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## **ABM Offers Success on the St. Lawrence Lecture Series**

CLAYTON, NY (July 25, 2012) – The Antique Boat Museum is pleased to announce the first lecture of the *Success on the St. Lawrence* lecture series. On Wednesday, August 8, at 5:30 p.m., Connie Barone, site manager the Sackets Harbor Heritage Site, will discuss the success of cultural heritage tourism.

Sackets Harbor Heritage Site offers unique, authentic, and engaging experiences about the War of 1812 attracting people from around the United States and Canada each year. Through its partnerships with other War of 1812 sites, the greater Sackets Harbor community and the North Country site have become a tourist destination and a true *Success on the St. Lawrence*.

Connie Brennan Barone, a native of Sackets Harbor, moved back to the village just over 10 years ago and accepted the position as site manager at the Sackets Harbor Battlefield State Historic Site. As a college student, her summer work at the Sackets Harbor Village's museum launched her 40-year career in the museum field. Today, in both her "paid and unpaid" community work, she strives to advance Sackets Harbor's rich cultural heritage for local residents and visitors alike.

The Success on the St. Lawrence Lecture Series is held at the Antique Boat Museum each Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. Focusing on some of the renowned institutions, towns, and boat builders in the area, these lectures are sure to bring new information to even the most knowledgeable resident. On August 15, Dr. Laurie Rush, Fort Drum Cultural Resources Coordinator, will talk about the successful early years of Ft. Drum and how the military has affected the local community.

On August 22, Tony Mollica will present "Building Chris-Craft: Inside the Factories." He will share stories of the two and a half years he spent working with Chris Smith, grandson of Christ-Craft founder Christopher Columbus Smith. Other speakers in the series include Dr. Jeff Siebert, Senior Archaeologist for the Cataraqui Archaeological Research Foundation based in Kingston, Ontario, and Allan Newell.

The Antique Boat Museum is the premier freshwater nautical museum in North America. Located on the St. Lawrence River in the 1000 Islands, the ABM features over 300 antique and classic boats among thousands of recreational boating artifacts. From May to October, the campus comes alive with speed boat rides, boat shows, and educational programs for all ages, special events and more. For more information please visit the Museum's website at [www.abm.org](http://www.abm.org).

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