



FALL 2012

## Maumee Valley Heritage Corridor Awarded \$25,000 Grant

The Toledo Community Foundation has awarded the Maumee Valley Heritage Corridor Inc., a grant to expand our capacity in order to increase programming that will highlight the Valley's rich natural, scenic, cultural, recreational, and historical resources. The grant will be paid over two years and assist the Corridor in obtaining the services of an executive director and clerical support in order to undertake more projects.

Until a full-time director is retained, Angie Quinn will serve as our Interim Executive Director. She is a former MVHC Board member who recently resigned as Executive Director of ARCH, Allen County Indiana's non-profit organization for preservation of community architecture, heritage and history. We thank the Community Foundation for enabling us to take full advantage of the new opportunities coming to the Valley in the near future.

## Counsel General of Canada to Address Our Annual Meeting

*Save the Date – November 17.*

An expanded Annual Meeting Nov. 17 will include presentations on National Heritage Areas, Maumee Valley water quality issues, and a keynote presentation entitled "236 Years of Canadian - US Relations in an Hour" by Roy Norton.

The Canadian Consulate General, which he heads, is based in Detroit, and promotes Canadian interests in Michigan, Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky in such fields as trade, investment, the environment, culture and academic relations.

Dr. Norton recently served the Canadian Embassy in Washington, responsible for the Canadian government's relations with the US Congress. He received his PhD from Johns Hopkins in International Relations.

The theme of the meeting is "What Comes After Fort to Port? The Future of History, Parks, Recreation, Trade, Tourism and Community in the Maumee Valley." The event is modeled after the original two-state meeting organized by

then Indiana State Representative Mitch Harper in the late 1980s that gave rise to the Fort to Port organization.

Also addressing the meeting will be Ted Ligibel, Ph.D, founder of the

Maumee Valley Heritage Corridor and current Director of Eastern Michigan's nationally-acclaimed Historic Preservation program; Abigail King, founder of the Save Maumee Grassroots Organization and Lake Erie Water Keeper Save Maumee Program Director; and Bill Grimes, Education Specialist for the Defiance Soil and Water

Conservation District. A brief business meeting will summarize the many new attractions coming to the Valley

The meeting will be held at Woodlan High School in Woodburn, Indiana, located off US-24 just miles west of the Indiana-Ohio line. The agenda and other details are listed in the enclosed flyer and reservation form.



# New Attractions Coming to the Valley

Heading the list of new attractions in the Maumee Valley that will bring more tourists is more commemoration of the War of 1812 in the Western Theatre ... events that shaped the present U.S. and Canada. Tourism officials expect 10 million people will visit war-related sites in the U.S. and Canada during the 3-year bicentennial celebrations of the War, focusing on 200 years of peace between the two countries.

Perhaps next will be the opening of the National Museum of the Great Lakes at the foot of the Maumee River in downtown Toledo. It will tell the maritime story of the Great Lakes.

The jewel of exhibits is restored gigantic Lake Freighter Col. James M. Schoonmaker museum ship.

Next might be the continuing development and completion of the North Country National Scenic Trail, the longest of eight National Park Service hiking trails. It will use the canal towpaths along the Maumee and Miami Rivers in wending its way from North Dakota to the Adirondacks of New York state. In addition, it will use a section of the Wabash Cannonball abandoned railroad bed to connect with the Buckeye Trail.

High on any list is the Chief Richardville House, a National Historic Landmark in Allen County, Indiana. It is one of the oldest Native American structures in the U.S, and is the oldest house in NE Indiana.

There are new attractions opening up all over the region – a new Police Museum in Toledo, the new Perrysburg Area history museum, the Metroparks Lathrop House underground railroad safe house in Sylvania, and new parks in the Eagle Marsh, Bowling Green, and downtown Toledo. There are also new events, such as the 2013 Ohio Chautauqua in Rossford this coming summer.

## War of 1812 Underway 260 years ago

The chart below shows you there was a major problem in the region in the late 1700s. Settlers complaints of conflicts with Native Americas continued to pour into colonial headquarters and, in the 1790s, when President Washington took office as our new nation's first president. The War's end has led to nearly 200 years of peace between Canada and the U.S.

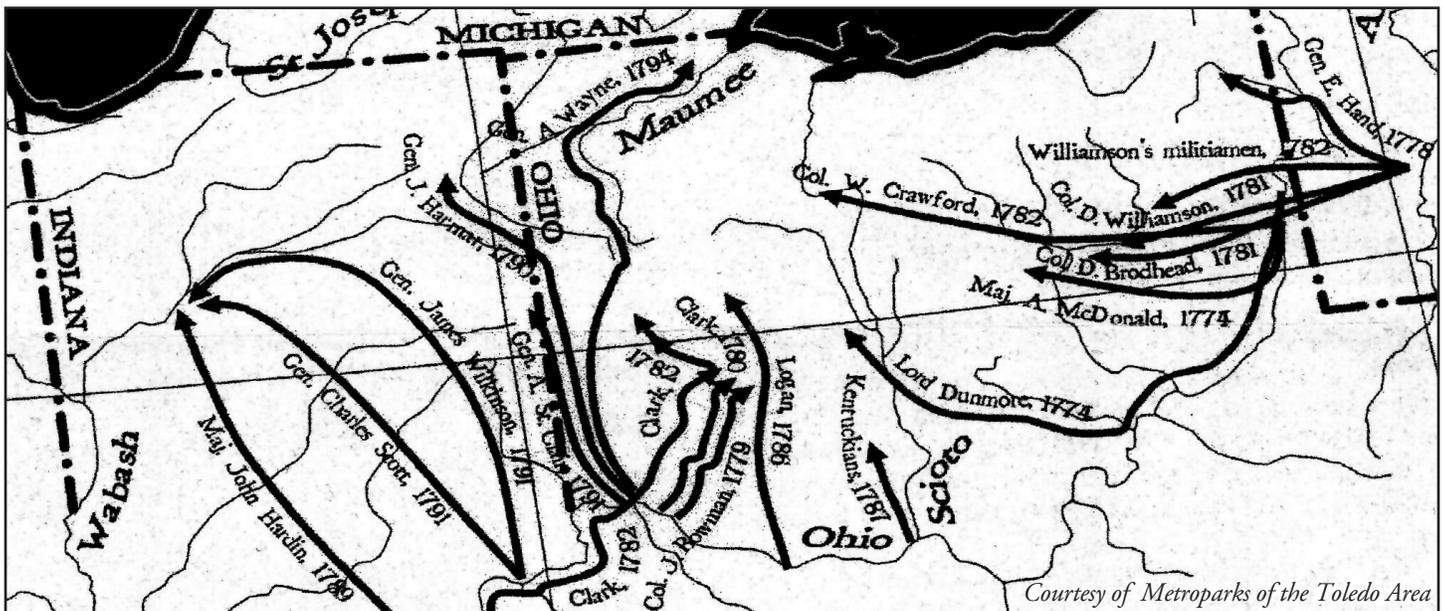
For thousands of years, the Indians had been the dominant culture. Then the French, the British, and new Americans were fighting for control of the Great Lakes region. The British parliament passed the Quebec Act, which called

for the addition to Canada of Southern Ontario (French at the time), and the territories of Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois and part of Minnesota. The land north of the Ohio River and west of the Alleghenys had been assigned earlier by Parliament to the colonies of Virginia, Pennsylvania and New York.

As many as 30 attempts were made by colonial militias and state armies, and US armies to "punish" the Native Americans. Most were unsuccessful. Two were disasters, Gen Harmar's Defeat at Fort Wayne, and General St. Clair's 1791 defeat at Fort Recovery, the worst defeat

ever of an American Army by the Indians.

In February of 1794, Lord Dorchester, Sir Guy Carlton, governor of Canada, told delegations of Indians at Quebec that lands in the Northwest Territory belong to them, to be returned after the coming war, if the Indians assisted the British. On Aug. 24 of that year, Anthony Wayne's forces defeated a large confederation of Indians in the battle of Fallen Timbers along the Maumee River. The victory and Com. Perry's victory over the British fleet in 1813 were the turning points in conflicts with the Indians in the region.



Courtesy of Metroparks of the Toledo Area

# Hope for History Lessons

## *Ohioans Give \$147,000 for History Fund Grants*

As noted historian David McCullough said in a recent Parade article, “For at least 25 years, we’ve been raising young Americans who are by and large historically illiterate.” As another historian, Daniel Boorstin put it, “Trying to plan for the future without a sense of the past is like trying to plant cut flowers.”

According to the Ohio Historical Society, nearly 17,000 generous Ohioans have contributed more than \$147,000 toward the Ohio Historical Society’s new History Fund grants program by opting to donate a portion of their 2011 state income tax refund to the Ohio Historical Society.

A check-off introduced on state income tax forms now lets Ohioans choose to give a portion of their state income tax refund to the Ohio Historical Society, which will use the money for grants to help organizations across Ohio undertake history and preservation projects.

The History Fund will make matching grants in the range of \$1,000 to \$20,000 on a competitive basis for a variety of types of history-related projects in three broad categories: Organizational Development, Programs and Collections, and Bricks and Mortar.

Local historical societies, museums and historic preservation groups are among those eligible to apply, as are public and academic libraries and archives, genealogical societies, archaeological societies, elementary and high schools, colleges and universities and units of local government.

A panel appointed annually by the executive director of the Ohio Historical Society will review the grant proposals and make recommendations to the director on grant awards. History Fund grant recipients will be required to submit reports proving that projects met their goals and accounting for all funds granted.

# Maumee Scenic Byway May be Extended

If you drive along many of the roads that parallel the Maumee River, you may be travelling on one of the 60 miles of highway designated as a Ohio Scenic Byway.

However, one of the prettiest sections, from Napoleon to Waterville, was not designated because of all the heavy truck traffic. Now that a wonderful new “Fort to Port” 4-lane divided US-24 highway section is open, the old “abandoned” section may now be added to the route, giving the Valley a scenic loop of small towns, river views, parks, river access points, and open country.

the north side of the river, crosses to SR routes 110 and 65 through Grand Rapids, Perrysburg and ends at Rossford. It also follows the river on the north side from Waterville to Toledo.



The Maumee Valley Scenic Byway is one of 27 in the state. The Heritage Corridor was the lead agency seeking designation, and was also a co-founder of Ohio Byway Links, an organization formed to educate the public about these pretty ways to travel. A listing and brief description of the 27 can be found in the

Ohio Travel Guide, Midwest Living magazine, and on the internet at [www.ohiobyways.com](http://www.ohiobyways.com)

## COMING EVENTS

**Nov. 17, 2012** – MVHC Annual Meeting at Woodburn, IN

**May 3-5, 2013** – First siege of Fort Meigs

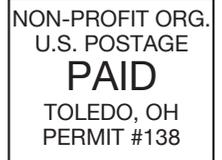
**July 25, 2013** – Second siege of Fort Meigs

**Sept. 10, 2013** – Defeat of British Navy in Battle of Lake Erie

**Oct. 5, 2013** – Americans win Battle of Thames, Tecumseh Killed

## Seed Harvest Helps Clean Maumee

Earlier this month some 20 people wandered the continental divide between the Maumee and Wabash watersheds, gathering wildflower and prairie grass that will be germinated, and then planted along the Maumee River. This important project will help restore the ecological balance of the Maumee’s banks, reducing erosion and sediment downstream. The event was organized by Save Maumee Grassroots, which was named organization of the Year last year by the Hoosier Environmental Council, Little River Wetland Project and Maumee Valley Heritage Corridor.



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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Ted Ligibel, Honorary	Angie Quinn, Executive Director

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Rory Robinson, *National Park Service*  
Neal Brady, *Miami & Erie Canal Corridor Association*

### HEADQUARTER OFFICE

Maumee Valley Heritage Corridor, Inc., 5100 West Central Avenue, Toledo, OH 43615  
419-407-9823



Maumee Watershed

## Membership Details

**OUR MISSION: To help increase public awareness of the multitude of historical, natural, cultural, scenic and recreational resources of the Maumee Valley, and if necessary, help protect and enhance them.**

We invite you to join us by becoming a member of the Maumee Valley Heritage Corridor, Inc. Members receive a subscription to our newsletters, notice of special tours and events and an opportunity to help with our projects.

- Individual – \$10
- Family – \$15
- Organization/Business/Municipality – \$25
- Contributor – \$25
- Sponsor – \$50
- Benefactor – \$100 and up
- Life Member – \$1000 (payable over 1 – 3 years)

Make check payable to MVHC

Mail to: MVHC  
5100 West Central Avenue  
Toledo, OH 43615

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Organization Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_