**War of 1812 Events in Virginia Planned for February –July 2015**

**It includes The Treaty of Ghent Activities**

**Background** The Treaty of Peace and Amity was signed in Ghent by the American and British delegations on December 24, 1814; however, the War of 1812 formally concluded on February 17, 1815 with the US Senate ratification. This historic treaty (commonly known as the Treaty of Ghent) marked the point where the United Kingdom, the United States, and Canada have since remained steadfast allies. The City of Norfolk had an intimate experience with this war – from the 1807 offshore seizure of *USS Chesapeake* (a locally built US frigate) by *HMS Leopard*, which proved to be a contributing factor to hostilities between the two nations, to the unsuccessful British assault on Craney Island in June 1813. The last engagement of the war in Virginia occurred some 30 miles north of Norfolk on February 17, 1815.

**Planned Events**

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**Wednesday, 11 February**

o ***“The Treaty of Ghent.”*** Free lecture open to the public hosted by the Norfolk Historical Society. MacArthur Memorial Auditorium. (7-9 pm.)

**Saturday, 14 February**

o ***War of 1812 Virginia State Marker dedication*.** A War of 1812 Virginia state marker will be dedicated in a brief public ceremony. This marker records the roles of historic War of 1812 Forts Norfolk and Nelson. Plum Point Park (vicinity of Fort Norfolk Plaza, 301 Riverview Ave). (11-11:30 am.) Legal Counsel, Carter Furr and Councilor Stuart L Butler of the Society of the War of 1812 in the Commonwealth of Virginia will be attending and giving remarks and greetings. Furr will be representing the Society and Butler the Virginia Bicentennial Commission

The wording on the marker reads:

*“****War of 1812 Elizabeth River Defenses:*** *President George Washington authorized the construction of 19 coastal defense fortifications in 1794. Nearby Fort Norfolk, which mounted 37 guns, and Fort Nelson, armed with 10 cannon, were constructed by 1810 to guard the Elizabeth River approaches to Norfolk, Portsmouth, and Gosport Navy Yard. Additional defensive works, Forts Barbour and Tar, were later added and a blockhouse was built on Craney Island. Because Craney Island successfully defended against the British on 22 June 1813, Forts Norfolk and Nelson never fired their guns during the war. Only Fort Norfolk survived as a relic of this conflict.”*

**Saturday, 21 February**

o ***Treaty Peace Rose dedication and reception.*** This ceremony will be held at the Chrysler Museum, Norfolk, where a commemorative rose bush will be planted in honor of the original "Peace Roses" provided in 1814 to the American and British delegates by the citizens of the Belgian city of Ghent. Reception to follow. (10:30-11:30 am.)

o ***"An American in Ghent: tracing Henry Clay's footsteps.”*** An informal presentation by Dr. Ian Ralby, JD, PhD (CANTAB) on American peace talks, then and now. Given in the elegant setting of the historic Woman’s Club of Norfolk. Refreshments offered. (1-2 pm - to be confirmed).

o ***Treaty of Ghent Bicentennial Ball.*** A black tie or period attire dinner-dance gala event at the Norfolk Yacht and Country Club to commemorate two hundred years of “Peace and Amity” between Great Britain and America. Ticketed event: $50 per person purchased online at www.norfolkhistorical.org – click on “events.” (6-10 pm.)

The Treaty of Ghent Bicentennial Ball

Program

Perambulation and Libation

The Hampton Roads Chamber Players, Musicians

A Regency Period Dance by the Regency Society of Virginia

Mr. Wayne Hill, Musician and Ms. Jenna Simpson, Caller

National Anthems

The Mayoral Proclamation of Amity

The Honorable Paul D. Fraim

Dinner and Conversation

A Brief Oration on the Treaty of Ghent

Mr. John V. Quarstein

Toasts to Peace and Amity between our Nations

Period Dances, open to all and led by the Regency Society of Virginia

Mr. Wayne Hill, Musician and Ms. Jenna Simpson, Caller

Libation and Farewells

The Norfolk Historical Society gratefully acknowledges

The City of Norfolk

Ghent Floral

The Hampton Roads Chamber Players

The Regency Society of Virginia

The Hampton Roads Naval Museum

The Norfolk Yacht and Country Club

The Demonstration Dance

*Ramsgate Assembly (1780)*

**Dinner**

*Salad*

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*Shrimp and Scallops Américain*

*Coq au Vin Belge*

*Carved Roast Prime Rib Britannique*

*Grilled Filet of Red Snapper Canadien*

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*Dessert*

After Dinner Dances

*Dover Pier (1791)*

*Knole Park (1809)*

*The Northdown Waltz (1820)*

*The Dressed Ship (1774)*

*Auretti's Dutch Skipper (1756)*

*The Duke of Kent's Waltz (1801)*

**Friday 20 February**

**The Board of Direction (BOD) Meeting** of the Society of the War of1812 in the Commonwealth of Virginia will take place at the Omni Hotel and Resorts 100 South 12th St, Richmond Virginia at 1-4pm. Members of the BOD will present their reports and recommendations. Planned activities of the Society will be addressed and approved. Members of the Society that are not members of the Board of Direction are desired to attend, but will be in a non-voting status. For War of 1812 society members that are members of Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution(VASSAR), their annual meeting events commence that evening in the same hotel.

**Sunday, 22 February**

***“Make Tea, not War: Commemorating the Treaty of Ghent Bicentennial.”*** The Hampton Roads Naval Museum, assisted by the Regency Society of Virginia and the US Daughters of 1812, will host a tea in the Naval Museum (Nauticus). Hostesses will be in 1812 period dress and a harpist will perform for the tea guests. Open to the public. $7 per person. (1-4 pm.)

**Sunday, 01 March**

**Highway Marker Dedication Ceremony** The Henrico County Historical Society will host the ceremony/reception at the Antioch Baptist Church, 3868 Antioch Rd, Sandston, VA at 2:30 pm. The representative of our Society will be Past President, Mike Lyman. Councilor of our Society, Stuart L Butler will make a presentation as the author of the signage and represent the VA Bicentennial Commission The text of the sign reads:

*Richmond’s War of 1812 Defensive Camps V-53*

*During the War of 1812, Virginia established militia encampments in eastern Henrico County to guard against possible British invasion. About a mile northeast of here was Camp Holly Springs (April 1813-Feb. 1815), commanded briefly by Lt. Col. (later Brig. Gen.) John H. Cocke and afterward by Brig. Gen. Robert Porterfield. Camp Carter (Sept.1814 to Feb. 1815), under Cocke’s command, stood seven miles northeast of here on Williamsburg Road. Two miles east of Camp Carter was Camp Bottoms Bridge (Sept.-Nov. 1814), commanded by Brig. Gen. William B. Chamberlayne. These encampments were never threatened by British forces during the war.*

**Monday 16 March**

**President James Madison Birthday Celebration:** The Commemoration of the 264th Anniversary of the Birth of President James Madison will be conducted at the Madison graveyard at Montpelier, Orange County at probably 1:30 pm Various Societies will be presenting wreaths to include the Society of the War of 1812 in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Normally, historian, Peter Broadbent of the Society of the War of 1812 in the Commonwealth of Virginia will read the VA Governor’s Proclamation The public is invited.

**Sunday 29 March**

**President John Tyler’s Birthday Celebration:** The Commemoration of the 225th Anniversary of the Birth of President John Tyler will be conducted at the Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond (time TBA) He was a Captain in the War of 1812 in Charles City County. Normally, historian, Peter Broadbent of the Society of the War of 1812 in the Commonwealth of Virginia will read the VA Governor’s Proclamation, The Society plans to present a wreath. The public is invited.

**Sunday 26 April**

**President James Monroe’s Birthplace Celebration** The commemoration of the 257th anniversary of the birth of President James Monroe will be conducted at his birthplace, vicinity Colonial Beach in Westmoreland County. The time has not been announced but normally it is at 10am. The Society of the War of 1812 in the Commonwealth of Virginia is involved by displaying the society’s flag and the Star Spangled Banner Flag and by presenting remarks and a wreath. The public is invited.

**Tuesday 28 April**

**President James Monroe’s Birthday Celebration** The commemoration of the 257th anniversary of the birth of President James Monroe will be conducted at the Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond (time TBA) Normally, historian, Peter Broadbent of the Society of the War of 1812 in the Commonwealth of Virginia will read the VA Governor’s Proclamation, The Society plans to present a wreath. The public is invited.

**Saturday 16 May (expected date)**

**Sign Unveiling Ceremony Honoring Interred War of 1812 Veterans** This event to be conducted at the Masonic Cemetery in Fredericksburg is planned in conjunction with VASSAR and the unveiling of a similar sign listing interred Revolutionary War veterans. This location is adjacent to the James Monroe Law Office Museum and will include visits to his facility. This is a major event of the Society of the War of 1812 in the Commonwealth of Virginia and all members should schedule to attend. Details will be shown on the website and the spring issue of the newsletter of the society.

**Sunday 24 May**

**Highway Marker Sign Unveiling** The Historic Staunton River Foundation is sponsoring a Virginia historic road sign entitled *War of 1812 Opposition-John Randolph* in Charlotte County ( Time and address to be furnished) This sign is financed by the VA War of 1812 Commission. The Society of the War of 1812 in the Commonwealth of Virginia plans to have representatives there. The event will be open to the public.

**Saturday 14 June (tentative date)**

**Annual Membership Meeting & Luncheon of the Society of the War of 1812 in VA** This event should be attended by all members of the society that can arrange to be there. Officers and members of the Board of Direction will be asked to present their reports. At this meeting new members will be inducted. It will be conducted in Lynchburg and details will be in the Spring Newsletter and posted on the website as soon as they are available

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