



105th Annual Meeting of the
New York State Archaeological Association
April 12-14, 2024
Hosted by the William M. Beauchamp and 1000 Islands Chapters



Accommodations: The conference will be at the Best Western Waterfront Hotel and Conference Center, 26 E. 1st St., in beautiful downtown Oswego, New York. We've secured a room rate of \$124/night that *includes* buffet breakfast. Make reservations by calling the hotel direct at **315-342-4040**. Please be sure to mention the conference to get the conference room rate. Rooms are available till filled. Be advised that you may be staying at the next-door Quality Inn & Suites if overflow is needed.

Tours: There will be a 1 pm Friday guided tour available of historic Fort Ontario State Historic Site. We will car-pool from the hotel (or you can walk- it's not far). Cost for the tour is \$2.00 per person payable in cash at the time of the tour. The near-by Safe Haven Museum will also be open for tours all weekend long. Cost for the Safe Haven Museum is \$3.00 per person.

Meals: We have onsite group meal options available for Friday dinner and Saturday lunch. The cost of the meal includes the tax and gratuity charge. Please see the registration form for details. Meal reservations must be received by April 1, 2024. There will be no meal sales at the door. There are also plentiful choices for dining a short drive from the hotel.

Annual Banquet: The Saturday evening banquet dinner will be a buffet-style meal. Please see the reservation form for the menu. The price also includes tax and gratuity charge. Banquet tickets may be available at the door pending availability, but best to reserve your seat in advance.

Keynote Speaker

George A. Bray, III

Historian of the French and Indian War, author, collector, lecturer, researcher and reenactor



"Doomed British Forts of Oswego"

This talk will focus on the construction, design, and destruction of the British forts located at present-day Oswego, New York during the French and Indian War. These forts were a threat to the French Forts Niagara (Youngstown, NY) and Frontenac (Kingston, Ontario, Canada) and endangered their Indian fur trade. The British, under Massachusetts Governor and Major General William Shirley began fortifying Oswego during the years 1755 – 1756. French Governor Vaudreuil ordered the newly arrived French Commander-in-Chief the Marquis de Montcalm to lead an expedition against the three forts in 1756 bringing about their demise in August, from which the English were unable to recover until 1759.

George Bray is retired from the U.S. Army where he served for over 21 years as an Intelligence Analyst and Counterintelligence Agent. He has always been interested in history, beginning a serious study of the French and Indian War as a teenager. During the American Revolution Bicentennial, he began to reenact the French and Indian War portraying an officer of Rogers' Rangers, which he still pursues to this day. For the past 43 years, he has been the event commander at the annual French and Indian War encampment held at Fort Niagara, Youngstown, NY on the Fourth of July weekend. He has also served as the event commander of French and Indian War events at Fort Stanwix, Rome, NY and other locations. He was also one of the members of the New York State French and Indian War 250th Anniversary Commemorative Commission which has been responsible for the sponsorship of several 250th French and Indian War events and the digitization of the Sir William Johnson Papers.

He is a published author whose articles have appeared in several newsletters and publications, including the *Military Collector and Historian* (the journal of the Company of Military Historians), *Muzzleloader* (a publication for black powder shooters), and the *Journal of the Forces of Montcalm and Wolfe* (a publication for French and Indian War reenactors). He has also assisted in and been featured in several television documentaries for such producers as the Learning Channel and BBC.

He is a Fellow of the Company of Military Historians and a member of the Old Fort Niagara Association. An avid collector, George's collection includes original prints, books, documents, weapons, and other items of the French and Indian War period.

Registration: Conference registration is by mail only. Please complete the registration form attached to this information packet and mail with your check payable to the William Beauchamp Chapter, NYSAA. Registration is due postmarked by April 1, 2024 to ensure your registration reaches us in time. If your registration has not reached us by the time of the conference, you will be responsible for paying at check-in. Reimbursement will be made once your dual registration is received. We will have walk-in registration on Friday and Saturday only.

Bookroom: We will have a secure bookroom available for your shopping pleasure. Bookroom tables can be reserved by contacting Dr. Greg Sohrweide at gregsohr@aol.com. Tables are free to NYSAA chapters. Other vendors will be charged \$25 per 8ft table. Please make table reservations by April 1, 2024. Note that table attendees also need to register for the conference.

General Schedule: (subject to change)

NYAC Spring Meeting

Friday, 4/12/24

NYAC Board Meeting: 9:30 AM - 12:30 AM

NYAC General Meeting: 1:30 PM – 4:00 PM

NYSAA Annual Meeting

Friday 4/12/24

Registration: 3:00 - 5:00 PM

NYSAA Fellows Dinner Meeting: 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM

NYSAA General Business Meeting: 7:30 PM - 10:00 PM

Saturday, 4/13/24

Registration: 8:00 AM- 3:00 PM

Chapter Officers Breakfast: 7:00 AM - 8:30 AM

Presentations: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Cocktail Hour: 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Banquet: 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Sunday, 4/14/24

Local Session, Presentations: 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Call for Papers: The conference will only be as good as we make it. Papers and posters are welcome highlighting any aspect of archaeology in New York State and contiguous regions. Abstracts of 150-250 words can be sent to Dr. Tim Abel at tabel@twcny.rr.com. So that we can post a complete program in a timely manner, please get your abstracts in by March 15, 2024.

Paper/Poster Rules:

- Papers are 20 minutes in length.
- Posters can be of any size up to 48"x60". Please provide a backing board and your choice of mounting (pins, clips, etc.). We will have easels or wall boards available.
- One paper or poster per presenter, although individuals may coauthor multiple papers/posters.
- Presenters must be members of the NYSAA (On co-authored papers/posters, the lead author must be a NYSAA member).
- A digital projector will be available for presentation. Please advise us of any alternative requirements.
- All presenters must register for the conference by April 1, 2024.

Additional Questions:

Dr. Tim Abel, Program Chair- tabel@twcny.rr.com

Dr. Greg Sohrweide, Local Arrangements Chair- gregsohr@aol.com

Other Area Attractions:

Richardson-Bates House Museum- 135 East 3rd Street, Oswego, NY. Open Friday and Saturday 1-5pm. Donations accepted.

H. Lee White Maritime Museum- 1 W 1st St, Oswego, NY. Open Friday, Saturday and Sunday 1-5pm. Donations accepted.

Fort Brewerton and Oliver Stevens Blockhouse Museum- 9 US Route 11, Brewerton, NY. Grounds open, museum open on Sunday afternoon for tours. Donations accepted.

**The 105th Annual Meeting
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Best Western Waterfront, Oswego, NY
26 E. 1st St.**

Registration (includes meeting program, speakers and coffee breaks)

Registration No. _____ @\$50.00 _____

Student Registration (with ID) No. _____ @\$25.00 _____

Name(s) Affiliation (please print clearly)

Extras

Friday tour of Fort Ontario No. _____ pay on-site \$2.00 per person
Car-pool transportation, guided walking tour on stone-dust trails.

Friday Buffet Dinner No. _____ @\$55.00 _____

Choice of: Alaskan salmon, peppercorn
pork loin, tortellini carbonara, oven-roasted
potato, green beans almondine, tossed salad,
rolls, coffee, tea and dessert.

Saturday Lunch Buffet No. _____ @\$26.00 _____

Choice of assorted wraps, soup, salad, rolls
and butter, coffee and tea.

Saturday Buffet Banquet No. _____ @\$60.00 _____

Choice of: chicken piccata, round roast,
broccoli penne, garden blend with rice, vegetable
medley, tossed salad, rolls, coffee, tea, dessert.

Total Enclosed _____

Please make checks payable to "William Beauchamp Chapter, NYSAA" and mail to:

**Mike Beardsley
301 Deep Springs Dr.
Chittenango, NY 13037**