

*Twenty-Ninth Annual  
War College of the  
Seven Years' War*



WAR COLLEGE  
OF THE SEVEN YEARS' WAR

FORT  
TICONDEROGA



*Friday-Sunday,  
May 30-June 1, 2025*

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## Friday, May 30, 2025

**1:45-5:15pm Exclusive Cruise onboard the MV *Carillon***—Join us for an exclusive experience onboard the MV *Carillon* as we cruise northward down Lake Champlain to the Crown Point peninsula and back. Learn about key events and locations related to the Seven Years' War on Lake Champlain in this historic stretch of the lake between Fort Carillon and the older Fort St. Frederic to the north. War College participants will return to the dock at Ticonderoga in time for the Friday Afternoon Reception for War College attendees. *Note: the cruise will not be docking at Crown Point.* **Limited to 20 participants. \$120/person.**

**5:30-6:30pm Opening Reception**—Join War College faculty and museum staff at an opening reception at the Pavilion and King's Garden with light refreshments and cash bar.

**7:00-7:45pm Cuba to Champlain: Enslavement and Empire**—The Champlain Valley is far from the plantations and cane fields most associated with the pernicious institution of slavery, but the region was not immune to the traffic in human lives. Join **Dr. Matthew Keagle**, Curator of Fort Ticonderoga, to explore how the global imperial warfare of the Seven Years' War perpetuated and expanded slavery's reach into North America. The Lake Champlain region reveals the close connections between war and enslavement, with repercussions for the later history of the area as the Revolution unfolded.

## Saturday, May 31, 2025

**9:00am Welcome**—Beth Hill, President and CEO, Fort Ticonderoga.

**9:15-9:45am Slavery and Captivity in the Anglo-Abenaki Wars**—Many factors informed a series of long running wars between New Englanders and the Abenaki in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. This talk explores one set of factors: how the English enslavement of Indigenous peoples in the 17<sup>th</sup> century informed changes to Abenaki captive-taking practices into the 18<sup>th</sup> century against the broader background of Anglo-French warfare. This presentation argues that

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18<sup>th</sup>-century wars in the northeast cannot be understood without recognizing how enslavement and captivity were tools to extend or thwart plans for imperial control of territory and Indigenous fights for sovereignty. **Dr. Joanne Jahnke-Wegner** is an assistant professor of history at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, where she teaches classes on early America, health humanities, and racial formation. Her research focuses on forms of captivity and enslavement in the colonial northeast as well as the relationship between settler colonialism and racial capitalism.

**10:00-10:30am Captive women, captive souls: French conversion tactics in the Seven Years' War**—Captives, particularly women and children, were important bargaining chips between imperial powers during the Seven Years' War. While held by the French, sometimes for years, women were often subjected to efforts by officers and priests to conversion. This presentation explores attempts by the French to convert protestant captive women to Catholicism during the Seven Years' War, particularly focused on the experiences of Scots-Irish captive Jean McCord Lowry. **Jenifer Ishee** is a Ph.D. candidate in early American history at Mississippi State University; her dissertation is a trans-Atlantic study of the United Societies of Scotland, Ireland, and colonial America through the lens of a Seven Years' War captivity narrative.

**10:45-11:15am "I enlisted myself into His Majesties Service": Analyzing Reuben Smith's Journal, 1759-60**—On his first day as a soldier, Connecticut resident Reuben Smith began a journal in which he recorded "all that is strange," continuing until his death from smallpox in May 1760. This brief journal, supported with other primary materials, provides a rare window into a typical provincial recruit's thinking and activities during the French and Indian War. **Lisa Johnson** is an independent historian and writer, Town Historian for Farmington, Connecticut, and Emeritus Executive Director of Stanley-Whitman House, Farmington, Connecticut.

**11:30am-1:45pm Lunch Break** (Box lunch from America's Fort Café included).

**1:00-1:30pm Book Signing at the Museum Store in the Log House.**

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**2:00-2:30pm British and French rivalry in India**—This presentation focuses on the land-based and maritime campaigns of the war in India as well as an analysis of the cultural, social, and political ramifications of the conflict's impact upon the Indigenous population. It also explores the opportunism of the British in their seeking to develop beneficial alliances to further their interests while working to disable alliances inimical to their interests. **Mark Briskey** obtained his Ph.D. from the University of New South Wales at The Australian Defence Force Academy. Mark's Ph.D. in History/Sociology focused on the Pakistan Army Officer Corps and the influence of the British Indian Army and religion on its development. Mark has lived in South Asia where he worked for the Australian Government.

**2:45-3:15pm New Perspectives on the Campaign in Bengal, 1756-1757**—In most Western treatments of the Seven Years' War, Bengal's ruler, Nawab Mirza Muhammad Sirajuddaula, seems to come upon the scene from nowhere as if his only purpose is to be betrayed by his own chief general and then defeated by Robert Clive, so that the narrative can quickly return to events elsewhere. This presentation will draw upon South Asian sources in order to better illustrate the complexity of the political and military conditions under which Sirajuddaula and the Bengali elites made decisions during 1756-57. **Mark H. Danley**, Ph.D., M.L.I.S. is a member of the Princeton Research Forum, a community of independent scholars in the Princeton, New Jersey, area and beyond. He publishes in both the history and LIS (library and information science) fields. His previous publications include chapters in *The Seven Years' War: Global Views*, a volume which he co-edited with Dr. Patrick Speelman.

**5:00pm Dinner at America's Fort Café** (pre-registration only).

### Teacher Scholarships

Thanks to generous support from War College patrons, Fort Ticonderoga offers both in-person and online scholarships for teachers. Applications are available after February 1<sup>st</sup> at:  
[https://www.fortticonderoga.org/ft\\_events/twenty-ninth-annual-war-college-of-the-seven-years-war/](https://www.fortticonderoga.org/ft_events/twenty-ninth-annual-war-college-of-the-seven-years-war/)

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## Sunday, June 1, 2025

**9:00-9:30am “Are you not the Soldiers of Christ?”: The Artillery Sermon, Democracy, and the Seven Years’ War as Holy War**—The Artillery Sermon, delivered on militia muster days in colonial New England, was one of the longest-running institutions within colonial society. These orations assembled political and military leaders, the colony’s military age men, and were delivered by an elected minister, but have long been regarded as a formality based in tradition. This presentation will demonstrate that the Artillery Sermon was not only an invaluable tool in military mobilization and colonial unity in the French and Indian War, but also a rare demonstration of the political economy between competing religious, political, and social interest groups within colonial society. The nature of these events proves not only the peculiar relationship between religious identity and colonial warfare, but also a nascent form of political expression and popular sovereignty within colonial America. **J. L. Tomlin** is an Assistant Professor of History at Fairmont State University. His research examines the relationship between religion and politics in Early America. His current book project examines popular notions of Holy War in colonial America’s ongoing imperial conflicts.

**9:45-10:15am Agriculture and Environment in North America’s Seven Years’ War, 1754-1763**—The waging of the Seven Years’ War in North America transformed the continent. The British State’s requirements to raise troops, coupled with the need to feed and transport them, promoted the development of roads and canals, and witnessed the emergence of small family farms in the early American west. The unfolding of these developments represent a turning point in the development of American industrial agriculture, and with it, transformations in American Environments. **John Peter Antonacci** is a Ph.D. Candidate in Sociology at SUNY Binghamton—his dissertation, *Climates of Coercion, Climates of Capital: Military Revolutions in the Capitalist World-Ecology, 1492-1815*, argues that military revolutions are turning points in the history of capitalism, in that they restructure environments towards the end of endless accumulation.

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**10:30-11:00am “Serons Besoins Plus Goélettes”: Supply Fleet Requirements and Shortfalls on Lake Champlain:** The conventional view of French sailing fleet capacity on Lake Champlain during the Seven Years’ War presents a significant Economy of Force problem for Montcalm’s army throughout the conflict. In 1758, even an expanded fleet left a supply capacity shortfall of up to 46 tons per day, which would require over 12% of Montcalm’s force to fill using bateaux. Using up-to-date modeling and the latest information from existing vessels of the type, this analysis demonstrates the gaps in capacity and uses historic documents to fill in the gaps about what other vessels were likely available to supply the army at a reasonable Tons-Per-Sailor figure. **Steven Woods** worked in principally 18<sup>th</sup>-century military museums for 20 years before transitioning into the sustainability field; he is now the Operations Associate at the Center for Post Carbon Logistics and a scholar in the revival of working sail for a carbon constrained future.

**11:15-11:45am Workers of War & Empire: Canadian Laborers during the British Conquest (1754-1763)**—This presentation investigates the Canadians mobilized by the French to serve on corvée work teams that aided professional soldiers with fortification construction, roadbuilding, and supply transportation. After the Battle of the Plains of Abraham, the British appropriated Canadian customs of corvée to support an imperial market economy and rebuild public infrastructure. **Richard H. Tomczak** is a Research Assistant Professor in History at Stony Brook University. His forthcoming book argues that Canadian corvée fits like a puzzle piece with other forms of coercion, including indentured servitude and indigenous slavery, in the Revolutionary Atlantic.

**12:00pm Lunch** (Box lunch from America’s Fort Café included).



Fort Ticonderoga presents the Twenty-First Annual Seminar on the American Revolution September 19-21, 2025, in the Mars Education Center and for an online audience. This annual premier conference focused on the military, political, and social history of the American Revolution features scholars from across North America and around the globe. Sign up as a subscriber for the War College and the Seminar on the American Revolution by March 15<sup>th</sup> and save!

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## **Become a War College Patron!**

For those who wish to support the War College teacher scholarships as patrons, three levels are available:

### **\$350 Patron**

Includes the registration fee; recognition in the War College program; and an invitation to a private dinner with members of the War College faculty and teacher scholarship winners Saturday evening.

### **\$500 Patron**

In addition to all of the above, patrons at this level receive a copy of *Workers of War and Empire from New France to British America, 1688-1783* by speaker Richard H. Tomczak.

### **\$750 Patron**

In addition to all of the above, patrons at this level receive a gift certificate for \$50 from the Museum Store.

## **Become a Member of Fort Ticonderoga**

**When registering, it's easy to become a member or renew your current membership!**

Members receive: free admission to Fort Ticonderoga for 12 months, 10% discount in the Museum Store, a subscription to *The Haversack*, free admission to dozens of virtual events, discounts for seminars and conferences, and invitations to special events.

### **MEMBERSHIP LEVELS**

Corporal (individual)	\$75
Sergeant (dual)	\$100
Lieutenant	\$200
Captain	\$250
Major	\$500
Colonel	\$1,000



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## Registration and Travel Information

### How to Register

Fill out the registration form on the next page and mail with your check made payable to **Fort Ticonderoga** to:

*War College Registration  
Fort Ticonderoga  
PO Box 390  
Ticonderoga, NY 12883*

Registrations with payment will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Early Bird Registrations must be received by March 1<sup>st</sup>, not postmarked by that date. To pay with a credit card, please register online at the link below or call (518) 585-2821.

Register online at this link:

[www.FortTiconderoga.org/ft\\_events/twenty-ninth-annual-war-college-of-the-seven-years-war/](http://www.FortTiconderoga.org/ft_events/twenty-ninth-annual-war-college-of-the-seven-years-war/)



### Cancellation Policy

All cancellations must be received by May 1<sup>st</sup>. Registration fees will be refunded, less a \$25 processing charge. Refunds will be processed after the War College. There is a \$10 processing charge to transfer registrations to another person.

### Accommodations

Numerous overnight accommodations are available throughout the Ticonderoga area and the greater Lake George-Lake Champlain region. Rooms book quickly, so make your reservation today! A list of area accommodations is available at:

[www.fortticonderoga.org/visit/adirondack-vacation/places-to-stay/](http://www.fortticonderoga.org/visit/adirondack-vacation/places-to-stay/)

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## 2025 WAR COLLEGE REGISTRATION FORM

Save a stamp and register online at:

[www.FortTiconderoga.org/ft\\_events/twenty-ninth-annual-war-college-of-the-seven-years-war/](http://www.FortTiconderoga.org/ft_events/twenty-ninth-annual-war-college-of-the-seven-years-war/)



### On-Site Registration Fees

(includes lunch both days)

Early Bird Registration (by March 1, 2025)

- Member, \$160
- General Public, \$180

Registration (after March 1, 2025)

- Member, \$185
- General Public, \$205

Subscriber (by March 1, 2025)

(War College and Seminar on the American Revolution)

- Member, \$300
- General Public, \$340

War College Patron Registration

- Honorary Lieutenant Colonel, \$350
- Honorary Colonel, \$500
- Honorary Brigadier General, \$750

### Reception & Dinner

- Reception Friday afternoon, free but registration required
- Pot Roast Dinner Saturday Evening, \$25

Friday Cruise (limited space)

- Carillon Cruise to Crown Point, \$120

### Virtual Registration Fees

Early Bird Registration (by March 1, 2025)

- Member, \$130
- General Public, \$140

Registration (after March 1, 2025)

- Member, \$155
- General Public, \$165

Subscriber (by March 1, 2025)

(War College and Seminar on the American Revolution)

- Member, \$230
- General Public, \$250

### Membership

- I am a member of Fort Ticonderoga
- I would like to become a member or renew my membership at the level designated below:
  - Corporal (individual) \$75
  - Sergeant (dual) \$100
  - Lieutenant \$200
  - Captain, \$250
  - Major, \$500
  - Colonel, \$1,000

## Registration Information

Please use one form per person. Make photocopies or print out additional forms from the Fort Ticonderoga website for additional registrants.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

To use a credit card, please register online or call (518) 585-2821.

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## Meals and Reception

### Friday Evening Reception

Plan to join us Friday evening from 5:30-6:30pm at the Pavilion and King's Garden for a reception with War College faculty and staff. A menu of light *hors d'oeuvres* will be served. A cash bar with beer, cider, and wine also will be available. Included in registration, but please RSVP.

### Lunch Saturday and Sunday

Box lunches from America's Fort Café are included in the registration fee both days. A vegetarian option is available upon request.

### Pot Roast Dinner Saturday Evening

Pot Roast, mashed potatoes and gravy, vegetable, roll, and dessert at America's Fort Café. A vegetarian alternative is available. \$25 per person. By pre-registration only.

## Fort Ticonderoga Museum and Museum Store

Registration includes complimentary admission to Fort Ticonderoga Friday through Sunday of the War College. The Museum Store in the Log House will be open 9:30am-5:00pm, with extended evening hours on Saturday. Several members of the War College faculty will be signing their books at the Museum Store on Saturday at 1:00pm, where copies of their books will be for sale.

*Fort Ticonderoga is an independent not-for-profit educational institution and museum open to the public since 1909 and serves its mission to preserve, educate, and provoke an active discussion about the past and its importance to present and future generations. We foster an on-going dialogue surrounding citizens, soldiers, and nations through America's military heritage. © The Fort Ticonderoga Association. 2025 All Rights Reserved.*

### Fort Ticonderoga's Center for Digital History

Those who are unable to travel to Ticonderoga for this annual program can sign up to attend the War College online through Fort Ticonderoga's Center for Digital History using Zoom Webinars.

All sessions will be streamed. Online participants will be able to ask questions of presenters using the "Q&A" function.

Both in-person and online participants will have access to these recorded sessions for two weeks following the War College.

Center for Digital History



Center for Digital History



## **Upcoming 2025 Programs** Fort Ticonderoga Center for Digital History

These programs are offered through Zoom and pre-registration is required.  
**Membership Perk!** These programs are free for Fort Ticonderoga members.  
For more details, and to register, visit:

[www.fortticonderoga.org/calendar/category/lectures-seminars-and-workshops/](http://www.fortticonderoga.org/calendar/category/lectures-seminars-and-workshops/)

### **Fort Ticonderoga Author Series Sundays at 2:00pm ET**

The Fort Ticonderoga Author Series features presentations by authors of books related to Fort Ticonderoga's history.

*February 9*

J.L. Bell, *The Road to Concord: How Four Stolen Cannon Ignited the Revolutionary War*

*April 13*

Stephen Brumwell, *Turncoat: Benedict Arnold and the Crisis of American Freedom*

*June 8*

Christian Di Spigna, *Founding Martyr: The Life and Death of Dr. Joseph Warren, the American Revolution's Lost Hero*

*July 20*

Michael Gabriel, *Quebec during the American Invasion, 1775-1776: The Journal of François Baby, Gabriel Tasherau, & Jenkin Williams*

*August 17*

Mark Anderson, *The Battle for the Fourteenth Colony: America's War of Liberation in Canada, 1774-1776*



### **Ticonderoga 250<sup>th</sup>**

Keep up-to-date with Fort Ticonderoga's plans to commemorate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the American Revolution!

<https://www.fortticonderoga.org/learn-and-explore/ticonderoga-250th-real-time-revolution/>