US Brig Niagara under full sail photographed June 2009 near Put-In-Bay, Ohio. The relief flagship for Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry in the Battle of Lake Erie was launched July 4th 1813
President General's Message  
July 2016  

Thomas Edward Jacks

Throughout the late spring and early summer, I have enjoyed reading about the various activities conducted by our State Societies. These commemorations, grave markings, living histories, and other programs are the bedrock of the Society’s efforts to perpetuate the memory of the men who brought our country victory in the War of 1812.

At the invitation of President Dennis Fritts, I had the honor of attending the Annual Muster of the Society of the War of 1812 in the Commonwealth of Virginia held in Richmond. It was a great opportunity to hear about the numerous projects completed and being planned by the Society in Virginia. Of particular note is the publication of a supplement to Burials of War of 1812 Veterans in the Commonwealth of Virginia, a monumental effort by Virginia Society member Mike Lyman. At the conclusion of the meeting, I installed newly elected Society President Charles Poland.

While in Richmond, I participated in a ceremony sponsored by the Society in Virginia to honor three War of 1812 veterans at buried at Shockoe Hill Cemetery. This historic cemetery, located in the heart of Richmond, is the final resting place of Chief Justice John Marshall. It also contains the graves of over 400 War of 1812 veterans.

Finally, please note the details for the 2016 Board meeting in September in Springfield, Illinois. Now is the time to register for what will, no doubt, be a fun event and great fellowship.
The Choctaw During The War Of 1812

During the summer of 1811, the Shawnee from the Ohio River valley paid diplomatic visits with the great Indian tribes found in the old American Southwest (today’s Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana). After the Shawnee Chief Tecumseh failed to negotiate an alliance with the Chickasaw, Tecumseh and his band of warriors next urged the Choctaw to join an Indian confederacy that would be allied with Britain.

Tecumseh

With lengthy speeches, tribal authorities presented their views to native audiences. One such speech was made at Hoentubbee’s village that was found two miles east of the Bogue Chitto River (today’s central Mississippi). Tecumseh spoke, and Seekaboo conveyed Tecumseh’s meaning to the Indian clans found in the area. He, in summation, proposed: “Let us form one body, one heart, and defend—to the last warrior!—our country, our homes, our liberty and the graves of our fathers.” After several meetings and some deliberation, the Choctaw refused Tecumseh’s offer. The most vocal critic being Pushmataha. The mingo responded to Tecumseh’s rhetoric with:

‘We the Choctaws have no need to demand peace with the whites,’ he said. ‘We are already at peace with them and they do not bother us, nor we them. It would be foolish beyond measure for us to send off our young men to fight in Northern battles which are not our business. It would be foolish as well for our young men here to rise against those with whom we are at peace.’

Pushmataha

Tecumseh’s words had fallen upon un-moved sentiments, un-swayed spirits, and un-touched minds. The Choctaw had resolved to side with the Americans. After all business was brought to a close, the Shawnee entourage was soon escorted east toward the Tombigbee River. But before the Shawnee diplomats forded, a Muscogee raiding party attacked the Choctaw & Shawnee. The next day the Choctaw & Shawnee banded and skirmished with the raiding Muscogee. The Choctaw & Shawnee eventually defeated the raiders but not without losing several men. Undaunted by the attack, Tecumseh resumed his diplomatic objective. After Tecumseh departed Choctaw country, the dejected Shawnee with his band of followers left for the Muscogee where he would find diplomatic success among the Upper Creek villages that were found along the Alabama, Coosa, and Tallapossa Rivers. Continued Page 4.
Continued from page 3.

While war was declared between the United States and Great Britain in June of 1812, tensions continued to escalate between American Colonials and eastern-based Indians. In February of 1813, Little Warrior and his Red Stick warriors killed a number of settlers found on disputed lands (in present day Alabama). U. S. Indian Agent Benjamin Hawkins demanded that the killers be punished and the Muscogee tribal council consented and ordered the execution of Little Warrior. In retaliation for Little Warrior’s death, the Red Sticks faction “took revenge” on the Muscogee tribal council. The Muscogee vs. Muscogee hostilities escalated and led to a Muscogee civil war. Then on one summer day, without provocation, an American militia attacked a Muscogee Red Stick camp at Burnt Corn Creek. The Red Sticks considered the July 1813 attack unprovoked as the Red Sticks were on a supply run from Spanish held Pensacola. On August 30th of 1813, Fort Mims (Alabama) was attacked by raiding Muscogee Red Sticks—supposedly in retaliation for the Burnt Corn Creek raid. This massacre gave the United States the impetuous it needed to declare war on the Muscogee.

In the months following the Fort Mims Massacre, many Americans, on several occasions, believed that the Choctaw would ally with the Muscogee. Not long before the Fort Mims Massacre, West Florida officials wanted to know the “precise attitude” of central Mississippi’s indigenous population. In order to ascertain the Choctaw’s position, General William Charles Claiborne, once governor of the Louisiana Territory, sent Major John H. Ballinger—recently promoted—to the Choctaw Nation (in Mississippi). On August 15th of 1813, Ballenger met with Choctaw leader Pushmataha. Unfortunately, Ballenger had died within three days of his arrival. Pushmataha was still eager to side with the United States, so he traveled to St. Stephens (Alabama) to meet with Captain George S. Gaines. The mingo proposed raising several companies for the American army. The major was “pleased” to hear the idea, so Gaines escorted Pushmataha to Mobile to inform Brigadier General John Thomas Flournoy—the commander of the 7th Military District (Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Tennessee). However, the general refused to accept Pushmataha’s proposition. A dejected Gaines & Pushmataha returned to St. Stephens.

When Gaines and Pushmataha reached St. Stephens, they gave the people the bad news. But, in the distance, a courier approached the fort as Gaines and Pushmataha was addressing the people. The courier had a message from Flournoy. He had reconsidered the matter and accepted Pushmataha’s offer. The Choctaw were now officially on the side of the United States.

The Choctaws participated in 24 engagements during the War of 1812. The historical record details most of these engagements, but a few are lost to the ages. Some notable events of the war were:

- Burnt Corn Creek (July 27, 1813): An American militia attacked the Muscogee Red Sticks—this act instigated the attack on Fort Mims.
- Fort Mims Massacre (August 30, 1813): Muscogee Red Sticks slaughtered nearly 300.
- Tallusahatchee (November 3, 1813): This battle was one of the first after the Fort Mims Massacre. General Coffee with 900 Tennesseans made the attack on the Muscogee town.
- Holy Ground or Econachaca (December 23, 1813): After this particular battle this Indian town was captured. This was mainly a Choctaw vs. Muscogee battle.
- Calabee Valley (January 27, 1814): The Muscogee made a surprise attack on General Floyd’s Georgia troops.
- Horseshoe Bend or Tohopeka (March 27, 1814): Hundreds of Muscogee warriors made their last stand on the Tallaposa River. Choctaws participated.
- Fort Jackson (August 9, 1814): The Treaty of Fort Jackson (or the Treaty of Conquest) ended the war with the Muscogee.
- Pensacola (November 7, 1814): This battle’s purpose was to remove the British & Spanish threat. Choctaws participated.
- New Orleans (January 8, 1815): At this famous battle, the Choctaws were “scouting in the swamp.” The Choctaw warriors may have been used as a flank and clashed with British allied “West Indians” from the West Indies.

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This article was written by ROBERT BRUCE FERGUSON. Robert, born in Nashville back in 1969, studied upper-level history in college. Continued page 5
Continued from page 4. He is a member of the local chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution and the General Society of the War of 1812. The military veteran makes his home in Mississippi and is a member of a federally recognized tribe—Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians.

**Grave Site Dedication Ceremony in Indiana**

A Dedication Ceremony for Private Philip A. Crecelius, a veteran of the War of 1812 was held on June 5, 2016, at the Mount Eden Cemetery in Crawford County, Indiana. Private Crecelius served at Fort Strother, Alabama.

Private Crecelius is the Great-Great Grandfather of David Warren Myers, a member of the Alabama Society of the War of 1812.

Philip Ausmus Crecelius was born April 17, 1794, in Washington County, Tenn. He served in the War of 1812 under Colonel William Lillard's 2nd Regiment, East Tennessee Volunteer Militia, enlisting when he was 19. He, along with his parents, arrived in Indiana territory sometime before 1816 and settled in the present day Harrison County O'Bannon Woods, where his parents are buried.

He married Rebecca Enlow on February 1, 1817, in Harrison County, Indiana. On January 14, 1830, he married Drucilla Enlow in Crawford County, Indiana. Crecelius purchased land in Crawford County on February 11, 1836.

Through his wives Rebecca and Drucilla, who were sisters, Philip fathered 17 children; the first was born in 1817 and the last in 1847.

He died on August 31, 1850, in Patoka Township, Indiana and was buried in Mount Eden Cemetery.

The Ceremony was sponsored by the Jonathon Jennings Chapter United States Daughters of 1812. Over 60 people attended the Ceremony including nine direct descendants ranging from Compatriot Meyers to Great Great Great Grandchildren of Private Crecelius.

Compatriot David W. Myers is a Veteran US Army Paratrooper. His Grand Nephew, Specialist 4 Corey Myers, who currently serves in the US Army, also gave remarks during the Ceremony.

The Everett Mason VFW Post 6160 also participated in the Dedication Ceremony.

Compatriot David Warren Myers renders a salute at the Dedication Ceremony.

Honorary Indiana State U.S.D. 1812 President Carol Seals unveils the marker.

Newly Dedicated Marker
Wyndham Springfield City Centre
700 E Adams St. | Springfield, IL 62701

For a reservation:
217-789-1530 | ask for Society of the War of 1812

Room Rate:

**COME TO SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS**

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15**
12:00 - 5:00 pm  Registration
6:00 - 10:00 pm  Reception in President’s suite

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16**
7:00 - 8:00 am  Breakfast buffet included
Morning  Free time to explore Springfield
1:00 - 4:00 pm  General Society Annual Meeting

**LEWIS & CLARK**

Lewis and Clark State Historic Site is the home of Camp River Dubois, the Expedition’s first winter encampment. The Corps of Discovery established their first camp site at the Confluence of the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers, along the River Dubois or Wood River.

The expedition wintered here from Dec 12, 1803 until May 14, 1804. Camp River Dubois is where the Corps of Discovery was formed and where the men came to know and trust each other.

The winter encampment served as the final staging area where the men gathered their remaining supplies and information in preparation for their Spring departure. Meriwether Lewis wrote on May 14, 1804 “The Mouth of the River Dubois is to be considered as the point of Departure.”
Mail check to:
Toby Chamberlain
230 Marblestone Drive
Chatham, IL 62629
217-483-6267

Registration form and check must be received before August 15th. Make checks payable to Illinois Society War of 1812. $50 extra charge if past August 15.

GOV NINIAN EDWARDS
Illinois Territorial Governor organized the Illinois Rangers

Daniel Boone near the mouth of the River Kentucky to establish Fort Boonesboro and to explore the Kentucky Country. The corps of the expedition wintered at the Confluence of the Rivers Mississippi and Missouri, near the Wood River, where the Corps of Discovery established their first camp site.

September 15 - 17 - Springfield, Illinois

General Society of the War of 1812

LEWIS & CLARK EXPEDITION

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230 Marblestone Drive
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217-483-6267

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LAND OF LINCOLN

Thursday, Friday morning, or Sunday, there will be plenty of time to explore the Land of Lincoln.

To learn more about Springfield, Illinois, please go to www.visitspringfieldillinois.com/

Our hosts have planned outstanding outings that will be educational and entertaining. Please make plans now to attend.

1812 General Society Annual Meeting, Springfield, IL, Sept. 16 & 17, 2016

NAME:__________________________________________________________
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Phone Number:________________________________________________________________________
Address:________________________________________________________________________________
City_________________________ State ___________ Zip Code_____________
Guest Names:___________________________________________________________________________
Total Attendees:_________ X $180 ea. Without Saturday Bus Tour:_________ X $100 ea

PLEASE NOTE ANY DIETARY REQUIREMENTS ____________________________
American Heritage Celebration in Nebraska

The Fourth Annual American Heritage Celebration was held on Saturday February 20, 2016 hosted by the Lincoln Chapter NESSAR. This event is designed to foster education and camaraderie between the various patriotic organizations in Nebraska that share a common goal and to honor our ancestors that had a part in the founding of the United States.

Members of their respective 1812 Societies in attendance were CMSgt (R) Robert Knott; Judy Moore; William Webb; Kathleen Ocasio and Frederick Walden.

Silver Buffalo Award Presented to California Society Member

Compatriot Daniel Leo Coberly, member of the California Society, was presented the Silver Buffalo Award at the National Annual Meeting of the Boy Scouts of America in San Diego on May 27, 2016. The award was presented by former Secretary of Defense Dr. Robert Gates, President of the Boy Scouts of America.

Created in 1925, the Silver Buffalo Award is the highest national-level distinguished service commendation of the Boy Scouts of America. It is presented for noteworthy and extraordinary service to youth on a national basis, either as part of, or independent of the Scouting program.

In 2014, Compatriot Coberly was one of two retired soldiers inducted in the U.S. Army Public Affairs Hall of Fame. In 2015 he received the President’s Gold Award for Volunteer Service; in 2016 he was recently presented the President’s Life Time Achievement Award from the Corporation for National and Community service.

ROTC Awards Presented by the North Carolina Society

Cadet Harris receives the ROTC Award presented by Dr. Alan Feduccia at the University of North Carolina.

ROTC Award presented to Cadets Christy Xiong and Scott Henion by Society President Jerry L. Higgins at East Carolina University
Book Review by George F.W. Young


A huge swathe of Maine’s coastline from the St. Croix River to the Penobscot River was under British control during the latter part of the War of 1812. In his book, Professor Young provides historical context through eye witness accounts and documentary evidence to explain how this came to be.

The debate over the territorial rights to Eastport, Maine, provides a backdrop to the whole invasion. This busy trading town was easily taken on July 11, 1814, which gave the British more reason to start restoring what some believed (either through ignorance or arrogance) the true boundary of their American colony, up the coast to the Penobscot.

The deep division between the local Federalist and Republican camps, the superior strength of the British forces, and the greenness of the militia to face such a trained army and navy led to Maine’s undoing. On occasion, selectmen argued with the town’s military whether to fight or capitulate. The only time Maine was prepared for the fight, the battle was over in an hour and the American troops routed. Assumptions of the graciousness of their invaders at times proved to be true, while other times it proved disastrous. Depending on situation and British/brutish officers in charge, ships and buildings were set afire, houses and shops looted, soldiers billeted and animals slaughtered for food without recompense. At other times the military presence could be pleasurable; in some locales the invaders threw balls and provided entertainments for themselves as well as the Mainers. Young speculates why there seemed to be no resistance or underground movement to overthrow the British occupiers.

Massachusetts held Maine as a province for generations and the situation Downeast was not made easier since the bay state’s Governor Strong opposed the war. One of the results of his reluctance or indifference to fight for the territory in Maine, resulted in a stronger desire for Maine to shed the control of Massachusetts and become sovereign in her own right. This happened a scant five years after the war.

There is much to like about this excellent treatment of history. It is meticulously researched from U. S. and Canadian sources, supplied with numerous historical or newly prepared maps, and supplemented with color plates.

One wishes for a bibliography and a better index, but that hardly detracts from the excellent story provided!

Historic 1812 Marker Dedicated in Pittsburgh

Maryland 1812 members participate in the dedication of a new state historical marker in Pittsburgh on Saturday, May 14, 2016. The Dolley Payne Madison Chapter, of Pittsburgh, USD 1812 arranged for the placement of a Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission marker downtown Pittsburgh at the Smithfield Street and Fifth Avenue site of the McClurg Iron Foundry. The foundry, established in 1804, supplied cannons and ammunition, primarily destined for the fleet on Lake Erie.

The Maryland 1812 members participating were Martin H. McKown III, Maryland Society member, Ginger Apyar, former President National, USD 1812 representing the National Society, Sally Johnston, Maryland State President USD 1812 and Ginger’s sister Jane.

Also present was Andrew E. Masich, Chairman, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission who brought greetings from Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf and the Commission.
Ohio Society publishes new book on American POWs

The Society of the War of 1812 in the State of Ohio has released its newest book, the American Prisoners of War Paroled at Dartmouth, Halifax, Jamaica and Odiham during the War of 1812.

This is a transcription of prisoner of war records of American officers, warrant officers and senior mates from the U.S. Navy, privateers and merchant vessels (plus some civilians) who were paroled by the British Empire at parole stations located at Dartmouth and Odiham in England, at Halifax in Nova Scotia, Canada, and in Jamaica, West Indies, during the War of 1812.

There are also some U.S. Army, U.S. Volunteers and militia officers included in these transcriptions. This volume was compiled from a copy of the microfilm of Miscellaneous Lists and Material of the British Admiralty housed at the Public Record Office in London, Great Britain.

Once the senior naval personnel were processed at a prisoner of war facility, most of these personnel were sent to a parole station. Besides the four parole stations listed above, there were also two other locations at Ashburton and Reading in England where the records have not survived.

The officers were issued certificates of parole which permitted them to live away from the prisoner of war facilities until they were either exchanged for a British officer or sent home at war’s end. There are a total of 1,234 names recorded in the four ledgers for Dartmouth, Halifax, Jamaica and Odiham.

Johnson is currently transcribing the prisoner of war ledgers for Americans held at Dartmoor in England during the war. When completed, this book will contain the information on 6,553 American who were interned between April 1813 and March 1815 at this facility.

These books can be obtained from Heritage Books, Inc. (http://www.heritagebooks.com). Heritage Books has also published the other prisoner of war books first authored by Harrison Scott Baker II and later by Johnson for the Society of the War of 1812 in the State of Ohio.

Iowa Society Participates in 4th of July Parade

On July 4th 2016, members of the Iowa Society Color Guard unit joined with the local SAR, DAR & CAR and marched in the largest 4th of July parade in the State of Iowa at Urbandale, Iowa. American flags, wooden coins and candy was distributed to over 2000 children along the route.

Virginia Society participated in the James Monroe Birthday Ceremony

Past Virginia Society President Mike Lyman, Virginia Councilor Charles Belfield and prospective member Colonel George Beckett at Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond, Virginia on April 28.
# General Society of the War of 1812

**Founded September 14, 1814**

## Merchandise Price List – 08 / 2015

*(Prices Include Shipping)*

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Address: ______________________________________________________________________________  
City, State and Zip: _______________________________________________________________________

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Membership insignia only sold to members in **good standing**. Include membership number if ordering membership insignia items.

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<td>General Society Flag (3’x5’ double sided nylon with pole hem and gold fringe)</td>
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<td>ROTC Medal <strong>PRICE INCREASE Effective Immediately</strong></td>
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Publication Requirements

The 1812 War Cry is the official publication of The General Society of the War of 1812. Published three times a year in March, July and November, submission deadlines are February 1, June 1, and October 1. Society news is welcome in MS WORD format. Scholarly works specifically tailored to our readership must be properly annotated; use of copyright protected materials or images without written permission is prohibited. Photos are encouraged as attachments in jpg or tiff formats – not pdf. Smartphone images that lose focus when enlarged or converted to black and white will not be used.

Send publication materials to:
Ken Roach, Editor
44 Broadleaf Circle
Windsor, CT 06095-1613
Kingsmen18@aol.com
860-841-7260

Questions or suggestions, contact:
Tom Jacks, President General
327 Devon Drive
Mandeville, LA 70448-3316
Tejacks1970@aol.com

For complete roster of General Officers, visit: societyofthewarof1812.org