



The Brigade Of The American Revolution

· ESTABLISHED 1962 · A NATIONAL HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION DEDICATED TO RE-CREATING THE
LIFE AND TIMES OF THE COMMON SOLDIERS OF THE WAR OF INDEPENDENCE, 1775-1783

2018 School of Instruction Eastfield Village East Nassau, NY. May 19-20, 2018

This year, the Brigade is trying something new and different. We have split up the Annual School of Instruction and Membership meeting into two separate events. As noted previously in the Brigade Courier and on the various Brigade social media outlets, the Annual Membership meeting will be held at the Historic Fort Lee Park in Fort Lee, New Jersey on April 21st. The Brigade School of Instruction has also been moved this year. In an effort to reinvigorate interest in the School of Instruction, we have moved it to an entirely new venue. This year's Brigade School will be held at Eastfield Village, in East Nassau, New York. (For those not familiar with how to get to Eastfield Village, please find attached a set of directions and information on surrounding amenities for your convenience.) Eastfield Village offers this year's School of Instruction a number of features conducive to the programs we wish to conduct.

Attached you will also find a copy of this year's schedule of programs. We think you will find the schedule enticing and interesting. A great deal of hard work has gone into crafting this year's program. This will be a School of Instruction well worth attending!

The following is a sampler of presenters and programs being offered this year at the Brigade School of Instruction:

Nick Spadone: "The 18th C. Continental Officer, What he wore & carried." This program will concentrate on exactly what is in the title. Nick has done a great deal of excellent research into what Continental officers actually wore and brought with them on campaign. This program alone will be worth attending the school.

Jenna Schnitzer: "Civilians in a Military Context." Jenna's program will be an in-depth examination of the various important roles civilians played in the function of the armies during the American War for Independence. Jenna has done an extensive amount of valuable research on this subject and her presentation should not be missed.

Hallie Larken & Stephanie Smith of *At the Sign of the Golden Scissors* will be presenting fresh research on the correct construction of 18th c. shirts.

Bill McMillen: "Camp kettles and other Tin plated objects from archaeology sites." This talk will explain and show why and how they were constructed in the size and manner that they were in the eighteenth century.

Niel De Marino: "An Introduction to Domestic Cooking & Baking" will cover the basics of hearth cooking and wall-oven baking. The class will provide an overview of various period receipt books, seasonal foods, and popular cooking methods of the 18th C. Students will then create a meal in the period kitchen of the Briggs Tavern, which will be enjoyed by the School attendees that evening. Niel is well-known to BAR members as the proprietor of "The Georgian Kitchen"; he is also a Trustee for Historic Eastfield Foundation and a frequent instructor at its annual Preservation Trades Workshops.

Henry Cooke & Roy Najecki: "The Proper Fit of Men's Clothing and Accoutrements." All the authentic materials and hand-sewing we lavish on our kits are for naught if the fit of our clothing & accoutrements is incorrect. Henry & Roy will speak on this essential element for creating a truly authentic impression. Henry Cooke is a master tailor, museum consultant, proprietor of "Historical Costume Services", and the BAR's current Inspector General. Roy Najecki is a renowned researcher, founder of "Najecki Reproductions" and a past BAR I.G.

Amanda Massie: "Peeble's Island Museum 18th C. American Military Coat Exhibit." Amanda will be discussing and exhibiting a **NEWLY** discovered authentic 1790s American military coat. This coat was recently discovered in the Peeble's Island Museum collection. As Amanda describes, "it was quite a rare find." She actually approached the Brigade with the idea of exhibiting this coat at the School of Instruction for the membership. Seeing this coat will be quite a treat!

Roy Najecki: "Proper 18th C. Hammer Stall Workshop." Roy will be conducting a "hands-on" workshop. It will cover the construction of a correct 18th C. hammer stall that he discovered through his continuing research.

Phil Dunning: "Fill the Bowl Again', Alcohol and the Armies." To use Phil's own description of his program, "whether on the march, in camp or in barracks, alcohol played a central role in the lives of soldiers, from other ranks to field officers." This presentation looks at popular beverages and paraphernalia associated with them, from barrels to punch bowls. A hands-on session will allow the participants to try some of the most typical drinks of the period. Is that not the best homework you have ever gotten?

Herb Tschanz: "Fire Starting the 18th C. way & Primitive Camp Kitchens." Herb has been a Brigade member for over forty years. He has done a vast amount of research on both primitive fire starting methods and rustic camp kitchens. The research he will share will be especially valuable to those interested in perfecting their "progressive" camp kitchen impression. Herb is a wealth of information on this and other related subjects.

Ray Helge: "Soldiers Rations & Mess, What was available & when." Ray will be conducting a demonstration as well as lecturing on a typical soldier's mess. He will share examples of some of the seasonal food stuffs available to soldiers while on campaign as they foraged off the land to supplement their messes. His class will help you develop a more authentic mess for your unit and for displaying to the public.
And...

Paul Ackermann: "Firing at the Marks: Live Fire Shooting." Paul will be conducting the live fire hands-on workshop for those that have never fired their weapons. Paul runs the live fire shoot for Eastfield Village's Founder's Weekend. Paul gives an account of Sunday's final outdoor exercise:

*"The firings will be in volleys and by command. All BAR members 16 years of age and older, **MEN AND WOMEN**, are encouraged to participate for the fun and for the experience. If you have not yet fired your musket live this helpful and controlled environment is the perfect opportunity to do so. If you are a seasoned shooter this a good time to check your aim. (And of course, friendly wagering is always encouraged!) All BAR safety requirements for the discharge of arms will be adhered to, and eye & hearing protection is **ENCOURAGED**. If you plan to participate, please be sure to have at least five (5) extra paper wrapped blanks of the proper size for your arm. Musket balls will be provided to you based on Brown Bess or Charleville bore size. If your arm has an odd size bore, please bring your own balls. No one is to bring pre-made live Cartridges! You will be loading a powder charge, discarding the paper, and ramming loose ball on top. You will not need to wad."*

If anyone has any questions regarding this exercise, please feel free to contact Paul Ackermann at Paul@AckermannArms.com

The Historic Eastfield Foundation will be holding a *clean up day* on May 12th to prepare for the School of Instruction. As a show of support, I would like to personally ask my fellow Brigade members to volunteer and help with the task of preparing the site for the School of Instruction. There are worse ways to spend a Saturday! I can reassure you that *any* help from our Brigade family would be **GREATLY** appreciated by the folks at the village! If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Peter Schaaphok at PRWS@VPSControls.com.

For those who might be interested in bedding down in one of the Eastfield Village buildings during the weekend of the School of Instruction, please contact Billy McMillen at judytb@AOL.com. There is very limited space available in the buildings. Bed reservations are on a *first come, first serve* basis.

At this time, we are planning on providing an evening meal Saturday, May 19th followed by a *Jollification* hosted by Mr. Phil Dunning. To help supplement the various costs for this year's School of Instruction, we are collecting a \$15.00 fee from each Brigade member and a \$25.00 from each non-Brigade member who wishes to attend the School of Instruction and its social functions. This fee will be collected at registration.

IMPORTANT

To help with the logistics for castrametation & Saturday's evening meal, we are asking for pre-registration for the School of Instruction. Please send the following information to President/Commander Tom DeLucco at [rng1781@gmail.com](mailto:rngr1781@gmail.com). In the email subject bar please note: "2018 BAR School Registration."

Name.

Unit Affiliation, BAR

Non-BAR, please include Proof of Ins.

Number of tents (18th C. or Modern), if camping onsite.

Schedule

Saturday, 19, 2018:

09:00:Membership Sign-in.

09:30:Formation, Membership Welcome and School Introduction.

10:00: "Clear the Cobwebs" Correct (Safe) Loading Drill: Peter Schaaphok,
"Civilians in a Military Context": Jenna Schnitzer.

10:30:"The Continental Officer: What he wore & Carried": Nicholas Spadone.

11:00: Proper fit of Men's Clothing & Accoutrements": Henry Cooke & Roy Nejecki.

11:45: "Peeble's Island Coat": Amanda Massie

12:30: Noonning.

13:00: "Tin-ware: Camp Kettle Construction": Bill McMillen.
"Domestic Cooking Workshop": Neil De Marino.

13:30: "18th C. Hammerstall Workshop": Roy Nejecki.

14:00: "18th C. Shirt Construction": Hallie Larken & Stephanie Smith

15:00: "Effective Use of Music during Tacticals": Josh Mason.

15:30: "Tactical Exercise & Evaluation/Round Table": Tom DeLucco/Mark Worthington

17:00: "Alcohol and the Armies": Phil Dunning.

18:00: Evening Meal.

18:30: Jollification in Tap Room/Tavern.

Sunday, 20, 2018:

09:00: Morning Formation.

09:30: Divine Services: Peter Schaaphok

10:00: "Fire Starting & Primitive/Campaign/Ranger Style Camp Kitchens": Herb Tschanz,
"Domestic Baking Workshop: Ship's Biscuits": Neil De Marino.

11:00: "Soldiers Rations on Campaign": Ray Helge

12:00:Noonning.

12:30:"Firing the Mark: Living Fire Shooting": Paul Ackermann,
"Mending & Knitting": Dawn Elliot

15:00: Final Formation & Departure