

*Kathleen Kilpatrick*

## **Proposed Workshop for Teachers, Parents, and Historical Societies on the War of 1812 and Its Legacy**

### **Audience:**

The workshop will be aimed at K-12 teachers and parents as well as curators and docents from historical societies or museums.

### **Workshop Site:**

Fort Monroe or a site in downtown Hampton such as the Hampton Historical Museum

### **Goals/Objectives:**

1. To present basic information on the causes, character and consequences of the War of 1812.
2. To demonstrate effective ways to teach about the War of 1812 and its legacy in the classroom and to meet Virginia's Standards of Learning related to this period in American history .
3. To encourage teachers and parents to visit authentic historic places in Virginia that are associated with the War of 1812 and its legacy.
4. To understand Ft Monroe as a living legacy of the War of 1812.
5. To engage the audience in a living history encounter with James Monroe as played by Dennis Bigelow
6. To share lesson plans and other resources that teachers can use to teach about the War of 1812 and its legacy.

### **Format:**

1. The format could be modeled on a similar workshop held at Sweet Briar College in June, 2012.
2. The format could be modified by featuring a living history interpreter or interpreters outdoors at Ft. Monroe.
3. The workshop could be offered as one component of a larger conference on the legacy of the War of 1812. Prof. Don Hickey's presentation could be offered in a plenary session of that conference.

### **Speakers/Presenters**

Speakers and presenters could include all the participants in the June 2012 workshop at Sweet Briar.

## **Model Program for Teachers Workshop on War of 1812 and Its Legacy**

From June 9, 2012 Teacher's Workshop on War of 1812 at Sweet Briar College

**9:00** – Welcome, Delegate Kirk Cox, Chairman, Virginia Bicentennial of the American War of 1812 Commission

**9:15** - "What you and your students should know about the War of 1812," Prof. Don Hickey (historian and author).

10:15 Coffee Break

**10:30** - "Live from 1812" Lesson Plan Demonstration, Rita Bradunas (Baltimore City School Teacher). Note: A comparable presentation could be given by a Virginia classroom teacher focusing on the War in Virginia

**11:15** - "Bringing your students to James Madison's Montpelier," Sterling Howell (Museum Educator, Montpelier).

12:00 - lunch

**12:45** - "America's Second War for Independence - The War of 1812," Dennis Bigelow (Monroe Interpreter at Ash-Lawn Highland, Performing as President James Monroe).

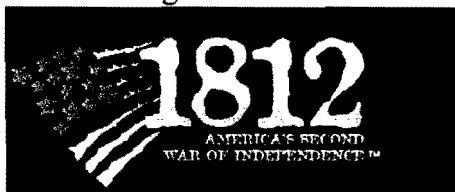
**1:45** - Learning about James Monroe at Ash-Lawn-Highland and the James Monroe Museum, Bigelow and Jarod Kearney, (Curator, James Monroe Museum)

**2:45** - Virginia Resources on the War of 1812, Stuart Butler (military historian)

**3:15** - War of 1812 Lesson Plans, Representative of the Virginia Department of Education

3:30 - End of the Workshop

Visit the Virginia Bicentennial of the American War of 1812 Commission [website](#).



**Topic:** War of 1812

**Related SOL:** Virginia and United States History

**Materials Needed:** Large pieces of white poster board (number dependent on the number of groups); Black Sharpie markers; Colored Pencils.

**Time allotted for lesson:** 45 minutes (time varies with the number of students in the class)

**At the end of the lesson, students should know...**

- Major political and social events in the timeline of the War of 1812
- How news was disseminated in 1812

**Students should understand that...**

- The war was fought between England and America over trade on the seas
- America won the war and this fostered a renewed sense of patriotism

**Students should be able to...**

- Know the series of events that took place in the War of 1812
- Know how the war affected Virginia

### **Introduction**

Give a concise summary on the War of 1812 by first asking students what they already know, if anything, about the war. See if they can come up with a few key events and write them on the whiteboard. Then, explain that in order to better understand the events of the war they will be creating newspapers.

### **Body of the Lesson**

The lesson is making an historic newspaper. Explain to the students that newspapers then were written on one large piece of paper so they should use only the front of the poster board to create their newspaper. Divide the students into groups of two or three, depending on how large the class is, or give them the option to do it individually if they are older. Give each group a large white poster board, a few black Sharpie markers, and a pack of colored pencils. Each group should cover one event during the War of 1812. For example, one group can write about political opinions whereas another group can write about battles and military strategies. Once they have finished their newspapers, have them present their work in front of the class. For example, one group could cover the burning of the White House while another group describes the role of the *USS Constitution* in the high seas theater of operations.

## Closure

The students will fill out a worksheet containing the main events of the War of 1812 after the presentations (incorporating what they learned from other groups). Then lead the class in filling it out by calling on certain students to help you complete the timeline.

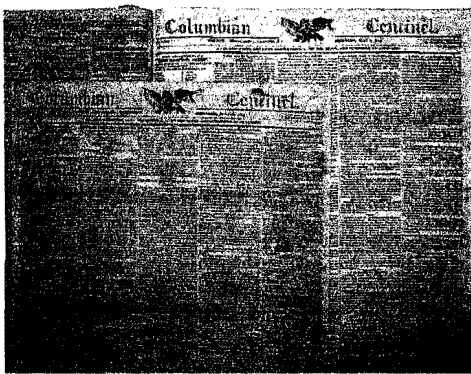
## Assessment

The students will be assessed through their newspapers and how well they are able to explain their events.

The students will be assessed through the completion of their worksheet and how much they were able to complete on their own correctly.

## Example of an early 19<sup>th</sup>-century Newspaper (the Columbia Centinel)

Note the five-column format, the logo associated with the newspaper, and the masthead.



## References for Teachers

Example of an historic Newspaper (downloadable as a pdf file):

<http://callisto10.ggimg.com/imgsrv/FastPDF/LT/WrapPDF=contentSet=LT=recordID=OFFO-1898-SEP21-005-F.pdf>

War of 1812 Timeline: <http://ourflagwasstillthere.org/the-war-of-1812/2011-12-06-17-10-16.html>

War of 1812 People, Causes, Timelines, and Battles: <http://library.thinkquest.org/22916/exmain.html#>

War of 1812 Essay: <http://www.pbs.org/wned/war-of-1812/essays/american-perspective/>

War of 1812 Map: [http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-9St28K9xObA/T1fpD_oEH7I/AAAAAAAAACEA/1nUhkycAlic/s1600/Anniversaries+map-war-1812.jpg)

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Designed by Katy Thompson, Sweet Briar Education Student, class of 2014.