

Oberlin Heritage Center E-Gazette

June 2020

PO Box 0455, Oberlin, OH 44074 (440)774-1700

*To subscribe to the free E-Gazette, visit www.oberlinheritagecenter.org
or send e-mail to members@oberlinheritage.org.*

Please be aware that although the Oberlin Heritage Center may be allowed to physically open to the public in the coming weeks, we ask for your understanding as we need to make some changes behind-the-scenes and gather supplies that will ensure the safety of all personnel and visitors before we can open. Bear with us and watch for future announcements as we continue to ensure the safety of visitors, members, and staff.

Annual Meeting Changes for Wednesday, July 8th We are going Virtual!

While the Oberlin Heritage Center has canceled its traditional dinner meeting for safety concerns, we are still going to have a virtual meeting and we hope you will attend! Everyone is invited to join this Zoom webinar and participation by OHC members is critical to our electoral process. We'll kick things off at 6:00 p.m. with a welcome and introduction to Zoom. Then we'll take a few minutes to approve our minutes and reports from last year before electing new trustees and giving thanks to outgoing trustees. After the quick, but essential business, we'll welcome keynote speaker Professor Amy Margaris, who has adapted her presentation about the now-gone "Oberlin Museum" into a virtual illustrated presentation. After a brief Q&A session, we will take a minute to convey the most recent news of the Heritage Center before bidding you all a lovely evening. Please note that the Community Awards portion of the meeting is postponed until 2021 so we can give the recipients the in-person fanfare they deserve. For more information about the evening, minutes from 2019, and trustee biographies, visit our [event page](#).



Photo by Tanya Rosen-Jones



How do I register?

Click this [link](#) to register for the free meeting or email Bethany Hobbs at ohcbiz@oberlinheritage.org with a list of who will be "attending" that night. Approximately 1 week before the meeting you will receive an invitation with a Zoom link and instructions on how to join. At minimum, you will need a computer with sound to listen and interact. You can also dial by phone to listen to the meeting.

How is a Zoom Webinar different from a Zoom Meeting?

As much as we would love to see you all, and allow you to see everyone else attending, in a Zoom Webinar you will only see the presenters of the meeting and we won't be able to see you. You can still interact by digitally "raising your hand," submitting questions, and voting during the meeting. The upside: you can come to the meeting in your PJs and no one will be the wiser.

If you have questions about the meeting or using Zoom, contact Executive Director Liz Schultz at director@oberlinheritage.org or (440) 774-1700.

Grant received!

OHC was delighted to be awarded a \$500 Lakeland Community Foundation Minigrant, which is managed by the Community Foundation of Lorain County. This grant will help OHC adapt to new safety needs and project priorities with sandwich board signs, storage drives for digital programming, and online software that supports remote work.

AmeriCorps opening

The Oberlin Heritage Center will once again host an AmeriCorps Member for the 2020-2021 program year. Members will serve with the Ohio History Service Corps, working on programming for the host site as well as performing outreach to the region at large. Applications are due August 15th and will be accepted on a rolling basis. Early applications encouraged. To learn more about the position and how to apply, visit: <http://www.oberlinheritagecenter.org/about/work>

A History of African-American Business Owners

A free Zoom program will be presented by Amanda Manahan, the Oberlin Heritage Center's Museum Education and Tour Coordinator, on June 19th at 3:30 pm. This 30-minute illustrated program about some of the many African-American business owners of Oberlin's past and present provides a fascinating look at the impact these businesses have made on the community and will highlight the long, remarkable history of these individuals, including their accomplishments, struggles, and the legacies they left behind.

Advance registration is required:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAsduuoqz4tHdClAb5veNhFqMK0zAQMgokw>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Calendar suspended

With the uncertainty surrounding any events, OHC has suspended printing its usual June-December calendar. Please visit www.oberlinheritagecenter.org for the most up-to-date information.

History Minute



As restrictions ease and the outdoors beckons, take a walk to Wright Park. But first consider discovering the history behind the green space. A new mini documentary is available through the Oberlin Heritage Center YouTube page at <https://youtu.be/BFdfBVw-tkQ>. Thank you to Stephen Johnson, III for narrating and Zoe Guiney, Clarissa Heart, Malaya Nordyke and Geoff Pingree of StoryLens Pictures for working with us to produce this video.

Oberlin In the Time of Coronavirus

The Oberlin Heritage Center is working with Oberlin College and the Oberlin African-American Genealogy and History Group to interview Oberlinians in order to record for future generations our experiences with this global pandemic. We seek volunteers to help with the short interviews based on a list of 10 questions, which will be done by phone or online.

If you would like to volunteer for this project, please contact Laurel Price Jones at lpricejones@gmail.com. Laurel is an OHC trustee and the coordinator for the effort.

Virtual Architecture Camp

July 6 - 10 (Monday – Friday)

Designed for children ages 8-13. \$45 for members; \$50 for nonmembers



Children will love learning the basics of architecture in this hands-on camp brought into their own home. Campers will tour Oberlin architecture (virtually and hopefully in-person), explore building materials, try construction challenges, sketch designs, create mini structures, and envision buildings of the future. Scouts attending this camp will also complete some requirements for Architecture badges.

Please note that due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the structure of this camp has changed from an in-person camp to a virtual one. We will provide pre-assembled

material and activity packages for families to pick up in advance of the camp. Activities and lessons will be administered through live online platforms and pre-recorded videos. Children will need access to a computer, tablet, or smart phone for approximately 1-2 hours each day. If possible, OHC will organize a walking tour of Oberlin Architecture and a lunch outing during a two-hour period on one of the camp days.

Members Update

OHC welcomes new members who have become Endowed Life Members (ELM.) Our gratitude to Anne V. Martin, who is honoring her husband, Tom, with her gift, and to Julie Min and Gavin Tritt, our latest donors.

If you are interested in joining OHC as an ELM, or just have questions about the Endowment for Heritage Preservation, please email members@oberlinheritage.org.

Newest Father Jake Austin book out!

ABSOLUTION, Book 3 in John Vanek's Father Jake Austin mystery series, has finally been released in **both paperback & E-Book**. Although the Oberlin Heritage Center is not central to the

plot in this novel, Oberlin is still featured. *DEROS* and *MIRACLES* (books 1 & 2) are now available in large-print, hard-bound editions.

Here's the link at: www.amazon.com/Absolution-John-Vanek/dp/1603816232

Take a walk--

With the weather warming up, take advantage of going for walks and exploring new nooks and crannies of Oberlin. If you would like some guidance on where to go or to learn a little history along the way, check out our self-guided tour resources on our website:

<http://www.oberlinheritagecenter.org/visit/yourselftours>

CARES Act Support

Are you in a position to show your support of the Oberlin Heritage Center? Consider a donation to the Oberlin Heritage Center today to support a local nonprofit organization through the current fiscal emergency. The recently passed CARES Act allows up to a \$300 charitable donation to be tax-deductible on your 2020 taxes, even if you don't itemize. Consult with your tax advisor if you have any questions regarding this deduction.

* Visit www.oberlinheritagecenter.org and use the "Make a Gift" link to donate today on a credit card or,
*Mail a check to: Oberlin Heritage Center, PO Box 455, Oberlin, OH 44074.

Please know your gift is welcome and appreciated as OHC continues our work to keep history thriving during this challenging time.



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