

NWTA Courier

P U B L I C A T I O N O F
T H E N O R T H W E S T T E R R I T O R Y A L L I A N C E

NEW SKILLS LEARNED AT SEWING SEMINAR



Eighteenth century men's clothing expert Henry Cooke demonstrates techniques and guides eager NWTA pupils at the sewing seminar held this winter.

Cooke shared his expertise with participants, who learned to tailor men's clothing at the workshop.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Muskets and Drums Muster	2
Women on the Field	3
NWTA National Officers	3
Battle on the Ridge	5
Women on the Field, con't	6
Volunteer Opportunity	8

2008 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

<i>May 3-4</i>	<i>Klash on the Kankakee—Bourbonnais, IL</i>
<i>May 24-25</i>	<i>Spirit of Vincennes Rendezvous—Vincennes, IN</i>
<i>June 21-22</i>	<i>Musket and Drums Muster—Shelbyville, IL</i>
<i>August 16-17</i>	<i>Battle on the Ridge—Highland, IN</i>
<i>August 30-31</i>	<i>Pioneer Village—Saukville, WI</i>
<i>September 13-14</i>	<i>Cantigny—Wheaton, IL **Corrected Date**</i>
<i>September 27-28</i>	<i>Feast of the Hunter's Moon—Lafayette, IN</i>
<i>October 4-5</i>	<i>Naga Waukee Park—Delafield, WI</i>
<i>October 25-26</i>	<i>Market Days at Locust Grove—Louisville, KY</i>
<i>November 1</i>	<i>NWTA Board Meeting—Chela's Restaurant Highland IN 9 AM</i>

Butler's Rangers and the Kaskia-Kaw Rivers Conservancy
invite you to the

Muskets & Drums Muster



Shelbyville, Illinois
June 21-22 2008



Amenities:

- Straw and Wood
- Dinner provided Saturday Evening
- Coffee and sweet rolls available Sat and Sun mornings (donations accepted)
- 1 bag ice provided per day (extra ice at \$1 per bag)
- Showers available
- Swimming options: pool (\$3) or beach (free)

Directions:

From the South

I-57/I-70 to Effingham, then as below

From East or West

I-70 to Effingham.

Take Rte 32 North about 25 miles to stop sign

Turn left onto Rte 16

Rte 16 West to Shelbyville about 10 miles

**Before city of Shelbyville, look for sign to

Lake Shelbyville.

Dam East Recreation Area

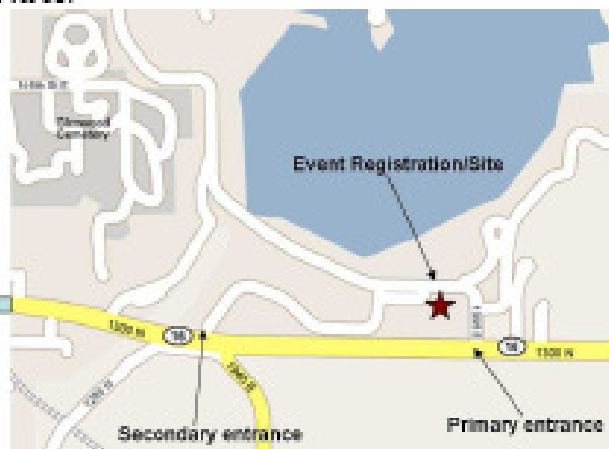
Turn right and follow road around to re-enactor
registration (follow signs)

From the North

Interstate 57 to Mattoon

Take Rte 16 West about 25 miles to Shelbyville

As above from **



Unit Registration Only

Register by e-mail (preferred) or fax by Wednesday, June 4th

OR

in person at Vincennes to Alec in the Butler's Rangers camp

Unit Name: _____

Unit Contact: _____

Contact Phone: _____

Adults Registering: _____

Children Registering: _____

E-mail: jsteels4@wi.rr.com (registration will be confirmed)

Fax: 262-635-5240

_____ # Straw Bales
_____ # Wedge Tents
_____ # Marquees
_____ # Flies
_____ # Modern Camping
Type: _____

PLAYING IT SAFE: WOMEN ON THE FIELD

Note: Last year Jane Whiteside compiled ideas and tips for women on fielding during battle and other demos to assist with safety and first aid.

Going on the field with the soldiers is a serious business. This is not a place for the inexperienced or for the period dressed photographer. You are expected to be able to recognize serious situations or injuries and be able to provide assistance. You should only go on the field if you have been trained by another experienced person and have the approval of your commanding officer. You should have at least basic first aid knowledge. You should also have basic weapons training. Guests are absolutely not allowed on the field.

SAFETY:

Though it is not always possible to know the battle plan ahead of time (and the situation often changes regardless of plans), try to have an idea of what to expect from the battle scenario. You need to know what the situation will be so that you can respond appropriately to a serious emergency or the historical scenario taking place on the field. Consult with your unit commander. Above all listen to the orders being given and

follow them quickly and precisely.

Do not bring a younger child onto the battle field. You cannot do two jobs at the same time. You must be responsible for yourself and the soldiers.

You are on the field to look after all soldiers, not just those of "your" unit. But also be aware which units want assistance or not. Some units do not want women following them directly because it was very historically inaccurate. Make arrangements to keep an eye on those soldiers from a distance. Let the commanding officer or another soldier motion for you to come forward.

Never go in front of the line of musket or rifle fire or in front of the cannon. You may only do this if a commanding officer has instructed you to check on someone and then return to your place behind the men.

Check each person who has fallen. You may have to wait until the line of fire has moved forward, but keep track of those people. Offer them water, ice chips for their mouth, a cool cloth, or a dry cloth if they wish. Do not leave them lying face up in the sun, especially if they have glasses. Ask if you may cover their face with their hat, roll them over, take their glasses off and give to them, or move them to the shade.

A soldier will frequently ask you where his gun or other belongings might be, so let him know.

Continued on page 6

NWA National Officers' Contact Information

Commander: Bart Durbin	645 S. McKinley Avenue Kankakee, IL 60901	Phone: (815) 936-9169 Email: Iam4FnI@aol.com
Deputy Commander: Tim Hess	247 Juniper Court Streamwood, IL 60107	Phone: (630) 483-0450 Email: grex111@core.net
Adjutant: Robin Klepfer	11405 E. 63 rd Street Indianapolis, IN 46236	Phone: (317) 823-4556 Email: robin12863@excite.net
Paymaster: Andrea Studzinski	309 N. Park Boulevard Glen Ellyn, IL 60137	Phone: (630) 942-0670 Email: andreastudzinski@sbcglobal.net
Scribe: Kayte Ossler	285 Churchill Street Aurora, IL 60504	Phone: (630) 851-8378 Email: kayteossler@netzero.net

Notions, Goods, Wares & Furniture for the Colonial Home



Custom furniture by
Dennis Bork,
Master Furniture Maker

- Hand blown green glass
- Historic prints
- Hand forged wrought iron
- Old World Pewter
- Painted floor cloths
- Loomed rugs
- Olde Century Paint
- Leather flasks & jacks
- Hand loomed bedding
- Period pottery
- Mottahedeh Connoisseur Shop
- Period lighting -
indoor & outdoor -
all made in the USA
- Windsor Chairs & Dining Tables
- Rev War Chess Sets
- Authorized Williamsburg Shop
- Much more!



Upholstered furniture -
formal and country,
all made in the USA



Antiquity

Period Designs, Ltd.
719 Genesee St.
Delafield, WI 53018
262-646-4911
Open: Tues - Sun

www.antiquity-furniture.com
info@antiquity-furniture.com

Owners: Dennis & CeCe Bork
Members NWT A - Baldwin's Reg't



Directions:
from I-94 exit Hwy. C,
#285, proceed 1/2 mile north
25 miles west of Milwaukee
90 miles from Chicago



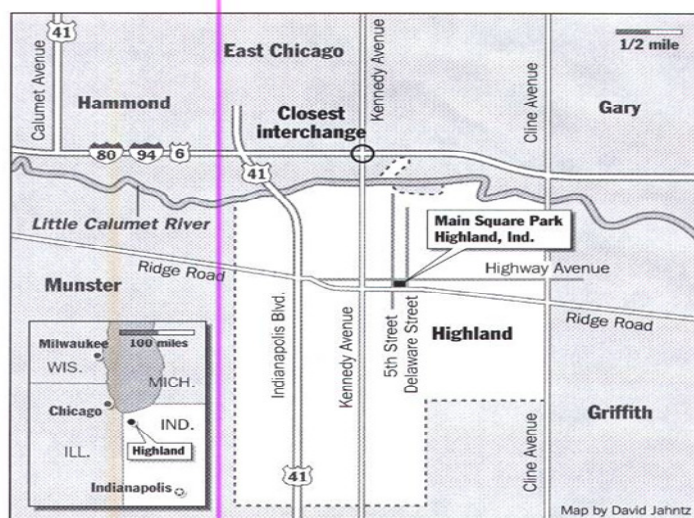
Battle on the Ridge

2nd Virginia Regiment of the Continental Line invites the NWTa membership to participate in an encampment this season

- Highland, Indiana "Battle on the Ridge"
- August 16 and 17, 2008
- Close proximity to 80/94, just south of Chicago



Sponsor: People of Highland
Liz or John Breslin, contact (219) 923-9351
libertyordeath@sbcglobal.net



I-80/94 to Kennedy Avenue exit. Kennedy South to Highway Avenue.
East on Highway Avenue to Main Square, approximately one block. Look for signs!

Local lodging:	Courtyard by Marriott	(219) 845-6350
	Fairfield Inn	(219) 845-6950
	Super 8	(219) 844-8888

EVENT REGISTRATION

UNIT NAME _____ NAME _____
 PHONE _____ # of STRAW BALES _____
 EST # WEDGE TENTS _____ MARQUEES _____ FLIES _____
 MODERN CAMPERS? _____ TYPE _____
 EST # ADULTS _____ EST # CHILDREN _____ for rations

TO: Liz & John Breslin, 8539 Henry Street, Highland, IN 46322

PLAYING IT SAFE, CONTINUED

Never pick up a soldier's gun unless he specifically asks you to. Ask if it is still loaded. Know how to dump the powder if need be. Place the gun where the soldier is aware of it, lock side up, with the frizzen guard in place. Make sure it is not cocked or at half cock. Never grab it by the barrel, as it may be hot. If the bayonet is still in it make sure the gun is flat on the ground so that the bayonet could not catch anyone coming close.

Keep an eye out around the perimeter of the battlefield for members of the public who may stray onto the field and GET THEM OFF ASAP. If they will not leave, alert a commanding officer.

Remember that "Medic" is the call for a real emergency.

Know your first aid. Ice is welcomed by most soldiers, but always offer it and never assume. Never give ice to anyone in severe distress; ice is too great a shock to their system. If there is too rapid a change in the body's temperature such as from extreme hot to extreme cold, there is a change in blood pressure which could cause a person to pass out. Lots of plain water should be available in addition to ice.

Stay clear of any units that are participating in closing of ranks or hand to hand fighting. These closings are practiced and approved by the safety officer before the battle.

Be alert for dangers on the field, such as uneven ground or holes where a soldier could sustain an injury, or other nasties such as thistles, thorns, or poison ivy.

AFTER BATTLE:

Help sweep the field for cartridge papers, especially full ones. If you can not do it, encourage another member of your unit who has been watching the battle to come out and



Women check the fallen at Vincennes.

help. In addition, watch for dropped belongings that soldiers will want returned.

Someone needs to stay with the soldiers during closing colors, especially on hot days. They still need water and cool clothes. If you can not do it, then have support people rotate and the "second shift" can attend to the soldiers at colors. Remember the officers commanding the unit. Watch for an opportunity when you can offer water, but one that will not distract them from giving orders.

SUPPLIES:

Container for water or ice: It is highly recommended that more tin pails be used for carrying water to the field, as we are learning that they are more accurate around camp so that is what would have been carried along to the field. It is highly improbable that the kitchen pitcher of pewter or pottery would have been used. Consider carrying one bucket for drinking water and another to corral wet rags.

Wet clothes to help cool and clean, and dry cloths as well.

Consider creating a basic first aid kit with bandages, antiseptic, gauze, and other necessities to carry on the field. Even a simple package of Band-Aids has come in handy many times!

IN KEEPING WITH HISTORY:

Be aware of how many women are following the soldiers. Women and children were left behind with the baggage, so while we employ women as a safety feature knowing we break with history somewhat, we should not overdo it with our numbers on the field. If more women want to be involved, have them stay behind the lines and come out en masse at the end of the battle to help the wounded or plunder the bodies, or to mourn the dead.

Holly Mayer's book *Belonging to the Army* does mention one British woman collecting powder cartridges from the dead to supply the men still fighting (p.9). This would make an accurate scenario, as long as everybody does not do it. There is also one case of women running onto the field, collecting empty canteens and returning with filled ones. So one canteen re-supply run in the middle of a battle would also be appropriate.

Also, do not wear the same fancy clothes that you modeled in the fashion show. Look like you have been through the war. And remember—though your job may not be as exciting or noticed as firing a musket or leading a bayonet charge, it is still important.

Thank you to everyone who answered my queries at the March NWT Board meeting and those on the NWT Yahoo list who lent knowledge and advice.

The Saltbox House

37 N. Williams St., Historic Downtown Crystal Lake, IL

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

If ye have a Passion for all Things Colonial, but don't
know^c where to find Them,
a Journey to the Saltbox House ys in order!

Reenactor's
Accoutrements



Colonial Musick
CD's

Pewter, Tinware, Wrought Iron; Lighting, Glassware, Looking Glasses;
Tavern Tables, Hutches, Settle Benches;
Camelback Sofas and Wing Chairs; Windsor and Combback Chairs;
Tiger Maple, Pine and Painted Furniture;
Floor Cloths, Kindred Rugs; Coverlets, Textiles, Wooden Accessories;
American Primitive Paintings and Historic Artwork

Fynd Us At:
37 N. Williams St.; Historic Downtown Crystal Lake, IL
815-356-6020
www.thesaltboxhouse.com

Fyne Furniture and Accessories for the Very^c Best Homes

PUBLICATION OF
THE NORTHWEST
TERRITORY
ALLIANCE

ROWENNA HAMPER, EDITOR
1385 WEST ALLEN STREET A4
BLOOMINGTON, IN 47403
E-MAIL: NWTACOURIER@YAHOO.COM

Mailing Address Line 1
Mailing Address Line 2
Mailing Address Line 3
Mailing Address Line 4
Mailing Address Line 5

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR
CANTIGNY SCHOOL DAY

Consider an early arrival to the Wheaton, Illinois site to share your knowledge and passion for history with local schoolkids on Friday, September 12:

Please contact Bill or Marilyn Hess if you would like to participate. We will be having 340 students for the day. It worked well to have two people at each station last year so you got some free time. A box lunch will be served plus you can come in on Thursday to set up. Please let us know if you can help. Bill and Marilyn 620-868-7855

SUBSCRIPTION AND
ADVERTISING INFORMATION

Subscriptions to *The Courier* are included in NWTa dues. Non-members may subscribe for \$10 per year.

ADVERTISING RATES:

Full page (7 x 9.5) \$50
Half page (7 x 4.75) \$25
Quarter page (4.5 x 4.75) \$15
Eighth page (3.5 x 2) \$10

Ads inserted in four consecutive issues will receive a 25% discount—that's four issues of advertising for the price of three! Please make checks payable to the Northwest Territory Alliance and mail to the NWTa Paymaster.