

Monroe County History Museum  
724 Elaine Drive  
Waterloo, IL 62298  
618-939-5008  
Hours-Sat/Sun Noon to 3:00

Showcase Chairman Bill Wilson 618-830-4334  
[www.monroecountyhistorymuseum.com](http://www.monroecountyhistorymuseum.com)  
FB/Monroe County History Museum  
[mocohistmuseum@gmail.com](mailto:mocohistmuseum@gmail.com)  
All programs held at History Museum

## The Forty Years War Showcase 1775 - 1815

The Forty Years War is a term that is sometimes applied to the period that begins with the onset of the Revolutionary War in 1775 and ends with the Battle of New Orleans in 1815 which puts a closing to the end of The War of 1812, sometimes referred to as The Second War of Independence. This era includes George Rogers Clark's capture of Illinois and Indiana, the Indian Wars of the 1790's, and the Lewis and Clark journey to the Pacific from 1804 to 1806. Illinois History does not reveal a greater collection of historians who have come together to produce historical and educational events than these thirty-one individuals who have joined together to create and present this spectacular **"Illinois History Educational Showcase"**.

*All presentations will be held at the Monroe County History Museum. Donations appreciated.*

**1. April 5, 2014, 12:30 – "La Belle Fontaine"** presented by Bill Wilson/Dennis Patton. This is the story of a beautiful flowing spring in Waterloo and the people and events surrounding this early Illinois pioneer site. Highlights of the program include the French settler who claimed the area, the importance of the area to the natives living there, the first white settlers and their homesteads, structures currently on the site and the old cemetery atop a nearby hill. Mr. Wilson has since his retirement from Belleville Area College, pursued his interest in early Illinois history. He is President of the Hill's Fort Society, Events Chairman of the Illinois Society of the War of 1812 and has co-authored five books on IL history. Mr. Patton is a retired high school principal and author of his first book, *School Days*, Columbia, Illinois First Schools.

**2. April 5, 2014, 1:45 - "North American Rev. War & War of 1812 Historic Sites"** by Dale Phillips. The program includes historic information pertaining to both of these sites which may be visited. The audience will receive handouts. Mr. Phillips is Superintendent of the Lincoln Home National Historic Site in Springfield and guide/lecturer for the Delta Queen Steamboat Company.

**3. April 6, 2014, 12:30 – "Martha Washington"** presented by Barbara Kay. Martha Washington's strength and compassion during the Revolution gave our soldiers hope. Ms. Kay, a retired history teacher from St. Louis, portrays three strong and competent women who played a vital role in the formation of this country. These women not only served as a partner and balance for their husbands but also as a guide for future First Ladies. Their intelligence,

courage, and gracious personalities have made them three of the most respected women in American history.

**4. April 6, 2014, 1:45 – “Widder’s Landing and Remember the Raisin”** presented by Eddie Price. This program shows how deeply Kentuckians were involved in the War of 1812 – economically, politically, militarily and emotionally. Kentucky lost 64% of all Americans killed in the war. Without adequate arms and funding, Kentuckians answered the final call to defend New Orleans. The epic battle on the sugarcane plantations below that city provided redemption for the young American nation and for a state seeking to shed its pioneer image to become one of the more influential states in the union. Mr. Price’s novel tells this story.

**5. April 12, 2014, 12:30 – “Illinois’ Only Military Library”** presented by Richard Brett Downey. The “Pritzker Military Library”, the only military library in Illinois, is the second largest military library in North America and dedicated to the “Citizen Soldier”. The program will cover the why and how of a military library and how it is different from other libraries and museums and what is done differently in regard to genealogy, military history, veterans services and access to military information. A wide variety of services are available to the public including more than 70,000 volumes of military history. Mr. Downey has been affiliated with the Pritzker Military Library in Chicago as a lecturer, genealogy researcher, and veteran’s services representative since 2011. He also served with the U.S. Marine Corps in Vietnam 1969-1970.

**6. April 12, 2014, 1:45 – “How We Dressed Back Then: Tips & Tricks to Create Your Own Living History Wardrobe”** presented by Theresa Sanders who will discuss clothing styles and differences for men, women and children and provide tips to creating your own period clothing inexpensively. Ms. Sanders is a self-taught seamstress who has been constructing period garments for over 20 years. Most of her business is from Living History Re-enactors from across the country. She travels to approximately 20 events per year. Although her passion is the French and Indian War era, she makes clothing for all time periods.

**7. April 13, 2014, 12:30 – “Pierre Menard in His Home”** presented by Darrell Duensing, in period dress, who will be discussing various important issues of the time with his acquaintance and business associate, Mr. Menard. Mr. Duensing is the Site Manager of Fort de Chartres State Historic Site and Vice President of the Randolph County Historical Society.

**8. April 13, 2014, 1:45 – “The Wood River Massacre”** presented by Cathy Bagby. This program includes the story of the massacre and the after-story of the families involved. The information is taken from the new publication compiled by Bill Wilson with Ms. Bagby assisting in its completion. The process of making this book will also be shared. Ms. Bagby is retired from Children’s Hospital and serves as a board member and volunteer for the Alton Museum of History and Art.

**9. April 19, 2014, 12:30, - “Native Americans in Illinois from 1775-1815”** presented by Chrystal Dagit. The location of the native tribes along the Illinois River before, during and after the War of 1812 will be explained by the map from Helen Tanner’s work. Additional highlights

include the influence of the French on the tribes, the trading practices, the use and trade of weapons, and cooking utensils and clothing styles which have been in practice since the 1600s. Ms. Dagit is the Regional Director of the Illinois War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission and President of the Tazewell County Museum & Educational Center.

**10. April 19, 2014, 1:45 – “Treaties, Tension & Tecumseh: A review of the land cessions that sparked renewed resistance”** presented by Michael Wiant. A series of treaties negotiated by William Henry Harrison in the first decade of the 19<sup>th</sup> century expanded U.S. Territory north of the Ohio River to the Mississippi River. The process created much confusion stemming from differences in attitudes about land ownership and different interpretations of treaty language to strengthening the relationship between the tribes and Great Britain. Mr. Wiant is the Director of the Illinois State Museum – Dickson Mounds. As an archaeologist for more than 40 years, he has explored the long history of Native Americans in the Illinois River Basin sharing his insights through lectures, teaching and publication.

**11. April 26, 2014, 12:30 – “The Winter of 1803-1804 at Camp Dubois”** presented by Brad Winn will explore the winter spent at Camp Dubois and the men who would go on to form the Corps of Discovery. The five months the expedition members spent in the Illinois Country would prove crucial to the subsequent success of the journey to the Western Ocean and back. Learn about the troubles and lessons learned during Lewis and Clark’s Expedition’s first Winter Encampment. Mr. Winn works for the Lewis and Clark Historic Site in Hartford and as an adjunct instructor at Lincoln Land and Lewis and Clark Community Colleges.

**12. April 26, 2014, 1:45 – “1812 Historic Flag Program”** presented by Jim DeGroff who is extremely interested in American history, especially that of the colonial through early 1800s timeframe. That interest has evolved to include the identification of flags used and their importance in early America. Local vexillophiles (a person who likes, admires or enjoys flags) will enjoy viewing the 1812 historic flag program. Mr. DeGroff is State President of the Illinois Society of the War of 1812, VP of the Hill’s Fort Society and Vice Chairman of the Illinois War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission.

**13. April 27, 2014, 12:30 – “Abigail Adams”** presented by Barbara Kay. Abigail Adams’ letters to her husband kept him focused on his many responsibilities as President. Ms. Kay, a retired history instructor from St. Louis, portrays three strong and competent women who played a vital role in the formation of this country. These women not only served as a partner and balance for their husbands but also as a guide for future First Ladies. Their intelligence, courage, and gracious personalities have made them three of the most respected women in American history.

**14. April 27, 2014, 1:45 – “Illinois in the War of 1812 – Statewide Perspective”**, presented by Gillum Ferguson. The material shared from his book is devoted to the experience of Illinois during the War of 1812, a crucial stage in the transition from territory status to statehood. The book and today’s program is the result of two and a half years of research among original

documents and appears in time for the observance of the war's bicentennial. Mr. Ferguson has been an IL state prosecutor for six years and Assistant U.S. Attorney in Chicago for 25 years.

**15. May 3, 2014, 12:30 – “The Kaskaskia-Cahokia Trail”** presented by Dennis Patton. The effort to prove the Kaskaskia-Cahokia Trail was the first Illinois roadway became a research project for Mr. Patton in 2013. He began sharing his findings and educating others through his PowerPoint presentation. His efforts were recognized when Landmarks Illinois presented him and the Monroe-Randolph Tourism Board with the Richard Driehaus Award for Education. Mr. Patton is a retired high school principal and author of his first book.

**16. May 3, 2014, 1:45 – “Whiteside Family & Their Family Fort”** presented by Kevin Kaegy, a descendent of this prestigious Carolina pioneer family who has studied and presented the history many times. Many of the struggles and successes of this tightly bound family will be presented along with factual tales and amusing stories! This Monroe County family fort, its beginning, its location, and its place on the frontier are all a part of the family history. Family artifacts will be on display. Mr. Kaegy has served as a leader of the Bond County Historical and Genealogical Societies for over twenty years. He has also worked as an editor with Bill Wilson to co-author five books since 2002.

**17. May 4, 2014, 12:30 – “Early Surveying on the Frontier”** presented by Jeff Pauk. This program begins by explaining the “Metes and Bounds” system, the only system available when surveying began in the Illinois Territory. The limitations of this system and the equipment used will be explained. The “Township System” based from the Principal Meridians is the system then put in place and is still in use today. The Global Positioning System “GPS” will be demonstrated. Mr. Pauk is a licensed Professional Land Surveyor since 1996, the owner of Madison County Surveyors, Inc. and a second generation surveyor and member of the Madison County Historical Society Board of Directors.

**18. May 4, 2014, 1:45 – “Amazing Women & Interesting Men Living in Kaskaskia”** presented by Emily Lyons. The enterprising women in the thriving metropolis of Kaskaskia were often left to manage the plantations while the men were embroiled in creating the database of Illinois. Ms. Lyons served as a teacher for 35 years and has been a member of the Liberty Bell of the West Patriotic Committee since 1972.

**19. May 10, 2014, 12:30 – “The Taking of Vincennes”** presented by Ranger Jason M. Collins. The George Rogers Clark story often touted as one of the outstanding accomplishments of the American Revolution often is lost in accounts of American History. Ranger Collins will explain the difficulties of Clark's rather unconventional campaign and why this story is important to the history of the American Revolution and to America. Park Ranger Collins has been in the National Park Service for eight years serving at Valley Forge National Historical Park and Lincoln Home National Historic Site prior to coming to George Rogers Clark National Park.

**20. May 10, 2014, 1:45 – “Citizen Soldiers: The Militia in the Illinois Territory during the Early Indian War”** presented by Gordon Howe. As American settlers drifted over the Appalachians, they clashed with the Native people. Militia provided security for these dispersed settlements. This program will explore the protection of the western settlements and the actions taken by the government took during the War of 1812 to secure the western lands.

**21. May 11, 2014, 12:30 – “The Three Flag Ceremony, Louisiana Purchase”** presented by Doug Harding, NPS, in period dress. The program will discuss the hows and whys of the Louisiana Purchase and the transfer of property from the Spanish to the French to the United States, the three flags ceremony here at St. Louis and why Meriwether Lewis was present.

**22. May 11, 2014, 1:45 – “Pierre LaCledde, Founder of St. Louis”** presented by Doug Harding, NPS, in period dress. The program will explain how this site was selected, the men involved and the activities that occurred on the first days of the settlement of the fur trading post of St. Louis.

**23. May 17, 2014, 12:30 – “St. Louis Sutler (storekeeper) in 1812”** presented by Jon Parkin. The discussion of the War of 1812 is from the perspective of a St. Louis merchant, how this merchant was able to initially acquire trade goods and develop a trading business with the public and the military during this period of unrest. Methods and trials of maintaining inventory became a major part of the enterprise. Mr. Parkin teaches World History at Edwardsville High School and Geography courses for Lewis and Clark Community College. He participates in War of 1812 re-enactments, conducts research on historical subjects, and tutors Burmese refugees.

**24. May 17, 2014, 12:30 – “Sons of the American Revolution Historic Flag Program”** presented by Jim DeGross who is extremely interested in American history, especially that of the colonial through early 1800s timeframe. That interest has evolved to include the identification of flags, and their use and importance in early America. Mr. DeGross is the president of the General George Rogers Clark Chapter Sons of the American Revolution and is active in the Illinois Society of the War of 1812 and Bicentennial events.

**25. May 18, 2014, 12:30 - "The Forgotten Soldiers: US Ranger Corps in the Western Theater during the War of 1812"** presented by Gordon Howe. During the War of 1812, U.S. Ranger companies were commissioned to protect the western territories. This force was the effective Federal army in the west. This program will explore who the U.S. Rangers were, their organization and the role they played in protecting the American settlements.

**26. May 18, 2014, 1:45 - “1812 Fort Construction & Building Fort LaMotte”** presented by Rob Byrley. This program describes the construction of privately built War of 1812 stockades, blockhouses, the recent construction of Fort LaMotte and explains how durability was incorporated into this construction while keeping historic accuracy. Mr. Byrley spearheaded the reconstruction of the Fort, is Vice President of the Central Wabash Archaeological Chapter and the Fort LaMotte Rangers.

**27. May 24, 2014, 12:30 – “American Defense of Cahokia”** presented by Andrew Cooperman. The program highlights the attack on Cahokia by the British in 1780 and the strategies employed to foil this attack and save what has become historic Cahokia. Mr. Cooperman is employed at the Morrison-Talbott Library in Waterloo and serves as a volunteer Site Interpreter for the Cahokia Courthouse Complex State Historic Site.

**28. May 24, 2014 at 1:45 - “Why Should I Join a Genealogical Society?”** presented by Robert Ridenour, President of Madison County Genealogical Society. This presentation will stress the importance of genealogical societies to information seekers and those who are dedicated researchers by outlining those items typical societies have available to aid in your research.

**29. May 25, 2014, 12:30 - “Hill’s Fort Anniversary Reenactment”** presented by Bill Johnson. Hill’s Fort 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the War of 1812- the attack and the ensuing battle will be discussed. This battle will be reenacted at the Hill’s Fort Remembrance Celebration later this year. Mr. Johnson is a retired Bond County elected official. He has become an Illinois Ranger who discovered his 4<sup>th</sup> great-grandfather was an Illinois Ranger during the War of 1812.

**30. May 25, 2014, 1:45 – “1812 Societies & Women in the War of 1812”** presented by Lola DeGroff ” who will describe events prior to war of 1812 and focus on women’s role during that time frame. She will use as an example, several women from this period who stepped up when help was needed to protect or care for those around her. Since retiring Ms. DeGroff has devoted her time to many lineage and non-profit organizations. She is State President of Illinois Society of U.S. Daughters of 1812 and State Secretary of Illinois State Organization of the American Revolution.

**31. May 31, 2014, 12:30 – “Sacajawea/Bird Woman”** presented by Ranger Nancy Hoppe. The events of the only woman to accompany Meriwether Lewis & William Clark to the Pacific Ocean on the Lewis and Clark Expedition. The program will examine Sacagawea’s early childhood kidnapping, her marriage, her skills and character qualities used on the Expedition, the mystery surrounding her death and whatever happened to her baby boy. Hands on items relating to her story are available after the talk. Ms. Hoppe is a National Park Service Park Ranger Interpreter working at the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial in St. Louis for the past 30 years.

**32. May 31, 2014, 1:45 – “Our Dog, Seamon”** presented by Ranger Nancy Hoppe. Fifty-four people accompanied Meriwether Lewis & William Clark on the Lewis and Clark Expedition along with one dog. This program will cover the characteristics of Newfoundland dogs, how Lewis acquired Seaman, his role in helping to establish American Indian relations, his use for supplying protection and food, some difficulties he faced in the wilderness and his mysterious last days. Seaman Dog Bones will be used to encourage children of all ages to participate in the telling of how Seaman’s fidelity and courage played a significant part of our country’s history. Hands on items pertaining to Seaman’s story will be available after the talk.

**33. June 1, 2014, 12:30 – “1810 – 1812 Uniforms, Equipment and Weapons”** presented by Greg Parrott. The life of a soldier in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century will be described. Weapons, flintlock muskets and rifles, will be explained and differences displayed between weapon styles. Uniforms are regular Army from this period. Equipment discussed will be those items required of the soldier and those that he had room to carry to help him exist in the military environment.

**34. June 1, 2014, 1:45 – “The Northwest Territory, Defining a Nation”** presented by Superintendent Frank W. Doughman. At the end of the American Revolution a fledging nation struggled with many issues including the forming of a central government. While the country proclaimed to be a republic there was no clear indication of how that would work. This program will look at the Northwest Territory and how it helped America define its future. Mr. Doughman has worked for the National Park Service for more than 30 years primarily as an interpreter/historian. After 9 years as an Interpretation Instructor at George Rogers Clark National Historical Park he was promoted to Park Superintendent in 2013.

**35. June 7, 2014 at 12:30 – “SAR Flag Program” presented by Bill Wilson. – “Sons of the American Revolution Historic Flag Program”** presented by Jim DeGroff who is extremely interested in American history, especially that of the colonial through early 1800s timeframe. That interest has evolved to include the identification of flags, and their use and importance in early America. Mr. DeGroff is the president of the General George Rogers Clark Chapter Sons of the American Revolution and is active in the Illinois Society of the War of 1812 and Bicentennial events.

**36. June 7, 2014, 1:45 – “Mary’s Landing-America Rising”** presented by Eddie Price. After the War of 1812 there was no doubt – American had won a war of survival against the number one superpower of the world, and it was here to stay. New states would soon be added to the union. Steamboats appeared on western waters and the population grew and moved westward. But problems faced the young nation. Great Britain began a new “economic warfare”. Slavery became a bigger issue as the “cotton kingdom” of the South expanded westward. Sectionalism would come to dominate American politics. Mr. Price taught history at Hancock County High School and coached award-winning academic teams and history contest winners. He has received numerous teaching and writing honors and is active in the Hancock County Historical Society.

**37. June 8, 2014, 12:30** –Bill Wilson will interpret the exhibit panels currently on display and explain the relevance of each to the 40 Years War Showcase currently being offered by the War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission. Many of these quality exhibits and models were created by 7th and 8th grade students for exhibition in the Illinois State History Fair during the past few years.

**38. June 8, 2014, 1:45 – “Illinois in the War of 1812 – Monroe, Randolph & St. Clair Perspective”** presented by Gillum Ferguson. The material shared from his book is devoted to the experience of Illinois during the War of 1812, a crucial stage in the transition from territory

status to statehood. The book and today's program is the result of two and a half years of research among original documents and appears in time for the observance of the War's Bicentennial.

**39. June 14, 2014, 12:30 – “John Murdock, Soldier and Indian Hater”** presented by Linda Hannabarger. John Murdock's early life saw several members of his family lose their lives in Indian attacks and this had a very strong bearing on the man John became. He served several stints in the militia during his life. A few tales of John's escapades will be added in telling this story. Ms. Hannabarger, of rural Ramsey, IL, is a columnist for *the Vandalia Leader-Union and Ramsey News-Journal* newspapers in Fayette County and editor of 'Fayette Facts', the genealogical magazine for the Fayette Co. Genealogical & Historical Society. Since 2009, Ms. Hannabarger has taught beginning genealogy and writing classes at Kaskaskia College, Vandalia Campus.

**40. June 14, 2014, 1:45 – “Impact of Rural Schools”**, a PowerPoint presentation by Dennis Patton. Monroe County had 60 rural schools prior to 1950. This program highlights the impact these educational institutions had on a developing nation beginning soon after the conclusion of the War of 1812. Mr. Patton purchased a dilapidated Sand Bank School house and refurbished it creating a community volunteer project which gained Columbia an Illinois Governor's Hometown Award. In 2012 the Sand Bank School was named a National Landmark School house. Mr. Patton is a retired high school principal and author of his first book, *School Days*, Columbia, Illinois First Schools.

**41. June 15, 2014, 12:30 – “John Dodge, Early Illinois Scoundrel”** presented by Darrell Duensing, in period dress, as John Dodge a “Gang Boss” based at Fort Kaskaskia in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Mr. Duensing is the Site Manager of Fort de Chartres State Historic Site and Vice President of the Randolph County Historical Society.

**42. June 15, 2014, 1:45 – “Lewis and Clark Trail & Expedition”** by Brad Winn. Join the more than two year expedition which began on May 14, 1804, as the men of the Lewis and Clark Expedition travel thousands of miles across the NW portion of North America to Oregon and back. Mr. Winn has a MA in Military History, works for the Lewis and Clark Historic Site in Hartford and is an Adjunct Instructor at Lincoln Land and Lewis and Clark Community Colleges.

**43. June 21, 2014, 1:45 – “Dolley Madison”** by Barbara Kay. Dolley Madison was the perfect hostess for the young nation, putting everyone at ease. Ms. Kay, retired history instructor from St. Louis, portrays three strong and competent women who played a vital role in the formation of this country. These women not only served as a partner and balance for their husbands but also as a guide for future First Ladies. Their intelligence, courage, and gracious personalities have made them three of the most respected women in American history.

**44. June 21, 2014 at 1:45 - “The Battles of New Orleans”** presented by Dale Phillips. The program is a step by step reconstruction of this battle that ended conflict between the U.S. and Great Britain. To this day, this battle is generally thought of as the end of the War of 1812, even

though it was fought after the war was officially over. Mr. Phillips is Superintendent of the Lincoln Home National Historic Site in Springfield and guide/lecturer for the Delta Queen Steamboat Company.

**45. June 22, 2014, 12:30 - "Hill's Fort Story"** presented by Kevin Kaegy. Isaac Hill was sent to the Territory by Thomas Jefferson to survey the land between Shoal Creek and the Kaskaskia River in 1808 so the government could eventually sell the land. When Hill finished the survey he sold the cabins he had built to David White. White and others quickly finished the fort as there were skirmishes with the Indians during that period. . Mr. Kaegy has served as a leader of the Bond County Historical and Genealogical Societies for over twenty years. He has also worked as an editor with Bill Wilson to co-author five books since 2002.

**46. June 22, 2014, 1:45 – "Genealogy 101"** presented by R. Ridenour/L. DeGroff. This is a basic course on Genealogy designed to help beginners improve their research. Attendees will leave with numerous tips to aid in their genealogical research. Since retiring, Ms. DeGroff has devoted her time to many lineage and non-profit organizations. She is State President of the Illinois Society of U.S. Daughters of 1812 and State Secretary of Illinois State Organization of the American Revolution. Mr. Ridenour is currently the President of the Madison County Illinois Genealogical Society.

**47. June 28, 2014, 12:30 – "A Citizen in Colonial America" by Kevin Monroe** dressed in period clothing will discuss various topics from the colonial American era. Mr. Monroe has been teaching U.S. History at Southwestern Illinois College.

**48. June 28, 2014, 1:45 – "Forty Years War Closing Program"** presented by Bill Wilson/Team.

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All programs held at History Museum