

**Fort Recovery State Museum Newsletter**  
**July, 2014**

**3:00, July 27! *The Ottawa Indians!* Steve Littleton - Speaker**

According to the Sidney Daily News, this speaker “captivates audiences with stories of the Ottawa Indian migration from Canada through Michigan through their arrival in Ohio.” Steven Littleton, PhD, an AmeriCorps volunteer is presently working through the Ohio History Service Corps at the Shelby County Historical Society. Steve’s own bio (<http://www.ohiohistory.org/local-history-office/ameri-corps/local-history-corps->):

“I am originally from Northwest Ohio. My high school history teacher inspired my love of history. I eventually enrolled at the University of Toledo where I completed my B.A. and M.A. specializing in the Native American history of Ohio. During the summer of 2005 I began working at Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument as a seasonal park ranger. This experience with public history and the tourist industry influenced my decision to complete a Ph.D. program at Northern Arizona University. The mission of the OHSC is exciting and engaging. I am using my research, public speaking, and writing skills to assist organizations in their efforts to preserve and share their history in West Central Ohio.”

Littleton expressed excitement at the opportunity to share his knowledge and passion at Fort Recovery. Mark your calendars. You will enjoy his presentation and will have an opportunity to ask questions.

**Shawnee/Oklahoma Native Ben Barnes Presented Interesting and Informative Talk!**

June speaker Barnes certainly held the attention of the audience here at the museum with his very thought provoking commentary on the mysteries surrounding the Native American culture and history. A good indication of an audience’s interest and reception is the number of questions following the presentation. The very lively discussion that followed the presentation bore that out, including sensitive subjects like local school team names, etc. There was general sentiment that Barnes was a very impressive, knowledgeable and thought-provoking speaker. What a great dynamic way to start the summer series of speakers on Native American affairs.

(Although it is customary to pick up travel and accommodation expenses for speakers traveling at some distance, Mr. Barnes refused that remuneration and said to put it toward a future presenter. What a magnanimous and appreciated gesture!) A “thumbs up,” in many ways, for Ben Barnes!

**Did you know????? 2016 is Fort Recovery’s 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary - *Quasquibicentennial***

If you attended the Jubilee parade, you probably saw that strange word on the historical society float – thanks to Bob Hull! Planning is about to begin for the occasion. If you would like to be part of that effort, contact Mayor Roger Broerman (419-375-4738) or Bob Hull ([bthull62@gmail.com](mailto:bthull62@gmail.com)). Or just come to the next historical society meeting here at the museum at 7:30 on July 15.

**Thank YOU Patrons**

Attached to this newsletter is the Fort Recovery State Museum 2014 Patron List. It is the support of these folks that enables our museum to stay in operation, to make improvements, to provide tours and information for local and distant visitors and to provide educational outreach services through monthly programs and through presentations for other organizations and communities!

Please check for your name on the list. It is always possible that we accidentally omit a name, and we would feel awful if we missed yours this year. If your name is not on the list and you DID send in a patron donation, please notify us by return email or by phone (419-375-4649, 419-375-4384.)

On behalf of our local community and our many out-of-town visitors each year, the trustees of the museum sincerely thank all of you patrons for your consistent (and increasing) generosity!

**Auction 2014 Plans Underway (October 19)**

If you have any items you (or someone you know) would like to donate for the One-of-a-Kind Auction, please let any committee member know – Helen LeFevre, Pat Hull, Irene Stone, Kathy Thobe, Bob Hull, Don/Linda Lennartz, Pat Diller, Lori Kaup, Ted Romer, Randy Diller, Cathy Koesters

### **Congratulations Pie Bakers and Pie Buyers**

Isn't it truly amazing that 20 pies could bring in over \$3000?!! Thank you to all those wonderful pie bakers and the generous auction bidders! Judged the top pie bakers were: Hilda Alig - Lemon Cream Pie; Mary Keller - Gooseberry Pie; and Irene Stone - Strawberry Pie! Buying the pies were these generous folks: Tom Zitter, Glen Florence, Rex Leverette, Ken Lamm, Cy LeFevre, Kate Jutte, Carl Koesters, Kate Hemmelgarn, Carl Link, Milton Bergman, local business – Fort Recovery Insurance, and the VFW organization and the VFW Men's Auxiliary. The auction income goes into the Jubilee income but eventually comes back to the historical society. Thanks to Ken and Janice Lamm who donated their auctioneering services and to David and Carrie Koesters, the chairpeople of the event.

### **Also, Thanks Kathy and Tony Gonzalez for –**

Organizing and carrying out the very successful St. Clair 5K run. Nearly 300 runners and walkers completed the historic route. Lots of comments were heard as to the smooth “running” undertaking. The race began at 8:30 and all prize-giving and runner recognitions were concluded before 10:00. Nice job Kath and Tony and the “busy as bees” committee who helped that morning.

### **Museum Receives Donation from Fort Recovery Foundation**

This spring the museum submitted a request to the Foundation for financial help to support our speaker series. What a thrill to receive a letter saying that \$1000 had been allocated for that purpose. Thanks to the foundation for supporting so many important causes throughout the community.

### **Executive privilege - The First Use? After the Battle of the Wabash 1791!**

Executive Privilege is the constitutional principle that permits the president and high-level executive branch officers to withhold information from Congress, the courts, and ultimately the public. This presidential power is controversial because it is nowhere mentioned in the U.S. Constitution. That fact has led some scholars (Berger 1974; Prakash, 1999) to suggest that executive privilege does not exist and that the congressional power of inquiry is absolute. There is no doubt that presidents and their staffs have secrecy needs and that these decision makers must be able to deliberate in private without fear that every utterance may be made public. But many observers question whether presidents have the **right** to withhold documents and testimony in the face of congressional investigations or judicial proceedings. <http://www.libertylawsite.org/>

The early groundwork for executive privilege – the executive claim for secrecy – was laid by the nation's first president in response to *the nation's very first congressional investigation* which was mounted in the House of Representatives. It came as a result of the U.S. Army's defeat by American Indians in the Battle of 1791 right here on the banks of the Wabash River. President George Washington and his aides decided not to hand over any papers or materials Congress requested, arguing that the branches of government ought to be separate. Washington eventually relented and provided Congress with copies of the documents it requested. This first use of Executive Privilege is still cited today!

### **The Two Dollar Bill (Story sent by Hal Sherman earlier this spring. )**

The \$2.00 denomination enjoys a rich tradition in American history. It was originated

on June 25, 1776 when the continental congress authorized issuance of \$2 denominations in “bills of credit for the defense of America.” In 1928 through 1995, the present size U.S. Note was issued bearing the portrait of Thomas Jefferson, third President of the United States. A powerful advocate of liberty, Jefferson was the author of the Declaration of Independence, the nation's most cherished Symbol of Liberty. The bill's reverse design is a vignette based on the painting “The Signing of the Declaration of Independence” by John Trumbull.



### **Scheduled Tours**

- July 10 - Jay Community Center Summer Day Camp – 10:00 (gr. 1-6)
- July 16 - Cheryl Ann Clients – 10:00
- July 30 - Japanese/Host Group

*Celebrating Visitors from Everywhere !! NK*