



Oberlin Heritage Center

May 2022 Gazette

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Congratulations to Kurt Russell!



Congratulations to Oberlin's own Kurt Russell for being selected by the Council of Chief State School Officers to receive the honor of **National Teacher of the Year 2022!** We at the Oberlin Heritage Center want to thank Kurt for his unwavering commitment to integrity in the field of history education as well as for his ongoing service providing a bedrock of historical knowledge for the young people of Oberlin.

Photo Right: Kurt Russell and his 2021 class on an OHC walking tour

Upcoming Events

OHC History Walks are back, May through September!

Saturdays at 11:00 a.m. starting May 7th



Alternating each month and beginning in May, these walking tours concern diverse topics such as Abolitionism, Women's History and Civil Rights.

Our kickoff tour for May, the Architecture Walk, will allow participants to learn how the landscape, college campus, and town of Oberlin developed over its 189-year history as well as which architectural styles prevailed or were criticized in each era. This tour will begin at 11:00 a.m. at the flagpoles in the southeast corner of Tappan Square on May 7th, 21st, and 28th. Admission is \$6 for adults and free for children, students, or members. **Advanced registration is strongly recommended.**

To register for a specific walking tour please visit:

<https://bit.ly/3F8qWqE>

Behind the Basement Door: Swimsuit Edition!

Friday, May 20, 3:30 p.m.

Kick off the warmer weather with a look at OHC's historic swimwear collection. Join OHC's Collection Manager, Maren McKee, for a behind the scenes look at some rarely seen items from the costume collection.



This program will be broadcast live on OHC's Facebook page. You don't have to have a Facebook account to be able to view the Oberlin Heritage Center's page. Just visit our [Facebook page](#) at the time of the program. (If Facebook prompts you to join, you can just select "Not Now.")

Photo: Josephine Dickson's Oberlin College photo memory book c.1918. Gift of James and Andrée Underwood.

Museum Professional Development Workshop: Modernizing Collections Management

Tuesday, May 24, 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.



In the ever-increasing digital age of the 21st century, museums must plan for managing digital objects. But how do you incorporate digital objects into already existing collections management practices? In this webinar, Ohio History Service Corps member Erin Robichaud will outline accepting, recording, storing, and sharing digital objects through policies that are sustainable for small historical organizations. Participants will leave this webinar with an understanding of how to manage

various digital files and be able to incorporate these practices at their own organizations. A Q&A session will follow the presentation.

Attendance is free for this Zoom webinar and open to anyone with an interest. Advance registration is required. To register please visit:

<https://bit.ly/3qvD7Ye>

Save the Date for Commencement, Juneteenth & Chalk Walk

Summer Volunteer Opportunities Too!

There are lots of exciting things happening in Oberlin this June that you won't want to miss:

- Commencement Tour Schedule:
 - 6/3 - Scholars & Settlers - 1:00
 - 6/3 - Self Guided - 10:00-3:00
 - 6/4 - Freedom Friends - 11:00
 - 6/4 - Scholars & Settlers - 1:00
 - 6/4 - Civil War Civil Rights - 3:00
 - 6/4 - Self Guided - 10:00-3:00
 - Plus, other tablet tours available throughout

- Docent Training: June 8th
- Second Saturday: June 11th
- Juneteenth: June 18th
- Oberlin Chalk Walk: June 25th

OHC is looking forward to taking part in these events and others this summer, but **we need your help!** If you have a couple of hours to help us with event tables to share information and activities, or any other kind of volunteer work, please contact Museum Education & Tour Coordinator Amanda Manahan at 440-774-1700 or tourinfo@oberlinheritage.org.

Summer Camps



OHC is excited to offer three unique summer camp experiences for children ages 8-13. We will start with a trip through time in **Ancient Cultures Camp (7/18-7/22)**, featuring music, art, and games from all around the ancient world. Next is **Architecture Camp (8/1-8/5)**, which will allow campers to explore building materials, try construction challenges, and sketch their own designs. Our final offering this summer season will be **Kids Through the Decades (8/8-8/12)**, which will let campers explore the clothing that children wore in the 1900s, how they played, and the cultures in which they were immersed.

All programs run Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the Oberlin Depot. Camps cost \$125 per registrant, with discounts for members of OHC and early registration. *Scholarships are available to students who qualify for free or reduced school lunch programs.*

For more information about camps or registration, visit our [camp registration page](#) or contact Museum Education and Tour Coordinator Amanda Manahan at (440) 774-1700 or tourinfo@oberlinheritage.org.

Thanks for Coming to Our Annual Meeting!

Thank you to all who could attend our annual meeting in person or watch our livestream on Facebook. If you missed the annual meeting but would still like to see the event, the archived livestream video is available on our [Facebook](#) page.



Photo: Award Winners - Brenda Grier-Miller, Francine Toss, Tanya Rosen-Jones, Sarah Colson, Angela Cecil, Don Hilton, Carson Bauer, Martha Ferrazza. Not Pictured - Sue Weidenbaum, Donald Payne, Jared Mitchell, Isaiah Williams

News From OHC

New Board Members



We would like to welcome our new Board Members, Claudia Jones, Rachael McCray, Paul "Bud" Sperling, and Mary Worthington as well as our new Honorary Trustee Brittnei Sherrod.

In addition, we would like to congratulate Laurel Price Jones for her re-election as Treasurer and Carl Jacobson and Julie Min for their re-elections to 3-year terms.

Congratulations Lisa & Naomi!

The OHC is giving a heartfelt congratulations to our Museum Housekeeper, Lisa Van Gaasbeek and her wife Naomi Randt for their recent marriage.

Say Hello to Our New Communications Coordinator



Welcome to Steven Rice, our new Communications Coordinator who will be handling promotional materials for OHC. Steven grew up in Amherst and now lives in Elyria.

He has previously worked with various local Lorain County community groups, most notably the music and arts space Blank Slate Elyria. Steven is a photographer and graphic designer with a keen interest in local history. We hope you will join us in giving him a warm welcome to the team!

OHC to be a Blue Star Museum Again This Year

OHC is happy to be offering free summer admission to active duty military and their families as part of the Blue Star Museums Program once again. This program allows for free access to OHC (as well as a number of other museums nationwide) for active-duty military, National Guard, and Reserve personnel and up to five family members from May 21, 2022 (Armed Forces Day) through September 5, 2022 (Labor Day).

Members Update & News from the Second Floor

OHC is repairing the windows in the barn built c. 1860 behind Jewett House.

Pat Ives has removed some windows and is evaluating them to see what amount of the original wooden frames can be saved and reused. These portions will be restored while the rest will be replaced with appropriate wood and treated to visually match the remaining frames. The end result will be historically accurate but in much better physical and cosmetic condition.



This kind of proactive maintenance goes a long way in preserving history for the next generation! **If there are some projects on your historic home that you have been putting off, consider getting a consultation from Cleveland Restoration Network's Heritage Home Program.** Consultations are free in participating communities like Oberlin!

Welcome to newest OHC members Bentley Boyd and Kathleen MacLean!

We note with sorrow the passing of Endowed Life Member Jane Ross Moore and OHC member Don Norenberg. We also send warm wishes of support to others who have lost loved ones.

Monumental Coroner and Probate Data Project Complete



Local historian Don Hilton has completed a massive project researching, transcribing, and compiling Lorain County's public death records into a publicly accessible spreadsheet. He began this nearly 800 hour project in May 2021 and finished compiling it in March 2022. Don has graciously shared this database with individuals and organizations interested in historical and genealogical research, including the Oberlin Heritage Center, as a free resource for all.

The spreadsheet contains information regarding Lorain County residents whose deaths were reported to the Probate Court from 1867-1908 or who were included in the Coroner Reports from 1878-1938.

To view the data, you can download a spreadsheet from our website by visiting: <https://bit.ly/3MwmjZU>

Photo: Don Hilton as found in his natural environment, Oberlin, Ohio. image by Kat Sikora Hilton, 10/22/2020.

Also of Interest:

Lorain County History Happenings

May 12 - Lorain Historical Society's Annual Meeting

May 19 - Lorain County Historical Society's Annual Meeting

Dedication of the Memorial Garden at Westwood Cemetery - May 30

The Friends of Westwood Cemetery and the City of Oberlin are sponsoring a dedication of Westwood's new memorial garden. The Zavodsky House will be open for the event and refreshments will be available inside. **The ceremony will be held at 2:00 p.m. on May 30th**



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[Contact Us](#)