

Revolutionary War Descendants Rebuild Ohio Fort One Log at A Time

MEDIA RELEASE

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Bolivar, OH—Ohio families that had ancestors who served in the American Revolution have emerged as one of the largest groups of financial contributors in the effort to rebuild Fort Laurens, Ohio's only American Revolutionary War fort.

The effort to rebuild a recreated Fort Laurens has been underway by the Bolivar, Ohio, based Friends of Fort Laurens Foundation, which was established in 1994. To date, the non-profit organization has raised over \$47,000 as log sponsorships, of which twenty-five percent of that amount was raised by descendants of Revolutionary War soldiers.

"These funds are earmarked exclusively for log purchases that will recreate the stockade ramparts," said Foundation Board of Trustee President, Tom Pieper. "We estimate that the Foundation has the resources to build 50% of the fort's outer walls."

Pieper acknowledged the significant efforts of the Ohio Society Sons of the American Revolution (OHSSAR), the Ohio Society Daughters of the American Revolution (OHSDAR), and the Ohio Society Children of the American Revolution (OHSCAR).

"Several individual state chapters of these organizations have taken a leadership role in helping the Foundation advance its goal of rebuilding Fort Laurens," said Pieper. "We have partnered with chapters throughout the State of Ohio that has resulted in financial donations over \$13,000."

Leaders of the states' chapters include the SAR's John Stark, Western Reserve, Cincinnati Color Guard, Cincinnati, Northeastern, and Arthur St. Clair Chapters. The DAR leaders include Stark County, Fort Findlay, Fort Laurens, Ann Simpson Davis and the Col. William Crawford chapters.

The Ohio Society Children of the American Revolution state project for 2006-2007 was "Rebuild History One Log at a Time." Under the leadership of State CAR President, Alan Marion, the organization raised over \$3400 for the Foundation by selling Ft. Laurens pins and magnets designed by Marion himself.

Additional funds for the log sponsorships were raised by schools such as Jackson Township Memorial Middle School, Tusky Valley Middle School, "home schoolers", private businesses, scout troops, several units of the Brigade of the American Revolution and individuals who actually had family ancestors serve at Fort Laurens.