

# Oberlin Heritage Center E-Gazette - May 27, 2009

## **Saturdays at the Schoolhouse**

This summer, children and their families will enjoy a chance to combine old-fashioned learning and family fun in Oberlin's pioneer-era one-room schoolhouse located on the grounds of the Oberlin Heritage Center. "Saturdays at the Schoolhouse" will be offered every Saturday afternoon June through August, except for Saturday, July 4. The Schoolhouse door will be open from 12 noon to 2:00 p.m. on those dates, and the Heritage Center will offer a variety of free activities for guests young and old in a "drop-in" style format. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Visitors can explore the building, take part in historic school lessons, and play games together inside and out. For more information, visit [www.oberlinheritage.org](http://www.oberlinheritage.org) or call (440) 774-1700.

## **Introductory Docent Training Workshop**

The Oberlin Heritage Center is looking for a few good men and women to become volunteer docents (full tour or special room guides) for its historic sites tours and special events! Training will take place on Sunday, June 7, from 1-5 p.m. at the Monroe House (73½ South Professor Street). This introduction includes an overview of Oberlin history from the community's founding in 1833 through the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Trained docents are asked to make a commitment to help with at least four tours per year. The workshop is free and open to the public, and requires pre-registration. Current and past docents are welcome to join new volunteers in updating their knowledge of the museums' collections and sharpening tour skills. For more information, or to reserve your place at the workshop, please contact Liz Schultz at [tourinfo@oberlinheritage.org](mailto:tourinfo@oberlinheritage.org).

## **Summer Camp Registrations Underway**

There are still openings available for those who wish to register for any of the week-long day camps or single-day camps offered by the Oberlin Heritage Center this summer. There are 9 different sessions for kids and teens – sure to be something to interest one and all! Remember, children and grandchildren of Oberlin Heritage Center members receive a discount on camp registration fees, and partial scholarships are available for those who qualify. For more information, or to register online, visit [www.oberlinheritage.org](http://www.oberlinheritage.org). You may also contact the Oberlin Heritage Center at (440) 774-1700 or e-mail [tourinfo@oberlinheritage.org](mailto:tourinfo@oberlinheritage.org) with questions.

## **Writing for Clarity Workshop**

Learn how to write more effectively for a variety of media at this one-day workshop intended for staff and volunteers at historical organizations and museums. The Oberlin Heritage Center will host the workshop, held at the Oberlin Depot (240 South Main Street) on Friday, June 26 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Presenters include professionals affiliated with the Ohio Association of Historical Societies and Museums (OAHSM). Topics will address: Identifying Audiences and Strategies for Reaching Them; Press Releases and Newspaper Articles; Writing for the Web and Electronic Media; Popular Narratives; and Interpretive Labels and Signs. The fee is \$25, which includes all workshop materials, lunch and continental breakfast. The registration deadline is June 22, and the maximum number of participants is 25. For more information, or to register, go to <http://www.ohiohistory.org/resource/oahsm/brasstacks.html>. Questions? Contact Bonnie Such (OAHSM) at [bsuch@ohiohistory.org](mailto:bsuch@ohiohistory.org) or call 1-800-858-6878 or (614) 297-2340.

## **An Oberlin Heritage Center Brick – What Better Place to Rest Your Head?!**

We hope you are charmed by this little story as much as we were delighted to watch it unfold. Earlier this spring, OHC staff happened to glance out a Monroe House window and spot a young college student couple outside on the brick walkway carefully looking at one of the inscribed bricks. Nothing unusual in this – we

often see people “reading” the Heritage Center’s brick walkway. Soon though, we noticed the young woman taking a photo of the young man as he lay across the walkway with his head next to a brick. Our curiosity got the better of us, and we sent super-handy volunteer, Dick Holsworth, on special assignment to find out what was going on. Dick reported back that the inscribed brick near the young man’s head bore the name of the fellow’s great-grandfather, and he decided he would send a photo of himself with the brick to his grandfather (the son of the inscribed name) as a birthday present! Now that’s really used your head to come up with a one-of-a-kind, thoughtful and memorable gift! That young man recognized this brick as an important marker in his own family’s history. You are invited to salute a special person or celebrate a milestone in your own family by learning more about the Heritage Center’s Buy-a-Brick program. Visit [www.oberlinheritage.org](http://www.oberlinheritage.org) or give us a call at (440) 774-1700.

### **What’s New in the Museum Store?**

Just arrived this past week -- NEW tee-shirts in the Oberlin Heritage Center’s museum store! Put on a jazzy black tee with “Always a Good Show” lit up on a late-night Apollo marquee featured on the shirt’s front. The shirts are made of 100% cotton (preshrunk) and are \$19 for adult sizes (S, M, L, XL); \$17 for youth sizes (XS, S, M, L). If deep red is your color, try our new Oberlin Heritage Center tees with the three-building logo on the front in black, silver and red. These shirts are 100% pure cotton and are \$12 for adult sizes (S, M, L, XL); \$10 for youth sizes (XS, S, M, L). Proceeds benefit the Oberlin Heritage Center. Stop by and purchase a new tee shirt today or call (440) 774-1700 and use your Visa, MasterCard or Discover.

### **You May Be Interested**

Oberlin Heritage Center member and transportation historian, **Dennis Lamont**, a popular program presenter who was featured during the Grand Oberlin History Extravaganza this past weekend (“Travel Back in Time with Tip Maddock”) will sign copies of his new book **Lake Shore Electric Railway** (co-authored with Thomas J. Patton) on Thursday, June 18 from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. at 33479 Lake Road in Avon Lake, OH. RSVP to (440) 930-7500, ext. 202 or (800) 223-9941, ext. 202 if you plan to attend. The book will soon be available at the Heritage Center’s Museum Store.

Back in 2002, 73-year-old **Joan Southgate** walked from the Ohio River town of Ripley to Cleveland to honor the courage of the freedom seekers and conductors who participated in the Underground Railroad. Many of you may recall that she spent time in Oberlin that year, and even presented a public program about her journey. In 2003, she continued by walking from Cleveland to St. Catharine’s, Ontario, which was Harriet Tubman’s Canadian base of operations. In the end, Ms. Southgate walked a total of 519 miles! In May 2009 Ms. Southgate, now 80, revisits her journey by walking 250 miles from St. Catharine’s to Cleveland in order to raise funds to restore the Cozad-Bates House, located in University Circle, which is the only pre-Civil War structure still standing in the area. Ms. Southgate’s goal, as well as that of Restore Cleveland Hope, Inc. -- a local nonprofit--is to transform the Cozad-Bates House into an Underground Railroad Education and Resource Center. For more information on the project, visit <http://www.universitycircle.org/uci.aspx?page=130>. Follow Joan Southgate’s journey every step of the way via her blog (<http://joansouthgate.blogspot.com>), where you’ll find a first-hand account of her experiences on the road. She also is profiled in the May 2009 issue of Essence Magazine.

The **Diversity Scholars Program of the National Trust for Historic Preservation** is accepting applications for the 2009 Diversity Scholars. Selected candidates will receive a scholarship to attend the **National Preservation Conference taking place October 13-17, 2009 in Nashville, Tennessee**. The deadline for submitting applications is June 15, 2009. The goal of the Diversity Scholarship Program is to increase the diversity of participants at the annual National Preservation Conference and in the preservation movement.

The stipend covers registration and hotel accommodations for award recipients. Ideal candidates are community leaders from diverse social, economic, racial, ethnic and cultural backgrounds. A limited number of scholarships are available. To apply online or for additional program details, please visit our website at <http://www.preservationnation.org/resources/training/npc/npc-scholarships.html>, or contact Jacqueline S. Johnson, Diversity Scholars Program Coordinator, at 202.588.6407 or jacqueline\_johnson@nthp.org.

*Please share this information with a friend.*

*To remove your name from the Oberlin Heritage Center's e-news mailing list, please respond to this e-mail by clicking on the "REPLY" button, and typing "UNSUBSCRIBE" on the subject line.*

**###End**