

# Oberlin Heritage Center E-Gazette



July 2019

MPO Box 0455, Oberlin, OH 44074

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To subscribe to the free E-Gazette, visit [www.oberlinheritagecenter.org](http://www.oberlinheritagecenter.org)  
or send e-mail to [members@oberlinheritage.org](mailto:members@oberlinheritage.org).

## Vintage & Vintner: A Summer Soiree of Fine Wines & History

Tuesday, July 16 from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. / Doors Open at 5:30 p.m.



Join us for a relaxing social evening -- with a bit of history on the side -- at **Matus Winery** (15674 Gore Orphanage Road, Wakeman, OH). Guests will be greeted by the smooth jazz guitar of musician **Rich Holsworth**. Winery owner **Bob Matus** will share some finer points about wine, followed by OHC Executive Director **Liz Schultz** presenting a mini history program on *The 50th Anniversary of the Apollo Moon Landing*.

Reservations are \$30 per person (21 and up), with all revenue from the event (including a fun array of side raffles) supporting the Pat Murphy Endowment for Heritage Preservation. The soiree admission provides each guest with tickets for two glasses of wine, with more available for purchase. Non-alcoholic beverages and finger foods also will be served. Special thanks go to the evening's premier sponsor **Kurt G. Sarringhaus Co., L.P.A.** and co-sponsors **Cowling Funeral Home** and **Business Advisory Services**.

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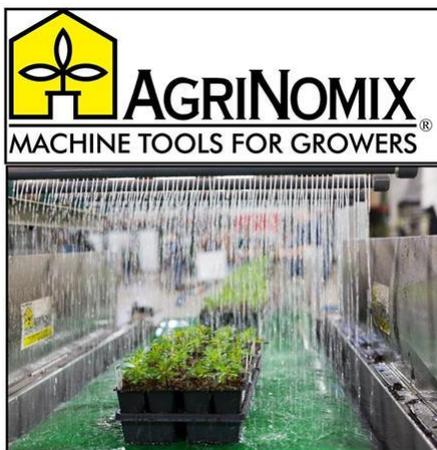
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The event is open to the public. Guests are encouraged to make reservations early as the event has sold out in previous years. Make a reservation at [www.oberlinheritagecenter.org](http://www.oberlinheritagecenter.org) or call (440) 774-1700 for more information.

## Explore Oberlin: AgriNomix Field Trip Filled!

Tuesday, July 2 at 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.



All 40 available spaces have been reserved for the tour of AgriNomix (300 Creekside Drive, Oberlin), North America's largest supplier of automation products and support services to the horticulture industry. The visit is part of a series of behind-the-scenes tours coordinated by the Oberlin Heritage Center, offering the chance to explore local businesses and services and learn more about what makes the community run.

Watch for future field trips to be planned by the Heritage Center and sign-up early!

## Hands-on-History for Kids

### Camps, Old-Fashioned Games Make Learning Fun



Summer camp season is upon us! Register now for the Heritage Center's signature **Architecture Camp (July 8-12)** or the **NEW Archaeology Camp (August 5-9 or August 12-16)**. These camps are designed for boys and girls ages 8-13 and begin at the Oberlin Depot (240 South Main Street) with some field trips and activities taking place within nearby walking distances. Make a reservation at [www.oberlinheritagecenter.org](http://www.oberlinheritagecenter.org) or call (440) 774-1700 to learn more.



For something fun and different, stop by the Monroe House this summer to borrow the Heritage Center's old-fashioned outdoor games and enjoy some playtime on the OHC grounds. Choose from classic lawn games like ring toss, jump rope, graces, or the hoop-and-stick. Swing in the great tree swing, or sit in the shade and challenge your friends with a ball-and-cup toy competition - is it luck or skill that crowns the winner? Sign-out games for free any Tuesday through Saturday between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. now through the end of August.

## Summertime History Walks

### Choose a Guided Walk or Do-It-Yourself



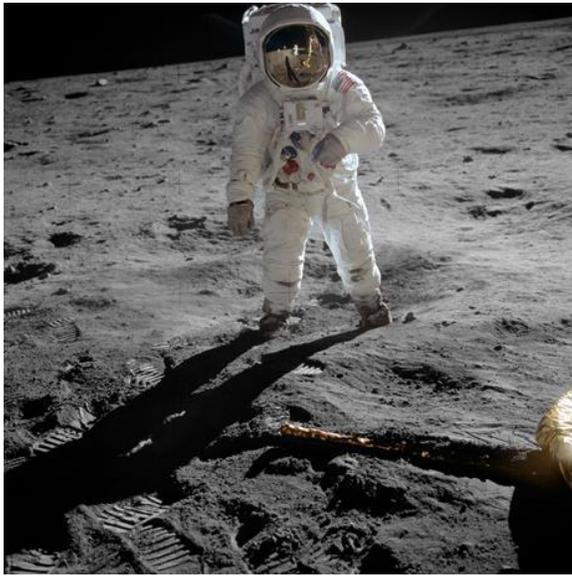
Hear stories about Oberlin's most famous freedom seekers and people known to have helped them make their way to freedom. The guided ***Freedom's Friends Underground Railroad & Abolitionist History Walk*** is offered every Saturday at 11:00 a.m. through the end of August. Make a reservation at [www.oberlinheritagecenter.org](http://www.oberlinheritagecenter.org) or call (440) 774-1700.

For those who prefer to move at their own pace, borrow an iPad from the Heritage Center to experience the ***Freedom's Friends History Walk*** or learn more about historic downtown Oberlin in the ***Picture the Past*** walking tour. Tablet tours are available any Tuesday through Saturday between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Find out more at [www.oberlinheritagecenter.org](http://www.oberlinheritagecenter.org).

Other Oberlin history tours are right at your fingertips if you own a Smartphone. Download the free ***izi.TRAVEL*** app available for both iPhones and Androids through your app store. Topics include **Oberlin College History**, **African-American Community History**, **Oberlin Schools' History**, and even **A Kid's Tour of Oberlin**. The tours have been created by the Coalition for Oberlin History, an alliance of local residents who share an interest in stories from Oberlin's past and their public presentation. Supporters include members of the Oberlin Heritage Center, the African-American Genealogy & History Group, the Oberlin College Archives and the Oberlin College community.

## Share Your Moon Memories!

### What Do YOU Remember about the Apollo Moon Landing?



July 20, 2019 marks the 50th anniversary of the moon landing, a monumental achievement of science, engineering, and aeronautics, and made possible by thousands of individuals, including many “hidden figures.” Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin, and Michael Collins formed the crew of Apollo 11 and together they launched from Cape Kennedy on July 16, 1969. On July 20 the Eagle lunar module carrying Armstrong and Aldrin separated and made its way down to the moon, while Collins continued orbiting in the Columbia command and service module. The Eagle landed at about 4:15 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time and just before 11:00 p.m. Armstrong set foot on the surface of the moon. Aldrin joined him about 20 minutes later (*seen here in this photo taken by Neil Armstrong*).

Together they gathered samples, conducted experiments, and left behind a plaque declaring “We came in peace for all mankind,” a tiny silicon disk with messages of goodwill from 73 countries and the names of diplomats and mission leaders, as well as objects in remembrance of three astronauts and two cosmonauts who died in the race to the moon.

Share your own memory of this historic event with the Oberlin Heritage Center by going to [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSctU5r5afIDuhgNYyMiONkxjMQp5LkyIkCspQydg\\_oIL9Mlk8w/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSctU5r5afIDuhgNYyMiONkxjMQp5LkyIkCspQydg_oIL9Mlk8w/viewform). You don't have to be from Oberlin to share – everyone's story is important!

## Jewett House Chest Finds Its Way "Home"



In June, long time Oberlin Heritage Center supporters **Ned and Gail Hubbard** made a special delivery to the Jewett House. The Hubbards donated a chest of drawers that was used by Oberlin College student boarders when Ned's grandparents P.D. and Laura Hubbard owned the Jewett House (during the time period 1926-1966). This donation enhances the authenticity of the furnishings in the buildings, one of the ongoing goals in OHC's current strategic plan. The chest is now on display in the Jewett House Student Room and can be viewed on the Upstairs/Downstairs Tour.



*Top photo: Summer Intern Wesley Patterson (left) and volunteer John Elrod carry the chest of drawers into the Jewett House. Bottom photo: Everyone at the Heritage*

*Center was excited to see the chest back in the house where it once resided. From left, Collections Manager Maren McKee, Intern Jennifer Gallagher, Gail Hubbard, Junior Intern Ruby Denneen, Ned Hubbard, John Elrod (in back), AmeriCorps Member Riley Thomas, and Wesley Patterson.*

# SAVE THE DATES

## Mark Your Calendars for these Upcoming Events



AmeriCorps member **Riley Thomas** drew this rendition of a suffragette on a downtown sidewalk for Oberlin's Chalk Walk last month — reflecting her focus on early 20th century activism as she prepares for public programs on the topic coming next month.

AmeriCorps/Ohio History Service Corps member **Riley Thomas** takes a look at activism in a small town and how it connected to the larger national movement leading up to Ohio's ratification of the 19th Amendment in 1919 and the national ratification in 1920.

***Local Activism, National Impact: Women's Suffrage in Oberlin*** will be presented on **Thursday, August 1 (6:00 p.m.)** at the Oberlin Public Library (65 South Main Street) and will be offered again on **Tuesday, August 13 (7:15 p.m.)** at Kendal at Oberlin's Heiser Auditorium (600 Kendal Drive). All are welcome to these free, public programs. Find out more at [www.oberlinheritagecenter.org](http://www.oberlinheritagecenter.org).

Visitors of all ages can revel in a fun afternoon of historical games, music, re-enactors and exhibits taking place throughout the Heritage Center grounds on **Sunday, September 8 (1:00 - 4:00 p.m.)**.

***Root Beer and Yesteryear*** offers an opportunity to enjoy FREE root beer floats, popcorn, entertainment and fun with family and friends. Special thanks to **Oberlin IGA** as our root beer float sponsor and to **Herrick Jewelry** as event co-sponsor. Stay tuned for more information coming this fall.

## Volunteer Needs

### So You Say You Can Sew?!!



**Olive Hwang (OC '21)** (left) and **Cady Stoloski (OC '22)** (far right) researched and created historical costumes for the Heritage Center during Winter Term earlier this year. The organization is in need of other volunteers who like to sew.

Sewing is harder than it *seams* and the Heritage Center needs some talented individuals to help us with our living history costume collection. If you have a gift for sewing, crocheting, knitting, or other textile arts, OHC is updating and building up its costume collection so we can continue to bring history to life for our visitors through special programs such as the *Every Good Story has a Plot* Westwood Cemetery program in the fall. This is a great opportunity to volunteer on your own time and from your own home.

Volunteers also are needed in one- or two-hour shifts to assist OHC as information table/greeters, kids' crafts/games supervisors, or refreshment servers at these upcoming community events:

**Friday, July 19 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.** Oberlin Community Picnic on Tappan Square ♦ **Saturday, August 3 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.** Family Fun Fair on Tappan Square ♦ **Sunday, September 8 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.** Root Beer & Yesteryear on the Heritage Center grounds

To find out more, or to sign on as a volunteer, contact Museum Education & Tour Coordinator **Amanda Manahan** at (440) 774-1700 or [tourinfo@oberlinheritage.org](mailto:tourinfo@oberlinheritage.org).

## Creative Ways to Make a Gift to the Heritage Center



When a friend or family member wants to reward your kind gesture and you prefer no payment, here's a perfect solution for what otherwise could be an awkward situation: Suggest a gift made to the Oberlin Heritage Center! Your friend gets credit for a charitable contribution, you receive their appreciation through a gift made in your honor, and the Heritage Center receives a donation that helps stretch a tight operating budget a little bit further. Several OHC members have been making these kinds of arrangements for years, and what a satisfying outcome for all involved!

Recurring gifts can multiply a low-impact-on-your-budget contribution and turn it into something substantially larger over time, which always provides a BIG impact on a nonprofit like the Heritage Center. You can set-up automatic payments on your credit card to be designated for OHC membership, Annual Fund or the Endowment for Heritage Preservation.

An OHC donor who works for a national company with an employee giving program set up a bi-weekly gift to the Heritage Center recently through payroll deduction, which divides the donation over 26 very manageable increments. Even better, the employer will match the donor's contributions! See if your employer has a similar program that encourages charitable giving through payroll deduction.

Remember, those 70 1/2 years of age or older can make a tax-free gift to the Heritage Center directly from their traditional or Roth IRA without incurring federal income tax on the withdrawal. Talk to your financial advisor about making a transfer from your IRA, or about other forms of charitable giving such as stock gifts, gift annuities, bequests, or designating OHC as a beneficiary of a particular policy or account. It's not difficult for you to do, and it makes an extraordinary difference to this organization's sustainable future.

Call (440) 774-1700 or e-mail Executive Director **Liz Schultz** at [director@oberlinheritage.org](mailto:director@oberlinheritage.org) with specific questions about these and other ways to make a gift to the Heritage Center.

## A Win-Win-Win Project



Earlier this spring the Oberlin Heritage Center switched thirty-three light fixtures in the Monroe House basement from fluorescent bulbs to LED bulbs. The basement serves as our Resource Center and is where we archive many documents, books, and collections items, and is also where we have five staff, volunteer, and intern work stations. This replacement project advanced from the “wish list” to the “do list” when it became difficult to find local sources for T12 fluorescent bulbs. Electrician Tim Dobbins talked us through our concerns, worked around our schedules and work spaces, and brought us into the light in no time. Why was it a win-win-win situation? 1) Numbers are preliminary, but it looks like we’re using about 300 fewer kilowatt hours (KWH) per month, which makes for a happier environment.

## Win-Win-Win continued...

LEDs also typically last longer and manufacturing is more environmentally friendly. 2) We're saving a bit of money each month, which can be spent on programs and services. 3) We used to install sleeves over all of our fluorescent bulbs to protect the historic collections from UV light that can damage objects over time (like sunburn). LED lights emit negligible UV rays, which is both better for the collections and also saves OHC the considerable amount of money it would have taken to replace those filters in the coming year.

## History Minute

### Museum Education & Tour Coordinator (and Director of the Architecture Camp for Kids) Amanda Manahan Looks at Several Sides of The Cupola



**From top left, moving clockwise: Narrow, curved stairsteps leading up to the Monroe House cupola; Inside view of the cupola that tops the Monroe House; a wintery view of the Monroe House, featuring the prominent cupola; the Charles Martin Hall House (with cupola) on East College Street in Oberlin.**

When thinking about the architecture and interior spaces associated with historic houses, many point to the front parlor, the kitchen, and even servant's quarters as places of interest. However, one of the most visually interesting parts of the exterior of our historic 1866 Monroe House is often forgotten about once a person enters the building: the cupola.

Cupolas are typical of the Italianate architectural style. It is a small, blockish tower that rises from the roof and is sometimes referred to as a belvedere (French for a "good view"). Those traversing the narrow and steep stairs to the cupola of the Monroe House would not get a very good view, unfortunately. The windows of this small room are now covered by wood louvers (slats) that shield the interior of warming sunlight.

The cupola, while visually striking and at times highly decorative, serves a very practical purpose of providing ventilation in the building. Warm air, particularly in the hot summer months, would rise and be released through the cupola's windows. At night, cool air would be pulled into the house. Cupolas were most effective when they were placed above stairways, where the air from the first floor could rise up to the cupola more easily.

Cupolas were perhaps used recreationally as well. Imagine as a child, having an out-of-the-way room all to yourself to explore! A former resident of the Monroe House, Estelle Siddall Palmer, recalled her sons using the cupola as a clubhouse in the mid-twentieth century. Another historic Italianate house in Oberlin, the Charles Martin Hall House on

East College Street, also features a distinct cupola. Rumor has it that as a young boy Hall would conduct his science experiments in that room. After he almost burned down the home by starting a fire in the cupola, he was removed to the back woodshed to continue his passion.

## Membership Update

Welcome new OHC members **Lesley Forneris** (Amherst), **Megan Laycock** (Montgomery Village, MD) and **Edward Long, Jr.** Special thanks to long-time members **Norman & Marjorie Henderson** who recently joined OHC's circle of friends known as Endowed Life Members (ELMs). OHC is very grateful for your generosity! Members are from Oberlin unless indicated otherwise.

The Heritage Center wants to add **YOU** to its membership. Membership levels start at just \$20/year. If you love Oberlin, local history, or simply supporting a good cause, you'll discover that being a member at the Heritage Center is one of the best investments you can make. You'll feel appreciated, be kept well-informed, and learn that stories from the past often have relevance to our lives today. Join or renew your membership today by visiting [www.oberlinheritagecenter.org](http://www.oberlinheritagecenter.org) and clicking on the "Join Now" button at the top of the home page.

## Staff, Intern and Volunteer News



Help OHC welcome three summer interns, pictured here from left to right:

**Jennifer Gallagher** is from Conneaut, Ohio, making her well acquainted with the deep ties that the state has with our nation's history. She is an art history major going into her junior year at Oberlin College. During the summer she is helping with tours and kids' camps as well as adding to some of the research on the OHC website.

**Ruby Denneen** has been volunteering at the Oberlin Heritage Center for about two years (for which she received OHC's Youth Community Service award this past spring at the Annual Meeting). Over the summer, Ruby will work full-time at the Heritage Center as our Junior Intern, and will conduct tours and help with the archaeology camp, among many of her intern duties. Ruby graduated from Oberlin High School this past May, and plans to continue her education in the fall at Oberlin College where she will study archaeology.

**Wesley Patterson** is an Oberlin College student and Bonner Scholar majoring in Physics and Math. Hailing from North Carolina, we're glad that Wesley chose northeast Ohio as the place to spend this summer. He plans to volunteer about 20 hours per week with OHC spending much of his time here as a history researcher and docent.

Congratulations to volunteer **Melissa Clifford** (OHC Volunteer of the Year with **Eileen Telegdy** in 2016) who recently was elected to the Board of Directors for the Lorain County Historical Society.

## Also of Interest



OHC Board member **Kaitlyn Donaldson** unconsciously mirrors the "hoppy" movement of happy participants in an old-fashioned sack race that took place at last year's **Community Picnic and Concert** on Tappan Square. The Heritage Center will once again host free historic games for the young and young-at-heart during this year's event.

The **Chagrin Falls Historical Society & Museum** (87 East Washington Street, Chagrin Falls) is presenting a Veterans Speaker Series over the next few months, which is free and open to the public. The **Wednesday, July 10 (6:00 p.m.)** program features George N. Vourlojianis, Ph.D. speaking on *The Korean War: An Old Game Played by New Rules*. RSVPs are appreciated at (440) 247-4695 or [director@chagrinhistory.org](mailto:director@chagrinhistory.org). Subsequent programs will focus on the Vietnam War (August) the Cold War (September) and the Iraq War (October). For more information, visit [www.chagrinhistory.org](http://www.chagrinhistory.org).

Oberlin's Indigenous Peoples Day Committee will offer a free, public program on **Thursday, July 18 at 6:00 p.m.** at the Oberlin Public Library (65 South Main Street). The evening's presentation is the documentary *Mystic Voices -- The Story of the Pequot War*. The "first declared war in America" occurred in May 1637, resulting in the massacre of hundreds of Pequot men, women and children by English Puritan colonists in the area surrounding Mystic, Connecticut. Eventually, with help from sympathetic English leaders, surviving Pequot members were able to re-establish their own communities, which became the

first Indian reservations in America. For more information, contact **Jean Simon** at [foggo@oberlin.net](mailto:foggo@oberlin.net).

Bring your friends and family for a fun-filled evening on Oberlin's Tappan Square on **Friday, July 19 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.** The **Community Picnic & Concert** features local food vendors Lorenzo's, the Feve, and Gee Gee's Kettle Korn. The Heritage Center will offer free old-fashioned lawn games for picnickers, and the evening is capped with a free bandstand concert by Oberlin's own Sole Proprietors, a progressive folk rock band.

Plan to attend the Oberlin area's 25th anniversary celebration of **Women's Equality Day** on **Saturday, August 24 at Noon**. A luncheon in the Fox & Fell Dining Room at Kendal at Oberlin (600 Kendal Drive) will be followed by a program on *Women of the Cloth*, featuring presentations by local faith leaders **June Dorsey** (Christianity), **Megan Doherty** (Judaism) and **Maysan Haydor** (Muslim). **Ruth Ann Clark** will be the program moderator. All are welcome to attend; tickets are \$15 and reservations must be made by August 10 via check payable to Women's Equality Day sent to **Elizabeth Rumics**, 154 Hollywood Street, Oberlin, OH 44074. Questions? Call (440) 774-6471.

Congratulations to **Eden Valley Enterprises** (<http://www.edenvalleyenterprises.org/>) with the organization's recent announcement that the Puffin Foundation of Teaneck, NJ has awarded a \$2,000 grant in support of EVE & FilmAffects' project, *Victoria Woodhull: Shattering Glass Ceilings*. The project includes a reader's theater storytelling program and a documentary about the first woman to run for U.S. President (in 1872). Find out more at [www.victoriawoodhullforpresident.org](http://www.victoriawoodhullforpresident.org).