



The BATTALION JOURNAL

*The Newsletter of Jaeger's Battalion,
Rogers' Rangers*



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Winter 2016

Live Fire!

By Private Ken Gilman
Flood's Virginia Company

This article was submitted to the Battalion Journal by Capt. Randy Flood, the commanding officer of the Virginia Company.

"The line is hot: load and fire!" That was the command heard by Virginia Company, Rogers' Rangers on a beautiful November day during their recent live fire shooting event. It is sometimes said that reenactors can't shoot because they just "blow smoke" without lead. That thought was soundly disproved by the Virginia Company under the leadership of Captain Randy Flood and Sergeant Jim Loba. While it is certainly true that most of our Ranger shooting and tactical demonstrations for the public are limited to firing blank loads for safety and other practical reasons, we still endeavor to retain and nurture the practical skills to employ our 18th century fire arms as the lethal instruments they were designed to be.

The live fire event was planned to be held at a private shooting range which is operated by the James River Black Powder Club (JRBPC) located on secluded property in Prince George County, Virginia. This heavily wooded area is miles away from major roads and no modern infrastructure can be seen or heard when there. The trek out to the range is rather long and the old wooden bridge that crosses a small stream running through the woods can't support heavy vehicles but the distance is worth the travel when you finally come to the sign reading "Welcome to the James R. Boldridge Memorial Black Powder Range." This remote wooded environment is an excellent setting for Rangers to get clear of the many daily distractions so we could focus on the purpose of our task. That task was to practice shooting skills with the same weapons that we use when firing

blanks during historic presentations and tactical demonstrations for the general public. Some of the Virginia Company Rangers are also members of the JRBPC so that relationship provided the link that was necessary to gain access for a Rogers' Rangers shooting event. The JRBPC operates with strict rules regarding safety and types of weapons allowed to be fired there. The scheduled JRBPC shoots are also open to non-members so all interested folks are encouraged to come out and take a look at the range and get in on the action.

Weapons permitted are only pre-1840: Patched round ball, flint or percussion cap and black powder in either smooth or rifled bore. Well, those stipulations are not restrictive at all to Rangers - - that is exactly in our style since our guns are of the French and Indian War vintage. The JRBPC members are a group that stays strictly faithful to firing weapons that are authentic to the early American pioneer, mountain man and fur trapper era. These folks shoot competitively on a regular basis so they are handy with these guns. As might be expected, some were a bit skeptical about having a group of "re-enactors" on the property but since the Virginia Company included some old JRBPC members they accepted our request to use the range. I expect there might have been some lingering skepticism about whether re-enactors could really shoot and keep loaded weapons pointed in a safe direction. I suspect that not many of the club members thought that the targets would be in any significant danger of being actually hit by gun fire during this gathering of Rangers but they were still willing to humor us and see if we know what we are doing with a musket. Just to be sure that all was legitimate and to provide witness to this historic event, the President of the JRBPC, Brian Collings plus other senior members of the club planned to come along to gauge the veracity of Rangers in the field. We would be closely watched by some very accomplished flintlock shooters - - the pressure was on the Rangers to show their stuff.

OK - the easy part was done - - now it was time to

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TINDER HORN

Submitted by Private Wally McElheney
 New York Company

This is a nice tinder horn image to share with our members. Our members could adapt this to their kit. Rangers more than likely carried something like this or a pouch with the same items found within.



Left to right; fat wood as our ancestors called it, candle wood, a small leather bag of char, linen tow, steel and flint, a small burning glass, and a small bee's wax candle. Notice the Pennsylvania German folk art scrimshaw.

Message from The Major

12 January 2016

New Senior Ranger Manual

The new Senior Ranger Manual is available on the web site. To gain access to the manual, you must contact Cpat/Lt. Matheny and express interest in doing the Senior ranger program. The manual is password protected.

24 January 2016

Jaeger's Battalion at Fort Michilimackinac

Gentlemen, the 2016 Jaeger's Battalion Encampment at Fort Michilimackinac is scheduled for August 12-14. The fort asked us to change from our traditional late July weekend as this works better for their schedule. More information will be shared as things develop, as there are still some administrative details to work out. Please put this weekend on your schedule and plan on attending if at all possible.

2 February 2016

New Battalion Dispatch Site

I want to make everyone aware of our new Battalion Dispatch site. Because we were having problems with the old one, we have started fresh, thanks to the efforts of Mark Ulrich and Lou Tramelli. It is my hope that all of you will use this new site as a means to share information about the Battalion. I will be using it to dispense important Battalion news on a timely basis, as will Captain Blair. Please use it freely, but also responsibly—keep your information and queries pertinent to Battalion and Ranger history matters.

Ensign Ulrich will be posting information about how to join the new site, as he is much more savvy about the process than I am. Please do take advantage of this new opportunity as quickly as possible.

We will also keep this old site operational for at least the time being, but please use the new one for new information.

14 March 2016

Registration for Fort Niagara (2-4 July 2016)

Please get your registration for the F&I War event at Fort Niagara to me, ASAP. If you intend to attend, I need number of people going, number and sizes of tents and dining flies. Also if you plan to be in the period camp or modern camping.

Major Tim Fodish
Battalion Commander



Renewal Information

By Jerry Knitis, Editor

If the mailing label on the back of this Fine Publication shows a [78] in the lower right-hand corner of the address label, this will be your last issue.

Please renew your subscription today! Also if you know of a member that is not getting the Journal, encourage him/her to do so.

See contact information below for renewing a subscription

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Battalion Web Site

By Ensign Mark Ulrich
Maryland Company

We recently uploaded several Battalion Manuals for our members ease of access. If you go to any page on the website, you will find a download section in the gray bar on the right side of the page. There you can right click on any link and download the file to your computer.

The Battalion Manual of Arms is a Power Point show (PPS) that plays like a video and walks you through Bland's Manual of Arms in a step-by-step progression. It is a very good way to practice the manual of arms when you are not gathered with the rest of your Company.

The Battalion Tactics Manual. This manual was created as a guide for the tactical training and develop-

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transition from “good idea” to “make it happen”. Well, as with every event that involves a mix of people, ideas and activities - - particularly when live fire is involved, some planning would be required to pull it off without needing any alibis or bandages. We knew that the JRBPC is a serious outfit when it comes to accurate shooting with authentic weapons and most of all.....safety. We also knew that we wanted Rogers’ Rangers to be invited to return for more shooting events at the range so ample motivation was present to get this right. Of course there is always a concern about the potential for injury and the attendant liability when handling fire arms. Both organizations carry liability insurance but our Rangers would be on JRBPC turf so we needed to satisfy their requirements. To accommodate this we simply signed the liability waiver forms they provided. Fortunately, after the shooting was over and the smoke cleared and all hands were accounted for, there were no casualties to report. Our planning began with a concept of operations and then a written “Plan of the Day” that included a review of the JRBPC Range Rules and orientation to the range property. The plan was reviewed and approved by Captain Flood and then approved by the JRBPC leadership. In advance of the range date, Rangers were reminded to review the Safety Program implemented by Virginia Company with special attention to the section devoted to handling weapons and live fire. The Plan was really quite simple and focused - - live fire practice. We intended to practice safely handling, loading, firing in a controlled range environment. There was no structured competition and no prizes (except bragging rights of course). Ranger Private Charlie Brooks was the liaison between Virginia Company and the JRBPC. His credibility as an accomplished flintlock marksman with the club and as a member of both organizations was the key to setting up this successful event. Charlie stated his intent thus; “It was my goal to get as many of our Rangers to visit and shoot at the James River Black Powder Club in a “live fire” weekend event as possible. There is something special that brings folks together shooting black powder firearms. I wanted all of us to have first, a safe event, and second, to enjoy a stress free fun shoot. No pressure to hit the 10 ring just have fun. I also wanted as many folks from the JRBPC to visit and meet the Virginia Ranger Company. My long range goal was to entice Rangers to join the JRBPC and maybe pick up one or two new members from the JRBPC to join our Ranger ranks.”

Thanks to the positive cooperation from the JRBPC, the plan did come together and both Rangers and club

members mustered at the range at the appointed day and time. We fired a mix of weapons and loads that day at the range which I presume would also be a valid expectation of Rogers’ Rangers during the French and Indian War. Did all of the Rangers carry the same weapons? Probably not. I expect they carried what they could acquire which is our case today. Captain Flood fired his 1763 French Charleville smoothbore musket; a replica of what would have been used on occasion by Rangers during the last year of the French and Indian War—and what was the standard weapon of use for the American Continental Army soldier during the American Revolution war years (1775-1782). Targets shot by the Captain were a 21” by 24” paper target posted on a range frame at 25 yards to begin with. This is a good distance for working up an optimum load and zeroing in the weapon. All of the Rangers shooting that day started with a 25 yard paper target for this purpose. Capt. Flood’s assessment of his shooting that day.....”] was very pleased to hit the target every time—which came as a surprise as I had not fired this particular musket for quite a while. I was probably the worst participant there that day, however, as I hit every ring around the clock of the target except the bulls eye!!!!” “Sgt. Loba was kind to offer encouragement and ease my embarrassment by saying “Look at it this way Captain: All of your shots would have done some serious damage to a French soldier even if you didn’t hit the bulls eye”—which was a nice consolation, and certainly comments from a different perspective!”

Further comments from Capt. Flood; “My expectations for the day were minimal: simply to get some solid practice firing my 1763 French Charleville smoothbore musket at a stationary target. I shot a normal load (80grains FFFG black powder) used in reenactments.”

Sergeant Loba fired two different guns; a Circa 1760 American Long Rifle in .50 caliber reminiscent of those made in Pennsylvania / Virginia. He also fired a circa 1730 - 1740 Hudson River Valley Dutch style fowling piece built in 16 gauge and reminiscent of those that were found in that region of the colony of New York in the early 18th century. Sgt. Loba explains; “This type of gun may very well have found its way into the hands of a member of Rogers’ Rangers especially early in the war when ranger recruits were given ten dollars in Spanish silver to arm, clothe and equip themselves. I imagine a ranger making his way from points southeast to the Lake George / Lake Champlain theatre of war passing through Albany and buying a gun like this from an old Dutchman.” “In the case of the Hudson

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River fowling piece, I had never shot this gun with ball before so it was my first opportunity to shoot "live" with ball. I had not worked up a load previously and obviously had not benched this gun either so it was a completely fresh start in shooting this gun. I decided to shoot 100 grains of FFG (which I judged to be commensurate with a service load) and use a spit lubricated patch rather than pre-made paper cartridges. This seemed to work actually better than I expected and in the course of the firing I changed ball diameter from .565 up to .595 because I could. I would like to bench this gun to get a better sense of its mean point of impact with this load and expect to at a later date. I was actually surprised that I could load and shoot as quickly as I was able with this loading arrangement."

Private Brooks reported the following; "I didn't expect to shoot much myself since I planned to share Range Safety Officer duties. After a short while of observing our seasoned warriors I felt I could share in the shooting fun. Everyone was very safety conscious and doing great. I brought along my 1740's Wilson Trade Gun by Danny Caywood. When I ordered the gun I had Danny put a rear sight on it so I could use it for deer hunting. This makes a big difference when shooting a smoothie. I began shooting patched round ball on the 25 yard range and tried paper cartridges as well. With .600 round balls and .010 cotton patches I shot a 5" groups offhand at 25 yards. My groups opened up to about 7 inches with the paper patched rounds." Charlie had no problem knocking over the steel buffalo targets on the 50 yard range.

Private Sammy Haskill is another very experienced black powder shooter who was included among our ranks that day. He reported the following; "I had a great time at the range. The weapon I brought was a French Fusil de Chasse which I built from a kit from Track of the Wolf. That was the first chance I had to experiment with various loads, patch thickness and ball size. It performed well.

I measured my shot groups at 8 inches. It was a great opportunity to get a good feel for the weapon."

Private Ken Gilman fired a replica Officer's Model Musket built by North Star West, Inc. in Montana which is said to be copied from an original in the Smithsonian Museum collection. This smooth bore is built in 16 gauge (.668 cal) with a 37 1/2" barrel and fires a 409 grain .648 round ball with .010 patch. "I started with a relatively modest 72grains of FFFG which performed well at 50 yards and less. I would not regard that as a "service load" for combat but it works well at the ranges

employed for close-in targets. A stronger load would be indicated when engaging targets out to 75 or 100 yards. A challenging aspect of this musket is that it has no sights. It is fitted with a front bayonet lug which does serve to some beneficial effect as a front sight but there is no rear sight. To compensate for the absence of a rear sight I hold a firm low check weld on the stock when aiming, I use the tang screw as visual reference aligned with the bayonet lug in lieu of sights. It is a bit crude compared to the sights on my .50 caliber Pennsylvania long rifle but it is effective. One of the JRBP members posted some "splatter" targets at 50 yards and invited me to take a shot. He had just nailed all four corners of the target so all that was still clean was the center. To my amazement (and perhaps everyone else too) I nailed the bulls eye with the first shot (love those splatter targets). That was after I had fired about a dozen rounds at 25 and 50 yard paper targets. Of course I did not fire another round at the splatter target but just sauntered over to the loading bench with an air of confidence and grinning like a Cheshire cat. From there I reloaded to start shooting the animal silhouettes - - too much fun!

All of our Virginia Company Rangers performed very well that day which is not a surprise given all of the years of shooting experience they all have. Sergeant Loba has been shooting since age fourteen (about 50ish years ago) when he shot his first muzzle loading flintlock - an original third model 'Brown Bess' that he still has. He has been a competitive member of the North-South Skirmish Association (N-SSA) for almost that long. Favoring the flintlock over the percussion guns, Sgt. Loba has a long history of shooting in competition and in exhibition.

Capt. Flood has been shooting since around 10 years of age starting with a .22-.410 which he used to hunt squirrels, groundhogs and rabbits. "In deer season, I used my great-great uncle's 45-70 1873 Springfield trap door rifle that he used in basic training during the Spanish American War (1898). I still own both firearms today. I got into Living History reenacting during the early 1990's. Then, I purchased my first 1763 French Charleville to use as a member of the First Virginia Regiment Artillery, and later purchased my 1763 Grice Long Land Model Two to use for French & Indian War events."

It's hard to say what was the most enjoyable part of the day - - either the comradery among the Rangers and JRBP or knocking down all those steel silhouette targets. It sure is a hoot to hear the sharp ring of the

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steel then watch the target fall over through a dissipating cloud of smoke. All shooting was done standing “off-hand” that day. Some Rangers said they will find another opportunity to return to zero their weapons from the bench. There is also a Woods Walk trail just off to the left of the main range so I’m expecting there will be another muster of Virginia Rangers there in the near future to give that a go.

Perhaps some re-enactors will ask “why?” “Why do live fire?” Why is it necessary or even desirable or worthwhile to fire live rounds? We all know that it is not at all necessary in order to portray Rogers’ Rangers. Obviously we can show and demonstrate weapons to the public without sending lead down range. Sergeant Jim Loba addressed that question very effectively with this perspective. “Whether you are a reenactor, or a shooter, or both, I think it is extremely important to “live fire” black powder guns with ball. For reenactors this provides the experience of actually shooting a gun with the intent of hurling hot lead which gives the shooter or reenactor or both a real appreciation of what it feels like to loose this lethal force. If you do ‘living history’ this adds a new dimension to the experience of historical conflict that you can communicate to the public. It also causes a reenactor to see the weapon as more than simply a prop for burning loose powder and more as a lethal weapon which is what it really is. One will also quickly gain an appreciation for the importance of proper gun cleaning and maintenance as a means of preventing misfires which provide a whole new dimension to the experience when you face the need to clear a really “loaded” weapon.”

Live fire is certainly not new or unique to Virginia Company or other units of Jaeger's Battalion of Rogers’ Rangers. Since the founding of the Battalion many unit members have long histories of shooting both original and authentic reproductions of 18th century guns for hunting and competitive target shooting. Clearly there are many fine members who don’t shoot live rounds and their contribution to our common goal of representing Rogers’ Rangers in the French and Indian War era is substantial and appreciated. For those who do enjoy live firing of their period correct weapons, this Ranger believes that it adds considerably to the overall satisfaction of learning about that time period and helps significantly in conveying valid information about performance of the weapons when we interact with the public.

Pvt. Brooks made this observation; “From the looks on Ranger faces I know we had a good time and the folks from the shooting club were very impressed with Flood's VA Company.”

An informal after action assessment with input from all of the Rangers and JRBPC members who participated during our day at the range clearly concludes that all objectives for the day were met. We were safe, had fun, got some great practice and were invited to return to the range and do it again. We could not have asked for anything better than that. Sincere appreciation must be given to the JRBPC who took a chance on us “re-enactors” by letting us use their range. For the Rangers who are active shooters, they will still practice, hunt and compete on their own however the comradery experienced when shooting as a unit has its own energy and enjoyment. This was not just a day at the range. We turned out in campaign field attire and with a stated purpose. We left the woods that day with a renewed sense of unity and cohesiveness. Future live fire events for Virginia Company will continue to be included in our annual schedule to ensure that we keep current with our fire arms and that we maintain that unit esprit de corps that unit live fire inspires.

END



Capt. Randy Flood



Private Ken Gilman



The Virginia Company of Rangers

Book Review

The First Frontier: The Forgotten History of Struggle, Savagery, and Endurance in Early America February 8, 2012 by Scott Weidensaul

Like many when they first start reenacting, I started out by reading everything I could about MAJ Robert Rogers and his rangers. Then I widened my view a little bit by reading more books about the French & Indian war in general. But the more I read about the F&I War, it seemed the less I understood what was really going on in North America in the years preceding the war. So I read a book or two about King Phillips war, an article here and there about the various other "wars" (Queen Ann's war, King George's war, etc) that seemed to break out every few years in North America. But it was always hard for me to put these series of events into some logical order leading up to the F&I War.

I recently read *First Frontier* and everything snapped into focus. Mr. Weidensaul does a great job of really putting these events into what they really are, not separate events, but one long series of related problems and issues. The author does a great job, explaining how the various European players and motivations might have changed slightly, but for the Native Americans the issues were always the same; how to either get along with the whites or pick a side and try to drive them out, one European power at a time.

For me the book filled in a lot of history gaps from the earliest English and Dutch settlements starting in 1605 thru to the early 1700's where North America seems to be overflowing with English colonists. Mr. Weidensaul does an excellent job dispelling the myth that North America was an empty wilderness; he carefully explains the complex societies and politics that the Native peoples had developed prior to the arrival of the Europeans. He touches on all the key players, both Native and European, in the many events over the course of 150 years leading up to the F&I War. The book ends with the Black Boys Rebellion in 1765, but of course the story of America continues well beyond this period.

For me the book was an easy read, giving good explanations of people, places and events without plunging too far in the "historical reliability" arguments of various first & second hand sources that sometimes go with books of this period. He intertwines one set of events & consequences into a flowing history of the first 150 years of North America. For me the main theme that came from this book overall is that throughout human

history, man will continue to push limits and boundaries to satisfy his own needs of personal, family, clan, tribe, or national goals.

John Pfau, Captain-Lieutenant
Commander
Maryland Coy

Hagerhouse Article

By Corporal Karl Feldmeyer
Maryland Company

On September the 20th 2014 The historic Hager house in Hagerstown , Md celebrated the 275th anniversary of the establishment of the city's founder Jonathan Hager's home.

Situated in Hagerstown's City Park, the Hager House is built of uncut fieldstones carefully fitted by the young German immigrant who had traveled to the wilderness of Western Maryland in search of adventure and possible fortune. Jonathan Hager had arrived on the shores of the new colonies in 1736, debarking at the Port of Philadelphia. Eventually, he chose to make his home in Maryland, where Charles Calvert, proprietor of the colony, was offering cheap land to those willing to settle in the western frontier. Many immigrants turned back, but Hager refused to be discouraged.

On June 5, 1739, Hager purchased 200 acres of land from Daniel Dulany for 44 pounds. He dubbed his tract "Hager's Fancy." With the location carefully chosen over cool spring water, construction of the now 3 1/2 story home began. In 1740 Hager married German neighbor, Elizabeth Kershner and presented her with the new house.

The new home must have evoked many pleasant memories for the Hagers. Styled in the German tradition, the large central chimney added warmth to the stone structure, while a fill of rye straw and mud between floors and partitions served as insulation against the cruel winters. During the summers, the family could retreat to the cellar where the spring water provided coolness as well as safety and convenience. The Hagers must have been comforted by their home's twenty-two inch walls which stood firmly against man and nature.

Structurally impregnable, with a protected water sup-

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ply, Hager's home served as a frontier fort in case of Indian attack.

The Hagers lived at "Hager's Fancy" for several years. During that time, Jonathan grew prosperous. He opened a trading post within his home as he continued to acquire land. On May 8, 1745, "Hager's Fancy" was sold to Jacob Rohrer for 200 pounds. The house remained within the Rohrer family until 1944. At that time, it was acquired by the Washington County Historical Society under the leadership of Hager historian Mary Vernon Mish, the house was restored to its former colonial beauty. It was presented to the City of Hagerstown



in 1954. In September 1962 the home was opened to the public on the bicentennial anniversary of Hagerstown.

Today the Hager House is now completely outfitted with authentic furnishings of the period. It depicts a life long since forgotten. Not many American cities older than the country itself can present the homes of their founders completely restored. Hagerstown Maryland, has been given such a gift-for stepping into the Hager House is like taking a walk through the past.

Evincing leadership from the moment of his arrival in Western Maryland, Hager quickly became a leading citizen. He was involved in many activities: farmer, cattleman, even a gunsmith. Hager was a volunteer Captain of Scouts during the French and Indian War. In 1762 he founded Hagerstown and in 1771 and 1773 he was



18th Century Firelocks

elected to the General Assembly at Annapolis, qualifying him as the first German to make his mark in politics.

I was asked to provide a display and brief talk for the public on the rangers to educate on who and what the Rangers were During the French and Indian war, what they did and the tools they used to help them accomplish their tasks.

I set up a small static display of the weapons and personal equipment utilized by the Rangers including demonstrations of the loading and firing of the flintlock weapons, Fire starting methods, and types of ammunition used.

Several hundred visitors were greeted and there were great question and answer sessions. I was able to also distribute many flyers about the Company and the Battalion and encouraged all those interested in the period to become involved in living history and seek further information.



A display of Ranger equipment

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ment of Jaeger's Battalion. It provides a detailed explanation of Roger's Rules of Ranging and additional information, such as hand signals. This manual helps to prepare you to execute sound tactical movement while on campaign.

The **Battalion Safety Manual**. This manual provides you with basic information regarding procedures for safe activities while in the field. It includes procedures for first aid, incident reporting, and tips on how to safely handle your equipment safely while in the field.

The **Battalion NCO Manual**. The intent of this manual is to provide basic information on Ranger NCO responsibilities. It provides guidance, and is not intended as policy. It is an excellent guide for NCOs regarding topics for training their Rangers throughout the year, as well as basic commands for unit movements, etc. Finally, it provides a pocket guide of Roger's Rules of Ranging. This Manual is formatted for print as a pocket guide.

The newly updated **Senior Ranger Manual** was also uploaded to the website, and is in a private area and protected by a password. Rangers who are already enrolled in the Senior Ranger Program should contact Capt-Lt Chris Matheny at battaliondrum@gmail.com to receive the password and instructions on how to access the manual. Rangers interested in enrolling in the program should also contact him to receive enrollment information and to pay their fee.

Sustenance and Libation

Raspberry Shrub

Submitted by Ensign Mark Ulrich
Maryland Company

Shrub was the 18th c. equivalent to Kool Aid. It was easy to make and very adaptable to different tastes and mixtures.



Following is one recipe for Shrub.

- Fill a large jar (I use gallon size) with fresh raspberries.
- Do not squash them. Pour white vinegar over top to cover berries.
- Let sit in a window sill for 5 days.
- After 5 days strain through cheesecloth, discard pulp.

If you don't squash the berries you'll have a clearer product, but if you squash it...you'll get more. Measure the "juice".

For each cup of juice add 1 or 1.5 cups of sugar. Simmer & stir until sugar is dissolved. Bottle in sterilized bottles. I use Scotch bottles, but any bottle with a cork stopper is ideal. Canning jars also work. I've never had to process this, the high vinegar content does the trick.

To serve: dilute with water & ice cubes to taste. If I find it's too tart, I dissolve sugar in boiling water & stir into the diluted mixture.

Very good on a hot day. For cold days, warm it on the fire. It can be consumed alone, or for an especially spirited beverage, with the addition of your favorite alcohol product. It goes very well with hard apple cider (we call in shrapnel), whiskey (my favorite) and rum.

Duly Noted

BACKGROUND

The Rangers of Major Rogers Companies performed various duties for the British army. Scouting was foremost as was information gathering, obtaining prisoners, and keeping the French occupied with their movements. They also were escorts and many times guards for both Provincial and Regular soldiers. They protected Work crews that gathered Spruce, built Bateaux, cut firewood, or made roads. It was the Ranger presence and safety provided by them that allowed this work to progress. These Duly Noted writings attest to their value.

January 11th, 1758

John Campbell-Lord Loudon Orders to Robert Rogers

Your men to find their OWN arms, which must be such as upon examination, shall be found fit and be approved of.

February 24th 1757

From General Abercrombie to Captain Robert Rogers

Duly Noted - continued on next page

Duly Noted— continued from previous page

...the men to be allowed ten dollars bounty money and to find their own clothes, arms, and blankets...

March 29th 1757

Militia Law for the Colonies

All able bodied men are obliged to enroll in the militia and to have a good Musket, Fuzee, or Firelock well fixed, a Cutlass, Bayonet, or Tomahawk, a Cartouch box filled with twelve or more Cartridges, with Ball, Powder, and Three Flints.

for the recruitment of Provincial soldiers for the upcoming Campaign in 1759

Benning Wentworth Esquire Captain-General and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire:

Those that find themselves Arms, shall be paid Twenty-five shillings sterling, if they are lost or spoiled in the service...and as such cannot find themselves arms, are to be supplied out of the King's stores at Albany; but as the Kings Arms are very heavy, I recommend it to the men that enlist to Provide themselves with Arms.

August, 1759 Crown Point

By order of General Jeffery Amherst

" Captain/Lieutenant James Tute was sent on an exploratory and information gathering mission up the River De Sable or Au Sable Riviere. He was to find the shortest route towards the St. Lawrence river and to hook up with General Gates near Fort LaPresentation (Ogdensburg). He took 11 men. He took provisions for 25 days. He rowed up Lake Champlain by Batteau under cover of darkness, entered the Ausable River, traveled 7 miles upstream. Explored and portaged around Ausable Chasm but left his boats as the river was too shallow. Travelled to Ausable Forks area, striking overland towards the St. Lawrence. Sent a Sergeant and five men back to Crown Point for more Provisions. Captured near Fort LaPresentation by Natives he was exchanged in May of 1760. His route of travel will become a way to move Dispatches between wings of the British army in 1759-1760. Years before William Gilliland gets around to seeing the Chasm. "

More references to the Stockbridge members of the Ranger Corps.

Sept 30th, 1758

Camp Scheffield, Massachusetts

"I marched again early by the Right and half files with flank platoons; the ground would not permit to march by files or platoons. Passed through the woods about 9 miles and encamped a little beyond the town; here I changed wagons, Br. Doit assisting us. King Ben, Capt Jacobs, his Son, and two more Indians came with an Interpreter to see me and dined with me. They came from Stockbridge, seven miles, where there is a settlement."

General Jeffery Amherst

October 1st, 1758

Camp near Sheffield, Massachusetts

"The Troops Halted. The Stockbridge Indians came, the King, His Queen & Daughters & Capt. Jacobs (Nawnawapateoonks) dined with me."

General Jeffery Amherst



Rangers from Schroth's New York Company are preparing to fire live on the range. It was common for Rangers to shoot at marks to improve their marksmanship.

BATTALION ARCHIVES



Left to Right, Mike De Jonge, Sgt Major Jerry Olson, Major Tim J. Todish and John-Eric-Nelson



Col. Downey and his wife Diane



Private Art Evans, New York Company; Snowshoe Patrol, Fort Niagara 2016



Caption this!



*"Winter comes to the Fort"
Fort Niagara 13 February 2016*



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Mailing Label