

INVITATION TO INNOVATION: Attend an Alliance Regional Meeting

By Mark Sundlov, Local History Office Manager, Ohio History Connection, Columbus

To say I'm excited that the time for the 2015 Regional Meetings is quickly approaching is an understatement. As those of you who have attended regional meetings in the past will attest, the meetings are much more than a day of educational workshops and sessions—they are a time to reunite with old friends, meet new ones, find new sources of support, and share our stories of successes and struggles. Simply put, regional meetings recharge our batteries and get us excited for another year of inviting guests through the doors of our historical organizations to share our rich Ohio history.

Besides the chance to network and learn new skills, the regional meetings are a great opportunity to visit museums and historic sites you may not have had the chance to visit before. This year we have another fantastic slate of host sites for the regional meetings ready to “put the coffee on” and invite us into their unique spaces. Consider this your Invitation to Innovation.

On April 11, the **Hancock Historical Museum** is ready to welcome us to **Region 1**. The museum is comprised of the Hull-Flater House, the Crawford Log House, a barn, and the offsite Little Red Schoolhouse and Riverside Train.

The **Merry-Go-Round Museum** welcomes us to **Region 2** on April 18. Located in the historic Sandusky Post Office, the museum has a collection so rich that the White House requested they display four of their carousel horses in the East Room for Christmas.

The **Region 3** meeting is hosted by the **Bedford Historical Society and Museum**—while the meeting will be in the 1892 Old Baptist Church, we'll also be welcomed into the rest of their National Register



The Alliance's regional meetings kick off March 15. Regional meetings are a great place to connect with friends, learn new skills, and visit new places. Photo courtesy of the Ohio History Connection.

listed properties.

The **Trumbull County Historical Society** rolls out the red carpet on April 18 for the **Region 4** meeting. While we will meet in the Warren-Trumbull County Library, we will have the opportunity to visit the neighboring John Stark Edwards House and Museum, the Sutliff Museum, and the Upton House.

If you are ready to have your mind blown by the beauty of late 19th century architecture and interior design, don't turn down the **Massillon Heritage Foundation's** invitation to attend the **Region 5** meeting on March 14 at the Five Oaks mansion in Massillon.

The **Gahanna Historical Society** hosts the **Region 6** meeting on March 21 at the Olde Gahanna Sanctuary. The GHS also invites us to visit the neighboring historically rich Lily Stone Bed & Breakfast, John Clark house, and Log House.

Continued on page 3

WHAT'S INSIDE:

- 2** President's Message
- 3** Statehood Day
- 4** Young Ohio Preservationists
- 5** Your Tax Return Can Make History
- 6** Announcements
- 10** Calendar
- 11** News from the Regions
- 12** New and Renewing Members

President's Message:

For over two decades, I have been the beneficiary of educational opportunities provided at regional meetings and the annual conferences as I joined my fellow Ohio local historians at these gatherings. I have grown in knowledge as I have listened to my peers discussing issues that concern us all and experts in specialized areas providing their know-how. The Monday after each meeting and conference, I have walked back into my museum bubbling with enthusiasm, ready to put

into practice new techniques and schedule new programming opportunities. I love that feeling of renewal!

Why mention this now? As we begin 2015, all of us are setting goals for ourselves and our organizations. We are looking for ways to create exceptional programming, increase our funding, use technology to reach new audiences...the list goes on. Please take advantage of the educational opportunities offered by the Ohio Local History Alliance through articles in *The Local Historian*; learning and networking opportunities at the regional meetings and the annual conference; and now a series of webinars – all provided to help us meet the common goal of preserving and sharing

Ohio local history.

I am honored to begin serving as your president. Please help me and your Alliance board members as we try to create opportunities to help you and your organization. If you have an idea for an educational workshop or webinar that would assist you in meeting your goals, please do not hesitate to share your thoughts with your region's representatives or any of the officers.

Beth Weinhardt

President, Ohio Local History Alliance
Local History Coordinator, Westerville Public Library
(614) 259-5028
bweinhar@westervillelibrary.org



OHIO LOCAL HISTORY ALLIANCE

Inspire. Connect. Educate.

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

The Local Historian (ISSN 9893-3340) is published bimonthly by the Ohio History Connection, 800 E. 17th Avenue, Columbus, OH 43211-2497, as a benefit to Ohio Local History Alliance members. Periodicals Postage Paid at Columbus, OH.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: *The Local Historian*, Local History Office, Ohio History Connection, 800 E. 17th Avenue, Columbus, OH 43211-2497. Editors: Amy Rohmiller, Mark Sundlov, Rosa Rojas

Please direct materials or phone inquiries to:

The Local Historian
Local History Office
Ohio History Connection
800 E. 17th Avenue
Columbus, OH 43211-2497
1-800-858-6878
FAX: (614) 297-2567
arohmiller@ohiohistory.org

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

Annual Membership Dues:

Organizations:

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

Individuals:

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

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

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

© 2015 Ohio History Connection

2015 Board Members Ohio Local History Alliance

President

Beth Weinhardt, Coordinator
Anti-Saloon League Museum, Westerville
(614) 882-7277, Ext 160
bweinhar@westervillelibrary.org
<http://westervillelibrary.org/local-history>

1st Vice President

Todd McCormick, Curator/Director
Logan County Historical Society
Bellefontaine
(937) 593-7557
tmccormick@loganhistory.org
<http://www.loganhistory.org>

2nd Vice President

Wendy Zucal, Executive Director
Dennison Railroad Depot Museum
Dennison
(740) 922-6776
director@dennisondepot.org
<http://dennisondepot.org>

Secretary

Ruth Brindle, Curator
Quaker Heritage Center
Wilmington College, Wilmington
(937) 382-6661, Ext 719
ruth_brindle@wilmington.edu
<http://www2.wilmington.edu/qhc>

Treasurer

Kathleen Fernandez, Executive Director
North Canton Heritage Society
North Canton
(330) 494-4791
ncantonheritage@sbcglobal.net
<http://www.northcantonheritage.org>

Trustees-At-Large

Leann Rich, Manager of Education & External Relations
Mahoning Valley Historical Society
Youngstown
(330) 743-2589
lrich@mahoninghistory.org
<http://www.mahoninghistory.org>

Jim Oda

Director
Piqua Public Library, Piqua
(937) 773-6753
odaja@oplin.org
<http://www.yousemore.com/piqua>

Immediate Past-President

Maggie Marconi, Museum Administrator
Sandusky Library/ Follett House Museum
Sandusky
(419) 625-3834
mmarconi@sanduskylib.org
http://www.sandusky.lib.oh.us/follett_house

Ex-Officio (Executive Secretary)

Mark Sundlov, Department Manager
Local History Office,
Ohio History Connection, Columbus
(614) 297-2343
msundlov@ohiohistory.org
<http://www.ohiohistory.org>

Region 1

Gary Levitt, Director
Museum of Postal History, Delphos
(419) 303-5482
nphdelphos@gmail.com
<http://www.postalhistorymuseum.org>

Holly Hartlerode

Curator
Wood County Historical Center
Bowling Green
(419) 352-0967
curator@woodcountyhistory.org
<http://www.woodcountyhistory.org>

Region 2

Brenda Stultz, Curator
Clyde Heritage League, Clyde
(419) 547-7946
bstultz@embarqmail.com
<http://www.clydeheritageleague.org>

Gale Martin

Executive Director
Marion County Historical Society, Marion
(740) 387-4255
mchs@marionhistory.com
<http://www.marionhistory.com>

Region 3

Rebecca Larson-Troyer, Librarian
Special Collections Division
Akron-Summit County Public Library
Akron
(330) 643-9030
rtroyer@akronlibrary.org
<http://sc.akronlibrary.org>

Timothy Daley

Executive Director
Cuyahoga County Soldiers' and Sailor's
Monument, Cleveland
(216) 621-3746
tdaley@cuyahogacounty.us
<http://www.soldiersandsailors.com>

Region 4

Lae'l Hughes-Watkins, University Archivist
KSU Department of Special Collections
& Archives, Kent
(330) 672-1639
lhughesw@kent.edu
<http://www.library.kent.edu/page/10300>

Region 5

Kate Smith, Special Projects Coordinator
Dennison Railroad Depot Museum
Dennison
(740) 922-6776
kates@dennisondepot.org
<http://www.dennisondepot.org>

Cristina Savu

Massillon

Region 6

Leslie Blankenship, Trustee
Franklinton Historical Society
Columbus
(614) 527-1957
lblanken@att.net
<http://franklintonhistoricalsociety.org>

Andrea Brookover, Executive Director
Fairfield Heritage Association, Lancaster
(740) 654-9923

director@fairfieldheritage.org

<http://www.fairfieldheritage.org>

Region 7

Chris Burton, Executive Director
Armstrong Air & Space Museum
Wapakoneta
(419) 738-8811
airandspace@bright.net
<http://www.armstrongmuseum.org>

Kasey Eichensehr

Curator
Clark County Historical Society
Springfield
(937) 324-0657
keichensehr@heritagecenter.us
<http://www.heritagecenter.us/>

Region 8

Kelsey Berger, Property & Farm Director
Gorman Heritage Farm
Cincinnati
(513) 563-6663
kberger@gormanfarm.org
<http://www.gormanfarm.org>

Joel Kohler

Historian
Mason Ohio Historical Society
Mason
(513) 398-6750
drwho7734@gmail.com
<http://www.masonhistoricalsociety.org/>

Region 9

Margaret Parker, President
Meigs County Historical Society, Pomeroy
(740) 992-3810
meigsc Historical@frontier.com
<http://meigsc Historical.org>

Jessica Cyders

Curator
Athens County Historical Society, Athens
(740) 592-2280
jessica@athenshistory.org
<http://athenshistory.org>

Region 10

Jim Geyer, Director for Museums
Pioneer & Historical Society of Muskingum
County, Zanesville
(740) 454-9500
plsmc@sbcglobal.net
<http://www.muskingumhistory.org>

Register NOW to Attend 2015 Statehood Day

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

History lovers will once again have the opportunity to share their passion for Ohio history and preservation at the annual Statehood Day advocacy event at the Ohio Statehouse on Wednesday, March 4. You can register for the event online at www.ohiohistory.org/statehoodday.

The Statehood Day event brings together Ohio's history supporters and gives them the opportunity to meet with their state legislators and network with fellow history-related professionals and advocates. Attendees are encouraged to schedule a meeting with their state representative and/or state senator. Governor John R. Kasich has been invited to be the keynote speaker at the luncheon.

In addition to legislative advocacy, the Ohio History Connection will announce its 2015 History Fund grant awards, funded through income tax donations from Ohioans. Senator Frank LaRose (R-Akron) will be the recipient of the Ohio History Leadership Award, presented annually to a state legislator who has "gone above and beyond" in promoting Ohio history.

"Statehood Day has been such a rewarding experience for those who have participated in the past," said Todd Kleismit, the Ohio History Connection's director of community and government relations. "People from across Ohio who care about protecting and projecting state and local history come together to recognize the state's birthday and share with state legislators why what we do is important."

Registration for the event is \$30 (for lunch) through Friday, February 27. To register and for more information, visit online at www.ohiohistory.org/statehoodday.

Statehood Day is sponsored by Ohio History Connection, Heritage Ohio, the Ohio Archaeological Council, the Ohio Local History Alliance, the Ohio Genealogical Society, the Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board, Preservation Ohio, the Ohio Travel Association, the Ohio Academy of History, the Ohio Council for Social Studies, the Capital Square Review and Advisory Board and the Society of Ohio Archivists. ■



Statehood Day, an annual advocacy event, will take place on March 4, 2015. Photo courtesy of the Ohio History Connection.

Invitation to Innovation *(Continued from page 1)*

While we all love historic museums, we also love new museums! On March 14, the **Logan County Historical Society** invites us to **Region 7** and into their newly built, and fantastic, Logan County Transportation Museum.

On March 21 the **Mason Historical Society** invites us to **Region 8**. It's a great year to be in Mason—the city and MHS are excited to celebrate Mason's Bicentennial this year. The meeting will be held at the Historic Mason School on N East St, near their wonderful Alverta Green Museum.

In the beautiful hills of Southeast Ohio, the **Meigs County Historical Society** invites us to their museum in **Region 9** on March 28. Organized in 1876, and a member of the Local History Alliance for

decades, the MCHS certainly knows its business when it comes to Ohio history!

Right in the heart of **Region 10**, the **Noble County Historical Society** has invited us to their place on March 28. It's hard to think of a better site to host this meeting than the 1832 Ball-Caldwell House and Barn!

Each meeting features exciting sessions on always timely topics. Sessions cover everything from grant-writing to entrepreneurial ways to earn revenue, from programming for school groups to attracting young professionals, from caring for old buildings to caring for old objects. You can find the complete details for each meeting in the brochure, coming through the mail, and available online at www.ohiohistory.org/local-history-office/professional-development/alliance-regional-meetings. Remember, you are not limited to attending just the meeting of the region you live or work in. You can attend any regional meeting that looks interesting, and you can certainly attend more than one.

To register for a regional meeting, complete and return the form attached to the brochure or register online at www.ohiohistory.org/register. Registration is \$30 for Alliance members and \$35 for non-members. Registration includes a continental breakfast and lunch. If you have any questions don't hesitate to call us here in the Local History Office of the Ohio History Connection at 1-800-858-6878. ■

The Local Historian | Jan/Feb | 2015 **3**



By Nick Emehiser, Sarah Marsom, and Rebecca Torsell, Young Ohio Preservationists, Columbus

Henry Morrison Flagler Ohio Historical Ohio's Young Preservationists meet to discuss their goals for 2015 at their first meeting in German Village in Columbus. Photo courtesy of Young Ohio Preservationists.

Young Ohio Preservationists Spring into Action Statewide

Young Ohio Preservationists (YOP) is an initiative of Heritage Ohio, the state's official 'Historic Preservation and Main Street' organization. Heritage Ohio has been working hard to connect Young Ohio Preservationists to places across the state where a difference can be made. It all started when Heritage Ohio began hosting preliminary YOP focus groups in early 2014 to gauge what preservation related activities the 40 and under demographic wanted to engage in. After months of discussions, the Young Ohio Preservationists were able to create a nine-person board and start planning events for 2015. On December 5, the YOPs launched a successful inaugural event in Columbus's German Village Historic District, which drew approximately 40 preservationists from around the state (some as far as Cleveland and Cincinnati!).

YOPs stand ready to offer their preservation services to help give back to the community: volunteer labor for small clean-up and rehab projects with the goal of giving just enough care to make a difference in preserving an historic resource. Vice president Rebecca Torsell commented, "The board is working hard to reach out to a variety of potential candidates to offer their volunteer services, including affordable housing markets, local historic districts, and individuals that need a hand to put preservation into practice. YOP hopes to create opportuni-

ties for members to take part in learning new skills through workshops and putting theory into practice during actual hands-on volunteer sessions."

Young preservationists are involved in their communities and eager to make a difference through saving our historic spaces. These historic spaces not only connect members of the community to a sense of authenticity, but also present valuable economic opportunities to communities that need just that. Heritage Ohio has achieved remarkable buy-in from communities across the state, who have enthusiastically supported their Main Street program and gotten a great return on their investment. Similarly, YOP wants the state to organize and evaluate the roles played by younger preservationists, not only to enhance preservation-related opportunities, but also to influence and move the preservation field forward with out-of-the box and cutting-edge solutions to the challenges faced by so many communities. It is the hope that YOP members can be the first point of contact through which a community can be changed with the services offered by the Young Ohio Preservationists.

Building upon the successful kickoff, YOP is setting out to challenge norms, inspire communities, and make a difference in Ohio. Strong believers in the Margaret Mead quote, "Never doubt that a small

group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has," the Young Ohio Preservationists aspire to be part of a committed change to improve preservation across Ohio. The organization's members are young professionals involved in their own communities. Sarah Marsom, Historic Preservation Advocate for the German Village Society, is leading the group as its first president. She is excited for the coming year stating, "Throughout 2015, the board will build a strong foundation for the organization that will ensure its status as a resource for young professionals and communities, through the creation of workshops, networking events, and professional development opportunities. I believe the Young Ohio Preservationists group will prove to be another way Heritage Ohio makes a positive difference across the state."

Do you want to keep up with the YOP or become a member? Email yop@heritageohio.org to be added to our mailing list. You can also find us on [Facebook](#) and [Heritage Ohio's website](#). Stay in-tune with our upcoming activities as we work hard to make a difference in Ohio's communities. ■

Ohio Income Tax Check-Off = History Fund Grants:

Ohio IT-1040, Line 27c Means Grants for Local History

By Andy Verhoff, History Fund
Grant Manager, Ohio History
Connection, Columbus

Last year, the Ohio History Connection drafted Annie Oakley, General U.S. Grant, and the Wright Brothers to help increase donations to the tax check off for Ohio History on state income tax returns. The tax check off is the main source of support for the History Fund grant program, the only grant program in the state devoted exclusively to making grants for local history, historic preservation, and archeology projects.

Thanks to the generosity of Ohioans, and the hard work of Ms. Oakley, Gen. Grant, and the brothers Wright, contributions spiked. The tax check-off, found on Ohio tax return form IT-1040, Line 27c, "Ohio Historical Society" (or Line 20c on the EZ form) generated \$165,000 as of the end of the 2014 fiscal year in June. By contrast, the check-off brought in just under \$139,000 for all of 2013. From 2013 to 2014, the number of donors increased by almost 1,100 (from 16,003 to 17,085), as did the size of their average donations, from \$8.69 to \$9.68.

To keep the History Fund alive, the Ohio History Connection has to again raise \$150,000 through the tax-check off. The tax check-off must generate a minimum of \$150,000 in contributions per year to stay on the tax form. Failing to reach this minimum two years in a row means the check-off will be removed from Ohio's income tax form and threaten the History Fund grant program. If each of the 17,000 donors who gave last year gives just \$10 or \$11 from their tax refund in 2015, we'd cross over the \$150,000 threshold easily and have even more to grant.

To meet this threshold we need your help! We're asking you to not only contribute to the tax check off yourself, but also to encourage you to tell history-loving family and friends about it, too. To help, the Connection has a media kit online at www.ohiohistory.org/make-historycampaign. Shannon Thomas, the Connection's assistant director for marketing and communications, notes that "we created the materials for use by local history and preservation organizations. We would really appreciate it if members of the Alliance would reprint the articles and associated graphics in their newsletters and websites, and on Facebook and other social media." "The videos are fun to post on social media and generate a lot of interest," she adds.

In addition to the tax check-off, there are other ways to support the History Fund grant program. Available since April, the Ohio History license plate features Conway the Mastodon. Twenty dollars from the sale of each set of plates benefit the History Fund grant program.

Applications for grants for 2015 are currently under review. Recipients will be publicly announced at the Statehood Day event, March 4, at the Ohio Statehouse (see article on page 3). The deadline for applications for 2016's round of grants will be posted in June 2015 on the History Fund's webpage: www.ohiohistory.org/historyfund. The webpage also includes information about eligible projects and applicants, grant amounts, and instructions for applying. Or, contact History Fund Grant Manager Andy Verhoff at 614-297-2341 or averhoff@ohiohistory.org. The tax check-off supports the History Fund. The History Fund supports you! ■



YOUR TAX RETURN CAN
Make History!

Join Annie Oakley, Ulysses S. Grant, and the Wright Brothers and help the Ohio History Connection promote the income tax check off that supports the History Fund grant program. Find promotional materials at www.ohiohistory.org/makehistorycampaign.

Contribute!

How the Tax “Check-Off” Works

Courtesy, Echoes, the bimonthly newsletter of the Ohio History Connection (January/February 2015)

- Although we call it a “check-off,” on your tax form, you won’t find a box to check.
- Toward the end of your individual Ohio state income tax return, after you’ve calculated the amount of your refund (if you are receiving a refund), you’ll find a line that asks “Amount of line 00 that you wish to donate to the following funds.” (The line number will differ depending on which version of the Ohio state income tax return you’re using — hence we’ve used 00 to represent the line number here.)
- One of the four options is “Ohio Historical Society” (The tax form has not caught up with our recent name change to Ohio History Connection yet.)
- Under “Ohio Historical Society,” fill in the amount that you’d like to contribute. Last year’s average contribution was \$9.68, so even a small donation can make a big difference.
- The amount you contribute to the Ohio History Connection through your Ohio state income tax return goes specifically to support the History Fund, which makes grants to help support local history and preservation-related projects in communities throughout Ohio.

Promote!

Promote Tax Check-off and History Fund Donations

Here’s how:

- Cut and copy the sample article and include it in your organization’s newsletter in February, March, and April (before the tax filing deadline of April 15).
- Contribute yourself, and tell friends and family and tax preparers about the Ohio History tax check-off and the History Fund. Just include the amount of your refund you want to donate on your 2014 Ohio income tax return, Form IT-1040, Line 27c or Form IT-1040EZ, Line 20c, “Ohio Historical Society.”
- Post the YouTube videos and other images at www.ohiohistory.org/makehistorycampaign on your website, Facebook, and other social media pages.
- Ask local libraries to hang the posters at www.ohiohistory.org/makehistorycampaign in places where they distribute tax return forms and instructions.
- Send a letter to the editor of your local newspaper about the tax check-off and History Fund (samples at, you guessed it, www.ohiohistory.org/makehistorycampaign).
- In addition to the tax check-off, there are other ways to support the History Fund grant program. There’s a new license plate for Ohio History, featuring Conway the Mastodon. Twenty dollars from the sale of each set of Ohio History license plates benefits the History Fund grant program. To learn more, visit: http://www.bmv.ohio.gov/sp_history.stm.

Sample Newsletter Article

Make History with Your Tax Return!

Editor’s Note: Feel free to cut and paste this article and insert it in your organization’s newsletter. For other fun promotional materials, visit www.ohiohistory.org/makehistorycampaign.

It’s tax season again, and this is just a reminder that the voluntary tax “check-off” for the Ohio History Connection that you’ll find on your Ohio individual income tax return benefits history, pre-history and preservation-related organizations across the state. When you opt to donate a portion of your state income tax refund to the Ohio History Connection, it supports the History Fund, which makes grants to organizations for local history projects in communities throughout Ohio.

For 2014, the History Fund received \$165,000 in donations from 17,000 Ohioans who contributed a portion of their state income tax refund. Most donations are small, averaging \$9.70 in 2014, but the impact is big for those who receive History Fund grants. The matching grants are awarded on a competitive basis.

The tax check-off benefiting the History Fund first appeared on state income tax forms in 2012. The first History Fund grants were awarded in 2013 for a variety of history- and preservation-related projects. Learn more about the recipients of grants in 2013 and 2014 and their projects at www.ohiohistory.org/historyfund.

Please consider donating a portion of your tax refund to the Ohio History Connection for the History Fund when you complete your state income tax return this year. Questions about the History Fund? Visit www.ohiohistory.org/makehistory, call the Ohio History Connection’s Local History Office at 614-297-2341 or email averhoff@ohiohistory.org.

People in the News

Tonia Hoffert, director of the **Seneca County Museum**, has been named the new curator at the **Bucyrus Historical Society**. She will currently be serving at both museums and is filling the shoes at Bucyrus recently vacated by co-curators **Mary Ellen** and **Don Lust**, who retired after seven years of service.

Liz Schultz, the **Oberlin Heritage Center's** museum education and tour coordinator, was one of 21 participants from across the nation who attended the **Developing History Leaders** seminar in Indianapolis this fall. Sponsored by the American Association of State and Local History (AASLH), the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Ohio History Connection and others, this professional development program is now in its sixth decade providing history professionals the tools, ideas, and connections that allow them to become effective leaders and managers in their field. Upon returning to Oberlin, Schultz summed up the experience as one that was both invigorating and reaffirming. "Everyone left with goals for improving their home institutions and demonstrating how history museums aren't just nice, they're essential," she said.

The **Dennison Railroad Depot Museum System** has welcomed **Kerri Silverthorn** as their new membership and marketing coordinator. She will be coordinating memberships and marketing efforts at the Dennison Depot, the Uhrichsville Clay Museum, and Historic Shoenbrunn Village. Based in New Philadelphia, Silverthorn came to the Depot in November from a local radio station. She will be earning her degree in Applied Communication & English from Kent State University in 2015.

Congratulations!

Ohio Historical Marker Grants Help Erect 5 New Markers

At its October 2014 meeting, the Ohio Historical Markers grant committee made grants of \$750 to offset the cost of erecting 5 new markers, from a field of 10 applicants. Communities receiving a grant include:

Cleveland: "Abraham Lincoln's Funeral in Cleveland" tells the story of the assassinated president's funeral train's stop in Cleveland and the city's outpouring of grief during the return of his remains to Springfield, Illinois for burial.

Dover: "Dover Light Plant / Northern Ohio Traction & Light" shares two related histories of how Dover, Ohio, like many other communities at the turn of the 20th century, harnessed the power of electricity to light the city and move its people.

Irontale: "Mooretown Civil War Monument" honors the service and sacrifice of Thomas George and his comrades in the 2nd Ohio Volunteer Infantry, from Ross Township Jefferson County, as well as sharing the history of the monument itself.

Powell: "Depp Settlement and Lucy Depp Park" chronicles the history of the Lucy Depp subdivision, north of Columbus, from the time it was founded in the 1830s to its development as a popular getaway and vacation spot for African-Americans in Columbus in the middle decades of the 20th century.



Sugarcreek: "Giant Cuckoo Clock of Karl Schleutermann" tells the offbeat story of the world's largest cuckoo clock, featured on the cover of the 1978 *Guinness Book of World Records*, and how the clock was and is used to celebrate the heritage of Sugarcreek, the "Little Switzerland of Ohio."

(Photo courtesy of www.experience-ohio-amish-country.com.)

New Deadline!

New Deadline for Ohio Historical Marker Applications: July 1

To better accommodate "marker dedication season" the Ohio History Connection's Local History Office is revising the deadline for marker applications and for the marker grant program. With the exception of the new William G. Pomeroy Foundation Grant, described elsewhere in this issue, there will be one deadline a year for applying for an Ohio Historical Marker, July 1. With the new deadline of July 1, the program will no longer accept applications on a rolling basis throughout the year.

From receipt of application to the delivery of the finished product, Ohio Historical Markers can take up to 6–9 months to produce. A new deadline of July 1 will ensure that all applicants have their markers in time for marker dedication season beginning the following spring.

The new deadline of July 1 will apply to applicants seeking marker grants as well as to those who raise funds from solely local sources to erect markers. Previously, the marker grant program had two deadlines a year, in April and October, making five grants per deadline. Beginning July 1, the markers grant program will be making 10 grants at a time.

Marker applicants, however, do not have to apply for a one of the Connection's markers grants. Applicants who do apply but do not receive a grant may still move forward with their applications, if the program approves the historical topic for a marker.

The year 2015 will bring other changes to the Ohio Historical Markers program. The staff of the Ohio History Connection's Local History Office is at work reworking the marker application and revising and clarifying guidelines for the program to make them easier to use.

For an application and more information, visit www.remarkableohio.org or contact Andy Verhoff, historical marker coordinator, at 614-297-2341 or averrhoff@ohiohistory.org.

Professional Development

Ohio Museums Association Conference March 29-31

Join the Ohio Museum Association in Cleveland March 29-31 for the 2015 Conference, *Relevance through Rebirth: Ohio Museums in the 21st Century*. The age of digital, next-generation tech, and social sharing have forever altered the way we seek and consume information - and experiences. In this ever-changing landscape of new technology and attention-pulls, Ohio museums are experiencing a renaissance in programming, collections care, governance – and all points in-between – to keep visitors engaged all while staying true to mission. How are our museums adapting to remain not just relevant, but thriving cornerstones of our communities?

OMA 2015 is packed full of great opportunities, professional development, engaging speakers, tours, awards, networking and more! Attendees at OMA 2015 will also enjoy new experiences, alongside the great conference staples you've come to expect from the Ohio Museums Association, including:

- A full day of tours on Sunday to some of Cleveland's museum gems
- The Annual Awards dinner at the beautiful Greater Cleveland Aquarium
- The OMA silent auction that boasts a wide variety of goodies you won't be able to resist
- The Ohio EMP Gathering
- The OMA Exhibit Hall featuring regional museum service providers
- Networking with museum professionals from across the state
- Tuesday Half-Day workshops! Choose from three immersive, hands-on workshops hosted on-site at OMA member institutions in Cleveland.
- The 2015 Keynote Address by Pro Football Hall of Fame President, David Baker
- Fifteen professional development sessions and roundtables ranging in topics from across the museum discipline

For more information and to register, visit <http://ohiomuseums.org/professional-development/conference/>.

Awards



AASLH
American Association
for State and Local History

AASLH Award Nominations Due March 1

Every year AASLH bestows the Leadership in History Awards in recognition of excellence in the field of state and local history. The awards were established to encourage standards of excellence in the collection, preservation, and interpretation of state and local history in order to make the past more meaningful to all Americans. By publicly recognizing superior and innovative achievements, the Leadership in History Awards serve as an inspiration to others in the field. AASLH recognizes excellence in the following areas:

- ***Exhibits***
- ***Public and educational programming***
- ***Special projects***
- ***Publications***
- ***Multimedia***
- ***Individual achievement***

Applicants can self-nominate or nominate another project. Nominees need not be members of AASLH to qualify and organizations of all sizes are encouraged to apply! For more information including submission guidelines, visit <http://about.aaslh.org/awards>.

Grants

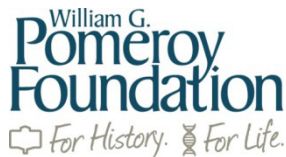
OHRAB Grant Applications Due February 28

The Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board (OHRAB) announces the availability of grants between \$500 and \$2,000 to archival institutions to fund projects to preserve and/or provide access to Ohio's historical records. Proposals must be received by February 28, 2015. Awards will be announced March 23, and projects must be completed by December 31, 2015.

Eligible institutions may be public or private. Any size institution may apply, but preference will be given to institutions with permanently valuable archival materials of less than 500 cubic feet. Eligible projects include those involving physical access, arrangement, and description; preservation; and making catalog descriptions of records or digital images of records available online. Eligible expenses include supplies, storage materials, technical equipment, and contracted services. Full details of this grant opportunity and the application packet are available at OHRAB's website <http://www.ohrab.org/grants/regrant/>.

Funding is made available by a Federal regrant opportunity from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), a division of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). Please Note: OHRAB is awaiting formal notification from the NHPRC on the funding for the regrants. While it is necessary for OHRAB to announce this grant opportunity and begin to receive your proposals, all awards are contingent on OHRAB receiving the funds from the NHPRC.

Congratulations!



William G. Pomeroy Foundation Award Winners

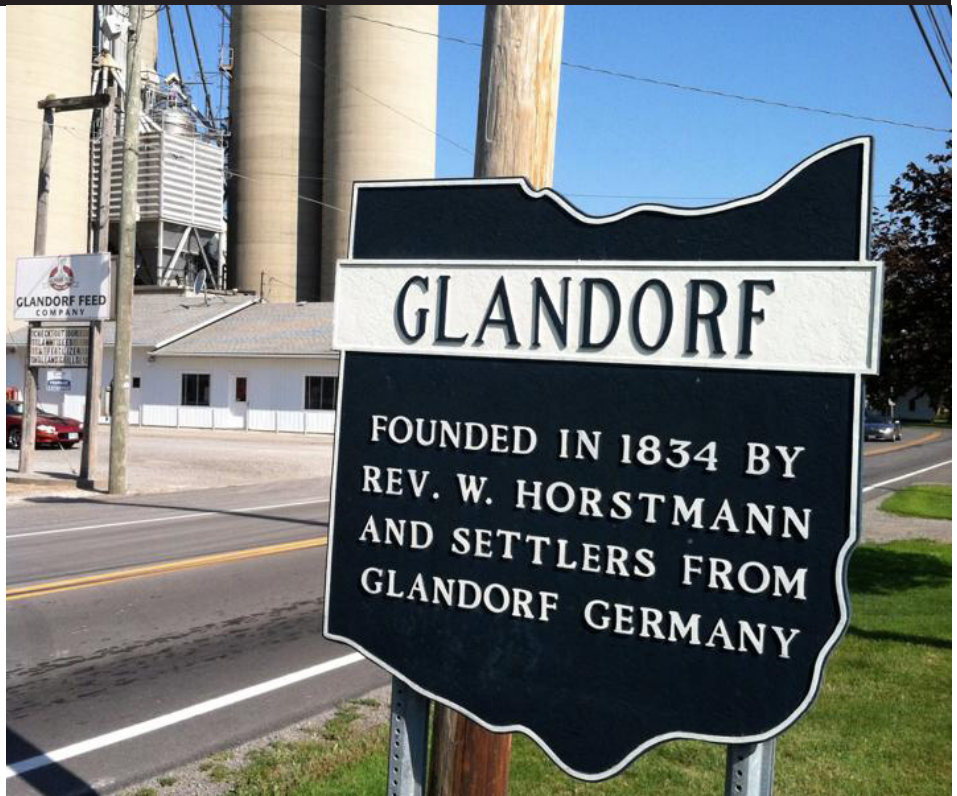
Thanks to the William G. Pomeroy Foundation of Syracuse, New York, the Ohio History Connection's Local History Office now offers new grants to erect Ohio Historical Markers and Ohio Corporate Limit Markers in Erie, Huron, and Seneca Counties. The first deadline for the new program was November 12 and the Pomeroy Foundation made awards for these markers:

Bellevue (Huron): The “**Tremont House**” will chronicle this National Register-listed landmark in downtown Bellevue, which was built in 1846 and was home to a variety of businesses throughout its history.

Kelleys Island (Erie): A marker for the “**German Reform Church / Church Parsonage**” will chronicle the history of this small congregation, active from the 1860s to the early 1940s and now a part of the Kelley's Island Historical Association.

Sandusky (Erie): The “**Sandusky Library / Erie County Jail**” will share the history of the city's library and adjacent county jail. The current library was built in 1901, thanks to a grant from Andrew Carnegie, and expanded in 2004 to incorporate the jail building, made redundant by a replacement in 1990.

Tiffin (Seneca): The community of Tiffin submitted two applications and both were funded. The “**Founding of Tiffin**” will describe the establishment of city, named for Ohio's first governor, Edward Tiffin. A marker to **Rezin W. Shawhan** will note this successful Tiffin businessman's life and philanthropy. His former house is now the Seneca County Museum.



Ohio Corporate Limit Marker. The William G. Pomeroy Foundation makes grants to erect both Ohio Historical Markers and Ohio Corporate Limit Markers. Photo courtesy of Andy Verhoff.

Ohio Historical Markers range in cost from \$2,440 to \$2,730, exclusive of artwork. Grants from the Pomeroy Foundation will pay up to \$2,440, which is the cost for a marker of approximately 100 words. If the local sponsor of the marker wants to erect a marker exceeding 100 words, the cost would be no more than \$300, excluding the additional cost of including a photograph or other artwork on the marker. As is currently the case with the markers program, the local sponsor of the marker assumes the costs of placing the marker and maintaining it over time.

The Foundation will also fund the full cost of navy blue, Ohio-shaped Corporate Limit Marker (\$2,040). Because they are intended to be read from passing vehicles entering a municipality, Ohio Corporate Limit Markers are limited to very short phrases of approximately 10-15 words.

Markers funded by the William G. Pomeroy Foundation shall meet one or both of the following criteria: 1) the person, place, event, or thing commemo-

rated must have a period of significance which falls between the years 1800 and 1900 or 2) the marker must designate properties or districts on the National Register of Historic Places. (Properties on the National Register must be owned by a government entity or a non-profit organization. Individual properties under private ownership or commercial properties are not eligible.)

The next deadlines for grants from the William G. Pomeroy Foundation are April 1 and July 1. To apply, complete the regular application for an Ohio Historical Marker, available at: www.remarkableohio.org. For more information, contact marker coordinator Andy Verhoff in Ohio History Connection's Local History Office: 614-297-2341, averhoff@ohiohistory.org.

For more information about the William G. Pomeroy Foundation, which administers a very active historical marker program in New York State, visit: www.wgpfoundation.org or see the Foundation on Facebook.

ON THE WEB

Uncatalogued Museum

<http://uncatalogued-museum.blogspot.com>

Independent consultant Linda B. Norris's blog features posts on projects she is currently working on, museums she has visited, and ideas to consider bringing into your organization.

Join the Ohio Local History Alliance...

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

Organizational Member

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

Operating budget:

Over \$200,000 a year:

\$100 (\$190 for 2)

\$100,000-\$200,000 a year:

\$75 (\$140 for 2)

\$25,000-\$100,000 a year:

\$60 (\$110 for 2)

Under \$25,000 a year:

\$35 (\$65 for 2)

Individual Member

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

Affiliate: \$35 a year (\$65 for 2)

Individual: \$50 a year (\$90 for 2)

Student: \$20 a year

Business Member

\$100 a year (\$190 for 2)

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

CALENDAR 2015

March 4

Statehood Day. For more information, see page 3.

March 14

Ohio Local History Alliance Region 5 & 7 Meetings. For more information, see page 1.

March 21

Ohio Local History Alliance Region 6 & 8 Meetings. For more information, see page 1.

March 28

Ohio Local History Alliance Region 9 & 10 Meetings. For more information, see page 1.

April 1

Ohio Historical Marker applications for William G. Pomeroy Foundation grants due. For more information, see page 9.

April 11

Ohio Local History Alliance Region 1 Meeting. For more information, see page 1.

April 15

Tax Day! Be sure to make your contribution to the History Fund when you file your Ohio income taxes. For more information, see page 5.

April 18

Ohio Local History Alliance Region 2 & 4 Meetings. For more information, see page 1.

April 25

Ohio Local History Alliance Region 3 Meeting. For more information, see page 1.

July 1

New deadline for Ohio Historical Marker grant applications. For more information, see page 7.

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

News from the Regions

Region 1

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

The Kenton Toy Collectors will be having their third annual Cast Iron Toy Show at the **Hardin County Historical Museum** on February 21. All profits from the show will be donated back to the museum. In addition, the Hardin County Museum's exhibit of toys made at the Kenton Hardware Company will be on display. The most famous of these toys is the Gene Autry cap pistol. For more information, visit <http://www.hardinmuseums.org/>.

Region 2

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

Region 3

Cuyahoga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, and Summit Counties

Region 4

Ashtabula, Geauga, Mahoning, Portage, and Trumbull Counties

The **Mahoning Valley Historical Society** has opened a new gallery at the Tyler Mahoning Valley History Center – the Youngstown Foundation Community History Gallery. It will host temporary exhibits from community partners like other historical societies, civic organizations, artists, and collectors. The gallery's first exhibit is *An Affordable Luxury: Trumbull County Clocks*. Visitors will learn the history of one of Trumbull County's earliest industries and see examples of the craftsmanship involved in creating these pieces. For more information go to <http://www.mahoninghistory.org>.

Region 5

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

The **Dennison Railroad Depot Museum** celebrated its first Salvation Army National Donut Day this summer. The Depot passed out almost nine dozen donuts on a street corner and had two taste-testing contests. The first contest featured celebrity judges picking which local specialty was the best. The second contest was a community-judged blind taste test of the best local donut. The day was so successful the Depot will be celebrating National Donut Day again in June 2015. To learn more visit <http://www.dennisondepot.org>.

Region 6

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

The **New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society's *Diary of Lucius Clark Smith, 1869-1871*** is now available as a Kindle Book from Amazon. Lucius Smith was an early resident of Plain Township and kept several diaries. The book has a wealth of details about everyday rural life in Central Ohio during this period. All proceeds from the Kindle Book go directly to the society. For more information visit <http://www.newalbanyplaintownshiphistoricalsociety.org/>.

The **Motts Military Museum** has replaced all the fluorescent lighting in their museum with new energy-efficient LED lights. With the new lights the museum hopes to save a lot of money in their electrical costs. **American Electric Power** reimbursed the museum for a portion of the replacement costs. To learn more go to <http://www.mottsmilitarymuseum.org>.

Region 7

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

The **Miamisburg Historical Society** has launched a TV show! The society's Media Production Group is recording a variety of programs on Miamisburg's history. The first two shows featured stories of Miamisburg's past and the history of the canal that ran through town. The programs are shown on the local public access channel, and more are planned. For more information visit http://www.miamisburg.org/miamisburg_historical_society.htm.

Region 8

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

Region 9

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

This fall the **Meigs County Historical Society** held its first genealogy fair, co-sponsored by the Meigs County Genealogy Society. Local genealogists were invited to the Meigs County Museum to spend a day working on their family histories using the society's original records. The resources available included original marriage records, birth and death records, estate packets, wills, naturalization papers, and newspapers. The dates covered ranged from very early nineteenth century through the 1950s. For more information go to <http://www.meigscohistorical.org/>.

Region 10

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

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

MEMBERSHIP

List as of December 16, 2014

Welcome New Member

Organization

Columbus Metropolitan Library,
Columbus

Thank You Renewing Members

Individual

Carl T. Engel, Painesville
Daniel L. Frizzi, Bellaire
Joshua D. Mann, Pickerington

Organizations

A.B. Graham Memorial Center Museum,
Conover
Avon Lake Historical Society, Avon Lake
Boardman Historical Society,
Youngstown
Belmont County Historical Society,
Barnesville
Belpre Historical Society, Belpre
Brunswick Area Historical Society,
Brunswick
Carroll Area Historical Society, Carroll
Centerville-Washington Twp. Historical
Society, Centerville
Chagrin Falls Historical Society,
Chagrin Falls
Clintonville Historical Society, Columbus
Delhi Historical Society, Cincinnati
Delphos Canal Commission, Delphos
Enon Community Historical Society,
Enon
Erie County Historical Society, Sandusky
Fairport Harbor Historical Society,
Fairport Harbor

Fowler Township Historical Society,
Cortland
Garnet A. Wilson Public Library of Pike
County, Waverly
German Culture Museum, Walnut Creek
Granger Historical Society, Medina
Greater Loveland Historical Society &
Museum, Loveland
Hanover Township Historical Society,
Hanoverton
Hocking County Historical Society,
Logan
Kirtland Temple Historic Center,
Willoughby
Lakeside Heritage Society Inc., Lakeside
Lillian E. Jones Museum, Jackson
Lorain Historical Society, Lorain
Lucy Hayes Heritage Center, Chillicothe
Lynchburg Historical Society, Lynchburg
Madison County Historical Society,
London
Mariemont Preservation Foundation,
Cincinnati
Metamora Area Historical Society,
Metamora
Museum at the Friends Home,
Waynesville
Noble County Historical Society,
Caldwell
Richfield Historical Society, Richfield
Roseville Historical Society, Roseville
Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center,
Fremont
Sebring Ohio Historical Society, Sebring
Shanes Crossing Historical Society,
Rockford
Solon Historical Society, Solon
Tallmadge Historical Society, Tallmadge

Tippecanoe Historical Society, Tipp City
Union County Historical Society,
Marysville
Williams County Historical Society,
Montpelier
Windsor Historical Society, Windsor
Wood County Historical Center &
Museum, Bowling Green

Need to Contact Us? *We at the Local History Office love hearing from you.*

Local History Office Staff

Mark Sundlov
Department Manager
msundlov@ohiohistory.org
(614) 297-2343

Andy Verhoff
History Fund Grant Manager
and Ohio Historical Marker
Coordinator
averhoff@ohiohistory.org
(614) 297-2341

Amy Rohmiller
Program Coordinator
Local History, AmeriCorps,
CW150
arohmiller@ohiohistory.org
(614) 297-2609

Get Social with the Ohio Local History Alliance



Facebook: [OhioLocalHistoryAlliance](https://www.facebook.com/OhioLocalHistoryAlliance)



LinkedIn: [Ohio Local History Alliance](https://www.linkedin.com/company/ohio-local-history-alliance)