



B.R.P.A. Journal

...An Occasional Publication of News

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Star Power on Display in 2016

It's said that Braddock's army had "star power"- George Washington, Horatio Gates, Daniel Boone, Thomas Gage, and the general himself. But the **annual Braddock Road bus tour** has real star power, led each year by BRPA board members Robert Nipar, Norman Baker, author of "*Braddock's Road: Mapping the British Expedition from Alexandria to the Monongahela*," and David Preston, author of "*Braddock's Defeat*."

This year's tour on Friday November 4 follows the last leg of Braddock's march, from Jumonville, site of Dunbar's Camp, to the boroughs of Braddock and North Braddock where the battle was fought. Much has changed in Braddock these last 261 years, but key geographic features remain and we'll be exploring these with our all-star guides.

The bus leaves Jumonville at 8:00 A.M. and proceeds along the general course of the historic road and arrives in North Braddock, PA in late morning, when the tour begins. Our first stop will be the steel mill, which is roughly the spot where Braddock's army made landed after crossing the Monongahela River for the second time. BRPA board members Norm Baker, David Preston, Robert Nipar, and local historian, Dane Knopp will talk about the significance of the site, and then we'll proceed to the Braddock Municipal Building, the launch point for a walking tour of the battlefield. The walking tour will end at the Braddock's Battlefield History Center at 609 Sixth Street where French and Indian War history will be served up along with box lunches. By then it will be time to return to Jumonville, riding in comfort that the ill-starred general could never have imagined, with arrival at approximately 4:00 P.M.

Please note: *pre-registration is required for the Friday bus tour & the 2016 tour is already full. If you'd like to be placed on a waiting list, contact the Jumonville office at 724-439-4912 and ask for Sarah.*

At 7:00 P.M. on Friday November 4, the seminar convenes in Wesley Hall for registration and a welcome by BRPA President Walt Powell and other board members. Light refreshments will be provided, and attendees will get a first glimpse at vendor items. At 7:15, Glenn Williams kicks off this year's seminar with a lecture entitled, "Lord Dunmore's War." Glenn is a historian with the U.S. Army Center of Military History and author of the forthcoming, "*Dunmore's War: The Last Conflict of America's Colonial Era*." At the conclusion of Q&A with Glenn, seminar attendees will have one last chance to make the rounds with vendors, and doors will close at 9:00 P.M.



a scene from our
2015 seminar



The seminar continues Saturday morning, November 5, with registration opening at 8:00 A.M. in Wesley Hall, and coffee, donuts, and fresh fruit offered for a quick wake-up. Walt Powell will offer introductory remarks followed by the keynote address, “The Changing Face of Fort Necessity, 1754-2016” by Brian Reedy of the National Park Service. Brian is the Chief of Interpretation and Visitor Services at Fort Necessity and will discuss the latest news and projects from the 900-acre NPS site so dear to us all.

Following the morning break, BRPA welcomes Dr. Jonathan Burns, director of the Cultural Resource Institute at Juniata College for his lecture, “Recent Archaeology at Fort Shirley and Fort Ligonier.” Jonathan will discuss the results of excavations at Fort Shirley and more recently at Fort Ligonier by groups of Juniata students that uncovered, among other things, a horse bell, musket balls, and other items.

After lunch, the BRPA will ask attendees to vote on officers nominated to serve on the board of directors in 2017. At 1:45 P.M., presentations resume with Brett Walker’s lecture, “St. Crispin’s Lance with Braddock and Forbes: British Shoes, Shoemaking, and Shoe-repairing on Two Campaigns Against Fort Duquesne.” Brett is a journeyman boot and shoemaker at Colonial

Williamsburg where he makes footwear by hand, eighteenth-century style, inside the Shoemaker’s Shop on Duke of Gloucester Street.

Following the afternoon break, Erica Nuckles will present an “18th Century Fashion Show.” Erica is the Director of History and Collections at Fort Ligonier, and the daughter of BRPA alumna and colonial-era clothing experts Steve and Sally Nuckles. Models will portray historical characters involved in the Braddock campaign, including General Braddock, George Washington, Jean Dumas, Charlotte Browne, and various Native Americans. “The fashion show will introduce each character and explain details about the clothing that they are wearing,” says Erica.

This year’s seminar also features the Silent Auction of rare books and other history-related items. Proceeds, as always, benefit BRPA’s ongoing initiatives. We look forward to dazzling you with our star power on Friday and Saturday, November 4 and 5, at the 28th Annual Braddock Road Preservation Association History Seminar!

**Check out our BRPA website @
www.braddockroadpa.org**