



## **WELCOME TO THE DAN BEARD 10-MILE RIVERWALK TRAIL**

The Dan Beard 10-Mile Riverwalk Trail is a national historic trail that takes you through two states, three cities and across four unique bridges that cross two of America's major rivers. Your walk can start in Cincinnati, Covington or Newport. For your convenience, directions in this guide start at the Park Avenue floodgate on Newport's Riverboat Row where there is plenty of free parking. We'll take you across the Licking River to Covington, across the Ohio River over one of America's most famous suspension bridges, and back to Newport on Cincinnati's newest Ohio River bridge.

The trail is 10 miles in length, qualifying as a hike for Hiking merit badge. It will take four to six hours to complete, considering the stops that Scouts often make along the way. Your hike could be longer depending upon the adventures that you invent. Restrooms, convenience stores and emergency assistance can be found at several points along the trail, but the shops may be seasonal. The Dan Beard Riverwalk Trail is a one-of-a-kind experience in an urban setting. You can expect to meet plenty of friendly, helpful people on your hike.

There is a five-mile version of the hike available on the Dan Beard Council website if you want a shorter adventure that stays close to the rivers all the way. The five-mile version qualifies as a hike for Second Class requirements, and may be more suitable for Cub Scouts.

Dramatic change has come to the Riverwalk Trail since it and the Covington Boy Scout Plaza were dedicated on October 29, 1988, as part of the Cincinnati Bicentennial celebration. At that time, the trail started at Fountain Square. On the dedication day, 3000 Scouts and Scouters, including the BSA Chief Scout Executive Ben Love, took an abbreviated hike on the trail from Fountain Square across the Roebling Bridge to dedicate the new Boy Scout Plaza. Riverfront development continues to change the route and features of the trail, and these changes will likely make the trail always a "work in progress".

## QUIZ QUESTIONS

The Dan Beard Riverwalk Trail patch and hat pin can be purchased at the Scout Achievement Center for any Scout who hikes the entire 10-mile trail and answers the following questions. Only the patch can be purchased for completing the 5-mile trail. Only Scout leaders may purchase patches and hat pins. (The order form is at the end of this guide).

Dan Beard Scout Achievement Center  
10078 Reading Road  
Evendale, Ohio 45241

### Questions

1. In what year was the Daniel Carter Beard Bridge dedicated? \_\_\_\_\_
2. How many sides form the base of the flagpole at Taylor Park? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What is the name of the river that you cross between Newport and Covington?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. At the Boy Scout Plaza, what is Dan Beard's statue holding in its' left hand?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Name the man who operated the Ohio River Ferry from Covington to Cincinnati.  
(His name is on a plaque in George Rogers Clark Park.)  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. On what page did Dan Beard write about trapping? \_\_\_\_\_
7. How many large rocks are in front of the Freedom Center? \_\_\_\_\_
8. Whose image is on the Marine Corps Memorial in Lytle Park? \_\_\_\_\_
9. How many flying pig statues are in Bicentennial Commons at Sawyer Point? \_\_\_\_\_
10. What two artists created the Crystalline Tower? \_\_\_\_\_

## **I. GETTING STARTED - Be prepared for fun and adventure along the Ohio River!**

The Dan Beard Riverwalk Trail is a trail of discovery. This guide is not intended to provide every detail of history or explain every interesting sight or activity along the way, since that might take the fun out of the hike. Feel free to invent your own side trips to downtown Cincinnati's museums, shops and restaurants, amble along Newport's exciting waterfront area, and take in Covington's interesting riverfront neighborhoods immediately to the south and west of the trail.

The 10-Mile Dan Beard Riverwalk Trail includes most of Cincinnati, Newport and Covington's Bicentennial Riverwalk. Therefore, whenever you see the Riverwalk logos inset in the sidewalk - they're blue and green wavy lines - you may safely follow them. Since the Dan Beard Riverwalk Trail is longer than the three city's Bicentennial Riverwalks, there are portions of the hike that won't include the Riverwalk logos. The surest way to complete the trail is to follow the directions in this guide.

Free parking for the trail is available on Newport's Riverboat Row. This is easy to access from I-471. *If you come from the NORTH* across the I-471 Daniel Carter Beard Bridge, the first Kentucky exit (Exit 5) will swing around onto Park Avenue NORTHBOUND. If you cross Dave Cowens Drive (KY Route 8) and pass thru the levee gate, a right hand turn to the EAST will take you to plenty of free parking. *If you are coming from the SOUTH* on I-471, take the last Kentucky exit (Exit 5), turn left (WEST) on Dave Cowens Drive (KY Route 8), then right (NORTH) on Park Avenue to pass thru the same levee gate. (See the map below.) JB Fins has agreed to let Scouts use their spaces during daylight hours on non-Bengal and Reds game days if the sign at the end of this file is printed and left on the dashboard of your vehicle. On game days, park at Newport on the Levee for a small fee.

Before setting out on your hike, be sure that you are prepared with weather appropriate clothing, comfortable footwear, raingear, a water bottle and snack, map and compass, sunscreen, and a first aid kit. If an adult carries a cellphone and dials 911 for an emergency during the hike, be sure to identify which city that you are in at the time.

Take the time to read about the next section ahead before you walk the trail. This will teach you some history and help to not miss any of the highlighted areas or Questions.

*A note on compass directions in this guide* – a look at the trail map will show that the streets of Cincinnati, Newport and Covington do not follow a true north-south grid due to the curves of the Ohio River. Therefore, the compass directions in this guide are approximate, not exact. For simplicity, the directions given are the closest cardinal direction, with the Ohio River generally considered to run EAST to WEST.

## **II. RIVERBOAT ROW AND NEWPORT RIVERWALK STATIONS**

After parking on Riverboat Row just NORTHEAST of the Park Avenue floodgate, leaving your dashboard sign and locking your vehicle, walk to the EAST side of the floodgate. Find the plaque honoring Daniel Carter Beard and naming the big golden arched bridge for him. Dan Beard was a former Covington resident and one of the founders of the Boy Scouts of America. Our Scout council is also named after him. Answer Question One.

Head WEST (downriver) along Riverboat Row under the Newport end of the L&N ("Purple People") Bridge. The view across the Ohio River NORTH to Cincinnati is fabulous. Pass under the Taylor-Southgate Bridge and immediately go up the stairs to the SOUTH onto the top of the levee. This Newport section of Riverwalk on the levee top has a number of stations with historical plaques to read, each marked with a different shaped weathervane.

Where the levee turns SOUTH to follow the Licking River, descend the steps into Taylor Park to answer Question Two and read the historical information surrounding the flagpole base. Look at the pictures from the past taken from this spot to see how Cincinnati looked years ago. Taylor Park is the site of the old Newport Barracks, a military outpost during the French and Indian War. The park is

named for General James Taylor, a founder of Newport and one of the two namesakes of the Taylor-Southgate Bridge that you will later cross.

After visiting Taylor Park, climb the stairs back to the top of the levee and head SOUTH. One historical station ahead is dedicated to the Boy Scouts and this trail. At the end of the levee sidewalk, you'll come to a footbridge onto the Veterans Memorial Bridge. Turn WEST at the bridge and cross the river into Covington.

### **III. BRIDGE TO THE PAST - Veterans Memorial Bridge to the Boy Scout Plaza**

According to historians, the original Veterans Memorial Bridge, which collapsed shortly after it was built, was the model for the John A. Roebling Suspension Bridge. The current Memorial Bridge was used for military parades and ceremonies until World War II. Below is the river that you are asked to name in Question Three. Some historians believe that in 1782 a raid led by Simon Kenton successfully recaptured a cannon that had been stolen by Indians from the Bryan Station Garrison near Lexington. It is believed that Kenton's raiders rolled the cannon into the river at this spot. The cannon has never been found.

After the bridge, the first intersection is at Garrard Avenue and Fourth Street. Turn NORTH on Garrard and go one full block (don't take the first alleyway that looks like a street). Turn EAST onto Third Street.

### **IV. DANIEL BEARD'S HOUSE - The place where Dan Beard played as a child**

The Boy Scout Plaza and Dan Beard's boyhood home is on the left at the end of East Third Street. The Beard House is now a private residence and is listed on the National Historic Register. You are welcome to explore the Plaza and have your picture taken in front of the statue of Dan Beard with his hand on the shoulder of a Scout. Carefully examine the bronze statue that was sculpted by former Scout Kenneth Bradford to see what Dan Beard is holding in his left hand. This is the answer to Question Four. The bronze Scout next to Dan Beard wears the sculptor's troop number from when he was a boy – Troop 119 at the Mount Auburn Presbyterian Church.

Born in Cincinnati on June 21, 1850, Daniel Carter Beard moved to Covington and this house next to the Licking River when he was a boy. Much later in his life, his "Society of the Sons of Daniel Boone" would become the Boy Scouts of America. As a child Dan played in the woods next to this house and became interested in animals, outdoor games and Indian lore. The youngest of six children, he enjoyed adventures of canoeing, camping and fishing the Licking and Ohio Rivers.

The Civil War erupted shortly after the Beard's moved to this big frame house. Young Dan recalled, "...where I had once walked knee deep in the lush blue grass, there were rows of tents and unsightly military shacks and stables. The slopes of the hills were scarred by series of rifle pits. The hilltops were also disfigured by stupendous earthen forts."

However, most of Dan's boyhood memories were happy. His experiences would whet his appetite for the outdoors. "As Tom, Harry and I sat on the dry mud banks of the Licking River... we planned a society for the boys of the U.S. - an extension of our little group of Boone Scouts," Beard later wrote.

As Dan grew to adulthood, he became a civil engineer and surveyor. He made insurance maps until he visited New York and stayed to study art. Beard taught art from 1883-1890. His ability as illustrator was recognized by author Mark Twain who chose Beard to illustrate A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court.

By 1905, Beard's "Society of the Sons of Daniel Boone" developed into the foundation of the Boy Scouts of America. Today, Scouting's basic values are still strongly reflected in the ideas and interests "Uncle Dan" discovered while living, playing and dreaming at this place.

Notice all the engraved bricks paving the Boy Scout Plaza. If you, or your troop or pack, would like to place an engraved brick here, please contact the Dan Beard Council Service Center.

## **V. DOWN TO THE RIVER - Boy Scout Plaza to the Suspension Bridge**

From Boy Scout Plaza, go NORTH on an unnamed alley for a full block. Turn EAST onto Second Street. The last house on the right on Second Street, the Carneal House, was part of the Underground Railroad. Follow Second Street EAST as it becomes Shelby, named for Kentucky's first Governor Isaac Shelby. Shelby turns NORTH and then WEST as it becomes Riverside Drive.

Along Riverside Drive, you'll pass a series of historic homes and landmarks. You'll find life-sized statues of John James Audubon, Indian Chief Little Turtle, James Bradley, Riverboat Capt. Mary Greene, Pioneer Simon Kenton and bridge builder John Roebling. They were placed during Cincinnati's bicentennial in 1988. When you get to George Rogers Clark Park on the SOUTH side of the street, be sure to read the historical plaques. That's where you find the answer to Question Five. (Hint - it's not at either of the statues or at the fountain.)

From George Rogers Clark Park, continue walking WEST on Riverside Drive. Across the Ohio River you can see the National Underground Railway Freedom Center and both of the new Cincinnati stadiums. Eventually, Riverside Drive ends and becomes a SIDEWALK. Keep going WEST thru a parking lot and under the Roebling Suspension Bridge.

Just past the bridge you will find a series of 18 historical Roebling Murals on the Covington floodwall painted by Robert Dafford. They took 5 years to paint. As you walk WESTWARD, the murals go from oldest to most recent time – look at the top of each for the year depicted. Find the mural that honors Dan Beard and answer Question Six. Notice that Dan is pictured as a boy camping on the Newport bank of the Licking River, and his house is seen on the Covington bank. After viewing the murals, backtrack to the EAST and climb the blue stairs leading up onto the WEST side of the Roebling Bridge. On the bridge, head NORTH across the Ohio River.

## **VI. THE SUSPENSION BRIDGE**

Enjoy your walk across the beautiful blue suspension bridge. Completed in 1865, the 1,057-foot bridge span was then the world's longest. John Roebling designed and built this historic bridge, which he then used to convince the city fathers of New York to let him build the Brooklyn Bridge. Redesigned for the load of heavier traffic in the 1890's, another set of cables and a wider deck were added. The metal grid roadway makes the bridge sing when traffic crosses. The original cables are the lower ones. This elegant bridge is lighted at night, forming graceful arcs marking the bridge's steel cables. Great American Ballpark on your right is home of the Cincinnati Reds. The stadium to the left is Paul Brown Stadium, the home of the Cincinnati Bengals.

## **VI. FOOTBALL AND FREEDOM - Paul Brown Stadium and the Freedom Center**

After reaching the Ohio side of the Roebling Bridge, DESCEND the first stairway available. At the BOTTOM of the stairs, head NORTH towards Mehring Way, carefully cross and turn WEST on the sidewalk. Walk WEST on the Mehring Way sidewalk towards Paul Brown Stadium. Mehring Way is named for Art Mehring, a Cincinnati police officer that was the first in the world to give live helicopter traffic reports on WLW radio.

When you cross Elm Street, keep going WEST, but veer to the NORTH a little to walk up the wide ramp that goes around the outside of Paul Brown Stadium and leads up to the plaza level. You'll walk  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the way around the stadium on this walkway. The stadium was opened in 2000, seats 65,500 fans, and honors the late Paul Brown - the pro football Hall of Famer who brought pro football

to Cincinnati in 1968 as Bengals founder, general manager and head coach. As you reach the WEST side of the stadium, notice the Bengal's practice field to the WEST across Central Avenue. On the stadium's NORTH side, catch the view into the playing field. Continue on the walkway until you reach the white awnings on the NORTHEAST side and exit the plaza walkway just past these onto the Elm Street sidewalk.

Cross Elm Street and turn NORTH. Walk EAST on the NORTH side of Freedom Center Way. In 2 blocks you will find the Freedom Center. There you should work on Question Seven (count each rock larger than a basketball on the SOUTH side of the building). The National Underground Railway Freedom Center opened in 2004. It brings to life the importance and relevance of struggles for freedom around the world and throughout history, including today. Made up of three buildings that symbolize the cornerstones of freedom - courage, cooperation, and perseverance - the Freedom Center's curving architecture reflects the winding river and the often-changing path to freedom. At the EAST end of Freedom Way, turn NORTH on Walnut Street, cross over Fort Washington Way (the I-71 interstate in its trench), and hike on up to Fountain Square on the NORTHWEST corner of Walnut and Fifth.

## **VII. DOWNTOWN CINCINNATI - Fountain Square to P & G**

Spend a few minutes exploring Fountain Square, considered by many to be the epicenter of the city. The Tyler Davidson Fountain, Cincinnati's signature sculpture, was built in 1866 and came to Cincinnati from Munich, Germany, in 1871. The fountain replaced what had been known as Fifth Street Market, a farmer's market much like historic Findlay Market that is located about a mile north on Elm Street. The 43-foot fountain is the oldest downtown sculpture and has become the best known and loved symbol of Cincinnati. Water streams from the out-stretched hands of the 9-foot tall female figure representing the "Genius of Water." Below her, four adult figures dramatize the life-sustaining uses of water, four children illustrate the life-enhancing pleasures of water, and four relief panels depict the industrial uses of water. Four drinking spouts on the lower tier of the fountain once had communal cups for pedestrians to use. Local businessman Henry Probasco selected the fountain design from von Kreling's Munich studio and had it cast and erected as a memorial to Davidson, his deceased brother-in-law and business partner. The entire fountain was restored in 1999 and moved to its present location in 2006. A huge video screen sits atop a building to the WEST of the square.

The tall building just across Vine Street to the SOUTHWEST is the Carew Tower, tallest in Cincinnati at 49-stories. It was an engineering marvel of steel and concrete construction in the 1930's when it was built using the art-deco style. There's a great observation deck on top that's well worth an elevator ride and a small fee.

Walk EAST across the Plaza on the NORTH side of Fifth Street. As you cross Walnut Street, the big building on your left adjacent to the bus stops is the Potter Stewart United States Federal Courthouse. It used to be the main post office, but is entirely a federal courthouse now. The U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals meets in this building. A plaque at the SOUTHWEST entrance shows where Abraham Lincoln once spoke.

Continuing EAST on Fifth Street, the next intersection is Main Street. In the 1800's, when Cincinnati's public landing was center of all city activities, Main Street divided the city's EAST from WEST. But in the 1890's, development in Cincinnati shifted WESTWARD. All streets were renumbered and Vine Street became the official divider. To the NORTHEAST of the corner is the John Weld Peck Federal Building. The silver eagle on the front of the building was frequently used in the old "FBI" television series. On the SOUTHEAST corner is a paddle sculpture that is entirely wind powered. It is called "Two Rectangles Vertical Gyration II".

The next intersection is Sycamore Street. The Chiquita Center anchors the NORTHWEST corner. At night, the top of the Chiquita Center is lit in different colors depending on the weather forecast – green means clear weather ahead, blue is for rain, orange is for storm, and white is for snow. Across Sycamore, the complex occupying the entire block is the world headquarters of Procter & Gamble. P&G is the world's largest manufacturer of consumer goods. Crest toothpaste, Ivory soap, Tide detergent, Pringles chips, Folgers coffee, and Citrus Hill orange juice are examples of P&G products. Walk parallel to Fifth Street under P & G's grape arbors (you can step over the chains if they are up).

### **VIII. FREEWAY CAP - The Lytle Park and Fort Washington area**

After you pass Procter & Gamble, you'll come to Sentinel Street. Cross Sentinel Street onto the bridge that forms the entrance to the Lytle Tunnel of I-71, and continue EAST a short distance. Use the crosswalk to go SOUTH across Fifth Street to get to the traffic island graced by the Gateway Sculpture - tall with a ball on top, and water coursing from each of its four sides. Another crosswalk takes you to the SOUTH side of Fifth Street at its intersection with Pike Street. Walk SOUTH on the WEST side of Pike Street one block. Use the diagonal crosswalk at the corner of Pike and Fourth Street to go SOUTHEAST to the traffic island, and then SOUTH across Fourth Street. Continue SOUTH on Pike Street and notice the Taft Museum of Art on the EAST side of the street.

The history of Cincinnati and the Taft Museum of Art are inseparably linked. The words "of art" extended the museum's name to distinguish it from a host of other local Taft institutions, such as the Taft Theatre that you passed back on Fifth Street. Today, the museum houses priceless works of art and offers cultural programs for people of all ages. A National Historical Landmark, the Federal-style residence served as a home for members of the Taft family until 1927. One of its most famous owners was Charles Phelps Taft, elder half-brother of William Howard Taft, our 27th President. A Taft descendant, Robert Taft Jr., was Governor of Ohio from 1998 to 2006. The museum is closed Mondays. There is an entrance fee.

When you are opposite the main gate of the Taft Museum, turn WEST into Lytle Park and down a flower-lined walkway. The statue that you see off in the distance as you enter the park is called "Lincoln - the Man", the park's most striking feature. This sculpture of President Abraham Lincoln is considered a masterpiece of realistic public art. At the statue, continue WEST to Ludlow Street, then veer SOUTHWEST to go look at the blockhouse-shaped monument across the street. This is the site of Fort Washington, Cincinnati's first settlement. A military outpost, Fort Washington protected settlers from Indian attacks in the Northwest Territory. Backtrack back across Ludlow Street, and turn SOUTH along a flag-lined sidewalk to the circular courtyard. Read the plaques on the brick wall to learn more about Lytle Park and Fort Washington. Notice that Lytle Park was the site of Cincinnati's first public playground, and was almost sacrificed for the construction of the I-71 freeway underneath you. After a public outcry, the freeway was tunneled under the park. In the SOUTHEAST corner of the park is the Marine Corps Memorial. Discover whose image is on it, the answer to Question Eight.

From the Marine Corps Memorial, continue NORTHEAST along the sidewalk and down some steps to Lytle Street. Head SOUTH for a short distance, then turn EAST onto Third Street. Follow Third Street EAST for four blocks under the elevated freeway to Eggleston Avenue, and turn SOUTH on Eggleston. The entrance to the Bicentennial Commons at Sawyer Point is STRAIGHT AHEAD, just across Pete Rose Way.

## **IX. RIVER MODELS & FLYING PIGS - The Sawyer Point Area**

Carefully cross Pete Rose Way and enter the parking lot to Sawyer Point. If it is open, the parking lot attendant booth has free maps of the Sawyer Point area. Sawyer Point is named after Charles Sawyer, a Cincinnati politician that donated 1 million dollars to develop this area from an old metal scrap yard. There are restrooms and water fountains in the Sawyer Point area.

Head towards the orange brick “tunnel” entrance that is a representation of one of the Miami and Erie Canal’s locks (but do not go thru the entrance). This is where the canal to Toledo started, taking 10 locks to raise up to downtown level along what is now Eggleston Avenue that you just walked down. Just NORTHWEST of the lock gateway, take a moment to read the plaque detailing the features of Bicentennial Commons. Turn EAST along the sidewalk next to the parking lot and climb a set of stairs to the SOUTH just before you go under the Daniel Carter Beard Bridge.

At the top of the stairs you will find a scale model of all of the locks and dams on the entire Ohio River from Pittsburgh, PA to Cairo, IL. Follow this model river WEST, stopping at its midpoint at “Cincinnati”. Look up and count the flying pigs to answer Question Nine. Notice the large concrete column to the SOUTH topped by Noah’s Ark. The 80-foot line on the column represents the water level in the 1937 flood – the worst recorded Ohio River flood. Continue WEST along the model river to its end and beyond.

When the sidewalk nears the parking lot, veer SOUTH to the wide sidewalk that skirts the P&G Pavilion (big white sail covering a stage with a grass lawn in front). Walk EAST on this sidewalk, passing the Noah’s Ark column on the left, going under the Daniel Carter Beard Bridge past a “Stonehenge-like” rock, passing the playground and tennis courts on the left, and coming to the three white poles of the Crusader Carillon, built by Cincinnati’s Verdin Bell Company. Continue going EAST upriver and pass the Montgomery Inn Boathouse. As you pass the Boathouse’s parking lot, you will notice the flags of all nations flying on the flagpoles. This is the beginning of Theodore M. Berry International Friendship Park, named in honor of the city's first African-American mayor.

## **X. GARDENS OF THE WORLD - Ted Berry Park**

Continue going NORTHEAST to the end of Ted Berry Park – about 5/8 of a mile long. This park winds along the river and has gardens planted to represent other continents and countries. The intertwining walkways that run the length of the park were designed to mimic the links of a friendship bracelet. The handicapped-accessible paths have various symbols imbedded into the design. The "Path of Man" walkway contains icons of world cultures represented by the garden that you are in, while the "Path of Nature" contains animal tracks and plant imprints from the area represented. The Gardens of the Continents shape the park's interior using garden styles and plants found in other countries. Antarctica is the only continent not represented. An earth sculpture in the form of two open hands - the so-called largest hands in North America - forms a tribute to the Native American mound builders. Each finger is about 20 feet long. In the middle of the park at the Plaza of the Sun, a circle of English oak pillars make a modern-day Stonehenge-like solar observation device called Seven Vessels – its workings are explained on adjoining displays.

At the end of the intertwining walkways, you will circle the Crystalline Tower. Read its description to find the answer to Question Ten. Follow the walkways back SOUTHWEST past the Boathouse and back into Sawyer Point.

Just before the carillon, turn SOUTHWEST down a hill to find the Dr. Frederick A. Hauck Geologic Timeline inset in the sidewalk. Each square represents one million years of geologic time. At the bottom of the hill, read about the old Cincinnati Waterworks Front Street pumphouse, whose shell still stands here. Follow the timeline WEST to its end near the Cincinnati statue. Notice the



narrow stainless steel piece at the end of the timeline that represents the whole of the earth's recorded human history.

Take a few minutes to read the historical markers here, and to read about how Cincinnati got its name from Cincinnatus on the plaque in front of his statue. Cincinnatus was admired by the Romans for going back to his life as a farmer after leading them thru a short war. The sculpture shows him with one hand returning the fasces, a symbol of power as the appointed dictator of Rome, while his other hand holds a plow as he resumes the life of a citizen and farmer.

## **XI. CLOSEST TO THE OHIO - Yeatman's Cove and the Public Landing**

Next, pass WEST through the L&N Bridge Arches. The Louisville & Nashville Railroad Bridge opened in 1872 as the first Ohio River railroad crossing at Cincinnati. It was added on to and reworked many times, and now serves as the "Purple People Bridge", the only pedestrian-only bridge over the Ohio River. If the river level allows, immediately turn SOUTH down the steps to then walk WEST on the base of the Serpentine ("snake-like") Wall thru Yeatman's Cove and on to the Public Landing. If the river is up, follow one of the steps of the Serpentine Wall downriver – you will have to descend to the serpentine step from above since the slope leading to the upriver end of the steps is too steep to safely climb.

Yeatman's Cove is the birthplace of Cincinnati, where pioneers first landed in December of 1788. It is named after Griffen Yeatman who founded the Square and Compass Tavern overlooking the river landing here. His tavern quickly became the center of all social and civic life in the new community. The landing was originally a large indentation of the Ohio River bank at the foot of Sycamore Street, a street that derived its name from two sycamore trees that overhung the river. Soon the landing took on the name "Yeatman's Cove", and became a favorite landing place for canoes, pirogues and even large "Kentucky Boats" during the many years before the coming of steamboats from Pittsburgh.

Cincinnati's first name was Losantiville, coined by surveyor John Filson. This clever name comes from "L" for Licking River, "os" which is Latin for mouth, "ante" which is Greek for opposite, and "ville" meaning town – or all put together, "the town opposite the mouth of the Licking River". The Army built Fort Washington on higher ground near present day Lytle Park. The territory across the river was wilderness being explored by Daniel Boone and friends. In 1790, General Arthur St. Clair, Governor of the Northwest Territory, changed the city's name to Cincinnati. This was to honor the Society of the Cincinnati, an organization of Revolutionary War officers to which he belonged. Cincinnati was chartered officially as a village in 1802. The nickname "Porkopolis" arose years later as the region became a center of pork production.

As you leave the Serpentine Wall, you enter the broad concrete expanse of the Public Landing. The Showboat Majestic is permanently moored here and is a floating theater. The Public Landing is a working dock where recreational boats can be launched for free, and where the Delta Queen paddlewheeler used to tie up when she returned here to her home port. Turn uphill and head towards the Mehring Way sidewalk with its inset railroad tracks, staying to the EAST of the tower stairs.

## **XII. STEAMBOAT MEMORIES**

Walk WEST on the Mehring Way sidewalk. A series of concrete columns on the river side of the sidewalk are the Steamboat Hall of Fame. Each column has two plaques that tell the story of historic steamboats from the past. Look for the ironclad warship that once traveled the Ohio River.

You will come to a large red paddlewheel suspended in the air. This is the National Steamboat Monument. It is a reminder of the steamboat heritage of Cincinnati and is topped by the original 30-foot diameter paddlewheel of the American Queen, the largest overnight passenger steamboat to be

built in the last half century. The paddlewheel was given to the City of Cincinnati when the steamboat was refitted with a slightly smaller one. Beneath the bright red wheel is a whistle grove made of two-dozen stainless steel columns, called torchiers, built to represent smokestacks. Photo sensors set off steam jets that whistle and hiss when you walk past them. Look for instructions on how to activate them on a plaque inset in the center of the torchiers. At the height of the riverboat era in the mid 1800s, 8,000 riverboats a year, an average of about 22 per day, docked at the Public Landing just down the riverbank from the Monument.

Carefully cross Mehring Way on the brick crosswalk to the hidden stairway leading up to the Great American Ballpark. Climb up to the Plaza Level of the ballpark, noticing the view into the stadium. At the top of the stairs, head EAST on the river side of the US Bank Arena. Take time to read the historical information along the railing about the navigation dams on the Ohio River.

### **XIII. RECROSSING THE OHIO - The Riverfront's newest bridge**

On the Plaza Level, walk EAST toward the Taylor-Southgate Bridge. You'll find a set of stairs covered by a white metal canopy leading down to the WEST sidewalk of the bridge. Turn SOUTH to cross the river and enjoy the 360-degree views. The bridge opened in 1995 and is named for the families of James Taylor Jr. and Richard Southgate, two important early settlers of Newport. Richard was the father of William Wright Southgate, a pre-Civil War Congressman from Northern Kentucky.

As you near the SOUTH end of the Taylor-Southgate Bridge, take a few moments to read the historical plaque (located at the end of the ironwork) about the present bridge's construction and the Central Bridge that it replaced. Opened in 1890 between the Suspension Bridge and the L&N Bridge, the Central Bridge was the first "standard" cantilever truss bridge ever built - a design now common throughout the world. A piece of its original ornamental ironwork here adorns the top on the new bridge. Continue on to the Newport side of the river, and follow the sidewalk SOUTH along the WEST side of York Street.

### **XIV. WAR AND PEACE AND WAR**

Two blocks past the bridge you will come to the Campbell County Courthouse on the WEST side of the street. Take a minute to read the historical marker about the War of 1812 and how it affected the area. Look to the SOUTHEAST to see a large glassed-in structure on the opposite corner across York and Fourth streets. Carefully cross the streets to visit the World Peace Bell.

The World Peace Bell is the largest free-swinging bell in the world. The 33-ton bell was designed by Cincinnati's Verdin Bell Company, but cast at a ship propeller foundry at Nantes, France, the only place in the world that had the capacity to melt that much bronze. The bell was then sent by ship across the Atlantic to New Orleans. It was installed on a barge, which was brought up the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers by the then new Cincinnati Belle paddlewheel riverboat during the summer of 1999. Many stops were made along the rivers for special celebrations. The bell's arrival here coincided with Tall Stacks 1999.

Cross back NORTH over Fourth Street, and backtrack NORTH down the EAST side of York Street to Third Street. Turn EAST on Third Street and walk a block to Monmouth Street. On the SOUTH side of this block, you will find a red-orange brick house called the Southgate House. Read the historical marker about this house and its connection to the Tommy gun. Cross NORTH over Third Street to the Newport on the Levee area, bear WEST, and go up the stairs to the shop level.

### **XV. THE HOME STRETCH - And a last river crossing just for fun**

You're almost done now. Walk NORTH past the Newport Aquarium entrance, and turn EAST along the river side of Newport on the Levee until you reach the L & N ("Purple People") Bridge.

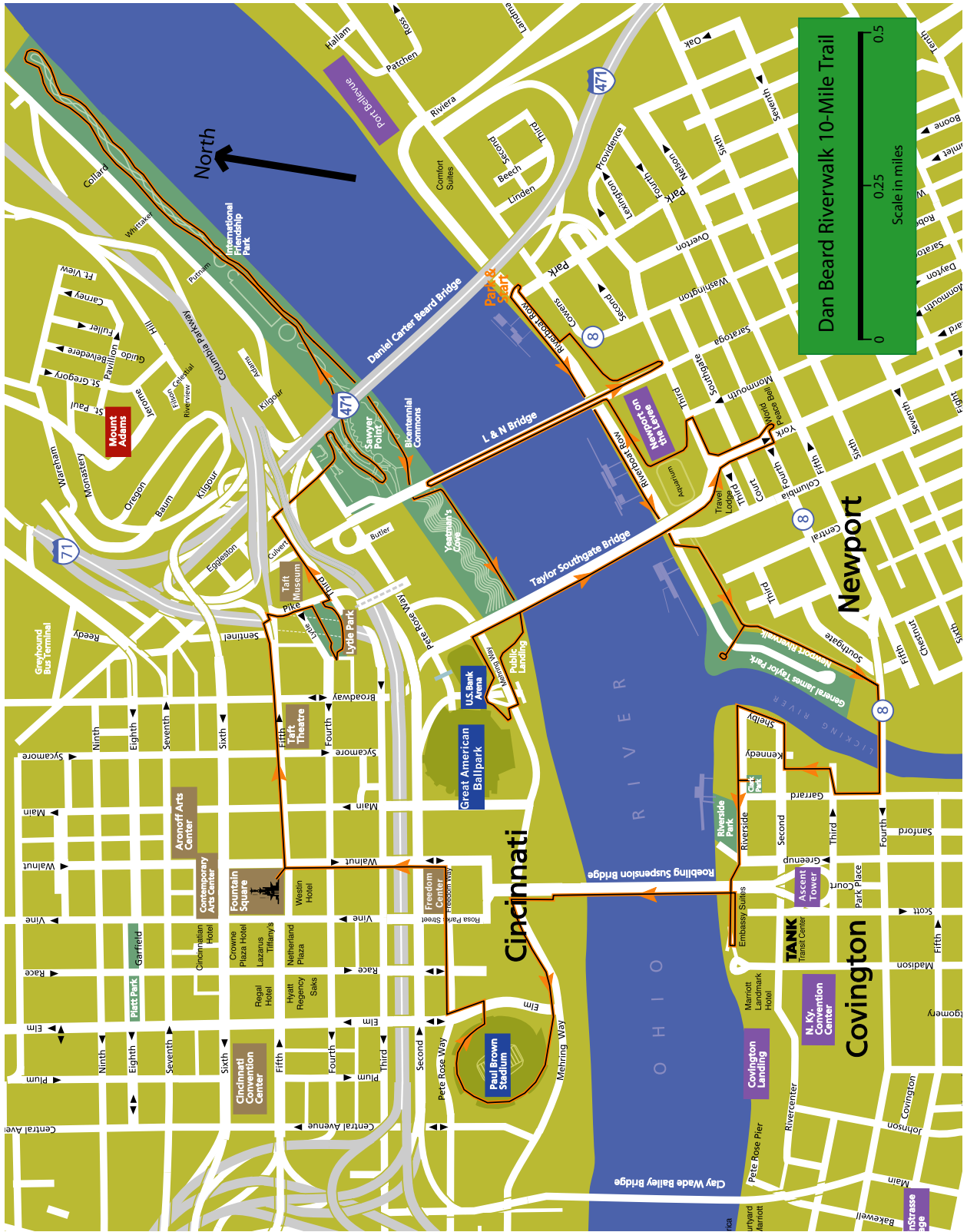
Take a last crossing of the Ohio River by going across the bridge to the Ohio side on the WEST walkway and coming back on the EAST walkway.

To get back to your car, continue SOUTH off the bridge all the way back to Third Street, do a 180 degree turn to the EAST at the purple poles and walk down to the parking lot level, follow the bridge supports NORTH alongside the brick wall, carefully crossing the underground parking lot exit and entrance, and head to the base of the grass-covered levee. Take the trail EAST up onto the top of the levee and continue to the stairway leading NORTH down to Riverboat Row. Sprint EAST on Riverboat Row to your car.

You've made it! Two states, two rivers, three cities, and four bridges. What an adventure! Don't forget to order your patches and pins, and get your requirements signed off today.

**Special thanks to the following:**

- Roger Auge' II, Assistant Scoutmaster, Troop 133, research, writing;
- Stephen Auge', Eagle Scout, Troop 133, on-foot research;
- Ron Reynolds, Scoutmaster, Troop 281, 2006 rework of trail;
- John Paquette, historic preservation officer, City of Newport, research;
- Bruce Privett, supervisor, Cincinnati Recreation Commission, research;
- Greg Paeth, The Cincinnati Post, research assistance;
- Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, research;
- Alan Hancock, Assistant Scoutmaster, Troop 133, computer technical assistance;
- The 1988 trail designers including Frank Eggen, Rich McGraw, and Dan Croft;
- The Cincinnati Bicentennial Commission for its Riverwalk foresight;
- Transportation Authority of Northern Kentucky for use of the map;
- Brittany Reynolds, graphic design technical assistance;
- The original 1988 and new 2006 trailblazers of Troop 281 at the Anderson Hills United Methodist Church.



Dan Beard Riverwalk 10-Mile Trail

0 0.25 0.5  
Scale in miles

# Boy Scouts On Riverwalk Trail

Place on dashboard when parking during daylight hours at JB Fins on Riverboat Row.

*Not valid on Reds and Bengals game days.*



(actual size)

## DAN BEARD RIVERWALK TRAIL PATCH AND HAT PIN REQUEST

We have completed the 10-mile Riverwalk Trail, correctly answered the questions (see answers below), and would like to purchase trail patches and/or hat pins.

\_\_\_\_\_ # of Patches x \$2.00 each = \_\_\_\_\_ Subtotal Cost

\_\_\_\_\_ # of Hat Pins x \$3.00 each = \_\_\_\_\_ Subtotal Cost

\_\_\_\_\_ Total Cost

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Pack, Troop, Team, Post # \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / 20\_\_

**Mail or bring this form with payment to the Council's Scout Achievement Center.**

### Historical Note

The Dan Beard Riverwalk Trail hat pin is known as the Dwight J. Thompson Trail Medal, honoring the late veteran Scouter who gave of his time, talent and resources for more than fifty years. Professionally, Mr. Thompson was the Champion Paper Chairman of the Board, and became Director of both Champion International and Cincinnati Bell. He served Scouting in many capacities, starting as a Star Scout. As an adult, Mr. Thompson became an Assistant Scoutmaster, and worked up to become the Dan Beard Council President, a member of the BSA's National Executive Committee, the National Jamboree Camp Chief in Idaho, and a Wood Badge Scoutmaster. For his service to boyhood, Mr. Thompson was awarded the Silver Beaver, Antelope, and Buffalo.

Quiz answers: 1) 1977, 2) 6, 3) Licking River, 4) a hiking staff, 5) Thomas Kennedy, 6) page 209,

7) 25, 8) Corporal Merrill Laws Ricketts, 9) 4, 10) Susan Ewing & Vratislav Novak.