



Fall 2005 Officer Reports

# Chairman's Report – Fall 2005

## Take Care

**From the Moravian settlement  
Salem, N<sup>o</sup> Carolina  
Nov, 15<sup>th</sup>**

Compatriots,

Summer is fading fast fall leaves have changed color and perhaps fallen already to leave barren trees. We are retreating to our winter quarters. The campaign is all but over yet the memories will last for a very long time. We faced new trials and tribulations. The rains hit Chelmsford and Whitpain to transform the camps into images resembling sailing regattas. Camden set a heat index at 120 degrees so it was fair to say, “the action was hot”. Adversity forged new friendships and strengthen old ones.

While in winter quarters we will repair old gear and fabricate some new, roll many cartridges, rest our bones, and enjoy the season with our families and friends. We can take comfort in a job well done. Awards from the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) came from the National Society President General for our continued works to keep the American War for Independence alive and well. I was honored to accept this award for the CL this past summer. The Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) have contacted us to provide them materials for their library in Washington, DC to chronicle our patriotic deeds. Huzzah!!!

As Veteran's Day is behind us, Thanksgiving is just around the corner we all have much to be very thankful for. Albeit most of us are pretend soldiers, we do have members within our ranks actively serving as you read this. Some have been deployed overseas. For these brave men and women I am thankful, for their families I am thankful, for those who served previously I am thankful, for the peace we have at home I am thankful.

Besides being a part of the Continental Line and First Virginia Regiment, I am also a member of the Sons of the American Revolution, Sons of the Revolution and Society of the Cincinnati. I am thankful that there are organizations that preserve the proud heritage of the soldiers, sailors and marines that fought to secure our freedom. The families that also suffered during these trials deserve our respect as well.

I am thankful for Sam Ricco our Adjutant, Herb Puckett, Pat Jordan, Bob Balcius, and Tom Edwards our Department Coordinators, Brad Chetwynd our Treasurer, Donah Crawford our Editor of the E-Soldier for their service to all of us.

Looking ahead 2006 brings the final rush to the 225<sup>th</sup> Victory. Among these we have Cowpens in January, Guilford Courthouse in March and finally Yorktown in October. I know there has been a lot said about this event, but I ask you to reserve judgment until we hold our meeting in February. There is still much to be worked out.

As for our meeting, Brad Chetwynd is working with the **Sheraton Barcello in Annapolis, MD** for our meeting to be held on **Saturday, 04 Feb 2006**. I plan to utilize the CL website to distribute the Meeting information and reservation links to all of you. It is my hope to have this up by Dec 1<sup>st</sup>. Come back to [www.continentalline.org](http://www.continentalline.org) often.

**All units will have to present**

1. Current proof of insurance
2. A completed census report for our Adjutant.

This is the only homework you need to do to keep current and in good standing.

Department Coordinators will have presented all candidates for membership and I have to have all proposals in hand (electronically please) by Dec 1<sup>st</sup> so that I can post them with the agenda for thoughtful and timely consideration before any votes take place. I can be reached at [chairman@continentalline.org](mailto:chairman@continentalline.org).

I look forward to seeing you all at Annapolis and also on the field of honor in the upcoming campaign as I remain...

Your most humble & O<sup>bt</sup> S<sup>vt</sup>,  
Jeff Lambert  
Chairman

## Adjutant's Report – Fall 2005

Ladies & Gentlemen of the Line,

The campaign of 2005 having come to a close for the most part, I am looking forward to campaign 2006. On the business side of the Continental Line, I am still hoping to get an online store (with at least T-Shirts available) up by the meeting on February 4, 2006 in Annapolis, MD. This brings me to the National Meeting information, which will be posted to the web site in the next couple weeks, pending finalization of all the details.

The Continental Line Officer's Mess has a total of 42 participates as of November 2005. Discussions about future events and other topics have taken place. It is beginning to look like it will become a very useful tool for the Continental Line. If you are a CL member unit and have not been sent two invitations, this means I do not have your 2005 insurance and census form in my hands. I have also sent many invitations to members of the Line that have not joined.

The web site is now complete with all old information converted to the new layout. Additional upgrades/improvements suggestions are always appreciated. Please feel free to let me know what you think of the new site at: [adjutant@continentalline.org](mailto:adjutant@continentalline.org)

This brings me to the last point of my Fall 2005 report. I want to thank all the units that have submitted their 2005 insurance and census forms. Unfortunately, I am still missing many units' up-to-date information. Included in the 2006 meeting information will be a 2006 census form. I will need both the 2006 census information filled out and current insurance paperwork at the meeting in February.

Thank you,  
Sam Ricco  
Adjutant, The Continental Line, Inc.

## Northern Department Report – Fall 2005

Greetings from the Northern Department.

We completed our final show of the year at Chelmsford, MA on Columbus Day weekend. We too endured Mother Nature's wrath along with our bretheren further south in Pennsylvania, which ended the event on Sunday morning. Saturday, however there was a spirited tactical and public pitched battle. Music and free beer capped off Saturday's festivities, along with torrential downpours. Through it all, the cheerfulness and good nature of both sides won the day as the event came to a close. Many many thanks to Mark Magiera of Knox's Artillery and Neil Sorenson of the King's Rangers for all there efforts.

The Northern Department held their annual meeting at the Springfield Arsenal National Historic Site on Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. After drooling at the exhibits in the morning, we got down to business at noon with a review of the department events this past season: Newbury, MA (rain), Upper Canada Village (rain), Rehobeth, MA (no rain), and Chelmsford, MA (enough rain to make up for Rehobeth's lack of rain). Several units in attendance will have a presence at the upcoming Cowpens event in January.

Department level events sanctioned for Campaign '06 include:

May 5-7: Cobbleskill, NY

June 16-18 : Southbury, CT

July 22-23: Grand Reconnaissance, White Plains, NY

October 18-22: 225<sup>th</sup> Siege of Yorktown

The Yorktown event was presented and was the subject of some discussion. After reviewing the information concerning the event and understanding that the invitation was open to all members of the ND and the CL as a whole, sanctioning was given. There was also discussion surrounding the status of applicant members (units in applicant status at or before the annual CL meeting would be covered), unit insurance for non-BAR members, non-affiliated units, and the need for more French and ideas to mitigate the expense of another portrayal. Mr. Henry Cooke and yours truly will be coordinating the Light Infantry.

'07 events are in the beginning stages and include large 230<sup>th</sup> Hubbardton and Saratoga events – stay tuned for more information.

The ND has approved the advancement of Eames Rangers (sponsored by 10<sup>th</sup> MA) from introductory to full membership to be voted on at the CL meeting. Two new units have entered into applicant/introductory status: 11<sup>th</sup> MA Regt, White's Co (sponsored by 2<sup>nd</sup> NH Cherry's LI), and the 4<sup>th</sup> NY Regt (sponsored by 3<sup>rd</sup> NY LI Co.)

I am pleased to announce that Mark Richardson of the 1<sup>st</sup> NH Regt has been elected Northern Dept. Coordinator for the coming year. Congratulations, Mark!

On behalf of the Northern Dept., I am also pleased to present Mr. John Tabor as the ND's nominee for the office of CL Chairman. Congratulations as well, John!

I would like to thank the members of the Northern Dept. and the Continental Line for allowing me to serve as Dept. Coordinator. It has been an honor and privilege, and fun at the same time. I disagree with anyone who thinks our avocation will wane with the close of the 225<sup>th</sup>, and the planning of 230<sup>th</sup> events is taking place as I write this. A big key to our success in the future will be early communication of events and planning. At least one good thing about conflicting dates is that we are alive and well with plenty to do. My thanks again to the members of the Northern Department for your conduct on and off the field for these past two years. Special thanks to those members who ran some excellent events as well. Before I turn the reigns over to Mark, I would be remiss if I didn't remind you to send your insurance and unit census forms to adjutant if you haven't already . . .

Godspeed to all and best wishes for a safe and successful Campaign '06

YHOS,

Bob Balcius  
Lame Duck Emperor of the North

## Mid-Atlantic Department Report – Fall 2005

### Mid-Atlantic Dept. Report

The Mid-Atlantic Dept. meeting was held on November 13 at Ft. Mifflin at 11:15 a.m. in the Museum Barracks.

We opened the meeting with the past events of this year and we evaluated events such as Morristown, Battle of Crooked Billet, Monmouth and Whitpain.

We then went on to upcoming events which are Iron Works Hill, Valley Forge, Trenton and Cowpens. When we spoke of Cowpens, we sadly found out that the bus trip will not be going on because there was not enough interest to coordinate a group but it looks like there will be some vans that will be heading down to Cowpens this January from the Mid-Atlantic Dept.

We also spoke about future events which included Green Springs and Yorktown. For future events, we also have some that are in the works for the Mid-Atlantic Dept. and which are in the process of development.

We are also developing a full Continental Line show in Bordentown, NJ, for 2007 and a Mid-Atlantic show in Oldwick, NJ, also for 2007.

The point was brought up to make sure that all insurance and census forms are to be given to Sam Ricco, our Adjutant, as soon as possible.

There were no concerns or safety issues brought up at the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 12 noon.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the Continental Line Meeting on February 4, 2006.

Patrick Jordan  
MAD Coord.

## Southern Department Report – Fall 2005

Greetings from the Southern Department

The summer season is not a memory, and with the 120 degree heat indexes from the 225th at Camden, a much welcomed passing. Even though the heat turned much of the event into a true test of endurance, the amenities and planning made the event quite enjoyable. The Battle on Sunday, at the original site, using original distances, at the original time made it an experience that was well worth while.

We are well into the fall, and the 225th of Kings Mountain has just past. The Line was well represented, with the Second SC, the Sixth NC, and the Second NC all present for what was a pleasant small event.

We also a few folks turn out for the event at Whitpain. My deepest sympathy to the folks that were in charge of putting that one on. It was obviously well organized with all of the amities well provided for. So much work, so much rain.

Here in SC, we have a number of really small remembrances of the “drive by shootings” that were an almost daily occurrence by this point in the war. That plus loading 18,000 rounds for the Cowpens event is has turned a hobby into a second job.

The filming for Williamsburg, done at Yorktown may as well have been a Southern Department meeting site. It is with a great deal of surprise that I mention that that was an enjoyable event and well run. Great Job First Virginia.

Thank everyone for the support that you have given the Southern Department on the Cowpens event. At this point the Calvary/Dragoon side is looking fantastic, and the numbers for the remainder of the event are looking very strong. Keep going to the web site [www.cowpens225.com](http://www.cowpens225.com) for the latest updates.

Future Events- The first one coming up after Cowpens is the Guilford Courthouse 225th. This is being handled by the City of Greensboro, and I will insure that updates be made available as soon as they come out.

Secondly we would like to announce that the Second SC is planning on sponsoring a 225th event for Eutaw Springs on Labor Day Weekend. We have a good piece of the original site lined up, and hope to turn this into a good local event, unless folks choose to take it to a national level.

Be sure and get you insurance into Sam if you haven't already. When working with hosts, be they local sponsors or National Parks Service, the Fact that we must all have insurance to belong to the Line means more than many realize.

Thank you again for allowing me to be your Coordinator for the last two years. I have viewed it as an honor, and hope that I have served you well. As a last thought, I would like the Department to consider Ann Henninger for the new Department Coordinator. She certainly has



the experience and would make a wonderful representative for our part of the country. Her standing in The First Maryland, as well as within the hobby is such that she would be a strong representative for us in the last years of the 225th celebrations.

Thank you again for allowing me this honor.

Herb Puckett

Southern Department Coordinator

## Western Department Report – Fall 2005

Greetings from the Western Department:

Not much is new in our area. The 225<sup>th</sup> of the battle of “Pickaway” took place in July of 2005 at G R Clark Park near Springfield, OH. This was run as an invitational event only, and drew mainly from the Illinois Regiment and local Native interpreters.

The only 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event on the horizon in the west would be Blue Licks, KY in 2007. I expect reasonable attendance at both Cowpens and Yorktown in 2006.

Unit Census for the Western Department is as follows:

Full Member units: 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiments,  
Applicant units: 7<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania (of Fort Snelling, MN)  
Pre Applicant Unit: 1<sup>st</sup> Continental Artillery (of Gallion, OH)

The 1<sup>st</sup> Continental Artillery started out as a part of the 10<sup>th</sup> Virginia, and was at Yorktown in 1781. They formed their own unit in early 1782 and want to revisit Yorktown in 2006. Their main gun is a three pound iron tube mounted on a Mueller treatise (double side box) carriage. They have a long and solid track record for safety and authenticity. Clothing is the mid war uniform; blue faced red coat, with yellow lace, and white linen small clothes. This unit is in need of a sponsor, which I think should be another artillery unit, otherwise the 10<sup>th</sup> Virginia would do it. If any CL artillery unit is interested please contact the Western Department Coordinator.

Well, that’s all for now, best of luck for the coming year.

Thomas Edwards, 10<sup>th</sup> Virginia , WDC