

Oberlin Heritage Center E-Gazette – January 2014

MPO Box 0455, Oberlin, OH 44074 (440)774-1700

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Salute Those Who Make Oberlin Special!

Consider nominating an outstanding individual, organization, or business whose accomplishments in serving the community are in keeping with the Heritage Center's mission *to preserve and share Oberlin's unique heritage and to make the community a better place to live, learn, work and visit.* Award Categories include **Community Historian** (someone who adds to the community's knowledge of Oberlin history); **Heritage Guardian** (an individual or group dedicated to historic preservation in our community); **History Teacher of the Year** (an educator who inspires students to learn more about history); **Community Teacher of the Year** (an educator who encourages community service); **Keep Oberlin Beautiful Award** (an individual, business or organization that enhances the aesthetics of Oberlin), and **Oberlin Heritage Center Volunteer of the Year** (someone who makes extraordinary contributions of time and talent to the OHC). Download an [entry form](#) by visiting the "What's New" sidebar at www.oberlinheritagecenter.org and submit your nomination by **February 1, 2014**. Award winners will be announced and saluted at the Oberlin Heritage Center's Annual Meeting, which takes place at the Oberlin Inn on April 9, 2014.

January 11: It's a Great Time to Become a Heritage Center Docent!

If your New Year resolutions include learning something new, getting more involved in the community, or perhaps making new friends, think about becoming an Oberlin Heritage Center volunteer docent. Our introductory docent training workshop takes place Saturday, **January 11 from 12 to 4 p.m.** at the Monroe House (73½ South Professor Street). You'll learn more about Oberlin and its nationally significant history and be part of a friendly and diverse docent team that meets periodically for informational gatherings, field trips and more. Just to make sure docenting is "your cup of tea," take the **Upstairs/Downstairs tour** in advance. You can work into your new duties by first learning the **Sneak Peak tour** of the first floor of the Monroe House (a 30-minute visit). It's fun and rewarding to meet people from all over the country who visit the Heritage Center! As your knowledge and confidence increases, you'll be leading the full 75-minute tour through all three of the Heritage Center's historic buildings sharing stories and making connections from Oberlin's first century through the present day. **Receive a free tour ticket and pre-register** for this free training workshop by calling **Liz Schultz**, Museum Education and Tour Coordinator, at (440) 774-1700 or sending an e-mail to tourinfo@oberlinheritage.org.

January 29: Marriage Made in Japan is a "Match Made in Heaven"

You may already know that Oberlin College professor Frank Fanning Jewett and his author/activist wife Sarah Frances Gulick Jewett lived happily ever after...now find out more about the rest of their story. The Jewetts married in Yokohama in 1880 just before moving to Oberlin where Frank had accepted a position in the College's emerging Chemistry department. What had originally taken these two young Americans so far from home; how did they meet one another and fall in love? Oberlin College Emeritus Professor of Chemistry **Norman Craig's** extensive study on the Jewetts has recently been enhanced by new information acquired through colleague **Yoshimitsu Miyagi** whose research comes directly from Japan. While the Jewetts both made names for themselves as professional trailblazers, this illustrated

presentation shows us a sweeter side of their partnership. The event takes place on **Wednesday, January 29 at 7:15 p.m.** and is free and open to the public. Location: Kendal at Oberlin's Heiser Auditorium (600 Kendal Drive).

Upcoming Events for Kids & Teens

Register now for one or more upcoming program designed specifically to engage your child or grandchild by inspiring curiosity and appreciation of many different places and people, past and present. For more information, contact Museum Educator **Liz Schultz** at (440) 774-1700 or e-mail tourinfo@oberlinheritage.org. Mark your calendars for:

February 18 (Teens): Backspace at the Bridge. The Oberlin Heritage Center and the Oberlin Public Library's Community Technology Center at "The Bridge" (82 South Main Street) are working together to provide a fun program for teens on **Tuesday, February 18 at 4:00 p.m.** Kids in grades 6-12 observe **Black History Month** by mixing a few fascinating stories from the past with the fast-moving and creative world of technology. Find out more, or register for this free event by contacting The Bridge at (440) 774-3820 or thebridge@oberlin.net.

February 26-March 19 (Kids): Cultures of the World Hands-on History Series for Home Schoolers. Boys and girls ages 8-13 can explore many aspects of historic cultures in this four-week series featuring a close-up look at **Stone Age Britain; Ancient Indonesia; Age of Exploration: Voyages at Sea; and The Five Nations of Iroquois.** Sessions are **Wednesday afternoons from 1-3 p.m.** and participants enroll for the full series. Fee is \$40 for children or grandchildren of OHC members and \$45 for non-members. *Sign up by January 18 to receive an early bird discount.* Register online at www.oberlinheritagecenter.org or call (440) 774-1700 for a registration form. Location: Oberlin Depot (240 South Main Street).

March 24-27 (Kids): Spring Break Camps. Offered as **two-day mini-camps from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.** for children ages 8-13. Sign up for one or both sessions: **Undercover History: Spies, Detectives and Police (March 24-25)** investigates the history of people who watch, listen, conclude and act to keep their country...or their secrets safe. **Ancient Egypt (March 26-27)** explores the treasures of the people, gods and land of the pharaohs. Fee is \$40 per camp for children or grandchildren of OHC members and \$45 for non-members. *Anyone who registers by March 1 receives the early bird discount of \$3 per camp* (www.oberlinheritagecenter.org). Location: Oberlin Depot (240 South Main Street).

Save these Dates and Look for OHC's Spring Calendar to be Unveiled Soon!

We're putting the final touches on an exciting line-up of engaging programs offered free to the community in 2014. The Spring events calendar will be mailed to members in coming weeks. Meantime, save these dates and keep an eye on our website at www.oberlinheritagecenter.org:

February 26: Oberlin College Archivist **Ken Grossi** and fellow historians **Tom Mach** and **John Oliver** examine the relationship between founding values and present day ideals at three Midwestern institutions of higher learning in *Do Roots Matter? Change at Three Religion-Born Schools – Cedarville, Malone, Oberlin – from the 19th-21st Centuries.* The event takes place on **Wednesday, February 26 at 7:15 p.m.** at Kendal at Oberlin's Heiser Auditorium (600 Kendal Drive) and is co-sponsored by the Oberlin College Archives. Free and open to the public.

April 9: The Oberlin Heritage Center's **Annual Meeting** is a festive occasion where we review the year just passed and look ahead to the organization's future. Mark your calendars for the **second Wednesday of April, beginning at 5 p.m.**, where members and friends will gather at the Oberlin Inn for dinner, updates, and the presentation of the **Heritage Center's 13th Annual Community Awards.** Further

details, including ticket information, will be mailed to all OHC members later this winter, or call (440) 774-1700 to add your name to the mailing list.

Recent Funding Supports Oberlin Heritage Center's Educational Outreach

Tours for all ages, kids' camps, and off-site history programming for youth and adults all continued to expand last year under the leadership of Museum Education and Tour Coordinator, **Liz Schultz**. We're tremendously grateful for a \$20,000 grant received in December from **The Community Foundation of Lorain County** to help underwrite history education outreach activities in 2014. Thank you to Community Foundation donors supporting the Heritage Center's proposal, including the **Fred & Mary Behm Fund** and the **William and Pat Lindley Fund**.

OHC Staff, Board and Volunteer News

Oberlin College student intern **Cesár Palacio** recently researched and added a new feature to the OHC website about "[The Musical History of Oberlin](#)." The Oberlin Conservatory of Music, established in 1865, is the oldest continuously operating conservatory of music in the United States. Learn more about its complex history by clicking on the "Research and Learn" tab and scrolling down to "History Features" at www.oberlinheritagecenter.org.

Volunteer docent **Ron Gorman** is in the midst of a three-part blog series on our website about [Northern States' rights](#) and opposition to the Fugitive Slave Law of 1850. Oberlin's own James Monroe, a political rookie in the state legislature at the time, found himself at the center of growing controversy as the author of one of Ohio's "personal liberty laws" – arguably one of the most radical such laws in the country. Ron's account draws you in to the fervor of the times and the growing disparity between slaveholding and free states that was leading the country to Civil War. Visit www.oberlinheritagecenter.org and click "Blog" on the "Act Now" sidebar.

AmeriCorps member, **Jen Graham**, hosted a vintage "Oberlin Winter Photo" contest on OHC's Facebook page last month. If you missed it (or if you would like to see all photo submissions together), check out the many snowy yet cozy Oberlin entries by visiting the "Winters of Yore" album under the "Photo" tab on the Oberlin Heritage Center's Facebook page. (And, if you are not yet our Facebook friend, give us a "Like" now!) The most "liked" photo, from the collection of Scott Swanson, lets us see that towering mounds of snow did not deter the high spirits or the "height of fashion" exhibited by five charming young ladies posing outside of Finney Chapel in the winter of 1909. Special thanks to our Facebook friends at "[Oberlin in the Past](#)" for several great photo submissions!

It was fun for OHC staff to visit with former interns back in Oberlin over the holidays, including **Tim Krumreig** OC '12 (now working as Massachusetts Campus Compact AmeriCorps/Vista coordinator at Simmons College in Boston) and **Laura Laubenthal** BGSU '11 and the Cooperstown Graduate Program '13 (now Assistant Curator at the Munson-Williams-Proctor Arts Institute in Utica, NY). Congratulations to another former Heritage Center intern, **Andria Ryberg** OC '05, who made news this week in Battle Creek, Michigan as she fulfills a dream of opening a new preschool in that community. Andria will serve as director of [Garden of Dreams Community Preschool and Child Care](#) set to open later this year.

You Did It – 2013 Annual Fund Tops \$35,000 Goal!

Thank you, thank you, and thank you again to **258 Annual Fund donors** who helped raise **\$36,584** for the organization's general operating account. We cannot say too many times how much each and every one's support means to the ongoing work of the Oberlin Heritage Center.

Members' Update

Welcome new OHC members **Andaleeb Banta** (Oberlin), **Mr. & Mrs. Art Brenner** (Wellington), **Carrie Handy** (Oberlin), **Bill Hilton** (Sunnyvale, CA), **Lois S. Kroc** (Santa Barbara, CA), **Stanley Levine** (Oberlin), and **Chris Smith** (North Ridgeville). We are grateful to **Julia S. Shaw** (Oberlin) who stepped up to become an Endowed Life Member at the Copper level.

The Heritage Center is more than 700 members strong – up from just a dozen members two decades ago. We're delighted that some of those members from 1992 – such as **Cathe Radabaugh, Catharina Caldwell (James), Howard & Jean Broadwell**, and **Roland & Phyllis Baumann** – continue to be involved today. In 1993, when the organization transitioned from an all-volunteer group to one led by professional staff, membership grew quickly. Those whose active membership stretches back at least 20 years include: **Reino Aalto, David & Sigrid Boe, Jane Blodgett (Geoffrey), Demmie Carrell (Jep), Marianne Cochrane, Don & Mary Anne Cunningham, Bill Farquhar (Leslie), Stephen & Kim Fixx, Dick & Norma Gilbert, Nancy Gray (Ted), Bill & Robin Jindra, Nick & Sue Jones, Gary Kornblith & Carol Lasser, Albert McQueen, Pat Murphy & Keith Koenning, Cindy Nord (Evan), Jane Nord (Eric), Allan & Elizabeth Patterson, Joyce Redden, Andy & Cindy Ruckman, Dick & Dina Schoonmaker, Shirley Shubert (Oliver), Don & Mary Louise VanDyke, Jean Wright, and Carol Zavodsky (Frank)**. [Record-keeping may not have been the best in those early days, so consider this just a fun sampling – which nevertheless says *a lot* about the tremendous dedication of OHC's friends and supporters.] We appreciate ALL members – and we encourage you to become a member if you are not yet part of this great group of Oberlin history enthusiasts! Visit www.oberlinheritagecenter.org and click "Join" to become a member today!

Also of Interest

Donate to Ohio History on your Ohio tax return and help support history projects in local communities that invest in Ohio's economy. The funds generated through the **Ohio History "Tax Check-Off"** are made available through a competitive matching grants program, the History Fund. ***Every designated contribution is appreciated.*** Even a \$10 donation can help repair a roof, preserve rare color film footage, or stage a historical reenactment. The upcoming tax season is especially important as the Ohio General Assembly recently established a new threshold for tax check-off programs. The Ohio Historical Society needs to generate at least \$150,000 each year or the Ohio History Tax Check-Off, and the History Fund grants program it supports, could be jeopardized. Look for "Ohio Historical Society" on your Ohio tax return and designate a dollar amount. Every dollar makes a BIG difference!

Oberlin Heritage Center member **Nicole Hayes** of Wellington, Ohio has a wonderful new blog that chronicles the people, buildings, news and stories of 19th century Wellington. We promise you'll enjoy spending some time at <http://19thcenturywellington.wordpress.com/>.

The **Leadership Lorain County Internship Program** is an amazing opportunity for college students in Lorain County to experience a strong internship, become more familiar with the county, and develop professional experience as a foundation for future careers. Find out more about these ten-week summer internships at www.leadershiploraincounty.com (click on the "Internship Program" heading on the main menu bar and scroll down to the "For Students" section). Application deadline: **February 3, 2014**.

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.