

1. APOLOGIES: First things, first! My apologies for the silence of recent weeks and the lack of a notice for the SALEM Event. You may have heard that after 19 years with the same employer I got fired; then, while on a two week vacation, Gavin Jr. rocked the boat and threw my back out. I am hiding at home in King awaiting the sky to fall next.
2. PROMOTION IN THE FIRST BATTALION

David Moore to Serjeant Major, effective July 28, 1989.

Quite a few of you saw Dave in his finery at the 'March into Fort Oswego' session for the film. This promotion recognizes David's long & devoted service with the unit, his mastery of the Drill and his zany & exaggerated recollection of events. Major Gray sends his fearful approbation.

3. NEXT EVENT: STONE FORT DAYS, SCHOHARIE, NEW YORK SEP 30/OCT 1, 1989
100th Anniversary of the Schoharie County Historical Society

NOTE WELL THIS DATE CHANGE. THE CALENDER IS WRONG!!!

This is an original Regimental campaign site in a beautiful setting which will be at the height of Fall colouring. For those of you who haven't visited there, it is very worthwhile. Next year we are going to stage a whirlwind, three-day weekend event which will take in all of the major skirmishes and battles of the Schoharie & Mohawk Valley Raid of 1780; however, we will not be at any one particular site for very long. Here's your chance to drink in the Schoharie town and help to gain major support for 1990's big venture.

It's been three years since the 1st Battalion has visited the Schoharie Valley which is sacred Royal Yorker ground, the scene of our action on Oct 17, 1780. The Stone Fort museum is situated in the original building, prior to the war a church, which had been strongly picketed at the time of our raid. Just down the road from the fort is the tavern of the infamous Tory, Captain George Mann who failed to live up to his reputation when our Captain of Grenadiers, John McDonnell, marched through the area in August of 1777, raising his Company. Mann ran off and hid in a local cave.

As part of the Stone Fort complex there are a number of period buildings which provide a backdrop to the festivities. The event attracts a number of Sutlers (I have a list of 6) and Blanket Traders which add to the fun and there are good foodstuffs available on site throughout the day.

THE BATTLES: A rude stockade and small fortification have been erected providing a focus for our play AND this year, the organizers have seven (7) acres of ground over which we can manoeuvre, so the event promises to be similar to the first two times we attended in 1982 & 83.

The Saturday afternoon battle follows an obligatory & traditional morning parade through the town during which we pick the taverns which will benefit from our largess. The battle will rage over the ground along the Schoharie Creek and up to the walls of the stockade.

On Sunday right after lunch, we will have a tactical demonstration of

attacking the covered bridge over Schoharie Creek - should be good fun. At 2:00 the major battle starts.

They are also asking each unit to provide an individual tactical demonstration for the public. There will be no fighting through the camps.

You will need about 70 cartridges for the weekend.

OTHER ACTIVITIES: In addition to the parade and the unit demonstration, there will be defaulters in stocks & a Crown Forces Court Martial on the Sunday. On both days the public will be encouraged to tour the camps. During the latter, participants are requested to be 18C all the way.

PROVISIONS (beef, veggies, bread & cider) are provided at 11AM Saturday for those who wish to cook. Quantity to be issued will be measured by the Registration results, which will not apply to us as so many will eat in town. Those wanting to prepare a meal, pls see me for discussion.

Normally, we all take off for a Saturday night dinner at somewhere special like Cobleskill and if everyone would like to do that again, we can organize it on Saturday morning. So, for the Sutler's, grog and the meal, bring along some Yankee bucks.

They are also looking for special presentations such as the Recorder Recital or Tin Whistle demonstrations if any of you are so inclined. Pls advise me.

SPECIAL RULES: No firing except during the tacticals due to untrained horses at the site. Each camp will have a Provost whose duty is to make sure the camps are in 18C order for the public. Pls follow their requests.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS: The weather at this event was rotten two years ago. Prior to that, it's generally been spotty; but, not disastrous. The organizers have arranged warm, dry shelter for Saturday night (Friday??) if it becomes necessary. Even in the face of threatening skys and rain spitting, (except for the 'year of the snow'), we have always held off driving home and have not regretted doing so.

LOCAL ACCOMODATION: Just in case you don't feel too brave -- Once you've decided to attend, don't leave arrangements for accomodation too long. There are not a lot of spaces!

MOTELS & HOTELS: The Parrott House, Main Street, Schoharie 518-294-7111
 Best Western Inn of Cobleskill, Campus Drive, Cobleskill 518-234-4321
 Boreali's Restaurant & Motel, RD, Route 7, Howes Cave 518-296-8911
 Holiday Motel, Route 7, Howes Cave 518-296-8500

BED & BREAKFAST: The Marsh House, 374 Main St., Schoharie 518-295-7981
 The Gables B&B, 66 West Main St., Cobleskill 518-234-4467
 Barney Hollow B&B, Barnerville Rd., Howes Cave 518-296-8488
 Cavern View B&B, RD 1, 4678 Barnerville Rd., Howes Cave 518-296-8052

DRIVING DIRECTIONS: From the Toronto area, this is about a 6 hour drive.

Take NY Thruway to exit 27, Amsterdam. Go south on Route 30, which takes you all the way to Schoharie Village and the Stone Fort which is at the north end of the town and well signed.

If you're feeling adventurous and coming from the west, take Exit 29 at Canajoharie. Turn left on 5S, which roughly parallels the Thruway on the south side. Go about 2 miles to Route 162. Take this south to Sloansville. As you cross Route 20, Route 162 changes to Route 30A. Take 30A to Central Bridge and at the stoplight take a left onto Route 7/30A. Follow for 1 mile and then take a right onto Route 30/30A for about 3 miles to Schoharie.