

Most of Our Session Topics Came from YOU! *Attend the 2017 OLHA Annual Conference*



By Leslie Blankenship, Franklinton Historical Society and Kelton House Museum and Garden

If you completed our post-conference online survey last October, **thank you!** We love hearing from you! It makes our job planning the conference easier. Eighteen of this year's 41 sessions came from your suggestions. And, if you submitted a Conference Session Proposal Form this year, **thank you!** That helped too. Thirteen of our sessions came from your submissions.

With *History Matters!* as our theme for the 2017 Annual Conference, it really *matters* that you took the time to tell us what you want to learn at upcoming conferences. You may have noticed that we've stepped up our game over the past three years by offering four sessions per conference hour instead of two. That means you can choose from 20 sessions on Friday and from another 20 sessions on Saturday.

Rounding out the offering this year are four Friday sessions from our popular conference partners, the Society of Ohio Archivists, and one session discussing how to research and document the Underground Railroad from our Keynote Speaker Déanda Johnson, Midwest Coordinator from the National Parks Service Network to Freedom Program. Other perennial favorites are returning: "Speed Networking" and "Grant Writing Do's and Don'ts from Five Years with the Ohio History Fund." New this year is a session on how to nominate a historic building or neighborhood to the National Register of Historic Places and a panel discussion on how to write a killer award nomination for your exhibit, public program, website, or digital project.

We've also scheduled a Pre-Conference session on Thursday afternoon (1:00 to 5:00 pm) tailored to help college students—emerging professionals in the field of public history—develop proper job-seeking skills. These include tips on resume writ-

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President's Message:

The 2018 Ohio Local History Alliance Annual Conference is almost here! The conference will be on October 6th and 7th at the Crowne Plaza in Dublin. This will be our second year at the Crowne Plaza. We made the move to the Crowne Plaza, Dublin for several reasons. The main one being the conference had outgrown our previous location. That is a great problem to have!

Education Committee co-chairs
Leslie Blankenship and Jessica Cyders,

along with then OLHA president Beth Weinhardt and OLHA Executive Secretary Betsy Hedler were tasked with finding a new and larger venue. They diligently checked into several different places with the Crowne Plaza, Dublin rising to the top in terms of fitting our needs. Our first conference at the Crowne Plaza seemed to be well received and we hope this year's will be even better.

Obviously, a larger facility means a higher cost. Last year we did not raise the registration fees despite the higher rental cost. Unfortunately, this resulted in the conference being in red numbers. Although, we could afford to do that for a

year, it is not sustainable. Consequently, the OLHA board voted to raise the registration fees to cover our cost and to put us more on par to similar conferences. We sincerely hope this increase does not prevent anyone of our members from attending our conference. We just wanted to make you aware of this needed increase.

I hope to see you at the Crown Plaza, Dublin on October 6th and 7th!

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ing and interviewing, as well as insights from three real-life museum employers on what they expect from job applicants. This topic was one of your survey suggestions, and it was also a goal lifted from our 2016-2021 OLHA Strategic Plan.

This plan is the compass guiding us as we conjure up conference sessions. Another goal from the 5-year plan is to offer conference topics on best practices of public history professionalism that may appeal to small and all-volunteer history organizations. These sessions include upgrading technological skills, techniques for engaging communities, and learning how to publicly advocate the importance of preservation and local history with governmental officials.

The following list includes some of your survey suggestions and the sessions we matched to them:

- **Challenges of maintaining older historic properties** (See “Historic Buildings as Artifacts”)
- **Combining history with science** (See “The Highland County Gist Settlement: Public Archaeology, Manumission and a 19th Century African-American Community” and “Minerals, Meteorites, Mastodons, and Dinosaurs”)
- **Researching and evaluating museum attendees and audiences** (See “Becoming a Museum Detective: An Introduction to Visitor Research Best Practices”)
- **Oral history projects** (See “Sharing Our Stories: An Introduction to Oral History” and “Leveraging Libraries and Student Veterans” from SOA)
- **Expertise in collection care** (See “Exhibit Case Nuts and Bolts,” “AAM’s Collections Care White Paper: What it Means for Your Museum,” and “Collections Conundrums: Unclaimed Loans, Doorstep Donations, and FICs”)
- **Programs that engage children and young families** (See “Mobilizing Community Resources to Bring Schools to Your Museum,” “Incorporating Kids into Your Programming to Bring Adults into Your Museum,” and “Practical Tips for Creating a Local History Program for 3rd Grade”)
- **Museum store ideas** (See “Minerals, Meteorites, Mastodons, and Dinosaurs”)
- **Inventive ideas for revenue generation** (See “Marketing in the 21st Century,” and “Minerals, Meteorites, Mastodons, and Dinosaurs”)
- **Local associations’ outreach programs: how they engage their community and include diversity, social issues** (See “The Making of a Historical Film,” “Using Ohio’s African-American World War I Experience as a Teaching Tool in Your Community,” “Why Save Poindexter Village as a Museum and Cultural Learning Center?” and “Documenting our Doughboys”)
- **Professional development opportunities to grow skills and capacity** (See “Stepping into StEPs”)

Please keep your topic suggestions coming! We’ll be watching for your comments in this year’s post-conference online survey. Share a session idea you might have by downloading the 2018 Annual Conference Session Proposal Form available online at www.ohiolha.org in October, or pick one up at the Annual Meeting. Submit (by email, fax, or mail) to the Ohio History Connection, Local History Office ehedler@ohiohistory.org by the middle of February 2018. ■

Reception

Friday, October 6, 6:00 pm

Join your friends and colleagues in a reserved area in the Metro Grill at the Crown Plaza for a variety of hot and cold appetizers, along with a cash bar. \$30 per person. Registration is limited to 60 people.

Tour of Fletcher Coffman House

5:30-7:30 pm

Something new this year!

The Dublin Historical Society has cordially invited OLHA conference attendees to tour their Fletcher Coffman House, a Civil War era brick home-
stead, furnished with original Coffman Family furniture. It is located next to the Dublin Municipal Building (City Hall), 5200 Emerald Parkway. Parking is available in the Municipal Building parking lot or adjacent spaces for Coffman Park. No fee. Donations appreciated. ■



Annual Conference at a Glance

WHAT: History Matters! the Ohio Local History Alliance Annual Meeting & Conference in Partnership with the Society of Ohio Archivists

WHEN: Friday, October 6 and Saturday, October 6, 2017. (Pre-Conference Session Thursday, 1:00-5:00, October 5.)

WHERE: Crowne Plaza Columbus-Dublin, 600 Metro Place North, Dublin, Ohio (614.764.2200) Call and ask for the OLHA 2017 Annual Meeting, or register online using this link bit.ly/2rodeft to receive the discounted conference rate of \$99.00 per night. **Book your room by September 20.**

MORE INFORMATION: Visit www.ohiolha.org/alliance-annual-meeting to download the full conference brochure.

REGISTER: Visit www.ohiohistorystore.com/events/am2017.aspx to register online or send in the registration form available in the brochure (link above).

Pre-registration closes September 22. ■

Public Speaking for Public Historians

By Melissa Shaw, Region 7 Representative and Curator, Collections Management Division, National Museum of the United States Air Force

Jason Swiatkowski, Museum Education Coordinator, Armstrong Air & Space Museum, speaks at the 2016 Annual Meeting



At work, public speaking might not be a major job duty, but it is something everyone is called upon to do from time to time. Staff meetings, introducing yourself to new board members, and answering visitor questions on your way to lunch are all opportunities for those of us that are normally in the background to shine. Effective public speaking is a great way to get others to share your and your organization's values. As a member of your organization, it is your responsibility to make public interactions interesting and informative.

The internet is full of tips and tricks to be a better public speaker, but speaking is a skill that is best honed by practicing with other people. Here are three simple and low stress ways to become a more effective public speaker:

1. Go old school: Enroll in a public speaking class at a local community college. These courses offer an opportunity to learn or relearn the fundamentals of speech writing and presentation. They often include techniques to lessen speaker anxiety and how to effectively use PowerPoint or other visual

aids. Many classes are designed so that students present planned speeches, as well as receive peer and instructor feedback on effectiveness in a non-threatening environment, all with the goal of providing the basic principles needed for effective speaking.

2. Act out: Many local theaters and playhouses have improvisational, or "improv," workshops and classes. Improvisational theater really started to take off in the 1990s and has helped participants with communication in a less-rigid environment than a traditional classroom setting. It is a form of performance in which the plot, characters, and dialogue are made up on the spot. Improv emphasize teamwork, active listening, and spatial awareness for the actors involved. There are many types of improv for all preferences and skill levels.

3. A toast!: Toastmasters International is an organization whose goal is to make you a better communicator and leader. This organization, founded in 1924, has over 15,000 members in 142 countries. There are many local Toastmaster clubs throughout Ohio. Each club has scheduled member-led meetings in which members take turns presenting speeches. Club membership is open to all people ages 18 and above, but you do not have to be a member to attend most meetings.

On top of practicing your public speaking, all three of these options provide networking opportunities for you to communicate the mission and ideals of your organization to new audiences. Each offers a different approach for you to become a stronger communicator and reach a new audience.

Dale Carnegie has said, "A book may give you excellent suggestions on how best to conduct yourself in the water, but sooner or later you must get wet..." Public speaking is a skill that one must perform regularly to improve. By being a strong public speaker you will help your organization and yourself better engage with your community. ■

New Ohio Battleflag License Plates Now Available

by Todd Kleismit, Director of Community & Government Relations, Ohio History Connection



A new Ohio Battleflag license plate became available to the public on August 22. The image depicts a U.S. flag and Ohio burgee on a flag

pole. "In God We Trust" is written on the bottom. The new organizational license plate costs \$25 additional to the normal vehicle registration costs with \$15 of that being directed to the Ohio History Connection for the care and maintenance of the state's battle flag collection.

The idea and the design for the new Ohio Battleflag came from Ohio Speaker of the House Cliff Rosenberger (R-Clarksville) in 2016. The new

license plate gives history lovers a new option. The "Ohio History" (mastodon) license plates, introduced in 2014, generate contributions to the Ohio History Fund.

To order the new Ohio Battleflag plates, visit online at www.ohiobmv.gov. Select organizational plates and then choose "Ohio Battleflag." ■

Fayette County Historical Society

Andy Verhoff, Ohio History Fund Grant Coordinator, Local History Services, Ohio History Connection

Members of the Ohio Local History Alliance are very successful at winning grants from the Ohio History Fund, the Ohio History Connection's competitive matching grant program for history projects.

As of August 2017, 26 Alliance members have netted more than \$250,000 in History Fund grants, almost half of those made since the program began in 2012. To showcase the good that Alliance members do with History Fund grants, The Local Historian presents a new semi-regular feature, "Funding Brighter Futures: Local History + the History Fund." The content is excerpted from History Fund grantees' final project reports and follow-up interviews.

We hope these stories inspire with ideas to tackle your own projects; or possibly to apply for a History Fund grant. For more information about the History Fund, including an application, eligibility requirements, and deadlines, visit www.ohiohistory.org/historyfund or contact program coordinator, Andy Verhoff, 614-297-2341, averhoff@ohiohistory.org

We also hope these stories inspire you to give. As The Local Historian will proclaim next tax season, 100% of the money for History Fund grants is voluntarily given. It comes from donations of state income tax refunds, the sales of Ohio History "mastodon" license plates, and direct contributions to the Ohio History Connection for the History Fund. The more the History Fund receives in donations, the more it grants back to organizations like yours – maybe yours, if you apply!

HISTORY FUND GRANT RECIPIENT:

Fayette County Historical Society



The Morris Sharp House / Fayette County Museum. Photo courtesy the Fayette County Historical Society

Project title: _____

2015 Climate Control Project
(repairs to museum's windows)

Category: _____

Bricks & Mortar

Award: _____

\$14,000

Amount requested: _____

\$14,400

(partial grant made to accommodate funding for other projects)

Grant year: _____

2014-2015

Alliance member since: _____

1995

Year added to National Register of Historic Places: _____

(requirement for Bricks & Mortar project only):

1974

What did the project accomplish?

The mission of the Fayette County Historical Society in Washington Courthouse is to collect, preserve and interpret the history of the county. The "2015 Climate Control Project" enabled the society to better protect the artifacts in its care by repairing windows in its c. 1875 Morris Sharp House - aka, the Fayette County Museum. Repair to the windows enables the organization to better control the building's inside climate and secure it against the weather.

The project was the last phase of a three-year effort to repair the museum's 43 windows. The society's board undertook the project in response to a Local History Service's Needs Assessment in July 2013. The assessment's primary recommendation was

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Before



After

Before and after shots of History Fund-supported window repairs to the Morris Sharp House / Fayette County Museum. Photos courtesy the Fayette County Historical Society

to improve the interior climate of the house, to better preserve the society's collections and make the house more comfortable to work in and visit.

Who benefits from the project?

The Fayette County Museum serves the citizens of Fayette County, but also preserves local aspects of state and national history - including Morris Sharp House itself and the collections inside. As of 2015, the Fayette County Museum welcome more than two thousand Fayette Countians and in excess of one hundred out-of-county, and approximately thirty out-of-state visitors.

In addition to the citizens of this large rural county, area contractor Legacy Restoration and Construction benefited from the project when it won the bid to repair the windows. The project, albeit in a small way, benefited the local economy.

The board benefited, too. The window repair project has created excitement within the community about the museum. The project was also a launching point for more projects. After the FCHS finished the windows, funding from local supporters enabled the organization to repair the house's four doors, included two that were non-functional "for years," according to society treasurer, Bob Russell. The door project concluded the spring of 2017. With airtight windows, made possible in part by a grant from the History Fund, and airtight doors, thanks to local donors, the museum's heating bill have dropped.

The success of window project propelled the society to apply for a state capital budget appropriation in 2016 to install central air conditioning. The society received an appropriation of \$25,000 - a smaller amount compared to others in the hundreds of thousands of dollars, but one that made a huge difference to the museum! Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC) administered the appropriation. Because the house is on the National Register, the OFCC required Ohio State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to approve the work to insure it would maintain the historic appearance of the house. (The



Big checks lead to bigger projects! At Statehood Day 2015, shown L to R: Mark Sundlov and Stacia Kuceyeski of the Outreach Division of the Ohio History Connection, Fayette County Historical Society Treasurer Bob Russell, and Ohio History Connection board president Glenda S. Greenwood

SHPO also reviews projects that receive Bricks & Mortar grants from the History Fund). The A/C project concluded in July 2017. The society is now able to maintain steady temperature and relative humidity levels in the museum year 'round to ensure the preservation of the collections entrusted to the society, and the comfort volunteers and visitors.

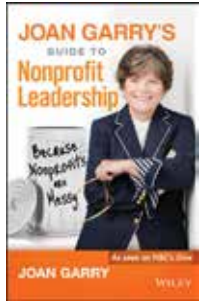
As necessary as building upkeep is, the Fayette County Historical Society sees a more significant benefit from these efforts: the community sees that the historical society is a moving ahead and that it's worthy of support. Treasurer Russell noted that "the A/C project just ended in July [2017], so it's too early to see an increase in visitation yet." He continued by noting that what the society has seen is increase in volunteer hours because the house "is more comfortable to work in."

Local History Services' Needs Assessments don't always result in History Fund grants, and History Fund grant don't always lead to state capital appropriations for museum building construction projects. But in the case of the all-volunteer Fayette County Historical Society, it did. The society's next big goal is to repaint the museum. If you're in Washington Court House, stop by the Fayette County Museum to see their repaired windows and feel the cool air inside - as well as it collections of the county's history: www.fayette-co-oh.com/museum.html. "Like" them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Fayettecountymuseum/ ■

Joan Garry's Guide to Nonprofit Leadership: Because Nonprofits Are Messy

by Mary Manning, Nonprofit Consultant, Cleveland

Joan Garry is a prominent nonprofit consultant, known to many through the internet as a prolific blogger and giver of advice. In *Joan Garry's Guide to Nonprofit Leadership*, she reframes this advice as straightforward lists of do's and don'ts geared toward Board leaders and high-level nonprofit staff. This book is not geared strictly toward museum



workers; but for museums or historical organizations that have staff or are thinking of making the leap to hire staff, Garry's advice and her framing of necessary questions may prove very helpful.

Garry's background plays a key role in her success. She began her career in the for-profit sector working for MTV and then Showtime, and she transitioned into nonprofit work in 1997, when she was hired to become the Executive Director of GLAAD (at that time, the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, and now simply GLAAD). Garry is frank about the state of the organization she came into—she says, “It was actually large by reputation but ‘large’ was not the first word that came to mind when I saw that we had only \$360 in the bank.” Thus, Garry's expertise was gained the hard way by

managing an organization out of the red, into the black, and also into maintaining a roster of committed donors and support networks. *Joan Garry's Guide to Nonprofit Leadership*, she says, represents her effort to write the book she wished she'd had when she stepped into that job and realized the challenges ahead.

This book covers topics ranging from leadership attributes for the best Executive Directors and Board Chairs to how to build a good Board to how to manage paid and unpaid staff. Many readers will find the chapters on storytelling and fundraising to be most valuable; Garry gives advice for how to tell the best, most convincing story about your organization and explains why that can lead to better community support. For those of us who feel very close to our museums or have trouble articulating why history is so important, her advice may provide a means of prioritizing thoughts to turn them into actions. She suggests what to include in annual evaluations of Board members and staff, but also encourages an annual evaluation of the organization itself. In this, her suggestions readily line up with programs like AASLH's StEPs (Standards and Excellence Program), which rewards frequent check-ups on mission, interpretative goals, planning, and other topics with higher certificate levels. This book could serve as a good resource for those facing personnel or organizational challenges for the first time—she gives suggestions for planning leadership transitions effectively and preparing public relations strategies for crisis situations.

Organizations that are already struggling may find *Joan Garry's Guide to Nonprofit Leadership* too confrontational. Often it seems that she believes the best way is her way, tested and true, and any other way can only lead to a messier situation. Her confidence can be off-putting. For example, she suggests that planning may be easier in the summer when many nonprofits have quieter schedules and less structured programs, but any museum staff member or volunteer would find that statement patently untrue. Because of the measures and planning she suggests, nonprofits with paid staff who can devote time to solving problems would likely find her advice more helpful than all-volunteer organizations who struggle to find members, money, and time, even if these all-volunteer organizations need her advice the most.

Ultimately, this book can provide as many answers as an organization needs, or at least the strength to continue trying to find them. Garry writes: “it is my fondest hope that this book offered you both philosophical and tactical takeaways that enable you to feel less alone and more effective” (210). This statement is likely also the clearest evaluation of the book—it's worth a read, but is ultimately worth only as much as the reader is able to take away and apply to their organization.

Garry, Joan. Joan Garry's Guide to Nonprofit Leadership: Because Nonprofits Are Messy. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 2017. ■

Ohio Museum's Association Conference Call for Session Proposals

Submission Deadline October 13

In an ever-changing landscape of new technology, new concepts and new experiences, there is a choice: ask big questions and generate extraordinary ideas – or risk becoming obsolete.

Across Ohio, museums are tackling the ideas and questions that reshape the way we function, change the way we think and communicate, and impact how we grow and serve both our mission and our communities.

This year's host city knows a thing or two about making new ideas take flight. Join us in Dayton, April 15 and 16 as we explore these topics and more at the 2018 Ohio Museums Association's Annual Conference – Dayton.

OMA is looking for innovative and engaging sessions that will create an interactive experience for our conference attendees.

Send in a proposal for a session that you would like to attend!

Submit your session proposal now for the 2018 annual conference of the Ohio Museums Association as we explore best practices and innovative ideas in Ohio museums. We're seeking session proposals that will foster dynamic conversations around:

- **Telling your museum's stories in unique ways** – Integrating innovative programs, partnerships and interpretation to stay relevant to both new audiences and existing ones.
- **Museums and workforce development** – From early education to adult workforce readiness, how are museums filling this vital community role?



- **Fiscal responsibility, sustainability, and keeping true to your mission** – How can museums remain sustainable, both financially and environmentally, while continuing to serve as trusted cultural stewards?
- **The role of museums in community inclusion** – How museums can better reflect our diverse communities in how we serve our audiences, and for those seeking museum careers.
- **Un-success stories** – Lessons learned, and how to bounce back from a less-than-successful venture.

Visit www.ohiomuseums.org/2018Conference to download a proposal form.

Proposals can be submitted to oma@ohiohistory.org; or sent through US Post to:

**Ohio Museums Association
800 E. 17th Ave.
Columbus, OH 43211**

For more information, visit www.ohiomuseums.org/2018Conference. OMA reserves the right to evaluate all proposals and to schedule those that accomplish the goal of a balanced program. **Submission deadline is October 13, 2017.** ■

Heritage Ohio 2017 Conference

The 2017 Heritage Ohio Annual Preservation and Revitalization Conference will be held in downtown Columbus, October 16-18, at the Sheraton Columbus Hotel at Capitol Square.

Agenda

We have brought together the leaders of preservation and revitalization to provide you with an exciting and educational set of sessions. We are bringing back our popular School of Architecture, as well as sessions discussing the impact of autonomous vehicles, retail design and recruitment, the newly created Downtown Revitalization Districts and how to use them in your community, and a complete Main Street 101 Series, among many more.

We are once again providing special sessions with the state historic preservation office, covering topics like civil rights and the National Register, GIS mapping, and state and federal historic preservation tax credits.

AIA Continuing Education Credits are currently awaiting approval. Check back soon to see which sessions will have credits assigned to them.

Keynote Speakers

Robert Stanton, member of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (AHP) and former director of the National Park Service will be our keynote speaker at our Wednesday Luncheon.

Kate Wagner, of the wildly popular architectural blog McMansion Hell, will be speaking on the evening of October 17th at the Ohio Statehouse Atrium. Proceeds from this event will benefit the Save Ohio's Treasures Fund. Tickets will go on sale soon.

For more information, visit Heritage Ohio's website at www.heritageohio.org/2017-annual-conference/ ■

Get Ready to Speak Up For Ohio Museums on October 2!

Let's all speak up on Monday, October 2, during OMA's 6th Annual Speak Up For Ohio Museums Day!

Speak Up For Ohio Museums! Day on October 2 is the perfect time to spread the word about the importance of your museum and museums across the state – to your members, community, and elected officials – and encourage them to Speak Up about the crucial role of museums in our communities.

This Speak Up For Ohio Museums Day, OMA encourages Ohio institutions to explore the many advocacy resources available on the OMA Advocacy page. Learn more at www.ohiomuseums.org.

This year for Speak Up for Ohio Museums Day, the Ohio Museums Association is once again assembling a photo story to share with our elected officials, colleagues and friends, highlighting the importance of the vibrant and diverse museums that call Ohio home.



Sharing your museum's story is easy:

- Send OMA a high resolution photo that you feel demonstrates why your museum matters. You can send photos to oma@ohiohistory.org, with the subject line: OMA Photo Story
- In your email, please include the exact wording you want to use in crediting your institution, along with a brief (140 characters or less) description of how you believe museums impact the community.

The deadline to submit photos is September 15, 2017.

Learn more at www.ohiomuseums.org. ■

ICA's Annual Subsidized Survey



2017 Subsidized Survey at Mahoning Valley Historical Society

As part of our ongoing public service, each year ICA selects one collecting institution to receive a free, 2-day collection survey.

The goal of the program is to help the recipient institution identify its preservation needs and plan future conservation and stewardship initiatives. The information gained through the assessment helps the institution prioritize objectives and potentially raise funds to address those preservation needs.

Any non-profit organization with a public collection, which can demonstrate a commitment to preservation and collections care is eligible to apply for this survey. Recent winners include The Benjamin Franklin Wirt Collection at the Mahoning Valley Historical Society (Youngstown), Dixon Gallery & Gardens (Memphis), Indiana University of Penn-

sylvania Museum, The Butler Institute of American Art (Youngstown), and Huntington Museum of Art (West Virginia).

ICA will offer one collection survey focusing on a select group of artifacts within an institution. An ICA conservator will visit the recipient institution to examine the objects on-site for up to two days. Written condition reports and treatment recommendations will be provided after the visit. The selected institution only pays travel and accommodation expenses associated with the on-site survey.

The subsidized survey application and instructions for submission are available under the Education tab on ICA's website at www.ica-artconservation.org/education/subsidized-survey/

Registration Deadline: Friday, September 29, 2017. ■

AASLH Upcoming Online Courses

Online Course: Project Management for History Professionals

October 16 - November 10, \$350 - \$425

Do you often juggle several projects, trying to keep each one focused and on track? Project management provides valuable training that will help you organize, manage, and successfully complete projects. This online course shows you how to implement internationally recognized project management principles in a history context. Details: Format: Online Course Dates: October 16 - November 10, 2017 Cost: \$350 AASLH members/\$425 nonmembers. The course is taught by Steven Hoskins, Ph.D., author of AASLH's Technical Leaflet (#260) "Calculating Risk: A Guide to Project Management for History Professionals."

Online Course: Basics of Archives

November 15 - December 15, \$85 - \$160

The newly revised Basics of Archives online course is designed to give organizations and individuals who are responsible for the care of historical records an introduction to the core aspects of managing and protecting historical records collections, using appropriate principles and best practices. Register Details: November 15-December 15, 2017 15-20 hours to be completed anytime during the above dates. Cost: \$85 members/\$160 nonmembers. Course taught by Charles Arp, Enterprise Content Manager-IT at the Battelle Memorial Institute. Previously, he worked for the Ohio History Connection for thirteen years, ultimately becoming Ohio's State Archivist.

For more information and to register for either of these courses, go to learn.aaslh.org/calendar/category/online-course/ ■

AASLH Upcoming Webinars

Interpreting Agriculture at Museums and Historic Sites

September 26, Free

Interpreting Agriculture at Museums and Historic Sites (Rowman & Littlefield, 2017) encourages us to put an "H" (the humanities, not just history) into a STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) subject – a STEATH approach. During this webinar, Dr. Reid will summarize main points from *Interpreting Agriculture*, including an overview of different disciplinary methodology useful to interpreting agriculture (sciences, social sciences, and humanities), and then case studies of interpreting agricultural machinery using a social history and humanist approach.

Best Practices for Developing History Internships

October 24, \$40 - \$65

Creating an internship program at your historic site can not only benefit your organization, but should also benefit your interns and lets you help develop the next generation of history professionals. This webinar will give you tips and strategies for creating an internship program that both you and your interns will get something out of. We'll cover the ethics of internships, best practices for managing interns, and a look at some common challenges and possible solutions.

Bringing the Past to the Present: Contemporary Issues at Historic Sites and Museums

October 25, \$40 - \$65

Are you interested in connecting your site's history with a current issue? Or wondering how you can use your site to spark dialogue and encourage visitors to take action? Or to navigate sensitive conversations with co-workers and visitors who might be resistant to discussing contemporary topics? This interactive webinar will explore how historic sites and museums can bring contemporary issues to light at their sites. Using Eastern State Penitentiary Historic Site as a case study.

Active Collections: How to Create a Leaner Collection for Greater Impact

November 7, \$40 - \$65

Looking to explore options of what it means to steward leaner, more sustainable collections with greater impact? Join Elee Wood, Rainey Tisdale, and Trevor Jones for a lively interactive discussion of ideas and action items on innovative and possibly unconventional ideas for collections stewardship and management. Topics will include new approaches to collections development, cataloging, policy, deaccessioning. Participants will gain practical strategies and tools to shape your collection for greater impact.

Policies and Procedures for Deaccessioning

November 14, \$40 - \$65

This webinar will examine the necessary components of an effective deaccessioning policy, including options for removal, ethical considerations, broad-level legal concerns (not from a legal professional!), and general best practices. Options for dealing with items such as found-in-collections and abandoned property will also be addressed.

For more information and to register for any of these webinars, go to learn.aaslh.org/calendar/category/webinar/ ■

MEMBERS

Joined between June 13 and August 10, 2017

Welcome New Members

INDIVIDUALS

Janet L. Heywood, Cincinnati

ORGANIZATIONS

Daughters of the American Revolution, Miamisburg

OHARNG Historical Collections, Columbus

Thank You Renewing Members

INDIVIDUALS

Brittany Stiles, Pickerington

ORGANIZATIONS

103rd OVI Memorial Foundation, Sheffield Lake

Amherst Historical Society, Amherst

Anti-Saloon League Museum, Westerville

Bellevue Public Library, Bellevue

Berlin Center Historical Society, Berlin Center

Columbus Jewish Historical Society, Columbus

Cuyahoga Falls Historical Society, Cuyahoga Falls

The Dawes Arboretum, Newark

Dover Historical Society, Dover

Fostoria Area Historical Society & Museum, Fostoria

George Rogers Clark Heritage Association, Springfield

Greenfield Historical Society, Greenfield

Hiram Historical Society, Hiram

Holmes County Historical Society, Millersburg

Maumee Valley Historical Society, Maumee

Ohio Genealogical Society, Bellville

Toledo Lucas County Public Library, Toledo

Trotwood-Madison Historical Society, Trotwood

Ukrainian Museum-Archives Inc., Cleveland

Upper Arlington Historical Society, Columbus

Vermilion Area Archival Society, Inc., Vermilion

People in the News

Marion County Historical Society

The Marion County Historical Society announces the hiring of Brandi Wilson as Director effective July 1. She is taking the place of Gale Martin who retired after 13 years at MCHS. Brandi has been with MCHS for over a year, most recently as the Associate Director. Prior to joining MCHS, Brandi worked in sales and service for a mid-sized software company. She is passionate about history and aspires to continue the good works of her predecessors, to grow our volunteer base and visitors to the museum.

Quaker Heritage Center, Wilmington College

Several weeks ago, members of the Board of Trustees and the President's Council of Wilmington College eliminated 15 positions in order to address a significant budget deficit. The decision made to reduce staff was not based upon performance, but rather upon financial considerations that made it necessary to streamline operations. One of the positions eliminated was that of Quaker Heritage Center (QHC) Director Ruth Brindle. The College is deeply grateful to Ruth for her commitment and leadership over the past decade at the Quaker Heritage Center and appreciative of her many contributions to the educational programs at Wilmington College. The Quaker Heritage Center is a vital part of the College's identity and mission, as well as a vital part of the College's educational purpose. Dr. Tanya Maus, Director of the Peace Resource Center, has been appointed to take on the duties of Director of the QHC. ■

Region 1

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

New exhibit at the **Andrew L. Tuttle Memorial Museum** in Defiance, Ohio on display from July to December 2017. The exhibit title is “The Coins They Left Behind: German Coins from 1800-1900.” The coins on display are from the Andrew Tuttle Collection. The Tuttle Museum has also been awarded a grant of \$23,000 from the Rover Pipeline. The money will be used to install additional interpretive markers and panels at the Fort Defiance Historic Site. Landscape enhancements to the site are also included in the grant.

Region 2

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

The **Clyde Museum and McPherson House of the Clyde Heritage League** would like to make everyone aware that they have a new and updated website. The website is intended to be more interactive and helpful to the general public. It will feature specific pages about the Clyde Museum, McPherson House, and Heritage Hall of Clyde, Ohio, have a Curator’s monthly quiz, a blog, an online museum store, lists of available archives for research, an events page, general information and much more. The League wanted a more relevant and updated website, but was uncertain of which web hosting service to use, but after reading the last edition of the *Local Historian*, we were inspired by an article of creating websites for historical organizations. We followed the advice of the article and chose wix.com and are very satisfied with their services. Thank you, *Local Historian*, for the inspiration.

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

The **Dawes Arboretum** celebrated its 109th Tree Dedication with Archie Griffin, OSU Buckeye and two-time Heisman Trophy winner, dedicating a buckeye tree on June 2nd. The Dawes Arboretum has celebrated over 100 tree dedications since former Ohio Governor, James M. Cox, became the first Tree Dedicator in 1927. A bronze plaque located at the base of the tree tells you who it is dedicated by, accomplishments and the date of the dedication. An exhibit featuring past Tree Dedicators can be seen in the History Center on Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 12-3 pm through October. For more information, visit dawesarb.org/

10TV’s Mike Davis filmed a feature for their “One Tank Trips” segment at the **National Heisey Glass Museum** in Newark. The Heisey Glass Company was established by A.H. Heisey in 1895. His Newark based factory produced both glassware and glass decorative items. Heisey glass became popular with collectors not only for the high quality, but also their national advertising in popular magazines. The National Heisey Glass Museum opened in 1974 to display the company’s variety of glassware and preserve the company’s legacy. The segment can be found here: www.youtube.com/watch?v=vYLlbmus-so For more information, visit heiseymuseum.org/

A crowd gathered in Westerville on July 25 to dedicate an Ohio History Connection World War I commemorative marker honoring hometown hero Agnes Meyer Driscoll. The **Westerville Historical Society, Westerville Library**, and the **Westerville Rotary Club** sponsored the marker placed in front of the Meyer family home where the Westerville Library Local History Office is now located. Ms. Driscoll, known as Madame X,

served in the U.S. Navy in 1918-1923 and 1924-1949. Entering as a chief yeoman, she trained as a code-breaker in the 1920s becoming an exceptionally talented cryptanalyst. Her great-nephew, a naval officer, paid tribute to her role in cracking key Japanese naval code that enabled the U.S. to inflict critical damage to the Japanese fleet during the Battle of Midway in June 4-7, 1942, six months after Pearl Harbor.

Region 7

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

The **Armstrong Air & Space Museum** in Wapakoneta wrapped up another summer of outreach through county summer reading programs. They visited 29 counties across the state and booked eighty-eight programs. Each year, lessons are designed around the statewide library reading theme. Their STEM and inquiry based offerings tied space, flight, and exploration into this year’s theme, “Building a Better World” with three main programs: Tippy Towers, Off-World Outpost, and Renewable Energy.

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

The **Noble County Historical Society** announces that it received a grant from Green Space Conservation Program by the Clean Ohio Fund thru Ohio Public Works Commission for a landscape project at the Ball-Caldwell Homestead. The Society appreciates the help of Greenleaf Landscaping of Marietta, who helped apply for the grant money and did the initial design work on landscaping free of charge. With this grant, we will have new sidewalks

(continued on page 13)

which will make the homestead handicapped assessable. Also included is the removal of dead and dying trees and shrubs and replacement with new plantings. The Noble County Historical Society has also received another grant that will enable them to build restrooms to serve the Ball-Caldwell Homestead for the many events held at the site in Caldwell, Ohio.

Recently the **Noble County Historical Society** held a program on the Courthouse lawn to honor those who died in World War One with a salute by the Noble County Color Guard. Included in the program was a reading of the names of those who had died by Veteran Officer Joe Williams and the poem “In Flanders Field” written by John McCrae and read by Neil Polk. Ken Perkins III gave a review of the War and years to follow. Following the program, refreshments were held in the side yard of the Historic Jail.

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.

On the Web

McMansion Hell

mcmansionhell.com

McMansion Hell is a bi-weekly blog that aims to educate the layperson about architectural concepts, urban planning, environmentalism and history. The blog posts alternate between comedy-oriented critiques of current suburban houses and informative essays about historic architecture, including house plans of historic house types, and the history of urbanization and domestic architecture. The blogger, Kate Wagner, is currently a graduate student in Acoustics as part of a joint program between Johns Hopkins University and Peabody Conservatory, where her focus is in architectural acoustics. Warning—some blog posts do include profanity, especially those commenting on individual suburban houses.

SEPTEMBER 15:

Deadline to submit photos for Speak Up for Ohio Museums Day. For more information, see page 9.

SEPTEMBER 22:

Registration deadline for OLHA Annual Meeting. For more information, see front cover article.

SEPTEMBER 26:

AASLH webinar Interpreting Agriculture at Museums and Historic Sites. For more information, go to learn.aaslh.org/calendar/category/webinar/

SEPTEMBER 29:

ICA Conservation Survey Registration Deadline. For more information, see page 9.

SEPTEMBER 29-30:

3rd Annual Ohio River National Freedom Corridor Conference. For more information see page x or www.ohiorivernationalfreedomcorridor.org

OCTOBER 2:

Speak Up For Ohio Museums Day. For more information, see page 9.

OCTOBER 6-7:

OLHA Annual Meeting. For more information, see front cover article.

OCTOBER 13:

Ohio Museum’s Association Session Proposals Due. For more information, see page 8.

OCTOBER 16-18:

Heritage Ohio Annual Conference. For more information, see page 8.

OCTOBER 24:

AASLH webinar Best Practices for Developing History Internships. For more information, go to learn.aaslh.org/calendar/category/webinar/

OCTOBER 25:

AASLH webinar Bringing the Past to the Present: Contemporary Issues at Historic Sites and Museums. For more information, go to learn.aaslh.org/calendar/category/webinar/

NOVEMBER 7:

AASLH webinar Active Collections: How to Create a Leaner Collection for Greater Impact. For more information, go to learn.aaslh.org/calendar/category/webinar/

NOVEMBER 14:

AASLH webinar Policies and Procedures for Deaccessioning. For more information, go to learn.aaslh.org/calendar/category/webinar/

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.

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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)

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

Business Member:

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

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

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

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www.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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