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Fort Recovery
Museum & Monument

Fort Recovery Museum Newsletter Summer 2023

Greetings Patrons,

I hope you are all having a wonderful summer! Mine has been pleasant and relatively uneventful and I'm not complaining about that!

The Museum has seen the majority of its visitors from all over Ohio and Indiana, but also as far as Florida, Nebraska and Pennsylvania. I enjoy reading the names on the sign-in sheet. I've added a space for comments and we have gotten some nice feedback on the museum itself and the staff. I'm adding a suggestion box too. I've got ideas to enhance the visitor experience. I welcome any suggestions given, yours included.

Work on the blockhouses has resumed. This phase included high pressure spraying both blockhouses inside and out, and also the well. Stone was laid around the base of all the structures. The next step is the completion of any repairs to the structures followed with the application of a sealer to protect and prolong the life of the wood. The stockade wall work will commence probably in September.

I've continued planning the August 12-13 event. More detail about this is included below. With the help of many volunteers giving tours and our guest Tribal interpreters I am anticipating this to be a very informative and enjoyable event.

After this event, local planning for the launch of traveling exhibit *St. Clair's Defeat Revisited: A New View of the Conflict* will begin. This traveling exhibit will be at the Fort Recovery Museum from October to December, and then will travel to The History Center in Fort Wayne, Northeast Oklahoma A&M College in Miami, Oklahoma, and to the Ohio History Connection in Columbus. This exhibit introduces visitors to the complex history of St. Clair's Defeat, on November 4, 1791, and its context and aftermath with respect to the nine Tribal Nations who orchestrated this great defeat of the U.S. Military. The exhibit's four themes and 12 sub-themes, design, and immersive qualities will visually and tangibly contextualize the Background, Battle and Native crescent strategy, Aftermath: broken treaties, removal & boarding schools, and Persistence of Tribes today. More details coming soon!

I hope to see many of you on August 12 & 13!

Best Regards,
Kim Rammel

Museum Hours: May - Saturday & Sunday 11:00-4:00; June, July, and August – Wednesday thru Sunday 11:00-4:00;
September and October - Saturday & Sunday 11:00-4:00

Note we are now closed on Monday & Tuesday, but have extended hours to include Saturday and Sunday in October.

Special tours can be arranged by Contacting Kim Rammel at 419-852-0028.

Find us on our website <https://fortrecoverymuseum.com/> or on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/FortRecoveryMuseum>

WELCOME to “Beyond the Battlefield: Interpreting St. Clair’s Defeat through the Eyes of Tribal Citizens”

We are excited and honored to present this **free** two-day event highlighting Shawnee, Miami, and Wyandotte history and culture. Five Tribal citizens and interpreters will explain their Tribal Nation’s essential relationship to St. Clair’s Defeat. Example of interpreter materials include: 1) appropriate 18th-century material culture items that tie to more significant concepts of family, tribal identity, political roles, and conflict; 2) book lists, map sources, and other primary sources visitors can walk away with; and 3) appropriate 18th-century clothing to enhance the visitor experience.

Saturday August 12

9:00-4:00 – Tribal interpreters will be conveniently set up along our beautiful walking trail behind the Museum for easy accessibility. Visitors can view items each tribal member will have on display and are encouraged to ask questions and have discussions with the interpreters. Tribal interpreters will have plenty of hands-on activities and games for the kids including stickball, hoop and stick, and dice game.

10:00-10:45 – Children’s story time behind the Museum by one of the Tribal interpreters

10:00, 11:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00 – 45-min. battlefield tours by Ball State University Archaeologists, leave from the back door of the Museum

11:00-2:00 - Food provided by Tin Cupboard beside the Tool Cabin along the walking trail

9:00-4:00 – Museum Community Room (basement) – Ball State University research exhibit with artifacts, archaeological research results, and Welcome Video for upcoming traveling exhibit *St. Clair’s Defeat Revisited: A New View of the Conflict*

Sunday August 13

10:00-4:00 – Tribal interpreters will be available for discussion in the Museum and on the Museum grounds when not part of panel presentations

10:00, 12:30, 2:00 - Panel presentation with the 5 Tribal interpreters discussing modern Tribal perspectives, with Q & A to follow. In Museum Community Room (basement).

11:00, 1:30, 3:00 - 45-minute battlefield tours given by Ball State University Archaeologists, leave from the back door of the Museum after each panel presentation.

11:00-2:00 - Food provided by Tin Cupboard beside the Tool Cabin along the walking trail

On Both Days

- Visit the Museum, open free of charge
 - Main Floor – St. Clair’s Defeat and Battle of Fort Recovery exhibits
 - Second Floor – Precontact Room with artifacts, timeline, and hands-on activities
- Log Cabin, Tool Cabin, Fort Blockhouses open – interpreter schedule will be posted
- Visit the Monument, two blocks east of the Museum
- Take your own wayside exhibit and on-line battlefield tour
- Visit the five murals throughout town
- Visit the Fort Recovery Historical Society walk-by museum directly east of the Museum
- Gift Shop (main floor) and bathrooms (basement) are located within the Museum

Follows us at <https://fortrecoverymuseum.com/> or on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/FortRecoveryMuseum>



Talon Silverhorn is a member of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe and has been working as an interpreter since 2007. He grew up on the Shawnee Reservation in Oklahoma and actively participated in his tribe's traditional culture, including ceremonies, hunting traditions, and material arts. Talon has interpreted at historic sites and museums across the United States and Canada, with a focus on material culture and its connection to deeper cultural beliefs. He was a keynote speaker at the 2022 National Association for Interpretation conference and has also been a featured speaker for several organizations, such as universities, archeological organizations, and State Agencies. Talon currently serves as the Cultural Programs Manager for the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. In this role, he oversees American Indian historical content and interpretation in the state's 75 parks and is involved in developing a new Shawnee Cultural/Interpretive Center in western Ohio.



Caleb Garcia is a member of the Wyandotte Nation and currently resides on the land that was originally allotted to his family through the Dawes Act. He is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics-Pre Law from the Spear School of Business at Oklahoma State University. Unlike many Native Americans, Caleb has never felt disconnected from his tribe's culture, thanks to his upbringing. Caleb hopes to bridge the gap between professionalism and traditionalism and believes that both worlds could benefit from each other. He currently works at the Center for Sovereign Nations at OSU, a resource center focused on Native American issues that welcomes allies. In his free time, Caleb enjoys traveling to powwows, studying in the library, and doing beadwork.



Christopher L. Houk (Tehanyędu?te?) is a Citizen of the Wyandotte Nation and descends from the Walker and Brown families. Chris has always had a strong interest in his Wyandotte heritage. As a child, his Great-Grandmother would remind him of his Wyandotte heritage, and this has stayed with him throughout his life. Chris spent 27 years as a professional firefighter/EMT, including 2 years in the Green Zone in Baghdad, Iraq. During his time off, he worked part-time for a cordwainer and volunteered for the National Park Service since 1992. In November 2020, Chris had the opportunity to accept a job as the Cultural Heritage Specialist at Wyandotte Nation Cultural Center, where he has since been appointed Lifeways Researcher. As a Cultural Heritage Specialist, Chris actively learns and shares traditional Wyandotte skills and knowledge with Wyandotte citizens. He is particularly interested in learning traditional Wyandotte songs and longhouse music.



Joshua Garcia - Kweh. Teharáhtas iżátsih. Waṁdat ṁdi. Hello, my Waṁdat name is Good Runner. Garcia hails from the Wyandotte Nation located in present-day Northeast Oklahoma. He completed his Associates in Paraprofessional Education and his Bachelors in Business Management at Haskell Indian Nations University. During his time at the university, he served in various capacities, including as the 2019-2020 Haskell Brave. Currently, Good Runner serves his community as the Media Specialist for the Wyandotte Nation Cultural Center & Museum, an opportunity he greatly cherishes.



Jared Nally is a citizen of the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma (Myaamia) and a Myaamia weaver. Weaving has connected Jared to his community and culture, and it has allowed him to explore the ecological relationships that allow places to take care of people. He is currently attending Miami University as an Aanchitaakia Graduate Fellow at the Myaamia Center, pursuing his master's degree in Environmental Science. Join Jared in discussions about material culture and ecological perspectives and how shifts in community diaspora, land usage, and other environmental factors impact long-held relationships and develop new relationships over time.