



Promote Your WWI Collections with “Little Stories of the Great War: Ohioans in World War I”

By Lily Birkhimer and Jenni Salamon,
Digital Services Staff, Ohio History
Connection, Columbus

Farewell parade for World War I soldiers
in Hillsboro, 1917. Image via Ohio Memory.

The Digital Services staff of the Ohio History Connection is proud to announce that we are the recipients of a recent grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) for a project entitled “Little Stories of the Great War: Ohioans in World War I,” which commenced on May 1. This project falls under the category of Humanities Collections and Reference Resources, which includes efforts by institutions to “preserve and provide access to collections essential to scholarship, education, and public programming in the humanities.” It also lends itself to NEH’s Standing Together initiative, which seeks to “promote understanding of the military experience and to support returning veterans.”

The year-long planning grant is in preparation for a larger project that would construct a statewide digital collection of World War I materials from both the Ohio History Connection and other cultural heritage institutions around the state, designed to align with the centennial of U.S. involvement in the Great War, 1917-1919. Over the course of the coming year, project staff will convene an advisory board composed of historians, educators and curriculum coordinators to lend their

expertise in identifying the most appropriate materials for digitization, and planning for the creation of a collection (and associated learning resources) that will prove a valuable resource for scholars, students and the general public. Surveys will be administered to collecting institutions in Ohio to identify their unique WWI materials, as well as to the state’s educators to learn more about how they plan to teach the topic of World War I and what digital resources will best support their curriculum.

By May 2016, project outcomes will include a prototype collection of a preliminary selection of WWI materials from the Ohio History Connection and a yet-to-be-identified partner organization, as well as a publicly-available union bibliography offering a complete listing of WWI holdings within our collections and other institutions throughout the state. This latter resource will serve as an access point for researchers to identify and locate relevant WWI collections, making these materials known beyond the walls of their holding institutions, and will be freely available to the public through our website.

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President's Message:

The History Fund was long a dream of members of the Ohio Local History Alliance and our partners at the Ohio History Connection. Leaders in both organizations worked diligently to make it a reality. In 2015, the History Fund is entering its fourth grant cycle. Communities across Ohio are feeling the impact of the projects that have been funded. Thirty-three projects in twenty-two counties have been recipients of the dollars created by the tax check-off. Congratulations to all who have a project funded and a round of applause to thank all who contribute on their tax returns to make this possible!



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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This spring thirteen grants were awarded – the most since the fund's inception. The projects include bricks and mortar; educational programs and exhibits; and digitization projects.

Think about the needs in your community. Do you have a building that should be preserved? Is there a collection of historic photographs that need to be digitized and shared with the public? Do you have an idea for an educational exhibit? The application for the History Fund can be found at www.ohiohistory.org/historyfund. The deadline for applications is September 9.

One feature of The Local Historian that I am always interested in sharing is the News from the Regions. I love this sharing of projects and programs. It always inspires me to think of trying

something different, connects me to what is going on around the state and educates me about new opportunities. Please send in your news to the Local History Office at arohmiller@ohiohistory.org. Your news is important to your fellow Alliance members.

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State Budget Includes Increase for Ohio History

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

The Ohio General Assembly recently finalized the state's two-year operating budget that took effect July 1. House Bill 64, consisting of more than 4,300 pages, was signed into law by Governor John R. Kasich on June 30.

The Ohio History Connection's state budget was increased from approximately \$10.1 million in Fiscal Year 2015 to about \$11.9 million in FY 2016. The 15 percent increase is on top of the 24 percent increase the Ohio History Connection received in the previous two-year budget. By comparison, the Ohio History Connection received \$13.56 million in FY 2008.

Included in the Ohio History Connection's state budget funding is \$70,000 each of the next two years for a staff person in the Local History Office to help coordinate the activities of the World War I statewide centennial initiative. The largest state funding increase is allocated to the Ohio History Connection's local site partners that operate the network of historic sites and museums across Ohio. Other funding increases will go toward improved security, maintenance, marketing and other statewide operations.

Late in the budget process, the Ohio History Connection worked with numerous other organizations to successfully remove a provision the Ohio Senate had added to the budget that would have put a two-year moratorium on the state's historic preservation tax credit program.

The Ohio History Connection thanks its many supporters in the Ohio General Assembly and among the hundreds of local history organizations statewide. Several members of the Ohio Local History Alliance and Ohio History Connection site partners provided either written or verbal testimony before the Senate Finance Committee in June. We are grateful and satisfied with the excellent state budget outcome. ■

Are You Pinning? Why History Organizations Should Consider Pinterest

By Lae'l Hughes-Watkins, University Archivist & Assistant Professor, Kent State University, Kent

Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube, Vine—the list of social media sites is endless. Every year there seems to be a new mode of communication that is termed the hottest new tool for businesses and organizations looking to increase their digital footprint. The process of trying to keep up with the constant barrage of social media platforms can make us want to pull our hair out. Many of us are left wondering what tool to use, how to use it and is it worth it if I'm competing with the likes of Justin Bieber? History organizations have the daunting task of trying to make Annie Oakley hip and the economic impact of the Cuyahoga River on the city of Kent relevant. So, what are we to do?

Well, are you pinning? While it's not feasible to expect Pinterest to get you lines out the door to your next museum exhibit or upcoming soiree at the historical society, Pinterest is a tool that can help further engage patrons and supporters, as well as potentially increasing awareness of the unique artifacts, documents, and events associated with your organization. Many reputable institutions already have a presence on Pinterest, ranging from New York's Historical Society, to the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, the Kansas Historical Society, and the Andy Warhol Museum. Pinterest is listed in the top ten popular social media sites, so if your organization's holdings include some awesome photos and you want to showcase monthly events, then what are you waiting for, start pinning!

What is Pinterest?

Pinterest is an online pinboard, where users can upload or collect various "pins" also known as images or videos, and organize them into "boards"

(Continued on page 4)



highlighting specific themes. A user can upload their own images and videos or re-pin content from other users. In addition, this social media tool allows for the creation of boards on practically anything: destination locations, favorite athletes, recipes, historical landmarks, or Ohio's canals. The possibilities are endless. After an account is created, other Pinterest users can become a follower and "re-pin" your pins on their own boards, helping to spread your visual stories across the Pinterest community, which boast a total number of 40 million plus unique users.

If your answer is "yes" to most or all of the questions in the box below, then your organization should consider using Pinterest. The tool is free and you can create up to 500 boards with up to 200,000 pins! Pinterest is constantly updating its functionality—pins can include metadata with up to 500 characters and geographical location.

Analytics

Once you've created content, it's easy to check statistics with Pinterest's monthly updates. This includes demographic information, such as gender, language, and country, and data that tracks your users' interests, such as other social media sites they use, business brands, and subject matter.

Pinterest is one option for history organizations looking for a cost-effective way to communicate and spotlight what makes their institution a destination location for students, teachers, historians, tourists, and other key stakeholders.

Are You Fit to Pin?

Here is a short list of questions that museums, historical societies, and other history-centered organizations might want to consider before venturing into Pinterest:

- 1 ? *Do we have a bunch of high-quality images or video from a past event or exhibit that are just languishing on the hard drive?*
- 2 ? *Do we have access to a scanner or camera to highlight popular exhibit material?*
- 3 ? *Do we want to create an online exhibit but have little or no money to implement the infrastructure?*
- 4 ? *Are we looking for a way to keep our community up-to-date on events and exhibits, yet have very little money to do that also?*
- 5 ? *Do we have access or could gain access to a relatively tech-savvy person who loves social media, or at least is willing to learn?*

Final Thoughts

If you're looking for a way to highlight scenes from your WWII re-enactment, create a Pinterest Board. If you want to tease an exhibit for potential local high school students with a few photos that will grab the imaginations of teachers and students—create a Pinterest Board. If you want to give a "shout out" to visitors and upload a video of a tour from a living history community—create a Pinterest Board!

Hopefully you're inspired to start pinning! For more information on Pinterest visit: <https://www.pinterest.com>

Sources: Pew Research Center; Internet, Science and Tech; Pinterest; Statista ■

Promote Your WW1 Collections... (Continued from page 1)

By the end of the war, Ohio had sent approximately 263,000 men and women into service, whether they were national guardsman, volunteers or draftees. This constituted an impressive 5.3% of the nation's military manpower, fourth only to the contributions of New York, Pennsylvania, and Illinois. In addition to contributing thousands of men and women to fight in the war, Ohio was also the site of Camp Sherman, one of 32 training camps used in WWI and the third largest in the nation, constructed just outside Chillicothe. Over 120,000 soldiers, largely from Ohio, Pennsylvania, Indiana and Tennessee, were trained at the facility, which began receiving recruits in September 1917.

Materials at the Ohio History Connection capture the overarching narrative of WWI, from ordinary stories to extraordinary ones. These collections, diverse

in both format and content, represent a variety of Ohio voices from before, during and immediately after the war. Among our vast holdings, users can discover: over 85 photograph collections depicting soldiers, civilians and their environments; over 62 collections containing correspondence, diaries and journals illustrating experiences of soldiers and activities on the home front; over 750 items related to wartime advertisements and propaganda (a new phenomenon of WWI); and over 350 historical artifacts such as uniforms, weaponry and service medals and decorations. We look forward to seeing what other World War I treasures exist at the many historical and cultural heritage organizations around the state!

We invite you to view the press release for the NEH grant program as well as a full list of funded projects by state, and to stay

tuned over the coming year as we share the progress of "Little Stories of the Great War." Interested in sharing your collections as part of our statewide bibliography? Keep an eye out for the institutional survey that will be distributed later this summer. Additional questions about the grant and how to get involved? Please contact project staff at (614) 297-2530 or ohiomemory@ohiohistory.org.

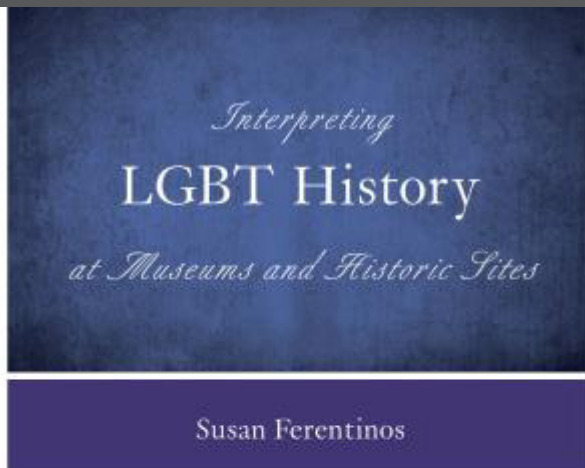
Press release: <http://www.neh.gov/news/press-release/2015-03-23>
Standing Together: <http://www.neh.gov/veterans/standing-together>
List of projects: <http://www.neh.gov/files/press-release/march2015grantsstatebystate.pdf> ■

Interpreting LGBT History at Museums and Historic Sites by Susan Ferentinos

By Nancy Yerian, Ohio History Service Corps Member, National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, Cincinnati

We've just ended June – LGBT Pride Month. Pride is held in June in many cities around the United States to commemorate the [Stone-wall Riots of June 28, 1969](#). As we near the fiftieth anniversaries of many important [early actions](#) in the rise of the LGBT rights movements, more and more museums and local history sites seem to be [interpreting LGBT history](#). The trend is even cropping up in Ohio, from Western Reserve Historical Society's [The Victory of Self](#) exhibit on LGBT history in Cleveland, to [Columbus Historical Society's exhibit](#) celebrating 25 years of the Columbus Gay Men's Chorus, to the [Gay Ohio History Initiative](#) at Ohio History Connection. For local history sites that might be interested in engaging with these histories, but aren't sure how, Susan Ferentinos' new book *Interpreting LGBT History at Museums and Historic Sites* is a great place to start.

Part of AASLH's *Interpreting History* series, the book builds on Ferentinos' experience with a variety of museums and historic sites to give advice and ideas to organizations beginning their journey with LGBT history. In fact, the book's introduction gives ideas about why local history organizations may want to present LGBT history and the impact that may make on communities and LGBT individuals. It is followed by a short chapter entitled "A Pep Talk for the Faint of Heart" which can be a great resource for staff or board members who are unsure about the prospect of engaging with these communities. It outlines some of the advantages and positive outcomes documented by historical societies doing LGBT history and their audiences. This section of the book also provides a primer on the language used in the book and in LGBT and queer communities.



Part two of *Interpreting LGBT History* gives a very abridged overview of the history of same-sex sexuality and gender variance in the United States. Ferentinos acknowledges that no single book can include all the research and subtleties of the growing field of LGBT history, so this section of the book is supplemented by a timeline of key events in LGBT history and a bibliography of resources at the end of the book. The author most wants to emphasize in this section both that LGBT history is much more complex than many people realize and that same-sex sexuality and gender variance have a much longer history is often assumed – but it looked very different 100 or 200 years ago than it does today. Although this section clearly cannot cover everything in U.S. LGBT history, it does give readers a sense of the major themes in the field and a springboard if they want to do further research.

In the third section of the book, Ferentinos provides case studies of how several different institutions have chosen to interpret LGBT history. One of

the useful things about this section is even though there are only three case studies, they include a variety of both types of institutions and ways of incorporating LGBT history. The Chicago History Museum is a large urban history museum that chose to create a specific temporary exhibit focusing on LGBT history in Chicago. In contrast, Historic New England is a network of house museums and historic sites, many of which are small and located in small towns or rural areas. This case study showed that different sites in the network made different choices depending on their context and overall interpretive philosophies. One historic house integrated the story of its builder's well-documented gay relationships and identity into regular house tours. Another chose not to focus on the documented same-sex

sexuality of one of many residents because it did not touch on the sexuality of any of the other residents. The final case study offers description of a partnership between the Minnesota Historical Society and the Tretter Collection, an LGBT archive at the University of Minnesota Libraries. The partnership provides an educational Summer History Immersion Program that allows high school students to do in-depth research in LGBT history.

The diversity of case studies offered highlights what this book does best: provide resources and ideas for organizations interested in delving into LGBT history. *Interpreting LGBT History* will not provide a how-to for doing LGBT history programming, but it will help you think about what kind of LGBT history programming might be best for your situation and your community.

Ferentinos, Susan. *Interpreting LGBT History at Museums and Historic Sites*. New York: Rowman & Littlefield, 2015. ■

Ohio Organizations Achieve Success Working with StEPs!

By Kaitlyn Goss, Ohio History Service Corps Member, Oberlin Heritage Center, Oberlin and Austin Poyar, Ohio History Service Corps Member, Ohio History Connection's Local History Office, Columbus

As part of their service, AmeriCorps members Kaitlyn Goss and Austin Poyar have piloted the new StEPs for Ohio program by providing resources and support for organizations working towards the successful completion of the American Association for State and Local History's StEPs program.

For those unfamiliar, StEPs, or the Standards and Excellence Program For History Organizations, is a self-guided program that advances best practices in the public history field. The program is divided into six sections: Mission, Vision, and Governance; Audience; Interpretation; Stewardship of Collections; Stewardship of Historic Structures and Landscapes; and Management. Each organization enrolled in StEPs can earn certificates in each of the sections at the bronze (basic), silver (good), and gold (better) levels.

Austin Poyar, the AmeriCorps member stationed at the Ohio History Connection's Local History Office is currently working with the Delaware County Historical Society. With Poyar's help, the society has targeted specific StEPs sections to work on with individual members tackling different tasks.

Kaitlyn Goss, the AmeriCorps member based at the Oberlin Heritage Center, developed regional StEPs support sessions for Northeast Ohio history organizations. Her program focused on the Audience section of the workbook. Three organizations participated: Bedford Historical Society, South Euclid-Lyndhurst Historical Society, and Summit County Historical Society. Members from each museum came together regularly to share their successes with the workbook and to find solutions to common challenges facing the public history community. Speakers from the Ohio History Connection, Cleveland Museum



At their last group meeting, StEPs participants (and new friends) from Bedford Historical Society, South Euclid – Lyndhurst Historical Society, and Summit County Historical Society pose for a group photo with AmeriCorps Member Kaitlyn Goss. Photo courtesy of the Oberlin Heritage Center.

of Art, Lorain Historical Society, and Visit Lorain County attended the meetings and led discussions on community relations, marketing, and public relations.

All the organizations members have worked with have found that StEPs has prompted healthy internal discussions in their institutions and generated new, creative, ideas to improve their organizational capacity. Participants tackled the difficult questions facing their institutions as they strive to continue serving their communities in an impactful and professional way.

The StEPs program has also helped ease the process of institutional change. Before beginning to work through StEPs, the Bedford Historical Society found that a fear of change was a challenge facing their sixty year old institution. StEPs, in combination with Goss's sessions, has opened new doors for the organization. The director has been able to use the StEPs program as a resource to explain the need for change to institutional stakeholders. The result? She reports that "a new energy" has permeated the institution.

These four organizations are already seeing the results of their hard work. Delaware County Historical Society has already received two certificates for completing the Basic levels of the Audience and Inter-

pretation sections and is in the process of earning a silver certificate in the audience section. South Euclid-Lyndhurst Historical Society has received a bronze certificate in the audience section. They have also set a goal to achieve a bronze certificate in each section by 2016.

The Local History Office would like to congratulate these organizations on their certificates, and all the participating organizations on their hard work towards completing the StEPs program.

If you want to learn more about StEPs, are interested in joining the pilot, or have ideas about how the Local History Office can help your organization with StEPs, contact Mark Sundlov at msundlov@ohio-history.org or 614.297.2343. ■

AWARDS



The 2014 Alliance Outstanding Achievement Awards winners pose with their awards at the Annual Meeting last October. Photo courtesy of the Ohio History Connection.

2015 Alliance Outstanding Achievement Awards

Nominate the fantastic local history work being done in your community for a 2015 Ohio Local History Alliance Outstanding Achievement Award! The Alliance presents awards in two categories – Individual Achievement and History Outreach.

Individual Achievement Awards recognize those who have made outstanding contributions to Ohio's historical societies, history museums, or the understanding and appreciation of state and local history. Nominees must have been involved in a local history organization for at least five years and have demonstrated excellence in more than one area of that organization's operations. If the

nominee is a teacher, he or she must demonstrate creativity in teaching methods and expertise in local and state history.

History Outreach Awards recognize outstanding local history projects. These projects must have educational content, contributed to the promotion and understanding of state or local history, and impacted the local community. Nominations will be accepted in the following categories: public programming, media and publications, and exhibits/displays. Nominations must be post-marked by August 1, 2015. Watch your mail for a nomination form or contact the Local History Office at 1.800.858.6878 or localhistory@ohiohistory.org.

CONGRATULATIONS!

2015 History Day Award Winners

On April 25, over 600 students presented exhibits, performances, documentaries, papers, and websites to volunteer judges at Ohio History Day. The National History Day theme 2014-2015 was *Leadership and Legacy in History*.

Two projects were awarded the Ohio Local History Alliance Award for creating outstanding entries based on a local history topic, one each in the Junior and Senior divisions. The Junior division winner was Hannah Phillips from Norwalk Catholic School for her project "John Mercer Langston." The Senior winner was Allyson Cordle from West Jefferson High School for her project "Right Man, Wrong Time: Claude Sowle's Fight to Save Ohio University."

The top two projects in each category were selected to represent Ohio at



Alliance President Beth Weinhardt with the winners of the Ohio Local History Alliance's prize winners for outstanding History Day projects based on a local history topic. Photo courtesy of the Ohio History Connection.

National History Day. Projects were also honored as National Alternates, Honorable Mentions, and a series of Special Prizes that are sponsored by state and local organizations.

The 64 Ohio finalists competed at National History Day at the University of Maryland in June, where they competed with other students from across the country, Puerto Rico, American Samoa, and Department of Defense Schools. Ohio was well-represented at National History Day. Two projects were named Outstanding Entries, two projects won special prizes, and one project won first place in the

country! The full list of winners for state and national history days can be found online at <http://www.ohiohistory.org/historyday>.

Professional Development

Save the Date for the Alliance Annual Meeting!

The Ohio Local History Alliance Annual Meeting and Conference is quickly approaching! We just put the finishing touches on the schedule of sessions, and, like last year, the conference will be filled with educational opportunities while serving as the perfect time to see old friends, make new ones, and learn from others who love local history and want to see it thrive.

Like last year, each day of the conference will have five timeslots – during each of those timeslots, you will have the option to choose from four unique sessions. This means you'll have over 40 sessions to choose from during the conference! Thank you to all of our presenters for volunteering to share their expert knowledge and wisdom with the rest of us. And, thank you to the Society of Ohio

Archivists who have agreed to partner with us again by offering a fantastic slate of archive-oriented sessions on Friday.

As we developed this year's program, the Education Committee focused on making the sessions relevant to our theme: "Invitation to Innovation." Come with an open mind and accept our invitation to learn new things that will bring innovation and renewed success to your organization.

Join your fellow local historians to renew acquaintances, learn new skills, network with other organizations, browse the marketplace, and see what organizations are accomplishing at the Saturday awards luncheon. We are looking forward to seeing you in October at the Alliance Annual Meeting.

Come! Inspire! Connect! Educate!



Accept your Invitation to Innovation and we'll see you at the Alliance's Annual Meeting. Photo courtesy of the Ohio History Connection.



Photo courtesy of the Ohio History Connection.

Teaching with Primary Sources Unconference

Would you like to learn more about teaching with primary sources? Do you want to share your primary source teaching experience with others in an open, informal setting? Is there an aspect of teaching with primary sources you wish you knew more about but were afraid to ask?

The Teaching with Primary Sources (TPS) subcommittee of the Reference, Access and Outreach (RAO) Section of the Society of American Archivists is

organizing a day-long unconference and workshop series dedicated to this topic on August 19.

Hosted by the Cleveland Public Library, the event will coincide with the annual Society of American Archivists conference being held at the nearby Cleveland Convention Center, but will be free and open to anyone who wishes to attend – librarians of all stripes, teachers and professors of all educational levels, museum professionals, and students are welcome.

Preliminary workshop topics include strengthening teaching pedagogy, integrating archives into existing courses or educational programming, art-related instruction, and assessment. Discussion topics include building relationships between archives, schools, and educators; setting teaching policies and workflows, addressing the Common Core standards, and teaching with digital primary source content. Keep up with the latest news and register for the event by visiting the TPS Workshops and Unconference website at bitly.com/SAA15TPS.

GRANTS



History Fund Grant Deadline September 9

Since the History Fund started in 2012, it has supported local history projects in three broad areas: Programs & Collections, Bricks & Mortar, and Organizational Development. Programs & Collections supports a wide range of efforts, including collection care projects, public programs, digitization projects, and museum exhibits. Bricks & Mortar grants help to preserve and rehabilitate buildings listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Organizational Development projects can support items such as project planning, needs assessments, the development of strategic plans, and membership. To see the projects the History Fund has previously funded and to explore ideas for your own application, visit the grant's website at www.ohiohistory.org/historyfund.

The History Fund is offering a series of webinars that share tips to help you

write the best application you can. History Fund Help webinars, led by History Fund grant manager Andy Verhoff, will review the do's and don'ts of crafting an application. They are offered July 14 and August 6. New this year, Digitization Nuts & Bolts webinars led by Jenni Salamon and Lily Birkhimer of the Ohio History Connection's Digital Services Department will offer help for those applying with digitization projects. These webinars are offered on July 9 and August 13. All webinars are free, but pre-registration is required by the day before the webinar you wish to attend. For details and to register, visit www.ohiohistory.org/historyfund.

Have questions about the History Fund? Would you like to discuss ideas for grant projects? Contact Andy Verhoff, History Fund Grant Manager at 614.297.2341 or averhoff@ohiohistory.org.

Get Involved!

How Can You Be More Involved with the History Relevance Campaign?

The History Relevance Campaign (HRC) wants to change the role history plays in contemporary life. If, as a field, those of us who bring history to the public begin to design and describe our work in terms of its relevance to people and communities today, we believe history will grow in importance. You, and your institution, can help.

First, check out the [Value of History Statement](#) on the HRC website. This may be especially useful, giving you helpful concepts and language to present history in more relevant ways. If you agree with the statement, you can endorse it and spread the word about it to at least five other organizations in your area.

The second way you can help is to let the HRC know how you are using the seven tenets in the Value of History statement. Do you have any outstanding examples or stories that reveal the relevance of history? Have you talked about these concepts with your board and staff? Have you used the concepts in grant proposals or press releases? Are you changing the way people think of history?

The HRC is developing a toolkit that will include examples of how to put the Value of History into action. They are also selecting certain programs for in-depth evaluation so that we can provide best practices. Find more information about the History Relevance Campaign at <http://www.historyrelevance.com>.

**ON
THE
WEB**

Creative Learning Factory

www.creativelearningfactory.org

The Creative Learning Factory has a newly updated website! Visit www.creativelearningfactory.org to browse upcoming and past Museum Educator Series webinars, view upcoming teacher professional development workshops, and listen to Ask Dr. Betsy podcasts. Register for upcoming programs by creating a MyCLF account. Interested in listening to a webinar we've already done? Through your MyCLF account, you can also register for past webinars to receive access to the webinar recording! Email info@creativelearningfactory.org for more information.

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

July 9, August 13

Digitization Nuts & Bolts Webinars. For more information, see page 9.

July 14, August 6

History Fund Help Webinars. For more information, see page 9.

August 1

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

August 19

Teaching with Primary Sources Unconference. For more information, see page 8.

September 9

History Fund grant application due. For more information, see page 9.

September 16-20

American Association for State and Local History Annual Meeting in Louisville, KY. For more information, visit <http://aaslh.org>.

October 2-3

Ohio Local History Alliance Annual Meeting. For more information, see page 8.

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.

Region 1

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

The **Wood County Civil War Sesquicentennial Committee** recently held a ceremony to unveil a bronze plaque at the Wood County Courthouse commemorating the county's role in the Civil War. The ceremony also included the participation of an Ohio Army National Guard unit, the 148th Infantry Battalion, Company B. This unit can trace their lineage back to service in the Civil War. The ceremony marks the final event of the Sesquicentennial Committee. Over the past four years, Wood County's Committee organized a Civil War Speakers Bureau, public programs, a Civil War traveling trunk for schools, a guide to Wood County Civil War monuments and cemeteries, and a traveling exhibit about the military and the home front. For more information, visit <http://woodcountyhistory.org/>.

Region 2

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

The **Kelleys Island Historical Association** launched its new website, and now provides a more personal and informative experience for its visitors. A new page, Yesterday's News, contains a compilation of historical tidbits from the Island's history that appeared on the website and on Facebook. There is also a page for links to videos that reflect the island's heritage. To see the site for yourself, go to www.KelleysIslandHistorical.org.

Region 3

Cuyahoga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, and Summit Counties

The **Middlefield Historical Society** continued its annual tradition of showcasing the work of local student artists during April and May. During April, work from middle and high school students was on display, and during May, elementary students' work was exhibited. Individual art teachers select student work to display and donate the time to set up and take down the exhibits. Both shows are professional judged by local artists and art instructors, with ribbons given for the best work at each school.

The **Friends of James A. Garfield National Historic Site** in Mentor, Ohio, has reopened for public tours after being closed since September 2014 for the installation of a new geothermal heating and cooling system. Work at the site required the removal, storage and reinstallation of more than 6,000 artifacts in

the former home of the United States' 20th President. For more information and expanded summer hours, visit www.nps.gov/jaga. The site also earned the number two spot on the [Cleveland Hot List](#) for Best Museum of 2015. Fellow Region 3 sites in the top 10 include **Bedford Historical Society** and **Western Reserve Historical Society**. Congratulations to these sites for being recognized as the best of the best in and around Cleveland.

Region 4

Ashtabula, Geauga, Mahoning, Portage, and Trumbull Counties

Region 5

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

The **Salem Historical Society** started a new programming series in May. These new History Roundtables are free, informal sessions for people with common interests to gather and talk. The society also hopes that this will serve as an opportunity for museum volunteers to gather information related to items in their collections. The first topics up for discussion are "dairy doings," "telephone talk," "church chat," "downtown doings," "shop talk," and "restaurant revelries". For more information, visit <http://www.salemhistoricalsociety.org>.

Region 6

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

The **New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society** celebrated its 40th Founders Day in May. For the occasion, the society mounted a series of displays in the New Albany elementary school. There were displays on quilts, maps, photographs, antiques, and a collection of curious "what is it?" items visitors could guess the use of. The society also participated in the day's parade, riding in an antique spring wagon, and opened their Ealy House to visitors for the afternoon. To learn more, go to <http://www.newalbanyplaintownshiphistoricalsociety.org>.

Region 7

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

Greene County's commissioners issued a proclamation for Greene County History Week in June. To celebrate the occasion, the **Greene County Historical Society** partnered with other Greene County history organizations to develop a full program of events. The society hosted a day of living history demonstrations including blacksmithing, a Wright B Flyer simulator, rope making demonstrations, and hand-quilting demonstrations, as well as offering their popular railroad and Underground Railroad programs. The **Beavercreek Historical Society** held guided tours of their

early 1800s buildings and demonstrated pioneer wood working tools. The **Cedarville Opera House** hosted a program about famous Cedarville persons. The **Bellbrook Museum** invited visitors to experience an 1880s schoolhouse, and the **Jamestown Opera House** held tours of the building. For more information, visit <https://sites.google.com/site/greenehistoricalsociety/>.

Region 8

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

The **Wyoming Historical Society** partnered with a local school to open a Wyoming History Museum to the public. Third graders at the school learned about Wyoming's history, and were challenged by their teachers to create a museum to teach others about local history. The society supplied the artifacts for the museum's exhibits. The **Cincinnati Museum Center** helped set up the museum's space, and the **Ohio History Connection**, who taught students about exhibit design. The Wyoming History Museum was open to the public for three days in April at Wyoming Middle School. To learn more, go to <http://www.wyoming.oh.us/historicalsocietymain.cfm>.

Twenty individuals from 18 different organizations gathered at the **Quaker Heritage Center of Wilmington College** on June 18 for a day-long GRANTS 101 workshop with Pat Williamsen, Executive Director of **Ohio Humanities**. Workshop participants learned a little bit about everything from finding funders to preparing a budget (just what exactly can you count as an "in kind" cost?) to crafting objectives and goals. As one participant said afterwards, "Thank you for hosting such a wonderful seminar! Pat was not only very informative but also very engaging to listen to!"

Region 9

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

Region 10

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

The **Pioneer & Historical Society of Muskingum County** and the **Zanesville Museum of Art** are partnering to offer a series of workshops to help people care for their family heirlooms. In the first workshop, participants learned how to care for works on paper: vintage letters, documents, photographs, books, etc. In the second workshop, attendees learned about caring for textiles, including how to identify different fabrics, how to store and display vintage textiles, and how to prevent common threats to these items. For more information, visit <http://www.muskingumhistory.org>.

List as of June 9, 2015

Welcome New Member

Organizations

Cleo Redd Fisher Museum, Loudonville
Fostoria Area Historical Society & Museum, Fostoria

Thank You Renewing Members

Individual

Nancy Gillahan, Middleburg Heights
Sarah B. Hays, Malvern
Patricia Murphy, Herbster, WI
Margaret A. Parker, Pomeroy

Organizations

Allen County Historical Society, Lima
Anti-Saloon League Museum, Westerville
Amherst Historical Society, Amherst
Beavercreek Historical Society, Beavercreek
Bedford Historical Society, Bedford
Butler County Historical Society, Hamilton
Chester-Shade Historical Association, Chester
Clinton County History Center, Wilmington
Columbia Historical Society Inc., Columbia Station
Cuyahoga Community College West Campus, Parma
Darke County Historical Society, Greenville
Dover Historical Society, Dover
Fairfield Heritage Association, Lancaster
Fayette County Historical Society, Washington Court House
Firelands Historical Society, Norwalk
Friends of Harbour Town, Vermilion
Greenfield Historical Society, Greenfield
Guernsey County Historical Society, Cambridge
Hardin County Historical Museums, Kenton
Historic Lyme Village Association, Bellevue
Huron Historical Society, Huron
International Women's Air & Space Museum, Cleveland
Jackson Historical Society, Jackson
Licking County Historical Society, Newark
Lisbon Historical Society, Lisbon
Logan County Historical Society, Bellefontaine
Morrow County Historical Society, Mount Gilead
National McKinley Birthplace Memorial Association, Niles
New London Area Historical Society, New London
Peninsula Library, Peninsula
Perry Historical Society of Lake County, Perry
Portage Lakes Historical Society, Akron
Randolph Historical Society, Atwater
Reading Historical Society, Reading
Reynoldsburg Truro Historical Society, Reynoldsburg
Ross County Historical Society, Chillicothe
Sandusky Library – Follett House Museum, Sandusky
Shelby County Historical Society, Sidney
Silver Lake Historical Society, Silver Lake
Springboro Area Historical Society, Springboro
Stow Historical Society, Stow
Sutliff Museum, Warren
The Sylvania Area Historical Society, Sylvania
Trotwood-Madison Historical Society, Trotwood
Tuscarawas County Historical Society, New Philadelphia
Wadsworth Area Historical Society, Wadsworth
Wickliffe Historical Society Inc., Wickliffe
Wilmington College, Wilmington

Gloria Enriquez Pizana is the new registrar at the **Wood County Historical Society**. She previously served as a board member and volunteer for the society until retirement from Bowling Green State University. Pizana's first task was to complete an inventory of the underwear collection while learning how to use the museum's PastPerfect database.

Pat Murphy is retiring as Executive Director of **Oberlin Heritage Center** after 22 years with the organization. Congratulations are well deserved for her dedicated years of service to both the Oberlin Heritage Center and the field of local history in Ohio and beyond. We wish Pat the absolute best in her retirement.

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.

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

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Get Social with the Ohio Local History Alliance



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