

LAKE GEORGE MIRROR

"THE QUEEN OF AMERICAN LAKES"

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Battlefield Park Alliance Holds Annual Meeting

By Mirror Staff

The Lake George Battlefield Park Alliance held its annual membership meeting on Saturday, August 9, at the Fort William Henry Conference Center. The 50 members present heard a summary of the past year's accomplishments and a preview of the major events planned over the next nine months.

Alliance President John DiNuzzo cited several achievements, including: a membership increase of 32% since August 2024; the restoration of the Battlefield Park's iconic sculptures, under the leadership of the late Dan George and with financial support from numerous institutions and individuals; the return, for a second consecutive year, of an archaeological exploration in the park, sponsored by Professor Siobhan Hart of Skidmore College; the installation of historical signage on Diamond Island, in partnership with the State Department of Environmental Conservation; ongoing programs to educate the public about Lake George's colonial history, such as the "Floating History Tours" and presentations by renowned historians; the continuation of the "Lake George Battlefield Moments" podcast on YouTube and radio segments on 93.5 Lake FM; and the expansion of the organization's Fort George Post journal into a highly regarded and quoted history resource.

Alliance Trustees Todd Earl and Bruce Venter honored members Lorna Hainesworth, Jane Murphy, and Ann and Jerry Eichin for their support of the sculpture restorations.

DiNuzzo highlighted upcoming events which he said will further elevate the Battlefield Park's stature among the region's heritage tourism attractions including the commemoration at Lake George on December 12 of Henry Knox's "Noble Artillery Train," when sixty tons of artillery were transported over water and land from Ticonderoga to Boston in the winter of 1775-76.

"Knox spent over two weeks at Fort George (in the current Lake George Battlefield Park) putting together the team of men and draft animals that would make the 300-mile trip to assure George Washington's successful fight against the British," said DiNuzzo.

The December program will feature a re-enactment of Knox's arrival at the head of Lake George, a reception at the Holiday Inn Lake George featuring Pulitzer Prize-winner Rick Atkinson, author, most recently, of the Revolutionary War history, "The Fate of the Day," and a public program with Atkinson at Lake George Junior-Senior High School.

Another major event will be the May 22, 2026 reinterment at Lake George Battlefield Park of the remains of 44 Continental

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soldiers and others who died in the summer of 1776 at the army's smallpox hospital located at Lake George.

Among the speakers at the annual meeting was Matt

Moore of Historical Military Impressions, who discussed the history of the 1st Pennsylvania Battalion, whose artifacts were found among the soldiers' remains uncovered at Lake George in February, 2019.

"The Lake George Battlefield Park Alliance is securely in a

position of prominence and influence in the community and it is now an important voice in preserving Lake George's unique history. We can all take pride in where we've arrived, and how we're positioned for the near-term and the long-term," concluded DiNuzzo.