



Oberlin Heritage Center
Annual Meeting – June 2, 2021
Via Zoom Platform



New Trustees

Elizabeth Elrod

Elizabeth has lived in Oberlin for twenty years and has been involved in the community in many different capacities. She currently works for the Oberlin Business Partnership as the Administrative Assistant. Previously, she assisted with the Spanish in the Elementary Schools (SITES) program. Elizabeth has also volunteered at Oberlin Community Services' food bank and garden and helped with events as her children went through the Oberlin City Schools (both of whom have also worked with the Oberlin Heritage Center). She was excited to begin volunteering with the Oberlin Heritage Center last fall and squeezed in one day of training before pandemic conditions prompted a second shutdown. In her free time, she enjoys gardening, reading, tennis, and spending time with her family. We look forward to welcoming her back and in a new role.

Gene Matthews

Gene hails from Kentucky and earned degrees from Lorain County Community College and Baldwin Wallace while working as the assistant director of facilities at Oberlin College. After advancing to Director in Oberlin, he then became the Director Facilities Services at Case Western Reserve University, from which he retired in 2015. While there, Gene spearheaded sustainability and efficiency improvements. Locally, Gene has been very involved in Oberlin Community Services, POWER (Providing Oberlin With Efficiency Responsibly) and facilities and sustainability improvements at First Church, U.C.C. He is a self-proclaimed history buff and likes to read about the Civil War and post-war era.

Jean Simon

Eugene "Jean" Foggo Simon is returning to the Oberlin Heritage Center board from her status as an honorary trustee. Jean had previously served from 1999 to 2011 in a variety of leadership roles, including Secretary, Vice President, and chair of the Governance Committee. Jean also helped with membership, strategic planning, oral histories, and representing OHC on the Underground Railroad Implementation Team. Jean holds degrees and certifications from Wilberforce University, the Oberlin School of Commerce, Institute of Supervisory Management Studies, and International Institute of Municipal Clerks. She worked as the city clerk / clerk of council of the City of Oberlin for many years. Until the pandemic, Jean could regularly be found working in the Monroe House, archiving the many announcements and events of the organization. Jean is proud of her Pequot and Bermudian heritage and extensively documented her family's history on St. David's Island. Jean was a leader in the successful movement to change the City of Oberlin's observance of Columbus Day to Indigenous People's Day and she continues to coordinate related public programs and initiatives.

Amy Szmania

Amy is the Coordinator of the Lorain County Community College (LCCC) Wellington Center. In that role, she is responsible for all aspects of the Center. Amy is also the fiscal officer for the South Lorain County Ambulance District. Amy earned a BS in Accounting / Finance from Miami University and an MBA in Finance/International Business from DePaul University. She has served or worked with the

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Firelands Association for the Visual Arts, New Agrarian Center, Organic Family Farms and in other financial positions. She served as a Rochester Township Trustee and has been active with multiple community initiatives, including the Wellington Women’s League, United Way of Greater Lorain County, and more. LCCC has been an organizational member of OHC since 2006 and Amy is a frequent Annual Meeting attendee and participated in our last Strategic Planning process. Amy also worked with OHC when the museum hosted an oral history workshop in the Wellington Center. She enjoys traveling and playing cards and is excited to join the OHC team.

Returning Trustees

Gail Wood, President
Ken Grossi, First Vice President
Eboni Johnson, Second Vice President
Laurel Price Jones, Treasurer
Lori Ebihara, Secretary
Meisha Baker
Amy Chuang

Carl Jacobson
Jiyul Kim
Julie Min
Brittnei Sherrod
Nikki Smith-Hignite
Ed Wardwell
Brian Wilbert

Honorary Trustees

Having completed two full terms on the board of trustees.
OHC thanks you for your service.

Barb Enos

Barb joined the Oberlin Heritage Center board in 2013 and served as Secretary from 2013 to 2021 and has chaired the Governance Committee since 2017. Barb was also very active with the Development Committee, Bed and Breakfast program, and many fun events and raffles.

Claudia Jones

Claudia joined the Oberlin Heritage Center board in 2015. Claudia chaired the Strategic Plan Committee during the most recent planning process and also served on the Development Committee.

Outgoing Trustees

Having completed a full term on the board of trustees.
OHC thanks you for your service.

Kaitlyn Donaldson, Finance and Collections Committees

Annessa Wyman, Collections and Oral History Committees