

History Fund Grant Recipients Announced on Statehood Day, March 4

By Andy Verhoff, History Fund Grant Coordinator, and Emmy Beach, Public Relations Coordinator, Ohio History Connection, Columbus

The Ohio History Connection is pleased to announce that it has awarded 13 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 helps us share and preserve Ohio’s story by supporting local projects and programs in communities throughout the state,” said Burt Logan, executive director and CEO for the Ohio History Connection. “The work of local history organizations is helping to strengthen our heritage and ensure Ohio’s story is told for years to come.”

The Ohio History Connection’s History Fund had \$130,000 to grant—\$20,000 more than last year—and awarded 13 grants to organizations throughout Ohio. The History Fund received 33 applications requesting a total of \$388,000 in grant-funding, underscoring the importance of the need for this grant program for history and preservation-related projects throughout Ohio.

The 13 recipients of the 2015 History Fund grants are:

Mahoning Valley Historical Society (Youngstown) received \$4,526 to digitize microfilm copies of records from Republic Steel from the 1880s – 1960s, and scrapbooks compiled by former Youngstown mayor Charles P. Henderson, who cracked down on organized crime in the city in the late 1940s and early 1950s. This project will make these materials more accessible to the public, and better ensure the preservation of the original records.



The 2015 History Fund grant recipients pose with their “big checks” at Statehood Day. Photo courtesy of the Ohio History Connection.

Wyandot County Historical Society (Upper Sandusky) received \$2,945 to create a traveling exhibit about the history of the Wyandot tribe in Ohio, from the formation of the Wendat Confederacy in the 1650s, through the tribe’s time on reservations in Ohio in the early 19th century, to the four Wyandot nations today. The organization will form partnerships with Wyandot tribes in several states and Canada to tell the tribe’s story and create the exhibit.

Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative, Kent State University (Cleveland) received \$9,000 to produce a user-friendly, how-to guide for the rehabilitation of historic and traditional housing stock in areas of Cleveland and northeast Ohio that have experienced disinvestment and decline. The guide will describe and advocate for low-cost and high-quality solutions that are based on the Secretary of Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. The guide will promote historic preservation by helping property owners rehabilitate a neighborhood’s historic fabric to encourage community investment and preservation.

(Continued on page 4)

WHAT’S INSIDE:

- 2** President’s Message
- 3** Tax Check-Off FAQs
- 4** History Fund Recipients (cont’d)
- 5** What do you Know About Tintypes?
- 6** Using Hashtags
- 7** Book Review- Programming for Special Needs
- 8** Announcements
- 10** Calendar
- 11** News from the Regions
- 12** New and Renewing Members

President's Message:

For the past several years I have had the opportunity to attend Ohio History Day to present awards on behalf of the Alliance to students who have utilized Ohio local history resources in their projects. To be in a room filled with hundreds of students, parents, and educators who are gathered to honor young people for their excellent work on history topics is inspiring. I believe that the Ohio History Day experience may lead to a lifelong love of history. When I am sitting there looking out at that sea of young faces I may be looking at future

museum volunteers, historical society board members, or even the 2050 Ohio Local History Alliance president.

What is even better is to be able to interact with the students as a judge! Anyone who is passionate about history cannot help but be thrilled when given the opportunity to listen to young people enthusiastically share their research on a history topic. I am always excited by how impressive the projects are, the depth of knowledge the students have acquired, and their love of history. If you have an opportunity to judge at the regional level or state level, please consider participating with the goal of giving students a positive and

constructive experience and fostering their love of history. I think the encouragement we give them will come back to us tenfold as they mature and look for opportunities to give of their time, talent, and treasure to our Ohio communities and historical organizations.

Beth Weinhardt

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OHIO LOCAL HISTORY ALLIANCE

Inspire. Connect. Educate.

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

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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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Frequently Asked Questions About Ohio's History Fund Tax Check-Off

By Tom Wolf, Communications Coordinator, Ohio History Connection, Columbus

Filed your state income taxes yet? If not, please consider making a voluntary contribution to the History Fund through the “check-off” on your state income tax form. The History Fund awards grants to history organizations throughout the state. Here are some frequently asked questions about the tax check-off that benefits the History Fund. [*These originally appeared in Echoes, the membership newsletter of the Ohio History Connection.*]

What is the Ohio History Tax Check-Off?

The Ohio History Tax Check-Off is a way for you to contribute to state and local history projects by “checking off” a donation on your Ohio personal income tax form. Donations are tax deductible.

How is money from the Ohio History Tax Check-Off used?

Donations from the Ohio History Tax Check-Off are used to fund local history projects throughout Ohio through the History Fund grant program. The History Fund was created to support the preservation and sharing of Ohio's heritage by funding local, regional, and statewide projects, programs, and events related to the broad sweep of our state's history. Funded from voluntary donations made on Ohio tax returns, it's a competitive matching grants program. For more information about the History Fund grant program and how to apply, visit ohiohistory.org/historyfund.

What projects have been funded through the Ohio History Tax Check-Off?

In its first two years in operation, the History Fund has awarded 20 grants to organizations throughout Ohio for history – and preservation – related projects. Read about this year's recipients and their

funded projects on the front page of this newsletter.

How was the Ohio History Tax Check-Off created?

In 2006, creation of a tax check-off to fund a statewide grants program for history – and preservation – related projects was identified as a priority by participants in the annual Statehood Day legislative advocacy event sponsored by the Ohio History Connection, the Ohio Local History Alliance, Heritage Ohio, the Ohio Archaeological Council, Ohio Genealogical Society, Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board, Preservation Ohio, the Ohio Travel Association, Ohio Academy of History, Ohio Council for Social Studies, and the Society of Ohio Archivists. The Ohio History Tax Check-Off was created in the state's two-year budget that was signed into law by Gov. John R. Kasich on June 30, 2011. Legislation allowing for a History Fund tax check-off on Ohio personal income tax forms was initially brought to the Ohio General Assembly by former State Rep. Kathleen Chandler (D-Kent) in 2005. State Rep. Randy Gardner (R-Bowling Green) reintroduced it in early 2011 before it was enacted in the state budget.

Who is eligible to apply for a History Fund grant?

Non-profits and local government entities such as local historical societies, public libraries, genealogical societies, university archives and special collections, historic preservation groups, archaeological societies, county records management offices and incorporated “friends” groups of the above are eligible to apply for the History Fund grants. The Ohio History Connection administers the program and cannot apply for History Fund grants.

**Taking a deduction
without receipts?
That will never fly!**



You can't help Orville and Wilbur with their taxes, but you can donate to Ohio History on your Ohio tax return.

How can I find out more?

We'd love to hear from you and answer any questions you may have about the Ohio History Tax Check-Off and History Fund grants. Contact the Local History Office at localhistory@ohiohistory.org or 614.297.2341. ■

The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum (Cleveland) received \$14,500 to make available the papers and notes of Cleveland Plain Dealer reporter Jane Scott. Scott's beat was rock and roll. She covered the scene and its musicians from the mid-1950s to the early 2000s. She witnessed music history as it was made at a time when few others were documenting the rise of artists that are now household names, including Bruce Springsteen. This project will allow researchers to study the development of rock and roll artists and the music industry through her nearly 50 years of reporting.

Junior League of Columbus/Kelton House Museum & Garden (Columbus) received \$3,000 to share the house's history with more visitors at one time. The grant will allow the Kelton House to purchase 10 additional hand-held, recorded audio tour units. More units means the house will be better able to meet the demand for its popular tours, including stories of the Underground Railroad and high Victorian-era living in Columbus.

Southington Township Board of Trustees (Southington) received \$11,000 to stabilize a section of National Register-listed school building. Completion of the project will enable this small Trumbull County community to continue its plan to rehabilitate the much-loved and history-filled building, turning it into a community center. The school building serves as another example of how small communities "recycle" their historic buildings and preserve what makes their places special.

Union Literary Institute Preservation Society (Dayton) received \$17,900 continue stabilization of the James and Sophia Clemens Farmhouse. The Clemens' farm is located in Longtown in Darke County. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the farm is one of the oldest and last remaining agricultural resources in one of the state's earliest African American settlements, one of at least 70 in pre-Civil War Ohio. Because of its condition, the house is not open to the public. The successful completion of this project will bring that goal closer, making it possible for Ohioans to learn more about the state's African American pioneer heritage.

Massillon Heritage Foundation (Massillon) received \$17,900 to begin interior restoration of Five Oaks. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, Five Oaks is an 1890s Gothic, Tudor and French Renaissance-style mansion. It's one of the few remaining examples of the work of Cleveland architect Charles Schweinfurth, who designed many of the houses along Cleveland's "Millionaire's Row," Euclid Avenue. The grant will repair plaster in Five Oaks' music room, library and parlor.

Center for Holocaust and Humanity Education (Cincinnati) received \$17,500 to share and preserve the experiences of Cincinnati-area Holocaust survivors with local schools and adult groups. The grant will establish a formal speakers' bureau of survivors and eyewitnesses, and create multi-media portfolios for area educators with maps, reproductions of artifacts and documents and videotaped testimonials. An element of the project will share stories of how survivors rebuilt their lives and thrived after settling in the Cincinnati area.

The City of Olmsted Falls received \$5,000 to raise awareness about the Olmsted Falls National Register Historic District and instill pride in the city's history. The grant will lead to creation of signage throughout the district to highlight its location in the city. The grant and the project will also increase awareness of how a commitment to historic preservation and to National Register Historic Districts can improve a community's overall quality of life.

Fayette County Historical Society (Washington Court House) received \$14,000 to complete the repair of windows in the county's history museum. Repair of the windows, following the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, will allow for better control of temperature and humidity levels in the museum and enable the organization to better preserve and share the history entrusted to their care.

Dairy Barn Arts Center (Athens) received \$10,000 to repair the gable ends of the barn, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is a popular venue for cultural and arts events in southeast Ohio. Repairs to these hard-to-reach sections of the barn will enable it to continue achieving its popular mission and stimulate further fundraising efforts for the facility.

Belpre Historical Society received \$2,730 upgrade and provide training in the use of PastPerfect. PastPerfect is the standard in software used for the inventory and cataloging of history museum collections. By using PastPerfect, the Belpre Historical Society will be better able to manage and preserve its collections of artifacts and improve accessibility for the public. ■

Ohio History Day Needs You!



Alliance President Beth Weinhardt presents the Ohio Local History Alliance special topics prize at the 2014 state History Day competition.

Ohio History Day invites you to spend a Saturday in March or April learning from and getting inspired by passionate and knowledgeable students! There are plenty of opportunities to participate. Be a judge at one of the 10 district competitions across Ohio and/or the State Competition on April 25, 2015 at Ohio Wesleyan University. For more information and to volunteer, contact Molly Uline-Olmstead, State Coordinator at mulineolmstead@ohiohistory.org or 614-297-2617.

What Do You Know About Tintypes?



By Lisa Wood, Curator for Visual Resources, Ohio History Connection, Columbus

[Editor's Note: This article originally appeared on the Ohio History Connection's Collections Blog. You can find more articles like this one and get a behind-the-scenes look at the Ohio History Connection's collections at <https://ohiohistory.wordpress.com/>]

Recently a number of patrons have contacted the Ohio History Connection asking how to identify and care for tintypes they found in their family photograph collections. Read more to find out if you might have a tintype of your own in your collections and how to care for them if you do.

When were tintypes introduced?

Tintypes were patented by Hamilton L. Smith of Gambier, Ohio in 1856 and quickly became a popular photographic format. Early tintypes were often presented in cases to resemble the more fragile daguerreotypes and ambrotypes. While daguerreotypes and ambrotypes needed the protection provided by cases, tintypes were far more durable.

How long were they made?

They became popular during the Civil War because they were cheaper and lighter weight than daguerreotypes and ambrotypes. Though most popular in the 1850s and 1860s, tintypes could still be purchased in the U.S. as late as the 1930s, particularly in touristy places like amusement parks and fairs.

Why are they called tintypes?

The name is a misnomer because tin was not actually used to make them. The photographs were developed directly on thin iron plates lacquered black or chocolate brown. Sometimes they are referred to as ferrotypes or melainotypes instead.

How can you identify them?

Tintypes have a dull, flat finish. Photographers often hand colored the images to give them a livelier appearance. It can be difficult to distinguish cased tintypes from ambrotypes because their surface is also dull and flat. The ways to distinguish cased tintypes from ambrotypes is to see if a magnet will stick to the back of the case.

Tintypes in paper mats, or no enclosures, were more common than cased tintypes. They vary in size from the smallest "Gem" size, which measures approximately $\frac{1}{2} \times 1$ inches, to the largest full plate size, which is approximately $8 \frac{1}{2} \times 3 \frac{1}{4}$ inches, and quarter plate, measuring approximately $3 \frac{1}{4} \times 4 \frac{1}{4}$ inches.

How should they be stored?

When handling tintypes it is a good idea to wear cotton or latex gloves to protect the metal plates and photograph emulsion from fingerprints. If your tintypes are in cases, it is possible to remove them, but it is not necessary. The cases are providing protection from dust, light, and pollutants. The front covers of cases often separate from the backs of the cases and clasps frequently break. To hold the cases together, you can wrap them with acid free tissue paper and tie them with string. One exception to the rule of not removing a tintype from a case would be if the glass in the case was broken.

Tintypes that are not in cases should be stored in individual enclosures. Paper enclosures should be acid free. Plastic sleeves should be polyester based plastic. When choosing enclosures, look closely at the photographic emulsion on your plates. If the emulsion is scratched or flaking, a

paper envelope is a better choice. Plastic sleeves may pull the loose emulsion away from the plates. If additional support is needed, you can place an acid free board in paper envelopes or plastic sleeves with tintypes.

If you want to store tintypes in an album, choose a pocket style album that you can easily take the plates out of. Attaching tintypes to album pages with tape or adhesives is not recommended. If you have information, such as names and dates, to record about the tintype, write this information on the enclosures or the album pages. Adhesive labels attached to the back of plates are likely to lose their stickiness over time and fall off.

For long-term storage, tintypes should be in a dark, dry place with low humidity and consistent temperatures.

What are common problems?

The iron plates are thin and susceptible to denting and rusting. The photographic emulsion can crack and come loose. Do not try to flatten dents in the plates. This may crack the emulsion of the photograph. If they appear dirty, do not wash them. Water can rust the metal and wash away any of the photographic emulsion that is loose. If the emulsion is not chipping or flaking, you can dust them lightly with a soft brush. ■

TECH TIP: Using Hashtags in Social Media

By Leann Rich, Manager of Education & External Relations, Mahoning Valley Historical Society, Youngstown

Have you seen #hashtags all around you, but aren't sure what they mean? Do you want to make your organization's social media posts easier for your audiences to find? Keep reading to discover just what hashtags are and how best to use them.

What Is a Hashtag?

Wikipedia defines a hashtag as "a word or an un-spaced phrase prefixed with the hash character (or number sign), #, to form a label." Simply put, they are a way to group related conversations together, so that people who are interested in learning more about a particular topic can find similar posts. Hashtags allow you as the creator of social content to "tag" your content so it can be more easily found by your target audience.

How Are Hashtags Used?

To create a hashtag, simply include a # in front of a word or phrase, without spaces. A hashtag can occur at the beginning or

the middle of a post. As an organization, you can use a hashtag to make an event more social, (Like the OLHA Annual Meeting: #OLHA2014) join other conversations (like #museumsmatter), or boost the visibility of a picture or post (look for organizations that share specific hashtags like #ohiogram).

While hashtags originated on Twitter, they are now used on most of the major social networks including: LinkedIn, Facebook, YouTube, Google+, Vine, Instagram, Pinterest and Tumblr.

Hashtags should be short, easy to pronounce and spell and give users a better idea about the topic of the conversation. If you have a hashtag that's too complicated, long or hard to spell, it will defeat the purpose of a hashtag, because people may forget it or may not be able to fit it in their tweets.

Tips for Hashtag Success

Use the hashtag on multiple social media channels.

This gives your hashtag more exposure to more people to help spread the

word about it. Second, this helps people to remember your hashtag when they see it multiple times on different channels.

Save a hashtag for when you need it.

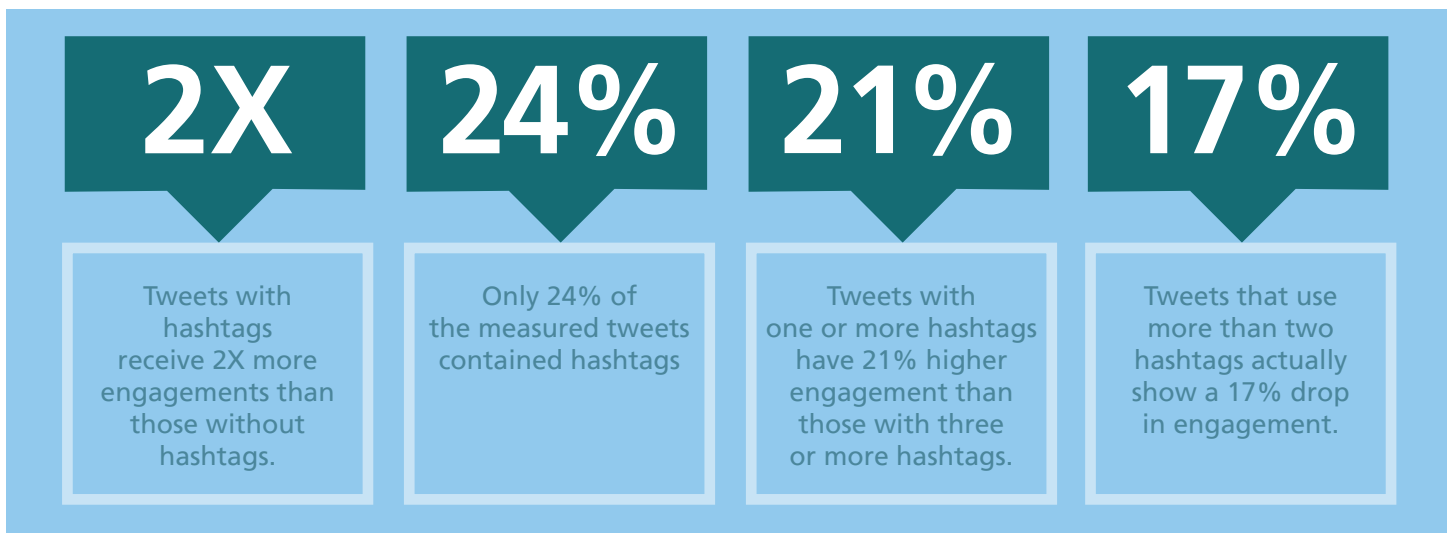
Too many hashtags make posts look like spam, and research has shown that engagement drops when a tweet has two or more hashtags.

#DontCreateAHashtagThatsTooLong.

Keep your hashtag short and sweet, easy to spell, and easy to remember. If you want to incorporate your hashtag across multiple channels, you need to consider the character restrictions of those social networks. If you're creating a hashtag for an event with a long title, consider using an abbreviation or acronym, #SBW13.

Extra Tip.

Do a search for the hashtag you intend to use before you use it. You never know what people may be using hashtags to discuss. You wouldn't want to accidentally connect your organization to a negative, controversial or embarrassing topic. ■



Some statistics about the effectiveness of using hashtags in your social media posts. Image courtesy of Constatnt Contact.

Book Review

Programming for People with Special Needs by Katie Stringer



By Amy Rohmiller, Program Coordinator, Ohio History Connection's Local History Office, Columbus

With the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act in 1990, museums of all sizes were required to be accessible for visitors with physical disabilities. This was a hugely important step in museums becoming more inclusive for everyone, but not much attention was paid to accessibility issues for those with intellectual disabilities or learning disabilities. Now, with an aging population and more attention than ever focused on children with intellectual disabilities like autism, many museums and historic sites are working to become accessible for visitors of all types. The new book from the American Association for State and Local History, *Programming for People with Special Needs: A Guide for Museums and Historic Sites* is an invaluable resource for history organizations who want to become more inclusive.

The book starts off with a brief historical overview of museum education, disability awareness, and accessibility in the United States. While museums have a long history of serving an educational mission that has only expanded in the past hundred years, they also have a problematic history with the disabled. During the nineteenth century, disabled people

often served as exhibits in freak shows and dime museums that were promoted as educational opportunities. History museums, especially, are often housed in buildings that were inaccessible to the physically disabled because of stairs and other barriers. With this context, Stringer argues that museums should be equally accessible to all people, and spends the rest of the book explaining how they can do just that.

The next section of the book talks about some of the ideas behind making museums inclusive places, regardless of a visitor's disability. Stringer illustrates the kinds of training staff need to be sensitive and aware of visitors' disabilities and the etiquette for interacting with those with disabilities. She includes suggested topics that would be helpful and resources of where and how to find this information. She also spends a chapter on the concept of universal design – the idea that buildings and programs should be easily accessible for everyone, whether or not they have a disability of any kind. (An example of universal design is curb cuts in sidewalks. The cuts make using the sidewalk easier for those in wheel chairs, but also those for those with strollers, on bikes, etc.)

After explaining the theory, Stringer includes an entire chapter of brief descriptions of museums' programs just for visitors with special needs. These show the variety of programs that can be offered as well as the wide range of intellectual and learning disabilities there are. For example, the Metropolitan Museum of Art's Meet Me program lets adults with dementia and their caregivers spend time having meaningful discussion about art. The Brooklyn Transit Museum uses its collection to teach children with autism and other disorders about the proper way to ride a subway and other life skills. The Lower East Side Tenement Museum has created documents for their docents

outlining ways to lead tours for groups with special needs. All these programs are presented as adaptable to museums of any size and budget.

Pulling together all of the above, Stringer puts forth seven key elements of effective programs for those with special needs. They are: sensitivity and awareness training, planning and communication, timing, engagement, object centered and inquiry based, structure, and flexibility. Then, she gives an in-depth case study of how a small house museum in Tennessee, the Sam Davis Home, used these principles to create a program for special needs students based on an existing field trip already offered. The case study walks you through the entire process from surveying teachers to find out what they want from a field trip (results included in the book) to the first offering of the trip and adapting for a second trip based on how the first one went.

It's this focus on the real world of most history organizations that makes this book most valuable. Stringer shows that accessible programming is not out of reach for small institutions and that it can be done by adapting resources that already exist. The other case studies and the resources provided within the book provide an excellent jumping-off point for any museum that would like to be more welcoming to those with special needs.

Stringer, Katie. *Programming for People with Special Needs: A Guide for Museums and Historic Sites*. New York: Rowman & Littlefield, 2014. ■

Professional Development



You'll have lots of time to network with your colleagues at the Alliance's Regional Meetings. Photo courtesy of the Ohio History Connection.

Ohio Local History Alliance Regional Meetings Going On Now!

There's still time to attend an Alliance Regional Meeting! The theme of 2015's meetings is *Invitation to Innovation* – in 2015 the Ohio Local History Alliance is inviting all history organizations to innovate. It's becoming increasingly important for historical organizations and museums to try new, and sometimes daring, things in order to remain relevant in our rapidly changing society. We can no longer rely on simply repeating what has worked in the past if we are to remain vital members of our communities. Accept this invitation to attend the Alliance's 2015 regional meetings and discover new ways to help your organization excel. The upcoming regional meetings are:

- **March 28:** Region 9 at the Meigs County Historical Society, Pomeroy and Region 10 at the Noble County Historical Society's Ball-Caldwell Homestead, Caldwell
- **April 11:** Region 1 at the Hancock Historical Museum, Findlay
- **April 18:** Region 2 at the Merry-Go-Round Museum, Sandusky and Region 4 at the Warren-Trumbull County Library, Warren
- **April 25:** Region 3 at the Bedford Historical Society's Historic Baptist Church

For more information and to register online visit <http://www.ohiohistory.org/local-history-office/professional-development/alliance-regional-meetings>.

Society of Ohio Archivists Annual Meeting May 15

You are invited to attend the 2015 Society of Ohio Archivists Spring Conference on Friday May 15, 2015 from 8:15am-4:15pm in the General Session room at the OCLC Conference Center in Dublin, Ohio. This year's theme, *Archives Amplified*, will explore ways in which archivists are increasing outreach, challenging issues of space, and making digitized records more accessible to researchers.

We are pleased to announce that Jenny Robb of The Ohio State University's Billy Ireland Cartoon Library and Museum will serve as our plenary speaker. Robb will discuss the Cartoon Library and Museum's new \$14 million facility and their ambitious exhibition program. As always, the conference will also feature a silent auction benefiting student and new professional scholarships. New this year will be a Speed Networking session to encourage conversation and collaboration among attendees.

To register, please visit <http://www.ohiohistorystore.com/soa/2015-annual-conference.aspx>. The fee is \$45 for members, \$65 for non-members, and \$30 for students. Continental breakfast, lunch, and beverages are included in the cost of the conference, but advanced registration is necessary to guarantee lunch. Advanced registration ends Friday, May 8. To see the complete program and session descriptions, visit the meeting website at <http://www.ohioarchivists.org/annual-conference/>.



Photo courtesy of the Ohio Humanities Council.

2015 Oral History Institute at Kenyon College

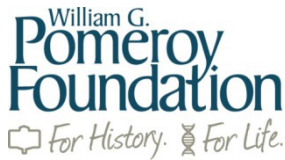
The Ohio Humanities Council has opened registration for its 2015 Oral History Institute, which will take place June 2-4 at Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio. The program trains participants in planning and conducting successful oral history projects. Volunteers or staff from local history organizations, libraries, schools, and colleges are encouraged to apply.

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 ongoing. Admission is competitive and limited to 30 persons. Tuition of \$400 covers lodging for two nights, six meals, and workshop materials. For additional information, contact James Calder at 800-293-9774 or jimc@ohiohumanities.org. Download the application at <http://www.ohiohumanities.org/programs/oral-history-institute.html>.

Grants



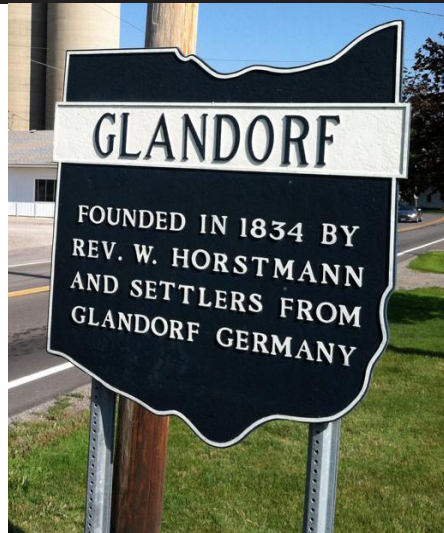
Pomeroy Foundation Grants for Historical Markers Due April 1

Do you live in Erie, Huron, or Seneca Counties? Want to erect an Ohio Historical Marker? Apply for a William G. Pomeroy Foundation Grant by April 1! (Note: the deadline for all other marker grants has changed to July 1, 2015.) Grants from the Pomeroy Foundation will pay up to \$2,440 – the cost for an Ohio Historical Marker of approximately 100 words. Local sponsors are responsible for any costs for a marker over 100 words or the cost of including a photograph or other artwork on the marker. The Foundation will also fund the full cost of navy blue, Ohio-shaped Corporate Limit Markers (\$2,040). Because they are intended to be read from passing vehicles entering a municipality, Ohio Corporate Limit Markers are limited to very short phrases of approximately 10-15 words.

Markers funded by the William G. Pomeroy Foundation shall meet one or both of the following criteria:

1) the person, place, event, or thing commemorated must have a period of significance that falls between the years 1800 and 1900 or

2) the marker must designate properties or districts on the National Register of Historic Places. (Properties on the National Register must be owned by a government entity or a non-profit organization. Individual properties under private ownership or commercial properties are not eligible.)



William G. Pomeroy Foundation grants will fund the full cost of an Ohio Corporate Limit Marker like this one for communities in Erie, Huron, or Seneca Counties. Photo courtesy of the Ohio History Connection.

To apply, complete the regular application for an Ohio Historical Marker, available at www.remarkableohio.org. For more information, contact marker coordinator Andy Verhoff in the Ohio History Connection's Local History Office at 614-297-2341 or averhoff@ohiohistory.org. For more information about the William G. Pomeroy Foundation, visit www.wgp-foundation.org or find the Foundation on Facebook.

Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions Due May 5

Preservation Assistance Grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities help small and mid-sized institutions - such as libraries, museums, historical societies, archival repositories, cultural organizations, town and county records offices, and colleges and universities - improve their ability to preserve and care for their significant humanities collections. These may include special collections of books and journals, archives and manuscripts, prints and photographs, moving images, sound recordings, architectural and cartographic records, decorative and fine art objects, textiles, archaeological and ethnographic artifacts, furniture, historical objects, and digital materials.

The program encourages applications from small and mid-sized institutions that have never received an NEH grant. The program also encourages applications from presidentially designated institutions (Hispanic-serving institutions, Historically Black Colleges and Universities, and Tribal Colleges and Universities), and from Native American tribes with significant humanities collections.

For more information and an application, visit <http://www.neh.gov/grants/preservation/preservation-assistance-grants-smaller-institutions>.

ON THE WEB

Pocket Response Plan (PReP)[™]

<http://www.statearchivists.org/prepare/prep/index.htm>

With winter coming to an end and spring just around the corner, flooding can be a real concern. Make sure your institution's disaster plan is up-to-date and consider creating this pocket response plan. The website has customizable templates that allow you to enter your organization's emergency contacts and an emergency response checklist. The completed template folds into the size of a credit card and can be carried in your wallet at all times.

Join the Ohio Local History Alliance...

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

Organizational Member

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

Operating budget:

Over \$200,000 a year:

\$100 (\$190 for 2)

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

\$75 (\$140 for 2)

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

\$60 (\$110 for 2)

Under \$25,000 a year:

\$35 (\$65 for 2)

Individual Member

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

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

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

Student: \$20 a year

Business Member

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

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

CALENDAR 2015

March 28

Ohio Local History Alliance Region 9 & 10 Meetings. For more information, see page 8.

April 1

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

April 11

Ohio Local History Alliance Region 1 Meeting. For more information, see page 8.

April 15

Tax Day! Be sure to make your contribution to the History Fund when you file your Ohio income taxes. For more information, see page 3.

April 18

Ohio Local History Alliance Region 2 & 4 Meetings. For more information, see page 8.

April 25

Ohio Local History Alliance Region 3 Meeting. For more information, see page 8.

April 25

State History Day competition at Ohio Wesleyan University. For more information, see page 4.

May 5

Application Deadline: Preservation Assistance Grants. For more information, see page 9.

May 15

New deadline for Ohio Historical Marker grant applications. For more information, see page 8 or visit www.remarkableohio.org.

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

News from the Regions

Region 1

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

The **Henry County Historical Society** welcomed children eight to twelve years old to a special Christmas open house this past year. Students participated in an arts integration lesson. They learned about the history of an 1860s Christmas in Northwest Ohio, and then they created their own period Christmas tree ornament. The class concluded with the students decorating a live Christmas tree before adults were welcomed into the log cabin for a Christmas open house. For more information, visit <http://www.henrycountyhistory.org/>.

Region 2

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

Region 3

Cuyahoga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, and Summit Counties

The **Summit County Historical Society** celebrated the return of sheep to the front lawn of the Perkins Stone Mansion for a day in September. The event was part of the Highland Square PorchRokr Festival. The mansion hosted a flock of sheep and herding demonstrations, as well as spinning demonstrations and live musical performances of the mansion's front porch. Previously, more than a thousand sheep called the property home when it was owned by the son of Akron's founder, Colonel Simon Perkins. To learn more, go to www.summithistory.org.

Lincoln at Cleveland is a four month commemoration of the sixteenth president, Abraham Lincoln, on the 150th anniversary of his final visit to Cleveland where his body lay in state at what is now Public Square on April 28, 1865. Presented by the **Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States** in conjunction with the **Cleveland Public Library**, the **Cuyahoga County Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument**, and **Old Stone Church**, the commemoration features a variety of events free and open to the public. The events culminate

on April 26 with a daylong memorial to Lincoln. For a complete schedule of events and more information, visit www.lincolnatcleveland.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 **Heisey Glass Museum** has finished digitizing all back issues of its newsletter, *Heisey News*. The newsletters contain a wealth of information about Heisey glass and the history of the Heisey Company that is now available to anyone with an internet connection. The digitized copies are available on the museum's website and are fully searchable. View the results for yourself at www.heiseymuseum.org.

History lovers and supporters alike are invited to join **Conestoga** members at their annual fundraiser on May 31. Ohio's "Oldest Party Barn" will be the site for this special afternoon in the countryside of southern Delaware County. The rare gunstock posted barn was originally built in 1828; then disassembled in 1998, moved, repaired, and then reassembled in 2000 by Dan Troth as part of his home in central Ohio. From 3-6pm, attendees will get a first-hand look at the many historical features of this special home, while enjoying spirits and hors d'oeuvres, music by Slate Ridge Bluegrass Band, and a Silent Auction. All net proceeds from the event go to the Ohio History Connection to support endeavors such as Ohio Village, exhibits, and Ohio History Day. For more information or to order tickets, call 614-771-0612.

Region 7

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

September found the **Centerville-Washington Township Historical Society** holding its biggest event ever – the first annual "Taste of Centerville." After six months of planning

and perseverance, 250 guests descended on Benham's Grove to sample food from 18 local restaurants and sweet shops. To learn more, go to www.centervilleohio.gov/cwthistory.

Region 8

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

Clermont County will soon be welcoming a new museum. The Amelia Village Council has purchased the 1898 Thomas-Fuller Home, which had formerly served as artist studios, offices for the Clermont Leadership Institute, and offices for an architectural firm. The village council plans to move their offices into the home, but has also planned space for a museum of Amelia history and development of a community park with walking trails around the 27 acre lot.

Region 9

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

Region 10

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

The **Noble County Historical Society** has helped with the development and clean-up of Thorla-McKee park to help commemorate the 200th anniversary of the oil well on the park's grounds. Throughout the summer, dedicated volunteers with the historical society and the **Noble County Tourism Bureau** mowed grass, trimmed weeds, put up signs, created a picnic area, and created a new kiosk exhibit about the history of the oil well. All the effort culminated in the first annual Oil Festival on October 4, 2014. For more information, visit www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ohnoble/histsoc.htm.

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.

List as of February 17, 2015

Welcome New Member

Individuals

David Westrick, Maumee

Thank You Renewing Members

Individual

JoAnn Bertram, Cincinnati

Organizations

Brimfield Historical Society, Kent

Canal Winchester Area Historical Society,
Canal Winchester

Fallen Timbers Battlefield Commission, Maumee

Gates Mills Historical Society, Gates Mills

German Village Society, Columbus

Grand Rapids Historical Society, Grand Rapids

Harmony Hill Association, Williamsburg

Harveysburg Community Historical Society,
Harveysburg

Madog Center for Welsh Studies, Rio Grande

Monroe Historical Society, Monroe

Museums and Historic Sites of Greater Cincinnati,
Oxford

Oakwood Historical Society, Oakwood

Oxford Museum Association, Oxford

Summit County Historical Society, Akron

Toledo History Museum, Inc., Toledo

Toledo Lucas County Public Library, Toledo

Theodore Mallison joined the staff of the Summit County Historical Society as the curator. He has an undergraduate degree in education and history from Kent State University and a graduate degree in arts administration from the University of Akron.

Sarah Nemeth is the new office manager at the Lorain County Historical Society. Nemeth grew up just down the street from one of the society's properties, The Hickories, and served as an intern for the society in 2010. She graduated from Drury University with a BA in history with an emphasis in museum studies.

Misti Spillman is the new executive director of the Preble County Historical Society. She previously served as the education director at The Castle in Marietta and was an Ohio Local History Service AmeriCorps member based at the Ohio History Connection. She is also known for spearheading several historic cemetery restoration workshops, teaching community members how to care for old cemeteries in their backyards. Spillman has a bachelor's degree in archaeology from the University of Evansville and a master's in public history from Wright State University.

John Dichtl has agreed to serve as the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH)'s new president and CEO. Dichtl has previously worked with the National Council on Public History and the Organization of American Historians. Bob Beatty will be joining Dichtl on the AASLH leadership team, taking on the role of Chief Operating Office. Beatty previously served as AASLH's Vice President for Programs.

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

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Get Social with the Ohio Local History Alliance



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