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A TIME TO CELEBRATE

The calendar still says August. We still have temperatures climbing into the 80s and even an occasional 90. But the fact is, fall is just around the corner.

Fall is a special time of year for the Ohioana Library, and will be particularly so this year as we mark Ohioana's 85th anniversary. It was in October, 1929, that First Lady Martha Kinney Cooper gathered leaders from around the state to enlist their help with a special project: to establish a collection of books by Ohio authors and on Ohio subjects for the Governor's Mansion in Columbus. From that simple idea, the Ohioana Library was born.

From 300 books received that first year, Ohioana has grown steadily. Eighty-five years later, the collection holds more than 75,000 items. The library's programming has also expanded: awards were first presented in 1942 and a quarterly review journal first published in 1958. In 2007, the Ohioana Book Festival made its debut. Martha Kinney Cooper would be proud indeed!

The highlight of this 85th anniversary year (and of every fall) is the presentation of the Ohioana Awards. We first announced 2014's book award winners in July's newsletter:

- Fiction:** Beth Hoffman, *Looking for Me*
- Nonfiction:** Brad Ricca, *Super Boys*
- Poetry:** Kazim Ali, *Sky Ward*
- Juvenile Literature:** Andrea Cheng, *Etched in Clay*
- About Ohio:** Doris Kearns Goodwin, *The Bully Pulpit*

In addition to these awards, we announced Jeannie Vanasco as the winner of the Walter Rumsey Marvin Grant, which is given to an emerging writer age 30 or less who has not yet published a book. Jeannie is the 25th recipient of the Marvin Grant, named for Ohioana's second director.

The annual Ohioana Awards reception and presentation will take place in the Museum Gallery of the Ohio Statehouse in Columbus on Friday, October 10.

The Director's Chair

Dear Friends,

As the Ohioana Library celebrates its 85th anniversary this October, I am celebrating two personal milestones. In a few weeks, it will be one year since I became Executive Director of Ohioana, succeeding Linda Hengst, who retired after a remarkable twenty-five years in the position.

And August 25 marked the 10th anniversary of the publication of my book, *Black Diva of the Thirties*, a biography about the life and career of pioneer African American opera singer Ruby Elzy.

One of the first reviews of my book appeared in the *Ohioana Quarterly*. In the spring of 2005, I was invited to appear at Ohioana's Central Ohio Author Tea. I met many wonderful people at the event, including Linda Hengst. Six months later, I came to work for Linda at Ohioana.

Thinking of my own experience as an Ohio writer makes me so appreciative that an organization like Ohioana exists. Even before the library adopted its tagline,

We are honored that former Ohio Governor Bob Taft will be joining us, making this occasion even more auspicious. Governor Taft and his wife, former First Lady Hope Taft, have been great friends of Ohioana for many years. It was during the Taft administration that Ohioana moved from South Front Street, where it had been located since moving from its original home in the Governor's Mansion in 1934, to a state-of-the-art facility in the restored Jeffrey Mining Center. Hope Taft presided over the dedication of Ohioana's new home in April 2001.

Governor Taft will accept the Ohioana Book Award for *The Bully Pulpit* on behalf of Doris Kearns Goodwin, who is unable to attend. Ms. Goodwin's prize-winning book is about the Governor's great-grandfather, the only man in American history to serve as both president and chief justice of the United States.

The event on October 10 begins at 6 p.m., with hors d'oeuvres, Ohio

wines, and music by students from Fort Hayes Metropolitan Education Center. The program begins at 7 p.m. with the presentation of the 2014 Ohioana Awards.

Following the awards ceremony, we move into what has become a highlight of each year's event: a writer's roundtable with the winners. Kazim Ali, Andrea Cheng, Beth Hoffman, Brad Ricca, and Jeannie Vanasco will all join in what promises to be a lively and entertaining forum, moderated by *Ohio Magazine* senior editor (and Ohioana trustee) Linda Feagler.

We hope you will join us on October 10 for this memorable evening celebrating the best of Ohio literature—and celebrating 85 remarkable years of the Ohioana Library.

Tickets to the 2014 Ohioana Awards event are \$40 each and will go on sale September 15.

"Connecting readers and Ohio writers," it was doing that for me.

This was reinforced recently when Ohioana received a copy of *Shattered Secrets*, the latest book by New York Times best-selling author Karen Harper. In her gracious dedication, Karen wrote:

"To the staff and board of the Ohioana Library Association, which does so much to preserve and promote the work of Ohio authors. Especially to my friends, former director of Ohioana Linda Hengst and current Executive Director David Weaver. Don and I appreciate all you do."

What a wonderful tribute. My sincere thanks to Karen. I come to work each day to a library that collects, preserves, and celebrates Ohio literature and that connects readers and Ohio writers. As I mark my first anniversary in this job, I am truly grateful.

David E. Weaver
Executive Director

REVIEWS

Just in time for college football...

Welsh-Huggins, Andrew. *Fourth Down and Out: An Andy Hayes Mystery*. Swallow Press (Athens, OH) 2014. HC \$26.95.

Andy Hayes is a former Ohio State University football player turned private investigator. His current investigation begins harmlessly enough: retrieve a laptop and remove a damaging video. When the laptop is stolen, the investigation snowballs into a tangled web of intrigue, deceit, and some tense visits by local and federal law enforcement agents.

Although Welsh-Huggins intersperses Hayes's investigation with descriptions of Columbus neighborhoods and football, even those who aren't sports fans will enjoy the story. The mystery holds together, the action is steady, and the violence is minimal despite Hayes's multiple encounters with a baseball bat. Best of all, the investigation comes together into a neat package and leaves Hayes set for his next job, coming next year.

Reviewed by Miriam Kahn

NEW BOOKS

The following books arrived at the Ohioana Library in June and July. Look for them at your local library or bookstore!

Nonfiction

Bauer, Jeni Britton. *Jeni's Splendid Ice Cream Desserts*. Workman/Artisan Books (New York, NY) 2014. HC \$23.95.

Bauer's second cookbook not only includes new ice cream recipes (including a vegan version of her signature Salty Caramel), but also baked treats, sauces, and toppings to accompany her frozen treats.

D'Annibale, Betsy. *The 1924 Tornado in Lorain & Sandusky: Deadliest in Ohio History*. History Press (Charleston, SC) 2014. PB \$19.99.

On June 28, 1924, an F4 tornado formed over Lake Erie and made landfall in Sandusky and Lorain. Before the day was over, a city was destroyed and thousands of lives were changed forever.

Doerr, Joe Francis (ed.). *The Salt Companion to John Matthias*. Salt Publishing (Cromer, Norfolk, UK) 2011. PB \$29.95.

Eighteen contemporary writers contribute essays, interviews, and poems that offer insight into the work of poet John Matthias. For more on Matthias, see the three-volume set of his collected works listed on p. 5.

DuSablón, Mary Anna; John Cicmanec; Connie J. Harrell; and Brian Balsley. *Walking the Steps of Cincinnati: A Guide to the Queen City's Scenic and Historic Secrets*. Ohio Univ. Press (Athens, OH) 2014. PB \$24.95.

This revised and updated edition of DuSablón's 1998 guidebook maps thirty-four walks around Cincinnati's neighborhoods and covers many of the city's more than 400 sets of steps.

Guerrieri, Vince. *The Blue Streaks & Little Giants: More Than a Century of Sandusky & Fremont Ross Football*. History Press (Charleston, SC) 2013. PB \$19.99. Fremont and Sandusky High Schools played their first game on November 2, 1895, beginning the second-oldest high school football rivalry in Ohio. Sports journalist Guerrieri tells the story of the players, coaches, and more than 100 games that have fueled this historic contest.

Guy, Susan M. *Mobsters, Madams & Murder in Steubenville, Ohio: The Story of Little Chicago*. History Press (Charleston, SC) 2014. PB \$19.99.

Although nearly all cities have crime, Steubenville had more than its share in the early years of the twentieth century. During Prohibition crime spiked even higher, earning Steubenville the nickname "Little Chicago." Jefferson County native Guy documents the crimes and criminals as well as the police officers and Prohibition dry agents who fought them.

Herbert, Jeffrey G. *Index of Death and Marriage Notices Appearing in the Cincinnati Enquirer, 1818-1869*. Little Miami Publishing Co. (Milford, OH) 2013. PB \$45.00. In addition to the marriage and death notices described in the title, this genealogy resource also indexes other events such as divorce, guardianship, debt relief, and the occasional

criminal conviction. Created by the Hamilton County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society.

Weintraub, Stanley. *General Sherman's Christmas: Savannah, 1864*. Smithsonian Books/HarperCollins (New York, NY) 2009. HC \$24.00.

On Thanksgiving Day, 1864, William Tecumseh Sherman was pushing his Union troops in a 300-mile march across Georgia. His methodical approach to Savannah convinced Confederate general W.J. Hardee to retreat across the Savannah River, allowing Sherman to present the city to Abraham Lincoln as a Christmas gift—three days early. This book tells the story of Sherman's march and the fight for Savannah in the voices of soldiers and civilians as they neared the end of a long and bloody war.

Fiction

Andriacco, Dan and Kieran McMullen. *The Poisoned Penman*. MX Publishing (London, England) 2014. PB \$11.95.

In 1922 London, gossip journalist Langdale Pike is poisoned while having tea with American reporter Enoch Hale—just as Pike is about to reveal information bigger than his usual social gossip. As Hale tries to track down the killer, he draws the attention of Mycroft Holmes and his younger brother, Sherlock. Can Hale and Sherlock uncover Pike's secret before Hale himself becomes the next victim?

Castillo, Linda. *The Dead Will Tell: A Kate Burkholder Novel*. Minotaur/St. Martin's (New York, NY) 2014. HC \$25.99.

When two deaths occur in the small community of Painters Mill, police chief Kate Burkholder

quickly discovers that an apparent suicide is actually murder. Her investigation uncovers a link to a thirty-five-year-old tragedy and a murderer willing to kill anyone who gets in his way.

Doerr, Anthony. *All the Light We Cannot See*. Scribner/Simon & Schuster (New York, NY) 2014. HC \$27.00.

In France, blind Marie-Laure lives with her father near Paris's Museum of Natural History, where he works as a locksmith. When the Nazis invade, they flee to Saint-Malo, taking the museum's most valuable jewel with them. In Germany, the orphaned Werner becomes an expert at building and repairing radios. When the Nazis discover his talent, they send him to a brutal Hitler Youth academy and then on a special assignment to track the resistance. As the stories of Marie-Laure and Werner converge, Doerr shows us how people can find light and hope against all odds.

Ellis, Mary. *A Plain Man*. Harvest House (Eugene, OR) 2014. PB \$13.99.

When Caleb Beachy rejoins his Amish community after spending several years in the English world, he discovers there's more to reconnecting with his faith than resuming Amish practices. Josie Yoder gives him hope for the future—and may be able to help him find faith in his heart as well.

Keller, Julia. *Summer of the Dead*. Minotaur/St. Martin's (New York, NY) 2014. HC \$25.99.

A killer is stalking the struggling inhabitants of Acker's Gap, West Virginia. The investigation leads county prosecutor Bell Elkins and sheriff Nick Fogelsong to Lindy

Crabtree, a coal miner's daughter who is clearly keeping secrets. As Bell tries to catch the killer and cope with her own sister's release from prison, she must decide whether Lindy is a suspect or the next victim.

McClellan, Brian. *The Crimson Campaign: Powder Mage, Book 2*. Hachette/Orbit Books (New York, NY) 2014. HC \$26.00.

In *Promise of Blood*, the first book in the Powder Mage trilogy, Field Marshal Tamas overthrew a corrupt king, factions struggled for power, and gods woke to walk the earth. In this sequel, Tamas finds himself cut off behind enemy lines as an angry god leads an army against him. McClellan's series continues with its unique blend of flintlocks and magic.

Ng, Celeste. *Everything I Never Told You*. Penguin Press (New York, NY) 2014. HC \$26.95.

Lydia is the middle—and favorite—child of Marilyn and James Lee, an interracial couple living in 1970s Ohio. When her body is found in the local lake, their delicate family balance unravels. Ng's debut novel paints a moving portrait of how history, cultural differences, and parents' dreams for their children can pull us apart or bring us understanding.

Paisley, Linda. *Back In Eden*. Avalon Books (New York, NY) 2001. HC.

When Wilhelmina "Willy" Heidler returns to her hometown one summer to care for her ailing mother, the last person she expects to see is childhood friend Marshall Gray. Although the two parted on bad terms when Marshall left for college, Willy has never forgotten

him. Can she forgive past mistakes?

Paisley, Linda. *Hunter's Vigil*. Avalon Books (New York, NY) 2004. HC.

Anxious for a fresh start, Hannah Morgan takes a teaching job in the small town of Whetstone, Montana. Rancher Hunter Grissom gets to know the new teacher as she uses part of his land for a school ecology project, and a friendship develops. However, when Hannah risks her life to save Hunter's cattle, he realizes his feelings go deeper. Can he save Hannah and trust his heart?

Paisley, Linda. *Jenny's Texas Cowboy*. Avalon Books (New York, NY) 2000. HC.

After a family tragedy strikes, Jenny Courter leaves college to care for her orphaned nephew and run the family ranch in Montana. When her brother's friend Josh arrives to help, the two are immediately attracted to each other. Can a Texas/Montana relationship work, or will Jenny be forced to give up the land she loves?

Resnick, Mike. *Cat on a Cold Tin Roof: An Eli Paxton Mystery*. Seventh Street Books/Prometheus (Amherst, NY) 2014. PB \$15.95. P.I. Eli Paxton is struggling to make ends meet, so he takes a job to find a missing cat that was wearing a diamond-studded collar when it disappeared. As Paxton investigates he must navigate a complex plot involving the mob, a Bolivian drug cartel, and a real estate tycoon. He may even earn enough money to pay his bills...if he survives.

Poetry

Curtis, Grace. *The Shape of a Box: Poems*. Dos Madres Press (Loveland, OH) 2014. PB \$16.00.

In this combination of prose and verse, Curtis molds language, form, and type as she explores everyday moments.

Finkelstein, Norman. *Scribe*. Dos Madres Press (Loveland, OH) 2009. PB \$15.00.

This collection explores the contrasts between group and individual, light and dark, and real and ideal.

Grubbs, Gerry. *The Hive Is a Book We Read For Its Honey*. Dos Madres Press (Loveland, OH) 2013. PB \$16.00.

In this volume, inspired by a quote from Rainer Maria Rilke, Grubbs uses the world of bees to explore themes ranging from desire to the nature of the universe.

Hansel, Pauletta. *What I Did There*. Dos Madres Press (Loveland, OH) 2011. PB \$15.00.

In this collection Hansel shares what is essentially a memoir in verse, exploring family, work, and love in a way that lets readers journey with her.

Hughes, Betsy. *Breaking Weather*. National Federation of State Poetry Societies Press (Mechanicsburg, OH) 2014. PB \$15.00.

This collection of sonnets about seasons, emotion, arts, and the end of life was the winner of the National Federation of State Poetry Societies 2013 Stevens Poetry Manuscript Competition.

La Charity, Ralph. *Farewellia a la Aralee*. Dos Madres Press (Loveland, OH) 2014. PB \$18.00.

The poems in this collection were originally performed in September, 2013 as a tribute to poet and playwright Aralee Strange. The volume

also includes an appendix titled “Cinemanuensing” and a CD of La Charity delivering the poems.

Matthias, John. *Collected Shorter Poems, Vol. 1: 1961-1994*. Shearsman Books (Bristol, UK) 2013. PB \$23.00.

This volume of Matthias’s collected works includes the poems that first established his reputation. The book also includes a section of monologues, a song-cycle text, and selections from his earliest work.

Matthias, John. *Collected Shorter Poems, Vol. 2: 1995-2011*. Shearsman Books (Bristol, UK) 2011. PB \$23.00.

This volume of Matthias’s collected works assembles shorter poems from the second part of his career.

Matthias, John. *Collected Longer Poems*. Shearsman Books (Bristol, UK) 2012. PB \$23.00.

This volume of Matthias’s collected works covers all of his long poems written after 1970 with the exception of “Trigons,” which is available separately.

Spidel, Lianne. *Bird in the Hand*. Dos Madres Press (Loveland, OH) 2014. PB \$17.00.

The poems in this collection are snapshots of a life, and paint vivid pictures of the events and people that comprise it.

Volck, Brian. *Flesh Becomes Word*. Dos Madres Press (Loveland, OH) 2013. PB \$17.00.

In this debut poetry collection, Volck, a physician, explores questions of flesh and faith.

Williams, Tyrone. *Adventures of Pi: Poems 1980-1990*. Dos Madres Press (Loveland, OH) 2011. PB

\$15.00.

Williams’s poems explore culture and race using language, form, and symbols (both figurative and literal) to add layers of meaning.

Middle Grade & Children’s
Cheng, Andrea. *The Year of the Fortune Cookie*. HMH Books for Young Readers (Boston/New York) 2014. HC \$15.99.

When eleven-year-old Anna Wang’s teacher gets approval to adopt a baby from China, Anna is invited to travel with her. Although Anna has been looking forward to the trip, she is also nervous, and wonders—is she more American or more Chinese?

Kenah, Katharine. *Ferry Tail*. Sleeping Bear Press (Ann Arbor, MI) 2014. HC \$16.99.
Walter loves his “job” as a ferry dog—greeting cars, bringing the captain his newspaper, and tasting bacon for the cook. When the captain’s cat moves in and no one seems to need Walter’s help anymore, he tries his luck on land...and finds an unlikely friend.

Lewis, J. Patrick. *Everything Is a Poem: The Best of J. Patrick Lewis*. Creative Editions (Mankato, MN) 2014. HC \$24.99.
Former Children’s Poet Laureate J. Patrick Lewis has authored more than eighty-five picture books since becoming a full-time writer just fifteen years ago. This volume collects some of his best poems, from silly to serious.

Lewis, J. Patrick. *Harlem Hellfighters*. Creative Editions (Mankato, MN) 2014. HC \$18.99.
The 369th Infantry Regiment—the first African American regiment to serve as part of U.S. forces in

WWI—became known as the “Harlem Hellfighters” due to their ferocity in battle. They were equally well known for the regimental band that, under the leadership of James Reese Europe, took the sounds of jazz, blues, and ragtime overseas. Text and illustrations combine to tell the regiment’s story through training in the deep South, battle in France, and their homecoming and Europe’s untimely death in 1919.

Mackall, Dandi Daley. *My Bible Animals Storybook*. Tyndale Kids (Carol Stream, IL) 2014. HC \$14.99.

In this book Mackall provides a collection of animal-themed Bible stories told in child-friendly language. Each story references the related Bible verse(s) and provides fun facts about the featured animal.

Solheim, James; illus. by Jeffrey Ebbeler. *The Only Alex Addleston in All These Mountains*. Lerner/Carolrhoda Books (Minneapolis, MN) 2014. HC \$17.95.

Ohioan Jeffrey Ebbeler illustrates this story of a boy and a girl with the same name who, even when separated by time and “a few zillion miles,” remain best friends forever.

Collection Note

Our thanks to the family of Arthur E. and Jan S. Adams for the generous donation of their works:

Adams, Arthur E., Ian M. Matley, and William O. McCagg. *An Atlas of Russian and East European History*. Frederick A. Praeger (New York, NY) 1966.

Adams, Arthur E. *Beware the Pale Horse: A Novel of Suspense*. Aegina Press (Huntington, WV) 1999.

Adams, Arthur E. *Bolsheviks in the Ukraine: The Second Campaign, 1918-1919*. Yale Univ. Press (New Haven, CT) 1963.

Adams, Arthur E. *Imperial Russia After 1861: Peaceful Modernization or Revolution?* D.C. Heath and Company (Boston, MA) 1965.

Adams, Arthur E. and Jan Steckelberg Adams. *Men Versus Systems: Agriculture in the USSR, Poland, and Czechoslovakia*. The Free Press (New York, NY) 1971.

Adams, Arthur E. *Moscow Nights*. Vantage Press (New York, NY) 2000.

Adams, Arthur. *Quimby: A Novel*. St. Martin’s Press (New York, NY) 1988.

Adams, Arthur E. *Readings in Soviet Foreign Policy: Theory and Practice*. D.C. Heath and Company (Boston, MA) 1961.

Adams, Arthur and Ronald Suny. *The Russian Revolution and Bolshevik Victory: Third Edition*. D.C. Heath and Company (Lexington, MA) 1990.

Adams, Arthur E. *Special Agent*. Vantage Press (New York, NY) 2000.

Adams, Arthur E. *Stalin and His Times*. Holt, Rinehart and Winston (New York, NY) 1972.

Adams, Jan S. *A Foreign Policy in Transition: Moscow’s Retreat from Central America and the Caribbean, 1985-1992*. Duke Univ. Press (Durham, NC) 1992.

Adams, Jan S. and Donald E. Schulz (eds.). *Political Participation in Communist Systems*. Pergamon Press (New York, NY) 1981.

Adams, Jan S. and Marilyn R. Waldman (eds.). *Transnational Approaches of the Social Sciences: Readings in International Studies*. Univ. Press of America (Lanham, MD) 1983.

COMING SOON

Ohioana Book Awards October 10, 2014 at the Ohio Statehouse Museum Gallery (6-9 p.m.) Celebrate Ohio literature with Ohioana as we recognize the 2014 Book Award winners. The evening will include award presentations, a round-table discussion, and book signings as well as hors d’œuvres and Ohio wine. Tickets are \$40 per person and will go on sale September 15.

Ohioana Book Club meets November 12, 2014 at the Ohioana Library (10 a.m.-noon) November’s book selection is the winner of the 2014 Ohioana Book Award for Nonfiction—*Super Boys: The Amazing Adventures of Jerry Siegel & Joe Shuster—The Creators of Superman* by Brad Ricca. The club meets in the Ohioana reading room at 10:00 a.m. If you would like to attend, please e-mail us at ohioana@ohioana.org.