



Oberlin Heritage Center E-Gazette January 2022

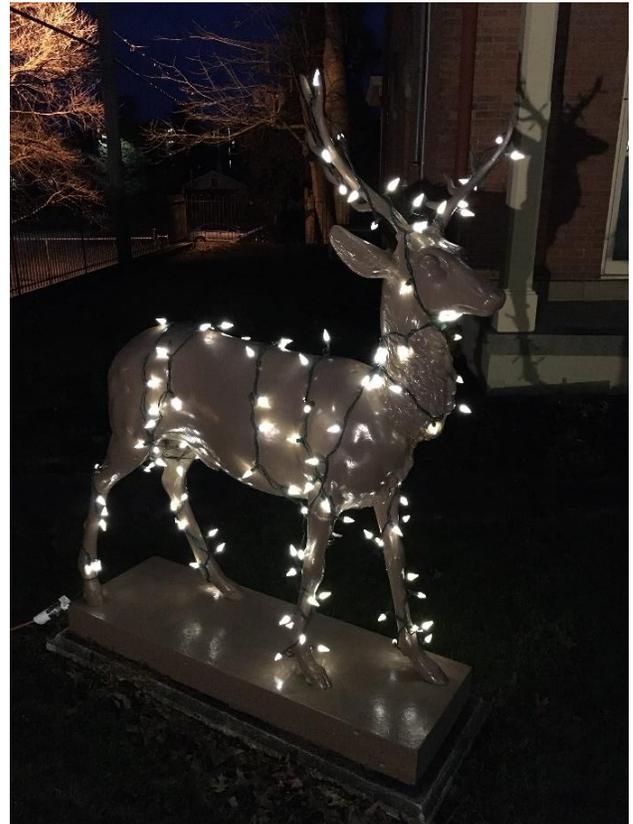
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www.oberlinheritagecenter.org

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or send e-mail to members@oberlinheritage.org.*

Thank you for supporting OHC in 2021!

Thank you, thank you, thank you! OHC sends the warmest of thank you messages to everyone who contributed to the success of the Oberlin Heritage Center's 2021 Annual Fund campaign. Together, we raised more than \$55,000 in the last few months of 2021 and surpassed our original goal for the funding drive. The 2021 Annual Fund campaign received the support of 262 individuals and businesses, with 100 percent of OHC staff and board members contributing, too.

We are grateful to our friends for their ongoing support, as your generosity will help make up for shortfalls in funding experienced during the past year. We are excited to continue serving the Oberlin community in 2022, and to provide even more innovative programming, outreach options, and virtual connections than ever before to our members and friends. Happy New Year, from all of us at OHC!



January Closure for Safety

Due to the winter spike in COVID-19 cases in Lorain County, the Oberlin Heritage Center will be closed to the public through at least January 18. We thank you for your continued understanding and encourage you to check our website for updates.

New Winter Tour Schedule

Upon reopening in 2022, OHC will offer an updated schedule of tours and museum experiences. The *Oberlin Origins* guided tour of the Monroe House and the Little Red Schoolhouse will no longer be available on Tuesdays, but will continue to be offered at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. on Thursdays and Saturdays. This tour lasts approximately 45 minutes and will cover the first 100 years of Oberlin's history. Reservations are currently required for this guided experience.

If you cannot make it for a guided tour, don't fret because the new self-guided Oberlin Origins tour is readily available Tuesday-Saturday during open hours (last entry at 2:30 p.m). This tablet-based tour will guide visitors through the first floor of the Monroe House, exploring

the architecture and family history of the home, while addressing larger Oberlin and national stories. Walk-in guests are welcome.

For those who want to stretch their legs, consider joining us for one of our history walks during the spring and summer. On **March 26 at 11:00 a.m.**, OHC will offer a free *One Step More: Oberlin Women's History Walk* (advance registration required at: <https://bit.ly/32pXIQ>) in honor of Women's History Month. Be sure to keep an eye out this spring for a full list of scheduled history walks in 2022.

If you'd like to arrange a special group tour with 8 or more individuals, please contact the Museum Education and Tour Coordinator to make plans at least three weeks in advance. For more information about OHC's tours and programs, please visit <http://www.oberlinheritagecenter.org/visit/tour> or call (440) 774-1700.



Lynds Jones—The Birdman of Oberlin

A Presentation by Diana Steele, January 25 at 7 p.m.



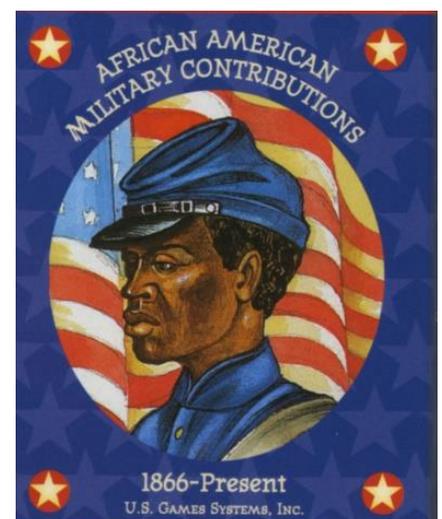
Join Oberlin's Diana Steele, an avid birder and the Northeast Regional Director at the Ohio Ornithological Society, as she explores the life and times of Lynds Jones (1865-1951). Jones, who graduated from Oberlin College in 1892, began teaching ornithology at his alma mater — the first course of its kind ever offered at an American college or university. Not only was he a professor at Oberlin for nearly four decades, Jones also had a tremendous

impact on the fields of ornithology and recreational birding. He founded both an ornithological society (The Wilson Ornithological Society, 1888) and a journal (now the *Wilson Journal of Ornithology*, 1889) that remain active today. Jones is also responsible for many of the common practices that recreational birders take for granted as “standard practice” in the field, more than a century later. Steele will present this virtual program via Zoom at: <https://bit.ly/3nKV6ZU>. The program is free, but pre-registration is required.

Rediscovering USCT Soldiers in Westwood Cemetery

February 22, 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

Join OHC's own Adrienne Sato, a Community-Based Work Study Intern, for a program about the creation of a new self-guided tour experience highlighting African American Civil War soldiers memorialized in Westwood Cemetery. Sato, a second-year Oberlin College student from Louisville, Kentucky, will discuss her year-long work researching the formation of African American Union regiments (known as the United States Colored Troops/U.S.C.T) and the individuals who answered the call, as well as provide biographical narratives of a few of these men. Come to the program to find out about the status of this exciting project and what is on the horizon. Sato will present this virtual program via Zoom. The program is free, but pre-registration is required at <https://bit.ly/3Fmn1FK>.



News from the Second Floor:

Correction

In last month's newsletter, we mistakenly mis-captioned the photo of Laurel and Rhys Price Jones in our blurb about Trivia Night. We apologize for the mistake!

Last Call to Nominate Individuals, Businesses, or Organizations for OHC's Community Awards Program

The Oberlin Heritage Center's Community Awards program, now in its 20th year, is accepting nominations of individuals, businesses, or organizations whose outstanding accomplishments are in keeping with the Heritage Center's mission to "preserve and share Oberlin's unique heritage and to make our community a better place to live, work, and visit." Award categories include:



- **Community Historian**
- **Heritage Guardian**
- **Community Teacher of the Year**
- **History Teacher of the Year**
- **Keep Oberlin Beautiful**
- **Oberlin Heritage Center Volunteer of the Year**
- **Business Leader Service**
- **Youth Community Service**

Please visit our website at <https://bit.ly/3B2QOR7> for more information on each award category, as well as a downloadable entry form. (Paper forms are available by request.) The deadline for submitting a nomination is February 1, 2022. Award recipients will be notified in mid-February and will be invited to attend OHC's Annual Meeting on April 13, 2022 to receive their awards. For more information on the Community Awards program, contact OHC at (440) 774-1700 or by email at: members@oberlinheritage.org.

Pictured: OHC 2021 Community Award Winners.

Please Welcome Lisa Van Gaasbeek to OHC!



OHC welcomes Lisa Van Gaasbeek, who joined the staff as the organization's new museum housekeeper this fall. Lisa will work with Maren McKee to keep the Monroe House, Jewett House, and Little Red Schoolhouse collections ready for visitors. Please say "hello" if you see her in the museum or on the grounds!

January's Memorial Minute

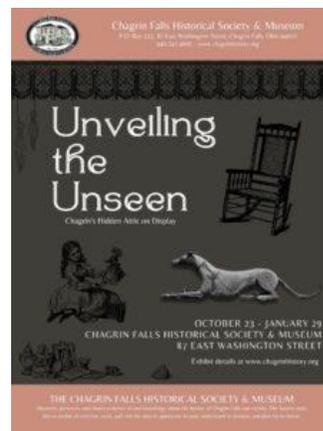
OHC is sad to report the passing of long-time Oberlin residents and OHC members Jane Blodgett, Mary Louise VanDyke, and Fou Tanner Linder. Jane served on OHC's Historic Preservation Commission for a decade and created the downtown walking tour guide that we use today. Mary Louise served as the coordinator for Oberlin's Church Heritage Tour in 1996 and received the Heritage Guardian Award from OHC in 2015. She was also dedicated to the preservation of hymns. Fou (or Florence) was a resident of the Monroe House (with her family) from 1938-1941. Thanks to Fou's memory, we have a picture of what the house looked like when the Tanner family was in residence. We also have a glimpse into her memories of the Oberlin of the past. All three women were dedicated supporters of OHC and its mission, and we will miss them dearly.

Also of Interest:

Unveiling the Unseen: Chagrin's Hidden Attic on Display

October 23, 2021 through January 29, 2022

Winter doldrums got you down? If so, check out the latest exhibit in the rotating exhibit gallery at the Chagrin Falls Historical Society & Museum. "Unveiling the Unseen" shows you the hidden treasures from the basement of the museum. Many of these items have rarely, if ever, been on display due to their size or fragility. This special exhibit runs through January 29, 2022. Museum hours are: Thursdays 2:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.; and by appointment. Admission to the museum is free but donations are appreciated. For more information about events and programs, contact the museum at: info@chagrinhistory.org or (440) 247-4695.



OHC is Keeping History Alive

The Oberlin Heritage Center is working harder than ever to fulfill its mission: to preserve and share Oberlin's unique heritage and to make our community a better place to live, learn, work, and visit. And although we have faced challenges this past year, we want you to know that we are still open—thanks in large part to **YOU!** Thank you, again, for helping us continue with our work. Our members are the foundation of this organization, and your support helps keep the lights on! We appreciate every single one of you!



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Heritage
CENTER**

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