

Change of Command

History

In past years, like today, the **Drumhead Election Ceremony** occurred on Bedford Day and the Change-of-Command Ceremony took place that evening. Early on, on the eve of Bedford Day, after the Drumhead Election Ceremony and **Change-of-Command Ceremony**, the Bedford Company would retire to the newly elected Captains residence and



proceed to party the night away. That later evolved into the Change-of-Command ceremony occurring in the evening at a **Colonial Ball** by invitation on a selected day. That was the year Mary Hafer was Citizen of the year, and we were going to hold it outside, but it rained. It was then moved to the High school, and only a handful of people came.

Being that we, the Company, were holding our own dinner/dance on the evening of Bedford Day, we asked Public Ceremonies if they would like to participate. This brought a great number of people to cheer on the **Citizen of the Year**. When the dinner/dance was no longer held, we moved it to the Job Lane barn. That did not last either because we were too large a crowd who wanted to attend, so it was moved to the Old Town Hall.

Today, the current Minutemen, share their Change-of-Command ceremony with the honoring of the Bedford Citizen of the Year at the Old town Hall. We are grateful that the Town offers this for all of us and that we can bring a bit of music to the festivities.