

HISTORY FUND GRANT PROGRAM

Coming this Summer

By Andy Verhoff, Local History Coordinator, Local History Office, Ohio Historical Society, Columbus

This summer Ohio's local historical organizations will have a new source of grant funding – the History Fund. The History Fund is the new, official name of what was known as the “tax check-off” program, a Statehood Day legislative priority since 2006. The creation of the Fund is proof that legislative advocacy is effective. It is also proof that Ohioans will back up their passion for the past with dollars. As of May 31, the History Fund has accumulated \$144,629 from 16,717 Ohioans, with more to follow as tax returns are processed. This money will go to funding local history throughout Ohio, less administrative expenses for running the History Fund.

The Ohio Historical Society has convened a panel of experts from 10 statewide organizations representing public history and grant-making in Ohio. This history fund advisory committee's job has been to assist the Ohio Historical Society in formulating a program that will meet the needs of the state's public history communities. The History Fund intends to meet needs by funding a variety of projects under three broad categories of: “Organizational Development,” “Programs & Collections,” and “Bricks & Mortar.” Projects can include, but are no means limited to:

- Training for a history organization's board and staff
- Oral history projects
- Care of archival materials and artifacts
- Exhibits

- Digitization of collections
- Archaeological field investigations
- Nominations to the National Register of Historic Places
- Public events and programs
- Rehabilitation of National Register properties or repair or new construction associated with collections storage and care

The History Fund committee also agreed that this would be a competitive and matching grant program. “Competitive” means that applications will be judged against each other for funds and applicants will have to make a convincing case for the project or program. “Match” means that each applicant will have to invest a percentage its own time and money in its project to secure support from the History Fund. As currently drafted, the Fund anticipates supporting projects in the range of \$1,000 to \$20,000. These amounts vary by project category and are subject to change before the final form of the guidelines and application are released this summer.

Broadly speaking, non-profit organizations incorporated in the State of Ohio are eligible. Expected applicants include local historical societies and museums, and historic preservation groups. Also eligible are public and academic libraries and archives, genealogical societies, archeological societies, elementary and high schools, colleges and universities, and units of government in Ohio—townships, counties, villages, and cities.

Those not eligible to apply are individuals, for-profit businesses, and the Ohio Historical Society. However, any of these parties may provide services to a grantee,

but no grants will be awarded directly to ineligible entities. Local partners responsible for the day-to-day operation of OHS sites are eligible - so long as the proposed project is not covered under functions and fiscal responsibilities assigned to OHS by site management agreements.

It is important to note that these lists of grant-funded projects and applicants are not exhaustive. If a project your organization has in mind is not described here, contact the Ohio Historical Society's Local History Office with questions.

Other values shaping the creation of the History Fund are transparency and accountability. Grants will be evaluated by a panel of five to nine experts who are not staff members of the Ohio Historical Society. Appointed annually by OHS's director, the panel will make recommendations to the director regarding grant awards. The meetings of the panel will be open to the public, similar to those of the Ohio Arts Council, and it will be easy for applicants to learn how their applications were rated. Not every grant applicant will be successful, but all applicants can discover why a grant was or was not awarded. Unsuccessful applicants can use what they learn to increase their chances of success next time.

(Continued on page 3)

WHAT'S INSIDE:

- 2 President's Message
- 3 Legislative Session Update
- 4 Tips for Using Historical Clothing
- 5 Historical Marker Grant Awardees
- 6 Planning a Cemetery Walk
- 7 Replacement Grave Markers for Veterans
- 8 State Winners-National History Day in Ohio
- 9 OHRAB Grant Awardees
- 10 News from the Regions
- 12 Message from OHS Director

President's Message:

I've just returned from an invigorating swing around the state, attending this spring's Regional Meetings. I visited Dennison, Cridersville, Columbus, Lebanon, Barnesville, Marion, Berea, and Burton. I thoroughly enjoyed meeting so many of you and learning about how you all are saving and sharing your local history with your communities. I can't think of a better way to spend five Saturdays and log 1,600 miles on my car! Thanks to all those groups and individuals who hosted and helped to plan such wonderful meetings.

It was refreshing to be out and about in other people's museums and see first hand the creative ways in which

local historians are dealing with various challenges while delivering such quality programs to the public. Our theme for the meetings this year was "Inspire or Expire" and I saw a whole lot of the former and none of the latter during my travels!

And for further refreshment, keep reading: this issue of *The Local Historian* is chock full of news and inspiration, from the launch of the History Fund Grant Program (FINALLY!), updates on Ohio History Day and an unusually busy spring session for Ohio's General

Assembly, to great programming and preservation tips.

And, thank you for all you do, despite the challenges, to ensure that the story of our state continues to be told.

Christie Weinger
President, Ohio Local History Alliance
Executive Director, Wood County Historical Center & Museum, Bowling Green
(419) 352-0967, director@woodcountyhistory.org

2011 Board Members Ohio Local History Alliance

President

Christie Weinger, Director
Wood County Historical Center & Museum
Bowling Green
(419) 352-0967 (office)
director@woodcountyhistory.org
<http://www.woodcountyhistory.org>

1st Vice President

Maggie Marconi, Museum Administrator
Sandusky Library/Follett House Museum
Sandusky
(419) 625-3834 (office)
mmarconi@sandusky.lib.oh.us
http://www.sandusky.lib.oh.us/follett_house

2nd Vice President

Beth Weinhardt, Coordinator
Anti-Saloon League Museum, Westerville
(614) 882-7277, Ext 160 (office)
bweinhardt@westervillelibrary.org
<http://westervillelibrary.org/local-history>

Secretary

Nancy Sams, President
Belpre Historical Society, Belpre
(740) 423-7382 (office)
sams5myway@suddenlink.net
<http://belprehistory.com>

Treasurer

Kathleen Fernandez, Director
North Canton Heritage Society
North Canton
(330) 494-4791 (office)
ncantonheritage@sbcglobal.net
<http://www.northcantonheritage.org>

Trustees-At-Large

Joy Armstrong, Director
Sylvania Historical Village, Sylvania
(419) 882-4865 (office)
hist.village@sev.org
<http://www.cityofsylvania.com/default.aspx?namespace=CityOfSylvania.Home.Discover-Sylvania.SylvaniaHistory.HistoricalVillage>

Ruth Dobyns, Curator
Quaker Heritage Center, Wilmington
College, Wilmington
(937) 382-6661, Ext 719 (office)
ruth_dobyns@wilmington.edu
<http://www2.wilmington.edu/ghc>

Wendy Zucal, Director
Dennison Railroad Dept Museum
Dennison
(740) 922-6776
director@dennisondepot.org
<http://dennisondepot.org>

Immediate Past-President

Pat Murphy, Director
Oberlin Heritage Center/O.H.I.O., Oberlin
(440) 774-1700 (office)
<http://www.oberlinheritage.org>

Ex-Officio (Executive Secretary)

Jackie Barton, Director
Education & Outreach Services
Ohio Historical Society, Columbus
(614) 297-2228 (office)
jbarton@ohiohistory.org
<http://www.ohiohistory.org>

Region 1

Randy Brown, Curator
Wood County Historical Society
Bowling Green
(419) 352-0967 (office)
curator@woodcountyhistory.org
<http://woodcountyhistory.org>

Janet Rozick, Instructor
University of Toledo, Toledo
jkennedy26@hotmail.com
<http://www.utoledo.edu/lss/history/index.html>

Region 2

Kathleen Addlesperger, Trustee
Richland County Museum, Lexington
(614) 645-6937 (office)
kathleen@richlandcountymuseum.org
<http://www.richlandcountymuseum.org>

Brenda Stultz, Curator
Clyde Heritage League, Clyde
(419) 547-7946 (office)
bjstultz@embarqmail.com
<http://www.clydeheritageleague.org>

Region 3

Leanne Neff Heppner, Director
Summit County Historical Society, Akron
(330) 535-1120 (office)
leanne@summithistory.org
<http://www.summithistory.org>

Craig Holbert, Archivist
University of Akron, Uniontown
(330) 972-7670 (office)
holbert@uakron.edu
<http://www.uakron.edu/libraries/archives>

Region 4

Bill Lawson, Director
Mahoning Valley Historical Society
Youngstown
(330) 743-2589 (office)
hlawson@mahoninghistory.org
<http://www.mahoninghistory.org>

Region 5

Kim Jurkovic, Interim Director
Dover Historical Society, Dover
(800) 815-2794 / (330) 343-7040 (office)
kijurko@roadrunner.com
<http://www.doverhistory.org>

Kate Smith, Director
Spring Hill Historic Home, Massillon
(330) 833-6749
director@springhillhistoricalhome.org
<http://springhillhistorichome.org>

Region 6

Christie Evans, Trustee
Gahanna Historical Society, Gahanna
(614) 476-0371
Evansc76@gmail.com
<http://gahannahistory.com>

Jim Gibson, Director
Knox County Historical Society
Mt. Vernon
(740) 393-5247 (office)
jlgibson@ecr.net
<http://www.knoxhistory.org>

Region 7

Vickie Bondi, Director
Centerville-Washington Township
Historical Society, Centerville
(937) 433-0123 (office)
Vickiecvth@sbcglobal.net
<http://www.mvcc.net/centerville/histsoc>

Todd McCormick, Curator/Director
Logan County Historical Society
Bellefontaine
(937) 593-7557 (office)
logancomuseumtodd@embarqmail.com
<http://www.logancountymuseum.org>

Region 8

Stiney Vonderhaar, Chairman
Evendale Historical Commission, Evendale
(513) 563-0808
stiney@onc.net
http://www.evendaleohio.org/Pages/EvendaleOH_HistComm/index

Region 9

Margaret Parker, President
Meigs County Historical Society, Pomeroy
(740) 992-3810
meigscohistorical@frontier.com
<http://meigscohistorical.org>

Michael Stroth, Trustee
Jackson Historical Society, Jackson
(740) 978-8021
michaelstroth@yahoo.com
<http://www.jacksonhistoricalsociety.org>

Region 10

Leah Magyary, Media and Collections
Coordinator
The Castle, Marietta
(740) 373-4180 (office)
castle.marietta@gmail.com
<http://mariettacastle.org>

Christopher Hart, Living Historian
Historic Roscoe Village, Coshocton
(740) 623-7644
rvhistorian@roscoevillage.com
<http://www.roscoevillage.com>



**OHIO LOCAL
HISTORY ALLIANCE**
Inspire. Connect. Educate.

The **Ohio Local History Alliance**, organized in 1960 under sponsorship of the Ohio Historical Society, 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.

The Local Historian (ISSN 9893-3340) is published bimonthly by the Ohio Historical Society, 800 E. 17th Avenue, Columbus, OH 43211-2497, as a benefit to Ohio Local History Alliance members. Periodicals Postage Paid at Columbus, OH. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to: *The Local Historian*, Local History Office, Ohio Historical Society, 800 E. 17th Avenue, Columbus, OH 43211-2497. Editors: Andy Verhoff, Amy Rohmiller, Rosa Rojas

Please direct materials or phone inquiries to:

The Local Historian
Local History Office
Ohio Historical Society
800 E. 17th Avenue
Columbus, OH 43211-2497
1-800-858-6878
FAX: (614) 297-2567
arohmiller@ohiohistory.org

Visit **The Alliance** online at www.ohiolha.org

Annual Membership Dues:

Organizations:
Annual budget over \$200,000: \$100
Annual budget \$100,000-\$200,000: \$75
Annual budget \$25,000-\$100,000: \$60
Annual budget below \$25,000: \$35

Individuals:
Benefactors: \$50 and up
Individuals: \$35
Students: \$15
Individual subscriptions to *The Local Historian* only are available for \$25 annually.

© 2012 Ohio Historical Society

General Assembly Winding Down Busy Legislative Session

By Todd Kleismit, Director of Community & Government Relations, Ohio Historical Society, Columbus

The Ohio General Assembly is wrapping up work on one of the busiest legislative spring sessions for a non-budget year in its long history. Gov. John R. Kasich proposed in March a comprehensive Mid-Biennium Review (MBR) chock full of policy changes and proposed reforms dealing with issues ranging from energy to education and workforce development.

The General Assembly intends to finish its legislative work by May 30 and go into recess until after the November elections. That means state legislators will be back in their home districts for the next five months attending community events and (most of them) running for re-election. Local historical societies should use this summer to engage state legislators by inviting them to events and other activities. There are several bills pending in the Ohio General Assembly of interest to history organizations:

- Senate Bill 181, sponsored by Sen. Mark Wagoner (R-Toledo) proposes to enact several recommendations made in 2010 by the Legislative Commission on the Education and Preservation of State History, chaired by Sen. Bill Seitz (R-Cincinnati). SB 181 passed the Senate unanimously in December, but has yet to have its first hearing in the House.
- House Bill 501, sponsored by Rep. John Carney (D-Columbus) and Rep. Mike Duffey (R-Worthington) proposes make the Adena pipe the official artifact of the State of Ohio.
- Senate Bill 21 proposes to replace the statue of Ohioan William Allen in National Statuary Hall in the U.S. Capitol with Ohioan Thomas Edison. Edison was the top vote-getter to replace Allen among Ohioans in a 2010 statewide vote of school children and adults.

All three bills have been assigned to the House State Government and Elections Committee, chaired by Rep. Ron Maag (R-Lebanon). Additionally, legislation was recently enacted that requires certain historical documents be used in the teaching of American History and American Government for grades 4-12. Senate Bill 165, which was signed into law by Gov. Kasich on March 30, specifies that the curriculum include, in their original context, the Declaration of Independence, the Northwest Ordinance, the U.S. Constitution, and the Ohio Constitution.

For additional information about legislative issues, please contact Todd Kleismit, the Ohio Historical Society's director of community and government relations, at 614.297.2355 or at tkleismit@ohiohistory.org. ■

History Fund Grant Program... *Continued from page 1*

The success of the History Fund will be measured in the amount of money Ohioans donate to the program and by the good local history organizations are able to do with their grants. The Ohio Historical Society will account for the latter by requiring grant recipients to submit final reports that prove projects met their goals and can account for all funds granted. The Ohio Historical Society will also issue an annual report for the History Fund, listing grant recipients and amounts and detailing the good the grants accomplished. The History Fund relies solely on the generosity of Ohio's taxpayers. The Ohio Historical Society and its grantees alike must show the History Fund is a good steward of Ohioans' generosity.

The Ohio Historical Society is, as of this writing, developing and refining guidelines, procedures, and application materials for the History Fund. They will be available later this summer at www.ohiohistory.org/historyfund. Applications will be due October 1, 2012. Grant awards will be announced February 1, 2013. Contact the Ohio Historical Society's Local History Office at 1-800-858-6878, 614-297-2341, or localhistory@ohiohistory.org with any questions about the History Fund grant program. ■

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Amy Rohmiller has joined the staff of the Local History Office as a program assistant. She will be working primarily on all the Office's publications, including *The Local Historian*, the Local History Office's website, and the Ohio Local History Alliance's website. A former member of the Civil War 150 AmeriCorps program, Amy received her B.A. in History from Case Western Reserve University and her M.A. in Public History from Middle Tennessee State University. She is very excited about the opportunity to keep working with Ohio's local history community!

Bonnie Such, longtime administrative assistant for Ohio Historical Society's Local History Office, retired effective March 30, 2012. She started her employment at the Ohio Historical Society in its Historic Preservation Division in 1991, moved to Local History in 1996, and became the assistant for the Education and Outreach Division at OHS in 2009. She didn't want a "big deal" to be made of her retirement and the OHS and the Alliance are honoring her request. We send her best wishes for a great retirement.



Photograph courtesy of the Ohio Historical Society

Tips for Using Historical Clothing

Summer is here, and with summer comes reenactment season and many other opportunities to do costumed interpretation. While interpreting in costume is often visitors' (and staff's) favorite thing, doing it well can take a lot of work.

Questions to ask yourself before committing to doing costumed interpretation:

- Are you committed to the accuracy and authenticity of your information? If you would not lie to the visitor with your words, do not be willing to lie with your clothing. "Period correct" refers to any item (clothing, accessories, tools, etc.) that would have been found, or even exist, in the period you are representing, your location, or be available to your social class. The fact that the visitor "doesn't know any bet-

ter" is exactly why you should not wear clothing that is not correct. They are there to learn about your time period, not be misled by something that "looks old enough." Would you be happy if you went to the zoo to see a bald eagle and the zoo had a turkey vulture with its head painted white?

- What time period are you trying to represent? Be specific about this: try to narrow down the time to a certain year or decade. For example, do not say "Victorian" (this era covers 1837-1901) or "pioneer" (in Ohio it is 1770-1803, in South Dakota it is 1870s-1920s). Instead say "1810-1812" or "1870s."
- Who are you? Will you be portraying someone who is upper class, lower class, or dirt poor? A servant, a farmer, a banker, etc? How old? There is an old saying about "mutton dressed as lamb;" be sure to dress for the correct age, social class, and trade.
- What about hair and makeup? Most women will not be willing to go completely without make-up (and going

without sunscreen if you are outdoors is a bad idea), but it should be toned down to look as natural as possible. It is not necessary to grow hair down to the waist or walk around in mutton-chops to do costumed interpretation, but try to avoid pinks and purples as hair color. If hair is too modern or too short, cover it up.

- What accessories are allowed? Braces, wedding or engagement rings, eyeglasses, hearing aides, etc. are all okay, but be mindful of how they will look. All modern watches and cell phones should be kept out of sight, and cell phones should be turned off or set to vibrate.

Do's and Don'ts for Those Doing Costumed Interpretation

- **DON'T** wear modern clothing and try to pass it off as period clothing. No matter how old those blue jeans are, they do not look like broadfalls. And yes, your shoes do show underneath a long skirt, even in the dark!
- **DON'T** use non-period accessories in front of visitors. If you need or want photographs, do not take them in period costume. Talking on cell phones, drinking water, checking watches or any other modern devices should be done away from visitors.
- **DON'T** use women in men's roles. History is very male dominated, but female volunteers dominate most historic sites. Marge in a pair of pants and a shirt does not look like Mark, no matter how hard you try!
- **DON'T** be ambiguous about your time period. If you cannot or will not wear the correct period clothing, wear a uniform. Do not try to mix several periods together unless you have some way for the visitor to understand that they have changed times. A plain white shirt and black pants are better than "old-fashioned."
- **DO** have the proper accessories. To help create your person or tell your story, have the tools or equipment your person would have.
- **DO** be accurate. Just because a style or fashion looks silly to us today, does not mean that it was not the height
(Continued on page 5)

(continued from page 4)

of fashion back then. Most of us would not walk around in a mullet today, but you might if you are a hip young man in the 1980s.

- **DO** Document, Document, Document! If you cannot document it, do not wear it. To be on the safe side, try to find it in three different sources.
- Finally, **DON'T** worry about the background. You can do a very good program in a school gym or with the Crew Stadium in the background. If your clothing, props, and information are correct it does not matter where you are! ■



Photograph courtesy of the Ohio Historical Society

Ohio Historical Marker Grant Awardees

APRIL 2012 ROUND

By Andy Verhoff, Local History Coordinator, Local History Office, Ohio Historical Society, Columbus

The Ohio Historical Marker grant committee met April 20 in Columbus and was, as usual, faced with a tough job. Out of 14 worthy nominations, the committee was challenged with choosing 5 for grants of \$750. Marker recipients for April 2012 round of grants include:

Cincinnati Moonwatch Team,

Hamilton County, which will explain the team's role in observing and recording the positions of satellites in Earth's orbit from the launch of Sputnik in 1957 to 1964.

Harry Burt & Good Humor / Ross Radio Company, Mahoning County, which will tell the story of the building where the Good Humor ice cream bar got its start and which was later the home of a company owned by a Youngstown-based, internationally prominent philanthropist and early supporter of the state of Israel.

John T. Crawford, Hamilton County, will be about the creation of the Crawford Home for Colored Men, an institution founded in gratitude for help given by enslaved African Americans to John Crawford, a Union soldier, upon his escape from Libby Prison in Richmond during the Civil War.

Marble Hall at Wilmington College in Clinton County will explain how the president and students of Wilmington College addressed that campus's post-World War II student housing shortage with the sweat of their own brows and a lot of donated building materials.

The marker for the **War of 1812 Blockhouse** in Union County is but one prominent example of a string of fortifications on Ohio's frontier and the United States' front line in the Old Northwest during "America's Second War for Independence."

The markers not funded though the grant program are still eligible to be erected as Ohio Historical Markers. The sponsors of non-grant markers are responsible for paying the entire cost of the marker. Likewise, the Ohio Historical Society accepts marker applications year 'round and applicants are not required to apply for a grant to get a marker. The cost of a marker ranges from \$2,300 to \$2,580, effective May 1, 2012. To learn more about the Ohio Historical Markers program, visit: www.remarkableohio.org or call the Ohio Historical Society's Local History Office at 1-800-858-6878 or 614-297-2341.

Sharing Your Community History with a New Audience in a Unique Location

By Beth Weinhardt,
Coordinator, Anti-Saloon
League Museum,
Westerville

On a Sunday afternoon in the fall of 1994, the Westerville Public Library and Westerville Historical Society held an event that had an attendance of over 400. Parents pushing strollers, scout troops, long-time residents, newcomers to the community, and curious city officials all converged on a cemetery for the first Westerville cemetery walk. Since that initial event, we have sponsored seven cemetery walks using all four of our cemeteries to share local history. Our eighth walk, scheduled for the fall of 2012, will commemorate the Civil War 150th with the stories of local veterans of that war, their units and themes related to their war service.

The cemetery walk is a relatively easy, inexpensive way to share your community's history with an audience you may not reach in any other venue. Here are a few things to consider as you plan a walk:

1 Coordination with city and township officials who manage our four local cemeteries was key. No event should be scheduled without first obtaining permission and cooperation.

2 We requested the ability to close most of the cemetery to vehicle traffic for safety and also to provide a tranquil setting for the event.

3 For each walk we chose to share the stories of fifteen to twenty people buried in the cemetery. In some cases we had quite a bit of information about the individual in local archives or through family contacts. Sometimes, however, we used the individual as a springboard to talk about a period or a theme in local history when information about the individual was sparse. For example, a presentation on grave-robbing was given at the gravestone of a young man who committed suicide in the 1880s. His body was dug up at night at the behest of his mother and moved to prevent his body from being snatched. As we do our Civil War themed event this year, we know that we do not have much info on some men who served. Instead, we will discuss what their units did in the war.

4 We give each attendee a program when they enter the cemetery. The program has a list of the presentations and a map of where presenters will be stationed. Our walks have been self-guided so that those attending can concentrate on the subjects that interest them. We have included information on related topics in the program, i.e. tombstone artwork and symbolism, mourning customs of the 19th century, etc.

5 The individuals who are presenting are recruited from the library staff, the historical society, and, in a few cases, descendants of the deceased. They are given the information that has been obtained by those doing the research but are encouraged to find more if they choose. They are also given photographs of the deceased if available and may choose to dress in period costume or use other visual aids in their presentations.

The walks have provided awareness of local history, and persuaded local families to donate information and photographs for local history archives. The walks even led to a restoration project for the stained glass windows at a cemetery mausoleum that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Vandalism in the 1950s led to the windows being covered with boards. The opening of the building at a cemetery walk led to a local fund-raising drive to restore the windows and provide protective coverings for them. As the president of the Westerville Historical Society noted, "This is an opportunity to share history with people in our community who never have attended a historical society meeting."

Replacement Grave Markers for Veterans

Provided by Sharon Lytle,
City of Westerville Service
Dept

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs may replace a headstone or military marker for veterans of the United States Armed Forces at the government's expense if one of the following conditions exists:

1. The marker is badly deteriorated and illegible
2. The marker is broken beyond repair
3. The marker is lost or stolen

The marker may not be replaced if:

1. There is an existing head stone marking the gravesite
2. The marker was damaged by cemetery personnel (replacement would be at the expense of the cemetery)

Obtaining the Marker:

1. Visit the gravesite to verify it meets the criteria for replacement.
2. Photograph the gravesite and include it with the application.
3. Obtain a copy of a military roster/military record showing veteran's service.
 - a. Military records prior to 1917 can be obtained at the National Archives using form NATF 85. Form can be downloaded off the National Archives website. www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/pre-ww-1-records.html
 - b. Military records later than 1917 are only available to next-of-kin using form SF 180 or writing a letter of request to

the National Personnel Records Center. Proof of death, such as a death certificate or an obituary must accompany the form/letter. Form SF-180 may be downloaded from the National Archives website. www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/standard-form-180.html#sf

- c. Many libraries hold copies of rosters for the War of 1812 and the Civil War. Military service records may also be found through several genealogical websites. www.va.gov/vaforms/va/pdf/VA40-1330.pdf
4. Contact the cemetery office for permission to install the marker and to check for any applicable fees.
5. Obtain and fill out Form 40-1130 Application for Standard Government Headstone or Marker. The form may be downloaded from the Department of Veterans Affairs website.
 - a. The form must be signed by a representative of the cemetery verifying the marker is permitted.
 - b. Once completed, mail or fax the form along with proof of military service and need for a replacement marker to the Department of Veterans Affairs (address/fax number included on instruction sheets)



More Thanks from Local History Office

In the winter issue of *The Local Historian*, we recognized all organizations we knew of who helped to promote contributions to the History Fund (aka the "tax check off program"). We are happy to recognize more below. The list of organizations here is for the period February 1–April 30, 2012. Thanks to your efforts and Ohio's taxpayers, the History Fund has raised, as of May 31, \$144,629 from 16,717 contributors.

Auglaize County Historical Society, *History at a Glance* newsletter, Late Winter 2012, Volume 7, Issue 1

Summit County Historical Society, *Portage Trail Review*, Spring 2012

Shaker Historical Society website: <http://shakerhistoricalsociety.org>

If your organization has promoted the tax refund donation program, but you are not listed here, please tell us! Reply to localhistory@ohiohistory.org with the name of your newsletter, your organization, and the newsletter date, volume, and number. Your organization will be recognized in later issues of *The Local Historian*.



Photograph courtesy of National History Day in Ohio.

On behalf of National History Day in Ohio and the Ohio Historical Society, we thank the Ohio Local History Alliance for its support. Another successful Ohio History Day was held on Saturday, April 28th where the Alliance Local History prize was awarded by Beth Weinhardt (center), the Alliance's 2nd Vice President.

The senior division award was given to (left) Cheyenna Bowers, Gus Slone, and Tabitha Estep, from South Gallia High School, for their exhibit, "To Drink or Not To Drink: Prohibition."

The Local History Award winners for the junior division were (right) Jason Green-Smith, James Tubbs, and Matthew Lee, from Summit Academy, for their exhibit, "Union Revolution in Youngstown."

National History Day in Ohio thanks the Alliance for its support of this wonderful program.

State Winners- National History Day in Ohio

By Mary Bezbatchenko, State Coordinator, National History Day in Ohio, Ohio Historical Society, Columbus

On April 28th over 500 students accompanied by parents, teachers, and friends, packed the Ohio Union on The Ohio State University campus. Students presented exhibits, performances, documentaries, papers and web sites to volunteer judges. The National History Day theme for 2011-2012 was "Revolution, Reaction, Reform in History." Students researched topics from the development of the Roman Empire to the collapse of the Soviet Union and explored a variety of topics from revolutions in art and music, to reforms that improved society, and reactions to wars.

The awards ceremony took place in the Archie Griffin Ballroom in the Ohio Union where over 1,200 chairs were filled and the room was crowded with participants and their cheering sections. The top two projects in each category were

selected to represent Ohio at National History Day. Projects were also honored as National Alternates, Honorable Mentions, and in a series of special prizes that are sponsored by state and local organizations. The full list of winners can be found online at www.ohiohistory.org/historyday/hd03b.html

The 64 Ohio finalists will be heading off to National History Day at the University of Maryland June 10-14th where they will compete with other students from across the country, Puerto Rico, American Samoa, and Department of Defense Schools.

Next year's NHD theme is "Turning Points in History." It's never too early to sign up as a judge for the contests in 2013! Send an email to historyday@ohiohistory.org to be added to our judge mailing list. ■

Calendar

■ June 21, 26 and 27

Various grant writing workshops from the Foundation Center, Cleveland. Visit <http://foundationcenter.org/cleveland> and click on "View our Calendar." Workshops are repeated throughout the year.

■ June 27-29

AASLH Collections Camp: Military History. Held in Atlanta, Georgia this three day workshop will teach participants how to better care for and exhibit their military history artifacts, especially those from the 19th century. For more information, visit <http://aaslh.org/Coll-CampMilHistory.htm>

■ July 1

Application Deadline: AAM's Museum Assessment Program (MAP). For more information, see www.aam-us.org/museumresources/map

■ July 15

Session Proposal Deadline: National Council on Public History Annual Meeting. In 2013 the National Council on Public History will host its annual meeting, "Knowing Your Public(s)–The Significance of Audiences in Public History" in Ottawa, Canada. The program committee invites panel, roundtable, workshop, working group, and individual paper proposals for the conference. For more information, visit www.ncph.org.

■ July 23-26

2012 Association of Midwest Museums (AMM) Conference: Civic Engagement and Public Discourse: The Role of Museums in the 21st Century, Indianapolis, Indiana. For more information visit www.midwestmuseums.org

■ August 1

Nomination Deadline: Ohio Local History Alliance Outstanding Achievement Awards. The awards brochure was mailed in June or contact OHS's Local History Office, 1-800-888-6878 or erickman@ohiohistory.org

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 the online calendar at www.ohiohistory.org/ohsmevents, local newspapers, broadcast media, Ohio Magazine, 1-800-BUCKEYE, and if arts related, www.ArtsinOhio.com

Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board Grant Awardees

The Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board (OHRAB) announces grants to 13 institutions for archives projects. Funded projects include organizing and preserving historical records, and cataloging and digitizing records for improved access. The grants are funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), an arm of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).

- Ashland University Archives: Vermillion Institute Minute Books Preservation Project, \$500.00
- Baldwin-Wallace College: Baldwin-Wallace College Photograph Organization and Preservation, \$2,724.00
- Clark County Historical Society: Probate Court Rehousing Project, \$1,364.00
- City of Cleveland Heights Landmark Commission: Reorganization of Historic Records Related to Cain Park, \$1,500.00
- University of Dayton: Preservation of the Charles W. Whalen Jr. Congressional Papers, \$1,243.00
- Historical Society of Greenfield, Ohio: Accessing, Organizing, and Preserving Our Historical Collections, \$1,835.00
- Little Cities of Black Diamonds: Improving Access to Historical Records of the Little Cities of Black Diamonds, \$2,606.00

- Malone University Library: Preservation, Description, and Access for the Friends Mission Collection, \$1,137.00
- Massillon Museum: Massillon Museum Archival Preservation and Access Project, \$970.00
- Media Heritage, Inc.: Ziv Radio History Archival Storage Project, \$1,500.00
- WACO Historical Society, Inc.: WACO Library Upgrade, \$2,250.00
- Warren County Historical Society: WCHS Digital Archive Project 2012, \$1,750.00
- Wyandot County Historical Society: Catalogue and Storage of Wyandot County One-Room Schoolhouse Documentation, \$621.00

The Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board is the central body for historical records planning in the state. Board members represent Ohio's public and private archives, records offices, and research institutions. They are appointed by the governor. Administrative responsibility for the board rests with the Ohio Historical Society. The board also acts as the state-level review body for grants submitted to the NHPRC, in accordance with that commission's guidelines. For more information, see <http://ohsweb.ohiohistory.org/ohrab>. ■

News from the Regions

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 with the intention of inspiring, connecting, and educating the Alliance's members all over Ohio and celebrating notable and imitation-worthy accomplishments of Alliance members.

Region 1

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

The **Stryker Area Heritage Council** received an original Harry Wickey drawing, donated by the Stryker Branch of Huntington Bank. Although no longer a household name, Wickey was well known during the first half of the twentieth century for his etchings, lithography, paintings, and sculpture. Other museums owning Wickey pieces include the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Art Institute of Chicago, the Library of Congress, and the Boston Museum of Fine Arts. The drawing, depicting a woman and boy, will hang in the Council's museum. For more information, visit www.strykerahc.org.

Region 2

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

Region 3

Cuyahoga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, and Summit Counties

The **Akron-Summit County Public Library** is hosting "Discovering Your Civil War Ancestors" on Saturday, August 11 from 9:30-4:30 in the library's auditorium, 60 South High Street, Akron. Presenters will be local researcher and reenactor John Gurnish and Certified Genealogist Amy Johnson Crow. Although part of the program is focused specifically on Summit County, the rest applies to any Civil War soldier-researcher, no matter his or her location in Ohio. Presentation topics include: Summit County in the Civil War, researching Ohio Civil War ancestors, "For Benefit of the

Soldier-Civil War Fraternal Organizations," researching your Civil War ancestors online, and state and local records for Civil War research. The program and parking are free. To sign-up or for more information, contact the library at 330-643-9030 or speccollections@akronlibrary.org.

Region 4

Ashtabula, Geauga, Mahoning, Portage, and Trumbull Counties

The **Gauga County Historical Society** recently launched a free mobile app that gives visitors with smart phones the chance to tour the Society's **Century Village Museum** and other historic buildings around the county. Using words, sounds, and images the app gives the Society an opportunity to tell little known stories of Geauga County's past through a variety of interactive and driving tours, as well as the ability to open Century Village grounds to the public every day. The app is the result of a partnership with **Cleveland State University's Center for Public History and Digital Humanities**. It is available for download on any Android device, at app.geaugahistorical.org, and is pending approval from the Apple store. To find out more, visit www.geaugahistorical.org

Region 5

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

Spring Hill Historic Home, the Massillon Museum, and the Massillon Public Library are celebrating the 200th anniversary of the founding of the town of Kendal. Kendal was founded in 1812 by Quakers and industrialists, and became the home of mills, shops, and merino sheep. It was later absorbed into Massillon. The three organizations are working to plan a full year of commemorative events. The celebration kicked off on April 21 with Founding Day and continues on June 16 with an Underground Railroad Experience, featuring food, music, and tours of the Spring Hill Historic Home. For more information and a list of upcoming events, visit <https://sites.google.com/site/kendal200>.

Region 6

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

The **Motts Military Museum** has received artifacts from the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. Thanks to the efforts of Congressman Steve Stivers, the museum was able to obtain artifacts from the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. Artifacts from the World Trade Center/Ground Zero include a GMC Suburban from the New York Port Authority, part of a metal

stairway, and a sign from the base of the World Trade Center, among others. Additionally, the museum now has two large and several small pieces of the west wall of the Pentagon. With these artifacts in hand, the museum is beginning to raise \$500,000 for a new building to house them. For more information, visit www.mottsmilitarymuseum.org.

Region 7

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

Region 8

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

On April 27, **Heritage Hall** opened a new exhibit, "When Butler County Went to War." Instead of telling the story of World War II in terms of the military and battles, this exhibit focuses on life on the home front in Butler County. Through photographs and artifacts, the exhibit highlights manufacturing, agriculture, rationing, and other aspects of home front life. The artifacts displayed are from the collections of the **Butler County Historical Society, the Soldiers, Sailors, and Pioneers Monument**, and the personal collection of Brandon Soale and Roger Miller. The exhibit is free and open to the public. For more information, see www.hamiltonheritagehall.org.

Region 9

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

This year brings the bicentennial of the beginning of the War of 1812, and the **Ross County Historical Society** is offering many ways to commemorate Chillicothe's role in it. A new exhibit, "Documenting Ohio's Role in the War of 1812" showcases original letters, maps, art, and other documents of local people involved in the war. The spring 2012 speakers series highlighted three different aspects of the war that touched Chillicothe, including Camp Bull, a prisoner of war camp in the city. Finally, the society has also partnered with the **Adena Mansion and Garden Society** for a major living history event the weekend of July 21 and 22. It will feature a War of 1812 militia muster and encampment to commemorate the 200th anniversary of a supply mission that left Chillicothe for Detroit on those dates. To learn more about these programs, go to www.rosscountyhistorical.org.

Region 10

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

(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 10)

After a lengthy application process, the **Pioneer and Historical Society of Muskingum County's Stone Academy** is now listed on the **National Park Service's Underground Railroad Network to Freedom**. This program recognizes sites, programs, and facilities that have proven their connection to the Underground Railroad. *American Heritage* magazine and the **Appalachian Regional Commission** have also listed the Stone Academy as a "Civil War: The Home Front" featured site. As a result of this national recognition, the Society is seeing an increase in motor coach tours and specific requests for both Underground Railroad and Civil War tours. For more information, visit www.muskingumhistory.org.

Thank you Renewing Members

Members as of April 30, 2012

Individual

Leslie D. Korenko, Kelleys Island
Patricia Murphy, Oberlin
James C. Oda, Piqua
Trella H. Romine, Caledonia
Roselia C. Verhoff, Ottawa

Organizations

103rd OVI Memorial Foundation,
Sheffield Lake
Baltic-Area Historical Society, Baltic
Beavercreek Historical Society, Beavercreek
Canton Preservation Society, Canton
Center for Ghost Town Research in Ohio,
Sunbury
Central Insurance Fire Museum, Van Wert
Clear Creek Township Historical Society,
Savannah
Franklin Area Historical Society, Franklin
Franklin County Genealogical and Historical
Society, Grove City
Gahanna Historical Society, Gahanna
Galion Historical Society, Inc., Galion
Henry County Historical Society, Napoleon
Hubbard Historical Society, Hubbard
Indian Hill Historical Society, Cincinnati
John Paulding Historical Society, Inc.,
Paulding
John Stark Edwards House, Warren
Logan County Historical Society,
Bellevue
Louisville-Nimishillen Historical Society,
Louisville
Mad River & NKP Railroad Museum, Bellevue
Madison Historical Society, Madison
Mayfield Township Historical Society,
Mayfield Village
Mogadore Historical Society, Inc., Mogadore
Moreland Hills Historical Society,
Moreland Hills
Morgan Township Historical Society,
Shandon
Mt Eaton-Paint Twp Historical Society,
Mount Eaton

Navarre Bethlehem Township Historical
Society, Navarre
New Washington Historical Society,
New Washington
North Bloomfield Historical Society,
North Bloomfield
Ohio Historic Bridge Association, Columbus
Ohio Northern University History
Department, Ada
Risingsun Area Historical Society, Risingsun
Robbins Hunter Museum/Avery Downer
House, Granville
Salem Historical Society, Salem
Shade-Lodi History and Genealogy
Association, Athens
Springboro Area Historical Society,
Springboro
Stryker Area Heritage Council, Stryker
Vandalia-Butler Historical Society,
Vandalia
Vermilion Area Archival Society, Inc.,
Vermilion
Western Reserve Historical Society, Cleveland
Westwood Historical Society, Cincinnati
Whitehouse Historical Society, Whitehouse
Willoughby Historical Society, Willoughby
Wilmington College Quaker Heritage Center,
Wilmington

Thank you New Members

Members as of April 30, 2012

Organization

Akron Summit County Public Library,
Akron
Bradford Ohio Railroad Museum, Lancaster

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.

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. Join at www.ohio-history.org/resource/oahsm/members.html.

ON
THE
WEB

Help for Small Museums!

www.smallmuseumcommunity.org

The Small Museums Committee of the American Association of State and Local History has recently launched this website, which provides free help to small museums. According to the press release, "Forum exchanges and blog topics range from marketing and promotion, to changing perspectives of history, to conference reviews, to practical discussions on operating a small museum. You'll find networking opportunities, as well as an extensive resource library dealing with issues affecting small museums...If you want to interact with other participants, you merely have to register to take advantage of the benefits." All levels of experience and expertise are welcome.

www.smallmuseum.org

This is the website of the Small Museums Association. The site includes a list of resources for small museums on a variety of topics, tips on advocacy, and information from their annual conferences.

Message from Ohio Historical Society Director Burt Logan

As I sit down to write this column, I find it hard to believe that the Alliance has finished its third round of spring meetings since I started at OHS. So far, I have attended eight meetings (Regions 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10). Along the way I have learned many tips and techniques to preserve and present Ohio's history. One session explained how to promote local history by installing inexpensive displays in a vacant store front; another presentation explored creative ways to recruit, motivate, and retain volunteers; several sessions recounted recent successes planning and conducting community commemorations and celebrations; and another discussion centered on a variety of educational programs, both within classrooms and after school hours, that

had been developed by a local historical society. I am looking forward to another round of energizing regional meetings in 2013 as I complete the circuit with visits to Regions 3 and 4, and then begin anew.

Although each meeting has had its own character and flavor, all have shown several common denominators: an unbridled passion for Ohio history; an unending stream of creative methods to make local history alive, vibrant, and meaningful to local communities; and an unwavering perseverance to endure through challenging times. It is not a surprise that local history organizations show passion, creativity, and perseverance – after all, aren't these traits central to history in general? The past is full of solitary individuals, loosely and formally

organized groups, and entire social movements that influenced the events of their time because of their zeal, their inventiveness, and their resolve.

As stewards of local heritage, we are entrusted with the memory of our communities. But none of us has all the answers; there will always be something new that we can learn from colleagues. That is why so many of us look to the Alliance regional meetings as a forum where we can share what has worked for us, while we see how others have approached challenges that may lie ahead.

I thank each of you for the passion, creativity, and perseverance for Ohio history that you demonstrate every day, and I look forward to seeing and hearing more examples of history in action across Ohio.

The ten regions of the Ohio Local History Alliance. For a list of counties by region, see *News from the Regions*, pp. 10-11.

Map courtesy of the Ohio Historical Society.

