



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE BRIGADE OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
NORTHWEST DEPARTMENT

B.A.R. SHOT

Commander: Bob Cairns (330) 455-9722

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Commander's Corner

Well, we've finished another NW Dept. season with a fine show to help mark the 250th anniversary of the Battle of Point Pleasant, West Virginia. Although Dunmore's War predated the Revolution, it took place just 6 months before Lexington/Concord, and many of the Virginia militiamen involved also played prominent roles in the Revolution, including George Rogers Clark and Daniel Morgan. Our clothing, equipment and knowledge of the material culture fit right in, and we were able to use this to teach about our chosen period. The actual anniversary of the battle was on Thursday, and most of the activities of the day centered around remembrances and ceremonies of the SAR and DAR. We set up our camps on Thursday afternoon/evening and were ready to go Friday morning. Our camps were located on the ground occupied by the original Virginia militia camp, along the south bank of the Ohio and eastern bank of the Kanawa rivers, at their junction. At 8:00 AM Friday morning the school buses began rolling up, and we started our presentations at the various teaching stations we'd set up in our camps, and from 8:15 AM through 2:30 PM we talked non-stop to approximately 600 public school and home-schooled students, primarily 4th graders from both West Virginia and Ohio, without even a break for nooning. From about 3:00-6:45 PM we were able to cook our suppers and catch our breaths, and at 7:00 PM hundreds of members of the public lined up for lantern tours and talks, which were to run from 7:00-9:00, but didn't actually end till nearly 10:30 PM. Again, it was non-stop, and the reward was how interested the public taking the tour seemed to be.

Saturday morning was more casual, and most of the NW Dept. men present, who were all portraying Virginia militia, were led in a drill session by Wally Richardson. It's noteworthy that the 200th Point Pleasant anniversary was probably the Northwest Department's first event, and that Wally Richardson attended and participated. Our drill got us ready for the primary activity of the day, a parade through downtown Point Pleasant. A reenactor not affiliated with the B.A.R. said we looked like a drill team as we went through various parts of the '64 manual as we marched. I'm sure we were much too precise to be militia, but it does speak to the pride those of us involved have in what we do. After the parade ended at our camps at the Point, we did some interpretive work, and many of us took our camps down about 4:00 PM and headed home. Some of us did stay the night and participated in the Sunday morning period church service.

On a personal note, let me say how eerie it was waking on Friday morning, to a fog so thick I could not see past the back of my tent. Such a fog was reported on the morning after the battle, 250 years earlier.

I want to thank everyone that attended and participated. We received really fine comments from the public, the members of the organizing committee, and the site managers of both the Point and Fort Randolph, a site to which I am sure we will be returning. I also want to thank Craig Hesson, former site manager at Ft. Randolph, who helped interpret the Native side of the battle, who was our surrogate and made the arrangements that got us to the event. The following units each had at least one member participating in the event, and they did outstanding work representing the NW Dept., B.A.R.:

8th Pennsylvania, Ft. Laurens Det.

5th Virginia Regt.

Royal Naval Landing Party

23rd Royal Welsh Fusileers

64th Regiment of Ft.

Butler's Rangers,

Logan's Kentucky Militia

13th Virginia Regt.

Coldstream Guards

Westmorland County Militia

We numbered 30 NW Dept. members, and presented on 18th c. Tools, Camp Cooking/Foodways/Firelock Long Arms/18th c. Military Music/Swivel Gun & Howitzer/18th c. Clothing/Spinning & Weaving, Leatherwork/Native American Life/18th Century Manners.

There was another group of living history participants set up with us, the General Hugh Mercer Chapter of the SAR, who portray the Montgomery County, Va. Militia. They did a drill session with each group of students, and during the lantern tour we worked together to explain the battle. Like some other SAR groups they have chosen to be as authentic as possible in their clothing and presentation, and they are very interested in joining the B.A.R., so our Adjt., Bob Kashary and I are working on this process with them. Hopefully they will be far enough along to join us for events in the spring of 2025

While on the subject of new units, we have two more prospective new units. Former long-time NW Dept. member and board member Ted Filer has a group that will be portraying New Jersey Loyalist militia, and we also have Trevor Ross, commander of a F & I group that portrays a unit of Compagnie de la Franche de Marines, who are putting together a unit of 2nd Continental Artillery. Both of these groups have extensive reenacting experience, and we're working with them going through the membership application process.

I want to thank all the NW Dept. members and units that helped represent the NWD at events at Fort Steuben (Friday-Saturday 20-21 Sept.) and Brecksville (Sunday, 29 Sept.). The Steubenville event was, as in the prior two years, a school day on Friday, and we presented 10 different stations to school students from the area. Brecksville, although rain threatened most of the day, was another success with eager crowds and enthusiastic interpretation by us. Thanks to all of you that made the effort to attend any or all of these events. It is obvious that you take your membership to be a commitment to each other and to the mission of the B.A.R. HUZDAH!!! to you all.

Attention Unit Commanders and Adjutants.

In an effort to make the annual dues roster work for us in terms of allowing us to know who exactly is a currently paid member of the B.A.R., The NW Dept. Board and I am asking that ALL OUR UNITS have all your 2025 dues collected, with completed rosters with verified information, by January 1, 2025. Once this is done, we will have you forward your roster (NO DUES) to the NW Dept. Board so that we can record them and forward them on to the National Adjt./Paymaster, or whomever the Nat'l Board deems appropriate. WE, as an organization who provides liability insurance to its members, NEED TO KNOW who our members actually are at any given time. The NW Dept. Board is NOT collecting dues, only rosters. It is our understanding that once your rosters are received by the Nat'l. Board, they will be tallied and invoices sent to the individual units, as happened last year. Unit Commanders/Adjutants, PLEASE get this done in a timely manner. In mid-December you will be notified where to send your rosters, so that in very early January you can do just that. Please verify all the information on your rosters before you send it in, and you may want your members to complete a B.A.R. membership and ask them to print very legibly. (There is a membership form attached to this BAR SHOT.)

Thank you in advance to ALL NW Department members for your help and cooperation in this matter.

2025 Events

I am very excited to talk about the first scheduled event of our 2025 session, which is:

What: Lexington Green

Where: Burton Century Village, Burton, Ohio

When: 26-27 April, 2025

This event will be a "kick-off" for the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution in our area. Century Village has been the site of several NW Dept. events over the years and will be a fine setting for our commemoration of Lexington and Concord, the first actions of the Revolution. We are holding our event a week after the actual anniversary, so we do not conflict, compete, or take away from those celebrations in Massachusetts 19 April, 2025. The Lexington Minutemen are supportive of our efforts and have shared the script and scenario of their event with us. The folks at Buckman Tavern are helping us with making a facsimile of the original tavern sign, and our National Board has given their approval for us to invite members of the British Brigade and the NWTa to attend. To make this event all it can be, we need EVERY MEMBER of the NW Dept. to commit to and attend and participate. Burton is a small town,

with limited hotel/motel possibilities, and our Inspector, David Weidner, is working on a list of B &B and hotels. We will be able to stay over in one of the modern buildings at the village, barrack-style as we have in the past. We will receive breakfast and lunch Saturday and Sunday, provided by the village. Saturday's activities will begin with our "Lexington Green" scenario, at 6:00 AM to simulate the time of the actual action. Sunday the day will begin with a breakfast and 18th c. church service in the village's church. We'll portray the British return from Concord both days. We will have an 18th c. camp for those of us wanting to stay in tents. In the afternoon both days, we'll do more of our usual NW Dept. event presentations, and TWD.

The single thing that will make this event a success is ALL of you participating. For the Lexington Green and Concord Road scenarios, we need all the men to portray either red-coated Crown Forces, or Massachusetts militia. So, we need ALL (every single one) of our Crown members along with ALL the Congressionals, dressed as militia. The only restrictions on militia dress are no fringed hunting shirts, no blanket leggings, or moccasins. Rifles are also not appropriate if you can avoid it. Obviously no regimental coats. We already have 6 Congressionals able to dress and field as British, and our British troops will make available their extra coats so that Continentals with white small cloths can become British for the event. If you are going to be militia but do not have a civilian coat/jacket/ shirt, we'll be collecting these for you to borrow. The key to this working is for **ALL of us to commit to doing this** and working out the clothing from there.

If you have ANY questions, please feel free to contact me, Bob Cairns:

robtcairns@cs.com

or

(330) 455-9722

Please do not text me. Every text ever sent to me is still floating around in the ether, unanswered.

We are only 6 months from this event, and I know we can create a presentation that will be memorable to both us and the public that will be witnessing it, if we ALL commit to it.

More NW Dept. 2025 Events

Ohio Civil War Show- 3-4 May (tentative)

Fort Laurens- 31 May-1 June. In cooperation with the site, we are moving this annual event earlier in the year hoping to find more pleasant weather. PLEASE mark this on you calendar. It is the weekend AFTER Memorial Day.

Bob Cairns, 8th Pa. Regt. Ft. Laurens Det.
Cmdr., NW Dept. B.A.R.

NorthWest Department Board Meetings

All meetings are at The Log Cabin Shop, Lodi, Ohio, and begin at 10:30 AM Any and all BAR members are invited, and if you want to be on the agenda, please contact NW Dept. Adj. Bob Kashary, k9kash@roadrunner.com

Sat. 14 December

Sat. 11 January

Sat. 8 February

Sat. 8 March

Sat. 5 April

We have a busy Spring planned, but why else do we have all the 18th clothing and equipment, and do all the reading, research, and practicing? I look very forward to seeing you ALL at Burton Century Village 26-27 April, 2025, and I hope you all will have a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday.

HUZZAH the NORTHWEST DEPT. B.A.R.!!!

Bob Cairns, 8th Pa. Regt. Ft. Laurens Det.
Cmdr., NW Dept. B.A.R.

After Action Report Brecksville FallFest

Our annual appearance at the Brecksville Fall Festival took place on Sunday Sept.29 on a showery misty day. Although the weather kept the number of visitors down, they were, as always, interested.

Despite the weather Brigade members showed their usual adaptability and kept the public engaged. Personal presentations and displays and, like usual, the artillery demo kept us busy. The park staff praised our performance and congratulated all who took part.

I would like to thank all who participated and hope to see you again next year.

Bill Lucas, Event coordinator
23rd Foot Royal Welsh Fusileers

When you are sick, what you like best is to be chosen for a Medicine in the first Place; what Experience tells you is best, is to be chosen in the second Place; what Reason (i.e. Theory) says is best, is to be chosen in the last Place. But if you can get Dr. *Inclination*, Dr. *Experience* and Dr. *Reason* to hold a Consultation together, they will give you the best Advice that can be given.

Benjamin Franklin. *Poor Richard's Almanac*. November 1737
Karen Kashary, 5th Va. Reg't.
Editor

Paul Revere's Ride. by David Hackett Fischer. Christmas is coming! Get this book and read it so you won't be surprised on the evening of the 18th of April in '25. Remember, the regulars are out!

Bruce Egli, Westmoreland Cty. Militia

Adjutants Freshest Advices

The NWD's "Campaign Season 2024" has reached a successful conclusion, and your Board now begins in earnest the task of planning for 2025 and the beginning of the 250th Anniversary Events of the American Revolution PLUS 2025 is an Election Year for the NorthWest Dept. Your Board has its work cut out for it and we must have the help and cooperation of the NWD Membership. We had our first Fall Board Meeting in Burton Historic Village where we are planning an historic 250th of Lexington and Concord in Burton Village. WE NEED YOUR HELP! We will need new people to step up and find and organize other Events for 2025 as well. Everyone is welcome to attend our Board Meetings to listen, learn, and participate in planning. We do know that our Fort Laurens Event will be moved to early June instead of mid-July because of the heat and its effects on our membership.

If you would like to see something different, or make a contribution to this organization, this is how to do it. Make a dedicated effort and run for a NorthWest Dept Board position. We need 3-5 Volunteers for the Nominating Committee right now!!!

I will be sending out timely BLAST information as needed. Commanders, please make certain that your Unit members are getting the BLASTs and we are made aware of email address changes.

The Healthiest and Happiest of Holidays to you and your families.

May God Protect those that Protect and Serve our Fellow Americans wherever they may be...

Bob Kashary, 5th Virg' Reg't

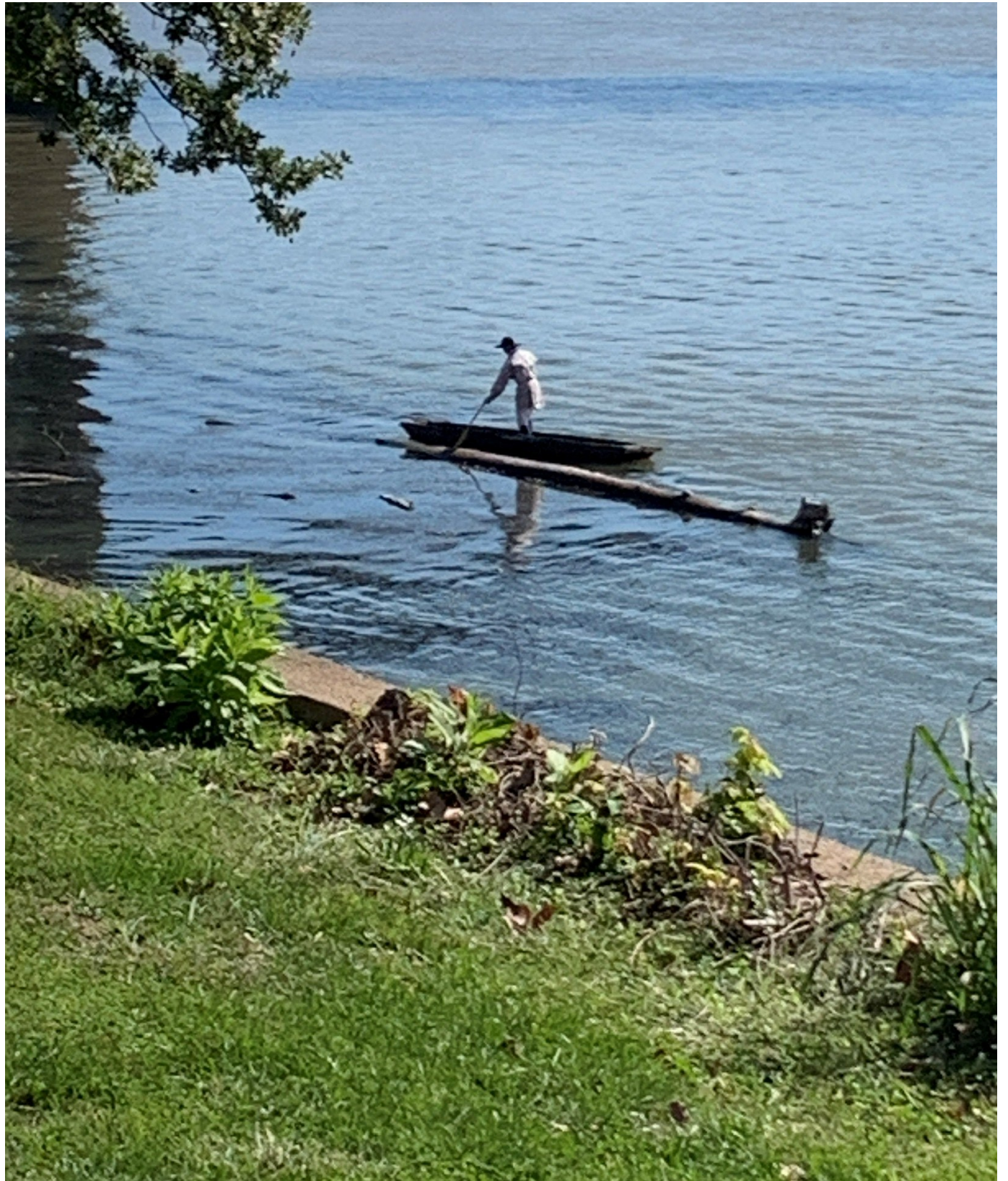
NWD Adjutant



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Miller



Dianne Miller



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The NWD B.A.R. SHOT

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