



Oberlin Heritage Center September 2024 Gazette



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 in the Little Red Schoolhouse, an information table for the Lorain County Beekeepers Association, demonstrations by the Lorain County Spinners and Weavers Guild, yard games, 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.

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

Upcoming Events

Bicentennial Exhibit in Monroe House

On display at OHC Sept 18 - 28, Tues. - Sat., 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The Oberlin Heritage Center will be hosting the Lorain County Bicentennial Exhibit this month. The exhibit, designed by the Lorain County Historical Society and funded by the Lorain County Visitors Bureau, gives a panoramic overview of the history of Lorain County and many of the important events that shaped the area.

Lorain County 200 Years is a collaborative effort of the Lorain County Visitors Bureau and Lorain County Historical Society to celebrate Lorain County's Bicentennial.





Get your ticket and sign up now!

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. Enjoy music arranged by DJ Dolla Bill (Billie Neadham) and 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! **Thank you to Bistro Bella Luna and Deichler Auto and Tire Works for committing to being event sponsors. You too can be a business, organizational, or personal sponsor for just \$50!**

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). Tuesday, October 15 is the registration deadline for this event.

We would also like to thank the Oberlin Athletic Boosters Club & First Church in Oberlin, U.C.C. for loaning us equipment for this event.

Ohio Open Doors Free Self Guided Tours

September 6 - 14 During Open Hours



The Oberlin Heritage Center is participating in the statewide Ohio Open Doors initiative, which highlights the history and unique nature of some of Ohio's most treasured historic places.

From Friday, September 6 to Saturday, September 14, visitors can enjoy free self-guided tours of the Monroe House during OHC's open hours of Tuesday-Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Advance registration is not required, but appreciated.

Find out more about these tours by calling (440) 774-1700 or email the [Museum Education & Tour Manager](#).

For more information about Ohio Open Doors and participating organizations visit their website

Oberlin College Homecoming Tour Schedule

The Oberlin Heritage Center offers a number of options for public guided and self-guided tours during this special weekend. Tour fees range from \$3-\$10 for adults; OHC members and children under 18 enjoy ALL tours free. Drop-in visitors are welcome for the self-guided Oberlin Origins tour of the Monroe House or to reserve an outdoor tablet tour, while all other tours and history walks require advance registration. Please click on a history walk below for more information and to make an online reservation. In case of rain at start time, the tour/history walk will be cancelled, and fees refunded.

Friday, September 27:

- [Oberlin Origins Self-Guided Tour of the Monroe House](#) 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Self-Guided Tablet Tours: Picture the Past: Downtown Oberlin or Freedom's Friends: Abolition & the Underground Railroad 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 28:

- [Self Guided Tours](#) Same as Above 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- [Freedom's Friends History Walk](#) 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- [Civil War to Civil Rights History Walk](#) 3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, September 29:

- [Self Guided Tours](#) Same as Above 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- [Freedom's Friend History Walk](#) 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Jewett House Tours

The First Friday of Each Month at 1:30 p.m.

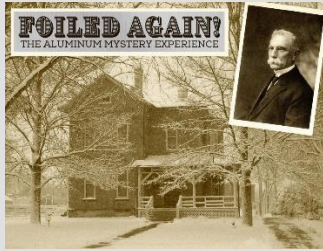
OHC's tour of the Jewett House, 73 South Professor Street, is available the first Friday of every month and will highlight Frank Fanning Jewett, Sarah Frances Gulick Jewett, Charles Martin Hall, the aluminum reduction process and life in Oberlin during the Progressive Era. Additional topics include architecture, interior design, social reform, and student boarders who stayed with the family during their time at Oberlin College.



Registration is recommended but not required. The group will meet at the Monroe House before walking to the Jewett House. You can register online using the [events calendar](#).

Foiled Again

The Second Friday of Each Month at 2:00 p.m.



Foiled Again! The Aluminum Mystery Experience is available the second Friday of each month at 2:00 p.m. Foiled Again is perfect for your families, friends, teams, or clubs! Join us at the Oberlin Heritage Center and book this private mystery experience where your group will have a chance to help Professor Jewett solve the mystery of where his aluminum science notes went inside the Jewett House. Immerse yourself in the late 1800s as he helped his student, Charles Martin Hall, discover the Aluminum

Reduction Process. This teamwork-based activity is best suited for detectives over the age of 9. We recommend groups between 3-8 participants.

Detectives will meet at the Jewett House after booking their group online via our [events page](#). This experience is \$20 per group, but OHC members receive a 10% discount. Groups are private once booked. All bookings must be made at least 24 hours prior to the booking time. Inquiries regarding additional dates can be directed to the Museum Education and Tour Manager at 440-774-1700 or via email tourinfo@oberlinheritage.org.

See below the following dates available for booking:

[Friday, September 13, 2024](#)

[Friday, October 11, 2024](#)

Oberlin Origins Tour Guide Training

Thursday, September 12, 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Are you looking for a meaningful way to connect with the community? And would you like to share Oberlin's nationally-significant history with visitors and meet people from near and far?

If so, the Oberlin Heritage Center is looking for enthusiastic volunteers! On Thursday, September 12 from 5:30-7:00pm, OHC is offering a free training workshop for its Oberlin Origins tour, an indoor public tour of the Monroe House and Little Red Schoolhouse.



Prior tour or history knowledge is not required – just a passion to learn and engage with others!

The Oberlin Origins tour is an engaging 45-minute tour through the 1866 Monroe House and the 1836 Little Red Schoolhouse. This tour explores the history of these buildings while also sharing stories of the town and college from its founding through the 1800s. Topics include Oberlin's beginnings as a Christian Perfectionist community and its philosophies on education, abolition, integration, and more.

To register for training or reserve a free advance tour, call (440)774-1700 or email Amanda Manahan, the **Museum Education & Tour Manager**. Registration ends on Wednesday, September 11 at 5pm.

News From OHC

Congrats to Maren on 10 Years!



Please join us in congratulating Collections Manager Maren McKee on 10 great years with the Oberlin Heritage Center! Maren joined the team back in 2014 and has continued the exacting standards for preserving and cataloging collections items and done a lot to augment OHC's best practices and community connections. Whether it is helping a local family look through and identify images left behind by a loved one or staying late to supervise the maintenance of vital mechanicals in any of OHC's historic structures, Maren is committed to OHC's mission to preserve and share Oberlin's unique heritage and to make our community a better place to live, learn, work, and visit.

Thank you Maren for all your tireless work and commitment to OHC! It has been wonderful working with you!

LGBTQ+ Oral History Participants Wanted!

Thanks to help from Ohio History Service Corps member John Clement we have recently conducted oral histories with five members of the LGBTQ community. While these have been fantastic interviews, these participants came to live in Oberlin later in life. If anyone grew up in Oberlin and is also willing to share their stories, we would love to talk. Please reach out to Amanda Manahan at tourinfo@oberlinheritage.org or 440-774-1700.

Museum & Members Update



Thank you to the participants in our Teen Museum Workshop, Henry Waltjen and Nicholas Stalnaker. OHC would also like to thank workshop assistant Anne Montoya as well as Workshop Guest Presenters Carol Lasser (Evans Home Historical Society), Ellis

Lane (Allen Memorial Art Museum), Maren McKee and Callan Engstrom (OHC). We would not be able to offer our excellent educational programming without enthusiastic volunteers like you!

OHC sends its best wishes to Ohio History Service Corps member John Clement, who recently completed a year of service. John will be continuing his service to northeastern Ohio this coming year at his new host site, the Lorain Historical Society.

OHC would like to thank new Endowed Life Member Linda Dunlap Lewis as well as Julie Min & Gavin Tritt, who increased their Endowed Life Member status from Copper to Aluminum.

It is with a heavy heart that we note the passing of Robert "Bob" Kasayka. Our sincere condolences go out to his family and we will miss him at Root Beer and Yesteryear.

Also of Interest:



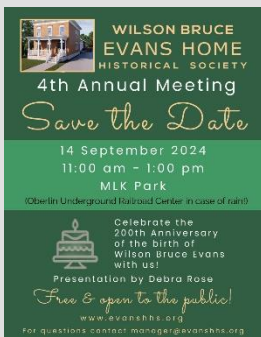
Friends of Westwood Cemetery Gravestone Cleaning - Sept. 7

The Friends of Westwood Cemetery will have another gravestone cleaning session on Saturday, September 7 from 9:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. It's very rewarding work and not too physically difficult. The group will be meeting on the east side of Section F and focusing efforts in that area. All needed tools are supplied. If you haven't participated before, the Friends of Westwood's resident gravestone expert Don Hilton will guide you through the experience.

New Documentary on Oberlin, North Carolina

"Oberlin: A Village Rooted in Freedom" reveals how a historic preservation project has helped recover the story of a once-thriving town near Raleigh built after the Civil War by formerly enslaved and free blacks. Oberlin, NC had more than 1200 inhabitants before being paved over in the name of progress.

The renovation of two 1880s houses by Preservation North Carolina has exposed remarkable stories about the families who lived there. Thank you to OHC Board Treasurer Jiyul Kim for letting us know about this documentary!



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.

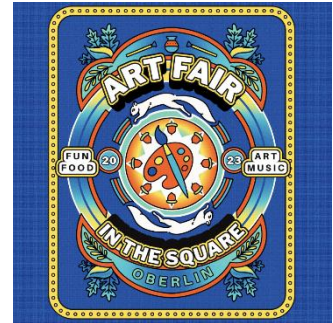
Experience Debra Rose's living history performance, portraying Oberlin's grief for Lee Howard Dobbins, a four-year-old freedom seeker who tragically died on his journey to Canada. This event offers a unique glimpse

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 the Oberlin Underground Railroad Center, Oberlin, Ohio 44074.

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 by Local artists, guilds, art clubs, and craftspeople to purchase and browse. Come out and support local art!



"We Were Here" Exhibit and Reception

There will be a special Lorain County Bicentennial Exhibit and Cultural Celebration the week of September 9-13, featured at the LCCC Commons.

Friends are invited to a special reception on Wednesday, September 11th to experience the exhibit with live music by Mariachi Jalisco de Detroit, Jazz and more! Mingle is at 5:00 PM, with the program beginning at 6:00 PM.

Featured exhibits include:

- Celebrating 100 Years of Latino History in Lorain (September 15 starts Hispanic Heritage Month!)
- Stories of Black Elyria - 1800s-1960s
- Mary Church Terrell - Oberlin College Educator & Activist
- Toni Morrison - Nobel Laureate

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.



History of the Ohio Coroner at LCHS - October 1 at 6:30 p.m.
Come to the History Center to hear local author and historian Don Hilton's presentation, "History of the Ohio Coroner & Inquest Records of Lorain County 1867 to 1938." Given to the Ohio State Coroners Association at their 2022 Northeast Ohio Regional Meeting, this is a discussion of the evolution of Ohio coroners and their duties over time, plus a deep dive into the earliest coroner inquest records in Lorain County, which began in 1867. This will be a particularly interesting presentation for anyone who does family research. The History Center is located at 284 Washington Avenue, Elyria. This presentation is FREE but registration is requested. Click here to register or call the LCHS office at 440-322-3341.

Historic Marker Dedication in Wakeman - Sept 21

There will be a historic marker dedication happening Saturday, September 21, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. in Wakeman, Ohio for one of the earliest African-American country clubs in Ohio, Garrett Morgan's Wakeman Country Club. Garrett Morgan, who was a Cleveland based inventor and entrepreneur, is best known for creating the traffic light, the patent for which he sold to General Electric in 1923.



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