

# AmeriCorps Program Returns for Year Three

By Amy Rohmiller,  
Program Assistant, Ohio  
Historical Society's Local  
History Office, Columbus

The Ohio History Service AmeriCorps Program returns for a third year of supporting community and local history throughout Ohio. Local History Corps members across the state are available as a resource for local history organizations. They can assist with volunteer recruitment and management, event planning, multi-organizational partnerships, and K-12 education outreach. In addition, this year the Historic Preservation Corps features four community surveyors who will be adding underrepresented buildings to the Ohio Historic Inventory. Meet your AmeriCorps members!

## Local History Corps:

**Christie Chapman** returns to serve at Heritage Ohio, acting as a preservationist in the field. She plans to bring her knowledge of interior design, historic tax credit projects, and hands-on preservation techniques to facilitate preservation education and to assist in protecting Ohio's cultural resources.

**Michael Craft** serves Cincinnati and Southwest Ohio at the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center. He will be hosting a regional symposium for the area's museums and historical sites, assisting with Morgan's Raid commemorative events, and creating programming for school age visitors.

**Richard Donegan** is serving Northeast Ohio, returning to the Oberlin Heritage Center. During his term he will be a member of a committee focused on promoting tourism in Lorain County, conducting a survey of Civil War monuments, helping with oral history projects, and developing programs regarding the temperance movement in Oberlin.



**Jennifer Gray** returns to serve at Preservation Ohio and Downtown Mansfield Inc. She looks forward to reaching out to individuals in the community and promoting the importance of economic revitalization and the preservation of North Central Ohio's past.

**Cathy Harrelson** is serving Southwest Ohio at the Quaker Heritage Center of Wilmington College. Her projects include continuing the Heritage Center's successful Lincoln Day for students and Lincoln Dinner for adults, as well as Morgan's Raid commemoration events.

**Tennile Jackson** is serving in the Collections and Digital Services Department at the Ohio Historical Society. She is excited to help launch collections management workshops, which will provide OHS historic site managers and their volunteers with information regarding proper object handling techniques.

**Jonathan Kinkead** is working with Youngstown State University's History Department and the Youngstown Historical Center of Industry and Labor (YHCIL) to serve Northeast Ohio. Some of his projects for the year include educational outreach for YHCIL and District 4 History Day.

(Continued on page 3.)

The 2012-2013 Ohio History Service Corps. From left to right, members are Cathy Harrelson, Dayton Willison, Alexa McDonough, Brenna Walker, Jessica Wobig, Jennifer Gariety, Misti Spillman, Carolyn Wavrin, Jacob Masters, Tennile Jackson, Jennifer Gray, Christie Chapman, Melissa Luthman, Richard Donegan, Andrew Neutzling, Jonathan Kinkead, Michael Craft. Photo courtesy of the Ohio Historical Society.

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## President's Message:

In the time since I wrote my previous column for *The Local Historian*, I left the Wood County Historical Center & Museum to become the executive director of the Hayes Presidential Center in Fremont. It has been nine years since I have started a new job, and I was a little unprepared for that excited-slash-panicky rush that comes when you realize you have to learn a lot of important stuff immediately. I have spent the past six weeks reviewing new governing documents; analyzing a new budget; learning new computer and filing systems; getting to know staff, board members, and volunteers; as well as wrapping up two major building restoration projects.

With all that is different about my new job, it is amazing how many of the core issues are strikingly similar. In order to make my transition less overwhelming, I categorized my approach into three manageable areas I know well: get to know the institution, get to know the history we share, and get to know the community.



### 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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#### 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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*The first two areas have taken the bulk of my time, but I have been getting out and interacting with the community too. And I have new inspiration after hearing Dan Shilling's keynote address at the Ohio Local History Alliance's recent annual meeting. I am finding his book, Civic Tourism: The Poetry and Politics of Place equally inspiring and ambitious. Public history, by the very term, is as much about history as it is about people and community. What I love about Shilling's premise is that tourism should benefit not just your heritage institution, but the community as a whole. He believes that tourism, managed and marketed properly, can save the world. Sound grandiose? Maybe. But what if he is right? How many of us have long believed that a study of and appreciation for history,*

*especially local history, has the power to create amazing change in our communities? Shilling is up front about saying that what he is proposing is not easy to accomplish. And given the time constraints we all operate under, do we really have time to forge such deep partnerships and instigate community upheaval? I guess that is something we have to reckon for ourselves. But it is a tantalizing concept, and one I am beginning to explore in my neighborhood.*

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**Melissa Luthman** returns to serve West Central Ohio at the Logan County Historical Society. She is excited to continue working with local historical societies on commemorations, volunteer recruitment, K-12 education outreach, and heritage tourism efforts.

**Jacob Masters** is serving his second year at the Dennison Depot. By focusing on event planning and marketing, he intends to create a lasting connection between organizations and people and their area's rich history.

**Devin Miles** returns for a third year at Heritage Ohio. He is looking forward to working on projects that cultivate and promote cultural tourism around the state.

**Misti Spillman** is serving Central Ohio at the Ohio Historical Society. She is focusing on cemeteries, including creating a toolkit about cemetery preservation and hosting a cemetery preservation workshop for interested individuals.

**Doug Versaw** returns to service at Downtown Mansfield, Inc. He will be promoting historic preservation and community revitalization. He also hopes to promote historic preservation as a means for community and economic development.

**Brenna Walker** is entering her second year of service in North Central Ohio at the Maritime Museum of Sandusky. This year she hopes to work on volunteer recruitment, events, and grant writing.

**Carolyn Wavrin** is serving in the Collections and Digital Services Departments at the Ohio Historical Society. She has an interest in helping local history organizations with collections care and in using digital media to document and preserve history (especially oral history and aural/visual documentary).

**Deb Wickerham** serves Northwest Ohio at the Hancock Historical Museum. She is looking forward to creating hands-on history activities for teachers and students and creating exciting historical events.

**Dayton Willison** is serving at the Sunday Creek Associates for the Little Cities of Black Diamonds. He is most excited about the Tecumseh Theater restoration that will give the public a place to experience history in another engaging way—on the stage.

### Historic Preservation Corps:

**Jennifer Gariety** is serving as a community surveyor based at the Piqua Public Library. She will work to create

architectural surveys in the eastern section of downtown known as the "Piqua Bend," creating a study about the impact of the Great Flood of 1913 on the area.

**Alexa McDonough** is a community surveyor with the Cleveland Restoration Society. She is currently investigating survey opportunities to highlight aspects of African American history to save significant properties from destruction in Cleveland's historically black neighborhoods.

**Andrew Neutzling** is returning to serve as a community surveyor at the Columbus Landmarks Foundation in Columbus, Ohio. He will be researching and recording 150 examples of mid-century modern architecture, focusing on traditionally underrepresented groups in Columbus.

**Jessica R. Wobig** is serving her third year as a community surveyor at the Cleveland Landmarks Commission for the City of Cleveland. This year she will be leading a team of volunteers in surveying the Slavic Village area and evaluating mid-20th century college/university campuses for National Register eligibility.

For contact information for the AmeriCorps member in your area, visit <http://www.ohiohistory.org/local-history-office/ameri-corps>. This program is supported in part by a grant from ServeOhio, the state's commission on service and volunteerism. AmeriCorps is a service program of the Corporation for National and Community Service.

### Thank You Year Two Members!

Year two of the Ohio History Service Corps was a success, with members "getting things done" across Ohio through 34,000 hours of service. Thank you to all our members for their hard work and dedication last year:

Karen Caputo  
Christine Chapman  
Rob Dishon  
Rachel Doddato  
Richard Donegan  
Jennifer Gray  
Melanie Janiszewski  
Grant Joslin  
Melissa Luthman  
Jacob Masters  
Jodie McFarland  
Devin Miles  
Amanda Nelson  
Andrew Neutzling  
Maria Pease  
Danielle Ross  
Matt Strobel  
Douglas Versaw  
Brenna Walker  
Jessica Wobig



Ohio History Service Corps members Jodie McFarland and Rachel Doddato put their muscles to work for local history. Photo courtesy of the Ohio Historical Society.

# CONGRATULATIONS 2012 Award Winners!

By Leianne Neff Heppner, Executive Director, Summit County Historical Society, Akron and Bill Lawson, Executive Director, Mahoning Valley Historical Society, Youngstown, Co-Chairs, Ohio Local History Alliance Advocacy and Public Awareness Committee

A highlight of the Ohio Local History Alliance annual meeting is always the awards luncheon, where so many excellent projects are recognized. This year was no exception. On Saturday, October 6, the Alliance awarded 15 Outstanding Achievement Awards for projects ranging from a destination guide to a comic book, and many things in between. (*Unless otherwise stated, the award winner was also the nominee.*)

## Budget Under \$25,000

### Public Programming

- The Shelby County Historical Society – *How 9/11 Changed Our Lives Forever*
- Village of Evendale Historical Commission – *History 101 Sesquicentennial Civil War Series*

### Media and Publications

- Fort Jennings Bicentennial Book Committee nominated by Putnam County Historical Society – *Bicentennial History of Fort Jennings*
- Alliance Historical Society – *Alliance As I Knew It*
- Erie County Civil War Sesquicentennial Committee – *Lake Erie Shores & Islands Destination Guide*

### Exhibit

- Rural Life Center, Kenyon College – *The Place to Be*

### Individual Achievement Award

- Brecksville Historical Association – *Cathie Clager*

## Budget Over \$25,000

### Public Programming

- Zoar Community Association – *Saturdays in Zoar*
- Quaker Heritage Center at Wilmington College – *Lincoln Dinner & Lincoln Day*
- Warren County Historical Society – *Lunch and Learn Lecture Series*
- Sandusky Library Follet House Museum – *Cemetery Walk: Civil War Heroes*

### Media and Publications

- Oberlin Heritage Center – *Oberlin: Origins and Onward!*

### Exhibit

- The Betts House – *The Big Shake: How the 1811-1812 New Madrid Earthquakes Rocked the Ohio River Valley*

### Individual Achievement Award

- Black River Historical Society – *Frank and Carolyn Sipkovsky* (nominated by BRHS)

*A detailed description of each of the award winners will follow in the next issue of The Local Historian. ■*

## Museum Assessment Program Now Accepting Applications!

AAM's Museum Assessment Program's (MAP) next application deadline is coming up on December 1. MAP provides a way for museums to understand their strengths and weaknesses, to see if they are meeting current best practices in the field, to set goals and priorities, and to get concrete suggestions from a peer reviewer. It can also be a great first step in working towards AAM accreditation. There are four different assessment types: organizational assessment, collections stewardship assessment, community engagement assessment, and leadership assessment. Each gives an in-depth look at that area of a museum's functions. The year-long process involves completing a self-study, an evaluation by a peer reviewer, and implementation of the peer reviewer's recommendations. The program is confidential.

Any non-profit museum with the equivalent of one full-time staff member (paid or volunteer) and that is open to the public for at least 90 days a year is eligible to participate in a MAP. AAM states that 49% of museums that participate have a budget of less than \$250,000 a year, and museums with annual expenses of less than \$125,000 can participate free of charge. Institutions can also receive additional benefits, including a MAP bookshelf of resources from the AAM press, access to AAM's Museum Essentials webinar series, and access to AAM's Information Center. For more information or to apply, visit <http://www.aamus.org/museumresources/map/>

## Dear Local Historian

**Q** We have vertical files that we want to rearrange for better user access. Do you have any suggestions for subject headings?

**A** Patrons will have an easier time accessing your collections if the subject headings are consistent. But even with smaller collections, the number of subjects can quickly become difficult to manage. One resource that may be helpful is the list of subject headings from the Library of Congress.

Library of Congress (LC) subject headings, which are available for free at <http://authorities.loc.gov>, are used throughout the U.S. and in other countries as well. For example, WorldCat ([www.worldcat.org](http://www.worldcat.org)), the shared catalog used by libraries and institutions around the world, depends on the consistency and uniformity of LC subject headings to bring together numerous works that address similar subjects.

Today's search engines draw together resources from all over the Internet. Using the same headings that are used by research institutions around the world may help an online user discover the resources in your collection.

Of course, many local history groups may not be putting their subject schemes online, and they may not be adding records to a shared resource like WorldCat. The LC subject headings can still provide good examples. Take Civil War battles, for example. Do you construct the heading as "Battle of Gettysburg" or "Gettysburg, Battle of"? Do you include the state in which the battle occurred and the dates on which it occurred? The staff at the Library of Congress has already made these decisions, so why not follow their example? (They went with "Gettysburg, Battle of, Gettysburg, Pa., 1863.")



Photo courtesy of the Ohio Historical Society.

Library of Congress subject headings can also provide useful examples of other headings that people may use to search for a particular topic or person. You can then consider using these additional terms as cross-references in your subject scheme. For example, Sherwood Anderson sometimes wrote under the pseudonym "Buck Fever." If you have collections pertaining to Anderson, you may also want to have a cross-reference to his pseudonym in your subject headings.

Depending on the particulars of your collection, you may also find that adjusting the LC subject headings makes more sense for your institution. For example, if you have many collections pertaining to a particular city or county, you may want to drop the initial place name from the subject heading: instead of "Cuyahoga County (Ohio)–Board of Elections" just "Board of Elections"; instead of "Cuyahoga County (Ohio)–Genealogy" just "Genealogy"; and so on.

For consistency that will benefit you and your patrons, look to a proven resource like LC subject headings for help.

*Answered by Keith Manecke, Manager of Cataloging and Registration, Ohio Historical Society, Columbus* ■

## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

**Gretchen S. Curtis** is the new Director of Operations at the Lakeside Heritage Society. She has been busy giving programs to groups throughout the Lakeside.



Mourners at The Castle's Victorian Wake and Funeral. Photo courtesy of The Castle.

# Adding Emotion to Exhibits with Storytelling

By Leah Magyary, Education Director, The Castle, Marietta

Every fall, The Castle, a historic house museum in Marietta, Ohio, hosts a Victorian Wake and Funeral. The event is thick with theatrical flair; covered with dark decor, dying flowers, and gloomy characters draped in black. Throughout the tour, visitors are escorted from room to room where they encounter actors who explain the traditions and etiquette of Victorian mourning.

The idea of a story is the driving force behind this interactive exhibit, and the result is quite alluring. The incorporation of plot and characters helps provoke emotion, which makes the exhibit more personal and the reaction much stronger. Having a storyline format also helps organize information in a way that is very familiar and easy for the brain to process and retain, making the exhibit more memorable and less intimidating than more stationary exhibits.

While incorporating a storyline into an exhibit can be very rewarding, it can also be tricky. Not every exhibit lends

itself easily to the incorporation of plot. Here are some tips on how to use stories to make exhibits more emotionally interactive:

## 1. Start with advertising.

Luckily for us, the modern world is full of easily accessible tools for this. Facebook, Twitter, blogs, email, and good old-fashioned fliers can be used to get the story rolling before the visitor even enters the museum. Use these tools to capture your audience and get them excited about what will happen next. It is important to create mystery, drama, and interest to let visitors know that this is not going to be the average museum exhibit.

**2. A bit of confusion is not a bad thing.** Remember, some confusion can lead to curiosity, which automatically engages your audience with what is about to happen. Do not reveal your story too early and give away the sense of mystery!

## 3. Is it really a story?

Organize your exhibit carefully. A story has an introduction, climax, and conclusion... and so should your exhibit! This format is what builds suspense and emotion and then ties everything together into something meaningful. You do not necessarily need characters or props; some exhibits only need to be reorganized for a storyline to be revealed.

**4. Sometimes you just can't have everything.** The addition of emotion sometimes means that details and facts need to be limited. A storyline is not worth having if it is buried under a pile of names and dates. You have to make a decision: how much information is vital to the exhibit and what is the best way to present it? Handouts at the end of an exhibit can help fill in the facts for those who are interested in learning more. ■

## Want More Information?

AASLH has a technical leaflet, "Telling a Story in 100 Words: Effective Label Copy" with even more information on incorporating a story into exhibits. You can order this and any of AASLH's other technical leaflets at: <http://www.aaslh.org/leaflets.htm>.



## Ohio Historical Society Launches **Creative Learning Factory** a Professional Development Resource for Teachers and Local Historians

By Mark Butler, Project Coordinator, Ohio Historical Society, Columbus

The Ohio Historical Society has launched the “Creative Learning Factory” website in time for the 2012-2013 school year. The Creative Learning Factory offers innovative professional development opportunities for K-12 teachers and museum professionals through webinars, interactive video conferencing, and face-to-face workshops. The website allows people to register for upcoming seminars and webinars and provides school districts and museums with more information about working with the Creative Learning Factory.

“The Creative Learning Factory is what cutting-edge professional development looks like,” said Jackie Barton, Director of Education and Outreach at the Ohio Historical Society. Its new take

on professional development has earned the program local, state, and national support. The Creative Learning Factory has been awarded grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, as well as numerous state and local funders.

While the Ohio Historical Society has provided Ohio social studies teachers with resources and training for decades, it wanted to expand its educational offerings to topics across the humanities disciplines and beyond the borders of Ohio through professional development. “We want to meet the needs of today’s educators and students. The focus of education in the United States has shifted to focusing on the skills needed for success in the modern workplace” said Stacia Kuceyeski, Educational Partnerships and Outreach Manager. “The historical thinking skills that have been at the heart of our

programming address many of these 21st-century skills and can provide teachers with strategies to promote student success across the curriculum.”

The Creative Learning Factory works with school districts to provide customized “hands-on, minds-on” professional development for K-12 teachers. Cincinnati Public Schools, Hilliard City Schools, and the San Bernardino, California School District are among those that have hosted professional development seminars by the Creative Learning Factory. The staff of the Creative Learning Factory also serves the needs of individual educators through live webinars. Some past webinar topics include “Ohio’s Academic Content Standards,” “Vampires in Popular Culture,” and “Free Speech and the Classroom.”

The Creative Learning Factory also provides professional development for its peers in the field of museums and public history. With experience in archives management, exhibit development, project planning, evaluation, and museum education, the Creative Learning Factory staff have presented at a variety of conferences to provide museum professionals with inventive ways to incorporate school and educational outreach across an institution.

To learn more about the Creative Learning Factory, its programs, and its staff, visit <http://www.creativelearningfactory.org/> or call (614) 297-2574, (800) 686-6124. ■



Heritage Ohio, with the generous support of the Jeffris Family Foundation, will host a two-day Fundraising Workshop in Columbus on February 25 & 26, 2013.

There are many deserving projects in need of funding here in Ohio, but many can struggle to make their case. This two-day fundraising workshop will be very interactive and train board, staff, and volunteers. Topics will include board development, case statements, and annual campaigns. There will also be two lunch-time panels designed to engage participants in a discussion of successful models in fundraising. Panelists will share how they have gone

## Save the Date! The Buck Starts Here Workshop February 25-26, 2013

from ordinary to extraordinary fundraisers and share their best and worst solicitation stories.

The workshop is designed to be fun, inspirational, and to move your projects forward. In order to be a more effective workshop, participants will be expected to attend in small groups; at least two members from each organization registering must attend.

Heritage Ohio is pleased to be partnering with the Ohio Historical Society, the Ohio Local History Alliance, and Goettler and Associates in planning this workshop. For more information, visit [www.heritageohio.org](http://www.heritageohio.org) or call (614) 258-6200.



## Find the Ohio Local History Alliance on Facebook!

The Ohio Local History Alliance is pleased to announce that it is now on Facebook! We hope that our page will be a place where museums, organizations, and history enthusiasts can intermingle. You can "like" us at <https://www.facebook.com/OhioLocalHistoryAlliance>. Keep a look out for useful articles, tips, updates, events, photos, and more!

## Remember!

### The Ohio Historical Society Has a New Address!

We haven't moved, we just have a new address! Last year, the Ohio Historical Society changed its address to make it more GPS friendly. The U.S. Post Office has stopped delivering mail to our old address of 1982 Velma Ave. We want to keep getting your mail! Send it to:

**Ohio Historical Society  
Local History Office  
800 East 17th Avenue  
Columbus, OH 43211**



## Association for Living History, Farm, and Agricultural Museums 2013 Conference Call for Papers

The Association for Living History, Farm, and Agricultural Museums (ALHFAM) Conference is coming to Ohio. On June 14-18, 2013, Hale Farm & Village, a museum of the Western Reserve Historical Society, will host the 2013 ALHFAM Annual Meeting and Conference.

Guided by the theme "Bringing it All to the Table: Feed Your Body, Feed Your Mind," museum professionals everywhere are encouraged to gather with colleagues around a common table. Here conference attendees will acquaint themselves with old friends and new associates, while enjoying good company, good food, and rousing conversation.

The 2013 conference will address issues and concerns currently facing living history and agricultural museums. Proposals for presentations, sessions, papers, and workshops are now being accepted. Proposals should focus on individual, institu-

tional, and communal achievements that serve up innovative programming initiatives or organizational efforts that are creative, essential, and relevant in today's marketplace. How do museums cultivate and nurture civic engagement for greater involvement and investment in their organizations? What can we glean from new demographic shifts, technological applications, and curriculum schemes? What are the current and best practices of living history interpretation and museum methodology that effect organizational richness? What are the processes for dishing up success? How do we deliver the goods to our audiences and reap the rewards of a good yield in the face of new challenges and opportunities?

The submission deadline is December 1, 2012. For more information, visit ALHFAM's website: [www.alhfam.org](http://www.alhfam.org).

## History@Work

[http://  
publichistorycommons.  
org/](http://publichistorycommons.org/)

Sponsored by the National Council on Public History (NCPH), this blog brings together people and projects from all over the field of public history, sharing new ideas and information. Recent posts include announcements and reviews of new exhibits and projects, a series on life as a consultant, and history in activism.

## News from the Regions

In 100 words or less, do you have outstanding news to share about your organization? Please email it to your regional representative for the next issue of *The Local Historian*. Contact information for the representatives in your region is on page 2 of this issue. Of course, you are welcome to forward your news directly to the editor of *The Local Historian* at [arohmiller@ohiohistory.org](mailto: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 1 celebrates the opening of a new museum in Port Clinton – the **Liberty Aviation Museum!** Housed at the Erie-Ottawa Regional Airport, the 23,000 square-foot museum showcases American aviation in the years between World War I and World War II. Exhibits also include a World War II patrol torpedo boat, a vintage diner from Pennsylvania, and memorabilia from the era. The **Tri-Motor Heritage Foundation** also moved its restoration of a 1929 Ford Tri-Motor airplane to the museum and plans to have workshops that will allow the public to help with some of the plane's restoration. For more information, visit <http://www.libertyaviationmuseum.org/>.

### Region 2

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

The **Clyde Heritage League** is engaged in a preservation project of the landmark 1882 City Hall which anchors the south end of downtown Clyde. Brick and mortar deterioration is being addressed, and the wood cupola, on which rests a golden eagle weathervane, is being repaired. The League has also recently completed an exterior wood stabilization and paint project on the Grace Episcopal Church building, built in 1886, home of the Clyde Museum since 1987. For more information on these projects, go to <http://www.clydeheritageleague.org/>.

### Region 3

Cuyahoga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, and Summit Counties

The **Medina County Historical Society** has had a very successful summer of local fundraising. Two luncheons with speakers, teas, an antique show and yard sale, a band concert, and hot dog sales netted the society just under \$5,000. As a result, the society will soon be back online! Additionally, the **Letha E. House Foundation** gave the society a grant to pay for a new heating and cooling system. Over the years this local foundation has helped the society pay for the exterior restoration of the John Smart House, finishing the attic, house painting, one half of a new roof, and a computer system. For more information, visit [www.medinahistorical.com](http://www.medinahistorical.com).

### Region 4

Ashtabula, Geauga, Mahoning, Portage, and Trumbull Counties

Prolific Salem historian, Dale E. Shaffer wanted to make Salem history available to the public. To that end, he left his estate to the **Salem Historical Society** to build a research library. It has been done, with ribbon-cutting and dedication held on August 7, 2012. This building, the historical society's third, is styled after the Salem Carnegie Public Library, as he requested. It houses an elegant library reference area, society offices, a public meeting room, and an extensive display of objects and history of Salem industries and transportation. To learn more, visit <http://www.salemhistoricalsociety.org/>.

### Region 5

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

The **Dover Historical Society** has partnered with the **Dover Public Library** to present "Making Sense of the Civil War: Let's Talk About It!" Made possible by a grant from the **Ohio Humanities Council**, the program included five discussions of three Civil War books: *March*, by Geraldine Brooks, *Crossroads of Freedom* by James McPherson, and *America's War*, edited by Edward Ayers. Dr. Kelly Selby, professor at Walsh University, served as the project's humanities scholar and has tied local Civil War history into the discussion. For more information, visit [www.doverhistory.org](http://www.doverhistory.org).

(Continued on page 10)

# Calendar

**November 12**

**Intermuseum Conservation Association Subsidized Survey Application Deadline.** An ICA Conservator will visit your museum for two days to provide condition reports and treatment recommendations for specific collections objects. For more information, see <http://www.ica-artconservation.org/wp-content/uploads/Announcement-2012.pdf>.

**November 16**

**AASLH 2013 Annual Meeting Session Proposal Deadline.** AASLH's 2013 Meeting will be held in Birmingham, Alabama in partnership with the International Coalition of Sites of Conscience. The theme is "Turning Points: Ordinary People, Extraordinary Change." For more information, visit [www.aaslh.org/am2013.htm](http://www.aaslh.org/am2013.htm).

**December 1**

**Museum Assessment Program (MAP) Application Deadline.** For more information, see page 4.

**December 1**

**ALFAM Call for Papers Deadline.** For more information, see page 8.

**December 3**

**Conservation Assessment Program (CAP) Application Deadline.** CAP brings a conservation professional to your museum to evaluate collections care and writes a report to help our institution move forward. For more information, visit <http://www.heritagepreservation.org/CAP/index.html>.

**December 4**

**NEH Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections Grant Deadline.** Grants help meet the challenges of preserving large and diverse collections by supporting preventive conservation. For more information, see [www.neh.gov/grants/preservation/sustaining-cultural-heritage-collections](http://www.neh.gov/grants/preservation/sustaining-cultural-heritage-collections).

**January 9, 2013**

**NEH America's Historical and Cultural Organization's Grant Deadline.** Grants provide support for planning and implementing public programs in the humanities. For more information, visit [www.neh.gov/grants/ahco](http://www.neh.gov/grants/ahco).

## News from the Regions

(Continued from page 9)

### Region 6

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

The **Heisey Glass Museum** had an incredible end to its "Gordon and Darlene Cochran National Heisey Glass Museum Endowment Matching Funds Challenge," exceeding its goal and raising \$507,521. Launched on April 8, 2011, the museum set a goal to raise \$500,000 by July 31, 2012. Each contribution was generously matched by the Cochrans, members from Redmond, Washington. Not only did the challenge raise money for the museum, but it also brought all members closer together as study clubs around the country held their own mini-matches. To learn more, go to [www.heiseymuseum.org](http://www.heiseymuseum.org).

### Region 7

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

The **Shelby County Historical Society** recently hosted a "Native American Gathering and Encampment" at the Shelby County Fairgrounds. The encampment featured a lecture by Dr. Herman Viola on Thomas McKenney, an early Superintendent of Indian Affairs, as well as crafts, storytelling, dancing, and drumming. There was also a day set aside just for school programs. In addition, the museum curated a Native American exhibit. The exhibit featured artifacts loaned from community members and a hand-made wiki-up and lean-to. For more information, go to [www.shelby-countyhistory.org](http://www.shelby-countyhistory.org).

### Region 8

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

The **Clermont County Collaborative of Historical Societies** sponsored its 14th annual Museum Day on September 16. Eleven historic sites across the county

were open to the public free of charge. The participating sites were the **Loveland Historical Museum**, **Goshen Township Historical Society**, **Greater Milford Area Historical Society**, **Owensville Historical Society**, **Harmony Hill Association**, **Clermont County Historical Society**, **Historic New Richmond Museum**, **Grant's Birthplace**, **Bethel Historical Society Museum**, **Monroe Township Historical Society**, and **Chilo "Living and Working with the Ohio River."** For more information, visit <http://clermont-county-history.org>.

### Region 9

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

The **Hocking County Historical Society's Logan and Hocking County**, a new publication written by historian Judy Maniskas, has been a great success and has given the local society new interest as well as additional income. Printed in the fall of 2011 by Arcadia Publishing Company, sales have been steady with the first run of 1,200 copies sold out. A boost in public relations for the society was evident when the author appeared on WOUB-TV in Athens, Ohio. Maniskas also spoke to several local organizations regarding her research. *Logan and Hocking County* is the first concise history written about the area in over 50 years. To learn more, go to [www.hockingcountyhistoricalsociety.com](http://www.hockingcountyhistoricalsociety.com).

### Region 10

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

The **Friends of the Museums** in Marietta, Ohio has generously offered to help restore a shanty boat that was recently donated to the Sons and Daughters of Pioneer Rivermen (S&D). The early 1900s house boat was donated by the Schoonover family of Gallipolis. The Ohio River Museum and the S&D will be working together to restore the roof, floor, and windows. It will then be put on exhibit at the Ohio River Museum. For more information, visit <http://campusmartiusmuseum.org/river>.

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/ohahs-mevents](http://www.ohiohistory.org/ohahs-mevents), local newspapers, broadcast media, Ohio Magazine, 1-800-BUCKEYE, and, if arts related, [www.ArtsinOhio.com](http://www.ArtsinOhio.com).

## Thank you New Members

Members as of October 16, 2012

### Individual

Tim Daley, Cleveland  
Laura Long, Chillicothe

## Thank you Renewing Members

Members as of October 16, 2012

### Individual

Neil Allen, Lakeside  
JoAnn Bertram, Cincinnati  
Martha J. Burk, Columbus  
Marilyn R. Cook, Navarre  
Carl T. Engel, Painesville  
Kathleen Fernandez, Canton  
Daniel Frizzi, Bellaire  
Court Hall, Columbus  
The Harriet Taylor Upton Association,  
Warren  
Miriam B. Kahn, Columbus  
Charles H. Knaack, Zoar  
Irene K. Kusmierz, Northfield  
Matthew Lautzenheiser, Dover  
Steven D. Lucht, Kettering  
Mary L. Platko, Perry  
Janet S. Thobaben, Centerville  
Jay M. Wilson, Gambier

### Organizations

A.B. Graham Memorial Center Museum,  
Conover  
Belmont County Historical Society, Barnesville  
Black River Historical Society, Lorain  
Blanchester Area Historical Society, Blanchester  
Boardman Historical Society, Youngstown  
Brecksville Historical Society, Brecksville  
Canal Winchester Area Historical Society,  
Canal Winchester  
Carlisle Area Historical Society, Carlisle  
Carroll Area Historical Society, Carroll  
Chagrin Falls Historical Society, Chagrin Falls  
Chester-Shade Historical Association, Pomeroy  
Clark County Historical Society, Springfield  
Clermont County Historical Society, Batavia  
Clermont County Park District, Batavia  
Cleveland Heights Historical Society, Cleveland  
Clintonville Historical Society, Columbus  
Clyde Heritage League, Clyde  
Coleraine Historical Society Inc., Cincinnati  
Cridersville Historical Society, Cridersville  
Dayton History, Dayton  
Denison Museum, Granville  
East Liverpool Historical Society, East Liverpool

Edison Birthplace Association, Milan  
Enon Community Historical Society, Enon  
Evendale Historical Commission, Cincinnati  
Fairport Harbor Historical Society,  
Fairport Harbor  
Fulton County Historical Society, Wauseon  
Garfield Heights Historical Society,  
Garfield Heights  
Garnet A. Wilson Public Library  
of Pike County, Waverly  
Gates Mills Historical Society, Gates Mills  
German Culture Museum, Walnut Creek  
German Village Society, Columbus  
Glendale Heritage Preservation, Cincinnati  
Grand Rapids Historical Society, Grand Rapids  
Grandview Heights/Marble Cliff Historical  
Society, Columbus  
Granger Historical Society, Medina  
Greater Loveland Historical Society &  
Museum, Loveland  
Hancock Historical Museum Association,  
Findlay  
Hanover Township Historical Society,  
Hanoverton  
Harmony Hill Association, Inc., Williamsburg  
Harveysburg Community Historical Society,  
Harveysburg  
Hilltop Historical Society, Columbus  
Hinckley Historical Society Inc., Hinckley  
Holmes County Historical Society, Millersburg  
Kirtland Temple Historic Center, Willoughby  
Lakeside Heritage Society Inc., Lakeside  
Lakewood Historical Society, Lakewood  
Liberty Center Historical Society,  
Liberty Center  
Liberty Historical Society, Girard  
Licking County Historical Society, Newark  
Lisbon Historical Society, Lisbon  
Madison County Historical Society, London  
Maple Heights Historical Society, Bedford  
Mariemont Preservation Foundation,  
Cincinnati  
Mason Historical Society, Mason  
Massillon Heritage Foundation, Massillon  
Maumee Valley Heritage Corridor Inc.,  
Toledo  
Monroe Historical Society, Monroe  
Museum at the Friends Home, Waynesville  
Niles Historical Society, Niles  
North Canton Heritage Society,  
North Canton  
North Fairfield Firelands Historical  
Association, North Fairfield  
Oakwood Historical Society, Dayton  
Oberlin Heritage Center, Oberlin  
Ohio Society of Military History, Massillon  
Pike Township Historical Society, East Sparta  
Promont House Museum, Milford  
Richfield Historical Society, Richfield  
Richland County Historical Society, Mansfield  
Rootstown Historical Society, Rootstown  
Roscoe Village Foundation, Coshocton  
Sandusky Library Follett House Museum,  
Sandusky

Sebring Ohio Historical Society, Sebring  
Shanes Crossing Historical Society, Rockford  
Solon Historical Society, Solon  
Strongsville Historical Society, Strongsville  
Summit County Historical Society, Akron  
Tallmadge Historical Society, Tallmadge  
Toledo Firefighters' Museum, Toledo  
Union County Historical Society, Marysville  
West Carrollton Historical Society,  
West Carrollton  
Williams County Historical Society,  
Montpelier  
Wood County Historical Center & Museum,  
Bowling Green  
Wyoming Historical Society, Wyoming

## 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  
\$100,000-\$200,000 a year: \$75  
\$25,000-\$100,000 a year: \$60  
Under \$25,000 a year: \$35

### 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.

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

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

# History Fund Successful Thanks to Your Efforts

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

Last month a long-anticipated event took place: the Ohio History Fund application form was posted online. This marked another milestone for a quest that has been the focus of the Ohio Local History Alliance for more than six years. The deadline for submitting applications was Monday, October 29, 2012.

The need for support of local history initiatives has never been greater. Since January 1 of this year, more than 17,000 Ohioans have contributed around \$150,000 to the Ohio History Fund, which will begin to meet some of those needs. We hope that as word of the History Fund spreads and taxpayers see the Fund benefiting projects in their communities contributions will grow significantly in the coming years.

As OHS set about to create the framework for this local history grants program, we wanted to ensure that local needs were taken into consideration at every step along the way. We created an advisory group with representatives from: Heritage Ohio, Preservation Ohio, the Ohio Archeological Council, the Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board, the Ohio Genealogical Society, the Ohio Local History Alliance (Bremen Area Historical Society, Summit County

Historical Society, and Wood County Historical Center & Museum), and the Society of Ohio Archivists. We also looked to the Ohio Arts Council and the Ohio Humanities Council for guidance regarding state-wide grant programs.

This advisory group has met regularly during the past year and has provided exceptional advice. There was a strong feeling that above all else, the grants should be competitive. The advisory group recognized that the amount of available money will be insufficient to meet all the needs of local history across Ohio, and that the only fair way to award grants would be on a competitive basis. The advisors also believed that the grants should require a local match, either in-kind or in cash, as a way to leverage additional private support.

Last, the advisory group recommended that grants be focused in three areas: organizational development, programs and collections, and bricks and mortar. Organizational development grants will help build capacity through such vehicles as training for board and staff, professional assistance with organizational issues, or improving governance structures. Programs and collections encompass a variety of projects that further the study, recordation, interpretation, publication and dissemination of historical information, engagement

of communities in history, or conservation of historical collections and archives. Bricks and mortar projects can involve the rehabilitation, restoration, protection, or acquisition of historic properties and archaeological sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places or designated by local ordinance; or work related to the preservation of historical or archival collections regardless of the building's historic status; or new construction dedicated to the preservation of historical or archival collections.

This fall OHS will convene another group of representatives from history-related organizations across Ohio to review and to recommend grant recipients. OHS is providing program support and administration, and the Executive Director of OHS will receive and review the list of recommended grant recipients before making the final award decision.

This grants program would never have materialized without the advocacy and support of OLHA. Your individual and collective voices over the past six years eventually carried the day. On behalf of Ohio History, I thank you for your passion and dedication that made this grants program a reality. I look forward to visiting with many you in 2013 and beyond to see the final fruits of this program benefit local history across the state.



Photo courtesy of the Berea Historical Society.

## 2013 Alliance Regional Meeting Dates Announced Save the Date

The theme for the 2013 Ohio Local History Alliance Regional Meetings is "Connecting Treasured Pasts & Bright Futures." Planning meetings will be held up through Thanksgiving, November 22, 2012. The 2013 Regional Meeting information and registration brochure will be mailed in mid-January 2013.

**Region 1:** April 13, Van Wert County Historical Society, Van Wert

**Region 2:** April 20, Ashland Historical Society, Ashland

**Region 3:** April 13, Cuyahoga County Soldiers' & Sailors' Monument, Cleveland

**Region 4:** April 20, Mahoning Valley Historical Society, Youngstown

**Region 5:** March 23, Magnolia Historical Society, Magnolia

**Region 6:** March 16, Fairfield Heritage Association, Lancaster

**Region 7:** March 16, Auglaize County Historical Society, Wapakoneta

**Region 8:** March 23, Evendale Historical Commission, Evendale

**Region 9 & 10: (combined meeting)** April 6, Hocking County Historical Society, Logan