



Events Calendar - *Spring/Summer 2015*

This calendar is distributed to Oberlin Heritage Center members; please share it with your friends! For updates from the Heritage Center, visit www.oberlinheritagecenter.org or sign up for the Heritage Center's monthly E-news by sending an e-mail to members@oberlinheritage.org.

All programs are FREE and open to the public, unless otherwise noted. If reservations are needed, you may register online at www.oberlinheritagecenter.org, call (440) 774-1700 or send an email to members@oberlinheritage.org to request a registration form.

Street addresses for each program location are listed at the end of the calendar.

Community Programs/Activities

January 28 (Wednesday, 7:15 p.m.) **Who Hauled Hall on Top of Hall?** Oberlin College Professor Emeritus of Chemistry, **Norman C. Craig**, offers an entertaining and informative discussion of Charles M. Hall, Perkin-Medal-winning discoverer of the modern aluminum extraction process, and new developments in Hall's historic legacy. Hall transformed the metals industry, enabled long-distance transmission of electricity, and made way for revolutionary modes of transportation. Through his wealth, he propelled Oberlin College into the 20th century. The program follows some of the "wanderings" of the College's lightweight aluminum statue of Hall, the saga of the construction of Hall Auditorium, and the controversial story of Hall's sister, Julia, and whether or not she played a significant role in her brother's work. Location: Kendal at Oberlin's Heiser Auditorium.

February 2 (Monday, by 5 p.m.) Nominate a deserving individual, organization or business for an **Oberlin Heritage Center Community Award**. Categories include Community Historian, Heritage Guardian, Heritage Center Volunteer of the Year, Community Teacher of the Year, History Teacher of the Year, Keep Oberlin Beautiful Award, Business Leader Service Award, and Youth Community Service Award. The **deadline for nominations is February 2, 2015** and the awards will be presented at the annual meeting on Wednesday, April 1. Nomination forms available in our office and on the website.

February 5 (Thursday, 7:15 p.m.) **On the Home Front**. Join us for an eye-witness view from the Civil War home front with family letters, songs, and images, presented by folksinger/author (and Oberlin Heritage Center board member) **Judy Cook** accompanied by her husband **Dennis Cook**. The program is woven from the letters of Judy's great-great-grandparents, Gilbert and Esther Claflin who write of their Wisconsin farm, their mothers, her brothers in the army and their wives. Location: Kendal at Oberlin's Heiser Auditorium.

February 17 (Tuesday, 4:30 p.m.) **Rules of Engagement: Civil War Courtship Letters and the 'Homefront Imaginary.'** Oberlin College Professor of History **Carol Lasser** draws on the correspondence of Oberlinians Giles Waldo Shurtleff and Mary E. Burton, as well as that of Elliott Grabill and Anna Jenney, and looks at the ways in which these soldiers turned to women on the homefront for emotional support and relationships beyond the battlefield to sustain them during the conflict. Mary and Anna responded, and eventually out of the correspondence came two long and successful marriages. This program is co-sponsored with the Oberlin College Archives and the Oberlin College Department of History. Location: Moffett Auditorium in Oberlin College's Mudd Library.

March 3 and March 7 (Tuesday and Saturday, 9 a.m. – 12 noon or 1 – 4 p.m.) **Oberlin Heritage Center S.W.O.T. Sessions**. Share your thoughts and fresh ideas in a fun and exciting way with OHC Board and staff as the Oberlin Heritage Center takes the initial step in developing a new five-year (2016-2020) Strategic Plan for the organization. Heritage Center members and the public are welcome and encouraged to attend one of several sessions to discuss the organization's **S**trengths, **W**eaknesses, **O**pportunities and **T**hreats. The event will be facilitated by J.D. Britton, retired director of the Local History Office at the Ohio History Connection

Community Programs, continued

and a highly-regarded consultant in the field of long-range planning. Register by Wednesday, February 25 via phone (440-774-1700) or e-mail (members@oberlinheritage.org) to attend **either** the morning or afternoon session on **Tuesday, March 3 at Kendal at Oberlin's Heiser Auditorium** (600 Kendal Drive) or **Saturday, March 7 at the Oberlin Depot** (240 South Main Street). Plan to arrive 15 minutes ahead of your scheduled session. A follow-up is planned for Saturday, March 21 at 10:30 a.m. at Oberlin Public Library for all who attend one of the original S.W.O.T. sessions to summarize the information gleaned from these meetings.

March 26 (Thursday, 7:15 p.m.) **An Evening with Antoinette Brown Blackwell.** In celebration of Women's History Month, Oberlin native **Beth Marshall** brings to life Antoinette Brown Blackwell (1825-1921), who studied theology at Oberlin College and became the first woman to be ordained a minister of a recognized denomination in the United States. Last fall, an Ohio Historical Marker was dedicated in Oberlin in recognition of Blackwell's achievements. Ms. Marshall is the senior pastor at First Unitarian Church in Toledo. The event is co-sponsored with the Kendal Third Thursday Lecture Series. Free and open to the public. Location: Kendal at Oberlin's Heiser Auditorium.

April 1 (Wednesday, 5 – 8:30 p.m.) **OHC Annual Meeting and Dinner.** Gather with OHC's members and friends for dinner and an enlightening program by OHC's **Liz Schultz** (Museum Education and Tour Coordinator) and **Ron Gorman** (volunteer docent and researcher) presenting "**Old Secrets/New Stories of Oberlin's Underground Railroad.**" We'll also salute the recipients of the **Heritage Center's 14th Annual Community Awards.** Festivities begin with a social hour (optional) at 5 p.m., dinner at 6 p.m. and the program at 7 p.m., followed by a brief annual business meeting. Invitations will be sent to members in late February, or contact us to be put on the mailing list. Reservations required; cost is \$33/members and \$38/non-members (or \$28/members and \$33/non-members if reservation made by Friday, March 20). Location: Oberlin Inn.

April 21 (Tuesday, 7:15 p.m.) **Forever Young: the History of Case Western Reserve University.** Western Reserve College was the first permanent college in the Western Reserve of Connecticut. It was a product of the dreams and aspirations of leaders in the region, though they had to temper their religious goals to deal with the politics of the times. Nearly six decades later, and 26 miles northwest of the college's home in Hudson, Leonard Case, Jr. left funds to create a school of applied science in Cleveland. Strangely, it was inevitable that the two institutions would get together one day, but it wasn't easy. **Richard E. Baznik** (author of *Beyond the Fence: A Social History of Case Western Reserve University*) presents the story of the two institutions and their eventual consolidation, which also offers insights into the development of the region. Baznik, CWRU Vice President Emeritus for Public Affairs and University Historian is also an Oberlin Heritage Center board member. Free and open to the public. Location: Kendal at Oberlin's Heiser Auditorium.

May 27 (Wednesday, 7:15 p.m.) **From Civil War to Civil Rights: Stories from the Oberlin Oral History Project.** Oberlin's roots in abolitionism in the 19th century affected the views of its residents well into the 20th century as the nation fought for racial justice through prayer, moral reasoning, politics and even violence. Sharing stories from Oberlin's Oral History Project, **Geni Poporad Vanek** will trace the changes in attitudes from idealism after the Civil War to discrimination during the '30s and '40s and back to the idealism of the '60s in the "town that started the Civil War." Vanek, an OHC Honorary Trustee, is the author of the Heritage Center's oral-history-based publication *Bonnets to Boardrooms: Women's Stories from a Historic College Town.* Free and open to the public. Location: Kendal at Oberlin's Heiser Auditorium.

June 10 (Wednesday, 7:15 p.m.) **Local Stories of Quarry Life.** The history of Lorain County quarrying is presented in this illustrated program by **James Hieb**, Executive Vice President/CEO of the Marble Institute of America (Oberlin, Ohio). Jim is the author of *Sandstone Center of the World: Images and Stories of Quarrying*

Community Programs, continued

Life in Amherst, South Amherst, and Lorain County, Ohio which documents 160 years of quarry life in the region. He has researched quarry history and collected stories for many years from retired quarry workers, including Foyster Matlock, grandfather of Hieb's wife, Christa. The book is available in the Heritage Center's Museum Store. The event is free and open to the public. Location: Kendal at Oberlin's Heiser Auditorium.

Kids' Activities

February 25 through March 18 (Wednesdays, 1-3 p.m. – For boys and girls ages 8-13) **Hands-on-History & Cultures of the World Home School Series.** Each week we'll explore a new culture and time period through hands-on activities and discussions of art, architecture, geography, food, religion and more. This year's focus includes: the Swahili Coast, the Maya civilization, the Byzantine Empire, and the land of China. Participants register for the entire four-class series led by OHC's Museum Education and Tour Coordinator, **Liz Schultz**. Reservations required; fee is \$45, or \$40 for children/grandchildren of OHC members. (Early Bird registrants receive a \$5 discount if signed up by February 1.) Location: Oberlin Depot.

March 23-26 (Monday and Tuesday / Wednesday and Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. – For ages 8-13.) **Spring Break Mini-Camps.** Choose one or both sessions: **Introduction to Archaeology** (March 23-24) or **World Cultures** (March 25-26) including East Asia, the Pacific Islands, Colombia, and New Orleans Mardi Gras. Reservations required; Fee: \$45 per two-day camp; \$40 for children/grandchildren of Heritage Center members. (Early Bird registrants receive a \$3 discount per camper if signed up by March 1.) Location: Oberlin Depot.

March 28 (all day, for students in grades 6-12 attending school in Cuyahoga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, or Summit County) **National History Day Ohio District 3 Competition.** The Heritage Center's Museum Education and Tour Coordinator **Liz Schultz**, AmeriCorps member **Kaitlyn Goss**, Board Member **Ken Grossi**, and volunteer **Nicole Hayes** will judge student History Day projects in Cleveland. The **Oberlin Heritage Center Hubbard Prize** will be presented for an outstanding paper, documentary, or website project done by students who reside in Lorain County. The prize is supported by OHC members **Gail and Ned Hubbard** in honor of his grandparents, Pliny Deane and Laura Rote Hubbard, early owners of the Heritage Center's Jewett House.

June 20 (Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.) Observe or take part in Oberlin's tenth annual **Chalk Walk** celebration which continues the tradition of festive, colorful sidewalk painting that began in 16th century Italy. All skill levels are welcome – work alongside master professional artists and local artists as they create works of sidewalk art all over downtown Oberlin. High quality chalk is provided free. Stop by the Oberlin Heritage Center's table on South Main Street for a fun break! For more, visit <http://www.oberlinchalkwalk.com/>.

Hands on History Fun Summer Day Camps (9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for boys and girls ages 8-13). Registration forms and details will be available later in the spring; call (440) 774-1700 or e-mail members@oberlinheritage.org to add your name to the mailing list. Location: Oberlin Depot.

August 1 (Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.) **Family Fun Fair** is a community tradition featuring free family activities all over downtown and on the grounds of the Oberlin Heritage Center. Stop by the Heritage Center for hands-on history fun, lawn games, and mini-tours.

Tours/History Walks

Upstairs/Downstairs Tour – Small Town, Big Stories (Every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.) This in-depth tour includes three historic Oberlin buildings that serve as background for stories of the community and college in its first century, from the 1833 founding through the turn of the 20th century. Learn about Oberlin's beginnings as a perfectionist colony and the community's early commitment to

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Tours/History Walks, continued

universal education, and find out more about Oberlin's important roles in abolition and the Underground Railroad. Continue in time through the Victorian period and into the early 1900s' Progressive era with tales of college life, scientific discovery, and "new" ways to stay hygienic and healthy. Admission: \$6/adults. Free to OHC members and college students; children free when accompanied by adult. Reservations appreciated; walk-in visitors welcome also. Allow 75-90 minutes. Location: Tours begin at Monroe House.

Sneak Peek/Oberlin Origins Mini-Tour (Tuesday-Saturday, offered from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.) Pressed for time? Looking for a quick outing when friends or family visit? Then the "Sneak Peek" is perfect when you want to move fast yet still hit the highlights. This 30-minute guided tour of the first floor of the 1866 Monroe House includes stories and images of the individuals and events that shaped Oberlin's first one hundred years. Drop-in visitors are welcome although advance notice is appreciated. \$3/adult. Free for OHC members, college students, and children under 18. Location: Tours begin at Monroe House.

Amazing Oberlin Smartphone Race! (Reservations available April – October, Tuesday through Saturday between 10 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.) Like history, hiking, and a healthy dose of friendly competition? Friends and family can challenge each other to this fun new learning adventure. Two teams, ideally with two to four people per team, begin at the Heritage Center and are texted the first clue leading them to a landmark in Oberlin. When a team figures out an answer, they send a text or a photo back and receive the next clue. There are fourteen clues in all and the race is 2 miles and takes 90 minutes. Anyone can play, although each team will need at least one player with a smartphone to send and receive texts and photos. Fee: \$25 per race; \$20 for Oberlin Heritage Center members (the fee covers all participants in the race). Contact the Museum Education and Tour Coordinator Liz Schultz to schedule your date and start time.

March 29 (Sunday, 2 p.m.) **Women's History Month Special Event! *One Step More: A Walking Tour of Women's History in Oberlin.*** Inspired by the 1834 pledge made by Oberlin "founding father" John J. Shipherd to "elevate the female character" through education, this 75-minute tour acquaints you with stories of powerful 19th and early 20th century Oberlin women. Hear how they used Shipherd's promise to shape what it meant to be a woman in Oberlin and in the United States. Registration needed; \$6 for adults; free to OHC members, college students and children accompanied by adults (most likely enjoyed by ages 9 and up). Please register in advance even if you are eligible for a free history walk.

April (various dates/times) **New Tablet Tour Test Runs (for current OHC members only).** Let us know if you'd like to be a "guinea pig" and try out one (or both!) of our new digital tours about the community's historic downtown or the Underground Railroad in Oberlin and give us your feedback. Watch for future announcements in the E-Gazette and on Facebook, or contact Museum Education and Tour Coordinator Liz Schultz (tourinfo@oberlinheritage.org) for information. Your comments will help us prepare the final versions of these exciting tours that debut in May 2015.

COMING IN MAY 2015: NEW! Self-guided tours for visitors to follow on their own tablets or iPads (or borrow one of ours!). Topics include: Historic Downtown Oberlin and Underground Railroad Activity in Oberlin. Each tour is filled with fun facts, historic photographs, and more. Watch for more information at www.oberlinheritagecenter.org in the spring.

Summer History Walks (Saturday at 11:00 a.m.; first Sunday at 1 p.m.) Beginning in June and taking place each week through the end of September, enjoy a guided History Walk to learn about the nationally significant history of Oberlin. For a complete schedule, visit www.oberlinheritagecenter.org or call (440) 774-1700.

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Tours/History Walks, continued

Commencement/Reunion/Memorial Day Weekend May 23-24 (Saturday and Sunday, various times). The Oberlin Heritage Center offers a number of different options for guided tours and themed history walks throughout the weekend. Fees range from \$3-\$6 for adults; free to OHC members, any college students, and children under 18. Advance reservations are needed for History Walks; when you register, you will be given the Walk's starting location. Drop-in visitors are welcome for the Oberlin Origins "Sneak Peek" tour. Stop by the Monroe House and visit our Museum Store for Oberlin-themed books, mementos, and visitor information.

Saturday, May 23

Exploración Histórica de La Casa Monroe (*This weekend only! Spanish language version of the historic Monroe House tour*) at 10 a.m.

Oberlin Origins Sneak Peek Tours (Monroe House) every half hour, 10:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.

One Step More: A Walking Tour of Women's History in Oberlin at 11 a.m.

Freedom's Friends (Underground Railroad) History Walk at 3 p.m.

Scholars & Settlers (Tappan Square) History Walk at 5 p.m.

OHC Museum Store open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Sunday, May 24

Oberlin Origins Sneak Peek Tours (Monroe House) every half hour, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Radicals & Reformers (Westwood Cemetery) History Walk at 11 a.m.

Freedom's Friends (Underground Railroad) History Walk at 3 p.m.

OHC Museum Store open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Volunteer Opportunities

February 28 (Saturday, 2-5 p.m.) **Docent Training for Upstairs/Downstairs Tour.** This introductory workshop instructs volunteers on how to present an engaging 75-minute tour through the Heritage Center's three historic buildings while sharing stories of the community and college in its first century, from the 1833 founding through the turn of the 20th century. Docents are asked to lead or assist with at least four tours per year. Training is free; register via e-mail to Liz Schultz (tourinfo@oberlinheritage.org) by February 25. Location: Meet at the Monroe House.

March 14 (Saturday, 1-4 p.m.) **Docent Training for Freedom's Friends History Walk.** Learn about Oberlin's role in the history of abolition and the Underground Railroad and how to present it in the format of a 75-minute walking tour. Docents are asked to lead at least four tours or history walks per year. Training is free; registration requested by March 9. Location: Meet at the Monroe House.

May 16 (Saturday, 3- 5 p.m.) **Docent Training for One Step More: A Walking Tour of Women's History in Oberlin.** Learn how to present stories (in the format of a 75-minute walking tour) about powerful 19th and early 20th century Oberlin women who helped shape what it meant to be a woman in a small town and across America. Docents are asked to lead at least four tours or history walks per year. Training is free; registration requested by May 11. Location: Meet at the Monroe House.

History on Demand and To Go! (for groups)

Groups of 8 or more may reserve a private Upstairs/Downstairs Tour or Sneak Peek-Oberlin Origins Tour. They may also reserve a private History Walk offered during the months of April through October. This requires a three-week advance reservation and pre-payment. Topics include: Freedom's Friends (Underground Railroad and Abolition), Radicals and Reformers (Westwood Cemetery), Soldiers and Civilians (Civil War), Scholars and Settlers (Tappan Square), One Step More (Oberlin Women's History) and the "I Spy Oberlin:

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History and Architecture Scavenger Hunt” for kids. Some Oberlin Heritage Center workshops, presentations, and speaker's bureau programs are available to groups for a fee. Contact Liz Schultz at (440)774-1700 or e-mail tourinfo@oberlinheritage.org for details.



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“Like” us on Facebook to enjoy Oberlin history tidbits and news, including
“What is It?” Wednesdays and Photo Fridays – join in the fun!

Street Address Locations for OHC Events/Tours

- Kendal at Oberlin’s Heiser Auditorium** – 600 Kendal Drive (main entrance)
- Oberlin College Mudd Library / Moffett Auditorium** – Room 050, 148 West Lorain Street, Oberlin
- Oberlin Depot** – 240 S. Main St. (overflow parking on north side of South St. & across South Main/Route 58)
- Oberlin Heritage Center - Monroe House** – 73½ South Professor Street; parking lot entrance located at 20 West Vine Street just west of Midas Muffler at South Main/Vine Streets (then walk from the parking area to Monroe House front entrance facing Oberlin College’s Conservatory parking lot)
- Oberlin Inn** – 7 North Main Street
- Oberlin Public Library** – 65 South Main Street
- Tappan Square** – Intersection of SR 511 and SR 58 (Lorain and Main Streets)
- Westwood Cemetery** – 455 Morgan Street

Contact Us:

Mailing Address:

Oberlin Heritage Center
P.O. Box 0455, Oberlin, OH 44074-0455
Phone: (440)774-1700
E-mail: members@oberlinheritage.org

Office, Museum Store and Library:

The Monroe House at the Oberlin Heritage Center
73½ South Professor Street, Oberlin, OH 44074
Business Hours: Tues. – Sat., 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Website: www.oberlinheritagecenter.org

Community support helps preserve and share Oberlin history!

Donate [online](http://www.oberlinheritagecenter.org) at www.oberlinheritagecenter.org or clip and mail to address above:



YES! I/We will support the Oberlin Heritage Center with a tax-deductible gift of:
 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 \$1,000 \$2,500 \$5,000 Other \$ _____

For membership: \$20 (Senior) \$30 (Individual) \$50 (Household)
 For general operating expenses (Annual Fund). For the Endowment Fund.

Please put this contribution on my credit card: Visa MasterCard Discover

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Please note that this gift is in honor of or in memory of
(circle one): _____
(Please provide us with name/address if there is someone you would like us to notify about your tribute.)

Please print your name(s) as you wish to appear on our mailing list.

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1/24/2015

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