



**Fort Recovery Museum Newsletter
June, 2012**

**Don't Miss This One!
Sunday, June 10!
Adam Jortner!**

Two Presentations! 1:00 and 3:00!

***Gods of Prophetstown: The Battle of Tippecanoe
and the Holy War for the American Frontier.***



What a privilege to host this history professor and author who is coming all the way from the University of Auburn (Alabama) to present here in Fort Recovery. I found the book to be extremely informative, interesting and enjoyable reading. Particularly enjoyable were the connections Jortner made to our Wabash/Fort Recovery history. For example:

“St. Clair’s defeat is often blamed on his incompetence but this accusation is unfair to St. Clair, as well as to Blue Jacket, Little Turtle, and Buckonghelas, who vanquished him. In a sense, the mythology of St. Clair’s mismanagement must be maintained to preserve the story of the inevitability of American occupation of the frontier. A loss by an incompetent American commander preserves **Manifest Destiny**: defeat by superior Indian forces does not. It is an interesting myopia of American history that the story of inevitable conquest also includes the worst military defeat in American history.”

How fascinating to realize the role “God” played in native American and early US leaders tactics (if not beliefs) that each were destined by God to control this land of the Northwest Territory, from Harrison’s USE of religion when convenient to the Prophet’s ability to perform miracles to convince his people (and others.) Just fascinating reading, and I’m sure fascinating listening that will come on June 10! Mark your calendars now! ! (We have 20 hardback copies of his book, ***Gods of Prophetstown*** (\$19.00 minus 10% for patrons. Of course Jortner will be glad to autograph copies!)

Pie Bakers Needed, Pie Buyers Needed! Jubilee 2012! June 15!

The annual pie baking contest will be held at the main headquarters building (picnic tables) at 7:00 on Friday evening (June 15). If you have any kind of pie baking skills (or can just follow a recipe) your pie is welcome! Bring it to the headquarters on the Jubilee grounds between 6:30 and 7:00. Pie contest categories are: fruit; cream; other!

Also needed are pie buyers! All of the pies brought in will be auctioned off. Bidders can buy some terrific treats and at the same time help the Jubilee and the Fort Recovery Historical Society who reap the benefits! Come out, have a great time and do some “good work” at the same time.

A Huge Thank YOU to Don Lennartz and/or

The tool cabin is in such a need of repairs and Don has taken on a great deal of the responsibility to see that it is brought back into good shape. He and his recruit, Gene Hartnagle, removed all the chinking from that cabin. What a ton of work. Don also encouraged Gene and Carol, and Mark and Judy Post, to donate trees to be used for the log houses. What a valuable contribution (Have you priced logs lately?)

Don has just done hours/days of work on the cabin. He was also instrumental in getting the trees at VanTrees Park trimmed and hauled away, making the entrance to VanTrees so open, attractive and easy to navigate. And if that weren’t enough, Don and Gene have built hand-hewn log cots like those that would have been in the living quarters of the original fort. You can see them in the blockhouse. Of course many times while Don has been helping, his wife Linda has been right there too. What a great, great addition they have been to our historical society.

10 Guesses! What is this?



Have you ever wondered how the native Americans plucked their beards or in some cases most of their scalps – like the Shawnee model in our museum who has a smooth face and a mostly smooth head (except for the scalp lock, into which he tucked a few feathers?) Well this is a picture of a metal spring used by some Native Americans to pluck their beards and scalps. It was said that the hair often did not re-grow when plucked between the springs that were compressed together around the hair and then pulled out. Now you know. Me too. Thanks Hal Sherman for another informative email!

Sign Up NOW – St. Clair 5K Walk-Run – July 21

The St. Clair 5K walk/run is Saturday, July 21st and begins at 8:30AM. The entry fee of \$18 includes the purple tech shirt featuring the fort! Pre-registration is only \$8.00 without the shirt, but hey who wouldn't want a cool fort tech shirt for only \$10 more. Check our website for the entry form and for more details such as contestant categories etc. Or call Kathy Gonzalez at 419-375-2123 for more information. Patrons on email will receive a form via email soon. Please help us advertise this event by running a copy and hanging in a public or work place near you!

Staff Ride – Wright State University – ROTC

On May 19, the commanders and students of WSU's ROTC participated in a staff ride on our battlegrounds. This staff ride was facilitated by author John Winkler, *Wabash 1791, St. Clair's defeat*. The *Wabash 1791* content was the basis for this particular staff ride.

*Armies of various nations have conducted staff rides since the mid 1800s. All staff rides have one commonality - to place the military students (ROTC Cadets) on an actual piece of terrain, confront them with an operational situation, and have them learn lessons from the experience. Its purpose is to further the professional development of Military leaders. Staff Rides apply lessons from the past to present-day military leadership for current application. They bring to life the historic events that took place there - examples of tactics, strategy, communications, use of terrain, and above all, the psychology of men and women in battle.

Staff rides generally meet these objectives:

1. Expose participants to the dynamics of battle, especially those factors which produce victory and defeat
2. Show the "face of battle", the timeless human dimensions of warfare
3. Review case studies in the application of the principles of war and the operational art of war

Winkler believes that because the battles that took place on the Banks of the Wabash in 1791 and 1794 involved guerilla tactics and warfare, they are more pertinent to today's fighting men, and especially their officers, than other wars which have taken place on American soil. Winkler predicts this will be just the first of many Staff Rides to take place on these significant battlefields.* www.usar.army.mil/arweb/History/.../Staff Ride

Patrons – Thank You for Your Support - Purchase of Portable Sound System

Included with this newsletter is the latest Patron 2012 list. It is not just rhetoric when we say, “**What would we do without you!**” You not only keep the museum going, your contributions provide the funding we need to continue our education programs (speakers, books, pamphlets, kid programs etc.), your donations also help to purchase items that are truly needed from time to time.

Last month when John Winkler led the battle field walks around town, it was nearly impossible to hear him over the loud street and park noises. So we investigated and [purchased a portable sound system](#). What a difference that made when the ROTC group of 24 took their battlefield walk! We have YOU to thank for that. We will be able to use that sound system for upcoming speakers and other events as well.

Coming!

Tours: Christian Church Bus Trip from Indiana – June 8, Ohio Paranormal Assoc. tour-Sept. 17.

Other:	Sunday	June 10	1:00, 3:00	Adam Jortner	<i>Gods of Prophetstown</i>
	Friday	June 15	7:00	Pie Auction	
	Sunday	July 8	3:00	Ashley Phlipot	<i>The Role of Fort Meigs in the 1812 War</i>
	Saturday	July 21	8:30	St. Clair 5-K Run	<i>Happy Summer! NK</i>