potomac River—Location: 3200 Mt Vernon Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon VA. 22121. Mount Vernon's website: <http://www.mountvernon.org/plan-your-visit/calendar/events/revolutionary-war-weekend/>.

If you have never done an event here, you should really want to. If you have, then you are doubtless returning. We get to live for a week-end at George Washington's home, one of the premier 18th Century sites in our nation. This will not be a large event, as it is not a British Brigade event. It was to have been, but that had to be cancelled as Potomac River erosion issues preclude us from using the lawn area for a camp. This left us insufficient space for major event. Consequently, it has been made an invitational event, and since it is our first Regimental event, we expect a fine turn-out from the members of the 64th. They are making it worth our while, with special amenities, to which we add Regimental camaraderie.

Although the original limitation was 100 soldiers to a side, we actually have about 120 British Brigade troops, plus regimental women and children. Invited and attending are the 7th, 17th, 23rd, 42nd, 43rd, 64th, and 84th Regiments of Foot, 4th Company Brigade of Guards, Marines, Hessian Guard, Von Preuschenck's Jaegers, 1st Battalion New Jersey Volunteers, Queen's Own Loyal Virginia Regiment, three 3-lb artillery—Companies A, T, W, and 7; and His Majesty's Detached Hospital.

Although a site map follows, please look at the attached arrival map showing the routes into the site to reach the camp. You will note that both the Crown and Continental camps are on the 12-Acre field. Those day-tripping will find very convenient parking to the north of the mansion and east of the visitor's center—an easy walk in.

There will be a very limited number of high-quality sutlers at the event (about 11). These include Albemarle Arms, Crown Point Bread Company, From Common Hands Studio, G Gedney Godwin Inc., Half Crown Bakery, Herb & Vine, K. Walters at the Sign of the Gray Horse, Silhouettes by Hand, Sycamore Springs Clothier, White Historic Art, and Windhil Woolens.

If the weather is good, we will likely draw over 15,000 visitors. Our past performances are greatly appreciated by the site and we are joyfully welcomed back to do what we do best. Distaff are warmly welcome to participate in public interpretation events in camp, whatever and whenever you would like it to be. Dram Shop? Milkmaid? Petty Sutler? Childrens games? Crafts? Calligraphy? Think about it. Food preparation can be done, but no actual cooking may be done outside the kitchens.



Dinner for the 64th will be a communal affair, a pot luck supper. Each company will see to its main course contribution, side dishes, beverages, and desserts (I recommend keeping it simple), and we will all dine together. Saturday night—in addition to the site party—we will have a tavern under the dining fly.

The site opens to us at noon on Friday. This allows you to take advantage of the Friday evening FREE HOUSE TOURS—**special tours of the mansion just for reenactor participants** (and family). These tours will run from 6pm - 8pm. The outbuildings will also be open for your viewing pleasure. Please plan to gather in the Mansion Circle. **The museum will also remain open during this time just for us.** If you have not seen the museum then it should be on your list. The Mansion will also be open for free tours by reenactors throughout the weekend by entering the line along the Bowling Green.

There will also be **free tours available of George Washington's Distillery and Gristmill**, located approximately two miles from the Estate. A free shuttle will leave the Museum bus turnaround every hour from 12pm to 4pm each day, with return service. **(NOTE: NO weapons or accouterments (bayonets, swords, etc.) in the Mansion, Museum or Distillery and Gristmill.)**



*The distillery is fully operational and a great tour. They will happily sell you product. Also, when you take the Mansion tour, you will enter into the "New Room", which was Washington's pride. On display are six landscapes. If you are from the upstate New York, ask to be shown Winstanley's Genesee Falls*



*(shown above), painted in the late 18th C. when Rochester was still wilderness.*

**Reenactor Discounts:** The Concessions Tent is open from 8:30am to 5pm. They will offer a **50% discount to participants in period attire.** The Shops will offer a **20% discount to participants in period attire.** **The discount at the Mount Vernon Inn is 25%.**

For those interested, a tour boat leaves Mt. Vernon on a regular schedule. It makes a number of stops along the river, including Old Town Alexandria - which has a host of shops and restaurants. Worth seeing, especially Gadsby's Tavern and the Carlyle House.

**SPECIAL RULES -- for complete information see the pdf attachment "Participant Information."**

\* All re-enactors will enter the grounds through the west - CVCC gate which is next to the Mt. Vernon Inn restaurant. Once through the electronic gate you will proceed to the check in and then directed to proceed to the camp set up area from there.

\* All vehicles and trucks are to place on their dash board the parking pass received at check in. Please provide your name your unit and your cell number that you can be reached at during the weekend event.

\* When on the camp ground to unload please do so as quickly as able and remove your vehicle from the setup location as there will be space considerations and this will reduce traffic congestion

\* Please stay away from mansion after dusk to avoid calling out security.

\* Please place trash in receptacles. Camp refuse should be place in garbage bags and left by camp near kitchens for collection Sunday morning.

\* All vehicles out of camp 7:30am - 5:30pm Saturday and 7:30am - 4pm Sunday.

\* We represent Mt. Vernon (as well as ourselves) to its numerous visitors—local, national and international— that are expected on the grounds over the course of the weekend. Please conduct yourself responsibly and by all means SAFETY FIRST.

## **SCHEDULE**

In the following event schedule, the events in which we are involved have an "\*", those needing a limited number of volunteers from us have "\*\*\*". All the others are available to be attended as spectators or use the open time to see the site. Note that the Washington's Field Headquarters tent—on loan from the Museum of the American Revolution—is open all day. This tent served as the marquee or office and sleeping quarters that Washington used as the command center of the Continental Army.

### **Friday**

noon - Camps open to participants. Registration noon through 10:00pm.

Shuttle buses with extended hours running from the parking lots to the site & to the Distillery

6:00-8:00 pm - Special tours of the mansion for reenactors

### **Saturday, May 4, 2019**

Registration from 8:00am through 11:00am.

All Day - Shuttle buses to & from the parking lots & to the Distillery

8:00 - Camps open to the public

10:00 am Assembly and Drill Demonstration - Bowling Green \*

10:30 am Meet General Washington - Bowling Green

10:30 am Military Mapmaking & Surveying Demonstration - Bowling Green

11:00 am 18th-Century Dancing - Upper Garden

11:00 am Cavalry Demonstrations - 12-Acre Field

11:30 am Battle Reenactment - 12-Acre Field \*

11:30 am 18th-Century Music - Upper Garden

12:00 pm Medicine of the Revolution - Bowling Green

12:30 pm Rick Atkinson Book Signing Vaughan - Lobby

1:00 pm Saddle Up Washington's Warhorses - Paddock

1:00 pm People of the Army - Bowling Green \*\*

1:00 pm Military Mapmaking & Surveying Demonstration - Bowling Green

1:30 pm Youth Muster - Bowling Green \*\*

1:45 pm Revolutionary Allies: General Washington and the Marquis de Lafayette - Bowling Green



- 2:30 pm Formation and Troop Inspection by General Washington - Bowling Green
- 3:00 pm Battle Reenactment - 12-Acre Field \*
- 4:00 pm Meet General Washington - Bowling Green
- 4:00 pm Medicine of the Revolution - Bowling Green

Following dinner, the site will provide a party on the lower Bowling Green 7-9PM Saturday evening, with beer, cake, and other refreshments provided, while supplies last.

### **Sunday, May 5, 2019**

All Day - Shuttle buses to & from the parking lots & to the Distillery

- 8:00 – Camps open to the public
- 10:00 am Assembly and Drill Demonstration - Bowling Green \*
- 10:30 am Meet General Washington - Bowling Green
- 10:30 am Military Mapmaking & Surveying Demonstration - Bowling Green
- 11:00 am 18th-Century Dancing - Upper Garden
- 11:00 am Cavalry Demonstrations - 12-Acre Field
- 11:30 am Battle Reenactment - 12-Acre Field \*
- 11:30 am 18th-Century Music - Upper Garden
- 12:00 pm Medicine of the Revolution - Bowling Green
- 1:00 pm Saddle Up Washington's Warhorses - Paddock
- 1:00 pm People of the Army - Bowling Green \*\*
- 1:00 pm Military Mapmaking & Surveying Demonstration - Bowling Green
- 1:30 pm Youth Muster - Bowling Green
- 2:30 pm Formation and Troop Inspection by General Washington - Bowling Green
- 3:00 pm Battle Reenactment - 12-Acre Field \*
- 4:00 pm Meet General Washington - Bowling Green
- 4:00 pm Medicine of the Revolution - Bowling Green

**Directions:** George Washington's Mount Vernon is located roughly 15 miles south of Washington, D.C. and 8 miles south of Alexandria, Virginia on the banks of the Potomac River, at the southern end of the George Washington Memorial Parkway. There are two main ways to approach the estate. The first from Rt 1, three miles west of Mt. Vernon on Rt 235 known as the Mt Vernon Memorial Highway. The second, more scenic route along the Potomac River is by the George Washington Memorial Parkway which you can pick up from the city of Alexandria and I-95/495 and going south along the parkway. Some GPS apps/devices may not have the address in their database. You may consider using the address for the U.S. Post Office (3500 Mt Vernon Memorial Hwy) situated across from the estate. <http://www.mountvernon.org/plan-your-visit/directions-parking-transportation/>

### **NEWBURY, MA EVENT, June 8-9, 2019**

Welcome to New England! We will join with our Light Infantry Company and the Boston Garrison units for what should be a splendid weekend. The setting is the Spencer-Peirce-Little Farm (5 Little's Lane, Newbury, MA, 01951) which is a 231-acre site including a 1690 manor house that served as the country seat of wealthy Newburyport merchants. This coastal site (only 3.5 miles from the ocean beach) borders the scenic Merrimack River (9/10 mile from the harbor front). It is operated by the landmark preservation group Historic New England which has dozens of New England's most historic properties. Newburyport itself is a historic seaport with 18th Century Federalist architecture merchant captain's homes on High Street and a charming 1850's downtown with several blocks of small shops delightful for browsing. The event website is <http://battlefornewbury.redcoat.org/reenactors.html>. The Spencer-Peirce-Little Farm website is <http://www.historicnewengland.org/visit/homes/little.htm>.



New England reenactment groups have used the SPL farm several times for regional events, despite it being well to the north of Boston. Boston of course is far too metropolitan for a large Revolutionary War event, but the SPL farm surrounding area's old homes will remind you of the outskirts of 1776 Boston. This will be an exciting event with more to do than just a few battles. The host 10th Regiment notes that the weekend will feature a good amount of sutlers and demonstrators in front of the manor house, and a large space for the British camp on flat ground. There is plenty of parking on well-drained ground. They

have a modern food vendor for spectators, so if steak & lobster is not your thing, you can probably get a burger. One of the sponsors is the local brewer Ipswich Ale Company, and Saturday evening there will be a large tavern with food and free beer and mead provided by Ipswich Ale and by 1634 Meadery. I am certain that this is of no interest to us, so I will have lemonade on hand.

A special treat will be the Regimental Tea Party at 3:30PM on Saturday, being organized by Valerie Elder. Contact her at [vselder@frontier.com](mailto:vselder@frontier.com) if you would like to assist.

## **SCHEDULE**

### **Friday, June 7th**

12:00 - 24:00 hrs: Site open for camp set-up

### **Saturday, June 8th**

07:00 hrs: Morning gun / Reveille

07:00 hrs: Site open for camp set-up

08:00 hrs: Officer's Call

08:30 hrs: Serjeant's Call

09:00 hrs: All vehicles must be out of camp

09:15 hrs: Individual Regimental-Company Formations & Inspections

10:00 hrs: Site opens to public

10:00 hrs: Maintain 18th century appearance, Regimental-Company Drills / Interact with public

10:15 hrs: Army Formations

12:00 hrs: Nooning

13:15 hrs: Army Formations for Battle Scenario

13:30 hrs: Battle Scenario Begins (ending at 14:30 hrs)

15:15 hrs: Last Man Standing Competition

15:30 hrs: 64th Regimental Tea Party

17:00 hrs: Site closes to the public

20:00 hrs: Tavern begins

23:00 hrs: "Quiet Time"

### **Sunday, June 9th**

07:00 hrs: Morning gun / Reveille

07:00 hrs: Site open for day-trip arrivals

08:00 hrs: Officer's Call

08:30 hrs: Serjeant's Call

09:00 hrs: All vehicles must be out of camp

09:15 hrs: Individual Regimental-Company Formations & Inspections

09:30 hrs: Church Parade

10:00 hrs: Site opens to public

10:00 hrs: Maintain 18th century appearance, Regimental-Company Drills / Interact with public

11:15 hrs: Army Formations for Battle Scenario  
11:30 hrs: Battle Scenario Begins (ending at 12:30 hrs)  
12:30 hrs: Nooning  
13:00 hrs: Interact with public  
13:30 hrs: Participants may begin to break camp  
17:00 hrs: Site closes to the public

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Delivered at the Board of Officers Meeting, February 2nd, 2019)**

This past year I attended our only Regimental event—Mount Vernon (the Mount Harmon event being twice cancelled due to severe weather). This event had two from the grenadiers joining a contingent from the Major's company. Altogether this was a fine time though with a small number of 64th members in attendance. While I am tempted to charge this off to a bad year, it has been some time since we have seen a large 64th turnout at any event, despite our remaining one of the largest units in the hobby, if not the largest.

On the other hand, our companies turn out in good numbers at local and regional events giving no doubt across the country the 64th is still an active organization. The regiment remains healthy and growing. At the end of 2017, I was able to account for 70 members in the Regiment. At this time, assuming all members who were active last year renew, I count 82, not including a flock of children. The muster roll for the end of 2018 reads: Present, 5 officers, 3 sergeants, 5 drummers, 38 rank and file, 4 warrant officers, and 27 women on the strength. If we only get a quarter of our numbers, say twenty, to a worthwhile event, it would make a good regimental event and likely have us the largest British unit on the field.

--Michael Grenier

President, 64th Regiment of Foot, Ltd.

### **GOVERNANCE OF THE 64TH REGIMENT OF FOOT**

Most members are aware that the 64th Regiment of Foot, Ltd. is incorporated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit educational association (making contributions tax-deductible) governed by a "Board of Officers" and that their company also elects an "other ranks" representative to this board. I know that some members know the details but I want to ensure that everybody does, especially our newer members.

Founded in 1959, the Regiment incorporated in 1981 and the "Board of Officers" became the corporation's Board of Directors. The board has three representatives from each company. Currently, these are David Snyder, Lynn Bull, and Susan Warr from the Major's company; Michael Meyerdierks, James Carrol, and Louise Meyerdierks from the Light Infantry company; and Michael Grenier, Guy Morin, and Emma Gencarelli from the Grenadier company. These representatives are the two senior officers of each company and an elected "other ranks" (private, corporal, sergeant, regimental woman) representative. They elect corporate officers who generally are from among the representatives, but if not become voting directors by virtue of their position. The officers are president, vice president, executive secretary, and treasurer/paymaster. The Board also elects a Regimental Sergeant Major, who becomes a director, and a quartermaster, who does not unless already a representative.

Our congratulations go to David Snyder, was elected to the position of President at this past board meeting in February. I have stepped down from this position, having served in it for 20 years, since 1999. Michael Meyerdierks is vice president, Jackie Bradbury is treasurer, Hiram Lyon is Regimental Sergeant Major, and Susan Warr is quartermaster. I have accepted the position of executive secretary. The board has also appointed me as field commander for 2019 at Mount Vernon and Newbury.

As Executive Secretary, I plan to publish a periodic newsletter, which you will notice is now called "The Black Knot."

Yours truly,

*Michael Grenier*