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or send e-mail to members@oberlinheritage.org.

Time & Treasures on Tour

Visit the Heritage Center this Month for Two Holiday Treats



Don't miss the Oberlin Heritage Center's special one-hour **Tour Through Time** on **Saturdays in December at 11:00 a.m.**, focusing on clocks and watches in the museum's collection. Among the artifacts and stories highlighted, you'll see an ornate Empire-style clock gifted to renowned evangelist and Oberlin College President Charles Grandison Finney (*at left*) and view several other pieces that are not typically displayed for tour-goers. Advance reservations are encouraged.



Visitors participating in a regularly-scheduled Upstairs/Downstairs tour or Sneak Peek tour in December will be treated to a mini display of historic artifacts and photographs that were donated to the Heritage Center in the past two years, including an antique trumpet from Oberlin's Gayters family, a 1920s-era "Skooter Skate" (*at left*), and much more. Walk-ins are welcome.

Visit www.oberlinheritagecenter.org or call (440) 774-1700 for more information on tour times, fees, and making a reservation.

Fundraising & Friendraising: Community Trivia Night

Oberlin's Ben Franklin "Lightning Rods" Continues Winning Streak



The Heritage Center's second annual **Community Trivia Night** took place last month in the Fellowship Hall of The First Church in Oberlin, U.C.C., with 75 players attending (10 more than last year!). All enjoyed a lively, yet friendly, competition, accompanied by pizza and snacks, side games and raffles, and fun for all ages. The event brought in just over \$1,000 for the Heritage Center's ongoing programs and operations, and it made many new friends for the organization as well. The brilliant "Lightning Rods" (*pictured, top left*) from Oberlin's Ben Franklin / Mindfair Books defended their first-place title for the second year in a row. Second place went to "Real Reserved" a multi-generational group from Oberlin's Reserve Avenue neighborhood (*bottom left*), and third place was wrapped up by "Family Ties," whose team members all were relatives of



Community Trivia Night...continued

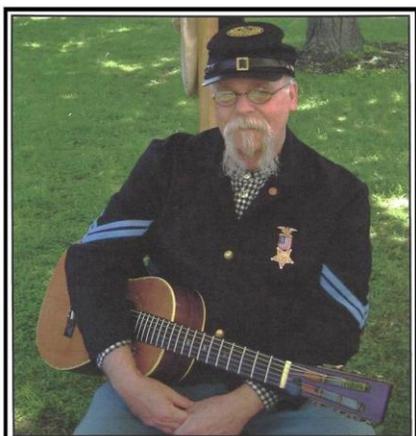
OHC Trustee Barb Enos and her husband, Craig.

Special thanks go to the events' co-sponsors **Herrick Jewelry** and **Harmon Automotive Service**, both of Oberlin, and to supporting partner **Northwest Savings Bank**. **Dave Andrews**, morning deejay on **WOBL**(1320 AM and 107.7 FM), kept things moving with great humor and energy as emcee for the evening. Prizes were donated by **A David Anthony Salon** (Lorain), and Oberlin businesses/organizations **Adeva Salon & Spa**, **Advance Auto Parts**, **Allen Memorial Art Museum**, **Bead Paradise II**, **Ben Franklin/MindFair Books**, **The Hotel at Oberlin**, **Oberlin Business Partnership**, **Oberlin College & Conservatory**, **Puffer's Floral Shoppe**, and **The Rosen-Jones Photography Studio**.

Test your own trivia knowledge with the night's Final Question! (Answer appears at the end of this newsletter.) The category is World-Famous Architecture: *Items turned into the Lost & Found of this iconic building, which was officially opened in 1913, have included a turtle, cremated remains in an urn, season tickets to the Knicks, and Pete Seeger's banjo.*

Save these Dates in 2019!

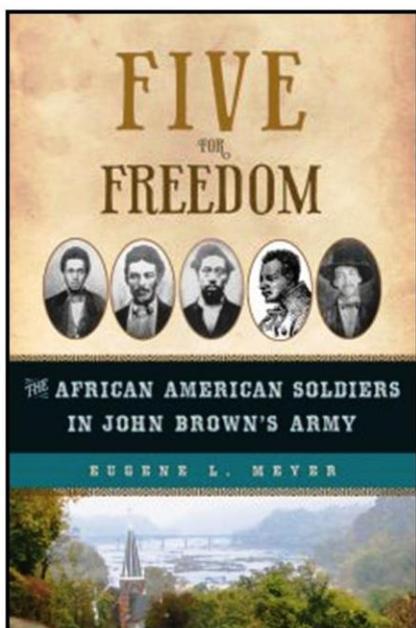
Full Event Calendar to be Sent to OHC Members Early in New Year



Heritage Center staff members are busy planning an exciting line-up of programs for the coming year that weave together local history and music, literature, and a community-wide pop-up museum! Mark your calendars now to join us!

January 15 at 7:15 p.m. Music of the American Civil War presented by Civil War re-enactor and musician **Timothy Krugman** (*pictured at left*). The event takes place at Kendal at Oberlin's Heiser Auditorium (600 Kendal Drive) and is free and open to the public.

February 12 at 7:00 p.m. Five for Freedom: Oberlin's Connections to the Raid on Harpers Ferry. Award-winning journalist **Eugene L. Meyer** offers historical context for his book *Five for Freedom: The African American Soldiers in John Brown's Army* (Chicago Review Press, 2018). A brief Q&A session and book signing follows. This free public program takes place at The First Church in Oberlin, U.C.C. (106 North Main Street).



March 10 from 2-4 p.m. (doors open at 1:30 p.m.) Community Pop-Up Museum. All are invited to help populate and curate this impromptu history exhibit by bringing an item that fits our theme "Older Than I Am" and briefly sharing its story in a casual setting as fellow participants and guests meander through the "museum." You don't have to bring an item to display, but it's more fun that way! This OHC event is co-hosted with the Oberlin African-American Genealogy and History Group (OAAGHG) and takes place in the

Save the Dates of Upcoming Events...continued

Fellowship Hall at The First Church in Oberlin, U.C.C. (106 North Main Street). Free and open to the public.

And save the week of **March 25-29** for the Heritage Center's Spring Break Camp for boys and girls ages 8-13, held at the Oberlin Depot (240 South Main Street). To add your name to OHC's kids' camp mailing list, send an e-mail to members@oberlinheritage.org or call (440) 774-1700.

Who Will be OHC's Next Community Awards Recipients?

Nominations Due by February 1, 2019



2018 Community Award Recipients, from left: Officer Bashshar Wiley (Community Historian Award), Francis Stuart, (Community Historian Award), Zaria Amerson (Youth Community Service Award), and Ché González, accepting the Heritage Guardian Award for Adenike Sharpley who was unable to attend the awards presentation. Also absent was Carl Jacobson (OHC Volunteer of the Year).

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 our community a better place to live, learn, work and visit. Award categories include:

* **Community Historian** - an individual who adds to the knowledge of the history of Oberlin through research, writing, and/or educating others

* **Heritage Guardian** – an individual or group dedicated to the ideals of conservation and preservation, who serves our community as a leader in preserving history, historical records, or historic buildings

* **Oberlin Heritage Center Volunteer of the Year** – a volunteer who makes extraordinary contributions of time and talent to the Oberlin Heritage Center

* **History Teacher of the Year** – an area educator who inspires students to learn more about history

* **Community Teacher of the Year** – an area educator who inspires students to get involved in community service

* **Keep Oberlin Beautiful Award** – an individual, business or organization that helps to enhance the aesthetics and appearance of the community

* **Business Leader Service Award** - a business that provided exceptional support to the Heritage Center in contributions or contributed services, and

* **Youth Community Service Award** - a young person who makes extraordinary contributions in time and talent to the Heritage Center.

Community Award recipients will be honored at the Heritage Center's Annual Meeting on April 2, 2019. Download a nomination form at www.oberlinheritagecenter.org or call (440) 774-1700 for more information.

How Does Your Annual Fund Gift Help?

Dollar for Dollar, Every Gift Gets a Good Return from the Heritage Center



The Oberlin Heritage Center provides a lot for the community at *no cost*, including research assistance, volunteer and internship opportunities, outreach to the Oberlin schools, evening lecture programs, and collaborative projects among community members and organizations. These are only possible because the Annual Fund helps support many costs that membership dues and tour fees don't fully cover, including the expected (like supplies, communications, and staff time) as well as the unexpected (such as repairs, replacements, and emergencies). Your gift *of any size* is used wisely and has a direct impact on what the Heritage Center can provide for the community. Thank you for helping to

preserve and share Oberlin's important histories for future generations! Donate today at www.oberlinheritagecenter.org and click on the "Make a Gift" button at the top of the home page.

Heritage Center Values Openness and Accountability

Business Manager **Bethany Hobbs** recently posted to the OHC website the organization's Form 990 for fiscal year 2017. The 990 contains information about the Oberlin Heritage Center's finances, governance, and program and service offerings. Tax-exempt nonprofit organizations are required annually to submit Form 990 to the IRS as well as complete the charitable registration with the Ohio Attorney General's office. Review the document at www.oberlinheritagecenter.org (click on the "About Us" tab in the main menu, then scroll down to "IRS Form 990 2017"). Or, you may call (440) 774-1700 and request a copy of the document for review.

Coalition for Oberlin History

Interested in Local History Collaborations?

For the past several months a group of Oberlin history enthusiasts from diverse backgrounds have been meeting about once a month to discuss what history projects are happening in the community and what can be done to work together. Some people are working on family genealogies, others are researching the history of their church, a few have created online tours, some have created history-themed programs for area youth, and others are making plans for oral history projects. If you are interested in attending to find out what's going on or share what you're working on, contact OHC Executive Director **Liz Schultz** (director@oberlinheritage.org or 440/774-1700) to find out more about the upcoming meeting schedule. The Coalition includes representatives from local organizations and those who are not affiliated with a particular group; it is a flexible and inclusive gathering -- do consider attending!

Holiday Hours at the Oberlin Heritage Center

The Heritage Center will be closed December 24-25 and December 31-January 1. The office and Museum Store are open usual hours and days during the rest of the holidays. 90-minute Upstairs/Downstairs guided tours are offered Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Sneak Peek/Oberlin Origins tours (a 30-minute introduction that "hits the highlights") are offered during regular office hours, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Walk-ins welcome!

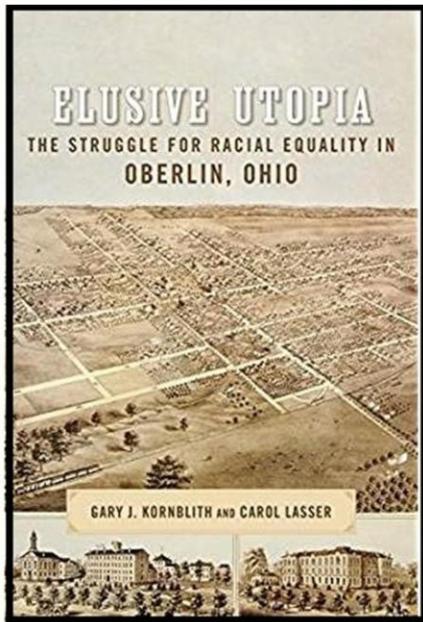
Members Update

A warm welcome goes to new OHC members **Martha Binford & Kathryn Zimmerman, Bruce Colbert, Kitty Denny-Smith, Aaron Sebree, Diane Stanley** (Wellington) and **Thomas E. Wood**. (All are from Oberlin unless indicated otherwise.)

We mourn the recent passing of **Demaris Carrell**, one of the Heritage Center's very first Endowed Life Members (along with her husband Jephtha). Demmie was a warm and encouraging friend to this organization for many years, and she will be greatly missed.

This holiday season, consider an OHC membership for family and friends -- it's a great gift for anyone who loves history or likes supporting a well-managed nonprofit doing good work in the community. If you wish a gift card to be sent to the recipient before December 25, purchase your gift membership by December 15.

Also of Interest



All are invited to the book launch of **Gary Kornblith and Carol Lasser's *Elusive Utopia: The Struggle for Racial Equality in Oberlin, Ohio***, hosted by Oberlin's MindFair Books (13 West College Street) on **Saturday, December 8 from 2:30 - 4:00 p.m.** Kornblith and Lasser are long-time members of the Oberlin Heritage Center, and Carol also served on the OHC Board from 1997-2003 and subsequently was appointed an Honorary Trustee of the organization. Together they received the Heritage Center's Community Historian Award in 2008, and will be the featured speakers at the 2019 OHC Annual Meeting, sharing insights from their new book.

OHC member **Jim Jablonski** also recently released the first part of a two-volume work he has written for the city of Elyria's bicentennial. *Elyria: The First Century* is available at MindFair Books in Oberlin (13 West College Street) and at other area locations. In this first volume, Jablonski presents the development of a progressive industrial town in Ohio's Western Reserve from its founding in 1817 up to World War I, juxtaposing the community's local history within the national historical context.

The **Cuyahoga County Soldiers' & Sailors' Monument** has three paid part-time internship positions available during its busy spring and summer visitor season (20-30 hours per week). Candidates should have a love of American History and a desire to learn how to assist in the preservation and maintenance of a nationally significant Civil War Monument and to teach the public about its importance. Honorably discharged veterans preferred. Applications must be received by January 4, 2019. For more information, visit www.soldiersandsailors.com.



Answer to Community Trivia Night question posted above: Grand Central Terminal.