

# Oberlin Heritage Center E-Gazette – July 19, 2010

## **Come to the Fair! (Oberlin's Family Fun Fair that is!)**

Enjoy hands-on fun with all sorts of old-fashioned amusements at the Oberlin Heritage Center on **Saturday, August 7 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** The **18<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Fun Fair** is a day for the young (and young-at-heart) with free activities offered throughout downtown Oberlin and the Oberlin Heritage Center grounds, all geared to families with young children. Take a step back in time to experience historic school lessons at the Little Red Schoolhouse with slate boards, McGuffey Readers, and more, then enjoy “recess” in the school yard with stilts, hoops and the Victorian game of “graces”. Stay cool with an at-your-own-pace mini-tour of the Heritage Center’s Monroe and Jewett Houses. Those with more time and interest can join a docent-guided tour that will be offered at 10:30 a.m. and again at 1:30 p.m. Guided tours also will be free today because of the Fun Fair (a savings of \$6 per person!); space is limited, however, and is available on a first-come, first-served basis. New this year, two neighboring Lorain County historical societies, the Brownhelm Historical Association and the Pittsfield Historical Society, will add to the festive atmosphere on the Heritage Center’s grounds. For more information, visit [www.oberlinheritage.org](http://www.oberlinheritage.org) or call (440) 774-1700.

## **Kudos for Kids Camps!**

The Heritage Center’s Summer Camps recently were in the spotlight in the July issue of the **National Trust for Historic Preservation’s Partner Update** newsletter in a feature on “*Camps, Classrooms & Field Trips: Teaching Preservation K-12.*” The article offered a sampling of great camps from around the country, including the Oberlin Heritage Center’s **Architecture Camp** and **Local Inventors and Innovators Camp**, and noted that these programs “play a critical role in shaping the next generation of preservationists.” To request a copy of the article, call the Heritage Center at (440) 774-1700. To sign up for one of the Heritage Center’s upcoming camps, visit [www.oberlinheritage.org](http://www.oberlinheritage.org). Hurry, space is filling up fast!

## **Dutch Oven Cooking – What Fun! (And What Is It?)**

Dutch oven cooking has been in use for hundreds of years, especially by people on the move such as history-making explorers, early pioneers, and in more recent times by modern campers. Take part in a **Dutch Oven Cooking Demonstration** on **Saturday, August 14 from 3-4:30 p.m.** in our **Hands-on-History at the Schoolhouse** program and learn to cook in a Dutch oven, prepare a recipe, take a visit to a nearby historic kitchen and sample a Dutch oven dish. Designed for families with children ages 7 and older; children must be accompanied by an adult. Register by August 7; fee \$8 per child. Maximum: 25 / Minimum: 5.

## **Even Though Not NEAR, These Members are DEAR to Our Hearts ♥!**

The Heritage Center is tremendously pleased to welcome Dean and Susan Gibson as new Endowed Life Members. A hometown fellow now living in Columbus, Ohio, Dean writes, “We’re very pleased to support the Oberlin Heritage Center, its tremendous contribution to the community and what it means to Oberlin. It’s a wonderful town to have grown up in, give back to, and see the truly positive impact Oberlin’s had – and is having – on improving so many peoples’ lives.” Thank you to the Gibsons and to the 78 others who are Endowed Life Members – find out more about becoming a Life Member at [www.oberlinheritage.org](http://www.oberlinheritage.org).

We also are delighted to welcome **Cheryl Johnson Mees** as a new Oberlin Heritage Center member from Stevensville, Maryland. Cheryl was back in Oberlin recently visiting her mother, **Helen Johnson**, and brother, **Steve Johnson, III**, when she stopped by the Heritage Center to view the new brick that she and her sister, **Stephanie Johnson Neal** of Anchorage, Alaska, gave as a gift to their mother last Christmas season. The brick is now installed along the Oberlin Heritage Center’s walkway, right next to the **Steve Johnson, Jr.** brick that honors Helen’s husband who once served as president of the Oberlin Historical and Improvement Organization (O.H.I.O., now Oberlin Heritage Center). It’s great to have **FOUR** members of the Johnson family from all over the country as part of the OHC family! Cheryl adds, “Be sure to tell everyone how much I enjoyed the Oberlin Heritage Center’s *Freedom’s Friends History Walk* while I was back in Oberlin!”

Oberlin and its history means a lot to people whether they live close by, far away, or are just passing through. And you can be assured that your membership will mean *a lot* to the Heritage Center in allowing its good work to continue. If you are not yet a member, please [join](#) today! If you are already a member, consider Life Membership as the next step! Questions? E-mail [members@oberlinheritage.org](mailto:members@oberlinheritage.org), or call (440) 774-1700.

## **Save the Date!**

**November 13 – Be a Good Ancestor Workshop: Collecting and Preserving Your Family History, Stories, Photographs and Artifacts.** Back by popular demand! Offered by Oberlin Heritage Center staff members **Pat Holsworth** and **Prue Richards** at the Oberlin Depot from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. To get on our mailing list to receive a registration flyer later this summer, e-mail [members@oberlinheritage.org](mailto:members@oberlinheritage.org) or call (440) 774-1700.

## **Also of Interest:**

**Ohio Arts Council Seeks Feedback.** Please take a few short minutes to complete a survey about the cultural future of the state and your local community. Click [here](#) or visit [www.buckeyeline.com](http://www.buckeyeline.com) to take the 5-minute survey.

**Women's Equality Day 2010.** This year marks the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of women gaining the right to vote through the passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment on August 26, 1920. Plan to attend the annual celebratory Women's Equality Day dinner and a program at the Oberlin Inn (7 North Main Street) on Thursday August 26, 2010 at 6 p.m. with featured speakers Oberlin College professor, Harry Hirsch, and Lorain County Community College professor emeritus, Reid Wood, addressing the topic *Elusive Equality: Court Decisions and Women*. Tickets are \$20 and reservations may be made by contacting Ovidia Guaderrama at (440) 735-3711.

**Oberlin Reads *Fahrenheit 451* in the Big Read.** A community-wide effort has secured Oberlin one of 75 National Endowment for the Arts grants to host a Big Read—a nationwide program that engages an entire community in reading, discussion, and thought revolving around the same book for one year. Oberlin will read Ray Bradbury's *Fahrenheit 451*. The Big Read kickoff takes place on October 2. This project is a partnership among the Oberlin Public Library, Oberlin City Schools and Oberlin College with support of many other local organizations. For more information, click [here](#) or visit <http://oberlinbigread.org>.

**Ohioans Choose Thomas Edison for National Statuary Hall.** On behalf of the National Statuary Collection Study Committee, the Ohio Historical Society announced earlier this month that inventor Thomas A. Edison was the top vote-getter for Ohio's representative to the National Statuary Hall Collection in the U.S. Capitol. From March 20 to June 12, more than 46,000 Ohioans statewide cast ballots for one of 10 nominees for whom they thought should stand for Ohio in Washington, D.C. Of the total, Edison received 30% of the votes (14,261), followed closely by the Wright Brothers with 29% of the votes (13,363). For more details, click [here](#) or visit [www.ohiohistory.org](http://www.ohiohistory.org).

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