

Ten Thousand Feet for Freedom

Leslie Blankenship, Local Historian

August 26 is “Woman’s Equality Day.” On that date in 1920 the 19th Amendment was certified, and many women in the United States finally achieved the constitutional right to vote as a fundamental component of their citizenship. On June 16, 1919, Ohio was the fifth state to ratify the amendment. Voting rights were granted to American Indians and Asian Americans when they became citizens through acts of Congress in 1924 (Snyder Act) and 1952 (McCarren-Walter Act), respectively. African Americans in the South had to wait until 1965 when the federal Voting Rights Act abolished all manner of Jim Crow voting restrictions.

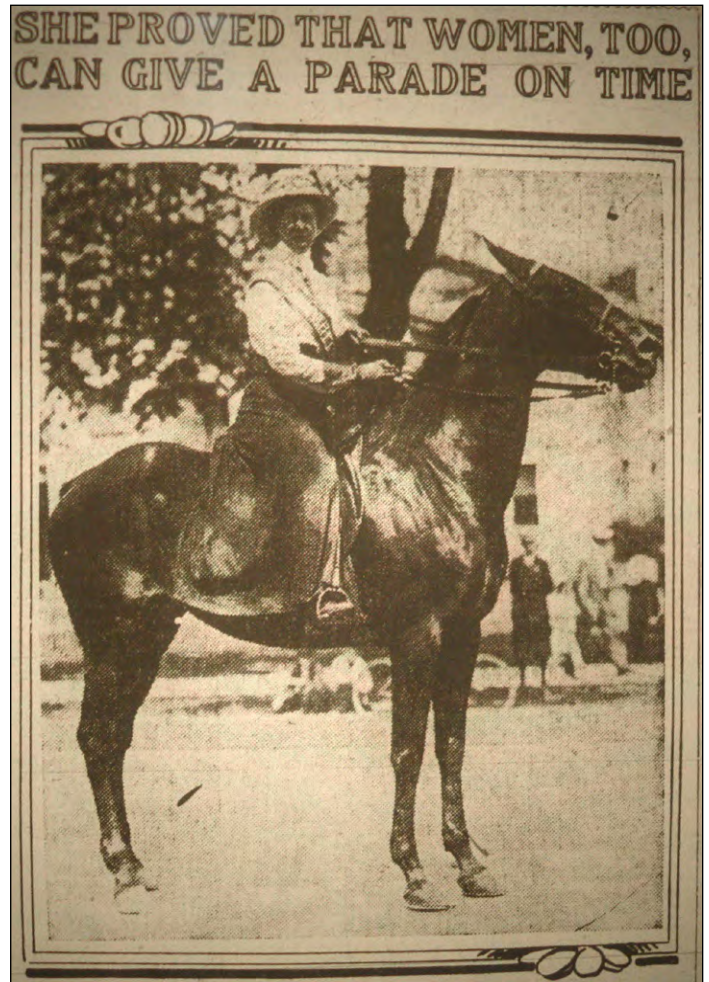
Another date, August 27, 1912, cherished by Ohio woman suffrage advocates, is little remembered today. On that Tuesday morning, thousands of women gathered in Columbus to march in the state’s first suffrage parade. It was a compelling display of street theater with equal parts beauty, solidarity, and resolve that dazzled its audience, changed some minds, and earned grudging respect for the marchers’ cause.

In 1911, Ohio was at a watershed moment. Fed up with the consequences of corrupt boss-dominated municipal governments and of a General Assembly in thrall to the excesses of Big Business, Ohio men voted to convene a Constitutional Convention to remedy these abuses. Gaveled into session on January 9, 1912, the 119 nonpartisan [male] members of the “Con-Con” got right to it. Within five months, they debated 350 reforms and offered 42 new constitutional amendments to Ohio’s [male] voters for approval in a September 3rd Special Election. Amendments approved by the election would become law on January 1, 1913.¹

These moves to enhance direct, participatory democracy were both breathtaking and electrifying. Columbus

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¹ Barbara A. Terzian, “The 1912 Constitutional Convention,” *Ohio’s Constitutions: An Historical Perspective*, 51 Clev. St. L. Rev. 357 (2004), pp. 381-393. available at engagedscholarship.csuohio.edu/clevstlrev/vol51/iss3/5; Hoyt Landon Warner, “Writing a Twentieth Century Charter,” *Progressivism in Ohio 1897-1917*, Ohio State University Press for The Ohio Historical Society, 1964, pp. 312-353.



Dr. Alice Littlejohn, Columbus Citizen, Wednesday, August 28, 1912.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Recently, the Ohio Local History Alliance Board was able to have our first in person meeting in over a year. It was awesome to see everyone and gather without computer screens between us! It's always an early morning and long drive to Columbus. As I started out toward the highway, I drove past a house with a sign in the front yard that stated it was the home of a National History Day Qualifier. It instills a great sense of pride and purpose for what we do and the importance of all the history and cultural institutions across our state to see that a student was so empowered by history.

Across the state, history and cultural institutions are starting to open again and approach a new sense of "normalcy." Things are different, new protocols may be in place, staff may be leaving or changing, but the purpose and importance of what we do for our communities remains the same. At my museum, we are looking forward to new collaborations with other organizations in the community that we may not have partnered with in the past. It's an exciting opportunity to not only share the workload and audience but to also explore new ways to engage our communities.

If your organization has put together a program that was successful, please send the information to your Regional Representatives so it can be shared and spark new ideas for everyone. It's been said many times, in many different ways: on our own we are strong but together we are even stronger. Let's work together and share our stories so we can see the signs of younger generations love of history in every community!



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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Tim Daley retired from the **Cuyahoga County Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument** effective June 1, 2021. During his 12-year tenure as Executive Director, he and his staff developed and supported many unique programs such as Descendants Day, Veterans Day, Christmas at the Monument and most importantly the reestablishment of Traditional Decoration Day, now known as Memorial Day, Observance on May 30th of each year, in accordance with Gen. Logan's General Order No. 11 of the Grand Army of the Republic. In addition to his involvement with a wide variety of organizations related to local history, the Civil War, and history in general, Tim has been and remains an active member of the Ohio Local History Alliance board as Region Three Representative and now as Trustee-at-Large.

The **Cuyahoga County Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument** is pleased to welcome Mr. Greg Palumbo as their new Executive Director. Greg is an eighteen-year museum professional. He is a Cuyahoga County native with his BA

from the University of Cincinnati with a focus on American history. Over his career he has been with the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, Seminole Tribe of Florida's Cultural Museum, Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki, the Children's Museum of Cleveland, and most recently served seven years as the Executive Director of the Lakewood Historical Society. Greg is a husband and father of two who lives in Parma and enjoys canoeing, woodworking, and movies. Mr. Palumbo also serves as the Chairperson of the Northeastern Ohio Inter-Museum Council.

The **Ohio History Connection** is pleased to announce that Anthony Gibbs has accepted the position of Donor Relations Manager in our Development office. Anthony's many years of involvement with local historians from a variety of communities around the state will serve him well in his new position. As part of this transition, the Local History Services Department is being renamed the Community Engagement Department, to better reflect the breadth of the communities

we serve. Local historians and the Ohio Local History Alliance remain among the most important of the communities with whom we engage on a daily basis. Ben Anthony is stepping in as Department Manager of the Community Engagement Department. Laura Russell continues her role as Historical Marker's Coordinator, and Betsy Hedler remains our Team Lead for partnerships with statewide groups, including OLHA, and our AmeriCorps program, the Ohio History Service Corps.

On May 20, **Ohio Humanities** announced the appointment of Rebecca Brown Asmo as the organization's newest Executive Director. Brown Asmo comes to Ohio Humanities with a breadth of experience in the nonprofit sector, including a decade as Chief Executive Officer for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Ohio. Brown Asmo succeeds Pat Williamsen, who retired on June 30 after more than 25 years at Ohio Humanities. Williamsen has served as Executive Director since 2011.

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suffragist Belle Coit Kelton offered her prospective:

Following the fourth Constitutional Convention of Ohio, which met in Columbus in 1912, women became aroused over the suffrage question to a greater extent than ever before. Forty-two planks were to be submitted to the vote of the people, including three in which woman took particular interest—the initiative and the referendum, the proposal to license intoxicating liquors, and the woman suffrage proposal [Amendment 23]. Those opposed to suffrage had hoped that it would be killed in convention, but when it was apparent that it would be put to a vote, there was great excitement. Opponents began to wake up and to organize. [Their motto was] ...“The womanly woman does not want the vote.”

...Suddenly it seemed as though all the women in Columbus were in politics. ...Both sides played the game well—speakers were procured, literature passed out, and petitions circulated. Church societies were asked to listen and ministers were prevailed upon to take a stand, either for or against. Women prominent in the social life of the city gave up their summer vacations and all their social affairs to work for suffrage—or against it. The parade which took place August 27, 1912 was the outstanding affair of the summer. Thousands of dollars were raised and spent and hundreds of women volunteered their services to make flowers, banners, and floats.

Five thousand women marched with Mrs. Harriet Taylor Upton, president of the Ohio Woman Suffrage Association at their head. In the ranks were prominent women from all parts of the United States, as well as from Columbus. It started on time, there were no blunders, no jeers from the dense crowds on the sidewalk. Colors were displayed, bands played, and banners were flying; many converts to the cause were made and the women were full of hope.²

Belle Coit Kelton was Vice “Chairman” of the Franklin County Central Committee—local suffragists who had spearheaded the woman suffrage amendment through the Con-Con. This committee, along with its parent, the Ohio Woman Suffrage Association (OWSA), and Harriot Stanton Blatch (head of the New York Political Equality League and daughter of Elizabeth Cady Stanton) organized the 1912 parade. Mrs. Blatch had been the master-mind behind New York’s suffrage parades since 1910, and she generously offered her time and valuable expertise to Ohio. She was convinced that “If we can only get Ohio, New York State will go for equal suffrage in a hurry.” The parade’s goal was to win over those indifferent or hostile [male] voters to support Amendment 23. For maximum impact, the women slotted the parade into the week-long Ohio-Columbus Centennial celebration that was scheduled during Ohio State Fair week.³

Tuesday morning August 27 dawned with clear skies and a cool breeze, but another scorcher was on tap. The State Fair Board had proclaimed August 26 as “Women’s Day,” offering free admission to women fair-goers. Most out-of-towners stayed overnight to participate in the big events of the Centennial’s



Berencie Brown, Columbus Citizen, August 27, 1912

“Ohio Day” on Tuesday. Anticipation was building for the 11:00 a.m. “Monster Parade of the Suffragettes,” as billed by *The Columbus Evening Dispatch*.⁴

The *Columbus Citizen* predicted that

*Columbus will be the center of attraction in the nation-wide fight for woman’s suffrage Tuesday when the first suffrage parade in Ohio will be held in Columbus as a part of the Ohio-Columbus Centennial.*⁵

Evidence that something extraordinary was afoot manifested itself in the traffic at the Toledo-and-Ohio-Central and Union railroad stations. Sixteen excursion trains roared in shortly after 9:00 a.m. disgorging 15,000 to 20,000 people. Crowds building in the streets along the line of march approached the smothering point. Four companies of the Ohio National Guard had been called out to help the Columbus police keep order. The streets had been cleared of everything but the street cars.⁶

The line of march would cover three miles. Its point of origin was the Carnegie Library on Grant Street. The parade route turned west from Grant onto Broad, north on Third, west on

(continued on page 5)

2 Belle Coit (Mrs. F. C.) Kelton, “Politics,” in *We Too Built Columbus*, Mrs. A. D. Rodgers (edited by Ruth Young White), Stoneman Press, 87 West Main Street, Columbus, Ohio, pp. 386-387.

3 *Columbus Citizen*, Tuesday, August 27, 1912

4 *Ibid*, *Columbus Citizen*, Monday August 26, 1912; *Columbus Evening Dispatch*, Monday, August 26, 1912

5 *Columbus Citizen*, Monday, August 26, 1912

6 *Ibid*, Tuesday, August 27, 1912; *Columbus Evening Dispatch*, Tuesday, August 27, 1912; *Ohio State Journal*, Columbus, Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1912



Spring, south on High, east on Main, north on Fourth, east on State, north on Third, and, finally, west on Broad where it would pass between the huge classical pylon-pillars outlining the Court of Honor where dignitaries waited in the Reviewing Stand. Columbus merchants dismissed their female employees early that morning so they could march or join the bystanders. Suffragists set up a child-care station on East Broad Street near the parade's origin.⁷

A reporter on the scene from the *Columbus Citizen* tried to cast shade on the parade organizers by expressing a common male bromide: "Can women be on time?" Dr. Alice Littlejohn, Grand Marshal of the parade and the no-nonsense woman's physical education instructor at the Ohio State University, replied acidly, "We'll prove that we can be." Attired in a divided skirt and sitting astride OSU President Dr. William Oxley Thompson's bay horse, she concentrated her eyes on the watch in her hand. When the second-hand brushed 11:00 a.m., she stood up in the stirrups, raised her hand, and bellowed "GO!" The bands began to play and the marchers moved out. Ohio's first suffrage parade famously stepped into history...on time!⁸

Sweeping ahead of Dr. Littlejohn, the Columbus police cleared the crowd, and national guardsmen kept the streets open, allowing the parade to move. At some places, the crowds were so large, they barely left marching room. Accompanying Dr. Littlejohn was the "suffrage cavalry," a cohort of four women

riding astride accompanied by a Presbyterian minister and his wife, making up the vanguard. Directly behind them was the Fourth Regimental band, which lustily struck up strains of "The Marseillaise" (*Let's go—children of the country! The day of Glory has arrived! To Arms, citizens! Form up, in groups to fight. March Now! March Now!*) and "Onward Christian Soldiers." Suffragists were indeed "marching as to war." Their leaders were armed for attack, for even as they marched, they carried secret weapons—small "soap-boxes" with attached shawl-straps—so they could spontaneously step out of line to preach the gospel of women's rights should the parade stall.⁹

The band was the gift of New York suffragists who contributed \$1000 to the cause. Mrs. Havemeyer, of the sugar king family, paid half the band fee with the other half coming from Gerritt Smith Miller, grandson of Gerritt Smith (the famous abolitionist and friend of John Brown).¹⁰

Behind the band marched Mrs. Harriet Taylor Upton from Warren, Trumbull County. She was president of the state suffrage organization and treasurer to the national. She was accompanied by her very own bugler, Miss Rose Bowen of Colorado. Carrying a silver cornet, Miss Bowen "bugled" to the

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7 *Columbus Evening Dispatch*, Monday, August 26, 1912; *Columbus Citizen*, Tuesday, August 27, 1912; Eileen Regina Rausch, "Let Ohio Women Vote." *The Years to Victory, 1900–1920*, Dissertation for Doctor of Philosophy, Department of Notre Dame, Indiana, October, 1984, p.135. UMI Dissertation Services.

8 *Columbus Citizen*, Tuesday, August 27, 1912

9 *Ohio State Journal*, Columbus, Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1912; *Cincinnati Enquirer*, Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1912; *Columbus Citizen*, Tuesday, August 27, 1912; *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1912; *Columbus Evening Dispatch*, Tuesday, August 27, 1912

10 *Columbus Evening Dispatch*, Monday, August 26, 1912

delight of the marchers. The New York women were impressed, saying it was the first big suffrage parade in the country to have its own official bugler. Directly behind Mrs. Upton marched Rev. Dr. Anna Howard Shaw, president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA), in tandem with Mrs. Harriot Stanton Blatch, attired in her academic cap and gown to reinforce women's hard-fought success in gaining access to higher education. On their heels marched OWSA state officers and those of the Franklin County Central Committee: Mrs. William Neil King, "Chairman," Mrs. Belle (F.C.) Kelton, Vice "Chairman." Mrs. Ernest Jaros, Secretary, and Mrs. Edna (Julius) Stone, "Chairman" of the Parade Committee.¹¹

Also behind Mrs. Upton strode Miss Elizabeth Hauser and the Cleveland Women Suffrage Party (WSP), the largest Ohio delegation, consisting of 60-65 demonstrators. They had chartered their own special train to Columbus and upon arrival had marched to the place of formation. Dressed in white, they had yellow "Votes for Women" ribbons on their hats and others worn as sashes across their breasts. They carried small suffrage flags and followed a beautiful silk banner. Included in this group was Mrs. Raymond Robbins of Chicago, president of the National Woman's Trade Union League, Miss Zara du Pont, and Miss Florence Allen, clad in her own cap and gown.¹²

Next came six women carrying a large flag representing the six states with equal suffrage: Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, Idaho, Washington, and California. Local suffragists and members of visiting out-of-state delegations comprised a formidable army of women carrying sunflowers and yellow pennants. Women fluttered yellow ribbons in balloons from their parasols. About one-half of the paraders were on foot, while the remainder rode in automobiles and on the various floats. "Votes for Women!" was the battle cry drummed into the ears of centennial visitors. The parade was a thing of beauty, gorgeously staged. It was agreed by old-timers that it was the most beautiful parade in the history of the city.¹³

Mrs. H. S. Hale of Neil Avenue, 75 years old, was the oldest woman marcher in the parade. She walked the full distance and smiled as the women along the line gave her a hand. About 25 Cincinnati women carried white umbrellas with yellow decorations, twirling them as they marched. A dozen women from the Toledo Woman Suffrage Association, the oldest in the state (founded in 1869), marched proudly. Their leader, Polish-born Mrs. Pauline Steinem, was the previous OWSA president (1908-1911) and would become the grandmother of Gloria. Women from Akron, Canton, Springfield, Dayton, and London, Madison County, made big showings. There was scarcely a county in the state that was not represented by one or more women.¹⁴

Also marching were notable suffrage leaders from across the country, including from Boston: Miss Margaret Foley (popular public orator) and Maud Wood Park (suffrage lobbyist and founder of the National College Equal Suffrage League); Dr. Mary Gray Peck (Professor of English literature) from Chicago; Mrs. Ella Reeve Bloor (Socialist leader) of Hartford, Connecticut; Laura Clay (Henry Clay's niece) from Richmond, Kentucky; Maude Younger (labor activist) of Los Angeles; Kate Gordon of New Orleans; Mrs. Priscilla Hackstaff (founding member of the New York Women Suffrage Party) and Rose Schneiderman (founding member of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union and the American Civil Liberties Union) from New York; Ida Porter Boyer (NAWSA suffragist) of Philadelphia, Nina Allender (suffrage cartoonist) from Washington D.C., along with many others. Most of these women were committed to campaigning in Ohio until the election.¹⁵

The audience's favorite parade feature, judging by the cascading rounds of applause, were the six unique chariots drawn by prancing white horses and led by careful grooms. Driving the chariots were women clad in flowing Grecian gowns. These chariots from the recent Baltimore parade represented the six states where suffrage proposals were up for vote in 1912: Arizona, Kansas, Michigan, Ohio, Oregon, and Wisconsin.¹⁶

Holding up a banner for Wisconsin was Miss Fola La Follette, the actress daughter of progressive Senator Robert La Follette of that state. She led a marching troupe of thespians, some of whom were local. More than 100 public school teachers marched, wearing white dresses with yellow sashes, and carrying a banner that said: "We educate the voters; but we cannot vote." Many Sunday school teachers, women lawyers, doctors, and nurses appeared in various parts of the procession. A large representation of social workers headed by Miss Virginia Murray, chief probation officer of the Juvenile Court, marched. Women and girls employed in the stores and state offices were in line.¹⁷

Suffragists carried banners with clever slogans. They also used the banners to identify themselves to prove the Antis wrong. Women from all walks of life *really did* want the right to vote—from across the state and the country: homemakers, professionals, and working-class women alike. The parade committee had borrowed the forty banners used in the May 1912 New York suffrage parade. These were joined by banners made by Ohio suffragists expressing their own sentiments:

- "Nothing morally wrong can ever be politically right"
- "California 1911" (the date California became a suffrage state)

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11 *Columbus Citizen*, Tuesday, August 27, 1912; *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1912; *Columbus Evening Dispatch*, Monday, August 26, 1912

12 *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1912; *Columbus Citizen*, Tuesday, August 27, 1912

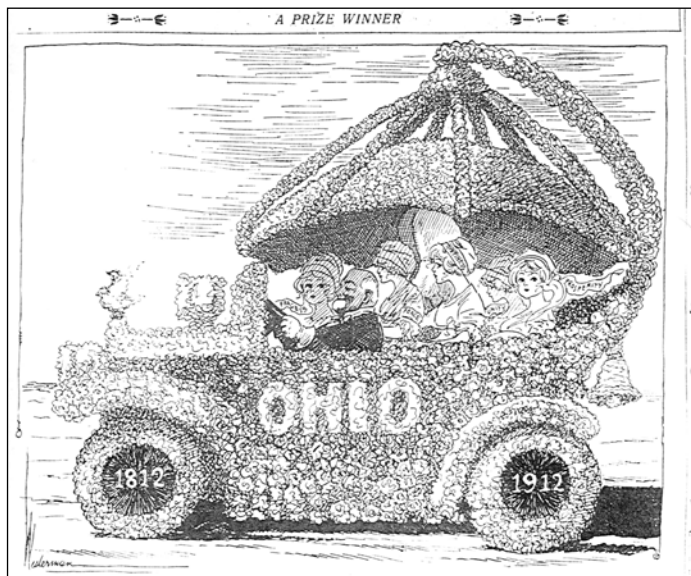
13 *Columbus Citizen*, Tuesday, August 27, 1912; *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1912; *Ohio State Journal*, Columbus, Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1912

14 *Columbus Citizen*, Tuesday, August 27, 1912; *Cincinnati Enquirer*, Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1912

15 *Columbus Citizen*, Monday, August 26, 1912; *Ohio State Journal*, Columbus, Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1912; *Columbus Evening Dispatch*, Monday, August 26 and Tuesday, August 27, 1912; *Cincinnati Enquirer*, Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1912

16 *Columbus Evening Dispatch*, Tuesday, August 27, 1912; *Ohio State Journal*, Columbus, Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1912; *Cincinnati Enquirer*, Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1912; *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1912; *Columbus Citizen*, Tuesday, August 27, 1912

17 *Columbus Evening Dispatch*, Tuesday, August 27, 1912; *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1912; *Ohio State Journal*, Columbus, Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1912; *Columbus Citizen*, Tuesday, August 27, 1912



Ohio 1812-1912, *Ohio State Journal*, Tuesday, August 27, 1912.

- “Ohio Next!”
- “Shelby, the town that does things”
- “Ohio Pays to Educate Its Women; Let Women Pay It Back in Votes”
- “Why Can’t Ma Vote?” (banner carried by a small boy)
- “Not Favor, But Justice Is What We Ask”
- “This Is the Natural Consequence of Teaching Little Girls to Read and Write”
- “Are We Not Governed? Do We Give Our Consent?”
- “Don’t Be Afraid of Progress, Vote for Woman’s Suffrage!”
- “When Women Vote—Goodbye Special Privilege!”¹⁸

A new feature of the Columbus parade was the invitation to entire families—husbands, wives, and children—to march together. Eight-year-old Theodora Stone, daughter of Mrs. Edna Stone, marched with her four siblings and her father, Julius Stone (bank president, CEO of the Seagrave Fire Engine Company, and OSU trustee). A good sprinkling of men were in the line lending their support to wives and sisters. One was former Columbus Mayor George S. Marshall accompanied by his family. Given an ovation at many points, he marched waving a banner calling for “Votes for Women.” While men were not numerous, about 100 marched. Approximately 50 men advanced with the Men’s League for Equal Suffrage—Socialists, Republicans, and Democrats.¹⁹

Even the famous Fifteenth Century French saint, Jeanne d’Arc, materialized in the parade to lend her charisma and hutzpah to

the cause. Miss Bernice Brown, “pretty north end girl of East 11th Avenue,” portrayed the legendary “Maid of Orléans.” She was dressed in glittering armor and sitting astride a spirited white charger led by a groom. The armor, accoutrements, and horse were brought to Columbus from Philadelphia courtesy of the Ohio Woman’s Taxpayers League. This group marched behind the maid with their founder Miss Anna Quinby (the first Ohio woman to practice law before the U.S. Supreme Court). Their banner revived a familiar revolutionary cry: “Taxation without Representation Equals Tyranny!”²⁰

Not to be outdone by a mere peasant maid, a regally attired Queen Isabella of Spain also reigned over the parade, commanding her own float. Her banner proclaimed: “Queen Isabella—A Woman—Made it Possible for Columbus to Discover America.” By referencing these familiar role-models from the past, modern suffragists underscored that women have been strong leaders throughout history.²¹

Another queen, Miss Maybelle Holliday, vied for her share of attention. Crowned Queen of Columbus by the Centennial Commission at its opening ceremony, she was escorted by a costumed “Chris Columbus” (Mr. C. W. High). They sat in a beautiful white float surrounded by a bevy of girls wearing yellow sashes. Both were said to be ardent suffragists. A float bearing the banner “Justice Holding the Scales” consisted of 30 children seated around a large pair of scales that held both a little girl and a boy. The scales were tipped unequally in favor of the boy. Little girls dressed in Chinese costumes occupied a float that carried the banner: “Women Vote in China.” This referred to suffrage granted to Chinese women in 1912 by the government of Sun Yat-sen’s Republic of China. Another float, bearing a large globe on which various countries of the world were marked, wafted a banner that asked “Millions of women vote under these flags, what is the matter with Columbia?” A large collection of rambunctious children on board frantically waved flags of these nations while sassily shouting out the question. The inscription at the rear of their float proclaimed “Our Future Voters.”²²

A float of women dressed in white gowns created an allegorical tableau of “Liberty/Suffrage with her sisters”: the six states where women can vote. An interesting float offered by the African-American residents of Marble Cliff featured a top-hatted, bewhiskered Mr. Ed Larkin as “Lincoln” holding a pen and a copy of the Emancipation Proclamation. Directly following him in a Victoria, was a contingent of Black women suffragists bearing a banner that read: “The white man freed us in 1861. We propose to free women in 1912.”²³

Perhaps the most popular banner slogan of the day was the one devised and periodically chanted by a group of Cincinnati women riding on their float:

(continued on page 8)

18 *Columbus Citizen*, Tuesday, August 27, 1912; Rausch, p. 134.

19 *Columbus Evening Dispatch*, Monday, August 26, 1912; Rausch, pp. 134-135; Transcript of Oral History Interview of Theodora Stone Sutton, January 24, 1974, Oht 199, Ohio History Center archive; *Ohio State Journal*, Columbus, Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1912; *Cincinnati Enquirer*, Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1912; *Columbus Citizen*, Tuesday, August 27, 1912

20 *Columbus Evening Dispatch*, Monday, August 26 and Tuesday, August 27, 1912; *Ohio State Journal*, Columbus, Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1912; *Cincinnati Enquirer*, Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1912; *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1912

21 *Columbus Citizen*, Tuesday, August 27, 1912; *Columbus Evening Dispatch*, Tuesday, August 27, 1912

22 *Columbus Citizen*, Tuesday, August 27, 1912; *Ohio State Journal*, Columbus, Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1912; *Columbus Evening Dispatch*, Tuesday, August 27, 1912

23 *Columbus Evening Dispatch*, Tuesday, August 27, 1912; *Columbus Citizen*, Tuesday, August 27, 1912; *Ohio State Journal*, Columbus, Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1912

*Mother mends my socks and shirts, Mother mends my coat,
Maybe she could mend some laws, If she had the Vote!*²⁴

Parade organizers had strongly encouraged participants to walk because the physical act of marching together demonstrated grit, determination, and unity as opposed to passively zipping around seated in a “machine.” For that reason, automobiles, while permitted, were relegated to the end of the line. Even so, because of the inventive creativity women applied to their decorations, the suffrage automobiles became the parade’s most talked about highlight among male observers. They even rated them higher than the (male-decorated) autos in the formal automobile parade the night before.²⁵

More than 100 automobiles participated. Many were festooned with yellow chrysanthemums and sunflowers in keeping with suffrage colors. They were decked out with masses of flowers, garlands, and autumn leaves, interspersed with red roses. They sported costly flowers, silk ribbons, and “other “paraphernalia.” All were unique and created a favorable impression. A case in point was that of local actress Miss Adele Blood. Made to represent a miniature garden with a small tree and banks of flowers, her automobile was completely covered with roses and cut flowers. She was greeted with explosive applause all along the line.²⁶

“Suffragists for 60 years” was the banner carried by an automobile embellished with garlands in which a number of aged women rode. Automobiles filled with youngsters of all ages under the charge of district nurses received much applause, as did a float carrying children from the recreation department.²⁷

As the suffragists approached their last lap on Third Street before turning into the Court of Honor, the weariness of the long march in the blazing August sun had taken its toll. Many limped painfully as the end was in sight. Harriet Taylor Upton shared her memory: “There was little asphalt paving in Columbus at the time, and it seemed to me that we walked miles on cobblestones.”²⁸

Just as their endurance was flagging, the marchers received a burst of energy from an unlikely source, as related by Columbus suffragist Mrs. Katherine Seibert:

...When we were tense with suppressed feeling as we turned into Broad Street from Third, there rang out to greet us the beautiful chimes of the Episcopal Church....I doubt if even the music in heaven will sound quite so wonderful.”²⁹

A reporter also described that moment:

Even the staid chimes of old Trinity Church at Third and Broad Streets came under the spell of the festive occasion and as the parade was passing through the Court of Honor the jocund air



Pen Sketches, Ohio State Journal, Wednesday, August 28, 1912.

of “There’ll be a Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight” was heard rolling down from the belfry.³⁰

Both men and women marchers saluted as they passed the Reviewing Stand where stood Governor Judson Harmon, Dr. Washington Gladden of First Congregational Church, President William Oxley Thompson of OSU, and a group of suffrage leaders. Every woman waved aloft, with great gusto, her yellow banner of “Votes for Women!” As the parade dispersed around 1:00 p.m., the out-of-state women mounted their soap-box platforms and were soon in the midst of animated groups on street corners exchanging views on suffrage with men and answering questions until late in the afternoon. They stationed themselves in front of the McKinley statue, on the Statehouse grounds, across High Street at the Neil House hotel, and along the area at Broad and High. Rev. Dr. Anna Howard Shaw addressed a throng from the back of an automobile for nearly an hour. Then she decamped and hurried to Memorial Hall where she was scheduled to address a mass meeting at 2:00 p.m. Some 2500 women and a few men crowded into the hall to partake of Dr. Shaw’s humorous oratory style.³¹

The next morning, the *Cincinnati Enquirer*, never a supporter of woman suffrage, headlined its account of the parade with a belittling, double-entendre: “TOOTSIES Bruised and Sore.” It also included an interesting observation:

(continued on page 9)

24 Columbus Citizen, Tuesday, August 27, 1912; Cleveland Plain Dealer, Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1912; Columbus Evening Dispatch, Tuesday, August 27, 1912

25 Cleveland Plain Dealer, Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1912

26 Cleveland Plain Dealer, Wednesday Morning, August 28 1912; Columbus Citizen, Tuesday, August 27, 1912; Ohio State Journal, Columbus, Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1912

27 Ohio State Journal, Columbus, Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1912; Columbus Evening Dispatch, Tuesday, August 27, 1912

28 Cincinnati Enquirer, Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1912; Harriet Taylor Upton, Random Recollections, edited by Lana Dunn Eisenbraun, Harriet Taylor Upton Association, Warren, Ohio. 2004, pp. 131-132.

29 Katherine Seibert, Vertical File 2472, Ohio History Center Archives as quoted in Rausch, p.135.

30 Ohio State Journal, Columbus, Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1912

31 Cleveland Plain Dealer, Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1912; Columbus Evening Dispatch, Tuesday, August 27, 1912; Ohio State Journal, Columbus, Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1912; Columbus Citizen, Tuesday, August 27, 1912



The march will be amusing in the Nickelodeons week after next. Two moving picture show companies were quick to grasp opportunity and suffrage leaders explained the “Movies” would be sent to the states less forward than Ohio in the light for woman suffrage. They obtained splendid prints of every feature in the long line.³²

The account filed by the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* reporter was more sympathetic:

Tonight all over the state women are nursing blistered feet and soothing aching limbs, caused by the long walk over the cobblestones. Their compensation is that they participated in the largest demonstration for woman's suffrage ever given in the state.³³

H. H. Bennett, Art Director of the Centennial Commission, offered his praise:

It was one of the best parades of any kind that I ever have witnessed. The automobiles which appeared almost without exception were elaborately decorated and the ideas were unique, too. The parade, from all accounts, was much better than the larger one held in Baltimore recently and I believe the pageant given in New York by the women there was no better in quality. I feel that the women cannot be praised too highly for the excellent work they did to make that feature of the centennial a success.³⁴

While this isn't an image of the parade, it shows some of the same banners that were used in the parade. Toledo Women's Suffrage Association, 1912. Courtesy of Toledo Lucas County Public Library. Digital image available on Ohio Memory.

But what about the [male] voters of Ohio? Did the parade and soap-box orators win over their hearts and minds? Belle Coit Kelton has the answer:

On the third day of September, 1912, the election took place—the suffrage plank was defeated by 87,455 votes. It was a great blow to the suffragists, but they were not completely discouraged as the initiative and referendum plank had passed. Taking advantage of that new legislation, they circulated petitions and in 1914 Woman Suffrage was again submitted to vote and lost again. ...Now that woman suffrage had been defeated in two campaigns, all the suffrage organizations turned their efforts to the proposed national amendment.³⁵

The author expresses appreciation to all the dedicated staff at the Ohio History Center Archives for their help in locating and ferrying many important documents to me over the years and for cheerfully and patiently photocopying them, thus enabling me to construct this story. Also thanks to Digital Services for helping me access online images. Without such collections and expertise, we historians would find it difficult to interpret our past.

32 *Cincinnati Enquirer*, Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1912

33 *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1912

34 *Ohio State Journal*, Columbus, Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1912

35 Kelton, p. 387-388.

Overcoming Obstacles for the 2021 Annual Meeting



Dr. Betsy Hedler, Executive Secretary, Ohio Local History Alliance; Team Lead, AmeriCorps and Partnerships, Community Engagement Department, Ohio History Connection

The 2021 Annual Meeting will be held online, September 30 through October 2, 2021. I know that many of you (myself included!) were hoping for an in-person meeting for 2021; but I truly believe that this online conference will continue to provide the excellent professional development we were able to deliver for the 2020 Annual Meeting and the 2021 Regional Meetings. Due to the many months of advance planning that go into the conference, we knew that we needed to pick the format that would allow us to plan around the certainty that our plans could be carried out. We also knew that everyone's budgets continue to be strained by the effects of the pandemic, so we elected to avoid the higher registration and travel costs associated with an in-person conference.

Our conference theme, Challenge Accepted: Overcoming Obstacles, was designed to allow us to address the challenges posed by the pandemic without limiting ourselves to only discussing our reactions to COVID-19. To that end, we have put together a program that addresses both challenges faced by historical communities and the ways museums and historical societies have faced and overcome challenges of all types. Sessions include discussions of increasing access for visitors with disabilities, first-person interpretation of John Brown, remaining relevant during a renovation, creating digital summer camps, as well as making the hard fundraising ask. You won't want to miss the Executive Director's Roundtable on the conference



theme. In addition, there will be sessions on bringing new life to stagnant exhibits, various aspects of collections care, governance and managerial policies, and marketing your site. I'm particularly looking forward to our "happy hour" session on historical cocktails on Friday; and to the presentation of this year's Outstanding Achievement Award Winners to close the conference on Saturday! I also look forward to seeing some of you in our virtual networking space.

To keynote this theme, we are very excited to welcome Dr. Anna-Lisa Cox as this year's plenary speaker, sponsored by Ohio Humanities. Dr. Cox is an award-winning American historian who specializes in the history of racism in the 19th century, with a focus on the North. Her original research underpinned two exhibits at the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture, and her essays are featured

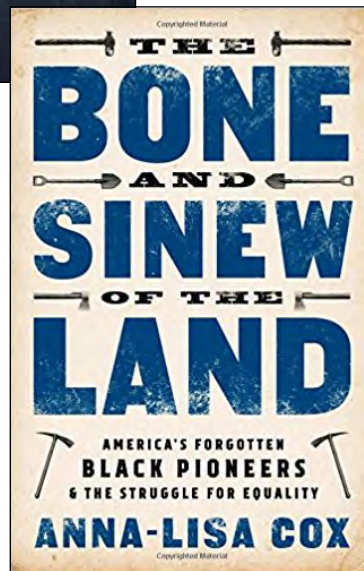
in a number of publications including *The Washington Post*, *Lapham's Quarterly*, the *Smithsonian Magazine*, and *The New York Times*. Her recent book, *The Bone and Sinew of the Land*, on the long-denied history of African American pioneers who settled the Midwest before the Civil War, was honored by the *Smithsonian Magazine* as one of the best history books of 2018. Professor Henry Louise Gates Jr. praised it for being "a revelation of primary historical research that is written with the beauty and empathic powers of a novel," and New York Times

best-selling author Professor Ibram Kendi lauded it for being a "ground-breaking work of research."

In addition to frequently being invited to lecture at universities and other organizations nationally and internationally, she is an in-demand guest on radio and television shows, including NPR's *All Things Considered*. Dr. Cox is a Non-Resident Fellow at Harvard

University's Hutchins Center for African and African American Research. She is at work on two new book projects, including one on the African Americans who surrounded and influenced the young Abraham Lincoln.

Check our website at ohiolha.org/what-we-do/alliance-annual-meeting for registration details and the full program as it is finalized. We will be mailing the full program to members in July. Please contact us at ohiolha@ohiohistory.org with any questions.



Discovering Activism and Advocacy in Historic Preservation through my Grandparents' Furniture

Jacqueline Hudson,
Bowling Green State University

As a young child, I thought visiting my grandparents in Chicago was a fun adventure each summer when my younger sister Jephreda and I got the chance to ride a plane by ourselves (accompanied by an airline employee, of course). I remembered stepping into their two-flat home located on the south side of the Windy City and I have always been mesmerized by the house plan that my grandparents put in place since moving to Chicago from the South in the mid-1950s. (Years later, I found out that this house was not the first one they lived in once they moved to Chicago. More on that later.) While most people used their basements as storage, my grandparents used their basement as a functioning kitchen, bar, living area, and a bathroom! I always looked forward to seeing the furnishings in different rooms in their house because it made me feel like I was **stepping into something grand**. It was years later that I came to realize that my affinity for my grandparents' furniture had helped me connect their lives (and my own family story) with larger currents in Black history.

My whole experience with my grandparents became embedded in their furniture. I was in awe of the reclining chairs in the den, the fancy dining set, and the wooden cabinet that housed antique china dishes. My favorite furniture piece was always the set of two armchairs and couch that my grandparents kept in the front living room. The living room set was primarily made of white velvet material with wood paneling on the arms and legs. The interesting part of this set was the fact that they made the decision to use plastic covering on the set for upkeeping. Even though I enjoyed looking at the set, I could not sit on it for long during the summers because the heat caused the plastic to get hot! (Maybe that was the reason why they decided to do that—to keep people from destroying their nice furniture...ha!) My love of this furniture, and the importance placed on it by my grandparents, later helped me connect their lives to key trends in the Black history of the 20th century:

They were both part of the Great Migration (him from Arkansas, her from Mississippi).

My grandfather was one of the many African American men who served in the U.S. Army.



Image of the author's grandparents sitting on their living room couch. Photo credit: Eddie and Dorothy Fraction

My grandparents were one of the many families who had to relocate because a major expressway was constructed through their former neighborhood.

They were a young African American couple looking to achieve the American Dream—family, house, car, hard work—as blue-collar employees during 1950s and 1960.

In 1998, I moved to Chicago and lived with my grandparents while I went back to school to earn my master's degree in Arts Management. Cohabiting with them was a constant reminder of the same furnishings I treasured as a young child. After earning that degree, I chose to continue living with my grandparents. I knew that they were getting older, and I wanted to make sure that there was someone to take care of them. In 2011, my grandfather died; my grandmother died in 2020 after moving to Mississippi three years earlier to be near my mother. When I moved to Bowling Green, Ohio, in 2017 to attend Bowling Green State University (BGSU) to pursue a doctoral degree in American Culture Studies, I kept many important items from my grandparents, including their birth certificates, their marriage license, my grandfather's discharge papers from the Army, and an array of photos. The one item of furniture that I made sure I took from my grandparents' home was that living room set that I had admired ever since I was a child visiting them during those summers.

(continued on page 12)

Once the set was placed in my new space, the first thing I did was to take that plastic covering off even though I was worried about getting the white material dirty. (I could not imagine sitting on plastic in either the summer nor winter months here in Ohio.) To ease my worries, I decided to get the living room set refurbished. My next dilemma was choosing the color. In 2018, I became a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, a historically African American Greek-letter sorority whose members are dedicated to public service and assistance of the African American community. One of the organization's colors is crimson (red), and I knew soon after that I wanted to refurbish with that hue. I thought this would be a perfect way to honor my grandparents while also adding a little touch of me, one of their legacies. After a couple of months of consultation and the fabric installation on the couch and two chairs with the upholstery shop in nearby Toledo, it was a beautiful moment to see the finished product in my living space.

As I was going through this process of getting my grandparents' furnishings upholstered and studying public history at BGSU simultaneously, I realized that preservation comes in many forms. Plus, it does not necessarily come in the grand traditional ways like saving a historic building from demolition or protecting an old house from going on the housing market. While my reason for this project was cosmetic at first, I realize this became a bigger personal aspiration connected to my understanding of my career. In 2020, I asked Ms. Pamela Junior, executive director of the Two Mississippi Museums in Jackson, Mississippi, to briefly describe the career trajectory that led her to her current position. She described how she wanted the local community to be involved with the Smith Robertson Museum where she was the museum manager. When she said that, I figured out that activism and advocacy were the words that perfectly described the work that I wanted to do in the museum field, but I realized that I was already doing it.

Constantly thinking about Junior's words drove me into figuring out how I can contribute to the museum and historic preservation fields, particularly for African Americans. In a recent article in the Philadelphia Inquirer titled, "Preservation Can Promote equity for Black Communities, Report Says," reporter Michaelle Bond declared that "preservation should be community-driven and focused on people, according to the National Trust for Historic Preservation report, but too often it is dictated by outside forces and is 'building-centered.'" This statement is a direct reflection of the process at play in the refurbishing of my grandparents' living room set. This project focused on connections to people and was imbued with both personal and historical significance.

As I navigate through the public history field as a new professional, refurbishing this living room set was my small act of revitalizing a piece of black history in honor of my grandparents and to continue the story of the black experience through activism and advocacy in my museum work.

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The author seated on her newly refurbished couch. Photo credit: Jacqueline P. Hudson

Strategic Planning: Consider a Hybrid Model



Robert Colby

Like people and nations, organizations have histories. In my non-profit consulting work, I'm always struck by the power of institutional memory. It can be an indispensable resource and guide. It establishes good reputations and makes non-profits trusted partners in their communities. Alternatively, it can shape an organization in unwitting ways, as decisions made years back no longer pertain and the present calls for new solutions. The previous year has thrown all assumptions (good and bad) out the window. For local history especially, this is a great time to look forward.

In Ohio, history is close to the surface and it's everywhere. I learned this ten years ago when I moved here from North Carolina. I was driving through Coshocton County and took the Route 36 dogleg at Route 16. There on my right, lay an intact heritage village seemingly marooned by time and tide. I did a quick U-turn and drove through Roscoe Village with my mouth agape. This is....here? (When I later learned about the nineteenth century canal and its twentieth century highway replacement, I understood more about how this seeming island of history came to be.)

Over the years, I've had a version of that same experience as I travel around the state. And the more I learn about the layers of Native heritage, colonial rule,

Old Northwest settlement, the canal era, and Ohio's modern evolution, the more the landscape comes to life. To take one example: consider a trip along Route 23, from Toledo up north to Portsmouth down south. The stories, historic peoples, and intriguing places along the way could fill volumes. It's no wonder that doing local history in Ohio poses exciting challenges.

And that was true before the pandemic. Over the past year, I'm guessing most organizations have done some version of existential reflection, collectively asking themselves questions like, What are we doing here? What matters now? What story are we telling? These are ideal questions to bring to a new strategic plan.

Before the pandemic, I facilitated strategic planning sessions as eight-hour or weekend retreats. This was the logical way to gather people together and get the job done. Under quarantine conditions, I shifted to virtual methods, like Zoom and a useful grab-bag of digital tools, like online surveys. I've since found these new methods have proved their worth. They allow people to contribute in different ways and at different times over the course the strategic planning process. We all have unique communication styles; not everyone wishes to hold forth at large gatherings. And doesn't everyone drive away from one of those day-long retreats only to think of all the ideas they wish they'd shared with the group? Hybrid strategic planning offers more flexibility and a range of formats, so the process becomes iterative. This

gives everyone a chance to engage with group activities, take time to reflect, and reengage, allowing consensus to build over time. I've found that as we return to post-pandemic life, clients want at least one in-person session, but, with a new comfort level for virtual and digital tools, the pressure to accomplish everything at once is lifted. A hybrid model offers the best of both worlds.

I can see other silver linings on the local history horizon. Clearly, the pandemic has compelled Ohioans to look in their proverbial backyard for places to visit. Museums, heritage houses, and cultural sites are established anchors of their communities. They serve as "front porches" for welcoming guests. No place in Ohio is without a must-see attraction nearby, or at least a short drive down the road. Now that remote work options seem here to stay, rural counties and distinctive towns with outsized amenities have an obvious appeal for those reconsidering where to live. Ohio is filled with these places, that also boast a low cost of living and high quality of life. Cultural heritage, as we know, plays a big part in that equation. A place that knows its past stands a better chance of charting a confident future. The path ahead may not yet be clear, but after a difficult year there's something to look forward to as Ohio local history groups forge ahead.

Robert Colby is a strategic planning consultant living in Columbus. For more information about creative strategic planning solutions, visit www.robertcolby.com

Picturing Black History

The Ohio State University History Department is pleased to announce an ongoing collaborative effort between Ohio State's [Origins: Current Events in Historical Perspective](#) and [Getty Images: Picturing Black History](#) seeks to uncover untold stories and rarely seen images of the Black experience, providing new context around culturally-significant moments by bringing them into the light and into view. Blending the breadth and depth of Getty Images' imagery archives with the renowned expertise of Origins and Ohio State's History Department, we seek to inform, educate, and move the world forward, by exploring the past.

Ohio Humanities offering Sustaining the Humanities through the American Rescue Plan (SHARP) Grants

Last year, Ohio Humanities distributed over \$750,000 in CARES Act funding to cultural organizations across the state. Ohio's public libraries, museums, historical societies, and other cultural organizations are the cornerstones of many of our communities. With support from Congress through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 and the National Endowment for the Humanities' Sustaining the Humanities through the American Rescue Plan (SHARP) program, we will continue to provide critical support to these local organizations.

The funding will support humanities organizations, programs, and professionals at the local level, advancing economic recovery within a cultural sector devastated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Eligible projects may include humanities programming, general operating costs, strategic planning and pandemic recovery efforts, and digital or accessible program development.

To be eligible for an Ohio Humanities SHARP grant, applicants must be not-for-profit organizations with a public humanities mission located in the state of Ohio that have experienced financial hardship because of the COVID-19 pandemic, including reduction, loss or furlough of staff, or loss of annual operating revenue. SHARP grants are not available to individuals, for-profit organizations, political or advocacy organizations, or for activities supported by non-NEH federal funding.

Applications are due Monday, August 2. Additional deadlines may be announced pending the availability of funds.

To learn more about the SHARP grant program guidelines, and for more information about Ohio Humanities' grant opportunities, please [visit our website](#). For assistance navigating the application process, please [contact Ohio Humanities](#).

Alliance Historical Society Wins 2021 AASLH Award of Excellence

The American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) proudly announces that the Alliance Historical Society is the recipient of an Award of Excellence for *Marking Time in Alliance*. The AASLH Leadership in History Awards, now in its 76th year, is the most prestigious recognition for achievement in the preservation and interpretation of state and local history.

Also the recipient of an OLHA Outstanding Achievement Award, *Marking Time in Alliance* was conceived as a way to educate and inform people about the history of Alliance, Ohio, while entertaining them. As part of the Alliance Historical Society's strategic plan, the video series extends the reach of the Society beyond those people who attend programs or visit the Mabel Hartzell Historical Home. With the onset of the Coronavirus pandemic and stay-at-home rules, the Society found that the usual venues for history programs were no longer available. To continue the work of presenting programs to the community, the Society decided to turn to YouTube and the internet to continue its mission.

A series of short videos about the many historical markers,

commemorative plaques, and curious areas of Alliance seemed to be the right project at the right time. *Marking Time in Alliance* has become a local success story and proves that it does not take a lot of money to produce a quality video highlighting your local organization.

This year, AASLH is proud to confer thirty-eight national awards honoring people, projects, exhibits, and publications. The winners represent the best in the field and provide leadership for the future of state and local history.

The AASLH awards program was initiated in 1945 to establish and encourage standards of excellence in the collection, preservation, and interpretation of state and local history throughout the United States. The AASLH Leadership in History Awards not only honor significant achievement in the field of state and local history, but also bring public recognition of the opportunities for small and large organizations, institutions, and programs to make contributions in this arena. For more information about the Leadership in History Awards, contact AASLH at 615-320-3203, or go to www.aaslh.org.

Ohio History Service Corps Accepting Applications for the 2021-2022 Service Year

The Ohio History Connection is now accepting applications for AmeriCorps Members to serve in the Ohio History Service Corps in 2021-2022!

Established in 2010, Ohio History Service Corps members provide service to Ohioans and their local history communities through collections management projects, strategic planning, historic site survey, programming, and other capacity-building initiatives. Members provide coaching, assistance, and to help organizations become more effective and sustainable. With the assistance of Ohio History Service Corps members, organizations increase their knowledge of the public history field's standards and best practices by creating new programs, policies, and procedures that meet those standards. Members also assist communities take the first step in historic preservation through their completion of historic structure surveys.

The Ohio History Service Corps program has two components. Click the links below for the full individual position descriptions.

[Local History Members](#)

[Community Surveyor Members](#)

Locations: The 2021-2022 program year begins in September with members serving in, and around: Athens, Bellefontaine, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Lorain, Oberlin, Portsmouth, Warren, Wilberforce and Youngstown areas.

Duration & Benefits: Members will serve one year in full time (35-40 hr/wk) capacity from September 13, 2021 to August 31, 2022. Throughout their term, AmeriCorps members will receive:

Living allowance of \$15,100

Health insurance

Professional development

Travel reimbursement

Eligible for Eli Segal Education Award of \$6,345 upon successful completion of 1700 hours of service

For more information: Visit the Ohio History Connection website www.ohiohistory.org/amicorps to find out more. For questions, please contact us at amicorps@ohiohistory.org.

Ohio History Fund Grant Application Cycle is Open!

The Ohio History Fund is a competitive matching grant program that awards grants for history-related projects annually. Eligible applicants include a wide range of non-profit organizations and local government entities.

The application deadline for the 2021-2022 grant cycle is **September 28, 2021**. For more information, see ohiohistory.org/historyfund.

Apply for an Ohio History Fund Grant

Eligible projects fall into one of three grant categories: Bricks & Mortar, Organizational Development, and Programs & Collections. History Fund grants are competitive and require matching funds, goods, and/or services from recipients. Experts from history-related organizations across Ohio review applications and make grant recommendations. The Ohio History Connection administers the History Fund program.

Ohio History Fund Guidelines: learn more about History Fund grants. The *Guidelines* describe eligibility requirements, allowable projects, and criteria in each grant category (Bricks & Mortar, Organizational Development, and Programs & Collections).

Ohio History Fund Application: find the online grant application and application instructions. The History Fund application process is entirely online. No paper submissions of grant applications are accepted. Applications can be printed, however, for the applicants' information.

Free Webinar: Preserve Your Recent History

The Ohio Local History Alliance is pleased to offer a free webinar to our members on Preserving Your Recent History.

Your local history is happening right now, how do you record and preserve it? Speaker Leianne Neff Heppner is the President/CEO of the Summit County Historical Society. She will share how she captures Summit County's recent past and how local historical societies can build their collections beyond the antiques of 100 years ago.

The live webinar will be held August 6, 2021, at 2 pm. Register here: [zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcpcOGurjliE9e6CMP9elFrKUwZ7FiQCp07](https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tJcpcOGurjliE9e6CMP9elFrKUwZ7FiQCp07)

If you're unable to attend live, use the registration link to be sure to receive a link to the recorded webinar.

Call for Nominations: 2021 Outstanding Achievement Awards

The Ohio Local History Alliance is calling for nominations for projects or people who demonstrate outstanding achievement in the field of local history.

Nominations may be submitted for History Outreach awards in the categories of Public Programming; Media and Publications; and Exhibits/Displays. The awards committee is pleased to consider online/virtual projects for any category of the History Outreach Awards.

We're also seeking nominations for the Individual Achievement Award and the Ohio Local History Alliance Champion Award. The Individual Achievement Award recognizes the lifetime achievements of an outstanding local historian; the OLHA Champion Award recognizes individuals or groups who are not local historians or local history organizations for outstanding efforts in the support of and/or contributions to local history in Ohio.

The submission deadline is August 1, 2021. Nominators must be members of the Ohio Local History Alliance.

Please note that all materials will need to be submitted online this year, either via the online submission form or by email. No physical binders will be accepted.

Look for full details in the flyer mailed to all members in early May, or on our website at ohiolha.org/what-we-do/outstanding-achievement-awards/

Questions? Contact Executive Secretary Betsy Hedler at ohiolha@ohiohistory.org or 614-398-3491.

State Library of Ohio Announces Launch of ARPA Outreach Grants

The State Library of Ohio is pleased to announce the launch of the [American Rescue Plan Act \(ARPA\) Outreach Grant](#) initiative. Utilizing Federal ARPA funds, received from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the State Library of Ohio encourages Ohio libraries of all types to apply for this competitive grant program revolving around the concept of Outreach.

"Ohio libraries of all types had to pivot quickly, due to the pandemic, to provide essential services to their respective communities in new and inventive ways," State Librarian Wendy Knapp said. "The use of ARPA funds for libraries to strengthen and build on those services, potentially making them a permanent way of connecting with their communities, is an excellent case of making lemonade out of lemons. I'm excited to see the types of innovative application proposals we receive."

Applications are being accepted in three categories:

Outreach and Education Proposals may request between \$5,000 and \$24,999 in federal funds. Proposals must demonstrate the need for a program or educational initiative to enhance the development of library staff and/or library users.

Community Connections Proposals may request between \$25,000 and \$49,999 in federal funds. Proposals must demonstrate a willingness for libraries to meet users where they are in the communities they serve.

Outreach Initiatives Proposals may request between \$50,000 and \$100,000 in federal funds. Proposals must demonstrate a large-scale, well-coordinated outreach endeavor on the part of the library.

"Outreach, as a concept, has always been a crucial part of any library's services. Nevertheless, during the pandemic extending services and assistance beyond what they were doing before proved paramount," Knapp explained. "This grant initiative welcomes well-planned, creative, and flexible proposals under the large umbrella of "Outreach" and enables applying libraries the opportunity to focus on projects both large and small."

All types of Ohio libraries are eligible to apply for ARPA funds. Applicants may request up to \$100,000 in federal funds; due to the nature of ARPA funds, **NO local cash match of the total project cost is required. A complete application proposal package must be submitted digitally to the State Library by 11:59 p.m. August 1, 2021,** at this link: library.ohio.gov/arpa/#OutreachGrantApplication

Information about the [ARPA Outreach Grant](#), including [FAQs](#), [Request for Proposals](#), and the [Application](#) may be found at library.ohio.gov/arpa.

Recommended applications will be presented to the State Library Board for funding in September 2021. Grant contract periods run from November 1, 2021– July 31, 2022.

On the Web

MuseumPests.net

museumpests.net

Have you just found a bug in a new collections item or in your archive? MuseumPests.net provides resources to help you figure out what that pest is, how to deal with it, and how to prevent more of them moving in. The site is a product of the Integrated Pest Management Working Group. Their goal is to be the most comprehensive source of information and support for those implementing integrated pest management policies and procedures in collections-holding and cultural heritage institutions. Check out their Pest Fact Sheets for specific information about any type of pest you might find.

1946 Reconsidered—Filson Historical Society Biennial Academic Conference, 2021

The Filson Historical Society, supported in part by the Thomas Walker Bullitt Perpetual Trust, announces its 2021 biennial conference, **1946 Reconsidered: The Ohio Valley in the Post-World War II Era** on **October 22-23, 2021**.

In 1950, WWII veteran and Louisville architect Stratton Hammon wrote to a colleague at *Better Homes & Gardens* magazine:

Before the war, Louisville was one of the lowest building cost markets in the country because its economy was largely based on agriculture, horses, corn for whiskey and tobacco. The war, however, changed all this. Because we have a hydroelectric dam here, a tremendous number of large plants located here—rubber, aircraft, aluminum, International Harvester, etc. This at once changed our non-union town to a union town and the price of building is, I believe, much above the balance of the country because of the high wages and because we have never yet caught up with the industrial building program.

Hammon accounted for the sea changes he had seen in his professional field, but the social, demographic, spatial, institutional, and environmental changes wrought by the war went beyond the recounting of any one individual. What had Hammon overlooked? What changes were afoot in 1950 that would more fully emerge in later years? How was his world—and ours—fundamentally reshaped after soldiers and civilian war workers returned home?

The Filson invites a multidisciplinary group of scholars to shed light on some of the profound changes and challenges that the end of WWII brought to the Ohio Valley. The Filson invites proposals from scholars in the fields of history, American studies, English, sociology, urban planning, public health, education, archives and oral history, and other related disciplines that contribute to our understanding of the post-World War II era.

Given the deep, systemic inequalities highlighted by unequal health outcomes and disproportionate economic hardship during the COVID-19 pandemic and the protests calling for justice in response to

the killing of Breonna Taylor, participants are strongly encouraged to draw connections between their subject material and the region in 2020.

The conference will feature a hybrid in-person and online format. It is scheduled to run for two days, with approximately six sessions and an evening keynote. Individual papers, roundtables of structured discussion among four to six participants, and traditional panels of three papers plus a commenter will be considered. Proposals should indicate whether the presenters are interested in participating in-person, virtually, or are open to either.

Proposals of up to 500 words for an individual paper and 1,500 for full sessions can be submitted along with participant CVs to Patrick Lewis, Director of Collections & Research at the Filson, (patricklewis@filsonhistorical.org). A final schedule will be made public early in 2021.

The Filson encourages potential presenters to submit applications to the Filson's [Scholarly Research Fellowship](#) program at the standing deadlines in February and October to conduct research for the conference.

The Filson is committed to ensuring that this conference has a long afterlife with diverse audiences. The editors of [Ohio Valley History](#) will produce a thematic special issue from some selected papers given at this conference.

The Filson is also interested in working with presenters and education specialists after the conference to produce materials aimed at K-12 social studies classrooms. Such materials could include edited recordings of conference presentations; short videos featuring locations, collections, or objects of interest; digital exhibits of primary sources; document-based classroom activities and writing prompts; and open-ended frameworks for students to conduct research on topics of their choosing.

Among the topics of interest to the conference are:

- Migration within and out from the region

- Redlining, suburbanization, and white flight
- Agricultural change including mechanization, centralization of landholding, pesticide usage, and the coming of monocultures
- The GI Bill and expansion of state higher education
- The VA, hospital expansion, and changes to healthcare
- Male veterans' reintegration into the workplace and civil life
- Displacement of women and African Americans from the postwar workplace
- Changes in the coal industry, particularly the shift to surface mining
- TVA, dams, and electrification
- Early civil rights organization in African American and LGBT communities
- Expansion of permanent military bases at Ft. Campbell and Ft. Knox
- Conversion of war-related industry to civilian production
- Evolution of transportation infrastructure, the rise of car culture and decline of rail and river
- Demographic and cultural changes brought by the Baby Boom
- Development of musical styles rooted in the Southern diaspora including rock & roll
- Communications change and the rise of television
- Anti-Communism in politics, the workplace, and popular culture

Contact Info:

Patrick Lewis, Ph.D.
Director of Collections & Research
Filson Historical Society

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filsonhistorical.org/education/filson-biennial-conference/

Region 1

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

Region 2

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

Region 3

Cuyahoga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, and Summit Counties

Region 4

Ashtabula, Geauga, Mahoning, Portage, and Trumbull Counties

Region 5

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

The **Salem Historical Society** was recently in the **Wall Street Journal** for their work in helping folks with identifying Underground Railroad Houses. Every time one of the houses goes on the market (there have been at least 3 in the last 20 years), the Historical Society President Ginger Grilli contacts the new homeowners, and takes over information about the houses. They also are doing an Underground Railroad historic house trolley tour.

The **Perry History Club** will be hosting their **Annual Johnny Appleseed/Apple Butter Making Event** on September 18, 2021, in the yard of their 1893 Genoa one-room schoolhouse. The event will feature Ohio barn artist Robert Kroeger doing a painting demo of an 1855 Perry Township barn.

Region 6

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

Region 7

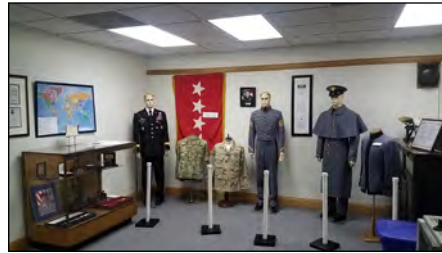
Auglaize, Champaign, Clark, Darke, Greene, Logan, Mercer, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, and Shelby Counties

Region 8

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

Region 9

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



Hocking County Historical & Genealogical Society volunteers were busy developing new exhibits during the shutdown including coal mining history, restoration of the Telegraph Office, and World War II sketches by a local veteran. One major project was a complete re-organization of the military history exhibit area. This was precipitated by donation of memorabilia by retired Lt. General C. Michael Scaparrotti, celebrated Logan veteran. General Scaparrotti graduated from West Point in 1978 and rose through the U. S. Army ranks to become Supreme Allied European Commander in 2016 capping an illustrious career. The museum is now open on Saturday and Sunday afternoons.

Rendville Historic Preservation Society received a Seed Grant from Ohio's Winding Road. This spring twenty-seven mini-grants totaling more than \$12,000 were awarded to businesses, individuals, organizations, and municipalities located in the nine-county area served by Ohio's Winding Road. Ohio's Winding Road seed grants are all under \$700 and designed to fill in gaps or jumpstart local projects or businesses. The Ohio's Winding Road is a collaborative network comprised of regional partners using their specific skill sets to enhance the initiative. Funds for the seed grant program are provided through OWR's funding partners at the Sugarbush Foundation.

Region 10

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

In 100 words or less, do you have outstanding news to share about your organization? Please email it to your regional representative for the next issue of The Local Historian. Contact information for the representatives in your region is on page 2 of this issue. Of course, you are welcome to forward your news directly to the editor of The Local Historian at ohiolha@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.

Joined or renewed between April 17, 2021 and June 24, 2021.

Welcome New Members

INDIVIDUALS

Rebecca Dungan, *Granville*

Jessica Lucas, *Reynoldsburg*

Thank You, Renewing Members

INDIVIDUALS

Ann Cramer, *Logan*

Roselia C. Verhoff, *Ottawa*

Michael J. Hocker, *Galion*

Todd McCormick, *Bellefontaine*

Jacqueline B. Pasternack, *Columbus*

ORGANIZATIONS

Allen County Historical Society, *Lima*

Alliance Historical Society, *Alliance*

Austintown Historical Society,
Austintown

Berea Historical Society, *Berea*

Berlin Center Historical Society, *Berlin Center*

Brimfield Historical Society, *Kent*

Butler County Historical Society,
Hamilton

Canton Preservation Society, *Canton*

Cleo Redd Fisher Museum, *Loudonville*

Delphos Canal Commission, *Delphos*

Dublin Historical Society, *Dublin*

Fallen Timbers Battlefield Preservation
Commission, *Maumee*

Firelands Historical Society, *Norwalk*

German Village Society, *Columbus*

Harveysburg Community Historical
Society, *Harveysburg*

Henry County Historical Society,
Napoleon

Hocking County Historical Society,
Logan

Holmes County Historical Society,
Millersburg

Logan County Historical Society,
Bellefontaine

Loveland Museum Center, *Loveland*

Madison Historical Society, *Madison*

Maple Heights Historical Society,
Bedford

Mariemont Preservation Foundation,
Cincinnati

Meigs County Historical Society,
Pomeroy

Morgan Township Historical Society,
Shandon

Museum of Fulton County, Ohio,
Wauseon

Muskingum County History, *Zanesville*

National McKinley Birthplace Memorial
Association, *Niles*

New Albany-Plain Township Historical
Society, *New Albany*

New London Area Historical Society,
New London

New Washington Historical Society, *New Washington*

Ohio Historic Bridge Association, *Galena*

Plain Township Historical Society,
Canton

Reynoldsburg Truro Historical Society,
Reynoldsburg

Roseville Historical Society, *Roseville*

Springboro Area Historical Society,
Springboro

Summit County Historical Society, *Akron*

The Harriet Taylor Upton Association,
Warren

Toledo History Museum, Inc., *Toledo*

Tuscarawas County Historical Society,
New Philadelphia

Union County Historical Society,
Marysville

Upper Arlington Historical Society, *Upper Arlington*

Vermilion History Museum, *Vermilion*

Wayne County Historical Society,
Wooster

Western Reserve Historical Society,
Cleveland

Weymouth Preservation Society, *Medina*

AUGUST 1:

OLHA Outstanding Achievement Award Nominations due. For more information, see page 16.

State Library ARPA Funds grant requests due. For more information, see page 16.

AUGUST 2:

Ohio Humanities SHARP grants due. For more information, see page 14.

AUGUST 6:

OLHA Webinar, Preserve Your Recent History. For more information, see page 15.

SEPTEMBER 28:

Ohio History Fund Grant Applications due. For more information, see page 15.

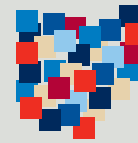
SEPTEMBER 30 – OCTOBER 2:

OLHA Annual Meeting. For more information, see page 10.

OCTOBER 22 – 23:

Filson Historical Society Biennial Conference. For more information, see page 17.

Join the Ohio Local History Alliance...



OHIO LOCAL HISTORY ALLIANCE
Inspire. Connect. Educate.

...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	(\$65 for 2)
Individual:	\$50	(\$90 for 2)
Student:	\$20	

Business Member:

	\$100	(\$190 for 2)
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Join at:

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

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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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)

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