



## Clinton County Historical Association & Museum

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**Museum Hours: Wed-Sat 10-3 or by appointment**

Email: [director@clintoncountyhistorical.org](mailto:director@clintoncountyhistorical.org)

Website: [www.clintoncountyhistorical.org](http://www.clintoncountyhistorical.org)

Facebook: Clinton County Historical Association

Clinton County Civil War Record 1861-1865

Bluff Point Lighthouse on Valcour Island



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### **The Clinton County Historical Association is the lead organization for the American250 commemoration in Historic Clinton County in 2026.**

Communities are planning events focusing on our independence with annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July parades in the City of Plattsburgh and the Village of Rouses Point along with other communities including Champlain, Mooers, and Keeseville hosting annual parades during the summer. Communities will be sponsoring walking tours of historic sites, dedicating historic markers, hosting activities at their local libraries and schools, and more. Wayside Exhibits/Interpretive Panels will be installed in Rouses Point, Chazy, Peru and at the Battlefield Memorial Gateway. American250 banners will be displayed in all communities. A Children's ABC Activity Book will be published and distributed to all 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students in Clinton, Essex and Franklin Counties. The Saranac Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) has published a book listing the Revolutionary War Patriots who settled and are buried in Clinton County. It is available for \$15 at CCHA.

A few events are already planned as follows.

**17 May 2026** – 11 a.m., America250 Kick-off event to be held at the American Legion Post 1619 in West Plattsburgh honoring 250 years of veterans. There will be a rifle volley, and taps. Legion members will be attired in Honor Guard Uniforms and Revolutionary War Uniforms with guest speakers. A luncheon will be served.

**25 May 2026** – Rouses Point American Legion Montgomery Post 920 will hold their annual Memorial Day ceremony and visit cemeteries in the Town of Champlain to honor all veterans.

Post 920 and West Plattsburgh Post 1619 will honor Revolutionary War Veterans in select cemeteries in Clinton County on Saturdays throughout the summer.

The SAR will host John Krueger sharing his inspiring reading of the Declaration of Independence on Friday, 3 July, 10:00 a.m. at Veterans Park on the Oval. In September, 1814inc will host the 28<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Plattsburgh Weekend. A celebration is being planned by 1814inc to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Macdonough Monument. CVPH and the Miner Institute are planning to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Physician's Hospital.

Details for the above and many other events will follow as plans are confirmed.

## Signature Event Weekend October 9-11, 2026

**A once in a lifetime event coordinated by CCHA in collaboration with many other organizations.**

The events offered in 2026 are a continuation of Clinton County's commemoration of our nation's semisecular centennial and will culminate in a three-day grand **Finale!** In preparation for the **Finale!** a series of educational opportunities will be offered to include museum exhibits focusing on the Battle of Valcour Island and on the contributions of Indigenous, African Americans and women, a speaker series, children's programs and an America250 calendar with daily historical references.

The October 9-11 weekend will complement the earlier educational programs and continue to focus on student and public learning opportunities. October 11, 2026, is the final day of the event, exactly 250 years from the Battle of Valcour Island with a fully narrated reenactment of the first battle by the United States Navy and the most influential naval battle of the American Revolution as led by Benedict Arnold, whose leadership in this battle deterred the British from advancing past Crown Point thus allowing the newly united colonies time to prepare for success at Saratoga in 1777. All weekend events will be filmed. The events summary is as follows:

### Friday – 9 October

- All Clinton County schools invited to attend the Native North American Traveling College in the morning at Valcour Brewing Company on the Old Base Museum Campus. The afternoon event will be open to the public.
- A Community dinner, featuring period food, at the West Side Ballroom with a guest speaker.
- Museum Tours

### Saturday – 10 October

- Reenactors encamped at the Plattsburgh City Beach and available for public interaction.
- Dedication of a legacy project (featuring two new wayside panels and a new flagpole) at the Peru Boat Launch. The panels will tell the story of Valcour Island.
- US Navy Band to perform in a venue TBD
- Boat trips to Valcour Island for tours of the Island and the Bluff Point Lighthouse. The Lighthouse features 3 floors of exhibits including one on the Battle of Valcour Island.
- Museum Tours

### Sunday – 11 October (Plattsburgh City Beach – reserved for the entire weekend)

- Saranac Chapter of the DAR 131<sup>st</sup> commemoration ceremony of the Battle of Valcour Island.
- Reenactment of the Battle of Valcour on Cumberland Head Bay with narrative featuring replica British and American gunboats including the *Congress* commanded by Benedict Arnold.
- Reenactors at the Plattsburgh City Beach available for the public interaction.
- US Navy Band to perform.

All events on Battle of Valcour weekend are free and open to the public except there will be a charge for the dinner. **Events are still being planned. Watch for details in the following:**

**[www.clintoncountyhistorical.org](http://www.clintoncountyhistorical.org) [www.battleofvalcour.com](http://www.battleofvalcour.com) [www.adkcoastcultural.org](http://www.adkcoastcultural.org) Clinton County Historical Association Facebook Page The Press Republican and the Sun Community Newspapers.**

Funding for the County's America250 celebrations has been received from a 2026 Local Heritage grant from the Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership, former Assemblyman D. Billy Jones, the Clinton County Legislature, New York State America250 Committee. For more information contact Clinton County America250 Chair, Geri Favreau, by calling 518-561-0340 or emailing [gerifavreau@gmail.com](mailto:gerifavreau@gmail.com).