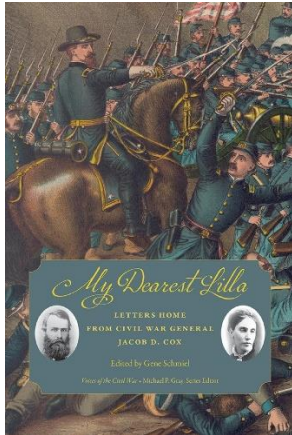




Oberlin Heritage Center August 2024 Gazette

“Civil War Book Talk: An Oberlin Family, Jacob Cox and Helen Finney, and their wartime letters”

Wednesday, August 14 at 6:30 p.m. (Virtual)



Civil War author/historian Gene Schmiel is once again joining us online to discuss his latest book, “My Dearest Lilla: Letters Home from Civil War General Jacob D. Cox.” Cox was an 1851 graduate of Oberlin College and later a General, Governor of Ohio, Secretary of the Interior, and Civil War author. His wife Helen, a fellow Oberlin College graduate whom he called “Lilla,” was a daughter of Oberlin President Charles Finney. Gene’s new book is a companion to his 2014 biography of Cox, “Citizen-General.” This illustrated program will focus on the evolving relationship between the Coxes, especially during the stressful time of war, based on the over 200 letters Cox wrote home. Cox is memorialized in Oberlin via the college’s Cox Administration Building. A few feet away, Helen’s father is memorialized via the Finney Chapel.

This free program is co-hosted by the Oberlin Heritage Center and Oberlin Public Library. Due to unexpected travel constraints, this program, which had been planned to be at the public library, will now be hosted virtually on Zoom. All are welcome to attend, from near and far, but pre-registration is required.

Register online at www.oberlinheritagecenter.org

Upcoming Events

Estate Planning 101

Tuesday, August 20 at 5:30 - 6:15 p.m. with Q&A after



Should I start giving now or later? How should I prepare my estate if I do not have children? What are key things I should be talking about with my parents?

Have questions like these and more answered at Estate Planning 101 with staff from Sarringhaus & Scott Co., LPA on Friday, August 20 at 5:30 p.m. at the Oberlin Enrichment and Activity Center. While many people may

feel uncomfortable discussing end-of-life issues, being proactive about planning can relieve a lot of stress, ease concerns your loved ones may have, and assure you that the impact you want to have both during and after your lifetime is honored and appreciated.

Many people don't think they have enough money to worry about, but you probably have more assets than you realize and handling their distribution now will make things easier for your beneficiaries.

Topics discussed will include wills, designating people or organizations as beneficiaries, financial powers of attorney, healthcare documents, and what happens legally and financially when someone passes. OHC Collections Manager Maren McKee will also be present after the program for questions about caring for family historic heirlooms and records.

The event is free with no reservations required. Light refreshments will be provided. This event will be at the Oberlin Enrichment and Activity Center at 36 South Prospect Street.

August's History Walk: Architecture

August 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31 at 11:00 a.m.

Enjoy a leisurely stroll on this 1 hour-long tour which explores Oberlin's architecture with a focus on such individuals as Walter Blythe, Cass Gilbert, and Minoru Yamasaki. This walk provides an opportunity to view an array of historic buildings that feature various styles including Gothic Modernist, Neo-Classical Revival, Romanesque, Late Victorian, and Queen Anne Revival.

Advanced registration is strongly recommended.

Register online at www.oberlinheritagecenter.org



Tours are available: **August 3**, **August 10**, **August 17**, **August 24**, **August 31**

Tour meets at the flagpoles in the SE Corner of Tappan Square; intersection of Main St. (Rt. 58) and College Street.

Root Beer & Yesteryear

Saturday, September 21 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.



Join friends old and new at the Oberlin Heritage Center on Saturday, September 21 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. for this free, family-friendly event featuring live music by the Eerie Invaders, who play surf guitar noir instrumentals infused with tiki voodoo! Also get excited for vintage video games and board games, historic portrayals, the Lorain County Bicentennial traveling exhibit and best of all -- root beer floats for everyone! Why root beer? Throughout most of its history Oberlin was a "dry" town, meaning you couldn't buy alcohol within city limits. Times have changed but a fondness for this summer treat hasn't. The floats are generously provided by Oberlin IGA, and there will also be free popcorn.

Save the date and watch for more details in our September newsletter.

See volunteer opportunities for this event and others later in this newsletter.

A Ghostly Gala Presented by the Oberlin SCAREitage Center

Saturday, October 19 at 7:00 p.m.



Get ready to have a spook-tacular time at the Ghostly Gala, presented by the Oberlin SCAREitage Center on Saturday, October 19 from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m. Enjoy a fang-tastic evening complete with two drink tickets (cash bar for additional drinks), a ghoulishly good selection of hors d'oeuvres and sweets, and a full-size candy bar that'll make you feel like a kid on Halloween night. Try your luck with our frightfully fun raffles, including a 50/50 raffle. Costumes are encouraged, so get creative and you might just snag a prize for best historical figure, couples costume, or group getup. Haunted hearts and spooky spirits, come out and support the Oberlin Scareitage Center—your ticket to the Ghostly Gala is sure to be a scream!

The festivities are at the New Russia Township Lodge (Cedar East), 46300 Butternut Ridge Road. Parking is available in the rear. Tickets are \$45 (this is a 21 and up event) (\$40 for OHC members). Reserve a table for six to save on admission and enjoy the night with friends for \$250 (\$220 for members).

Register online at www.oberlinheritagecenter.org

Want to add to the fun? Sponsoring businesses and organizations will be featured in announcements, press, and at listings at every table. Bragging rights will go to sponsors with the best Halloween puns or messages. Contact Liz Schultz at director@oberlinheritage.org.

History at the Fair

Come to the Lorain County Fair and visit the History at the Fair barn. 15 different Lorain County organizations will be represented, displaying information and talking about their historical societies as well as history of their unique areas. See maps from 1851 of each township and see what might have been on your property over 175 years ago! Memberships to join the various historical societies will be available.

The various historical societies are sponsoring the barn, so be sure to visit! The History at the Fair barn will be open from 10 am – 7 pm every day of the fair and is located at the southeast corner of the fair by the LaGrange Engine Club display.

OHC will be hosting the history barn on Friday, August 23 from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. if you want to stop by!

See volunteer opportunities for this event and others later in this newsletter.

Volunteers Are Needed for These Upcoming Events

Participate in community events while spreading the word about the Oberlin Heritage Center! We're looking for greeters to help at OHC info tables in several upcoming events. Don't worry about knowing history. You just need to like meeting new people, help share flyers, and point people in the right direction if they have questions.

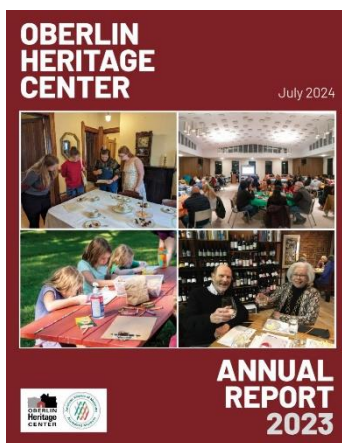
- August 6 - National Night Out (5:00-8:00 p.m.) (Park Street Park, Oberlin)
- August 23 - Lorain County Fair (4:00-7:00 p.m.) (Wellington Fair Grounds)
- September 14 - Art Fair in the Square (10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.) (Tappan Square, Oberlin)
- September 21 - Root Beer and Yesteryear (1:00-4:00 p.m.)

(Oberlin Heritage Center) For this event we also need volunteers for specific tasks like people to work at the popcorn and float booths, to manage the various games, and to help provide info about OHC to guests.

Please contact Amanda Manahan at 440-774-1700 or tourinfo@oberlinheritage.org if you are interested in helping at any of these events.

News From OHC

2023 Annual Report Now Available!



The Annual Report contains information detailing OHC's structure, activities, donors, and projects during the 2023 calendar year. It also includes dozens of high quality photographs of events, historic postcards, and volunteers from 2023. Thank you to all our supporters for a year of great events and helping people learn and connect through history.

Available online at www.oberlinheritagecenter.org

If you would like a physical copy, they will be available in the Monroe House 10:00 am to 3:00 pm Tuesdays through Saturdays. Feel free to stop by and ask for one.

"A Higher Law" Documentary Awarded an Emmy!

We are excited to announce that the documentary "A Higher Law: The Oberlin-Wellington Rescue of 1858" received an Emmy from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences - Ohio Valley! Congratulations to filmmakers Scott Spears and Christina Paolucci and thank you to everyone who made this film possible, including Ohio Humanities and the Ohio History Connection.

We were honored to be a collaborative partner. We don't know how long it will be available, but you can view the documentary for free right now on PBS Western Reserve under their "Watch on Demand" option and online below.



Thank You to WOBL/WDLW

Thanks so much to Renee', David, John, and everyone at WOBL / WDLW for two fun field trips to the radio station. It was fascinating learning about the science of broadcasting, changes in technology, and what it takes to keep a station running today.

Oral History Participants Wanted!

Do you have memories of the Seminary? OHC's Oral History Committee is searching for people who remember when the Theological Seminary was still in town and if they can share information about it - experiences, key people, working there, hosting students, etc.

If you are interested in being interviewed or sharing stories, contact Liz Schultz at director@oberlinheritage.org.

Museum & Members Update



Thanks to a Healthy Places grant from Lorain County Public Health, the Oberlin Heritage Center and Oberlin Public Library were able to install new and improved bike racks! Check out the photos of two new racks at OHC. And of course, we have to sneak in some history. In the Monroe House photo you can see structures for three different forms of transportation: a brand new bicycle rack, a carriage stone for help getting up into the carriage, and a hitching post for a horse. In the last photo, you can see that old Pleasant Street school could have used a few bicycle racks.

In the future, watch for QR codes near the racks that will guide people to online local resources about bicycling. Thanks to the City of Oberlin and Silver Wheels Cycling Club for advice about the new rack designs, which avoid putting pressure on the wheels of the bikes.

OHC would like to thank new members Jesse Carlock, Nanette Holben, Avery Rizzolo, Carol Smith, and Ren Waldman as well as those who increased their Endowed Life Member status, Adam and Heidi Freas (Copper to Aluminum) and Amanda Manahan and Joe Cross (Copper to Aluminum).

Our hearts go out to the families of Roger Cooper, Jasper "Jay" Ingersoll, Diantha Paré, and Josephine Quinn Scott Weatherspoon, who recently passed. Roger was a board member of OHC Properties and he contributed much time and care to OHC. Diantha previously volunteered with assembling OHC Mailings.

Also of Interest:



John Vanek Poem Published in Literary Magazine

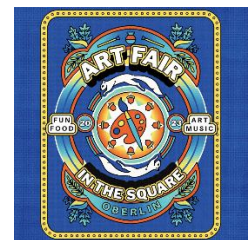
John Vanek's poem "In Praise of Pelicans," was recently published online in *Third Wednesday Magazine* and will be included in the fall print issue of the quarterly journal. John says he is honored to appear in a journal featuring outstanding poets like Ted Kooser, Ron Koertge, and others.

You can read the poem on the literary magazine's website

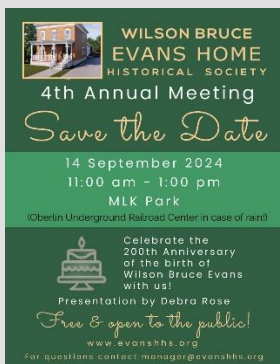
here: <https://thirdwednesdaymagazine.org/2024/07/22/in-praise-of-pelicans-john-vanek/>

Art Fair in the Square - Sept. 14

Get excited for the 2nd annual Art Fair in the Square, hosted by the Firelands Association for the Visual Arts (FAVA) and the City of Oberlin on Saturday September 14 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00p.m. The event is free to the public and will feature a varied selection of items to purchase and browse. If artists, guilds, art clubs, and craftspeople are interested in showcasing their work, there is a \$35 application fee and a minimum of 3 and maximum of 6 photos of your work are required, including at least one of your display if available. The application deadline is August 7, 2024.



You can apply here: https://artist.callforentry.org/festivals_unique_info.php?ID=12757



Wilson Bruce Evans Home Historical Society Annual Meeting - Sept. 14

Come to the 4th Annual Meeting of the Evans Home Historical Society on September 14th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. It will also be a celebration of the 200th birthday of Wilson Bruce Evans, the African American abolitionist and Underground Railroad operative who built and lived in the Evans home.

Experience Debra Rose's living history performance, portraying Oberlin's grief for Lee Howard Dobbins, a four-year-old freedom seeker who tragically died on his journey to Canada. This event

offers a unique glimpse into the rich history and enduring legacy of Wilson Bruce Evans and his contributions to the fight for freedom.

In the case of rain, the venue will change to Oberlin Underground Railroad Center, Oberlin, Ohio 44074.

Victoria Woodhull Documentary Showing - Sept. 15

A new documentary about Victoria Woodhull, the first woman to run for president of the United States in 1872 before women had the right to vote, will premiere on Sunday, September 15, 2024, at the Lorain Historical Society (329 W. 10th St. in Lorain, Ohio.) There will be two showings, one at 1:00 p.m. and another at 3:30 p.m. Both screenings are open to the public at no charge, but donations will be accepted.



This documentary reunites writer Kelly Boyer Sagert and director Peter Huston who last joined Bette Lou Higgins in creating their Emmy-nominated film, *Trail Magic: The Grandma Gatewood Story*. The makers of the film will be joined by Kate Luke who portrays Woodhull, Aspen Yost Bott who portrays young Victoria and Debra Rose who is the narrator of the film.

PS: Keep an eye out for an appearance of the interior of OHC's Jewett House in the documentary.

Access Statement:

Events are held in wheelchair accessible spaces unless otherwise noted. Restrooms at most venues are gender-specific and visitors are welcome to use their preferred restroom. For any additional queries about accessibility information please email director@oberlinheritage.org.



73 1/2 South Professor St., P.O. Box 0455, Oberlin, OH 44074

Phone: 440-774-1700

www.oberlinheritagecenter.org