

Oberlin Heritage Center E-Gazette – May 2015

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Oberlin Heritage Center Photo Worth \$10,000? (With Your Help It Is!)

The Community Foundation of Lorain County celebrates its 35th anniversary with a Facebook Photo contest this month that will result in a total of \$35,000 being awarded to three nonprofit organization and three schools with endowed funds held at the Foundation. The Oberlin Heritage Center is taking part in the contest with its entry of a historic photo of the first grade class at the Union School in 1904. **Vote for the Oberlin Heritage Center by going to the Community Foundation's [Facebook page](#), then simply click on OHC's photo and LIKE it! (For voting purposes, make sure you LIKE the individual PHOTO and not the entire ALBUM.) You may also go directly to the full album of contestant photos at <https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10152929432903282.1073741838.260644913281&type=1>). Each LIKE = one VOTE for our organization! The groups receiving the most number of LIKES for their photos will be ranked 1st, 2nd, and 3rd at the end of the month and will win \$10,000, \$5,000, and \$2,500 respectively in gifts that will go directly to the nonprofit or school group's endowment Fund. **SHARE the photo and news of the contest with family and friends who can vote, too!** Winners will be announced at the Community Foundation's Annual Meeting on June 24.**

Docent Training: "One Step More" Oberlin Women's History Walk

Docent volunteers can learn how to lead the "One Step More" Oberlin Women's History Walk by attending a **training workshop on Saturday, May 16, from 2-5 p.m.** The 75-minute community landmark walking tour engages visitors by sharing stories of powerful 19th and early 20th century Oberlin women who helped shape what it meant to be a woman in a small town and across America. Training is free, and docents are asked to make a commitment of helping with at least four tours or open house events per year as part of the Heritage Center's volunteer program. The session begins at the Monroe House (73½ South Professor Street in Oberlin) and moves on from there. Register by May 11 by visiting www.oberlinheritagecenter.org, or calling (440) 774-1700 for more information.

Make Oberlin History Part of Your Holiday Weekend!

Looking for something memorable and out-of-the-ordinary for your family to do this Memorial Day and Oberlin College Commencement/Reunion Weekend? Explore historic Oberlin and the Oberlin Heritage Center by enjoying Oberlin Origins Sneak Peek tours and neighborhood history walks during extended hours **Saturday and Sunday, May 23-24**. The "Oberlin Origins" guided mini tour (first floor of the Monroe House) is a 30-minute introduction to Oberlin history; admission is \$3 for adults and reservations are not needed. Themed history walks (60-75 minutes) are scheduled throughout the weekend; fee is \$6 for adults and advance reservations are required. OHC members, children, and any college student can enjoy tours and history walks free (reservations still needed for history walks; all activities most likely to be enjoyed by ages 9 and up). Here's what's happening each day:

Saturday, May 23

Exploración Histórica de La Casa Monroe (*Spanish language version of the historic Monroe House tour*) at 10 a.m.

Oberlin Origins Sneak Peek Tours (Monroe House) every half hour, 10:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.

One Step More: A Walking Tour of Women's History in Oberlin at 11 a.m.

Freedom's Friends (Underground Railroad) History Walk at 3 p.m.

Scholars & Settlers (Tappan Square) History Walk at 5 p.m.

OHC Museum Store open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Sunday, May 24

Oberlin Origins Sneak Peek Tours (Monroe House) every half hour, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Radicals & Reformers (Westwood Cemetery) History Walk at 11 a.m.

Freedom's Friends (Underground Railroad) History Walk at 3 p.m.

OHC Museum Store open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

More information, including online-registration, may be found on the Events Calendar at www.oberlinheritagecenter.org (click on the “Events and News” tab on the main menu bar).

¿Se Habla Español? New Spanish Version Tour is Fantástico!

Whether fluent in Spanish – or just wanting an opportunity to brush up on your conversational skills – enjoy **Exploración Histórica**, a new one-hour guided tour of the 1866 Monroe House presented in Spanish on **Saturday, May 23 at 10:00 a.m.** The translation of the Heritage Center's full “Upstairs/Downstairs” tour was a joint project this year by OHC student interns **Monica Monsalve** (OC '15) and **César Palacio** (OC '16). Today's tour, led by Monsalve, a graduating Politics major, includes stories and images of the individuals and events that shaped Oberlin's first one hundred years. Advance notice is encouraged due to limited space. The fee is \$3/adult; free for OHC members, college students, and children under 18. For more information, visit www.oberlinheritagecenter.org or call (440) 774-1700.

OHC Spotlights Civil Rights Stories

Oberlin's 19th century roots in abolitionism affected the views of its residents well into the 20th century as the nation fought for racial justice through prayer, moral reasoning, politics and even violence. Sharing stories from Oberlin's Oral History Project, **Eugenia (Geni) Poporad Vanek** traces the changes in attitudes from idealism after the Civil War to discrimination during the '30s and '40s and back to the idealism of the '60s in the “town that started the Civil War.” **From Civil War to Civil Rights: Stories from the Oberlin Oral History Project** is a free community program taking place **Wednesday, May 27 at 7:15 p.m.** at Kendal at Oberlin's Heiser Auditorium (600 Kendal Drive). For more information, visit www.oberlinheritagecenter.org or call (440) 771-1700.

OHC Summer Camps – Explore, Design, Create!

Registration is underway for the Heritage Center's summer camps for boys and girls ages 8-13. This year presents new hands-on-history adventures along with a back-by-popular-demand yearly favorite camp experience. New this year: **[Oberlin Changed the World](#)** (July 27-31) looks at ordinary people who did extraordinary things while **[Artists in their Time](#)** (August 10-14) introduces kids to master artists from world history and explores how their lives and cultures influenced their artwork. Perennial favorite **[Architecture Camp](#)** (August 3-7) offers opportunities for kids to create and construct mini-buildings and envision how they might design structures and streetscapes for the

future. Camps run from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day and are held at the Oberlin Depot (240 South Main Street). Fee is \$110 (\$100 for OHC members); register at www.oberlinheritagecenter.org prior to June 20 to receive a \$5 “early bird” discount per camp.

Looking for B&B Host Volunteers

In late August, Heritage Center members and friends can provide a single or double room in their home to an incoming college freshman’s family as they arrive on campus for new student orientation. This effort is part of a community-wide consortium of nonprofits who all share the reward of this long-time unique fundraising tradition. The Heritage Center’s B&B effort is led by Board members **Gail Wood** and **Barb Enos**, and all proceeds from the Bed & Breakfasts help stretch OHC’s general operating budget. If you can offer a private bedroom (double or twin beds) and a private or shared bathroom, with a simple breakfast in the morning, please let us know. Hosts are needed for **one or more nights between Monday, August 24 and Wednesday, August 26** (with the greatest demand being on Monday and Tuesday nights). It’s a great opportunity to be an Oberlin community ambassador, and support the Heritage Center as well! For more information, or to volunteer as a host, e-mail OHCbnb@gmail.com.

Heritage Center Barn Standing Straighter and Prouder!

Thanks to folks from **Grunwell-Cashero Building Restoration** (Toledo, OH) and **Royal Barns Restoration and Repair** (Athens, OH), the circa 1860-1880 barn behind Jewett House at 73 South Professor Street is straightened and stabilized with more work to follow soon. To prepare the space for the visiting professional work crew, a great team of OHC volunteers rolled up their sleeves on a Saturday afternoon last month to empty the sagging barn of stored tools, materials and equipment (as well as tossing out much “junk” that had accumulated through the decades). Thanks to **Walt Edling, Adam Freas, Mike Galbreath, Jeff Hobbs, Glenn Hobbs, Terry Hobbs, Steve Johnson, Nick Jones, and Cathe Radabaugh** for being an amazing and efficient barn “advance” team. The barn work is funded by a generous grant for Jewett House and barn repairs made possible by **The Nord Family Foundation**.

Oberlin HS Team Hubbard Prize Recipients Going to NHD Nationals!

Congratulations to Oberlin High School students **Hannah Cipinko** (OHS ’16), **Angela Mavrigh** (OHS ’17) and **Catherine Mavrigh** (OHS’16) for taking *first place* in the Senior Group Website division at the *state level of competition* for National History Day, which was held at Ohio Wesleyan University (Delaware, OH) on April 25. The team, which also received the Oberlin Heritage Center’s Hubbard Prize at the regional level of competition, created a website about British chemist Rosalind Franklin as part of this year’s History Day theme – *Leadership and Legacy in History*. **Photo 51: The Untold Legacy of Rosalind Franklin** (<http://78160153.nhd.weebly.com>) tells the story of Franklin’s important contributions in the advancement of knowledge about DNA. Hannah, Angela and Catherine now advance to the national level of competition at the University of Maryland (College Park) which brings together more than 3,000 students, teachers and parents from across the United States and from affiliates around the world in a week-long event in mid-June.

Lucy Cipinko also represented OHS and District 3 at Ohio History Day with her paper **You Can’t Keep Her Out: The Leadership and Legacy of Mary Church Terrell**. Terrell was one of the first African-American women in the nation to earn a bachelor’s degree, which she did at Oberlin College in 1884. Lucy, who is a freshman at Oberlin High School, was very pleased to be sharing Oberlin history at the state level this year. Although Lucy is not going on to Nationals, she says the

experience being at the state competition has energized her to excel again in 2016, and she eagerly awaits comments from her judges to apply to her next History Day project!

Oberlin High School teacher (and Oberlin Heritage Center Trustee) **Donna Shurr**, the students' History Day advisor, shared the good news with the Heritage Center, adding "I'm so proud of the hard work, excellent research and skills the four girls have developed."

Blog Buzz

Two new blog posts have been added to the OHC website in recent weeks. Check out **Laurie Stein**'s (OC '06) [Celebrating 20 Years of Community Service](#) which includes remarks she made at the Oberlin Heritage Center's Annual Meeting as she reflected on how her experience as a work-study student intern at the Heritage Center had an impact on her future career. Today Laurie is the Curator at the Lake Forest/Lake Bluff Historical Society in Illinois. OHC Board member **Ron Gorman** researched and wrote a marvelous piece on the local reaction to both the end of the Civil War and to President Lincoln's death in [The Lincoln Assassination: 150 Years Ago](#). Upon reading the article, see if you also feel as one reviewer who commented at the end of Ron's blog, "Well done historian's work that made me cry."

OHC featured in Ohio Nonprofit Appreciation Week Montage

In celebration of Ohio Nonprofit Appreciation Week (May 10-16), the **Ohio Association of Nonprofit Organizations (OANO)** is showcasing all of the important work that Ohio nonprofits provide for their communities. OHC's talented student intern **César Palacio** put together a great 15-second [video](#) to submit to the statewide initiative. You may also find the video on the Oberlin Heritage Center's Facebook page (www.facebook.com/oberlinheritagecenter). OHC now has more than 800 Facebook friends – are you one of them? (We hope so!)

OHC Staff, Board and Volunteer News

Congratulations to Collections Manager **Maren McKee** who was awarded one of two New Professional scholarships by the Society of Ohio Archivists. Maren will be recognized at the SOA Annual Meeting on May 15 in Dublin, Ohio. The award recognizes hard work, accomplishment and excellence as a role model in the profession.

Kaitlyn Goss, AmeriCorps and Local History Corps member, represented the Oberlin Heritage Center at the Regional Meeting of the Ohio Local History Alliance (OLHA), which was hosted by the Bedford (OH) Historical Society and Museum in late April. She also has been busy preparing and co-presenting two informational sessions about the American Association of State and Local History (AASLH)'s StEPs (Standards for Excellence Program) at the Cleveland Public Library. Her co-presenter for the Cleveland area StEPs sessions was Austin Poyar (another Local History Corps Member based in the Local History Office at the Ohio History Connection).

Three cheers for OHC volunteers and staff who recently were recognized by Oberlin College's Bonner Center for Service & Learning at its End-of-the-Year Celebration. College student intern **César Palacio** (OC '16) was nominated by OHC's **Liz Schultz** and honored with the BCSL's Community Service Work-Study Student of the Year Award, while Executive Director **Pat Murphy** accepted the award for Outstanding Community Partner on behalf of the Oberlin Heritage Center. We were pleased that OHC student volunteer **Madison Bishop** OC '15 received the Daniel Gardner Award for Excellence in Community-Based Learning for her LGBT work in the community.

Honorary Trustee, **Eugenia (Geni) Poporad Vanek** was one of ten new inductees into the Cleveland Heights High School Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame last month. An educator and author, Geni was nominated by the Oberlin Heritage Center, for her work on the 2014 oral-history-based publication, *Bonnets to Boardrooms: Women's Stories from a Historic College Town*.

Members' Update

Welcome to new OHC members (all from Oberlin) **Thomas Cadenhead, Gary Olin & Saranne Nelson-Olin** and **Kim's Grocery** (new business member)! Applause and appreciation goes out to Endowed Life member **Marianne Dickerman Caldwell** in recognition of her increase from the Copper to the Aluminum level of giving. Membership is a pulse-point upon which the organization measures its support near and far – your membership at any level is tremendously important as an indicator that the Heritage Center is a valued asset in the community. Please [join](#) by visiting www.oberlinheritagecenter.org or call (440) 774-1700 and request a membership brochure.

Also of Interest

The **Weltzheimer/Johnson House** (entrance at 534 Morgan Street, Oberlin), designed by **Frank Lloyd Wright**, will be open the **first Sunday of the month from 12 p.m. – 5 p.m. through November**. Presentations about the architecture and history of the house begin on the hour; admission is \$5 at the door (free to children and college students). For more information on monthly open houses or to make a group tour reservation, visit www.oberlin.edu/amam/flwright or contact Jason Trimmer, the Eric & Jane Nord Family Curator of Education, at the Allen Memorial Art Museum at (440) 775-8665.

The [Amherst Historical Society's Quigley Museum](http://www.amhersthistoricalsociety.org) (located on the corner of Lake Street and Milan Avenue) is **open Sunday, May 3 from 2-4 p.m. and every Sunday thereafter until the end of September**. Learn more about Amherst history and enjoy a visit to the 1832 house that represents one of the earliest examples of hand-hewn sandstone architecture, once the home of quarry owner Joseph Quigley. The museum is free; donations accepted. For more information, visit www.amhersthistoricalsociety.org or call 440-988-7255.

After a long winter of construction and uncooperative weather, the [James A. Garfield National Historic Site](http://www.nps.gov/jaga) (8095 Mentor Avenue, U.S. 20, in Mentor, OH) is celebrating with **expanded summer hours from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. seven days a week from Memorial Day to Labor Day**. The site will be open on all federal holidays this summer, including Memorial Day, the 4th of July, and Labor Day. The museum staff was thrilled recently that the Garfield home received second place honors (behind the Cleveland Museum of Art) in a Cleveland Hot List ranking of Best Museums in Cleveland. For more information about the home and property of Garfield, the 20th President of the United States, visit www.nps.gov/jaga or call (440) 255-8722.

The **Lakeside Heritage Society** has a wonderful 2015 season planned, including some great Sunday afternoon lectures. Lakeside Chautauqua's gate fee policy is in effect from Memorial Day to Labor Day and on Sundays you can obtain a **free "Church Pass"** between 7:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. which is valid until 3:00 p.m. This allows you and your car to enter the grounds, attend worship service if you'd like, have lunch and attend the Heritage Society Sunday Lecture from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. in Chautauqua Hall at Fountain Inn. The series kicks off on **Sunday, May 24** with a special program on the **History of Memorial Day** followed by the PBS documentary film "*Hallowed Grounds: U.S. Overseas Cemeteries*." For more information, visit www.lakesideheritagesociety.org.

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