



73½ South Professor Street
P.O. Box 455
Oberlin, OH 44074-0455
Phone: 440-774-1700
Fax: 440-774-8061
Website: www.oberlinheritage.org
E-mail: members@oberlinheritage.org

For Immediate Release: July 30, 2012

Contact: Richard Donegan, Civil War 150 Leadership Corps volunteer serving in northeast Ohio through a joint partnership of AmeriCorps and the Ohio Historical Society; 440-774-1700; CW150@oberlinheritage.org

Oberlin and Emancipation

Oberlin's ardent abolitionists insisted from the very beginning of the Civil War that emancipation must be the ultimate aim. On Wednesday, August 22 at 7:15 p.m., **Richard Donegan**, the Civil War 150 Leadership Corps volunteer in northeast Ohio, shares some of his past year's research that explores how 19th century Oberlinians continually sought to end slavery and help freedom-seekers. Donegan outlines Oberlin's abolitionist history since its founding in 1833 and talks about the reaction of the local community to Civil War events leading to the Emancipation Proclamation. His discussion is based on letters and diaries of Oberlin men such as Civil War General Giles Waldo Shurtleff and Ohio Volunteer Infantryman Elliot Grabill, as well as newspaper accounts of the era from the *Lorain County News* and *Oberlin Evangelist*. Sponsored by the Oberlin Heritage Center, the event takes place at Kendal at Oberlin's Heiser Auditorium (600 Kendal Drive) and is free and open to the public.

A native of New Jersey, Richard Donegan has a degree in Historical Studies from The Richard Stockton College in Pomona, NJ and has worked previously at The Cape May County Historical Museum and Genealogical Society (Cape May Court House, NJ) as well as The New Jersey State Archives (Trenton, NJ). He is one of 20 AmeriCorps volunteers assigned by the Ohio Historical Society in the statewide Ohio History Service Corps Program. Based at the Oberlin Heritage Center since October 2011, he has helped coordinate Civil War programming and events at museums, historical societies, and other local history organizations in Cuyahoga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, and Summit Counties.

For more information about the upcoming program, please contact Richard Donegan at the Oberlin Heritage Center, (440) 774-1700 or cw150@oberlinheritage.org.

###

End