

## **235<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Battle Road**

### **April 17 & 18, 2010**

### **Minute Man National Park, Rt. 2A, Lincoln, MA**

This year, the Brigade has been invited to participate in the 235<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reenactment of the Battle Road on part of the site where it originally took place.

The event takes place at the Hartwell Tavern and adjacent Smith House sites, located roughly midway between Concord and Lexington Centers. Just west of these sites, and part of this unit of the park is the Bloody Angle, where British Regulars encountered withering cross fires, beyond which the intensity of the fighting increased, forcing the King's troops to expend most of their ammunition over the next two miles, til they were nearly out of ammunition and exhausted by the time they reached Lexington center. It was only the timely arrival of Lord Percy's relief column with artillery that prevented the expeditionary force from being captured.

The Hartwell Tavern/Smith House/Bloody Angle area is unique to Minute Man, in that the appearance of this one mile stretch of the Battle Road has been restored back to its 1775 appearance, offering a unique opportunity to "be there"

During the weekend, we will be called upon to portray the citizens, citizen soldiers, and Regulars that populated this area on April 19, 1775.

On Saturday, the militia and the Regulars will be demonstrating their drill and marching, and there will be a tactical weapons demonstration along a half mile stretch of Battle Road from the "Bloody Angle" to just past the Hartwell Tavern site. Because of NPS rules there will be unopposed firing, but through the use of carefully managed offset firing gives appearance of active skirmishing as it might have appeared on that fateful day. The day will conclude with a tactical demonstration at Tower Park in Lexington, commemorating the arrival of Gen.Percy's relief column, whose guns set up on the ridge overlooking the park, presently the site of the Masonic National Heritage Museum.

On Sunday, Brigade members will conduct interpretive activities in the Hartwell Tavern and Smith House sites, including a divine service, drills, and other activities.

Civilian members who wish to assist with crowd control and line interpretation should contact Civilian Interpretation Coordinator Nick Zallas (see below)

For those who have the time, this is an ideal opportunity to see the numerous historic sites where our history happened. For details, see [www.battleroad.org](http://www.battleroad.org)

### **Limited Invitation for Provincials, Open Invitation to Redcoats**

Because of the large number of local militia units that are already part of this event, the invitation to the BAR limits participation to approximately 30 American troops above the number of local BAR troops (2<sup>nd</sup> Mass, 10<sup>th</sup> Mass., Tallmadges, 2<sup>nd</sup> NH, 2<sup>nd</sup> RI, 40<sup>th</sup> Foot, 5<sup>th</sup> CT) who have attended this event for many years. For this reason, participation will be limited to the first thirty men-at-arms who register for this event. A waiting list will be compiled, so if you find you will not be able to attend, please let us know, so we can notify the next person on the list.

There are no limits on the participation of Redcoat Regular units. American units who portray British Regulars as an alternate impression are encouraged to participate in that mode to free up space for those coming as “Massachusetts Provincials”

Because of the nature of this event, there will be no riflemen, loyalist, hessian, or French troops. Units portraying uniformed US troops must comply by the Battle Road clothing guidelines and turn out in clothing and equipment appropriate for a Massachusetts militiaman in the spring of 1775.

On Saturday, Brigade members will be part of the Provincial and Regular forces, and will form units under the command of BAR officers. Board Member Elect Ken Siegal has agreed to command the Crown BAR forces that wish to attend this event. Deputy-Commander Gene Frechette will command the “Provincial” company

**Note:** All Registrations go to the attention of Lt. Col. Henry Cooke, Tel. 781-963-9645, Cell 617-710-7976, [hcooke4@verizon.net](mailto:hcooke4@verizon.net)

**Parking:** Participant parking will be at the Paul Revere Capture Site, Rt. 2A, approximately 1/3 mile from the Regular’s camp, and 3/4 mi from the Provincial camp. During Saturday, there will be a shuttle between the parking area, Smith House, and the Hartwell parking area. We are working on overnight parking that will be a short walk from both camps. Please check at registration table for updated parking information.

If you are camping, plan to arrive on Friday evening. Vehicles will be allowed on Virginia Road to unload, then are to remove to the parking areas designated by the NPS for our use.

**Camping:** A military camp will be set up at Smith House on Friday for Regular troops, and a Provincial camp will be established in the vicinity of Hartwell Tavern.. Straw, firewood, potable water, and porta-johns will be available at each site. There are modern indoor bathrooms adjacent to Hartwell site.

**Attention! NPS Black Powder Safety Regulations will be in force:**

BAR men at arms are reminded that in addition to BAR safety regulations, NPS Black Powder Safety Regulations are also in force for all troops. You must read and familiarize yourself with the [NPS Black Powder Regulations](#) before any events in MMNHP. As a condition of obtaining a firing permit for MMNHP, unit commanders are required to ensure that each participant in his or her unit reads these regulations. For the NPS black powder safety regulations, go to: <http://www.nps.gov/mima/supportyourpark/center-for-18th-century-life.htm>

**Cartridges:** Because we will be participating on National Park property, we will be issued ammunition for the activities that take place at the North Bridge and Bloody Angle/Hartwell Tavern areas. During activities within the Park, no powder will be carried, except that which is issued by NPS personnel. For the afternoon action at Tower Park, units should plan to bring a full cartridge box worth of powder (approximately 20 rounds). For any weapons demonstrations on Sunday, we will be issued powder by the NPS black powder safety officer or his designee just prior to the demonstration. After each firing activity, all unexpended rounds will be collected by the NPS safety officer.

In addition to the NPS regulations, all BAR member units will abide by the BAR's own safety regulations, and safety officers will be appointed by the Inspector.

## **Schedule for the Battle Road events on April 17-18 -19, 2010**

### **Friday, April 16th**

4:00 p.m. Event site and registration opens. Units and sutlers may set up camp.

### **Saturday, April 17th**

7:00 a.m. Registration opens. Participants for **The Commemoration of The North Bridge Fight** load buses at Paul Revere parking area

8:00 a.m. Arrival at North Bridge, inspection and ammunition distribution

8:30 a.m. Units deploy for North Bridge scenario

9:15 a.m. Clear weapons and collect remaining ammunition

9:30 a.m. Board Buses and depart for Hartwell area

9:30 a.m. Hartwell Tavern & Smith House sites open to public. All vehicles out of camp.

10:00 a.m. Registration Closes

10:30 a.m. Lexington Train Band arrives at Parker's Revenge and fires volleys in remembrance.

10:30 a.m. British and Colonial small arms inspection

12:00 – 12:15 p.m. **Bloody Angle Tactical Demonstration** formation and ammunition distribution

12:30 p.m. Units deploy for Bloody Angle tactical demonstration.

1:00 p.m. Bloody Angle Tactical demonstration

1:45 p.m. Clear weapons and collect remaining ammunition

2:00 p.m. Event ends. Departure for Tower Park: Provincials board buses at Lincoln North, Crown at Hanscom Dr.

4:00 p.m. Tower Park Battle Re-enactment, Lexington MA.

### **Sunday, April 18th**

9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Living History demonstrations at Hartwell Tavern. Any pack-out requiring vehicles in camp should be done before 9:30 a.m. or after 4:30 p.m.

5:00 p.m. Event ends, vehicles may be brought on-site for packing. Persons needing to leave prior to 5 PM should plan to pack light and carry their camp equipment to the Hartwell parking area, where they may drive in and load.

### **Monday, April 19<sup>th</sup>**

6:00 a.m. Lexington Green – the BAR is not invited to this event, but if you wish to see it, plan to arrive at Lexington no later than 4:00 a.m.

9:00 a.m. Concord Parade – This event begins at the North Bridge, and results in access to downtown Concord being closed til 11:30 AM

### **Directions:**

**From Albany and Points West:** Take I-90 east to Mass. Pike exit 14 (I-95). Take I-95 North to Rt. 2A West (this exit runs past a rest area, so get off just before the rest area, go past the rest area, go under Rt. 2A, then take the exit to your right) Go west on Rt. 2A approximately 3 miles, and go past the entrance to Hanscom Airport. One quarter mile past the airport is the Smith House site on the right. One quarter mile past Smith House is the Hartwell/Smith Parking area on the right. Registration and further directions will be at the lower end of the parking area.

**From New York and Points South:** Take I-95 north to I-91. Take I-91 north to I-84 East. Take I-84 East to I-90 East (Mass. Pike) Take Mass. Pike to Exit 14 (I-95). Take I-95 North to Rt. 2A West (this exit runs past a rest area, so get off just before the rest area, go past the rest area, go under Rt. 2A, then take the exit to your right) Go west on Rt. 2A approximately 3 miles, and go past the entrance to Hanscom Airport. One quarter mile past the airport is the Smith House site on the right. One quarter mile past Smith House is the Hartwell/Smith Parking area on the right. Registration and further directions will be at the lower end of the parking area.

**From Hudson Valley:** Take I-84 to I-90 (Mass Pike). Take Mass. Pike to Exit 14 (I-95). Take I-95 North to Rt. 2A West (this exit runs past a rest area, so get off just before the rest area, go past the rest area, go under Rt. 2A, then take the exit to your right) Go west on Rt. 2A approximately 3 miles, and go past the entrance to Hanscom Airport. One quarter mile past the airport is the Smith House site on the right. One quarter mile past Smith House is the Hartwell/Smith Parking area on the right. Registration and further directions will be at the lower end of the parking area.

### **Contact Information:**

**BAR Event Coordinator:** Henry Cooke, Tel. 781-963-9645, Cell 617-710-7976, [hcooke4@verizon.net](mailto:hcooke4@verizon.net)

**NPS Event Coordinator:** Jim Hollister - [Jim\\_Hollister@nps.gov](mailto:Jim_Hollister@nps.gov)

**NPS Volunteer Coordinator:** Roger Fuller - [Roger\\_Fuller@nps.gov](mailto:Roger_Fuller@nps.gov)

**Battle Road Guides Coordinator:** Nick Zallas - [Nicholas.zallas@verizon.net](mailto:Nicholas.zallas@verizon.net)

### **For more information see the following:**

Clothing and appearance: <http://www.18cnewenglandlife.org>

Battle Road weekend activities: [www.battleroad.org](http://www.battleroad.org)