

Western Corridor War of 1812 Bicentennial Alliance Presents:



PATHWAYS TO PEACE

WESTERN CORRIDOR WAR OF 1812 - 1814

BROCK'S WALK

REGIONAL NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2011

First Issue

CHECK OUT OUR NEW LOOK!

Our new brand uniquely reflects the attributes of the Western Corridor. There were no flashy battles in this Region, rather ours is a tale of rural folks defending their families and homes against the invading Americans. This Region had all the transport routes, on land and rivers, to get the militia men, Native Warriors, civilians and supplies from York to Amherstburg. It is the **"Pathways to Peace"**.

The First Nation symbolism of the Wampum Belt is represented within the black "Trail". The Claus Wampum Belt was presented by Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs William Claus on behalf of Prince Regent George IV, to the Six Nations and their Allies, with the promise that no one would interfere in their customs and territories ever again, and they would never be called upon again in war. This Belt was sold to a collector in the mid-1800's and disappeared in to a museum collection. It has recently been found and is now part of the Smithsonian Institute's Native American Collection, the process of Repatriation of the Belt back to the Six Nations of the Grand River has begun, and will hopefully be back home for the Bicentennial of its creation in 2015.

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SUBSCRIBE

PLEASE EMAIL
adrienne.horne@hamilton.ca
with the word SUBSCRIBE in
the subject line to receive
this e-newsletter

This e-newsletter will go out on a regular basis during the Bicentennial, if there are stories or events you would like mentioned please contact Adrienne Horne at adrienne.horne@hamilton.ca



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WCA STORY

The Western Corridor Alliance was created as the 7th Region in Ontario to collaborate efforts to commemorate the Bicentennial of the War of 1812. This Region extends from the western boarder of Middlesex County, through London, Brantford and Hamilton, including Halton Region and south to the counties along the North shore of Lake Erie, Halidmand, Norfolk and Elgin Counties. This is a large region with many stories to tell about the war and how the rural folks helped to defend this land.

RURAL RAIDS MULTI-MEDIA PROJECT UPDATE

The WCA is helping to support the Ontario Visual Heritage Project in its production of *Rural Raids and Divided Loyalties: Southwestern Ontario and the War of 1812*. A three part documentary telling the story of the American General McArthur's raids in Upper Canada as he attempted to get to Burlington. Stopped by the Six Nations at the Grand River, McArthur headed south and burned all the mills along the way, including Dover Mill. Malcolm's Mill was the site of the last battle on Canadian soil with a foreign enemy.

They are currently collecting stories for this documentary, so let Adrienne know if you have something to share.

BROCK'S WALK

REGIONAL UPDATE

We have begun to create our website and will launch it in late June. This website will provide Regional information on Events, Trip Planning, local History, the map for Route 1812 with its accompanying Mobile App download link. It will be a central portal to the Region's community websites for all things 1812.

For now you can follow us on **Facebook!**



<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Western-Corridor-War-of-1812-Bicentennial-Alliance/159513367426118>

WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

Is there a War of 1812 story to tell in your community or an historic site visitors should know about? We want to hear about them so they can be marked on along the Route 1812 trail, or told in the Rural Raids Documentary or captured in art.

Let Adrienne Know!



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ROUTE 1812 TRAIL

We have a new name for the trail, **Route 1812!** With an overwhelming positive response, the name Route 1812 hopes to be adopted across Ontario and Quebec, as the overarching name for all trails relating to 1812 in Canada!

The route is laid out and we have identified key sites to mark along the way.

I get to work with a great group of dedicated community volunteers and historians on this project as we develop a wonderful legacy project for years to come.



MONEY, MONEY, MONEY . . .

The WCA has received a couple of grants for operational and project support. We will announce the details when it is made official.

We have submitted a grant application to the Trillium Foundation to support WCA projects through the three years of the Bicentennial. The projects will support Route 1812 for a GPS Mobile App, 30 Barn Quilts, and a printed map of the trail. The funding application is also intended to establish the WCA Grand River Travelling Exhibit, and an exhibition of the Quilt of Belonging, and printing the annual Calendar of Events.



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COMMUNITY NEWS

RED GERANIUMS!

Ruth Redmond, a Niagara Falls school teacher, began buying up properties in the Falls that played a significant role in the famous War of 1812 Battle of Lundy's Lane for posterity. In 1996, at the age of 93 she donated the land to the city with the condition that it be turned into a commemorative park honouring everyone who fought and died in the Battle.

The Red Geranium was Ruth's favourite flower and is being used as the symbol to mark the Bicentennial. Both the Niagara Falls 1812 Task Force and the Niagara 1812 Legacy Council are determined to keep the history of the War of 1812 alive today and are eager to gain attention to the Bicentennial. The Red Geranium is a perfect way to pay tribute to both a legendary war and a legendary woman determined to preserve what she could of it.

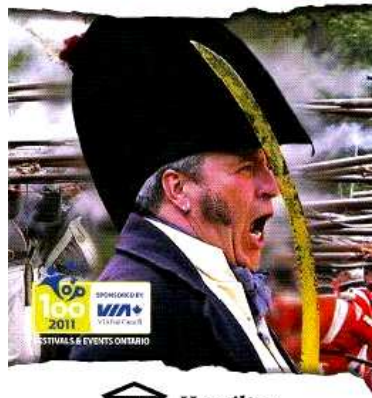
A bill was introduced to Canadian Parliament by MP Kim Craitor to make the Red Geranium the official flower and symbol of the War of 1812. This bill still needs to pass to second reading where it will garner more serious attention but until then we can plant the Red Geranium as a way to commemorate the soldiers who fought in the War of 1812 and secured our nation as Canada.

BROCK'S WALK

Re-enactment of the Battle of Stoney Creek

Presented by

**Battlefield House
Museum & Park**
National Historic Site of Canada



Hamilton Civic Museums
Owned and operated by the City of Hamilton
www.hamilton.ca/museums
Real People. Real Stories. Real Adventure!

SATURDAY, JUNE 4
10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
SUNDAY, JUNE 5
10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

BATTLE RE-ENACTMENTS
Saturday 3:30 p.m. & 8:30 p.m.
Sunday at 2:00 p.m.

Fireworks after the Saturday evening battle!

- 19th century encampment
- one-of-a-kind shopping at *Historic Merchant's Alley*
- historical demonstrations
- musical entertainment
 - children's games
- food and refreshments

Adults \$8.00
Youth \$2.00
Children under 5 FREE

For more information:
905-662-8458
www.battlefieldhouse.ca
Avoid line-ups. Buy on-line!



SATURDAY, JUNE 4
SUNDAY, JUNE 5

BATTLEFIELD PARK
77 KING STREET W.,
STONEY CREEK

QUERY.....

Logan Jorgensen of Alberta asks if we can find his ancestor Steven Middaugh's history. Logan believes Middaugh's farm was where Tecumseh was shot. Steven died, intestate, after the War of 1812 and left widow, Elizabeth Duplice (sp). His email is loganue@sasktel.net if you think you can help.



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BROCK'S WALK

The Western Corridor Alliance is a collaboration of many regional community partners. Regional contact information follows.

Are you working on a local Bicentennial activity? Contact your local representative to link you into the community efforts underway.

WCA REGIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

HALTON REGION	Simone Babineau	BabineauS@burlington.ca	905-634-5594 x7240
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OXFORD COUNTY	Jim Groulx	banjar@execulink.com	519-539-1182
LONDON DISTRICT	Andrea Hallam	ahallam@london.ca	519-661-2500 x 8469
MIDDLESEX COUNTY	Sheila Devost	sheila@middlesextourism.ca	519-641-7190
ELGIN COUNTY	Mike Baker	mbaker@elgin-county.on.ca	519-631-1460 x 159
NORFOLK COUNTY	Tanya Zajac	tanya.zajac@norfolkcounty.ca	519- 582-0278
NORFOLK COUNTY	Ted Willey	ted.willey@norfolkcounty.ca	519-426-5870 x 1300
HALIDMAND COUNTY	Karen Richardson	krichardson@haldimandcounty.on.ca	905-772-5880

Of course you may also contact Adrienne Horne, Regional Project Manager at adrienne.horne@hamilton.ca, 905-546-2424 x 7161

Chair of the WCA is Maria Fortunato, Maria.Fortunato@hamilton.ca 905-546-2424 x 2616