

# Oberlin Heritage Center E-Gazette – March 2011

MPO Box 0455, Oberlin, OH 44074 (440)774-1700 [www.oberlinheritage.org](http://www.oberlinheritage.org) [members@oberlinheritage.org](mailto:members@oberlinheritage.org)

## Celebrate Jim White as “Oberlinian of the Year”

All are invited to salute the Oberlin Heritage Center’s Past-President, Jim White, as the *Oberlin News-Tribune*’s “Oberlinian of the Year” in a community reception on **Saturday, March 19 from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.** at First Church in Oberlin, United Church of Christ (corner of Main/SR 58 and Lorain/SR 511 Streets). The event is free and open to all. Hosted by the Oberlin Heritage Center and the *Oberlin News-Tribune* in cooperation with First Church, U.C.C.

## Time Explorers! Spring Break Camp

Sign-up your child or grandchild for one, two, or all five days of camp offered **Monday, March 28 through Friday, April 1** at the Oberlin Depot. Each day includes a variety of hands-on activities for boys and girls ages 8-13 where they can explore a different era of history such as Ancient China, Medieval Europe, the American Frontier, the Civil War Era, and the 1960s Social Revolution. The sessions are very reasonably priced, with discounts for Oberlin Heritage Center members. There’s an additional “Early Bird” discount for anyone who registers by March 7. For more information, or to make a reservation, visit the OHC [website](http://www.oberlinheritage.org), or contact Liz Schultz at [tourinfo@oberlinheritage.org](mailto:tourinfo@oberlinheritage.org) (or 440-774-1700).

## John Mercer Langston Symposium

Plan to attend one or both illustrated programs on abolitionist, orator, diplomat, and educator, John Mercer Langston, and his family presented by **Dr. Judith E. King-Calnek**, an educational anthropologist and instructor at the United Nations International School and a Langston relative. *John Mercer Langston and the Shaping of African American Education in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century* takes place **Tuesday, March 29 at 7:15 p.m.** at Kendal at Oberlin’s Heiser Auditorium. *The Langston-Quarles Family: An Untold American Story* is offered **Wednesday, March 30 at 7 p.m.** at the Oberlin Public Library. Both events are free and open to all.

## Oberlin Heritage Center’s Annual Meeting and Dinner

Register early – by March 25 – and save \$5 on each reservation for the Oberlin Heritage Center’s Annual Meeting on **Wednesday, April 6** at the Oberlin Inn. Our featured speaker will be **Burt Logan**, CEO of the Ohio Historical Society, and the evening includes the presentation of the Oberlin Heritage Center’s 10th Annual Community Awards to: **Bill Roniger** (History Teacher of the Year), **Anna Ernst** (Community Historian Award), **Charlotte Bosch** (Oberlin Heritage Center Volunteer of the Year), **Victoria Hardnett** (Youth Community Service Award), and **LorMet Community Federal Credit Union** (Keep Oberlin Beautiful Award). Information was mailed to OHC members this week; if you do not receive a flyer, visit [www.oberlinheritage.org](http://www.oberlinheritage.org), call (440) 774-1700 or e-mail [members@oberlinheritage.org](mailto:members@oberlinheritage.org).

## **Oberlin Heritage Center's Summer Camp Registration Underway**

With spring around the corner, will summer be very far behind? Register for the Heritage Center's summer camps for kids and receive an "Early Bird" discount if you sign up by June 10. This year's schedule kicks off with a **Junior Docent Workshop** for teens (13-17 years) on June 20-21 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Jewett House. Boys and girls ages 8-13 can attend three week-long camps including: **Soldiers & Civilians: Civil War Era Camp for Kids** the week of July 25-29; **Kids & World Cultures Camp** the week of August 8-12; and **Architecture Camp** the week of August 15-19. Kids' camps run from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and will be held at the Oberlin Depot. Register online or find out more at [www.oberlinheritage.org](http://www.oberlinheritage.org) or call (440) 774-1700 to request a summer camp flyer. Remember children and grandchildren of Oberlin Heritage Center members receive an additional members' discount.

## **Oberlin Heritage Center Invited to Take Part in Women's History Exhibit**

The **National Park Service (NPS)** has created a special Women's History Exhibit at the **National Capital Region Headquarters** in Washington, DC, and the Oberlin Heritage Center was delighted to be asked to submit photos and information about our site for the display. **Liz Schultz** provided exhibit materials about "Oberlin, Ohio and Women's Firsts," and included several Oberlin women whose stories are shared on the Oberlin Heritage Center's historic sites tour. The Oberlin Heritage Center is part of the NPS [National Underground Network to Freedom](#) and also is a member of the [National Collaborative for Women's History Sites](#).

## **Rolling Out the Carpet for the First Lady**

The redecoration project of Julia Finney Monroe's front parlor continues to make progress. Mrs. Monroe, also known in her day as "Oberlin's First Lady," would be thrilled to see the placement of a stunning new carpet in the room. The selection was made with the guidance of the Oberlin Heritage Center's Collections Committee, and purchased through **Smith's Furnishings in Oberlin** thanks to a contribution from OHC volunteer, **Darlene Krato**. Smith's Furnishings, an OHC business member, also donated the rug pad and labor to install it.

## **Volunteer Needs at the Oberlin Heritage Center**

Volunteers are needed to help greet visitors and distribute Oberlin Heritage Center information at a few upcoming special events in Elyria (either a Friday, Saturday or Sunday for a two-hour daytime shift; dates TBD) and Wellington (Friday, May 6, for two-hour daytime shifts). Tables, chairs, and materials provided and set up in advance – all you need to do is attend and help spread the word about the Oberlin Heritage Center! If you can assist, please contact Mary Anne Cunningham at the Heritage Center office by calling (440) 774-1700 or sending an e-mail to [members@oberlinheritage.org](mailto:members@oberlinheritage.org).

## **Blue Star Visitors at the Heritage Center!**

The Oberlin Heritage Center is proud to continue as a "Blue Star Museum" throughout the year and offer free admission to active duty military personnel and their families for the guided tour of

our historic site. We recently welcomed our first “Blue Star” family and look forward to the opportunity to greet others from the U.S. military community throughout the coming months.

## **Oberlin Heritage Center Listed in NTHP’s New Travel Guide**

The Oberlin Heritage Center is included in a new travel guide booklet and map produced by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, which encourages travelers to explore places that matter all across the country. The Heritage Center is pleased to be one of two historic attractions listed for the state of Ohio (the other being Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens in Akron). For more on historic sites and heritage destinations, visit [www.PreservationNation.org/travel](http://www.PreservationNation.org/travel).

## **Out and About: Staff News**

**Liz Schultz** and **Karyn Norwood** will attend the “Engage Families” workshop for museum professionals hosted at the Ohio Historical Society on March 4. This hands-on workshop will offer innovative ideas and an action plan for creating engaging and educational programming for a multi-generational audience. **Mary Anne Cunningham** will represent the Oberlin Heritage Center as a speaker at a community memorial service for Mildred Arthrell, taking place on Saturday, March 5 at 2 p.m. at First Church in Oberlin, U.C.C. **Liz Schultz, Karyn Norwood** and former staff member **Jennifer Bowman** will serve as judges at the National History Day regional competition at Case Western Reserve University on March 19. **Karyn Norwood** will be part of a panel discussion on “Commemorations in the Classroom: Reaching Out to Teachers during Community Anniversaries” as part of the Region 3 Ohio Local History Alliance meeting in Hinckley on April 2.

## **Welcome New Members**

The Oberlin Heritage Center extends a warm welcome to new members **Kevin Carr, Thomas L. Cramer, Esther Kay** (Lorain), **Kathy Sobieski** (Wellington), **Naomi R. Twining** (Toledo), and **Steven Wojtal & Wendy Kozol**, and to new business members **Inspired (Mike & Debbie Bush), Kevin Carr Roofing, Ratsy’s Store** and **Showalter’s Chimney Service**. We salute new Endowed Life Members **Rob Calhoun & Elizabeth Wilmer**, and we’re grateful also to **Walt & Marge Edling** who recently made a pledge that will move them up from the “Copper” to the “Aluminum” level of Endowed Life Membership. (All members are from Oberlin, unless otherwise indicated.) Members are the ♥heart♥ of this organization – if you are not a member please join by visiting [www.oberlinheritage.org](http://www.oberlinheritage.org) or calling (440) 774-1700 or e-mailing [members@oberlinheritage.org](mailto:members@oberlinheritage.org) to request that a membership brochure be sent to you.

## **Also of Interest**

Congratulations to Oberlin Heritage Center Board Member, **Kurt Russell**, who recently was named “Coach of the Year” by Lorain County Coaches for his great season as boys’ varsity basketball coach at Oberlin High School.

Applause, applause all around town as the congregation of **Oberlin's Peace Community Church** (44 East Lorain Street) dedicates the church's new organ in honor of **David S. Boe**, emeritus professor of organ and former dean of the conservatory, and his wife, Oberlin activist **Sigrid Boe**. A free, public service of dedication and concert takes place **Sunday, March 13 at 3 p.m.** and features performances on the new organ by Oberlin students. Sigrid Boe is an Honorary Trustee of the Oberlin Heritage Center, and with her husband, they are Endowed Life Members as well.

The Firelands Archaeological Research Center presents the **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Ohio Archaeology Dinner** on **Thursday, March 24, 2011** at the Amherst Sandstone Village Grange Hall (763 Milan Avenue). This unique dinner features foods native to North America prepared in a modern, gourmet style. Special guest speaker will be Dr. Jarrod Burkes, Ohio Valley Archaeology, Inc., who will talk about how the latest geophysical survey techniques are being used to document and explore dozens of forgotten and undocumented earthworks. Reservations are \$22 per person and must be made by March 10 to FARC, P.O. Box 1013, Amherst, OH 44001. Questions? Contact James Barnes at 440-988-5483 or [jobarnes@oh.rr.com](mailto:jobarnes@oh.rr.com).

**A Taste of Oberlin...at Kendal** takes place **Thursday, March 24 from 2:30-4:00 p.m.** Sample delectable treats from more than a dozen Oberlin eateries while enjoying live entertainment by the Northern Ohio Youth Orchestra. The event is free and open to the public, with donations accepted (cash or non-perishable food items) for Oberlin Community Services. Reservations should be made by March 21 by calling 1-800-548-9469 or sending an e-mail to [admissions@kao.kendal.org](mailto:admissions@kao.kendal.org). You may also RSVP at [www.facebook.com/KendalOberlin](http://www.facebook.com/KendalOberlin).

**Historians on the Record:** More than 100 audio podcasts from the Gilder Lehrman Institute are available free, visit <http://www.gilderlehrman.org/historians/podcasts/>. This month's featured lectures include Pulitzer Prize-winning historian Laurel Thatcher Ulrich on "The Age of Homespun: Family Labor in the Colonial Economy" and Columbia University Professor of History Alice Kessler-Harris on "The Quest for Equality: Women 1865 to the Present."

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