

**Sun, Aug 2, 3:00 - Speaker Jack Blosser - "Fort Ancient"**



**Fort Ancient Earthworks and Nature Preserve** includes a collection of Native American earthworks located in Washington Township, Warren County, Ohio, along the eastern shore of the Little Miami River seven miles southeast of Lebanon on State Route 350. *The site is the largest prehistoric hilltop enclosure in the United States with three and one-half miles of walls in a 100-acre complex. Built by the Hopewell peoples, who lived in the area from the 1st century BC to 6th century AD, the site is situated on a wooded bluff 270 feet above the Little Miami. It is the namesake of a culture known as Fort Ancient. These Fort Ancient Natives lived near the complex long after it was constructed.*

Blosser, site manager of Fort Ancient, has the reputation as an excellent presenter – interesting and informative. Here's a good opportunity to hear Jack and see the artifacts he is bringing with him. Remember this fascinating site is an easy drive for most of us.

**Great News!**

National Park Service Press Release  
July 22, 2015

**National Park Service Awards \$1.19 Million in Battlefield Planning Grants**

WASHINGTON – From lesser known battles to world war, historians and preservationists study and preserve battlefields across the country that capture the American story. Today the National Park Service awarded more than \$1.19 million in American Battlefield Protection grants to research, document, or interpret dozens of significant American battlefields representing more than 300 years of history.

*"From a swamp of Connecticut, to shipwrecks off the shore of Yorktown, to a small island in Pearl Harbor; these places hold clues to our past," said National Park Service Director Jonathan B. Jarvis. "Preserving and understanding these sites allows us to reveal a complex history representing multiple sides of the story, as well as stories of sacrifice and heroism that ultimately shaped our nation today."*

*This year's grants provide funding for projects at endangered battlefields from the Indian Wars, Pequot War, Revolutionary War, Second Seminole War, Civil War, and World War II. Awards were given to projects in 16 states entailing archeology, mapping, cultural resource survey work, documentation, planning, education, and interpretation. (Following is the excerpt in which we were most interested!!!)*

**"Indiana**

**Ball State University**

**\$45,000**

*The university will develop a Wayside Exhibit Plan to interpret the Battles of Fort Recovery in Ohio; site of two of the largest engagements between the U.S. Army and Native American forces during the Indian Wars."*

Note: This \$45,000 will pay for the research and sign design! Additional funds will be needed for the actual sign construction and installation. We were hoping this would be done by the 2016 celebration, but that timeline was impossible. One really bit of good news is that we have a probable donor to cover the signs themselves (\$10,000-\$20,000) Sometimes I think we are the most fortunate people in the world!. More about that in the next newsletter!!!!

**Thanks St. Clair 5K Run Volunteers and Participants!**

Thanks to Kathy and Tony Gonzalez for chairing this successful venture that attracted nearly 200 participants. Thanks especially to the sponsors: Jeneration Fitness, J.R. Industries, Wabash Communications, Cooper Farms, Kaup Pharmacy, K & L Tractor Sales, Mercer Osteopathic, Second National Bank and Independent Capital Management. Thanks to the many who also gave door prizes, and thanks also to the many volunteers: Jim/Patty Klenke, Nancy Abels, Carol Ranly, Helen LeFevre, Barb Lennartz, Irene Stone, Barb & Butch Leuthold, Chris Bechtol, Jarred Laux, Ruthetta Ranly, members of the fire dept., water stop sophomores, etc. Check the FR Museum Facebook Page for pictures!

## If YOU Haven't Seen the Walk-By Museum Lately - - -



If you haven't walked past the walk-by museum since the museum opened this spring, do so! There are many new and interesting exhibits. Thanks to Helen LeFevre for her creative and ambitious work. And thanks to her helpers, Melissa Knapke and Rachel Pugh. Take a stroll past the windows and see:

1. Pictures of many old businesses of Fort Recovery
2. Kolps Band – instruments, pictures
3. Krenning history in pictures, story, furniture, and mannequin
4. Old, Old Appliances -1930! You really have to see this refrigerator and stove that were once used by Ruth Beach! Beautiful condition!
5. One time fire-chief, Ermin Wendel's antique *metal* fireman's hat. Thanks to his widow, Regina for loaning that for display. The history and story that accompany that hat and another metal hat are so interesting. The exhibit also tells the history of Fort Recovery's first fire dept, a Hook and Ladder Company of the late 1800's!



## Featured in the Last Issue of OHC's Historic Sites Newsletter

Our Ohio History Connections Site Coordinators, Erin Bartlett and Karen Hassel publish a monthly sites newsletter with news and information site personnel need to know plus lists and descriptions of activities happening at the 54 sites around the state. Featured each month is one mystery site. This month there were two beautiful pictures of the mystery site which we readily recognized. We were tickled to be the chosen mystery site for July, 2015!

## Thanks Mike & Jan Hickerson/Don & Linda Lennartz

If you are a regular reader of the newsletter you know Don and Linda do a boatload of volunteer work for the museum and historical society! With that in mind, the Hickerson's made a donation to the museum in honor of the Lennartz's 50th wedding anniversary. What a nice gesture, and continued health and happiness to Don and Linda!

## Lights replaced on Franke Walkway

For several years the historical society has been pricing lights for Franke Walkway - the pretty and much used walkway donated by the Franke Family 20+ years ago. Several of the original lights did not work, all had crumbling globes, and sections of the underground wiring needed to be replaced. Bruce Scott (of Fort Electric) ordered the materials, got the permits and He and Don Lennartz did yeoman's work in completing all the work between the rains and before the permits ran out. After that work was completed, Don repainted all the poles, so they not only will work, they will look great!

(By the way, any time ground is disturbed on the battlefield, an archaeologist must be present to supervise, just in case any artifacts are uncovered - or much worse - human remains! We appreciate that archaeologist, Linda Pansing of Ohio History Connection, Columbus, was here bright and early and stayed until the job was done. Thank YOU, Linda and OHC!)

Several community members commented on how much they appreciate having that pathway lit at night! Thanks to all who made this possible. That includes all of YOU who support the museum, the historical society and all our associated fundraising activities.

## Did you Know? Native Americans in Armed Forces!

"In proportion to their population, more Native Americans serve in the U.S. Army than any other group? Soldiers are welcomed home with community dinners, dances and honor songs. At powwows and other public events Native Americans regularly display the stars and stripes and honor their veterans who have served in America's wars even as many remain deeply ambivalent about the country's past and present treatment of its original inhabitants. Many Indian soldiers who fight in modern wars invoked the values of a traditional warrior ethos. And the commitment to defending families and homeland has remained constant." Our hats off to them! (Info from: *The Victory With No Name*, Colin G. Calloway, Epilogue)

*See you tomorrow? nk*