

**Knox arrives at Lake George**  
Historian Christopher Ruckert depicted Henry Knox, the 25-year-old Boston bookseller who General Washington assigned late in 1775 the daunting task to transport 60 tons of cannon from Fort Ticonderoga to Boston in the dead of winter. He did it. Here, arriving Friday at Fort George, Knox read a statement of his mission.

## 250th year Knox cannon celebration: Wowzer!

**By Mark Frost**  
Chronicle Editor

It could not have been better. The region celebrated the 250th Anniversary of Henry Knox's "Artillery Train" that dragged 60 tons of urgently needed cannon through this region on its way to Boston to break a British siege — a crucial early victory in the American Revolution. As the

# Knox celebration: Great!

## From front page

nation begins the semiquincentennial — 250th year — celebration of America's founding, our region has a big part early. Through here exactly 250 years ago, Henry Knox transported the cannon from Fort Ticonderoga that saved Boston, such an awesome feat by the 25-year-old bookseller that he not only became a Major General and President George Washington's first Secretary of War, Fort Knox — our gold depository — was named after him in 1918.

The whole region, from Crown Point and Fort Ticonderoga to Lake George, Fort Edward, Schuylerville and Saratoga, is revved about the Revolution. This weekend was a fabulous start.

It successfully *sold* history and excited kids.

Events weren't just done, they were done marvelously.

Of course we got lucky. Perfect that it was cold, clear with snow on the ground. Mandatory in keeping with what Knox and crew endured. Would have been a bummer to have bare ground and warmth or rain.

Huzzah to the Lake George Battlefield Alliance! Friday went from Pulitzer Prize winning author Rick Atkinson with Lake George students in the morning,

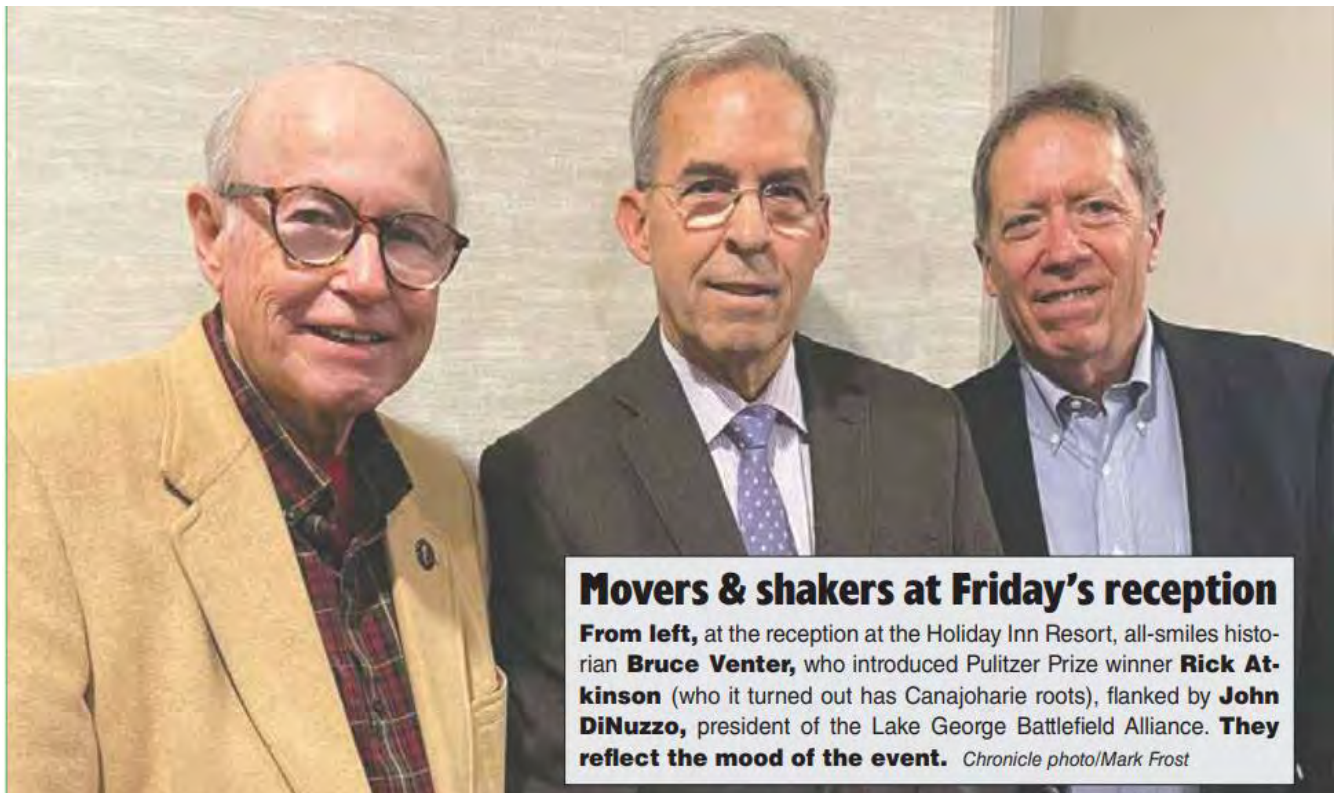


to reenactors including Henry Knox arriving by rowed bateau on a cold, blustery afternoon, then to a sold-out reception at the Holiday Inn Resort, finally a free public session in the evening at the school where Atkinson was interviewed and took questions from the crowd.

The reenactors were a huge contributor. Authentic, proud and engaged. It made me remember these folks live the passion, and it doesn't get any better than this moment — enacting an actual event on its actual anniversary in its actual place — in front of crowds!

The cocktail reception at the Holiday Inn had a mighty buzz, everyone in such a splendid mood. There were even 2 self-scoop tubs of Stewart's special edition Knox Cannonball Crunch ice cream. I ate my share.

In Fort Edward the next morning, a nice parade proceeded down Broadway from the school to the Old Fort House Museum. I and most spectators followed the march to the museum. There were no speeches or ceremonies, which worked out for the best because I mingled. I asked one reenactor if he was warm enough. He said yes, wearing layers of wool. I asked about his feet and snow. He said the well-waxed shoes were waterproof, but admitted his big toe gets cold if standing around; it's fine if they're on the move. I asked where he slept last night (assuming a motel). He said "at the Saratoga Town Hall." I didn't think to ask if he meant Saratoga City Hall or Town of Saratoga (Schuylerville).



## Movers & shakers at Friday's reception

From left, at the reception at the Holiday Inn Resort, all-smiles historian **Bruce Venter**, who introduced Pulitzer Prize winner **Rick Atkinson** (who it turned out has Canajoharie roots), flanked by **John DiNuzzo**, president of the Lake George Battlefield Alliance. **They reflect the mood of the event.** *Chronicle photo/Mark Frost*

## 250-year reenactment: Knox & cannons arrive at Lake George

Friday's daylong celebration started at the school with author Rick Atkinson meeting with students, continued with **Henry Knox, men and cannons arriving by bateau**, flowed into a **sold-out cocktail reception** at the Holiday Inn Resort and **culminated with Atkinson** being interviewed and **taking questions from the public** back at the school.



On a cold, breezy day, it was impressive to see the entourage arrive by paddled bateau.


Photos by Mark Frost, except horse photo by Cathy DeDe



Playing their part to the hilt, reenactors labored to lug cannon from the lake to the horse-drawn sleds.



**An awaiting soldier welcomed Henry Knox to shore, hand on his shoulder, shaking his hand.**



**Starting on Dec. 5, 1775, at Fort Ticonderoga, Knox's men and animals dragged 59 cannons and other munitions — more than 60 tons worth — in the dead of winter 300 miles to Boston, where they enabled Gen. George Washington to break the British siege.**

**Horses pulled replica cannon on sleds made by area BOCES students, here on highway, not snow as Knox's army achieved in 1775-76.**



**It was a colossal day for the proud reenactors, at the actual site, on the actual day 250 years later of Henry Knox's Centennial Train of cannon arriving at Lake George.**

Two tubs of Stewart's special commemorative ice cream were available for guests to scoop at the afternoon reception at the Holiday Inn



**At Friday's Henry Knox reenactment in Lake George**

Cathy DeDe photo