

2012 Alliance Annual Meeting Coming October 5 and 6!

By Beth Weinhardt,
Coordinator, Anti-Saloon
League Museum/Westerville
Public Library, Westerville

It is the time of year when the Ohio Local History Alliance Annual Meeting and Conference brochure lands in local history organization mailboxes across the state. In our organization, the brochure is passed back and forth as we discuss which sessions are musts, who is going to what, and how we can maximize the potential for our organization with the offerings. The annual meeting and conference is anticipated because it is a chance to see old friends, make new friends, and to learn from others who love local history and want to see it thrive.

This year, new opportunities are going to be provided for attendees of the meeting. We are pleased to announce that the Alliance and the Society of Ohio Archivists (SOA) are teaming up on Friday to offer more session choices and opportunities to connect. So please join us on Friday, October 5th and Saturday, October 6th as we delve into the conference theme “Inspire or Expire: How to Remain Relevant in the 21st Century.” This year’s meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn in Worthington, Ohio, site of the 2011 meeting.

The keynote address will be of great value to all of us as we attempt to find new ways to attract an audience to our site/museum and our community. Dan Shilling, author of *Civic Tourism: The Poetry and Politics of Place* will inspire us to find ways to connect to the public, share our stories, and add economic value to our community. We are very fortunate to have Dan join us again on Saturday for a workshop to explore these themes in more depth.

(Continued on page3)



Photo courtesy of the Ohio Historical Society.

Annual Meeting At-a-Glance

What: Ohio Local History Alliance 2012 Annual Meeting and Conference - “Inspire or Expire: How to Remain Relevant in the 21st Century”

When: Friday and Saturday, October 5 & 6

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

For more information: Visit <http://www.ohiohistory.org/local-history-office/professional-development/alliance-annual-meeting> or call 800-858-6878.

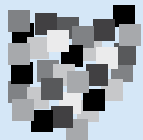
To register online: Go to www.ohiohistory.org/register. The last day to register online is September 21.

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President's Message:

The fall season is upon us, and with it comes the Alliance's Annual Meeting and Conference. Our theme this year is continued from the spring regional meetings: *Inspire or Expire: How to Remain Relevant in the 21st Century*. This rather stark phrase evolved out of a brainstorming session for our 2012 regional and annual meetings. We were trying to capture an historical organization's ultimate purpose in one punchy phrase. Our more traditional suggestions had contained words like "preserve," "educate," "engage," and "audience." Suddenly, one board member said, "What it really boils down to is that we need to inspire people, or our organizations will...well, expire." We all had a good laugh and then moved on. But we kept coming back to that phrase, *Inspire...or Expire*. We liked it. We felt it summed up, in just a few powerful and provocative words, what all historical organizations must do.



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.

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Visit **The Alliance** online at www.ohioh.org and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ohiolocalhistoryalliance

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.

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To inspire has all kinds of wonderful connotations. We have all experienced the rush of a great inspirational moment; it is probably the reason most of us do what we do. We love to inspire people to learn more about their past...to get involved...to donate...to speak up...to preserve...to support...to discuss...to cherish...to think...perhaps even to challenge. Yep, we either inspire people and flourish, or become extinct.

At this year's Annual Meeting and Conference, you will encounter dozens of ways to inspire and be inspired so that your organization remains vibrant. And what's more, the Alliance has two exciting new developments to share with you. We will be officially launching our new website and Facebook page this fall,

and we want you to be among the first to see these great new tools for interacting with your fellow local historians. See you there!

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Tips for Engaging with Your Local Community

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

Are you engaged in the local community? I mean really engaged? As state and local historical societies, we cannot afford to be anything but effectively engaged in the local community. When community leaders promote your community and its special events, is your organization among the first things mentioned? Are you on a first-name basis with your local elected leadership and organizational leaders of local civic groups? If the answer to any of these questions is no, there are several things you can consider to get to a resounding “Yes!” Consider:

- Special tours for elected leaders in your community. Think about county commissioners, your state representative, state senator, mayor, city council members, or other county-elected officials. Make sure the tour is timed conveniently for them. Be willing to

give a one-on-one tour—it might be more effective. If elected officials do not know you and your organization well, why would they tout your organization?

- Volunteer to speak at organizational meetings. You may already be thinking about the local Kiwanis or Rotary clubs (essential!). What other organizations need to hear from you? Volunteer to come to an upcoming meeting, especially if you have an important upcoming event to promote. Not a great public speaker? Go with a volunteer who is. But put yourself out there—don’t wait!
- Think bigger. Every nonprofit, especially history organizations, struggles to maintain and build membership. It is essential to position your organization as not just relevant, but a defining component of what makes your community and region special. If you think

a certain demographic will never be interested in your organization, think again. Be creative and tell them your story in a way that will spark a “wow” moment for them.

- Be involved. Break out of the mold of what you think is expected. Attend a city council meeting. Volunteer to help another local nonprofit organization. Be an ambassador. Your organization and your community’s history need you. Ultimately, you will find it rewarding and inspirational.

Above all, be authentic and demonstrate enthusiasm. I like to say that we Ohioans live in a content-rich environment when it comes to history and culture. We have a big story to tell, so let’s get out there and shout it from the rooftops! ■

2012 Alliance Annual Meeting (Continued from page 1)

Other highlights include:

- The Tech Café, back by popular demand, bringing more low-cost and simple technology ideas
- An in-depth look at the security issues confronting sites/museums and some tools to combat theft and vandalism
- As we continue with the Civil War 150th, sessions will be offered on the Underground Railroad in Ohio and Ohio Women and the Civil War Home Front
- SOA is providing a workshop on paper conservation and a forum that allows attendees to ask questions of experts on topics related to archives. Check the brochure for their other Friday offerings
- Workshops on the new grant opportunities from the History Fund, tourism grants from the Ohio Humanities Council, and a roundtable

to share fundraising ideas will all help locate funding sources

- An extended workshop that looks at all aspects of oral history projects
- Sessions on field trips and education collections to aid groups in outreach to educators and students
- How-to sessions on creating a first person character, using collaborations, finding period clothing and artifacts, recruiting and keeping volunteers of all ages... and much more

The Friday night reception should be a real treat for all who attend. The Worthington Masonic Temple, one of the oldest Masonic Temples west of the Allegheny Mountains, is going to be open to reception attendees to tour. Light hors d’oeuvres and drinks will be served at the nearby Old Rectory, which will also be open for touring. At 6:00pm living historian Sandra Quick will portray Phyllis

Wheatly, an early African-American poet, at the Masonic Temple. You can complete your evening by strolling through historic Worthington and dining at a restaurant of your choosing. (List will be provided.)

On Saturday morning, the Ohio Local History Alliance annual business meeting will take place before the day’s sessions begin. Alliance President Christie Weininger will bring attendees up to date on the latest Alliance news and preside over the election of officers. You can also enter your name in a drawing for a special prize.

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

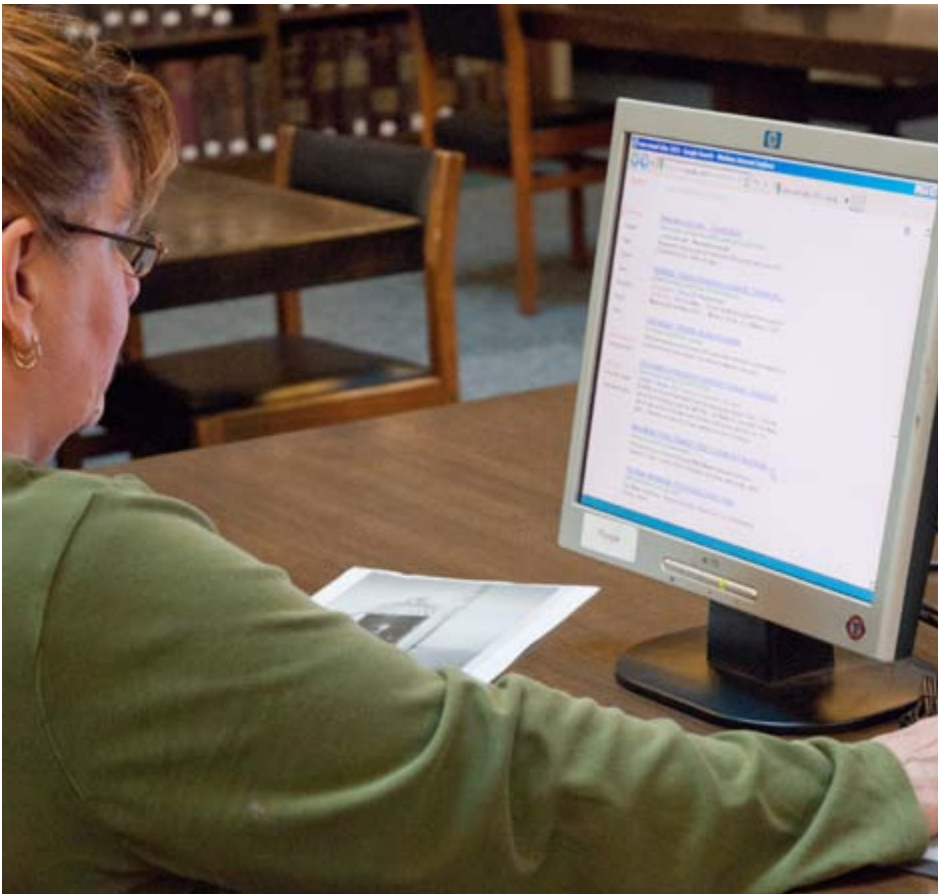


Photo courtesy of the Ohio Historical Society.

Staying on Top of Technology with TechSoup

By Kathy Fernandez,
Executive Director, North
Canton Heritage Society,
North Canton

Editor's Note: This article highlights a great resource for staying technologically up-to-date. Be sure to check out the Tech Café sessions at the Annual Meeting in October for more good ideas.

Are you in the “soup” when it comes to computing? Are you always a version behind in your software and feel you just can not afford to keep up? Well, TechSoup can come to the rescue.

TechSoup caters exclusively to nonprofit organizations and partners with software (and some hardware) companies to provide us “little guys” with the most up-to-date computer programs at very low cost.

How it works:

Software manufacturers, including Microsoft (Windows), Adobe (Photoshop and PDFs), Norton (security), and many others allow TechSoup to offer a limited number of licenses each year to their products. For instance, Microsoft Office Professional

Plus (including Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, and much more) is just \$31. Compare that to an office supply store's price of \$149! But there is a catch. Each partner company has its own eligibility requirements that organizations must meet. For example, some libraries are not eligible for the Microsoft Office suite.

How to join:

To use TechSoup, first open an individual member account on their website, www.techsoup.org, with username and password. Next, register your organization and submit documents to prove its nonprofit status, so you can qualify to receive these massive discounts. Qualification is as simple as forwarding to TechSoup a copy of your 501(c)3 tax exempt letter of determination from the IRS. After TechSoup verifies your status, you can order materials from their website. You will receive weekly emails with information about new offerings.

TechSoup also offers productivity and management software. For instance, a recent offering was Volunteer Matters, a program to keep track of volunteer involvement. TechSoup also has programs to store your data in “the cloud,” offsite servers for those important information back-ups you have always promised to do. Refurbished hardware from Dell and other manufacturers is also available, as are the recently discontinued Flip cameras.

Additionally, TechSoup is committed to training, and offers webinars, a users' forum, and other help to assist you in using the software it distributes.

The North Canton Heritage Society has successfully purchased software from TechSoup over the past five years. Once you have used them, you will never pay retail again! ■

History Fund Grant Applications Available

Due October 29

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

The application for the Ohio Historical Society's new History Fund grant program is now available at www.ohiohistory.org/historyfund. To seasoned grant writers, the History Fund's application will look familiar. It asks for basic facts about a grant applicant (name, address, etc.), a project narrative, and a budget. For new grant writers, a good rule of thumb is this: a great grant application

- Outlines a need
- Describes your solution for that need
- Describes how support from the History Fund will enable you to implement that solution
- Explains how that solution will benefit your organization and community

That's it! And all grant writers have to make sure their proposals meet the requirements of the grant program. For the History Fund, those requirements are described in the program's *Guidelines* at www.ohiohistory.org/historyfund. The *Guidelines* explain what the History Fund will fund (and what it will not). As you craft your application, keep the *Guidelines* and instructions for completing the application handy. They will both be dog-eared by the time you submit your application.

The generosity of Ohio's taxpayers makes the History Fund possible. They donate by using their Ohio income tax return to designate a part of their tax refund to the Ohio Historical Society. Friends of OHS support the Fund through direct contributions to the Society. In this, its first year, the History Fund will have over \$100,000 to grant.

Please contact the Ohio Historical Society's Local History Office with any questions about the History Fund: local-history@ohiohistory.org or 614-297-2340. Good luck.

Latest OHIO HISTORIC PRESERVATION TAX CREDIT Recipients Announced

The latest recipients of the Ohio Historic Preservation Tax Credit (OHPTC) were announced on June 26. As a result of the credit, 44 more historic buildings will be rehabilitated. Any building listed on the National Register of Historic Places, located in a registered historic district, certified by the Ohio Historic Preservation Office as being of historic significance to a district, or listed as a historic landmark by a Certified Local Government is eligible to apply for the OHPTC. The credit is equal to 25% of qualified rehabilitation expenses. The OHPTC has helped save historic buildings in communities statewide, preserving history and spurring economic development. For more information visit: <http://development.ohio.gov/urban/OHPTC>.

The Round 8 Ohio Historic Preservation Tax Credit recipients are:

- 620-30 East Broad St. (Columbus, Franklin County) – total project cost: \$2,203,539; total tax credit: \$313,145
- 1405-07 Republic St. (Cincinnati, Hamilton County) – total project cost: \$3,405,702; total tax credit: \$751,362
- 1500-06 Elm St. (Cincinnati, Hamilton County) – total project cost: \$3,557,880; total tax credit: \$643,601
- Artspace Hamilton Lofts (Hamilton, Butler County) – total project cost: \$10,209,024; total tax credit: \$2,332,373
- Bodenheimer-Mayer House (Lancaster, Fairfield County) – total project cost: \$343,500; total tax credit: \$71,000
- Central Parkway YMCA (Cincinnati, Hamilton County) – total project cost: \$27,131,432; total tax credit: \$5 million
- Fiberglass Tower (Toledo, Lucas County) – total project cost: \$47,149,758; total tax credit: \$5 million
- Franklin Hotel (Kent, Portage County) – total project cost: \$5,848,164; total tax credit: \$955,750
- Franklinton Post Office (Columbus, Franklin County) – total project cost \$640,000; total tax credit: \$125,000
- Grant Commons (Columbus, Franklin County) – total project cost: \$12,609,992; total tax credit: \$2,966,686
- LeVeque Tower (Columbus, Franklin County) – total project cost: \$27,600,000; total tax credit: \$5 million
- Rubenstein Building and Marietta Flats (Dayton, Montgomery County) – total project cost: \$11,000,000; total tax credit: \$1,862,500
- St. Paulus Church (Cincinnati, Hamilton County) – total project cost: \$8,227,124; total tax credit: \$1,854,667
- Truman Building (Cleveland, Cuyahoga County) – total project cost: \$9,023,922; total tax credit: \$1,840,874
- Vermillion Institute (Hayesville, Ashland County) – total project cost: \$1,239,800; total tax credit: \$234,400
- Vincent Tower (Cleveland, Cuyahoga County) – total project cost: \$17 million; total tax credit: \$1,613,750
- Woodward Opera House and Cooper Building (Mount Vernon, Knox County) – total project cost: \$28,500,000; total tax credit: \$4,655,324
- Yankee Trader Building (Columbus, Franklin County) – total project cost: \$3,895,700; total tax credit: \$664,900



Photo courtesy of the Ohio Historical Society.

Ohio Historical Marker Grant Available

Applications Due October 1

By Andy Verhoff,
Local History Coordinator,
Local History Office,
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Columbus

Ohio has over 1,400 Ohio Historical Markers, but does your community have one? Markers commemorate significant people, places, things, and events in local and Ohio history in the places where they happened. The sesquicentennial of the Civil War and the bicentennial of the War of 1812 are excellent reasons to mark your communities' roles in these conflicts now. Other good topics for markers are notable items from the 20th century history of your area, as long as they are at least 50 years old.

In October, the Ohio Historical Society will award up to five marker grants of \$750. The grants offset up to a third of the cost of marker (\$2,300 - \$2,580). And it is easy to apply: simply mark the box at the top of the first page of the marker application. That mark turns your marker application into a grant

application. For an application, go to <http://www.remarkableohio.org/MarkerApplication.aspx>. Be sure to attach to your completed application copies of the sources you used to prove the truth of the facts in the marker text.

The Local History Office encourages marker applicants to apply for grants, but does not require it. If your community does not want to apply for a grant, it is still very welcome to apply for a marker, and we accept applications year 'round. The marker process, from submission to dedication, can take up to six months. (At any one time, the office has 15-20 markers under review.) Please plan accordingly.

Have questions? Contact the Local History Office at 1-800-858-6878, 614-297-2340, or localhistory@ohiohistory.org. Good luck!



Promote Your War of 1812 Events!

The War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission has created a website – warof1812.ohio.gov – that needs your information!

An important component of the Commission's mission is to educate and to raise awareness among residents of Ohio and of the nation about Ohio's

role in the War of 1812. To meet that goal, the official Ohio War of 1812 website includes events commemorating the war, research, speaking engagements, and other programs.

To ensure that the website is comprehensive and, thus, a valuable tool, the Commission, which is an appointed volunteer body, is asking for your assistance. If you are, or know of, an organization planning War of 1812 events, commemorations, educational activities, etc., please upload the information about these events onto the website or share this information with the appropriate individuals and/or groups.

To upload your events onto the official commission website, follow these steps:

- Go to <http://warof1812.ohio.gov/>

- Roll over the 'Events' tab on the top tool bar
- Click on the 'Register' tab
- Enter the information as it pertains to the event
- Press 'Send' button at the bottom of the page

This will submit your event to the commission website. Once approved, the event will appear on the calendar of events.

With several events already underway and many around the corner, the commission would like to drive attendance and awareness for all future events. By submitting your event information to the Ohio War of 1812 website, you will be able to further promote your event.

Larry Burge is the new Managing Director of the **National Heisey Glass Museum**. Burge brings a wealth of management experience from his long career where he has maintained and grown successful operations in the public, private, and non-profit sectors. He has a B.S. in Accounting and an A.S. in General Business from the University of Cincinnati. For more information about the Heisey Glass Museum, visit <http://www.heiseymuseum.org/>.

The **Mahoning Valley Historical Society** has welcomed a new curator of education, **Traci Manning**. From the MVHS newsletter: "Manning comes to the Historical Society with a passion for interactive, engaging, and relevant history education through experimental programming. After receiving a BA Degree in Religion from Gettysburg College and a Master of Arts Degree in Applied History from Shippensburg University, she served as a Park Ranger at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park's Education Office, on the National Park

Service's preeminent education departments...Traci is very excited about the endless possibilities in the new Tyler Mahoning Valley History Center and is looking to create premier classroom spaces that will draw students from the entire region." To learn more about the Mahoning Valley Historical Society, go to <http://www.mahoninghistory.org/>.

Charles E. Blakeslee, past president of the **Meigs County Historical Society**, a position in which he served for 15 years, celebrated his 102nd birthday on May 17th! **Happy Birthday!**

Thanks to **Evan Kerns** and **Luke Rodgers**, the Local History Office's marker interns for reviewing more than 35 Ohio Historical Marker applications in 2012. Luke worked in the office from February to April and reviewed 16 applications. Evan is processed 20 applications and has worked in the office since June. This summer also marks (pun intended) Evan's second summer reviewing applications. In the summer of 2011,

he worked with local marker sponsors to finalize 16 applications. Evan is a senior at Ohio University, majoring in Social Studies Education. He plans to be a history teacher. Luke graduated from Ashland University with a degree in History and also earned his teaching credentials. This fall, Luke started his teaching career in Bluffton, South Carolina, where he is also a 7th grade football coach.

Ohio Local History Alliance President **Christie Weininger** has been announced as the new Executive Director of the **Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center** in Fremont. She replaces **Thomas J. Culbertson**, who retired August 1. Weininger will be the seventh director of the Hayes Center and the first woman to hold the position. To learn more about the Hayes Center, visit <http://www.rbhayes.org/hayes/>.

Congratulations!

The American Association for State and Local History has awarded four Ohio projects AASLH Awards of Merit. The winning projects include two exhibits, one by the Massillon Museum and one by the Ohio Historical Society; the *Ohio As America Online 4th Grade Textbook*; and the Ohio History Service Corps, the AmeriCorps program dedicated to preserving and promoting Ohio's history. Every partner organization in the AmeriCorps program was listed in the award application.

Ohio's winners are:

- Massillon Museum for the project *Faces of Rural America*,
- Ohio Historical Society for the exhibit *Controversy: Pieces You Don't Normally See*, the *Ohio As America Online 4th Grade Textbook*, and the Ohio History Service Corps
- Wood County History Center for the Ohio History Service Corps

- Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center for the Ohio History Service Corps
- Sandusky Maritime Museum for the Ohio History Service Corps
- Oberlin Heritage Museum for the Ohio History Service Corps
- Youngstown State University for the Ohio History Service Corps
- Dennison Depot Railroad Museum for the Ohio History Service Corps
- Piqua Public Library for the Ohio History Service Corps
- Logan County Historical Society for the Ohio History Service Corps
- National Underground Railroad Freedom Center for the Ohio History Service Corps
- Wilmington College Quaker Heritage Center for the Ohio History Service Corps
- Athens County Convention & Visitors Bureau for the Ohio History Service Corps

- Athens County Historical Society for the Ohio History Service Corps
- Sunday Creek Associates, Perry County Historical Society for the Ohio History Service Corps
- Southeast Regional Library System for the Ohio History Service Corps
- Garnet A. Wilson Public Library of Pike County for the Ohio History Service Corps
- Cincinnati Public Library for the Ohio History Service Corps
- Heritage Ohio for the Ohio History Service Corps
- Preservation Ohio for the Ohio History Service Corps
- City of Cleveland for the Ohio History Service Corps
- Columbus Landmarks Foundation for the Ohio History Service Corps
- City of Cincinnati for the Ohio History Service Corps

Congratulations to everyone involved with the winning projects! Only fifty-nine projects nationwide received awards. The awards will be presented at AASLH's Annual Meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah on October 5.



Photo courtesy of the Ohio Historical Society.

Ohio Students Compete at National History Day

By Mary Bezbatchenko,
State Coordinator, National
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Ohio Historical Society,
Columbus

On June 10, sixty-four Ohio students travelled to the University of Maryland to compete in the 2012 National History Day competition. Over four days, the students competed in 36 projects, 2 in each of the 18 junior and senior categories. The week was a culmination of a year's worth of research, discovery, and analysis for these students. This year's theme was "Revolution, Reaction, Reform in History." Students' topics ranged from a website on Renaissance medicine to a documentary about the Indian Occupation of Alcatraz in 1969. The students did an excellent job and represented our state well, both in their conduct and their scholarship.

Several projects focused on Ohio history. A Senior Group Documentary focused on the debate over the freedom of speech versus national security by examining the arrest of Eugene V. Debs after his anti-WWI speech in Canton, Ohio in 1918. Five students from Mercy Montessori presented an outstanding performance on the founding of the Women's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU). They portrayed characters showing both sides of the temperance debate and the WCTU's role in giving a voice to women. Another Ohio topic students examined this year was the Hough Riots of 1966. Two students from Birchwood School in Cleveland used exceptional research to create a Junior Group Website, which can be viewed at <http://50390877.nhd.weebly.com/>. Hannah Cipinko also chose an Ohio topic this year and wrote an outstanding Junior Paper titled "From Cincinnati to Oberlin: The Story of the Lane Rebels." Three students from Dresden Elementary created a documentary looking at the 1974 tornado that devastated Xenia and how it revolutionized weather monitoring technology and communication.

Out of the 36 projects, 10 projects placed in the top 15 in the country. The list is at <http://www.ohiohistory.org/education/national-history-day-in-ohio/contest-information/national-contest>. Ohio brought home 2 silver medals and a bronze medal.

Silver Medal Winners:

Senior Individual Documentary by Naomi Hill from Shaker Heights High School titled "The Legacy of the White Rose."

Junior Individual Documentary by Isaiah Reaves from Mercy Montessori Center in Cincinnati titled "Buses Are A'Comin': The Story of the Freedom Rides."

Bronze Medal Winner:

Junior Group Website by Joan Coleran and Sachi Gosain from Birchwood School, in Cleveland, for their website titled "A Furious Reaction Leads to Urban Reform: The Hough Riots of 1966."

In addition, the National Park Service sponsored Outstanding Affiliate Entries for one junior and one senior project from each state. Ohio's junior winner was a Group Exhibit titled "If Not Us, Then Who? If Not Now, Then When? The Revolution, Reaction, and Reform of the 1961 Freedom Rides." The project was created by Jayla Wolford and Kirstin Burnette from South Gallia Junior High School. The senior winner from Ohio was Sydney Constantini, who developed an individual website titled "Our National Disease, Our National Crusade: How America's Reaction to Polio Changed Our Nation."

The 2012-2013 theme will be "Turning Points in History: People, Ideas, Events." Mark your calendars to judge the district contests in March and the state contest in Columbus on April 27, 2013.

Outta Space Workshop Materials are Now Online!

<http://www.webjunction.org/partners/ohio/oh-programs/connectcollect/programs.html>

The 2009 Ohio Connecting to Collections survey revealed that the biggest preservation problem facing cultural institutions was inadequate storage space for their collections. In response, the Connecting to Collections Partners offered the workshops, "Outta Space: Best Practices in Storage and Space Planning for Ohio's Cultural Heritage Institutions," earlier this year. Professionals from the library, museum, archives, historical society and conservation communities discussed with over 130 participants how they evaluated space concerns at their institutions and the space planning methodologies and practices they have adopted. A workshop was held in Cincinnati in conjunction with the Ohio Museum Association's annual meeting in April. The other was held in Akron in conjunction with the Ohio Preservation Council spring meeting in May. Couldn't make it to either workshop? No problem! All the presentations and handouts from both workshops are now available online.

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 editors of *The Local Historian* at arohmiller@ohiohistory.org. Rather than serving as a calendar of events, items for News from the Regions are chosen to inspire, connect, and educate the Alliance's members all over Ohio and celebrate notable and imitation-worthy accomplishments of Alliance members.

Region 1

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

Region 2

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

The **Marion County Historical Society** is celebrating the release of two new publications. The first is *The War of 1812 - The Role of the Area Now Known as Marion County, Ohio*. Besides including a review of key national and state events in the War of 1812, the book also examines the local effects in what is now known as Marion County. These include the construction of Fort Morrow and an infamous military action, Drake's Folly. Additionally, the book includes information on 1812 era cemeteries and historical markers commemorating activities from the war era. Researched and written by **Willis Thomas** and **Randy Winland**, the publication coincides with the opening of "War and Peace 1812-1859," a new exhibit in Heritage Hall. The second publication is former Ohio Local History Alliance president **Trella Romine's** autobiography, *My Not So Ordinary Life*. Well illustrated, the book includes stories of living through a Florida hurricane in 1926, a trip to the Philippines, and tales from owning Hemmerly's Flowers. Romine hosted a book signing at her home, Terradise, on June 3. Both books are available in the museum's gift shop. For more information, visit <http://www.marionhistory.com/>.

Region 3

Cuyahoga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, and Summit Counties

It has been a summer of quilts at the **Oberlin Heritage Center**, as the city of Oberlin celebrated "Quilt Connection 2012." The Center offered "Quilt as Storyteller" tours on Fridays and Saturdays in June, which featured the stories of historic quilts from the Center's collection. Additionally, the Center offered a workshop, "Textile Care and Preservation in Your Own Home" in July. Workshop participants brought one or two textile pieces to be evaluated by the collections assistant, learned techniques to care for their treasures at home, and received a folder of handouts and resources for reference. To learn more, visit <http://www.oberlinheritage.org/>.

Region 4

Ashtabula, Geauga, Mahoning, Portage, and Trumbull Counties

Welcome to the newest local history organization in Region 4 – the **Warren Heritage Center!** According to board member Jim Valesky, the "Warren Heritage Center will be a not-for-profit educational institution that preserves and uses its collections, historic site, and museum to engage and inspire a diverse audience. It will explore the history and culture of the City of Warren, Ohio and relate the community's past to the present and its future." The Center will be located in a historic building in downtown Warren, the Kinsman House. For more information, visit the Warren Heritage Center's Facebook page, <http://www.facebook.com/WarrenHeritageCenter>.

Region 5

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

The **J. E. Reeves Home and Museum** has received four grants to help support its programs and preservation efforts. The museum received Grants Assistance Program monies from the **Tuscarawas County Convention and Visitors Bureau** to help defray the cost of brochures. **Walmart #2115** gave the museum a grant of \$500 to support the History Camp for Kids held each June at the Reeves Home. The **Dominion Foundation** sponsored the annual Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social, and the **John & Orlena Marsh Foundation** gave the Home a grant of \$800 to preserve the parlor carpet of the J. E. Reeves Home. For more information, go to <http://www.doverhistoricalsociety.org/>.

(Continued on page 10)

Calendar

September 25

NEH Digital Humanities Start-Up Grant Applications Due. Applications should be for the planning or initial stages of digital projects in the humanities. For more information visit, <http://www.neh.gov/grants/odh/digital-humanities-start-grants>.

October 1

Ohio Historical Marker Grant Applications Due. See page 6

October 3-6

American Association for State and Local History Annual Meeting (AASLH), Salt Lake City, UT. The 2012 AASLH Annual Meeting will consider the sometimes empowering, sometimes challenging, but always special connection between people and place. For more information, visit <http://aaslh.org/am2012.htm>.

October 5 & 6

Ohio Local History Alliance Annual Meeting and Conference at Worthington Holiday Inn, Worthington. For more information see page 1 and visit <http://www.ohiohistory.org/local-history-office/professional-development/alliance-annual-meeting>.

October 15

National Medal for Museum and Library Service Application Deadline. The National Medal honors institutions that make significant and exceptional contributions to their communities. For more information, see <http://www.imls.gov/applicants/detail.aspx?GrantId=13>.

October 29

History Fund Grant Applications Due. See page 5 and visit www.ohiohistory.org/historyfund to apply.

October 29-November 30

AASLH Online Workshop, *The Basics of Archives*. This beginning level workshop consists of five lessons that take 15-20 hours to complete any time during the above dates. It will help organizations meet some standards in the StEPs program. For more information, see <http://www.aaslh.org/basicsofarchives.htm>.

News from the Regions

(Continued from page 9)

Region 6

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

The **Powell-Liberty Historical Society** hosted fourth graders from the Village Academy at the PLHS's Martin-Perry House. In addition to touring the house and learning about the early history of the area, the students also presented the Society with a check for almost \$500. The students raised the money from a "wax museum" event held at the school. Each fourth grader researched and portrayed a famous Ohioan. Guests at the "museum" could listen to the presentations for the bargain price of twenty-five cents. To learn more, visit <http://powell-history.org/>.

Region 7

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

Dayton History has recently opened two new temporary exhibits, both in partnership with the **Wright State University Public History Program**. *Civil War Voices*, curated by a class of 13 graduate students from the program, examines Dayton's contributions to the Civil War. It features artifacts from the recently reconstituted Memorial Hall Relic Collection, which was created in the early 20th century by veterans of the Civil and Spanish-American Wars. The second exhibit, *Wilbur Wright...A Life of Consequence* commemorates the life and legacy of Wilbur Wright in the year of the centennial of his death. Among other objects, the exhibit includes the latest painting from historical artist **Dean Mosher**, which illustrates Wright's 1909 flight around the Statue of Liberty. For more information go to, <http://www.daytonhistory.org/>.

Region 8

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

The **Clermont County Historical Society** recently launched a new website, <http://www.clermont-county-history.org>. The new site is full of historical and historical society information. It features the society's calendar of events, its mission, and history. The website also has areas dedicated to genealogical resources and historical photographs of Clermont County. Anyone can also access a directory of past newsletter articles and other historical stories and writings.

Region 9

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

The **Meigs County Historical Society** recently held a very successful golf scramble. The scramble would not have been a success without the support of over seventy-five local sponsors, a group made of both individual supporters and a variety of local businesses. To learn more, go to <http://www.meigscohistorical.org/>.

Region 10

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

Southeast Ohio is golf crazy! A four-man golf scramble organized by **Kelly "Herb" McConnell** of the **Noble County Historical Society** raised enough money to install a new lighting system in the Society's Ball-Caldwell Homestead. McConnell and his wife, **Connie**, organized one of the first variety shows in the building and have also created a new production about the historic town of Matrom (also known as Soakum). The characters in this historic drama are adapted from the book, *Soakum*, by H. Edmund Danford, published in 1912. For more information, visit <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ohnoble/histsoc.htm>.

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/oahsmevents, local newspapers, broadcast media, Ohio Magazine, 1-800-BUCKEYE, and, if arts related, www.ArtsinOhio.com.

Thank you New Members

Members as of August 20, 2012

Individual

Kathy M. Kane, Columbus
Thomas A. Verhoff, Cloverdale

Organization

Pickaway County Parks Commission,
Circleville

Thank you Renewing Members

Members as of August 20, 2012

Individual

Mazie Adams, Cleveland
David W. Ambrose, Warren
Mary Burdett, Cincinnati
Ruth Ann Busald, Cincinnati
Donna Daniel, Galion
Elizabeth A. Eddowes, Tucson, AZ
Martha Ellers, Warren
Nancy Gillahan, Middleburg Heights
Edward J. Hall, Kent
Pat Hoelscher, West Chester
Craig Holbert, Uniontown
Joan Kapsch, Painesville
Lisa R. Kell, Dayton
Nancy Kohnen Black, Cincinnati
George Laurence, New Philadelphia
H.W. Lawson, Youngstown
Kenneth Luttner, North Mankato, MN
Todd McCormick, Bellefontaine
Richard L. Palsgrove, Groveport
Stephen H. Paschen, Hudson
Thomas R Pulsifer, Xenia
Raymond C. Rang, Beavercreek
Pamela J. Rohrbacher, Sylvania
Kelly D. Selby, Dover
Judith M. Sheridan, North Bloomfield
David M. Taylor, Zanesville
Phyllis Thomas Dwyer, Blue Ash
Martha N. Tykodi, Pataskala
Andrew J. Verhoff, Worthington
Randy L. Winland, Prospect

Organizations

Adena Mansion & Garden Society,
Chillicothe
Allen County Historical Society, Lima
Arc of Appalachia, Bainbridge
Arcanum Wayne Trail Historical Society, Inc.,
Arcanum
Armstrong Air & Space Museum,
Wapakoneta
Athens County Historical Society & Museum,
Athens
Bellevue Historical Society & Heritage
Museum, Bellevue
Bellevue Public Library, Bellevue
Berea Historical Society, Berea
Bucyrus Historical Society, Bucyrus
Camp Tuscazoar Foundation, Inc., Zoarville

Carroll County Historical Society, Carrollton
Cedar Bog Association, Urbana
Centerville-Washington Township Historical
Society, Centerville
Champaign County Historical Society, Urbana
Cincinnati Observatory Center, Cincinnati
City of Miamisburg, Miamisburg
City of Tallmadge, Tallmadge
Columbus Jewish Historical Society,
Columbus
Cortland Bazetta Historical Society, Cortland
Custer Memorial Association, West Lafayette
Cuyahoga Falls Historical Society,
Cuyahoga Falls
Darke County Commissioners, Greenville
Darke County Historical Society, Greenville
Dayton History, Dayton
Dayton Society of Natural History, Dayton
Decorative Arts Center of Ohio, Lancaster
Dennison Railroad Depot Museum, Dennison
Dover Historical Society, Dover
Dublin Historical Society, Dublin
Fayette County Historical Society,
Washington Court House
Fort Meigs Association, Perrysburg
Fort Recovery Historical Society,
Fort Recovery
Fowler Township Historical Society, Cortland
Franklinton Historical Society, Columbus
Friends of Buckeye Furnace, Inc., Jackson
Friends of Harriet Beecher Stowe House,
Cincinnati
Friends of Our House, Gallipolis
Friends of the Museums, Inc., Marietta
Friends of the Ohio Governor's Residence &
Heritage Garden, Columbus
George Rogers Clark Heritage Association,
Springfield
Greater Licking County Convention and
Visitors Bureau, Heath
Greenfield Historical Society, Greenfield
Harrison Symmes Memorial Foundation,
Cleves
Hiram Historical Society, Hiram
Historic Homes of Defiance, Defiance
Historic New Richmond, Inc., New Richmond
Historical Society of Mount Pleasant,
Mount Pleasant
Hocking County Historical Society, Logan
Jackson Township Historical Society, Canton
John & Annie Glenn Historic Site, New
Concord
Johnny Appleseed Metro Parks, Lima
Kelton House Museum and Garden,
Columbus
Kinsman Historical Society, Kinsman
Lakeside Chautauqua Association, Lakeside
Licking Valley Heritage Society, Newark
Lorain County Historical Society, Elyria
Mahoning Valley Historical Society,
Youngstown
Mantua Historical Society, Mantua
Marietta College Library, Special Collections,
Marietta
Marion County Historical Society, Marion
Marion Technical College, Marion
Massillon Museum, Massillon
McKinley Memorial Library, Niles
Minerva Area Historical Society, Minerva
Monclova Historical Foundation, Monclova
Mount Healthy Historical Society, Mount
Healthy
Museum of Ceramics Foundation,
East Liverpool
New Albany-Plain Township Historical
Society, New Albany
Northampton Historical Society,
Cuyahoga Falls

Northwest Ohio Railroad Preservation Inc.,
Findlay
ODNR – Lake Erie Islands State Park, Lakeside
Marblehead
The Old House Guild of Sandusky, Sandusky
Ohio Genealogical Society, Belleville
Orrville Railroad Heritage Society, Orrville
Pioneer & Historical Society of Muskingum
County, Zanesville
Plymouth Area Historical Society, Plymouth
Price Hill Historical Society, Cincinnati
Reynoldsburg Truro Historical Society,
Reynoldsburg
Ripley Heritage, Inc., Ripley
Ross County Historical Society, Chillicothe
Sauder Village, Archbold
Shaker Historical Society & Museum,
Cleveland
Shalersville Historical Society, Mantua
Silver Lake Historical Society, Silver Lake
Smithville Community Historical Society,
Smithville
Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens, Inc., Akron
Toledo Metro Parks, Toledo
Trotwood-Madison Historical Society,
Trotwood
Tuscarawas County Convention and Visitors
Bureau, New Philadelphia
U.S. Grant Homestead Association,
Georgetown
Van Wert County Historical Society, Van Wert
Village of Stockport, Stockport
Warren County Historical Society, Lebanon
Warren Trumbull County Public Library,
Warren
Washington County Historical Society,
Marietta
Watt Center for History & the Arts,
Barnesville
Western Reserve Fire Museum, Cleveland
Westerville Historical Society, Westerville
Westlake Historical Society, Westlake
Wood County Chapter – OGS, Bowling Green
Wyandot County Historical Society,
Upper Sandusky
Youngstown State University History Dept.,
Youngstown
Zoar Community Association, Zoar

OLHA Annual Meeting Offers Something for Everyone

By Burt Logan, Executive Director, Ohio Historical Society, Columbus

One of Ohio History's greatest assets is its local history community. As I visit local, county, and regional historical organizations around the state, I am constantly amazed by three facts: the innovative and highly effective ways you are preserving, protecting, and promoting Ohio's past; your willingness to share your "lessons learned" with colleagues; and a wide-spread commitment to professionalism and continual improvement.

These accomplishments are even more impressive given the staff and budget size of nearly every local historical organization. There is never enough time and money to do all that is necessary, but time and again you find a way to build and maintain your collections, develop engaging exhibits and programs, and offer other services that are essential in order for you to fulfill your mission.

Which brings me to the OLHA Annual Meeting. When it comes to local

history, there is no better value for your time and money than attending the annual meeting. I truly believe the annual meeting offers something for everyone:

- You can learn how your colleagues have faced and surmounted a variety of challenges ranging from collections care, to programming, to media and community relations, to membership development. Many of the session topics cover issues that are similar to those which may be in front of you. There is no substitute for being able to ask someone who has been there how she did it.

- You can share your own lessons learned, regardless if it was a home run right off the bat, or if you had to stop, rethink, and try a different approach before succeeding. You may have a unique perspective and insight that no one else has encountered. And you do not have to be a session presenter; you can comment from the floor during a session's Q and A period, you can continue the conversation with others following a presentation, or

you can connect with a colleague during a break or over lunch.

- You will leave the annual meeting better equipped to return to many of your challenges. Stepping away from your daily demands and interacting with others can have untold value. You will recognize that you are not alone – that other colleagues and organizations face similar issues, and that many of them have found creative ways to move forward. You may learn an entirely new approach to a situation that is taking much of your time and energy. And you may realize that you are much closer to achieving your goals than you previously thought.

If you have not already made plans to attend this year's annual meeting in Worthington on October 5 & 6, I encourage you to do so. You will learn from talented and creative colleagues; you will have opportunities to share your own knowledge; and you will be ready to help your organization move up another notch on the ladder of Ohio History. I hope to see you there.

Join the Ohio Local History Alliance...

c/o Local History Office • Ohio Historical Society
800 E. 17th Ave. • Columbus, OH 43211-2497
1-800-858-6878 • localhistory@ohiohistory.org

...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.ohiohistory.org/resource/oahsm/members.html.

Organizational Membership

- Operating budget over \$200,000 a year: \$100
- Operating budget \$100,000-\$200,000 a year: \$75
- Operating budget \$25,000-\$100,000 a year: \$60
- Operating budget under \$25,000 a year: \$35

Individual Membership

- Local History Benefactor: \$50 and up
- Individual member: \$35
- Student: \$15

Name: _____ Title: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ E-Mail: _____

Check enclosed (*Payable to Ohio Local History Alliance*)

Charge to: Visa MC AmEx Discover

Card Number: _____ Exp. date: _____

Name on card (please print): _____

Cardholder signature: _____