

# 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

*Air out the gear...remember how to pack the truck...let out the kids' clothes...roll some rounds...another season is beginning!*

## 2013 SPIRIT OF VINCENNES MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND : MAY 25-26

*Held at the George Rogers Clark National Historic Park*

Amenities include:

Free Catered Dinner Saturday evening

Ice for purchase on-site

Showers

Dorm Rooms available for rent : Pricing and procedure online

**More participant information available at :  
[www.spiritofvincennes.org](http://www.spiritofvincennes.org)**

### 2013 VINCENNES UNIT REGISTRATION

Please register by May 17 with:

Bob Sloman, Host Unit Coordinator  
4657 Crooked Creek Rd.  
Nashville, IN 47448  
[robertsloman @aol.com](mailto:robertsloman@aol.com)

*Email registration is preferred*

UNIT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of WEDGE TENTS: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of WALL TENTS \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of MARQUEES or OVERSIZED WALL TENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of CAMP FLYS: [Fly space allotted on basis of availability] \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Bales of Straw \_\_\_\_\_  
MODERN CAMPERS? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_  
Number of Each Type: Trailers \_\_\_\_ Motor Homes \_\_\_\_ Tents \_\_\_\_ Pick-Ups \_\_\_\_  
*NOTE: Modern camping area to be south of Maintenance Yard lot*  
Number of ADULTS \_\_\_\_\_ CHILDREN \_\_\_\_\_  
Will your unit have ARTILLERY? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_  
If yes, will it be for SHOOTING \_\_\_\_ or DISPLAY \_\_\_\_  
*[Artillery to be fired will be kept in the Artillery park only]*  
Person Registering for your Unit: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone : \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## 2013 Season Resolutions:

- Try something new: an event I haven't attended, or a skill I haven't tried
- Invite a friend to come watch, or to guest with my unit
- Meet someone in a different unit.
- Recognize that person in non-18th century clothes
- Pick one item in my kit to improve, mend, or learn more about
- **Have Fun!**

## *Fall 2012 Minutes of the NWA Board Meeting*

**Saturday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2012  
Hammond, Indiana**

**Call to Order** - Meeting called to order by Angela Potter at 9:02 AM CT

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call**

**FULL MEMBER UNITS REPRESENTED:** 1<sup>st</sup> American, Simcoe's Queen's Rangers; 1<sup>st</sup> Cont'l Artillery; 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Light Infantry; 2<sup>nd</sup> Pennsylvania Regiment; 2<sup>nd</sup> Virginia Regiment; 3<sup>rd</sup> New York Reg't; 8<sup>th</sup> Reg't of Foot; 42<sup>nd</sup> Reg't RHR; 71<sup>st</sup> Reg't of Foot; 84<sup>th</sup> Reg't of Foot; Baldwin's Reg't; Bowman's Co'y; Braunschweig Reg't von Riedesel; Brigade of Guards in America; Butler's Rangers; Campeau's Co'y Ste. Anne Militia; Capt. Wm. Hendricks' Co'y, Pennsylvania Rifle Battl'n; Charleville's Co'y; Cont'l Marines, Niklaus Battl'n; Hamilton's Artillery; HRM's Marines; Kellar's Co'y; Native Allies; New York Volunteers; Sandridge Settlers; Worthington's Co'y.

**NON-VOTING UNITS REPRESENTED:** Royal Reg't Artillery

26 of the 39 voting units were represented at the start of the meeting. A quorum (67%) was present.

### **Changes in Unit Status Involving Voting Eligibility**

- Inspector General – Absent. Philadelphia Ladies Association, 7<sup>th</sup> Penn Reg't, Brant's Volunteers, Tarleton British Legion, and Royal Artillery, 3<sup>rd</sup> Co'y, 4<sup>th</sup> Battl'n are still applicant units.
- Adjutant – 4th Cont'l Light Dragoons have not yet paid annual dues for 2012. Royal Deux Pont Reg't, Philadelphia Ladies Association, Virginia State Navy-Row Galley Hero and 6<sup>th</sup> Virginia have less than 5 paid members.

### **Discussion Time Limits**

MOTION by Tom Langenfeld to limit discussion to 10 minutes per topic, 1 minute per speaker. Motion Approved.

### **Approval of Past Minutes**

MOTION by Bart Durbin to accept the minutes of the Board Meeting from 26 August 2012 as written. Motion Approved.

### **Approval of Staff Officers**

MOTION by Linnea Bass to approve Jane Whiteside as NWA Adjutant for the next two years. Motion Approved.

**Commander Report:** Angela Potter

Angie apologized for not being able to attend every event this past season. In the future, for events she's unable to attend, she'll designate a "leader in charge" in case the

deputy commander is also not available. The running of our organization is a team effort. A coordinator for the Last Post is still needed.

**Last Post:** No new additions to report.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

**Deputy Commander:** Steve Baule – absent; no report.

**Adjutant:** Jane Whiteside – written report submitted.

There are 245 family memberships & 234 single memberships to-date which includes 26 new memberships. This is a drop from 2011 (264 family/268 single for same time period). Jane received a call from a gentleman in southeast Texas. He's looking at purchasing a cannon identified as having previously belonged to a NWA unit. Jane has been attempting to get him in contact with artillery regiments to answer his questions.

**Paymaster:** Andrea Studzinski – oral update provided. 990N tax filing is complete. The books have been closed and are ready for audit.

**Scribe:** Kayte Ossler – no report.

**Publications Editor:** Rowenna Hamper – absent; read by Angie.

The newsletter is going out regularly. Commanders are requested to please stress the importance of accurate email addresses from members.

**Provost Marshal:** Alan Potyen – absent; no report.

**Artillery Safety Officer:** Peter Novak – written report submitted.

Four units were fully inspected, one unit was partially inspected and two units still need to be inspected. Peter will reach out and discuss locations and dates.

**Judge Advocate General:** Marvin Rasch – absent; no report.

**Insurance Officer:** Linnea Bass – oral update provided.

All event fees have been paid in full. Linnea plans to update a document which explains public liability insurance.

**Corporate Agent:** Linnea Bass – no report.

**Inspector General:** Randy Hamper – absent; no report.

**Quartermaster:** Shelby Hauck – absent; no report.

**Webmaster:** Mark Wedow / Frank Doughman – absent; no report.

**Civilian Coordinator:** Helen Hester – oral update provided.

Helen will be facilitating a monthly sew-in at Canigny. Information is available via the NWA newsletter, Facebook or at NWA.Sewin@gmail.com

**Audit Committee Report:** Naomi Holthaus – absent; no report.

**Clothier / Pattern master:** Naomi Holthaus – absent; no report.

**Public Information Officer:** Dennis Bork – absent; no report.

**Inspector of Music:** Linda Ambrus – absent; Angie conveyed Linda's resignation from the position.

**Music Recruiter:** Allison Davis – absent; report read by Andrea.

A YouTube channel for the NWTa is being set up and Vincennes is inviting NWTa musicians to attend the 2013 Freezer jam on February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Information available at Vincennescvb.org and SpiritofVincennes.org

**Continental Recruiter:** Shilo Vines – oral update provided.

Shiloh & Patrick are developing a Facebook site and will be posting Unit photos as a reference for 'how to look'. They're also setting up a suggested book list.

**Crown Recruiter:** Patrick Davis – absent; report read by Shiloh Vines.

**Medal of Merit:** Jane Whiteside – written report submitted.

Has delivered two medals of merit (1 at Cantigny & 1 at Locust Grove).

## OLD BUSINESS

### 1. Standing Orders for Staff Positions - Angela Potter / Marvin Rasch

Meeting to be held at Jane's house on Sunday, January 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm to review & write standing orders for any position where a document hasn't been submitted. All staff officers are invited to attend.

### 2. NWTa Duty Manual - Linnea Bass

Final proof reading to be completed, then emailed to all Commanders for review. The intent is to do final adoption at the March Board meeting.

### 3. Event Reports / Updates

**Clothing Symposium:** Hazel hasn't set anything up yet. The group re-visited ideas shared at the Summer Board meeting. Doug Roush & Bob Sloman volunteered to coordinate a leather workshop.

**School of the Soldier/Re-enactor:** Scheduled for April 6<sup>th</sup> in Romeoville, IL at the same site as two yrs ago. Hazel would like to incorporate civilian impressions. Steve would like to do additional promoting and is requesting \$1,400 (see budget).

**Vincennes Committee Meeting:** The Vincennes Committee is considering changes to the event format following comments conveyed at Bourbonnais – 1 battle vs. 2; a skirmish vs. full battle; time & place of closing colors, etc.

### 4. Last Post Coordinator

Beth Eagan volunteered.

### 5. Rope Line Survey Results

223 responses were received and there was no clear majority for or against rope lines.

### 6. Bylaws Changes

The intent is to conform the Bylaws to normal practice. MOTION by Linnea Bass to accept the Oct 22<sup>nd</sup> corrected Fire Pits and Rope Lines amendments. Motion Approved (20 / 6 – 77%). The proposal reads as: NWTa Reg. #02-10: GENERAL CAMP SAFETY

#### 2) FIRE PITS AND FIRES:

A) Fire Pits will not be constructed any closer than eight (8) feet from any structure. As a recommended standard, the distance from the camp street or spectator thoroughfare to the fire pit should be eight (8) feet.

#### 5) ROPE LINES:

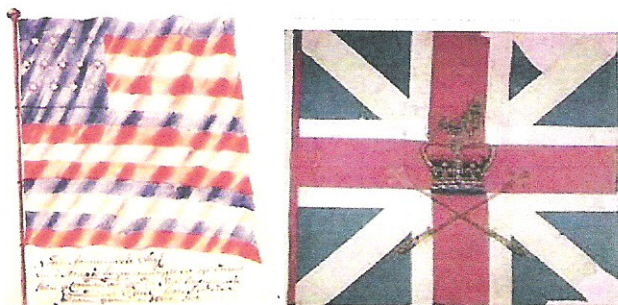
A) At any event or portion of event hosted by the NWTa, rope lines shall be provided for every NWTa camp, military or civilian. Rope lines shall be in place around every camp during the period of authenticity, so as to prevent spectators from gaining access to any camp. At any event the NWTa is not hosting, the hosting organization's rules regarding rope lines shall apply.

B) The following exceptions shall apply:

*continued on page 6*

## NWTa National Officers' Contact Information

Commander: Angela Potter	2137 Stillwell Lafayette, IN 47904	Phone: (708) 310-5572 Email: nwtadj@msn.com
Deputy Commander: Steve Baule	417 Ironwood Drive Poplar Grove, IL 61065	Phone: (815)765-3322 Email: smbale@gmail.com
Adjutant: Jane Whiteside	8417 Adbeth Ave Woodridge, IL 60517	Phone: (630) 985-1124 Email: j-whiteside@comcast.net
Paymaster: Andrea Studzinski	1204 Carrsbrooke Dr. Valparaiso, IN 46383	Phone: (630) 624-2994 Email: andreastudzinski@sbcglobal.net
Scribe: Kayte Ossler	285 Churchill Lane Aurora, IL 60504	Phone: (630) 851-8378 Email: kayteossler@netzero.net



## Klash on the Kankakee ---June 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> 2013

The KLASH is in a new location, only 3 miles south of the previous  
Location---it will be at Governor Len Small Memorial Park

801 S. Eighth Ave. Kankakee, Illinois

Please send unit registration to Bart T. Durbin „PO BOX 93

Bonfield, Illinois 60913—I would prefer snail mail, but if you must ,

My e-mail is [im4fni@aol.com](mailto:im4fni@aol.com) my home phone # 815-936-9169

UNIT NAME \_\_\_\_\_ UNIT CONTACT # \_\_\_\_\_

CROWN or CONGRESSIONAL circle one please

Number of adults \_\_\_\_\_ Bantlings \_\_\_\_\_

Space required \_\_\_\_\_ wedge tents# \_\_\_\_\_ marquee or wall# \_\_\_\_\_

Dining flys \_\_\_\_\_

Straw \_\_\_\_\_ number of bales

*In Addition:*

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO A DANCE

*Saturday evening*

WEAR YOUR FINEST ATTIRE (OR NOT) AND

BRING A DESSERT TO SHARE

WE LOOK FORWARD TO AN EVENING OF

DANCING AND FUN!

## Opinion: Five Things \*Not\* to Say to Spectators

Rowenna Hamper

### I Bet You Didn't Know!

Variants include: "Most people are really under-educated about this..." and "You've probably never heard..."

Don't assume an ignorant audience. For one, you never know who you're talking to. They could be a very informed, very involved, very interested member of the public—and you've just come off as a jerk telling them everything you assume they don't know. True story—my mother attended an event as a spectator, and was schooled on everything she "didn't know" by a well-meaning reenactor. Trouble was, she already knew everything she was being told she was ignorant about.

Instead, ask what your audience does know. Build from there. Assume that the people you're talking to are intelligent and reasonably informed (even if we all know that isn't always the case).

### Pray Tell, What Is This "Rest Room" of Which You Speak?

Yeah, we get it. You're in first person. Nice work. Now knock it off before their kid wets himself.

First person can be a great tool for educating the public, but when it turns into a tongue-twisting game of "I bet I don't break character" no one wins.

Deliberate ignorance can answer some questions beautifully—for instance, when a spectator asks me about anesthetic while I'm minding my father's surgery table, answering "I'm afraid I'm not familiar with that term" with a smile serves as an answer and a jumping off point for more conversation.

Often, however, we're forced to interact with the modern world intruding on our persona—and when a spectator asks where to find the restroom or what time the artillery demonstration will take place, it behooves us to answer, even if it's not an answer our eighteenth-century selves would really know how to give. Having an answer rehearsed lets you keep in character while giving the spectator the information they need—and that benefits everyone.

### Since You're a Woman, I Bet You'd Like to Hear About...

Avoid foot in mouth syndrome. Don't assume your audience has a particular interest because of their gender, race or ethnicity, religious affiliation, age, or any other box you might check on a census form. Sure, many women would love to hear about how cooking was approached in the eighteenth century, and many kids would enjoy learning what young people did for fun during the period, and plenty of men would like an explanation of how your musket works. At the same time, a man might be fascinated by hand sewing technique and a woman might want an in-depth explanation of artillery types.

There's nothing wrong with starting a conversation—in fact, we often need to in order to engage with the public, who aren't quite sure how to talk to us oddballs—but do based on your interests and knowledge, not what you assume others want to hear about.

### Hey, How 'Bout Them Cubbies?

I preface this by noting that some spectators don't mind anachronism, and many a good, educational conversation has started from an inquiry into whether the visitor happened to know the score of the game. That said—some do come hoping to see a realistic portrayal of an eighteenth century camp, and though we can't always erase all the anachronistic details (nearby parking lots, planes overhead, the spectators themselves...), we can do our part to help them suspend disbelief.

It seems to behoove us, then, to interact with spectators on those terms. Instead of asking if they happened to catch *American Idol*, or asking where they got those boots because you'd really like a pair yourself, try asking if they'd like a better look at your uniform or to see what's cooking on your fire.

Same goes for the things we say not to the public but in their hearing—there are plenty of spots in camp other than right along the ropeline where we can discuss the Bears' new coach or who got voted off *Survivor: Season I Can't Believe this Show is Still On*.

### Nothing

By far the worst thing we can say to spectators? Nothing at all. Many spectators don't know how to approach us (can you blame them?) and it's up to us to initiate conversations. You don't have to be a first-person expert or a great lecturer to interact with the public. Sometimes as simple a line as "Do you have any questions?" or "Would you like to see what I'm doing?" or even just "How are you today?" can start the ball rolling.

## FALL 2012 MINUTES, CONTINUED

1. Any unit, group, or merchant may forego or take down the rope in front and/or back of its camp(s) as long as the following guidelines are met:

a. The open camp is separate or rope lines are maintained between it and neighboring closed camps

b. At least one member of the NWTA is present to supervise and interact with spectators while the

rope line is down.

c. Care is taken to provide a path through the camp, with a minimum of obstacles such as fly ropes,

tent stakes, fire, etc.

d. Fire pits must be either attended or separated by a rope line from the open portion of camp

during public hours.

**NEW BUSINESS****2012/2013 Budget**

MOTION by Andrea Studzinski to postpone publishing the member directory until 2014. Motion Approved.

MOTION by Angela Potter to increase Courier-print & post from \$5,000 to \$7,000 and to increase funds for the School of the Soldier from \$800 to \$1,400. Motion Approved.

MOTION by Linnea Bass to accept the 2013 fiscal year budget as modified. Motion Approved.

**Nominating Committee**

MOTION by Denny Wuthrich to approve Steve Baule as the chairman of the Nominating Committee. Motion Approved. Committee team members include Steve Gilbert and Andrea Studzinski.

**Feast Reimbursement**

Discussion only – Is the NWTA taking funds under false pretenses? Should the parameters of future contracts be revisited? 240 people registered for the event. 96 people attended. Twelve people participated in the tactical.

**2013 Schedule**

MOTION by Tom Langenfeld for the NWTA Spring Board Meeting to be held on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion Approved.

MOTION by Tom Langenfeld for the School of Soldier to occur April 6<sup>th</sup>. Motion Approved.

MOTION by Bob Sloman for the NWTA to support Spirit of Vincennes, May 25 & 26. Motion Approved.

MOTION by Bart Durbin for the NWTA to support Klash on the Kankakee, June 8 & 9. Motion Approved.

MOTION by Gary Jorstad for the NWTA to support Silver Lake, WI, June 22 & 23. Motion Approved.

MOTION by Alex Farkas for the NWTA to support Battle on the Ridge, Highland, IN, Aug. 17 & 18. Motion Approved.

MOTION by Linnea Bass for the NWTA to support Ozaukee Pioneer Village, August 31 & September 1. Motion Approved.

MOTION by Denny Wuthrich for the NWTA to support Can-

tigny, Sept 7 & 8. Motion Approved.

MOTION by Beth Eagan for the NWTA to support Forest Glen, Danville, IL, Sept 28 & 29. Motion Approved.

MOTION by Tom Langenfeld for the NWTA to support Feast of the Hunters' Moon, Oct 5 & 6. Motion Approved w/1 nay.

MOTION by John Miller for the NWTA to support Locust Grove, Oct 26 & 27, contingent upon a meeting & resolution to the battlefield rope line issue. Motion Approved.

MOTION by Tom Langenfeld for the NWTA Fall Board Meeting to be held on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion Approved.

MOTION by Sandy Johnson for the NWTA to support the Grand Encampment at Cantigny, Sept 13 & 14, 2014. Motion Approved.

**Courier**

MOTION by Brian Vandepolder to define the Board's intent for the Courier as: The Board endorses the continuation of a printed Courier containing event information and articles of interest while exploring pdf and other distribution options. The Board would also like to see the resurrection of the SPY when information is available. Motion Approved.

**Website**

The set up and resources on the website are good, but information is out-dated and not being maintained. MOTION by Jane Whiteside for the NWTA Commander to seek a solution. Motion Approved.

**Approval of Staff Officers**

MOTION by Tom Langenfeld to approve Alison Davis as Inspector of Music. Motion Approved.

**Announcements**

Lockport Canal Days to be held Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup>. Re-enactors are requested for demonstrations. This would also be a good avenue for recruitment.

Indiana will celebrate their bicentennial in 2016. Angie is on a planning subcommittee.

MOTION to adjourn. Motion Approved.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:01 pm CT.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kayte Ossler, Scribe

SUBMIT

*PHOTOS, ARTICLES,  
RECIPES, BOOK REVIEWS  
TO*

NWTACOURIER@GMAIL.COM



## *Rebels and Redcoats on the Fox*

*June 22/23, 2013  
Fox River County Park  
Silver Lake WI.*

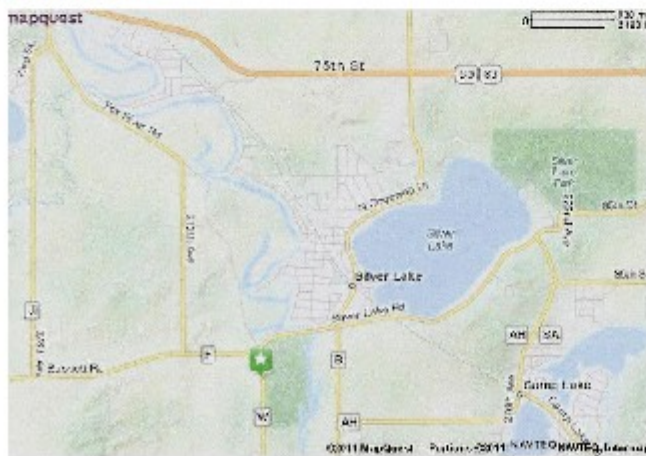


*Host Regiment: 3rd. New York  
Great park area with lots of space  
Ample firewood  
Parking nearby  
Sponsor: Kenosha County Parks Dept.*

Register by regiment please: Marvin Rasch, 309-585-0930 or [raschml@yahoo.com](mailto:raschml@yahoo.com)  
When registering please include numbers of soldiers & civilians, flies, wedge tents, sergeant tent, marquee tents and number needing straw.

We encourage for the interest of the public regimental activities such as distribution of military rations, mail call, uniform assignment and anything you may want to include., please let us know so we can plan around each other.

### Directions:



From both north and south to Hwy 50 west off I-94 east and East off I-43 if coming from the west.

Turn south on county B through the Village of Silver Lake, turn right on county road F, the park entrance is on the left.

Turn left at the first road in the park.

**PUBLICATION OF  
THE NORTH WEST  
TERRITORY  
ALLIANCE**

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**2013 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

MAY 25-26 SPIRIT OF VINCENNES RENDEZVOUS - VINCENNES, IN  
JUN 8-9 KLASH ON THE KANKAKEE - BOURBONNAIS, ILLINOIS  
JUN 22-23 REBELS AND REDCOATS - SILVER LAKE, WISCONSIN  
AUG 17-18 BATTLE ON THE RIDGE - HIGHLAND, INDIANA  
AUG 31 - SEPT 1 OZAUKEE PIONEER VILLAGE - SAUKVILLE, WISCONSIN  
SEPT 7-8 CANTIGNY - WHEATON, ILLINOIS  
(SCHOOL DAYS - SEPTEMBER 5 & 6)  
SEPT 21-22 FOREST GLEN PRESERVE - DANVILLE, ILLINOIS  
OCT 5-6 FEAST OF THE HUNTER'S MOON - W LAFAYETTE, INDIANA  
OCT 26-27 MARKET FAIR AT LOCUST GROVE - LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY