

Restoring the Skylancer



ICA began to remove the Skylancer's cockpit control panels to be cleaned and restored. Some of the front panel's gauges had already been removed at the time of this picture. ©ICA, John T. Seyfried.

by Brittany Venturella, Curator, Armstrong Air & Space Museum

Inside the cockpit of the F5D Skylancer, a NASA test pilot flipped down the blue visor on his helmet. The amber mask on the cockpit's canopy then turned opaque through the visor. The once broad view from the canopy became limited through smaller openings simulating those in the canopy of the X-20 Dyna-Soar ("Dynamic Soarer"), a space vehicle and space shuttle precursor.

When the Skylancer was vertical, the pilot reduced the airplane to idle thrust and extended the speed brakes, simulating emergency power and beginning the test procedure. He extended the landing gear as the plane pulled over into an inverted position. When parallel with the ground, the pilot rolled the Skylancer into an upright position. He then turned the plane and landed on the runway.

During the Dyna-Soar program (1957–1963), pilot-consultant Neil Armstrong played an instrumental role in designing this abort launch procedure using the Skylancer, which had a similar lift-to-drag ratio as the X-20 Dyna-Soar. The procedure enabled pilots to maneuver the X-20 to safety in case of a launch pad malfunction.

Of the original fleet of four, two F5D Skylancers remain in existence today. Restorers are transforming BuNo 142350 back into the aircraft that Neil Armstrong flew. ICA-Art Conservation is coordinating the restoration of BuNo 142350 in conjunction with the Ohio History Connection and the Armstrong Air & Space Museum. The project includes restoration of the cockpit by ICA and the plane's exterior by Thomarios.

The Skylancer traveled almost entirely intact on a flatbed trailer from the Armstrong Air & Space Museum in Wapakoneta, Ohio to Copley, Ohio. In order to do

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President's Message:

Spring is almost here! Not only will spring bring us warmer weather (hopefully), it will also bring us "March Madness" and the new baseball season—two of my favorite sporting events. More importantly, for many of our organizations spring will bring local students to our museums! Those of us fortunate enough to have students come to our facilities know spring can be hectic with schools trying to schedule field trips after their state testing and before the end of the school year. While it may make this time of the year a little chaotic for us, we

also know how rewarding it is to have young people tour our museum and get excited about history. Just read some of the thank you letters they write!

Our museums are a great asset and educational resource for our schools and students. Local history can be a difficult subject to teach since very few places have a textbook from which students can learn. However, museums can provide an immersive and interactive "classroom" for students to discover their local history.

I have several school teachers in my family so the educational role muse-

ums can and should have in our communities is something I feel is of great importance and is one our primary responsibilities. I'm sure many of you feel the same way. So here is to another fun and educational spring of working with our schools and youth.

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BuNo 142350 was lifted onto a flatbed trailer by a crane on the morning of September 11, 2017.



Thomarios cut a metal mount, freeing the Skylancer from its place on the platform on September 11, 2017. The crane's straps, placed through the channel on the custom-made frame, supported the plane.

this, the airplane's physical preparation for its move began a week before. The plane had to be short enough to fit under overpasses and be thin enough to fit on the road. Thomarios' team designed and hand-crafted a steel frame to support the Skylancer through transit and the restoration process. They removed the top piece of the tail's vertical stabilizer; tail bumper cover; and radome, the nose cone that held the plane's radar antenna. Originally designed for a naval aircraft carrier, the plane's wing tips and outboard elevons, used for controlling the aircraft's pitch and roll, manually folded up.

Reminiscent of how BuNo 142350 arrived at the Armstrong Air & Space Museum forty-five years ago, the moving team lifted the Skylancer from its mount using a crane and placed it upon the trailer on September 11, 2017. The next day, an entourage of highway patrol and moving personnel escorted the plane to Copley, where ICA and Thomarios continue to restore the Skylancer.

BuNo 142350 looks very different six months into the



The moving team, including Thomarios and ICA, slid ethafoam between the frame and the Skylancer's wing to provide padding for the wings and prevent any possible abrasions from the support frame.



After being placed on the flatbed trailer, the Skylancer is almost ready for its journey to Copley, OH.

restoration. Thomarios removed almost all of the old paint on the Skylancer and cleaned the interior. Several paint layers appeared that spanned the history of the aircraft. With this discovery, restorers will be able to match the original colors used while Armstrong flew the Skylancer. The airplane will return to its designation as "NASA 213" with dark orange and white paint, potentially indicative of its use as an experimental aircraft. NASA designated the plane to be "NASA 802" towards the end of its career, particularly during its participation in the Lifting Bodies program.

Through stripping the paint on the fiberglass radome, Thomarios discovered a patch that caused a bump in the rounded cone-shaped surface. The radome may have been patched after uninstalling a camera or another instrument while in use as a test plane. Thomarios stabilized the fiberglass by wrapping the radome in a fiberglass cloth. The original patch was kept to maintain the aircraft's history.

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By the beginning of February, Thomarios removed almost all paint from BuNo 142350. The radome has been covered with fiberglass cloth.

ICA has removed the seat and many gauges and controls of the Skylancer's cockpit for restoration in their lab. Their team is stabilizing some of the fragile materials, such as the seat's fabric, and cleaning the components. The cockpit's components will remain outside the airplane and be displayed inside the Armstrong Air & Space Museum in 2019. Visitors will be able to see controls that Neil Armstrong and other pilots used during the abort launch procedure.

By the end of this year, the Skylancer will once again be "taking off" from its runway at the Armstrong Air & Space Museum, where it will continue to be a symbol of aerospace history and a testament to Neil Armstrong, the pilot and engineer.

About the Skylancer

Only four F5D Skylancers were produced. With only two of the initial F5D Skylancers intact, this is one of the world's rarest planes. "We are fortunate to have found a local team able to restore this 60-year-old plane so that future generations can experience an experimental aircraft flown by Neil Armstrong," said Burton. Neil Armstrong flew the Skylancer during the Dyna-Soar Program. Dyna-Soar, or Dynamic Soarer, was a short-lived project to build manned, reusable space planes that predated the manned Mercury flights. Armstrong was instrumental in developing an aborted launch maneuver using the Skylancer.

About Armstrong Air & Space Museum

The Armstrong Air & Space Museum stands as a repository of Ohio's aeronautical history and a monument to Ohio's contribution to aviation and space exploration from the early pioneer days through the space shuttle era. See a moon rock, two full-sized aircraft flown by Neil Armstrong, the Gemini VIII space capsule, artifacts from the Apollo 11 mission and more. The Armstrong Air & Space Museum is part of the Ohio History Connection's statewide system of more than 50 historic, natural and archaeological sites across the state.

Ohio History Fund Grant Recipients

Year 6, 2017-2018

By Andy Verhoff, Coordinator,
Ohio History Fund, Local History Services

The Ohio History Connection announced at Statehood Day on February 28 the recipients of \$76,000 in grants from the Ohio History Fund. The History Fund is a competitive matching grant program administered by the Ohio History Connection's Local History Services department. Money for the grants comes from you, who support the program in three ways: by donating a portion of your state income tax refund to the Ohio History Fund (the "tax check-off"), by purchasing Ohio History "mastodon" license plates, and by making donations to the Ohio History Connection designated to the "Ohio History Fund."

Your donation of a part of your Ohio tax refund is the lifeblood of the program. Most of the money the Ohio History Fund grants comes through the tax check-off, and most of that is generated during tax season, ending for many with the filing deadline on April 17. The goal of the Ohio History Fund tax check-off is to raise \$88,000. That breaks down to 9,800 donations of \$9, the average tax check-off gift. For the price of one lunch, you can help Ohio's historical societies and museums replace the roofs on National Register-listed house museums, digitize and share significant photographic collections, and preserve oral histories of local veterans.

Since 2013, the Ohio History Fund has made 63 grants in 36 counties totaling \$598,000. Proving there is a strong need for the grant program, it has received 295 grant proposals totaling \$3.6 million in requests. To date, 29 Alliance members have received History Fund grants, totaling more than \$295,000. Six of the nine recipients below are members of the Ohio Local History Alliance (indicated with **).

** Alliance Historical Society, Alliance

\$13,240 for "Rehabilitating the Mabel Hartzell Historical Home Roof," which will replace the deteriorated asphalt shingle roof of the house with a historically accurate standing seam metal roof. Second floor ceilings and artifacts have been damaged by leaks in the c. 1867 house and the roof can no longer be repaired. The new, period-appropriate roof will protect the structure and the society's collections therein. Once the new roof is installed, the society will proceed with other repairs to the house and the conservation of artifacts damaged when the old roof leaked. The house is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation will guide the work.



This year's Ohio History Fund grant recipients. At Statehood Day 2018 on February 28, the Ohio History Connection announced nine new grant recipients and awards totaling \$76,000 (Photo courtesy Ohio History Connection)

Center for Archival Collections, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green

\$6,700 for "Experiencing War: A Project to Preserve and Make Accessible Oral Histories of World War II." The project will enable Bowling Green State University's Center for Archival Collections (CAC) to digitize, preserve, and publicly disseminate a collection of approximately 100 oral histories of Ohioans' experiences of World War II. The project will transfer recordings from unstable analog formats to preservation-quality digital files, as well as create descriptive metadata, disseminate files via the CAC's digital collections platform, and promote the project. The result will be easier access to a historically significant oral history collection and a greater awareness of the CAC as a steward of the region's cultural heritage.

Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Cleveland

\$10,000 for "Investigating Ice Age Mastodon Hunters in Ohio: Test Excavation of the Jackson Farm Clovis Site." The project will conduct preliminary archaeological excavations of the Jackson Farm Clovis site in Columbiana County. Surface collections from the site produced 13,000-year-old artifacts, including a fluted projectile point, 700 meters from where the remains of a mastodon were discovered. The project will reveal if there is a connection between these two discoveries. Archaeologists from the Cleveland Museum of Natural History and Kent State University will conduct test excavations, determine the age of archaeological deposits, and search for skeletal remains and organic residues on stone tools. This project will share its findings with the public and professional archeological community

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** Historical Society of Mount Pleasant Ohio, Mount Pleasant

\$6,000 to install an HVAC system and restore windows in the Mount Pleasant's Historical Center, and a part of the National Register's Mount Pleasant Historic District. The project will enable the society to provide climate-controlled storage conditions for its collections, thereby allowing the organization to consolidate and organize its holdings into one environmentally stable space and make them available to researchers and the general public. The work will be governed by Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.

** Museum of Ceramics Foundation, East Liverpool

\$14,950 for the "East Liverpool Newspaper Project," which will to microfilm approximately 65 volumes of deteriorating newspapers from the city that exist only as physical volumes and have not been previously microfilmed. The project will rescue the information in local newspapers from destruction due to inevitable deterioration of the newsprint and will preserve the stories these papers can tell about a place that was a ceramics manufacturing center. The microfilm will be made available to researchers and will add to the body of knowledge pertaining to East Liverpool and the pottery industry.

Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, Cleveland

\$9,100 for "NEO Sound: Home Movie Preservation Project." The project will digitally preserve and provide public access to one-of-a-kind amateur film and video recordings that document Northeast Ohio's musical heritage. The Rock Hall's library and archives will host a "Film Preservation Day" to collect donations from community members, digitize and archive analog recordings, and create a compilation video to be shown at a "Home Movie Day." The project will strengthen the NEO Sound collection and increase awareness of the library and archives' role in preserving local rock and roll history. Community members will learn about home movie and sound preservation and receive digital copies of their analog media, as well as gain understanding of Ohio's musical history; and, perhaps, see their footage in future exhibitions and programs. All media acquired will be

made publicly accessible at the Rock Hall's library and archive and online.

** Southeast Ohio History Center, Athens

\$7,000 for "Portraits of Southeast Ohio: Digitizing and Preserving the Jon Webb Collection." The project will digitize approximately 8,000 35mm negatives and rehouse and preserve the entire collection of more than 40,000 negatives in archival storage sleeves and boxes. These images are a beautiful portrait of Southeast Ohio taken by Pulitzer Prize-winning photographer Jon Webb at the start of his career. After the negatives are digitized, the center will upload approximately 2,000 of them to Ohio Memory so that they are available to researchers, other history organizations, and the general public.

** Trumbull County Historical Society, Warren

\$5,000 for the "Textile Collection Inventory and Rehousing Project." The project will inventory and re-house more than 580 textile and accessory items and is one of the first steps towards accomplishing the goals of the society's strategic plan. The grant will enable the society hire a part-time project manager to execute the project, to act on textile consultant's recommendations for the care of the collection, and to purchase collections storage materials.

** Wood County Historical Society, Bowling Green

\$4,010 for the "Collections Storage Preparations" project, the first of a multiphase collections storage initiative that will prepare 9,000 objects for eventual placement in preservation-quality collections storage cabinets. Overall, the project will enable the society to provide better storage for the artifacts in its collection. In addition, the deployment of the thermohygrometers, the creation artifact mounts, and the use of museum grade vacuum to clean items - all made possible by the grant - will increase the organization's capacity to care for its collections and will serve as model for other organizations.

Congratulations to this year's grant recipients!

Want to learn first-hand how to write a competitive grant, using the History Fund as an example?

Attend the session "How to Write a Good Grant." It's offered three times this spring:

- **April 14, 9:45 am** - Region 4 meeting, Ohio Local History Alliance, Canfield
- **April 16, 3:15 pm** - Annual conference, Ohio Museums Association, Dayton
- **May 5, 10 am** - Westlake Recreation Center, hosted by the Westlake Historical Society. For more information or the register, email claguemuseum@yahoo.com or call 216-848-0680.

Applications for 2018-2019's round of grants will be available in mid-June on the Ohio History Fund's web site: www.ohiohistory.org/historyfund. In the meantime, contact Andy Verhoff, the Ohio History Fund's coordinator, with questions: 614.297.2341 or averhoff@ohiohistory.org. ■

Top 10 Tips for Emergency Preparedness

By Samantha Forsko,
Preservation Specialist at the
Conservation Center for Art &
Historic Artifacts (CCAHA).

The Problem: Cultural institutions often lack the ability to develop comprehensive emergency preparedness and response measures, which has put many of the country's most prized artifacts in danger of being lost or destroyed in disasters. Heritage Preservation's Heritage Health Index (HHI) highlighted this issue in a survey taken by over 30,000 institutions across America. The survey asked many different types of questions about collections care and preservation practices, but the responses to questions related to emergency preparedness showed 80% of collecting institutions across the country did not have emergency plans with staff trained to carry them out at the time of the survey.

Top 10 Tips: This issue is not due to a lack of understanding about the importance of emergency preparedness, but rather, a lack of budget, staff time, knowledge and other resources to devote to the process. However, the emergency planning process does not have to be a big, scary, expensive task. The following tips can be used by cultural institutions to help improve their emergency response and preparedness.

1. Begin by conducting a risk assessment of your site and collections.

It's hard to write a plan if you don't know what to plan for! There is a [free self-guided model provided through FAIC](#), but if you don't feel confident in your ability to conduct your own assessment, the Conservation Center for Art & Historic Artifacts offers a limited number of NEH subsidized assessments as well.

2. Do a walkthrough of your site with your local fire department and police department.

They are often more familiar with risks and might know of further resources in your area. It's also good to familiarize them with your site, as they will likely be the first responders in an incident and it will be helpful for them to know their way around.

3. You don't have to do this all on your own.

Join an Alliance for Response. Work with neighboring organizations to help write plans, conduct risk assessments, pool resources, and provide boots on the ground assistance if necessary.

4. Start small! Create a Pocket Response Plan

5. Use online resources.

There are templates and other institutional disaster plans online, NEDCC's dPlan will help to customize a plan for you, and there are many other guides to writing a plan. You don't need to re-invent the wheel, but make sure that it is customized to fit your specific site and needs.

6. Know collection priorities – you can't save everything.

Ideally, priorities would be determined by the materials that have the most value to the institution: they are crucial for interpretation or the mission, they could carry the most historical information, or they carry the most monetary value. This can be difficult and may have internal political ramifications, so it might be easier to determine priorities, at first, based on vulnerability. [The Disaster Wheel](#) lists collection materials based on their vulnerability to water.

7. You should have a stock pile of emergency and salvage supplies on hand.

You should aim to have enough to get you through the first 24 hours in a large disaster, or enough to be fully self-suffi-

cient in a smaller one. A good starter list can be found on [CCAHA's resources page](#).

8. Conduct some sort of training for all staff and volunteers annually.

This can be simple and doesn't have to break the bank: a fire drill to practice evacuation, an earthquake drill to practice sheltering in place, bringing in the fire department for a fire extinguisher training, having an EMT teach a CPR course, or simply talking through your emergency plan in a [table top exercise](#). As long as there is an annual reminder to keep emergency preparedness in mind, your staff will be better prepared if something should happen.

9. You can also take part in many free trainings provided by your local emergency management agencies or FEMA.

Though these trainings may not be specific to cultural institutions, they will give you a better sense of how emergency management works, how emergency managers will be thinking when they are responding to your site, and make you feel more confident in your ability to interact with them.

10. Review the plan annually.

Use an easy to remember date, such as an anniversary of a disaster (the 1994 Northridge earthquake if you are in Los Angeles, for example) to take a look through it. Nothing may have changed, and this will be just a quick read through. More likely, you will have had staff change over, and phone numbers and contact information will need to be updated.

Originally published by the American Association for State and Local History on January 18, 2018.

Beating the Winter Blahs with a Non-Event Instagram Event

by Ruth Brindle, Executive
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Wilmington

What do you do when it's too cold for an outdoor party but when you still want people to engage with your historic downtown? You host a non-event event! Main Street Wilmington recently held its second annual #luvwilmingtonoh Instagram contest where participants were encouraged to share a photograph of something they loved about Wilmington's historic downtown—a building, a shop, a restaurant, a local figure, a beautiful view, or anything that highlighted something unique about the community. Participants were asked to post their photo on a public Instagram account using the #luvwilmingtonoh tag and mentioning @mainstreetwilmi. Professional photographers were encouraged to post photographs, but their entries were not eligible for prizes.

Main Street Wilmington is a community-based non-profit committed to promoting historic preservation and economic development with the goal of maintaining a cultural downtown district that attracts entrepreneurs and retains businesses, serving as a vital hub for housing, shopping, dining, and entertainment. While the goals of the contest were to bring people downtown during a relatively quiet time of the year and to promote downtown shopping, participation, and engagement, the contest also raised awareness of our local history and the beautiful architecture of our historic downtown. The two winning photographs were interior shots of iconic historic buildings in the downtown – Wilmington Friends Meetinghouse (celebrating its 150th anniversary this spring) and the Murphy Theatre (celebrating its 100th anniversary this summer).

The contest was a success on many levels, not the least of which was increasing our community engagement and outreach through social media. Dozens of unique photos were shared, commented on, and reposted, which led to a 148%

increase in impressions on the @mainstreetwilmi Instagram account. Several of the photos were submitted by students from the local high school, who were encouraged to participate in the contest as an assignment in their photography class—a great opportunity to talk to a new and much younger audience about the organization. The contest also allowed us to highlight the local businesses that generously contributed to the Valentine's Day-themed prizes—the florist who donated half a dozen red roses in a beautiful arrangement, the restaurant who donated a gift certificate for dinner for two, the coffee shop who donated a gift card, the wine merchant who donated a bottle of wine, and the specialty retailer who put together a gift basket with scented candles and home decorations.

Of course, no event or program comes together perfectly. We received push-back on the contest rules, particularly the photograph date and professional photographer restrictions. Originally, only photos taken during the span of the contest (February 1-8, 2018) were eligible for consideration. After receiving feedback from several individuals who wanted to share photographs taken in the downtown during other seasons – particularly some of Main Street's signature events like our spring Wine Walk and Holiday Illuminated Parade—we agreed to open the date restriction to any photograph taken since January 1, 2017.

The restriction on professional photographers was intended to encourage all Wilmington residents and fans to participate but was seen as an unfair restriction by the professional photographers in the community, who were also looking for



Winning photograph: interior of the Murphy Theatre by Veronica Campbell (@vlee_82).



Winning photograph: interior of the Wilmington Friends Meetinghouse by Becky Bowman (@rebeccaakbowman).

exposure for their work and their businesses. In response to their legitimate concern, we have planned a photography exhibit of professional work for the fall.

The other challenge was reposting—or sharing—the submitted photographs directly from @mainstreetwilmi in a timely way that didn't flood our followers' feeds, given Instagram's lack of scheduling ability. While a work-around was created using Google calendar for this year, we are investigating third-party scheduling apps for the future.

Was it worth the time and effort? We say—absolutely yes! Anytime our local residents can be encouraged or incentivized to look at their community with new eyes and a measure of pride—everybody wins.

Call for Judges and Volunteers for Ohio History Day

Ohio History Day invites you to spend a Saturday in March or April learning from and being inspired by passionate and knowledgeable students! There are plenty of opportunities to participate. Be a judge at one of the 10 regional competitions across Ohio and/or the state competition. To register as a judge, visit www.ohiohistoryday.org or contact Shoshanna Gross, State Coordinator at sgross@ohiohistory.org or 614.297.2526.

Ohio History Day **Regional** Contest Dates

Ohio History Day is a year-long research project designed for students in grades 4–12. Each year, students pick a topic based on an annual theme and develop a project to illustrate the historical significance of the topic. The program culminates in regional and state level contests that take place in March and April. **All contests are free for the public and take place from 9am – 5pm.**

Saturday, March 17, 2018

Region 8

University of Cincinnati
Tangeman University Center
2766 UC Main Street
Cincinnati, OH 45221

Sign Up: <https://oh-rcmrc.nhd.org>

Region 10

Ohio University Zanesville
1425 Newark Road,
Zanesville, OH 43701

Sign Up: <https://oh-rouzrc.nhd.org>

Saturday, April 7, 2018

Region 4

Youngstown State University
1 University Plaza
Youngstown, OH 44505

Sign Up: <https://oh-rysurc.nhd.org>

Region 5

Kent State University, Stark Campus
6000 Frank Ave. NW
North Canton, OH 44720

Sign Up: <https://oh-rksusrc.nhd.org>

Ohio History Day **State** Contest

Saturday, April 21, 2018

State Contest:

Ohio Wesleyan (Grades 6-12)
61 S Sandusky St, Delaware, OH
43015

Sign Up: <https://oh.nhd.org>

Youth Contest

Ohio Wesleyan (grades 4 & 5)
61 S Sandusky St
Delaware, OH 43015

Sign Up: <https://oh1.nhd.org>



Join us for World War One at the Ohio State Fair!

WHERE: Ohio State Fair; Cardinal Hall

WHEN: July 25th-August 5th, 9am-9pm (12 days)

WHO: Ohio Local History organizations

WHAT: Organizations around the state can display their community's unique role in WWI. Showcase artifacts, stories, photos, and/or small mobile exhibit displays. Engage interested fairgoers with interactive maps, quizzes, prize wheels, and other activities. OHC will have a few portable activities that can be rotated in throughout the fair. This is also a great opportunity for organizations to promote and showcase your museum. Use the WWI Commemoration to reflect the great work your local history organization is doing!

HOW: Sign up with the requested date(s) you want reserved for your organization. Fill out sign-up sheet or contact Anthony Gibbs at agibbs@ohiohistory.org or 614-297-2477. The deadline for reserving your space is April 16th. All 10 days of the Fair will be filled on a first-come first-served basis, so sign-up as soon as possible.

The Fair will provide parking, load-in support (golf cart), standard electricity, fair passes for the day. We'll have a 20x20 area with 3-4 tables. Up to 4 people can come represent your organization, so you have enough to rotate your booth coverage throughout the day.

SPECIAL DAY: Sunday, June 29th will be Veteran's appreciation day and we will be holding a WWI encampment just outside Cardinal Hall.

Regional Meeting Season is Here!

The Ohio Local History Alliance's regional meetings are a wonderful opportunity to be inspired and to learn from other local historians in your region of the state. This year's theme is **The Past is Present**.

You can find the regional meeting brochure and registration links at www.ohiolha.org/what-we-do/alliance-regional-meetings

Region 1: April 7, hosted by the Fallen Timbers Battlefield Preservation Commission at the Fallen Timbers Battlefield Visitor's Center.
Registration Deadline March 30.

Region 2: April 14, hosted by and at Historic Lyme Village
Registration Deadline is April 6.

Region 3: April 7, hosted by and at the Lorain Historical Society
Registration Deadline March 30.

Region 4: April 14, hosted by the Canfield Heritage Museum at Loghurst Museum
Registration Deadline is April 6.

Region 5: March 10, hosted by the Louisville-Nimishillen Historical Society
Register at the door.

Region 6: March 17, hosted by and at the Bremen Area Historical Society
Registration Deadline is March 9.

Region 7: March 24, hosted by the Tippecanoe Historical Society
Registration Deadline is March 16.

Region 8: March 10, hosted by the Friends of White Water Shaker Village at Fernald Preserve
Register at the door.

Region 9: March 17, hosted by and at the Southeast Ohio History Center
Registration Deadline is March 9.

Region 10: March 24, hosted by and at The Castle Historic House Museum
Registration Deadline is March 16.

Thank you again to all of our regional meeting hosts!

Webinar: Is Your Museum Grant Ready?

Sarah Sutton offers a guide to self-assessing your institution's grant-readiness and steps for bringing yourselves up to par. This 75-minute workshop reviews the institutional structures, policies, information, and practices that make museums competitive in the grants game. This webinar is adapted from Sarah's new book of the same title.

Date: June 4th, 2018

Time: 3:00 – 4:30 pm EASTERN (Remember to calculate for your time zone!)

Cost: \$40 members/\$65 non-members

Participants will learn...

- How to interact with the funder in a highly-professional and cooperative manner
- What types of information describe audiences adequately, and demonstrate program needs and effectiveness
- What experience and examples can highlight your institution's value and impact
- How to illustrate your institution's quality as a program provider and as a reliable grant partner

Sarah Sutton will narrate a step-by-step process for collecting and sharing this information, and provide examples of good practice. The session will conclude with time for audience questions.

Recommended audience: Those new to proposal-writing, and applicants who have been unsuccessful attracting grants for a new program or organization, or for the first few times pursuing grants.

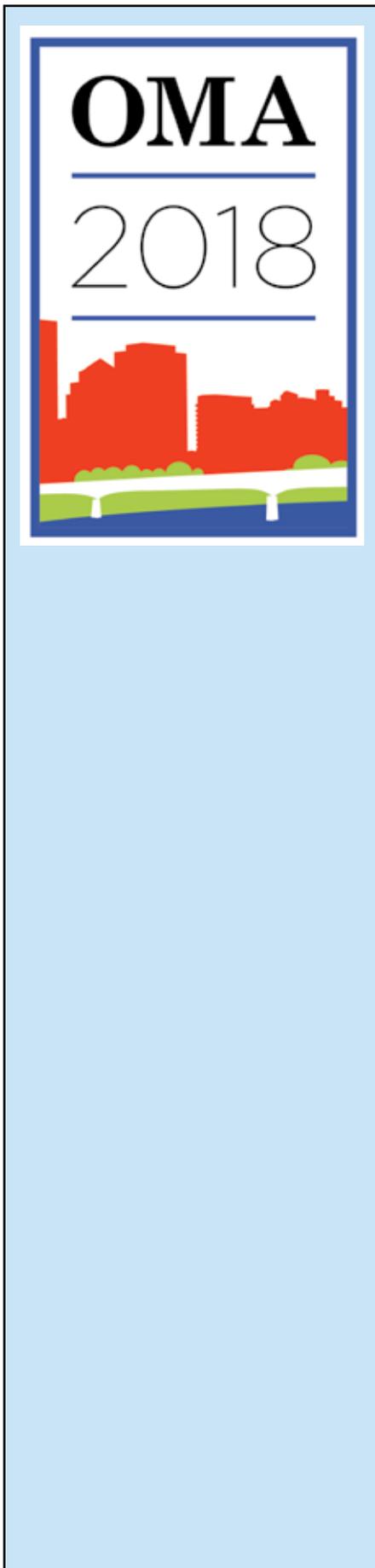
Register at learn.aaslh.org

People in the News

Ruth Brindle has been named Executive Co-Director of Main Street Wilmington, a community-based non-profit that uses historic preservation and awareness of local history to support economic development and business growth in Downtown Wilmington. The organization hosts events throughout the year (Third Friday Parties at the Mural, Art & Soul Festival, Hometown Holiday Illuminated Parade) and organizes beautification and history awareness projects (Operation Storefront, a walking tour of the historic downtown district). Ruth will remain in her role as Co-Chair of the Outreach Committee and Secretary on the OLHA Board and is excited to be bringing museums and local history organizations closer together with the historic preservation world.

Andrea Chevalier of ICA was recently named a Fellow Member of the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works, the national conservation professional organization. This honor recognizes her significant years of experience and her ongoing contributions to the field. Andrea is the director of conservation and head of the painting conservation lab at ICA.

Andrea has been a member of AIC since 1992 when she began working as a contract conservator in Germany. She has continued to expand her expertise and work in the profession through the intervening years. ■



2018 OMA Annual Conference

April 15-16 - Dayton

In an ever-changing landscape of new technology, new concepts and new experiences, there is a choice: ask big questions and generate extraordinary ideas – or risk becoming obsolete.

Across Ohio, museums are tackling the ideas and questions that reshape the way we function, change the way we think and communicate, and impact how we grow and serve both our mission and our communities.

This year's host city knows a thing or two about making new ideas take flight. Join us in Dayton, April 15 and 16 as we explore these topics and more at the 2018 Ohio Museums Association's Annual Conference – Dayton.

OMA 2018 Conference Program

OMA 2018 is packed full of great opportunities, professional development, engaging speakers, tours, awards, networking and more! Attendees at OMA 2018 will enjoy the great conference staples you've come to expect from the Ohio Museums Association, including:

- **BACK FOR 2018!** Pre-Conference Tours - There's more to explore at OMA 2018! Join OMA a day early, Saturday, April 14 as we visit three amazing Dayton museums - the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force, Boonshoft Museum of Discovery and Sunwatch Indian Village!
- The 2018 Keynote Address by a leader in the museum field
- Our Sunday progressive museum tour - Enjoy an evening of exploring two iconic Dayton museums!
- The Annual Awards dinner at the beautiful Dayton Art Institute
- **BACK FOR 2018!** OMA is proud to once again offer Student Scholarships to attend the 2018 Annual Conference! Scholarship includes a full, Sunday and Monday registration.
- The OMA raffle that boasts a wide variety of goodies you won't be able to resist
- A perennial favorite - The Ohio EMP Gathering! Join the leadership of all five Ohio EMP Chapters welcomes EMPs from across the state, as well as museum pros looking to learn more about these groups. Enjoy networking and cocktails at this all-Ohio EMP event!
- **BACK FOR 2018!** Pre-Conference Workshop - OMA has partnered with Equitas Health for the Sunday workshop "Serving the LGBTQ Community with Cultural Humility and Structural Competency."
- The OMA Exhibit Hall featuring regional museum service providers
- Networking with museum professionals from across the state
- Sixteen professional development sessions and two roundtable sessions ranging in topics from across the museum discipline
- **NEW FOR 2018!** Sunday Morning Discovery Walk - Get an early start at OMA 2018 with a Sunday Morning Discovery Walk at Aullwood Audubon Center and Farm, guided by an Aullwood naturalist!

Visit www.ohiomuseums.org for complete details and to register for OMA 2018! ■

NEH Common Heritage Grants

Receipt Deadline May 31, 2018 for Projects Beginning January 2019

America's cultural heritage is preserved not only in libraries, museums, archives, and other community organizations, but also in all of our homes, family histories, and life stories. The Common Heritage program aims to capture this vitally important part of our country's heritage and preserve it for future generations. Common Heritage will support both the digitization of cultural heritage materials and the organization of outreach through community events that explore and interpret these materials as a window on the community's history and culture.

The Common Heritage program recognizes that members of the public—in partnership with libraries, museums, archives, and historical organizations—have much to contribute to the understanding of our cultural mosaic. Together, such institutions and the public can be effective partners in the appreciation and stewardship of our common heritage.

The program supports events organized by community cultural institutions, which members of the public will be invited to attend. At these events experienced staff will digitize the community historical materials brought in

by the public. Project staff will also record descriptive information—provided by community attendees—about the historical materials. Contributors will be given a free digital copy of their items to take home, along with the original materials. With the owner's permission, digital copies of these materials would be included in the institutions' collections. Historical photographs, artifacts, documents, family letters, art works, and audiovisual recordings are among the many items eligible for digitization and public commemoration.

Projects must also provide community outreach via public events that would expand understanding of the community's heritage. Public programs could include lectures, panels, reading and discussion groups, special gallery tours, screening and discussion of relevant films, presentations by a historian, special initiatives for families and children, interpretation by curators about items brought in by the public, workshops on preserving heritage materials, or other activities that bring humanities perspectives on heritage materials to community audiences. These activities should provide a framework for a deeper understanding of the com-

munity members' shared or divergent heritage. The programs may take place before, during, and/or after the day of the digitization event. Applicants may but need not include in their proposals a topic around which the event and the programs would be organized. Topics proposed for programs may also be proposed for the digitization event.

The applicant institution must plan, promote, and organize the event and ensure that a wide range of historical materials can be digitized and also contextualized through public programming. Since the help of additional institutions and organizations in the community may be needed to accomplish this work, the applicant must take responsibility for enlisting appropriate organizations or institutions, such as local libraries and museums, to contribute to the project, as needed.

NEH especially welcomes applications from small and medium-sized institutions that have not previously received NEH support.

For more details and grant instructions (which will be posted by March 31st), go to <https://www.neh.gov/grants/preservation/common-heritage>

Friends of the Ohio Governor's Residence and Heritage Garden Speaker Series

The Friends of the Ohio Governor's Residence and Heritage Garden (FOGRHG) has put together an exciting Speaker's Series for 2018. Award-winning author and historian, Ann Hagedorn, launched the series on February 22 at the Ohio History Center with readings from her books *Beyond the River* and *Savage Peace*. Afterward, Ohioana Director David Weaver led an interactive Q&A.

Ian Adams, well-known Ohio author and photographer, will showcase images from his new book *Ohio in Photographs: A Portrait of the Buckeye State*, and selections from *A Photographer's Guide to Ohio* on April 19 at 7 p.m., also at the Ohio History Center.

On July 23, Noel Kingsbury will be the after-luncheon speaker at Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens. Noel has authored over 20 books on plants and

design, and is a frequent collaborator with Piet Oudolf, designer of the Highline in NYC and Lurie Park in Chicago.

The series concludes on September 20 at the Ohio History Center with William Hershey and John Green, authors of *Mr. Chairman: The Life and Times of Ray C. Bliss*. A native of Akron, Bliss was an influential leader within the Republican National Committee in the 1960s.

Ohio History Center lectures are \$35 and include light refreshments. The Noel Kingsbury luncheon and lecture is \$60. To register, visit FriendsOhio.org and click on the "Donate Now" button. In the memo box, please type Speaker Series and the speaker's name. Checks can be made payable to FOGRHG and mailed to: P.O. Box 218366, Columbus, OH 43221

Questions? Contact: Debra Knapke; 614-738-1157 (cell), knapke.sage@gmail.com



Ann Hagedorn



David Weaver



Ian Adams



Noel Kingsbury



William Hershey



John Green

Region 1

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



The **Allen County Museum** will be featuring its World War I exhibit, “Wake Up America: Allen County in the Great War,” through Veteran’s Day 2018. Included is a recently restored Class B, Liberty Truck. The Gramm-Bernstein Motor Truck Company of Lima was one of two companies selected to build the prototype of the truck in 1917. After completion, a crew drove it to Washington, D.C. where it was inspected by President Wilson and the War Department. Lima’s two truck companies, Gramm-Bernstein and Garford Motors, built more than 5,000 Liberty Trucks for the war effort. Restoration of the Allen County Historical Society’s Liberty Truck was made possible by the Husky Lima Refinery.

An early history of Defiance, Ohio and some of its pioneer settlers was written by Edwin Phelps and originally published as 12 newspaper articles in the late 1800s. The **Andrew L. Tuttle Memorial Museum** in Defiance, OH has recently had this collection indexed. In the near future, copies of the articles and accompanying index will be available for the public to research. Contact the Tuttle at 419-782-0746 or e-mail thetuttle@cityofdefiance.com

The **John Paulding Historical Society** recently held a wine and cheese tasting party. This is an annual fundraising activity hosted by the Historical Society.

The **Fort Meigs Historic Site** in Perrysburg, OH is recruiting volunteers to be docents in a new program offered this season. Dan Woodward, programs manager, can be contacted by calling 419-874-4121, ext. 17; or by e-mail at info@fortmeigs.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

Region 4

Ashtabula, Geauga, Mahoning, Portage, and Trumbull Counties

The **Mahoning Valley Historical Society** has again achieved accreditation by the American Alliance of Museums, the highest national recognition afforded the nation’s museums. Accreditation signifies excellence to the museum community, to governments, funders, outside agencies, and to the museum-going public. The Arms Family Museum was initially accredited in 1977. All museums must undergo a reaccreditation review at least every 10 years to maintain accredited status, the process this year included the recently opened Tyler Mahoning Valley History Center. Of the nation’s estimated 33,000 museums, over 1,070 are currently accredited. The Mahoning Valley Historical Society is one of only 149 museums accredited in Ohio.

Region 5

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

The **Old Fort Steuben Project, Inc.** and **Historic Fort Steuben** are pleased by the continuing success of the Steubenville Nutcracker Village. From November 21, 2017 through the end of December, thousands of people visited Fort Steuben Park and the Visitor’s Center to see 150 unique Nutcrackers, designed and fabricated by the creative team at Nelson’s of Steubenville. The Steubenville Nutcracker Village topped several lists of the best Christmas attractions in the state.

Region 6

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

The **New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society** conducted an archaeological dig at the Ealy House on November 4th, 2017. Approximately 35 people worked on the dig, under the supervision of professionals from the EMH&T engineering firm. The dig focused on a 200-square-foot area southeast of the Ealy House, suggested by descendants of the Doran family as a possible outhouse location. Over 399 items were recovered, including pieces of glass, broken dishes, a belt buckle, buttons, hinges, eyeglasses, and much more. Altogether, the various items provide evidence that the outhouse was built in 1863, a few years after the Ealy House was completed in 1860.

Region 7

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

At the December 2017 Christmas Dinner for the **Champaign County Historical Society**, the society’s Education Outreach Chair Terri Marratta presented a check for \$100 to Urbana Junior High teachers Amanda Goodwin and Sadie Steffan. The grant will be used to further eighth-grade social studies. This is just the beginning of a new undertaking by the society to augment the teaching of local history throughout Champaign County. They will continue to grant \$100 per year to any and all county school districts requesting such assistance.

Region 8

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



The **Clinton County History Center's** Creeping Baby has become an international traveler! Creeping Baby is part of the collection of the Clinton County History Center, and is an automaton, or a clockwork doll, patented in 1871. When she is wound-up she will creep, turning her head from side to side.

In April 2015, the Center was contacted by DASA Arbeitswelt Ausstellung (World of Work Exhibition Center) in Dortmund, Germany. They were planning an exhibit on “man-machines-robots,” and requested a loan of the doll to be part of this exhibit, running from November 2015 to September 2016. This exhibit was then sent to Parque de las Ciencias in Granada Spain for display from February 2, 2017 to June 2018. In July 2018, the exhibit will travel to the CosmoCaixa Museum in Barcelona, where Creeping Baby will be on display until February 2019.

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

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 bhedler@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.

MEMBERS

Welcome New Members

Joined between December 20, 2017 and February 21, 2018

ORGANIZATIONS

Licking County Library, Newark	Main Street Wilmington, Wilmington	Museum of Hispanic and Latino Cultures, Lorain
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Thank You Renewing Members

Renewed between December 20, 2017 and February 21, 2018

INDIVIDUALS

JoAnn Bertram, Cincinnati	Rosalie Frazier, Columbus	Marsha Friend, Columbus	Ronald I. Marvin, Kenton
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ORGANIZATIONS

Brimfield Historical Society, Kent	Erie County Historical Society, Sandusky	Lakeside Heritage Society Inc., Lakeside	Richfield Historical Society, Richfield
Carlisle Area Historical Society, Carlisle	Fairport Harbor Historical Society, Fairport Harbor	Licking County Historical Society, Newark	Richland County Historical Society, Mansfield
Carroll Area Historical Society, Carroll	Franklinton Historical Society, Columbus	Lorain County Historical Society, Elyria	Sebring Ohio Historical Society, Sebring
Central Insurance Fire Museum, Van Wert	Glendale Heritage Preservation, Cincinnati	Mahoning Valley Historical Society, Youngstown	The Castle Historic House Museum, Marietta
Clermont County Historical Society, Batavia	Guernsey County Historical Society, Cambridge	Metamora Area Historical Society, Metamora	The John P Parker Historical Society, Ripley
Coleraine Historical Society Inc., Cincinnati	Heritage Avon Lake, Avon Lake	Montgomery Historical Society, Montgomery	Westwood Historical Society, Cincinnati
Crosby Township Historical Society, Harrison	Indian Hill Historical Society, Cincinnati	New Washington Historical Society, New Washington	
Dayton Police History Foundation, Inc., Dayton	Jackson Township Historical Society, Massillon	Perrysburg Area Historic Museum, Inc., Perrysburg	
Decorative Arts Center of Ohio, Lancaster	Lake County Historical Society, Painesville		

CALENDAR

MARCH 10:

Region 5 and 8 meetings. For more information, see page 10.

Region 6 and 7 Ohio History Day contests. For more information, see page 9.

MARCH 17:

Region 6 and 9 meetings. For more information, see page 10.

Region 8 Ohio History Day contest. For more information, see page 9.

MARCH 24:

Region 7 and 10 meetings. For more information, see page 10.

APRIL 7:

Region 1 and 3 meetings. For more information, see page 10.

Region 4 and 5 Ohio History Day contests. For more information, see page 9.

APRIL 14:

Region 2 and 4 meetings. For more information, see page 10.

APRIL 15:

Ohio Museum's Association Annual Conference. For more information, see page 11

APRIL 17:

Tax Day! Final Day to Donate your Refund to the Ohio History Fund!

APRIL 19:

Friends of the Ohio Governor's Residence and Heritage Garden (FOGRHR) Speaker Series: Ian Adams talk at the Ohio History Center. For more information, see page 12.

APRIL 21:

Ohio History Day State and Youth Contests. For more information, see page 9.

MAY 5:

"How to Write a Good Grant," session, Westlake Historical Society. For more information, see page 6.

MAY 31:

Deadline for NEH Common Heritage Grants. For more information, see page 12.

JUNE 4 :

AASLH Webinar: Is Your Museum Grant Ready? For more information, see page 10.

JULY 23 :

Friends of the Ohio Governor's Residence and Heritage Garden (FOGRHR) Speaker Series: Noel Kinsbury talk at Franklin Park Conservatory For more information, see page 12.

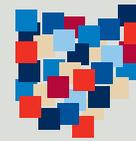
JULY 25-AUGUST 5:

WWI Commemoration at Ohio State Fair. For more information, see page 9.

SEPTEMBER 20:

Friends of the Ohio Governor's Residence and Heritage Garden (FOGRHR) Speaker Series: William Hershey and John Green talk at the Ohio History Center. For more information, see page 12

JOIN THE OHIO LOCAL HISTORY ALLIANCE...



OHIO LOCAL HISTORY ALLIANCE
Inspire. Connect. Educate.

...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	(\$65 for 2)
Individual:	\$50	(\$90 for 2)
Student:	\$20	

Business Member:

	\$100	(\$190 for 2)
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Join at:

www.ohiohistorystore.com/Ohio-LHA-formerly-OAHSM-C120.aspx

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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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)

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