



History Fund Grant Recipients Announced on Statehood Day



The 2014 History Fund grant recipients show off their “big checks” at Statehood Day on February 27, 2014. Photo courtesy of the Ohio Historical Society.

By Shannon Thomas, Assistant Director of Marketing and Communications, Ohio Historical Society, Columbus and Andy Verhoff, History Fund Grant Manager, Ohio Historical Society, Columbus

The Ohio Historical Society is pleased to announce that it has awarded ten organizations History Fund grants. The History Fund is a competitive matching grants program that is one of four “tax check-off” funds found on Ohio’s income tax forms and funded entirely through Ohio taxpayers’ voluntary contributions.

“The History Fund is about preserving and sharing Ohio’s heritage by supporting local projects and programs that strengthen Ohio history,” said Burt Logan, executive director and CEO for the Ohio Historical Society. “Ohio taxpayers’ support reinforces that the History Fund is a worthy program that helps organizations and historical societies fund the projects important to their communities. For just \$8 – the average donation – Ohioans are helping to preserve their history.”

The History Fund had \$110,000 to grant and awarded ten grants to organizations throughout Ohio. It received 64 applications requesting a total of \$788,000 in grant funding, underscoring the importance of the need for this grant program to local organizations and historical societies throughout Ohio.

The ten recipients of the 2014 History Fund grant program are as follows. Five of

the recipients are Alliance members. They are indicated with an *.

- **Cuyahoga County Planning Commission** (Cleveland) received \$16,500 to undertake an architectural and historical survey of dwellings constructed from 1945-1969 to identify districts eligible for listing on the National Register and to assist the county’s communities in their local preservation efforts.

- ***Dayton History** received \$18,000 to preserve, digitize, and make available the majority of the William Preston Mayfield/Marvin Christian Photograph and Negative Collection. This locally and nationally significant collection includes some of the world’s first aerial photographs, taken from early Wright Flyers, as well as scenes of Dayton life.

- **Dayton Society of Natural History** received \$16,000 to reconstruct the thatched roof of Big House, the central exhibit of SunWatch Indian Village/Archeological Park, a National Historic Landmark. The project will enable SunWatch to again use the Big House for school and public programs and will be conducted while SunWatch is open to the public, allowing visitors to watch the construction process.

- ***Historic New Richmond** received \$7,000 for a historic preservation project undertaken by a volunteer-operated local historical society. This project, the third and final phase of a ten year effort, will repair the Ross-Gowdy House Museum’s windows and replace its box gutters. The success of the first two phases of the project and Historic New Richmond’s adherence to the Secretary of Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties are especially notable.

- **McKinley Presidential Library & Museum** (Canton) received \$3,700 to conserve two dresses that belonged to First Lady Ida McKinley. Once repaired, it will be possible to display the dresses and provide superior care when not on display. The project is part of a long-range plan to preserve 20 dresses that once belonged to First Lady McKinley in the museum’s collection.

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President's Message:

Spring is finally just around the corner. What a winter this has been! With unusual temperatures and above average snowfall, every Ohioan has been affected. If you have not updated or reviewed your disaster plan recently, take time to do so before the spring weather arrives. If you do not have a disaster plan in place, there is no time like the present to get started! This issue includes an article by Tom Claerson with great pointers, whether

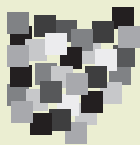
you are just getting started or reviewing an existing plan. Does your plan include an annual date for review? The twice annual time change is a good time to review your disaster plan for any needed changes.

Do you have news to share about the good work that your organization is doing? Make sure you contact your regional representatives from the Ohio Local History Alliance board. Board members are listed by region below. We would be delighted to share your good news in *The Local Historian*. There is a "People in the News" section as well as "News from the Regions." Let us know what's new with you!

Regional meetings are a great source of information for everything – from disaster plans to social media policies. Alliance board members, Local History Office staff, and local hosts put together outstanding agendas for this year. Regional meetings tap into local talents, too. We hope to see you at one (or more!) regional meetings this spring.

Maggie Marconi

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OHIO LOCAL HISTORY ALLIANCE

Inspire. Connect. Educate.

The **Ohio Local History Alliance**, organized in 1960 under sponsorship of the Ohio Historical Society, 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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Region 10

Help Spread the Word About the Ohio History Tax Check-Off

By Shannon Thomas, Assistant
Director of Marketing and
Communications, Ohio
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Taking a deduction
without receipts?
That will never fly!



Learn about the Wright brothers at
daytonhistory.org and ags.purdue.edu



You can't help Orville and Wilbur with their taxes, but your tax return can help save history. Donate to Ohio History on your Ohio tax return and fund history projects in local communities. ohiohistory.org/makehistory



Love the History Fund grant program? Want an easy way to support its funding source, the Ohio History Tax Check-off? One of the easiest ways to help is to write a letter to the editor of your local newspaper explaining how this program helps Ohio's communities. Here are two templates, which you can use for your letter or to inspire you to write your own. Find the electronic versions of these letters and other tax check-off promotion materials at www.ohiohistory.org/makehistorycampaign. From now until April 15, let's try to get a letter in every Ohio newspaper!

You can find more information and promotional materials about the tax check-off at www.ohiohistory.org/makehistory. Image courtesy of the Ohio Historical Society.

TEMPLATES

Ohio History Tax Check-Off Campaign Letter to the Editor

Below are two templates that you can use to write a letter to the editor of your local newspaper.

Option 1

To the Editor:

Doing your taxes makes you think about the past year. I would like to encourage everyone this tax season to consider thinking more broadly about all of Ohio history when you sit down to do your taxes this year. Why? For the past couple of years, Ohioans who get a refund from the state have had the option of donating some portion of that refund to the Ohio Historical Society to help strengthen our local history. The Ohio Historical Society uses these voluntary donations to fund a competitive matching grants program for history-related projects across the state. Last year, grants of more than \$110,000 were matched by local organizations across the state to help care for, protect and promote Ohio history across the state. Your tax return can help make history happen!

Option 2

To the Editor:

Believe it or not, I am actually looking forward to doing my taxes this year. I usually get a modest return on my state income taxes, so it can be fun to think about how to spend a few extra dollars. The past couple of years, Ohioans have had the opportunity to contribute some portion of their state income tax refund to the Ohio Historical Society, which uses these donations to make grants to support history-related projects across Ohio. This is a great way to support our local history and preservation organizations that have small budgets and rely on philanthropic support to carry out their missions. But it's up to us to remember this during tax season. I hope you'll consider joining me in contributing to the Ohio Historical Society on your state tax return to the Ohio Historical Society in support history. Believe it or not, your tax return can help make history happen!

A New Era for the Local History Office

By Stacia Kuceyeski,
Outreach Division Director,
Ohio Historical Society,
Columbus

Changes are afoot in the Local History Office! Jackie Barton, former Director of Education and Outreach, as well as the Ohio Local History Alliance Executive Secretary, has accepted the position of Director of Museum and Library Services at the Ohio Historical Society. We are sad to see her go but are happy she is not going too far away! The whole local history community appreciates the hard work Jackie has done over the years of association with the Local History Office and the Alliance.

A face that may be familiar to some of you, Stacia Kuceyeski, will be filling Jackie's position. Stacia has most recently been the Manager of the Educational Partnerships and Outreach Department at OHS, where she managed a variety of educational outreach efforts, including OHS's teacher professional development and the 4th grade online social studies textbook, *Ohio as America*. Stacia began her OHS career in 2000 processing audio-visual collections. While Stacia still enjoys collections, she realized she really enjoyed getting people excited about those collections. With that in mind, Stacia transferred to education and outreach func-



Local History Office staff show their Ohio spirit! From left to right: Mark Sundlov, Tameka Burke, Amy Rohmiller, and Andy Verhoff. Photo courtesy of the Ohio Historical Society.

tions in 2004. The Local History Office is excited to have Stacia on board!

The Local History Office also is pleased to welcome Mark Sundlov as our new manager! In this role, Mark will be setting the strategic direction for the Local History Office, as well as serving at the Executive Secretary for the Alliance. (See the January/February issue of *The Local Historian* for Mark's biography.)

With all these changes, Alliance members may be wondering who to contact when they have questions. Andy Verhoff (614.297.2341 or averhoff@ohiohistory.org) will continue to manage

the History Fund and the Ohio Historical Markers Program. Amy Rohmiller (614.297.2609 or arohmiller@ohiohistory.org) will continue to manage the AmeriCorps program and Ohio's Civil War 150 commemoration. General questions about the Alliance or information on the Local History Office's other services can be directed to Mark Sundlov (614.297.2343 or msundlov@ohiohistory.org). Not sure who to call? Tameka Burke, our administrative assistant, will be happy to help (1.800.858.6878 or tsheline@ohiohistory.org)! ■

History Fund Grant Recipients Announced on Statehood Day

(Continued from page 1)

- ***Ross County Historical Society** (Chillicothe) received \$10,000 for the purchase of textile storage cabinets for the society's new collection facility. The cabinets and new facility will make it possible to store a historic clothing collection under optimal conditions that will both meet best practices for textile care and make the collection more accessible for exhibition and study.

- **Slavic Village Development** (Cleveland) received \$18,000 to install a new roof on the Viola Building, which is the first phase of an effort to stabilize and rehabilitate the structure in an emerging, affordable, and diverse neighborhood. The Viola Building serves as an anchor of the National Register-listed Broadway Historic District and the Slavic Village neighborhood. A new roof, conforming to the Secretary of Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, will

enable Slavic Village to return the building to commercial and residential use.

- ***Summit County Historical Society** (Akron) received \$8,500 to assist the Society in its long-term effort to renew its collection management capabilities prior to Akron's bicentennial in 2025. The grant will fund the purchase of updated collections management software, the cataloging of collections in the society's new facility, and new shelving for the maintenance of collections. The project will increase the society's ability to draw on its rich collections for exhibits and public programs as well as enlarge its capacity to accept new donations of collections.

- **Williams County Records Center** (Bryan) received \$3,800 to hire a consultant to conduct an assessment of Williams County's local government archives. The consultant will offer the center guidance in the stewardship of the county's archives and address topics such as digitization,

preservation planning, and disaster planning. With the consultant's report in place, the county will be able to insure that its records will continue to be safe and accessible.

- ***Worthington Historical Society** received \$8,500 to replace deteriorated roof sections of the society's circa 1812 Orange Johnson House, a listed National Register building. The repaired roof, rehabilitated in accordance with the Secretary of Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, will enable the society to continue to preserve and share the community of Worthington's history and to interpret life in early nineteenth-century central Ohio.

For more information about the History Fund grant program and how to apply, visit www.ohiohistory.org/historyfund or contact Andy Verhoff at 614.297.2341, or averhoff@ohiohistory.org. ■

TECH TIP:

Using Hightail for Your Museum



Image 1

By Ruth Brindle, Curator, Quaker Heritage Center of Wilmington College, Wilmington

Has your board and staff discussed sending your newsletter out electronically, but are concerned about the size of the files? Hightail (formerly YouSendIt) is the answer. (Image 1) You can easily send and receive content with the comfort of email without the hassle of inbox limits. Big files? No problem! I get a full-length 4-color magazine this way!

And guess what? It is free! For most users, the free “Lite” version is exactly what you need. (Image 2) To get started, go to www.hightail.com and create an account – it is as simple as entering your email address and name and creating a password.

Once you have an account, you can import email addresses to create a contact list for your newsletter so that you do not have to enter every address every time. (Image 3) And you do not have to worry about privacy, either: the email comes from Hightail and does not show the other recipients. (Image 4)

Or, maybe you have multiple volunteers working on the same project at the museum and from home, and you are trying to figure out how everyone can access the files they need when and where they need them? The “Professional” version of Hightail (\$16/month or \$160/year) lets you create “cloud folders” with unlimited storage so that you, your staff, your board members, and your volunteers can access all the files they need wherever they may be.

While there are other online file sharing options out there (Dropbox may be the most well-known), some require your museum members to install software to access files, which is not something that most of your members will want to do to access your newsletter. While all of the programs – including Hightail – require your museum members to create their own accounts, Hightail consistently gets top marks in all of the tech review sites for unlimited downloads, unlimited storage, security, and ease of use.



Image 2

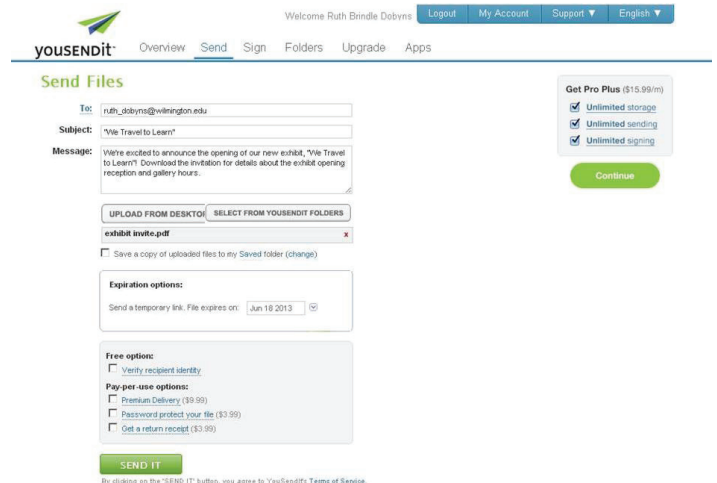


Image 3

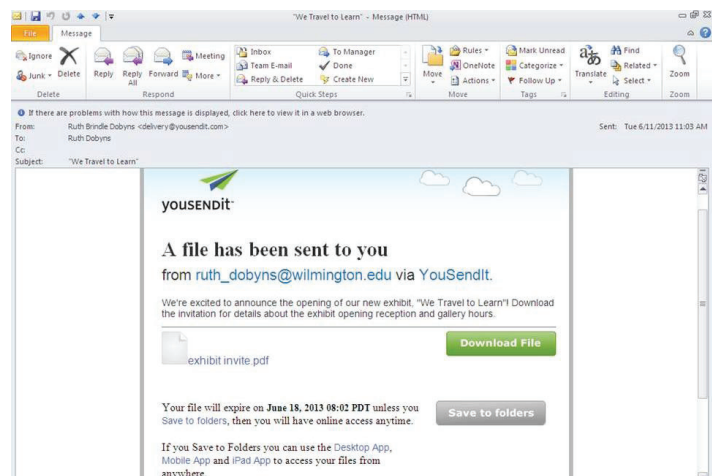


Image 4

But don't take my word for it... get online and try it out for yourself!

Spring Forward on Disaster Planning



By Tom Clareson, Senior Consultant for Digital & Preservation Services, LYRASIS, Columbus

The Mahoning Valley Historical Society put their disaster plan into action this winter to recover from a burst pipe. Photo courtesy of the Mahoning Valley Historical Society.

After one of Ohio's roughest winters in recorded history, staff and volunteers at historical societies and museums across the state are probably glad for the arrival of spring!

Often, we read articles about how to "winterize" our institutions, protecting against ice, freezing pipes, etc. However, we rarely hear about how to prepare for the higher temperatures, fluctuating humidity, melting snows, and weather events that come each spring.

Melting Misery

Because of the high snow levels in many areas of the state following the storms of winter 2013-14, institution staff must be vigilant for flooding problems that may occur once the snows melt. Among the supplies you may want to add to your disaster preparedness kits are water leak detectors and sandbags.

Some of the best water leak detectors are portable, meaning you can move them around your facility to areas where water has historically entered your structure. These monitors, which you can get at your local hardware store or order from suppliers like Dorlen (www.waternalert.com),

let off a noisy alarm when they come in contact with water. If you are worried about larger water intrusions, such as flooding from nearby creeks, streams, rivers, or ponds, consider purchasing sandbags which you can place at points of your building where water might enter. And, water concerns do not disappear with the end of melting and runoff. Keep these alarms and sandbags ready in case of heavy rains or even lawn sprinkler malfunctions in the summer!

Action? Lights? Cameras?

As we move into spring, Ohio is often hit by strong thunderstorms and heavy rains. It is important to make sure you know where your facility stores flashlights and to change out their batteries in case the lights go out at your facility in the wake of a heavy storm.

If losing power is a regular occurrence at your organization, you may want to consider the purchase of a backup or emergency generator to supply power to your facility. If budgets do not allow this, check in your town or city to see if hardware stores will rent these items until (Continued on page 12)

DISASTER PLANNING IN ACTION

On Wednesday morning, January 8, 2014, the Mahoning Valley Historical Society (MVHS) encountered a disaster within the Arms Family Museum of Local History in Youngstown, when a pipe burst overnight in a wall on the museum's second floor and sent water raining down for several hours through two historic period rooms on the first floor and into the boiler room below.

The MVHS Buildings & Grounds Supervisor discovered the problem at 7:30 a.m., and immediately called the executive director who arrived at the museum by 8:00 a.m. On the drive in, the executive director called the collections manager to apprise her of the situation and to have her mobilize other staff to address the crisis. Upon arrival at the museum, the executive director collected his office copy of the institutional disaster preparedness plan, which was drafted and approved 12 years earlier.

In a period of just 2.5 hours that morning, the MVHS staff implemented every step in the disaster plan and stabilized the situation. They shut off the water, located the source of the leak, identified and began to isolate collections items that were water damaged, moved all undamaged collections items out of harm's way, used wet/dry vacuums to clean up standing water on the floors, set up containers to capture the water that continued to drip from the ceilings, notified key board members, and made preliminary contact with the insurance agent, insurance adjuster, a local fire and water recovery contractor and a local plumber. Three working days later, staff members met and formulated detailed plans for the continuing recovery effort and how to best inform the public about the situation. The local community responded with sympathy and generosity, and to-date several individuals have donated more than \$1,300.00 toward repair and restoration work in the Museum.

Winter 2014 was a difficult time for the Mahoning Valley Historical Society, its museum and its collections. Having a well-organized disaster preparedness plan, dedicated and experienced staff and moral and financial support from the community made the recovery process much easier.

By Bill Lawson, Executive Director, Mahoning Valley Historical Society, Youngstown

Coming Up!



Sign Up to Judge Ohio History Day

The 2014 Ohio History Day competition will be Saturday, April 26 at the Ohio Union at Ohio State University in Columbus. National History Day in Ohio is sponsored by the Ohio Historical Society and is a year-long program where students choose a topic related to the annual theme, conduct research, analyze the information, and create papers, performances, documentaries, exhibits, or websites. The 2014 theme is *Rights and Responsibilities in History*.

Judges are needed for state History Day. They provide vital feedback to students at all levels of History Day competition. Judges work in teams, interact with participants, evaluate student projects, and then decide which projects will move on to the next level of competition. Judging typically starts at 8am with an overview of the program and training and is done by 1pm.

Judging is a great opportunity to learn about History Day, to meet and encourage enthusiastic students, and to be inspired by the work of young historians.

Anyone interested in judging or learning more about History Day can contact the State Coordinator, Mary Bezbatchesko at historyday@ohiohistory.org or visit the website at <http://www.ohiohistory.org/education/national-history-day-in-ohio/get-involved>.

Grants!

NEH Preservation Assistance Grants Available

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)'s Division of Preservation and Access has offered Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions for more than a decade. These grants help small and mid-sized cultural heritage institutions such as libraries, museums, historical societies, archival repositories, town and county records offices, and colleges and universities improve their ability to preserve and care for their consultations, purchase of preservation supplies and equipment, training and workshops, and institutional and collaborative disaster and emergency planning. Preservation Assistance Grants also support assessments of digital collections and education and training in standards and best practices for digital preservation, and the care and handling of collections during digitization. NEH does not fund digitization or the development of digital programs in this grant category.

Small and mid-sized institutions that have never received an NEH grant are encouraged to apply. The application deadline is May 1, 2014. For more information and the application, visit www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/pag.html

Professional Development!



Photo courtesy of the Ohio Historical Society.

Don't Forget to Register for a Regional Meeting

Ohio Local History Alliance Regional Meetings began on Saturday, March 15, but there are still several opportunities for great professional development left. Register for a meeting today!

- **March 29: Region 9&10** (combined meeting), Ross County Historical Society, Chillicothe
- **April 5: Region 1**, Metroparks of the Toledo Area, Toledo and **Region 3**, Middleburg Heights Historical Society, Cleveland
- **April 12: Region 2**, Clyde Historical Museum, Clyde and **Region 4**, Kent State University May 4 Visitors Center, Kent

To see the full schedule for each meeting and to register online, visit <http://www.ohiohistory.org/local-history-office/professional-development/alliance-regional-meetings>

Professional Development!

Society of Ohio Archivists Annual Conference

Would you like to make new connections with archivists and curators? Are you curious what other organizations are doing with digitized content? Does looking for grants give you heartburn? If so, then join the Society of Ohio Archivists (SOA) for our Annual Spring Conference on Friday, May 16, 2014 at the OCLC Conference Center in Dublin, Ohio. This year's theme, *Building Capacity: Discovering Archival Collections in the 21st Century*, will explore user interactions with rare and unique materials in our technology driven society. We are excited to announce that the plenary speaker is Chris Prom, Ph.D., Assistant University Archivist and Associate Professor of Library Administration at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Dr. Prom is a recognized expert in digital archives. Panel sessions and posters will feature topics on community outreach through mobile digitization and behind-the-scenes tours, digital repository migration, local grants programs, descriptive workflows, and more. And remember the silent auction for scholarships! The most-coveted prize this year will surely be the Bove Bell and Howell Sidekick scanner, valued at over \$1,000. For more information and to register, please visit SOA's website at www.ohioarchivists.org. The conference fee is \$40 for members, \$60 for non-members, and \$30 for students and includes lunch.



Oral History Institute participants on Kenyon's campus. Photo courtesy of the Ohio Humanities Council.

Ohio Humanities Council Announces 2014 Oral History Institute

The Ohio Humanities Council has opened registration for its 2014 Oral History Institute, which will take place June 3-5 at Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio. The program trains participants in planning and conducting successful oral history projects. Volunteers or staff from local history organizations, libraries, schools, and colleges are encouraged to apply. We have also accepted participants from a variety of other backgrounds including those working in corporate history, park services, medicine/research, and tourism.

Emphasizing hands-on experience, topics covered in the three-day schedule include interviewing techniques, transcribing and archiving, and devising public programs based on oral history. To develop these skills, participants will work on a practice project that encompasses all stages of oral history. Additional sessions cover using technology in oral history, fundraising, and civic tourism.

The Institute faculty includes professors of history, sociology, archiving, and journalism, each representing extensive experience conducting oral history projects. The Institute schedule provides ample time for students to consult with these experts.

Deadline to apply is April 28, 2014. Admission to the Oral History Institute is competitive and limited to 30 persons. Tuition of \$400 covers lodging for two nights, six meals, and workshop materials. For additional information or to obtain an application, visit <http://ohiohumanities.org/programs/oral-history-institute.html> or contact James Calder at 800.293.9774 or jimc@ohiohumanities.org.

AASLH Workshop Coming to Ohio

The American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) is sponsoring a two-day workshop, *Connecting Your Collections to Teachers and Students*, April 10-11 at the Ohio Historical Society. Through a combination of presentations, discussions, hands-on activities, and take-home materials, this workshop addresses the various elements of museum education and program planning needed to create an engaging, educational, and successful program with a focus on collections-based programming. Topics include learning styles, presentation strategies, audience types, planning strategies and program assessment, using research, training staff, and crafting programming that is meaningful to the education community.

AASLH is also offering several other on-site workshops this spring and summer. *Historic House Museum Issues and Operations* focuses on the unique needs, management, and interpretation of historic houses. Topics covered include collections care, research, developing exhibits, interpretive tours, and building maintenance. *Collections Management and Practices* will help attendees become familiar with policies, procedures, collections management best practices, and current issues and trends so they can better understand how collections fit within history organizations. Finally, *Collections Camp: Military History* will focus on the care, conservation, and exhibition of military artifacts in museum collections. Conservators and curators will help participants become better caretakers of military artifacts.

For more information about any of these workshops, visit <http://learn.aaslh.org/calendar/>.

Special Event

The Ohio Civil War 150 Advisory Committee invites you to participate in a reconstruction of 1864 history. In keeping with our theme of “The Home Front,” the Ohio Historical Society is planning an “Ohio Village Soldiers’ Aid Fair: A Civil War Sanitary Fair” at Ohio Village on Memorial Day weekend, May 24-25 2014. There will be a period-correct fair in the Village itself, and inside the Historical Center will be a place for counties, regions, historical societies, Civil War Roundtables, and others, to “show their stuff.”

The 1860s Sanitary Fairs, sponsored by the United States Sanitary Commission, collected money and goods for the troops in the field, the hospitals, and the Soldiers’ Home in Cincinnati. Two Sanitary Fairs were held in Ohio: at Cincinnati in December 1863-January 1864, and in Cleveland from February-March 1864. Booths from church groups, Soldiers Aid Societies, Union Clubs, and school groups featured handmade items, clothing, toys, floral arrangements, and more. Some were intended for display only, some for sale



or raffle, with the money going toward relieving the wants and sufferings of the soldiers, and to cause them to feel that their sacrifices and labors were appreciated, and to let them know they were still within the circle of home affection and sympathies.

How can your group participate? If your society or group has any or all of the following:

- A Civil War era relic, letter, photograph, etc.;
- A tabletop display about your county, society, or group;
- A representative sample of handwork, such as quilting or embroidery;

- A display of Civil War flag preservation or fund raising for a monument;
- Anything about your non-profit group that will reach a great many people!

There will be no charge for a display table unless your group is selling items, in which case Ohio Historical Society must charge a vending fee. These displays will be indoors, therefore protected from weather and locked up at night.

The general theme for this re-imagined Sanitary Fair is Ohio: The Home Front, which can include such [subtexts] as “Greene County in the Civil War” or “Presbyterians of Jefferson County” or “Oberlin Students in Wartime” - the field is open. Let’s represent all sections of our great state and show the world that we treasure our history, and that we commemorate Ohio’s key role on not only the battlefields, but also at home! If you would like to participate, please contact Amy Rohmiller at arohmiller@ohiohistory.org or 614.297.2609.

List as of February 10, 2014.

Membership

Welcome New Members

Individuals

Pat Murphy, Pataskala

Thank you Renewing Members

Individuals

George W. Bain, Athens
Sarah B. Hays, Malvern
Patricia Murphy, Oberlin

Organizations

Amherst Historical Society, Amherst
Beavercreek Historical Society,
Beavercreek
Bradford Ohio Railroad Museum,
Bradford
Canton Preservation Society, Canton
Columbia Historical Society Inc,
Columbia Station
Cuyahoga Community College West
Campus, Parma
Dayton Police History Foundation, Inc.,
Dayton
Fairfield Heritage Association, Lancaster

Firelands Historical Society, Norwalk
Franklin County Genealogical &
Historical Society, Grove City
Gahanna Historical Society, Gahanna
Galion Historical Society, Galion
Geauga County Historical Society,
Burton
Grandview Heights Marble Cliff
Historical Society, Columbus
Hardin County Historical Museums,
Kenton
Historical Society of Olde Northfield,
Northfield
Indian Hill Historical Society, Cincinnati
John Stark Edwards House, Warren
Licking County Historical Society,
Newark
Logan County Historical Society,
Bellefontaine
Madison Historical Society, Madison
Maple Heights Historical Society,
Bedford
McKay Lodge Fine Arts Cons Lab,
Oberlin
Minerva Area Historical Society, Minerva
Mt Eaton-Paint Twp Historical Society,
Mount Eaton

Navarre Bethlehem Township Historical
Society, Navarre
New London Area Historical Society,
New London
New Washington Historical Society,
New Washington
Ohio Historic Bridge Association,
Columbus
Risingsun Area Historical Society,
Risingsun
Rootstown Historical Society,
Rootstown
Shelby County Historical Society, Sidney
Stow Historical Society, Stow
Sutliff Museum, Warren
Swiss Community Historical Society,
Bluffton
The Works: Ohio Center for History,
Arts & Technology, Newark
Westwood Historical Society, Cincinnati
Willoughby Historical Society,
Willoughby
Wilmington College Quaker Heritage
Center, Wilmington
Worthington Historical Society,
Worthington

ON THE WEB

Resources for Volunteer Programs in Archives

[http://files.archivists.org/pubs/free/Resources for Volunteers-Final-V2.pdf](http://files.archivists.org/pubs/free/Resources%20for%20Volunteers-Final-V2.pdf)

This free publication from the Society of American Archivists and the National Archives and Records Administration is great for organizations with volunteers working on collections projects. The guide includes detailed examples of types of projects volunteers can do, from transcribing interviews to processing collections to answering visitor questions. It also includes tools to help manage your volunteers, including a volunteer handbook, an application form, and other important documents.

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 2013

March 29

Ohio Local History Alliance Region 9&10 Combined Meeting. For more information, see page 7.

April 1

Application Deadline, Ohio Historical Marker Grants. For more information, see page www.remarkableohio.org.

April 5

Ohio Local History Alliance Region 1&3 Meetings. For more information, see page 7.

April 10-11

Connecting to Collections Workshop. For more information, see page 8.

April 12

Ohio Local History Alliance Region 2&4 Meetings. For more information, see page 7.

April 15

Tax Day! Be sure to contribute to the History Fund! For more information, see page 3.

April 26

State History Day Competition. For more information, see page 7.

April 28

Application Deadline-Oral History Institute. For more information, see page 8.

May 1

Application Deadline-Preservation Assistance Grants. For more information, see page 7.

May 16

Society of Ohio Archivists Annual Meeting. For more information, see page 8.

May 24-26

Ohio Village Soldiers' Aid Fair. For more information, see page 9.

Calendar items are chosen on the basis of available space and applicability to the largest number of our readers, who are mainly volunteer and professional leaders of local historical societies, history museums, archives, libraries, historic preservation groups, and genealogical societies in Ohio. We cannot include events mainly of local interest; for these we suggest local newspapers, broadcast media, Ohio Magazine, 1-800-BUCKEYE, and, if arts related, www.ArtsinOhio.com

News from the Regions

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.

Region 1

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

The **Wood County Historical Society** is exploring recent and not so recent history in their new featured exhibit. *I LOVE THE '80s: A Cultural Comparison of the 1880s and 1980s* examines the similarities and differences between the two decades taking place 100 years apart. Areas examined include fashion, politics, entertainment, social stigmas, and trends. Along with the exhibit, the society is having a special '80s night fundraiser at a local restaurant. When diners present a special coupon, twenty percent of their bill is donated to the society. For more information, visit <http://woodcountyhistory.org>.

Region 2

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

The **Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center** has launched the "Northwest Ohio Veteran's Oral History Project" to collect and preserve veterans' personal experiences for future generations. The project focuses on those who have served from World War II to the present. Staff members interview veterans around Northwest Ohio. They also scan copies of any photographs, letters, or other documents the veterans provide for the center's Local History Collection. In return, the veteran and/or family receives a packet including a transcription of the interview, photocopies of photographs and documents, and a description and CD of all the material in the veterans collection. To learn more, go to <http://rbhayes.org>.

Region 3

Cuyahoga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, and Summit Counties

The **Summit County Historical Society** has formed a new advisory group, the Perkins Outreach Partners (POP). POP is a planning committee that wants to engage Akron's young professionals with history. They are dedicated to helping people develop a deeper understanding of and connection to the Akron community, while building relationships between the society and the next generation of community leaders. For more information, go to <http://summithistory.org>.

The **Lorain County Historical Society** received a \$13,050 grant from **The Community Foundation of Lorain County** for the society's outreach programming in 2014. With this support, the society will be able to continue a variety of programming about historic preservation and local history. To learn more, visit www.lchs.org.

Region 4

Ashtabula, Geauga, Mahoning, Portage, and Trumbull Counties

Region 5

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

Region 6

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

The **Licking County Library** started a new program, "In the Company of Heroes, Licking County Veterans," to collect and preserve information from Licking County Veterans. The library is currently scanning photographs, copies of service records, letters, and diaries of veterans from the Revolutionary War to the present. Then, the information will be entered into an online database accessible to the public. Any veterans who lived in Licking County can be included. For more information, visit www.lickingcountylibrary.info.

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

The **Price Hill Historical Society** helped a troop of Junior Girl Scouts earn their Bronze Award. The troop decided to research the history of the Potter's Field cemetery in Price Hill and to clean up the cemetery's entrance area. The troop visited the society to learn the history of the cemetery, and two society members accompanied the girls to the downtown library to learn the names of the citizens buried in the cemetery. The girl scouts created a scrapbook of their project and shared it with the society and presented a program at the society's monthly membership meeting. To learn more, go to www.pricehill.org.

Region 9

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

Members of the **Jackson Historical Society** are publishing an updated and indexed edition of an early local history book. *A History of Jackson County, Volume 1, The Scioto Salt Springs* is accepted as the premier reference work on early Jackson County, but it was published in 1900 with no index. To make the book easier to use for modern researchers, two society members have created a detailed index and published a new edition with the index included. For more information, visit go to www.jacksonhistoricalsociety.org.

Region 10

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

The **Matamoras Area Historical Society** created new markers to commemorate those buried in the New Matamoras Pioneer Cemetery. The signs were purchased with grants from the **Rutter Family Charitable Fund**, **Marietta Community Foundation**, and member donations. One new sign is outside the cemetery to help visitors find their way. The other sign is in the cemetery and lists all who are buried there. To learn more, go to <http://matamorashistory.org>.

Spring Forward on Disaster Planning

(Continued from page 6)

power can be restored to your location, or if a local organization will loan you a generator if their facility still has power.

Another tool which you may want to have on hand in case of flooding or other disasters is a digital camera or video camera to record your historic structure and its contents. It is recommended to make a digital record now, before any disaster happens, and to have the camera on hand to record any damage caused by flooding, high winds, tornadoes, or other natural or man-made disasters.

Develop Those Plans!

Hopefully, your historic organization has some type of emergency preparedness or disaster plan. If not, you can find excellent sample plans at the Ohio Connecting to Collections website under "Model Policies" (see <http://cdm16007.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/landingpage/collection/p16007coll7>). You will also find a variety of disaster planning tools at the website of Heritage Preservation (<http://www.heritagepreservation.org/PROGRAMS/TASKFER.HTM>), the national institute for conservation and preservation advocacy. Regional preservation centers, like Cleveland's Intermuseum Conservation Association (ICA), and the Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC), have many excellent publications on disaster preparedness and recovery, as do preservation information resource organizations like LYRISIS. You can reach the websites of all of these organizations at the Regional Alliance for Preservation website at <http://www.rap-arcc.org/>.

Once you have developed a disaster plan, it is important to pull it out of your filing cabinet and practice it regularly. Many organizations choose one day in the spring to practice portions of their disaster plan, whether doing a building evacuation drill, practicing recovery of specific types of collection material, or working with local law enforcement or fire officials to familiarize them with your structure and collections. If you do not have a specific date in mind to practice your plan, consider MayDay. For a number of years, Heritage Preservation has been sponsoring MayDay as a time to "do one simple thing to prepare for disasters." The organization has contests, highlights best planning practices from the field, and encourages multi-institutional collaboration to plan for and recover from disasters. Learn more at <http://www.heritagepreservation.org/mayday/>.

There are many resources – regional preservation and conservation centers, national organizations like Heritage Preservation, and statewide assistance available through the Ohio Connecting to Collections project – which can help you "weather the storms" of late winter and early spring. And, be on the lookout this fall for an event from the Ohio Connecting to Collections initiative partners that will help cultural heritage professionals and volunteers work better with buildings and facilities staff to prevent disasters and keep your building environment at the best levels for your collections.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Bill Sperlazza has joined the staff of the **Mahoning Valley Historical Society** as its event coordinator. Sperlazza previously spent 30 years at Youngstown State University as the associate director of the Kilcawley Center and the director of Housing and Residence Life. At MVHS, he will be responsible for handling event rentals at the Tyler Mahoning Valley History Center.

Sarah Marsom is the new historic preservation advocate for the **German Village Society**, where she is the lead on preservation, commission matters, and group tours. She has an M.S. in Historic Preservation from Eastern Michigan University and a B.S. from Northern Arizona University in Parks and Recreation Management. Previously, Marsom has interned at historic sites, including Riordan Mansion State Historic Park (Arizona), Old Salem Museum and Gardens (North Carolina), and the Henry Ford Estate.

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

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