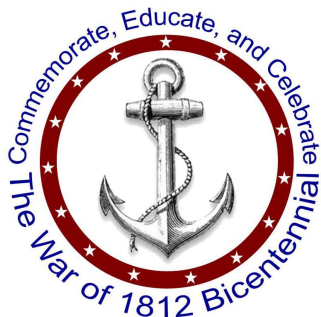
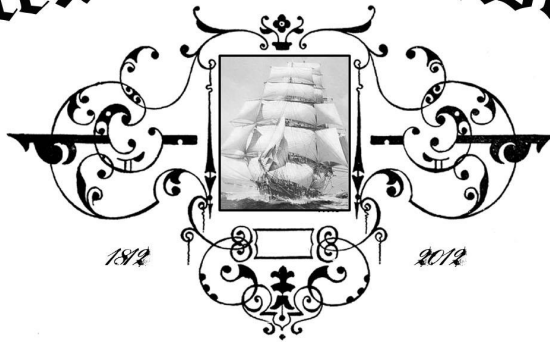


# Bicentennial Informer



2012-2015  
State of NY Society, U.S.D. of 1812



State of New York Society

U. S. D. of 1812



*A Quarterly Journal Devoted to 1812 Bicentennial Commemorative Events [2012 2015]*

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FREE

## Tuscarora Heroes Monument Unveiled

U.S. Daughters of 1812 Attend Tuscarora Heroes Monument Unveiling  
and Flames Through Lewiston Re-Enactment



December 19, 2013, Lewiston, NY - thousands gathered to witness the 3rd and final **Flames through Lewiston** reenactment and the much anticipated **unveiling of the Tuscarora Heroes Monument**, including U. S. Daughters of 1812, President National, Virginia Louise Apyar, who flew in from Maryland for the occasion. Joining Ms. Apyar were (L-R) Niagara Frontier Chapter, Daughter, Doreen Cesari; Historian National, Mary Raye Casper; and State of New York Society President, Jan Johnpier. Absent from photo is State of New York Society Chaplain, Phila Ibaugh, also in attendance. The women are shown here standing behind the life-size bronze statue depicting a fleeing white woman and her baby being helped by two Tuscarora Indians (attending the Tuscarora Heroes Appreciation Dinner the night prior was Past Recording Secretary National, Jeanette Brooks).

After four years of planning and fundraising by the efforts of several volunteers of the Historical Association of Lewiston, the event finally came to fruition as thousands of spectators watched while Militia, Redcoats, British native allies, and direct descendants of the Tuscarora Heroes recreated the brutal attack on Lewiston, NY, called **Flames Through Lewiston**, which occurred on December 19, 1813 during the War of 1812. The monument unveiling took place during the reenactment and will serve as perpetual thanks to the Tuscarora Nation. The large 6-foot monument plaque, purchased by the U.S. Daughters of 1812, will educate future generations on the historic events that occurred that horrific morning. The 1812 Society was grateful to be able to help the Historical Association of Lewiston with that expense.

### Summary

Lewiston was brutally attacked in the early morning hours of December 19, 1813, by invading British forces from Canada during the War of 1812. Lewiston residents ran for their lives through the snow and mud. Some were half dressed and many in their bare feet. About a dozen local citizens were killed, including women and children. At the moment when the escaping residents lost hope and thought they would all become victims of a bloody massacre, a small group of Tuscarora men, led by Chief Solomon Longboard, ran down the Niagara Escarpment "as if their numbers were legion."

Chief Longboard also instructed three men to blow horns from the top of the Niagara Escarpment. Even though it was just a bluff, the enemy thought it was a signal for an American counterattack and immediately stopped the assault. Despite being outnumbered 30-to-1, the Tuscaroras' were able to buy the fleeing residents enough time to get out of harm's way, saving dozens of American lives. Summary taken from the following website: [www.historiclewiston.org/downloads/TuscaroraHeroesPlacemat.pdf](http://www.historiclewiston.org/downloads/TuscaroraHeroesPlacemat.pdf).



U.S. Daughters of 1812, L-R: State of New York Society President, Jan Johnpier; President National, Virginia Apyar; and Historian National, Mary Raye Casper.



U.S. Daughters of 1812, President National Virginia Apyar, presents a proclamation to the Nation Chiefs during the Tuscarora Heroes Appreciation Dinner.

[Jan Johnpier provided the introduction and photos for this article (thank you, Jan)].

### BLACK ROCK

Little Known Facts -  
War of 1812

Black Rock was of particular importance during the War of 1812, being a major depot for supplies and also for assembling troops and militia prior to crossing over to Canada.

From the following website:

[www.buffalospree.com/Bufalo-Spree/June-2012/300-bodies-in-Delaware-Park-The-War-of-1812/](http://www.buffalospree.com/Bufalo-Spree/June-2012/300-bodies-in-Delaware-Park-The-War-of-1812/).

- Forest Lawn Cemetery has close to 300 soldiers/civilians/volunteers who were present during that time, many of whom were killed in the war.

- The first naval skirmish of the war occurred at the mouth of the Canadaway Creek in Chautauqua County.

- One event that Buffalonians may be familiar with is the infamous burning of Buffalo and Black Rock on December 30, 1813. This was "in retaliation for the destruction of Newark (today called Niagara-on-the-Lake) on December 10, 1813. The British actually crossed the river on the 30th and then returned on January 1, 1814 to finish their destruction. When it was all said and done, only three structures remained. There were no U.S. Army troops here to defend Buffalo. They had all left. Many of them refused to defend it—they did not care for the men of Buffalo. All you had were militia, volunteers, and Senecas."

- As Amherst town historian David Sherman explains, the hamlet of Williams Mills, now the Village of Williamsville, "became the last line of defense after British troops burned Buffalo" as civilians and soldiers sought safety. "Log barracks were built along the south side of Main Street between Ellicott Creek and Garrison Road, [and] were converted into temporary medical facilities." Ironically, Sherman says, the contract for the U.S. Army Hospital at Williams Mills "specified 'no burying place on the premises.' Despite this, a well-kept series of mass graves along present day Aero Drive remain as the last vestiges of this hospital."

## Commemorative Tuscarora Heroes - Postage Stamps -

The Historical Association of Lewiston will take 40 of the Commemorative Tuscarora Heroes postage stamps and put them on "first day covers" and have them postmarked "December 19, 2013, Lewiston, NY 14092". The post office will try to get autographs as well.

Cost per sheet is \$25, with all profits going to the monument fund. To order, call the Lewiston Museum at 716-754-4214. Please allow up to 30 days to ship or pick-up, depending on supply.

Photo credit belongs to Flickr:  
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/60878877@N03/10972169453/in/photostream/>



## Bicentennial Commemorative Activities

### Don Whitney Presents, "The Battle of Big Sandy"

On November 9<sup>th</sup> in Watertown, NY, Don Whitney presented the "Battle of Big Sandy" during the Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society (JCNYGS) program. Don talked about his ancestor, Erastus Whitney, and the role Erastus played in both the Battle and carrying of the Great Cable to Sackets Harbor, May 30, 1814.

Today, the 1814 Cable Trail (both a walking and driving tour) begins in Ellisburg and ends in Sackets Harbor, a distance of 19.7 miles. Along the trail are three monuments detailing the Battle. In a nutshell, the Americans attacked the British at Big Sandy. The goal was to secure supplies as the British continued to block their arrival to Sackets Harbor. After Americans defeated the British, they carried the supplies needed on frigates all the way to Sackets Harbor, nearly 20 miles. One of the items carried on the shoulders of 200 commissioned local militia men (many who were local farmers) was a 5-ton cable made of hemp. It took them three days to make the arduous journey. Residents along the route came to watch and cheer them on as the enormous cable went past. The men were paid \$2 for their struggles, and received a hearty welcome and celebration upon their arrival in Sackets Harbor.

The 2014 Cable Carry event, commemorating the 200th Anniversary of this event, is scheduled for Sat. June 7<sup>th</sup> and Sun. June 8<sup>th</sup>. If interested in participating, contact Kamra Rowland at 583-9735 or email [kamrarowland@frontier.com](mailto:kamrarowland@frontier.com) [Kamra provided the details for this article (thank you, Kamra)].



### 1812 Daughters Sit In On Planning Committee - Discuss 2014 Cable Carry In Northern NY -

L-R, U.S. Daughters of 1812: Members Anne Davis and Beverly Sterling-Affinati, Gen. Jacob Brown Chapter (Sackets Harbor), coordinate with Kamra Rowland, Whitney-Hungerford chapter (Watertown), to discuss the role the U.S. Daughters of 1812 will play in the 2014 Cable Carry event scheduled for Sat. & Sun., June 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014 to celebrate the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Great Cable Carry. Participants will carry the cable from Big Sandy (Route 3) to Sackets Harbor. Watch for details in the next issue of the Informer. Please direct questions to Kamra Rowland: (315) 583-9735 or email [kamrarowland@frontier.com](mailto:kamrarowland@frontier.com). **Everyone is welcome to participate!** [Photo taken by Elaine Scott, Henderson Historical Society (thank you, Elaine)].



### 1812 Daughters Attend Lecture in Youngstown

Members of Niagara Frontier and Onondaga chapters attended a War of 1812 lecture at the Episcopal Church in Youngstown, December 19<sup>th</sup>, accompanying 1812 Society's beloved President National, Virginia Louise Apyar, to the event. State of New York Society President, Jan Johnpier and Historian National, Mary Raye Casper, all attended the lecture that educated on the War of 1812 in Niagara County. A special DVD presentation of "The Burning of Niagara" was also given. Earlier in the morning, at 4:30 a.m., Old Fort Niagara held a full reenactment to commemorate the Bicentennial of the British capture of the Fort. During the event, re-enactors portraying British soldiers charged the gates of the Fort just as they did two hundred years ago. [Full event details: [www.oldfortniagara.org/news/article/current/2013/12/05/100010/old-fort-niagara-and-village-of-youngstown-will-mark-bicentennial-of-british-attack](http://www.oldfortniagara.org/news/article/current/2013/12/05/100010/old-fort-niagara-and-village-of-youngstown-will-mark-bicentennial-of-british-attack)].

# Bicentennial Commemorative Events

## TIMELINE: 1813

PAST

PRESENT

- November 1-2, Battle of French Creek** (New York, US) (southwest of Buffalo)
- Black Rock Militia will build a bonfire with wooden pallets and have a wooden replica of the Village of Black Rock to commemorate the Burning of Buffalo. Website: [http://discover1812.com/events/813/200th\\_anniversary\\_burning\\_of\\_buffalo\\_living\\_history\\_program](http://discover1812.com/events/813/200th_anniversary_burning_of_buffalo_living_history_program)
- December 19, The Capture of Fort Niagara,** (New York, US)
- Recreation of the actual battle Proposed to recreate as closely as possible, the events as they happened in real time; including a possible early morning boat landing and march from Four Mile Meadow to the Fort, followed by the daybreak capture of the fort and its garrison and concluding with a brief memorial ceremony. Website: <http://www.oldfortniagara.org/>
- December 19, Burning of Lewiston** (New York, US) (Niagara)
- The spectacular unveiling of a monument to commemorate a small band of Tuscarora men who bravely halted the British attack on Lewiston and enabled dozens of Lewiston citizens to escape, 200 years, to the day, after it happened. An abbreviated Burning of the Town of Lewiston will be part of the commemoration.. Website: <http://www.tuscaroraheroes.com/>
- December 29 - 30, Niagara Falls, Fort Schlosser** (New York, US) (Niagara)
- December 30, Burning of Buffalo & Blackrock** (New York, US)

## TIMELINE: 1814

PAST

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

PRESENT

- April 14, United States repeal** Embargo Act (of 1807) and Nonimportation Act (passed on April 18, 1806)
- May 5-6, Attack on Fort Ontario,** Oswego, (New York, US)
- May 30, Battle of Sandy Creek,** Oswego Falls (New York, US)
- July 18-19, Raid of Champlain Village,** (New York, US)
- For a list of Battles in New York State throughout the War of 1812, follow this link [see pages 16-20]: <http://www.napoleon-series.org/military/Warof1812/2013/Issue20/Eshlemen2.pdf>, "War of 1812 Magazine", Issue 20, May 2013].

### TUSCARORA HEROES MONUMENT UNVEILING!

December 19, 2013

Monument unveiled during dramatic reenactment marking 200th Anniversary of British attack on Lewiston.



- Biggest project in the history of the Lewiston Historical Association
- Largest 1812 Bicentennial monument project in the United States

- U.S. Daughters of 1812 in attendance: President National, Virginia Apyar; State of New York Society President, Jan Johnpier; Historian National, Mary Raye Casper, and other 1812 Daughters.

### Head Quarters, Buffalo, Dec 20th, 1813

Extract of a letter from Brig. Gen. Timothy Hopkins of the New York militia to Daniel D. Tompkins, Commander in Chief &c, found at this website: [www.blogof1812.com/](http://www.blogof1812.com/)

SIR-I would respectfully represent to your excellency that on the morning of yesterday, the enemy crossed over a little below Lewiston-they have burnt Lewiston, and every house from that place to within two and a half miles of Schlosser, & the Tuscarora village is also burnt.

The last express stated that the enemy were fortifying on the mountain below Schlosser. The force of the enemy is differently represented-it is stated to be from four to eight hundred regulars, and six hundred Indians-It is further stated that the enemy are still crossing. The force the enemy can bring is not precisely known, it is probably from 1500 to 3000 including regulars, militia and Indians. Our force is about 200 regulars at Niagara, and about 150 near this place. I have ordered out my Brigade to repel the invasion. I am in hopes of success with the assistance of the Militia of Genessee.

Mr. Charles Walcott, Secty  
Smithsonian Institute, Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

If agreeable to you and the authorities in charge of the National Museum, I shall be very glad to present to that Institution that flag owned by me, and now in possession of the Museum as a loan from me, and known as the Star-Spangled Banner.

It has always been my intention to present the flag during my life time to that Institution in the country where it could be conveniently seen by the public, and where it would be well cared for, and the advantages and the appropriateness of the National Museum are so obvious, as to render consideration of any other place unnecessary.

Whilst realizing that the poem of Mr. Key is the one thing which renders this flag of more than ordinary interest, it is only right to appreciate the fact that there was a cause for his inspiration. Being detained temporarily on board a British Man of War, he witnessed the bombardment of Fort McHenry, and was inspired by that dramatic scene to give to the Nation his beautiful lines. I must ask therefore, as a condition of this gift, and in justice to the Commandant of the Fort, and the brave men under him, that their share in the inspiration of this poem be embodied in the inscription to be placed in the case containing this flag. I have had forwarded to me copies of the inscriptions contained in the case at present, and do not think they could be improved upon, but as I desire now to make a specific choice, will say that the following is the one which I prefer, and should like to be assured by you will be the official marking--

The Star Spangled Banner

Garrison Flag of Fort McHenry, Baltimore, during the bombardment of the Fort by the British Sept. 13-14, 1814, when it was gallantly and successfully defended by colonel George Armistead, and the brave men under him. Francis Scott Key, detained with the British Fleet, had eagerly watched for this Flag during the fight, and as he saw it still waving over the fort on the morning of September 14th he was inspired to write the verses of the "Star Spangled Banner."

Presented to the National Museum, Washington, D.C., by Mr. Eben Appleton, of New York, Grandson of Col. George Armistead.

The fact of my preferring the above as the official inscription does not imply that I would like the others removed from the case. Thanking you for the good care you have taken of the flag during the past few years, and for the beautiful manner in which it has been displayed, and awaiting the pleasure of your reply, I beg to remain.

Very truly yours,  
Eben Appleton

32 Liberty Street, Box 44, New York

[taken from the following website: <http://amhistory.si.edu/starspangledbanner/pdf/TRANSCRIPT%20Letter%20from%20Eben%20Appleton%20to%20Charles%20Walcott.pdf>]



## Madison Presents Trade Agreement To Congress



December 13, 1815, President James Madison (1809-1817) presents to Congress a trade agreement with Great Britain that would regulate commerce between the two countries. The agreement came just one year after the signing of the treaty that ended the War of 1812. The commerce agreement secured America's autonomy on the high seas, but more importantly, it signified Britain's acceptance of America as a separate nation with the will and capacity to defend its interests.

Resentment left over from the American Revolution (1775-1783) between Britain and the United States erupted into a second full-scale war when Britain began harassing American shipping. Beginning during the administration of America's third president, Thomas Jefferson (1801-1809), British warships occasionally fired on and boarded American navy or merchant ships while patrolling the seas for enemy French. To add insult to injury, the British "impressed" or involuntarily drafted American sailors to serve on British warships. This affront to America's autonomy led Madison to ask Congress for a declaration of war against Britain in 1812. In 1814, the British captured the city of Washington and burned the White House, but not before Madison's plucky wife, Dolley, saved a portrait of George Washington from looters. The U.S. emerged victorious in this "second war of independence" against Britain and as a result gained confidence in its military capabilities and a stronger sense of national identity.

During the ensuing peace negotiations, Madison's administration extended an olive branch to the British, suggesting that the two countries shared mutual interests and ought to be collaborating in commerce rather than endangering "their future harmony." Although Madison described the 1815 maritime trade agreement as "conciliatory," he also emphasized America's insistence that American navigation be "confined to American seamen," free from international (i.e. British) interference. Madison thus signaled to the world that America would continue to vigorously defend her territory and economic interests. [taken from History.com website: [www.history.com/this-day-in-history/madison-presents-trade-agreement-to-congress](http://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/madison-presents-trade-agreement-to-congress)]

### DID YOU KNOW?

After the British burned the White House during the War of 1812, President James Madison and his wife were unable to live there. Madison's successor, James Monroe, moved back into the White House in 1817, while it was still being rebuilt.

Found at the following website: <http://www.history.com/topics/treaty-of-ghent>

## WANTED: Your Articles & Photos

### 1812 DAUGHTERS:

If you attend a War of 1812 Special Commemorative Event or Re-enactment during the Bicentennial Years [2012-2015], please send your article and photos to [Beverly Sterling-Affinati](mailto:BeverlySterling-Affinati@harborsideservices@gmail.com) at [harborsideservices@gmail.com](mailto:harborsideservices@gmail.com) so details may be included here in the information in the "Bicentennial Informer".

**Thank you in advance!**

## Burning of Buffalo

<http://www.buffalonian.com/history/articles/1801-50/TheBurningofBuffalo.html>

&

<http://www.examiner.com/article/british-burn-buffalo-ny-1813>

**1812 Member: Doreen Cesari,**  
**shares the following:**

[http://discover1812.com/page/event\\_listing](http://discover1812.com/page/event_listing)



## Letter of Lieutenant Donald Fraser

HEAD QUARTERS, NIAGARA FRONTIER  
December 12th, 1813

### GENERAL ORDER

Captain Leonard\* will, as soon as possible, have a proportion of hand grenades in the different block houses, and give directions to the officers of the infantry where they should be posted with their men, in case of an attack; and should they not be able to maintain the outworks, to repair to the block and mess houses; and have everything arranged in such a manner as though he expected an immediate attack.

Much is expected of captain Leonard, from his long experience and knowledge of duty; and the general feels confident he will be well supported by lieutenant Loomas, of the artillery, as well as the officers of the infantry.

By order of brigadier general George McClure

Donald Fraser,  
Lieutenant 15th U.S. Inf. & Vol. A. de Camp.



**\*FROM WIKIPEDIA, in reference to Captain Leonard -**  
Two battalions of the 1st Field Artillery are derived from artillery companies that served in the War of 1812: **4-1 FA**, derived from **Captain Nathaniel Leonard's Company, 1st Regiment of Artillery**; and **5-1 FA**, derived from Captain Benjamin Ogden's Company, 3rd Regiment of Artillery, constituted on January 11, 1812. Only one of these two battalions is currently active: 4-1 FA. *Note - The maple leaf in the Distinctive Unit Insignia of the 4th Field Artillery commemorates the service in Canada of some elements of the regiment during the War of 1812.*

## Address of General McClure

To the inhabitants of Niagara, Genesee and Chataugay

HEAD QUARTERS, BUFFALO  
December 18th, 1813

The present crisis is truly alarming. The enemy are preparing to invade your frontier, and let their savages loose upon your families and property. It is now in your power to avoid that evil, by repairing to Lewistown (sic), Schlosser and Buffalo. Every man who is able to bear arms is not only invited but required to repair to the above rallying points, for a few days, until a detachment of militia arrives. The enemy are now laying waste their own country;



every man who does not take up arms, or who are disposed to remain neutral, are inhumanly butchered, their property plundered, and their buildings destroyed. Information has just been received that six or eight of their most respectable inhabitants, between Queenston and Fort George, have fallen victims to their barbarity. Every man in the province is required to take up arms, and he that refuses is wantonly butchered. What then, fellow citizens, have you to expect from such an enemy, should they invade your frontier? Think of the consequences; be not lulled into a belief, that because you reside a few miles from the river, that you are secure: No, fellow citizens, the place to meet them is on the beach. Then you will have it in your power to chastise them; but should they be suffered to penetrate into the interior with their savages, the scene will be horrid!

If, then, you love your country and are determined to defend its rights; if you love your families, and are determined to protect them; if you value your property, and are determined to preserve it, you will fly to arms and hasten to meet the enemy, should they dare to set foot on our shores.



Since the above was prepared, I have received intelligence from a credible inhabitant from Canada, (who has just escaped from thence) that the enemy are concentrating all their forces and boats at Fort George, and have fixed upon tomorrow night for attacking, Fort Niagara; and should they succeed, they will lay waste our whole frontier. In that case, our supply of arms, which are deposited at Fort Niagara, will be cut off. Therefore all who have arms, accoutrements or ammunition, will do well to bring them, and all who have horses will come mounted.

Brigadier General George McClure,  
Find A Grave:  
[www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=28730506](http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=28730506)

GEORGE MCCLURE  
Brigadier general commanding Niagara Frontier

## Letter of Major General A. Hall

HEAD QUARTERS, NIAGARA FRONTIER  
December 30th, 1813

Sir, I have only time to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25th instant, and to add that this frontier is wholly desolate. The British crossed over, supported by a strong party of Indians, at a little before daylight this morning, near Black Rock. They were met by the militia under my command with spirit; but overpowered by numbers and discipline of the enemy, the militia gave way and fled on every side; every attempt to rally them was ineffectual. The enemy's purpose was obtained and the flourishing village of BUFFALO LAID IN RUINS. The Niagra prospect of uniting our forces, of driving the enemy from Bur-frontier now lies open and naked to our enemies. Your judgment will direct you what is most proper in this emergency. I am exhausted with fatigue and must defer particulars till tomorrow. Many valuable lives are lost.



I have the honour to be, &c  
A. Hall, Major general,

The above letters were taken from, "Official Letters Of The Military And Naval Officers Of The United States During The War With Great Britain, In The Years 1812-1815 (1823)" Written By John Brannan