

Oberlin Heritage Center E-Gazette – June 26, 2010

Summer at the Oberlin Heritage Center

Put one of these upcoming activities on your list of “things I want to do this summer” and remember they’re also a great way to entertain family and friends who are visiting:

- **Tappan Square History Walk** – Fridays at 11 a.m. – Learn about early residents and hear stories of triumph and misfortune. Walk away with a lively appreciation of Oberlin’s unique heritage and buildings. 60 minutes.
- **Freedom’s Friends History Walk** – Saturdays at 11 a.m. – This walking tour showcases Oberlin’s important role in the history of abolition and the Underground Railroad. 75 minutes.
- **Oberlin Heritage Center Historic Sites Tour** – Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. – Visit three beautifully preserved historic buildings that serve as backdrop for powerful stories of everyday people doing extraordinary things ever since the college and town were founded in 1833. 75 minutes.

Walk-ins are welcome for the Historic Sites Tour; free for OHC members; \$6 for others with a \$1 discount for AAA members. Advance reservations are necessary for the History Walks, visit www.oberlinheritage.org or stop by the Monroe House’s Museum Store (440-774-1700; \$6 per adult, with \$1 discount for OHC members. Tours and History Walks are free for children under 18 years accompanied by an adult (most likely to be enjoyed by children 9 years of age and up).

For youngsters:

- **Stories at the Schoolhouse** – Saturday, July 17 at 3 p.m. – A fun social and learning opportunity for preschoolers (and interested others) to gather at the Little Red Schoolhouse and enjoy a mix of games and stories based on the theme “What Life was Like for Kids in the Old Days.” Free; approximately one hour. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Co-sponsored by the Oberlin Public Library.
- **I Spy Oberlin History & Architecture Scavenger Hunt** – Saturday, July 24 at 3 p.m. – Families will be guided through historic Oberlin while keeping their eyes peeled for historic markers, decorative details, and Oberlin oddities. Designed for children ages 5-11 and their adult companion. Fun and engaging for all! Fee: \$5 per child. Reservations required (www.oberlinheritage.org) or call (440) 774-1700.
- **Sign up for a Great History Camp!** For children ages 8-13. Register at www.oberlinheritage.org or call (440) 774-1700 for more information.

History-for-the-Day-Camps – single-day camps offered the week of July 27-30.

Local Inventors and Innovators Camp – Week of August 2-6 *Hurry, camp is filling up fast!*

Green Camp – Week of August 9-13

Architecture Camp – Week of August 16-20 *Hurry, camp is filling up fast!*

- **Family Fun Fair/Vintage Days** – Saturday, August 7 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. – Enjoy a county-wide tradition featuring free family activities throughout downtown Oberlin with hands-on fun and mini-tours at the Oberlin Heritage Center. Also joining in with old-fashioned activities for kids at the Heritage Center’s site this year will be the Pittsfield Township and Brownhelm Historical groups.

More great programs coming up!

The Oberlin Heritage Center’s upcoming events flyer now includes dates and times for several fascinating autumn programs – go to www.oberlinheritage.org for more information, or e-mail members@oberlinheritage.org (or call 440-774-1700) to request that a paper copy of the new events calendar be sent to you.

Bed & Breakfast Volunteer Hosts Needed

The Oberlin Heritage Center seeks residents to host parents and college-age students during Oberlin College's Freshman Orientation at the end of August. Hosts are needed for one or more nights between Monday, August 30 through Wednesday, September 1 (with the greatest demand being on Monday night). If you can offer a private bedroom (double or twin beds) and a private or shared bathroom, with a simple breakfast provided in the morning, please let us know. This is the biggest fundraiser of the year for the Oberlin Heritage Center, with OHC members and friends volunteer their time and opening their homes, while out-of-town guests contribute to the Oberlin Heritage Center for their accommodations. It's a great opportunity to be an Oberlin community ambassador and many long-time friendships have resulted through these bed-and-breakfast stays. For more information, or to volunteer as a host, please contact Oberlin Heritage Center Board Member, Cathe Radabaugh, at cathe.radabaugh@oberlin.edu or (440) 774-4646.

Oberlin Heritage Center Interns are a Resourceful Bunch!

The Oberlin Heritage Center is pleased to have four college students and recent graduates assisting the organization with a variety of projects this summer. Several internships are in collaboration with and supported by grants from other funding sources including the Ohio Humanities Council, Leadership Lorain County, and the Bonner Scholar program at Oberlin College. Get to know these interns a little better by reading on...

The Oberlin Heritage Center is delighted to have received a \$2,000 grant to support the cost of a summer intern position from the Ohio Humanities Council, a state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Oberlin high school graduate and current Oberlin College art history major **Rachel Luczkowski** (OC 2012) has accepted the position, and is giving tours, and helping with events as part of learning more about museum careers. Her major project for the summer is creating a virtual exhibit of photographs of Oberlin, then and now. If you have photographs of Oberlin buildings (including those that are no longer standing) that you may be willing to share with the Heritage Center for this or future projects and to help fill gaps and add to the Resource Center photography collection, please let us know.

For the past 9 years, the Leadership Lorain County Internship Program (LLCIP) has provided local college students with internship opportunities throughout Lorain County. The Summer Internship Program is designed to offer quality 10-week paid internships to local college students while providing nonprofit organizations, such as the Heritage Center, with the energy, skills, and dedication that college students bring to these internships. The Oberlin Heritage Center became involved as a LLCIP intern placement site in 2004. This year, we are pleased to welcome **Laura Laubenthal** as our 2010 Leadership Lorain County summer intern. Laura lives in Elyria and will be a senior this fall at Bowling Green State University where she is majoring in history and minoring in art history. She is doing a fantastic job staffing the front reception office this summer, answering phones, handling Museum Store purchases, doing lots of special projects, and she has been trained to be a docent. Also helping at the Heritage Center this summer is former LLCIP intern, **Mary Moroney**, an Oberlin native, who graduated from Ohio University last year. Mary worked at the Heritage Center as a Leadership Lorain County intern for two summers while attending college. Now she is employed as the Title I Reading Teacher at Summit Academy in Lorain, and has returned to the Heritage Center as a summer staff member to give tours, help with the City-wide Historic Building Inventory, and assist with children's summer camps and other educational programs.

The Bonner Scholars Program provides students who have demonstrated outstanding community service with the financial support needed to attend college and continue to be involved in the community. Oberlin native, **Tim Krumreig** (OC 2012), has volunteered with the Oberlin Heritage Center for the past two years, and continues as a Bonner volunteer this summer. Tim is a geology major (with an anthropology minor) at Oberlin College and is assisting the Heritage Center staff with collections projects and helping with several of our Summer Camps for Kids this summer.

The Power of a Historic Photograph (or two)

Congratulations to LorMet Community Credit Union on the Grand Opening of their glistening new Oberlin branch at 49 South Main Street! The exterior of the building has been meticulously brought back to its original 1958 appearance in accordance with a historical photograph from the Heritage Center's collection. The interior also recalls the décor and design of the 1950s, right down to the yellow and turquoise Formica topped chrome dinette set in the staff room. Pat Murphy, the Oberlin Heritage Center's Executive Director, noted "It is great fun and very gratifying that the Heritage Center's research and historic photo collection helped LorMet to devise a historically accurate design that is a great new addition to the downtown historic district and an asset for the entire community. I commend the leadership of LorMet and its CEO Dan Cwalina as well as architect Mark Lessner for their hard work on this amazing project." The Heritage Center (then known as the Oberlin Historical and Improvement Organization or O.H.I.O.) also played a major role in the renovation of the neighboring building, the New Union Center for the Arts, by spearheading the reconstruction of the building's bell tower in 1997. That project, too, was made possible by the existence of a historic photograph which showed the original tower prior to its removal in 1940.

Oberlin Heritage Center Members Now in 34 States – Let's Try for 50!

Did you know that 11% of the Oberlin Heritage Center's membership (more than 80 memberships) hail from states other than Ohio and even include one foreign country (Greece)? How exciting to have great support for the Heritage Center from all corners of the country! Can you help recruit a new member from any of these states -- Arkansas, Delaware, Idaho, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Utah, West Virginia, and Wyoming – to help add to our coast-to-coast membership base? New members can join, and others can renew today [online](#) or call (440) 774-1700 and request a membership brochure be sent to you. Members are the heart of this organization, and we love welcoming new members at any time!

Also of Interest

4th Annual Historic Ashland Home and Garden Tour – July 3, 2010, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. featuring numerous Nationally Registered homes as well as others with local and architectural interest. Tickets are available for \$10 (pre-sale) or \$12 on the day of the tour. Visit www.CenterStreetHistoricDistrict.org or call (419) 560-4020 or (419) 496-2816 for more information including how to obtain tickets and the list of homes open for the tour. Proceeds for the event go to the Center Street Historic District Association for preservation projects.

Ohio Chautauqua, an exciting mixture of education and entertainment, will focus on **The 1930s** this year, and will be coming to four unique communities across the state in July. Characters include **W.C. Fields** (portrayed by **Hank Fincken**), **Margaret Mitchell** (**Debra Conner**), **Paul Robeson** (**Marvin Jefferson**), **Eleanor Roosevelt** (**Susan Marie Frontczak**), and **Orson Welles** (**Michael Hughes**). The old-fashioned red and white striped Chautauqua tent will go up in **Hudson** (July 6-10), **Ashland** (July 13-17), **Gallipolis** (July 20-24) and **Union County/Marysville** (July 27-31). Fun for the entire family! For additional details, please visit www.ohiohumanities.org or call (800)293-9774 or e-mail frant@ohiohumanities.org.

A Taste of History is sponsored by the Black River Historical Society of Lorain on Saturday, July 31, from 12 noon to 9:00 p.m. at the Black River Landing (421 Black River Lane, Lorain). Admission is free. This fun-filled event features musical entertainment, wine-tasting from six local wineries (\$10.00 includes a souvenir wine glass and five tickets for tastings), great food, antiques, arts & crafts vendors and more. For more information, contact the Black River Historical Society at 440-245-2563.

Take a Hike! Experience Cleveland's History this summer through a series of popular guided walking tours complete with actors portraying historic Clevelanders. Offered through September 12; free, with donations encouraged to help fund future tours:

- Historic Gateway Neighborhood Tour – Thursdays at 6 p.m. – Meet at The Arcade (401 Euclid Avenue)
- Historic Warehouse District Tour – Saturdays at 10 a.m. – Constantino's Market (1278 W. 9th St.)
- Canal Basin Park Tour – Sundays at 10 a.m. – Meet at Settlers Landing RTA Station (1025 West Superior Avenue, bottom of the hill)
- Playhouse Square Tour – Tuesdays at 6 p.m. – Meet at the State Theatre Lobby (1519 Euclid Avenue)

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