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HOURS DONATED AS OF

DECEMBER 17, 2006:

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## HISTORIC FORT WAYNE COALITION

### WELCOME NEW HELP!

GREETINGS TO ALL! I HOPE THE FALL HAS BEEN GOOD FOR YOU. I APOLOGIZE THAT THERE HASN'T BEEN A JOURNAL SINCE SEPTEMBER. MY WORK SCHEDULE BECAME SUCH THAT I HAD NO TIME TO DEDICATE TO ANY OF MY NON-WORK INTERESTS. THANKFULLY THAT IS DONE. HOWEVER, THAT WILL NOT STOP THE JOURNAL FROM COMING OUT AGAIN. I'M THRILLED TO ANNOUNCE THAT MATHEW AND SANDRA ASHER ANSWERED THE CALL IN THE LAST JOURNAL. STARTING IN JANUARY, THEY WILL EDIT THE JOURNAL. I'M THRILLED TO SEE YET MORE MEMBERS OF OUR COALITION STEP UP



AND MAKE US EVEN STRONGER. THANKS MATHEW AND SANDRA. THERE IS A LOT OF GOOD TO DO AT FORT WAYNE, AND YOUR LEADERSHIP WILL HELP DRIVE US FORWARD.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND SEE YOU ALL AT THE FORT IN JANUARY! WILL EICHLER

### CHAIRMAN'S CORNER – TOM BERLUCCHI

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OF YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES. THE END OF A SEASON FOR THE FORT WAS SAD BUT FOR US IT WAS A WELCOME CHANGE TO A VERY BUSY SUMMER. THE COALITION PERFORMED OUTSTANDING! WITHOUT ALL OUR HARD WORK, THE FORT WOULD HAVE BEEN A VERY DIFFERENT PLACE FOR THE PUBLIC TO VISIT.

I HAVE HAD THE PLEASURE OF ATTENDING TWO WONDERFUL EVENTS AS YOUR REPRESENTATIVE. FIRST WAS TO FAREWELL PARTY FOR DR. DENNIS ZIMBALA, PRESIDENT OF THE DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM. I WILL MISS DENNIS VERY MUCH. IT WAS UNDER HIS GUIDANCE THAT I WAS ABLE TO MOVE IN A GROUP OF VOLUNTEERS CALLED THE COALITION. DENNIS NOT ONLY OPENED THE FORT TO US BUT ALSO GAVE US THE AUTHORITY TO WORK ON RESTORATION PROJECTS. SOME OF YOU MAY HAVE MET DENNIS WHEN HE CAME TO OUR WORKDAYS. HE HAD NO PROBLEM PULLING WEEDS WITH THE REST OF US. HE WAS A BIG SUPPORTER OF CIVIL WAR DAYS. I AM THANKFUL TO

HAVE KNOWN DENNIS AS BOTH A PROFESSIONAL AND A FRIEND. THE OTHER EVENT WAS THE NEW GRAND OPENING OF THE DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM. THEY HAVE DONE A GREAT JOB WITH THE REMODELING. I ENCOURAGE ALL OF YOU TO TAKE YOUR FAMILY AND GO SPEND THE DAY. I MET A LOT OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE HEARD OF OUR GROUP'S EFFORTS AND WERE VERY IMPRESSED BY THE AMOUNT OF HOURS WE'VE GIVEN. I WAS ASKED MANY TIMES WHY DO THEY DO IT. THE ANSWER WAS VERY SIMPLE – LOVE - AND FORT WAYNE NEEDS A LOT OF TENDER LOVING.

WELCOME TO THE NEW MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD. FOR THE FIRST TIME WE HAVE A FULL BOARD WHICH WILL TAKE A GREAT LOAD OFF THE ORIGINAL 4 BOARD MEMBERS. TO DORIS, RIC AND WILL I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR STAYING THE COURSE AND TAKING ON SO MUCH. THERE WERE TIMES WHEN WE DID NOT GET ALONG AND TIMES WHEN WE ALL JUST HAD GREAT TIME.

CONT'D ON PAGE 2



*RIC JULIAN INSTALLS  
A CASEMATE COVER –  
OCTOBER 30, 2006.*

*PHOTO BY DAVE JAMROZ*

| DATE                   | EVENT  |
|------------------------|--|
| JANUARY 13, 2007       | FT. WAYNE WORK DAY – 9AM – 5PM – COALITION BI-MONTHLY MTG. AT 1:00PM   |
| FEBRUARY 10, 2007      | FT. WAYNE WORK DAY – 9AM – 5PM   |
| MARCH 24, 2007         | FT. WAYNE WORK DAY – 9AM – 5PM – COALITION BI-MONTHLY MTG. AT 1:00PM   |
| MARCH 31-APRIL 1, 2007 | GUILD FLEA MARKET  |
| APRIL 20-22, 2007      | FEDERAL BATTALION DRILL – HOSTED BY 5 <sup>TH</sup> MI, CO. K AND HFWC |
| APRIL 27-29, 2007      | MEDICH CONFEDERATE BATTALION DRILL                                     |
| MAY 11, 2007           | SCRANTON MIDDLE SCHOOL PRESENTATION – HFWC \$                          |
| MAY 25-27, 2007        | FORT WAYNE THROUGH THE AGES LIVING HISTORY                             |
| JUNE 8-9, 2007         | RICHARDS MIDDLE SCHOOL PRESENTATION – HFWC \$                          |
| JULY 6-8, 2007         | CIVIL WAR DAYS – SPONSORED BY HFWC                                     |
| AUGUST 10-12, 2007     | PROGRESSIVE CIVIL WAR EVENT  |

## CHAIRMAN'S CORNER – CONT'D FROM P. 1

I CANNOT IMAGINE NOT WORKING WITHOUT YOU ALL OVER THE LAST YEAR AND HALF. THANK YOU FOR YOUR EXTRA EFFORTS AND ASSISTANCE - WE COULD NOT HAVE GOTTEN WHERE WE ARE AT WITHOUT YOUR COMMITMENT.

TO KEEP YOU UP TO DATE, THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MET WITH THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE FRIENDS OF FORT WAYNE TO DISCUSS THE ORGANIZATIONS WORKING EVEN CLOSER. TO BE HONEST, THE MEETING DID NOT GO AS WAS HOPED AND THERE WILL HAVE TO BE MORE MEETINGS TO DISCUSS IDEAS. HOWEVER WE PROCEED, I'M SURE BOTH GROUPS WILL CONTINUE TO WORK TOGETHER TO HELP THE FORT. I WILL KEEP YOU ALL INFORMED.

VOLUNTEER HOURS ARE OVER 1600 - WOW! WHEN WILL ASKED ME LAST YEAR ABOUT STARTING TO RECORD WORK HOURS I THOUGHT 750 TO 1000 HOURS WOULD BE THE MOST. THESE HOURS DO NOT INCLUDE YOUR DRIVE TIME TO AND FROM THE FORT BUT JUST THE HOURS YOU ALL SPENT AT THE FORT. I NEVER THOUGHT WE WOULD GET THAT MUCH. I TELL OTHER WHO LOOK AT THE FORT AND SEE IT IN BAD SHAPE "YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN IT BEFORE." WE ARE WORKING TO UNDO OVER 23 YEARS OF NO MAINTENANCE ON THE FORT. WE'RE THANKFUL FOR HELP IN THIS EFFORT BY OTHER GROUPS SUCH AS FORD MOTOR COMPANY, BEAT DETROIT BIKE

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## PROJECT UPDATES – WILL AND RIC

THE YEAR ENDS WITH SEVERAL OF OUR LARGER PROJECT VERY CLOSE TO COMPLETION. RIC JULIAN AND SHAWN FITCHPATRICK MET ON OCTOBER 30<sup>TH</sup> AND PUT THE COVER ON THE STANDING CASEMATE. THE MAIN PORTION IS ON PERMANENTLY WITH A SMALL STRIP OF COVERING THAT WILL BE PERMANENTLY ATTACHED IN THE SPRING. RESEARCH IS ONGOING FOR THE CORRECT LOOK FOR THE FRONT END CAP OF THE CASEMATE AND IT WILL BE FABRICATED. ADDITIONALLY, THE WORK OF PLANNING THE NEXT COVER IS STARTED AND A PRICE LIST WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE 17<sup>TH</sup> MI, OUR NEXT FUNDERS, IN THE SPRING.

THE RAILING AROUND THE POWDER MAGAZINE IS UP AND LOOKS EXCELLENT. NOW IT WILL BE FINISHED, CREATING A BETTER LOOK AND SAFER EXPERIENCE FOR THE VISITORS NEXT YEAR.

THE WARM-UP THIS DECEMBER HAS BEEN HELPFUL. TOM B., MATT MERTA AND WILL MET AT THE FORT ON DEC. 16 AND POURED THE REMAINING FOOTINGS FOR THE STEPS TO THE CO PORCH. THE STEPS WILL BE BUILT OVER THE WINTER AND PUT IN PLACE IN THE SPRING.

THANKS TO ALL OF YOU WHO HAVE GIVEN OF YOUR TIME OVER 2006 TO MAKE FORT WAYNE A PRETTIER AND SAFER PLACE FOR PEOPLE TO VISIT!

## SPOTLIGHT ON – ED AND JOYCE VITEZ

ED AND JOYCE VITEZ JOINED THE LIVING HISTORY COMMUNITY IN 2000. THEY ARE CURRENTLY MEMBERS OF THE 17<sup>TH</sup> MICHIGAN, Co. E. THOUGH UNTIL NOW WE HAVE ONLY FEATURED ONE PERSON IN THE SPOTLIGHT, WE FELT IT WAS APPROPRIATE TO ACKNOWLEDGE ALL THE HARD WORK THEY DO FOR THE FORT AND COALITION BECAUSE WE USUALLY SEE THEM DOING IT TOGETHER!

ED AND JOYCE BECAME INVOLVED WITH FORT WAYNE THROUGH THE DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM. THEY VOLUNTEERED WITH THEM AND BECAME DOCENTS AT THE FORT AND GAVE TOURS. ED EXPLAINS THAT HE WOULD TELL THE STORIES OF THE STAR FORT AND SOME OF THE SURROUNDING BUILDINGS. THEN THE PEOPLE WERE LED INTO THE COMMANDANT'S HOUSE WHERE JOYCE TOOK OVER AND GAVE THAT PORTION OF THE TOUR.

SPEAKING OF THE COMMANDANT'S HOUSE, JOYCE IS ONE OF THE TWO PEOPLE WHO VOLUNTEERED TO GIVE

TOURS OF THAT BUILDING DURING CIVIL WAR DAYS. IT IS PARTIALLY THROUGH HER GIVING THAT WE WERE ABLE TO HAVE IT OPEN FOR THE PUBLIC.

ED AND JOYCE ARE OFTEN SEEN HELPING OUT AROUND THE FORT DURING WORK-DAYS. STILL, THEIR WORK PROCEEDS BEHIND THE SCENES AS WELL. ED WROTE THE FIRST DRAFT OF THE FLYER WE HAND OUT TO THE PUBIC CURRENTLY AND THE TWO OF THEM HAVE A LARGE VOLUME OF RESEARCH COLLECTED FROM WHICH ED IS REVISING THE TOUR THAT IS GIVEN AT THE FORT AND DEVELOPING A CURRICULUM TO TEACH GUIDES THE TOUR.

AS ACTIVE MEMBERS OF THE 17<sup>TH</sup> MICHIGAN, THEY BOTH SPEND A GOOD CHUNK OF THE SPRING GIVING SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS AND HELPED THE COALITION IN 2006 BOTH IN FRAZER AND AT SCRANTON MIDDLE SCHOOL NEAR THEIR HOME IN BRIGHTON. THANKS ED AND JOYCE!



*ED VITEZ VISITS WITH THE PUBLIC AT CIVIL WAR Days, 2006.*

*PHOTO BY MATT BEAUDRY.*

**HISTORIC FORT  
WAYNE  
COALITION**

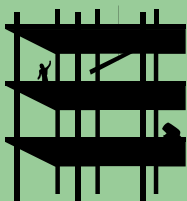
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PROMOTING THE  
RESTORATION OF  
HISTORIC FORT  
WAYNE BY  
SPONSORING GREAT  
EVENTS.



## **BLACKSMITH SHOP UPDATE RIC AND SHAWN**

JUST TO UPDATE EVERYONE THE SHOP HAS BEEN CLOSED UP FOR THE WINTER. IN THE SPRING, WE ARE PROPOSING TO HAVE A ROOF AND SHUTTERS INSTALLED. WE ARE ALSO LOOKING INTO REPLACING THE FLOOR WITH PAVING BLOCKS THESE PROJECTS ARE TOO MUCH FOR JUST TWO PEOPLE SO WE WILL BE NEEDING HELP TO DO THESE PROJECTS. WITH THE MONETARY HELP FROM THE FRIENDS OF HISTORIC FORT

WAYNE WE WERE ABLE TO SECURE A LARGER FORGE WITH HOOD AND A GOOD SUPPLY OF TOOLS.

IF ALL THE PLANS WORK OUT WE WILL HAVE A VERY NICE BLACKSMITH SHOP TO SHOW OFF AND TO USE.

ALL IT TAKES IS ONE STEP AT A TIME.

## **LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES BEGINNING**

IN CASE YOU HAVEN'T BEEN TO THE FORT IN A FEW MONTHS, THERE IS GOOD NEWS. WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN KEYS TO AND THE USE OF BUILDING 112A, THE OTHER HALF OF THE DUPLEX THAT HOUSES JIM CONWAY'S OFFICE. MUCH WORK HAS ALREADY GONE INTO CLEARING OUT THIS HOUSE AND PREPARING IT FOR OUR USE.

ONE OF THOSE USES IS TO ESTABLISH OUR OWN LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES. OUR GROUP IS FOCUSED ON HELPING EDUCATE THE PUBLIC ON THE HISTORY OF FORT WAYNE THROUGH IT'S ERAS. THE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES WILL HELP DO THIS.

WE HAVE RECEIVED DONATIONS SHELVING, FILE CABINETS AND

TABLES FROM THE JULIANS, WILL EICHLER AND SHAWN FITCHPATRICK. NOW IT IS TIME TO START TO BUILD THE ARCHIVES. WE NEED YOUR HELP!

MANY HAVE DONE RESEARCH ON THE FORT OR MILITARY HISTORY FOR YEARS. WHAT BOOKS OR ARTICLES DO YOU KNOW OF THAT WOULD BE GOOD FOR OUR ARCHIVES? PLEASE LET WILL EICHLER KNOW SO WE CAN START A "WANTED" LIST. WE WILL ALSO BEGIN TAKING DONATIONS VERY SOON AS WELL. PLEASE DON'T TRY TO SUBMIT PHOTOCOPIES OF ARTICLES AS THAT IS A VIOLATION OF COPYRIGHT LAW. GIVE US THE NAME AND WE'LL GO AFTER THE ARTICLES.

## **CHAIRMAN'S CORNER — CONT'D FROM P.2**

CLUB, GENERAL DYNAMIC CORP, AND FORT WAYNE HOME GUARD. WE'RE STARTING TO TURN THE CORNER BUT WE STILL HAVE A LONG WAY TO GO. AGAIN I SAY THANK YOU FOR ALL OF THE HARD WORK AND EFFORTS THAT EVERYONE HAS PUT FORTH IN

2006. I KNOW WE CAN OVERCOME THIS MOUNTAIN AND WORK WITH THE RECREATION DEPARTMENT TO MAKE HISTORIC FORT WAYNE ONE OF THE BEST HISTORIC PLACES TO VISIT IN THE STATE OF MICHIGAN.