

Be The Change at the 2022 Annual Meeting!

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We are returning to an in-person meeting in the fall of 2022. Please plan to join us at the Quest Conference Center in Westerville, just north of Columbus in the Polaris area, on Friday, September 30 and Saturday, October 1, 2022. We're planning a full day of sessions and workshops on both days, in collaboration with the Society of Ohio Archivists on Friday. Instead of a pre-conference workshop on Thursday, we'll offer two choices of workshops to close the day on Saturday. These workshops will be included with conference registration. We know that funds are still tight, and we hope that this format will allow everyone to save a little money but still get a great conference experience.

Our conference theme, Be the Change, allows us to highlight ways that history museums can become more active in their communities and be agents for increasing justice for all through their outreach, exhibits and programs. We've planned a wide variety of meeting sessions, which will include presentations on recognizing and telling African-American history, strategic planning and fundraising in difficult times, building internship programs, improving your advocacy and social media strategies, caring for collections and different ways collections help you tell a story and connect to your community. I'm particularly looking forward to a pair of sessions in which museum leaders and leaders of statewide organizations reflect on some of the ways COVID



has changed our field for the better.

As our keynote speaker, we are very excited to welcome Professor Hasan Kwame Jeffries as this year's keynote speaker, sponsored by Ohio Humanities. Hasan Kwame Jeffries exemplifies the idea of being the change you wish to see in the world as he teaches, researches, and writes about the African American experience from a historical perspective. He has chronicled the civil rights movement in the ten episode Audible Originals series "Great Figures of the Civil Rights Movement," and has told the remarkable story of the original Black Panther Party in *Bloody Lowndes: Civil Rights and Black Power in Alabama's Black Belt*. Hasan has collaborated on several public history projects, including serving as the lead scholar and primary scriptwriter for

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Our 2022 Annual Meeting is quickly approaching and will take place September 30- October 1st. The theme this year is *Be the Change* and we look forward to seeing everyone in person again at the new location of the Quest Conference Center just north of Columbus in the Polaris area. Our Education Committee has been putting together an exciting lineup of sessions to address a number of topics.



In addition to the conference sessions, the Annual Meeting is also a time to celebrate the accomplishments of all the organizations across our state who have been doing incredible things and those employees and volunteers who made it all possible. Each year, the Alliance presents awards honoring outstanding work in local history in our state. Categories include Individual Achievement Awards and The Ohio Local History Alliance Champion Award. Nominees must demonstrate ongoing support for local history organizations and initiatives in Ohio; or exceptional service to local history in relation to one issue or initiative. We also award organizations for projects in the categories of Public Programming, Media and Publications, and Exhibits/Displays. Who do you know that is deserving of one of these accolades? Nominations are due August 1 and the forms are available at ohiolha.org.

As always, we want to hear from you. *The Local Historian* serves not only as a resource for our members but a place to celebrate what you've been doing at your site. Reach out to your Region Reps and share what you've been doing in your area. News in the Region, People in the News, and any other announcements you may want to share- let us know.

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Professor Hasan Kwame Jeffries



the \$27 million renovation and redesign of the National Civil Rights Museum at the Lorraine Hotel in Memphis, Tennessee, the site of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Hasan regularly shares his expertise on African American history and contemporary Black politics through public lectures, op-eds, and interviews with print, radio, and television news outlets, including the *New York Times*, the *Los Angeles Times*, NPR, CNN, and MSNBC. He has also contributed to several documentary film projects as a featured on-camera scholar, including the Emmy nominated PBS documentary *Black America Since MLK: And Still I Rise*.

Hasan's commitment to teaching "Hard History" led him to edit *Understanding and Teaching the Civil Rights Movement*, a collection of essays by leading civil rights scholars and teachers that explores how to teach civil rights history accurately and effectively, and to host the podcast "Teaching Hard History," a project of the Southern Poverty Law Center's Learning for Justice division. An associate professor in the Department of History at The

Ohio State University, Hasan takes great pride in opening students' minds to new ways of understanding the past and the present. For his pedagogical creativity and effectiveness, he has received numerous awards, including Ohio State's highest commendation for teaching – the Ohio State Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching.

We will conclude the meeting on Saturday with two workshops designed to help you think about how your museum can grow its audience by becoming more inclusive. Please join Art Possible Ohio for a discussion of accessibility in programs and organizational structure; and The Equitas Health Institute to learn more about LGBTQ+ people, their struggles for civil rights, and ways to welcome them to your site as visitors, volunteers, and staff.

Check our website at ohiolha.org/what-we-do/alliance-annual-meeting for registration details and the full program as it is finalized. We will be mailing the full program to members later in July. Please contact us at ohiolha@ohiohistory.org with any questions.

Educating Your Board About History Work

Bethany L. Hawkins, AASLH Chief of Operations.
Originally published on the AASLH Blog on April 26, 2022. For more great resources, check out aaslh.org/blog/.

I have worked full-time in the history field for over twenty-seven years. My first job was at a small historic house museum. We had three full-time staff members and depended on our volunteer board for financial oversight, strategic planning, and fundraising. They also helped with our educational tours and special events. By the time I left, I realized more and more that despite their enthusiasm for the place and willingness to volunteer their time, the board really had no idea what the staff really did on a day-to-day basis. They understood the business part of my work (paying bills, filing sales tax, hiring employees), but lacked knowledge about the history profession and how it is really a profession with standards, ethics, and requirements.

The current controversy with James Madison's Montpelier has brought the question of board oversight to the national stage. "Twitterstorians" (see [#FreeMontpelier](https://twitter.com/FreeMontpelier)) are being quite blunt about the issue of board and staff roles in response to the rolling back of years of work by Montpelier staff by a board that does not see the value in what the staff built during the last several years, including becoming a national model on working with descendant communities. [Dean Krimmel](#), independent museum consultant and current board member for a museum, posted on Twitter on April 25: "The history museum and historic site boards I've worked with, all due respect, have zero understanding of contemporary museum issues, work, scholarship." This statement made me think about my experience with history museum boards and I think Dean hit the nail on the head.

We select board members for many reasons, but generally their knowledge of museums and the history field is not the main factor. We need them to bring certain skills like financial management or the law, or we bring them on because they have deep pockets (and/or friends with deep pockets) and will donate to our organization. But how many of us train our boards so they have a deeper understanding of and appreciation for the work we do?

When I worked at the historic house museum, I started adding "history minutes" to the board meeting agendas where I would spend five minutes or so talking about some interesting aspect of the history of the site, the people who lived and were enslaved there, or artifacts in the collection. These minutes were supposed to be educational for the board, but they fed into their interests. Most of the members liked history and liked hearing the stories. But now I wonder if that was a waste of time. How much more beneficial would that time have been if I focused it on history practice, ethics, and hot topics in the history field? Here are five things that you can try with your board to educate them about our field and where it is in 2022:

1. Bring current issues in the field to your board meeting and set aside time in the agenda to discuss them. For example, share some of the articles about Montpelier and invite them to share their opinions and listen to your opinion as a staff member.
2. Have them read AASLH's [Reframing History](#) report or listen to one of the *Reframing History* podcast episodes. Follow up by talking with them during a board meeting about the process of historical thinking and why it is critical to the work you do and they support.
3. Have staff from various departments attend board meetings and talk about their work and processes. Be sure to focus on how they do their work and how it is critical to the mission of your organization.
4. Use AASLH's Standards and Excellence Program for History Organizations ([STEPS](#)) as a training tool. I wish I had this program when I worked in a historic house. STEPS is divided into six sections: Mission, Vision, and Governance; Interpretation; Audience and Community Engagement; Stewardship of Collections; Stewardship of Historic Structures and Landscapes; and Management. Each section outlines the standards organization of all sizes should meet. Then it asks self-assessment questions so you can identify the areas in which you excel and those needing work. STEPS is a goldmine of information to show your board how the work you do is part of a larger profession guided by standards and ethics.
5. Bring in staff from other area history organizations to talk about their work and processes. This is like suggestion number 2, but there is one critical difference. It is sometimes hard for us to talk about sticky issues with our board. Having someone from outside the organization raise issues is easier. This would be most effective in a planning retreat instead of a regular board meeting. It also can help the board see the history profession as a whole and not just your site. It also highlights the collaborative nature of the history field. We do better work when we share our work with others.

I sincerely hope that you never have to deal with a situation like what's happening at Montpelier. I also am not suggesting that any of these tips would have prevented the disaster happening at that site (I don't think they would have), but they can help you start to think about the role of your board differently. For your organization to be successful, the board and staff must be on the same page. By adding training for your board about the work you and your staff do as historians, you improve their ability to understand the greater responsibilities they take on as a board member and hopefully create a stronger relationship between board and staff that will result in a stronger institution.

ENACTing New Voices

The Ohio History Connection is linking emerging new American leaders with community resources, networks, and civic education to empower their communities.

Ben Anthony, Community Engagement Department Manager, Ohio History Connection.

The article is reprinted with permission from the American Alliance of Museums and originally appeared in the May/June 2022 issue of Museum.

Two community organizers walk into a museum...” could be the opening to a pretty lame joke. But the “punchline” in this case was a new opportunity for the Ohio History Connection to serve immigrant and refugee Ohioans. When the Ohio History Connection hired me and my former colleague, Ibrahima Sow, in 2017, we didn’t have a background in museums or history. We came from the world of community organizing and politics. We both had experience building coalitions of everyday Ohioans, but we didn’t know what lay before us at a state history organization that includes the state historic preservation office, the official state archives, state history museum, and more than 55 sites and museums across Ohio. But we did know what brought us to the organization—a love of history and the power it has to uplift the stories of historically excluded people.

When Ibrahima and I arrived, the Ohio History Connection was already informally weaving community trust building into the museum’s long-standing work. We simply brought new techniques and best practices from our previous roles. That new blend of perspective and passion would become the Emerging New American Community Team, or ENACT. ENACT connects emerging new American leaders—including immigrants, refugees, asylum seekers, and first-generation Americans—with community resources, networks, and civic education so that they can build a base of knowledge that empowers them to become community advocates, increasing their sense of belonging in the larger metropolitan community.

How ENACT Started

Around the time that Ibrahima and I joined the Ohio History Connection staff, the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) launched its Community Catalyst Initiative, which challenged libraries and museums to innovate in how they anchor the communities they serve. The Ohio History Connection team before us had begun to build connections with two new American service organizations in Columbus: Ethiopian Tewahedo Social Services (ETSS) and the Bhutanese Community of Central Ohio (BCCO). We had candid conversations with members of both organizations, and they each brought up how new American communities needed a voice in larger Columbus decision making.

Central Ohio and the city of Columbus are home to the largest population of immigrants and refugees in the state. Yet, at the time, they didn’t have any elected representatives at the state, county, or city level. Central Ohio new Americans are chronically



From left to right: Ohio History Connection leaders Anthony Gibbs and Ben Garcia speak with ENACT Planning Committee members Andrea Villanueva and Sharon Ware.



ENACT Fellows, their family members, and community partners listen as former ENACT Project Director Ibrahima Sow welcomes the new cohort.

cally under-represented in the community thought-leader space as well, which includes nonprofit boards, neighborhood commissions, and other systems that make daily decisions on behalf of citizens. If you don’t have a say in how your larger community operates, how can it ever feel like home?

Working with ETSS and BCCO, we created ENACT, a yearlong cohort of 15–20 emerging immigrant and refugee leaders—the ENACT Fellows. The first six months of the program focus on knowledge exchange workshops and networking, which inform the next six months of designing and implementing community advocacy projects. Examples of previous projects include a Bhutanese girls youth soccer team, art therapy and yoga for

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Eritrean youth, a financial literacy class for the Hispanic community, and active-play care packages for Congolese youth, to name a few of the nearly 20 projects launched in the first two ENACT cohorts.

Before you say it: I know, another leadership cohort. But ENACT is uniquely built for and by the immigrant and refugee community. Existing programs in the Columbus area had geographic, cost, or cultural barriers to participation. With ENACT, our community partners had an outsized influence in building something relevant, while Ibrahima and I brought our experience with community organizing; collective impact; and asset-based community development (ABCD), which inverts traditional community development practices focused on what is “missing” from historically underserved and excluded communities, and instead embraces the many strengths and assets already existing in a community. (See “Principles of ABCD” sidebar.)

How ENACT Works

Ensuring that ENACT Fellows have access to the full breadth of Central Ohio community institutions and resources requires intentional coordination with partners across the region. That is why each ENACT cohort begins by building the planning committee. These are our closest core partners that oversee the cohort from start to finish. We have been honored to have ETSS, the BCCO, Columbus Metropolitan Library, Columbus Public Health, the Ohio State University College of Social Work, YMCA of Central Ohio, and Welcoming Cities serve as planning committee members across the first two cohorts.

For each yearlong cohort, the Ohio History Connection assembles partners for the planning committee, and the planning committee recruits and oversees the cohort. Since it is essential to center the voices of the new American community, we include two to three grassroots, immigrant, and refugee service organizations on the planning committee.

From there, we will add two to three larger community-serving institutions as well. That mix of both large community institutions (e.g., Columbus Metropolitan Library, Columbus Public Health, YMCA, Ohio State University College of Social Work, etc.) and smaller, on-the-ground immigrant and refugee organizations (e.g., BCCO, ETSS, Latinos Unidos, etc.) provides stability given ever-changing community landscapes while still centering the voices of new Americans in decision making.

Many of the program’s best evolutions have come from the planning committees, including making the entire ENACT program trauma informed. The immigration, refugee, and asylum process can be incredibly traumatic, and we would never want to retraumatize those we hope to empower.

Once the planning committee is established, the members outline the topics for six knowledge exchange and networking workshops. The only required topic is civic engagement. Otherwise, we want the community leaders on the planning committee to define the focus areas for each new cohort. This allows ENACT to remain adaptive and receptive to an individual



ENACT Fellow Suja Khatiwada (foreground), with other supporting ENACT Fellows, at her and Khadendra Kadariya's WOKE Women's Leadership Advocacy Project, which is now a permanent social program at Bhutanese Community of Central Ohio

community’s needs and challenges at any particular moment.

Workshop topics have included public health, libraries/ information navigation, parks and recreation, public safety, housing, transportation, and education. Once those topics are outlined, collective impact again becomes crucial. We connect with community institutions and organizations that have subject matter expertise in the topic area to lead the workshops.

However, these are not traditional one-way workshops but interactions that include time for dialogue. The fellows come into the program with incredible community knowledge and insight, which can help these civic institutions better serve Central Ohio new Americans. Additionally, to deliver as much of a “whole community” perspective as possible, each workshop typically utilizes two different partners: the “big” community institution with broad oversight for the topic area in the community as well as a smaller organization that assists at the grassroots level. For example, a housing workshop included the participation of the city attorney’s Code Enforcement Office as well as Habitat for Humanity.

As the partners begin building the workshops, the planning committee starts recruiting fellows. Rather than doing a public solicitation, the planning committee organizations nominate 15 to 20 ENACT Fellows. We trust our partners to elevate those in their communities who are actively engaged in service or leadership—the Ohioans who are already trying to make their communities a better place.

ABCD teaches us that the community is home to the vast majority of assets needed for a community to flourish, we just need to trust and uplift those people. I am continually humbled and impressed by the fellows’ talent, skill, and passion.

Feedback from the fellows also helps continually improve ENACT. We send out short, “pulse check” surveys after each

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monthly workshop to ensure that the fellows are gaining relevant knowledge that helps support their advocacy projects. Based on such feed-back, we've worked with our partners to include more dialogue with the fellows in the workshops.

Fellows are allowed to team up if they want to build an advocacy project addressing similar community needs. We work with them on project planning, basic tenets of ABCD, and budgeting to help them build their projects for impact either in the short or long term. A great example is Tika Adhikari's advocacy project, Empowering Women without Blaming the Past. Women in the Bhutanese refugee community can feel isolated, which the COVID-19 pandemic made even worse. Tika utilized her assets as a trusted convener and created a virtual women's group where participants could share about their families, jobs, successes, or challenges. The group heard from mental health professionals and representatives of other community resources, but most importantly, they built their own informal network of refugee women with similar lived experiences to connect, share, and build resiliency.

Looking Ahead

As ENACT matures, we continue to direct as many resources to the fellows as possible. They receive stipends for participation and to help implement their advocacy projects. If we aren't handing off as much power and dollars as possible to the people and communities we hope to impact, then what's the point? The Resident Power Ladder, an ABCD evaluative tool, demonstrates how we try to shift that power to fellows throughout each cohort's year, tracking fellows' movement from recipients of information to information sources, advisors to community

partners, and, ultimately, leaders.

Hosting the closing ceremony is always a bitter-sweet moment for me. Seeing a cohort of fellows depart ready to take on the next challenge is exactly what we hope for, but we miss their passion and dedication. The closing ceremony gathers ENACT's entire community of families, partners, and community leaders. We want the community to share in the fellows' incredible work, but the event is also one last chance for the fellows to strengthen their network and hopefully find their seat at a decision-making table.

The ENACT model is designed to be iterative. For ENACT to succeed, it needs to build coalitions of different partners who discuss different topics and recruit different fellows so that the program can shift and flex with ever-changing communities. We are currently running a cohort in Dayton, Ohio, and are planning on launching another in Central Ohio focused on more intentionally addressing social determinants of health in new American communities. I am immensely proud that a former ENACT Fellow, Sofilyn Durusan, now runs those programs.

We believe ENACT is a tool for museums, libraries, and community institutions to more equitably serve their communities. When we empower immigrant and refugee voices in Ohio and across the country, we build more inclusive, resilient, empathic, and successful communities. Trust me, I've seen it firsthand.

Interested in running your own ENACT program or want to know more? Check out ohiohistory.org/ENACT for the original logic model, an ABCD Resident Power Ladder, videos of fellows, and ways to connect with the program.

PRINCIPLES OF ABCD

Asset-based community development (ABCD) challenges those who want to improve a community (whether geographically, identity, or affinity based) to "start with what's strong, not what's wrong." Too often, we view historically excluded or underserved communities from a lens of what they don't have without recognizing the incredible existing assets that if connected, equipped, and empowered can overcome challenges that those in traditional community development would say only an outside actor could take on.

There are six kinds of community assets:

- **Individuals**
- **Associations**
(informal groups, such as book or garden clubs)
- **Institutions**
(formal community organizations, such as nonprofits, religious organizations, or government)
- **Physical space**
- **Exchange**
(local businesses)
- **Culture/stories/history**
(museums, storytellers, artists, etc.)

How to Make it Easy for Groups to Schedule Visits at Your Site or Museum

THE SECOND IN 6-PART SERIES ON STUDENT FIELD TRIPS.

Claudia Bartow is an Ohio middle school Social Studies teacher, military veteran, and author. She has orchestrated many field trips with her students at locations around Ohio, Pennsylvania and in Washington, D.C. Claudia loves to create effective and customizable tools to help small to medium-sized museums and historic sites increase engagement with their local schools and teachers. Her latest offering, "Field Trip Kickstart Kit", features the downloads in these articles and much more. She can be reached at 78ssteacher@gmail.com.

Summer is finally here, and your site is likely happily buzzing with families, scout groups and locals eager to get out of the house, or maybe your site is even part of visitors' "staycations" due to high gas prices keeping them closer to home.

This time of year is also a great time to start or refresh your offerings for group visits, namely school field trips, in preparation for the coming new school year.

The article in the last OLHA newsletter spelled out how to invite groups back to visit your site, especially after COVID kept many of them away. It detailed how beneficial and memorable field trips can be to teachers and students, how they provide an increase in interest in what you have to offer and even boost the bottom line for your site through entry fees, donations or gift shop sales.

Let's talk in this installment about how best to get groups to schedule a visit with you. A streamlined, easy process will not only make teachers or group leaders happy, it will certainly ease the stress on you and your staff.

Whether you have this information on your website or on a physical flier you mail or email prospective groups, here are some key things to do or include:

Explain how they should schedule with you

Will arranging the details for a visit be by phone, email or a link to a form on your website? If done by phone or email, who is the contact person at the site and what is the contact info? If it is a link to a form to fill out, who will review this information and get back to the group? (See a free sample to a Google form you can use on your website or to email teachers at the end of this article).

Include a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) in your email, letter or website

This alone will save you so much time answering questions and provide a clear understanding to the teacher or adult scheduling the visit. As teachers go to schedule a field trip, they often need to get permission from administration, figure out funding, transportation and much more. Offering these details up front keeps everyone on the same page for the visit and helps them with all they need to arrange on their end. Depending on your site, you may want to break these items down into more detailed questions.

Here are some great questions you may want to include in your FAQs:

- How do we get to your location? (provide written-out directions and/or a map)
- Where should the bus(es) park?
- What should we do when we arrive? (Will someone from the site greet them at the buses, should they send one adult in to check-in, etc.)
- What logistical things do we need to know about when we get there?

(Where are the restrooms, where do we put our coats or lunches, are there many sets of stairs, is there a place a staff person will talk to the group before we start, do we need to break into smaller groups. etc.)

- What should our group expect to do, learn, and experience while there? (Consider adding state standards from the Ohio Department of Education here, but also include the "fun" things they might do while with you).
- Is there anything we should tell our students or do with them before the trip? (This is an excellent way to include "before the trip" materials. This topic will be covered in depth in a future article)
- How long does a typical visit last?
- Are there any special expected behaviors during our visit? (Do students need to not talk or whisper at certain times? Will students be able to touch exhibits or are certain things off limits to touching, etc.?)
- Can you accommodate our special needs/handicapped students?
- Can we pack and bring our lunches and eat on site or can you recommend a suitable place a group can eat nearby?

These are just some of the topics you may want to cover in a FAQ.

Have a process in place to remind the group of the visit details

However the group schedules their visit with you, you should make it clear what will happen next. Something like, "One

(continued on page 10)

week before your visit, XXXX will call/ email you to confirm the number of people you are bringing, remind you of XXXX and see if you have any questions.”

I have taken students on dozens of field trips, and it is amazing how the numbers can fluctuate from the time we schedule one to the actual visit date, with new students arriving or students who for whatever reason cannot go on the trip. I have also had students do things that limit them physically, like break legs where they need to be on crutches or use a wheelchair, and depending on the location, they need to know this in advance in order to accommodate.

Having a clear process for setting up a field trip for a school or youth group is one key to successful, low-stress experiences that students and teachers alike will remember long after they leave you. Invest some time in planning this out or streamlining what you already do, and it will pay dividends later!

The following is a link you can use as the start of a Google Form that you can email or include on your website. When you click it, it will have you “Make a Copy” so that you can edit it for your site and add questions to it as you see fit. Like what you see but don’t have time to do one yourself? See the author’s contact info below to get help with affordable custom work.

[Download the template here.](#)

Megan Wood

The **Ohio History Connection** board of trustees is pleased to announce **Megan Wood** as the organization’s next executive director and CEO, effective Aug. 1.

Wood will be the first woman to lead the organization, which has had 12 previous executive directors and CEOs.

Charles R. Moses, the board of trustees president, called Wood the clear choice after a national search that yielded a large and diverse pool of candidates.

“She is the ideal leader to guide the Ohio History Connection into its next era as we continue our enduring mission of embracing the present, sharing the past and transforming the future,” he said.

Wood succeeds Burt Logan, who previously announced his plans to retire in 2023. On Aug. 1, Logan will transition into a role of executive consultant to the board of trustees through Feb. 28, 2023.

Wood, who first joined the Ohio History Connection in 2006, has served as director of cultural resources since 2019, overseeing all of the organization’s historic sites, collections items and exhibits.

“I believe in the power of history as a way to better understand ourselves and our place in this world,” Wood said. “I plan to help the Ohio History Connection embrace its role of sharing Ohio’s diverse stories and making Ohio communities better as a partner with other governmental, nonprofit and private partners. The Ohio History Connection will continue to grow as a vibrant organization that improves every community we touch by cultivating pride, encouraging economic development and bringing people together.”

For more information, go to: www.ohiohistory.org/newCEO.

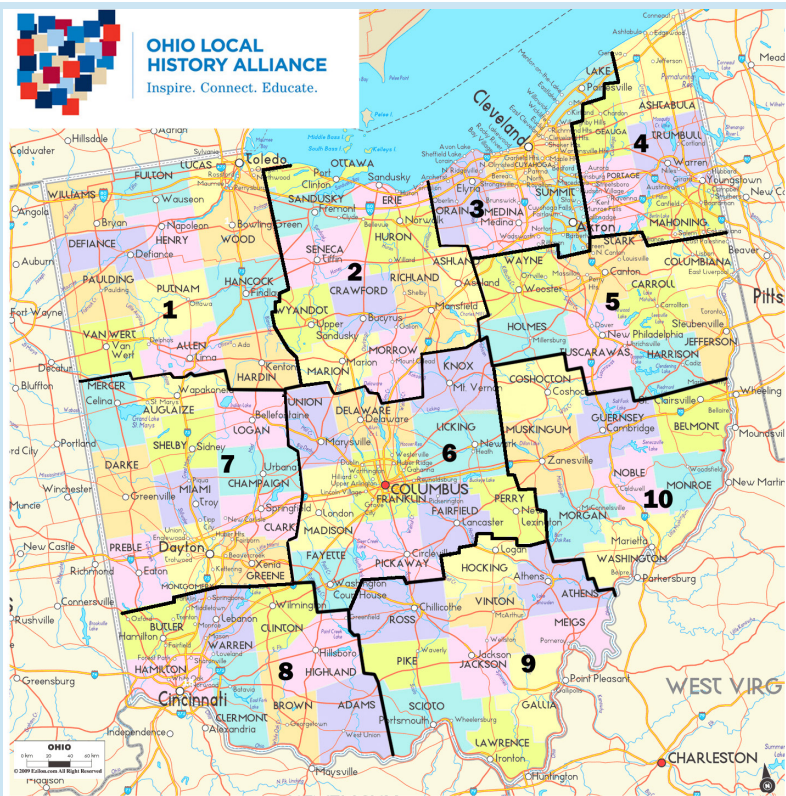


Jeff Minosky

Noble County Historical Society President **Jeff Minosky** was presented with the 2021 Preservation Hero award at the Region 10 meeting of the Ohio Local History Alliance, which was held at the Ball Caldwell Homestead in Caldwell on March 5, 2022. He received the award, an annual statewide recognition, for the work he has done in the community in the last couple of years. Heritage Ohio Executive Director Joyce Barrett said, “Jeff is very active in the Noble County community and takes on many projects to ensure the preservation of the county’s history. He not only helps restore historic buildings, but also aids in the ongoing upkeep of these sites.” Among his achievements are fundraising for restoration and preservation of buildings; historic signage; and working with OSU Extension to develop and host a program that will educate businesses on state and federal tax credit options. Barrett explained that Minosky joins a select group of the people, businesses, places and organizations that have made the biggest impact on revitalization and preservation throughout Ohio. Barrett credited Minosky with assisting in the development of the new Noble County Historical Society logo and branding, along with an enhanced social media presence.



**OHIO LOCAL
HISTORY ALLIANCE**
Inspire. Connect. Educate.



Region 9 Open House August 23

Region 9 representatives Kathy Styer and Ann Cramer are hosting a meet-and-greet open house on August 23, 2022 at Adena Mansion and Gardens Historic Site in Chillicothe, Ohio from 2:00 to 5:00 PM. The purpose of this event is to recruit new members by describing the benefits that the Ohio Local History Alliance can offer them in reaching their public history goals. This year's Region 9 meeting was cancelled due to lack of registration, and we're hoping to engage more folks in the region!

Region 9 includes organizations in Athens, Gallia, Hocking, Jackson, Lawrence, Meigs, Pike, Ross, Scioto and Vinton counties.

AASLH Releases the 2022 National Census of History Organizations

The 2022 National Census of History Organizations is a first-of-its-kind effort to research the size and scope of the history community in the United States. Carried out through support from the National Endowment for the Humanities and led by researchers **Carole Rosenstein** (George Mason University) and **Neville Vakharia** (Drexel University), this research and report provides a snapshot of the U.S. history community at a crucial moment for our field and for the country.

Over the past two years, AASLH and the "History Census" research team have **identified 21,588 history organizations in the United States** as part of this first national effort to produce an up-to-date, comprehensive, and high-quality list of history museums, historical societies, and related history organizations. That makes the history community the largest sector of the museum field many times over, and means there are more history organizations than there are public libraries, Starbucks, McDonald's, and Walmarts.

Among the project's major findings:

- History organizations are ubiquitous. Our institutions have a presence in nearly every community, often reaching places underserved by other arts and culture organizations.
- The field operates through a deep and distinct partner-

ship between government and private nonprofits. This hybrid model can be a source of strength as well as many challenges.

- There is a pervasive sense that history has a public purpose. History organizations from the smallest to the largest place community and public benefit at the center of their work.

The vast majority of organizations are small. More than 80 percent of private nonprofit history organizations report revenues of less than \$200,000 per year.

The report also points to **next steps and recommendations**. It makes clear, for example, that our field needs to find additional ways to provide focused, tailored support to the many thousands of small history organizations. It also reveals new opportunities for future research, like investigating how we can strengthen the field's public-private partnerships, or better identify and serve history organizations in marginalized communities. Finally, by revisiting this research in several years, the History Census will enable us to assess how the COVID-19 pandemic and the nation's upcoming [250th anniversary](#) in 2026 may have changed the size and scope of our field.

Download the report at aaslh.org/census.

OBITUARY

Robert W. Lucas

Bob Lucas was born to Kenneth and Edna Lucas on June 9, 1942, in Bellaire, Ohio, the second of four children. He died at home in Pemberville, OH, June 10, 2022.

Bob grew up on the family farm in Centerville in Belmont County, OH. He sustained a lifelong love for this part of southeastern Ohio. Going home was a through line in his life and each visit eagerly anticipated.

Realizing early that farming would not be his desired career, he attended The Ohio State University, completing his degree in Finance at Capital University in Columbus, OH. A personal highlight was serving as a page in the Ohio Senate 104 th General Assembly in 1964. He later achieved an advanced degree at the Stonier Graduate School of Banking at Rutgers University in NJ.

At the age of twenty Bob enlisted in the Army 2D Special Forces Group, ultimately becoming a member of the successor 2BDN 11 th Special Forces Group and retiring as Command Sargent Major. In this role Bob completed over 150 parachute jumps and traveled the North American continent to train for the Unit's Cold War Mission.

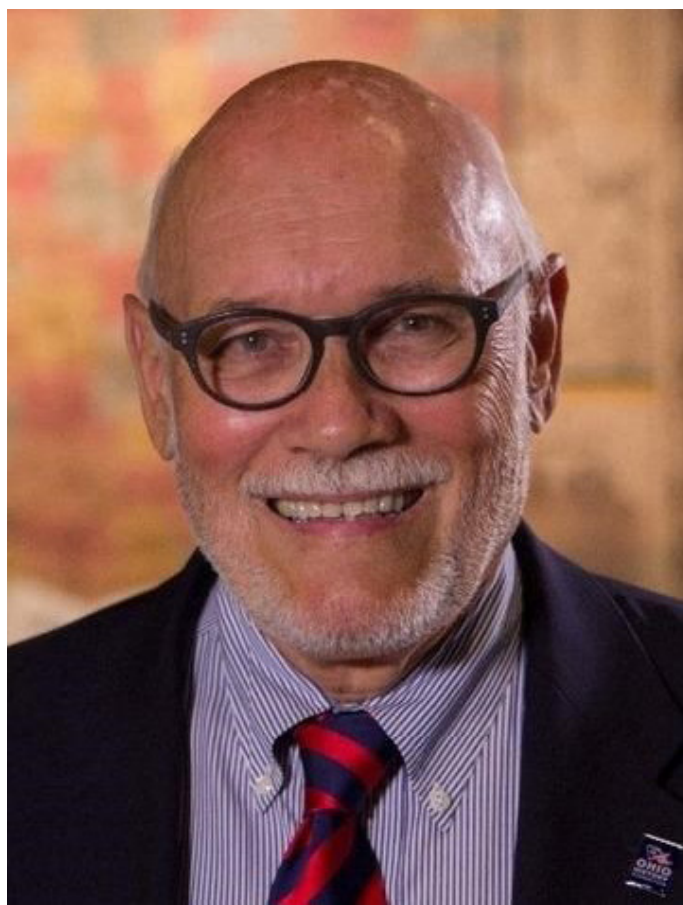
Concurrently Bob embarked on what became a 30-year banking career with Huntington Bank, NA. His roles included co-founder and president of Huntington Leasing Company, president of Huntington Bank of Toledo/Northwest Ohio, executive director of Community Banks for the State of Ohio and president of Huntington Mortgage Company.

Across his dual careers in the military and banking, Bob accepted leadership positions for numerous philanthropic endeavors in Toledo and Columbus, including the United Way of Greater Toledo, serving as the 1989 Campaign Chair and, later, board president. Following his retirement from Huntington, the United Way moved to recruit him for a 5-year position as president, tasked by the Board with realigning the organization's businesses practices

A deep and abiding love of Ohio and its rich history propelled Bob to serve 9 years on the Board of Ohio History Connection (formerly The Ohio Historical Society), becoming chairman of the board in 2016. In this role, he personally visited each of Ohio's 59 unique History Ohio sites, often urging his fellow Ohioans to do the same. On June 9, 2022, the executive committee of the Ohio History Connection awarded Bob the rare honor of Life Trustee.

Bob was a man in motion. He had a passion for airplanes and was an instrument rated private pilot and owned several single-engine airplanes. This paired well with his equally strong passion for Triumph vintage sports cars of which he owned many over the years.

Not surprising, he also loved to travel. Retired from the Army, he and his wife, Karen, had the military privilege of traveling Space Available designation on military aircraft to destinations around the world. Doing this he logged in over 45 exciting Space A trips



which he considered exhilarating, as final destinations could change rapidly prior to takeoff and, sometimes, even mid-flight.

Bob was a 35-year member of The Toledo Club and proud member of the men's morning workout group, the Great Books Club and, occasionally he dabbled in Yoga classes.

He was sustained and now survived by his beloved wife, Karen; cherished daughter, Robyn Bachelor (Paul); adorable grandchildren, Casey, Josie and Abby; and very special stepson, Vesper Williams III (Laura); brother, Thomas (Brenda).

Bob was an exemplary husband and loving partner, father, brother, son, grandfather, colleague, friend.

His final wish was to return his remains to the highest point in Belmont County, once part of the Lucas Family Farm.

His family extends heartfelt thanks to Hospice of Northwest Ohio for providing care and comfort to Bob and those he loved during his final days.

A Celebration of Bob's Life will take place on Thursday, August 4, at 10 am at The Toledo Club, 235 14 th Street, Toledo.

Memorial gifts can be directed to The Robert W. and Karen W. Lucas Ohio History Marker Fund at [OhioHistory.org](https://ohiohistory.org) or a [charity of the donor's choice](#).

Published by The Blade on June 19, 2022.

THE OHIO HISTORY CONNECTION ANNOUNCES

The Robert W. & Karen W. Lucas Ohio Historical Marker Regional Fund

PURPOSE

Robert W. and Karen W. Lucas are lifelong advocates for the Ohio Historical Marker Program and want to help communities with fewer markers or resources to realize their goal of obtaining a new marker. Accordingly, they have given a gift that will fund up to \$3,585 toward the cost of a new marker.

The funding will be available to applicants from the Ohio Local History Alliance (OLHA) Regions #5, #9, and #10. The Ohio counties covered by this gift are Athens, Belmont, Carroll, Columbiana, Coshocton, Gallia, Guernsey, Harrison, Hocking, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Lawrence, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble, Pike, Ross, Scioto, Stark, Tuscarawas, Vinton, Washington, and Wayne.

Donations to this fund can be made at this link: 13329a.blackbaudhosting.com/13329a/Ohio-Historical-Marker-Regional-Fund or by mailing a check to the address at right.

HOW TO APPLY FOR A NEW OHIO HISTORICAL MARKER

Complete the application form found on the "Propose A Marker" page of the program's website RemarkableOhio.org.

Submit all supporting documentation required by the application.

Be sure to check the space beside "Check if applying for funding through Ohio Historical Marker Regional Fund" on the application.

Complete and submit the application no later than May 1 to be considered in the next marker cycle.

AWARDS & NOTIFICATION

Robert and Karen Lucas hope to fund up to 14 new markers in the designated regions.

- Markers typically range in cost from \$3,585 to \$3,945 depending on the length of text desired.
- Please note that photos or other graphics incur an additional charge. All costs above the amount funded will be the responsibility of the applicant organization.
- Applicants will be notified within 90 days of the annual application deadline if funding has been awarded.

QUESTIONS?

Historical Marker Coordinator
Ohio History Connection,
800 East 17th Avenue,
Columbus, OH 43211-2497
614-297-2360

historicalmarkers@ohiohistory.org

CANADIAN CONSERVATION INSTITUTE (CCI) AND THE CANADIAN HERITAGE INFORMATION NETWORK (CHIN) ONLINE COURSE:

Preservation Housekeeping for Heritage Sites and Small Museums

This self-paced free online course is the first of its kind to be developed by CCI. The course covers a variety of topics related to preservation housekeeping, with an emphasis on small institutions and heritage sites. The course consists of six sections, which cover a variety of topics, including: cleaning, agents of deterioration, condition reporting, housekeeping plans, how to conduct walkarounds, and health and safety. Preservation of heritage sites is important knowledge for all staff and volunteers at an institution, and this course aims to provide introductory knowledge and tools on this important topic.

For more information and to register: powered.athabasca.ca/catalog?pagename=CCI-CHIN

Preservation Ohio Launching New Guide to Small and Mid-Sized Preservation Projects

A significant percentage of historic properties in Ohio, including ones which have income-producing uses, are not 25,000 square foot, multi-story structures. Many are of modest size and line the streets of Ohio downtowns and neighborhoods of all sizes, contributing to a strong sense of place in many communities.

In some of these locations, preservation and downtown revitalization organizations provide information on various financial incentives available for building rehabilitation. In the majority, however, no such assistance is available.

With this in mind, and with the Ohio General Assembly's recent action to temporarily expand the scope of the Ohio Historic Preservation Tax Credit in Ohio's smaller counties, Preservation Ohio has created a new version of its *Banking On The Past* online resource center to focus on smaller and mid-sized rehabilitation projects.

Features of this new collection include links to the latest program information from many sources, as well as links to information videos available online, etc. sorted by topic for easy access. A section on the Ohio Historic Preservation Tax Credit includes a compendium of well over a dozen projects of modest scope, highlighting the fact that even smaller projects can have tremendous local impact.

The new *Banking On The Past — Small To Mid-Sized Project Edition* was unveiled at the June 24 conference in Urbana, and is being made available at our upcoming regional events. Any Preservation Ohio member who would like access should send a request to: thomasatpo@gmail.com.

Collections Assessment for Preservation Program

Applications for the 2022 [Collections Assessment for Preservation \(CAP\) program](#) are now open, with a deadline of July 31, 2022.

CAP participants receive support for a general conservation assessment from a qualified collection and building assessor. The assessment is a study of all the institution's collections, buildings, and building systems, as well as its policies and procedures relating to collections care. The two assessors work collaboratively to provide institutions with prioritized recommendations for improved collections care. Assessments consist of preparatory work, a two-day site visit, a written report, and a one-year follow-up consultation. CAP is often a first step for small institutions that wish to improve the condition of their collections or develop a long-range preservation plan and can serve as a fundraising tool for future collections projects. The CAP program is open to small and medium-sized museums, zoos, aquariums, arboreta, and botanical gardens in the United States. Additional information on the CAP process, eligibility, and applications are available at www.cultural-heritage.org/cap.

CAP is administered by the Foundation for Advancement in Conservation under a cooperative agreement with the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS:

Ohio Preservation Council Professional Development Grant

In 2020 the Ohio Preservation Council began to offer four awards of up to \$250 each in support of continuing education and professional organization memberships for Ohio Students and Professionals with an interest in preserving our cultural heritage. OPC has updated the grant procedures and awards to reflect the current emphasis on remote learning and virtual conferences.

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis in March, May, September and November. Applications are due the first Mondays in March, May, September and November with applicants notified after the 3rd Thursday of the month.

The Ohio Preservation Council serves as a coalition of preservationists, conservators, librarians, archivists, curators, records managers, the institutions they represent, and other concerned citizens who recognize the serious threat to documentary heritage. The Council's mission is to provide a network for preservation education and to support preservation activities within the state of Ohio. The Council believes in cooperative, state-wide efforts across geographic and professional lines are needed to meet preservation challenges.

The Ohio Preservation Council recognizes the value of professional meetings, conferences, and other educational opportu-

nities to advance the field of preservation and provide a forum to voice the need for ongoing stewardship of our documentary heritage. When possible, the OPC shall provide financial support to individuals to develop skills, expand knowledge, and gain experience relevant to the mission and goals of the Ohio Preservation Council. Applications are due the first Mondays in March and September.

Individuals requesting financial support must meet the following criteria:

- Working in the state of Ohio OR pursuing an advanced degree or certificate in the state of Ohio;
- Working directly in the field of preservation (as described above) OR pursuing a degree or certificate within the field;
- Request is for professional development that clearly relates to preservation issues and/or preservation skills;
- Have not received financial support from the OPC Grant within three calendar years.

For more information on how to apply visit: ohiopreservation-council.org/Grants

OHIO MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION WEBINAR:

Getting Started with Environmental Monitoring

What is environmental monitoring? Why do we do it? What types of tools are useful for monitoring temperature, relative humidity, light and pest activity?

Using case studies from conservators on Conserv's staff, Allison Lewis will discuss these questions, and give a brief introduction to Conserv's wireless data loggers and free environmental monitoring/pest management software designed specifically for cultural heritage collections.

ABOUT OUR SPEAKER:

Allison Lewis is an Objects Conservator and Conservation Liaison at the preventive conservation platform [Conserv](#). She has a Master's degree in Conservation from the UCLA/Getty Conservation Program. Before joining Conserv, Allison spent seven years at the Oakland Museum of California working with an encyclopedic collection that includes fine art, natural science material, and all sorts of objects related to California history. She has extensive archaeological conservation experience, and some of her other interests include care of natural history specimens and integrated pest management (IPM).

When: Wednesday,
July 20, 2022,
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Where: Online – complete webinar login details will be sent to participants after registering

Cost: \$10 – OMA Members;
\$15 Non-members

**Registration
deadline:** July 18, 2022

[Register here.](#)

Region 1

Allen, Defiance, Fulton, Hancock, Hardin, Henry, Lucas, Putnam, Van Wert, Williams, and Wood Counties

Region 2

Ashland, Crawford, Erie, Huron, Marion, Morrow, Ottawa, Richland, Sandusky, Seneca, and Wyandot Counties

Region 3

Cuyahoga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, and Summit Counties

The **Berea Historical Society** honored the memory of Past President and Curator Louise Allen at their July 4th Ice Cream Social. She served the Society for 44 years. She is greatly missed and a plaque bearing her portrait will serve as a reminder of her contributions. Museum Director and high school history teacher William Boone initiated a program bringing his students to the museum for research and awareness of what is available in our building. Mahler Museum will also participate in the Ohio Open Doors program on September 11. Our Victorian home built in the 1850s will be open for touring.

Region 4

Ashtabula, Geauga, Mahoning, Portage, and Trumbull Counties

Region 5

Carroll, Columbiana, Harrison, Holmes, Jefferson, Stark, Tuscarawas, and Wayne Counties

Region 6

Delaware, Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin, Knox, Licking, Madison, Perry, Pickaway, and Union Counties

The **German Village Society** held the 61st Annual Haus und Garten Tour on Sunday, June 26, 2022. The tour included a collection of 14 homes and gardens to showcase German Village's ongoing preservation efforts.

Region 7

Auglaize, Champaign, Clark, Darke, Greene, Logan, Mercer, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, and Shelby Counties

The Charity's Children Project invites you to the historic marker dedication for Jewelia Galloway Higgins. The marker is part of the National Votes for Women Trail funded by the Pomeroy Foundation. The dedication will be held Sunday, July 17, beginning at 11 am at the First Wesleyan Church, 401 Gramon Ave, Dayton. It will be followed at 4 pm by the "Higgins Sunday Ice Cream Social," at 236 South Paul L. Dunbar St, Dayton; former site of the West Side YWCA.

Region 8

Adams, Brown, Butler, Clermont, Clinton, Hamilton, Highland, and Warren Counties

The **Over-the-Rhine Museum** held an installment in their story-sharing series, "Three Acts in Over-the-Rhine" on Wednesday, June 15th. The program featured speakers who discussed three long-standing Over-the-Rhine establishments: the Emanuel Community Center, Sweet P's Styling Shop and Skeeter's Beauty Shop. Telling these stories were: Karyl Cunningham, former president/CEO of the historic ECC; Marva Payne, daughter of James Lewis, known as "Sweet P;" and Levi Jones, barber and friend of Sweet P. In addition, Stephen Albert shared select photographs from his recently published book, *Over-the-Rhine in the 1970s: A Journey into a Unique Cincinnati Neighborhood*.

Region 9

Athens, Gallia, Hocking, Jackson, Lawrence, Meigs, Pike, Ross, Scioto, and Vinton Counties

Region 10

Belmont, Coshocton, Guernsey, Monroe, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble, and Washington Counties

In 100 words or less, do you have outstanding news to share about your organization? Please email it to your regional representative for the next issue of The Local Historian. Contact information for the representatives in your region is on page 2 of this issue. Of course, you are welcome to forward your news directly to the editor of The Local Historian at ohiolha@ohiohistory.org. Rather than serving as a calendar of events, items for "News from the Regions" are chosen to inspire, connect, and educate the Alliance's members all over Ohio and celebrate notable and imitation-worthy accomplishments of Alliance members.

Renewed between April 16 and June 22, 2022.

Thank You, Renewing Members

INDIVIDUALS

Mazie Adams, <i>Cleveland Heights</i>	Todd McCormick, <i>Bellefontaine</i>
Ann Cramer, <i>Logan</i>	Mary Stoots, <i>Reynoldsburg</i>
	Roselia Verhoff, <i>Ottawa</i>

ORGANIZATIONS

Alliance Historical Society, <i>Alliance</i>	North Baltimore Area Historical Society, <i>North Baltimore</i>
Austintown Historical Society, <i>Austintown</i>	North Canton Heritage Society, <i>North Canton</i>
Butler County Historical Society, <i>Hamilton</i>	Peninsula Library, <i>Peninsula</i>
Canton Preservation Society, <i>Canton</i>	Reynoldsburg Truro Historical Society, <i>Reynoldsburg</i>
Cincinnati Observatory Center, <i>Cincinnati</i>	Richland County Historical Society, <i>Mansfield</i>
Cleveland Police Historical Society and Museum, <i>Cleveland</i>	Seneca County Museum, <i>Tiffin</i>
Clinton County History Center, <i>Wilmingon</i>	Spring Hill Historic Home, Inc., <i>Massillon</i>
Dittrick Medical History Center, <i>Cleveland</i>	Springboro Area Historical Society, <i>Springboro</i>
German Village Society, <i>Columbus</i>	Summit County Historical Society, <i>Akron</i>
Harveysburg Community Historical Society, <i>Harveysburg</i>	Swiss Community Historical Society, <i>Bluffton</i>
Historic Fort Steuben, <i>Steubenville</i>	The Dawes Arboretum, <i>Newark</i>
Indian Hill Historical Society, <i>Cincinnati</i>	Thomas A Edison Birthplace Association, <i>Milan</i>
Logan County Historical Society, <i>Bellefontaine</i>	Toledo History Museum, Inc., <i>Toledo</i>
Madison Historical Society, <i>Madison</i>	Trumbull County Historical Society, <i>Warren</i>
Mahoning Valley Historical Society, <i>Youngstown</i>	Tuscarawas County Historical Society, <i>New Philadelphia</i>
Mariemont Preservation Foundation, <i>Cincinnati</i>	Union County Historical Society, <i>Marysville</i>
Museum of Fulton County, Ohio, <i>Wauseon</i>	Vermilion History Museum, <i>Vermilion</i>
National McKinley Birthplace Memorial Association, <i>Niles</i>	Wayne County Historical Society, <i>Wooster</i>
New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society, <i>New Albany</i>	Western Reserve Historical Society, <i>Cleveland</i>
	Whitehall Historical Society, <i>Gahanna</i>

JULY 20:

OMA Webinar: Getting Started with Environmental Monitoring. For more information, see page 15.

JULY 31:

Collections Assessment for Preservation grants due. For more information, see page 14.

AUGUST 23:

Region 9 Open House for History Organizations. For more information, see page 11.

SEPTEMBER 5:

Ohio Preservation Council Professional Development Grants due. For more information, see page 14.

SEPTEMBER 30 – OCTOBER 1:

OLHA Annual Meeting! For more information, see cover story.

Join the Ohio Local History Alliance...



**OHIO LOCAL
HISTORY ALLIANCE**
Inspire. Connect. Educate.

...or connect a sister organization to the Alliance and ask its leaders to join in one of the following categories:

Organizational Member

Get six issues of *The Local Historian*, save when you register for our Alliance regional and statewide local history meetings, receive periodic email updates, and save on Ohio Historical Society services for organization, including speakers and customized training workshops. **Best of all, when you join the Alliance as an Organizational Member, your membership benefits all of your organization's staff and members**—they will all qualify for discounts on registration for the Alliance's regional and statewide meetings and when buying Alliance publications.

Operating budget:

Over \$200,000 a year:	\$100	(\$190 for 2)
\$100,000-\$200,000 a year:	\$75	(\$140 for 2)
\$25,000-\$100,000 a year:	\$60	(\$110 for 2)
Under \$25,000 a year:	\$35	(\$65 for 2)

Individual Member

Get six issues of *The Local Historian*, save when you register for our Alliance regional and statewide local history meetings, receive periodic email updates.

Affiliate:	\$35	(\$65 for 2)
Individual:	\$50	(\$90 for 2)
Student:	\$20	

Business Member:

	\$100	(\$190 for 2)
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Join at:

www.ohiohistorystore.com/Ohio-LHA-formerly-OAHS-M-C120.aspx

The Ohio Local History Alliance, organized in 1960 under sponsorship of the Ohio History Connection, is composed of local historical societies, historic preservation groups, history museums, archives, libraries, and genealogical societies throughout the state involved in collecting, preserving, and interpreting Ohio's history.

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ohiolha@ohiohistory.org

Visit The Alliance online at
www.ohiolha.org and on Facebook at

www.facebook.com/ohio-localhistoryalliance

Annual Membership Dues:

Organizations:

Annual budget over \$200,000: \$100 (\$190 for 2)

Annual budget \$100,000-\$200,000: \$75 (\$140 for 2)

Annual budget \$25,000-\$100,000: \$60 (\$110 for 2)

Annual budget below \$25,000: \$35 (\$65 for 2)

Individuals:

Affiliate:

\$35 (\$65 for 2)

Individual: \$50 (\$90 for 2)

Students: \$20

Business:

\$100 (\$190 for 2)

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