

Battle of Plattsburgh Schedule of Events

* — *Battle of Plattsburgh Commemoration Button required for admission*

NOW to September 15

Plattsburgh Public Library
Battle of Plattsburgh Commemoration posters 2000-2014

NOW to September 15

Champlain Centre, Smithfield Boulevard
Battle of Plattsburgh Commemoration posters from 1998
Artwork by local 4th grade students
2019 commemoration schedule and locations of button sales

NOW to September 15

City Well, 30 City Hall Place, downtown Plattsburgh
Information: 2019 BOP schedule and poster displays

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

4pm:

Dedication Ceremony “Commemoration Bridge”

Location: At the end of Green Street in the small park on the bank of the Saranac River

The downtown Plattsburgh footbridge, connecting Cumberland Avenue and the small park at the end of Green Street by the Saranac River, has been officially named “Commemoration Bridge” by action of Mayor Colin Read and the City Council. This dedication honors a rich history of volunteerism in the community and appreciation of the annual 1814 Battle of Plattsburgh Commemorations organized by volunteers and led by Christopher “Kit” Booth and Gary VanCour.

All present and past Battle of Plattsburgh Commemoration volunteers and the public are invited to attend.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

10am-3pm:

Clinton County Historical Association Museum Open House

Location: 98 Ohio Ave., Old Base Museum Campus

See the rare Aiken Rifle and dress swords presented to General Alexander Macomb and Major General Benjamin Mooers for their service during the War of 1812. The book *The Military Career of Alexander Macomb* by Allen Everest is free to Battle of Plattsburgh Commemoration button holders.

11am:

Battle of Culver Hill Memorial Ceremony

Presented by the Town of Beekmantown

Location: Culver Hill Historical Park, State Route 22, two miles north of intersection of Route 374 in Beekmantown

On Sept. 6, 1814, a large British army numbering in the thousands marched through Beekmantown on their way to occupy the Village of Plattsburgh. In an attempt to hinder that advance, a small American force consisting of regular army and militia made a stand behind

stonewalls on the rise of land known as Culver Hill. What ensued was a short but very intense skirmish that resulted in several dead and wounded, including American Corporal Stephen Partridge of the Essex County, New York State Militia and two British officers, Lt. Col. James Willington and Ensign John Chapman, of the Royal East Kent Regiment, Third Foot, also known as the Buffs. A memorial ceremony will take place to help to recognize and honor the sacrifices made by both sides of this bloody conflict.

1pm: **Halsey's Corners Memorial Ceremony**

Presented by the Town of Plattsburgh

Location: Corner of Halsey Court and Boynton Avenue

In the face of the steadily advancing British column, American forces retreated toward Plattsburgh to this location where they set up two six-pound field guns. The oncoming columns of Redcoats advanced straight into the maw of these guns, which were discharged repeatedly with deadly effect.

5pm: **Riverside Cemetery Memorial**

Location: Riverside Cemetery, Steltzer Road

British fleet commander Capt. George Downie lost his life in the initial of the 1814 battle and was later buried in Riverside Cemetery, along with several other fallen combatants from both sides. Historian/Author Don Wickman conducts the ceremony honoring both British and American combatants killed in the war.

6pm: **History Program — “Perspectives on the Battle”**

Location: 30 City Hall Place

Doors open at 5:30pm, Exhibits & Video

6pm: Speaker — Gary VanCour, Beekmantown historian
“Maneuvering Begins in Beekmantown”

6:45pm: Speaker — Paolo Fedi M.D., medical historian
“William Beaumont, a physician-researcher in Plattsburgh “

7:30pm: * **John Lennon & Paul McCartney Tribute Band**

Location: Strand Center for the Arts, 23 Brinkerhoff St.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

10am-3pm: **Clinton County Historical Association Museum Open House**

Location: 98 Ohio Ave., Old Base Museum Campus

See the rare Aiken Rifle and dress swords presented to General Alexander Macomb and Major General Benjamin Mooers for their service during the War of 1812. The book *The Military Career of Alexander Macomb* by Allen Everest is free to Battle of Plattsburgh Commemoration button holders.

11am: **Crab Island Memorial Service**

Location: Crab Island

Crab Island was the site of a War of 1812 army field hospital. It is also the final resting place for at least 150 British and American sailors who perished in the pivotal Battle of Plattsburgh. Hurriedly buried together in a series of trenches, the exact location on Crab Island of this mass grave remains unknown and unmarked to this day. The American Legion Post 1619 will lay wreaths, fire a salute and play taps at this memorial ceremony.

4pm: **Food Court**
Location: Trinity Park, Lower Court Street

4-8pm: **Information Center**
Location: 30 City Hall Place and in front of City Hall

4-9pm: * **The Israel Green Tavern**
Location: Olive Ridley's Taphouse & Grill, 37 Court St.

4:45-5:45pm: **Stan Ransom, The Connecticut Peddler**

A tavern favorite, Stan Ransom is a folk musician who performs the songs and tunes of the Battle of Plattsburgh, both American and British, many from his CD, *The Battle of Plattsburgh*. He sings, plays guitar, hammered dulcimer, mandolin and autoharp.

6-7:30pm: **The Busco Bandits**

This three-piece band plays rock 'n' roll and oldies.

7:45-9pm: **Too Tall String Band**

Another tavern favorite, Too Tall performs traditional English, Scottish and Irish pub tunes; sing-alongs; and a number of traditional Celtic dance tunes.

4:15-8pm: **History Program & Exhibits/Video**
Location: 30 City Hall Place

Time: 4:15-6pm (History Program)
6-8pm (Exhibits & Video)

5pm: * **Eliza Mooers Historic District Walking Tour**
Location: Starts at Macdonough Monument

Take a tour of Plattsburgh's historic places with Eliza Mooers (Melissa Bistor-Cross).

5pm: **History Program — "Some Impacts from the Battle of Plattsburgh"**
Location: 30 City Hall Place
Door open at 4:15pm, Exhibits & Video

5pm: Speaker — Vince Puliafico, War of 1812 re-enactor
"How American Victory at Plattsburgh Changed Peace Negotiations"

5:45pm: Speaker — Richard Frost M.D., author of *Plattsburgh Military Reservation*
"The War Ends: Does Plattsburgh Still Need a Military Base?"

5-6pm: **Flame the Band in Concert**
Presented by Autism Alliance of Northeastern NY
Location: Lions Band Shell Stage

The mission of Autism Alliance of Northeastern NY, Inc. (AANENY) is to empower individuals and their families touched by Autism Spectrum Disorders through support and education. We serve Clinton, Essex and Franklin counties. AANENY provides resources and educational support through workshops, conferences, scholarships, donations of ASD-related literature and an annual publication of ASD resources.

7-9pm: **Beartracks in Concert**
Location: Lions Club Band Shell Stage

Beartracks was formed in 2004 by dobro legend Junior Barber and his cousins, Tom Venne and Julie Venne Hogan. Currently, Julie (bass guitar and vocals), Tom (acoustic guitar and vocals) and Harry Ralph (fiddle and harmony vocals) form the core of Beartracks. They have appeared on stage throughout the United States, from Colorado to New England, and in Canada, from Calgary to Prince Edward Island.

9:30pm: **Rocket's Red Glare Fireworks**
Sponsored by Eagle's Nest Veterinary Hospital
Location: Macdonough Monument

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

9am: **Sailing Masters of 1812**
Location: Kent-Delord House Museum, 17 Cumberland Ave.

A period-appropriate fife and drum corps based in Essex, Conn., the Sailing Masters of 1812 was founded in 1963 as the Essex Fife and Drum Corps to perpetuate the art of fifing and drumming and to commemorate the role of Essex in the War of 1812.

9am-2pm: **Plattsburgh Farmers' and Crafters' Market**
Location: Durkee Street Parking Lot

9am-4pm: **Information Center**
Location: 30 City Hall Place and in front of City Hall

9:30am-1pm:
2:30-3:30pm: **Macdonough Monument Tours**
Location: City Hall Place, across from City Hall

Thomas Macdonough was born in 1783 in New Castle County, Del. and died in 1825 at sea. The Thomas Macdonough Memorial Monument was erected to honor his Sept. 11, 1814 Naval Victory over a superior British Fleet in Plattsburgh Bay, turning the tide of the war.

The monument was funded by New York State and the U.S. Congress at the 1914 Centennial, Battle of Plattsburgh. Construction of the monument began in 1921 and was completed in 1926 after a World War One funding freeze was lifted. It was dedicated on Aug. 18, 1926 and later deeded to the City of Plattsburgh.

The monument is a 135-foot high, Indiana limestone obelisk. The bronze eagle mounted on the top, a symbol for victory, has a 22-foot wingspan. The 156-step metal stairway and railings circle six times to an 8-by-8-foot observation room with four small windows. The window-sill orientation panels were painted by Lee Hunt in 1991.

Interpretive posters at the stairway landings describe the local history of the War of 1812. The architect, John Russell Pope, designed many prominent monuments and buildings, including the National Gallery in Washington D.C. and Plattsburgh City Hall.

In the event of rain, tours will not be allowed, and the monument will be closed during the parade. Children under the age of 7 will not be allowed to tour the monument. Children ages 7 to 12 must be accompanied by an adult. A limited number of visitors will be allowed in the monument at the same time, and the tours will be closely monitored by adult volunteers.

The tour costs the presence of a BOP Button or \$1 donation for adults. Youth ages 7 to 18 years

old can tour for free.

9:30am-3pm: **Children's Old Time Village Fair**

Location: Macdonough Monument and 30 City Hall Place

The Children's Old Time Village Fair will once again be featured during the Battle of Plattsburgh Commemoration. Take a step back in time in the tent village around the Macdonough Monument and at City Well and spend quality time with family, friends and neighbors.

Look for small animals and roosters cared for by children from the Chattering Chipmunks 4H Club. Find "Mr. Ben" in the rooster tent and learn why a "Plucky Rooster" became a legend. Enter the "Rooster" craft contest sponsored by Champlain Centre and the Plattsburgh Public Library.

Returning this year are wonderful volunteers who will be demonstrating old time crafts and skills that were essential 200 years ago. Learn how to make wooden shingles or print with wooden blocks. Watch talented artists carve beautiful art from pieces of wood and try your hand at carving an animal shape from a bar of soap. Children will love the creative designs that will be painted on their hands or faces, and Joe, a talented artist, will playfully draw 1814 themed caricatures. Lance, a friendly blacksmith, will demonstrate how to make useful tools, while his brother, Brett, will use an antique apple press to make cider. Learn how to make a quilt by using paper patterns, admire an antique doll display or make an old fashioned string doll.

Stroll down the street to City Well and look at all the historical displays. View the three winning posters in the BOP Poster Contest and other posters that were created by 4th grade students from all over Clinton County. Read the *Battle of Plattsburgh — Did You Know?*, a book that was created in 2011 by 4th grade children at Cumberland Head Elementary School and view a collection of BOP buttons that were designed from 1st place poster designs.

Join Alice from the NY State Reading Association in a "Journey into Reading" and meet Linda from "Literacy Volunteers" who will let you pick out your own book to encourage you to read. Watch a video about the Battle of Plattsburgh 2014 Bicentennial and learn about plans for the Beekmantown Bicentennial in 2020.

9:30am-3pm: **Montreal Chateau Ramezay Museum Guides**

Location: 30 City Hall Place

Beginning in 1998, people in Plattsburgh have welcomed volunteer guides from the Chateau Ramezay Museum, which is located in Old Montreal. The guides, dressed in red and grey period appropriate attire, provide interactive demonstrations of essential skills that were needed in the 1800s.

Learn about the art of spinning wool and weaving; try your hand at writing with a quill pen and bottled ink; and learn why the fur trade was so important 200 years ago. Discover "when and why" famous Americans once occupied the Chateau Ramezay in Montreal.

10am: **Police Pipes & Drums of Plattsburgh**

Location: Trinity Park

Wearing their Black Watch kilts, the Police Pipes & Drums of Plattsburgh has been entertaining fans throughout the Adirondack Coast for more than six years. Under the direction of Pipe Major James Godfrey, the band appears in numerous parades, memorial services and fundraisers.

10am: **Defense of the Bridge**

Location: Veterans Bridge, Bridge Street

Defense of the Bridge reenactment: witness the British invaders chase the American defenders

through the streets into the heart of the city from Cumberland Avenue to Bridge Street.

10am:

Sailing Masters of 1812

Location: Plattsburgh Farmers' and Crafters' Market, Durkee Street Parking Lot

A period-appropriate fife and drum corps based in Essex, Conn. And a perennial favorite, the Sailing masters of 1812 was founded in 1963 as the Essex Fife and Drum Corps to perpetuate the art of fifing and drumming and to commemorate the role of Essex in the War of 1812.

10am-3pm:

Clinton County Historical Association Museum Open House

Location: 98 Ohio Ave., Old Base Museum Campus

See the rare Aiken Rifle and dress swords presented to General Alexander Macomb and Major General Benjamin Mooers for their service during the War of 1812. The book *The Military Career of Alexander Macomb* by Allen Everest is free to Battle of Plattsburgh Commemoration Button holders.

10am-4pm: *

Kent-Delord House Museum Open House

Location: 17 Cumberland Ave.

Visit the home of Henry Delord and his wife, Betsey, prominent members of the Plattsburgh community whose home served as British headquarters while American and British soldiers battled for control of the city.

10am-4pm:

Military Muster

Location: Kent-Delord House Museum, 17 Cumberland Ave.

Military reenactors from the U.S. and Canada are expected to descend on Plattsburgh and camp on the grounds of the Kent-Delord House Museum for the Battle of Plattsburgh Commemoration weekend. Stop in and see the military camp, meet the reenactors, participate in hands-on activities and watch demonstrations of 19th century trades and crafts.

10am-4pm:

Kids Games

Location: City Hall lawn

Prepare to play old fashioned children's games, such as the three-legged race, sack races, potato races, hoop games, Jacob's ladders, stilts and more!

10am-8pm:

Food Court

Location: Trinity Park, Lower Court Street

11am:

Noon Rotary Club of Plattsburgh Bed Race

Location: City Hall Place

The Plattsburgh Noon Rotary Club presents the 9th annual Rotary Bed Race! All five-person teams are encouraged to create and decorate their own entries and arrive in costume. The fastest Battle of Plattsburgh Bay Navel re-enactment bed wins \$500, with \$250 and \$100 for the second and third fastest and one further \$150 award goes to the bed voted the best overall theme by a panel of judges. The winning team receives the coveted Golden Bed Pan Award and bragging rights!

11am:

Police Pipes & Drums of Plattsburgh

Location: Plattsburgh Farmers' and Crafters' Market, Durkee Street Parking Lot

Wearing their Black Watch kilts, the Police Pipes & Drums of Plattsburgh has been entertaining fans throughout the Adirondack Coast for more than six years. Under the direction of Pipe Major

James Godfrey, the band appears in numerous parades, memorial services and fundraisers.

11am: **Sailing Masters of 1812**
Location: Trinity Park, lower Court Street

A period-appropriate fife and drum corps based in Essex, Conn. and a perennial favorite, the Sailing masters of 1812 was founded in 1963 as the Essex Fife and Drum Corps to perpetuate the art of fifing and drumming and to commemorate the role of Essex in the War of 1812.

11am: **Naval Demonstration**
Location: Champlain Monument

Sailors will discuss the War of 1812 battle and cannon demonstrations at the Champlain Monument.

Noon: **Kids Muster & Parade**
Location: City Hall Place

Join the Kids Militia! Children ages 5 to 12 are invited to muster on the green near City Hall. Stick around because immediately following the muster is the Kids Only Parade.

Noon: **Court Marshal**
Location: Kent-Delord House Museum, 17 Cumberland Ave.

A period trial of a soldier at the Kent-Delord House Museum. Come and see the verdict!

1pm: **Battle of Plattsburgh Parade**
Location: Cumberland Avenue and City Hall Place

The parade begins at Elks Club on Cumberland Avenue, continues down City Hall Place and ends at Bridge Street. Enjoy an old-fashioned parade with bands, marching units and floats. In keeping with the tradition of a musical and marching parade, we anticipate several bands, including The Band of Her Majesty's Royal Marines from Cobourg, Ontario; U.S. Navy Northeast; Police Pipes & Drums of Plattsburgh; The Quigley Highlanders; and Sailing Masters of 1812, 10th Mountain Division Band, 32nd Division Band.

Beat Retreat (Following the Parade)
Location: City Hall Place

Don't miss this! A wonderful and moving compilation of all of the musical entertainment you will see in the parade. Join us in front of City Hall immediately following the parade for an hour-long performance of the massed bands.

2:30pm: * **19th Century Fashion Show**
Location: Kent-Delord House Museum, 17 Cumberland Ave.

The show presents a variety of civilian and military clothing from the War of 1812. The styles are researched and reproduced by reenactors to represent what people wore at the time.

3-9:45pm: * **The Israel Green Tavern**
Location: Olive Ridley's Taphouse & Grill, Court Street

Performances TBA.

5pm: * **Eliza Mooers Historic District Walking Tour**
Location: Macdonough Monument

Take a tour of Plattsburgh's historic places with Eliza Mooers (Melissa Bistor-Cross).

6-7pm:

Fulton's Folly in Concert

Location: Lions Club Band Shell Stage

Fulton's Folly was formed in June 2017. The band plays a wide variety of music, mainly from the 1950s, '60s and '70s. Some examples of their music include Fleetwood Mac, Pure Prairie League and Jay and the Americans. The five-piece band has many years of experience in the local music scene. Each member of the band brings a unique set of skills and talent to every exciting performance.

7:30pm: *

The Band of Her Majesty's Royal Marines of Cobourg

Location: Strand Center for the Arts, 23 Brinkerhoff St.

The Cobourg Concert Band, 65 musicians strong, started visiting Plattsburgh in 2002. They look forward to coming here annually and tell us that it's the highlight of their year. We're pleased to welcome them back for the 17th consecutive year.

7:30pm:

Reenactment: McGlassin's Raid Nighttime Tactical Demonstration

Location: Macdonough Monument

See the flashes of gun and cannon fire at the Macdonough Monument on City Hall Place.

8-11pm: *

Macomb Ball

Location: City Hall auditorium, second floor

The Macomb Ball is a fancy, period-dress English country dance with live music led by dance masters Wendy Gilchrist and Bruce Kokernot.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

9-10am:

The Fun Run

Location: Behind the City Recreation Center

10am:

19th century Church Service with Reverend Paul Heller

Location: Champlain Monument Gazebo, Cumberland Avenue

10am-3pm:

Kid's Games

Location: City Hall lawn

Prepare to play old fashioned children's games, such as the three-legged race, sack races, potato races, hoop games, Jacob's ladders, stilts and more!

10:45am:

Shape-note Singing

Location: Kent-Delord House Museum, 17 Cumberland Ave.

Shape-note singing, an American folk tradition of singing hymns and gospel songs from books using shaped note heads to indicate position on the scale. The songs are sung without instrumental accompaniment and would have been likely to occur in Plattsburgh in 1814. Visitors are welcome to come and listen or contribute to the beautiful sound. No experience is required.

11am:

Saratoga Replica Demonstration

Location: Champlain Monument

- 11am: **The fall of the British Batteries Land Engagement**
Location: Field across from Wilcox Dock
- Witness the thrilling American victory as they beat back the British occupiers into Lake Champlain.
- 11am-2:30pm: **Montreal Chateau Ramezay Museum Guides**
Location: Kent-Delord House Museum
- Beginning in 1998, people in Plattsburgh have welcomed volunteer guides from the Chateau Ramezay Museum, which is located in Old Montreal. The guides, dressed in red and grey period appropriate attire, provide interactive demonstrations of essential skills that were needed in the 1800s.
- Learn about the art of spinning wool and weaving; try your hand at writing with a quill pen and bottled ink; and learn why the fur trade was so important 200 years ago. Discover “when and why” famous Americans once occupied the Chateau Ramezay in Montreal.
- 11am-3pm: * **Kent-Delord House Museum Open House**
Location: 17 Cumberland Ave.
- 11am-3pm: **Military Muster**
Location: Kent-Delord House Museum, 17 Cumberland Ave.
- Military reenactors are expected to descend on Plattsburgh and camp on the grounds of the Kent-Delord House Museum for the weekend. Stop in and see the military camp, meet the re-enactors, participate in hands-on activities and watch demonstrations of 19th century trades and crafts. Also joining the muster are the guides from Montreal's Chateau Ramezay Museum who will provide interactive demonstrations of weaving and writing with a quill pen; the art of spinning wool and weaving; and much more.
- Noon: **Kids Muster & Parade**
Location: City Hall lawn
- Join the Kids Militia! Children ages 5 to 12 are invited to muster on the green near City Hall. Stick around because immediately following the muster is the Kids Only Parade.
- 1pm: **Naval Demonstration**
Location: Champlain Monument
- Sailors will discuss the War of 1812 battle and give cannon demonstrations.
- 2:30pm: **Court Marshal**
Location: Kent-Delord House Museum, 17 Cumberland Ave.
- A period trial of a soldier. Come and see the verdict!
- 5pm: **Old Post Cemetery Service: Remembering the Unknowns**
Location: Lake Forest Drive
- Plattsburgh's Old Post Cemetery is the final resting place of 445 persons, including 163 soldiers and airmen and 136 unknown soldiers and sailors. The small burial site includes the remains of those who fought in the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, the Spanish-American War and Vietnam, as well as the remains of wives and children.
- 7pm: **U.S. Navy Band Northeast in Concert**

Location: Strand Center for the Arts, 23 Brinkerhoff St.

The U.S. Navy Band Northeast has been a frequent visitor to Plattsburgh in the past, and we are pleased to welcome them back. One of four regional Navy bands they travel throughout the northeast region of the country each year. This year, we are seeing a larger than usual group of crack musicians with us in a rare Sunday concert performance for the commemoration.