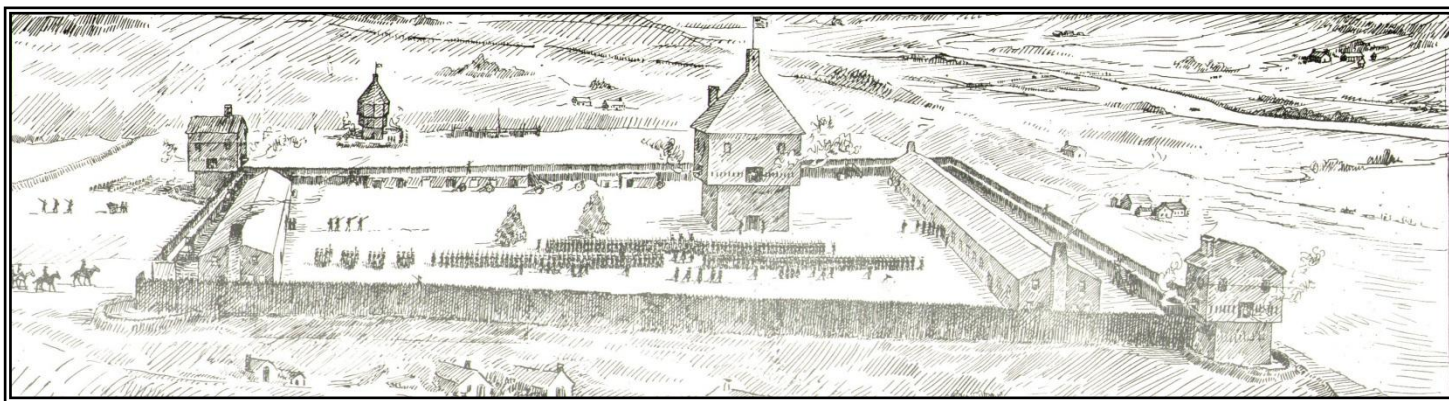


Fort Plain Museum and Historical Park



After a great start to 2015, the Museum keeps it going!

2015 Fall Lecture Series This year's edition of our annual Fall Lecture Series consists of four presenters on various topics of the 18th century and the American Revolution. The presentations start at 6:30 PM and there is a modest donation request of \$5. All presentations are held at the Museum located on 389 Canal Street in Fort Plain. Included in the \$5 donation is a self guided tour of the Museum. The Museum Shop and Book Store will be open during these events. All proceeds will go towards future Museum programming.

Rufus Alexander Grider's Powder Horn Legacy On Thursday, September 10, 2015, at 6:30 PM, John C. Proud, an 18th century reproduction hornworker & muzzleloading gunbuilder will give a presentation on the Rufus Grider Powder Horn Drawings. John will discuss the Grider drawings and their accuracy. John will also discuss powder horns in general including the history, use, and building of horns. Many of you might remember



John from our First Annual Conference held in May, when John had a table set up with many of the horns that he has worked on.

John is a native of the Buffalo. The grounds of the Erie County New York Historical Society were a part of his neighborhood playground area, and where he first encountered powder horns. That early exposure blossomed when he made his first powder horn around 1986 to go with a rifle he had built.

After his retirement in 1996, he began making French and Indian War and American Revolutionary War reproductions in earnest. While not a collector, he is a serious student of original eighteenth century engraved powder horns, enabling him to make authentic recreations.

John's horns have won numerous ribbons at Dixon's



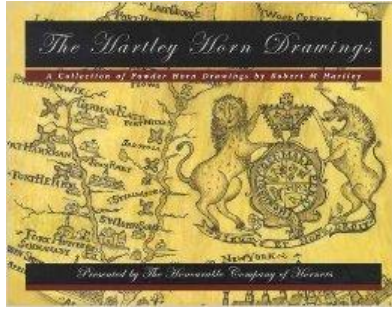
Gun Makers Fair and at the Honourable Company of Horners annual competition, including "Best of Show" at both events. His work has been featured in "Muzzleloader", "Muzzleblasts", and the "New York Conservationist."

John is a founding member and past Guildmaster of the Honourable Company of Horners, a charter member of the Contemporary Long Rifle Association, a member of the Kentucky Rifle Association, and a life member of the National Rifle Association. He has earned certification as a Master Horner from the



Honourable Company of Horners. John has presented programs and papers on both the Honourable Company of Horners and the Contemporary Longrifle Association on powder horn artists Rufus A. Grider and Thomas M. Hartley. He co-chaired a committee of the Honourable Company of Horners that pursued publication of the powder horn drawings of Thomas Hartley.

"The Hartley Horn Drawings: A Collection of Powder Horn Drawings" will be available for purchase at the Museum's Book Store. To see and to read all about John and the Horners Guild, please visit the Honourable Company of Horners website at <http://www.hornguild.org/>



Decorated Redware Pottery in Colonial America

Starting on Thursday, September 17, 2015, at 6:30 PM, Charlene and Wayne Lenig are offering a three day seminar that offers an introduction to the history and manufacture of one



Sgraffito Redware plate, Pennsylvania, c. 1800

of the most common type of earthenware used in America during the 1600s and 1700s. A limited number of attendees will participate in the decorating of their own redware.

Wayne will present an illustrated account of how the European industry developed in Northwestern Germany beginning about 1550. Various types of slip decorated wares spread to other parts of Germany, France, Holland and England by 1600. German, Dutch and English slip-decorated redwares have been recovered from Jamestown, Williamsburg, Plymouth and other Early American colonial sites. Before 1700 similar pottery was produced by American craftsmen in nearly all of the colonies.



Charlene will coach a limited number of participants through the process of creating a slip-decorated

redware pie plate. A choice of two forms of decoration, slip-trailing and sgraffito, will be

available. Participants will be able to keep their creations as a memento.

The illustrated history lectures will last for about ½ hour each on the evenings of Thursday, September 17th and Wednesday, October 3rd. There is no limit on the number of attendees for the lectures, but the practical potting session will be limited to the first 16 people to sign up. These sessions will last for about an hour and a half after the lectures and also for a short time on Saturday, September 19th.

Wayne is a member of the Board of Trustees at the Museum and Charlene and he have lent helping hands in many of the Museum's events, from the many presentations to baking a variety of refreshments for the holiday event. Wayne and Charlene currently reside in Fort Johnson, NY.

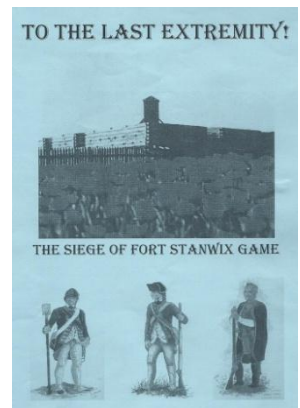
To The Last Extremity: The Siege of Fort Stanwix Game

On Thursday, September 24, 2015, at 6:30 PM, Allan D. Foote, will give a brief talk about the 1777 siege of Fort Stanwix followed by a demonstration of the game, "To the Last Extremity: The Siege of Fort Stanwix". There will also be time allotted for attendees to partake in game play with a tutorial by Allan. The game is suitable for play for people ages ten to adult.



The game was developed in conjunction with Ron Toelke Associates of Chatham, New York and Mr. Foote's company,

Mohawk Valley History Project of Whitesboro, New York and provides an exciting simulation of the epic siege of Fort Stanwix in the Mohawk Valley in 1777 during the American Revolution. The profits from sales of the game are intended to benefit historical sites and societies, museums, libraries and booksellers in upstate New York.

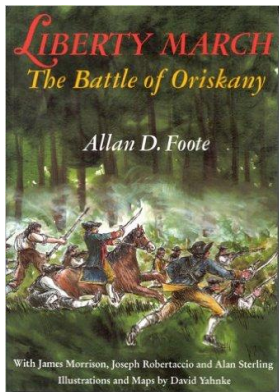


Allan is the author of over twelve books including *Liberty March: The Battle of Oriskany*; *The Young Liberators: Volume One: From Civilian to Soldier*; *Gateway To Freedom: The American Revolution On The Northern Frontier*; *The Defiant Dozen: New Yorkers At The Alamo*; *The Kaiser 's Battle: March 1918*; *Pathway of Empire: The French & Indian War On The Northern Frontier*; and *Isandhlwana: Triumph of the Zulu*. He has a B.A. in political science and an M.S. in higher education administration from State University College at Buffalo.

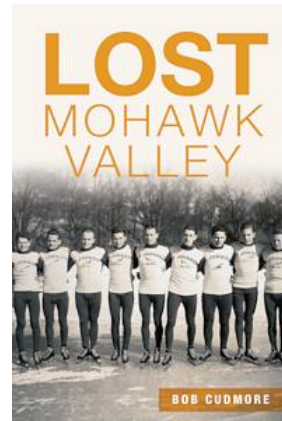
Allan currently is the President of Mohawk Valley History Project, a company specializing in the research and publication of material of historical interest. He also holds the position of Clinical Supervisor with The Arc Oneida-Lewis Chapter in Utica, New York and was an Adjunct Faculty member in American History with SUNY Empire State College for several years.

Allan has served as president for many community organizations including Northern Frontier Project, Downtown Utica Development Association, Coliseum Soccer Club, and A Good Old Summertime Festival, and was named "Person of the Year" by the Mohawk Valley Chamber of Commerce in 1993. The Oneida County Historian's Association named him "Historian of the Year" in 2002; in 2003 he received the prestigious "Pathfinder Award" from Mohawk Valley Heritage Corridor Commission; and in 2004 was named an honorary member of the Sons of the American Revolution, Oriskany Battle Chapter. He was nominated and selected into the Company of Military Historians in 2004 and is proud to be a member of The Alamo Society. He has also served as a Historical Consultant to The History Channel. He was named "Employee of the Quarter" by The Arc Oneida-Lewis Chapter in 2015.

Allan lives in Whitesboro, New York with his wife Kathy and their two dogs; Annaleece and Mylo. He is the father of three sons; Joshua, Jason and Michael.



Liberators: Volume One: From Civilian to Soldier; *Gateway To Freedom: The American Revolution On The Northern Frontier*; *The Defiant Dozen: New Yorkers At The Alamo*; *The Kaiser 's Battle: March 1918*; *Pathway of Empire: The French & Indian War On The Northern Frontier*; and *Isandhlwana: Triumph of the Zulu*.



Lost Mohawk Valley On Thursday, October 1, 2015, at 6:30 PM, Bob Cudmore will give a talk on his new book, *Lost Mohawk Valley*. After the talk, Bob will be on hand to sign books and talk history.

Life in the Mohawk Valley today is vastly different from generations ago. Long gone are the factory whistles calling workers to their shifts in old mill towns like Amsterdam. Fort Plain still benefits from little-known inventor William Yerdon, and baseball player George Burns, with ties to Gloversville and Utica, was so skilled that fans called left field "Burnsville."

Few realize that a local artist shared a special bond with musician John Philip Sousa. The Tamarack Playhouse was once the venue of spectacular theatricals, and as time goes on there are fewer alumni to remember Amsterdam's Bishop Scully High School.

In *Lost Mohawk Valley* (History Press, Sept. 21, 2015) Bob shows that while lost, these and other compelling stories no longer need be forgotten.

Writer and media personality Bob Cudmore is the author of four books: *Lost Mohawk Valley*; *Hidden History of the Mohawk Valley*; *Stories from the Mohawk Valley*; and *You Can't Go Wrong: Stories from Nero, N.Y.* Cudmore's first project on local history was to join Steve Dunn to co-produce the WMHT-TV documentary *Historic Views of the Carpet City: Amsterdam, N.Y.* in 2000.



The next year Bob began his now weekly column in the *Daily Gazette*, Focus on History. He has written over 500 columns about the people, institutions and happenings of the region.

Known for hosting WGY radio's night time talk show Contact from 1980 to 1993, Bob hosted the morning radio show on WVTL in his home town of Amsterdam from 2004 through 2014. In 2008 he was awarded the Herbert T. Singer Community Service Award by the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce. When he left the show on November 14, 2014, that day was declared Bob Cudmore Day in the City of Amsterdam.

Bob was an adjunct professor for more than 20 years in the Department of Communications at the College of St. Rose in Albany. He spent eight years in media relations with the State University of New York System Administration in Albany.

Bob was the narrator of a nationally distributed documentary, *Dangerous Intimacy: The Untold Story of Mark Twain's Final Years*; he also co-produced or narrated WMHT-TV documentaries on local downtowns and railroads. He has hosted numerous public television programs and narrated the WMHT series "Age Wise."

Bob lives in Glenville with his significant other, Audrey Sears. He has two grown children, Kathleen Cudmore Bokan and Bob Cudmore Jr. His wife of 34 years, Mary Pritchard Cudmore, died in 2001.

To learn more about Bob, his books and his many endeavors, please visit Bob's website at: <http://bobcudmore.com/index.asp?page=home>

The 2nd New-York Provincial Battalion (1775): On Additional Continental Service

On Thursday, October 8, 2015, at 6:30 PM, Philip D. Weaver will give a presentation on the 2nd NY Provincial Battalion. Several soldiers of this battalion came from the Mohawk Valley area especially the Palatine District.



Phil will discuss how only a small number of this regiment would continue in the Continental Army after the disastrous Canadian Campaign and even fewer would serve until the end of the war.

Phil's bio is courtesy of his website; <http://www.conconsul.com/PhilBio.html>

Phil Weaver has been an active living historian for over thirty-five years. Most of these years he has been a member of the Brigade of the American Revolution, where (among other things) he has lectured at Brigade schools, coordinated events, served as Quartermaster, Duty Officer, Castrametation Officer, acted as a tour guide, narrator, and served in various other field and administrative positions. Mr. Weaver served in the Office of the Brigade Inspector for many years. A four time candidate for B.A.R. Board Member-at-Large, he was elected each of his last three attempts. After four and a half years in office, he resigned to become the commander of his unit, the 2nd New York Provincial



Battalion (1775), and was subsequently reelected to that position for five consecutive terms.

Mr. Weaver's beginnings were the Bi-centennial years. Starting in the Dutchess County (NY) Militia, he was soon dividing his time between the militia, the Colonel's Company of the 64th Regiment of Foot and a Royal Artillery Battery. Mr. Weaver eventually began his own fledgling Continental unit. Late in 1978, he realized the futility of all this diversity and joined the 2nd New York exclusively. He continued with that unit until 2004.



As a well-known researcher and advocate for the living history hobby, Mr. Weaver's articles have appeared in *Black Powder Times*; *F&I War*; *Military Uniforms in America*, *Military Collector and Historian*; *Muzzle Blasts*; *Muzzleloader*; and *The Brigade Dispatch*. He is an original member of the West Point Chapter of the Company of Military Historians and has served as its chairman.

Mr. Weaver briefly appeared with The American Company of Players where he notably played one of MacHeath's drunken highwaymen in *The Beggar's Opera* and as Tony Lumpkin in *She Stoops to Conquer*.

Mr. Weaver is associated with many Hudson River

historic sites and is a member of The Alamo Society, a charter member of the New York State Military Heritage Museum, was a founding member of the 15th US Infantry-A War of 1812 Reenactment Unit, and has also volunteered with both the Farmer's Museum Militia and the Old Sturbridge Village Militia.

Mr. Weaver has twice won Sturbridge's "Best Militiaman" award. Mr. Weaver has also been granted Honorary Master Degrees for tailoring, shirtmaking, and trimming from the Brigade of the American Revolution.

Phil's website is loaded with many articles, books, 18th Century Reproductions, etc.; please visit his website at <http://www.conconsul.com/index.html>

Artillery Primer Pouch (Tin Box) A big Thank You goes out to Bill McMillian who created a reproduction of the Primer Pouch that was originally found in the Blockhouse Archeology dig that took place in the 1960s.



Bill visited the Museum this past winter to examine the remains of the original Primer Pouch. Bill took precise measurements and took photographs and notes to use for reconstruction.



Bill and his wife Judy attended the Conference in May and during the Friday Evening Cocktail Reception Meet and Greet, Bill presented the Museum with a reconstruction version of the Primer Pouch. The Museum then incorporated it with the Blockhouse exhibit.

Thank you Bill and Judy for your very kind generosity by donating your time and donating the reconstructed Primer Pouch, we appreciate it.

Oneida Indians at the Battle of Oriskany On Friday, July 31, 2015; members of the Marinus Williett-Mohawk Valley Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution visited the Museum for the day. They took tours of the Museum and

the Fort Hilltop and had a picnic lunch while enjoying the nice weather.

As a gift, the DAR members donated a framed print, "The Oneida Indians at the Battle of Oriskany" by Don Troiani.



We at the Museum thank the DAR members for their generous donation. The print will become part of the new American Revolution in the Mohawk Valley exhibit.

Membership Drive

New to the end of 2015 through 2016 will be a Membership Organization to help support the Museum. A membership will consist of several levels from individuals to sponsor support.



There will be several benefits such as free/discounted admission to the Museum, 10% discounts for Museum Shop and Book Store purchases, quarterly newsletters, free/discounted admission to events, a free Fort Plain Museum vehicle sticker, and there will be two membership meetings held each year where members will be updated on Museum happenings and there will be a featured speaker on a related topic.

All Membership proceeds will go towards Museum improvements such as exhibits and maintenance of the buildings and grounds and for yearly programs and events.

Christmas at the Fort On Saturday, December 5, 2015 from 10 AM to 6 PM; the Museum will be holding its annual Holiday Event. We will have all of your favorite holiday goodies such as crafters, music and refreshments.

New this year will be Museum Trustee, Peter Couser who



will have an 18th Century drink set-up which will include original drinking glasses, punch bowls and recipes that will be shared. There will also be tradition 18th drink recipes to try.

If you would like to set up crafts or wares (both modern and 18th century wares are welcomed), please contact us at fortplainmuseum@yahoo.com

Research Library In our last newsletter, 2015 Spring Newsletter; an article described how the Museum became in possession of former Mohawk-Caughnawaga Museum research library.



There are more than 3,000 bound volumes; 1,000+ pamphlets and ephemera; several hundred photocopies of 17th and 18th century maps from archives in Europe and all over North America; and 30+ linear feet of manuscripts.

The Museum is proud to announce that the E. J. Grassmann Trust of New Jersey and the William & Vina Baker Yerdon Foundation in Fort Plain, New York have granted the Museum \$30,000 (\$25,000 by Grassmann and \$5,000 by Yerdon) to help support in the construction of a new Research Library.

The Library construction will start this fall and will include a complete construction from walls to shelving units, to tables and chairs, to computer and more. This library will have all of the amenities to help aid in those researching genealogy, local history, the American Revolution; etc.

The Museum's Board of Trustees greatly appreciates the generous support from these two organizations, Thank you. Please watch for more details either through our Facebook page or in future newsletter publications. If you would like to support the Library's construction, please send an email to fortplainmuseum@yahoo.com

2015 Fort Plain Central School District: 4th Grade Visitation Day

Fourth grade students from Fort Plain's Harry Hoag Elementary visited the Fort Plain Museum on Friday, June 19th.



Volunteers Peter Couser, John Marosek, Arthur Adams, Tom Armitstead, Eileen Chambers, and Maria Whalen explained artifact displays in the



museum's several rooms. Also on hand to assist with the fourth grade tour were FPM Board of Trustees President Norman Bollen, Fred Chambers, and Elizabeth Marosek.



The class was divided into small groups to spend short periods of time on a rotation schedule in each of the display rooms. Punctuation of the rotation was effected

by the blowing of a 19th century Erie Canal boat horn to indicate the time for the pupils to change to their group's next room.

We truly appreciate the support of the Fort Plain Central School District and their continuation of this program year after year.

The August 2, 1780 Raid of Canajohary Commemoration



On August 2, 2015, the Museum held the first annual commemoration to remember those who lost their lives during the August 2, 1780 raid. 2015 marked the 235th anniversary when the Canajohary settlements

including Sand Hill (current day Town of Minden) were burnt out by Joseph Brant and fellow Raiders.

The Museum remembered the sacrifices of that day with a wreath lying at the Museum's flagpole Patriot's Monument, a dedication speech by the Fort Plain Chapter of the



Daughter's of the American Revolution and a musket salute by the Tryon County Militia.

Immediately following the commemoration, Wayne Lenig gave a detailed presentation about the Raid on Canajohary. The Museum also provided light refreshments and free tours of the Museum.



Below is a short description of the Raid of Canajohary written by Norman Bollen, Chairman of the Board of Trustees at the Fort Plain Museum: On morning of August 2, 1780, Joseph Brant arrived at the settlement of Kley's Barrack accompanied by more than 300 Mohawk and Seneca Warriors. The raiders split into two groups with the larger instructed to detour and suddenly attack Fort Plank while the smaller group would approach directly and prevent "scattered parties" from taking shelter in the fort. At Fort Plain the alarm cannon had been clearly heard and locals began pouring into the fort. Few men were on hand since most of the Tryon County Militia had been mobilized to escort supplies to Fort Schuyler.

Newspaper accounts of the raid began appearing in the Philadelphia newspapers about 2 weeks later. This August 17th article from the *Pennsylvania Gazette* was reprinted in a London newspaper on October 21st. AMERICA From the *Pennsylvania Gazette* Fishkill, August 17. UR accounts of the damage done by the motley allies of Great Britain, up the Mohawk River, are very imperfect. It is reported they have burnt the principal part of Canajohary, a fine settlement about 36 miles from Albany, and 12 or 13 houses at Schoharie. Few lives were lost, the people having abandoned their habitations.

Another Article from a British publication: Excerpt from the *Almon's REMEMBRANCER* New-York Sept. 9 The following account may be depended on: - At the fort now called fort Ransalaer, Sir John Johnson and Captain Brant have burnt 51 houses 42 barns 17 killed 52 prisoners At Schoharie (burnt) 27 houses 7 killed 21 prisoners At Norman's Creek (burnt) 20 houses Total of the rebel loss at the above three places. Houses and barns burnt 140; killed 24; prisoners 73.

2015 Boy Scout American History Camporee

On May 15 through 17, 2015, Museum hosted the



2nd Annual American History Camporee for the Twin Rivers, Sir William Johnson Council Boy Scouts of America. The

Scouts camped on the grounds of Historic Fort Plain/Rensselaer. This year's event saw approximately 200 Boy Scouts and Scout Leaders from six counties where they were provided scenery from the American Revolution.

Twelve unique "Stations" offered information on a wide variety of topics. The Scouts were offered specific programs on topics such as Native American History, Clothing, Archaeology, Artillery, Weapons and Accoutrements, Medicine, Camp Life, Pottery Making, and a special visit with "Ben Franklin."

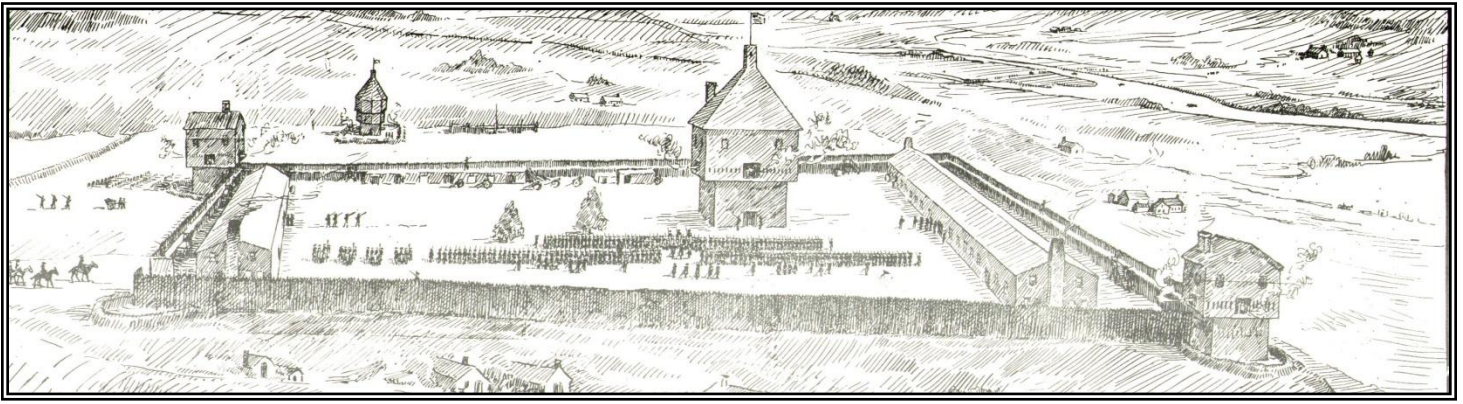


The Fort Plain Museum Board of Trustees and staff would like to offer our most sincere gratitude to all who helped make this event a success, the Scouts and Leaders, the presenters and the several 18th century reenactors; without the support of the reenactors, the great success of this event could not have happened. Thank you to Stewarts Shops for their yearly financial support of this event.

With the great success of this event, we have been informed by Boy Scout personnel that they want



to return again next year. Next year's event will take place on May 20th through 22nd, 2016. We hope to make next year's event an even bigger success.



Fort Plain Museum and Historic Park

P.O. Box 324, 389 Canal Street

Fort Plain, New York 13339

www.fortplainmuseum.com

Fort Plain Museum Annual Appeal

Dear friends,

All of us love and appreciate the rich history of the Mohawk Valley during the time of the American Revolution. We hope that you value the Fort Plain Museum because it illuminates and celebrates that rich history for this community and its visitors. Today, we ask for your help in ensuring that the Fort Plain Museum's future continues in the current path, by making a contribution.

In 2015 our Museum will strive to continue our work to enlighten and inspire everyone who visits. We are proud of the advancements and renovations we have made and excited that our newly-opened exhibits will encourage even more people to discover how important the Mohawk Valley and Fort Plain was during America's War for Independence.

Support from our donors and volunteers are more critical today than ever before. The generosity of individuals like you is now the single most significant source of revenue for the Fort Plain Museum. In recent years, funding from government sources has been dramatically reduced and we have met this challenge with fiscal prudence, creative planning, and essential donations from members and patrons like you.

Your gift impacts every one of the museum's offerings including not only new educational exhibits, but underwrite activities as our "*Conference on The American Revolution in the Mohawk Valley*" and programs such as our "*Lecture Series*". History is the lens through which we better understand our present times, and these programs bring historians, artists, and authors, to speak throughout the year. Behind all of these activities lies our mission: to preserve the history of the Mohawk Valley region and foster greater understanding of its significance.

Please help us by supporting this special place and send what you can to the address above. Our Museum is an IRS Approved 501(c)(3) nonprofit Organization and your donation is tax deductible. We are grateful for your support and appreciate your generosity.

Sincerely,

Fort Plain Museum Board of Trustees