

THE OLD FORT PALISADE

FALL 2015



A Word from the President:

Fall is officially here. The calendar says so, the trees are turning, harvest is going on, and you can go to a reenactment somewhere every weekend! So that means that the season is over for the Fort, right? Hardly. A new event - "Ghost Hunting with the BSR" - happens on Oct. 31. Yes, Halloween. Come commune with the spirits of the Old Fort!!! A Seven Years War British Garrison weekend is on Nov. 7-8th and while we aren't going to have a Christmas at the Fort event like in the past the Fort will be open Nov. 28th for tours, bake sale, and possibly have a few vendors. This does not count the Boy/Girl Scouts' overnights and school groups that want to visit.

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By researching the history of Fort Wayne, he discovered that Little Turtle was buried with the dress sword presented to him by President Washington and the medal he was given at the Treaty of Greenville.

Finding Little Turtle
By Keith Lehman
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All this leads to the question 'how do you help out at the Fort'? We need people who are available on weekdays to help lead the school group tours or to be a costumed interpreter explaining about life in the past. Like to bake? We need cookies for the bake sales. Can you write or review/edit? Our new web page is coming on line shortly and we need to fill it with information about many subjects pertaining to life in the Fort, the surrounding area, and Native life. Got some great traditional recipes or sewing tips? Write an article. We want it to be THE source for information about Fort Wayne. We are also in need of a volunteer coordinator. If herding cats is your forte then we need you! Contact info@oldfortwayne.org and I'll direct you to the right person.

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This past year has seen some amazing changes in the Fort grounds. Our Workshop building saw a lot of varied use this season and we continue to work on it as time allows. Natural gas was finally brought over the dike for us to use in the modern building giving us a warm space with running water all winter. The gas line project gave us the opportunity to build an earthen walkway up over the dike to aid in accessing the Fort grounds which has been greatly appreciated by all. Kurt Stark from Preston Allen Builders and his great crew came back this summer and put porches on the Forts four main buildings. These not only make the buildings more accessible. They add a wonderful place for reenactors to sit and engage with the public while giving us the added benefit of supporting the balconies.

More additions and changes are in store but they all take money. If you know anyone connected with a philanthropic group or foundation, talk to them and find out how we can apply for funds. You just might be surprised how connected you are. The Lincoln Financial Group came in to split wood and paint benches, and the local Lowes stores' "Lowes Heroes" power washed the balconies, painted them, and stained the new porches. So you see, you may know someone that can help us with projects rather than money, and we can always use firewood!

As they say, every ending starts a new beginning. Stuart Smith has decided that due to life demands it's time for him to step down from the Fort Board of Directors. We will miss his insight and we wish him well. At the same time, Gerret Swearingen has joined the Board. We all look forward to getting to know Gerret better and benefitting from his vast reenacting experience.

Norm Gable
President, Historic Fort Wayne, Inc.

Smile, and Help the Fort!

If you shop at Amazon.com, now you can support the Fort at the same time. Amazon Smile gives customers the opportunity to designate a non-profit organization, which will then receive a donation equal to 5% of your purchase.

It's easy to use. Log in at smile.amazon.com rather than the usual amazon.com. You'll use the same login information. If you have items in your cart, they'll be there. The site is identical, except you get to choose which charity you wish to support. For your donations to come to the Old Fort, just choose "Historic Fort Wayne Inc" where it says "Select and start shopping". That's all.

Every bit helps, and we appreciate all you do to help us to continue bringing history to life in Fort Wayne!



UPCOMING EVENTS

November 7: British Garrison
Sat. 10am - 5pm

January 3: Nouvelle Annee
Sat. 10am - 5pm

March 5 & 6: Winter Garrison
Sat. 10am - 4 pm, Sun. 10am - 2pm

April 9 & 10: British Garrison
Times TBD

April 23: EMMA
Sat. 10am - 5pm

May 13-15: Muster on the St. Mary's
Friday: Education Day
Sat. 10am - 6pm, Sun. 10am - 4pm

June 11 & 12: 1816 - Frontier Fort to Statehood
A State Bicentennial Legacy Project Event
Sat. 10am - 6pm, Sun. 10am - 4pm

Outfitting the Garrison

Thanks to a special donation, we have been able to purchase 15 new uniform coats and 8 shakos, along with cords, plumes, cockades, and hat plates for the Fort Wayne Garrison!

The new blue coats are the type that would have been the standard uniform for enlisted infantry between 1811 and 1820. During the war of 1812, the military transitioned their uniforms to a very basic, standard style, characterized by shorter tails, simple pewter buttons and white piping. The evolution of the uniforms continued to simplify into the Civil War, as they lost the tails entirely.



The shakos can be worn with either the gold artillery plate (above) or the silver infantry plate (right).

We also acquired a number of new leather shakos. The earlier period felt shakos tended to fall apart in inclement weather, and most armies of the world were making the change to leather at that time. To go with the shakos, we now have two versions of metal hat plates, which are interchangeable. The silver plates are embossed with an eagle, and were worn by the infantry. The gold plates feature an eagle atop a canon, and were used by the artillery.



Board member Sean O'Brien says, "We were very fortunate to receive this anonymous donation! The tailoring on these coats is much more comfortable and they will be perfect for the state bicentennial celebration next summer!" If you're interested in serving as part of the Fort Wayne garrison for that Legacy Project event (June 11 & 12), we've got a coat waiting for you!

Historic Fort Wayne, Inc.

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FINDING LITTLE TURTLE

By Keith Lehman

The summer of 1812 was a volatile time in our country because the United States was at war. For the last several years, Great Britain had seized US merchant ships trying to stay neutral while trading with both sides in the ongoing Napoleonic war and was using impressments of American sailors to help man Great Britain's navy. Within the United States, tensions were high between Native Americans and the US government as the nation's citizens coveted more land. That desire resulted in what had once been the Old West Territory becoming a part of the United States in the form of a new state (Ohio in 1803), and two new territories (Indiana in 1800 and Michigan in 1805).

Locally, the push for land created conflict in Fort Wayne and the surrounding areas. Tecumseh had created a Native American coalition and demanded that the United States government deal with them as a whole instead of as individual Native nations to negotiate land acquisitions. The current territorial governor (and future president) William Henry Harrison had thrown the proverbial last straw on the camel's back when he negotiated the treaty of Fort Wayne in 1809. The tension continued to escalate to the point that a battle occurred at Prophet's Town (Tippecanoe, IN). By the summer of 1812, Tecumseh decided to join forces with the British in hopes of winning the war and keeping American expansion at bay. His ultimate goal was to create a Native American nation as the British had promised.

By July of 1812, the US had been at war with Great Britain for a month. Tecumseh had stopped at Fort Wayne and made public that he was on his way to Canada to seek British artillery to destroy the fort. Against this backdrop Little Turtle, one of the greatest leaders of the Miami Nation, passed away on the 14th. He was buried with full military honors by soldiers of the fort, and laid to rest in tribal burial grounds on what was the reserve of his son-in-law, William Wells. Within a month, Wells would also be dead, his buildings on the reserve burnt to the ground during the siege of Fort Wayne, and attentions would be focused on the war. Since any special marking for Little Turtle's grave would have been destroyed in the siege, his memory drifted into history and legend, and his grave itself was lost.

After the War of 1812, Native American resistance in the area was brought to an end and the State of Indiana and the City of Fort Wayne began to sell off land to eager pioneers making their way west to create a new life for themselves. Fort Wayne started surveying and parceling off the lands around the fort on the south side of the river first, in the area that is present day downtown. The town expanded slowly, and it was during the development of what is currently the Lakeside neighborhood, near the present day replica of the Fort, that the great Chief would be found almost a century later!

It's July 4, 1912 and Albert and Charles Lochner are digging the basement for the house they are building for their client, Dr. George W. Gillie. As the workers dig, they come across several sets of bones, axe heads, copper jewelry, and other items. One set of remains stands out from the others. Around the neck is a necklace of silver beads and crosses. The skull still has tufts of hair that seem



One of the rocks lining the walkway at the Little Turtle Memorial site.

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Finding Little Turtle, Continued

well preserved and are tied with a buckskin thong. Solid silver armlets rest on the skeleton's arms and at its side is a ceremonial sword, a gun, and remnants of a pistol. The Lochner brothers can tell they have found a special grave, but do not know who it is. Fortunately for history's sake, they take the remains and items from the grave. Unfortunately, the workers disrespect the sacred resting place of the Miami contained in the grave when they take bones, jewelry, and other items as keepsake conversation starters. The skull from the elaborately adorned remains is given to local dentist Dr. M.W. Ivins who asked the brothers to save a "good specimen" for him.

This would have been the end of it had not been for the historical curiosity of Mr. J.M. Stouder. Intrigued by the apparent wealth of the Native American found in the grave, he decided to visit Albert Lochner who had the items and remains in his private collection. After inspecting and taking an inventory of the items, Stouder began to suspect that it could be a great chief. By researching the history of Fort Wayne written by Wallace Bryce, he discovered that Little Turtle was buried with the dress sword presented to him by President Washington and the medal he was given at the Treaty of Greenville, both of which Stouder had recorded as part of the grave's inventory. He further corroborated the original grave's location through the testimony of W.D. Schiefer who owned a local shoe store. According to Schiefer, in 1875 a Mr. Hedges who was present at the burial of the great chief, showed the physical gravesite to him. Schiefer in turn showed Stouder where he remembered that location to be. That spot was within 100 feet of where the Lochner brothers found the unknown Native American's grave. It seemed quite clear that the remains they had found were those of Chief Little Turtle.

Tragically, it would not be until 1959 that the City would set aside the gravesite as a park to honor Chief Little Turtle, thanks to the generosity of Eleanor and Mary Catherine Smeltzly. Over time, many of the items found in his grave in 1912 would be given over to the Allen County Historical Society. They currently have the sword and other items on display in the History Center on Berry Street.



Today, that park is only a few short blocks from the replica of Fort Wayne on Spy Run Avenue. Next time you visit or volunteer at the Fort, take time to stroll about 5 blocks north on Spy Run to Lawton Place. Turn right (your only choice) and down on the right hand side of the street, wedged between two houses, you will find a small park that commemorates the great Chief Little Turtle.

Keith C. Layman is a lifetime resident of Fort Wayne and is a graduate of Indiana University at Fort Wayne with a BA in history. Currently Mr. Layman is the historian for Historic Fort Wayne, Inc. and has served on the Board of Directors for ARCH, the local historical preservation society. He is the president of Apple Tree Financial Group, an investment advisory and tax preparation firm. He is married, with three beautiful daughters.

SPRING & SUMMER AT THE OLD FORT



ARCHIE Award
for the Workshops



Tincaps Pirate
Night



Revolutionary War



Post Miamies

Camp Allen
Muster



Salute to the
Services



"City Safari"
Day Camp

Lincoln Financial
Volunteer day



Education Day

Access the Fort: New Porches

This year we have been focusing on ways to increase the ease and safety of visiting the Fort while honoring the historic authenticity of the Fort. One major component has been the construction of porches along the front of the buildings. Tom Grant notes, "We have consulted with various 'post and beam' contractors and researched historical sources. Normal building practices of the late 18th century and early 19th century, especially on the "frontier", utilized the abundance of straight 30' – 40' trees to make the beams and supports necessary to build the buildings, barns, and structures of the period. We have not found one example where balconies were cantilevered over a first floor in this fashion. Every example we found demonstrated buildings being built on foundations of native stone (rock) with the main structure being comprised of massive beams set on these stones. These beams would have been cut to whatever length was necessary to support the floors and roof above." The completed porches have made an amazing difference! It's great to see reenactors and demonstrators gathering with our visitors there, and stepping up into the buildings is much more secure.



Many thanks to Kurt Stark and Preston Allen Homes for the great construction. Even the smallest details look perfect. Thanks also to Lowe's Heroes for coming out to stain and paint the finished porches and balconies. Donors who have made this project possible include Novae Corp/I-69 Trailer Sales, Auer Foundation, and the Hefner Foundation. A very special thank you to John Inman and Chad and Keith Martz who smiled all the way through the job!



The "Access the Fort" project also included a new path over the dike, with the support of Derek Frederickson and Engineering Resources, and Bob and Doug O'Neal from O'Neal Excavating. We are so pleased to be working to make our visitors' experience of the Fort safer and more enjoyable!



Advertising space available...As we prepare for the state bicentennial celebration and our *1816: Frontier Fort to Statehood* event June 11 & 12, we are planning to publish a souvenir guide book for the weekend. If you would be interested in helping to sponsor that special event and support the Old Fort by purchasing ad space in the booklet, please contact us at info@oldfortwayne.org for pricing and deadlines.



Volunteer Profile: Jerry Spall

Jerry visited the Fort for the first time during the Three Rivers Festival of 2006. He struck up a conversation with Mouse (Grant Loy) in the garden, and has been volunteering since! His first experience was helping to put the palisade walls back up. He has served on the Safety Committee, helped on numerous work days, and given demos during the Time Line Education days. Often, Jerry draws on his old USMC days (1974-1994) to train and lead our Color Guards and we are reminded just why his nickname is “Gunny” or “Sarge”.

It's rare that you'll see Jerry in a blue uniform, though we did get him to wear a colonial regimental for the Forth of July (with a promise NOT to publish the picture!). He primarily reenacts the Seven Years War period (1750-60) portraying the British 60th Royal American Regiment.

Jerry works at the VA Hospital in Marion as a member of the HR department. He does the fingerprinting for background investigations and prepares all the IDs for all employees, volunteers, contractors, and students.

Jerry is originally from Markleville, IN, and currently lives in Huntington with his wife. Their children and grandchildren all live out of state.

When he's not at the Fort, Jerry is reading military history of all periods, fishing in his pond, working on the new house and garden (a late 1800's farm house), or doing some computer gaming. Say 'hi' next time you see him!



First Annual Historic Old Fort Tour & Ghost Hunt

Saturday, October 31 8pm until 11:30pm

\$10.00 per person per hunt

For ages 14 and older

Ages 14-17 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian

- Investigations will run every 30 minutes starting at 8pm.
- Ticket sales begin at 7:45 pm, and groups are limited in size.
- Dress warmly, and wear something dark. White and light colored clothing will reflect photo flashes, which may show a false-positive.

BSR Paranormal is a non-profit organization located in Fort Wayne, Indiana. We use scientific methods to confirm or deny any paranormal activity that may be going on. We invite anyone to join, whether you have experience or not, and openly welcome skeptics. A portion of the event proceeds will go to the Old Fort.

For more information, please e-mail bsrparanormal@gmail.com



You can find us on Facebook and Twitter
for up-to-date event news and happenings!

[@OldFortWayne](http://www.facebook.com/HistoricFortWayne)



“YOU’VE GOT YOUR KIT; NOW, WHERE ARE YOUR MANNERS?”

By Jenni Henline



By Johann Zoffany, from 1796

You have researched your clothing; perhaps documented the cut, color, and style and tailored your attire, material culture, and other trappings to your persona. You know exactly who you are, where you are, why you are there, and the date you are portraying. You may even know where you stand politically, religiously, and socio-economically. For those of you who wish to give a more immersive experience for the public, things may start to fall apart as soon as you open your mouth. Your words suddenly jerk a patron back out of the “story” you are presenting and back to the 21st century.

This guide will focus on the 18th century but there are typically etiquette books written for every time period post 18th century, and very likely some prior. If you

intend to tell the story as a bystander, and use the clothing or whatever you are demonstrating merely as a prop for your talks, this article isn’t necessarily tailored for your impression. Basics such as wearing all appropriate pieces of clothing for both genders, taking your hat off when you enter a room, for men, and keeping your hair under your cap, aside from very select circumstances, for women, are most of all that you need to know.

However, for the person who wishes to give a first person experience, merely giving yourself a period correct name and stating your profession isn’t enough. It is important to look at how you speak, gestures, posture, and how to address those around you. It helps to put the public into the story.

Sometimes, people won’t want that immersion experience and would rather have a quick walk through and a run down of facts. They want their history “quick and dirty”. That is completely fine. It is important to know how to gauge your audience and tailor what you’re speaking about to the person with whom you are talking. For instance, I once talked with a woman and asked if she needed some clothing made. After I lamented my current work load, she played along and seemed to enjoy haggling over the terms of her daughter’s apprentice placement with me.

Others merely were content to talk with me about what I was doing, and asked about women’s clothing accessories and gown that I had on display. Knowing this, how do you take the patrons that wish to engage with you as close to the 18th century as you can manage?

There is a fine line here. You want to give a “feel” of the 18th century but if you go full tilt into dialect, pacing, and all of the various turns of phrase it can begin to feel arcane and off-putting. There is a very happy medium. Just making a few simple changes will start you in the right direction.

The first step is a greeting. ‘Hello’ is a modern invention. Try something such as good morning, good afternoon, good evening, or good day. You could also try a question such as, “How are you today?”, or a very simple, “Welcome (sir, madam, or miss)”. The 18th century was a highly regulated time as far

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Where Are Your Manners, Continued

as how you spoke to people. Those you do not know are typically Sir or Madam. If you wish to add a flourish to it, 'young sir' or 'young miss' may be used for small children.

Believe it or not, there are sources (novels written for the common person, and court records), which prove that contractions were used among every day people. So depending on your persona, it is perfectly acceptable.

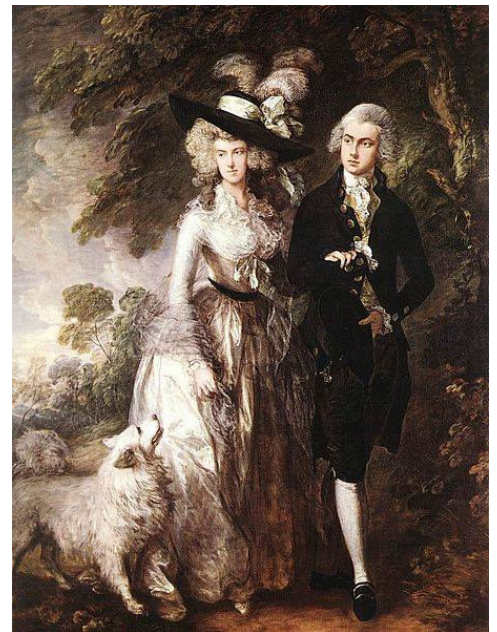
A quick note: because we get asked often about the upstairs rooms at the Fort, I felt I should mention that the 18th century term for upstairs is "above stairs". I find that it comes up quite often, especially when I am using one of the lower rooms.

How to respond to your fellow interpreters can be tricky. As with the public, anyone you don't know is Sir or Madam. Last names along with a proper title (Mr., Mrs., Miss) are always used for familiar people, unless they are your own children. So even children, that are not yours, are given the title of Mr. or Miss.

How you speak is one thing. Now, how do you carry yourself and conduct your physical person? This will depend largely on your where you are, and exactly whom you are portraying. Good manners know no station, however. There are no hard and fast rules, and one could write an entire dissertation merely on one group of people, in one place, in one part of the century. So I will gloss over a good chunk of it for the sake of brevity and explain the basics. There are exceptions to these rules, please keep that in mind.

The etiquette concerning the relations of men and women is based on civilian life. Women must cover their hair unless they are in a formal situation such as a ball. They may wear a cap; if their hair is coifed nicely they may wear either just a hat, or a hat and a cap indoors. Men must cover their hair, with a hat or covering of some kind, even on top of a wig, unless they are indoors. They should wear nothing but a wig inside. If you have no where to put your hat, tucking it under your arm is a good idea. When a woman of equal or higher station enters a room, men are to stand. It is a sign of respect. Women are to walk a few paces behind men, and men usually walk closest to the road, or traffic.

People in the 18th century were very aware of where they stood in society. When meeting someone of higher station than you, or a man if you are a woman, a bow is appropriate. (If they are a close friend or family member, a nod of the head will suffice.) Also do this when making a departure if the person is of higher station. For example: a child will generally, at least, give a nod of the head when leaving after finishing a conversation with their father- especially when being scolded; not that we can expect to hold children to this.



Mr & Mrs. William Hallett, by Thomas Gainsborough, 1785.

There are lots of little things that add to a period impression, to which speech and manners play a great deal. As stated previously this is a very extensive topic, which could fill volumes of books. If you wish to do more research, I would suggest starting by looking for primary sources (books, pamphlets, newspaper articles, letters, court transcripts from the time period) in your chosen location,

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Where Are Your Manners, Continued

and reading about how people interacted with one another. One readily available source is 'Rules of Civility and Decent Behavior in Company and Conversation' which is often attributed to George Washington, as he was very fond of this guide.

Jennifer Henline is a freelance author who has been working with Historic Fort Wayne since 2010. Her area of study is the 18th century (1760 – 1780), with a focus on colonial American women's history, social customs, and material culture. She is a self-taught seamstress who adheres to historical methods.



In October, we were pleased to welcome Indiana First Lady and Bicentennial Ambassador Karen Pence to the Fort to talk about plans for our State's 200th birthday!

BEHIND THE SCENES AT HISTORIC FORT WAYNE, INC.

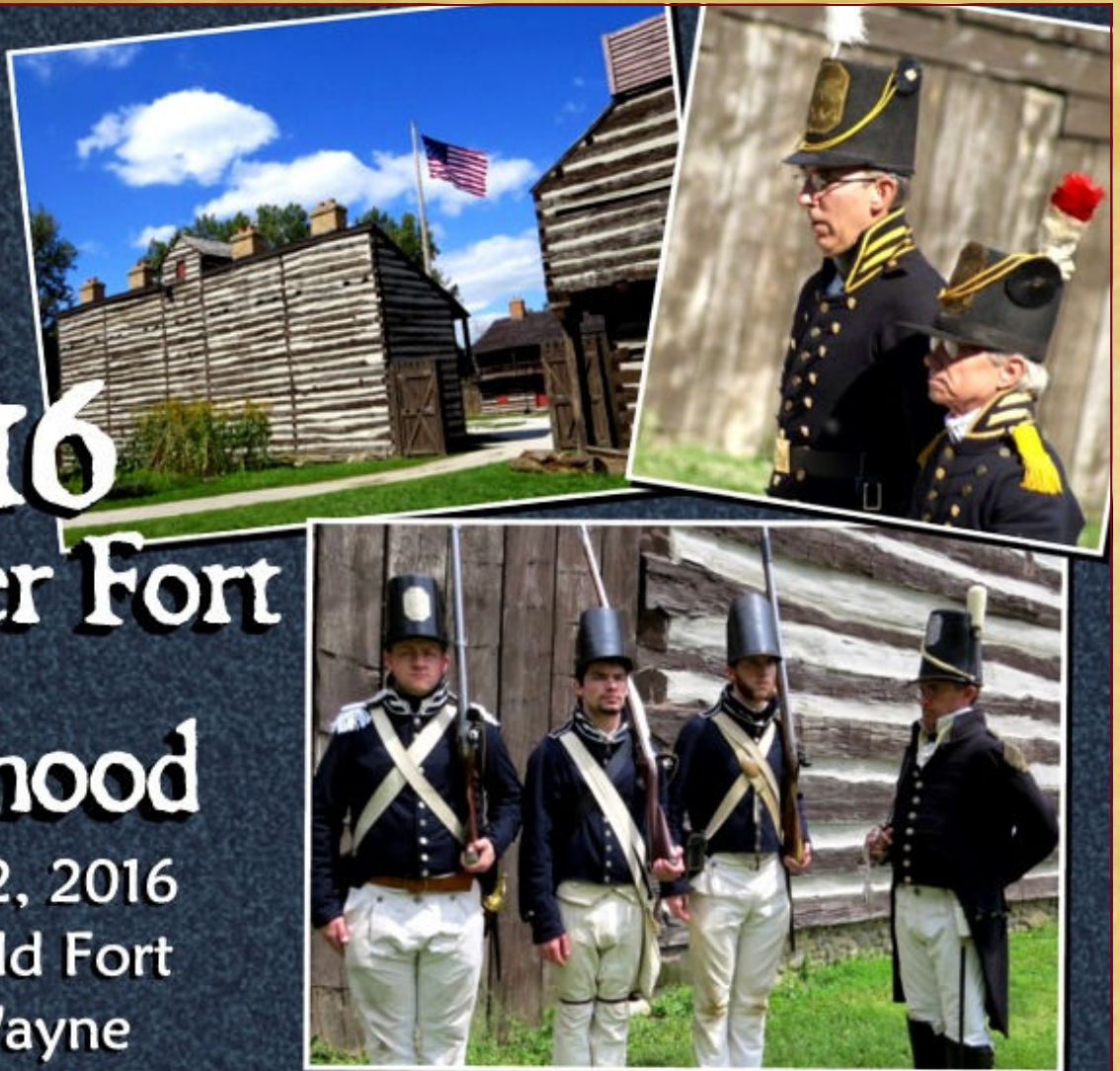
I'd like to take a minute of your time and explain a little about our organization and how we run the Fort. Historic Fort Wayne Inc. is organized as a 501(c)3 non-taxable entity. What the heck does that mean? Basically as a tax free entity we don't pay taxes on our income. We have to follow a strict set of guidelines set by the IRS and file a specific tax form to maintain our status. We have a contract with the Parks Dept. to operate the Fort but we must follow their general Rules and Regulations.

When we say we operate on donations we mean it! We are constantly applying for grants and asking for donations because we don't receive any money to operate or maintain the Fort and grounds from anyone. That means no tax dollars are used here for any purpose other than mowing the grass and maintaining the security lighting! The Parks Dept. was kind enough to give us a donation during our reroofing project a few years ago but it covered only a portion of the expense. The new workshops were completely rebuilt with insurance proceeds and donations.

Speaking of insurance, we have to pay for liability and property damage insurance out of pocket to protect ourselves. No board member or volunteer receives any compensation for anything. We receive no mileage, per diem, or payment of any kind. We are reimbursed if we purchase something for the Fort but that becomes Historic Fort Wayne's property.

We have THREE kinds of events! The first is where we run the event totally ourselves. The Muster, Siege, Camp Allen, War on the Western Front, Fright Night, Be a Tourist, and Christmas at the Fort are events that we run. The second type is where we partner with someone else like the Seven Years War group to run the event. Post Miamies is the only event like this that we currently have. The third are those where we allow an outside group to come in and use the Fort for their event. These events are basically private and even Fort Volunteers are required to fill out an application and submit it to the group running the event before coming. Nouvelle Annee, EMMA, and the Garrison weekends are examples of these. Our agreement with these outside garrisons includes a provision that they have 'open to the public' hours.

~Norm



1816 Frontier Fort to Statehood

June 11-12, 2016
at the Old Fort
Fort Wayne

Who's Who

Board Members: Norm Gable, President
Bob Jones, Vice President

Tom Grant, Treasurer

Members: Josh Grubaugh, Andi Hahn, Sean O'Brien, Gerret Swearingen

Events Planning & School Demos: Bob Jones

Facilities Committee: Sean O'Brien

Finance Committee: Tom Grant

PR/Marketing: Kathleen O'Connell

Fort Historian: Keith Layman

Send your comments/questions to
info@oldfortwayne.org.
Your message will be sent to the
appropriate contact person.

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e-newsletter

THE OLD FORT PALISADE

Send your request to:
info@oldfortwayne.org

We are looking for articles for future issues.

If you have a historically pertinent subject
you'd like to write about let us know at
publications@oldfortwayne.org

Deadline for submissions to the Winter
Palisade will be
December 15, 2015.