

Winter, 2016



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE BRIGADE OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NORTHWEST DEPARTMENT

# B.A.R. SHOT

***Commander: Bob Cairns (330) 455-9722***

***B.A.R. SHOT Editor: Karen Kashary (330) 523-0629***

## **NWD Commander's Corner**

As I was getting ready for our NW Dept. School, and thinking about the people that were going to make presentations, I thought about how enthusiastic each of those people are about their chosen topic, and how diverse their specific interests were, all under the blanket of living history. Some of them had this interest, and it led to reenacting, while others developed this as a result of being exposed to their current area of interest while participating in reenacting activities. The thing they had in common is a passion for their particular specialty. This led me to remember why I joined, and how my passion for the history of the Revolution, shooting and military history made the Brigade a perfect fit for me. I know a long-time unit member that joined without knowing a lot of history, but having a real love of black powder shooting. It came to that we all joined this hobby of ours for many varied reasons, and I hope that you will take some time to remember why you joined, and what lit the fire for you. I hope you will rekindle that fire, and at our 2016 events bring some of your passion to what we do. We have come up with a geographically diverse schedule, and one that will give you plenty of opportunities to visit historic sites and add your particular interest to help interpret these sites and relate your impression. I encourage you to be as engaged as you can in bringing your particular passion to our events. I know everyone will benefit from the result.

I am **VERY** pleased with this year's schedule, and hope you all will make an effort to attend the variety of events planned. We start the season on a real high note, with a trip to Mount Vernon. The NWD has been invited to participate by the 1st Virginia Regt., and I am very excited about this coming event **at the site of General Washington's home and grave.** We are also renewing our relationship with the North West Territorial Alliance with our joint event at Fort Meigs. We got a very positive reaction from the NWTA members that attended our Fort Laurens event last year, and this joint event is the next step in picking up our relationship with them. In fact, we have a number of events this season where we will be working in concert with members of other organizations. This will happen at Mount Vernon, Fort Randolph, Fort Meigs, and Fort Henry.

As you look at our schedule you may notice there is no NWD School listed. The NWD Board is going to try something different this season by spreading the School out over our entire event season. Classes will be held at a number of our events, with the event coordinators making the arrangements. If you have suggestions for a class or classes, and/or would like to be a presenter, contact one or more event coordinators to let them know and make plans.

Another thing you may note is that we are holding two firelock matches in 2016. The reaction by the participants to last November's shoot at the Log Cabin Shop was so positive that we decided to add more live shooting. The two matches will have different formats and focuses tailored to the sites and the season. Finally, concerning the 2016 schedule, we are still considering one or two events, so watch your BARSHOT ([nwdbarshot.com](http://nwdbarshot.com)) and the BLASTS from our Adj., Bob Kashary. I hope all your unit commanders will pass along all the information to all your unit members.

The NWD Board is trying to plan as far as possible ahead. We will be putting the 2017 Fort Niagara event on our calendar as well as Fort Laurens, and we are considering several other 2017 weekends. If you have a site you believe would be good for an event, contact an NWD Board member. We want to plan events for you, and we really can use your help to find appropriate sites in Western Pennsylvania, Northwest Ohio, and Michigan. I hope to see you all register and attend the Mount Vernon event, 30 April—1 May.

**Best Wishes and I'll see you at the next formation,**  
Bob Cairns, Cmdr, NW Dept., B.A.R

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### **Editor's Note:**

**You'll see that there are no pictures in this edition of the BAR SHOT. We were hit by the very nasty Ransomware virus and lost months of documents and pictures. Fortunately we are back up and running cleanly with increased security and only 1 month late with this newsletter. For me, the best part of the newsletter is the pictures of our members. At events, take a small camera, or even your phone and snap a couple pictures. Send them to me at [kalena4563@roadrunner.com](mailto:kalena4563@roadrunner.com) and I'll get them in the next edition of the BAR SHOT. It's a great way to tell the story.**

Your most humble servant,

Karen Kashary, Editor

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### After-Action Reports

#### Hannas Town

October 17-18, 2015 saw the NW Dept. return to Hanna Town for the first time in 13 years. This site, in western Pennsylvania, is northeast of Pittsburgh and is on the original Forbes Road. Hannas Town was founded in 1773 and was the county seat and first court west of the Allegheny Mountains. The town thrived for nine years before being burned to the ground by Loyalist Rangers and their native allies in 1782. A number of our recreated regiments/ name-sake units were very active in the area, **including the 8th Pennsylvania and the Westmoreland County Militia. Members of the King's 8th Regt.** Also were probably at the attack on the town. Our event there was a limited NWD turn-out, with 8 of our NWD units being represented by 23 men and 7 distaff. We performed drill and firing demonstrations with muskets and rifles, as well as artillery firing. Our Geographers displayed and explained the original layout of the town, using facsimile maps.

We were ably assisted in interpreting for the public by the local, non-affiliated unit of Westmoreland county Militia, who helped the site personnel host the event. Saturday evening we were treated to an outstanding period dinner that you may well have been able to purchase in one of the **town's three original taverns. One of these taverns has been reconstructed and we enjoyed the fire, libation and jollification there till late in the evening.**

On Sunday morning Mr. Egli led devotions in the same room, then made way for the soldiers to cook their noon meal in the fireplace. The weather was very cool both days, and we awoke to snow falling on Sunday. The turn-out of public was light, but steady, and there were always people to talk to **for those inclined. We received emailed "thank you" notes from both the sponsor, The Westmoreland County Historical Society and the hosting unit, the Westmoreland Militia.**

I would like to thank the following NWD units for taking advantage of a chance to visit and learn about an original site very pertinent to the Revolution Those units are:

4th Bttn. NJV	1 man	Geographers	4 men		
5th Va. Regt.	2 men	2 distaff	<b>Nelson's Rifles</b>	3 men	1 distaff
8th Pa., Ft. Laurens	9 men	4 distaff	RNLP	1 man	
23rd RWF	1 man		Westmoreland Militia	2 men	

Bob Cairns, Cmdr, NWD BAR

**8th Pa. Reg't., Ft. Laurens Det.**

### NW Department School of Instruction

Our NW Dept. School was held at Campbellsport Tavern, outside Ravenna, Ohio, 31 October—1 November. The site is very comfortable with lots of indoor sleeping and plenty of room for our activities. It is owned by Jim Workman, 8th Pa., Ft. Laurens Det., and he provided the height of hospitality. We had outstanding presenters both days that included:

Ron Hafner (8th Pa.) began the event with a presentation on 18th c. medicine that went far beyond simply explaining treatments and instruments. Ron spoke about the basic theories behind medicine of the times, which explained the treatments. His talk was very enlightening, and I hope we can have him continue at another School very soon.

Todd Knisely Todd is not a reenactor, but has been studying collecting and digging 18th c. glass for decades. He is one of the most knowledgeable and enthusiastic authorities on the subject. He is also a glass blower, and he related an enormous amount of information and brought with him scores of original examples for display. **He was very taken by our interest, and stayed after the day's formal activities to share supper and talk with us, answering and asking questions.** I am sure we will see Todd again.

Greg Sandor (2nd. Va.) presented, primarily in discussion form, his work on the clothing stores records of the Virginia troops early in the war. Greg has done a great deal of research on the subject, which has led to his authorship of a book, *Journal of the Public Store at Williamsburg, 1775-1776*, which is available from him. His email is:

gregory\_sandor@hotmail.com

In addition to clothing, Greg explained how these types of records can be used to enhance your impression, by looking at not only the types of cloth and clothing being issued, but at issues of things such as cooking utensils, lanterns and various other equipment to help you decide whether a specific item is correct for YOUR impression. (You

Can Google a recent review of Greg's book and I believe many of you will add it to your library.)

Tom Morris and Joe Forte (8th Pa.) presented in demonstration and participation some common tavern games of our period. These presentations really helped our Saturday evening have a genuine 18th c. feel, and I know everyone that played, winners and loser, had a really good time.

Joe Forte (8th Pa.) made the final class , which I named "Hey Joe, My Firelock Won't Work", in which Joe first explained how things in a lock actually function, common reason why they don't function, and remedies for those times. This may seem like very basic information, but everyone involved, from our newest members present to the most experienced men took something away from Joe's presentation. The final part of this section was members brought firelocks with problems and Joe helped diagnose the issue and the "cure".

Saturday evening the NWD provided the main dish, and every participant brought something to go with it. We shared supper, the bar was open, and we all got involved in some great fellowship till the early hours of the next day. We held an NWD Board meeting Sunday morning after we had breakfasted, and everyone departed about 1:00 PM. Units with members attending were:

5th Va.	8th Pa., Ft. Laurens Det.	23rd RWF
Jaegers	Westmoreland Militia	2nd Va.

Thank you to everyone attending, and a special note of thanks to Tom Hornbrook, 8th Pa., for the load of firewood delivered to the site for the weekend.

Bob Cairns, Cmdr., NWD

**8th Pa. Reg't., Ft. Laurens Det.**

### NWD Firelock

Our rescheduled NWD Firelock Match was held on Nov. 14/15, 2015 at The Log Cabin Shop, Lodi, Ohio. The weather could have not been better for mid-November with temps in the 50-60's F. **Joe Forte and I planned more of a "fun shoot" than a competition with interesting targets and varying distances out to 50 yards.** After our safety meeting, we had two relays of smooth bore competition starting at 15 yards and working our way back to 25 yards during the 5 separate target matches. For our Firelock we had three (3) members that had never live fired their muskets. With a little coaching and mentoring, all had a positive experience and one actually won a Match. For the 5 Matches, we had 4 different winners in the Individual Match Competition. During our lunch break, Mark Vozar brought out his Ferguson Rifle. Mark gave us a demonstration of how to load and fire the Ferguson. Mark provided powder and ball for anyone that wanted to take a shot with the rare Ferguson Rifle reproduction. It was quite an experience. We concluded our Saturday Matches with 3 pistol shooters and 2 rifle shooters. That permitted time to shop at the Log Cabin and view their outstanding Museum and books. The Museum artifacts range from Palo, to Native American, thru the Civil War and a few items beyond. There is a special focus on the Golden Age of Rifles which were built in Ohio. The Log Cabin is one of the early suppliers of black powder guns, kits, raw materials and books of the early American period. The Kindigs graciously permitted those that wanted permission to camp in the museum overnight. They could not have been a more hospitable host site and welcomed us back in 2016. Thank you Log Cabin Shop, owners and staff.

Sunday morning dawned bright and sunny for the Team Competition. Joe Forte calculated the top three shooters from Saturday and they were Team Captains for the Team Matches. The goal for the Teams was to fire the least amount of rounds and accomplish the task of hitting the targets or knocking down the potato or stake.

In our NWD Firelock, everyone was a winner and gained valuable insight and practice of firing live, lead ball at paper and period targets. We had 15 members participate over the 2-day event representing the following NWD Units: 8<sup>th</sup> Pa Fort Laurens, 5<sup>th</sup> Virg Reg't, 23<sup>rd</sup> Royal Welsh Fusiliers, Royal Naval Landing Party, Logan's Coy, and the Westmoreland Coy Militia. Attendees had such an excellent time that many suggested having two Firelocks per year. In 2016 it was suggested to have a Spring and Fall Firelock, one at Tom Hornbrook's range and the other at The Log Cabin. We certainly would enjoy returning to both sites. Special Thanks to Joe Forte as Co-Coordinator, Range Master, Safety Officer, Scorer and on-sight gunsmith. We hope to see more NWD and BAR members at our next Firelock.

Bob Kashary, Adj't., NWD

5th Va. Reg't.

## 2016 NW Department Event Schedule

April 30—May 1 Mount Vernon, Virginia

We are beginning the 2016 event season in grand style. We have been invited by the host unit, 1st Va., to participate in an event at the home of our first President, George Washington. Due to limited space the number of participants will be limited at approximately 500. both Crown and Congressional forces will be in attendance. Tent space is also very limited, and we are asked to not put up more tentage than we absolutely need for sleeping, so we'll make to "buddy up". Everyone attending from the NW Dept. MUST register with Bob Cairns, no exceptions. All registration should be done before April 1st to make sure you have a spot. This is the first time we have been invited to this terrific site, and I don't know when it will happen again, so take advantage of this opportunity. You can register with Bob Cairns using the following information:

Email—robtcairns@cs.com

Telephone—(330) 455-9722

Email registration is preferred. There is not need of me to tell you about the site, since you can go on line for more information than I could provide. We will be having several opposing sides TWDs. There are many great historic sites to see on the way to Mount Vernon. Please add this event to your calendar.

May 21-22 Siege of Fort Randolph, Point Pleasant, W. Va.

The NWD will once again have an event at Fort Randolph. The NWD has been invited to participate in the reenactment of the Siege of Fort Randolph. This event is held annually and is the biggest event held at the site. This will be the 16th year for the event. The event recreates the 1777 visit of Shawnee Chief Cornstalk to the fort and the 1778 siege of the fort. You can find more information on the fort's website: [fortrandolph.org](http://fortrandolph.org).

The fort will be available for early arrivals on Thursday. One of the corner blockhouses has been reserved for the NWD Congressional forces. Members of the Crown forces that want to camp will camp outside the fort adjacent to the Native American camp. There will also be sleeping space available for Crown forces inside the fort.

On Friday, May 20, the local school bring their students to the fort for programs by the living historians. This will be open to any BAR member wishing to put on demonstrations or programs. The reenactment takes place on Saturday, May 21. during the event the NWD Crown forces will be attaching the fort supplemented by their Native American allies. The NWD Congressional forces will be supplemented by militia forces.

The program for Sunday, May 22 has not been fully developed but will include programs for both reenactors and the public. A dinner will be provided on Saturday evening.

Event Coordinator: Joe Forte (740) 474-6183, [jjforte@frontier.com](mailto:jjforte@frontier.com)

## **June 25-26 NWD Firelock Match, Tom Hornbrook's Farm, Navarre, Ohio**

This match will focus on traditional-style targets and modified woods walk, using various distances and targets. We'll be strictly loading from pouches and there won't be a 'firing line' as we use on a regular range. There will be plenty of room for camping and appropriate facilities will be provided.

Event Coordinators: Bob Cairns [robtcairns@cs.com](mailto:robtcairns@cs.com)

Tom Hornbrook [tphornbrook@yahoo.com](mailto:tphornbrook@yahoo.com)

## July 9-10 Fort Laurens, Bolivar, Ohio

This is an annual event and is always our most wee-attended event. It is the site of Ohio's only Revolutionary War fort built by Congress and is the home of the Tomb of the Unknown Patriot of the Revolution. We hold our annual general membership meeting on Saturday evening. Tom Pieper, 23rd RWF, is the Event Coordinator and this year, as always, something new is in the planning. Tom may be reached for questions or suggestions at:

[tip@neo.rr.com](mailto:tip@neo.rr.com)

## August 6-7 Fort Meigs, Perrysburg, Ohio

For the first time in many years the NW Dept. of The B.A.R. is teaming up with the North West Territorial Alliance to hold a joint event for our members. The site, while not of the Revolutionary War period, is an outstanding example and the largest wooden stockade in North America, from the 1812 period. It will provide plenty of room for us for TWDs and all our other activities. The site is very skilled in putting on events with reenactors, and this event may well turn out to be the largest Revolutionary War event in the Midwest in 2016.

Event Coordinator: Bernie Borowski [boro42@sbcglobal.net](mailto:boro42@sbcglobal.net)

## September 3-4 Fort Henry, Wheeling W. Va.

Fort Henry Days is held annually at Oglebay Park in Wheeling, WV. This year the NWD will be taking a more active part in demonstrations and programs. Dinner will be provided on Saturday evening. More information will be available as the event gets close this will be the third year that the NWD has participated at Fort Henry Days and everyone reports that they enjoy the event and have a good time.

Event Coordinator: Joe Forte (740) 474-6183, jjforte@frontier.com

## September 25 Brecksville Fallfest, Brecksville, Ohio, Metro Parks

A fine site and a very large and interested public make this one-day event very enjoyable for everyone participating. We have ample opportunity to interpret and demonstrate our particular areas of expertise.

Event Coordinators: Bill & Mary Jo Lucas blmj@sbcglobal.com

## November 5-6 NWD Firelock Match, Log Cabin Gun Shop, Lodi, Ohio

**We had a great time last year at this site for our shoot. We're going back by unanimous acclamation of the participants. The Log Cabin is one of the oldest muzzle loading houses in the country, and there were very hospitable to us. The accommodations are very good and we will be shooting paper targets at measured distances.**

Event Coordinators: Bob Kashary k9kash@roadrunner.com

Joe Forte jjforte@frontier.com

## Schedule Recap

February 20	NWD Board Meeting, Log Cabin Gun Shop, Lodi, Ohio
March 19	NWD Board Meeting, Columbus, Ohio
April 30-May 1	Mount Vernon, Virginia (register by March 10)
May 21-22	Siege of Fort Randolph, Point Pleasant, WV
June 25-26	NWD Firelock, Hornbrook Farm, Navarre, Ohio
July 9-10	Fort Laurens, Bolivar, Ohio
August 6-7	Fort Meigs, Perrysburg, Ohio
September 3-4	Fort Henry Siege, Wheeling, WV
September 25	Brecksville Fallfest, Brecksville, OH
November 5-6	NWD Firelock Match, Log Cabin Gun Shop, Lodi, Ohio

Please mark these important dates on your calendar and make plans to attend. The more of us that attend events, the more of us have fun.

## Adjutants Freshest Advices

Winter is winding down as you read this. A lesson learned should be shared...

Our home computer was hijacked by a ransomware virus. We lost all information from Oct. 10, 2015 thru Jan. 29, 2016 including NWD files. They are not lost, they are encrypted and cannot be opened without paying a ransom. The computer went to a professional for 2 weeks without success and was down for a total of 6 weeks. I contacted the local Police and the local FBI Office. There was nothing that they could do. There was a National NEWS TV segment this week about this same virus infecting **an entire hospital's computer system, an entire Police Dept. many businesses and the incidents are rising exponentially.** The expert's consensus was: 1. if you suspect you are getting too many pop-up advertisements, STOP and turn your computer off. It will stop the encryption of your files if your computer is infected. Take it to a professional to be checked. 2. Use the best and most up to date security program you can purchase. 3. **Back-up your data regularly...daily, weekly, or monthly** depending how valuable your information is to you. It is not a matter of IF, but WHEN you will get a virus.

Now the Good NEWS! It is BAR 2016 Renewal time. Brigade dues for 2016 are now due. Please download the BAR APPLICATION from [www.brigade.org](http://www.brigade.org) or cut it out of the Feb/March Brigade Courier Newsletter. Please fill it out in its entirety with all of your most current information, especially your address/email/phone, and turn it into your Unit Commander or Adjutant along with your dues payment before the end of March, especially if you plan to attend the Mount Vernon Event. We will use your fresh information to build a brand new database for the NWD for 2016.

Bob Kashary, NWD Adjutant

## Details, Details

With the end of the holidays and the onset of real winter weather we all find ourselves spending **more time indoors. Since the first official NWD event isn't until the end of April we have the opportunity to work on our 18<sup>th</sup> Century impressions.** If you like to sew it's a good time to make a new piece of clothing or at least patch that old garment that has at least one more season in it. If you don't like to sew, and who amongst us really doesn't like to sew, it's at least a time to patch that old garment and make it last at least one more season. Eighteenth century clothing descriptions are full of references to articles of clothing with the notations, "Worn" or "Patched" following the descriptions.

If you haven't cleaned your firelock since the last event or can't remember the last time you cleaned it this would be the time to get it done. There were several occasions during the firelock matches where firelocks failed to fire and I believe that at least a portion of these were caused by dirt in the barrel that was caked in the breech.

One more thing: Mark your 2016 calendar with the NWD schedule of events. It's listed in this issue of the BAR Shot. The NWD Board has put a lot of effort into developing the schedule for you.

Joe Forte, NWD Inspector

## The Sew & So...

### The Ladies' Head-Dress

Give Chloe a bushel of horse-hair and wool,  
    Of paste and pomatum a pound,  
Ten yards of gay ribbon to deck her sweet skull,  
    And gauze to encompass it round.

Of all the bright colours the rainbow displays  
    Be those ribbons which hang on her head,  
Be her flounces adapted to make the folks gaze,  
    And about the whole work be they spread.

Let her flaps fly behind, for a yard at the least;  
    Let her curls meet just under her chin;  
Let these curls be supported, to keep up the jest,  
    With an hundred, instead of one, pin.

**Let her gown be tuck'd up to the hip on each side;**  
    Shoes too high for to walk, or to jump;  
And, to deck the sweet creature complete for a bride,  
    Let the cork-cutter make her a rump.

Thus finish'd in taste, while on Chloe you gaze,  
    You may take the dear charmer for life;  
But never undress her-for, out of her stays  
    **You'll find you have lost half your wife.**

From Publications of Percy Society, Vol. XXVII., p. 259. Printed first in "London Magazine" for 1777.  
Submitted by Sherri Saines, Geographers.

**The NWD B.A.R. SHOT**

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Contact the editor for advertising rates (\$7-\$40, depending on size and placement). The Brigade of the American Revolution was established in 1962 as a not-for-profit association dedicated to recreating the life and times of the common soldier of the War for Independence, 1775-83. The NWD was established in 1973. Extracted passages are scholarly comment only.