

73¹/₂ South Professor Street P.O. Box 455 Phone: 440-774-1700 Website: www.oberlinheritage.org CENTER E-mail: <u>members@oberlinheritage.org</u>

For Immediate Release – January 23, 2012 Contact: Patricia Murphy, Executive Director at (440) 774-1700 or patm@oberlinheritage.org or Ken Grossi, Oberlin College Archivist at (440) 775-8014 or Ken.Grossi@oberlin.edu

College Archivist Presents Program on "Other Oberlins"

Oberlin was founded in 1833 as a "Christian perfectionist community" by two ministers, John Jay Shipherd and Philo Stewart. They named the community in honor of John Frederick Oberlin (1740-1826), a European pastor who turned a dying French town into a lively, industrious and spiritual village by upholding basic principles of faith, learning and labor. The local colony and college would be based upon the ideals so admired in the French clergyman and philanthropist, and these beliefs later were carried forth to establish other communities and schools around the country and as far away as Japan. Oberlin College Archivist, Ken Grossi, looks at the legacy of John Frederick Oberlin in an illustrated presentation titled "Oberlin Here and Elsewhere" on Wednesday, February 29, 2012 at 7:15 p.m. at Kendal at Oberlin's Heiser Auditorium. Cosponsored by the Oberlin Heritage Center and the Oberlin College Archives, the event is free and open to the public.

Ken Grossi has been the Oberlin College Archivist since 2009, and has been a member of the Archives staff since 1996. Grossi has a B.S. from the University of Akron, an M.A. in history and archival administration from Case Western Reserve University and a M.L. S. degree from Kent State University. In 2011, he became a Board Member at the Oberlin Heritage Center.

For more about this program, or other upcoming programs sponsored by the Oberlin Heritage Center, visit www.oberlinheritage.org or call (440) 774-1700.

End