



Les Nouvelles du Fort

The Fort News

Fort de la Présentation Association

Summer 2020

Volume 15, Issue 1

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Fred Hanss

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**Please
Renew Your
Membership
TODAY!**

Abbé Picquet Trail Updates

In the past year, the Fort de la Présentation Association has seen a lot of momentum on the site of the original Fort la Présentation.

The construction phase of the Abbé Picquet Trail has been successfully completed. Maintenance is hard work and costly; 2019 alone has cost \$10,000 for mowing and upkeep for the 25 acres, the removal of damaged trees and trees which were removed to improve the view scape.

Further improvements to property include the addition of the footprint of Fort de la Présentation, based on original plans, giving the visitor a better understanding of the size of the actual Fort, and the

installation of the new swing bench to enjoy the sunsets and passing ships.

The War of 1812 Peace Garden is maturing and was honored to receive the 2019 Ogdensburg Garden Club's Maple Leaf Civic Award. An additional 44 bricks were dedicated this year and there is room for more in the Summer

The Free and Accepted Masons of St. Lawrence County installed their memorial commemorating the establishment of the first Masonic Lodge in St. Lawrence County at the Fort La Presentation property. We are thrilled that residents and visitors from Canada and across the United States are enjoying our site

on foot, bicycles and rollerblades. As a reminder the Abbe' Picquet Walking Trail is open from Sunrise to Sunset all year round, free of charge to the public.

We now have a Certificate of Occupancy which means we can now invite other organizations to utilize the Trail with proof of their insurance. The St. Lawrence County Historical Association, Claxton Hepburn Hospital, Rotary Club, Ogdensburg Historical Commission, Seaway Festival, Ogdensburg Community Garden, Six-Pack Carp Tournament and St. Lawrence County Public Health Department have used the property this year. The Seaway Festival and Bootleggers events

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Fort La Presentation Association

RAFFLE

\$500 GIFT CERTIFICATE
FOR GRAY'S GUN SHOP, LISBON, NY
OR \$500 CASH

Tickets \$5.00 each | Drawing Sept. 16, 2020

2020 Gun Raffle

The Fort Association has printed up 500 tickets for sale at \$5.00 each. The winning ticket has a choice of a \$500 gift certificate to Gray's Gunshop in Lisbon, NY or \$500 in cash (USD).

The drawing will be held on September 16, 2020. Proceeds from the raffle will be used to match the Northern New York Community Foundation challenge grant. Get your ticket today through a Board Member or online at our website: www.fort1749.org.



Abbé Picquet Trail Updates

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used our property to show their fireworks displays which were a beautiful sight over the water.

In addition to our annual activities, The Battle of Ogdensburg, St. Lawrence Primitive Biathlon, Living History Day for Grades 4 and 7, Founder's Weekend and Fall Social, the Fort La Presentation Association hosted some new events including Walk with the Doc, Walk with Re-enactors, Star Gazing and

NYS Path Through History Living History Day.

The Association has received a matching endowment grant for \$10,000 from the Northern New York Community Foundation. We are halfway to our goal, with 100 % Board participation. Donations can be made to ensure our future to: Fort La Presentation Association, PO Box 1749, Ogdensburg, NY 13669

The Association is thrilled to receive a REDI (Resiliency and Economic Development Initiative) Grant for \$1,295,000 to install shoreline stabili-

zation and raise some of the Trail. With this stabilization we will be able to complete our planned future goals which include, but are not limited to, open more of the site, address invasive species, acquire the original site of Fort de la Presentation and regain the artifacts from the archeological dig. We are also developing plans for the construction of 2 French Cabins and a Native Long House.

Sheriff York Grave Project

On February 22, 2020 the St. Lawrence County Deputy Association made a generous donation to the campaign to refurbish the headstones and placement of a plaque for Sheriff York and his wife Lavinia. Sheriff York was the county sheriff during the battle of Ogdensburg, in 1813. He commanded an artillery piece against the British and Canadian attackers during the battle. He was taken prisoner and was released when his wife, Lavinia went to the authorities in Prescott, Ontario and demanded him returned.

Every year, during the Battle of Ogdensburg Weekend, there is a wreath laying ceremony at Sheriff York's grave. The years have taken a toll on the grave site in Ogdensburg Cemetery.

The drive to fund the refurbishment has been spearheaded by the Ogdensburg Historical Commission, Forsyth's Rifles and the Fort La Presentation Association. Additional funds have been donated by both the Canadian and American re-enactors and citizens who recently took part in the Battle of Ogdensburg event. Those who wish to contribute to this project can make checks payable to the Ogdensburg Comptroller, with "York Graves" in the

memo section, and sent to the City of Ogdensburg Comptroller, 330 Ford St., Ogdensburg, NY 13669. Wetherbee and Whalen are working on a restoration plan and schedule.



From Left to Right: Deputy Robert Lent, Fort Association President Barbara O'Keefe, Fort Association Vice President Tim Cryderman, Board Member Marsha Hough, and Deputy Leighton Filtrault.

Find Us On Facebook: Fort La Presentation Friends
Check Out Our Website: www.fort1749.org



Events Situation

Regrettably, the Fort La Présentation Association has decided to postpone the 21st Founder's Weekend Re-enactment until July 17-18, 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We are saddened not to be able to visit with our friends and to share our rich history with the community, but everyone's health is our utmost concern. Until we can come together again, please enjoy the Abbé Picquet Trail with social distancing.

With the cancellation of several of this year's fundraising events due to the pandemic, the Fort La Presentation Association would greatly appreciate new memberships or donations to offset our operating costs. Membership applications and donations can be sent to P.O. Box 1749, Ogdensburg, NY 13669 or at fort1749.org. Thank you for your assistance during these difficult times – stay healthy – we will see you in 2021!

While Founder's Weekend has been canceled, some of our other Annual Events like the Primitive Snowshoe Biathlon and the Winter Battler were able to occur and had wonderful turnout! Thank you for all that attended!



2020 Primitive Snowshoe Biathlon Results

Youth Rifle

- 1st. Isabelle Allenson
- 2nd. Joseph Hanss

Ladies Primitive Rifle

1. Danielle Rougeau
2. Wendy Butler
3. Amanda Fasken

Elder Ladies Primitive Rifle

1. Susan Perkins
2. Gail Hanss

Men's Primitive Rifle

1. Matt Thomas
2. Elijah Frodge
3. Craig Gardner
4. Carl Gallinger
5. Bryan Carson
6. Joe Tamagni
7. Andrew Phillips
8. Scott McCarger
9. Ed Lysett
10. Pete Golber Jr.

Elder Men's Primitive Rifle

1. Gary Perkins
2. Eric Piccioni
3. Dave Doria
4. Scott McCarger
5. Ray Haines
6. Bill Monroe
7. Fred Hanns
8. Antonia Ferraioli

Men's Primitive Smoothbore

1. Troy Lewis
2. Randy Bulter
3. John Madower
4. Paul Joseph Miller

Elder Men's Smoothbore

1. Franklin Meyer
2. Lloyd Hargave

Men's In-Line Rifle

1. Kurt Johnson
2. Matt Sheehan

Primitive Pistol– Exhibition

1. Danielle Rougeau
2. Brian Rowell

Full result information, including times can be found at www.fort1749.org.

Fort la Présentation Association
PO Box 1749
Ogdensburg, NY 13669

**PRESORT
STANDARD**
Ogdensburg, NY
13669
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Visit the Abbé Picquet Trail this summer where you can not only get some fresh air, see the local osprey nest, watch for passing ships along the St. Lawrence River, but also learn about local history through many of our interpretive signage. See you there!

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU.

While this is the first news letter of 2020, the Fort de la Présentation Association is working to get our newsletter back up and running on a regular basis throughout the year. And we'd love to have more input from you our members!

If you have thoughts and ideas of what you'd like to see shared in our newsletter, please share with us and reach out to us via our website: www.fort1749.org, our Facebook Page: Fort La Presentation Friends, or send us a letter through snail mail!