

ROCKY RIVER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P O Box 16445, Rocky River, Ohio 44116, Ph: 440-895-0983
<http://rockyriverhistoricalsociety.org/>

A Centennial City

1903-2003

January 2014 News Edition



Grandma Gatewood: Ohio's Legendary Hiker

January 9, 2014; 7:00 PM

Rocky River Senior Center

*Why is Grandma Gatewood
such a legendary hiker?*

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Come hear the story of Grandma Emma Gatewood –an Ohioan who was the first woman to solo thru-hike the 2,050-mile Appalachian Trail in 1955 after raising 11 children and surviving domestic abuse! As if that wasn't enough she went back and did it TWO more times (making her the first person to hike it three times), she hiked the 2,000-mile Oregon Trail in 1959, she helped establish Ohio's Buckeye Trail and, by the time she passed away in 1973, she had hiked some 10,000 miles!

Bette Lou Higgins, our webmaster, will tell this remarkable story at the January meeting. Bette Lou is with Eden Valley Enterprises (www.edenvalleyenterprises.org) and this storytelling program is part of a larger project being undertaken by Eden Valley with WGTE/PBS and FilmAffects to document Emma's life. Besides the storytelling program, they have already produced an e-book, a DVD of the storytelling program and a one-act play, TRAIL MAGIC, which premiered last August at True-North Cultural Arts. The last part of this project will be the creation of a PBS documentary which will be broadcast on WGTE/PBS Toledo. For complete information about the project, visit their website at <http://edenvalleyenterprises.org/progdesc/gatewood/gtwdinf.htm>



Come be inspired!

*Photo credit courtesy of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy

OHIO

“THE HEART OF IT ALL”

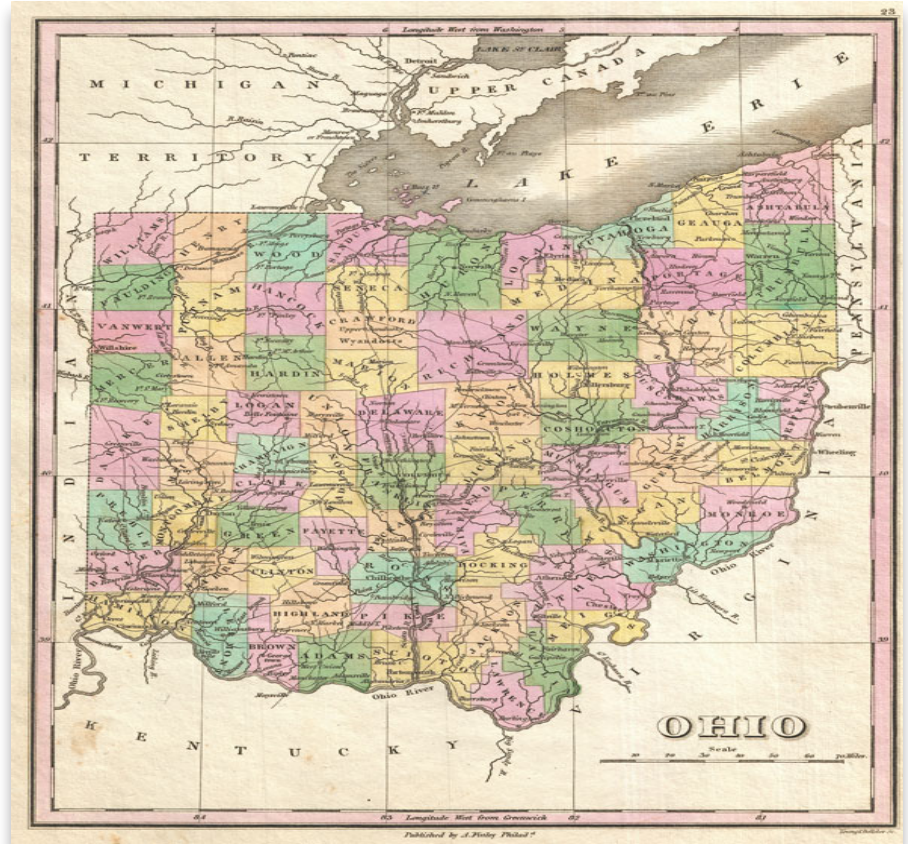
By Gay A. Christensen-Dean

Ohio is bordered by five states plus Canada. While each of the borders has fluctuated for various reasons over the course of time, this is a summary of how each of the borders came to be.

Ohio / Ontario, Canada

The Treaty of Peace of 1783 formally ended the American Revolutionary War between Great Britain and the United States, nearly two years after the fighting had stopped with General Cornwallis' British defeat at Yorktown, Virginia. The Treaty recognized American independence and established borders for the new nation. It was signed at the Hotel de York in Paris on September 3, 1783 by John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, John Jay, and David Hartley (a member of the British Parliament representing King George III). It was ratified by the U.S. on January 14, 1784, and by Great Britain on April 9, 1784.

Article 2 of the Treaty states: "... through the middle of said lake [Ontario] until it strikes the communication by water between that lake and Lake Erie; thence along the middle of said communication into Lake Erie, through the middle of said lake until it arrives at the water communication between that lake and Lake Huron; thence along the middle of said water communication into Lake Huron, ..." Thus, the U.S./Canada international boundary, with regards to Ohio and Ontario, passes through the middle of Lake Erie.



Ohio / Pennsylvania

The Charter for the Province of Pennsylvania, granted by King Charles II of England on February 28, 1681 to William Penn stated, "the said lands [were] to extend westwards five degrees in longitude, to be computed from the said Eastern Bounds [that is, the Delaware River]". The problem was that the Delaware River was not straight! Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon surveyed the famous Mason-Dixon Line (southern boundary of Pennsylvania) in 1767. In 1779, commissioners of Pennsylvania and Virginia agreed to extend the Mason-Dixon Line westerly five degrees of longitude starting with its intersection with the Delaware River. A meridian drawn from the western end northerly became the western boundary of Pennsylvania (80° 31' W). But, not until 1784 was a boundary marker accurately placed at the western end of the Mason-Dixon Line, by making astronomical observations during the autumnal equinox.

Ohio / West Virginia (Virginia)

On September 6, 1780, Congress recommended that states owning "waste and unappropriated lands in the western country" should give them back to the U.S. On March 1, 1784, the General Assembly of Virginia gave to the Congress all right, title and claim to the lands northwest of the Ohio River, which it had received on May 23, 1609 in the Second Charter of Virginia by King James I of England.

When Ohio wanted to become a state in 1803, Virginia was already a state. Chief Justice Marshall of the U.S. Supreme Court wrote the opinion, “when, as in this case, one state is the original proprietor [that is, Virginia], and grants the territory on one side only, it retains the river within its own domain, and the newly-created state [that is, Ohio] extends to the river only”. Thus, the boundary line between West Virginia (Virginia) and Ohio is the low water mark on the Ohio side of the river. (West Virginia separated from Virginia in 1863.)

Ohio / Kentucky

In the U.S. Supreme Court case *Ohio v. Kentucky* (decided on January 21, 1980) it states (as with the Ohio/West Virginia border), “the boundary between Ohio and Kentucky is the low-water mark on the northerly side of the Ohio River as it existed in 1792 when Kentucky was admitted to the Union, not the current low-water mark on the northerly side of the river”. Since 1792, the Ohio River has risen due to damming of the river.

Ohio / Indiana

On April 30, 1802, President Thomas Jefferson signed the Enabling Act of 1802 which called for the admittance of Ohio as a state in the United States. The western border of Ohio was originally to begin at Portsmouth and extend northward, but was changed to begin at the mouth of the Great Miami River where it flows into the Ohio River, and extend northward to a point in line with the southern tip of Lake Michigan. The change would ensure that Ohio had the necessary number of people (60,000) required to become a state, living within its borders.

Ohio / Michigan

Ohio was admitted into the Union in 1803 and founders believed that the northern border would intersect Lake Erie north of the mouth of the Maumee River, as defined by the Northwest Ordinance of 1787: an east-west line drawn through the southerly bend of extreme of Lake Michigan. Two years later, when Congress created the Michigan territory, through surveyors, Ohio learned that its northern border fell south of the Maumee River. This contested area, eight miles wide at the eastern end and five miles wide at the western end, became known as the Toledo Strip, and caused much friction between Ohio and Michigan because both wanted the port of Toledo. In 1833 when Michigan desired statehood, it was denied because Michigan refused to relinquish the Toledo Strip to Ohio. In 1835 the Toledo War ensued. There was armed fighting but luckily no one was killed. In 1836, a compromise was reached where the territory of Michigan gave Ohio the Toledo Strip in exchange for the Upper Peninsula, which at the time was considered to be worthless, but was later found to have vast resources such as copper, iron, and timber.

If one looks at a map that includes Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan, one can see that the Michigan southern border is not a straight line. The Indiana/Michigan border is further north than the Ohio/Michigan border. The Enabling Act of 1816 states that Indiana’s northern border is, “an east and west line, drawn through a point ten miles north of the southern extreme of Lake Michigan”.

Sources:

[The Planting of Civilization in Western Pennsylvania](#) by Solon J. Buck and Elizabeth Buck
“Boundary Line between Ohio and Indiana and between Ohio and Michigan” by Mendenhall in
Ohio Archaeological and Historical Quarterly

www.greatamericandocuments.com

www.accessible-archives.com

avalon.law.yale.edu

www.wvculture.org

www.fortedwards.org

www.ohiohistorycentral.org

www.findlaw.com

www.michigan.gov

www.in.gov

HAPPY 100TH ANNIVERSARY TO FORD'S CLOTHIER

19821 Detroit Road, Rocky River, OH 44116

By Gay A. Christensen-Dean

Ford's Clothier recently celebrated their 100th anniversary. In 1913, William Ford started the W.N. Ford Supply Co. at 1824 West 48th Street in Cleveland. He sold all sorts of apparel, including the boots for the Cleveland Fire Department.

After a while, William sold the business to his son, George Ford. George relocated it to Lakewood, Ohio, first at Waterbury and Madison, and then to Madison next to Malley's Candies. He renamed it "Ford's Men Shop".



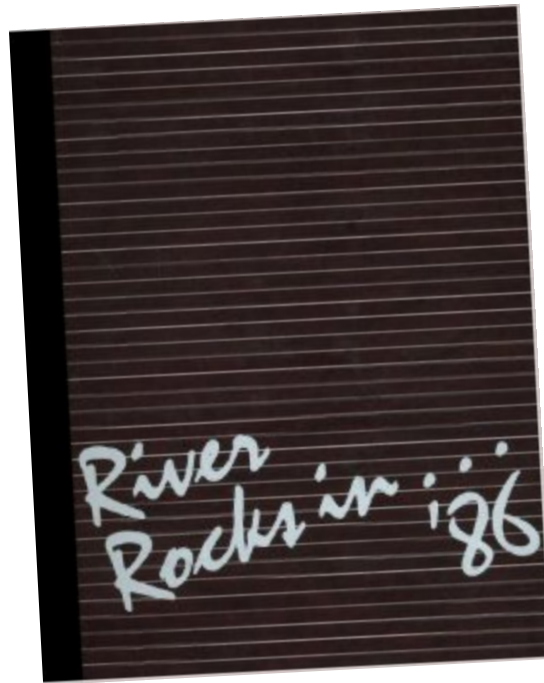
Ford's Clothier owner Paul Gordon holds a picture of the original store

Around 1960, the business found itself in a temporary store on Detroit Road in Rocky River, across from what is now Heinen's grocery store. It was there for a short while before moving to its newly built space in the River Square Shopping Center on Detroit Road. That is where it remains today: 19821 Detroit Road.

In 1979, George's son Jeff Ford bought the business. He changed the name to "Ford's Clothier" because he added a ladies clothing section, called "Lady Ford", which was in existence from 1979 – 1996.

In 2008, Ford's Clothier was sold to the present owner, Paul Gordon. Paul first started working for George Ford part time in 1971 when he was in high school, and then through his college years. After graduating from college he became a full time employee and worked as such until purchasing the business in 2008. Ford's continues to sell men's apparel, anything from dress to casual.

Ford's Clothier is truly a Rocky River enterprise, and a real asset to our community. It opened here in River more than 50 years ago. Both the present owner and past owner are Rocky River High School graduates and continue to live in our city. Paul says that Rocky River is a great place to be.



Calling All Rocky River High School Graduates, Families, And Friends

The Rocky River Historical Society is seeking donations of RR High School yearbooks for the following years, to round out its collection. Please contact Jennifer Dieringer at 440-895-0983 if you wish to donate any. Thanks!

1925	1933	1940	1960	1970
1928	1939	1943	1965	1971
1929		1945	1968	1973
		1946		1976 through 2013



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MEETING DATES FOR 2014

Meetings are at the Rocky River Senior Center Second Thursday of the month at 7 p.m.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

March 13, 2014

Bradstreet's Landing

Presented by

Dr. Dan Marsalek