OHIO ARCHIVIST

History Matters!

2017 Annual Meeting and Conference of the Ohio Local History Alliance and the Society of Ohio Archivists

2017 ANNUAL MEETING & CONFERENCE

HISTORY MATTERS!

For those looking for another exciting opportunity for professional development and networking, join the Ohio Local History Alliance and Society of Ohio Archivists this fall for History Matters!, the 2017 Annual Meeting & Conference of the Ohio Local History Alliance in partnership with the Society of Ohio Archivists. The meeting will take place on Friday, October 6, and Saturday, October 7, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Dublin, Ohio.

This is the 7th year that SOA has partnered with the Ohio Local History Alliance for this annual meeting, and SOA's Educational Programming Committee has a full day of programming prepared for Friday, October 6, with a wide variety of sessions that should be of interest to SOA members. The first SOA track session of the day, "Moving Beyond 1922: Understanding Public Domain and Copyright from

1923-1963," will feature Jenni Salamon, Ohio Digital Newspaper Coordinator, of the Ohio History Connection. This session will provide insight into the way copyright laws apply to materials published between 1923 and 1963, and their implications for digitization projects. Next, Jodi Kearns, Digital Projects Manager and Jamie Newhall, Senior Multimedia Producer, both from the Cummings Center for the History of Psychology, will present "Revealing Voices and Songs of Holocaust Survivors using a Redesigned Wire Recorder." This session will describe how staff at the presenters' institution revealed voice recordings of Holocaust survivors from a now-obsolete wire recording medium. In the session "The Digital Public Library of America and You," Jen Johnson, DPLA Project Coordinator, State Library of Ohio will discuss collections already included in the DPLA, and the exciting opportunities

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

The President's Message

Dear SOA members,

First of all, I would like to express my sincere gratitude for being elected to serve as President of the Society of Ohio Archivists through the spring of 2019. It is truly an honor and privilege to have this opportunity to serve the organization and its members in this capacity. As we approach our 50th anniversary, I will do all that I can to continue moving our organization forward into the next 50 years!

I would like to thank and congratulate the Educational Programming Committee for a job well done with this year's annual meeting. The meeting had a number of great sessions centered on the theme of *Keeping History Alive*. Our plenary speaker, Kathleen Williams, gave an impassioned address on the importance of advocating for our profession. Due to recent proposed budget cuts to several federal agencies, this address was very timely. I would also like to thank all of the organizations that donated items for the silent auction. We raised $659 for the scholarship fund!

In council news, President Jillian Carney, Vice President Lonna McKinley, and council member Jennifer Brancato ended their terms in office. Please join me in thanking each of them for their dedicated service to SOA over the years. I would also like to welcome our two new council members, Adam Wanter and Lily Birkhimer, as well as our new Vice President, Janet Carleton. I am looking forward to working with council on upcoming programs and projects, especially our 50th anniversary celebration. If you are interested in getting involved with SOA, there are plenty of opportunities. Be sure to join the SOA listserv, visit our website, and our Facebook page for ways in which you can get involved!

Once again, SOA will be teaming up with the Ohio Local History Alliance to hold a fall meeting in Dublin, Ohio on October 6-7. The theme around this year's fall meeting will focus on history relevance and advocating for local history. Stay tuned to our website and Facebook page for the conference schedule and registration information. We hope that you'll be able to join us in October for this great networking and professional development opportunity!

October is also Archives Month and this year's theme is "A War to End All Wars: Ohio in the First World War." Thank you to all of the organizations that nominated photographs and to everyone who voted in the online poll. I am certain that this year's poster will be a great representation of the diverse collections held by archival repositories throughout the state. If your repository is planning any special events or exhibits for Archives Month, please let us know so that we can add your event to the SOA website and Facebook page.

Before I close, I want to let you know that I am always available to hear from our members. If you have any questions, comments, programming ideas, activities, or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

Robin Heise
President, Society of Ohio Archivists
rheise@co.greene.oh.us

SOA Mission

Founded in 1968, the Society of Ohio Archivists' mission is to exchange information, coordinate activities, and improve professional competence in Ohio's archives and manuscript repositories. Membership in the society is open to the public, and we invite anyone with an interest in archives and manuscripts to join.

coming up with the future inclusion of collections from the state of Ohio. "Leveraging Libraries and Student Veterans: The Veterans' Voices Project," will provide insight into the Wright State University Veteran's Voices Project, a collaborative project between the WSU Libraries and the Veteran and Military Center, in which student veterans collect veterans' oral histories. Jane Wildermuth, Head of Digital Initiatives and Repository Services; Seth Gordon, Director of Veteran and Military Center; and Jeniffer Seavey, Project Coordinator, Veterans' Voices Project, Veteran and Military Center will present. The SOA track will close the day with an "Ask a Preservation Professional," session. During this session members of the Ohio Preservation Council will lead an open discussion regarding the challenges of preserving archival collections, including perspectives from institutions of varying sizes.

In addition to the SOA sessions, the program holds much more that is sure to be of interest to SOA members. Topics addressed in the OLHA sessions include collections care, outreach, social media techniques, exhibit design, educational opportunities using primary source materials, community and family histories, grant writing, and much more. Check out the full brochure for details on these fantastic sessions and more at: http://www.ohiolha.org/wp-content/

uploads/2013/06/2017-OLHA-annual-mtg-brochure-ONLINE-1.pdf

If you are looking for even more learning opportunities, and especially if you are an early career museum professional looking to enter (or reenter) the job market, check out the pre-conference workshop taking place on Thursday, October 5, at the Ohio History Center in Columbus, Ohio. "After You Read the Job Advertisement: Applying, Interviewing, and Landing a Job for Emerging Museum Professionals" will include a "Resume Boot Camp," led by Sharon Hamersley, The Resume Coach; an "Ace the Interview" interactive session from Ryan Brechbill, Director of the Center for Career & Professional Development at Otterbein University; and a panel discussion entitled "What are Employers Looking for during the Hiring Process?," during which attendees will hear from Christie Weininger, Executive Director of the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Library and Museums, Wendy Zucal, Executive Director of the Dennison Railroad Depot Museum, and Christina Beargie, Unit Manager Front Line Operations, Visitor Experience, Ohio History Connection.

Also consider attending some of the special events connected with the conference. There is an optional keynote and lunch on Friday. This year's keynote is "Why the Underground Railroad Still Matters, Exploring the National Park Service's

Network to Freedom Program," featuring speaker Déanda Johnson, PhD and Midwest Regional Coordinator for the National Park Service Network to Freedom Program in Omaha, Nebraska. On Friday evening, join your colleagues for a reception in the Metro Grill at the Crowne Plaza. The event will include a selection of hot and cold appetizers and a cash bar. Saturday's special event is the Ohio Local History Alliance Outstanding Achievement Awards Luncheon. Awards presented recognize excellent projects, programs, and publications that supported continued interest in our vital community histories.

Registration information, along with online and paper registration options, is available at http://www.ohiolha.org/alliance-annual-meeting/. The registration deadline is Monday, September 26, 2016. Registration rates: SOA or OLHA members $85, non-members $105, Friday or Saturday only - $60 for members and $75 for non-members. Students receive a 40% discount on the cost of registration. The costs for optional lunches on Friday and Saturday are $25 and the reception is $30. The pre-conference workshop is $25 w/ conference registration and $35 on its own. Accommodations: A block of rooms has been reserved at the Crowne Plaza, Dublin, Ohio.

SOA News

New SOA Logo

The Society of Ohio Archivists Council is excited to introduce a new logo that symbolizes 21st century archives. It was important to Council that the new logo was accessible and representative of Ohio archives.

This new Ohio-shaped logo includes examples of different formats that archives collect including manuscripts and photographs; books and bound volumes; and born-digital or digital surrogates. You will notice that the lines and squares are varying shapes and sizes. This is meant to symbolize that no matter how large or small a collection they are all equally important in telling the stories of the people, places and events our archives document.

If you are in need of a copy of the new SOA logo for your website, please contact Betsy Hedler at ehedler@ohiohistory.org.

2017 Annual Meeting Recap

Keeping History Alive

by Collette N. McDonough, Kettering Foundation

This year's annual meeting was held at the Quest Center in Columbus on May 19th and the Ohio History Connection hosted the pre-conference workshop on May 18th. This was the second year SOA has used the Quest Center as a venue and the day went well allowing for networking, professional enhancement, and even some fun. We thank everyone who was able to come and hope those who were unable will join us to help celebrate the Society of Ohio Archivists 50th anniversary.

The Educational Programming Committee decided that this year's title should be Keeping History Alive to allow for broader session topics. We had a nice variety of topics ranging from exhibit design at the pre-conference workshop, to social media, and the digitization of medical records. Kathleen Williams plenary talk "A Passion for Public Service" was enlightening.

An added activity for professional development was the pre-conference workshop held at the Ohio History Connection called Simple Supports for Dynamic Exhibits held in partnership with the Ohio Preservation Council by Miriam Nelson and Catarina Figuerinhas. This hands-on workshop allowed participants to acquire skills in exhibiting flat materials into exhibits but giving them the support they need. The ladies showed participants inexpensive means to create supports for these archival materials and make those supports visually pleasing. We would like to extend thanks to the Ohio Preservation Council in providing attendees with most of the materials to create the mounts.

Kathleen Williams, Executive Director of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, kicked off the meeting with her talk entitled, A Passion for Public Service. Williams discussed how, now more than ever, archivists can fulfill strong public interest in accessing and protecting their documentary heritage.

After the plenary speech came sessions covering many thought-provoking topics such as accessibility of online archival materials, digital migration and preservation, and outreach through digital materials. This year the SOA annual meeting saw a different style of session in the world café, wherein there were four mini-sessions over one hour and attendees were able to listen to multiple topics which included using social media, assessing regional archival associations, learning about teaching with primary sources, and case studies on religious archival materials from the researchers' point of view.

During lunch, out-going Vice President, Lonna McKinley, presented merit awards and scholarships. The Merit Award winners were Jon Endres and Jamie Newhall, both of the University of Akron, for work on David Boder wire recordings and to the Greene County Records Center and Archives' Educational Outreach Program on the creation of an Educator's resource page online. The Broder recordings included songs by Holocaust survivors done in 1946 on a state-of-the-art recorder now obsolete. Jamie Newhall helped create a compatible recorder made from salvaged

Pre-conference workshop at the OHC , Simple Supports for Dynamic Exhibits, Catarina Figuerinhas, University of Cincinnati (left) and Miriam Nelson, Ohio University (right).

Plenary talk by Kathleen Williams, Executive Director of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

parts and Jon Endres put these recordings into a digital format. To read more on this project go to http://www.ohio.com/news/local/lost-songs-of-holocaust-survivors-found-in-ua-archives-1.744896. The Greene County Records Center and Archives' Educational Outreach Program educator page has a listing of primary resources such as engineer maps, online indexes, downloadable classroom activities, and teaching packets for 4th through 12th grade teachers. Feel free to visit the Educator's page at https://www.co.greene.oh.us/1079/Educator-Resources . At this time, the scholarship winners were also recognized. The 2017 winners were Jenifer Baker, Ivey Barker, Kristina Richey, and Cara Yurkowski. Jessica Cromer was also acknowledged for her winning t-shirt design. T-shirt and tote bags were available for sale by the registration desk. If you were unable to purchase a t-shirt or bag we have great news, they are available for sale at http://yellowspringer.com/soa/.

After the sessions, members had the opportunity to attend the SOA business meeting. During lunch, ballots were handed out to members for the council election. The election results were Robin Heise – President, Janet Carleton- Vice President, and two new council members include Adam Wanter and Lily Birkhimer both of

the Educational Programming Committee. The business meeting was short and sweet and consisted of reports from Advocacy and Outreach, Awards, Educational Programming, Membership, and on Publications. Mark Bloom, SOA's treasurer, gave a report finances of SOA.

The 2017 meeting saw an increase in sponsorship receiving $650 in total. We are incredibly grateful to all of sponsors. This year's sponsors included Hollinger Metal Edge, Ohionet, Ohio LINK and the Society of American Archivist. Ancestry.com was kind to donate four door prizes. Ancestry donated two quarterly US Discovery individual memberships to Ancestry, one annual Fold3.com subscription, and one annual Newspapers.com basic subscription.

This year the silent auction raised an incredible $738. This money goes to scholarships for current students and recent graduates. These scholarships allow the winners free registration, a one-year SOA membership, and a small sum of money to help towards travel to the meeting. The auction was very large and included a variety of items such as gift cards, zoo tickets, passes to Stan Hwyett, a Mod Cloth grab bag, and a handmade quilt. On Friday morning we had a lovely problem in that we almost ran out of space on the auction tables because we received so many items. We would also like to extend thanks to all the individuals and companies that donated items to the silent auction. The auction was coordinated by Jacqueline Johnson, Jim McKinnon, and Collette McDonough. Thank you to everyone who bid on all of our items and congrats to all our winners!

This year's meeting was SOA's highest attended at 106 people on Friday and 17 who attended the pre-conference workshop. We already have begun planning for 2018, our 50th anniversary, and we look forward to hosting another fantastic meeting. Many thanks to everyone in the Educational Programming Committee which included William Modrow, Shelley Blundell, Jacqueline Johnson, Lily Birkhimer, Karen Glenn, Stacey Lavender, Jim McKinnon, Cate Putirskis, Sherri Goudy, Adam Wanter, Janet Carleton (Co-chair), Collette McDonough (Co-chair) and Betsy Hedler for all the hard work done before, during and after the event. Thank you for moderating sessions, finding sponsors, working the registration desk, or helping get out the word on twitter.

Some of this year's Silent Auction offerings.

Silent auction donors

- Arrow Wine and Spirits
- Janet Carleton
- Melodee Caudill
- Cincinnati Zoo
- City BBQ
- Columbus Zoo
- Dayton Art Institute
- Dr. Timothy Farney
- Graeter's Ice Cream
- Greene County Convention and Visitors Bureau

- Hollinger Metal Edge
- Collette McDonough
- ModCloth
- NASA John H. Glenn Research Center History Office
- Ohio History Connection
- Ohio Magazine
- Ohio Preservation Council

- The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center
- Lisa Rickey
- Southtree / LegacyBox
- Square One Salon and Spa
- Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens

Session 1

Collaboration in the Archives
How to Merge with Sustainability

Presenters: William Modrow & Jacqueline Johnson, Miami University
Synopsis: Karen Glenn

William and Jackie discussed the move of Miami University Archives to the main campus library and the merger with the Walter Havighurst Special Collections in April 2016. Having been physically separate for nearly 50 years, the move required extensive planning and collaboration with multiple departments and services on campus. Physical and environmental planning for the move involved planning for cold storage, preservation, security, and re-designing and renovating storage spaces in the main library. The move itself involved the coordination of moving personnel, transportation methods, and weeding. William discussed resources used in writing programs of requirements and a sustainability policy for the archival facilities. The merger was considered successful as archival activities became better centralized, and the University Archives found more promotion opportunities in the main library.

Living Seeds of History:
The John Stokes & Mary's
Gardens Exhibit

Presenters: Stephanie Shreffler & Kayla Harris, University of Dayton
Synopsis: Karen Glenn

The University of Dayton planned and carried out an exhibit on the John Stokes and Mary's Gardens archival collection, featuring a garden inside the library. John Stokes was an activist from Pennsylvania who co-founded the "Mary-garden" movement. These gardens are traditionally filled with flowers named for Mary, so the exhibit provided a way for the Libraries to promote an archival collection that closely connected with the University's mission as a Catholic institution. The panelists discussed some of the personnel obstacles they had involving staff resignations and the arrival of a new library director. The gardening logistics were complicated and involved many last-minute decisions. The art gallery set up in conjunction with the exhibit was the most successful part, and they are considering turning it into a traveling exhibit. The exhibit received positive feedback from students and visitors and programming was well attended, providing new opportunities for outreach to previously unreached members of the local community. Attendees to this panel presentation learned that archivists should look for ways to make exhibits more interactive, and to tie those exhibits to programs and events the institution is already hosting.

Session 2

Mini Workshop:
Accessibility in the Archives
Are Your Online Materials Compliant?

Presenters: Shelley Blundell, Youngstown State University and Tammy Stitz, University of Akron
Synopsis: Sherri Goudy

Blundell and Stitz discussed their collaboration to create a comprehensive accessibility and universal design rubric for online materials. As the internet age continues to evolve, making documents and other materials digital is a part of the work archivists do. The session covered how we as archivists ensure that these materials are accessible through universal design and ADA compliance. Blundell and Stitz discussed this topic with the 28 attendees, exploring their part in creating a user friendly and easily navigated place to check that legal and ethical accessibility regulations are met.

After attending the 2015 ALA Conference and hearing horror stories about institutions being sued for noncompliance, Blundell and Stitz began to look at the regulations. To their dismay, they found that there was no centralized place to access those regulations. They had to jump from website to website, call various places, and still didn't get the answers they needed. Based on this, Blundell and Stitz set out to create a rubric to meet both ADA compliance and

Presenters William Modrow and Stephaine Shreffler

Session titled "Accessibility in the Archives: Are Your Online Materials Compliant?" presented by Tammy Stitz (top right), University of Akron; and Shelley Blundell (top left), Youngstown State University.

make universal design easier to manage, and to make all of it user friendly. Basing their information from criteria in WCAG 2.0 and Section 508 (ADA online updates) they have comprised a list of standards and various ways to meet those standards using a ranking system from minimum accessibility, to improved accessibility, to optimum accessibility.

The presentation informed attendees about this rubric and various best practices when putting materials online. The presenters discussed keeping things simple, and always considering the diversity of users. For more information, you can access their rubric at http://adarubric.pbworks.com/. They continue to update the wiki and welcome you to contact them directly to share your thoughts. They want to know what you find confusing or what do you find difficult when you use webpages, and also what best practices have you come to use.

SESSION 3:

Digitization and Outreach Involving the Community in Celebrating Our Common Heritage

Presenters: Jillian Carney, Ohio History Connection & Jennie Thomas, Rock and Roll Hall of Fame & Museum
Synopsis: Jim McKinnon

Jillian Carney discussed the GOHI Collection, the Ohio Gay Initiative, and Jennie Thomas from the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame presented on NEO Sound (Northeast Ohio). Both the Ohio History Connection and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame applied for and received the National Endowment for the Humanities Common Heritage Grant to fund their projects. The Common Heritage program aims to capture cultural heritage from the community - our homes, life stories, and histories - and both of these projects discussed digitization and outreach involving the community.

Carney spoke first, detailing how the Ohio History Connection applied for the grant and utilized the funds. OHC partnered with Outlook magazine, a local LGBT publication to advertise their GOHI Collection, as well as attending the PRIDE festival in Columbus and other Pride festivals around the state to promote the collection. OHC held a community day to collect and digitize objects and archival materials of the local LGBT community. Unsure of how well the community day would be received they limited the number of items each person could bring to five and each appointment was 30 minutes long. They had multiple scanning stations and one photo station. People could leave their items with OHC or they could take them back home with them. OHC had participants sign agreement forms to opt in or out of having their items available on their website. And each participant would be given a USB drive with their digitized items, even if they didn't leave the items.

Only nine people visited the digitization booths at the community day event, and of these, four donated their items. While the community day was a success, they learned a lot, and hope to apply what they learned to the next community day, which will be September 23, 2017.

Jennie Thomas spoke about collecting the history of rock and roll bands from northeast Ohio, in a project called NEO Sound. The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame hoped to establish relationships with local bands, preserve the history of these bands, and be able to continue collecting historical objects and materials from local bands.

The Rock Hall held multiple scan days, including a "test" run in 2015 to see how the event would be received while they were awaiting to see if they were awarded the grant. The test run was a success, with 23 donors, 129 digital items, 187 objects, 7 staff, 3 scanners and 4 computers. The test was done at the Rock Hall. Their next three scan days were off site, and quite successful, collecting 320 digital items and 51 objects. The participants were limited to 15 items they could bring and have digitized and they were limited to a size of 12x16 or smaller.

The Rock Hall had participants sign permission and donor forms. Donations could be made at time of the scan if they fit the collecting policy of the Library and Archives of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. To entice participants and donors, a free pass to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, a USB drive, archival sleeves to protect documents, and an archival preservation guide were given to everyone who came.

Both organizations feel their projects were a success, and the number of items scanned and objects received proves it. Both organizations are continuing their projects and we can't wait to see how they progress.

SESSION 4

Naming Rights or Sponsorships: Which Funding Option is Best for Your Archives or Project

Presenter: Ed Rossman, Adult Services, Shaker Heights Public Library
Synopsis: Adam Wanter

In this session, Ed Rossman of the Shaker Heights Public Library discussed alternative sources of revenue creation available to archives and cultural heritage organizations. Mr. Rossman opened the session by detailing the importance of finding ways to deal with limited resources and the benefit of creating supplemental revenue. Rossman then introduced the concepts of naming rights and sponsorship. He then expanded upon the difference between the two concepts, the potential benefits of each concept, and the potential pitfalls of each. He also touched on the best way to establish value for your institution and how to develop relationships with potential sponsors. Mr. Rossman ended the session with a game that drove home the impact branding can have, encouraging session attendees to think critically and creatively on how to market their own brand and how to leverage their brand to create additional resources.

SESSION 5A

World Café: Capitalizing Discovery on Social Media

Presented by: Jennifer Baker & Jen Haney Conover, Warren County Records Center and Archives
Synopsis by: Stacey Lavender

Baker and Conover discussed how they leveraged the discovery of a century-old time capsule into an increased Facebook following and the engagement of a large and diverse social media audience. Their discussion emphasized the importance of developing a written social media policy, as well as some of the finer points of managing their following. Balancing the number of notifications followers see, making use of Facebook Live, and deciding when (and when not) to respond to negative comments on Facebook posts were all important considerations in their efforts to reach out to the public. They also discussed how they plan to continue the growth and development of their Facebook presence.

SESSION 5B

World Café: Check Up: A Preliminary Assessment of Vitality of Regional Archival Associations

Presenter: George Bain, Ohio University, Retired
Synopsis by: Stacey Lavender

Dr. George Bain, former head of archives and special collections at Ohio University, gave the presentation "Check Up: A Preliminary Assessment of Vitality of Regional Archival Associations," in which he discussed a rubric he designed for comparing regional archives associations and their level of activity in distinct areas. In this rubric, organizations are divided into regional, state, and local categories. They are measured across a range of criteria, including the date they were established; management and strategic planning; access to professional development, mentorships, and workshops; merit or distinguished service awards; hosting annual conferences; online presence in the form of listservs, blogs, and active social media accounts; and observation of Archives Month. Dr. Bain brought handouts showing how the regional archives he studied performed on his rubric, and answered questions from attendees regarding his methodology and intentions for future research.

SESSION 5C

World Café: Keeping History Alive: A Sabbatical Case Study

Presenters: Joan Plungis, University of Dayton
Synopsis: Janet Carleton

Plungis, reference and instruction librarian and associate professor, Roesch Library, shared her experiences "on the other side of desk" researching in archival institutions. Her sabbatical project was researching the history of Girl's Town, a defunct residential school and orphanage located in Finneytown and run by the Sisters of the Good Shepherd. From her experiences, she developed a renewed interest in the best ways to help students and other researchers working in this modern blended research world. She discussed challenges in citations and copyrights that often bring students to the library for help, and shared her tips for best practices from the customer's point of view.

SESSION 5D

World Café: Discover—Explore—Connect: Teaching with Primary Sources in the Natural Science

Presenters: Kieth Peppers, Baldwin Wallace University and Wendy Wasman, Cleveland Museum of Natural History
Synopsis: Janet Carleton

Peppers, archivist and professor of Public History, and Wasman, librarian and archivist, gave an update and answered questions on their Literacy Sand Engagement with Historical Records project funded by the National Historical Publications and Re-

cords Commission. They brought examples of materials from the collection including a scrapbook containing cyanotypes of leaves. The two year grant-funded project's goals are to make primary sources in the sciences accessible, create a model for teaching with primary sources in middle school and high school science classrooms, improve digital literacy, and get participants outside. Objectives to accomplish these goals are to digitize the Arthur B. Williams Collection from CMNH and make it freely accessible, create curriculum, teach the teachers, and create an advisory panel of archivists and teachers. Baldwin Wallace is the digitization partner, using college students to do the digitization and the CONTENTdm platform for access. They will also be holding a teacher institute. A third partner is the University of Akron's Department of Geosciences who will georeference scanned materials.

SESSION 6

Panel: Preservation and Migration: MOMMY: Master Objects Metadata and Migration—Yeah!

Presenters: Darnelle Melvin & Dan Noonan, The Ohio State University
Synopsis: Karen Glenn

Ohio State University started a major digital migration project with a basic inventory of all their "digital stuff." Which included over two million items with eighty-five types, but most of the items were images in TIF files. Making the TIF files the priority over more complex objects, Noonan started the project by creating an access database to organize all the files and the information tied to them. When they realized how complex the project was, they decided that going forward they would not accept new items without a minimum amount of metadata tied to them. Melvin created an application profile so that each item had a list of metadata elements tied to it. The elements were classified as mandatory, required, recommended and optional. He created workflows for the legacy metadata extraction and migration, which included using XSLT transformations in oXygen, MySQL, Excel, and a locally developed bulk import tool. The metadata was transformed to make it either EAD, DublinCore, or VRACore compliant. The final product was given to stakeholders to review and then ingested. The challenges of this project were a lack of staffing, a dependence on Feodra/Hydra/Sufia communities to develop new capabilities instead of doing it internally, spotty existing metadata, and uncertainty about how to apply MPLP principles to the project.
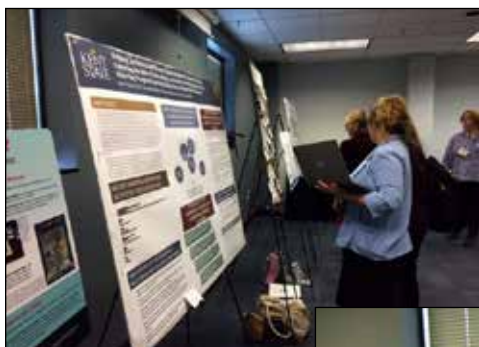
SESSION 7

Forum: Ask a Preservation Professional

Presenters: Miriam Nelson, Ohio University, Carrie Phillips, Bluffton University, and Holly Prochaska, University of Cincinnati
Synopsis: Cate Putirskis

The Ask A Preservation Professional session was an informal question-and-answer forum with Ohio Preservation Council members Miriam Nelson, Carrie Phillips, and Holly Prochaska. Session attendees were invited to ask any questions they had about preservation topics, and all panel participants took turns

answering these questions. One question asked was about methods for doing a preservation survey, and panelists recommended the Preservation Self-Assessment Program (PSAP) tool. Questions about how to address audiovisual materials found in collections confirmed that no panelists had any secret insights in this challenging area, but all recommended institutions do the most they could with the resources they had available—including cold storage and prioritizing reformatting if possible. In their session overview, panelists planned to talk about "best practices" vs. "better practices," and during the discussion this was elaborated on to mean the difference between realistic practices and aspirational practices, with the advice being to do the best preservation you can with the resources you have available. Two easy preservation activities that panelists recommended everyone can do are to monitor storage environments daily for temperature, humidity, and other climate factors; and to stock a toolbox for simple repairs with items like micro spatulas, perma-life folders and paper, and magic rub erasers. Panelists also discussed what level of preservation work they have been able to employ student assistants to do, and shared some funny anecdotes about the oddest items they have worked with or have in their collections. The entire session was a lively and informative conversation, and a lot of great, practical preservation advice was shared.

Poster Session.

Session 8

Panel: I Judge Him to be Insane: Ethical and Practical Considerations in the Digitization of Historical Medical Records

Presenters: Stacey Lavender & Karmen Beecroft, Digital Projects Librarians, Ohio University
Synopsis: William Modrow

The presenters discussed their digitization project relating to the thousands of records pertaining to patients who entered the Athens Mental Health Center. They provided an interesting background and history of the area asylums and the staff of the institutions, along with the necessity for creating these institutions. Dating back to 1870s, many of these patients were American Civil War veterans, prisoners with mental disorders, and women.

Although this forgotten group had medical records, most were buried without identification – no names or headstones. The gravestones were marked with only numbers. Based on the medical records efforts began to identify those buried in the cemetery.

This collection consists of patient intake records, photographs, family and judicial letters, medical certificates and annual reports of the institutions. The 75 linear feet collection required re-

housing, organizing and the creation of finding aids. There are also important collaboration efforts between Ohio University (has the records), OHC, and the Ohio Mental Health & Addiction Services.

Following HIPAA and the SAA guidelines, regarding the ethical question of making public medical records there was a well-documented discussion on the pros and cons of public and online access; one important issue remains—to protect a living relative's privacy in respect to reporting on an asylum patient's medical records. These historical records are of interest to researchers and scholars as important societal and family histories and a look into the lives of patients who were housed away from the rest of society and and whose lives for the most part were kept secret.

Session 9

Poster Session

Synopsis: Collette McDonough

Five posters were presented at the 2017 SOA conference which covered a wide range of topics. Ivey Barker presented on a preservation chart. The chart provides visuals of three methods such as air drying, blotting, and wiping. Jolie Braun of The Ohio State University presented her poster on exhibits with archival materials. Her poster used Duke University Medical Center Library and Archives as her example and exemplified how they choose materials and develop an exhibits program. Jen Johnson from the State Library of Ohio spoke about her poster on the Ohio Digital Network and Digital Public Library of America

Jen Johnson, State Library of Ohio, with her poster presentation.

(DPLA). Attendees were able to learn about the benefits of becoming members of the Ohio Digital Network and how to initiate that process. Karen Gracey of Kent State University presented a poster on internships and how valuable those internships are to students. Gracey also spoke on how there are many opportunities for professionals to help with internships and students such as serving as a mentor or hosting a student. Last but not least, Madeline Fix, a recent graduate of Kent State University presented a poster on cultural heritage. She spoke about Chief Leatherlips and the public art piece on the great Wyandot chief in Dublin. It was wonderful to have such a great group of women who were willing to create these posters and share them with everyone in attendance.

Merit Award Winners

Merit Award Winner, Green County Record Center and Archives. From L to R, SOA Vice President, Lonna McKinley; Jessica Cromer, Green County Record Center; Robin Heise, Green County Records Center, and SOA President, Jillian Carney.

Greene County Records Center and Archives' Educational Outreach Program

The Greene County Records Center & Archives, located in Xenia, Ohio, was honored with one of this year's Society of Ohio Archivists Merit Awards. The Records Center & Archives maintains and preserves the vital historical records of Greene County. One of its responsibilities is to ensure that those records remain accessible and of interest to future generations. Seeing the classroom as the best place to accomplish these goals, the GCRCA embarked on a project to bring primary sources to the Greene County classrooms.

The goal of the project was to introduce students to the importance of archival repositories, their role in preserving important records and how those records can be used for a variety of research projects. Additionally, the program allowed the archive to educate students about the rich history of the county in which they live. In addition to numerous classroom visits, the project saw the completion of a variety of educational materials for students and/ or educators. These materials included booklets on 1) What does an Archivist Do?; 2) What is an Archives?; 3) What is a Record?; 4) Maps for Kids; 5) Biographies for Kids; 6) Genealogy for Kids; 7) a Greene County historical coloring book; and 8) Crossword and Word Search puzzles. Each of these booklets and activities are now available for download on the GCRCA's website and showcase specific records housed in the repository.

Jon Endres and Jamie Newhall, The Cummings Center for the History of Psychology - Dr. David Boder Audio Collection

Jon Endres and Jamie Newhall of the University of Akron's Cummings Center for the History of Psychology were also presented with SOA Merit Awards at the spring meeting for their work on the Dr. David Boder Audio Collection. In 1947, psychologist Dr. David Boder used a Pierce wire recorder to record interviews with Holocaust survivors in a refugee camp in France. The Cummings Center for the History of Psychology had held these recordings on wire spools since 1967 when the Boder materials arrived at the University of Akron. Holocaust historians and scholars have written about these recordings and have noted there was a missing reel that supposedly held folk songs sung by the survivors.

By parsing parts from an antique machine with new technologies, Jamie Newhall built the Cummings Center a machine that could—finally—read the wire recordings, which had not been played in the entire time they'd been held at the Center. Jon Endres digitized these wire spools for his capstone experience to complete his Certificate in Museums and Archives. This work was done over the summer 2016. During the project, Endres was sure he'd identified the so-called missing reel and sent the music to the Holocaust Museum where an expert identified it and noted that it included a concentration camp song, the melody to which no living person had ever heard.

Jamie Newhall's mechanical acumen and Jon Endres's astute handling of the materials have given Holocaust survivors renewed voices.

More on this project from can be read in this blog post: https://centerhistorypsychology.wordpress.com/2016/09/02/dr-boder-and-the-missing-songs/

Merit Award Winners, University of Akron's Jon Endres and Jamie Newhall

Student and Professional Scholarship Winners

Jenifer Baker
Warren County Records Center & Archives
New Professional Scholarship

My focus during this meeting was to absorb as many of the Public Outreach themed sessions to help me further my relationship with the community. Advocacy with the public is a HOT topic at the Warren County Records Center and Archives. "A Passion for Public Service" was the perfect Plenary Speaker topic for my first SOA meeting. Kathleen Williams' message was heard loud and clear and she has inspired us to continue growing our outreach programs within the archives. I gathered ideas on how to and how not to obtain and digitize the history of its citizens. Learning through the collective experience of other professionals has offered a fresh perspective on future projects for our archives. My supervisor, Jen Haney and I braved the first World Café style presenting and had a lot of fun. It was a bit of trial and error but overall we had a lot of questions and interaction from the audience which was great! I will say my favorite presentation was "I Judge Him to be Insane": Ethical and Practical Considerations in the Digitization of Historical Medical Records. Presented by Karmen Beecroft and Stacey Lavender from Ohio University, their session offered feedback on how Ohio University is processing and making their medical records accessible to the public. The records they deal with are similar to those held by Warren County. Although our records are not currently available, it was helpful for me to learn the processes that did and did not work for them. Overall I enjoyed my experience and also caught up with some old classmates and cannot wait until next year!

Ivey Barker
Image Permanence Institute at the Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY
New Professional Scholarship

The overlap in my knowledge of preventative conservation and the objectives of the conference paved the road from New York to Ohio. As a poster presenter and a SOA New Professional Scholarship recipient, I was able to engage a variety of conference attendees. I was delighted to see there was steady interest in my poster, Aqueous Inkjet Prints: Excess Water Removal Chart. Although the theme of the SOA annual conference was Keeping History Alive, the core message rooted in my memory was how to A.C.T. (Articulate, Coordinate, Teach) proactively.

Although I attended numerous quality lectures, the presentations below defined my conference experience. The plenary speaker, Kathleen Williams, stated that archives must be prepared to articulate their importance as the connection between the past and the community during times of uncertainty. As a former grant writer, the ability to articulate value, especially to non-archival funders, resonated with me. My interest peaked during the lecture, "I Judge Him to be Insane": Ethical and Practical Considerations in the Digitization of Historical Medical Records, where archivists had to articulate the value of providing online access to early mental health intake packets while still adhering to SAA code of ethics, HIPPA regulations, and state regulations.

For me, the stand-out lecture that embodied coordination was the community scanning days conducted by the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame to preserve Cleveland's musical heritage. Not only was Jenny Thomas a great speaker, she developed a systematic approach that yielded an impressive outcome. I also enjoyed the Q&A during the Ask a Preservation Professional forum. The questions were intriguing and varied. The answers often acknowledged the need to coordinate with outside conservators and institutions to preserve collection items that falls outside of your specialty; like a prosthetic ear! The forum renewed my drive to develop, implement, and teach preservation techniques worldwide.

How to teach was best highlighted through the World Café session, Discover – Explore – Connect: Teaching with Primary Sources in the Natural Sciences, a curriculum that caters to non-archival audiences through the use of cyanotypes of flora and silver gelatin photographs; seamlessly integrating the need to articulate the lesson and the ability to coordinate with various institutions to provide quality programming. For those already in the archival field, the poster on the role of internships in achieving program learning objectives exemplified how new professionals, like myself, are eager to learn from field veterans.

Although I was unable to attend the preventative preservation workshop, my overall experience at the SOA annual conference surpassed my expectations. The approachability and inclusive environment was stimulating. I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to the organizers and attendees of the SOA annual conference.

Kristina Richey
Simmons College in Boston, M.A. Student,
Student Scholarship

Thanks to the SOA student scholarship award I had the wonderful opportunity to attend the 2017 Annual Meeting. I am on the cusp of graduating from Simmons College's online archival management program and the timing of this conference could not have been more perfect. Attending an online program for archives can be isolating, so it was a very rewarding experience to spend the day learning from more seasoned colleagues. Everyone was so welcoming and I was impressed at the wide variety of organizations represented.

I enjoyed the plenary speaker's focus on public service, a reminder of why we do what we do. I also found the presentation on social media and archives particularly enlightening. What a fantastic way to reach more users! All of the presentations provided

information and ideas for me to take into my future career.

I wanted to thank my mentor, Michelle Sweetser, for encouraging me to apply for this award and the Greene County Archives for allowing me to attend with them. Again thanks to SOA for this opportunity. I look forward to attending the next conference!

Cara Yurkowski

M.L.I.S. Student, Valdosta State University
Student Scholarship

When I arrived at the Society of Ohio Archivists' Spring Conference, I felt excited to be in attendance, especially because it was the first professional conference I had ever attended. At the beginning of the day, plenary speaker Kathleen Williams spoke of how archives tell stories, which was a concept that resonated with me. Throughout the day, I reflected on the various stories that are preserved and shared in archives throughout Ohio, due to the initiatives of professionals who participated in the SOA Conference.

For example, Jillian Carney of the Ohio History Connection described the thorough planning that was carried out in order to insure a successful GOHI LGBTQ Community Day; and as a result, numerous stories of LGBTQ history were shared (and continue to be shared). Jennie Thomas spoke of how the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame & Museum preserves the histories of countless musicians from Northeast Ohio and abroad. Jennifer Baker & Jen Haney Conover of the Warren County Records Center and Archives described how they utilize social media to increase visibility to their archive. Furthermore, Shelley Blundell of Youngstown State University & Tammy Stitz of the University of Akron spoke of how to maintain ADA compliance and user-friendliness of online information materials in order for the materials to reach a

Scholarship Award Winners. From L to R, SOA Vice President Lonna McKinley; Ivey Barker, Jenifer Baker, Kristina Richey, Cara Yurkowski, SOA President Jillian Carney

wider spectrum of patrons.

The above-mentioned are just a few examples of many effective strategies discussed at the conference in regards to effectively connecting patrons to archives as well as to the stories contained within the collections.

In closing, I'd like to express thanks to my former internship supervisor, Gino Pasi, from the University of Cincinnati's Winkler Center of the History of the Health Professions , who encouraged me to apply for the scholarship. I'd also like to extend a thank you to the countless conference attendants who introduced themselves and made me feel welcome at the conference. I learned a great deal from my experience at the event, and I hope to attend another SOA conference in the future.

SOA News: Spring Meeting Recap *(contnued from page 9)*

SESSION 9

Forum: Linked Open Data in Special Collections

Presenters: Libby Hertenstein and Lindy Smith, Bowling Green State University
Synopsis by Janet Carleton

Hertenstein, cataloger and metadata librarian in Collections and Technical Services, and Smith, reference archivist in the Music Library and Bill Schurk Sound Archives, engaged the audience in a lively open discussion.

Hertenstein and Smith shared what they are trying at Bowling Green and prompted the audience to share what they and their institutions might be doing to implement linked open data with their special collections materials by leading the

group through a set of discussion questions. Questions included what does linked data mean to you? Are you currently doing any work with linked data? What tools are you using? What projects do you think have possible linked data applications? How might it affect your workflow? Do you have the resources, and what would those resources be that you might need?

Through the forum, they discussed barriers to implementation while relating anecdotes from their own experiences.

Their experience is that there seems to be a variety of tools out there, but none seem to constitute a full implementation path for the average archivist/special collections librarian. They continue to work towards "getting linked data beyond the novelty project stage." And lastly Hertenstein and Smith asked of the group who might be interested in attending or organizing a symposium on the subject.

NEO Sound: Local Collecting and Community Engagement on the North Coast

Jennie Thomas, Rock & Roll Hall of Fame

Northeast Ohio has always played a significant role in the history of popular music: beginning with WJW-AM deejay Alan Freed's radio show, on which he first coined the phrase "rock and roll" as a popular culture reference to the musical style, and continuing with Freed's staging of the earliest rock and roll concert, the Moondog Coronation Ball. During the 1960s and 1970s, Cleveland continued to play an important musical role through the promotion of significant national artists and the development of FM radio. The city's music exemplifies the zeitgeist of the Rust Belt: people and emotions forged through disinvested industry, burning rivers, sports curses, and lake effect snow, and it reflects longstanding traditions in gospel music and polka, leaders in the growth of jazz, the invention of Muzak, and Cleveland punk. It's music that deserves to be studied and preserved alongside that of more obvious cities, like New Orleans, Memphis, Chicago, and New York. The region as a whole has produced seminal performers in rock music, including Screamin' Jay Hawkins, the Raspberries, Joe Walsh of the Eagles, Devo, Pere Ubu, the Dead Boys, Trent Reznor of Nine Inch Nails, and Chrissie Hynde of the Pretenders, as well as more recent bands, the Black Keys and Cloud Nothings.

In May of 1986, to further validate Cleveland's spot in the rock and roll history books, the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame chose the city as the home for its museum, library, and archives. The museum has been open since September 1995, presenting the public with films, exhibits, special events, and free public programming—all with the mission to engage, teach, and inspire through the power of rock and roll.

In 2012, the Library and Archives for the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame opened on the Cuyahoga Community College metro campus in Cleveland, as the world's most comprehensive repository of written and audiovisual materials relating to the history of rock and roll, its precursors (blues, R&B, gospel, and country), and related music genres (soul, hip-hop, and reggae); covering subjects like the music business, the recording industry, and popular music criticism; and providing access to never-before-seen footage from Rock Hall events, including the annual Induction Ceremonies and many of the museum's educational series. The mission of the Library and Archives is to collect, preserve, and provide access to these resources in order to educate people about rock and roll, its roots, and impact on society. The library serves the needs of educators, scholars, students, the media, and the general public through thousands of books and dissertations, hundreds of periodical titles and pieces of sheet music, tens of thousands of audio and video recordings, and thousands of boxes of archival materials.

As a component of that mission, the library is dedicated to actively collecting materials relating to local and regional popular music, and as such established the Northeast Ohio Popular Music Archives—now known as NEO Sound—in 2012. NEO Sound comprises over 100 archival collections and 600 library items that focus on popular music, musicians, radio stations, record labels, recording studios, music venues, concert promoters, agents, managers, and music publishers in Northeast Ohio. The purpose of NEO Sound is to preserve this important aspect of Northeast Ohio's cultural heritage for future generations; create an in-depth resource for researchers of all kinds; provide education and support for post-custodial archival models in the community; and further strengthen relationships between the Rock Hall and the local music community through programming, events, and concerts.

Initially, to get NEO Sound off the ground, the library collaborated with a long-time Cleveland music writer/photographer, to assist in developing relationships with the local music community for collecting purposes. Information on the initiative was posted to the library website in the form of a research guide specific to local music collections (http://library.rockhall.com/neosound), and a brochure was created for marketing purposes to outline the purpose of the project, its importance, and the types of materials to be included. A collection to serve as NEO Sound's cornerstone was also obtained: the personal papers of the recently deceased Jane Scott, one of the first rock music critics in the country writing for a daily newspaper, who was active for nearly 40 years with the Cleveland Plain Dealer, documenting the careers of both local and internationally-known artists.

Despite successes in both collecting and programming, donations and interest began to slightly wane in 2014, so it was decided to allocate more resources and staff time to the initiative; taking a documentation strategy approach to review the existing literature, assess past research topics, and identify existing primary source collections, in order to determine local topics of potential research interest. The resulting information on subject areas, artists, genres, and time periods lacking in research and documentation,

how to go about filling those gaps, priorities for potential donations, and what types of programming might be of interest to the community was collated into a collection development policy for a newly rebranded and more proactive NEO Sound with goals and tactics for rebooting the initiative.

The reboot of the collecting initiative included: 1) creating a common visual brand for promotions and marketing that would be meaningful to the local community; 2) selecting a well-balanced advisory group to meet annually; 3) increased marketing and programming; 4) the acquisition of additional collections of primary sources and underground publications; and 5) in the face of individuals, bands, and organizations that may not wish to donate, providing access to educational resources to help community members document themselves.

The most profound change to the initiative was the creation of an advisory group. While the key staff members initially involved in NEO Sound were the Rock Hall's senior director of library and archives and its director of archives, these individuals recognized that the initiative would be more successful with a broader range of perspectives. Therefore, the Advisory Group consists of seven people, including local music journalists, venue owners, and concert promoters, each with extensive knowledge of local music history and representing different aspects of the music scene and the industry surrounding it. Another tactic was the addition of the museum's associate curator, who has long been involved not only in the Rock Hall's past exhibition work with the local community but as a member of the scene. The advisory group helps to guide the staff in developing stronger relationships in the local community and advise them on future collecting and programming. These relationships are essential to providing the Rock Hall with credibility as an institution sometimes seen as outside of the local or underground scene.

From a community engagement and educational perspective, however, no other project has been more valuable to NEO Sound than scan days. At scan day events, members of the local community bring in two-dimensional objects related to the Northeast Ohio music scene for preservation digitization and potential addition to the Rock Hall's digital collections.

The Library and Archives applied for a 2016 Common Heritage grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) in order to fund four scan days. While waiting to hear back on the fate of the application, the library held an onsite test run in November 2015 to determine the feasibility of the proposed workflows and project specifications related to local interest, staffing, advertising, and procedures. The purpose of scan days are related to the NEO Sound reboot: 1) establish relationships with members of the community and raise awareness of NEO Sound; 2) preserve the historical record of the Northeast Ohio popular music scene through providing free digitization services; 3) educate community members on how to document themselves; and 4) obtain donations of digital scans and/or original materials to the Rock Hall.

The test run brought to light several issues that needed to be addressed prior to starting the NEH-funded scan days, particularly as they related to our Scan Day Agreement, quality of equipment, staffing required, and the best means for marketing the events. The funding received from the 2016 NEH grant paid for the equipment required (four lightweight laptops, three portable

A promotional brochure for the NEO Sound program.
Image courtesy of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Library and Archives.

8.5" x 11" flat bed scanners, external hard drives for storage, and thumb drives for participants), archival supplies to share with the community, and advertising (the bulk of which was spent on Facebook ads). The Rock Hall provided staff time across multiple departments from the library to communications to marketing to legal.

Scan days were held on four Saturdays throughout 2016, beginning in June: two of the events were held at the Library and Archives; one, at a local concert venue; and the other, at a popular record store. Most events ran from noon until 5 PM.

The Rock Hall's legal counsel devised (and revised) the digitization/donation agreement used for all scan day events, using the Library and Archives standard gift agreement as a template. The Scan Day Agreement simplifies the standard gift agreement language so it can be quickly and easily explained to the potential donor and provides two separate data entry points for: 1) materials being scanned but not acquired by the Rock Hall, and 2) materials being scanned and acquired, either physically and/or digitally.

We changed the workflow based on our test run so that there would be two staff members assigned to each scanner station: one to handle the paperwork and negotiation of donation, and the other to scan, plus someone to greet attendees and an extra staff
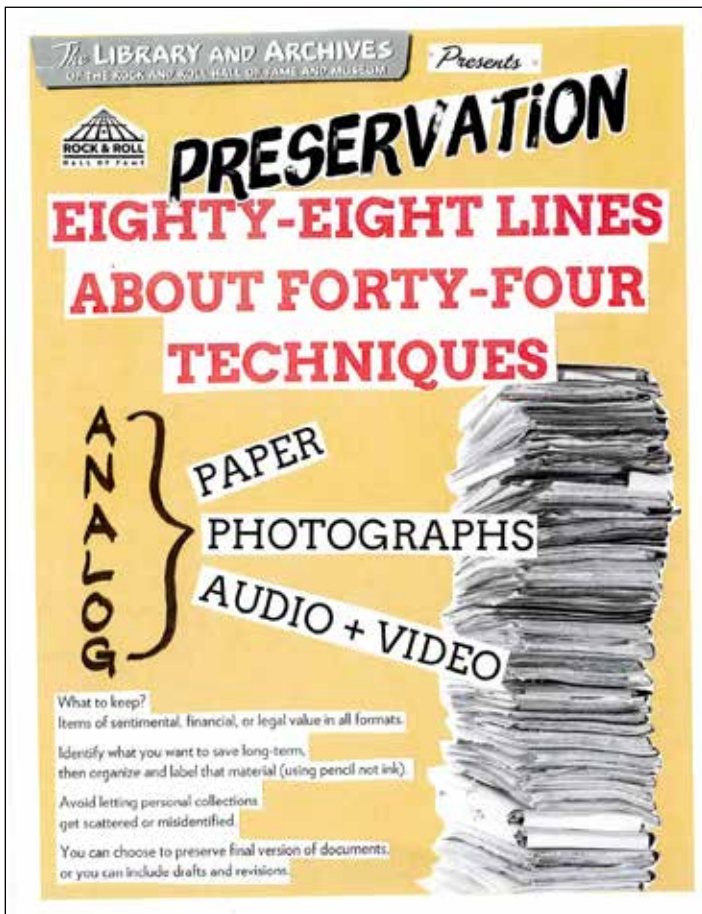
Pages 1, 4 and 5 from the Library and Archives zine, "Preservation: 88 Lines About 44 Techniques" used with the four scan days.
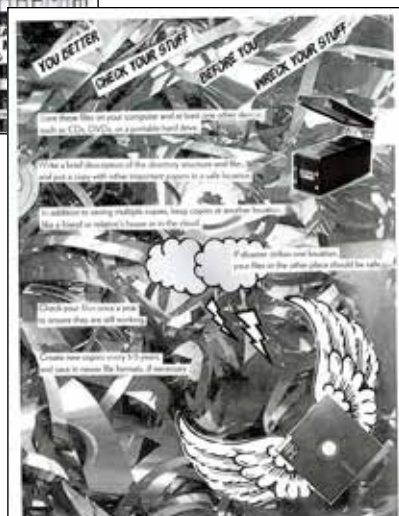
member in case of emergency. Also, if we were not busy and an individual brought in more than the allotted 15 items, we would scan as many items as we could rather than holding to the 15 item limit.

Each scan day attendee received 600 dpi TIFF files of their items on a Rock Hall branded jump drive, mylar sleeves and acid-free folders to rehouse their materials, a copy of our NEO Sound brochure, a zine created in-house entitled Preservation: 88 Lines about 44 Techniques, and, as extra incentive, two free vouchers to visit the Museum. The zine provides basic, jargon-free tips on how individuals, organizations, and businesses can manage the preservation of their collections, based on format, and provides additional resources where folks can learn more. This information is now also available on the library's NEO Sound webpage.

Altogether, 2016 scan days resulted in the donation of 300 image files from 43 donors, while even more visitors simply came to talk to staff and with each other about their collections, discuss future donations and potential collaborations, and to share their memories of the local music scene. Donated images include rare Cleveland zines from the 1970s-1980s and snapshot and promotional photographs, handbills, and set lists for local and national artists performing at many now-defunct local venues. Some examples include photographs of the Rolling Stones at Municipal Stadium during their 1978 U.S. tour; a promotional flyer for newly-formed Mazzy Star at the Babylon A-Go-Go, circa 1989; and another flyer for Pere Ubu at Pirate's Cove in the Flats in 1976—as the Thursday night house band! The library also strengthened relations with the owners of the two offsite venues (a record store and music venue/restaurant) where scan days were held, by digitizing portions of their handbill and set list collections, and finding the time to discuss other potential collaborations; and new relationships were formed with local musicians, journalists, artists, filmmakers, tour managers, and fans, who stopped by to check out the event, specifically brought materials for digitization, or were enticed by the everyday business of the locations.

Beyond the goals that were originally set, scan days allowed community members to share their stories and personal memorabilia with an internationally-known institution and to assist in preserving the area's musical heritage. Participants came away with preservation-quality digital images of their items, a more thorough understanding of the Rock Hall's mission regarding local music and of the area's rich musical history, and a staff-created zine containing information and a list of resources for how to best preserve their personal music memorabilia collections. Scan days have also helped the Library and Archives to further develop ideas concerning future on-demand digitization for NEO Sound, onsite listening for local music, and expanding the information provided online to assist the local music community in post-custodial archival efforts.

Jennie Thomas (jthomas@rockhall.org) is the director of archives at the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. She completed her M.L.S. at the University of Maryland, College Park with a specialty in archives, records, and information management. She holds an M.A. in the Humanities from Central Michigan University and a B.A. in Music from St. Mary's College of Maryland. Jennie currently serves on the Publications Board for the Society of American Archivists, as secretary for the Midwest Archives Conference, and on the steering committee for the Cleveland Archival Roundtable.

Beyond Schoolhouse Rock: The making of Ohio House Bill 139

Robin Heise, Greene County Archives

Perhaps I am dating myself by referring to the classic Schoolhouse Rock song, "I'm Just a Bill" in the title of this article, but in thinking about the journey that I have been on watching an idea become a bill in the Ohio House of Representatives, it seemed fitting. I have been involved with the Ohio County Archivists and Records Managers Association (CARMA) and work on this piece of legislation since 2012; however, the initial discussions about this actually predate the founding of CARMA and began around 1998. Made up of records managers and archivists, CARMA is committed to ensuring the availability and accessibility of permanent, historical records. It was out of this commitment that in talking with peers, CARMA members realized that there was an inconsistency in the ability to access certain records across the state. These records include: Adoptions, Lunacy Records, County Home Registers, Children's Home Registers, Inheritance Tax Records, and Veterans' Relief Records. In some counties, such as Greene County, a local ruling allows these records to be accessed after 100 years. In the neighboring counties of Montgomery and Warren, these same records are permanently closed.

It was out of these discussions and a good deal of research by CARMA Legislative Committee members that Ohio House Bill 139 was born. The Legislative Committee determined that there needs to be a consistent standard across the state for opening permanent records in all counties. Historical records provide valuable insight into our collective history as a state, our society, and also our families. Research of these records is requested by historians, academics, and genealogists, both professional and non-professional alike, for a variety of reasons. These records are used not only to study family history, but also to study demographic trends along with historical, cultural and societal norms. Medical professionals encourage individuals to know about their family health history. Some of the records covered by House

Bill 139 can provide families with this important health information regarding potential genetic health risks. The National Genealogical Society recently initiated a Declaration of Rights advocating for access to federal, state, and local government records, indicating that thousands of professional genealogists do research every day on behalf of clients, government agencies, and attorneys. House Bill 139 would eliminate the public records exemption for a permanently retained record 100 years after the date of its creation.

I have personal experience being denied information regarding potential genetic health risks. While completing some family history research in the Crawford County Probate Court, I stumbled upon the name of my Great-Uncle, William B. Kimble, in the Probate index. Under the column that indicated the type of case was written, "Lunacy. My previous research had found that on the 1880 Federal Census, William was living in the Crawford County Infirmary. Under the column listing his medical condition was written, "fits." Putting these two facts together, I began wondering if William had epilepsy. I asked to see these records and was told in no uncertain terms that they were closed. I explained to the clerk that these records were from the 1880s, I certainly didn't know William Kimble, nor did anyone else in my family who was alive. I went on to explain that I was concerned that these records documented a case of epilepsy in the family and I was told again that they were closed. Epilepsy, which was once considered a mental illness is today considered a treatable medical condition. Epilepsy in your family tree predisposes you and your family members to the disease. Even now court journal entries, court docket entries, and indexes are public record. Yet despite this, I am unable to access records from the late nineteenth century and because of this I have no way of confirming any genetic predisposition to epilepsy in my family.

The first statute protecting the mentally ill went into effect on October 25, 1961

as part of the Ohio Revised Code, 5122.31. Prior to this there was no statute protecting the identity of mentally ill patients. Access restrictions on records are put into place to protect the living: to retain rightful benefits, protect credit, or to not have ones' past affect future job prospects. Once a person is deceased, that need for protection decreases. In recent years access restrictions have been lifted on other records of historical importance. For example, in 2015 the Ohio General Assembly passed legislation opening confidential records of the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services fifty years after the patient's death. In 2008/2009, the General Assembly passed legislation that closed veterans discharge records, but only for a period of 75 years, for purposes of protecting their access to benefits. After 75 years, that purpose is moot. At the federal level, United States census records are opened after seventy-two years. In 2013, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services changed its privacy rules so that individually identifiable health information is no longer protected fifty years after the patient's death. Several other states, including Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Nevada, New Mexico, Virginia, Wisconsin, and others, have already passed open access legislation for similar types of historical records. The 100 years proposed in House Bill 139, is a longer time period than in the majority of these states.

Every good political cause needs to have a good and memorable slogan. The CARMA Legislative Committee came up with the following slogan for our pending bill: Keep Ohio on PAHR-Provide Access to Historical Records! House Bill 139 was introduced to Ohio House of Representatives on March 21, 2017 and was referred to the State and Local Government Committee on April 14, 2017. The primary sponsors of the H.B. 139 are Republicans, Rick Perales (Greene County) and Candice Keller (Butler County). Cosponsors include: Steve Hambley (R), (Medina County), Teresa

Fedor (D), (Lucas County), Bill Seitz (R), (Hamilton County), and Bill Dean (R), (Madison, Greene and Clark Counties). Public testimony was held at a committee meeting in May and a second public testimony hearing is expected to be scheduled at a committee meeting sometime during the fall term. As the lyrics of that classic Schoolhouse Rock song state, "It's a long, long wait while I'm sitting in committee"! That is oh so very true! The one committee meeting that I attended, I spent nearly four hours waiting to give my testimony! Hopefully, House Bill 139 will move out of committee sometime in late 2017 or in early 2018 for a full vote of the Ohio House of Representatives. And then if it passes the House, it's on to the State Senate and hopefully it will eventually end up on the Governor's desk and become law.

To date, CARMA has received the support of a number of professional organizations, including: the Ohio Genealogical Society, the Adoption Network of Cleveland, the Society of Ohio Archivists, the Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board, the Public Children Services Association of Ohio, the State Archives of Ohio, the Ohio Newspaper Association, the Ohio Department of Veterans' Services, and the American Legion-Department of Ohio. As we move towards the fall term, I ask for your support on House Bill 139 to ensure that future generations have consistent access to the permanent records that document Ohio's rich and diverse history. Please take just a moment to contact your Ohio House Representative to discuss the importance of Ohio House Bill 139.

If you would like more information or would like to get involved, please visit Keep Ohio on PAHR on Facebook, or contact Robin Heise, CARMA Legislative Committee, at rheise@co.greene.oh.us.

Grant News and Awards

History Fund Grant Application Now Available!

Since March 2013, the History Fund grant program of the Ohio History Connection has made $522,000 in grants to 53 organizations across Ohio. The History Fund invites you to join this distinguished group! Apply for History Fund grant at www.ohiohistory.org/historyfund.

The application deadline is September 1, 2017 (by 11:59 pm).

The History Fund application for the 2017-2018 grant cycle mirrors application forms from previous years, but contains a few tweaks in response to comments from last year's applicants. Example: see the website for a sample application you can print for reference.

We've also added a new resource: "Do This, Don't Do That / History Fund Grant Application." This short list is not a substitute for reviewing the History Fund's Application Instructions, but will help you steer clear of obstacles that have bedeviled applicants in the past.

If listening and seeing is a way you learn, check out our History Fund Help webinars at www.ohiohistory.org/historyfund. There's two webinars. The "History Fund Help" webinar is an introduction to the grant program and a detailed overview of the grant application.

History Fund Grant Winners, 2017

The Peninsula Valley Historic & Education Foundation receives the "big check" for its History Fund grant at Statehood Day 2017. L to R: Bob Lucas, Ohio History Connection board president, Sarah Welker and Rebecca Urban, Peninsula Valley Historic & Education Foundation, and Burt Logan, Ohio History Connection Executive Director & CEO. Photo courtesy of the Ohio History Connection.

The second webinar, "Digitization Nuts and Bolts," will help you compile a strong application for digitization project (it's more than buying a scanner). We originally hosted both webinars in 2016, and the information still applies in 2017. Please note that 2017's application deadline is September 1 (NOT September 7, 2016 as in the webinars).

The Ohio History Connection will announce grant recipients at the annual advocacy event Statehood Day, scheduled February 28, 2018. Between the application deadline of September 1, 2017 and February 2018, History Fund grant projects undergo a rigorous review involving subject area experts at the Ohio History Connection and a panel of outside experts, who make the final grant recommendations. Local History Services contacts applicants regarding the final status of the applications in February, in advance of the public announcement at Statehood Day.

This spring, the History Fund presented grant-writing workshops at the Region 1, 5, and 10 meetings, as well as at the Youngstown Historical Center of Industry and Labor, the Ashtabula Foundation (Region 4), and for Museums and Historic Sites of Greater Cincinnati (Region 8). At each, we emphasized that if would be applicants have questions they should call or write. We're here to help!

Read more about the projects awarded grants in 2017.

For more information, contact Andy Verhoff, Ohio History Fund grant coordinator, 614.297.2341 or averhoff@ohiohistory.org, or visit the History Fund's website. Good luck!
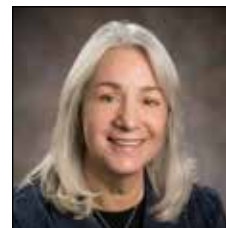
What Is or Has Been the Significance of the Society of Ohio Archivists for the Archival Profession?

Statements from Our Past Presidents

Feature Editor's Note: With the upcoming observances of the 50th anniversary of the Society of Ohio Archivists in Spring 2018, your Ohio Archivist Features Editor has attempted to reach and engage as many as possible of SOA's past presidents. Our past presidents, most of whom thankfully are still with us, were asked to write a brief statement on the question: What is or has been the significance of the Society of Ohio Archivists for the archival profession? Our past leaders were also asked to supply a recent photo.

Here are statements received as of the deadline for the Fall 2017 issue. We hope to receive even more that will be run in the Spring 2018 issue.

We have included a chart with the names, terms, institutions of the presidents at the time of their presidency, and those past presidents now deceased.

Presidents of SOA

NAME		TERM	THEN INSTITUTION	DECEASED
David	Larson	1969-1971	Ohio Historical Society	
Kermit	Pike	1971-1972	Western Reserve Historical	
Gerald	Newborg	1972-1973	Ohio Historical Society	
Andrea	Lentz	1973-1975	Ohio Historical Society	
Dennis	Harrison	1975-1977	Western Reserve Historical	
Patrick	Nolan	1977-1978	Wright State University	xx
John	Grabowski	1978-1980	Western Reserve Historical	
Laura	Chace	1980-1981	Cincinnati Historical Society	xx
Thomas	Smith	1981-1983	Hayes Presidential Center	
Robert	Smith	1983-1984	Wright State University	
Raimun	Goerler	1984-1986	Ohio State University	
Carol	Tomer	1986-1987	Cleveland Clinic Foundation	
Kevin	Proffitt	1987-1989	American Jewish Archives	
Dennis	Harrison	1989-1991	Case Western Reserve U	
Barbar	Floyd	1991-1993	U of Toledo	
Mike	McCormick	1993-1995	Western Reserve Historical	
George	Parkinson	1995-1997	Ohio History Connection	xx
Ken	Grossi	1997-1999	Oberlin College	
Dawne	Dewey	1999-2001	Wright State University	
Maggie	Heran (nee	2001-2003	Cincinnati Museum Center	
Doug	McCabe	2003-2005	Ohio University	
Jane	Wildermuth	2005-2007	Wright State University	
Angela	O'Neal	2007-2009	Ohio History Connection	
Judith	Cobb	2009-2011	OCLC	
Christin	Schmid	2011-2013	Cincinnati Museum Center	
Judith	Wiener	2013-2015	Ohio State University	
Jillian	Carney	2015-2017	Ohio History Connection	

Dawne Dewey

Probably the single most significant contribution of the Society of Ohio Archivists for the archival profession in its 50 year history is the opportunity it has and continues to provide for archivists to meet, share ideas, and take action. When I entered the profession just over 30 years ago, SOA was the place I met other working professionals across the state. Annual meetings and workshops enhanced my knowledge and skill set by exposing me to a wide variety of archives topics, policies, and procedures. It provided an environment where I could learn new ways of doing things and share ideas. SOA was where I found mentors who were eager to share their experiences and knowledge to help me grow in the profession. As I matured as an archivist, SOA was the organization that gave me the opportunity to develop leadership skills and then give back. I learned how to advocate for the profession and be vocal about the importance of history and archives. As I look at the faces of Ohio's archivists today, I see a whole new generation of new professionals who are eager to learn and make their mark in the profession. SOA is a great place to start. SOA is where you will find open communication and excitement between brand new archivists and seasoned ones. This is where SOA's strength and significance lies; old and new professionals comparing notes, trading stories, and learning from each other.

Christine Engels

First and foremost the Society of Ohio Archivists provides support, education, and a way for archivists to connect with one another to share information and to collaborate on mutually beneficial projects. It also serves as a strong ally with the Ohio History Connection, our liaison with the State of Ohio, to ensure that records laws benefit all Ohioans and that citizens have access to those records. The archives profession was in its infancy when SOA was created although people had worked as archivists for many years. SOA, along with other regional and national groups, helped to legitimize the profession and its standards and to show that archivists are more than file clerks. We straddle the fields of History and Information Science and are expected to keep pace with rapidly changing technology and formats of information while providing historical context for our users. This is where SOA is invaluable to archivists. SOA provides affordable memberships,

conferences, and workshops within reasonable driving distances to professionals that may lack professional development budgets in jobs that may not pay enough for out of pocket expenditures. The larger national organizations do provide great education and networking options, but SOA does the same thing on a smaller scale that anyone can afford, especially with their generous scholarships. One of the best things about SOA is its manageable size. Within a few years of joining a SOA committee or taking on leadership you know nearly every archivist in the state, a benefit that is hard to overstate.

Barbara Floyd

As I am about to retire after 35 years in the archival profession in Ohio, it is a good time to look back on the activities that impacted my career. And I have to say that one of the most important organizations that I was involved with was the Society of Ohio Archivists. SOA shaped my career by providing me with an early opportunity to learn leadership skills—first as a Council member, and later as president. The collaborations that developed at SOA led to many other opportunities to serve my profession, from the Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board to the Midwest Archives Conference.

I believe the greatest contribution that SOA makes to the archival profession is awakening in the new professional a sense of belonging to something greater than yourself. The opportunities that SOA affords its members to meet colleagues throughout the state, to collaborate with some, to gain professional knowledge without traveling long distances, to share insights, and to get to know others who share your passion are priceless. There really is no substitute for an organization that is big enough to meet a lot of people from different types of institutions with different experiences, but small enough to develop life-long friendships. I am sure that young people entering the profession today in our state will find that their careers are positively impacted by the experiences provided by SOA just like I did. And through that legacy, SOA will continue to be significant to the profession.

Raimund Goerler

In a word, the answer is "education." From its beginning to the present, the core missions of SOA have been to educate members, orient allied professions that care for historical records to archival fundamentals, and reach out to the general public through advocacy and outreach.

During its first half-century, the context of the educational mission changed in some ways. In the 1960s, when SOA began, working archivists had relatively few opportunities for formal education. The Society filled an urgent need and provided introductory education to those who were entering the profession. As graduate programs developed in Ohio and in neighboring states, professional archivists looked to their state organization for opportunities to learn about specialized topics, such as electronic records, preservation of audio and visual materials and more.

Often, meetings of SOA enabled members to hear national experts economically, without the cost of extensive travel. To say this another way, current members, unlike the first generation, look to SOA for continuing education rather than basic education.

Education includes learning about as well as from others, i.e. networking. At meetings and in committees, archivists in Ohio meet each other, talk about archival challenges and potential solutions, and work together. One of the great advantages of state organizations is the opportunity to know colleagues more easily than at larger regional and national associations.

Finally, SOA has enabled members to take up professional leadership. Serving on committees and task forces within Ohio has been a first step for many to go on to be leaders in regional and national associations. When SOA began, some saw regional and national associations as competitors rather than collaborators in a common purpose. Thankfully, that era has passed.

Michael McCormick

In my eyes, the true value of the Society of Ohio Archivists for its half century of existence has not been in the policy initiatives it has espoused on behalf of records in Ohio, nor the educational activities it has sponsored for its members in the forms of publications, meetings and workshops, as invaluable as these efforts have been. Instead, I believe that the greatest value that SOA has provided the profession and the state is the introduction it provides to young professionals to their peers and mentors as they begin to engage in those initiatives and activities.

I profited immensely in my early years at the Western Reserve Historical Society by meeting other archivists and curators around the state to whom I could turn when faced with a problem I had not previously encountered. Too many to name here, I will readily credit much of my accomplishment in my career to sound advice I received from SOA members who had successfully dealt with issues similar to those I was trying to solve. Coming to know a person, and their skills and strengths, encouraged me to reach out when necessary. The personal relationship makes such a contact less of an imposition.

And, finally, I cannot close without a mention of the real and enduring friendships I have enjoyed forged through participation in SOA events. The camaraderie of shared interests and efforts creates bonds that will persist throughout a professional lifetime. To those new to our profession and encountering SOA for the first time, I encourage you to step up and participate in its governance. Your rewards, professional and personal, will far outweigh the effort you invest.

Jerry Newborg

As someone more than three decades removed from the state, my insight as to SOA's significance may be particularly limited. However, lacking such an organization in my new state (North Dakota), I think we have had to adapt other multiple vehicles to

accomplish some of the same ends. To me, SOA provides a structure for easier communication and coordination among archivists within Ohio. The state focus insures certain political and economic as well as geographic commonalities and facilitates sharing and support among institutions. Finally, it serves as a vehicle for common advocacy, again with that in-state focus.

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I'm sure the surviving founders of SOA will provide insight on their motivation. SOA was groundbreaking. I believe it inspired many state and multi-state organizations that soon burgeoned and, if I remember correctly, was resisted by some who saw a state organization as fracturing the field, rather than in fact strengthening the profession by offering greater opportunities for participation.

Congratulations on your upcoming golden anniversary.

Thomas A. Smith

It has been nearly thirty-five years since I served as president of the Society of Ohio Archivists. Much has happened over those years in the profession and to me personally. I retired from the Ohio Historical Society at the end of 1999 and moved to Pennsylvania to take a non-archival position with the National Canal Museum. For the last nine years I have been involved with FEMA doing disaster recovery work as a contractor with AECOM Recovery.

I started in the archival profession in 1974 coming from the campus of Miami University where I was completing my PhD to the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center in Fremont. It was an exciting time to be involved in the profession both on the state level (SOA), regional level (Midwest Archives Conference) and the national level (Society of American Archivists). Great things were happening in all these arenas. Those of us who were fortunate to attend the regional and national meetings on a regular basis were exposed to new ideas which we brought back to our local shops in Ohio. Everywhere you looked archival institutions in the state were involved in new projects preserving records and making them more accessible to the public. At the Hayes Presidential Center I oversaw the microfilm edition of the personal papers of Rutherford B. Hayes, a compilation of over 300 rolls of microfilm documenting the life of the nineteenth president of the United States. Projects such as this were happening at all the major archival institutions throughout the state.

People involved in these varied projects made up the core of the membership of the Society of Ohio Archivists. I vaguely remember the subject matter of the meetings, but I still can remember some of the conversations we had sitting around a table at the Varsity Club in Columbus or in one of the bars in Athens. This is where real life institutional experiences were exchanged and where camaraderie developed among members. For me, this was the real benefit of the SOA, both on a personal level and on a

professional level. It inspired and energized me to continue to do good things back in Fremont. What was happening in each of our shops greatly benefited the archival profession as a whole in the state. The Society of Ohio Archivists was a contributing factor in the professionalization and expansion of the archival community within the borders of the Buckeye State.

Judith Wiener

It has been one of my professional life's greatest honors to serve as a President of the Society of Ohio Archivists. To me, the Society is significant and integral to our profession's sustainability in many ways.

SOA provides archivists around the state with outlets to network to accomplish the exchange of ideas and concepts and to identify potential collaborations. Tied closely to networking opportunities is the low-cost professional development that is provided by SOA. This is vital in light of tighter budgets and ever increasing travel and registration costs to attend national conferences. I am proud that SOA has had a record of providing reasonably-priced and nationally-significant programming that fills this need.

None of this could be accomplished without the hard work and dedication of hundreds of volunteers over the years and I believe this is another realm where SOA provides significant opportunities for members. The ability to easily attain leadership experiences within the Society enables professionals to add these experiences to their resumes. I have found SOA to be a very welcoming community where everyone involved wants others to participate, serve, and succeed.

This leads me to highlight one of the final significant impacts I believe SOA makes on the profession. This is the opportunity SOA provides to advocate for the profession on local, state-wide, and national levels. The ability to join our voices together and bring topics and issues to the forefront of the minds of others is just one of the many ways I believe SOA continues to significantly contribute to the archival profession.

I congratulate SOA for accomplishing so much in its past 50 years and look forward to seeing how it continues to grow and evolve to achieve its mission in the future.

Jane Wildermuth

When I think about the significance of the Society of Ohio Archivists to the profession, I have to point to why I encourage people to join. The first thing I mention is that it is an opportunity to meet other people doing the same type of work throughout the state. I then tell them about how SOA gives people a chance to grow and develop their leadership skills. Lastly, I tell them about the knowledge you can gain by attending our meetings and workshops. Congratulations to SOA on 50 wonderful years!

Holding Space:

Undergraduate Mentoring in the Archives

by Tanya Maus, Ph.D

"We are all learners. We are all experts."
—Matt Guynn, *On Earth Peace*

Over the past two years the Peace Resource Center (PRC) at Wilmington College has embarked on projects that create meaningful intersections between its Barbara Reynolds Memorial Archives, student experiential learning, and public programming. The Peace Resource Center was founded by Barbara Reynolds in 1975 as a center for creating awareness about the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Our vision states that "to study Hiroshima and Nagasaki is to commit to peace," and our mission holds that the PRC "works for peace by bearing witness to the historical experience of Hiroshima and Nagasaki atomic bombing survivors and the legacies of nonviolent activists touched by the horrors of nuclear war."

The Barbara Reynolds Memorial Archives is a small but dense and rare collection of materials regarding the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki as well as post-World War II peace activism related to nuclear weapons abolition, and is at the core of the PRC's organizational identity. The PRC's work is also embedded in the Wilmington College mission, which emphasizes "historic Quaker values, also known as testimonies, which include integrity, service, stewardship, equality, peace, and social justice and respect for all persons. Additionally, the college's motto "hands-on learning and hands-on living" signals that the applied humanities, social sciences, and sciences are at the forefront of institutional pedagogy.

As the PRC's director since January 2015, I have placed a strong emphasis on experiential learning and student mentoring in carrying out our archival and educational programming, working closely with undergraduate work-study students and Haas Interns (a competitive paid undergraduate internship program at Wilmington College). For those who have worked or taught at undergraduate institutions, work-study students are often charged with making copies, scanning, errands, and other tasks that can be done with relatively little workplace experience. However, the PRC has taken a different approach, giving undergraduate work-study students responsibility for public-facing projects and professional work in the archives, and helping them explore various career paths through their work. Below, I seek to reflect upon the ways that the PRC mentored undergraduate students through the 2015-2016 student-developed exhibit "The Voyage of the Phoenix: A Peace Odyssey."

This student-led project evolved a mentoring approach that not only provides opportunities, training, and getting to know each student's personality, strengths and challenges, but also holds space for each student employee to learn and process complex historical materials and new professional methods so that they can fully shape and contribute to projects on an equal standing with myself and each other. I would hold that building in sufficient time at work to read, learn, discuss, process, and most of all listen and incorporate student knowledge, has created a high level of engagement from students. This student engagement and ownership in the PRC's work has subtly transformed the PRC and its archives into a more vibrant and meaningful organization locally, regionally, nationally, and globally.

The development of "The First Voyage of the Phoenix: A Peace Odyssey" (VOP) exhibit began in September 2015, when I asked students to work on the project as a way to highlight the PRC and its archives. The VOP exhibit shares the story of how in 1954, the Reynolds family (PRC founder Barbara Reynolds, her husband Earle Reynolds, their 14-year-old son Ted, and 10-year-old daughter Jessica) left Hiroshima, Japan, and circumnavigated the globe in their handcrafted yacht, the Phoenix of Hiroshima. Over four years, the family traveled more than 58,000 nautical miles and visited 122 ports. The voyage culminated in the family sailing the yacht, in defiance of US government restrictions, into a nuclear test site near the Marshall Islands to call attention to nuclear testing in the Pacific.

At the outset of the project, I designated Haas Intern Maraya Wahl (business and political science, sophomore) as the exhibit development lead and asked two new student workers, Ellyse Herr (Spanish/ social work, freshman) and Jessica Fair (education/theater, freshman) to support Wahl's work. I also asked Herr and Fair to create a complimentary Historypin version of the exhibit. Herr and Fair were students who initially ended up at the PRC because they needed work-study jobs: they had very little knowledge of the center. Wahl, on the other hand, had worked very successfully with other students to organize a Hiroshima and Nagasaki commemorative event during the summer of 2015.

All three students were given as much work time as they needed to read archival materials and secondary historical sources in order to gain a historical understanding of the Reynolds family's voyage around the world. As Herr and Fair read the materials I checked in with them regularly throughout the workday asking them their thoughts about the readings, checking to see if they wanted to continue with this project, or direct their attention elsewhere as we were also working on event planning for multiple programs at the time. I also made sure that we devoted 30 minutes or more each work period to sorting through questions raised by the sources, and thinking through the voyage's historical significance.

As they waded through historical materials, Herr and Fair taught themselves how to navigate Historypin, upload files, pin pictures, and add text, which they shared with me. Fair, in particular, was drawn to the visual aspects of Historypin and the technology. All three students read Designing Interpretive Signs: Principles in Practice during work hours. They, in turn, began to teach me key points of exhibit design. We then applied this knowledge as a team and considered how to narrate and

design the Historypin website and poster exhibit so that viewers, especially viewers their own ages and younger, would be visually drawn to the historical content through the power of phrasing as well as graphic design techniques.

As she dug deeper, Wahl was increasingly frustrated by the unwieldiness of the historical materials and began to voice the need for some kind of organizing framework. Eventually, Wahl connected the history of the voyage of the Phoenix to themes found in Homer's Odyssey that she happened to be reading as part of a class, such as personal struggle, loyalty, hospitality, and learning.

Since I had not read the Odyssey, I entrusted this work to her. As she conceptualized the exhibit's narrative in light of the Odyssey, I played with embedding sailing metaphors in the exhibit's poster titles to further frame and unify it. As Wahl wrote drafts of the narrative to correspond with each poster, I provided constructive
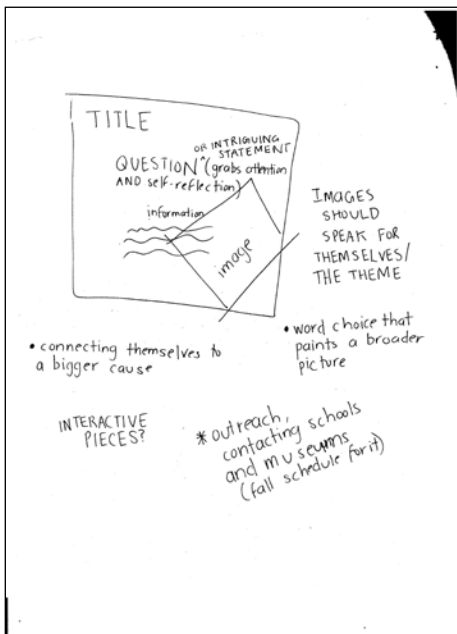
Maraya's Notes. Framing the Narrative: Harry Potter or the Odyssey?

feedback and edited her drafts. Herr and Fair sorted through thousands of pictures of the voyage to select images that would complement the text.

We met repeatedly to work and rework the organization and order of the narrative. At every meeting, I affirmed the quality of their work, my appreciation for their commitment to the project, and the importance of the history they were encountering.

For further exhibit training, I suggest-

Jessica Fair and Ellyse Herr sort voyage of the Phoenix images from the archives.

ed that the students ask Ruth Brindle, the director of the Quaker Heritage Center, if she would be willing to look at their work. As they workshopped the exhibit with Brindle she taught them the concept of "levels of information" so that viewers of various ages, abilities, and knowledge resources could engage with the exhibit at different levels.

I then asked the students to work with a graphic designer. Through a video conference, led by Wahl, they communicated the concept of "levels of information" to the designer to create the appropriate layout.

The level of student care and investment in the project was heightened when I asked Jessica Reynolds Renshaw, who was 10 years old at the time she traveled the world on the Phoenix of Hiroshima with her parents, to speak with Wahl, Herr, and Fair from California via Skype. As Renshaw honestly shared her experiences, some deeply personal, the students connected with her and began to share the desire to tell her and her family's story.

As the online and poster exhibits neared completion in late spring of 2016, the PRC received a call from NHK World Japan (similar to the PBS in the U.S.). The NHK journalists became excited when I told them about the exhibit and level of student involvement in exploring the PRC's history. In June 2016, a film crew traveled to the PRC for the "Voyage of the Phoenix" exhibit opening. Wahl, Herr, and Fair were interviewed on film by professional journalists and had the opportunity to articulate their work and historical knowledge to new audiences far beyond the college and their local communities. Student work with the exhibit continued into fall 2016, when Fair developed an outreach package including thumbnails of posters and loan agreements. In November 2016, the exhibit traveled to the Dayton International Peace Museum

(DIPM) and was exhibited through April 2017. The DIPM invited me to give a talk at the exhibit opening; however, I suggested that I share my time with Wahl so that she could better explain the process of the exhibit's development. At the DIPM opening Wahl spoke to over 40 guests and responded to questions about her involvement with the exhibit.

The students' experiential learning through the "Voyage of the Phoenix" exhibit culminated in winter 2017 when I located an opportunity for them to submit an abstract for a paper presentation about the development of the exhibit for the Interna-
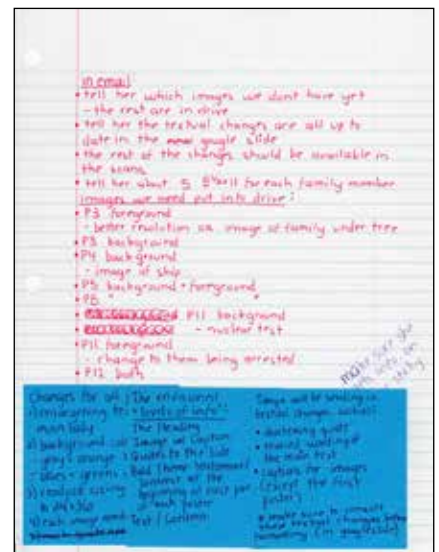
Maraya's Notes for the Graphic Designer.
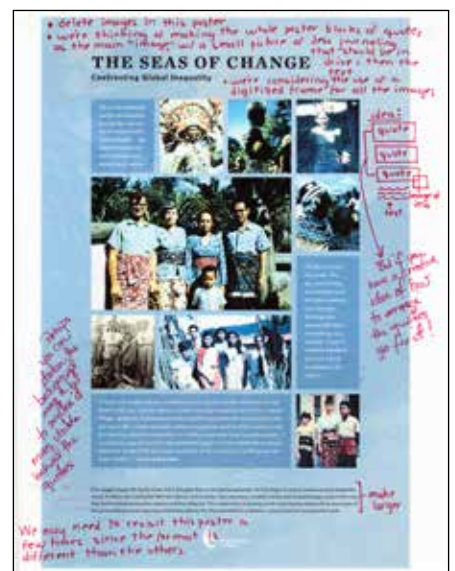
Workshopping Revisions for the Graphic Designer

tional Network of Museums for Peace Conference in Belfast, Northern Ireland. They then discovered and applied for various pockets of travel funds through the college. Fair had never flown, and had very little interest in peacemaking and Herr confessed to being terrified of speaking in public. In April, we traveled to Belfast where the students presented their work on a panel with scholars from Bradford University and Meiji Gakuin University in Tokyo.

The students not only gained experience in presenting their work, but also came to see the real-world significance of museums, the very professional nature of peace studies, and the practical value of humanities and social scientific knowledge. Moreover, at the conference Herr met a global social worker ("I never knew there was such a thing as global social work!"— Ellyse Herr) which has now become her career path; Fair networked with a live

Post-presentation photo at the International Network of Museums for Peace in Belfast, at the University of Ulster, April 11, 2017. Left to right: Peter Van Den Dungen, professor emeritus, Peace Studies, the University of Bradford, Nobel Peace Prize historian; Jessica Fair, Maraya Wahl, Ellyse Herr, Tanya Maus, director, PRC, Takahara Takao, professor of International Politics and Peace Research, Meiji Gakuin University

theater troupe devoted to nonviolence and asked if she could perform with them in the future. Wahl discovered an internship opportunity at the Corymeela Community for nonviolent conflict resolution, which she has begun to pursue. Through a process of mentoring, what initially seemed to be an archival research project became a means for students not only to acquire historical consciousness but also gain professional skills in how to create and disseminate a narrative to a wide variety of audiences for the greatest impact. It also allowed them to access a broader worldview: to see that knowledge and

the acquisition of skills do not occur in a vacuum, but are connected to—reliant on— real human networks, often global, that create meaningful professional and human relationships. Being flexible, allowing workplace time for conversation and ideas to emerge as well as consistent affirmation were essential for Wahl, Herr, and Fair to become invested in—to take ownership of the "Voyage of the Phoenix" exhibit and to take new risks.

Currently, the PRC is embarking on the development of an Ohio Humanities Council Media Grant-funded online exhibit that employs digital narrative mapping as a way to share the story of the 1964 World Peace Study Mission (WPSM) in which 24 atomic bombing survivors and 14 interpreters, led by PRC founder Barbara Reynolds, traveled to every nuclear weapons-holding country in the world. Wahl was written into the grant as outreach co-

ordinator and Wilmington College student Brandon Williams (communications, junior) was brought on board as a 200-hour Haas Intern to carry out the digitization of the WPSM series in collaboration with Wright State University Archive Certification Capstone Intern Victoria Chadbourne and to train in digital mapping.

During his first week at the PRC, Williams participated in two digitization webinars related to the creation and development of digital archives as opposed to digital libraries. He then researched best practices for making preservation and access scans as well as PDFs utilizing

ABBYY FineReader for all archival materials related to the WPSM. In July 2017, he also had the opportunity to learn digital mapping from graduate students at Tokyo Metropolitan University who visited the PRC to train its staff.

Along with the "Voyage of the Phoenix" project that I highlighted here, since 2015, 12 undergraduate students from diverse backgrounds and educational interests at Wilmington College along with two cooperative students from Antioch College have actively contributed to realizing professionally complex projects at the PRC. Students organized an "8:15" vigil Aug. 6, 2015, in which 70 community members gathered to read 70 atomic bombing survivor testimonies on the 70th anniversary of the atomic bombings. They helped organize the PRC's 40th anniversary celebration conference: "Justice and Peace: A Call to Local and Global Community." They have contributed research and writing for two funded grants. They have organized student-friendly events such as "Peace Trivia Night." They have taken archives courses and digitization webinars, attended Miami Valley Archival Roundtable meetings, and created a Collections Management Policy for the archives. Most recently, they have begun processing collections and creating digitization procedure and workflows. Their work is invaluable to the PRC and its success. Recognizing that student labor is often undervalued and underpaid, as director of the PRC I feel a desire and an obligation to build in time for mentoring as a way of developing students' interests and skills and in recognition of their work commitment. I also hope that such mentoring will help create a path toward achieving a meaningful vocation or career with a living wage in the future.

Tanya Maus, Ph.D., is the director of the Peace Resource Center (PRC) at Wilmington College. In addition to her work at the PRC, she teaches undergraduate courses on the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki as well as Japanese imperialism in East Asia.

Metadata, Smetadata… I Hate Metadata…or Maybe Not…

by DiGITaL Editor Dan Noonan, The Ohio State University

One of my favorite exchanges from A Christmas Story takes place around the dinner table just before the 'frah-gee-lay' Leg Lamp arrives:

Randy: Meatloaf, smeatloaf, double-beatloaf. I hate meatloaf.

Dad: All right, I'll get that kid to eat. Where's my screwdriver and my plumber's helper? I'll open up his mouth and I'll shove it in.

As archivists, I feel we sometimes have the same sentiment towards metadata that Randy has towards meatloaf; metadata, smetadata, I hate metadata; or at least for the creation and maintenance of item level metadata, which conflicts with our tendency to describe at folder, box or even just collection level. The angst may be further driven by our well-meaning metadata and digital project colleagues, who see the need for detailed metadata to provide effective management and access to our cool born digital and digitized collections, but at times, come off sounding more like the Dad in the above scene. So in our data driven age, how do we strike a balance for an appropriate amount of metadata?

Figure 1: Metadata Analogy

First, let us demystify the term, metadata. Now the stock response one gets when we ask someone to define metadata is that it is "data about data." While succinct and true, it is one of the most useless definitions I have ever encountered. The Society of American Archivists' A Glossary of Archival and Records Terminology defines it as, "A characterization or description documenting the identification, management, nature, use, or location of information resources (data)." In direct opposition to the "data about data" definition, the complexity of this definition leaves it somewhat inaccessible to the layperson. One that I like to use that establishes a middle ground describes metadata as "…information about an individual datum or sets of data that is used to facilitate its understanding, use and management…" I discovered this in Wikipedia several years ago, but the definition has since disappeared. The salient part of this definition is the idea of facilitating the understanding, use and management of our cool digital stuff. In past lectures and presentations, I have likened metadata to a globe, which helps us to describe and understand the planet we live on. Lines of longitude and latitude, as well as political boundaries and topographical lines, are all metadata about the Earth.

Now, I would suggest those three terms—understanding, use and management—are in reverse order of importance. If we cannot manage our digital assets effectively, how can we presume to make them available for use or understanding? Moreover, if we cannot provide ease of access for use, then how can anyone possibly understand our digital objects?

There are typically three big bucket categories of metadata that we need to be concerned with: descriptive, administrative and structural. For simple digital objects—single independent files—we most often deal with descriptive and administrative metadata. Descriptive metadata are elements that identify and describe objects, assisting in both the institutional management of our digital collections, as well as facilitating access to them. Administrative metadata provides for the management of ownership, rights, use and preservation of our digital collections. However if we have complex, multi-file objects such as a book, scrapbook, or multi-track audio files, we additionally need to utilize structural metadata to replicate the internal structure and integrity of the original object, thereby providing access in the most understandable manner. Traditional or EAD finding aids provide for much of this metadata at a collection level, and often at finer gradations; but rarely does it provide for metadata at the item level. Further, it does not provide information regarding the use or preservation of collections; those actions are handled via other means or systems.

So this is where the "rub" comes in, as archivists we are not inclined to describe things at an item level that most, if not all, of our digital collection management and preservation systems require. While item level metadata is required for very practical and useful purposes, I think we sometimes feel like our metadata and digital projects colleagues are the Dad from A Christmas Story, who want to find their proverbial screwdriver and plumber's helper, to prod us into doing item level metadata.

This is the point where we have to stop, take a deep breath, step back and look at the big picture of what we are trying to accomplish, i.e. providing access to our users of our cool digital stuff; and hopefully, providing an environment that is conducive to our continuing management and preservation of said cool digital stuff. For the system to manage, provide access to, and preserve each ingested digital object, it needs item level metadata; there is no way around this.

Deep breath again. While there can be numerous metadata elements for us to choose from and use, we as institutions need to decide what are the most desirable elements for us to use, and then sub-set that list to what is the absolute minimum that are required for whatever digital access and/or preservation system we are utilizing. This begins to make the process more manageable. The creation of a documented metadata profile is essential so that all parties in the endeavor have a common understanding of what is desired and required.

Let us assume we have agreed upon a dozen desirable elements, half of which are required; but you have thousands, if not more, legacy digital objects to ingest. Ahhhhh!!!!! Deep breath again. Much of the metadata required is actually related

to the collection or sub-collection, and can be copied and pasted throughout a table/spreadsheet in which the metadata is created. Frequently the only truly item level unique elements of metadata are the identifier (often the file name) and title. The title, many times, may end up being the file name, unless there is already a resource that identifies a title. Further, we need to identify the existing metadata we may have in databases, spreadsheets, documents, finding aids, file/folder tree structures, and within the objects themselves that can be scraped and transformed to fill out the metadata profile for each item. The key is to maximize the amount of automated metadata creation.

Now the reference archivist in you, advocating for ease of access for users, may say, "Wait a minute. How is it useful for a user to come across hundreds of files that have a title 'Campus Party 1979' or titles that are just a reiteration of a generic file name in a sub-collection 'Campus Party 1979'?" What we have to ask ourselves is, "How is that any different than providing the same user with a box that has a folder within titled 'Campus Party 1979' and contains hundreds of un-identified photos?" Is the access we are providing perfect? No. Is it the best we can do with the resources we have available? Yes. Does item level metadata really requires us to truly uniquely (boutiquely) describe each item we ingest? No.

There are a few alternatives that are worth mentioning, one that involves a level of user interaction, and two options that truly invoke a 'More Product, Less Process' (MPLP) approach. The first is essentially doing what we have done above, and then add a crowdsourcing component that may allow us to further refine the item level metadata. Next, if the digital preservation and access system allows for the deposit of complex objects, it may be possible to ingest an object that is essentially a folder of files, similar to the folder in a box, where the folder is described, but the individual contents are not. In this case, the user may have to 'page' through the contents online or may have to download the folder to inspect its contents. The final option, should really only be used for truly unprocessed or very lightly processed materials, to which we would like to preserve and/or provide access, but do not foresee any further detail processing in the near future. That option is to use BagIt. While more often considered as a means to transfer and store a group of digital objects, there is no reason we could not make the Bag available for downloading to our users. Tools for creating Bags are being developed with a GUI interface to make them more accessible to the everyday user than the current command-line options.

I, like Randy, went through my childhood saying "Meatloaf, smeatloaf..." However, as an adult I have found truly palatable and delicious varieties of meatloaf when I opened my mind to trying something new. We may not want item level metadata crammed down our throats with a 'screwdriver and a plumber's helper', nevertheless, we should look at how we can utilize metadata to our advantage; how we can automate the creation and collection of metadata; and how we can contribute back to the field in using metadata in acceptable MPLP sorts of ways.

SOA New Leadership

At the Annual Meeting in May, SOA members elected several new council members.

President

Robin Heise
Records Manager /Archivist
Greene County Records Center
and Archives

Vice President

Janet Carleton
Digital Initiatives Coordinator
Ohio University Libraries

Secretary

Kristin Rodgers
Collections Curator,
The Ohio State University

Council

Adam Wanter
Digital and Special Collection
Archivist,
MidPointe Library System,
Butler County

Lily Birkhimer
Digital Projects Coordinator,
Ohio History Connection

Editor's Note

I would like to extend a welcome to the newest member of the editing team on the Ohio Archivist, Jessica Cromer. Jessica is the Public Outreach Coordinator at the Greene County Records Center and Archives. Upon Lisa Rickey's departure from the News & Notes editorship last spring, Jessica was chosen to be a new Assistant Editor and we thank her for hopping in with very little time to adjust.

We hope you enjoy the Ohio Achivist's new design, layout, and its incorporation of SOA's new logo. A big thank you goes out to our graphic designer at Ohio History Connection, Kim Koloski, for this great redesign. And thank you your continued readership!

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Individual News

Deputy Archivist Jenifer Baker and **Records Manager Jen Haney Conover** of the Warren County Records Center and Archives were selected to present at the July 2017 NAGARA Conference in Boise, Idaho on their topic "Capitalizing Discovery on Social Media." Soon after, Jenifer applied and successfully received the Ohio Preservation Council Professional Development Grant enabling her travel and conference to be paid for by the grant. The grant awards up to $1000.00 in support of continuing education for Ohio Students and Professionals who have an interest in preserving our cultural heritage.

Jessica Cromer is the new Public Outreach Coordinator for the Greene County Records Center and Archives in Xenia. Jessica was previously the Archivist for the National Afro-American Museum and Cultural Center in Wilberforce.

Derek Pridemore began interning at the National Afro-American Museum and Cultural Center, and now also interns at the Greene County Records Center and Archives. Derek is a second-year Public History graduate student at Wright State University in Dayton.

Institutional News

The **Cincinnati History Library & Archives** (formerly Cincinnati Historical Society Library) at Cincinnati Museum Center remains closed during the renovation of Cincinnati Union Terminal. Reopening and resumption of normal services is expected in late 2018. Until then reference questions can be answered via email to library@cincymuseum.org.
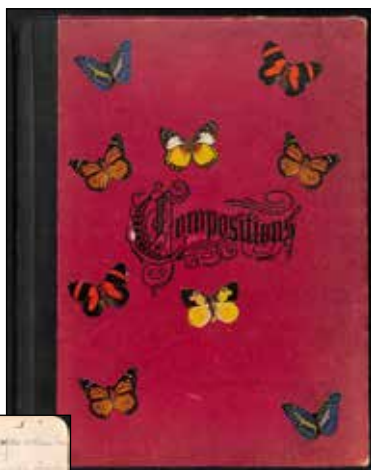
The Dawes Arboretum received an $860 grant in April from the Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board to purchase a book scanner. We are using the scanner to digitize the journals of one of our co-founders, Bertie Dawes. The journals include subjects that are integral to the Arboretum's history, including notes on its development, the planting of gardens and grounds features, and notes on the early staff. Bertie also recorded local weather and climate patterns, wildlife observations, and cultural and historical developments of local and international significance from the 1890s to the 1950s. The digitization of these journals is part of the Arboretum's larger digitization plan for the entirety of its archival collections. As they are scanned, the journals will be available through Columbus Metropolitan Library's online digitization effort MyHistory. For more information on the project, contact Dawes Arboretum Archivist Sarah Aisenbrey at smaisenbrey@dawesarb.org.

Trillium nivale Riddell Curtis's Botanical Magazine vol. 6449 3932. Image courtesy of the Lloyd Library, Cincinnati, OH.
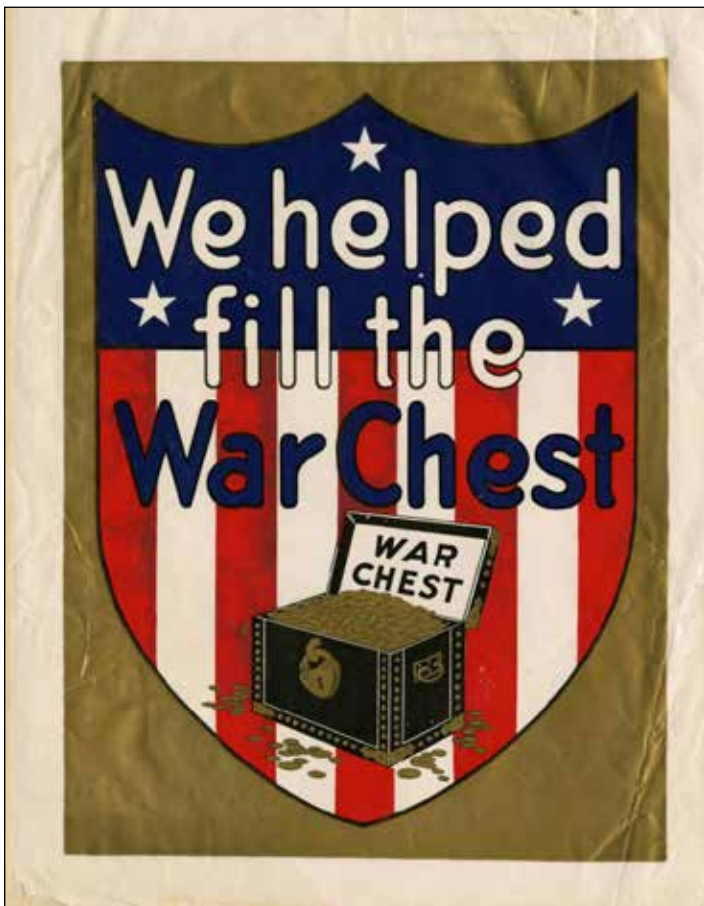

Butterflies: Cover of Bertie Dawes's journal on her butterfly and moth hobbies, ca. 1930. Image courtesy of The Dawes Arboretum.

Garden: Drawing of Bertie Dawes's garden at The Dawes Arboretum from one of her journals, ca. 1920. Image courtesy of The Dawes Arboretum.


Horses: Page from Bertie Dawes's journal on her horses, showing her family's first buggy in 1875, ca. 1940. Image courtesy of The Dawes Arboretum.

The **Lloyd Library and Museum** presents the exhibition Wild about Wildflowers in in collaboration with the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden, and the Cincinnati Wildflower Preservation Society marking the latter's 100th anniversary. The exhibition will feature wildflower and native plant photography by Brian Jorg of the Cincinnati Zoo with historic photography, live specimens, art, prints, artifacts, and manuscripts from the organizations' dynamic collections. Programs on native and medicinal plants, conservation, poetry, and art will complement the exhibit. Wild about Wildflowers opens on September 9 at the Lloyd Library & Museum with a reception and runs through November 18, 2017.

The **Ohio History Connection** (OHC) Digital Services staff are proud to announce the receipt of a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities for the continuation of "Little Stories of the Great War: Ohioans in World War I," which commenced on May 1. This two-year grant builds upon the success of a previous planning grant which resulted in a union bibliography of WWI resources around Ohio (www.ohiohistoryhost.org/wwibib) and a pilot digital collection showcasing primary sources from the Ohio History Connection and the North Canton Heritage Society (www.ohiomemory.org/cdm/wwi).

WWI poster. Image courtesy of the Ohio History Connection.

WWI Drum Corp. Three men identified as the drum corps of the 1st Ohio Infantry, Company D, of Hillsboro, Ohio. Image courtesy of the Ohio History Connection.
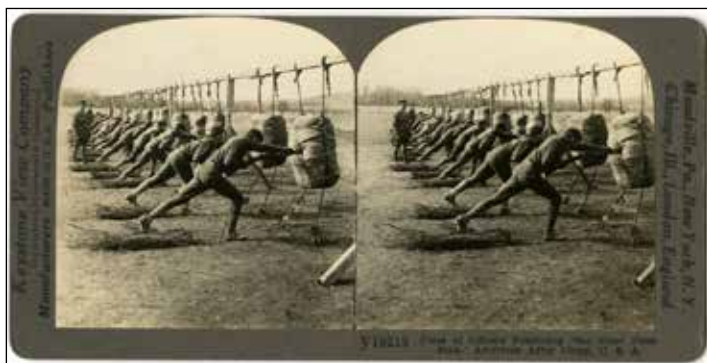
Officers practicing the short point stab. Image courtesy of the Ohio History Connection.

With ongoing guidance from a statewide advisory board, principal activities of this grant will include: further development of a comprehensive digital collection featuring content from OHC and 14 partner organizations; the creation of resources and programming directed toward K-12 curriculum; and construction of a crowdsourcing transcription platform to encourage public engagement with Ohio's WWI commemoration. At the conclusion of the grant, the digital collection and associated resources will be freely available through Ohio Memory (www.ohiomemory.org), the collaborative digital library of OHC, the State Library of Ohio and over 360 Ohio cultural heritage institutions. Improving access to these significant historical materials through the digital collection, educational resources and union bibliography will enhance scholarship and research in the area of WWI and Ohio's role as we commemorate this significant turning point in U.S. history.

Stay tuned for more on the progress of "Little Stories of the Great War." Questions about the grant? Please contact project staff at ohiomemory@ohiohistory.org.

The Peace Resource Center (PRC) at Wilmington College continues to move forward with its OHRAB grant to improve the preservation of its "Barbara Reynolds Memorial Archives," as well as the OHC Media grant to develop an innovative digital mapping online exhibit regarding the 1945 "Voyage of the Phoenix" and 1964 "World Peace Study Mission" related to the nuclear abolition activism of Ohioan Barbara Reynolds. On July 17-18, the PRC hosted a digital mapping workshop, "Building 21st Century Digital Communities" for Ohio archivists, PRC staff, and other members of the public. The workshop was facilitated by Kenya Tamura and Hiroki Inoue from the Systems Design Department of Tokyo Metropolitan University. The PRC will also held an atomic bombing commemoration on August 6, featuring newly digitized films from its archives. In January, the PRC initiated an "Archives Team" and from January to April the Archive Team participated in the AASLH "Basics of Archives" course. This led to the creation of a Collections Management Policy, including a Finding Aid. The project was led by PRC undergraduate intern Maraya Wahl (Senior, Poli Sci), who also created a "Disaster Plan." The CMP is now in the final stages and will be placed online in August. In May, the PRC joined the AASLH StEPs program to advance its preservation best practices. In relation to this, the PRC utilized the environmental monitoring kit from the Ohio State Library to understand its climate and light. In August, the PRC will install UV filters on its windows and lights.

History Day Winners

Each year since 1999 SOA has awarded Junior and Senior Division awards to students whose project demonstrates exceptional research and use of primary sources to include at least two of the following: letters, speeches, diaries, newspaper articles from the time, oral history interviews, documents, photographs, artifacts, or anything else that provides a first-hand account about a person or event. Students must cite sources accurately in bibliographies and must physically go to at least one research institution housing sources they used. Award recipients are given a certificate and a $100 cash award for a winner—individual or group—in both the Junior and Senior Divisions. See the SOA History Day Awards page for more information, including past winners. The National History Day in Ohio state-level competition was held on Saturday, April 29, 2017, at Ohio Wesleyan University. Congratulations to the 2017 winners!

To find out more about all of the state winners and runners up go to: https://www.ohiohistory.org/OHC/media/OHC-Media/Learn/2017StateFinalists.pdf.

Seven State History Day award winners went on to win at the National Level.

2nd Place Winner:
Senior Group Performance
Micah Doane, Trevor Doeringer, Joseph Baldwin
President Truman VS. General Macarthur: Struggle for Command, Preserving the Power of the Presidency
Christian Community School

Top Ten Finalists Senior Outstanding in State Winners

10th Place:
Senior Group Performance
Annie Stibora, Trinity Reeves, Noa Marcus, Nellie Bly
What a Girl is Good For
Shaker Heights High School

9th Place:
Senior Individual Exhibit
Kaitlyn Solymosi
The 1956 Hungarian Revolution: Taking a Stand Against the Soviet Union
Rocky River High School

Top Twenty Finalists Junior Outstanding in State Winners

Junior Group Documentary
Madeline Price, Kaisal Shah
Katherine Graham: Taking a Stand for Freedom of the Press
Shaker Heights Middle School

Junior Paper
Connor Stanton
Sheppard v. Maxwell: The Right to a Fair Trial Takes the Stand
Birchwood School of Hawken

Senior Individual Documentary
Fenner Dreyfuss-Wells
Why Run Only to Crawl Home? Silent Protest at the 1968 Olympics
Shaker Heights High School

Senior Individual Website
Katrina Cassell
Taking a Seat in History: The Flint Sit-Down Strike
Shaker Heights High School