



Mastering Effective Meetings

Effective meetings take a lot of preparation, but can get a lot accomplished in a short amount of time. Photo courtesy of the Ohio History Connection.

By: Kate Smith, Special Projects Coordinator, Dennison Railroad Depot Museum, Dennison

Early in my career I wanted to make sure I was on the right track. I asked several people to brainstorm some ideas that would help guide me in my new position. I scheduled a meeting with an idea of what I wanted to accomplish but was care free about the details. It was far from a 'good' meeting. Attendees were late and conversation was unorganized. My meeting was in no way "effective,"

and it was clear that I was clueless on how to run a quality meeting.

Unfortunately, meetings sometimes get a bad rap because they can be unorganized, are poorly facilitated, or have attendees that are unfocused, show up late, and are distracted by their cell phones. I hope this list gives you some tools to make your next meeting effective and leaves people wondering when they can meet with you again!

Have a Clear Objective/Goal:

Whether it's a one-time meeting or a routine staff meeting, every meeting needs a clear goal to get off to a great start.

Be Respectful of Time: I've had a glance at my boss' schedule. It's overwhelming how many meetings she is expected to attend and then get some work done on top of it. People are busy. Make sure you are meeting only when necessary and have a plan

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Building Your Agenda

I gave a presentation on effective meetings several years ago. I interviewed ten professionals to get some stats for my talk. One of them said, "I think agendas are a must for meetings. In fact, I hate meetings that don't have one." The other nine responses were similar. No matter how it looks, agendas are a necessity for an effective meeting. Here are some quick tips for developing a great agenda!

Send agendas out ahead of time. It not only serves as a reminder but helps everyone to prepare for the meeting.

Don't forget to schedule breaks.

You should also plan to stick around after the meeting for a few minutes. If someone tries to pull the group on a tangent, you can suggest that they meet with you afterwards to chat.

I always try to end a few minutes early, if possible.

At the bottom of the agenda I like to list any upcoming meetings. Occasionally, if we need an extra boost of progress, I'll even put how many days until the event.

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President's Message:

Early in April, the Ohio Local History Alliance Board met at the Youngstown Museum of Industry and Labor for two days to work on a new strategic plan. Our previous strategic plans have guided the organization as it re-branded and reorganized.

Along with eating some great Youngstown pizza, spending time together in an interesting location, and enjoying each other's company, we did work. Brainstorming and creating a plan to implement new ideas is

a fulfilling activity, especially surrounded by Ohio local historians. We share a passion to protect and preserve history, so sitting around a table for two days produced some interesting ideas for how to assist our members and provide more opportunities for education, advocacy, and communication. You will be hearing more about the strategic plan at the annual meeting in October.

As you are planning programs, trying to preserve photographs of your community, and raising funds for a new roof for your house museum, strategic planning may seem like something for bigger organizations and corporations. However, developing a strategic plan for your organization is the

most cost and time effective way to utilize the resources at your disposal. Deliberate, thoughtful strategic planning that involves a group of people who have a common interest can be invigorating, validating, and produce some innovative approaches to problems and concerns. If your organization has not undertaken forward-thinking and goal-oriented long-range planning recently, or ever, take the time to consider what it could do to help your mission.

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to accomplish as much as possible. Start on time. End on time. Stay on track. Be sure to inform attendees of exactly what they should expect at the meeting, as well as the time commitment involved. All will be happier at the end of the meeting when something has been accomplished in a short amount of time.

Good Timing is Key: You may want to avoid Monday morning meetings, as many may forget so early in the work week. Steer clear of Friday afternoons as well. Check with your committee about meeting in the evenings or weekends, and beware of the holidays! It is safe to assume most people are either on vacation, or wish they were on vacation, the whole month of December.

Be Prepared: As the leader of the meeting, your main jobs are to make sure objectives are met, agendas are followed, and distractions are kept to a minimum. To meet these objectives, preparation is key. Arrive early and be ready when others arrive, be educated on what you're discussing, stay on track, set ground rules if needed, end on time, and make sure you are available after the meeting for additional questions. Be careful to leave no items "hanging" unless you make a decision to table them. If you ignore them; so will everyone else.

Agenda, Agenda, Agenda: Come to the meeting with an organized agenda and make it clear that you will be sticking to it. Agendas range from simple to very specific. Send it to attendees early, so they attendees can prepare. Notify anyone who is expected to give a report ahead of time. If you're planning a long meeting, be sure to schedule breaks.

To Snack or Not to Snack: The great debate. Some opt for snacks

because it's ideal for meetings where you want to encourage networking or brainstorming. It promotes a social atmosphere and conversations. Frankly, if your meeting reminder indicates there will be donuts or pizza, I just might show up! Some steer clear of snacks. They feel it's a distraction, an expense and leads to more needed breaks. Decide which works best for your meeting.

Consider Room Set Up: Room set up can make or break a meeting. Be sure your location has necessary equipment available and comfortable seating. Theater, U-shape or classroom style is ideal if you need to give a presentation or stage yourself as the leader of the meeting. Conference and square setups are best for conversation. If you're incorporating a meal, banquet style may be the way to go.

Take Notes: Write down any great ideas and who is doing what. You may want to ask someone else to take notes so you can focus on the meeting.

Difficult People: Whole books have been written on how to handle

difficult people during meetings and you can never stop getting better at it. Try to anticipate any problems that may arise and have a plan for how to handle them. Stay calm when an outburst or an obvious physical display is causing problems at your meeting. Be prepared to change the subject, meet with someone individually, or address the problem right then and there.

After the Meeting: Send out notes or minutes. You may also want to send reminders or follow up with individuals to ensure they're making progress on their tasks. Make sure you do your tasks as well!

Alternatives: Consider other options for meeting. Conference calls, online messaging services and shared document programs may help you to accomplish your work in a different fashion that better suits your team.

In sum, an effective meeting takes a lot of preparation. I encourage you to try these tips and see if you leave your next meeting feeling eager to have another. Good luck! ■

Building Your Agenda (continued from page 1)

If you've done this much work, be sure to follow through and check on everyone's progress between meetings.

If you have a motivated group, a general agenda may do the trick. If not, a specific agenda may be needed. Here are some suggestions for fitting everything in on time:

- Consider adding the start and end times to your agenda.
- Add times for reports and changes in discussion directly on the page.
- Encourage reports or ask others to lead portions of the discussion if you have trouble getting good conversation. I put the names right on the agenda so they know it's coming! Make sure if someone is asked to give a report they know in advance.
- Schedule a recap at the end of the meeting to tackle any unresolved issues or review your task list.

Use your agenda as the main tool to keep your group focused and on track. Keeping people on the agenda can be challenging but so worth it when you've had a quality meeting. ■

Partnerships: Making and Keeping Connections



By Dr. Betsy Hedler, Partnerships Coordinator, Ohio History Connection, Columbus

Let's start by talking about what a partnership is and what a partnership isn't. A partnership is: an ongoing, collaborative, cooperative relationship between two or more organizations in which they work together in various ways that are mutually beneficial and allow both to better fulfill their missions. A partnership isn't: a one-time collaboration to run a workshop, event, or other program. A partnership isn't: a good relationship with another organization. A partnership isn't: sharing volunteers (a given person volunteers at two or more organizations). A partnership isn't: marching next to the other organization in the Fourth of July parade.

This is not to say that all those other types of relationships aren't necessary and valuable to both organizations. In fact, you may find that marching together in the Fourth of July parade allows for conversations that lead to a closer relationship and ultimately to a partnership between your organization and another.

Partnerships often begin with personal connections, with one person in an organization talking to a friend in another organization about a specific challenge. Often, these two people continue to be the point of contact between the organizations as the partnership forms and continues. You never know when a simple lunch invitation could start a conversation that leads you and a friend to realize ways that your organizations can help each other.

But how do you know which organizations might be a good fit to partner with? Look for an organization that has strengths that compliment, rather than match, your organization's strengths. Like a good marriage, a good partnership will make each organization better. You are looking for an organization who can work with you to help you reach your goals, and vice versa; not an organization that you have to carry or who will have to do all your work for you. It's a good idea, with this in mind, to partner with organizations of a similar size to your own. If you are a historical society with two full-time staff people, for example, it might be hard for you to sustain a cooperative partnership with The Ohio State Uni-

Many partnerships grow out of personal connections, like those you make at the Alliance's Annual Meeting or Regional Meetings. Photo courtesy of the Ohio History Connection.

versity, simply because of your relative organizational capacity. It might make more sense to partner with a local Civil War Roundtable or Natural History Society. You might also find it makes more sense to partner with a smaller unit in a larger institution, such as a university archives or history department. The Ohio History Connection's partner relationships, for example, are largely with statewide organizations such as the Ohio Local History Alliance and the Ohio Council for the Social Studies, rather than with individual historical societies or school districts.

Like many relationships, partnerships between organizations take time to develop and can go through phases of greater or lesser closeness. You probably can't (and don't want to) form a partnership with another organization you've never worked with at all before. You may find that your partnership starts by working together on a public event, and over time develops into a collaboration to plan and conduct many events together, for example. Start small by working together on a specific project. Depending on how that goes, consider whether you want to move toward a closer working relationship that leads to a partnership.

A mutually-beneficial partnership takes work. The communication needed for coordination and collaboration takes time, after all, even if it's only the additional time needed to travel across town for meetings! So why do it? Why spend this time?

A good partnership has many benefits for both organizations, both tangible and intangible. Tangible benefits are more easily seen—for example, one organization provides space for

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Partnerships: Making and Keeping Connections

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joint events, while the other provides administrative support for tracking RSVPs and handling catering. Each organization gains something obvious in this example.

Intangible benefits of partnerships can include generating goodwill toward your organization. This can be a benefit when you're trying to justify your funding or recruiting volunteers to help with a project. For example, at the Ohio History Connection, our partner relationships help us recruit judges for the Ohio History Day contests (thank you to everyone reading this article who has judged or otherwise helped out with Ohio History Day!).

Partnerships also facilitate a transfer of knowledge between organizations about issues and happenings of concern to both. Some might call this gossip, and believe it's not important, but the gossip that goes on between those working in partnership is a vital source of knowledge for your organization. Working in partnership with other organizations can also help you keep up with the concerns of members of your community who aren't members of your organization. For example, my work with the Ohio Council for the Social Studies as part of our partnership allows me to learn many things about the concerns and needs of social studies teachers in the state of Ohio. ■

People in the News

Welcome back **J.D. Britton** as the interim Site Manager of **Fort Meigs**. J.D. retired from the Ohio History Connection's Local History Office (a few years ago).

Save the Ohio History Fund!



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

We are at one of those moments in our work when we really need all hands on deck.

As you might be aware, the History Fund (specifically the tax check-off which funds it) is currently under severe threat. In 2015, the Ohio History Fund's fourth year, all of the state's income tax check-offs inexplicably dropped between 45-53%. The Ohio History Fund contributions dropped from more than \$171,000 in 2014 to just under \$80,000 in 2015.

The Ohio History Fund tax check-off, and the History Fund grants program, now faces possible elimination after 2016 because a new threshold eliminates any tax check-off that fails to generate \$150,000 two consecutive years.

This program, developed in part through the long, tireless efforts of the Alliance, has proven useful and important to Ohio's museums since its inception. The Ohio History Fund tax check-off has appeared on the Ohio individual income tax form since 2012. Since then, the Ohio History Connection has used those contributions from generous Ohioans to create a competitive matching grants program to support state and local history-related projects statewide. As a result, 47 grants totaling more than \$448,000 have been awarded from 2013-2016.

Please take a moment and address your legislators to request a change in policy that can preserve the History Fund as an important resource for Ohio's museum community. You'll find a very useful tool to advocate for the History Fund and the Tax Check-Off (essentially a pre-drafted letter that will go to your legislators based on your zip code) at www.ohiohistory.org/saveohfund.

For more specific questions about the History Fund, please contact Andy Verhoff, the History Fund Coordinator at averhoff@ohiohistory.org or 614.297.2341. ■

Have You Seen Glass Plate Negatives?

By Lisa Wood, Visual Resources Curator, Ohio History Connection, Columbus

[Editor's Note: This article was originally published on the Ohio History Connection's blog. It is reprinted here with permission.]

Glass plates were the first base for photographic negatives. In use from the 1850s through the 1920s, they were used by both amateur and professional photographers; photographers working in studios, itinerant photographers and industrial photographers; photographers employed to shoot babies and photographers employed to shoot mine workers. With appropriate and careful handling and storage these visual resources can be preserved and made accessible for generations to come.

Types of Glass Negatives

There are two types of glass negatives, wet collodion negatives and dry plate negatives. Wet collodion negatives were introduced in the United States about 1855. They are distinguished by wavy lines along the edges of plates because they were hand coated by photographers. Silver gelatin dry plate negatives replaced wet collodion negatives in the late 1880s and remained in use until the 1920s. Dry plate negatives were more convenient for photographers because they could purchase prepared plates from manufacturers in standard sizes. Determining if plates are wet collodion negatives or dry plate negatives is useful for dating the images. For the purpose of handling and storage, the two types of glass plate negatives can be managed with the same procedures.

Physical Handling

Like all photographic media, glass plate negatives are susceptible to damage from fingerprints. However, wearing gloves, particularly cotton gloves, to handle glass plates reduces the manual dexterity necessary to handle glass safely. Glass is slippery and old

glass can crack and chip easily. Some conservators recommend wearing latex gloves when working with glass plates. Others suggest washing your hands thoroughly prior to handling glass plate negatives and frequently during the course of your work. You should always hold the plates with both hands on the edges.

Enclosures

Glass plate negatives are often found stored in wooden cases, stacked in the commercial dry plate negative boxes in which photographers purchased them, or in old, acidic envelopes. None of these containers are acceptable for long term storage. The plates need to be removed from these enclosures, but frequently there is information describing the images - like dates, locations and photographers names - recorded on them. Archivists typically record this information on the new negative enclosures. Glass plate negatives must be stored individually in acid free paper enclosures. Plates that are not enclosed are in danger of the emulsion being scratched, emulsion being pulled away from the glass, and portions of the image being lost.

The best choice of enclosure for glass plates is a four flap negative envelope. These envelopes completely enclose the plates. Putting glass plates in envelopes or folders with open sides leave the plates vulnerable to slipping out. Flaking and peeling emulsion is a common problem with glass plate negatives. Pulling plates in and out of envelopes or sleeves poses the risk of catching and tugging on emulsion that is peeling away from the glass base. Four flap envelopes can be opened and plates inspected or removed without the plates rubbing against the enclosure. This style of envelope can be purchased from archival suppliers in standard sizes. When you are rehousing glass plate negatives you may find plates that are fused together. This is especially common when plates have



An image from a glass plate negative from the Ohio History Connection's collections. Photo courtesy of the Ohio History Connection.

been stacked directly on top of one another and stored in humid conditions with fluctuating temperatures. Do not attempt to pry the plates apart by applying pressure because there is great risk of cracking the plates. Consult a conservator to find out if separating the plates is possible

Boxing and Shelving

It is usually recommended that glass plate negatives stand upright in archival boxes. When plates are stacked horizontally unnecessary pressure is put on the plates at the bottom of the pile. Plates should not shift or slide in their boxes. If they do not fit the box snugly, the space can be filled with acid free boards cut the same size as the negatives. For additional support, you can also put acid free boards in between the plates. Plates should be boxed with plates that are the same size. Do not box 4x5 inch plates with 5x7 inch plates or 5x7 inch plates with 8x10 inch plates. Smaller plates housed with large plates will not fully support the surface area of the larger plates. Cracked or chipped plates should be stored horizontally in between sheets of acid free board in between the plates to provide additional support. Plates that are in multiple pieces are best stored in sunken mats that hold the pieces in place. Boxes that contain broken plates must be labeled on the outside to indicate that

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Have You Seen Glass Plate Negatives? *(continued from page 6)*

the contents are fragile and the boxes must remain horizontal. Unless plates have shattered into countless pieces, keeping broken plates is worthwhile because it is still possible to scan the plates and preserve the images.

Glass plate negatives are heavy! Do not overfill boxes with glass plate negatives. It is much better to house a glass plate collection in more small boxes, than fill a large box with glass plates. Never put glass plate negatives in boxes that are not in good condition. The weight of glass plates could easily cause the bottom to fall out of a box that is not sturdy. Archival suppliers make boxes designed specifically for glass plate storage. It is not recommended

that boxes of glass plate negatives be stored on mobile shelving. The motion of the shelves can cause the plates to shift in their boxes and increase the risk of breakage. Additionally, the height of the shelves on which boxes holding glass plates are placed should be considered. It may be awkward for staff to lift heavy boxes from the top or bottom shelves. Boxes containing glass plate negatives should never be stacked on or under other boxes.

Providing Access

It is best to minimize the need for physical handling of glass plate negatives. Fortunately, glass plate negatives have proven to be a media that

is well suited for scanning. The tonal range and incredible detail that glass plate negatives are noted for can be captured in high resolution tiff files. Be sure the scanner bed is clean and it will fully support the surface area of the negatives. Always place negatives on the scanner bed emulsion side up. Once glass plate negatives are scanned they can be printed or made available online and the original plates returned to storage.

Even in less than ideal enclosures and storage conditions, thousands of glass plate negatives have remained intact for decades. With careful handling, consistent storage procedures, and employing common sense archivists can ensure that they survive for many more. ■

ANNOUNCEMENTS

AWARDS

OLHA Achievement Awards Nominations Due August 1

The Ohio Local History Alliance is now accepting nominations for its 2016 Outstanding Achievement Awards! The Alliance presents awards in two categories – Individual Achievement and History Outreach. Individual Achievement Awards recognize those who have made outstanding contributions to Ohio's historical societies, history museums, or the understanding and appreciation of state and local history. History Outreach Awards recognize outstanding local history projects in the categories of public programming, media and publications, and exhibits/displays. Nomination forms and supporting materials must be postmarked no later than August 1, 2016. Download the complete guidelines and a nomination form.

Awards are presented at the Alliance's Annual Meeting in October.



2015 OLHA Awards winners at the Annual Meeting last October. Photo courtesy of the Ohio History Connection.

General Rules:

- All nominations must pertain to Ohio state, regional, or local history.
- Any person or project is eligible to be nominated for the program; however, the nominator (person or group) must be a member of the Ohio Local History Alliance (to join, [click here](#)).
- Ohio Local History Alliance members may nominate their own projects.
- Submitted materials become the property of the Ohio Local History Alliance unless return is requested and a self-addressed stamped envelope is provided.
- Nominations may be described or reviewed in the newsletter and electronic publications of the Ohio Local History Alliance without specific permission.
- Each nomination must be presented in a three-ring binder indexed into sections titled: 1) Nomination Form (can be found [here](#)), 2) Description of Project/Individual's Contributions to Local History, 3) Budget, 4) Letters of Support, and 5) Publicity. (Please note: "Budget" not applicable for Individual Achievement Awards).

GRANTS

Deadline for Ohio Historical Marker Applications is July 1st!

To better serve those interested in submitting an application for an Ohio Historical Marker, the Ohio History Connection has implemented a deadline of July 1 for all new marker applications. Because most marker sponsors have their marker dedication ceremonies from April through November, this single deadline helps Ohio History Connection staff work on markers with the local sponsors in a more efficient manner.

Apply for a Grant at the Same Time

Markers range in cost from \$2,430 to \$2,730 and are paid for by the local sponsor. To help defray this cost, the Ohio History Connection offers a \$750 grant that can be applied to the total cost of the marker. To apply for one of the ten grants available, simply check the box designated for the grant on the cover of the application.

Attention Erie, Huron & Seneca Counties

Pomeroy Foundation grants will fund up to \$2,440 of the cost of an Ohio Historical Marker and the full \$2,040 cost of an Ohio Corporate Limit Marker in these three counties. Markers funded by the Pomeroy Foundation must be associated with the period of 1800-1900 or must pertain to properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places. They must also be owned by a government or nonprofit entity. To apply for a Pomeroy grant, simply check the box designated for the grant on the cover of the application.

The deadline for all new marker applications as well as grant opportunities to help fund the markers is July 1, 2016. For application materials please visit [Remarkable Ohio](http://RemarkableOhio.org). Questions about the deadline and application process? Please contact Historical Markers Coordinator, Becki Trivison, at 614.297.2527 or rtrivison@ohiohistory.org.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Sharpen Your Skills with Project Management Training

Transform your museum, historic house or site into a high performing organization by training staff in the principles of Project Management. The Ohio History Connection will host the popular workshop, [Project Management for History Professionals](#) on July 12-13 in Columbus. The workshop is sponsored and presented by the [American Association for State and Local History \(AASLH\)](#).

The two-day workshop teaches participants how to implement internationally recognized project management principles in a humanities context for work with exhibitions, education programs, special events, marketing, fundraising, collections work, and more. Adding project management to your skill set helps you identify goals and processes, and better manage the work (and the workers). The workshop is appropriate for staff at all levels.

Participants bring real projects to the workshop, apply project management principles, and return home equipped to begin or continue their project in a more productive and efficient manner. "Project management is usually discussed in terms of software development or construction management. It was so helpful to see its value within a humanities context. This is some of the best professional development I have ever experienced," reports a recent participant of the workshop. More than 300 people working in the history field have participated in this workshop series since AASLH began offering it in 2010.

Read more about the workshop [here](#). Space is limited so interested participants are encouraged to [register early](#). Everyone who registers by June 15 will receive a \$40 discount on the fee. Participants who need hotel accommodations can reserve lodging at the Sheraton Suites Columbus at a special rate for workshop attendees.

For more information contact Cherie Cook, AASLH senior program manager, at cook@aslh.org or (573) 893-5164.



The Noble County Historical Society receives its History Fund grant at Statehood Day 2016. L to R: Burt Logan, Ohio History Connection Executive Director & CEO; Judy Robinson, Vice President of the Noble County Historical Society; State Representative Andy Thompson; and Glenda S. Greenwood, Ohio History Connection board president. Photo courtesy of the Ohio History Connection.

CONGRATULATIONS

Ohio Archives Grant Program Recipients

The Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board is pleased to announce this year's recipients of the 2016 Ohio Archives Grant Program (SNAP Re-Grant Work Group) awards. The Ohio Archives Grants (between \$500 and \$2,000) are funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, an arm of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) through their State Board Programming Grants. The funded projects include organizing and preserving historical records and cataloging and digitizing records for improved access. This year's recipients are:

- **Anderson Township Historical Society**, Cincinnati: *Preservation, Organization, and Storage of Family Histories Collection* (\$1,478)
- **Archbold Community Library**, Archbold: *Creation of Digital Archives for Web Access to Local Newspaper* (\$2,000)
- **Clark County Historical Society**, Springfield: *Springfield News-Sun Collection Processing Project* (\$883.30)
- **Columbus Historical Society**, Columbus: *Columbus Mayoral Collections Processing Project* (\$1,539.50)
- **Cuyahoga County Archives**, Cleveland: *Digitizing and Improving Access in Cuyahoga County's Historic Property Appraisal Records* (\$2,000)
- **Franklin County Children's Services**, Columbus: *Identify, Organize, and Improve Access to Historical Records* (\$2,000)
- **Huron County Community Library**, Willard: *Protecting, Digitizing, and Providing Access to the Huron County Community Library's Historic Images* (\$1,870)
- **Ted Lewis Museum**, Circleville: *Ted Lewis Record Collection Preservation and Digitization* (\$2,000)

GRANTS

History Fund Grant Application Available in June

Since March 2013, the History Fund grant program of the Ohio History Connection has made \$448,000 in grants to 47 organizations across Ohio. The History Fund wants to grow those numbers and you can help! Apply for History Fund grant! Local History Services will post the application to the History Fund's webpage on June 8, 2016. Applications are due three months later, on by 11:59pm on September 7, 2016. Find the grant application at www.ohiohistory.org/historyfund

If you want to get a head start, go to www.ohiohistory.org/historyfund and download the History Fund's *Guidelines* and *Application Instructions*. The *Guidelines* will tell you what the History Fund does and does not fund. The *Application Instructions* get into the nitty gritty of the how to fill out the application. Pay special attention to the questions in the "Project Narrative" sections, especially those about the need for your project and how you plan to carry out the project. Begin thinking about a budget for your project and make sure the narrative sections support the numbers in the budget and vice versa.

As in past summers, Local History Services again plans to host webinars on how to apply for History Fund grants. The webinars will be scheduled in late June – mid July. Local History Services will offer its "History Fund Help" webinar, which is an introduction to the grant program and a detailed overview of the grant application. "Digitization Nuts and Bolts" will help you compile a strong application for digitization project – it's more than just buying the right kind of scanner. For exact dates and times of the webinars visit www.ohiohistory.org/historyfund after June 1.

The Ohio History Connection publically announces grant recipients at the annual advocacy event Statehood Day, scheduled on or around March 1. Between the grant deadline of September 7 and March, History Fund grant projects undergo a rigorous review involving subject area experts at the Ohio History Connection and a panel of outside experts, who make the final grant recommendations. Local History Services contacts applicants regarding the final status of the applications in February, in advance of the public announcement at Statehood Day.

For more information, visit the History Fund's website at www.ohiohistory.org/historyfund or contact Andy Verhoff, Ohio History Fund grant coordinator, 614.297.2341 or averhoff@ohiohistory.org. Good luck!

Join the Ohio Local History Alliance...

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

Organizational Member

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

Operating budget:

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

Individual Member

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

Affiliate:	\$35	(\$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

CALENDAR

June 8:

History Fund Grant Application Available. For more information, see page 9.

June 10:

AASLH Small Museums Scholarship Application Deadline. For more information, see about.aaslh.org/annual-meeting-scholarships.

June 27:

Ohio History Connection Annual Meeting. For more information, see page 10.

July 1:

Ohio Historical Marker Application Deadline. For more information, see page 8.

July 12-13:

Project Management for History Professionals workshop. For more information, see page 8.

August 1:

Ohio Local History Alliance Awards Nominations Deadline. For more information, see page 7.

September 7:

History Fund Grant Applications Due. For more information, see page 9.

September 14-17:

AASLH Annual Meeting. For more information, see about.aaslh.org/conference.

ON THE WEB

Nonprofit With Balls

nonprofitwithballs.com

Nonprofit work is stressful. But it is fun, and there are tons of humor to mine from it. nonprofitwithballs.com explores what it is like to work in nonprofits, including fundraising, working with donors, special events, community engagement, donor cultivation, program implementation, outcomes and metrics, who should staff the board, when staff are bored, bored board, board-staff relations, and unicorns.

Save the Date!

For the Ohio History Connection's Annual Meeting on June 23, 2016 from 11:30-1:30 at the Ohio History Center in Columbus. The meeting will feature a special introduction from Mary Cusick, Director of TourismOhio, and a keynote address from Amir Eylon, President of Longwoods International USA Inc. Lunch will be provided.

For more information, please contact executiveoffice@ohiohistory.org or 855.326.3446.

News from the Regions

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 **Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Library & Museums at Spiegel Grove** unveiled its new name and logo in December as the kickoff to its 2016 centennial celebrations. Formerly known as the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center, the new name was chosen to focus more on President Rutherford B. Hayes and better explain that the facility houses the presidential library, the president's home, and a museum. The new logo has a clean, modern design with elements designed to look presidential, including the colors red, white, and blue. To learn more, go to rbhayes.org.

Region 3

Cuyahoga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, and Summit Counties

Western Reserve Historical Society, along with **Case Western Reserve University**, hosted over 400 students for the regional History Day competition on March 5. One hundred nineteen students were chosen to move on to the Ohio History Day competition. History Day provides students in grades 6-12 an opportunity to hone their history research skills and present projects related to their research for the chance to compete at the regional, state and national levels. For more information, visit www.wrhs.org.

On May 22, **Medina County** will hold its first **History Day** from 11am to 5pm. Historical Societies and Museums from all over Medina County as well as the Ohio History Connection will open their sites to encourage history lovers to visit each location. Maps can be found at the Medina County Visitors Bureau in Medina.

Region 4

Ashtabula, Geauga, Mahoning, Portage, and Trumbull Counties

Region 5

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

The **Jefferson County Historical Association** now has its own website. Created with the assistance of the Richfield Group and several dedicated volunteers, the site now allows association members to pay dues, send in a research request, find out about upcoming events, and read about Jefferson County's History. Check it out at www.jeffcountyhistorical.org.

Region 6

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

The **Heisey Glass Museum** has debuted a new audio experience. In the 1930s and 40s, the Heisey Glass Company recorded a series of radio advertisements about the company and the different products it offered. Museum staff discovered the scripts from these productions and worked with Earthworks Audio in Newark to record them for new audiences. The recordings feel as close to the originals heard on the radio as was possible, and now play throughout the museum's galleries. Recordings are also available for sale in the museum's gift shop. To learn more, go to www.heiseymuseum.org.

Region 7

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

The **Oakwood Historical Society** and the **Wright Memorial Public Library** are continuing their partnership in the second annual Far Hills Speaker Series. This year the series expanded from six presentations to eight covering topics as diverse as historic styles of architecture to famous

Oakwoodians to the future of Dayton's waterfront. All lectures are held at the library's downstairs meeting room and are free and open to the public. To learn more, visit www.oakwoodhistory.org.

Region 8

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

The **Wyoming Historical Society** debuted a new program over the winter – "Lunch and Learn." This series is designed to introduce the society's museum and large collections of area artifacts to new audiences. Sessions are held over the lunch hour and lunch is provided to all attendees. The first speaker talked about the evolution of doll making over the centuries, which also showed off the society's new collection of antique dolls. Participants were also invited to bring a doll of their own. For more information, go to www.lovelandmuseum.org.

Region 9

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

The **Tourism Council of the Noble County Chamber of Commerce & Tourism Bureau** donated \$10,000 to the **Noble County Historical Society** for construction of new restrooms at the Ball - Caldwell Homestead. The dollars given were from the 2015 lodging tax dollars. By year end they will be donating another \$10,000 to this very worthy cause. The Noble County Commissioners have provided plans with the Noble County engineer's office and have promised to help with finally funding if needed. It is hoped that the restrooms will be ready for the summer season.

Region 10

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

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

MEMBERSHIP

List as of May 5, 2016

Welcome New Members

INDIVIDUALS

Joseph R. Blum, New Washington
Leslie Heaphy, Canton

ORGANIZATIONS

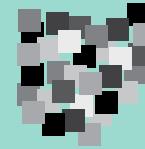
Pickaway County African American Heritage Association, Circleville
Warren Heritage Center, Warren

Thank You Renewing Members

ORGANIZATIONS

Akron Summit County Public Library, Akron
Barnes-Deinzer Seneca County Museum Foundation, Inc., Tiffin
Bedford Historical Society, Bedford
Butler County Historical Society, Hamilton
Canal Fulton Public Library, Canal Fulton
Canton Preservation Society, Canton
Chagrin Falls Historical Society, Chagrin Falls
Clinton County History Center, Wilmington
Fairfield Heritage Association, Lancaster
Firelands Historical Society, Norwalk
Friends of Kennedy Stone House, Blue Rock
Grandview Heights Marble Cliff Historical Society, Columbus
Harveysburg Community Historical Society, Harveysburg
Hocking County Historical Society, Logan
Huron Historical Society, Huron
Logan County Historical Society, Bellefontaine
Madison Historical Society, Madison
Maple Heights Historical Society, Bedford
Meigs County Pioneer & Historical Society, Pomeroy
Middleburg Heights Historical Society, Cleveland
National Cambridge Collectors, Cambridge
New London Area Historical Society, New London

North Baltimore Area Historical Society, North Baltimore
Northwest Ohio Railroad Preservation Inc., Findlay
Ohio Historic Bridge Association, Columbus
Peninsula Library, Peninsula
Perry History Club, Inc., Massillon
Pioneer & Historical Society of Muskingum County, Zanesville
Plain Township Historical Society, Canton
Risingsun Area Historical Society, Risingsun
Robbins Hunter Museum/Avery Downer House, Granville
Sandusky County Historical Society, Fremont
Springboro Area Historical Society, Springboro
Springfield Township Historical Society, Petersburg
Stryker Area Heritage Council, Stryker
Toledo Lucas County Historical Society, Toledo
Tuscarawas County Historical Society, New Philadelphia
Wadsworth Area Historical Society, Wadsworth
Western Reserve Historical Society, Cleveland
Willoughby Historical Society, Willoughby



OHIO LOCAL HISTORY ALLIANCE

Inspire. Connect. Educate.

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

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

Annual Membership Dues:

Organizations:

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

Individuals:

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

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

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

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Ohio Local History Alliance



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[Ohio Local History Alliance](https://www.linkedin.com/company/Ohio-Local-History-Alliance)