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Oberlin Heritage Center Annual Meeting Features Local Humorist Harvey Gittler 2009 Community Awards Recipients Also Honored

The public is invited to the annual dinner meeting of the Oberlin Heritage Center on Wednesday, April 1 at the Oberlin Inn. This always-fun, upbeat program includes a delightful history lesson by essayist and humorist Harvey Gittler, as well as the presentation of the Oberlin Heritage Center's Eighth Annual Community Awards. The evening begins at 5:00 p.m. with a Social Hour (cash bar), followed by dinner at 6:00 p.m., and Gittler's remarks at 7:00 p.m.

Harvey Gittler presents "*Don't Touch That Dial: A History of Radio from the Early 1920s through the 1950s.*" This is a great treat for those who remember the glory days of radio, and for those who don't, Gittler's remarks provide an amusing look back at how radio influenced our lives from its commercial birth in the 1920s until it was overtaken by television in the 1950s.

Harvey Gittler's dry wit is evident in the bio he submitted for this news release:

Harvey Gittler experienced a rebirth when he moved to Oberlin in June, 1968 with his wife and two children. He came to Oberlin via Stamford and Hartford, Connecticut and before that Albany, New York and New York City. There are those who can still detect the slightest New York accent in his speech, something Harvey says he cannot hear. He holds Bachelor's degrees in Marine Engineering and Industrial Engineering and a Master of Industrial Engineering from the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, North Carolina State University, and New York University. As testimony to his skills as an engineer, he worked for a variety of companies all of which are either out of business or moved overseas. He did rise from a lowly industrial engineer to an executive vice president and member of the Board of Directors before his companies either folded or moved away. He has been active in many business and social organizations. Some of you will remember that he was president of the ACLU of Ohio for four years.

More about Gittler's life can be found at www.harveygittler.com, his personal website that is in the process of being updated.

The evening concludes with the eighth annual presentation of the Oberlin Heritage Center Community Awards and a brief business meeting. This year's award recipients are: **Roland Baumann -- Heritage Guardian Award; Barbara Enos – Community Teacher of the Year; Kurt Russell – History Teacher of the Year; Sigrid Boe – Keep Oberlin Beautiful Award; and the Kendal Mail Crew as the Oberlin Heritage Center Volunteers of the Year.**

Reservations for the Oberlin Heritage Center's annual meeting are available for \$25 per person for Heritage Center members and \$30 per person for the general public. Menu options are Beef Kabobs, Chicken Picatta, and Grilled Vegetables (vegetarian). For more information, or to make a reservation, please call 440-774-1700, e-mail members@oberlinheritage.org, visit www.oberlinheritage.org, or stop in to the Oberlin Heritage Center's office at the Monroe House, located at 73½ South Professor Street (back of Conservatory of Music parking lot), during office hours, Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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