

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

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RESULTS OF THE 2011 SURVEY

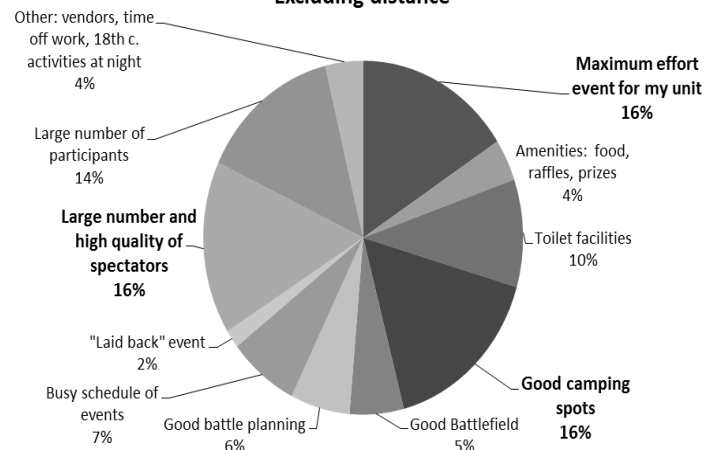
BY ELIZABETH SIMPSON

Over the last few years, the attendance of current membership at NWA events has declined, while recruitment has not been keeping pace to fill the ranks. In an effort to better understand the nature of this change over the 2011 event season the NWTA conducted a general survey of members.

The survey was ultimately designed to create a forum for two issues, both well within the control of the NWTA. The first was gather ideas for how to increase attendance at events, and the second and related issue was for how to boost membership. The survey was designed to allow individuals to weigh in on these important issues in a private, reflective, and democratic method. The intention was that this would allow all of us to better understand what needs to be done for the future of the NWTA. **Continued on page 5**

What makes an event appealing?

Excluding distance



EXTRA DUTY AND LITERACY AMONG THE 18TH (ROYAL IRISH) REGIMENT OF FOOT

BY STEVE BAULE

The general inclination is to believe that the average British redcoat was not only blindly obedient to orders from his foppish officers, but that he was not too bright. Few sources have ever been able to give an insight into the literacy rate among the red coated private. Though not intended to be an experi-

mental sample, the extra duty pay list for Lieutenant Colonel Wilkins's Company of the 18th Foot from January 1 to June 30th, 1774 does give some insight into the literacy rate among the troops stationed in Illinois. The pay list includes the names of twenty-seven enlisted soldiers. **Continued on pg 4**

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR PLANS FOR THE COURIER

Hello all!

With the New Year comes some exciting changes to the Courier. First and foremost, welcome to Elizabeth Simpson, who will be serving the organization assisting with the publications. I know I am very excited to be working with Elizabeth, who brings a whole host of interests, talents, and great ideas to the Courier.

Second, you will begin to see the NWTa arrive in your inbox! Don't worry—the print courier is not going away. However, we are going to branch out into email communication as a supplement to print.

This will allow us to disseminate time-sensitive information in a more efficient way, as well as freeing up Courier space for the articles, photographs, recipes,

and other information that we all love to see. And, I hope, love to submit—with more space available in the Courier for your articles, we want to see more of you in the Courier! If you have an idea, a question, or just aren't sure where to start, please contact Elizabeth or me.

Happy New Year,
Rowenna Hamper
NWTa Publications



Rowenna Hamper
NWTa Publications Editor

N W T A S C H E D U L E O F E V E N T S : 2 0 1 2

February 3-5	Military History Fest Pheasant Run Resort and Convention Center St. Charles, IL (Non NWTa)	June 23-24	Rebels and Redcoats Silver Lake, WI
February 25-26	Echoes of the Past, Tradeshow Oshkosh, WI (Non NWTa)	August 11-12	Fort St. Joe Militia Muster Niles, MI
March 3	NWTa Board Meeting 9:00 AM, CST CABELLA's, Highland, IN	August 25-26	Battle on the Ridge Highland, IN
March 31-April 1	Sewing Seminar UW Parkside, Racine WI	September 1-2	Pioneer Village Saukville, WI
April 14	School of the Soldier Cooksville, WI	September 8-9	Cantigny Wheaton, IL
May 26-27	Spirit of Vincennes Rendezvous Vincennes, IN	September 22 -23	Feast of the Hunter's Moon West Lafayette, IN
June 9-10	Klash on the Kankakee Bourbonnais, IL	October 27-28	Market Days at Locust Grove Louisville, KY
		November 3	NWTa Board Meeting 9:00 AM, CST CABELLA'S, Highland, IN

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR PLANS FOR THE COURIER

PAGE 3



Elizabeth Simpson
Publications Editor
Print Edition

Hello everyone,

I want to start out by saying how thrilled I am to start working with you as an editor of the NWTa Courier. My role is to help fill the Courier with articles to showcase your research, keep everyone abreast of the decisions of the board, and to share the exciting occurrences at events.

This can only work if the NWTa as a whole participates. We need a steady stream of articles all year long, so don't wait for the event season!

If you have an idea but need someone to help you channel

your thoughts, feel free to use me as a resource. I love helping other people organize their ideas.

We can accommodate articles from 250 words in length to a few thousand. So if you have an excellent research question, but do not think you can stretch it out to 1,000 words this is still the place for you!

Please keep these ground-rules in mind:

1. Plagiarism in any form will not be accepted. Use quotations, and cite any sources you use.
2. I reserve the right to edit submissions to correct errors and revise style.
3. Submissions must be digital, sent as an e-mail attachment as a Microsoft Word document.
4. If you use images, remember to track down the ownership and rights, and have permission to use them. If you include photos with people, you need their permission.
5. Please e-mail submission to: nwtacourier@gmail.com

I look forward to working with you!

Elizabeth Simpson



2012 site, Cooksville WI

The event address is:
11203 Wisconsin 138
Evansville, WI 53536



SCHOOL OF THE SOLDIER

APRIL 14, 2012 COOKSVILLE, WI

Meet on the Village Green, 9:00 am

The schedule of events will include:

9:00 - Gathering & Morning Roll Call
10:00 - Morning Troop and Guard Mounting
10:30 - Manual of arms –based upon the
1764 Manual of Arms & Basic Maneuver
12:00 – Draw Rations and posting sentries
1:00 – Necessaries inspection
2:00 - 2nd Guard Mount
2:30 - Manual of arms –based upon the
1764 Manual of Arms & Basic
Maneuver (1st Guard detail)
4:00 – Pay Call (All)
4:45 - Fire and maneuver
6:00 - Evening Parade
7:00 – After Action Review



Participant cost will be \$10 to cover the cost of rations for the day.

Registration deadline is March 26. Register with Jane Whiteside:
School of the Soldier
Jane Whiteside
8417 Adbeth
Woodridge, IL 60517

EXTRA DUTY AND LITERACY AMONG THE 18TH (ROYAL IRISH) REGIMENT OF FOOT

Continued from Cover. Walter Elliot, listed on the pay sheet as overseer, prepared the pay list and was a sergeant in the Royal Irish. He was paid for his additional work at a rate of 1/6 per day; being one shilling, six pence. Two of the soldiers are listed as artificers and were paid at the rate of 1/3 per day. Walker, first name illegible, was listed as waggoner [sic] and paid at the rate of 1/ per day. He is the only soldier who had not signed or made his mark on the pay list. The other twenty-three soldiers are all listed as laborers and

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REDCOATS.

paid /10 per day. All the above were paid in New York Currency. The civilian artificers hired by Captain Lord were paid at the rate of one dollar a day plus provisions. He wrote to Gage that he would have otherwise have had to pay them at the rate of one and a half dollars a day (Lord to Gage Nov. 13, 1772). This pay rate was equivalent to 8 New York shillings a day.

Only the waggoner worked the full 181 days. Walter Elliot was paid for ninety days as the overseer. The artificers worked for ninety-five and twelve days respectively. The laborers worked for as many as eight or as few as two except for John Loage, a literate man, who only worked one and a half days for 1/8 in compensation. He would have earned as much at a private's rate of pay, after deductions, in only ten days.

You must wonder why soldiers would volunteer for extra duty?

The duties performed during this period most likely included upkeep on the palisade, repair of the bateau kept at the post, and work on the building's roofs. All of the former repair work or need for such was listed in letters between Captain Hugh Lord, commanding in Illinois for the 18th Regiment and General Thomas Gage. Though Gage's original correspondence made it clear no work should be done, Lord is later told "if there is anything that needs to be done either for the convenience of the troops or the security of your post, you will have it executed without delay. (Lord to Gage, June 10, 1772, Gage to Lord Aug. 30, 1772, and Gage to Lord, Feb. 20, 1773).

While extra duty for "the King's Work at Fort Gage" was not uncommon, the amount of signatures on the pay list is. Only thirteen of the soldiers acknowledged their pay with a mark. The other twelve signed their own names. This would lead to a literacy rate among the company of nearly fifty percent. This appears to be a higher rate of literacy than normally suspected among the redcoats. More on the 18th (Royal Irish) Regiment of Foot's Illinois Garrison in later issues.

Letters listed appear in the Gage Papers held by the Clement's Library in Ann Arbor, MI.

The Pay List is held by the Illinois State Historical Society Library in Springfield, IL.

The following rates of exchange were used in the colonies.

Coins	Pound Stirling Value	Mass. Currency	N. Y. Currency	Penn. Currency	S.C. Currency	Value in Local Currency
	£ s d	£ s d	£ s d	£ s d	£ s d	One Pound Stirling equaled 20 shillings (s) or 240 pence (d). A British private was paid eight pence Stirling a day of which six pence was retained to cover the cost of his rations. Spanish, and Continental, dollars were made up of 90 cents.
Shilling	0 1 0	0 1 4	0 1 6	0 1 6	0 7 0	
(English) Crown	0 5 0	0 6 8	0 8 6	0 7 6	1 15 0	
(French) Dollar	0 4 6	0 6 0	0 8 0	0 7 6	1 12 6	
(Spanish)						Taken primarily from the Special 1776 Issue of <u>Time</u> issued in July, 1976, for the Bicentennial.

T O T H E J O L L Y R I N G E R S
O N T H E M I D N I G H T B E T W E E N T H E 3 1 S T O F
D E C E M B E R , 1 7 8 1 , A N D T H E 1 S T O F J A N U A R Y 1 7 8 2

The following is a poem published in the Public Advertiser in 1781, celebrating the start of 1782. May our own new year be even happier than the last!



Well do you end, my Lads, and well begin,
Ringing the Old Year out, the New Year in.
A Leg of Mutton boil's with Turnips graced,
Lo! Smoking hot, is on the Table placed.
This you're to revel on, with potent Ale,
Nor shall of Punch a Bowl capacious fail.
In Mirth auspicious be the Moments pas'd,
And hope a happier Year than was the last.

Public Advertiser (London, England)
Monday, December 31, 1781. Issue 14734

R E S U L T S O F T H E 2 0 1 1 S U R V E Y

Continued from Cover These results were given to me as an aggregate, after much hard work and a few late nights by a dedicated team. Our deepest thanks go out to the volunteers who helped make this survey possible. Your patient aid to develop, pass out, collect, and then tally up this data has made this possible.

The first section of the survey was designed to be quantitative in nature. The pie charts on the cover and page 6 display the overall data of the best received questions. They show the responses in percentages as they relate to the appeal of events, the reasons for intentionally not attending an event, and the reasons for avoiding distant events.

Below is a "top three" summary of all of those responses.

The major reasons for attending an event in 2011:

1. To support the NTA/members of the host unit
2. Convenient location and/or close to home
3. The rest of the participant's unit was going

Top three reasons for not attending an event in 2011:

1. Schedule conflicts
2. Distance/cost of gas
3. The rest of the participant's unit was not going

The major reasons for avoiding distant events:

1. Time spent driving

2. Difficulty getting off work on Monday or Friday
3. Gas prices

The appeal of a particular NTA event in general:

1. Good camping spots
2. Large number and/or quality spectators
3. Maximum effort event for my unit

Excluding distance and schedule conflicts, the factors that would make respondents not attend an NTA event:

1. Poor attendance from my unit
2. Low number of other NTA participants
3. Poor weather

The second section of the survey was more open ended, and asked for personal thoughts and suggestions.

The first of these questions was: "Why do you think the NTA might not be getting enough new recruits?"

There were a variety of responses which fell into a number of themes: difficulty starting the hobby, a lack of visibility of the NTA, and the idea that the NTA is unattractive to some potential reenactors.

In terms of the difficulty starting the hobby, the most common thread was the cost and the difficulty in finding correct garments and equipment. **Continued on Page 6**

R E S U L T S O F T H E N W T A S U R V E Y

Continued from Page 5 Compared to time periods like WWII, it takes much more time and effort to create a well-researched and high quality impression. Unlike later time periods in which the mass production and standardization of uniforms was possible, the 18th century has a great deal of difference between units and a high starting cost.

Another common response was the lack of visibility of the NWTa: events are not always well publicized, the website does not have a lot of traffic, and there is not enough promotion of the organization.

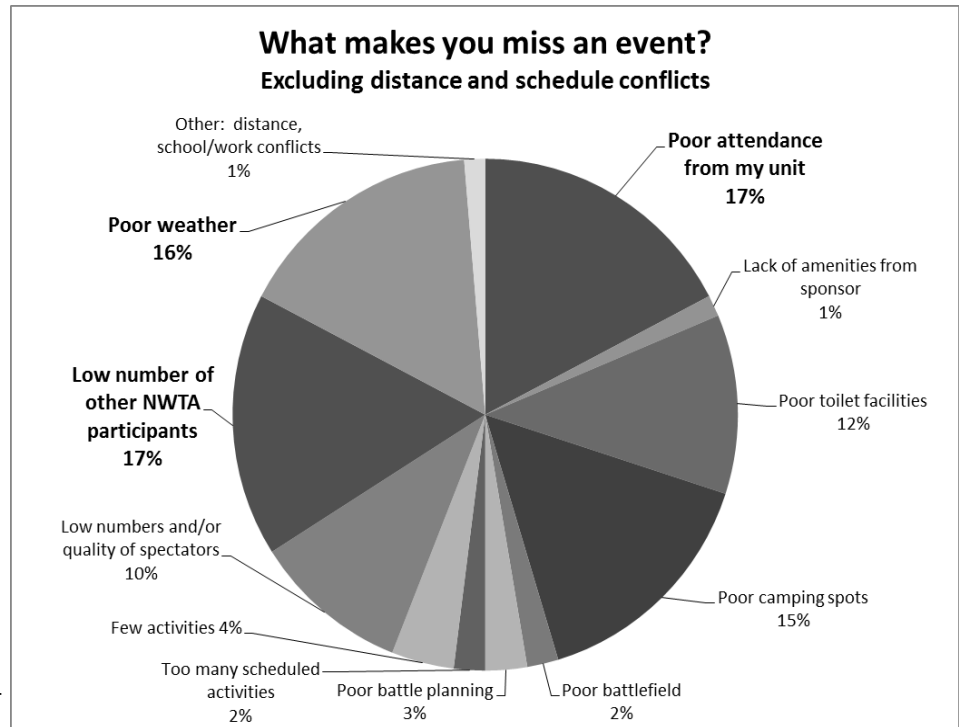
Finally is the response that the NWTa is not attractive to potential reenactors. The people who have the time and energy to join are drawn to other time peri-

ods. One point brought up is that the Revolutionary War does not capture the imagination of young people in quite the same way that WWI, WWII, and the American Civil War. Additionally, many of the "history buffs" who are drawn to reenacting on historical battlefields go elsewhere; most NWTa events are held in parks, not historical sites like old trading posts and forts. Finally, the NWTa is not always attractive to reenactors who are currently participating in other time periods. The enthusiasm within the US reenacting community lies in people in their 20s-40s, who generally want an immersive historical experience. At the moment, the NWTa is doing very little to attract them. There are few "progressive" camps that remain in character, there are no full immersion tacticals, and we do very little at historical sites in the Midwest.

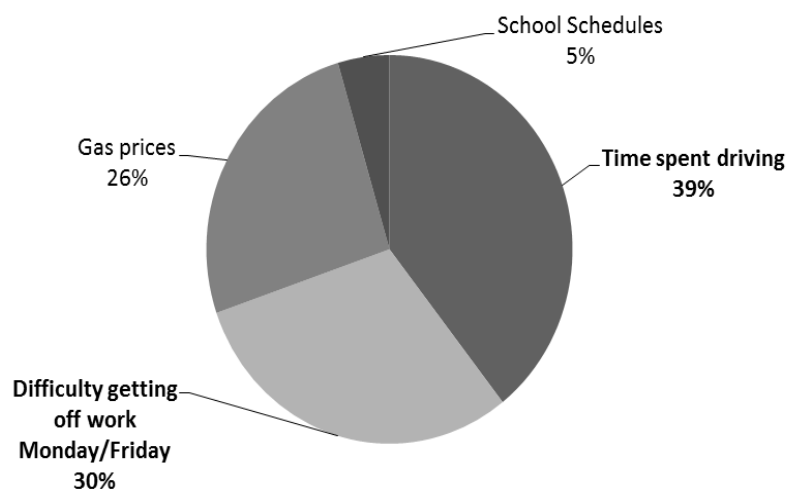
Plans for the Future

It will not happen overnight, but every single one of these issues can be addressed. All we need to do is collectively begin working on them. It will take some effort on our part, but it is worth if we can continue our mission for future generations.

The remedy for access to clothing and equipment is an obvious one: help new recruits with their gear. The NWTa does have extra gear—the LIV clothing—which is maintained explicitly to help new reenactors.



If you avoid distant events, what are the factors in your decision?



If you have a recruit who needs to borrow it, get in touch with our recruiters Allison Davis, Patrick Davis, and Shilo Vines.

More importantly, the individual units need to take it upon themselves to help new recruits. If you want your unit to be attractive, provide extra gear and clothing for them, and make it easy for them to join. If your new people can borrow regimentals and weapons, that will make your unit all the more attractive. It does cost more to start reenacting the 18th century than some other time periods, but we also have a lot to offer. The fact that our clothing and equipment is not easily mass produced means that our material culture is diverse, and showcases a human quality that plastic never can.

At the unit level we all must become more involved in recruiting and networking. It is wonderful that we have dedicated recruiters, but they cannot do everything. For the long-term viability of the organization, the units must start attracting new people. Make it a new year's resolution for each member to find one recruit. Even if only half of those recruits decide to join, your unit size will still increase by 50%.

An easy way to start is to become more engaged in the reenacting community. Reenactors are excellent recruits—they already understand the hobby, and love history and volunteering. We just need those people to join *us*. Also, actively reach out to the public who visits us, and make sure that you are looking as enthusiastic as you can. As succinctly stated in one response to the survey: "When possible recruits witness members simply laying about camp and not being active, decision could be based on the attitude of "These dudes don't do anything – why should I join?" The simple solution is to make sure that you look like a great unit to join.

The members of the public have already made the effort to come out—the next step is to get them involved. Make the experience great for them, and make it easy for them to join your unit. Have contact information ready to go, and follow up with them to help them make it to events. Don't wait for the organization to do it for you—be proactive, reach out, and sell your unit to them.

In a similar vein, we need to increase the visibility of the

NWTA. As individuals we must start reaching out to genealogy clubs, schools, and civic organizations to give free presentations. Not only will we be serving our community as an educational resource, but we will also put ourselves out to the public as a valuable resource. If we start showcasing our value, we will start to attract new people.

We must also work on our social networking. The NTWA has both a Facebook page and a website—how many people are helping to make them visible? Most people use Facebook regularly. The next time you are on Facebook, take some time to post and "like" the site. It is free, requires minimal effort on your part, but means a lot. Through the use of simple and constant traffic like that, your "friends" see the organization, which in turn helps to increase our virtual presence. Let your "friends" see how much fun you have with the NWTA, and encourage them to join too!

MAKE IT A NEW
YEAR'S RESOLU-
TION FOR EACH
MEMBER OF YOUR
UNIT TO FIND ONE
NEW RECRUIT.

EVEN IF ONLY HALF
DECIDE TO JOIN,
YOUR UNIT SIZE
WILL INCREASE BY
50%



**Quiet Moment
at the Oxbow
Tavern, Courtesy
of Amy Williams**

**P O O R R I C H A R D ' S A L M A N A C K A N D I T S
P O R T R A Y A L O F W O M E N**

B Y A M Y W I L L I A M S

America during the eighteenth century proved to be a very interesting place. Not only did the budding democratic country see a military revolution, it also encountered cultural, literary, religious, and scientific revolutions as well.

One of the most important forms of literary endeavors came in the form of almanacs. Almanacs remain one of the most influential and informative printed sources available for study. They reveal a great deal of what contemporary society thought of cultural issues like gender, marriage, vice, and religion.

Benjamin Franklin wrote and published one of the most popular North American almanacs, his *Poor Richard's Almanack*. According to Lisa Morgan at Pennsylvania State University, Franklin began publishing his almanac in 1733, and the almanac ran for 25 years.

YOU CANNOT PLUCK ROSES WITHOUT FEAR OF THORNS,
NOR ENJOY A FAIR WIFE WITHOUT DANGER OF HORNS.
(1734)

HE THAT GOES FAR TO MARRY, WITH EITHER DECEIVE
OR BE DECEIVED. (1735)

OLD HOB WAS LATELY MARRIED IN THE NIGHT
WHAT NEEDED DAY, HIS FAIR YOUNG WIFE IS LIGHT. (1735)

A SHIP UNDER SAIL AND A BIG-BELLIED WOMAN,
ARE THE HANDSOMEST TWO THINGS
THAT CAN BE SEEN IN COMMON. (1735)

HE THAT HAS NEITHER FOOLS, WHORES,
NOR BEGGARS AMONG HIS KINDRED,
IS THE SON OF A THUNDER GUST. (1736)

NEVER PRAISE YOUR CYDER, HORSE, OR BEDFELLOW.
(1736)

GOOD WIVES AND GOOD PLANTATIONS
ARE MADE BY GOOD HUSBANDS. (1736)

WHERE THERE'S MARRIAGE WITHOUT LOVE,
THERE WILL BE LOVE WITHOUT MARRIAGE. (1736)

NEITHER A FORTRESS NOR A MAIDENHEAD

Interestingly, the idea for *Poor Richard's Almanack* was not entirely original. Morgan notes that Franklin combined two different English almanacs, the *Apollo Anglicanus: The English Apollo* and the *Poor Robin*, in order to influence his own. He used several different stock characters in the almanac, including his own Richard Saunders, his wife Bridget, and the Printer.

Poor Richard poked fun at various professions like doctors, lawyers, astrologers and rarely discriminated by gender. He treated both men and women in both a positive and not-so-positive light. And his treatment of different topics can be observed in the maxims or proverbs that many remember as being the most famous part of *Poor Richard's Almanack*.

The following provide a sampling of some of Poor Richard's maxims regarding women from 1730-1744:

WILL HOLD OUT LONG AFTER THEY BEGIN TO PARLAY.
(1736)

MARRY YOUR SON WHEN YOU WILL,
BUT YOUR DAUGHTER WHEN YOU CAN. (1736)

TELL A MISER HE'S RICH, AND A WOMAN SHE'S OLD,
YOU'LL GET NO MONEY OF ONE, NOR KINDNESS OF T'OTHER.
(1737)

ONE GOOD HUSBAND IS WORTH TWO GOOD WIVES;
OR THE SCARCER THINGS ARE THE MORE THEY'RE VALUED.
(1742)

EPITAPH ON A SCOLDING WIFE BY HER HUSBAND:
HERE MY POOR BRIDGETS'S CORPS DOTLIE,
SHE IS AT REST,—AND SO AM I. (1744)

Franklin, Benjamin. "600 Proverbs from Poor Richard's Almanack." Ed. Rich Hall. [Independencehall.org](http://independencehall.org). http://www.richhall.com/poor_richard.htm (accessed 23 December 2011).

Morgan, Lisa. "The Prominent and Prodigiously Popular Poor Richard." Sponsored by the Pennsylvania Center for the Book (2008). <http://pabook.libraries.psu.edu/palitmap/PoorRichardsAlmanack.html> (accessed 22 December 2011).

THOUGHTS ON RECRUITMENT

BY SHILO VINES

This year I attended the Milwaukee Folk Fair School Day event. Students were allowed to walk and view booths for different eras and cultures. It seemed that many of the students were more interested in socializing with friends than doing any actual learning, and I was getting a bit disappointed in the experience until a 13 year old girl came to speak with me. She spent almost an hour talking to me, as her friends looked bored and finally just walked away.

She asked so many questions and was interested in the inner workings of colonial society. Needless to say, the conversation was amazing with this teenager. She eventually left to find her friends, and I went back to the students who were just happy to have a day out of the classroom. Towards the end of the day the same girl came running up to me.

"My bus is about to leave, but I need to know more! Where can I go to get more information and how can I talk to my parents about coming to try this?"

I quickly jotted down the NWSA website information and wished for a business card.

It was then that I realized that even though only one student seemed really interested in what our booth represented, my day was not wasted. That now we just need to keep reaching out to that one person who has a real interest regardless of age, gender or nationality and make ourselves approachable to them.

Go where the people are! Go to online networks, schools, colleges, universities and offer our knowledge. Utilize the tools we have, but also explore new avenues of recruitment.

With my partners Allison Davis as the Musician Recruiter, Patrick Davis as the Crown Recruiter, and myself, Shilo Vines as the Continental Recruiter, I truly believe we have a great start to a newer method of recruitment. We look forward to the new year and some new challenges to help keep this organization going strong.

WE JUST NEED
TO KEEP REACH-
ING OUT TO THAT
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WHO HAS REAL
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SELVES AP-
PROACHABLE TO
THEM.



Necessaries Inspection

**School of the Soldier,
2011**

**Courtesy of Jane White-
side**

PHILADELPHIA, JANUARY 24: AN ACCOUNT OF THE LATE DISTURBANCES IN THE PENNSYLVANIA LINE

The following is a transcription of an article, published February 12, 1781 which detailed the rebellion of the Pennsylvania Line, known as the Pennsylvania Line Mutiny. The mutiny itself took place from January 1, and was finally settled on January 28, 1781. While this mutiny ended successfully for the soldiers, a later mutiny attempted by the New Jersey Line resulted in the execution of several men for treason.

As the public will probably expect some account of late unhappy movements in the Pennsylvania Line, and the proceeding had thereupon, we have from authentic documents, enabled ourselves to give the following concise narrative of that transaction.

It appears that considerable discontents had for some time taken place amongst the soldiers, on account of uncertain inlistments, deficiencies of cloathing, arrearages of pay, and the depreciation of the currency; which as yet, extended no farther than private complaints and murmurs. Whatever real causes of discontent, in some of these particulars, might have been occasioned by the public necessities owing to disappointments unavoidable in times of war and invasion, it is evident, that they were greatly exaggerated by the influence of too great a mixture of British deserters in the Pennsylvania line. It is more than probably that this dissatisfaction would not have assumed the formidable aspect in which it afterwards appeared, had not concurrent circumstances administered the occasion.

New Year's day being a day of customary festivity, an extra proportion of rum was served out to the soldiers. This, together with what they were able to purchase in the neighborhood of the line, was sufficient to enflame the minds of men, already pre-disposed by the mixture of real and imaginary injuries, to break forth into outrage and disorder. As soon as night came on, the camp was observed to be in great confusion, and by 11 o'clock became quite tumultuous; the troops avowedly threw off all obedience, and prepared to march. In vain did General Wayne and the officers of the line, exert themselves to reduce the mutiny and regain order and discipline; the affair had gone too far to yield to their exertions, and one of the officers unhappily lost his life in the attempt.

At length the line left their camp in a most tumultuous and disorderly manner, and marched to Princeton where they fixed their quarters.

General Wayne, uncertain whether this mutiny arose for the British influence and disaffection, or only from the grievances they so loudly complained of, thought it most prudent to get this disorderly body, if possible, organized into some regularity, in which situation the mutineers might be treated with and the truth discovered. To this he was the more encouraged, as they had repeatedly and in the strongest terms denied any tincture of disaffection for any intentions of deserting to the enemy. He accordingly recommended it to them to choose a number of serjeants to sit as a board and represent their grievances, so that redress might be had, if their complaints should be well founded. This advice they readily agreed to; a board of serjeants was accordingly formed, and the business seem to put on a more manageable appearance.

Intelligence of this affair was soon conveyed to New York. The enemy were highly elated on the occasion, and exerted themselves to the utmost, not abating their diligence although the rain poured down incessantly. Four or five thousand troops were immeately embarked, in order to make a descent on Jersey ad South-Amboy, under a full persuasion that the Pennsylvania line waited only an opportunity to join the British troops. They were confired in this idea by a person from Woodbridge, who went over to Staten Island and informed that such was the

determination of a board of serjeants.

On the arrival of the news at Philadelphia, the President of the state, and a committee of Congress attended by the Pennsylvania troop of horse, set out for Trenton.

In the mean time, some negotiations had taken place between the board of serjeants and Gen. Wayne, but not to any effect. The General was yet in doubt as to the real designs of the mutineers, but a circumstance now occurred, which seemed to evince the fidelity of the discontented troops. A spy from New York, attended by a guide, appeared before the board of sergeants, with a paper rolled in sheet lead, intimating that if the Pennsylvania line would direct their march towards South River, a large body of British troops should be ready to receive them; and promising very large emoluments to every soldier who should desert his country's cause. No sooner did this emissary make his errand known, but the board of serjeants rejected his proposal with disdain, and sent the spy with his companion under guard to General Wayne, with a reserve, however, that they should be delivered to the board, if demanded.

President Reed having on the 6th advanced near Princeton wrote a letter to Gen. Wayne, in which he expressed his doubts as to the propriety of going within the picquets of the insurgents. This letter being shewn to the serjeants they immediately wrote to the President in these words—"Your Excellency need not be in the least afraid or apprehensive of any irregularities or ill treatment,, that the whole line would be very happy how expedient your Excellency would be in settling the unhappy affair."

Encouraged by these circumstances, but without any great confidence in them, more especially as the Board of serjeants had demanded the spies from General Wayne, and at this time had them in possession, his Excellency determined to venture amongst them. That he had no firm dependence on their pacific assurances, appear by a passage in a letter written to the Vice President at Philadelphia, just before he went into Princeton; wherein he says—"I have but one life, and my country has the first claim to it. I therefore go with the cheerfulness which attends performing a necessary though not a pleasant duty."—Upon his entry into Princeton, the whole line was drawn up for his reception and every mark of military honour and respect shewn him. After this interview, the negotiation commenced in regular form. During the treaty the President had the address to persuade the mutineer to advance to Trenton, for, notwithstanding all favorable appearances, he still remained jealous of their situation.

After a correspondence of some days, in which great tenaciousness was shown on the part of the malcontents, and equity and firmness on the part of his Excellency, the articles of agreement were finally assented to and confirmed on both sides.

New York Gazette and the Weekly Mercury (New York, North American Colony), Monday, February 12, 1781



School of the Soldier
2011
Courtesy of
Jane Whiteside

PUBLICATION OF
THE NORTHWEST
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Manual of Arms

School of the
Soldier, 2011

Courtesy of Jane
Whiteside

Publication Schedule

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Issue (published between months)	Deadline for Submission
Jan/Feb	December 15
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