

Dear NCHR/ 71st

This will be a brief AAR from the Carolina Caledonia Fest so I can cover the information from the annual meeting. Kirk arrived early and set up most of the camp and Ron, Becky, Tom helped set up the larger tents. Scott Joined everyone for dinner and saved the regiment by providing firewood to help us kick off the morning coffee on Saturday. I arrived late in the evening. In the morning we were joined by Scott, Mary, Charles, and Ian. We had three firing demonstrations and the crowd was most impressed by our soldierly bearing. In the morning we had a wonderful breakfast hash prepared by the quartermaster, lunch was a stew and for dinner we had an amazing thanksgiving dinner with turkey, Marblehead pudding and sweet potatoes. Sunday we were joined for breakfast by Wendy, Bethany and Braxton.

On Sunday, October, 29th 2017, we held the annual meeting for the NCHR/71st. The quartermaster reported on the repairs needed for one musket and to the trailer. We will need to purchase 2 new tires and wheels along with a spare. Charles motioned that we split the cost amongst the membership for the new tires and it was passed by the membership. Kirk also reported on the grant request for powder from the NRA. We are waiting to hear if the grant was approved. We also now have a relationship and account with Parks and sons for black powder, which will allow us to buy in bulk.

Wendy reported on the finances and as of October 2017 we are operating at a loss of 478.47 dollars. We did have 815.17 remaining from 2016 to cover our shortfall. The 1000 dollars from the Caledonia Fest is not included in the budget. We also discussed the insurance issue. It was proposed last year by Wendy that we join the Living History Association for insurance. It will save the regiment a couple hundred dollars for 2018 but does require that 50% of the membership are individual members of the LHA. I will send that information out once our regiment is set up as a member unit. Wendy will get a final quote and we will present the information to the regiment for final approval. Finally, we had a proposal to raise camp fees from 10 dollars to 15 dollars starting in January. This was unanimously approved by the membership.

Wendy presented us with a new opportunity to raise funds for the regiment using Amazon Smile. We are listed as NCHR. Each Amazon purchase through Amazon Smile will earn a small percentage of the purchase for the regiment. I will set mine up this week and try to send out more detailed instructions if you have trouble. Also, we have a new website

nchr71st.org It is active but Brett is still adding some features. We are in need of good high quality pictures of the regiment from recent events for the website as well. This weekend I set up an instagram account for the regiment feel tag photos of the regiment with nchr71st in instagram.

I have no changes to the calendar for next year and the calendar was approved. I will send an updated calendar out after Camden next weekend. I also agreed to contact Tryon Palace to see if we could return for their Christmas event.

One final piece of business before the elections of the officers was the cap badge. After reviewing several pieces of evidence in regards to the 71st badge we decided to replace the badge with a 71st button. While not conclusive the evidence does seem to indicate it was not on the bonnet. We will start transition to the 71st button over the next several months as members have time to make the adjustment.

Scott proposed the current slate of officers be nominated for their current positions and seconded by Ron. The current slate was elected unanimously.

President Denis Byrd

Treasurer Wendy Smith

Secretary Gary Dunning

Quartermaster Kirk Smith

Distaff Mary Samson

Historian Ron Evans

With the elections the annual meeting was concluded. Thank you for everyone who came out and helped us with the Caledonia Fest. I think the site was pleased we received a lot of positive feedback from the crowd. Our next event is Camden, this coming weekend November 4th and 5th. I will be in charge of the Guy Fawkes bonfire but I figure the 71st will be happy to assist in leading the Guy to his demise and cheering or jeering him along the march.

Denis Byrd
NCHR/71st Highland Regiment
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