E Local Historian



A Place to Honor the Indigenous **Peoples of Delaware County Ohio**



Benny Shoults Curator of the Meeker Homestead Museum, Delaware,

he Delaware County Historical Society has dedicated a gallery in the Meeker Homestead Museum as permanent Gallery for the American Indian history of Delaware County. The purpose of the Museum is to tell our history about Delaware County, and the purpose of the American Indian Gallery is to tell our visitors more specifically about the people who lived here prior to our early settlers. We envision not a permanent display, but space to create future exhibits to portray the latest findings as they unfold. We have made it our goal to tell stories about encounters with the early settlers and the tribes that were here as either inhabitants or that used the land for hunting. This is a challenging part to our research because much of the written history is told from the point of view of the early Euro-American settler. We can only note this in our exhibits, as there was not much available at this time from the perspective of the American Indian.

The story of the American Indians is a broad subject. It is easy to get cornered into a Twentieth Century way of portraying the American Indian, some-

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President's Message:

At the June OLHA board meeting we welcomed several new region representatives to the board. Julie Mayle of the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center is a new Region 2 Representative. In Region 6 Nina Thomas from the Local History Center/Anti-Saloon League Museum/Westerville Public Library, is a new representative. Region 10's new representative is Kyle Yoho of The Castle in Marietta. We are looking forward to energy and input Julie, Nina and Kyle will bring to our board.

While we welcome these three new region representatives we must say goodbye and thank you to three others. Mike Wilson's work schedule prevented him from running again. We thank Mike for his help with the Region 2 meetings. Leslie Blankenship (Region 6) goes off the board after coming on the board to fill in an unexpired term and then served two full terms. For several of those years Leslie served as cochair of the Education Committee, which means heading up the Annual Meeting, a tall task that Leslie filled admirably. Jim Geyer (Region 10) also came on as an appointment and went on to serve two full terms. Jim served as co-chair of the Advocacy Committee for a couple of years.

We also have a new trustee-at-large. Jack Blosser of Fort Ancient replaced Kate Smith who resigned. Kate served on the board as a region representative for several terms, as well as a trusteeat-large and will be missed, but we look forward to Jack's contributions to the board and OLHA as a whole.

Todd McCormick

President, Ohio Local History Alliance Curator/Director, Logan County Historical Society (937) 593-7557 tmccormick@loganhistory.org



2018-2019 Board Members

Ohio Local History Alliance

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1ST VICE PRESIDENT

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Gary Levitt, Director

Timothy Daley, Executive Director, Cuyahoga County Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument, Cleveland (216) 621-3710 tdaleu@cuuahoaacountu.us www.soldiersandsailors.com

IMMEDIATE PAST-PRESIDENT

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EX-OFFICIO (EXECUTIVE SECRETARY)

Dr. Betsy Hedler, Partnerships Coordinator, Local History Services Ohio History Connection, Columbus (614) 297-2538 ehedler@ohiohistory.org www.ohiohistory.org

Richard Witteborg, Curator of Exhibits Andrew L. Tuttle Museum, Defiance (419) 784-1907 witteborg@hotmail.com cityofdefiance.com/tuttle-museum/

Pat Smith. Director Allen County Museum & Historical Society, (419) 222-9426 psmith1@wcoil.com www.allencountymuseum.org

REGION 2

Gene Smith, Curator of Museums Clyde Museum and McPherson House,

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Julie Mayle, Associate Curator of Manuscripts Rutherford B. Haves Presidential Library & Museums, Fremont 419-332-2081

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REGION 3

Rebecca Urban Peninsula Foundation, Peninsula (330) 657-2528 rurban@peninsulahistory.ora

Greg Palumbo, Director Lakewood Historical Society, Lakewood (216) 221-7343 director@lakewoodhistoru.ora

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REGION 6

Leslie Wagner, Historian The Dawes Arboretum, Newark 740-323-2355 x 1256 lmwagner@dawesarb.org dawesarb.org/

Nina Thomas, Museum Specialist Anti-Saloon League Museum/Westerville Public Library, Westerville (614) 259-5027 nthomas@westervillelibrary.org

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REGION 7

Melissa Shaw, Curator, Collections Management Division National Museum of the United States Air Force, Wright-Patterson AFB (937) 255-8839 melissa.shaw@us.af.mil www.nationalmuseum.af.mil/

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REGION 8

Ed Creighton Friends of White Water Shaker Village, Hamilton (513) 756-1515

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REGION 9

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REGION 10

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Kyle Yoho, Education Director The Castle Historic House Museum, Marietta 740-373-4180 kyle@mariettacastle.org

www.mariettacastle.ora

A Place to Honor the Indigenous People of Delaware County (continued from page 1)

thing that we do not believe is always respectful. To properly portray the early history of an area, in our case Delaware County, the research should include not only the history of the American Indian, but of their ancestral beginnings going back thousands of years. I have begun to use the term, "Indigenous Peoples", along with the term American Indian. The American Indian is the common classification of the tribes that inhabited the lands when the Colonial Americans came to the Ohio Lands. The Indigenous Peoples are those cultures, communities, and people who were here before colonial societies came to the North American continent. There are some archeologists who believe that the ancient peoples, like Hopewell, Cole and Adena, were the ancestors of the tribes of American Indians who were still here when our county founders came to central Ohio. This is still not proven, but it seems likely.

So how did we begin? We are fortunate to have had a fair number of American Indian artifacts donated during the early foundation of our historical society. Cataloguing and researching these objects with the help of researchers, both academic and hobbyists, have taken place. We had and continue to have the help of the Ohio History Connection in order to better understand our county's part in the early American Indian history.

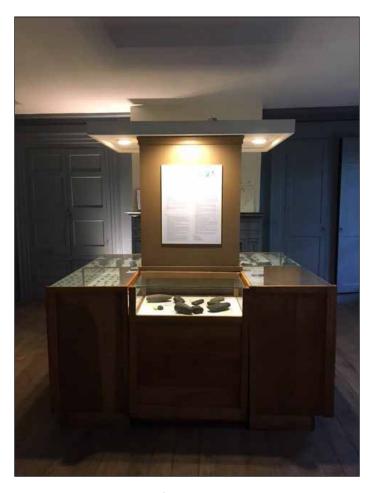
Our interest of presenting a local view of history is the main goal. We know that The Ohio History Connection's museum covers the overall history of Ohio, but our focus is on telling the story at the local level.

Our physical displays, whether it be graphics on the wall or artifacts displayed in cases, are labeled with visitor friendly descriptions. We title the object or graphic on the labels. If it is an object, we give a brief description of what it is and for what it was used, giving a date when it was made or used. If it is a graphic, we provide the source and the date of the information. In our displays, we have catalogued and labeled many American Indian points and other tools.

In the center of the room, we designed a lighted kiosk in the center of the display cases. Descriptions of the various tribes present when the Colonial Americans arrived are on the kiosk. Our budget is limited for the purchases of new display equipment, which means we must be resourceful. The display cabinets for the American Indian gallery were donated by a local merchant and required little work to make them display ready. I used a material known as foam core covered with inexpensive muslin cloth for the case pads upon which to lay the artifacts.

To create interesting displays on a budget, we must do it as inexpensively as possible while making them look professional. I have found that you can get ideas by observing other sites that have larger budgets. Graphics, which include written descriptive text and illustrations, are all done by myself and by a sub-contracted artist. We have a local university that can print our larger graphics at a reasonable cost by simply giving them a flash drive or by sending our files to their site. Mounting services to mount those graphics are done by a local framer, mainly at cost. It is important to note to list the source of the information on your graphics. It's always best to review "Fair Use" in anything you use in composing your graphics.

We also have illustrations done by a local artist on one wall that depict various scenes about the American Indians and



Display case American Indian Gallery – Meeker Homestead Museum, Delaware, Ohio, 2018.



Points displayed in display cases in the American Indian Gallery, Meeker Homestead Museum. Delaware. Ohio. 2018.

encounters with the settlers. The stories are just below the pictures. Summer of 2018, we will have a model of a local Seneca village as researched and built by a local group of high school students. This partnership allows the community to be involved, thereby bringing more attention and visitors to our sites.

StEPs Enhancement Project and What You Need to Know

by Sara Fisher, AmeriCorps/Ohio History Service Corps Member

n October 2017, the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) put the call out for volunteers to participate in the StEPs Enhancement Project. This initiative is aimed at reviewing and updating the Standards and Excellence Program or StEPs - in preparation for its 10th Anniversary in 2019/2020. A lot has happened since the development of the current workbook, the pilot program, and the official launch in 2009. Just over 32 volunteers from across the local history, museums and archives, and humanities fields are working on each of the sections to reflect the advancements in technology and understanding of the community we seek to serve.

For those who are unfamiliar with StEPs, this is a self-paced self-assessment meant to familiarize small to medium sized history organizations of field standards. The workbook is divided into 6 sections: Mission/Vision/Governance, Audience, Interpretation, Stewardship of Collections, Stewardship of Historic Structures & Landscapes, and Management. Each section has a series of standards, self-assessment questions, and performance indicators. Across the country there are approximately 1,000 organizations enrolled in StEPs, and of those organizations 15 Ohio organizations have earned certificates. You may be interested to know that Ohio played an integral part in the creation of the workbook sections and in the pilot phase. These organizations included: the Oberlin Heritage Center, Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens, the Ohio History Connection, Canfield Historical Society, Clinton County Historical Society, National Cambridge Glass Museum, North Canton Historical Society, and the Sandusky Library/ Follett House Museum. With the number of Ohio organizations



Trenda Byrd (left) and Sarah Zenaida Gould (right), members of the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access team.



Emily Jacobs (left) and Nicholas Hoffman (right), members of the Impact, Relevance, and Engagement team.

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enrolled in StEPs, surpassing just the 15 who earned certificates, it is important to understand what the Enhancement Project means for those recently enrolled, who earned certificates, or those who are interested in enrolling in the program.

What Does the StEPs Enhancement Aim to Do?

After gathering information through member surveys and questionnaires of organizations enrolled in the current program, AASLH determined a set of seven areas that are of interest and concern to the history community.

- Digital Collections
- Finance, Fraud, and Transparency
- Fundraising
- Environmental Sustainability
- Creativity & Experimentation
- · Diversity, Inclusion, Equity, and Accessibility
- Impact, Relevance, and Engagement

These topics form the basis for six teams who are made up of volunteers who are experts in their respective field. Andy Verhoff and I are two volunteers representing Ohio organizations in the process. Understandably, Andy is working on the Fundraising team, and I serve as the Co-Team Leader for the Impact, Relevance, and Engagement team. But what do all of these topics mean? Each team is tasked with reviewing each section

and assessing how effectively it addresses each topic. For some teams, it could mean developing new content to weave into pre-existing standards and self-assessment questions. For others, it could mean just revising and updating some of the formatting and wording. The Impact, Relevance, and Engagement Team is looking at how each section maximizes and deploys institutional assets to engage people of all ages, backgrounds, and interests to encourage and inspire further education, interest, and engagement with history; provides context and facilitates connections between the past and the present by inspiring learners to examine, engage, and contribute to better understand their world through a historical lens; work collaboratively within the organization and communities to develop, maintain, and make accessible collections and programs, and foster an institutional culture that reflects the diversity of the people we serve.

How Will the Project Affect You?

Since the project strives for sustainability and continuity, AASLH has asked the Enhancement Project teams to have their final edits of the current workbook done by the AASLH Annual Meeting — so by late September-early October 2018. The workbook will then be proofread and the recommended additions or changes will be distributed to organizations currently enrolled in the program. If an organization earned certificates, or is in the process of completing a level in a section, this will not affect your progress or past certificates earned.

But remember, the StEPs workbook is meant to be a capacity building tool, and ideally should be revisited as your organization matures. There will be a 12-18 month period when there will be two versions of the workbook in use, with the goal of having a complete switch over to the second edition being in 2020.

Stay tuned for more information since the teams are hard at work editing, developing content, and collaborating to ensure this essential tool for small to medium sized history organizations best serve the community.



Justina Barrett (right) and Donald Zuris (left), members of the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access team. All photos courtesy of AASLH.

Little Stories of the Great War: Ohioans in World War I

by Kristen Newby, Project Coordinator, Ohio History Connection

Ohio has participated in every major United States conflict to date, World War I being no exception. Ohio contributed to the war effort in every way imaginable, from supplying soldiers and training them at Camp Sherman in Ross County, to manufacturing equipment and machinery at factories across the state, to Ohio women volunteering and stepping into the workforce, to families growing produce in "victory" gardens. Ohioans played an invaluable role in the Great War, and their experiences and sacrifices were shared by nearly all Americans.

As part of its effort to commemorate the World War I Centennial, the Ohio History Connection (OHC) is making World War I collections at Ohio institutions more accessible to teachers, students, and researchers through the Little Stories of the Great War: Ohioans in World War I project. Little Stories of the Great War builds upon the work of a previous planning grant funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) through which project staff identified World War I collections at Ohio institutions and compiled them in an online WWI union bibliography. During the current two-year implementation phase of the project, again funded by NEH, project staff are digitizing World War I collections from OHC's own holdings, as well as fourteen cultural heritage institutions across Ohio.

All digitized content is available in the World War I in Ohio Collection on Ohio Memory, the statewide digital repository for primary source material documenting Ohio's past. Collections selected for this project work together to tell the story of Ohio's role in the Great War, both on the home front and overseas, and include photographic materials; posters and cartoons; letters, postcards and other correspondence; diaries and scrapbooks; military uniforms and accoutrements;



'If I Fail' Red Cross poster: Illustrated by Arthur G. McCoy in 1918, **this poster** encourages women to enroll as Red Cross nurses. Via Ohio Memory.

and various military and organizational records. Users can learn about Camp Sherman by viewing regimental portraits or photographs showing various aspects of camp life, or by reading letters written by soldiers who trained there. Photographs, lantern slides, and stereographs show soldiers during gas, rifle, artillery, and trench construction training exercises. Wartime sentiments on the American home front are well documented by advertisements and posters encouraging Americans to ration food, purchase war bonds, and enlist in the Armed Forces. Recent additions and highlights include pamphlets published by the National Woman's Liberty Loan Committee from the Mac-A-Cheek Foundation; Union County Local Draft Board records and a series of correspondence documenting a war widow's attempts to receive her deceased husband's war risk insurance benefits from Union County Historical Society; and a collection of American Issue cartoons using anti-German sentiment as leverage to push for wartime prohibition.

In addition to digitization, project staff are creating educator resources so that K-12 teachers can more effectively utilize the digital collection in the classroom. Lesson plans, resource guides, and web-based classroom activities are freely available on the 'For Teachers' page on Ohio Memory. Users can also connect directly with Ohioans' World War I stories by transcribing handwritten documents on our newly-developed transcription tool at transcribe.ohiohistory.org! By transcribing letters, diaries, and more, you will help to reveal stories of Ohioans during World War I, making these first-hand accounts more accessible and easily discoverable. Completed transcriptions are added to that item's record on Ohio Memory, making the original document full-text searchable. Transcription is a unique opportunity to make a personal connection with those who served, and experience a soldier or nurse's journey through enlistment, training, deployment, and service abroad. A diverse range of experiences are represented in the materials available

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through the transcription tool, including the diaries of Red Cross nurse Mary E. Gladwin, military chaplain Cecil Smith, and 166th Infantry Band clarinet player Burt J. Moffett. Learn about the World War I service of the descendants of President Rutherford B. Hayes, including Colonel Webb C. Hayes (son), Lieutenant Webb C. Hayes II (grandson), and Dalton Smith Hayes (grandson).

Over the next year, visit Ohio Memory to view new collections as we continue to connect local communities with their World War I history! If you have questions, please contact project staff at ohiomemory@ohiohistory.org. For more information on statewide commemorative events, such as the Ohio Poppy Project, please visit the Ohio in World War I Centennial Commission website, or contact Amy Rohmiller at arohmiller@ohiohistory.org.



Grenade training lantern slide: Soldiers received a variety of weapons and artillery training, including **how to throw grenades.** The World War I Training Slides Collection captures training practices at American military camps. Via Ohio Memory.



Transcription tool screenshot: Transcribing this letter from Harlan W. Johnson, member of the 168th Aero Squadron, to his mother, in which he describes the skills required to become an aero-observer.

Most Trust Museums as Sources of Historical Information

by John Dichtl, President and CEO of the American Association for State and Local History. Originally published by AASLH on February 20, 2018.

wenty years ago, we learned from Rosenzweig and Thelen's The Presence of the Past: Popular Uses of History in American Life that history museums were the most trusted source of history, outperforming history professors, history teachers, and even history books. Despite its methodological richness, what most of us recall from The Presence of the Past is that 80% of respondents thought museums were at the high end of a scale of trustworthiness, whereas the numbers for other sources were lower: grandparents, 69%; eyewitnesses to history, 64%; college history professors, 54%; high school history teachers, 36%; nonfiction books, 32%; and movies and television, 11%.

In a small way, we have revisited at least part of that question of trustworthiness, and this time included the Internet. In an AASLH 2018 broader population sampling, conducted by Wilkening Consulting, we asked 1,000 people about the trustworthiness of four history sources, and a generic "museums." We found that 81% of respondents ranked history museums and historic sites as "absolutely" or "somewhat" trustworthy—making them more trustworthy than history textbooks and nonfiction, high school history teachers, and the internet as sources of history information.

The stability of this trust is encouraging, as that kernel from Rosenzweig and Thelen was a line I heard repeated at lots of conferences since the 1990s, and probably wielded myself at other gatherings. Assurance of being trusted was an idea that buoyed the public history community through some tough times: the culture wars of the 1990s and the rise and fall of postmodernism, when some on the right attacked the academy and some humanities scholars eroded history's claim to objectivity and truth. Soul searching about the true role of muse-



ums and historic sites and the question of whether there were too many small museums. The economic collapse of 2008-2009. And the relentless rise of the Internet in our lives, offering new ways to access and share historical information, new ways to unite and divide people using historical interpretation, and new ways to educate as well as to deceive.

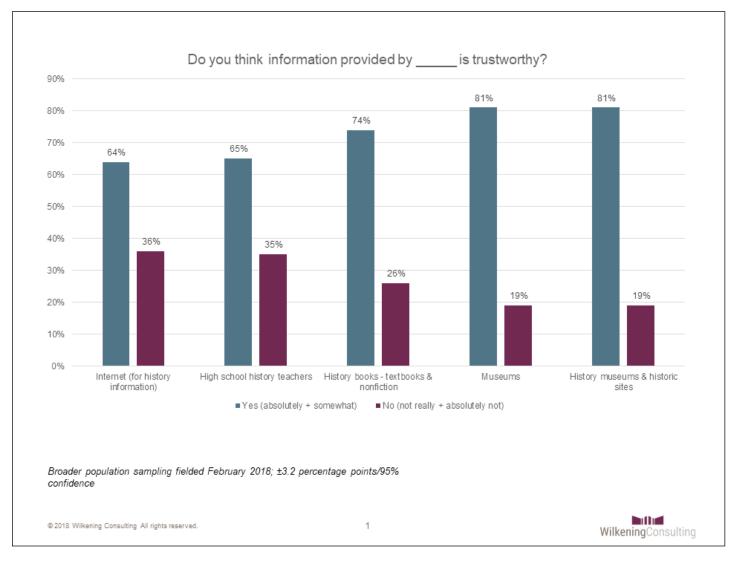
Likewise, it is good news that museums continue to be ranked as more trustworthy than the Internet, a component missing from The Presence of the Past that in some ways dated the study within a few years of publication. The AASLH study conducted online this month posed questions to 1,000 people. The table below summarizes the results: 81% of respondents declared history museums and historic sites trustworthy, and the same percentage responded as such for "museums," whether or not they were history related. For history textbooks and nonfiction, it was 74%; high school history teachers, 65%; and for the "Internet (for history information)," it was 64%. While these rankings are not directly comparable to the The Presence of the Past-"the Internet" was not

an option to be selected on that survey conducted in the mid-1990s, and our survey methods differed significantly they at least suggest that the trustworthiness of museums persists today.

While AASLH continues to seek funding for more comprehensive and ambitious research projects about perceptions of history and the state of the field, for now I'll take the very good news that 81% of Americans still trust what they hear and see from history museums. In an age when truth, trust, news, and facts are challenged and counterchallenged by the minute, could we hope for more? Could the results be better than this?

It turns out that two other recent studies, released by the American Alliance of Museums (AAM), offer even more celebrate. AAM's and Wilkening Consulting's Museums and Public Opinion states that 97% of Americans believe museums are educational assets for their communities; 89% believe that museums contribute important economic benefits to their community; and 96% would think positively of their elected officials taking legislative action

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to support museums. These are tremendously useful statistics for each of us to use when we talk with our boards, local funders, taxpayers, and political leaders. I know all of us planning to be at Museums Advocacy Day in Washington, D.C. later this month will be reminding Members of Congress that a 96% favorability rating means museums are an issue with no downside.

How can they resist? Especially after we tell them about AAM's other study, Museums as Economic Engines, which, among many other findings, shows that museums directly

employ more than double the number of people as does the professional sports industry. Our institutions give a big boost to local and national economies: "for every \$100 of economic activity created by museums, an additional \$220 is created in other sectors of the U.S. economy as a result of supply chain and employee expenditure impacts." Job creators, engines of the economy, and highly trusted by constituents—history museums should be the envy of Senators and Representatives!

Check out the Ohio Museums Association Twitter Chats!

Twitter chats allow you to interact with your colleagues across the state, nation, and world without leaving your computer! Just go to Twitter and search for the relevant hashtag. The Ohio Museums Association hosts a monthly Twitter chat, using the hashtag #OHMuseumChat.

Save the dates for the July and August Ohio Museum Association chats.

Thursday, July 19 at noon, the topic is "Leading for Change – No Matter your Job Title." August 16 at noon, the topics is "Building Stronger Boards."





Presentation on Joshua L. Giddings

America's Most Ardent Abolitionist: The Case for Ohio's Joshua R. Giddings as Documented within the Collection of the Ohio History Connection

DATE/TIME:

July 23rd, 2018 at 2:00 p.m.,

No preregistration or admission fee.

LOCATION:

Ohio History Connection 800 E. 17th Ave. Columbus, OH 43211

DESCRIPTION:

From Conneaut to Cincinnati, Maumee to Marietta, Perry to Portsmouth, and everywhere in between, Ohioans have played and continue to play a critical role in the advancement of Social Justice as our Nation seeks to form a more Perfect Union. Sadly, this history is largely unknown. Come explore the collection of Ohio History Connection to help unlock the story of Joshua R. Giddings. The longest serving Congressman of his day, Giddings played a critical role in transforming a Nation to the view that all Americans deserve the promise of Liberty.

PRESENTER:

Richard L. Dana, Esq.

Richard L. Dana is a 1991 graduate, with University Honors, from the Ohio State University, and a 1995 graduate of the Case Western Reserve University School of Law. In addition to his work as an attorney, he has served as an acting judge, local historian, local school board member, and current Adjunct Professor of Justice Studies and Criminology, Department of Sociology, at Kent State University - Ashtabula.

His community activities include serving as Past-President of the Board for The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland and current President of the Hubbard House Underground Railroad Museum, a documented stop on the National Park Services' "Network to Freedom." He is a frequent speaker on topics related to the law, as well as the history of the Underground Railroad including its continuing influence on Social Justice Movements throughout our Nation's history. He has presented on these topics at the White House in February of 2016, and moderated a panel discussion in May of 2017 as part of the grand opening of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Visitor Center in Church Creek, Maryland.

2018 **Presidential** Sites and **Libraries Conference**

The American Association for

State and Local History is pleased to announce that the 2018 **Presidential Sites and Libraries** Conference will take place from August 27-30 in Washington, D.C., and will be organized by the White House Historical Association. The Executive Mansion shaped and influenced every president who lived and served there, and their legacies are echoed at countless sites around the United States. The 2018 conference theme. "Back to the White House," connects all presidential sites and libraries. This year's theme will focus on the Executive Mansion as the thread that connects all of these sites. incorporating sessions on a myriad of topics from fundraising and philanthropy to education and digital engagement in the 21st century. "Back to the White House" will set the national stage for communication and innovation among presidential sites and libraries. As the longstanding organizer of this conference. AASLH maintains a close relationship with WHHA and looks forward to this quadrennial gathering. We hope to see you there! Find registration information at www.whitehousehistory. org/presidential-sites-summit/ registration-information

Hopewell Ceremonial Earthworks World Heritage Nomination News

Jennifer Aultman, World Heritage Project Coordinator, Ohio History Connection

Ohio sites have moved one step closer to World Heritage! On May 25, 2018, the U.S. Department of the Interior formally authorized Ohio's Hopewell Ceremonial Earthworks as the United States' next nomination to be prepared for World Heritage List consideration by the World Heritage Committee.

The World Heritage List recognizes cultural and natural sites of global importance such as the Taj Mahal, the Great Wall of China and the Statue of Liberty. An international treaty signed by 193 countries including the United States establishes the list.

The Hopewell Ceremonial Earthworks nomination includes 2,000 year old American Indian earthworks sites in central and southern Ohio: Newark Earthworks' Octagon and Great Circle in Licking County, and Fort Ancient in Warren County (Ohio History Connection sites); Seip Earthworks, Mound City, Hopeton Earthworks, High Bank Works and Hopewell Mound Group sites at Hopewell Culture National Historical Park in Ross County (National Park Service Sites). If successful, they would collectively be the first World Heritage site in Ohio. There are 23 such sites in the United States and 1073 across the globe. As the World Heritage Ohio steering committee, a group of Ohioans has been working toward inscription of the Hopewell Ceremonial Earthworks nomination for more than 10 years.

The UNESCO World Heritage Committee votes each summer on new additions to the list. It is anticipated that the earliest the Ohio nomination could be considered for World Heritage status is summer 2021. The World Heritage Ohio team is looking forward to sharing further updates as the nomination progresses!



Courtesy of Tim Black





Image Courtesy of Tom Engberg/NPS.



The Inclusive History Museum

Thanks to an IMLS National Leadership Grant, the Naperville Heritage Society (Naperville, Illinois) is spearheading multiple-phases of research on the inclusive history museum.

We are thrilled to help them out by spreading the word so that your organization, and our field, can benefit from this important work. Additionally, AASLH will be the repository for this benchmark data, benefiting the field in the future.

Please help by taking the Inclusive History Organizational Practice Benchmarking Survey so that we, as a field, can benchmark the 2019 state of inclusive practice. Before you begin the survey:

- •It will require about 20 minutes; please block out that time
- •You can download a copy of the survey in advance, which may speed up the process by allowing you to track down any answers you don't have at your fingertips

Click here to begin the Inclusive History Organizational Practice Benchmarking Survey

Free Research Opportunity: Audiences and Inclusive History. This is an additional, second survey, for your visitors, that will give you insight into how they may respond to the inclusion of different viewpoints, new interpretations of history, and the presentation of a more inclusive history of your community or site. The survey will include:

- History and its relevance
- Meaning making in history museums and historic sites
- Trust and history organizations
- Presentation of multiple viewpoints
- Questions of neutrality or taking a stand
- · Revisionist history, and what that means

History organizations that are selected to participate in this additional research opportunity agree to send out an email blast to their contact list (as well as any other methods they choose) in September 2018. Each participating organization will receive their confidential results in late fall/early winter and will have an opportunity to discuss those results directly with Susie Wilkening, the researcher for this project.

To volunteer to participate in this research, please complete the Inclusive History Organizational Practice Benchmarking Survey, and indicate your interest at the end of the survey.

The overall results from all phases of research will be shared with the field beginning in 2019. If you have any questions about this work, please contact Susie Wilkening at susie@wilkeningconsulting.com.

Upcoming Workshops from the Conservation Center for Art & Historic Artifacts (CCAHA)

Workshop V: Preservation Planning and Environmental Management

A Preservation Plan is an essential document that helps an institution carefully chart a 5-10 year course for the

preservation of collections artifacts. Without planning, it can be nearly impossible to effectively budget staff time and resources for collections care.

In this workshop, participants will receive guidance on how to create a Preservation Plan. Participants will study sample Plans and practice establishing goals, objectives, and strategies to develop an effective Plan.

The speaker will discuss how to sustain appropriate environments for long-term preservation and explain the impact of temperature, relative humidity, light, mold, and housekeeping on collections.

- Thursday, July 19 at University of Pikeville Allara Library, Pikeville, KY
- Monday, July 23 at West Virginia University Downtown Library, Morgantown, WV

Workshop VI: Emergency Planning and Preparedness

Thoughtful preparation for an emergency or disaster is crucial to safeguarding collections. The creation of an Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan is vital to the survival of an institution's artifacts.

In this workshop, participants will learn about tools for developing an Emergency Response and Preparedness Plan and the basics of collections salvage. There will be an opportunity to practice hands-on salvage procedures by rescuing a variety of materials from water.

Participants will learn how to train their staff and fellow employees to ensure that in the event of an emergency, the Emergency Response and Preparedness Plan is efficiently and effectively followed.

- Friday, July 20 at University of Pikeville -Allara Library, Pikeville, KY
- Tuesday, July 24 at West Virginia University -Downtown Library, Morgantown, WV

Speaker: Dyani Feige, Director of Preservation Services, CCAHA

Services, CCAHA

Fees: \$30 per day, or \$50 for both workshops

Time: 9:00am - 4:30pm

Click here to register for the Kentucky programs.

Click here to register for the West Virginia programs.

Annual CONTENTAM Users Group Meeting

We're looking forward to seeing you on Wednesday and Thursday, August 1-2, 2018, in Columbus, Ohio, for #CD-MUG2018, the annual CONTENTdm Users Group meeting at the gorgeous Columbus Metropolitan Library.

Registration:

OCLC's generous sponsorship makes it possible for this conference to be free to all CONTENTdm users. Attendance is capped at 100, so register now at https://sites.google.com/view/cdmug2018/registration.

Keynote:

Digital Library Service Innovations in an Age of Skepticism.

Karen Estlund, associate dean for Technology and Digital Strategies for Penn State Libraries. Estlund will review innovative and emerging practices in digital libraries in the context of this skepticism. Implications on the relationship with notions of linked data, bias in description, block-chain, and universal design will be discussed. The role of community, membership organizations, and partnerships may both support and challenge our structural information systems, in terms of collections, metadata, systems, and standards for interoperability. In this, digital library services have the power to address the gap in trust and to foster dialogue.

Workshop: **IIIF & CONTENT on Customization** Workshop

The International Image Interoperability Framework (IIIF), is an industry standard that is unleashing the ability for digital collections to be shared for research in innovative ways. Your OCLC CONTENTdm site includes IIIF Image and Presentation APIs so you can take advantage of new viewers and visualizations of your unique content or build one yourself! Come to this workshop to learn about IIIF and the impact it can have for your digital collections,

and learn about the new customization framework for CONTENTdm, then take a deep dive trying out IIIF in real time! Bring your laptop and work through adding a timeline exhibit to a CONTENTdm site (provided to you for the workshop) with guidance from Dave Collins, lead software architect for CONTENTdm, Jeff Mixter, software engineer in OCLC Research, and Shane Huddleston, the CONTENTdm Product Manager. 30 minute lecture/120 minute hands-on workshop.

The program is filling up with exciting presentations, such as Creating a Digital Hub with CONTENTdm, Crowdsourced Transcription, Care and Handling During Scanning, Customizing your Responsive Site, Case Studies in Preserving Master Files, Preparing Metadata for the DPLA, (Re)Selecting CONTENTdm for an Institutional Repository, Spinning the Tires on the Revs Digital Library, Using Canva to Customize Collection Landing Pages, Using Wikibase to Manage Linked Data for Digital Collections, and more.

Venue: The Columbus Metropolitan Library's Main Library is located in downtown. The Metro Library system has been named in the top 4 US library systems numerous times, won Library of the Year in 2010, and is one of the most used library systems in the country. The Main reopened after extensive renovation in 2016. All meeting rooms include robust wifi, and modern A/V. The back patio of the library (lunch spot!) backs up to the Topiary Park, a living sculptural interpretation of Georges Seurat's painting, A Sunday Afternoon on the Isle of La Grand Jatte.

Lodging: CDMUG2018 has reserved a room block at the Renaissance Columbus Downtown Hotel. See the lodging

More meeting details will appear as they develop at the meeting website: https://sites.google.com/view/cdmug2018/

Free Webinars from Museum Services at the **Texas Historical Commission**

Website Redos

July 25, 2018

11 a.m. - noon Eastern / 10-11 a.m. Central

Register:

attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2984070550234658817

Is your website outdated? Wondering how to give it a facelift? Texas Historical Commission's webmaster Jared Porter will share some tips and answer your questions about updating your website.

Better Safe than Sorry: Understanding Hazards Found in Collections

August 21, 2018

11 a.m. - noon Eastern / 10-11 a.m. Central

Register:

attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7790787941526052611

Museum collections are filled with ordinary objects that contain health and safety hazards for museum staff and volunteers. During this webinar, we will explore how you can identify these objects and work safely around them.



The Wood County Historical Society receives the "big check" for its History Fund grant at Statehood Day 2018. L to R: Burt Logan, Ohio History Connection Executive Director & CEO, State Senator Randy Gardner, Holly Hartlerode, curator of the Wood County Historical Society, and Bob Lucas, Ohio History Connection board president. Photo courtesy of the Ohio History Connection.

History Fund Grant Application Now Available!

Since March 2013, the History Fund grant program of the Ohio History Connection has made \$598,000 in grants to 63 organizations across Ohio. The History Fund invites you to join this distinguished group! Apply for History Fund grant at www.ohiohistory.org/historyfund.

The application deadline is September 5, 2018 (by 11:59 pm).

The History Fund application for the 2017-2018 grant cycle mirrors application forms from previous years, but contains a few tweaks in response to comments from last year's applicants. This year, we clarified wording on a few of the questions in the narrative section of the application - that's it!

Also note that the "How To" History Fund webinars, once found on the History Fund's website, may have been off line as of June 25 because the Ohio History Connection changed webinar provider service. We will attempt to re-post the webinars in the new format as quickly as

The Ohio History Connection will announce grant recipients at the

annual advocacy event Statehood Day, scheduled February 27, 2019. Between the application deadline of September 5, 2018 and February 2019, History Fund grant projects undergo a rigorous review involving subject area experts at the Ohio History Connection and a panel of outside experts, who make the final grant recommendations. Local History Services contacts applicants regarding the final status of the applications in February, in advance of the public announcement at Statehood Day.

This spring, the History Fund presented grant-writing workshops at the Region 4 meetings, as well as at annual conference of the Ohio Museums Association and at a meeting of the Westlake Historical Society, near Cleveland. At each, we emphasized that if would be applicants have questions they should call or write. We're here to help!

For more information, contact Andy Verhoff, Ohio History Fund grant coordinator, 614.297.2341 or averhoff@ ohiohistory.org, or visit the History Fund's website. Good luck!

GENEALOGY WORKSHOP:

Little Cities of Black Diamonds

August 18 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Ohio History Center

Were your ancestors coal miners from 1870-1920? Join experts Cheryl Blosser and John Winnenberg as they discuss the stories of coal miners in Ohio. You'll learn how these men and women and their families from many different nationalities built the small towns and rural townships of southern Perry, northern Athens, and eastern Hocking Counties. Discover the resources at the Ohio History Center that will help your genealogy research.

\$20/Adult; \$15/Ohio History Connection/FCGHS member. Advance registration required.

To register or for more information

Visit:

www.ohiohistory.org/genealogy

Email:

reservations@ohiohistory.org

Calle

800.686.1541 • 614.297.2663

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** held a Strawberry Festival June 10. Sandwiches, chips, coleslaw, strawberry shortcake and ice cream were served for a free will donation. At 1 pm that day, their Log Cabin was rededicated as the "Nathaniel Harman Log Home."

Region 2

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

The **Hayes Presidential Library & Museums** was highlighted in the email newsletter of the Center for the Future of Museums for programming they developed related to the "Jacob Riis: How the Other Half Lives," travelling exhibit they are hosting. The Hayes Presidential Library & Museums worked with WSOS and the Sandusky County Department of Job and Family Services to develop a companion exhibit, "The Other Half is Us: Ohio, Then and Now," which looks at historic and present day poverty in their community. The exhibit closed May 25, 2018.

Region 3

Cuyahoga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, and Summit Counties

Region 4

Ashtabula, Geauga, Mahoning, Portage, and Trumbull Counties

The **Mahoning Valley Historical Society** recently opened a new exhibit, "Mid Century Modern in the Mahoning Valley." The exhibit highlights a 1948 new old stock Youngstown Kitchens set acquired in 2016 and a collection of merchandise from the Plakie Toy Company.

Region 5

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

The **North Canton Heritage Society** hosted heritage walk on Saturday, April 21. Participants enjoyed walking exploration of the community's unique history. The event was organized in collaboration with Walsh University students through the service learning program. Over 60 people attended from all over Northeast Ohio, some travelling from Youngstown and Chagrin Falls.



The **Dennison Railroad Depot Museum** recently completed a new 5-year
Strategic Plan and is focusing on their last section to complete the StEPS program. They are currently working with community leaders and local elected officials to explore an ex-

pansion of the Depot's excursion corridor from Dennison into New Philadelphia and Dover. This would connect local historic sites such as Historic Schoenbrunn Village and Warthers to the Dennison Depot by train rides.

Historic Schoenbrunn Village has completed a 5-year Strategic Plan that will focus on the site's 250th Anniversary in 2022. The site is only moving into the second phase of a new interpretive plan for the Village that will add the Native American voice to interpretation and exhibits.

The **Uhrichsville Clay Museum** had a community open house at its new downtown site in May to celebrate its transition into the Museum of Clay Industry and Folk Art. Guests were treated to the tours, updated plans, and models of the new museum. The second phase of fundraising was kicked off as the museum enters the community fundraising stage. The two-story museum will house the history of Uhrichsville as the Clay Capital of the World and house collections storage for both the Dennison Depot and Clay Museum historical collection.

Region 6

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

The **New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society** launched a new event, Living History: New Albany in the 1860s. Held at the Ealy House on May 19, the event featured a Civil War camp re-enactment by the 76th Regiment OVI. Over 1,000 people from the New Albany and Plain Township area attended the event, which was sponsored by REMAX Town Center/Ron Kendle and Eagles Pizza/Dennis Keesee.

Region 7

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

In 2017 the **Bradford Ohio Railroad Museum** finished a four-year project to do a complete interpretation of the museum's artifact collection and tell the story of the area railroad from 1855 to 1985. The museum worked with Exhibit Concepts to develop a plan and secure state funds and private donations to transform a former bank building into a new exhibit hall. The highly interactive exhibit is full of sights and sounds and fulfills Ohio K-12 standards. At the April 2018 Ohio Museum Association Conference in Dayton, the museum was presented with an award for Best Exhibition for museums with an operating under \$500,000.

A new air condition system has been installed in the **Shelby County Historical Society**'s Ross Center. Emerson donated the air conditioning unit, and Lochard Inc. donated the indoor coils and supplies needed to install the unit and keep it running. Lochard Inc. handled the 3-day installation of the unit.

The **Logan County Historical Society** celebrated Logan County's 200th anniversary with a special open house on Sunday, April 15, 2018. The open house featured a new exhibit, "200 Artifacts & 200 Photographs of Logan County History."

Region 8

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

Region 9

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

Organized by the Southeast Ohio History Center, "The Athens Asylum: 150 Years of a Healing Landscape" exhibit is the centerpiece of the nine-month commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Athens Asylum. The exhibit focuses on how healing, both medical and personal, was defined at the Athens Asylum in the past, and how the Athens community can bring healing to the Asylum landscape today. The exhibit will be open through January 15, 2019.

The Ross County Historical Society hosted its 2nd annual Archaeology Day on Saturday, April 21, 2018. The event featured more than 20 displays by members of the Mound City Chapter of the Archaeological Society of Ohio.

Region 10

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

The Noble County Historical Society held its Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 7, 2018 at The Barn on The Ball-Caldwell Homestead. Trustee Roger Pickenpaugh introduced the first speaker, Gary Williams. Mr. Williams presented a program on Johnny Appleseed and his half-brother Parley Chapman.

Following this program Cathie Neuhart, past chairman of the Soakum Festival introduced Steve Ball, a Columbus, Ohio musician and historian. Mr. Ball presented a program on the life and music of American Composer Stephen Foster. With the largest attendance in several years there were guests from Senecaville, Caldwell, Cambridge, Zanesville, Lower Salem, Winterville, Marietta, Fleming, and Dexter City in Ohio. Attendance included visitors from Utah and North Carolina.

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 bhedler@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.

People in the News

On May 24, Kelli Kling was selected by the Wood County Commissioners to serve as Director of the Wood County Historical Center & Museum in Bowling Green, Ohio. Kling has been at the Museum for 15 years as the Marketing & Events Coordinator, and expects the transition to be rather smooth. "The museum staff strives to be innovators in the history field," she said. "We are all looking forward to the opportunities that lie ahead." Kling, originally from Kettering, Ohio, is a graduate of Bowling State University with a Bachelor of Arts in Telecommunications degree and a Master of Education degree. She also serves on the Executive Board for the Bowling Green Convention & Visitors Bureau. Dana Nemeth, the previous Director, resigned in order to accept a position as Reference Archivist at the Browne Popular Culture Library at Bowling Green State University.

Becky Hill has retired as head librarian at the Hayes Presidential Library & Museums. During her 34-year tenure as head librarian, Hill worked to make the Library's collections more accessible to researchers of all types. She created HPLM's Ohio Obituary Index, which went online in 2000 and has been named by Family Tree Magazine as one of its 75 Best Websites for U.S. State Genealogy Research. Hill will remain with HPLM as a part-time employee.

The McKinley National Birthplace Memorial Museum is pleased to welcome their new Museum Director, Amber Farris. Amber came to the museum from the American Studies graduate program at Youngstown State University. Most recently she was a Graduate Assistant at The Youngstown Historical Center of Industry and Labor. Her undergraduate degree is in art history from Youngstown State University during which time she served as an intern at The Butler Institute of American Art. Amber looks forward to bringing her unique perspective and abilities to The McKinley while helping to connect newer generations of museum patrons to our shared history.

On the Web

History Myths Debunked

https://historymyths.wordpress.com/

We've all heard them: the things docents say to explain some oddity in the furniture or architecture of a historic house, or to highlight how life was different in earlier times. As responsible local historians, we've all wondered whether it's true that frontier women often burned to death because their skirts caught fire, that you needed two teeth that met in order to join the Army, that beds were shorter because people were shorter, or any number of other claims. This website devotes itself to checking out these stories and trying to determine how true they are. Some turn out to be largely true; others, not so much. There are about 144 posts checking these historical myths, and more are added at the rate of about one per month.

CALENDAR

Joined or renewed between April 21, 2018 and June 6, 2018

Welcome New Members

INDIVIDUALS

Andrew P. Ahlers, Columbus

Thomas Jones New Braunfels TX

ORGANIZATIONS

Lockbourne Heritage Society, Lockbourne

Thank You Renewing Members

INDIVIDUALS

Todd McCormick. Bellefontaine

ORGANIZATIONS

103rd OVI Memorial Foundation, Sheffield Lake

Akron Summit County Public Library, Akron

Barnes-Deinzer Seneca County Museum Foundation, Inc., Tiffin

Butler County Historical Society, Hamilton

Cincinnati Observatory Center, Cincinnati

Clark County Historical Society, Springfield

Clinton County History Center, Wilmington

Columbus Historical Society, Columbus

Columbus Jewish Historical Society, Columbus

Cuyahoga Community College West Campus, Parma

Fairfield Heritage Association, Lancaster

Fulton County Historical Society, Wauseon

Galion Historical Society Inc,

Hardin County Historical Museums, Kenton

Harveysburg Community Historical Society, Harveysburg

Hocking County Historical Society, Logan

Holmes County Historical Society, Millersburg

Logan County Historical Society, Bellefontaine

Madison Historical Society, Madison

Maritime Museum of Sandusky, Sandusky

Muskingum County History, Zanesville

New London Area Historical Society, New London

Ohio Genealogical Society, Bellville

Peninsula Library, Peninsula

Pickaway County African American Heritage Association,

Plain Township Historical Society, Canton

Reynoldsburg Truro Historical Society, Reynoldsburg

Robbins Hunter Museum/Avery Downer House, Granville

Springboro Area Historical Society, Springboro

Sutliff Museum, Warren

The Dawes Arboretum, Newark

Toledo History Museum, Inc, Toledo

Underground Railroad Museum, Flushing

Urichsville Clay Museum, Dennison

Wadsworth Area Historical Society, Wadsworth

Western Reserve Historical Society, Cleveland

Whitehall Historical Society,

Willoughby Historical Society, Willoughby

Ohio Museums Association Twitter chat. For more information, see page 10.

Workshop: Preservation Planning and Environment Management in Pikeville, KY. For more information, see page 12.

Workshop: Emergency Planning and Preparedness in Pikeville, KY. For more information, see page 12.

Workshop: Preservation Planning and Environment Management in Morgantown, WV. For more information, see page 12.

Workshop: Emergency Planning and Preparedness in Morgantown, WV. For more information, see page 12.

JULY 25:

Webinar: Website Redos. For more information, see page 13.

AUGUST 1-2:

Annual CONTENTdm Users Group Meeting. For more information, see page 13.

AUGUST 16:

Ohio Museums Association Twitter chat. For more information, see page 10.

AUGUST 18:

Genealogy Workshop: Little Cities of Black Diamonds. For more information, see page 14.

AUGUST 21:

Webinar: Better Safe than Sorry: Understanding Hazards Found in Collections. For more information, see page 13.

AUGUST 27-30:

Presidential Sites and Libraries Conference. For more information, see page 10.

SEPTEMBER 5:

History Fund grant applications due! For more information, see page 14.

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)
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Join at:

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



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

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Organizations

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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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