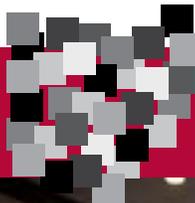


THE Local Historian

OHIO LOCAL HISTORY ALLIANCE

Inspire. Connect. Educate.



Explore Your Organization's Next Level at the 2014 Annual Meeting



By Mark Sundlov,
Local History Office Manager,
Ohio History Connection,
Columbus

Annual Meeting At-A-Glance

What:
Ohio Local History Alliance Annual Meeting and Conference, presented in partnership with the Society of Ohio Archivists: *Engage, Educate, Empower: Taking Your Organization to the Next Level.*

When:
Friday, October 3 and Saturday, October 4, 2014

Where:
Holiday Inn, Worthington <http://www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/us/en/worthington/cmhwo/hoteldetail>

For More Information:
Visit <http://www.ohiohistory.org/local-history-office/professional-development/alliance-annual-meeting> and to download the full conference brochure. Or, call 800.858.6878.

To Register Online:
Visit www.ohiohistory.org/register. The last day to pre-register is September 22.

It is the time of year when the Ohio Local History Alliance Annual Meeting and Conference brochure lands in local history organization mailboxes across the state. At the Local History Office, the annual meeting and conference is anticipated because it is a chance to see old friends, make new friends, and to learn from others who love local history and want to see it thrive.

This year, new opportunities will be provided for attendees of the meeting. Unfortunately, we were not able

to increase the number of hours in a day, so the number of sessions in each day remains the same (five sessions on Friday and five on Saturday). However, we expanded your ability to choose from three options to four options per timeslot. You now have 40 sessions to choose from during the conference! Thank you to all of our volunteer presenters for sharing their expert knowledge and wisdom with the rest of us.

As we developed this year's program we focused on making the sessions relevant to the theme: *Engage, Educate, Empower: Taking Your Organization to the Next Level.* We understand the "next level" is different for every organization—some organizations have been around for decades, some have recently opened their doors, and others are just getting started. So, you will find a range of sessions at the conference that will engage, educate, and empower organizations of all different experience levels.

We are pleased to announce that once again we are partnering with the Society of Ohio Archivists (SOA) on Friday to offer more session choices and opportunities to connect. They put together some great Friday sessions including a double session workshop that will teach us how to create simple custom enclosures—as all great archivists will tell you, a good fit can play as large a role in preservation as the quality of the materials used. This session is limited to the first 20 registrants, so sign up early.

Lunch on Friday will surely be a

special time. History can be extremely complex and can contain many difficult aspects that we might rather forget; however, we all know the threats we face when we ignore our difficult histories. Next year is the 45th anniversary of the tragedy at Kent State University. In May 1970, four students were killed and nine students were wounded when the Ohio National Guard fired 67 gunshots during an anti-war demonstration on the Kent State campus. Alan Canfora, our keynote speaker, was one of those nine students wounded by the gunfire. You will not want to miss his talk.

Back by popular demand, "Speed Networking" will be held on Friday after
(Continued on page 11)

WHAT'S INSIDE:

- 2** President's Message
- 3** Modern Preservation Skills
- 4** Making Your Site Welcoming
- 5** Winterize Your Organization
- 6** Announcements
- 8** New & Renewing Members
- 9** Calendar
- 10** News from the Regions
- 11** People in the News

President's Message:

As the schools open their doors once more and the leaves start to turn, local history folks are also busy changing their routines to be in tune with the seasons. At the Ohio Local History Alliance, autumn finds us busily preparing for our annual meeting. This year our meeting will be held October 3 and 4th at the Holiday Inn in Worthington. If you have not already made plans to do so, we sincerely hope you will consider joining us! We know that you are busy and it is sometimes hard to get away, that's why we schedule the meeting to fall on a Friday and Saturday.

We also know that funds are tight—this year is the second year we are offering not one but two scholarships. We encourage you to apply (details are on our website). We are offering a wealth of sessions to meet every need. Worried about budgets? Try the session Grantwriting, Fundraising, and Donor Cultivation. Hoping to make better use of your archival materials? You are in luck! We are once again partnering with the Society of Ohio Archivists, and an archival track is available to you all day on Friday. Do you have a copyright concern? Check out Navigating Copyright Law. There are also sessions geared towards educators, digital communicators, managers, and folks who do everything. Be sure to include networking in your agenda. The keynote luncheon on Friday features Alan Canfora from the Kent State University May 4 Center. The Friday evening reception and dinner

offers the chance to meet and mingle with your fellow Ohio historians. Saturday is the awards luncheon—attend to congratulate your fellow local historians and you will be sure to take home some great ideas too. We look forward to seeing you in Worthington this fall.

Maggie Marconi

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OHIO LOCAL HISTORY ALLIANCE
Inspire. Connect. Educate.

The **Ohio Local History Alliance**, organized in 1960 under sponsorship of the Ohio History Connection, is composed of local historical societies, historic preservation groups, history museums, archives, libraries, and genealogical societies throughout the state involved in collecting, preserving, and interpreting Ohio's history.

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Visit **The Alliance** online at www.ohioha.org and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ohio-localhistoryalliance

Annual Membership Dues:

Organizations:
Annual budget over \$200,000: \$100 (\$190 for 2)
Annual budget \$100,000-\$200,000: \$75 (\$140 for 2)
Annual budget \$25,000-\$100,000: \$60 (\$110 for 2)
Annual budget below \$25,000: \$35 (\$65 for 2)

Individuals:

Affiliate: \$35 (\$65 for 2)
Individual: \$50 (\$90 for 2)
Students: \$20

Business: \$100 (\$190 for 2)

Individual subscriptions to *The Local Historian* only are available for \$25 annually.

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Saving Historic Buildings and Places Requires Modern Skills



By Todd Kleismit, Director of Community & Government Relations, Ohio History Connection, Columbus

The movement to save the historic Unionville Tavern is just one example of a successful grassroots effort that used modern skills like social media. Photo courtesy of the Unionville Tavern Preservation Society.

Fifty-one years ago New York's Penn Station, a Beaux-Arts style architectural gem – inspired by the Roman baths of Caracalla when it was built in 1910 – was torn down. Its demolition generated a great deal of criticism locally and nationally and became a catalyst for the historic preservation movement that led, ultimately, to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

Every Ohio community has examples of historic properties that were either demolished or saved. The Buckeye State has an abundance of places and buildings of historic significance. There are more than 161,000 properties on Ohio's Archaeological and Historic Inventories (many more that have yet to be surveyed), more than 4,000 National Register listings, and 73 National Landmarks.

Today's preservationists are not likely to chain themselves to buildings or lay down in front of bulldozers. They are more likely to employ negotiating skills, launch public education campaigns, and use social media to help save important historic buildings or places. They are finding success, too.

Junction Group Earthworks, a significant archaeological site just outside of Chillicothe, was saved in March through a short, yet intense, local effort to rally public support and funds to purchase 192 acres. More than 900 donors contributed about \$375,000 to help fund a portion of the costs that were negotiated with the owner just prior to auction.

Similarly, the Unionville Tavern in Lake County, following more than seven years of neglect, was purchased by the newly formed Unionville Tavern Preservation Society – just a day before a scheduled sheriff's sale. The Tavern dates to 1798 and was an important stop on the Underground Railroad. The Preservation Society, with several leaders in their 20s and 30s, devised a "30 Days to Save the Tavern" online campaign that raised enough funding to help make the purchase.

Even unsuccessful preservation attempts can yield silver linings. The 2011 demolition of the 1884 Seneca County Courthouse, the first such demolition of a county courthouse listed in the National Register, galvanized public opinion enough to spur an Ohio County Courthouses Symposium, held in May of this year. The preservation of Ohio's county courthouses is now gaining more public attention.

There are many more preservation tools now than ever before. Federal historic preservation tax credits have been in place since the late 1970s to rehabilitate historic buildings. Ohio added a complementary state historic preservation tax credit program in 2006 that is flourishing. The economic development benefits of these programs are well documented. The History Fund grants program, funded through Ohio Historical Society/Ohio History Connection income tax check-off contributions, is a new source of modest

funding for preservation efforts. The State Historic Preservation Office and nonprofit advocacy organizations such as Heritage Ohio and Preservation Ohio offer technical assistance and other resources for communities and organizations that want to preserve their historic assets.

“History is to the nation as memory is to the individual,”

Ohio native Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr. once wrote. A lot of our important historic places have long since been lost or remain threatened even today. While we cannot save every architectural or historically significant building in Ohio, it is important to sharpen our negotiating, public relations, and social media skills to share with others what we know to be true – that we work to preserve today what is of enduring historical value so that we may share it tomorrow with future generations.

Todd Kleismit is the Ohio History Connection's director of community and government relations. He can be reached at tkleismit@ohiohistory.org. ■

Making Your Site a Welcoming Place for Visitors

By Laura Herron, Former
Local History AmeriCorps
Member, Ohio History
Connection, Columbus

We are all so familiar with the places at which we work or volunteer that it can be easy to lose sight of how they may appear to new visitors. Despite our best efforts to be welcoming, good intentions may not always produce great experiences. How do we engage our visitors, encourage them to feel comfortable at our facilities, and bring them back time and again? Anna Altschwager, Visitor Experience Manager and Ohio Village Site Director for the Ohio History Connection, recently shared with me a number of important points that all organizations should consider when making their museum or site more welcoming.

Have your own house in order first: Identify what your site does really well and make it the focus of your message. Know who you are and be clear about it so people can relate to you. Staff and volunteers should all agree on this shared vision of your mission.

Know your audiences: Identify who will be your target audiences. Will they be school groups or affinity groups? Children, young adults, or senior citizens? (Etc.) What do they need and where do their needs overlap? Be aware of any special needs your visitors may have and plan for how you will accommodate them. If you decide to focus on school groups, be sure to talk to local teachers to find out what sorts of programs their students enjoy most. Having school groups as a target audience can have an additional benefit to your site. Great school trips prompt kids to return with their parents.

Map your audience's access points: Plan for how you will engage people before, during, and after their visits. Will you reach out through social media, advertisements, posters, or other forms of communication? Web pages should



Knowing your target audiences (like families) and interacting with visitors all help to make your museum a more welcoming place. Photo courtesy of the Ohio History Connection.

be simple—closer to big posters than encyclopedias. After all, you want to bring visitors to you. The most basic type of contact—the telephone—should welcome guests rather than deter them. Your outgoing message, at a minimum, needs to include the name of your organization and the dates and times your facility is open. It should also include upcoming events and be refreshed regularly. It is also crucial to check messages that are left for you and to respond promptly to all inquiries, even if they seem trivial.

Interaction is everything: Think about your programs as chances to engage in a dialogue with your visitors. In order for your experiences to be positive and memorable they need to be participatory. Visitors need to see connections to their own lives in what you are presenting to them. Try to keep your programs flexible enough to enable you to connect with diverse audiences with some of the same information. Remember to pay attention to feedback. Surveys and social media comments can be very helpful in telling you what visitors think. It is also important to conduct staff and volunteer debriefings on a regular basis to compare observations about a program, event, or exhibit.

Events bring new visitors through the door: Building community partnerships with restaurants, radio stations, and other businesses will enable you to offer broadly-appealing special events. Doing something unexpected like this keeps your appeal fresh, not only bringing in new visitors but giving others reasons to return.

Think about the visitor as a whole person: The line between a positive and a negative experience is thin, and it takes very little to push a visit over the line one way or the other. Annoyances like not being able to find the restroom or not having a spot to sit and rest can ruin an otherwise pleasant trip. Keep in mind that you should have either clear, visible signage to help visitors find their way or staff available to direct them. If you do not have food available at your location, keep a few menus for local restaurants handy to inform hungry visitors. Be ready with directions to local highways and points of interest. Warm, sincere hospitality can make all the difference in how your visitors remember their day at your site and in how they tell others about it. ■



Photo courtesy of Rebecca Torsell.

It's Just Around the Corner— **WINTERIZE** Your Cultural Organization!

By Tom Claeson, Senior
Consultant for Digital &
Preservation Services, LYRASIS

The winter of 2013-14 was one of the toughest many of us can remember—bitter cold, heavy snow in many areas, and high winds causing blowing and drifting. Hopefully, not every winter will be as bad, but there are many things we can do to help protect our organizations from disaster and damage caused by harsh winter weather.

There are a number of areas of your building to watch come wintertime. Your roof and basement deserve regular monitoring. Sometimes, pest management in your building can be just as bad in the winter as in the summer, because insects and animals may use your building to come in from the cold. Frozen pipes can be a problem. And, you need to watch your thermostat and heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system just as closely in the cold season as you do in summertime.

Starting from the top of your building, you need to know the weight-bearing load of your roof, and how much snow it can take. Be especially careful to monitor during heavy/wet snows, which might exceed the load-bearing capacity of your roof. This is especially important for buildings with flat roofs or those with low pitches. Ice dams may form when snow moves down from heated areas on the roof to unheated patches, where it re-freezes and can force water under shingles and into ceilings or walls. Some organizations are using ice melt socks which can be placed on a roof to protect against these incursions. Finally, do not use snow blowers on the roof of your building, which could cut wires or rupture pipes they come in contact with.

In freezing conditions, water may find its way into basements that are normally

dry, especially if the ground outside your building is frozen or there is ice on it. Under these conditions, water has a difficult time evaporating, so it will sink into the ground and may come into your facility. As usual, to prevent disasters, all collection materials should be at least 4-6 inches off the floor. You can prevent the need for disaster salvage by making sure even non-collections materials—such as supplies and boxes—are off the floor level of your basement. Consider installing a water/moisture alarm on the floor of your basement level. Finally, especially if the water table or runoff patterns in your area is above the foundation of your building, have a sump pump and hoses available, or know where you can get them (equipment rental centers, etc.).

Rodents and some insects may come indoors during the fall and stay until spring, because they want to stay warm and be near food and water sources. Staff and housekeepers at your organization should monitor for evidence of insect or rodent holes, bedding, and droppings—especially inspect your storage areas. Close areas of entry including sealing cracks, inspecting door sweeps, closing areas around pipes and siding, and above stone foundations. You can check for air leaks and drafts by standing next to window or door openings to feel if cold air is blowing through. Also, consider cutting back or removing foliage near your foundation—it can provide hiding places for pests.

Pipes in unoccupied buildings or unheated areas (attics, ceilings, crawlspaces, mudrooms, sheds, and outbuildings) should be drained. Insulate pipes in exterior wall and monitor them for freezing. And during extreme cold, consider leaving cabinet drawers under sinks open if they are on an exterior wall.

As we know, temperature needs to be controlled year-around. Stability and consistency is vital. If your organization is in use during the winter, maintain stable temperatures to protect collections from fluctuations. If you reduce heat in any building or part of your structure during the winter, gradually raise it over several weeks once you reopen, so that collection materials can acclimatize—otherwise you may be dealing with large amounts of condensation. And remember to balance staff/visitor needs with energy savings. Cold is good for materials, but not as good for staff and patrons, so don't lower temperatures to a point where it is painful to work in or visit your facility.

If you decide to make environmental modifications (such as humidifiers), it is smart to consult an HVAC engineer first. A smart addition to your building is adding insulation to attic and walls. Check to see if your utility provider offers rebates for energy-efficient building improvements such as adding insulation or replacing windows.

A few final steps to prevent winter disaster damage: If you can stay safe outside, a walk around the exterior of your building to note problems can prevent building damage and leaks. Be sure to have telephone numbers for all utility companies close at hand, and have disaster recovery companies on speed-dial! And, report inclement conditions or building and collection damage to state and association listservs to warn colleagues.

Note: Portions of the information in this article were developed by Kim Andrews, formerly of the Conservation Center for Art & Historic Artifacts (CCAHA) in Philadelphia.

Congratulations!

Ohio Organizations Receive AASLH Award of Merit

The American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) proudly announces the winners of the 69th annual Leadership in History Awards, the most prestigious recognition for achievement in the preservation and interpretation of state and local history. This year Ohio organizations proudly made up five of the seventy-seven institutions receiving these awards. The Ohio winners are:

- **Sandusky Library** for the documentary *Under the Baton: Music at Old Cedar Point*
- **Ohio History Connection** for the *Ohio Village Time Share Program*
- **Kent State University** for the *Kent State University May 4 Visitors Center* exhibits
- **Lynley Dunham-Cole and the Warren County Historical Society** for the exhibit *Following the Tracks of the Underground Railroad in Warren County*
- **Ann Schierhorn, David LaBelle, Althemese Barnes, and the John G. Riley Museum** for the exhibit *"They Led the Way"*

Presentation of the awards will be made at a special banquet during the 2014 AASLH Annual Meeting in St. Paul, Minnesota on Friday, September 19.

The AASLH Leadership in History Awards not only honor significant achievement in the field of state and local history, but also brings public recognition of the opportunities for small and large organizations, institutions, and programs to make contributions in this area. For more information about the Leadership in History Awards, contact AASLH at 615.320.3203 or go to <http://about.aaslh.org/awards>.

Grants



Ohio Humanities Council Cultural and Heritage Tourism *Deadline October 24*

Do you have an engaging, high-quality, humanities event that needs support? Are you looking to connect humanities scholarship with the public? Ohio Humanities accepts grant applications for projects that have humanities content and utilize humanities professionals.

Grants awarded under Ohio Humanities' Cultural and Heritage Tourism Initiative fund tourism projects designed to explore the history, highlight the culture, and foster the appreciation of local assets. Proposed projects should work toward enhancing community life and focus on tourism as a learning opportunity for travelers and local residents.

Planning grants, with a maximum award of \$2,000, support activities that help communities convene stakeholders to assess potential projects, consult with humanities professionals, and identify regional themes. Planning grant applications are due the first business day of the month eight weeks prior to the project beginning.

Implementation grants, with a maximum award of \$10,000, help build sustainable cultural tourism initiatives. These applications are due October 24.

For more information and complete grant guidelines, visit www.ohiohumanities.org.

Program Available

History to Go Van Brings Ohio History to Your Community

Are you looking for a fun and educational way to engage people in your local communities? Perhaps you have a festival or summer camp that could use a little something extra? Consider requesting the Ohio History Connection's History to Go Van for your next history themed event.

Adults and children of all ages enjoy our interactive programming about Ohio's history. The History to Go Van has a variety of topics to choose from including two brand new programs available this fall, **Tribes of the Ohio River Valley: Removal to Today**, part of a grant from the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation, and **Inventions and Innovators**, made possible by Honda of America, Mfg., Inc. Each program has six stations comprised of primary sources and historical thinking activities. Programs are designed to meet Ohio's New Learning Standards for Social Studies & Common Core Standards and are appropriate for grades K-8.

The History to Go Van is available year-round and will arrive at your location with artifacts and hands-on activities, facilitated by an Ohio History Connection staff member. We are flexible and able to help you pick the best program that suits your needs. Other program choices are:

- **Pioneer Life Experience**
- **American Indian Experience**
- **Agriculture & Nature**
- **Founding Documents**
- **Life of a Civil War Soldier**

This program is reasonably priced at \$200 plus mileage for a half day program and \$350 plus mileage for a full day program. A special rate is available for organizations in Franklin County. To learn more about the History to Go Van contact the program manager, Kate Bruck at 614.297.2523 or kbruck@ohiohistory.org.

Professional Development

Job Post

Sustainable Preservation Practices: A Partnership of Facilities and Collections Care Staff

Tuesday, October 21, 2014
9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
State Library of Ohio

Registration is now open! *Sustainable Preservation Practices: A Partnership of Facilities and Collections Care Staff* will bring together facilities and collections care staff to assist them in understanding how they can work together to assure preservation quality and energy savings. Topics to be covered include the role of environment in deterioration, the factors that shape the storage environment, best practices for monitoring and data analysis, and energy saving opportunities. The program will also include time to talk with colleagues about their individual successes and solutions.

Primary speaker is Jeremy Linden, Senior Preservation Environmental Specialist, Image Permanence Institute. Jeremy Linden is an internationally-recognized speaker on environmental control issues. He works with issues of material preservation, mechanical system performance, energy-saving and sustainability. Miriam Nelson, Head of Preservation, Ohio University Libraries and Robin Krivesti, Facilities and Stacks Manager, Ohio University Libraries will provide an example of actual collaborative efforts between collections care and facilities staff. Talk tables at lunch will allow participants to discuss particular interests or concerns.

Registration is free and lunch is covered by the Connecting to Collections grant. Each organization should have two registrations—one for a facilities representative and one for a collections care representative.

For more information or to register, contact Missy Lodge, Associate State Librarian for Library Development, mlodge@library.ohio.gov.



OLHA Webinar Series Begins in September

The Ohio Local History Alliance is proud to announce a new professional development opportunity for you! This fall begins our webinar series, covering some of the most in-demand skills for today's local history organizations. We will offer four webinars a year at the low cost of \$15/member and \$20/non-members. The upcoming webinars are:

- **Choosing Design Software, September 30 at 1:30 pm.** Most local history museums simply cannot afford a full time material designer. So, the development of brochures, advertisements, exhibit labels, and marketing materials usually falls to a person who is already wearing many other hats. This webinar will help you identify the capabilities of different software design programs and choose which one best fits your organization's needs.

- **Document Design – What Works and What Doesn't, October 30 at 1:30 pm.** Creating effective promotional materials through best practices in: fonts, formats, features and phrases. In this webinar, participants will learn about document design—what works and what doesn't—and will explore graphic design features in a variety of popular desktop software programs and applications.

For more information and to register, visit www.ohiohistory.org/register.

Ohio Local History Alliance Contract Position

The Ohio Local History Alliance (OLHA), is seeking a motivated individual who can contract to update the Alliance website, provide assistance with other communication needs, and work on special projects as assigned. The individual selected will work 10 hours a week on a 26 week contract.

Contract Period

October 15, 2014 through April 15, 2015

Requirements

- Grow the OLHA website, finding ways to make it more dynamic.
- Write/solicit original blog posts.
- Expand content for all of the OLHA committees.
- Develop and implement an OLHA social media plan.
- Assist with planning and advertising educational webinars.
- Provide support for the OLHA Board as needed.
- Report monthly on use of time and progress on assigned projects.
- Must provide own equipment and office space including internet access.

Qualifications

The ideal candidate will be tech savvy. A history degree or experience as an employee of a history organization or museum is preferred. Must be a self-starter.

Compensation

Total contractual payment of \$2600. For approximately 10 hours of work a week for 26 weeks. Stipend to be paid in two installments—one half upon signing of contract and one half at the end of the contract period.

To apply

By September 28, 2014, submit a resume, writing sample, and links to or description of any internet/web based projects you have worked on. Submit to Mark Sundlov, Local History Office at the Ohio History Connection, 800 E. 17th Ave., Columbus, OH 43211-2474. or msundlov@ohiohistory.org.

MEMBERSHIP

List as of August 21, 2014

Welcome New Member

Organization

City of Cuyahoga Falls, Cuyahoga Falls

Thank you Renewing Members

Individual

Court C. Hall, Columbus
Dawes Arboretum, Newark
Doreen N. Uhas-Sauer, Columbus
Martha Ellers, Warren
Patricia Hoelscher, West Chester
Richard L. Palsgrove, Groveport
Ruth Ann Busald, Cincinnati
Stephen H. Paschen, Hudson
Todd McCormick, Bellefontaine

Organizations

Adena Mansion & Gardens Society, Chillicothe
Arc of Appalachia, Bainbridge
Arcanum Wayne Trail Historical Society, Inc., Arcanum
Armstrong Air & Space Museum Association, Wapakoneta
Bellevue Historical Society & Heritage Museum, Bellevue
Bellevue Public Library, Bellevue
Berea Historical Society, Berea
Carroll County Historical Society, Carrollton
Cedar Bog Association, Urbana
Champaign County Historical Society, Urbana
Chester-Shade Historical Association, Chester
Cincinnati Observatory Center, Cincinnati
City of Miamisburg, Miamisburg
City of Tallmadge, Tallmadge
Clark County Historical Society, Springfield
Columbus Jewish Historical Society, Columbus
Cridersville Historical Society, Cridersville
Custer Memorial Association, Jewett
Darke County Commissioners, Greenville
Dayton History, Dayton
Dayton Society of Natural History, Dayton
Dennison Railroad Depot Museum, Dennison
Ellsworth Historical Society, Ellsworth
Fairfield County Historical Parks Commission, Lancaster
Fairview Park Historical Society, Cleveland
Fort Meigs Association, Perrysburg

Fort Recovery Historical Society, Fort Recovery
Friends of Buckeye Furnace, Inc., Jackson
Friends of Harriet Beecher Stowe House, Cincinnati
Friends of Our House, Gallipolis
Friends of the Museums, Inc., Marietta
Garfield Heights Historical Society, Garfield Heights
George Rogers Clark Heritage Association, Springfield
Granville Historical Society, Granville
Greater Licking County Convention & Visitors Bureau, Heath
Green Historical Society, Green
Greenfield Historical Society, Greenfield
Hancock Historical Museum Association, Findlay
Harrison Symmes Memorial Foundation, Cleves
Historic New Richmond, Inc., New Richmond
Historical Society of Mount Pleasant, Mount Pleasant
Holmes County Historical Society, Millersburg
Jackson Township Historical Society, Canton
John & Annie Glenn Museum Foundation, New Concord
Johnny Appleseed Metro Parks, Lima
Johnston Farm & Indian Agency, Piqua
Kelleys Island Historical Association Inc, Kelleys Island
Kent Historical Society, Kent
Kinsman Historical Society, Kinsman
Knox County Historical Society, Mount Vernon
Liberty Center Historical Society, Liberty Center
Licking Valley Heritage Society, Newark
Marietta College Library, Marietta
Marion County Historical Society, Marion
Marion Technical College, Marion
Massillon Museum, Massillon
Monroe County Historical Society, Woodsfield
Museum of Ceramics Foundation, East Liverpool
Oberlin Heritage Center, Oberlin
ODNR - East Harbor State Park, Lakeside Marblehead
Ohio Department of Natural Resources, West Union
Ohio Genealogical Society, Bellville
Ohio Society of Military History, Massillon
OSU-Newark, Newark
Pickaway County Parks Commission, Circleville

Pike Township Historical Society, East Sparta
Plymouth Area Historical Society, Plymouth
Putnam County Historical Society, Kalida
Ripley Heritage, Inc., Ripley
Sauder Village, Archbold
Shade-Lodi History and Genealogy Association, Athens
Shaker Historical Society & Museum, Cleveland
Shalersville Historical Society, Mantua
Southwest Ohio Amusement Park Historical Society, Fairfield
The Old House Guild of Sandusky, Sandusky
Toledo Metro Parks, Toledo
Trumbull County Historical Society, Warren
Tuscarawas County Convention & Visitors Bureau, New Philadelphia
U.S. Grant Homestead Association, Georgetown
Vienna Historical Society, Vienna
Village of Stockport, Stockport
Watt Center for History & the Arts, Barnesville
Western Reserve Fire Museum, Cleveland
Westerville Historical Society, Westerville
Westlake Historical Society, Westlake
Whitehouse Historical Society, Whitehouse
Woodville Historical Society, Woodville
Wyandot County Historical Society, Upper Sandusky
Youngstown State University History Dept, Youngstown
Zoar Community Association, Zoar Commission, Greenville
Trotwood-Madison Historical Society, Trotwood
Warren County Historical Society, Lebanon
Washington Township Historical Society of Stark County, Alliance

ON THE WEB

Minnesota Historical Society Historic Housekeeping Handbook

[http://www.mnhs.org/
preserve/conservation/
connectingmn/docs/pdfs/
CleaningPractices_000.
pdf](http://www.mnhs.org/preserve/conservation/connectingmn/docs/pdfs/CleaningPractices_000.pdf)

Good cleaning and house-keeping of your buildings can be an important part of helping to preserve your collections for the future. Have you ever wondered the best way to dust your shelves or clean your floors without harming your valuable objects? The Minnesota Historical Society's Historic Housekeeping Handbook provides valuable guidance on the best way to maintain your storage and display areas, shelves, floors, and more.

Join the Ohio Local History Alliance...

...or connect a sister organization to the Alliance and ask its leaders to join in one of the following categories:

Organizational Member

Get six issues of *The Local Historian*, save when you register for our Alliance regional and statewide local history meetings, receive periodic email updates, and save on Ohio Historical Society services for organization, including speakers and customized training workshops. **Best of all, when you join the Alliance as an Organizational Member, your membership benefits all of your organization's staff and members**—they will all qualify for discounts on registration for the Alliance's regional and statewide meetings and when buying Alliance publications.

Operating budget:

- Over \$200,000 a year:
\$100 (\$190 for 2)
- \$100,000-\$200,000 a year:
\$75 (\$140 for 2)
- \$25,000-\$100,000 a year:
\$60 (\$110 for 2)
- Under \$25,000 a year:
\$35 (\$65 for 2)

Individual Member

Get six issues of *The Local Historian*, save when you register for our Alliance regional and statewide local history meetings, receive periodic email updates.

- Affiliate: \$35 a year (\$65 for 2)
- Individual: \$50 a year (\$90 for 2)
- Student: \$20 a year

Business Member

- \$100 a year (\$190 for 2)

Join at

<http://www.ohiohistorystore.com/Ohio-LHA-formerly-OAHSM-C120.aspx>

CALENDAR

September 28

Application Deadline, Alliance Contract Position. For more information, see page 7.

September 30

OLHA Webinar, Choosing Design Software. For more information, see page 7.

October 1

Application Deadline, Ohio Historical Marker Grants. Grants offset up to \$750 of the cost of an Ohio Historical Marker. For more information, visit www.remarkableohio.org.

October 3-4

Ohio Local History Alliance Annual Meeting. For more information, see page 1.

October 21

Sustainable Preservation Practices Workshop. For more information, see page 7.

October 24

Application Deadline, Ohio Humanities Heritage Tourism Grants. For more information, see page 6.

October 30

OLHA Webinar, Document Design – What Works and What Doesn't. For more information, see page 7.

Calendar items are chosen on the basis of available space and applicability to the largest number of our readers, who are mainly volunteer and professional leaders of local historical societies, history museums, archives, libraries, historic preservation groups, and genealogical societies in Ohio. We cannot include events mainly of local interest; for these we suggest local newspapers, broadcast media, Ohio Magazine, 1-800-BUCKEYE, and, if arts related, www.ArtsinOhio.com.

News from the Regions

Region 1

Allen, Defiance, Fulton, Hancock, Hardin, Henry, Lucas, Putnam, Van Wert, Williams, and Wood Counties

The **Wood County Historical Center** has been awarded \$600,000 from the State of Ohio's capital funds to continue making its museum fully accessible. Matching funds for the project will be met by the Wood County Commissioners. The money will fund the addition of an elevator at the rear of the museum, which will not only allow visitors who need an elevator to have access to the whole building, but will also allow the staff to transport artifacts and accept deliveries more safely. Other improvements will include installing fully accessible restrooms on the museum's first floor and adding ADA compliant ramps between the wings of each floor of the building. For more information, visit <http://woodcountyhistory.org>.

Region 2

Ashland, Crawford, Erie, Huron, Marion, Morrow, Ottawa, Richland, Sandusky, Seneca, and Wyandot Counties

The **Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center** has partnered with the **University of Virginia's Miller Center** in a long-term project to make all of President Hayes's papers available digitally on the Internet. The Miller Center will be digitizing the Hayes Center's 385 reels of microfilm of papers and documents received by President Hayes. Then, the Miller Center will create metadata allowing the papers to be searched by users. At the conclusion of the project, the Hayes Center will receive digital images of these presidential papers. This project is part of the Miller Center's *Connecting Presidential Collections* project. For more information, visit <http://rbhayes.org> or <http://presidentialcollections.org>.

Region 3

Cuyahoga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, and Summit Counties

The **Euclid Historical Society** received the exciting news that the City of Euclid passed a matching grant ordinance to benefit the society. For every dollar the historical society raises toward the improvement of their museum building, the city will match 50% up to \$10,000 a year. The society plans to use the money to move forward with several crucial projects to maintain their building and is beginning a fundraising and grantwriting campaign. For more information, visit <http://bluestoneheights.org/bsh/euclid-history-museum/>.

Region 4

Ashtabula, Geauga, Mahoning, Portage, and Trumbull Counties

In honor of the 45th commemoration of the Kent

State Shootings, **Kent State University's Department of Special Collections and Archives'** feature exhibit examines the media's coverage and interpretation of the anti-war movement beginning with the National Moratorium on the Vietnam War in the fall of 1969, to the Kent State shootings, the Scranton Commission, through the controversy surrounding the building of the gym annex in 1977. The exhibit presents a cross-section of some of the most famous newspaper headlines, magazine covers, posters, flyers, photographs, newsletters, and comic strips produced in the period leading up to the Kent State shootings, the shootings themselves, and in the aftermath that followed. For more information, go to <http://www.library.kent.edu/kent-state-university-special-collections-and-archives>.

Region 5

Carroll, Columbiana, Harrison, Holmes, Jefferson, Stark, Tuscarawas, and Wayne Counties

The **North Canton Heritage Society** and the **Hoover High School Media Department** have finished a long-term digitization project of some of the society's material. Students digitized four reels of 16mm movies taken in the 1920s of life in North Canton, many smaller reels of YMCA bus trips, and three reels of a 1948-49 basketball tournament. All of the reels were transferred from the film to high-definition video. For more information, go to <http://www.northcantonheritage.org>.

The **Dennison Railroad Depot Museum** recently celebrated its 25th anniversary with a twenty-five hour open house. Activities included guided tours of the museum, special chances to hear some of the staff's favorite stories and artifacts, scavenger hunts, meals, and a "Night at the Museum" sleepover. For more information, visit <http://www.dennisondepot.org>.

Region 6

Delaware, Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin, Knox, Licking, Madison, Perry, Pickaway, and Union Counties

Region 7

Auglaize, Champaign, Clark, Darke, Greene, Logan, Mercer, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, and Shelby Counties

The **Logan County Historical Society** celebrated the grand opening of their new Transportation Museum at the end of April. Over 1,000 people attended the three different grand opening events. The Transportation Museum was made possible by an Ohio Department of Transportation Transportation Enhancement Grant and generous donations from Logan County area businesses, industries, organizations, and individuals. For more on the new museum, go to <http://www.loganhistory.org>.

The **Wescott House Foundation** was awarded a **National Endowment for the Arts** Our Town Grant for \$75,000 to support community engagement activities and to develop an architectural design, educational programming, and a business plan for the new Wescott Center for Architecture + Design. For more information, visit <http://www.wescotthouse.org>.

Region 8

Adams, Brown, Butler, Clermont, Clinton, Hamilton, Highland, and Warren Counties

The **Quaker Heritage Center of Wilmington College** opened a new exhibit, "The Pity of War: Words and Images of World War I" to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the beginning of "The Great War." The exhibit tells the story of World War I through the words and images of people who lived it as soldiers, civilians, and Conscientious Objectors. Visitors are invited to consider their own stance on war as part of the exhibit. There will also be a slate of special programming, including a presentation on Wilmington Quakers in World War I, a poetry reading, and concerts commemorating the Christmas Truce of 1914. For more information, visit <http://www.wilmington.edu/qhc>.

Region 9

Athens, Gallia, Hocking, Jackson, Lawrence, Meigs, Pike, Ross, Scioto, and Vinton Counties

Region 10

Belmont, Coshocton, Guernsey, Monroe, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble, and Washington Counties

The **Noble County Historical Society** recently was the beneficiary of an Eagle Scout project. A member of Caldwell Boy Scout Troop 501 wanted to do a project benefitting the society since his great-grandparents had lived in one of the society's buildings, the Walters Log Cabin, at one time. The scout created a bricked tying together two of the buildings, the log cabin and the wash house, at the society's Heritage Park. With the completion of this space, visitors and volunteers now have an attractive place to sit outside in between the two buildings. For more information, visit <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ohnoble/histsoc.htm>.

In 100 words or less, do you have outstanding news to share about your organization? Please email it to your regional representative for the next issue of *The Local Historian*. Contact information for the representatives in your region is on page 2 of this issue. Of course, you are welcome to forward your news directly to the editor of *The Local Historian* at arohmiller@ohiohistory.org. Rather than serving as a calendar of events, items for "News from the Regions" are chosen to inspire, connect, and educate the Alliance's members all over Ohio and celebrate notable and imitation-worthy accomplishments of Alliance members.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Kathy Boukissen, development director at the **Hayes Presidential Center** was elected to the **Ohio Museums Association** board in January and is serving a two-year term.

Roger Burns has joined the staff of the **Ohio Humanities Council** as development director. Burns has worked with the First Community Church of Columbus, where he was director of stewardship and development for the First Community Foundation and charged with growing the fund and awarding grants. He brings a broad range of experience to the position, including work with arts groups and historic sites, as well as religious organizations. Burns has a Masters of Divinity from Lexington Theological Seminary and a PhD in history from the University of Cincinnati.

Rob Colby has also joined the staff of the **Ohio Humanities Council** as program officer. After working in the museum field for five years, Colby pursued public humanities projects and research. He is already familiar with Ohio Humanities grants after serving as the project director for "Coshocton Crossroads," a heritage tourism project in Coshocton County. As program officer, Colby will assist grant applicants and manage the Ohio Humanities Council's heritage tourism initiatives. He has a B.A. in art history from Oberlin College and a PhD in art history from the Courtauld Institute in London.

Maren McKee is the new part-time collections manager at the **Oberlin Heritage Center**. McKee is a recent graduate of the Historical Administration

program at Eastern Illinois University. She has interned at the Lake Forest Lake Bluff Historical Society. She replaces the retiring collections manager Prue Richards who officially retired at the end of August.

Region 5 Representative **Kate Smith** has returned to the **Dennison Railroad Depot Museum Systems** as the special project coordinator. Smith previously worked at the Dennison Depot as an intern and interim site director at Historic Schoenbrunn Village. She will be assisting with the Patriot Rally, Polar Express, publications, and more.

Explore Your Organization's Next Level at the 2014 Annual Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

noon. This event is fun and exciting but structured enough to make sure you meet plenty of new people and begin to build new friendships. This session will also set you up for a great time at the Friday night reception, where you can continue to develop those newfound relationships.

This year's reception will be held at the Wine Bistro, located less than two miles north of the conference hotel. Be sure not to miss this chance to join your colleagues for food and fun—what better opportunity

to catch-up with old friends, share some of your success stories, and maybe even vent some of your frustrations. The reception will include a cash bar with discounted beverages, the Bistro's renowned flatbreads, and a main course buffet with salad. You must register for the reception. Act quickly because registration is limited.

On Saturday morning, the Ohio Local History Alliance annual business meeting will take place before the day's sessions begin. Alliance President Maggie Marconi

will bring attendees up to date on the latest Alliance news and preside over the election of next year's officers.

Join your fellow local historians to renew acquaintances, learn new skills, network with other organizations, browse the marketplace, and see what organizations are accomplishing at the Saturday awards luncheon. We are looking forward to seeing you in October at the Alliance annual meeting. **Come! Engage! Educate! Empower!** ■

Need to Contact Us? *We at the Local History Office love hearing from you.*

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Get Social with the Ohio Local History Alliance



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LinkedIn: [Ohio Local History Alliance](https://www.linkedin.com/company/ohio-local-history-alliance)