

25th Annual Meeting of the Continental Line, Inc.

Crown Plaza Valley Forge Hotel
260 Mall Rd, King of Prussia, PA

Meeting Minutes

January 21, 2012

Call to order was made by Chairman Chip Gnam of the 1st Virginia Regiment (8:34 AM)

Jim Stinson of Proctor's Artillery gave the opening prayer (8:35 AM)

Bob Healey of the 4th Legionary Corps administered unit roll call. Forty-eight units were present, and a quorum was declared. (8:36 AM)

The Treasurer's Report was given by Janie Ritchie of the United Train of Artillery and the 1st New Hampshire Regiment (see appendix B) (8:45 AM). Janie stressed that people must get their annual meeting forms and money in on a timely basis. A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made and seconded. The vote was unanimous.

A motion to accept the previous 2011 Annual Meeting minutes was made and seconded. The Vote was unanimous (8:48 AM)

Chairman Chip Gnam of the 1st Virginia Regiment introduced the new Department coordinators (8:49 AM). The new coordinators are as follows:

- Barry Greene of the 2nd Massachusetts – Northern Department
- Tim Mitchell of the 6th Pennsylvania – Mid-Atlantic Department
- Bert Puckett of the 2nd South Carolina/3rd Dragoons – Southern Department

Department Coordinator Reports were then presented (8:51 AM)

Barry Greene of the 2nd Massachusetts submitted the northern department report (see appendix C)(8:52 AM)

Tim Mitchell of the 6th Pennsylvania Submitted the Mid-Atlantic Report orally and thanked outgoing coordinator Steve Santucci of the 2nd New Jersey (8:55 AM)

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Bert Puckett of the 2nd South Carolina/3rd Dragoons submitted the Southern Department report orally (8:56 AM). The highlights were as follows:

- Southern Department units did a lot of travelling this past year
- Most of the units are alive, well, and growing
- The Southern Department would like to host national events in the south and are working on sites (Cowpens, Brattonsville).

Election of Officers (8:58 AM)

Bob Allegretto of the 2nd Dragoons, Tallmadge's Troop was nominated and elected to the position of Chairman.

Jim Garner of the 1st Virginia inducted Chip Gnam of the 1st Virginia into the club of the past Chairmen of the Continental Line. Jim read the rolls of past Chairmen and added Chip Gnam's name to the list. (9:00 AM)

Old Business (9:10 AM)

Chip Gnam of the 1st Virginia gave an update on the Continental Line's 501C3 Status. The status is still pending but the paperwork has been filed. The Line is awaiting recognition from the IRS.

Mike Barbieri of Whitcomb's Rangers presented on his proposed scholarship Program (9:12 AM). Mike talked about a company called Donor's Choose, which could be used as a vehicle to provide money to high school class projects. He also mentioned that a committee might be needed to administer any monies used. Another option would be to go through a scholarship administrative service (which charges a fee) or possibly investigate non-profits to administer monies for the Line. The option of donating monies to a college was also talked about. Chairman Chip Gnam of the 1st Virginia brought up the realities of actually funding such an undertaking. The Line in and of itself would not be able to financially support such an endeavor, and separate fundraising would need to be implemented.

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John Taber of the United Train of Artillery made a motion to create a committee to present its findings at the next Annual Meeting. The motion was seconded and the vote was unanimous (9:28 AM)

New Business (9:29 AM)

Mike Barbieri of Whitcomb's Rangers presented the Vermont Brigade (currently comprised of: Whitcomb's Rangers, Hopkin's Company, Seth Warner's Company, and John Warner's Company). The units have worked together as an advance company and would like to be deployed that way whenever possible. Bert Puckett of the 2nd South Carolina/3rd Dragoons mentioned that the Carolina units do the same thing in the South. Bob Healey of the 4th Legionary Corps reminded everyone that while it is a good thing that units work together, the overall composition of Brigades at national events is left up to the event organizers, and is usually based on manpower needs. When possible it is always a smart idea to brigade units together that have a good working relationship, but it is not applicable for every situation.

Bob Healey of the 4th Legionary Corps talked about Insurance DBAs ("Doing Business As"). (9:41 AM) There are a few units in the line whose designation on their insurance documentation does not match their name submitted for the Continental Line census. These units must acquire a DBA (doing business as) attachment to their insurance stating that their policy covers their unit. All of these units have been contacted (and will be contacted again) and must comply BEFORE the next National Event. Former Chairman George Radeski of the 6th Pennsylvania stated that if a unit does not have their insurance in order, they should not be able to participate at Line events.

A recess was taken at 9:48 AM

Joint National Event Presentations by the Continental Line and the British Brigade were made in the ballroom (10:05 AM)

The 2012 events presented were:

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The Battle of Oriskany at Gelston Castle in Warren, NY on August 18th & 9th (Sponsors: 1st New York, 24th & 64th of Foot)

Rockford Plantation in Lancaster, PA on June 8th & 9th (Sponsors: 4th Legionary Corps, 64th of Foot)

Oriskany had been voted on as a national event last year, and great support was re-enforced by both the British Brigade and the Continental Line. Both the British Brigade and the Continental Line voted to make Rockford Plantation a national event for 2012.

Mt. Harmon in Maryland was also presented. Though the presentation was not for a national event, it will be open to all who wish to attend. The event will be a “no frills’ reenactor only event that will charge \$10/per reenactor. There was a strong show of support for this event from both the British Brigade and the Continental Line

The 2013 events presented were:

The 235th Anniversary of the Battle of Monmouth in Monmouth, NJ on June 15th & 16th (Sponsors: 2nd New Jersey, 43rd of Foot)

Gloucester Point, VA on October 19th & 20th (Sponsors: 1st VA, TBA)

Bert Puckett of the 2nd South Carolina/3rd Dragoons made a brief presentation on a possible Battle of Cowpens for January of 2016. The show of support from both the British Brigade and the Continental Line was enough for him to continue to pursue the event.

Department meetings took place at 11:31 AM

Lunch (12:30 PM)

New Business continued...

The following units were presented to the membership and recognized as Applicant Units: (1:41 PM)

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OAKS COMPANY OF ARTIFICERS was presented by their sponsor, the 11th Pennsylvania.

THE DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHERS was presented by their sponsor the 1st Virginia Regiment.

The following Applicant Units were presented to the membership to be voted on for full membership: (2:04 PM)

BELSUNCE DRAGOONS was presented by their sponsor the 2nd Light Dragoons, Tallmadge's Troop. A motion to vote the unit into membership was made and seconded. The unit was voted into full membership.

THE 2ND CONNECTICUT LIGHT INFANTRY COMPANY was presented by their sponsor the 2nd New Hampshire. A motion to vote the unit into membership was made and seconded. The unit was voted into full membership.

SIMON HUNT'S COMPANY, 3RD MIDDLESEX MILITIA was presented by their sponsor the 13th Continental Regiment. A motion to vote the unit into membership was made and seconded. The unit was voted into full membership.

Miscellaneous Business (2:11 PM)

Chairman Chip Gnam of the 1st Virginia Regiment talked about ROTC students being a good fit for his unit, and thought that other units partnering with their local organizations might be a good way to entice younger members into the hobby.

Jim Stinson of Proctor's Artillery mentioned that problems between two units on the field should be handled as soon as possible between the two units and their chain of command, and should not be deferred to a later date.

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Mitch Lee of the 1st New York suggested that younger units should partner with more experienced units and be taught how to run National Events, thus increasing the skill set within the hobby.

Jerry Horwitz of the Princeton Battlefield Society made a short presentation on the problems plaguing Princeton Battlefield in terms of housing developments. He asked for support at a hearing in Princeton Township at 7:30 PM on Thursday January 26th to fight development.

A motion to adjourn the 25th Annual Meeting of the Continental Line, Inc. was made and seconded. The motion was passed with a unanimous vote (2:28 PM).

**Respectfully submitted,
Robert Healey
Adjutant
The Continental Line, Inc.**

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APPENDIX A

2012 Annual Meeting Agenda

Friday - January 20th

6 – 7:30 PM CL Dept. & Board Dinner Meeting, Hotel Restaurant

8 – 9:30 PM Round Table Meeting – Review of M.t Harmon and Jerusalem Mills & The Future of the Hobby, **Freedom 1 & 2**

Saturday – January 21st

7:30 – 8:30 Registration, Raffle Ticket Sales, **Front Door/Lobby**

8:30 – 9:15 Call to Order, **Freedom Ballroom**

Opening Prayer (optional)

Pledge of Allegiance

Unit Roll Call (hand out voting cards)

Treasurers Report

2011 Minutes

9:15 – 10:00 Presentation of New Coordinators, **Freedom Ballroom**

Committee and Department Reports

Election of CL Officers (Chairman)

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10:00 – 11:30 Joint CL – BB National Event Presentations, **Freedom Ballroom**

11:30 – 12:30 Regional Department Meetings, **Independence & Freedom Ballrooms, Freedom V**

12:30 – 1:30 Lunch (CL/BB Department Meetings working lunch), **Freedom Ballroom**

CL and BB working Board Lunch, **Freedom V**

1:30 – 3:00 Old Business

- 501c3 Status
- Scholarships –Mike Barbieri

New Business

- Insurance “Doing Business As” (DBAs) additions
- Vermont Brigade – Mike Barbieri

Applicant Unit Presentation

- Oaks Independent Company of Artificers

New Unit Presentations & Voting

- Captain John Warner’s Company, Herrick’s Regiment
- Simon Hunt’s Company 3rd Middlesex Militia of Mass.
- Belsunce Dragoons
- 2nd Connecticut Light Company
- 3rd Massachusetts Regiment

Misc. Business

Raffle

3:00 Meeting Adjourned

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APPENDIX B

The Continental Line Treasurer's Report - December 31, 2011	
1. Beginning Balance(s) JAN. 5, 2011	\$21,631.72
<u>2. Income</u>	
Final Annual Meeting Registration money 2011	\$1,035.00
Raffle proceeds - 2011 Annual Meeting	\$1,075.00
Total Income	\$2,110.00
<u>3. Expenses</u>	
Hotel Expenses Annual Meeting 2011	\$5,415.48
Misc expenses Annual Meeting 2011	\$7.33
Deposit for 2012 Annual Meeting	\$500.00
Website Hosting Charges	\$128.37
BOD Liability Insurance 2012	\$669.00
Donation to Mount Harmon (1.45 exchange fee)	\$1,001.45
Continental Line Newsletter	\$633.77
5013C Filing Fee	\$750.00
Total Expenses	\$9,105.40
<u>4. Ending Balances</u>	
December 31st 2011	
Ending Balance	\$14,636.32

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APPENDIX C

Northern Department Report

Northern Department Report to the Continental Line

Jan 22, 2012

Barry Greene

I am pleased to report that the Northern Department, from my perspective, had a good year in 2011. Notwithstanding the economy and the price of gasoline which put a crimp in everyone's travel budgets and discretionary spending the Northern Department turned out at a vast number at local, regional and national events. Some local events are taking on new life and offering the chance for units from all over the Department to come together, practice our beloved hobby and generally enjoy each other's company.

MMNP hosted Battle Road in April and a Market Fair Day in June that drew in ND units and individuals from many organizations. In May a number of units came to the BAR event in Needham MA for a fun weekend on a very small property. The 10th MA did an exceptional job at hosting and managing this event. We had several large Regional events – Redcoats to Rebels at OSV in August (over 1000 re enactors took part this past year) and the Struggle for Liberty at Fort Ticonderoga in September which offered us the remarkable benefit of encamping within the fortifications – a truly memorable experience. The ND also took advantage of and supported the CL events during the year with many units visiting Wyoming PA and Mount Harmon MD.

Two events I would like to draw attention to specifically. They are local events that are undergoing new directions. The Battle for Hubbardton, VT in July was well attended last year and very well run. The chance to be on the actual battlefield was simply amazing and my compliments to the organizers. Also, The Fort at #4 in October proved to be cold and wet and simply a great time! Our thanks to the British Brigade for their efforts in bringing this site and event back to life and for moving the event to a warmer date this year - September.

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Lastly I would like to thank Al Soucey for his leadership as ND Coordinator over the last two years. While as Coordinator, and by the end of this meeting, he will have increased the number of units within the Northern Department from 33 to 40. 5 alone this year are up for vote later today. Al and his 13th Continentals personally sponsored 2 of the units up for vote today. Al is a big reason why the ND is flourishing, well organized and well prepared for 2012. Thank you Al.