

Fall Speakers Series 2009

Ross County Historical Society

at the Ross County Heritage Center

45 West Fifth St., Chillicothe

Free & Open to the Public



Perry's Monument at Put-In-Bay

Visiting & Preserving Ohio's Treasures

Featuring Gary S. Williams—Author, Historian and Publisher, Buckeye Book Press, Caldwell, Ohio

Wednesday, October 28, 7:30 p.m.

Historian and author Gary S. Williams returns to speak about the importance of taking advantage of, and thus supporting, Ohio's historical sites during difficult economic times. The Buckeye State's wealth of historic sites and museums provide Ohioans with countless inexpensive alternatives to long trips out of state. Yet the very existence of so many wonderful historic treasures is threatened by the downturn. Gary Williams will reveal the tremendous variety of opportunities Ohioans have for short trips to discover their nearby history while at the same time helping to preserve that history for future generations. Williams will also autograph copies of his new book, *Historic Tours of Ohio*, following the program.

Ross Countians at Gettysburg: Forgotten Soldiers — Lost Battlefield & "The Fight for Smith's Ridge"

Featuring Stuart R. Dempsey—Author, Historian, and Licensed Battlefield Guide, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

Wednesday, November 11, 7:30 p.m.

In the Fall of 2008, *Blue & Gray Magazine* published a special edition in commemoration of the 145th anniversary of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. Included is an outstanding article about a rarely mentioned portion of the Gettysburg battle where Ross County's own 73rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry fought. The ground where the action took place is now covered by 20th century development and all but forgotten. Join us for a fascinating evening as the author of that article, Gettysburg native and licensed battlefield guide Stuart Dempsey, brings that little-noted, nor long-remembered story about a small but deadly corner of the Civil War's greatest battle back to life.



Col. Orland Smith



Buckskin Covered Bridge

Covered Bridges of Ohio, Kentucky & West Virginia

Featuring David Simmons and Miriam Wood, Co-Authors of *Covered Bridges of Ohio, Kentucky & West Virginia*.

Thursday, November 19, 7:30 p.m.

In 2007, the Wooster Book Company published an illustrated coffee table book on the covered bridges of Ohio, Kentucky and West Virginia. It was the collaborative effort of Miriam F. Wood, author of the *Covered Bridges of Ohio*, David A. Simmons, editor of the Ohio Historical Society's *Timeline* magazine, and professional photographer Bill Miller. The book covers the development of the covered bridge type, including how they were constructed, and contains the histories and stories behind the building and preservation of 171 bridges built between 1829-2008. Miriam Wood and David Simmons will present a selection of slides taken from the book highlighting the most interesting bridges in each state. Copies of their book will be available for purchase and signing after the conclusion of the program.