

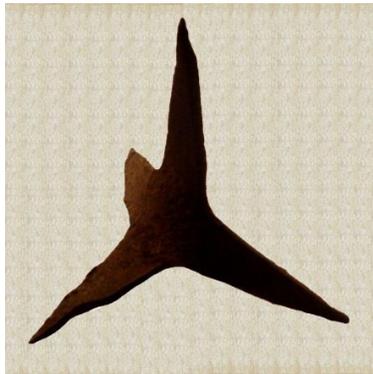
This is NewsLetter Issue No. Two ~ For the year 2017



## How To Bring An Army To A Halt

The thing that is shown here is made of a single piece of wrought iron cut in the shape of a

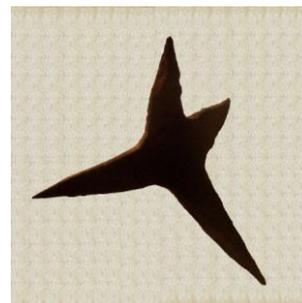
four pointed star. Each 'cross-arm' measures four and one-quarter inches from tip to tip. Each cross-arm is bent in a semi-circle that is perpendicular to the other. The resulting object,



no matter how it is positioned on a flat surface, rests on three of the tips with the fourth one pointing straight up in the air.

The thing shown here is what was known as a *caltrop*. The caltrop was considered an anti-personnel and anti-horse weapon. A number of them would be scattered over a road, trail or in a streambed over which enemy troops would be bound to travel. Men who would step on one of these passive weapons would be instantly disabled. They might be able to continue on, but

they would be in quite a bit of pain. A horse that



would step on a caltrop would not only be disabled itself, but it would probably flinch or jerk violently, throwing its rider. Although the man or horse would not be permanently disabled,

their progress would be hindered.

The name *caltrop* is derived from the Latin, *calcitrata*, meaning 'foot trap.' The weapon was also known by the names: caltrap, galtrop, galtrap, calthrop, jackrock and crow's foot. The caltrop was used since ancient Roman times, during the American Revolutionary War, and right up to the present time. They were used extensively during both World Wars. And even today, police departments use a variation of the caltrop to puncture pneumatic tires.

I'll bring the caltrop along to the June 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting. You can see it in person if you come to the meeting.





The next meeting of the Frontier Patriots Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution will be held at The Dream restaurant, 1500 Allegheny Street, Hollidaysburg, PA on Saturday, June 3, 2017 starting at 12 Noon.

If you live in the area, and haven't been to a Chapter meeting for a while, why not consider joining us on the 3<sup>rd</sup>? A major reason for joining the Sons of the American Revolution is to socialize with others who have a kindred interest in their ancestry ~ especially of those ancestors who shared the same dream of liberation from Great Britain.



## Officers For The Year 2017

This list is being repeated here so that a couple changes could be made and the list be accurate. Please note Dave Hammaker's correct email address.

**President** ~ Larry D. Smith

[schmitt@motherbedford.com](mailto:schmitt@motherbedford.com)

**1st Vice-President** ~ John W. Betting

[scubys@pennswoods.net](mailto:scubys@pennswoods.net)

**2nd Vice-President** ~ Robert D. Williams

[pspwill@hotmail.com](mailto:pspwill@hotmail.com)

**3rd Vice-President** ~

**Secretary** ~ Melvin C. McDowell

[melvin.mcdowell@gmail.com](mailto:melvin.mcdowell@gmail.com)

**Treasurer** ~ David G. Hammaker

[davehammaker@gmail.com](mailto:davehammaker@gmail.com)

**Registrar** ~ Larry D. Smith

[schmitt@motherbedford.com](mailto:schmitt@motherbedford.com)

**Chaplain** ~ Melvin C. McDowell

[melvin.mcdowell@gmail.com](mailto:melvin.mcdowell@gmail.com)

**Historian** ~ Larry D. Smith

[schmitt@motherbedford.com](mailto:schmitt@motherbedford.com)

**Chancellor** ~ Melvin C. McDowell

[melvin.mcdowell@gmail.com](mailto:melvin.mcdowell@gmail.com)

**Genealogist** ~ Larry D. Smith

[schmitt@motherbedford.com](mailto:schmitt@motherbedford.com)

**Chapter Webmaster** ~ Larry D. Smith

[schmitt@motherbedford.com](mailto:schmitt@motherbedford.com)

Frontier Patriots Chapter website: <http://www.motherbedford.com/FrontierPatriots.htm>



For those of you that receive this newsletter by US mail, if you have an email address, we would appreciate you sending it to us to use for future newsletters. Printing and mailing these newsletters is very expensive. Please send to our Secretary Melvin McDowell at [melvin.mcdowell@gmail.com](mailto:melvin.mcdowell@gmail.com)