

NWTA Courier

Winter 2014

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

NWTA Commander Election 2015

Approved by the NWTA Board of Directors, November 1, 2014.

The Election of the NWTA Commander for the term of November, 2015 to October, 2017 will take place by paper ballot prior to the Cantigny Event, (Wheaton, IL). Ballots will be counted September 12, 2015.

Ballots will be mailed July 14 to all members whose dues have been received by July 14. All ballots must be received by the Adjutant by September 1, 2015.

Individuals interested in being candidates for the position of NWTA Commander should contact a member of the Nominating Committee by June 1, 2015.

The Committee will schedule and announce Meet & Greet / Question and Answer sessions at events during the season to give the candidates and membership a chance to interact prior to the Election.

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*Take a break and have some fun—how many
Revolutionary events can you find?*

Battles of the Revolution

K	G	T	H	W	Z	S	V	M	L	V	I	K	V	B	I	I	Q	G	Y
G	V	S	H	J	O	T	N	M	A	F	K	Y	E	T	G	C	A	S	Q
T	R	E	N	T	O	N	U	I	H	H	B	M	R	Y	H	U	J	O	W
V	H	N	D	L	X	E	N	B	A	P	B	A	P	L	C	P	J	C	E
E	U	N	W	K	N	O	M	X	T	L	O	N	E	H	O	O	A	Q	M
U	B	E	N	V	R	I	M	C	A	I	P	S	W	E	T	M	X	H	X
K	U	C	F	N	F	T	J	Z	D	G	E	E	N	O	D	B	Q	M	D
N	N	N	N	H	Z	A	Y	H	U	Y	U	I	T	E	T	S	L	X	G
L	K	I	A	V	P	I	W	I	C	E	W	W	N	I	B	K	Z	D	A
L	E	V	U	I	H	M	L	E	U	Y	P	N	W	W	H	N	R	B	J
O	R	U	B	W	O	F	Y	B	D	I	C	Y	O	F	Q	W	X	O	Y
H	H	O	F	Y	O	Y	P	N	X	A	J	I	Q	J	Q	T	K	J	Y
I	I	P	J	R	B	L	A	R	Q	N	Q	O	A	C	U	M	H	E	Z
T	L	Y	D	P	Y	R	C	H	I	N	W	C	R	B	G	P	U	U	M
S	L	N	T	W	B	V	J	T	C	N	R	C	C	L	W	O	A	A	K
C	B	S	B	X	B	Z	J	S	H	O	C	S	P	B	X	O	P	K	K
D	F	K	Y	O	S	G	E	B	R	A	H	E	Z	O	A	C	A	Z	J
Z	X	K	W	M	O	T	M	C	V	A	O	R	T	D	W	V	U	W	Z
G	K	O	R	I	S	K	A	N	Y	B	I	E	W	O	N	L	Y	Z	M
B	O	U	X	V	V	A	O	Z	I	D	Y	W	B	P	N	K	P	D	R

BRANDYWINE
GUILFORD
TRENTON
YORKTOWN

BUNKERHILL
ORISKANY
VINCENNES

CAMDEN
PRINCETON
WHITEPLAINS

40th GRAND ENCAMPMENT T-SHIRT **REORDER**



FRONT



BACK

All t-shirts are ADULT sizes & all t-shirts are BLACK

SIZE	NUMBER	COST EACH	TOTAL COST
S	# _____ X	\$15	= _____
M	# _____ X	\$15	= _____
L	# _____ X	\$15	= _____
X-L	# _____ X	\$15	= _____
2X-L	# _____ X	\$20	= _____
3X-L	# _____ X	\$20	= _____
4X-L	# _____ X	\$20	= _____
5X-L	# _____ X	\$20	= _____
GRAND TOTAL =			_____

Orders must be received by **JANUARY 1st** and
will be shipped to the address **YOU PROVIDE**.
(Re-Orders received later may not be fulfilled)

Make Check or Money Order payable to:
Butler's Rangers

SEND TO: Butler's Rangers
1512 24th Ave., Unit 35,
Kenosha, WI 53140

UNIT _____

UNIT COMMANDER _____

NAME _____

SHIPPING ADDRESS - please PRINT CLEARLY

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

Questions? Email Dave Parsons at
bradtscoy@gmail.com

Pinning your Primary Sources: Pinterest and Research for Reenactors

Rowenna Hamper, Publications Editor

With the increasing availability of museum collections and primary documents available online, reenactors have more resources than ever before for research. We share links to extant pieces via Facebook and dissect primary sources in online forums. But there's a tool for research you may not be using—Pinterest.

Perhaps best known as the Mecca of home DIY ideas, kid craft projects, and beautifully photographed recipes, Pinterest can also serve as an effective tool for reenactors examining material culture. A virtual "pin board" of images, each linking to the original site the item was "pinned" from, the site allows users to create their own repositories and to browse or search other users' collections. The pitfalls? Many. The potential? Depending on how you use your sources, excellent.

The site works by allowing users to "pin" images to their virtual pin boards, which are viewable by others. Then the social networking element of the site comes into play—other users "re-pin" images to their own boards. The problem for research? The original pin may have been misattributed, mislabeled, or completely incorrect for research use, perhaps intended for a non-research purpose (like inspiration for a costume). Though there are plenty of primary source images, others may appear at first glance to be extants, but in fact be costume pieces—and the caption "18th century gown" isn't very helpful. Using Pinterest for the "discovery" element of research involves judiciously examining each image's origins, and not relying on user's captions and descriptions.

Many users pin modern reproductions that may mimic originals. Many film costumes are displayed on their creators' websites—and are then pinned by users interested in costuming as inspiration. Though these pieces may be beautiful, they also may not be 100% accurate. Items from films like *The Duchess* and *Marie Antoinette* are commonly found on Pinterest. Similarly, users may pin images created by reenactors or costumers—which carries the same risk as simply copying what someone you've seen at events has done without asking them for their research. It might be great; it might be undocumented.

Some users misinterpret the original source. For example, I recently found an interesting painting of what appeared to be an 18th century scene, pinned and re-pinned on multiple users' "18th Century" boards. The painting was, in fact, a 19th century "nostalgic" rendering. Without researching the painting further, and using it as documentation, it would be easy to make some very avoidable mistakes in costuming or dishware, both elements featured heavily in the painting.

However, Pinterest can also be a way to stumble across extants and images that you wouldn't discover otherwise. If you're careful to double-check the sources of the images you find, it can be a valuable discovery tool. Further, it can introduce you to larger repositories such as museum collections you were previously unaware of.

Even more valuable to research, maintaining your own pin board can help you to organize your research in an online setting. If you fall into the habit of seeing a great image and forgetting to note the source, then floundering when you try to access it again, this can be a helpul. You can set your pinboards to private or public, allowing you to share or develop your research privately.

So, how to get the most out of Pinterest?

- ◆ Create boards for yourself to “pin” your particular areas of research. Targeted areas work better than broad “18th Century” or even “Clothing” if you end up saving many references.
- ◆ Research the research. When an image catches your eye, click through to see where the original was posted, and learn more about it. For any image that does not link back to a page with more information, right-click on the image and select “Search Google for this image.”
- ◆ Create original pins for yourself as often as possible. In the process of re-pinning, users often don’t check to make sure that the image links back to an original website—not just a jpg file. If you instead pin directly from museum collection pages or other research-based page, you are linking to all of the information contained on the page.
- ◆ Include all pertinent citation information in your own notes in the image’s caption. That way, if a page is moved or changed, you still have the vital pieces such as date created, accession number, or artist. This also lets other users see the important data quickly.
- ◆ Remember that an extant pictured online is a primary source, but the way it’s presented is a secondary source. That is, an extant gown from a museum collection is a primary source, but the museum staff’s choices of which other clothing to display with it are a secondary source, as is the commentary the museum might give the piece. Be judicious in how you use secondary source material.
- ◆ Follow reliable Pinterest users. Many museums, researchers, and businesses maintain Pinterest accounts. This isn’t to say that you can’t find good pins on the boards of costumers and hobbyists—but they may be less well-curated than the boards of professionals.
- ◆ At the same time, don’t blindly trust other pinners. Users may have different goals than you do, they may make mistakes, or they may simply re-pin an item with incorrect caption. Sometimes, users even pin items to the wrong board—and the fantasy costume for Halloween ends up on the “18th Century Extants” board!
- ◆ Have fun! Research can be an enjoyable, and tools like Pinterest make it easier.

A Holiday-Worthy Punch

Variations on punch are as numerous as 18th century cookbooks. This version, translated and provided by the Danish National Museum, is especially festive given the use of cheerfully red wine.

2 cups
1 cup sugar
3 oranges
3 lemons
cinnamon sticks
3 bottles of red wine
½ bottle of dark rum

Remove the skins from the oranges and lemons and squeeze the juice from them. Mix the water, sugar, juice, skins and cinnamon sticks in a large pan that can hold all the ingredients. Boil this mixture thoroughly – it can come to the boil, but should not boil down or boil for too long. Sieve the mixture to remove the skins. At a low heat add the red wine to the sieved mixture and warm it slowly to just under boiling point. Add the rum and warm for a few minutes – preferably under a lid.. Serve immediately

Winter Events

There's plenty happening to keep you busy this winter—including indoor trade fairs, an in-garrison event, and an outdoor march for the truly intrepid.

January 24 & 25, 2015

14th Annual Buck Creek Muzzleloader's Club Linton Trade Fair

Linton City Park
Roy Clark Community Bldg.
Linton, Indiana
Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-3

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Buckcreek-Muzzleloaders/114394185248848>

January 30 - February 1, 2015

Military History Fest (Reenactor Fest)

Reenacting and Trade Faire XI
Pheasant Run Resort and Convention Center
4051 East Main Street
St. Charles, (Chicago) Illinois 60174

<http://www.reenactorfest.com/>

February 21, 2015

George Rogers Clark Annual March and Capture of Fort Sackville

George Rogers Clark National Historical Park
Vincennes, Indiana
(program to be announced soon)

<http://www.nps.gov/gero/index.htm>

February 21, 2015

Freezer Jam 2014

20th Annual Midwestern Conference of Fifers and Drummers
Stevenson High School
Livonia, Michigan

<http://freezerjam.org/>

February 21 & 22, 2015

18th Century Garrison Weekend

Historic Fort Wayne
1201 Spy Run Avenue
Ft. Wayne, Indiana
Sat. 10 am - 4 pm, Sun. 10 - 2 pm
(See inset, next page)

<http://www.oldfortwayne.org/>

February 21 & 22, 2015

32nd Annual Antique Arms Show and Living History Trade Fair

Hamilton Co. 4-H Fairgrounds
2003 E. Pleasant St.
Noblesville, Indiana

<https://www.facebook.com/ConnerLongrifles#!/pages/Annual-Antique-Arms-Show-A-Living-History-Trade-Fair/164265667110812>

Feb 28 & March 1, 2015

Echoes of the Past Historic Trade Fair

Winnebago County Fairgrounds
Oshkosh, Wisconsin
(See ad, next page)

Thank you to Jon Andrews for help
compiling this list

Also: Watch for information about sewing workshops taking place late this winter or early spring! The NWTA hopes to bring experts Henry Cooke and Hallie Larkin for special weekend working seminars.

Winter Garrison at Historic Fort Wayne

Come join us for this “no canvas required” weekend.

Amenities include:

- *Lodging inside the fort: bunks and rope beds
- *Fireplaces in all rooms
- *Firewood
- *Straw ticks (limited qty. available)
- *One heated modern “break-room”
- *Hot beverages provided all weekend long
- *Dinner provided on Friday night for early arrivals
- *Three meals provided on Saturday
- *Breakfast and lunch provided on Sunday.
- *18th Century Tavern

We encourage attendees to bring some sort of demo representative of typical garrison activities of the period, including sewing, quilting, candle making, rolling cartridges, etc. It is our sincere hope that we draw a lot more public this year and the years to come.

Please register by emailing Dean Rapp at hstdean@hotmail.com, calling 260-417-7619, or mailing to Dean Rapp, 5923 Fitchburg Place, Fort Wayne, IN 46815.

Include the following:

of adults

of children

Who you would like to room with (Up to 6 in a single room. First come, first served).

If you want to bring canvas.

When you might be arriving (so we can get your fire started and have your room toasty and warm when you arrive).

Also, due to some new fort policies, the hosts will need to collect a minimum of \$5 per person. This covers the porta johns, heat in break-room, all food for the weekend and several other amenities.

This event has grown each year since its inception, providing NWTa members a chance for a minimally scheduled, immersive-friendly winter escape. Hope to see many new faces there this year!



COME TO THE 34th ANNUAL

ECHOES OF THE PAST HISTORICAL TRADE FAIR

Featuring demonstrating craftsmen,
merchants & entertainment

SUNNYVIEW EXPO BUILDING
WINNEBAGO COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
COUNTY ROAD "W", OSHKOSH, WISCONSIN

FEB. 28 – MARCH 1, 2015
1750 through WESTERN FRONTIER

SAT. 9 AM TO 5 PM
SUN. 9 AM TO 4 PM
ADMISSION:
ADULTS – \$5.00 UNDER 10 – FREE

*TAKE A STEP INTO THE PAST
FOR FUN, FOOD AND UNIQUE SHOPPING*
New participants must be juiced

*An Interesting &
Educational
Experience
Disguised as
FUN!!*

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Mailing Address Line 5



*Do you think that hidden here
Are symbols of good Christmas cheer?*

*Sprigs of holly in a window
Perhaps suspended mistletoe?*

~Editor

Settling the Affairs of the Nation
from the collections of the British Museum
2010,7081.3259,
AN965137