

Connect with your Local History Community at the 2016 Regional Meetings

Connect with friends old and new at this spring's Ohio Local History Alliance Regional Meetings. Image courtesy of the Ohio History Connection.

By Mark Sundlov, Local History Services Department Manager, Ohio History Connection, Columbus

It's hard to believe, but the days are growing longer, and spring will soon make its way to Ohio. Spring is always an exciting and hopeful time of year. Museums and historic sites across the state are preparing their facilities, staff, programs, and other aspects of their operations for the busy summer season, and the Ohio Local History Alliance's Regional Meetings are here to help. Regional meetings offer educational and networking opportunities where you can gain new knowledge, connect with old friends and meet new ones, find new sources of support, and share stories of successes and struggles – all of which can help you have your most successful year ever! Simply put, regional meetings are a great way to recharge our batteries and get us excited for another year of sharing our rich Ohio history with the visitors who come through our doors.

In addition to the educational and networking opportunities offered by the regional meetings, they are also a golden opportunity to visit some of Ohio's best museums and historic sites. Our generous and gracious host sites for this year's meetings are ready to "put the coffee on" and welcome us to their unique historic spaces.

In **Region 1** the **Museum of Postal**

History will welcome you on April 9. Located in Delphos, the museum is located in a restored 1902 downtown building and is one of three museums in the nation dedicated to postal history. Among its very special collections are a 1910 Harrington Rural Coach, a Westcoaster Three-Wheeler, and a 1963 Quarter Ton Jeep. This is one museum where it's okay to "go postal!"

The **Richland County Historical Society** hosts the **Region 2** meeting on April 16. You'll meet in downtown Mansfield at Ed Pickens Café on Main. Given the active and critical role the society has played in historic preservation projects downtown, meeting on Main Street is very appropriate. Be sure to stay for the walking tour of downtown Mansfield at the end of the meeting!

The **Region 3** meeting will be hosted by the **Westlake Historical Society** on April 9 at the Westlake Recreation Center. Following the meeting, you are encouraged to tour the 1844 Clague House Museum. Be sure to also leave time to visit the seven (7!) historical markers WHS has erected in Westlake.

The **Youngstown Historical Center of Industry & Labor** and **Youngstown State University** roll out the red carpet for the **Region 4** meeting on April 16. The museum will educate you on the steel industry that dominated Youngstown in the 20th century. See the "last heats" – the final batches of steel produced at each of the mills before they closed – and other artifacts representing

labor, immigration, and urban history.

Don't turn down the **Newcomerstown Historical Society's** invitation to attend the **Region 5** meeting on March 12 at the Old Main Street Museum & Social Center! The Victory Canteen Singers will take attendees back to the 1940s over the lunch hour, and some of Newcomerstown's historic figures will greet you as you step through the doors.

The **Dawes Arboretum** hosts the **Region 6** meeting in their natural and
Continued on page 3

WHAT'S INSIDE:

- 2** President's Message
- 3** Join us for Statehood Day
- 4** Book Review: *Archives for the Lay Person*
- 5** Self-Publishing
- 6** Support the History Fund
- 8** Announcements
- 10** Calendar
- 11** News from the Regions
- 12** New and Renewing Members

President's Message:

Recently I was at an information session for communities hosting the Ohio Humanities Chautauqua in 2016. As we went around the room and the attendees from the five host communities introduced themselves, I was struck by the variety of groups and institutions they represented. The partnerships displayed in that room provide the time, talent, and resources to sponsor this wonderful program in towns across Ohio.

Helen Keller stated, "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." Imagine all the opportunities that can be explored if historical

organizations collaborate on building projects, preservation efforts, and dynamic programming ideas. Convention and visitors bureaus, libraries, historical societies, educational institutions, museums, and archives have shared interests that can be advanced through partnerships both with each other and with other business and civic organizations in our communities. I hope you will explore a new partnership opportunity in 2016.

The History Fund is one partnership opportunity that pools a lot of resources from around the state to make a difference in towns across Ohio. That pool of money was a dream of local historians, and we want to make sure that the ability to award grants continues. This requires your assistance. **Do not forget to mark the Ohio History Fund tax check-off when you are preparing your**

Ohio tax return! Please tell your friends, family, neighbors, and colleagues about this program! Thank you for your support.

Beth Weinhardt

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OHIO LOCAL HISTORY ALLIANCE

Inspire. Connect. Educate.

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

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

Annual Membership Dues:

Organizations:

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

Individuals:

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

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

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

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Join us for Statehood Day on March 1!

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

Ohio history advocates will assemble March 1 for the 10th annual Statehood Day at the Ohio Statehouse. 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. You can register for the event online at www.ohiohistory.org/statehoodday.

Marion Werkheiser, founding partner of Cultural Heritage Partners in Washington, D.C., will be the keynote speaker at lunchtime. Attendees are encouraged to schedule a meeting that morning with their state representative and/or state senator. In addition to legislative advocacy, the Ohio History Connection will announce its 2016 History Fund grant awards, funded through income tax donations from Ohioans. State Rep. Kirk Schuring (R-Canton) 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.

"The tenth anniversary of the Statehood Day advocacy event provides a great opportunity for the history community to reflect on our successes," said Ohio History Connection Executive Director and CEO Burt Logan. "This has proven to be an effective way for Ohioans to come together and speak with one voice about the significance of Ohio history and to recognize the state's birthday."

Registration for the event is \$30. To register and find more information, visit online at www.ohiohistory.org/statehoodday.

Statehood Day is sponsored by the Ohio History Connection, the Ohio Local History Alliance, Heritage Ohio, the Ohio Archaeological Council, Ohio Humanities, 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 and the Society of Ohio Archivists. ■



Marion Werkheiser, founding partner of Cultural Heritage Partners, will be the keynote speaker at the 10th annual Statehood Day on March 1.

Connect with your Local History Community at the 2016 Regional Meetings *(Continued from page 1)*

beautiful setting on March 12. Give yourself time after the rich educational and networking opportunities to explore the grounds of the arboretum and get a first taste of spring!

The **Brethren Heritage Center** in Brookville will welcome you to **Region 7** on March 12. The Heritage Center is located in the lower level of Brookside Plaza. It has an unassuming entrance that hides a richly preserved history and vast archive of Brethren-related heritage. This is a gem not to be missed.

The **Region 8** meeting is hosted by the **Cincinnati Observatory** on March 19. The sessions and the networking are going to be fantastic. However, they'll have a tough time stealing the show from this stunning historic site and museum. Located atop the rolling hills of Mt. Lookout, the observatory is home to the world's oldest telescope still in use. Two handsome National Landmark Buildings and the beautiful grounds

provide a serene, park-like setting.

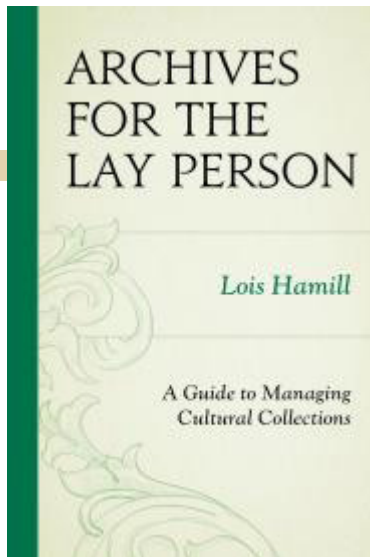
The **Jackson Historical Society** invites us to beautiful **Region 9** on April 2. We will be trying a new agenda for Region 9 this year. While keeping the much beloved portions of the Regional Meeting (especially Sharing Time), we will be conducting a full-day workshop—"Building a Meaningful Collection." The 6.5-hour workshop, designed by the American Association for State and Local History to support its "Standards and Excellence Program for History Organizations" will help participants understand the value of, and process of, creating a Scope of Collections Statement for their museum, historic house, site, or other history organization.

In **Region 10**, the **Belpre Historical Society** invites you to their place on April 2. Nestled into the scenic Ohio River Valley, the museum boasts a Southeast Ohio Underground Railroad exhibit based on research by local historian Henry R. Burke,

a circa-1840 C-Spring Boot Carriage, and an archaeological collection that spans 12,000 years of history. Knowing the hard-working team at Belpre, their hospitality will be as impressive as their collections.

As you can tell, I'm more than excited to get back on the road and visit with all of you, to discuss and share ideas about how we can improve our museums and history organizations, and to visit some of Ohio's historic places. Remember, you aren't limited to attending the meeting of the region you live or work in. You can attend any regional meeting, and you certainly can attend more than one!

The brochure, with more complete descriptions of each meeting, will arrive in your mail soon. You can register by mailing in the form on the last page of the brochure or by going online to www.ohiohistory.org/register. Have questions? Call Local History Services at 1.800.576.0381 or email msundlov@ohiohistory.org. ■



Book Review

Archives for the Lay Person

by Lois Hamill

By Nancy Yerian,
Independent Public
Historian, Cincinnati

Archives for the Lay Person: A Guide to Managing Cultural Collections by Lois Hamill can be a useful manual for local history organizations with significant archival collections. Many small organizations and historical societies do not have an archivist on staff, or for that matter, any staff. *Archives for the Lay Person* will be most useful to those institutions. Hamill, an archivist at Northern Kentucky University, writes a very basic and precise handbook laying out the core principals of archival practice and how to carry them out with your collection.

Hamill begins by providing a short chapter giving a little background and definitions of basic concepts like *archives*, *records*, and *manuscripts*. The book then covers a variety of topics that follow the process of taking care of an archival collection, from accepting the material, through organizing and describing it, storing and caring for material, and using the material for researchers and exhibits. Hamill also gives detailed, illustrated instructions for documenting many of these processes using PastPerfect software, which will be extremely useful for orga-

nizations that have the software, but can be easily skimmed over by readers who find them less relevant to their own situation. With or without these diagrams and instructions, these chapters give archives techniques to arrange and document their collections according to current professional archival standards.

Hamill also provides a wealth of examples of documentation best practices, which can be used even without PastPerfect. The book has three indexes worth of sample policies, forms, and examples of finding aids, file structures, and much more. These samples come from real archives, so readers can see how the concepts Hamill discusses have been put into practice by other institutions. Implementing these types of forms help archives stay organized and make them easier to use, but, as Hamill emphasizes, many of them are also important for legal reasons, such as a Deed of Gift properly denoting ownership and copyright notices to researchers.

Archives for the Lay Person also covers best practices for storing, handling, and preserving collections, including two chapters on photographs, advice on what kinds of materials to use for preservation, disaster preparedness, a little information about other kinds of objects (ones found less often in archives), and knowing when

to call in outside experts. These sections, like many others in the book, also include rich bibliographies and “further reading” lists, a useful tool if your organization needs more detail on a topic. Hamill even includes advice on how to find experts in particular preservation fields and an appendix of trusted vendors of archival grade materials if you don't know where to start looking for folders and boxes.

Hamill's book is written with a specific audience in mind: the small archives, historical societies, and local history organizations that want more background and advice on the best ways to build and care for their collections. For those organizations, *Archives for the Lay Person* is an invaluable resource and reference book. Although some of the specifics may need to be adapted for your institution's collection, the basic principles outlined will be a major help in shaping your work. If you want to make sure you're doing things “the right way,” this book should be on your shelf.

Hamill, Lois. *Archives for the Lay Person: A Guide to Managing Cultural Collections*. New York: AltaMira Press, 2013. ■

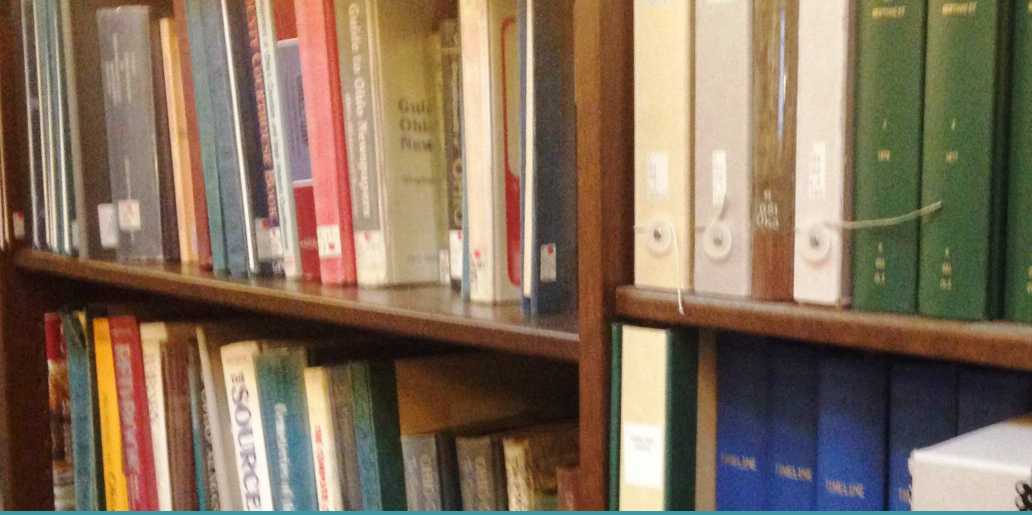


Photo courtesy of the Ohio History Connection.

The Rewards and Perils of Self-Publishing

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

So you want to write a book? The aim of all historical organizations is to spread the word about the heritage of your community, and the traditional way to do this is to publish. Not everyone will visit your museum or library, and not everyone has online access or the desire to look at online exhibits. This means that traditional publishing is still the way to reach the widest audience.

The hardest part is getting the thing written in the first place – but assuming you’ve achieved that, here are some of the pros and cons about publishing your material yourself. These are things I’ve learned through (mostly good) experience.

Publishing it yourself:

- The best thing about doing this yourself is that you can control everything: the content, the look of the finished product, the copyright, and the sales. Once you bring someone else into the fold, some of this control is lost. But with control comes responsibility. Just how many copies do you print so that they aren’t sitting there on a shelf gathering dust ten years later? Without an outside editor, who makes sure the grammar and the facts are correct? Are you prepared to promote the book?
- It’s hard to guess how many copies to print, as it’s hard to gauge how popular your book will be. It’s also tempting to over-order because the price per copy goes down the more copies you print. There is no rule of thumb on quantities that I’m aware of. Allowing people to pre-order might help and give you some cash to pay for printing. A pre-ordering publicity blitz will help with future sales too.
- Since you aren’t using an outside publisher, you keep all of the profit and don’t have to deal with any minimums before you receive royalties.
- You can set the price, using a format that reflects the content. The North Canton Heritage Society published a Civil War memoir in booklet form using a local copy service. We used Office Max; FedEx Office also does this. It sells briskly at just five dollars, and we are still making \$2.50 from each copy. If it had been printed in softcover with a perfect binding (where the pages are glued to the spine), it would have cost us twice as much.
- You have to find a local printer that satisfies your needs and meets your budget.

Using an outside publisher:

- An outside publisher like Arcadia (www.arcadiapublishing.com) or a university press can help you generate publicity for your publication. They have sources, such as contacts with external reviewers, who might write about your book in newspapers, magazines, or academic journals.
- A publisher can handle distribution so you don’t have to tote your book around to outlets and handle consignment sales. On the other hand, you may want to do that anyway – the more sales the better! They also handle online sales from their own website and from Amazon, so your book can reach a wider audience.
- An outside publisher can ensure quality, including the look of the book, and provide editorial assistance and editorial review.
- Copyright issues can be both a pro – the publisher can help with the application for copyright – and a con – the publisher can hold the copyright, and even though you receive funds from the book via royalties, you don’t control any future publication of your own work. This is something you will want to discuss in-depth with any publisher.
- In most cases the outside publisher assumes all costs associated with the publishing of the book, so you are not out any money that you might never get back if the book doesn’t sell.

There is a middle ground between doing it all yourself with a local printer or going to professional publisher – using an online self-publisher like Lulu (www.lulu.com). They have services, for a fee, to help with formatting and editing, but you can order hardcover and softcover books, either in quantity to sell yourself, or one copy at a time “on demand.” They even offer e-books, either for free if you do the formatting, or at a cost if they do it. Lulu also prints photo books and calendars. The North Canton Heritage Society has used Lulu to print fundraising calendars with photographs from its collection.

So, get the word out there about the history of your community. As they say, publish or perish! ■

2016

Make or Break Year for History Fund The tax check-off supports the History Fund. The History Fund supports you.

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

Local historians: one of the few state-wide sources of funding for your organizations is up against it. Because of changes to the Ohio income tax system last year, donations to all tax check-offs, including the one for the Ohio History Fund, were down significantly. In 2015, the Ohio History Fund's tax check-off generated just \$80,000 in donations. In comparison, in 2014 the tax check-off generated \$172,000. Because of the \$150,000 threshold we must cross to keep the Ohio History Fund on the Ohio income tax form, the tax check-off must generate \$150,000 in donations in 2016. We need your help to ensure this valuable source of funding remains on our state tax forms.

Since the History Fund started in 2012, it's made 33 grants in 22 counties for a total of \$348,000. Proving that there is a great need for the History Fund, it has received 224 grant applications from 53 counties, totaling \$2.8 million in requests!

Like most grant programs, the History Fund isn't able to fund all requests because of limited funding. Unlike most grant programs, the more the Ohio History Fund receives in donations, the more it has to grant to organizations like yours. Of the 33 grants made, half were to members of the Ohio Local History Alliance.

Continued on page 7



Here's what you can do:

- If you receive an Ohio income tax refund, share some of it with the Ohio History Fund. You'll find it on line 26b of the 2015 Universal IT 1040 Individual Income Tax Return.
- Tell your friends and family about the History Fund. You can find talking points at www.ohiohistory.org/OHFund.
- Reprint the sample article about the Ohio History Fund on page 7 in your own newsletters, whether paper or digital.
- Forward emails and share upcoming social media posts about the Ohio History Fund tax check-off from the Ohio Local History Alliance and the Ohio History Connection.
- Distribute promotional materials about the Ohio History Fund. In 2016, we're featuring a new person from Ohio's past – the victor of the Battle of Lake Erie, Oliver Hazard Perry, who exclaims "All hands on deck" for the Ohio History Fund. We have a great assortment of rack cards, note pads, bookmarks, and other items. Contact Brian Cheek of the Ohio History Connection's marketing department at bcheek@ohiohistory.org or 614.297.2319 for items.
- Download the Ohio History Fund media kit, including flyers to print and images suitable for newsletters, websites, and social media at www.ohiohistory.org/OHFund.
- Send a letter to the editor of your local newspaper about the tax check-off and the Ohio History Fund. Find a sample at www.ohiohistory.org/OHFund. ■

In addition to the tax check-off, there are other ways to support the History Fund:

- Twenty dollars from the sale of each set of Ohio History license plates benefits the History Fund grant program. Visit http://www.bmv.ohio.gov/sp_history.stm.
- To make a donation to the Ohio History Connection for the History Fund, visit <https://connect.ohiohistory.org/support/history-fund>. ■

How the Tax "Check-Off" Works*

For a complete list of grant recipients, visit <http://www.ohiohistory.org/historyfund>.

Applications for grants for 2016 are currently under review. Recipients will be publicly announced at Statehood Day on March 1. (See article on page 3). The deadline for applications in 2016 will be posted in June 2016 on the History Fund's webpage at www.ohiohistory.org/historyfund, which also includes information about eligible projects and applicants, grant amounts, and instructions for applying. Questions? Contact History Fund Grant Manager Andy Verhoff at 614.297.2341 or averhoff@ohiohistory.org.

- 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 line 26 that asks "Amount of line 24 to be donated."
- One of the six options is "Ohio History Fund"
- Under "Ohio History Fund," fill in the amount that you'd like to contribute. Last year's average contribution was \$8.59, so even a small donation can make a big difference. But if want to round it up to special year, please do – for example contribute \$18.85 for the year the Ohio History Connection was founded.
- The amount you contribute to the Ohio History Fund 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.

**Adapted from, Echoes, the bimonthly newsletter of the Ohio History Connection (January/February 2016)* ■

History Fund Sample Newsletter Article

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/OHFund.

2016 Make or Break Year for Ohio History Fund Grant Program for Local History

The Ohio History Connection's History Fund grant program is one of the few grant program in the state just for history, pre-history, and historic preservation projects – and it needs your help this year to stay afloat. If you receive a refund on your Ohio income taxes, consider donating a portion of it to the "Ohio History Fund" tax "check-off," line 26b on your state tax return.

The department of taxation requires that each tax check-off generate \$150,000 in contributions one of two years. Because of changes in the administration of the Ohio income tax system, donations to all tax check-offs, including the one for the Ohio History Fund were down more than half from last year. In 2014, the Ohio History Fund's tax check-off generated almost \$172,000 in donations; in 2015, it's down to \$80,000. Because of the \$150,000 threshold, the tax check-off must generate \$150,000 donations in 2016. We're at strike number one. We're now facing strike two – and we only get two strikes!

Your donation, along with those from thousands of other Ohio history lovers, makes possible grants for local history projects in places big and small throughout the state. Since the Ohio History Fund started in 2012, it has made 33 grants in 22 counties for a total of \$348,000. Proving that there is a great need for the History Fund, it has received 215 grant applications from 52 counties, totaling \$2.8 million in requests! For a list of grant recipients, visit <https://www.ohiohistory.org/preserve/local-history-office/history-fund/recipients>

Not receiving a tax refund? You can still help: buy an Ohio History mastodon license plate when it's time to renew your vehicle's registration. 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

You can also make a donation directly to the Ohio History Connection for the History Fund: visit "Grants for Local History–Give to the History Fund" at <https://connect.ohiohistory.org/support/history-fund>

The more you give to the Ohio History Fund, the more grants it can make to organizations that preserve history in our state. Questions about the History Fund? Visit www.ohiohistory.org/OHFund or call Andy Verhoff in the Ohio History Connection's Local History Services department at 614-297-2341 or email averhoff@ohiohistory.org. Thanks! ■

Professional Development

Society of Ohio Archivists Spring Conference Call for Proposals

The Society of Ohio's Archivists 2016 spring conference is Friday May 20, 2016 at the Quest Business and Conference Center in Columbus. The theme is *Knocking Down Walls and Reaching Out: Archives In Our Community*. This year SOA is accepting both session proposals and poster proposals at the same time. All proposal topics are welcome. Possible ideas include, but are not limited to:

- Tools for archival discovery, maintenance, and/or marketing
- Outreach and instruction efforts
- Student, intern, and volunteer experiences and projects
- Funding for archival projects or archival facilities
- Unique collection development ventures
- Preservation of analog and/or digital materials
- Description and access to traditional, born-digital, or hybrid collections

Proposals of traditional panel discussions, student and professional poster, and alternative formats such as lightening rounds, pecha kucha, fish bowl sessions, and other session formats that allow for interaction between presenters and attendees are encouraged. The Program Committee encourages proposals from students, new professionals, first time presenters and attendees, as well as individuals from related professions. Find more information at <http://www.ohioarchivists.org/>.

Awards



Image courtesy of the American Association for State and Local History.

AASLH Now Accepting Leadership in History Awards Nominations

The American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) invites nominations for its 2016 Leadership in History Awards. The awards program recognizes exemplary work completed by state or federal historical societies, institutions, or agencies; regional, county, or local historical societies, institutions, or agencies; specialized subject societies in related fields such as oral history, genealogy, folklore, archaeology, business history, etc.; junior historical societies; privately owned museums or foundations; individuals; and organizations outside the field of traditional historical agencies. Awards are given for exhibits, public and educational programming, special projects, publications, multimedia, and individual achievement. Nominees need not be members of AASLH to qualify.

Nominations are due on March 1, 2016. More information, including instructions and a list of state award representatives who can advise nominees can be found at about <http://aaslh.org/awards>.

Professional Development

Advocacy Builds Capital

Ohio Museums Association's
2016 Annual Conference



April 17-18, 2016 - Columbus, Ohio
Visit www.ohiomuseums.org for complete details

Ohio Museums Association 2016 Annual Conference

With Ohio's capitol city as our backdrop for OMA 2016, it's important to remember both advocacy and capital can mean many things.

Advocacy is more than just connecting with your elected officials – it's also communicating the value of your organization both within your community and on a larger scale. It's sharing that museums are an essential resource, and play a vital role in our communities.

Capital is more than just money – it's also the human capital of your staff, visitors, volunteers, and stakeholders. It's the relationship with your community and the social responsibility of our institutions as trusted cultural stewards.

Join us in Columbus, April 17-18 as we explore these topics and more at the 2016 Ohio Museums Association Annual Conference, *Advocacy Builds Capital!*

Find more information at <http://ohiomuseums.org/professional-development/conference/>.

Call for Judges and Volunteers for Ohio History Day



Ohio History Day is a year-long research project designed for students in grades 6-12. 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.

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 district competitions across Ohio and/or the State Competition on April 30, 2016 at Ohio Wesleyan University. To register as a judge, go to www.ohiohistory.org/historyday or contact Shoshanna Gross, State Coordinator, at sgross@ohiohistory.org or 614.29.2536. Contest dates are as follows:

Saturday, March 5, 2016

Region 1: Bowling Green State University Bowling Green, OH 43403

Region 3: Western Reserve Historical Society, 10825 East Boulevard, Cleveland, OH 44106

Region 7: Piqua High School, 719 East Ash Street, Piqua, OH 45356

Region 9: Ohio University, Chillicothe, 101 University Drive, Chillicothe, OH 45601

Saturday, March 12, 2016

Region 6: Ohio Wesleyan, 61 S Sandusky Street, Delaware, OH 43015

Saturday, March 19, 2016

Region 2: Terra Community College, 2930 Napoleon Road, Fremont, OH 43420

Region 8: Hamilton High School, 1165 Eaton Avenue, Hamilton, OH 45013

Saturday, April 2, 2016

Region 4: Youngstown State University, 1 University Plaza, Youngstown, OH 44555

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

Saturday, April 30, 2016

State Contest, Ohio Wesleyan, 61 S Sandusky Street, Delaware, OH 43015

**ON
THE
WEB**

State Heritage Emergency Partnership Webinars

<https://thehep.wordpress.com/webinars/>

Winter is here, and that means it's time to think about disaster planning. This series of webinars presented by Heritage Preservation will teach you about various emergency management programs and policies to help prepare for and recover from a natural disaster. You'll find recorded webinars on Navigating Public Assistance Following a Disaster, Mitigation and Mitigation Planning, Disaster and Continuity Planning and Preparedness and Federal Disaster Recovery Assistance from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) for Private, Nonprofit Organizations.

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 2016

January 29

SOA Session Proposal Deadline. For more information, see page 8.

March 1

Statehood Day. For more information, see page 3.

AASLH Awards Nomination Deadline. For more information, see page 8.

March 12

Region 5 and Region 7 meetings. For more information, see page 1.

Region 6 History Day contest. For more information, see page 9.

March 19

Region 6 and Region 8 meetings. For more information, see page 1.

Region 2 & 8 History Day contests. For more information, see page 9.

April 2

Region 9 and Region 10 meetings. For more information, see page 1.

Region 4 & 10 History Day contests. For more information, see page 9.

April 9

Region 1 and Region 3 meetings. For more information, see page 1.

April 15

Tax Day! File your taxes and donate to the History Fund!

April 16

Region 2 and Region 4 meetings. For more information, see page 1.

April 30

State History Day Contest. For more information, see page 9.

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

After more than 20 years of effort by the **Fallen Timbers Battlefield Preservation Commission** to preserve and protect the site, the battlefield for the Battle of Fallen Timbers opened to the public on October 25. The battlefield has been opened as a **National Park Service National Historic Site** and a **Metropark of the Toledo Area**. The park has planned up to five visitor information lookout area along a 1.5 mile looped trail. The viewing stations will include explanations of important moments in the battle and information on participants in the conflict. For more information visit <http://www.fallentimbersbattlefield.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

The **Summit County Historical Society** hosted one of Ohio's largest displays of antique and contemporary quilts in October. The Mutton Hill Quilt Show featured many of the 150 historic quilts and coverlets in the society's collections, as well as 30 quilts that were part of the "Quilt National '15" juried exhibition in Athens, Ohio. Visitors to the show also had the opportunity to shop with quilting vendors and hear speakers on quilt-related topics. To learn more go to <http://summithistory.org/>.

The **Medina County Historical Society** hosted an author luncheon featuring cartoonist Tom Batiuk. Batiuk is the author and artist of the comic strip *Funky Winkerbean* and the author of the strip *Crankshaft*. Batiuk spoke about his two new books featuring *Crankshaft* and about the ways comics can explore difficult topics like Alzheimer's disease. For more information visit <http://www.medinahistorical.com/>.

Region 4

Ashtabula, Geauga, Mahoning, Portage, and Trumbull Counties

The **Mahoning Valley Historical Society** has moved its Business & Media Archive into its

Wick Avenue location and is open for business to serve researchers and visitors. The archive's research room has several viewing and listening stations that let visitors look at copies of news video tapes. Computers are available for researchers to search for specific news stories and archive staff is available to transfer stories to different media. To learn more visit <http://mahoninghistory.org/>.

Region 5

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

The **North Canton Heritage Society** held a new fundraiser, a Heritage Walk, in the fall. Participants could use their smartphones or a paper map to navigate a 2.5 mile walk around North Canton. At each stop, walkers could see photographs and get information on the history of the landmarks and buildings on the route. For more information go to <http://northcantonheritage.org/>.

Region 6

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

The **New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society** worked with a local Boy Scout on an Eagle Scout project. Griffin Margulis worked to improve the outside appearance of the society's Dryer House and grounds. He worked with a small group to weed the front and side entrances of the house and its outbuildings and to move flowering plants to the yard of the Ealy House. In addition, he painted the trim on the front and side door of the Dryer House. To learn more go to <http://www.newalbany-plaintownshiphistoricalsociety.org/>.

Region 7

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

Congratulations to the **Logan County Historical Society**! The voters of Logan County voted to pass the society's 5-year 0.25 mill replacement operating levy in the August election. The levy's passage will allow the society to continue its outreach programs with area schools, organizations, and businesses, as well as for the maintenance and operation of the entire Logan County History Center. For more information visit <http://loganhistory.org/>.

The **Shelby County Historical Society** is expanding. The society purchased the former Lochar Building, located across the street from its Ross Historical Center in Sidney. The society had been exploring options for expanding since 2007, and it hopes to use this new building to establish an industrial

heritage center to display its historical heavy equipment. The new building will give the society an additional 4,000 square feet of space for exhibits and programming. Its basement will provide an additional 4,000 square feet of environmentally controlled storage space. To learn more go to <http://shelbycountyhistory.org/>.

Region 8

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

The Betts House has opened a new exhibit, *A Day in the Life...: Mid 19th Century Daily Life for the Betts Family*. The exhibit showcases the tools, contraptions, and tales of daily life for a Cincinnati family in the mid-1800s, including sections on cooking in the past, lighting and heating in a simple home, gardening, cleaning, and a Betts Family Tree. The exhibit will explore how the women of the Betts family lived and worked in their home during the years around the Civil War. For more information go to <http://www.thebetthouse.org/>.

Region 9

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

The **Meigs County Historical Society** and the **Meigs County Genealogical Society** held their second annual genealogical fair in late October. Visitors could see all of the county's original marriage records from the early 1800s through 1930, late nineteenth century probate birth and death records, estate packets, wills, naturalization papers, and old Meigs County newspapers. To learn more visit <http://www.meigscohistoricalmuseum.org/>.

Region 10

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

The **Pioneer & Historical Society of Muskingum County** has received its largest ever collection of research material. The Zanesville *Times-Recorder* has donated its entire archive of material to the society. Among the items included are microfilms of newspapers dating back to 1812, metal photo plates, black and white photographs and black and white negatives, a clippings file, scrapbooks, and local history books useful for researchers. The society is currently working on conserving and storing the collection in a way that will be most useful for public access. To learn more, <http://www.muskingumhistory.org/>.

List as of December 23, 2015

Welcome New Member

Individual

Rebeckah Davis, Alliance

Thank You Renewing Members

Individual

JoAnn Bertram, Cincinnati

Organizations

Butler-Clearfork Valley Historical Society, Butler
Cincinnati Astronomical Society, Cleves
Clermont County Historical Society, Batavia
Cleveland Heights Historical Society, Cleveland
Clintonville Historical Society, Columbus
Coleraine Historical Society Inc., Cincinnati
Columbus Metropolitan Library, Columbus
Crosby Township Historical Society, Harrison
Franklinton Historical Society, Columbus
Garnet A. Wilson Public Library of Pike County, Waverly
German Village Society, Columbus
Heritage Avon Lake, Avon Lake
Riverside Historical Society, Dayton
Roseville Historical Society, Roseville
Sebring Ohio Historical Society, Sebring
Solon Historical Society, Solon
Spring Hill Historic Home, Inc., Massillon
West Carrollton Historical Society, West Carrollton
Willoughby Hills Historical Society, Willoughby
Wyoming Historical Society, Wyoming

Congratulations to the 2016 officers of the Ohio Local History Alliance! **President: Beth Weinhardt**, Anti-Saloon League Museum at the Westerville Public Library. **First Vice President: Todd McCormick**, Logan County History Center. **Second Vice President: Wendy Zucal**, Dennison Railroad Depot Museum. **Secretary: Ruth Brindle**, Meriam R. Hare Quaker Heritage Center at Wilmington College. **Treasurer: Kathleen Fernandez**, Independent Historian. **Trustees at Large: Leann Rich**, Mahoning Valley Historical Society; **Jim Oda**, Piqua Public Library; **Pat Smith**, Allen County Museum and Historical Society.

Thank you to **Brenda Stultz**, retired curator of the Clyde Heritage League, whose service on the board as a Region 2 Representative came to an end in 2015.

Amanda K. Manahan is the new Museum Education and Tour Coordinator at the **Oberlin Heritage Center**. Manahan comes to Oberlin most recently from the Hanford Mills Museum in Eat Meredith, NY, where she served as the Collections and Interpretation Coordinator. She has a BA in Anthropology from Heidelberg University and a MA in History Museum Studies from The Cooperstown Graduate Program at SUNY/Oneonta.

Melissa Ricksecker has joined the staff of **Ohio Humanities** as a Program Coordinator to oversee the Ohio Chautauqua Program. Most recently, Ricksecker served as Public Information Director at the Ohio Arts Council. She has also previously worked at the Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus College of Art & Design, and the King Arts Complex. She also serves on the board of a number of Columbus area nonprofits. She has a BA in Classical Greek from the College of Wooster and an MA in Classics from The Ohio State University.

Nancy Sams, President of the **Belpre Historical Society** has received the Jenco Award from the **Foundation of Appalachian Ohio** in recognition of her efforts to preserve Belpre's history. Sams has made the Belpre Historical Society one of her life's passions, and she spearheaded the fundraising efforts to expand the society's footprint and expose all Belpre residents to the area's rich history.

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



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



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