Broad Stripes and Bright Stars

The Chesapeake Campaign of the War of 1812 That Gave us The Star Spangled Banner
War of 1812

- Britain blockaded France 1806
- By 1807 seized 1000 of U.S. ships
- Impressment
- *Chesapeake* incident
- Embargo Act of 1807
- War hawks
- Madison agreed to war
Embargo Act of 1807
• US squeezed between England and France during wartime
• Impressment of American Sailors by British Navy Press Gangs
War Hawks

Henry Clay

John C. Calhoun
President James Madison
Timeline

• British disembark ships at Benedict, Maryland, June 1, 1814
• Skirmishing with American militia at St. Leonard’s Creek June 8-10
• Joshua Barny Scuttles Chesapeake Flotilla August 22
• Battle of Bladensburg, August 24
• Washington, DC burned, August 24-25
• Battle of North Point, Maryland, September 12
• Bombardment of Fort McHenry, September 13 & 14
Principle British Players

Rear Admiral George Cockburn

Admiral Alexander Cochrane
Overall British Theatre Commander

General Robert Ross
Principle American Players

President James Madison

First Lady, Dolly Madison

Secretary of War, John Armstrong
Principle American Players

Secretary of State, James Monroe

General William H. Winder
Principle American Players

Commodore Joshua Barney

Colonel George Armistead
Principle American Players

Dr. William Beanes

Francis Scott Key
30 Sites of Combat

Dozens of Towns Burned
And Properties Torched
By the British
The Colonial Marines

Enslaved African-Americans from the Chesapeake who served in the British ranks in return for freedom

“They have induced me to alter the bad opinion I had of their whole race and now I really believe that we are training, will neither shew want of zeal or courage when employed by us in attacking their old masters.”

-- Admiral George Cockburn
Barney’s “Mosquito” Fleet

“Form them into flying squadron… continually watching and annoying the enemy in our waters.”
British Crossing Site

Washington Tavern: Battle Witness
“The fire I think, must have been dreadfully galling, but they took no notice of it. They moved like clock: work. The instant part of a platoon was cut down it was filled up by the men in the rear without the least noise and confusion whatever.”

Private Henry Fulford, Baltimore Militia
Bladensburg, Maryland Today
This is the site of the Battle of Bladensburg which took place in the War of 1812. Commodore Joshua Barney and his 500 marines were greatly outnumbered by the British Expeditionary Force of 2,500 trained regulars. The battle raged for four hours but eventually the overpowering numerical odds won out for the British who went on to burn the Capitol and White House. On this location Commodore Barney was wounded and taken prisoner. This memorial is in honor of Commodore Joshua Barney who made the supreme sacrifice in defense of his country and to his detachment of marines for their distinguished display of valor and gallantry.
Barney’s Defense with 12-pound cannons

“We took our position on the rising ground... and waited the approach of the enemy. Whole companies were cut down to a man as they approached our lines.”

Marine Corps Marker
Barney’s Wounding and Capture
Bladensburg, Maryland
Today
“I shaped my course for woods in the rear, where I intended to lay down and rest, being almost fatigued to death, but the bullets and grape shot flew like hailstones around me…”

Private Henry Fulford

“We made a fine scamper of it.”

John P. Kennedy
Undaunted in Battle

Sculptor: Joanne Ross
Dedicated in 2014

“The militia ran like sheep chased by dogs.”
Charles Ball
The monument depicts Commodore Joshua Barney of the U.S. Navy a moment after being wounded by the approaching British troops. Barney is assisted by Charles Ball, former slave and flottilaman of the U.S. Navy, and by a U.S. Marine, part of a force of nearly 500 troops who refused to retreat until ordered to by their commander, and stood "Undaunted in Battle" in defense of Washington, D.C.
Fresco in US Capitol

Images of the Burning of Washington, DC - 1814
Dolly Madison and enslaved house servant, Paul Jennings, save Gilbert Stuart’s Lansdowne Portrait of Washington

Paul Jennings, c. 1850
Burning and Sacking of the White House
The Fall of Washington... or Muddy in Full Flight

Jonathan: Where thinkest thou, our President will run to now?

Why,主要集中 the War to the West Indies!

Who would have thought of this? More! To oblige the Indians to rise from the bed of Rebellious? Very so.

Don't make me think of these! They are good for none, who should be quiet and peaceful. But Pray, what do you mean by the attack of British life? The ship of war, which we have named the 'Maiden,' has not yet arrived.

I say, Jack, why, so that they're the Men of War, that we're to withdraw at our President's only suit to us.

Our Majesty, he is a furious fighter, over a bottle of Sherry, who had better play Falstaff well, as if we had let him sit down to supper.

The great Washington fought for Liberty, but we are fighting for Independence, which, if obtained, could do us no harm, but this is the best of effects.

I propose this is what the President describes as 'Gallantry.'

Why is it, when such a noble and courageous nation as we have shown in resistance to all attacks, we are now in his arms and captivity?
Battle of North Point, Maryland
NORTH POINT BATTLEFIELD
WHERE ON SEPTEMBER 13, 1814 THE
DEFENDERS OF BALTIMORE UNDER
GEN. JOHN STRICKER MET THE
ADVANCING BRITISH ARMY OF 7000
UNDER GEN. ROBERT ROSS, WHO
WAS KILLED EARLY IN THE
ENGAGEMENT.
STATE BOARD COMMISION

SACRED
To the memory of
HOOVER BASHFIELD,
who, in defense of his home and his Country,
here fell on the 13th of September, 1814.
Age 24 years.

MONUMENT WHERE HE FELL.
5th Maryland Regiment at the Battle of North Point
“I don’t care if it rains militia.”
-- General Robert Ross
General Ross’ Grave
Old Burying Ground
Halifax, Nova Scotia
DEDICATED AT THE PUBLIC EXPENSE TO THE MEMORY
OF MAJOR GENERAL ROBERT ROSS
WHO HAVING UNDERTOOK AND EXECUTED AN ENTERPRISE AGAINST THE CITY OF WASHINGTON, THE CAPITAL OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA WHICH WAS CROWNED WITH COMPLETE SUCCESS WAS KILLED SHORTLY AFTERWARDS WHILE DIRECTING A SUCCESSFUL ATTACK UPON A SUPERIOR FORCE NEAR THE CITY OF BALTIMORE ON THE 12TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 1814

General Robert Ross Memorial
Rostrevor, County Down,
Northern Ireland
Daniel Wells & Henry G. McComas
Both Alleged to Have Shot Ross

Monument in downtown Baltimore
Lt. Colonel George Armistead
Garrison Commandant and Commander
Landward Views
Detached Battery of 24 Pound Guns and 36 Pound French Naval Gun
Bombardment of Fort McHenry
Watercolor
Battle of Baltimore
c. 1814-15
"And as the last vessel spread her canvas to the wind, the Americans hoisted a most superb and splendid ensign on their battery, and fired at the same time a gun of defiance."

-- Midshipman Robert Barrett

_HMS Hebrus_
Dedication of *Orpheus* Statue as a Memorial to Francis Scott Key
June 14, 1922
President Warren G. Harding at Dedication of *Orpheus* statue

President Harding Greets wounded World War I Veterans
Francis Scott Key Memorial
34th & M Streets, NW
Washington, DC
Francis Scott Key’s Grave
Frederick, Maryland
For Further Reading
National Park Service Recommendations