



NATIONAL CENTER FOR GREAT LAKES NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURE, INC.
PO Box 1063, Portland, IN 47371 www.ncglnac.org

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: For more information contact Kay Neumayr, NCGLNAC
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Area's Historic Battles to be Discussed

Portland, IN. The topic for the 2011 National Center for Great Lakes Native American Culture, Inc. (NCGLNAC) Academic Conference is "*Major Woodlands Battles.*" This year's conference will be held at the John Jay Center for Learning, 101 South Meridian Street in Portland, Indiana on Saturday, April 16, 2011 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Also planned is an optional guided tour of the newly renovated museum and battle site at Fort Recovery, Ohio, at 4 p.m. This is the site of two major battles in the area: St. Clair's Defeat (the largest single defeat of an American army in the history of the United States) and the Battle of Fort Recovery.

Although the earliest contacts between the Native American peoples and the European settlers in what is now the United States were friendly, various factors created conflicts between the settlers and the tribes. These conflicts expanded as the frontier moved westward, with the settlers taking more and more land that had previously supported the tribal peoples, forcing the natives away from their lands and their way of life. The conflicts expanded into full warfare, which was usually terminated through treaties. The treaties required more land cessations by the tribes, furthering expansion of the frontier, causing new conflicts.

Presenters are

9 a.m. – Sara Wagar – Elder, Pique Shawnee Tribe
Shawnee Battles

10 a.m. – James C. Fulmer – Pennsylvania, Past President, National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association, Columnist Muzzle Blasts, Gun Week, historian
The Battle of Bushy Run, 1763

11 a.m. – Tony DeRegnaucourt – Ohio, Archaeologist, Director, Upper Miami Archaeological Research Museum
Conflict in the Old Northwest, the Confederated Indian Tribes versus the United States Army

1 p.m. – Dr. Timothy D. Willig – Indiana, Assistant Professor of History, Indiana University South Bend

Diplomatic Struggles on the Maumee: The Quest for Intertribal Unity Among the Native Ohio Confederacy, 1792-1794

2 p.m. – Rick Conwell – *Indiana, Museum Stores and Site Manager of the Tippecanoe Battlefield, historical silversmith*

The Battle of Tippecanoe, 1811

The conference is sponsored in part by the Jay County Visitor and Tourism Bureau and hosted by the John Jay Center for Learning.

Registration before April 9 is \$30, \$20 for students with photo identification. Late registrations are \$35. Lunch is included. For more information or a registration form contact Co-Chairs: Boni Bent-Nelson at 574-225-9430 or bolnelso@iusb.edu or Pat Broom at 513-874-8037 or bbroom@aol.com.

National Center for Great Lakes Native American Culture, Inc. was formed as a not-for-profit 501(c)3 educational organization. The Center is composed of Native and non-Native members whose mission is to continue and preserve traditional Great Lakes Native American art, history and culture by helping pass those traditions on to Native People and by educating the general public about the importance of Great Lakes Native peoples, their art, history and culture. NCGLNAC owns nearly 30 acres (generously donated by the Jay County Fair Board) of beautiful, wooded land, complete with pond and wetlands, located just north of the Jay County Fairgrounds in Portland. The first ethno-botanical hiking trail was opened to the public in 2008.

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