

Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board Final Report, Grant NAR14-RC-10201-14

This is an update on the activities of the Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board (OHRAB) between January 1 and December 31, 2014, as funded by a grant of \$23,361.

Board Personnel

Between January 1 and December 31, 2014 the Governor of Ohio made the following reappointments to the board:

Dan Noonan, Assistant Professor – e-Records/Digital Resources Archivist,
The Ohio State University Archives (Term: April 9, 2014 – March 31, 2017)

Heidi Samuel, Project Manager, Capitol Integrity Group (Term: April 9, 2014 – March 31, 2017)

Galen Wilson, Senior Records Analyst, National Archives and Records Administration (Term: April 9, 2014 – March 31, 2017)

The following board members were not reappointed by the Governor of Ohio:

Judy Cetina, Cuyahoga County Records Manager & Archivist, Cuyahoga County Archives

Paul Morehouse, Past President, Ohio Genealogical Society

Jill Tatem, University Archivist, Case Western Reserve University

Board Meetings

The board met on January 31, 2014 at the Ohio History Connection in Columbus. The board discussed updating its strategic plan, which ran through December 31, 2014. Other topics of discussion included: the board's participation in the 2014 Statehood Day advocacy event; the regrant program; updating OHRAB's website; and the Ohio Electronic Records Committee's e-records forum in March.

The board met on May 9, 2014 at the Ohio History Connection in Columbus. The board received updates on the regrant program and the board's history day award. Members also discussed the NHPRC's new grant categories and revisions to OHRAB's strategic plan.

On July 18, 2014 the board met at the Ohio History Connection in Columbus. Members discussed and approved the 2015-2017 strategic plan. The board also discussed how to improve the publicity of the History Day award recipients, specifically how institutions that are used for research by award recipients can be publicized.

The board met on October 2, 2014 at the Ohio History Connection in Columbus to discuss implementing the 2015-2017 strategic plan. During the meeting board committees were reorganized to align to the goals of the strategic plan. Committees also discussed the steps necessary to meet the goals.

On October 31, 2014 the board met at the Ohio History Connection in Columbus. The board elected a chair and vice-chair. It also discussed possible new members and voted to invite six new members.

The minutes for the meetings are attached.

Statehood Day

The 2014 Statehood Day advocacy event was held at the Ohio Statehouse on February 27. Seven members of OHRAB attended the event which was held to promote Ohio's history. Copies of OHRAB's brochure were distributed to attendees and legislators.

History Day

On April 26, 2014 OHRAB presented two awards for the best use of Ohio's historical records in a History Day project. Alan Luntz, Shaker Heights High School, won for his History Day website "Lighting the Flames of Freedom: The American Movement to Save Soviet Jewry." The author used primary source collections from a variety of Ohio archives including the Western Reserve Historical Society and the Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives as well as national collections found online. Records used for research included an original manuscript, telephone transcripts, first-hand accounts, video footage, letters, oral histories and more. The OHRAB review committee was particularly struck by the detailed annotated bibliography that guided readers precisely on how to find the same primary sources by citing the collections down to the series, folder, and item.

Josh Podl and Jacob Voyzey, Shaker Heights High School, won for their History Day senior group website "Ludlow: A Revolution in Grassroots Integration." The authors of this website spent time at the Shaker Historical Society and Shaker Heights Library reviewing archival collections from the Ludlow Community Association and the Shaker Heights Protective Association. They used reports and records from these two organizations, along with recorded first-hand accounts in order to provide content, context and detail focusing on a small, local community's actions within the broader context of the national Civil Rights Movement.

Ohio E-Forum

OHRAB provided support to the joint National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators (NAGARA)/Ohio Electronic Records Committee (OhioERC) Electronic Records Forum. This forum was held on March 20 in Dublin, Ohio. Among the topics discussed at this workshop were cloud computing, e-discovery, and successful collaboration between IT staff, records managers and legal staff. From this grant OHRAB provided travel reimbursement to one of the speakers and four attendees. From an extension received on its 2013 grant, OHRAB provided reimbursement to an additional eight attendees and a speaker.

Archives Achievement Award

In October OHRAB awarded its Achievement Award during Archives Month. The award recognizes significant accomplishments in preserving and improving access to historical records in any format by an Ohio archival institution. The board chose the Greene County Records Center and Archives as the 2014 recipient. In 2011 the building that housed the archives was condemned as unsafe. Staff worked to safely and securely move the records to a new location. Following the move, the Greene County Records Center and Archives instituted new public outreach initiatives to improve and increase public access to the records.

Rack Card

In 2014 OHRAB produced and printed a rack card highlighting a few of the Ohio grant projects or achievement award recipients. The card is intended to show the public the positive impact that these projects have had in making records more accessible as well as encouraging other repositories to apply for these programs. The card will be distributed at archival conferences as well as events like the Ohio History Connection's Statehood Day celebration.

Regrant Program

As part of its 2014 NHPRC grant, OHRAB received \$13,000 for a regrant program. In early January 2014 OHRAB's Regrant Committee announced the regrant opportunity through Ohio archives and

records management listservs and networks. In response to the grant announcement, OHRAB received 30 applications requesting a total of \$45,189.

OHRAB's Regrant Committee reviewed the applications and chose the recipients via a phone conference. Ten institutions were chosen. Members of OHRAB worked one-on-one with the grant recipients to provide oversight and guidance for the projects.

The institutions that received regrant funding were:

- Alliance Historical Society: *Alliance Historical Records Preservation and Cataloging Project* (\$1,769)
- Canal Fulton Public Library: *Preservation of Canal Fulton Local History Photographs* (\$800)
- Clinton County Records and Archives: *Indexing and Rehousing of Probate Records* (\$1,500)
- Hardin County Genealogy Society: *Digitization and Storage of Anna Lee Mayhorn Collection* (\$640)
- Historic New Richmond: *Preservation and Cataloging of Historic New Richmond's Archive* (\$798)
- Ohio Genealogical Society: *Digitization of the "Ohio Story" Script: Bringing Old Radio Back to Life* (\$2,000)
- Otterbein University: *Reclaiming the Presidential Papers, Part I: Walter G. Clippinger Papers Preservation and Indexing Project (1909-1939)* (\$1,960)
- Rocky River Public Library: *Rocky River Public Library & Cowan Pottery Museum Records Database Project* (\$870)
- Summit County Historical Society: *Captain Simon Perkins, Jr. Quartermaster Papers Preservation and Digitization Project* (\$1,600)
- Warren County Historical Society: *Historical Records Preservation and Digitization Project* (\$1,042)

During the course of these projects more than 150 cubic feet of records were processed and preserved and more than 5,000 pages were digitized and made accessible to the public. The final reports of the projects are available at <http://www.ohrab.org/grants/regrant/>.

The board was unable to complete the following activity:

Online Presentation on Grant Assistance

The board was unable to develop an online presentation on the grant assistance that OHRAB offers. This was due to scheduling conflicts with the board members involved in the project.