By Jim Geyer, Director of Museums, Muskingum County History and OLHA Region 10 Representative

Since 1960, the Ohio Local History Alliance, in partnership with the Ohio History Connection, has led the state in recognizing excellent projects, programs, and publications produced by Ohio historical societies, museums, libraries, and related organizations. In addition, the Alliance is proud to recognize individuals who have made significant contributions in preserving local history and heritage. This year the Alliance board presented twenty Outstanding Achievement Awards at the Annual Meeting in Dublin. These awards recognize exceptional projects and people that have made an impact inspiring, connecting, and educating audiences throughout Ohio.

INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Individual Achievement Awards recognize people who have made outstanding contributions to Ohio’s historical societies or history museums or to the understanding and appreciation of state or local history.

Theresa Rayner
Noble County Historical Society

For many years Theresa Rayner has been involved in preserving and protecting the history of the USS Shenandoah airship, which crashed in Noble County, Ohio, on September 3, 1925. Along with her late husband, Bryan, Theresa has dedicated many years to keeping alive the history of the ill-fated...
President’s Message:

The 2017 Ohio Local History Alliance Annual Conference was a great success. We hope you heard ideas in the sessions that will help make your organization better and stronger. We are now in planning the 2018 Region meetings. Please attend these as well and take advantage of another chance to learn and share experiences from the important field of local history. The Annual Business meeting on October 6th included the elections for the 2018 OLHA officers and trustees. I am humbled to serve a second year as president and am excited to have much of the governance committee back with Wendy Zucal (1st VP), Leann Rich (2nd VP), Kathy Fernandez (Treasurer) and Ruth Brindle (Secretary). Kate Smith and Gary Levitt will continue their terms as trustees-at-large. We welcome back Tim Daley to the OLHA board as the newly elected trustee-at-large. Tim replaces Jim Oda. Jim has served in nearly every position on the OAHSM/OHLA board over the years. Jim brought insight, institutional knowledge and of course, humor to the board. The board will miss you.

I also want to thank the region representatives who went off the board at the end of their term on May 31, 2017: Tim Daley (Region 3), Nancy Neutron (Region 4), Andrea Brookover (Region 6) and Kasey Eichensehr (Region 7). Thank you all for your service on the OHLA board and for representing your region so well. A special thanks to Past-President Beth Weinhardt for being the nominating chair and for her continued support and counsel.

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airship, establishing a travelling exhibit of historical artifacts of the airship, and presenting educational programs that help the community understand and remember the importance of the USS Shenandoah, its crew, and the lighter-than-air program of the United States Navy.

After Bryan's death, Theresa, now with the help of her two daughters, has carried on the preservation and commemoration of the incident. Theresa has volunteered her life to teaching people about this Airship flight that made history in Noble County.

Randall L. Buchman

Randall Buchman has spent his career in helping others gain an appreciation for the heritage of Ohio, Northwest Ohio, and Defiance, Ohio, through teaching, writing, speaking engagements, and museum work. He was a professor at Defiance College for 40 years; and also taught at Bacone College in Oklahoma, a college with strong historic ties to a number of American Indian tribal nations. His early work in broadening the understanding of Native American History is well known.

Today he can be found in the City Historian's office of the Andrew L. Tuttle Museum where he oversees the day-to-day and special event business at the museum.

Dr. Buchman’s drive, passion, and enthusiasm have not diminished. He is constantly working to make Defiance a great place to live; providing ways to preserve the past and inspire the future.

HISTORY OUTREACH AWARDS

PUBLIC PROGRAMMING

Civil War Sesquicentennial Lecture Series
Kelton House Museum

Over the course of the sesquicentennial of the Civil War, the Kelton House Museum presented 32 programs commemorating the significant role of the Civil War in American history. The lecture series provided quality activities, many of which were original productions, to educate Ohioans about our state’s role in the Civil War.

Civil War Living History Weekend
Shelby County Historical Society and the City of Sidney

Over the September 17-18, 2016, weekend nearly 5,000 people visited Tawawa Park to witness the many events surrounding Sidney, Ohio’s first Civil War Living History Weekend. The production included nearly 70 infantrymen in Confederate and Union camps and 45 civilians. Five working cannon helped create the ambience for each battle.

Election Reflections
Sandusky Library

The Election Reflections program series was born out of the desire to capitalize on the energy that surrounds a Presidential election year, and to combine it with Ohio’s strong Presidential History and Sandusky’s connection to a number of Presidential candidates. This 22-program series included musical performances, first person interpreters, lectures, book discussions, movie discussions, a children’s program, and even a cookbook club!

Commemorating the World War I Centennial in Akron and Summit County

Summit County Historical Society of Akron, OH

To recognize the sacrifices of local men and women during World War I, The Summit County Historical Society of Akron, OH started its centennial commemoration efforts in the fall of 2016 by pinning sites related to WWI monuments and veteran memorials on Google Maps. Projects and programming revolved around recognition of forgotten men and women.

Lest We Forget: Remembering Washington County in WWI

The Castle Historic House Museum

The Castle Historic House Museum, along with several Marietta and Washington County organizations, held one of Ohio’s first commemoration events to mark the centennial of America’s involvement in the First World War. Lest We Forget took a specific look at how the war affected the community of Marietta and surrounding Washington County by featuring the music of World War I.

Exploring Our Underground Railroad Heritage 2016

Muskingum County History and OnTheSamePage Muskingum

Exploring Our Underground Railroad Heritage included 17 programs, activities, and events that helped stimulate an awareness, understanding, and appreciation of the importance of Abolitionist and Underground Railroad activity in Zanesville and Muskingum County. This program series also worked to promote literacy, celebrate local history and heritage, encourage civic pride, and bridge the generational gap in the community.

Adventures at the Museum

Clark County Historical Society

Adventures at the Museum is a summer children’s program hosted by the Clark County Historical Society at Heritage Museum on Saturday mornings. Recently concluding its third summer, the program promotes exploration of culture and heritage by providing a series of crafts, stories, activities, games, and mini museum tours. Attendees gain a more concrete grasp of time, learn to compare past and present, and are challenged to think about the future.

William Clarke Quantrill Symposium

Dover Public Library and Dover Historical Society

The William Clarke Quantrill Symposium was a two-day community program that examined the life of Dover, Ohio, born William Clarke Quantrill and the impact he and his family had on Dover and Tuscarawas Valley before, during, and after the Civil
Media Outreach

Southwest Franklin County Historical Society

In an effort to attract new members and expand their presence in the community, the Southwest Franklin County Historical Society introduced multiple new outreach endeavors. Included are a new website, a revived and active Facebook presence, a Blog, and quarterly newsletters. As a hub of community enrichment and education, the Society’s enhanced outreach efforts illustrate its vital role in preserving local history.

EXHIBITS AND DISPLAYS

Three Thousand Miles From Home: Southeast Ohioans in the First World War

Southeast Ohio History Center

The Southeast Ohio History Center held its Grand Opening on April 15, 2017, exactly one hundred years after the building first opened as the First Christian Church. Three Thousand Miles from Home tells the story of how Southeast Ohioans supported the war and how the conflict affected their lives. The exhibit connects the history of the First Christian Church building, now the Southeast Ohio History Center, to the history of those from the area who served their country during the First World War.

Zoar Traveling Exhibit

Zoar Community Association

In honor of its Bicentennial celebration in 2017, the Zoar Community Association commissioned an exhibit that will be displayed in Ohio and other states, promoting the historic site as a successful example of living history. The text and visual content was written and selected by the Zoar Community Association, and manufactured by several local Tuscarawas County businesses. The traveling exhibit has created or enhanced partnerships with a number of living history sites in Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New York. The exhibit will travel to New Harmony, Indiana in 2018.

Holmes County: An Agricultural History

Holmes County Historical Society

Because agriculture plays such a significant role in the county’s past, present and future, the Holmes County Historical Society created a new exhibit to reach out to farm families. Partnering with the Holmes County Agriculture Society and the Fair Board, the Society created a new exhibit mounted on a granary wall inside the timber-framed reclaimed c. 1883 barn on the Harvest Ridge Fairgrounds. Included is an expansive array of artifacts, animals, and artwork honoring the work and culture of the farming community.

Over There: Send Word, The Wood County Boys Are Coming, World War 1, 1914-1918

Wood County Historical Center and Museum

On February 1, 2017, the Wood County Historical Society invited audiences to “take a journey back in time” with their exhibit Over There! Send Word: The Wood County Boys are Coming! World War I, 1914-1918. The interactive exhibit components and large scale graphics plunge the visitor into the momentum of war and showcases Wood County Ohio’s rich history in relationship to the larger global history. The exhibit and extensive programming related to it continue through next year and offer numerous opportunities for immersive history.

Native American Cultures of the Miami Valley

Butler County Historical Society

The Butler County Historical Society, in conjunction with the Ohio Humanities Chautauqua Celebration in Hamilton, opened...
ADVOCACY

Update on State Legislation

Todd Kleismit, Director of Community and Government Relations, Ohio History Connection

With the conclusion of the state operating budget July 1st, the Ohio General Assembly has turned its attention back to its unfinished legislative agenda and the upcoming state capital budget that will be introduced early next year. A few items relevant for Ohio’s history community include:

State capital budget: The Office of Budget and Management is in the process of collecting information and budget proposals from state agencies (including the Ohio History Connection) that will become part of the state’s capital budget that is expected to be introduced in the Ohio General Assembly in February. This will be Governor John Kasich’s final budget before he is term limited at the end of 2018. Local arts, history and cultural projects for bricks and mortar needs are sometimes included in the governor’s introduced version of the capital budget, but are typically added in by General Assembly members during the legislative process after the bill has been introduced.

Public records: Legislation that would make certain exempt records public after 100 years is making its way through the Ohio House of Representatives. Under current law, there are many documents that are exempt from being defined as public records (medical records, intellectual property records and many others), forever prohibiting researchers or others to learn from the documents many years later. House Bill 139, sponsored by Rep. Rick Perales (R-Beavercreek), proposes to make those expected documents public once the record reaches the 100-year-mark, except for those protected by attorney-client privilege or what is termed a “trial preparation record.” The bill is now under consideration by the House State and Local Government Committee.

John & Annie Glenn Museum: House Bill 279, sponsored by Rep. Brian Hill and House Speaker Cliff Rosenberger, proposes to add the John & Annie Glenn Museum to the Ohio History Connection network of state historic sites and museums. The bill was passed unanimously out of the House State & Local Government Committee on October 24 and was expected to be voted on by the full House of Representatives by the time of publication. If passed by the House, HB 279 would need to get Senate approval and then signed into law by the governor to be enacted.

For more information, contact Todd Kleismit, Ohio History Connection’s director of community and government relations, at tkleismit@ohiohistory.org.

2017 Award Winners (continued from page 2)

Native American Cultures of the Miami Valley in June, simultaneously launching an accompanying speakers’ bureau and school programs based upon the exhibit. Historical information covers all cultures that were present in the Miami River Valley. Earthworks and mounds located in Butler County are illustrated and narratives on Native American conflicts are included. The Society hopes to keep a portion of the exhibit on permanent display.

Creation of the Alliance History Mini Museum

Alliance Historical Society

The Alliance Historical Society was formed in 1939 but had no home until 1954 when Mabel Hartzell died and bequeathed her home and its contents to the Society. Through the years the collection grew and space became limited. In 1988, an adjacent lot with a garage was purchased. Donations accrued, including a one-of-a-kind 1910 Alliance car. Renovation of the garage was proposed and funding secured. The repurposed garage debuted as a mini-museum August 2016. The additional space has allowed for new exhibits and new possibilities.

On the Web

What To Do If Collections Get Wet

www.loc.gov/preservation/emergprep/dry.html

This set of resources from the Library of Congress provides how-to guides on what to do if your collections get wet. It begins with First Actions, and includes a response video, and details how to air-dry collections, options for freezing, dealing with mold, dealing with smoke and soot, and dealing with other contamination. Though it is focused on paper/archival collections, it’s a good site to refer to in putting together your disaster response plan and to bookmark in case you need it!
Members of the Ohio Local History Alliance are very successful at winning grants from the Ohio History Fund, the Ohio History Connection’s competitive matching grant program for history projects.

As of October 2017, 26 Alliance members have netted more than $250,000 in History Fund grants, almost half made since the program began in 2012. Approximately half of the 47 applicants in the round under consideration are Alliance members.

To showcase the good that Alliance members do because of the History Fund, The Local Historian presents “Funding Brighter Futures: Local History + the History Fund.” The content is excerpted from History Fund grantees’ final project reports and follow-up interviews.

We hope these stories inspire you to apply for a History Fund grant. For more information about the History Fund, including an application, eligibility requirements, and deadlines, visit www.ohiohistory.org/historyfund or contact program coordinator, Andy Verhoff, 614-297-2341, averhoff@ohiohistory.org

We also hope these stories inspire you to give. As The Local Historian will proclaim during tax season, 100% of the money for History Fund grants is voluntarily given. It comes from donations of state income tax refunds, the sales of Ohio History “mastodon” license plates, and direct contributions to the Ohio History Connection for the History Fund. The more the History Fund receives in donations, the more it grants back to organizations like yours – maybe yours, if you apply!

Dennison Railroad Depot Museum

GRANT RECIPIENT: Dennison Railroad Depot Museum

PROJECT TITLE: Artifact Emergency: Moving the Dennison Depot and Uhrichsville Clay Museum Collection

CATEGORY: Programs & Collections

AWARD: $15,000

AMOUNT REQUESTED: $20,000 (partial grant made to accommodate funding for other projects)

GRANT YEAR: 2012-2013 (first year of History Fund)

ALLIANCE MEMBER SINCE: 1989

What did the project accomplish?

The combined missions of the Dennison Railroad Depot Museum and its neighbor the Uhrichsville Clay Museum is to collect, preserve, exhibit, interpret, and educate visitors on the history of southern Tuscarawas County, including Dennison’s rich railroad and WWII heritage and the history of Uhrichsville, “Clay Capital of the World,” and the surrounding region. The project, “Artifact Emergency,” secured the museums’ collections by moving them from many storage locations all over the area to a central location and thence to a new storage area.

The project was part of a larger initiative to move the museums’ collections into a new storage facility and greatly improve collections care. The museums did not want to move a collection full of problems into a new space; but rather tackle those problems in advance so that they could establish a new storage in an orderly fashion. With the help of project consultant Alexandra Nicholis Coon, director of the Massillon Museum, and guided by the findings in Conservation Assessment Program (CAP) report, the staff designed the new storage space.

Moving the artifacts to one location enabled the museums to streamline its procedures to inventory, accession, and photograph their collections and upgrade
artifact storage. The museums have corrected past errors and filled many gaps in knowledge of the collections. At the time the grant project concluded in the summer of 2015, the museums have a collections action plan, authored by Ms. Coon, more than 850 new photographs of artifacts, 780 artifacts inventoried, 200 corrected Deeds of Gifts from previous donations, 350 new accessioned items, 225 boxes packed for future storage, and a new collections work station. As of October 2017, the staff of the museums has accessioned 2,050 objects, inventoried 1,500 artifacts, and photographed 350.

The museum used the History Fund grant to earn additional matching dollars - more than anticipated - and for a project with a total value of more than $250,000. The History Fund’s support of the project gave it a sort of “Good Housekeeping Seal of Approval” to local funders. That “seal of approval” enabled the museums to leverage support from the Tuscarawas County Convention & Visitors Bureau and others, making possible the purchase of additional equipment and supplies, including a large format photograph scanner, the donation of metal collections storage shelving, and a reference library on collections care. All this from a $15,000 History Fund grant to pay for collections storage materials, PastPerfect collections management software, the computers and equipment needed to run the software, and some staff time.

The project also supported the museums’ strategic goals. The museums undertook the project as it also sought STEPs certification for “Stewardship of Collections” from the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) (“STEPS” is the abbreviation for Standards and Excellence Program for History Organizations). As of November 2017, the museums have completed all sections of STEPs and is preparing to apply for accreditation from the American Association of Museums in 2018. In addition, the project became an opportunity to attract new volunteers and interns, a total of 15. Collaborating with the nearby Massillon Museum was a fantastic experience as well, creating relationship that has grown closer in the two years since the close of the grant project.

Who benefits from the project?

This project benefits the residents of two communities, the Village of Dennison and the City of Uhrichsville. It also benefits the museums’ average annual visitation of 30,000. With greater knowledge and access to the collection, the staff now make better use of the museums’ collections for exhibits, programs, and research. As repositories for the National Historic Landmark Dennison Railroad Depot and the “Clay Capital of the World” in Uhrichsville, the museums’ collections have become a benefit for researchers and visitors nationally. When the Salvation Army celebrated its 150th anniversary in 2015 it requested the use of the Depot’s WWII Salvation Army Canteen photographs. Because the museums’ collections are now more accessible, they were able to easily locate a large cache of canteen photographs the museums did not know they had. The museums loaned these photographs to the Salvation Army and in return received nationwide notice. Moreover, purchases included equipment will benefit the museums for many years to come. PastPerfect will be the museums’ collections database for decades. The museums’ collections will grow, responsibly, and in line with their collections policies, as they attract donors who are happy with the way that the museums’ staffs care for artifacts.

The project also benefited the museums’ staff, interns, and volunteers. According to the museums’ director, Wendy Zucal, “we saw our volunteers and interns become more and more interested as each work party uncovered artifacts we did not know we had.” Ms. Zucal also notes that “we also found many artifacts we thought” we had by memory, but now concretely KNOW we have and know exactly where they are with better records and inventorying.” She continued, “A memorable moment that brought everyone to tears was the day when one of our older volunteers was sorting through photographs and came across a black and white photograph of her (deceased) mother and three sisters standing in front of the Dennison Depot getting ready to work at the Depot’s Salvation Army Servicemen’s Canteen. She had never seen the photograph before. Now she comes to volunteer in collections all the time, because, as the volunteer, said “our collection is full of hidden treasures that we need to make available for all visitors - and family members for whose history we are now the caretakers.”” For the museums’ younger high school age interns, there was an overall enthusiasm, interest and surprising joy that, according to one, “old things can actually be pretty interesting.”

If you’re in Dennison or Uhrichsville, stop by to see museums’ neatly organized storage areas – as well as their exhibits of the area’s history: dennisondepot.org. “Like” them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/DennisonRailroadDepotMuseum and find them on Twitter at https://twitter.com/DennisonDepot.
BOOK REVIEW:

Stephen C. Gordon’s *How to Complete the Ohio Historic Inventory*

Kristen Brady, Ohio History Service Corps

In 1926, Wendell P. Dabney discovered to his great surprise that, “apart from tradition, a few scattered church notes, and the recollections of several survivors of the past, there was little Negro history” in the documents he found while researching for *Cincinnati’s Colored Citizens.* Historians today focusing on minority groups are all too familiar with this dilemma, often forced into utilizing sources more creative than orthodox to incorporate the underrepresented into the traditional narrative. However, even with these new research techniques, it is common to forget about one of the most telling and informative sources: architecture. This occurs because most local historians do not feel knowledgeable enough to survey and research architecture and structures on their own, regardless of familiarity with their area’s past. While it is important to note that true understanding of architectural history requires significant academic training, Stephen C. Gordon’s guide on *How to Complete the Ohio Historic Inventory* places the fundamentals of Ohio architectural history and interpretation into the hands of local historians, organizations, students, and volunteers.

The intent of Gordon’s book is to aid surveyors in the step-by-step process of completing the Ohio Historic Inventory—a statewide inventory including buildings, structures, and sites older than fifty years. Like the Inventory itself, Gordon acknowledges early on in the book that his manual is still evolving, thereby allowing his writing to take on a self-aware nature required in the constantly-changing field of history. His piece came in the early nineties at a good time in local surveying, as a manual on the Ohio Historic Inventory hadn’t been written since the original in 1976 by Robert D. Loversidge. Understandably, practices within the Inventory would change dramatically from the seventies to the nineties, and many community surveyors now find that surveys from the seventies need to be reevaluated due to period biases and interpretations (such as the exclusion of minority histories) as we come closer and closer to adding buildings from the seventies into the Inventory themselves. This does, of course, pose several problems for Gordon’s book, as we are now two and a half decades out from its publication. It has almost become necessary to address the inevitability of rewriting forms and resurveying properties to check for what might have been missed; if, as Gordon says, updates and additions are truly being made to his guide, a section on evaluating surveys which will, within the decade, soon themselves become historic, should prove fruitful to social and minority historians. If there have already been additions made, it is challenging to know where, and perhaps a footnote or section list included in the appendix indicating changes would be indicative of the document’s livelihood and relevance.

His book is divided into nine sections, and visual aids, like verbal glossaries and pictures guiding in architectural and elemental identification (some of which seem to have been recycled from Loversidge’s manual as he is included in the illustrations credit) break up the text effectively. These visual aids are easy to understand, and are what make the book particularly accessible to those historians with little to no architectural background. The first two sections focus on how to conduct a survey and fill out the inventory form, while the next three aid in using architectural and structural terminology, as well as identifying architectural styles and historic building types. The last four sections are intended primarily for reference, including sample inventory forms and reading suggestions, alongside aiding in recording engineering structures, industrial structures, and landscapes. The extensive reading suggestions are subcategorized into purposes and types of reading, but does seem to lack further readings on specific architectural styles rather than general American architecture, and is thus a reference section which could be improved.

Gordon especially succeeds in humanizing the process of survey and Inventory work, including common mistakes made by surveyors, how to avoid redundancy, the acknowledgement of important steps most frequently forgotten, and the challenges of understanding a building’s many contemporaneous contexts. His advice and suggestions, clearly discovered through personal experience, bring to life the inherent benefits of why we as historians need both the Inventory and the fundamental skills to completing its forms. Perhaps unintentionally, Gordon has provided local historians the tools to understanding the buildings around them when documents simply are not sufficient. *How to Complete the Ohio Historic Inventory* can and should be used by more than just surveyors, and reminds historians that, when you cannot find documents in the archives, access to physical heritage is sometimes only a photo away.

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Save the Date for your 2018 Alliance Regional Meeting!

The Ohio Local History Alliance’s regional meetings are a wonderful opportunity to be inspired and to learn from other local historians in your region of the state. This year’s theme is *The Past is Present*, and planning is now underway for the spring 2018 meetings. The information and registration brochure with complete information for each meeting will be mailed in mid-January 2018. Until then, get the date for your regional meeting on your calendar now!

**Region 1:** April 7  
Hosted by the Fallen Timbers Battlefield Preservation Commission at the Fallen Timbers Battlefield Visitor’s Center

**Region 2:** April 14  
Hosted by and at Historic Lyme Village

**Region 3:** April 7  
Hosted by and at the Lorain Historical Society

**Region 4:** April 14  
Hosted by the Canfield Heritage Museum at Loghurst Museum

**Region 5:** March 10  
Hosted by and at the Louisville-Nimishillen Historical Society

**Region 6:** March 17  
Hosted by and at the Bremen Area Historical Society

**Region 7:** March 24  
Hosted by the Tippecanoe Historical Society

**Region 8:** March 10  
Hosted by the Friends of White Water Shaker Village at Fernald Preserve

**Region 9:** March 17  
Hosted by and at the Southeast Ohio History Center

**Region 10:** March 24  
Hosted by and at The Castle Historic House Museum

*Thank you again to all of our regional meeting hosts!*  

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Propose a session for the 2018 Annual Meeting!

Do you have a great idea you’d like to share with the local history community? The Alliance is now accepting session proposals for the 2016 Annual Meeting. Next year’s theme is *The Past is Present*. From roundtable discussions to workshops, 2018 sessions will explore questions of ways the past continues to influence the present and the ways history has been present in public debates this year. Please also consider submitting a session that includes hands-on tips for other organizations—from exhibits to storage to digitization, whatever you’re doing, it’s likely someone else can learn from you! Submissions are due February 15, 2018. Find more information and the proposal form at [www.ohiolha.org/what-we-do/alliance-annual-meeting/](http://www.ohiolha.org/what-we-do/alliance-annual-meeting/)
Call for Judges and Volunteers for Ohio History Day

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

Ohio History Day Regional Contest Dates

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

Nominations are Now Being Accepted for OMA’s 2017 Annual Awards Program!

The Ohio Museums Association is proud to recognize excellence in Ohio’s museums and museum professionals with the 2017 Annual Awards Program! The OMA Annual Award winners will be recognized at a ceremony held in conjunction with the 2018 Ohio Museums Association Annual Conference, April 15-16, in Dayton.

The OMA Awards Program is divided into two categories: the Visual Communication Awards and the Awards of Achievement.

Deadline to submit nominations for both the Visual Communication Awards and the Awards of Achievement is January 29, 2018. Full awards information, including nomination forms, online form submission and payment is available on the Awards Program page, www.ohiomuseums.org/Public/Professional_Development/Awards/Public/Awards.aspx

Don’t miss your chance to be recognized by museums from across the state! We look forward to receiving your nominations.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2018
Region 9
Chillicothe High School
421 Yoctangee Pkwy
Chillicothe, OH 45601

SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 2018
Region 1
Bowling Green State University
Bowen-Thompson Student Union
Bowling Green, OH 43403

Region 2
Terra State Community College
2830 Napoleon Rd
Fremont, OH 43420

Region 3
Cleveland History Center
(Check-in for Exhibits, Papers, and Websites)
10825 East Boulevard
Cleveland, OH, 44106

SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 2018
Region 6
Ohio Wesleyan University
61 South Sandusky Street
Delaware, OH 43015

Region 7
Piqua Junior High School
1 Tomahawk Trail
Piqua, OH 45356

SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 2018
Region 8
University of Cincinnati, Tangeman University Center
2766 UC Main Street
Cincinnati, OH 45221

Region 10
Ohio University Zanesville
1425 Newark Road
Zanesville, OH 43701

SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 2018
Region 4
Youngstown State University
1 University Plaza
Youngstown, OH 44505

Region 5
Kent State University, Stark Campus
6000 Frank Ave
North Canton, OH 44720

SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 2018
State Contest
Ohio Wesleyan
61 S Sandusky St
Delaware, OH 43015
Upcoming Professional Development from AALSH

**ONLINE COURSE:**
Basics of Archives  
*November 15 - December 15 or February 26, 2018 - March 30, 2018*

The newly revised Basics of Archives online course is designed to give organizations and individuals who are responsible for the care of historical records an introduction to the core aspects of managing and protecting historical records collections, using appropriate principles and best practices. Cost: $85 members/$160 nonmembers

**WEBINAR:**
Caring for Photograph Collections  
*December 5, 3 pm*

Photographic media are sensitive materials that require special housing to ensure their longevity. This webinar will examine suitable housing supplies, including paper, plastics, interleaving papers, boxes, and more. Environmental parameters for storage, proper labeling techniques, and safe handling of photographs will also be discussed. Cost: $40 members/$65 nonmembers

**WEBINAR:**
Digital Humanities for State and Local History  
*December 7*

This webinar is designed to introduce digital technologies, approaches, and platforms to those interested in developing digital state and local history in low and no-cost environments. We will define the field, explore a subset of projects that can serve as a model for one’s own, and discuss common issues beginners face in becoming fluent in digital humanities. Cost: $40 AASLH Members / $65 Nonmembers

**ONLINE COURSE:**
Leadership and Administration in History Organizations  
*January 22, 2018 - March 23, 2018*

Administration and leadership matter, regardless the size or focus of your organization. This online course covers governance and administrative structure, nonprofit status, mission and vision, board and staff responsibilities, the relationship between board and staff, strategic planning, human resource management, and leadership. Details: Cost: $195 AASLH Members/ $295 Nonmembers

**ONLINE COURSE:**
Collections Management  
*January 29, 2018 - March 30, 2018*

This eight-week course will introduce participants to the professional principles and practices in the management of museum collections. Topics will include collections development, registration and record keeping with an emphasis on the development of Collection Policies and Procedures and what it means to be intellectually and physically responsible for museum objects. Cost: $195 AASLH Members/ $295 Nonmembers. Registration limited to 30 people.

For more information and to register for any of these programs, go to [learn.aaslh.org/calendar/](http://learn.aaslh.org/calendar/)

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**Digitization Grants Available**

**Introduction**

The Ohio Local History Alliance (OLHA) will award a **total of up to $7,500** to preserve local history collections through digitization. The grant is given yearly to OLHA members. The maximum award to be given to a single institution is **$2,500**. The collections selected for digitization should be important to the history of the area represented by the applicant and/or to the history of Ohio. Grant recipients will receive an Ohio Memory collection to publicly display their digital content. Each collection will be branded with the grantee’s logo and organizational information. For more information about the Ohio Memory Program, please visit, [www.ohiomemory.org](http://www.ohiomemory.org).

**Application**

Applications are online only. Applicants must be an OLHA member and have either a Federal ID number or a State of Ohio Certification of Continued Existence number to apply. You can check on your membership status by contacting the OLHA Executive Secretary, Dr. Betsy Hedler, at 614-297-2538 or [ehedler@ohiohistory.org](mailto:ehedler@ohiohistory.org)

**Deadline**

Applications are due January 15th each year. Grantee will be notified by March 1st with projects beginning no earlier than April 1st. Projects should be completed 12 months after start date. For more information and to apply, visit [www.ohiolha.org/what-we-do/grants/alliance-digitization-grants/](http://www.ohiolha.org/what-we-do/grants/alliance-digitization-grants/)
Free Publications from the Ohio Geological Survey

The Ohio Geological Survey has begun a process of consolidating and downsizing our inventory of paper publications. This process reflects our gradual shift to releasing more of these publications in a digital format via our website and other media, but it also is part of an effort to get more of our maps and reports into the hands of individuals and organizations that might benefit from the information provided in them. Currently, we are offering a number of retail publications for free to organizations with the understanding that the items will need to be either picked up from our Geologic Records Center or shipped/mailed with the recipients paying the cost of shipping only. We will be happy to send you the full list of titles that are available for the Ohio Geological Survey’s inventory reduction program.

PLEASE NOTE: At this stage of our inventory downsizing process, we are offering these publications to organizations rather than directly to the public. Consequently, the information about our retail publications on our website will not reflect this inventory reduction program. Also, some titles listed on our website are not available for free distribution because (1) they are out of print; (2) there is a limited quantity remaining; or (3) we are still selling the item regularly, which means that we are depleting our stock and continue to reprint the title as needed. Digital maps and compact disk items are not part of this retail publication reduction program. We are also happy to tell you about our educational leaflets and other materials that are always free to the public and may be of interest for your brochure racks or outreach activities. Please contact us for the full list of publications available and with any questions you may have about this offer.

Geologic Records Center
2045 Morse Rd., Bldg. C
Columbus, OH 43229
Phone: (614) 265-6576
E-mail: geo.survey@dnr.state.oh.us
Web: www.ohiogeology.com

Disaster Planning Program

In recent months we’ve seen the incredible damage caused by Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, Maria, and Jose. We see wildfires, earthquakes, riots, and active shooter situations on the news, and cannot ignore the possibility of a disastrous event happening at your organization. Every event is different, and ICA can help you prepare and be ready for a leaky pipe, a mold outbreak, even an emergency evacuation. Don’t wait until after a disaster to strike to think about how you will respond.

Ask yourself: Are you ready to respond to any disaster coming your way? Do you have an evacuation plan in case of an emergency during a performance? What would happen if a pipe burst above your costume storage or archives?

Performing Arts Readiness (PAR) is here to help music, dance, theater organizations, venues, libraries, & archives plan for the unexpected & protect your people, property, and programming.

ICA-Art Conservation, your regional nonprofit conservation center, is offering this new, grant funded program to provide assistance to prepare for any disaster, both minor and major. Participating organizations may receive a risk assessment and assistance in developing or updating an action plan to respond to situations, while mitigating damage and minimizing revenue loss. Other services provided through the program include grants, customizable workshops, staff training, and other resources. The best way to recover from an unexpected event is to plan in advance -- to be in a state of readiness.

ICA has provided disaster and emergency services to artistic and cultural organizations for many years, and we are eager to share our experience with our colleagues in the performing arts. If you are interested in learning more about the PAR initiative, contact Stephanie Petcavage at ICA, 216-658-8700, spetcavage@ica-artconservation.org, or visit the PAR website (performingartsreadiness.org/).
Defiance by visiting this exhibit at the Tuttle and the impact it had on the community of in 1990. Learn more about this company pensions when the company closed its doors Museum America should have its own architectural he was a Chicago architect who believed jewel box buildings were constructed toward Building Association Company in 1915. The building opened its doors as the Home one overseeing the restoration of a former bank Counties Licking, Madison, Perry, Pickaway, and Union Counties Carroll, Columbiana, Harrison, Holmes, Jefferson, Stark, Tuscarawas, and Wayne Counties Ashtabula, Geauga, Mahoning, Portage, and Trumbull Counties Region 3 Cuyahoga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, and Summit Counties Region 2 Ashland, Crawford, Erie, Huron, Marion, Morrow, Ottawa, Richland, Sandusky, Seneca, and Wyandot Counties Region 1 Allen, Defiance, Fulton, Hancock, Hardin, Henry, Lucas, Putnam, Van Wert, Williams, and Wood Counties Sauder Village, Northwest Ohio’s living history museum, ends its regular season with the 31st Annual Woodcarver’s Show and Sale Sat. & Sun., Oct. 28 & 29. Sauder Village will provide Holiday Lantern Tours (by reservation only) on Nov. 25, Dec. 2, 8 & 9. Email: info@saudervillage.org call: 800 590 9755 The Andrew L. Tuttle Memorial Museum will present the Dinner Bell Foods story with a program presentation and an exhibit grand opening at 7:00 p.m. Oct. 26, 2017. The meat processor Dinner Bell began as the Defiance Sausage Works in 1927. After being in business 63 years, more than 340 employees lost their jobs and pensions when the company closed its doors in 1990. Learn more about this company and the impact it had on the community of Defiance by visiting this exhibit at the Tuttle Museum. Region 10 Belmont, Coshocton, Guernsey, Monroe, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble, and Washington Counties This time of year historical organizations throughout southeast Ohio provide a variety of special experiences for museum goers. At The Castle Historic House Museum in Marietta visitors are given a peak at what goes on after the museum closes for the night. Men and women from Washington County’s past come to life as part of a Night at the Museum. At the Stone Academy Historic Site and Museum in Zanesville visitors can join paranormal author and investigator Gary Felumlee on an actual search for unsettled spirits residing in the building. Not interested in an “after dark” experience? Enjoy Christmas Tea at the Victorian Mansion in Barnesville.

The Noble County Historical Society had a laundry day display at the recent Soakum Festival at the Noble County Fairgrounds. Water was placed in the in tub for the visitors to use the washboard. Many children and adults tried their hand at washing clothes using a washboard and tub. Also shown were other types of washing machines and a display board with pictures of more modern machines. The following week approx. 100 students from Caldwell Elementary Second grade visited the school and log cabin for review of pioneer life. Again, the Historical Society placed the tub and washboard out for display for the students to try their hand at the wash board. The students thought that would be a fun way to wash clothes.

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

The Butler County Historical Society held an open house at an 1804 cabin in Hamilton on Labor Day. Kathy Creighton of the Butler County Historical Society showed visitors around the cabin while Ed Creighton demonstrated pioneer cooking and baking from the early 1800s and Revolutionary War era. Elizabeth and Howard Bradford demonstrated their pioneer clothing and knowledge.

Region 7 Auglaize, Champaign, Clark, Darke, Greene, Logan, Mercer, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, and Shelby Counties Region 8 Adams, Brown, Butler, Clermont, Clinton,Hamilton, Highland, and Warren Counties Region 3 History is shared at the recent Soakum Festival at the Noble County Fairgrounds. Water was placed in the in tub for the visitors to use the washboard. Many children and adults tried their hand at washing clothes using a washboard and tub. Also shown were other types of washing machines and a display board with pictures of more modern machines. The following week approx. 100 students from Caldwell Elementary Second grade visited the school and log cabin for review of pioneer life. Again, the Historical Society placed the tub and washboard out for display for the students to try their hand at the wash board. The students thought that would be a fun way to wash clothes.

Region 6 Delaware, Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin, Knox, Licking, Madison, Perry, Pickaway, and Union Counties The Licking County Foundation is overseeing the restoration of a former bank designed by Louis Sullivan in Newark. One of eight “jewel box” banks built by Sullivan throughout the Midwest, the Newark building opened its doors as the Home Building Association Company in 1915. The jewel box buildings were constructed toward the end of Sullivan’s career. Born in 1856, he was a Chicago architect who believed America should have its own architectural style. Commonly known as the Old Home, Sullivan’s Newark creation housed a number of banks since its construction, as well as a meat market, jewelry store and ice cream parlor. On September 24, Green Lawn Cemetery dedicated an historical marker memorializing Reverend James Preston Poindexter (1819-1907), an early Columbus civil rights pioneer. Celebrating his life were Reita Smith, Chair of the Poindexter Foundation, with other members, Second Baptist Church with Rev. Leon Troy, the Gillie Center Underground Railroad study group, Ohio Senator Charleta Tavares, and many advocates of Columbus history. Rev. Poindexter played an active role in the Columbus Underground Railroad and in breaking the color barrier in the 1880s by being elected to the Columbus School Board and City Council. His name was bestowed upon the nation’s first federally-funded affordable housing neighborhood—Poindexter Village. Through the committed activism of Reita Smith and other community volunteers, two buildings of this complex were saved from demolition to serve as a museum and community center. They will soon tell their story as the home of the site’s dedication in 1940 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Region 9 Athens, Gallia, Hocking, Jackson, Lawrence, Meigs, Pike, Ross, Scioto, and Vinton Counties
### Upcoming Grant Deadlines from Ohio Humanities

**Major Grants | $20,000 maximum**

- **January 5, 2018**
  Draft submitted by December 4, 2017 for projects beginning after May 1, 2018.

- **July 13, 2018**

Questions? Contact David Merkowitz: dmerkowitz@ohiohumanities.org

**Quarterly Grants | $5,000 maximum**

- **December 15, 2017**

- **March 15, 2018**

- **June 15, 2018**

Questions? Contact Robert Colby: rcolby@ohiohumanities.org

**Monthly Grants | $2,000 maximum**

Due the first business day of each month and at least eight weeks before the start date of the funded activity.

Questions? Contact Robert Colby: rcolby@ohiohumanities.org
Welcome New Members

INDIVIDUALS
Maureen Mason, Dublin
Terrie Puckett, Loveland
Walter Pechenuk, Akron
Sonia Potter Jessica Rakushin, Hamilton
Diana M. Redman, Gahanna

ORGANIZATIONS
Fort Lauren’s Museum, Zoar
McDonald and Woodward Publishing, Newark
On The Same Page Muskingum, Zanesville
The Ohio State Reformatory, Mansfield
Tri-State Warbird Museum, Batavia

Thank You Renewing Members

INDIVIDUALS
Martha Ellers, Warren
Charles C. Hall, Columbus
Stephen H. Paschen, Hudson
Judith Robinson, Caldwell
Doreen N. Uhas-Sauer, Columbus

ORGANIZATIONS
Arcanum Wayne Trail Historical Society, Inc., Arcanum
Ashland County Historical Society, Ashland
Beavercreek Historical Society, Beavercreek
Brecksville Historical Association Inc., Brecksville
Bremen Area Historical Society, Bremen
Carroll County Historical Society, Carrollton
Champaign County Historical Society, Urbana
Cincinnati Museum Center, Cincinnati
Cortland Bazetta Historical Society, Cortland
Cridersville Historical Society, Cridersville
Custer Memorial Association, Jewett
Darke County Historical Society, Greenville
Delaware County Historical Society, Delaware
Dennison Railroad Depot Museum, Dennison
Ellsworth Historical Society, Ellsworth
Fairview Park Historical Society, Cleveland
Fort Meigs Association, Perrysburg
Garfield Heights Historical Society, Garfield Heights
Green Historical Society, Green
Hancock Historical Museum Association, Findlay
Historical Society of Mount Pleasant, Mount Pleasant
Historical Society of Old Brooklyn, Cleveland
Huron Historical Society, Huron
John Stark Edwards House, Warren
Kelton House Museum and Garden, Columbus
Kent Historical Society, Kent
Kinsman Historical Society, Kinsman
Knox County Historical Society, Mount Vernon
Lakewood Historical Society, Lakewood
Liberty Center Historical Society, Liberty Center
Licking Valley Heritage Society, Newark
Lisbon Historical Society, Lisbon
Marietta College Legacy Library, Marietta
Marion County Historical Society, Marion
Marlboro Township Historical Society, Hartville
Massillon Museum, Massillon
McKinley Memorial Library, Niles
Mount Healthy Historical Society, Mount Healthy
Museum Acrylics, New Philadelphia
Oberlin Heritage Center, Oberlin
Ohio Northern University, Ada
Perry Historical Society of Lake County, Perry
Plymouth Area Historical Society, Plymouth
Promont House Museum, Milford
Ripley Heritage, Inc., Ripley
Ross County Historical Society, Chillicothe
Sauder Village, Archbold
Shaker Historical Society & Museum, Cleveland
Shalersville Historical Society, Mantua
Shelby County Historical Society, Sidney
Southwest Franklin County Historical Society, Grove City
Stow Historical Society, Stow
Strongsville Historical Society, Strongsville
The Sylvania Area Historical Society, Sylvania
Toledo Firefighters’ Museum, Toledo
Tuscarawas County Convention & Visitors Bureau, New Philadelphia
Van Wert County Historical Society, Van Wert
Walhonding Valley Historical Society, Warsaw
Warren County Historical Society, Lebanon
Washington County Historical Society, Marietta
Watt Center for History & the Arts, Barnesville
Western Reserve Fire Museum, Cleveland
Westerville Historical Society, Westerville
Woodville Historical Society, Woodville
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 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)

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

Need to Contact Us? We at Local History Services love hearing from you.

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GET SOCIAL WITH THE OHIO LOCAL HISTORY ALLIANCE

The Ohio Local History Alliance
Inspire. Connect. Educate.

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