

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

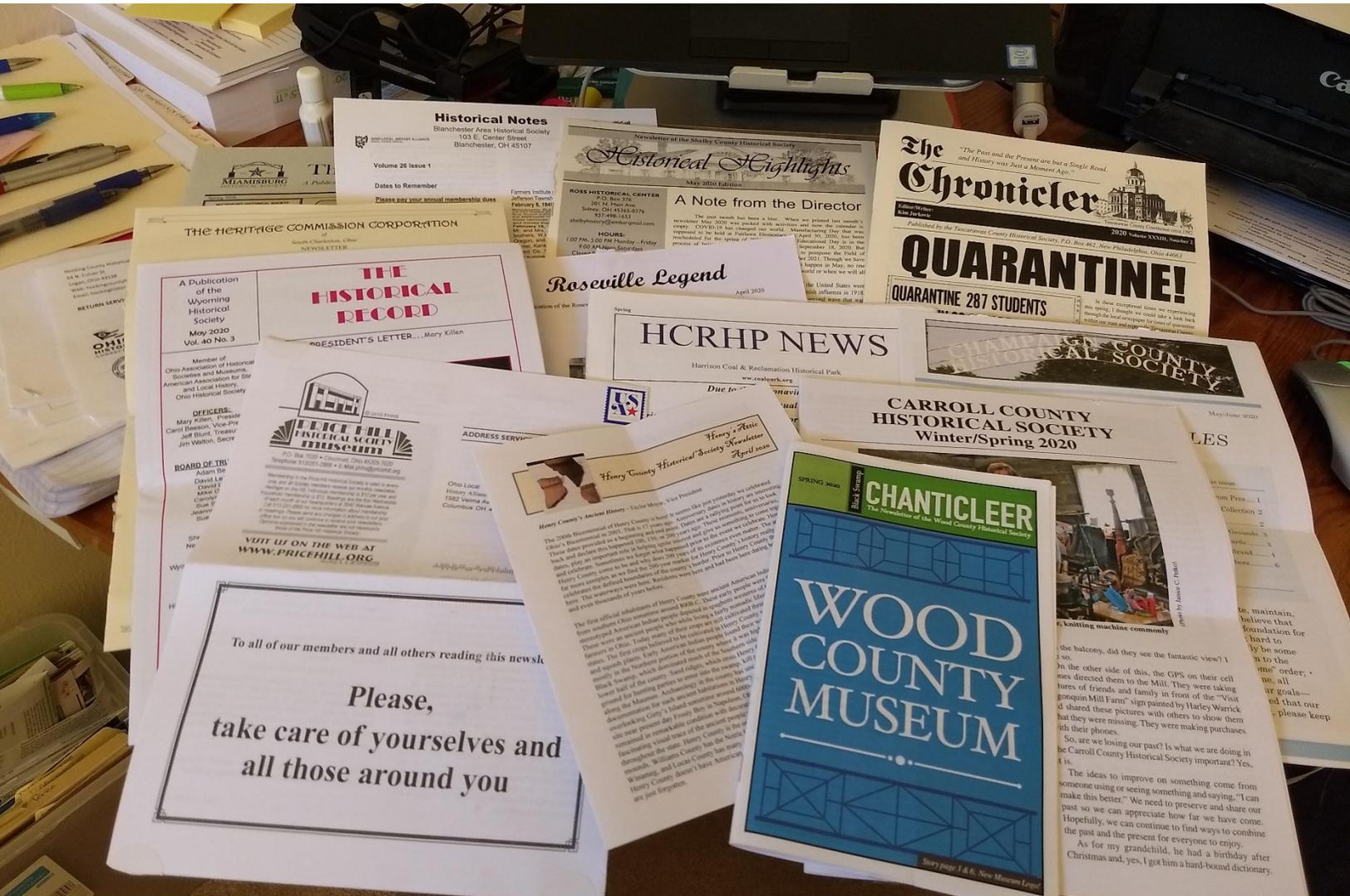


# 2020 Annual Meeting and Conference

## *History is Happening Now*

October 1-3 2020

#OLHAEmpowers



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## Welcome to the 2020 OLHA Annual Meeting & Conference

### Accessing the Sessions

All sessions will be held using the Zoom meeting and webinar platforms. During the week prior to the meeting, all registered participants will be emailed a copy of this program which will include individual links for each session.

Not familiar with Zoom? Joining a meeting is easy! All you do is click the link. Please watch this [one-minute video](#) for basic instructions on joining an event. You can also do a test connection at <https://zoom.us/test>.

# Schedule at a Glance

Thursday			
	Webinar	Webinar	Meeting
9 -10 am	Transformative Women Who Brought Us to Where We Are Today	Building a Community Photo Album (SOA)	Bringing Your Website Out of the Dark Ages
10:30 -11:30 am	Documenting and Conserving Ohio's Outdoor Sculpture	Self-Guided Tours and Alternatives to Historic House Museum Experiences	#TogetherApart: Processing a Pandemic in the Kenyon Community (SOA)
12:30 – 2 pm	Sponsor Meet & Greet and Business Meeting		
2:30 – 3:30 pm	Beyond Maps: How to Bring Emotional, Disturbing, and Poignant Primary Sources into the Classroom	Safety First: Prioritizing Safe Practices for Conservation (SOA)	Bringing University-Style Discussions to a Historic House
4:30 – 5:30 pm	Relevance In a World With Bigger Problems Discussion		
Friday			
9 -10 am	Marking Time in Alliance: YouTube on a Shoestring	Achieving Inclusion through Community Engagement: Two Case Studies from Northeast Ohio	Let's Try This Again: Revamping Oral History at Warren County (SOA)
10:30 -11:30 am	American Indian Relations Policy and Best Practices	Restoring the Past for the Future (SOA)	How to Research a House
12:30 – 2 pm	Keynote: The Urgency of Now: Taking Risks to Serve Your Community		
2:30 – 3:30 pm	Listening for Local Religion	Experiencing War: A Project to Preserve and Make Accessible Oral Histories of World War II	Interpreting Vanished Historic Sites: Junction Earthworks 2.0
5 – 6 pm	Meet & Mingle: History Heroes		
Saturday			
9 -10 am		The Legacy of Charity's Children: Discovering a Family's Leadership in Dayton, Ohio 1802-2020	#StarkTuscMuseumsUnite
10:30 -11:30 am		It CAN Happen to YOU: How Good Collections Management and a Disaster Plan can Aid in Disaster Recovery	Youth Volunteers-Ya Gotta Love 'Em!
12:30 – 2 pm	Awards Ceremony		

# Thursday, October 1

Thursday 9:00 – 10:00 AM

## **Transformative Women Who Brought Us to Where We Are Today**

*Jeannine Vegh, Ohio Women's History Project*

Join the Ohio Women's History Project to learn about women who have transformed Ohio and the county. We will highlight women's contributions beyond the vote while recognizing the Centennial of Women's Suffrage.

## **Bringing Your Website Out of the Dark Ages**

*Scott A. Britton, Executive Director, The Castle Historic House Museum*

Thinking about upgrading your stagnant website or starting from scratch? Where should I even begin? What options are out there? Do I need a professional or can I do it myself? What web-based tools can address your organizational needs? I will tackle these questions and more.

## **Building a Community Photo Album—SOA**

*John Dewees, Supervisor Digitization Services, Toledo Lucas County Public Library*

The Community Photo Album at the Toledo Lucas County Public Library is an endeavor to create a submission path by which the public can contribute born-digital content in a democratized fashion, while attempting to remove institutional bias. Topics covered: mission and purpose, workflow, submission agreement, metadata, access, sustainability, and outreach.

Thursday 10:30 – 11:30 AM

## **Documenting and Conserving Ohio's Outdoor Sculpture**

*William C. Barrow, The Sculpture Center*

The Ohio Outdoor Sculpture Inventory ([oosi.sculpturecenter.org](http://oosi.sculpturecenter.org)) currently documents over 1,400 works of art gracing Ohio's public spaces. Not all the state's historic sculptures have been located and some need conservation treatment. This presentation will outline how people can work with The Sculpture Center save outdoor sculptures in each OLHA region.

## **Self-Guided Tours and Alternatives to Historic House Museum Experiences**

*Amanda Manahan, Museum Educator & Tour Coordinator, Oberlin Heritage Center; Margaret Piatt, Piatt Castle Mac-A-Cheek; Melissa Karman, Director, The Sutliff Museum*

Historic house museums face numerous challenges in trying to reach wide audiences, including accessibility, financial and human resource limitations, changing recreational priorities for visitors, and increasing demand for access to content. This session will explore alternatives to the traditional guided tour and looks to future opportunities for local history sites.

## **#TogetherApart: Processing a Pandemic in the Kenyon Community—SOA**

*Abigail Tayse, College & Digital Collections Archivist, Kenyon College*

While working from home in Spring 2020, the Kenyon College Special Collections and Archives staff created a community-sourced project to document personal experiences during the COVID-19 Pandemic. The project reached out to students, faculty, staff, alumni, parents, and more to collect a range of digital materials to eventually become part of a public-facing collection in the institutional repository, Digital Kenyon.

## Sponsor Meet & Greet and Business Meeting Thursday 12:30 – 2:00 PM

### Business Meeting Agenda

**Welcome** – Wendy Zucal, President (*Executive Director, Dennison Railroad Depot Museum, Region 5*)

**Treasurer's Report** – Kathleen Fernandez, Treasurer (*Retired museum professional, Region 5*) and Betsy Hedler, Executive Secretary (*Team Lead, AmeriCorps and Partnerships, Ohio History Connection, Region 6*)

**Secretary's Report** – Rebecca Urban, Secretary (*Administrator, Peninsula Foundation Region 3*)

**Nominating Committee Report/ Elections** – Todd McCormick, Immediate Past President (*Curator/Director, Logan County Historical Society Region 7*)

#### Committee Reports

**Governance** – Wendy Zucal, President

**Communications**—Rebecca Urban, Secretary

**Advocacy** – Tim Daley, Trustee-at-Large (*Cuyahoga County Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument, Region 3*)

**Education** – Christy Davis, First Vice President (*Curator of Exhibitions, Canton Museum of Art Region 5*)

**Outreach** – Leslie Wagner, Second Vice President (*Historian, The Dawes Arboretum Region 6*)

**Local History Services Update** – Anthony Gibbs, Department Manager, Local History Services

**Recognition of Outgoing Board Members**— Wendy Zucal, President

- Ruth Brindle
- Jack Blosser
- Gary Leavitt
- Richard Witteborg

## Thursday 2:30 – 3:30 PM

### Beyond Maps: How to Bring Emotional, Disturbing, and Poignant Primary Sources into the Classroom

*Traci Manning, Curator of Education, Mahoning Valley Historical Society*

How do historians and educators introduce students to historical documents that tell our most intense and distressing history? This presentation will highlight suggestions for digging deeper into primary sources, including those considered sensitive or unpleasant. We can help them process these historic documents if presented in a safe, inclusive environment.

### Bringing University-Style Discussions to a Historic House

*Abigail Zhang, Marketing Manager, Harriet Beecher Stowe House; Christina Hartlieb, Executive Director, Harriet Beecher Stowe House; John Getz, Professor Emeritus, Xavier University*

Learn how Harriet Beecher Stowe House partnered with a retired Xavier University professor to create space for conversations on contemporary topics of justice in historical and literary context, plus how the program is promoted and how it benefits the historic site, the academic community, and museum visitor.

### Safety First: Prioritizing Safe Practices for Conservation—SOA

*Kim Hoffman, Preservation Librarian, Miami University*

Archives and special collections aren't usually considered dangerous. Yet, conservation labs, with their knives, equipment, and chemicals, can become an accident waiting to happen. How can we create a safe environment for ourselves and our students? Though conservation labs pose obvious hazards, this session will address lessons that practitioners from other specialties can apply to their own environments.

Thursday 4:30 – 5:30 PM

**Relevance In a World With Bigger Problems Discussion**

*Terrie Puckett, Executive Director, The Grail in the U.S; Greg Palumbo, Executive Director, Lakewood Historical Society*

Previously we have discussed how to be relevant in today's world, and with recent events the challenge is even greater. Now we will meet to discuss challenges at our institutions including our responses to the COVID-19 crisis, brainstorm solutions, collaborate on ideas, etc. This is more than just an informal chat, this is about digging deeper on the issues around relevance and helping each other move forward.

## Friday, October 2

Friday 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

**Marking Time in Alliance: YouTube on a Shoestring**

*Karen Perone, Publications Chair, Alliance Historical Society*

Armed with only an iPhone, an inexpensive microphone, and a cute car, the Alliance Historical Society set out to make short video recordings of historic markers, monuments, and events that tell the story of Alliance's history. I will show simple steps anyone can take to create short YouTube videos.

**Achieving Inclusion through Community Engagement: Two Case Studies from Northeast Ohio**

*Barbara Piscopo, Executive Director; Kaitlyn Donaldson, Collections Supervisor; and Maria Carrion, Board Member; Lorain Historical Society; Meghan Reed, Director, Trumbull County Historical Society*

In this session you will learn how two historical societies engaged populations that were historically underrepresented in their programs and collections. The two case studies and follow-up discussion will delve into the process of building trust through community outreach and provide tips for how to enrich museums and historic sites by creating a broader audience.

**Let's Try This Again: Revamping Oral History at Warren County—SOA**

*Jen Haney Conover, Warren County Records Manager/Archivist and Jenifer Baker, Deputy Archivist, Warren County Records Center and Archives*

In 2017, The Warren County Records Center and Archives launched an Oral History Program to get personal recollections while doing research for an upcoming exhibit on the historic Silver Street jail. Coming up short with only one interview, they overhauled and widened the program in 2019 to include interviews with former Warren County employees, retired elected officials and individuals with connections to the Old Jail, Children's Home and Infirmary. With plenty of bumps along the way, here is how we revamped our program and how an organization can learn from our mistakes.

Friday 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM

**American Indian Relations Policy and Best Practices**

*Ben Garcia, Deputy Executive Director and Chief Learning Officer and Stacey Halfmoon, Ohio History Connection*

In September 2019, Ohio History Connection adopted an American Indian Relations Policy which is intended to provide employees, board members and volunteers with the background and best practices required for establishing and maintaining successful and meaningful relationships with federally-recognized American Indian Tribes. Presenters will review the policy and its recommendations, with a focus on the four main sections of the policy: Interpretation and Education; Stewardship of American Indian Sites; Care for Ancestral Remains, Funerary Objects, and Cultural Objects; and Consultation with Tribal Nations.

## How to Research a House

*Susan Daniels, President, Norwood Historical Society*

Do you have residents asking you how they can research their home's history? This workshop helps you as the teacher gain skills to educate your community. Drawing on a background in mortgages, this workshop will explore reviewing recorded documents and navigating Recorder's and Auditor's pages to research the history of a house.

## Restoring the Past for the Future—SOA

*Corinne Johnson, Records Center and Archives Manager, Abigail Holman, Imaging Technician, and Sophia McGuire, Special Projects Coordinator, Licking County Records Center and Archives*

In 2019, Licking County Records and Archives took on the task of cleaning and preserving historical records that had been neglected for decades in a courthouse attic. With help from an Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board grant, the department developed a plan and managed to salvage over 200 records for generations to come.

## Keynote

12:30 – 2:00 PM

## The Urgency of Now: Taking Risks to Serve Your Community

***Melanie Adams, Anacostia Community Museum***

In the spring of 2020, the US was hit by two pandemics. The first was COVID-19 and created a health crisis that had not been seen since the flu epidemic of 1918. While the virus was raging in communities, the ongoing violence perpetuated by police against African American communities came to a head in Minneapolis. The perfect storm of these two events brought into sharp focus the country's continued inequalities based on race. As museums determine their role moving forward, they need to do two things. First, they need to recognize the urgency of the moment and second, they need to take risks. By having a sense of urgency and taking risks, museums could transform themselves into places that not only recognize that history is happening now, but are in a better position to take action and serve their community.

Please join Melanie Adams, Director of the Smithsonian's Anacostia Community Museum, as she talks about urgency and risk taking in the museum field. In an effort to make this more of a conversation, the program will include a discussion with Anthony Gibbs, Department Manager, Local History Services at the Ohio History Connection.



Friday 2:30 – 3:30 PM

**Interpreting Vanished Historic Sites: Junction Earthworks 2.0**

*Dr. Jarrod Burks, Director of Archaeological Geophysics at Ohio Valley Archaeology, Inc.; John Hancock, University of Cincinnati-CERHAS; Jose Kozan and Lara Kozan, Co-Founders and Managing Partners, Virtual Grounds Interactive*

Like many historical sites, Chillicothe's ancient Junction Earthworks are no longer visible in their original form. Learn how the Heartland Earthworks Conservancy integrated signage with a multi-media wayfinding tool to help visitors appreciate the site – using remote sensing, digital reconstructions, image overlays, videos, 360 panoramas, and augmented reality.

**Listening for Local Religion**

*Isaac Weiner, Co-Director, American Religious Sounds Project, The Ohio State University; Lauren Pond, Multimedia Coordinator, American Religious Sounds Project, The Ohio State University; Vicki Brennan, ARSP Community Engagement Board Member, University of Vermont; Ely Lyonblum, ARSP Community Engagement Board Member, University of Toronto*

The American Religious Sounds Project ([religioussounds.osu.edu](http://religioussounds.osu.edu)), based at Ohio State University, has produced hundreds of audio field recordings, documenting the diversity of Ohio religious life. Join us for this interactive session to learn about how you can get involved! We will present our website and preview upcoming exhibitions and workshops.

**Experiencing War: A Project to Preserve and Make Accessible Oral Histories of World War II**

*Nick Pavlik, Curator of Manuscripts/Coordinator of Strategic Digital Partnerships, Center for Archival Collections; and Michelle Sweetser, Head Librarian, Center for Archival Collections; Bowling Green State University Libraries*

This presentation will provide an overview of a recently completed project at the Center for Archival Collections at Bowling Green State University Libraries, which resulted in the digitization of and online access to 108 oral histories of World War II veterans, most of them lifelong Ohioans.

Friday 5:00 – 6:00 PM

Evening Meet & Mingle

Join your local history colleagues for some relaxed networking time via Zoom!

The theme for this event is History Heroes—so feel free to dress as your hero, and bring whatever food or beverage your heroic heart desires!

Facilitated by Christy Davis and Melissa Shaw.

# Saturday, October 3

Saturday 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

## **#StarkTuscMuseumsUnite**

*Anna E. Young, Massillon Museum; Christy Davis, Canton Museum of Art; Kimberly Kenney, William McKinley Presidential Library and Museum; Jennifer Highfield, National First Ladies' Library*

This panel discussion is based on the cultural connection represented by the collaboration, #StarkTuscMuseumsUnite. Panelists will explain how this partnership began, what types of programming was produced, and the ways in which their communities engaged with the content.

## **The Legacy of Charity's Children: Discovering a Family's Leadership in Dayton, Ohio 1802-2020**

*Sherri Goudy and Patricia Smith Griffin*

What is a legacy? What is YOUR legacy? For one of the oldest African American families in Dayton, Ohio, uncovering their roots has led to countless discoveries of community activism, perseverance, and survival. In this panel between archivist and family historian, you will hear from the archivist who found a newspaper article 15 years ago that Jewelia Higgins, an African American woman from Dayton, Ohio worked alongside white women for the right to vote. After continued writing about this topic, an art exhibit in 2018 led to the meeting between the archivist and family, and a partnership to document the family's history. Beginning in 1802 through the present day, discover 10 generations of family whose legacy of community leadership began with freedom fighting and women's rights. Also, check out the future of this research and the partnership between public historian and family historian to share this story with the world.

Saturday 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM

## **It CAN Happen to YOU: How Good Collections Management and a Disaster Plan can Aid in Disaster Recovery**

*Natalie Fritz, Curator of Library and Archives; Kasey Eichensehr, Senior Curator; and Virginia Weygandt, Director of Collections; Clark County Historical Society*

Anyone can scare themselves awake (or keep from sleeping altogether) imagining the worst that could happen to your collections. Now, having survived the nightmare scenario played out in real life, the curatorial staff from the Clark County Historical Society will share some of the vivid details of the traumatic event that upended the Heritage Center, discuss how collections and disaster management procedures helped to mitigate damage, and offer lessons learned.

## **Youth Volunteers-Ya Gotta Love 'Em!**

*Sheri Friesner, Historic Village Manager and Chris Lanckenau, Curator of Education, Sauder Village*

Youth Volunteers can be a vital aspect to any museum program. Learn about the Junior Historian program at Sauder Village and how you can apply these ideas to your current program or aide in the building of a new youth volunteer program at your museum. This workshop will present the various ways Sauder Village engages not only the youth volunteers but also their family as a whole. We will also discuss the process of paring youth volunteers with adult staff members. Don't miss out on this valuable resource for your museum.

Saturday 12:30 – 1:30 PM

Outstanding Achievement Awards Luncheon

# 2020 OHIO LOCAL HISTORY ALLIANCE OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNERS

## OHIO LOCAL HISTORY ALLIANCE CHAMPION AWARD

✪ Rose Mowery ✪

## INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

- ✪ John & Alice Schopfer, Mohican County Historical Society ✪
- ✪ Judy McMullen, Noble County Historical Society ✪

## HISTORY OUTREACH - BUDGET UNDER \$25,000

### Media and Publications

- ✪ *Ashville Area Heritage Society – “Amazing Ashville”*
- ✪ *Alliance Historical Society – “Marking Time in Alliance”*

## HISTORY OUTREACH - BUDGET OVER \$25,000

### Media and Publications

- ✪ *Tommaso Solomon and The Cuyahoga County Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument – “Cuyahoga County Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument 125th Anniversary Social Media Campaign”*

### Public Programming

- ✪ *Summit County Historical Society – “Artifacts with Edie”*
- ✪ *Butler County Historical Society – “Driving Tours of Butler County”*
- ✪ *McKinley Presidential Library & Museum – “Project EAT!”*
- ✪ *Shelby County Historical Society – “Shelby County Ohio Bicentennial 1819-2019”*

## SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

TBD

[Apply online](#) by September 10!