



73½ South Professor Street  
P.O. Box 455  
Oberlin, OH 44074-0455  
Phone: 440-774-1700  
Website: [www.oberlinheritagecenter.org](http://www.oberlinheritagecenter.org)  
E-mail: [members@oberlinheritage.org](mailto:members@oberlinheritage.org)

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**Contact:** Patricia Murphy, OHC Executive Director at (440) 774-1700 or [patm@oberlinheritage.org](mailto:patm@oberlinheritage.org), or Carol Lasser, Oberlin College Professor of History at (440) 775-6712 or [carol.lasser@oberlin.edu](mailto:carol.lasser@oberlin.edu)

## **Oberlin College Professor Studies Courtships amidst Conflict of the Civil War**

**Carol Lasser**, Oberlin Professor of History and Director of Gender, Sexuality and Feminist Studies, draws on the Civil War correspondence of Oberlinians Giles Waldo Shurtleff and Mary E. Burton, as well as that of Elliott Grabill and Anna Jenney, to look at the ways in which these soldiers turned to women on the homefront for emotional support and relationships beyond the battlefield that sustained them during the conflict. Mary and Anna responded, and eventually out of the correspondence came two long and successful marriages. **Rules of Engagement: Civil War Courtship Letters and the ‘Homefront Imaginary’** takes place on **Tuesday, February 17 at 4:30 p.m.** in Moffett Auditorium in Mudd Library (148 West College Street) on the Oberlin College campus. The presentation is co-sponsored by the Oberlin Heritage Center, the Oberlin College Archives and the Oberlin College Department of History. The program is free and open to the public.

Carol Lasser received her Ph.D. from Harvard University and has been teaching at Oberlin College since 1980. Among her many leadership roles at the College, Lasser has served as Chair of the History Department and currently serves as the Director of the College’s Institute for Gender, Sexuality and Feminist Studies. Lasser has written and published widely on women and gender in 19<sup>th</sup> century America. In addition to her work at the College, she is active in the community particularly in the areas of public education and local history. She served on the Board of Trustees of the Oberlin Heritage Center from 1997-2003 and was recognized as an Honorary Trustee in 2011. In 2008, Lasser and her husband, Oberlin College Professor of History Gary Kornblith, received the Oberlin Heritage Center’s Community Historian Award. In 2014, Lasser was recognized as a Woman of Achievement by the Elyria YWCA, one of five recipients honored for making a difference in their communities in Lorain County.

For more information, visit [www.oberlin.edu](http://www.oberlin.edu) or [www.oberlinheritagecenter.org](http://www.oberlinheritagecenter.org) or call (440) 774-1700.

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