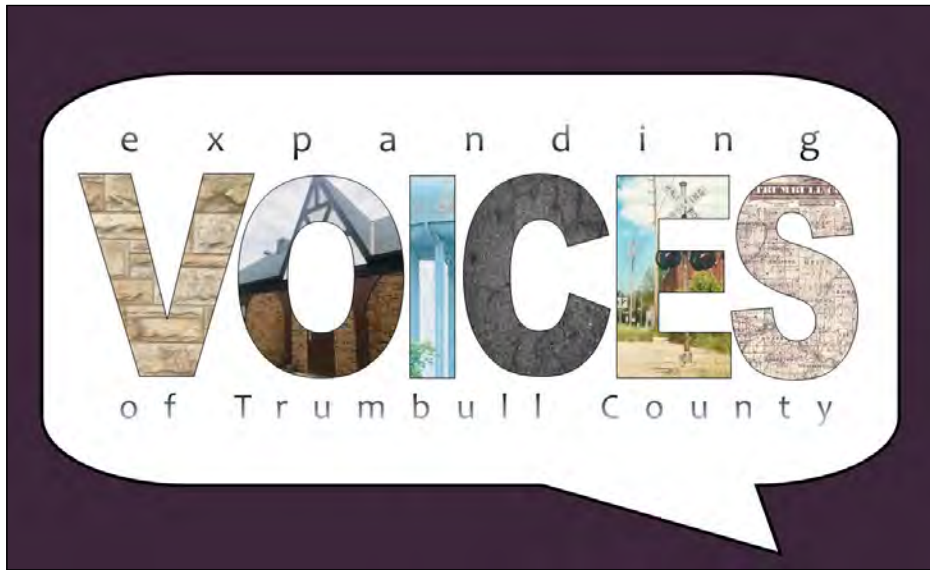


Expanding Voices of Trumbull County Project



by Sarah Moell, Education & Outreach Manager, Trumbull County Historical Society; and OLHA Region 4 Representative

TCHS Education & Outreach Manager Sarah Moell and Steering Committee members Frederick Harris and Stacey Adger while presenting on the Voices project for the History Across the Humanities conference at Youngstown State University.

The Trumbull County Historical Society (TCHS), a community-based nonprofit located in Warren, Ohio, is tackling issues of diversity and inclusion that face many historical societies today. In June 2020, TCHS launched the *Voices* Oral History Project, an initiative that created strategic partnerships to preserve the memories of elders in Warren's Black community.

In 2017, after hiring its first full-time employee in its 177-year history, TCHS began the soul-searching process of ensuring that they truly represented their entire community. It was quickly apparent that, like so many collecting institutions today, the TCHS collections, archives, and programs were telling the history of a wealthy elite that was not relatable to residents today.

“Nonprofits like TCHS are tax exempt because we provide services to the community. The **WHOLE** community,” says Director Meghan Reed. “In 2017, we

only held 10 items in our collection that represented the Black community. With a Black population of roughly 30% in Warren, that was unacceptable. We had a lot of listening and learning to do.”

In 2017, TCHS received a planning grant from Ohio Humanities to begin looking at a potential oral history project more thoroughly. Knowing that they needed to begin building their own knowledge of Warren's Black history as well as begin speaking with those within the Black community, TCHS reached out to residents, attended neighborhood meetings and community events, and talked with active nonprofits in the Warren area. It was clear that there was a need for this project and a desire to show the community at large how racism and informal segregation, particularly in the 1950s and 1960s, affected the community even today.

To implement the project, TCHS successfully applied to The Raymond John Wean Foundation's Community Investment program, who also provides Race, Equity, and Inclusion training

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Interviewees Charles Arnold, Michalene Hughley, and Robert Saffold during the Voices soft opening during a Black History Month event in February 2020. Photo courtesy of Cheryl Saffold.



Interviewees Eugene Dawson and Maddie Battle during the Voices soft opening during a Black History Month event in February 2020. Photo courtesy of Cheryl Saffold.

to nonprofit and educational leaders in the Mahoning Valley. Through these funds, TCHS was able to form a steering committee comprised of Black residents and also hire an Education & Outreach Manager who worked with the steering committee to begin developing the framework for this project. Led by the wisdom of Frederick Harris, a community historian who had started collecting the experiences of Black community members more than 30 years ago, the steering committee created the interview questions, chose the interviewees, completed technical training from staff, and ultimately conducted the interviews to be curated onto a Voices website.

Steering committee member Stacey Adger joined this project as a local genealogist. “There are so many life stories that have been silenced over the years,” she explains. “Each ancestor who passes away takes their unique story with them; their experiences, perceptions, beliefs. I usually say we have lost a tree, because their knowledge and the things that shaped their life are no more. The genealogist in me knows that I had so many opportunities to sit and learn at the knee of older people in the community.”

Adger, along with Harris and three other steering committee members, completed 17 interviews out of a list of 45 people before COVID-19 paused the interview process in March.

The interviews touch on a wide range of topics. The interviewees include those who worked in Warren’s steel mills when they were still segregated, successful sports stars, Civil Rights activists, and include memories of family life, moving to Warren from the South, and racism seen by local law enforcement.

“The memories of segregation and the Civil Rights Movement are so impactful,” said Reed. “For instance, I did not know that our local NAACP chapter sued the City of Warren in the 1940s to desegregate our municipal Packard Pool. The case made its way all the way to the state supreme court, where Thurgood Marshall successfully won the case for desegregation.”

The *Voices* Oral History Project website, which includes over 100 interview clips, launched in June 2020. The website was created by The D5 Group, a local design firm, and includes the clips, ways for community

members to sign up to interview or to be interviewed, and will eventually hold a gallery of items that were scanned during a black history month community event held back in February.

“Our next steps are to continue conducting interviews and adding them to the website as COVID-19 restrictions allow,” said Education & Outreach Manager Sarah Moell. “After that is done, our next goal is to create educational resources for teachers to easily integrate the interviews into their classrooms. Getting this knowledge into the schools is a top priority.”



TRUMBULL
COUNTY
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

To view the *Voices* project, visit www.voicesoftc.org. For more information, visit TCHS’s website at www.trumbullcountyhistory.org. ■

History is Happening Now! An Update on the Annual Meeting

by Dr. Betsy Hedler, Executive Secretary, Ohio Local History Alliance; Team Lead, Partnerships, Local History Services, Ohio History Connection

When the Ohio Local History Alliance Education Committee picked “History is Happening Now” as the theme for our 2020 conferences, we never expected that it would be quite so on-the-nose. Since mid-March, it has been impossible to ignore that we’re living through one of those moments that historians will study, write, and create exhibits about. From the global pandemic to the ongoing (as I write this on June 25) protests against police brutality and systemic racism, much that we once took for granted has changed or been challenged.

We were very sad to have to cancel 8 of our 10 scheduled regional meetings this spring, but our concern for your health made it impossible for us to gather in person. In that vein, I have both good and bad news about the Annual Meeting.

The Ohio Local History Alliance Annual Meeting **WILL** be held this year on the scheduled dates, October 1-3, 2020. However, due to the ongoing pandemic and its effect on the finances of our members and member organizations, the Annual Meeting will be held virtually this year.

Due to this change, we’re not able to mail the Annual Meeting brochure (with full schedule) in mid-July as we normally would. We’re working on a revised conference schedule for the online format, which will be posted to our website on or before August first. We will mail a postcard to all member organizations when the schedule is posted and registration is available.

The online Annual Meeting will

include social time to network with colleagues, the presentation of this year’s Outstanding Achievement Awards (nominations due August 1!), and lots of great sessions on topics ranging from creating video tours to self-guided tours at house museums to how to research a historic house to reacting to a disaster in collections storage—and beyond! We would like to thank our existing presenters for being flexible and ready to present at an online conference.

Our conference theme, History is Happening Now, was designed to encourage us all to think about the relevance of our work and how we can be better at working collaboratively on a historical narrative that includes everyone in our communities. There is a thread of these sessions running through the conference, including presentations on African-American community archives, working with American Indian communities, oral history projects, women’s history, working with youth volunteers; as well as a collaborative discussion of “Relevance in a World with Bigger Problems.”

To keynote this thread, we are very excited to welcome Melanie Adams of the Anacostia Community Museum as this year’s plenary speaker, sponsored by Ohio Humanities. Melanie A. Adams became the director of the Smithsonian’s Anacostia Community Museum on August 5, 2019. Previously Adams served as Deputy Director, Learning Initiatives, at the Minnesota Historical Society. With more than 25 years of community engagement experience in museums and higher education, she is dedicated to bringing stakeholders together to address community issues. Since 2016, Adams had led efforts at the Minnesota Historical Society to develop strategic partnerships, audiences and resources



Michael Barnes

within local communities. Prior to her time at the Minnesota Historical Society, Adams was managing director of the Missouri Historical Society for eleven years. In that role, she addressed the social and cultural concerns of the St. Louis community and oversaw more than 700 community programs each year, including events with more than 100 partners. Adams was president of the Association of Midwest Museums from 2014 to 2016, and she currently serves on the board of directors for the American Association of State and Local History.



Check our website at <https://ohiolha.org/what-we-do/alliance-annual-meeting> for updates as we finalize our plans for this year.

Report Outlines National Planning for “America 250”



by John Garrison Marks, Senior Manager, Strategic Initiatives, AASLH.

Originally published by the American Association of State and Local History. Reprinted by permission. For the latest information about the history community’s planning for the 250th, please visit: www.aaslh.org/250th

In January, the United States Semiquincentennial Commission published its report to the President laying out their vision, framework, and recommendations for the United States’ 250th anniversary commemoration. The report on “America 250,” as the national commemoration effort will come to be known, offers new insights into ongoing preparation for the 250th by the Commission and many federal agencies. It also contains some important information for state and local history organizations beginning to consider how they might acknowledge the anniversary.

Urgency and Schedule

Perhaps the most important takeaway from the report is the urgency of advancing commemoration plans. Although the full commemoration period extends from 2020 until 2027, the report makes clear that July 4, 2026, in many ways marks the end, not the beginning, of the commemoration. The schedule in the report indicates that the Commission’s planning phase will end in mid-2021, about eighteen months from now. While

state and local history organizations will have longer than that to plan programs, exhibits, and other new initiatives, the time is now to begin in earnest any planning for the 250th.

Themes, Guidelines, and Frameworks

The report outlines three major themes for America 250: to Educate, Engage, and Unite. They also define the commemoration as including all of American history and expansive geographic scope. These align well with AASLH’s collaboratively-developed goals and ongoing emphasis that the 250th represents a once-in-a-generation opportunity to present history that is inclusive and relevant, to use collections and educational programs to engage the public in new ways, and to build the capacity of history institutions. AASLH working groups dedicated to these goals had many of their ideas included in the report, such as the “History Is Still Happening” initiative proposed by our collections group (p. 88), or the “Sites of Revolution” idea conceived by our relevance group (p. 58).

More specifically, the report presents several “participatory frameworks” to guide and align the thousands of programs and other commemoration efforts that will be part of America 250, which the Commission envisions will be a “largely decentralized” effort (see Section V). AASLH members should look in particular at the “State and Local Programs Framework,” outlined on pages 41–44. We encourage all history organizations to consider how your programming might fit with these frameworks, goals, and themes, and to work with colleagues in your community, state, and region to begin identifying shared goals and coordinating plans.

(continued on page 6)

Funding

The report also includes new details about funding for state and local projects. The Commission estimates that the full America 250 commemoration, including major “signature programs” from the Commission and major federal agencies, is likely to cost between 3 and 5 billion dollars. Less than \$600 million of that, however, is likely to flow directly through the Commission, and only a portion of that amount for state and local grants. The report makes clear that “The Commission will not be the most significant source or conduit of federal investment in America 250,” with larger sums flowing through existing federal agencies like the National Endowment for the Humanities, National Endowment for the Arts, and others. While many grantmaking agencies might expand their efforts to provide funding for 250th-focused projects (like NEH has through their agency-wide “[A More Perfect Union](#)” initiative), history organizations should probably not plan to rely on major new funding from the Commission itself.

In the coming years, AASLH will continue to provide leadership and [resources](#) to advance the history community’s impact through the 250th. We’re conducting field-wide research, like our [National Visitation Survey](#), to help understand current trends and provide a baseline for measuring future impact. With the help of [grant funding](#), we are creating new resources, like our [annual report on 250th planning](#), to help history organizations understand the national and state-level landscape and to begin preparing. And we will

continue to work with our committees, affinity communities, and all members to make sure we understand the needs, concerns, and goals of a diverse and dynamic field.

The 250th anniversary might be six years away, but the time to prepare is now.

On July 3rd, AASLH released a [report](#) on the state of planning for the 250th Anniversary. The report includes updates from the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission, details on state-level planning, information about AASLH grant projects, ideas from volunteer working groups, and more.

With new sources of support and a willingness to ask difficult questions about the past and about ourselves, historical organizations across the country can contribute in profound ways in the lead-up to 2026, helping Americans come to a more critical, more nuanced understanding of the past. The 250th anniversary offers a once-in-a-generation opportunity to revitalize and transform our field and reengage the public with history. This year’s report shares some of the work that has already begun to help get us there and invites you to help us do more.

For more information on AASLH’s 250th anniversary planning, visit: aaslh.org/250th

For more information about the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission, visit: america250.org

To view the report in full, visit: america250.org/pdf/America250_Report_to_President_12-31-2019_S.pdf

A Time in History is Preserved

by Gary S. Levitt, Curator, Museum of Postal History

Since the beginning of our Nation, the dissemination of news and information has been a major concern of the government. Although Benjamin Franklin, while working for the English Crown, is credited with many of the practices performed in establishing and the operation of the Post Office, the federal government under the Articles of Confederation gave "... congress assembled, shall also have the sole and exclusive right and power of establishing and regulating post offices". A key element was the method used to transport mail first by horseback and carriage, later by trains, automobiles, planes and busses. At one point in our history even guided missiles were experimented with.

From the period of the Civil War until the last mail train ended its run in 1972, trains were by far the fastest, most productive method of getting mail across long distances. The Railway Mail Service (RMS) was established and the employees were always part of the US Post Office Department. Each clerk had to pass a strict memory exam, score well at a local firing range, and of course, a thorough background check. They spent hundreds of hours of their off time learning the changes in distribution schemes, train schedules, and even all the mechanical workings of the railcars they worked in. RMS cars ranged from a 15-foot compartment on some of the smaller rail lines to the 72 foot cars on trains like the Broadway Limited. You can find a replica of the 72' car at the Smithsonian's National Postal Museum; while in Delphos, Ohio at the Museum of Postal History you can wander through a 15-foot replica of the "Ak'n Del" which ran on the Akron, Canton and Youngstown Railroad.

At the beginning of World War II it was feared that trains would be too busy moving troops and supplies and would lose capacity for hauling America's mail. Motor transport was ever expanding and with it came the establishment of the Highway Post Office or Hypo as it was affectionately called. These busses were converted by White Corporation of Cleveland, Ohio and required one or two distribution clerks and a driver to sort mail while traveling hundreds of miles on the major highways connecting several major cities and small towns together. A full size bus is on display at the National Postal Museum and a working replica can also be found in Delphos, Ohio. There are three postal museums dedicated to all aspects of postal history and the movement of the US Mail. The National Postal Museum is located across from Union Station in Washington, DC; the Museum of Postal History in Delphos, Ohio and the third is the Michael Schragg Post Office located in Marshall, Michigan.

All images courtesy of the Museum of Postal History

The Highway Post Office



The Railway Post Office



ROBBINS HUNTER MUSEUM



The President and Board of Trustees of the Robbins Hunter Museum is pleased to announce that Sarah Straley Hottle has been hired to be the museum's new Executive Director. Straley Hottle comes to the museum with years of experience in leading non-profits around the state, including organizations like Simply Living and Green

Energy Ohio. Her strengths are fundraising, membership cultivation and educational programming.

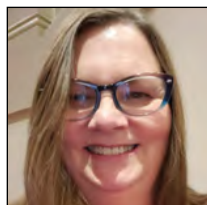
Although Straley Hottle joins the museum at a difficult time, she agrees with Christina Gray, president of the board of trustees who said "While the museum is currently closed due to the health crisis, we believe that this gives Sarah time to become familiar with the collections, the volunteers, the staff, and the board. We are already working to create digital programs via our website and social media to keep the public engaged and continue our mission and Sarah has had some great ideas!" Straley Hottle added that she envisions

enhanced community gathering spaces, increased exhibits and events once the museum has reopened. She plans to develop strategic partnerships with local, regional and national arts and humanities groups.

"Once we are able to be open to the public again, I invite all of you to the museum to meet me and learn more about my vision for the museum. I want to make the Robbins Hunter Museum and its collections a center for historic excellence," Straley Hottle said.

Originally from Lake County, Ohio, Straley Hottle has lived in the central Ohio area for the past 15 years, raising her children and becoming an active member in the non-profit and environmental communities. She received her Masters in Science from the University of Findlay, where she developed her passion for renewable energy. Working in the non-profit sector led to her developing an understanding of the art and science of fund-raising and the key role it plays in an organization being able to grow and develop.

OVER-THE-RHINE MUSEUM



The Over-the-Rhine Museum is thrilled to welcome their new Director of Museum Administration, Donna Harris.

"We are extremely excited to have Donna on board. She brings the perfect combination of skills to move our emerging organization forward. We have operated as an all-volunteer organization for the last six years, and are

ready to take the organization to the next level with Harris' support," museum founder and current vice chair Anne Steinert said. "She will increase our capacity for fundraising, interpretive planning, and other large projects as we move to create a bricks-and-mortar urban history museum in Over-the-Rhine."

Harris is the museum's first full-time employee. She brings with her over twenty years of non-profit experience. She has worked with both government agencies and community-based organizations developing programs, writing grants, and conducting evaluation. Harris holds a BA in Psychology from the University of Central

Florida, an MS in Health Promotion from Mississippi State, and a Certificate in Museum Studies from Northwestern.

Prior to joining the Over-the-Rhine Museum, Harris served with the Ohio History Service Corps assisting local history museums in capacity building efforts. Based at the Cincinnati Art Museum her duties included designing evaluation strategies, facilitating strategic plans, and developing policy for a variety of museums in the Cincinnati area. The Ohio History Service Corps is an AmeriCorps program.

"I am excited to be working with the museum and looking forward to supporting them in preserving and sharing the stories of Over-the-Rhine," Harris said.

Harris' position has been generously funded by the George and Margaret McLane Foundation, a Cincinnati-based foundation committed to building community and improving people's lives by supporting organizations that strive to enrich people's lives through creative arts and the humanities. The museum is grateful for the McLane Foundation's support.

OHIO HISTORY CONNECTION

After almost two decades with Local History Services, Andy Verhoff is joining the staff of the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), a division of the Ohio History Connection. His new title is Ohio History Fund and Outreach Manager. He'll still be running the Ohio History Fund, but will also support SHPO's other outreach efforts, including the popular Building Doctor program, Ohio Historic Preservation Tax Credit informational "coffees," Ohio Open Doors, and State Historic Preservation Office awards.

As Andy moves to SHPO, Laura Russell transitions to Local History Services as the Ohio Historical Markers Coordinator. She has been learning the ropes from Andy since she began part-time in 2018 to administer the program so that he could concentrate on researching and editing marker texts. Laura brings with her 40 years of experience working with Ohio History Connection publications, including 20 years on the academic journal Ohio History, and 18 years on the popular history magazine TIMELINE.

Both moves are part of the recent reorganization of the Ohio History Connection in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Andy looks forward to working with Alliance members and local historians in his new role. Contact him with your questions about the Ohio History Fund: averhoff@ohiohistory.org; 614-297-2341.

For information about the State Historic Preservation Office, visit www.ohiohistory.org/shpo.

To contact Laura with questions about Ohio Historical Markers, phone 614-297-2360, email lruessel@ohiohistory.org, or visit www.remarkableohio.org, the marker program's website.



Andy Verhoff and Laura Russell at an Ohio Historical Marker dedication in 2018

Congratulations, 2019 OMA Award Winners!



The Ohio Museums Association (OMA) has announced the winners of the 2019 OMA Awards of Achievement and 2019 Visual Communication Awards.

These winners were recognized during the Annual OMA Awards Program Ceremony, which will take place Sunday, June 21 at 7 p.m., as the kick-off event for the 2020 Ohio Museums Association Virtual Conference.

The OMA Awards program is an annual celebration of the outstanding achievement of Ohio museums in visual communications, individual and institutional achievement, and the tireless work museum professionals undertake to help advance Ohio's museum community both locally, and on a national level.

The Awards of Achievement are divided into two categories: Institutional Achievement Awards and Individual Achievement Awards.

Nominations for these awards are incredibly detailed. This in-depth process helps to illustrate how these institutions and individuals have gone "above and beyond" the normal call of duty to support their institution, serve their public and advance the cause of the museum community.

**OLHA member organization.*

The 2019 Award of Achievement winners are:

BEST EXHIBITION (UNDER \$500,000)

***Wood County Historical Center**

"For Comfort and Convenience: Public Charity in Ohio By Way of the Poor Farm"

BEST EXHIBITION (OVER \$500,000)

Cleveland Museum of Natural History

"Fossil Hunters: The Search for Our Past"

BEST EXHIBITION CATALOG (OVER \$500,000)

Toledo Museum of Art

"Life is a Highway: Art and American Car Culture"

BEST COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP (UNDER \$500,000)

Little Buckeye Children's Museum

"Imagination District"

BEST COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP (OVER \$500,000)

COSI – Center of Science and Industry

"2019 COSI Science Festival"

BEST EDUCATION AND OUTREACH (UNDER \$500,000)

***Columbus Jewish Historical Society**

"Letters Home, 1918"

BEST EDUCATION AND OUTREACH (OVER \$500,000)

Taft Museum of Art

"Duncanson Artist-in-Residence Program"

EMERGING PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR

Maria Iafelice

Toledo Museum of Art

BETTY BRYAN VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Sharon Hershey

*Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens

PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR

Christopher Kenney

McKinley Presidential Library & Museum

INSTITUTION OF THE YEAR

***Massillon Museum**

MMx2: Massillon Museum Expansion Project

The OMA Visual Communication awards recognize creative excellence in printed and digital materials produced and distributed by Ohio museums. This year's awards are based on materials produced or distributed during the 2019 calendar year.

The 2019 Visual Communication winners are:

BUDGET LEVEL 2

Gold Award:

Impact Communications

"Discover Chagrin Falls History"

Silver Award:

Cincinnati Skirball Museum

"Jewish Cincinnati: A Walk Through History"

Honorable Mention:

***Fairfield County Heritage Association**

"Heritage Quarterly, Vol 42 No. 2"

BUDGET LEVEL 3

Gold Award:

Alice F. and Harris K. Weston Art Gallery

"Weston Art Gallery Season Brochure 2019-2020"

Silver Award:

Little Buckeye Children's Museum

"Little Buckeye Brochure"

BUDGET LEVEL 4

Gold Award:

National Museum of the Great Lakes

"2019 Annual Fund Campaign"

Silver Award:

National Museum of the Great Lakes

"Lake Ontario Shipwrecks: A Journey of Discovery, by Jim Kennard"

BUDGET LEVEL 5

Gold Award:

Dayton Art Institute

"Dayton Art Institute Rebrand"

Silver Award:

Aullwood Audubon Center & Farm

"Aullwood Audubon Quarterly Newsletter January-March 2020 Issue"

Honorable Mention:

Taft Museum of Art

"L'Affichomania: The Passion for French Posters suite of exhibition materials"

(continued on page 10)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BUDGET LEVEL 6

Gold Award:

Cincinnati Art Museum

"1881, Issue 15 (Winter 2019-2020 Cincinnati Art Museum's Member Magazine)"

Silver Award:

Cleveland Museum of Art

"Shinto: Discovery of the Divine in Japanese Art"

Honorable Mention:

Cleveland Museum of Art

"PROOF Invitation"

BEST IN SHOW

Alice F. and Harris K. Weston Art Gallery

"Weston Art Gallery Season Brochure 2019-2020"

Do you have an amazing visual communications pieces at your museum? Is the new program/exhibit/partnership you launched this year a big hit? Have a colleague that goes above and beyond to make Ohio museums better? Don't miss your chance to be recognized!

More information on the 2020 OMA Annual Awards Program will be released soon - learn more about the OMA awards program and get full nomination details as they become available on the [Awards](#) page.

Women's Suffrage Resources Digitized

The Ohio State University Libraries' (OSUL) Rare Books & Manuscripts Library (RBML) is excited to announce that materials from its Women's Suffrage Collection have been digitized and are now available online.

Users can explore nearly [40 early twentieth-century American and British postcards](#) with both pro- and anti-suffrage viewpoints. Photo postcards of the historic 1913 Suffrage Parade in Washington, D.C., cartoons satirizing suffragists, and postcards featuring key individuals involved in the British movement are included. A short video of curator [Jolie Braun](#) talking about one of her favorite postcards in the collection is available at the OSUL YouTube channel

as well. The postcards are part of RBML's [Woman's Suffrage Collection](#), which contains publications and correspondence about women's right to vote, mostly from 1903-1912.

In addition to the postcards, [two scrapbooks \(one containing pro-suffrage materials, the other containing anti-suffrage items\)](#) also have been digitized. They comprise pamphlets, clippings, and other items documenting perspectives and news about women's suffrage, from the late nineteenth century through the early twentieth century. Users can peruse writings by prominent suffragists such as Carrie Chapman Catt, Charlotte Perkins Gilman, and M. Carey Thomas, as well as other kinds of ephemera such as leaflets,

sheet music, and cartoons. The items are wide-ranging in scope from flyers for local, Columbus, Ohio elections to materials about women's suffrage in England, France, and Australia.

The postcards and scrapbooks provide an important and exciting window into the efforts and concerns of those involved in the women's suffrage movement as well as their victories and the opposition they faced. This digitization project was motivated in part by the women's suffrage centennial. 2020 marks the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution, which established the right to vote for many women.

Ohio's Homefront to Warfront Drive-it-Yourself Trail!



Ten of Ohio's Museums featuring WWII history have joined forces to offer a new WWII Trail through Ohio! This is in celebration of the 75th Anniversary of Victory in Japan Day and the formal signing of the Instrument of Surrender on board the USS Missouri.

Participating Museums Include:

- Dennison Railroad Depot Museum
- National Veterans Memorial & Museum
- MAPS Air Museum
- The Earnest Warther Museum
- Old Main St Museum
- Fletcher General Hospital and Chapel
- National Museum of Cambridge Glass
- National Museum of the Air Force
- Champaign Aviation Museum
- WACO Air Museum

This tour kicked off on Flag Day and will be ongoing through the end of the year.

Special veteran recognition will be highlighted from August 15th to September 2.

This tour features over 500 miles of WWII history. The pandemic has challenged Ohio museums to find a safe way to celebrate. This drive-it-yourself tour was the perfect solution.

Trail maps with specific information on days of operation, hours, and admission for each attraction are available at each site or can be [downloaded](#).

CALL FOR COLLECTIONS:

COVID-19 Pandemic Museum and Archival Collection

The Ohio History Connection's collections enable people to discover their own place in historical events. While we have collected and continue to preserve items spanning thousands of years of human history, we also recognize the importance of collecting and documenting the history we are making today.

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to develop, we're collecting items documenting Ohioans' response to COVID-19 and attempts to limit its spread. These pieces will help us and future Ohioans to understand this extraordinary time in our history.



What types of items are you seeking?

- Documents including letters from friends and family, flyers advertising aid, creative online lesson plans, communications about resources from neighborhood associations, etc.
- Photographs depicting empty store shelves, unique things you did while social distancing, etc. – please include information about the scene, including date, location and photographer
- Objects such as Ohio-made products aiding in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, unique items that speak to social distancing, etc.

These items may relate to:

- Gathering restrictions and the way they have reshaped how we learn, work and socialize
- The role of medical professionals and first responders throughout Ohio who are fighting the COVID-19 pandemic
- Effects of the pandemic on local businesses
- Impact of school and childcare closings on family life and student activities
- Experiences of people diagnosed with COVID-19 and/or their caregivers

We are interested in learning about the items you have, but our curators are still working from home and the donation process will be delayed. We ask that you don't send or drop off items to us at the Ohio History Center without approval from a member of our curatorial team.

If you have any questions or items you would like to donate, please contact our curators by emailing collections@ohiohistory.org.

Cemeteries for Genealogy Research Webinar

Saturday July 18, 2020 • 10:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m.

Hunting for an ancestor's gravestone can be an exciting adventure or a frustrating series of dead ends. When we find our ancestor's gravestone, we often are in awe, as it can give important birth, death, and marriage dates. To provide this information, cemeteries need to be preserved and be taken care of. Join cemetery expert Krista Horrocks as she explains how the gravestones and historical documentation on cemeteries provide important genealogical information, how Ohio law treats cemeteries (all 14,637 of them), and cemetery preservation. Advance registration recommended. To register, visit ohiohistory.org/genealogy, email reservations@ohiohistory.org, or call 800.686.1541.

On the Web

Ohio Museums Association.

www.ohiomuseums.org

Do you find that most museum re-opening guidelines are written for large organization and don't seem to fit your circumstances? Do you wish that someone had just put together a brief set of recommendations for Ohio museums? Good news! The Ohio Museums Association has you covered. Visit their website for [Responsible Restart Ohio Museum Sector Reopen Guidelines](#). While you're there, also check out their excellent professional development programs and other resources.

COVID-19, the Ohio History Fund, and the SHPO

By Andy Verhoff, Ohio History Fund & Outreach Manager, State Historic Preservation Office, Ohio History Connection

Our world has changed significantly since Feb. 26, the day Ohio History Connection announced the latest recipients of Ohio History Fund grants. We are a part of history, too, just as the people and events we study are.

To help Ohio's historical organizations cope with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Ohio History Connection launched the Ohio History Fund COVID-19 Emergency Grant Program May 1. It accepted applications until June 1 and in a month received 127 applications totaling \$259,500 in requests. Thanks to support of the Ohio History Foundation and Conestoga, a volunteer organization dedicated to enhancing community support for the Ohio History Connection, the program has \$58,000 to grant. While the program cannot support all applicants, it is doing its best to support as many as it can. Applications were under review as this issue of *The Local Historian* was in production. The program will contact applicants around the middle of July and make grants to recipients at the end of that month.

The "regular" Ohio History Fund is alive and well, too, and under new management. As a part of an extensive

reorganization of the Ohio History Connection, the History Fund and its manager, Andy Verhoff, have joined the State Historic Preservation Office. See "People in the News" elsewhere in this issue for details.

The History Fund's home at the Ohio History Connection has changed, but the mission to support local history and preservation projects has not. The Ohio History Fund looks forward to backing the wide variety of projects it always has, under the areas of "Bricks & Mortar," "Organizational Development," and "Programs & Collections." To date, the program has around \$65,000 to grant in 2021, made possible by contributions of state tax refunds, sales of Ohio History "mastodon" license plates, and donations directly to the Ohio History Connection

Ohio History Fund applications open July 6. The application deadline is Oct. 1. The deadline is usually around Labor Day, but recognizing that would-be applicants may need more time to apply because of COVID-19, the deadline was moved back.

For more information, visit www.ohiohistory/historyfund and contact Andy Verhoff with questions: averhoff@ohiohistory.org; 614-297-2341.



Marion Voices, an oral history project of the Marion County Historical Society, receives its "big check" from the Ohio History Fund at Statehood Day, February 26, 2020. L to R: Pastor Jackie Peterson, Marion Voices; Brandi Wilson, Marion County Historical Society; Thomas Chema, Ohio History Connection; Johnnie Jackson and Jess Lamar Reece Holler, Marion Voices; State Representative Tracy Richardson; Tara Dyer, Marion Voices, and Burt Logan, Ohio History Connection.

Upcoming workshops, presented by the Ohio History Service Corps, sponsored by the Ohio Local History Alliance

Cracking the Code: Volunteer Programs

Presented by: **Annie Talmadge**, Local History Member hosted at Hancock Historical Museum.

For many local organizations, a primary concern is a lack of volunteers needed to reach their goals. Through this workshop series, we will provide local history and community non-profits with the tools to build the infrastructure to recruit and effectively utilize volunteers. Participants will have the opportunity to use their own organizations as case studies.

August 7, 2020
10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Session 1: Back to the Basics

Building a volunteer management program from the ground up can be difficult and confusing. Through an introduction to the basics of volunteer management, participants will identify their institution's needs and discuss how to use these tools to build a successful program.

August 14, 2020
10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Session 2: Raising the Bar

Taking an existing volunteer management program to the next level is an important part of keeping volunteers engaged. This session will address those details that are vital to a program's success, but are not always thought of when starting a new program.

This online event is free! You will need to register separately for each session. [Click here to register.](#)



CRACKING THE CODE: VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS WEBINAR SERIES

Back to the Basics
August 7, 2020
10:30-11:30
Raising the Bar
August 14, 2020
10:30-11:30

Collections 101 & 102: Getting Off on the Right Foot

Presented by: **Amanda Wachowiak**, Local History Member hosted at Shawnee State University.

A primer on object handling, labeling, storage solutions, research, and more. Connect with other institutions and Ohio History Service Corps (AmeriCorps) resources while learning about basic standards, practices, and principles of collections care. This webinar is structured for small to medium size local history organizations who are just starting out or are looking for a refresher on best practices for collections care and management.

August 11, 2020
10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Collections 101

Part one - Documenting your Collections

August 13, 2020
10:00 a.m. - 11:30 p.m.

Collections 102

Part two - Preserving and Using your Collections

This online event is free! You will need to register separately for each session. [Click here to register.](#)

Collections 101 and 102: Getting off on the Right Foot

Save the Dates

August 11, 2020
August 13, 2020

A two part introductory webinar on collections care and management

- object handling
- researching collections
- labeling
- using collections
- storage solutions
- and more!*

Register at: www.ohiohistory.org/ameri corps

This online event is **FREE!**

See event description for details



SERVE OHIO



OHIO HISTORY





OLHA Invites Nominations for Outstanding Achievement Awards

Each year, the Alliance presents awards honoring outstanding work in local history in our state. Individual Achievement Awards recognize those who have made outstanding contributions to Ohio's historical societies, history museums, or the understanding and appreciation of state and local history.

History Outreach Awards recognize outstanding local history projects in the categories of public programming, media and publications, and exhibits or displays.

The Ohio Local History Alliance Champion Award recognizes individuals or groups (including public officials and others who are not local historians or local history organizations) for outstanding efforts in the support of and/or contributions to local history in Ohio. Nominees must demonstrate ongoing support for local history organizations and initiatives in Ohio; or exceptional service to local history in relation to one particular issue or initiative.

Nominations

The nomination form and necessary supporting materials must be sent in no later than August 1, 2020. Nominations may be mailed or emailed.

- Mailed nominations should be presented in an indexed three-ring binder. The mailing address can be found on the application form. The Ohio Local History Alliance does not assume responsibility for nominations lost or delayed in transit.
- Emailed nominations should consist of files renamed using the section names given in the General Rules of the Application Form.

Full details and the nomination form can be found on our website at <https://ohiolha.org/what-we-do/outstanding-achievement-awards/>

Digitization 101 Webinar Series

Interested in learning how you can digitize your collections? Attend our FREE 3-part webinar series to learn almost everything you need to know, from start to finish. These professional development opportunities are sponsored by the Ohio Local History Alliance and presented by Ohio Memory staff of the Ohio History Connection.

Digitization 101 Part 1: Plan Before You Scan

Wednesday, June 17, 2020, 10-11:30am

Topics include: project planning and management; funding; vendor selection; material selection, and copyright.

Registration closed.

Digitization 101 Part 2: Tools and Techniques

Tuesday, July 14, 2020, 10-11:30am

Topics include: equipment, scanning standards and best practices, and newspaper digitization.

[Click here to register.](#)

Digitization 101 Part 3: Providing Access and Measuring Success

Tuesday, August 18, 2020, 10-11:30am

Topics include: metadata standards and best practices; storage; hosting and public access; and project evaluation.

[Click here to register.](#)

We hope you can join us, but if you can't, webinar recordings will be made available to those who register but are unable to attend live. Please note that these webinars replace the in-person regional digitization workshops scheduled for June-August 2020 which have been cancelled due to the safety and health concerns caused by the ongoing coronavirus outbreak. Questions? Contact us at ohiomemory@ohiohistory.org.

Region 1

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

Region 2

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

Region 3

Cuyahoga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, and Summit Counties

Region 4

Ashtabula, Geauga, Mahoning, Portage, and Trumbull Counties

Region 5

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

Region 6

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

Region 7

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

The **Heritage Commission Corporation** in South Charleston created a booklet based on our Historical Greenlawn Cemetery walking tours of 2018. This has proven to be an attractive social distancing activity for individuals and families, with both local and area-wide sales. It has a cemetery map with 36 numbered sites for a walking tour of early South Charleston individuals and an explanation of Victorian head stone designs. An index is included if someone is looking for a specific person in early South Charleston history.

While closed to the public, the **Clark County Historical Society** offered new ways to connect with audiences. Efforts included adapting an annual “History Madness” voting competition to highlight museum exhibits and artifacts, allowing participants to “see” inside the museum and vote for their favorites in a “March Madness” style bracket, turning a spring tradition of a “Peeps in History” local history scene display into a daily “Peeps in Quarantine” feature, providing links to virtual puzzles featuring local history scenes, and leading bi-weekly recorded Zoom public discussions highlighting collection images and objects and encouraging participants to share stories and memories.

With the onset of Stay-at-Home orders for Ohio, the **Auglaize County Historical Society** turned to alternative programming with a vengeance. It developed a Postcard of the Day feature for its Facebook page (often tying the featured postcards to seasonal themes, such as Easter or Decoration Day or farming/gardening, etc.). ACHS has run a series of brief biographies in the newspapers—“100 Words On...”—about accomplished local residents from history. ACHS organized a photography competition of local historic buildings for National Historic Preservation Month (with donated prizes). Most successful, however, are the Facebook Live programs ACHS has presented. German Decorative Arts in Ohio has

reached 876 (having debuted only three days ago); Journey the Oregon Trail (about heritage tourism) has reached 741 persons; and German Immigrants and Migrants has reached a whopping 8186 persons since its initial broadcast in May. We have tried to turn chaos into opportunity, as we have been able.

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

Region 10

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

In 100 words or less, do you have outstanding news to share about your organization? Please email it to your regional representative for the next issue of *The Local Historian*. Contact information for the representatives in your region is on page 2 of this issue. Of course, you are welcome to forward your news directly to the editor of *The Local Historian* at ohiolha@ohiohistory.org. Rather than serving as a calendar of events, items for “News from the Regions” are chosen to inspire, connect, and educate the Alliance’s members all over Ohio and celebrate notable and imitation-worthy accomplishments of Alliance members.

Joined or renewed between April 7 and June 23, 2020

Welcome New Members

INDIVIDUALS

Sherri L. Goudy,
Wapakoneta

ORGANIZATIONS

Arcanum Preservation Society,
Arcanum

Thank You Renewing Members

INDIVIDUALS

Mandy Askins, *Kettering*

Ann Cramer, *Logan*

Edward R. Creighton, *Hamilton*

Todd McCormick, *Bellefontaine*

Mary Stoots, *Reynoldsburg*

Roselia C. Verhoff, *Ottawa*

ORGANIZATIONS

Alliance Historical Society,
Alliance

Austintown Historical Society,
Austintown

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

Butler County Historical Society,
Hamilton

Cincinnati Observatory Center,
Cincinnati

Clinton County History Center,
Wilmington

Columbus Historical Society,
Columbus

Delphos Canal Commission,
Delphos

Hanover Township Historical
Society, *Hanoverton*

Hardin County Historical
Museums, *Kenton*

Harveysburg Community
Historical Society, *Harveysburg*

Hilliard Ohio Historical Society,
Hilliard

Hocking County Historical
Society, *Logan*

Holmes County Historical
Society, *Millersburg*

Logan County Historical Society,
Bellefontaine

Lucy Hayes Heritage Center,
Chillicothe

Madison Historical Society,
Madison

Maple Heights Historical Society,
Bedford

Mariemont Preservation
Foundation, *Cincinnati*

Museum of Fulton County,
Wauseon

Muskingum County History,
Zanesville

National McKinley Birthplace
Memorial Association, *Niles*

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

New London Area Historical
Society, *New London*

North Baltimore Area Historical
Society, *North Baltimore*

Ohio Genealogical Society,
Bellville

Peninsula Foundation, *Peninsula*

Peninsula Library & Historical
Society, *Peninsula*

Pickaway County African
American Heritage Association,
Circleville

Piqua Public Library, *Piqua*

Plain Township Historical
Society, *Canton*

Reynoldsburg Truro Historical
Society, *Reynoldsburg*

Richland County Historical
Society, *Mansfield*

Springboro Area Historical
Society, *Springboro*

Summit County Historical
Society, *Akron*

The Dawes Arboretum, *Newark*

Toledo History Museum, Inc.,
Toledo

Tuscarawas County Historical
Society, *New Philadelphia*

Vermilion History Museum,
Vermilion

Whitehall Historical Society,
Gahanna

JULY 14:

Digitization 101 Webinar – Part 2: Tools and Techniques. For more information, see page 14.

JULY 18:

Cemeteries for Genealogy Research Webinar. For more information, see page 12.

AUGUST 1:

Ohio Open Doors sign up deadline. For more information, see ohiohistory.org/opendoors

OLHA Award Nominations Due (postmarked). For more information, see page 14.

AUGUST 7:

Cracking the Code: Volunteer Programs Webinar, Session 1: Back to the Basics. For more information, see page 13.

AUGUST 11:

Collections 101: Documenting your Collections Webinar. For more information, see page 13.

AUGUST 13:

Collections 102: Preserving and Using your Collection Webinar. For more information, see page 13.

AUGUST 14:

Cracking the Code: Volunteer Programs Webinar, Session 2: Raising the Bar. For more information, see page 13.

AUGUST 18:

Digitization 101 Webinar – Part 3: Providing Access and Measuring Success. For more information, see page 14.

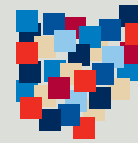
OCTOBER 1:

Ohio History Fund Grant Applications Due. For more information, see page 12.

OCTOBER 1-3:

OLHA Annual Meeting, online. For more information, see page 4.

JOIN THE OHIO LOCAL HISTORY ALLIANCE...



OHIO LOCAL HISTORY ALLIANCE
Inspire. Connect. Educate.

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

Organizational Member

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

Operating budget:

Over \$200,000 a year:	\$100	(\$190 for 2)
\$100,000-\$200,000 a year:	\$75	(\$140 for 2)
\$25,000-\$100,000 a year:	\$60	(\$110 for 2)
Under \$25,000 a year:	\$35	(\$65 for 2)

Individual Member

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

Affiliate:	\$35	(\$65 for 2)
Individual:	\$50	(\$90 for 2)
Student:	\$20	

Business Member:

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

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

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

The Local Historian (ISSN 9893-3340) is published bimonthly by the Ohio History Connection, 800 E. 17th Avenue, Columbus, OH 43211-2497, as a benefit to Ohio Local History Alliance members.

Periodicals Postage Paid at Columbus, OH.

POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to:

The Local Historian,
Local History Services,
Ohio History Connection,
800 E. 17th Avenue,
Columbus, OH 43211-2497.

Editor: Betsy Hedler

Graphic Design: Kim Koloski

Please direct materials or phone inquiries to:

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ehedler@ohiohistory.org

Visit The Alliance online at

www.ohiolha.org and on Facebook at

www.facebook.com/ohio-localhistoryalliance

Annual Membership Dues:

Organizations:

Annual budget over \$200,000: \$100 (\$190 for 2)

Annual budget \$100,000-\$200,000: \$75 (\$140 for 2)

Annual budget \$25,000-\$100,000: \$60 (\$110 for 2)

Annual budget below \$25,000: \$35 (\$65 for 2)

Individuals:

Affiliate:

\$35 (\$65 for 2)

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

Students: \$20

Business:

\$100 (\$190 for 2)

Individual subscriptions to *The Local Historian* only are available for \$25 annually.

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