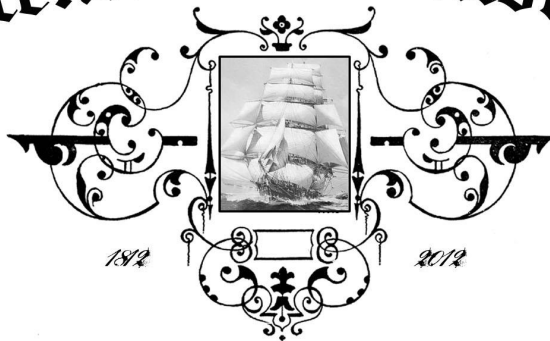


# Bicentennial Informer



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]*

VOL 2, NO. 3

State of New York, October 1, 2013

FREE

*Mark  
your  
Calendar*

## Tuscarora Heroes Monument To Be Unveiled

Thursday, December 19, 2013 @ 6:30 p.m.

### Tuscarora Heroes Monument

Unveiling 6:30pm, Thursday, December 19, 2013  
on the 200th Anniversary of the brave Tuscarora action

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Days Hours Mins Secs

Lewiston, New York

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Susan Geissler studio photos:  
Small clay model, Sept. 5, 2012  
Lifesize model, April 10, 2013  
Photos by Geoffrey Harding

### Why the Tuscaroras Risked Their Lives to Help Their Lewiston Neighbors

When the British attacked Lewiston, the Tuscaroras could have quietly left town without anyone knowing. They certainly were not under any obligation to defend the area and no one expected them to stand against an overwhelming force composed largely of their Iroquois blood brothers, the Mohawks.

However, there were two primary reasons they intervened to save their Lewiston neighbors:

- 1) There was a long standing bond of friendship with the white citizens of Lewiston. As neighbors, the Lewistonians and Tuscaroras trusted each other and traded and did business together.
- 2) The Tuscaroras never forgot what the British did to them in 1713. In the early 18th Century, the Tuscaroras lived in North Carolina, before being driven from their homeland by the British in the Tuscarora War at Ft. Neoheroka, North Carolina, March 1713. The British and their native allies burned the fort and hundreds of Tuscarora men, women and children perished in the blaze. Almost two hundred more were killed outside of the fort and approximately four hundred Tuscaroras were taken captive and sold into slavery. The defeat of the Tuscaroras, once the most powerful native nation in the Carolinas, allowed the British to open up the frontier in the Carolinas to further expansion by European settlers. Most of the surviving Tuscaroras moved north and settled near Lewiston, becoming the sixth nation of the Iroquois Confederacy.

Susan Geissler and Lee Simonson, who helped breathe life into the Tuscarora Heroes Monument, make appearance on AM Buffalo, found at this site: <http://goo.gl/paiw9K>

**Visit the website:**  
**<http://tuscaroraheroes.com/>**  
*Be sure to read about the artist,  
and volunteer organizers !*

### FALL EVENT

Lewiston, NY

#### Tuscarora Heroes Monument

**Unveiling- December 19, 2013**  
Be Part of History - The Tuscarora Heroes Monument will be unveiled at 6:30pm, on December 19, 2013, and will offer American citizens a tremendous and rare opportunity to directly participate in honoring Native Americans who risked their lives to save ours. This is the largest War of 1812 Bicentennial monument project in the U.S., and could be the only monument constructed by a community in thanksgiving and gratitude to Native Americans. The project will cost a few hundred thousand dollars.  
Come support the project.  
**It is a 100% volunteer effort.**

#### Tuscarora Heroes Book by Lee Simonson



The Tuscarora Heroes book tells the story of the brave actions of the Tuscarora men on December 19, 1813, during the British attack on Lewiston, NY, during the War of 1812.

It is available for \$10 at DiCamillos Bakery in Lewiston, NY, or can be obtained for \$12 (including postage) by calling the Lewiston Museum at 716-754-4214 and ordering by credit card over the phone. It is also available in electronic format at Amazon.com

**Historical Association of Lewiston, Inc.**  
**Lewiston Museum**  
469 Plain Street  
Lewiston, New York 14092  
Phone: 716-754-4214  
Website: [www.historiclewiston.org](http://www.historiclewiston.org)

# Full Events...

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

For the following events...

### Central New York Veterans Parade & Expo

**Location:** New York State Fairgrounds, Syracuse, NY

Parade kicks off at noon.

**Description:** The 2013 CNY Veterans Parade and Expo's theme is "Honor and Hire." Veterans are a special asset to our community. The best way to keep them local is to help them make connections in the community that will maximize their talents and employment skills. This year a Job Fair will be held as part of the Expo which will feature local companies who make an effort to recognize and hire veterans. **1812 Daughters will have a booth.**

**If interested, contact Mary Raye Casper: [mcasper@twcny.rr.com](mailto:mcasper@twcny.rr.com)**

**Event:** Burning of Buffalo Commemoration

**Date:** Dec. 7, 6 p.m.

**Location:** Squaw Island, just northwest of the Peace Bridge

**Description:** The Black Rock Militia will build a huge bonfire of wood pallets with a wooden replica of the Village of Black Rock to commemorate the burning of Buffalo, which visually infuses meaning into the historical significance of the burning of Buffalo and Black Rock in December 1813. The bonfire is held in sync with the Canadian side at Fort Erie Park. **Phone # & Website:**

[www.blackrockhistoricalsociety.com/](http://www.blackrockhistoricalsociety.com/)

**President National, Virginia Apyar,  
will join 1812 Daughters At This Event**

**Event Name:** Tuscarora Heroes Monument Unveiling

**Date:** Dec. 19, 6:30 p.m.

**Location:** Historical Association of Lewiston, 469 Plain Street, Lewiston, NY

**Description:** 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. **Phone # & Website:** 716-754-4214; [www.tuscaroraheroes.com/](http://www.tuscaroraheroes.com/)

**Event:** 200th Anniversary Commemoration of the Capture of Fort Niagara

**Date & Time:** Dec. 19, 2013, 3 a.m.

**Location:** Old Fort Niagara, Fort Niagara State Park, Youngstown, NY

**Description:** 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. **Phone # and Website:** 716.745.7611; [www.oldfortniagara.org/](http://www.oldfortniagara.org/)



## DID YOU KNOW?

### Did you know?? (War of 1812 Facts)

James Madison, who stood less than 5'5" tall, was short even by the standards of his contemporaries. Some accounts suggest he weighed as little as 100 pounds [[www.shmoop.com/war-1812/trivia.html](http://www.shmoop.com/war-1812/trivia.html)]

Tecumseh was killed at Moraviantown, while fighting a rearguard action against the Americans. His body was never found afterwards, and there is nothing marking the place where he died [[www.funtrivia.com/en/History/War-of-1812-12030.html](http://www.funtrivia.com/en/History/War-of-1812-12030.html)].

### Q & A:

After the winter of 1812, the Americans went to work quickly and in April 1813, they captured and burned which Canadian town?

ANSWER:

York (known today as Toronto). This is where Col. Zebulon Pike was killed [[www.funtrivia.com/en/History/War-of-1812-12030.html](http://www.funtrivia.com/en/History/War-of-1812-12030.html)].

## 1812 BICENTENNIAL MARKER

### DEDICATION CEREMONY

**LAKE SIDE CEMETERY, SACKETS**

**HARBOR, Sat., September 14th**



L-R: Anne Davis (chapter member), Beverly Sterling-Affinati (chapter member), Timothy Scee (Town of Hounsfield Supervisor), Dr. Timothy Abel (Archeologist), Jan Maas (President, S.H. Historical Society), Bette Lathan (chapter member) and Tammy Plantz (chapter member).

SACKETS HARBOR ô An 1812

bicentennial marker dedication ceremony to honor veterans of the War of 1812 interred at

Lakeside Cemetery was held at 10 a.m.

Saturday at the cemetery. Members of the public were invited to attend.

The granite marker honoring 1812 soldiers was purchased by the United States Daughters of 1812, General Jacob Brown Chapter, with assistance from State of New York Society, United States Daughters of 1812, the town of Hounsfield and Sackets Harbor Historical Society.

Guest speakers included archaeologist, Dr. Timothy Abel; Hounsfield supervisor Tim Scee; President of the Sackets Harbor Historical Society, Jan Maas; and Chairwoman of Grave Markings and Locations For 1812 Soldiers, Anne Davis.



*In memory of the War of 1812  
Soldiers and Sailors,  
those known and unknown  
buried here at  
Lakeside Cemetery  
who fought valiantly  
for American Freedom.*

*Erected by the  
General Jacob Brown Chapter  
United States  
Daughters of 1812*

*Dedicated  
September 14, 2013*



## Dr. Abel Receives Spirit of 1812 Medal



Dr. Timothy J. Abel, lifelong archeologist and War of 1812 Expert/Re-Enactor, received the "Spirit of 1812" medal by the General Jacob Brown Chapter, Sackets Harbor. Abel is shown accepting the award with chapter President, Beverly Sterling-Affinati (right) and Vice President, Anne Davis (left).

The "Spirit of 1812 Award" medal is awarded to an individual or organization with a distinguished record of study, promotion and dedication to the preservation of the history of people, places and events of the War of 1812. The candidate must have demonstrated a committed effort to preserve a certain aspect of the War of 1812 and the culture of the time period.

Dr. Abel, has a bachelor and a master degree from the University of Toledo, and a PhD from the Department of Anthropology at the University of Albany. His list of credits is too extensive to list here, but we will name just a few:

É Longtime volunteer at the Sackets Harbor Battlefield State Historic Site

É Founding member of the Sackets Harbor Battlefield Alliance, serving as its President from 2005-2008 and again from 2010-2012 (not to mention role of treasurer between those two offices)

É A dedicated War of 1812 re-enactor

É Participated in both the Ogdensburg and Plattsburgh War of 1812 lecture series, as well as the, "Boots and Slippers on the Ground" lecture series held in Sackets Harbor in 2012

É Noted speaker on the history of the War of 1812 in New York State

É His most recent project has been "unearthing" the newly discovered location of Pike's Cantonment in Plattsburgh, NY

***Congratulation, Dr. Abel,  
And Thank You For All That You  
Do To Keep The History Of The  
War of 1812 Alive!***

## Next Events...

CHECK IT OUT!

### Battle Of Plattsburgh Commemoration Weekend Sep. 14-15, 2013



The Adirondack Coast commemorated the **Bicentennial of General Alexander Macomb's and Master Commandant Thomas MacDonough's unlikely defeat of the British army** on September 11, 1814.

A battle reenactment was held at the Champlain Monument on Sun., September 15, 2013 (Cumberland Avenue, Plattsburgh, NY).

Weekend activities included tours, concerts, reenactments, fireworks, and family entertainment.

### War of 1812 Candlelight Tour

Lancaster, NY  
Jul 18



*Held at the Hull Family Home & Farmstead*

**British and American officers at dinner before the war.** This event included stories told in a theatrical presentation based on factual events. Much research was done to ensure accuracy and to present lesser-known events that contributed to this significant period of Western New York history. This event was attended by Niagara Frontier chapter member, Doreen Cesari.



## Old Fort Niagara

War of 1812 Encampment  
Aug 31 - Sep 1, 2013



**Bicentennial Commemoration of the capture of Fort Niagara** by British forces in December 1813. Battle demonstrations, living history programs throughout the day, and a battle in real time, Saturday night, 8:00 p.m. This event was attended by our State of NY Society President, Jan Johnpier (& family).

## War of 1812 Bicentennial Celebration

Cape Vincent, NY  
Aug 23 - Aug 25



**Reenactment and Encampment - Lecture series** with Donald and Diane Graves, Patricia Regan, David Ruch, John Bilow, Dennis McCarthy and Dr. Doug Pippin; War of 1812 walking tour; tall ships Le Revenante, and St. Lawrence II; Towpath Vol. Fife & Drum Groups; Sutlers and more. This event was attended by Onondaga Chapter members Jan Kral and Sharon Matyas.



## War of 1812 Weekend

Sackets Harbor, NY  
Aug 23 - Aug 25



Members of the Gen. Jacob Brown Chapter Sell Water & Cookbooks at **Sackets Harbor's Annual War of 1812 Weekend**. Shown L-R: Boni Shafer, Beverly Sterling-Affinati, Tammy Plantz and Anne Davis.



## Canal boat replica stops in Lockport before a three-day stay at Canalside

1812 Daughter, Doreen Cesari, spots the Lois McClure in her local newspaper.

*Published in the Buffalo News [at this public internet site:*

*[www.buffalonews.com/apps/pbcs.dll/](http://www.buffalonews.com/apps/pbcs.dll/)*

*[article?AID=%2F20130801%2FCITYANDREGION%2F130809920%2F1010/](http://www.buffalonews.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=%2F20130801%2FCITYANDREGION%2F130809920%2F1010/)*

The 88-foot Lois McClure, a replica of the canal schooners that once plied the waters of Vermont and upstate New York via Lake Champlain, the Hudson River and the Erie Canal, will be visiting Geneva, New York the weekend of August 20-22, 2010.

The ship, which spends most of its time at the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum in Vermont, is traveling a route to the 2010 World Canals Conference in Rochester, New York and has been stopping along the way at various ports on the canal. Next stop after Geneva is Seneca Falls on August 27, Clyde August 29, Newark August 31, and Palmyra, September 2. The ship and crew will go as far west as Lockport and then make it's return voyage, ending back in Vermont in October.

The Lois McClure was designed based on nautical archeological findings of a similar 1862 vintage canal schooner that sank in Lake Champlain in the 19th century. The canal schooners allowed typical canal boats that were pulled by horses and mules, or by steam powered boats, to put up sails in open waters like Seneca Lake, or the Hudson River, and move themselves to various ports delivering and picking up loads of goods such as marble, iron ore, produce and more.

BELOW: Ontario Place Hotel, Sackets Harbor, spotted Lois McClure moored at its public dock on August 20. It was going on to Cape Vincent from there.



ABOVE: Lois McClure photo taken from the same Buffalo newspaper reads, "Roger Taylor, the captain of the Lois McClure, is a descendent of the War of 1812's 'Hero of Lake Erie' Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry."

**Visit the blog page:**  
**<http://lcmm.wordpress.com/>**

## Privateer Lynx Scheduled To Stop In Buffalo Canalside

1812 Daughter, Beverly Sterling-Affinati, learned from a cousin that the Privateer Lynx was scheduled to visit Buffalo Sep 12-15.

In 1997 Woodson K. Woods embarked on a journey to build a privateer inspired by the original historic tall ship from the War of 1812 - The Privateer Lynx.



His goal was to create a living history museum to educate children and adults alike about American history through active sail training aboard a real wooden sailing ship.

What went into Lynx was not just wood, rope, brass and canvas. It was not just sweat, blood, heartache and laughter either. What went into her goes far beyond history, ambition,

inspiration, determination and commitment.

Lynx launch

On July 28, 2001 in Rockport, Maine Woods' vision was realized. Past and present converged as Lynx was launched in a gala event ordaining a magnificent future on the high seas.

The creation of Lynx embraces eternal truths: passion, sacrifice, perseverance, honor and courage. All of these emotions gave her a soul long before she tasted her first saltwater. At sea, Lynx is the legacy of her creators: the thinkers, the designers, the builders, and most important, the dreamers...

**Visit the official website:**  
**[www.privateerlynx.com](http://www.privateerlynx.com)**

## POEM: Sackets Harbor

How gently here the zephyrs play  
How softly falls the sun's mild ray,  
How gracefully this lovely Bay  
Embraces Sackets Harbor.

How proudly wave those Stripes and Stars.  
How full and rich those martial airs  
That on its wings the zephyr bears  
Alone for Sackets Harbor.

Here no prude's blandishments are met,  
No empty airs of vain coquette;  
A diamond's midst bright jewels set,  
Is our sweet Sackets Harbor.

South, Adams wears her deacon's face;  
North, Brownville stands with modest grace,  
And Watertown's a little place  
Just back of Sackets Harbor.

Soon spring with flowers and verdure gay  
Will chase these wintry clouds away.  
Then, bonnie lassie, stay, O, stay  
Awhile in Sackets Harbor.

*Author: Lieut. Lee, written abt. 1840*  
*Submitted for use in the Informer by*  
*Gary Gibson, Sackets Harbor.*

## EDUCATION: 10 Things You May Not Know About The War of 1812:

Visit [www.history.com/news/10-things-you-may-not-know-about-the-war-of-1812](http://www.history.com/news/10-things-you-may-not-know-about-the-war-of-1812)

## Unsung War of 1812 Heroes

*There are countless names who don't receive credit for their contributions, both military and civilian, to the War of 1812. Throughout time, their good deeds go unrecognized. As we continue to commemorate the Bicentennial, may we remember the unsung heroes of this conflict who bore arms to fight for the strength of our country.*



## 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 at harborside@twcny.rr.com](mailto:BeverlySterling-Affinati@harborside@twcny.rr.com) so details may be included here in the information in the "Bicentennial Informer". **Thank you in advance!**

## The War of 1812 along the Great Lakes Seaway Trail

### The St. Lawrence Campaign

American military planners viewed the St. Lawrence Valley as the gateway for the invasion of Canada and in the fall of 1813, a strike on Montreal was planned. The strategy called for General James Wilkinson to lead his troops from Sackets Harbor and join forces with General Wade Hampton moving north out of Plattsburgh. Hampton's force was turned back at the Battle of Chateaugay. Wilkinson's force had reached French Creek (Clayton) on November 4. The American force was spotted by British warships which bombarded the American anchorages and encampments during the evening. The next day, the Americans were successful in driving away the British using "hot shot" (red-hot cannonballs) which set fire to the brig *Earl of Moira*. The American force proceeded down the river, but was defeated by a smaller British force at the Battle of Crysler's Farm near Cornwall, Ontario.

### Erie, PA

President James Madison ordered the construction of a naval fleet at Erie in order to regain control of Lake Erie. Daniel Dobbins and Noah Brown led construction of four schooner-rigged gunboats (*Ariel*, *Porcupine*, *Tigress*, and *Scorpion*) and two brigs (*Lawrence* and *Niagara*). The ships were constructed between December 1812 and June 1813. A sandbar protected Presque Isle harbor, but also meant that the large brigs needed to be stripped of guns, ballast, and all heavy material, then lifted approximately 3 feet by barges (known as "camels") in order to get out of the harbor. This fleet successfully fought the British in the Battle of Lake Erie.

### Battle of Fort George and Burning of Newark

On May 27, 1813, the U.S. succeeded in taking control of Fort George, located across the river from Fort Niagara in Newark (present day Niagara-on-the-Lake). Later that year, most of the regular American soldiers there were redeployed to Sackets Harbor to take part in an attack against Montreal. On December 10, General George McClure learned of a British advance, and decided his position at Fort George was untenable. He hastily evacuated his troops to Fort Niagara, and the village of Newark was burned. The burning of Newark was the pretext for the British to carry out similar outrages later.

### Capture of Fort Niagara

On December 19, 1813, a British force of more than 500 soldiers crossed the Niagara River approximately 3 miles above Fort Niagara. They were under orders to use the bayonet so as not to lose the advantage of surprise. They captured American pickets in Youngstown and forced one of the prisoners to reveal the American challenge and password. The British troops then advanced silently toward Fort Niagara and gained entry through the gate. By the time the Americans became aware of the deception, it was too late to stop the British from rushing in and taking the fort.

For these and other campaigns, visit:

[www.seawaytrail.com/warof1812/](http://www.seawaytrail.com/warof1812/)

**HISTORY IN THE HEADLINES (September 13, 1814... next year will mark 200 years):** On September 13th, Francis Scott Key pens a poem which is later set to music and in 1931 becomes America's national anthem, "The Star-Spangled Banner." The poem, originally titled "The Defence of Fort McHenry," was written after Key witnessed the Maryland fort being bombarded by the British during the War of 1812. Key was inspired by the sight of a lone U.S. flag still flying over Fort McHenry at daybreak, as reflected in the now-famous words of the "Star-Spangled Banner".

**HISTORY IN THE HEADLINES:** (August 19, 1812... last year marked 200 years): The USS Constitution defeated the British frigate HMS Guerriere off Nova Scotia during the War of 1812, earning the nickname "Old Ironsides."

**HISTORY IN THE HEADLINES (September 10, 1813... 200 years ago):** British and American fleets clashed— not on the high seas, but on a Great Lake. "We have met the enemy and they are ours," proclaimed U.S. naval leader Oliver Perry after the victory. On the bicentennial of the Battle of Lake Erie, look back on one of the most consequential showdowns of the War of 1812. <http://histv.co/17Owo1I>

### 200 YEARS AGO: 1813

#### History ...

November 1st & 2nd -  
Battle of French Creek  
(southwest of Buffalo, NY)

December 19th -  
The Capture of Fort Niagara  
(Youngstown, NY)

December 19 -  
The Burning of Lewiston  
(Lewiston, NY)

Oliver Hazard Perry

