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WOMEN'S HISTORY AT OHIOANA

When Martha Kinney Cooper founded the Ohioana Library in 1929, she had the help of several other remarkable women, including Florence Roberts Head (Ohioana's first executive director) and Clara Keck Heflebower (an Ohio poet who later became national president of the National League of American Pen Women). It is no coincidence, then, that Ohioana's collection includes a variety of unique women's history resources. In celebration of Women's History Month, we're highlighting a few of those resources below.



Clara Keck Heflebower

Biographical Files

Ohioana's biographical files contain materials about many notable Ohio women, including authors such as Ohioana Book Award winners Lois Lenski and Toni Morrison; political pioneers such as Florence Ellinwood Allen, the first female state supreme court justice in the nation (and an early Ohioana board member); and suffragists such as Harriet Taylor Upton. Biographical files may contain original photographs, correspondence by and to the subject, newspaper clippings, and other materials.

Organizational Archives

Ohioana holds the archives of several organizations and programs, including the Central Ohio Chapter of the National League of American Pen Women, the Columbus Chapter of Sorosis (a women's literary club whose Columbus chapter dates to 1897), and the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame (a program run by the State of Ohio from 1978 to 2011 that recognized women's achievements in fields ranging from science to

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The Director's Chair

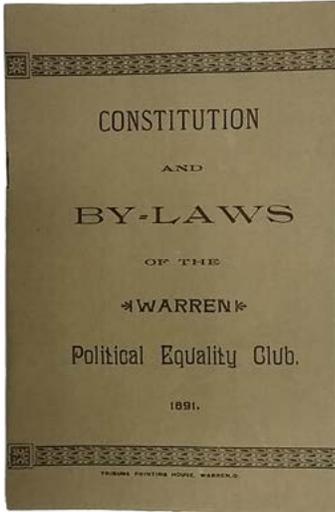
Dear Friends,

Women's History Month was particularly special this year as Ohioana joined with the State Library of Ohio and the National League of American Pen Women to present "Parallel Lives—Women Create," a celebration of the organization's talented writers, artists, and musicians. The link between Ohioana and the NLAPW goes back to 1929 when Martha Kinney Cooper invited her friend Clara Keck Heflebower to the organizational meeting of the Ohioana Library. The partnership formed more than eight decades ago still flourishes today.

Partnerships. What a great word and concept. Ohioana has been fortunate to have many partners who have collaborated with us on programs and projects from collection building to producing the Ohioana Book Festival. As Ohioana observes its 85th anniversary this year, we'd like to congratulate two partners who are also celebrating milestones in 2014. Ohio University Press in Athens marks its 50th birthday this year. OU Press publishes fifty new titles each year, many of them

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sports to the arts). Organizational archives may include meeting minutes, articles of incorporation, member rosters and/or biographies, pamphlets, programs, and other materials related to the organization.



Ephemera

Ohioana's archives also include ephemera related to women's history. We have several pamphlets

from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries related to the women's suffrage and temperance movements in Ohio and beyond.

One-of-a-Kind Items

Finally, Ohioana's collection includes many items that do not exist anywhere else. In the early 1940s Ohioana ran a statewide essay contest titled "Who's Who Among Ohio Pioneer Women." The original entries, including the winner of the \$100 first prize, are collected in four bound volumes in the library stacks. Ohioana's scrapbook collection includes books about several women, including Emma "Grandma" Gatewood (who hiked the Appalachian Trail for the first time at age 67), pianist Molly Rittman, and author Grace Goulder Izant (who wrote the "Ohio Scenes and Citizens" column for Cleveland's *Plain Dealer Magazine*), among others.

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by Ohio authors. It was their book *Good Roots: Writers Reflect on Growing Up in Ohio* that provided the launching pad for the first Ohioana Book Festival in 2007. Here in Columbus, Thurber House celebrates its 30th anniversary. Situated in the former home of writer and humorist James Thurber, Thurber House has achieved national acclaim for its literary programming, and will mark its anniversary with a two-day event in May featuring author Steve Berry.

More than two dozen organizations partner with Ohioana each year. We value and appreciate each and every one of them. They help make our programs and events possible, and enable us to realize our goal of "connecting readers and Ohio writers."

David E. Weaver
Executive Director

REVIEWS

Miller, Brandon Marie. *Women of the Frontier: 16 Tales of Trailblazing Homesteaders, Entrepreneurs, and Rabble-Rousers*. Chicago Review Press (Chicago, IL) 2013.

If tales of adventure and heroism in the Wild West make you say "Yeehaw!," then Brandon Marie Miller's newest book is the perfect read for you! *Women of the Frontier: 16 Tales of Trailblazing Homesteaders, Entrepreneurs, and Rabble-Rousers* puts readers in the dusty boots of women who braved the unknown and left their marks across America. For women in the mid-nineteenth century, life was a mixture of excitement and tedium, independence and oppression. While men were viewed as the decision-makers and breadwinners, many women were the true backbones of their families. In addition to raising children and keeping a home, strong-willed women found ways to financially support their families in times of desperation. Miller's compilation gives unique perspectives on western expansion, and includes the stories of Margaret Reed, who survived the Donner party horrors; naturalist Martha Dartt Maxwell, whose elegant taxidermy displays of Colorado's wildlife became famous across the country; and political activist Carry "Saloon Smasher" Nation, who was just as feisty as her name implies. Each woman's courageous tale will tug at your heartstrings, make you laugh, and inspire you to blaze a trail of your own.

NEW BOOKS

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

Nonfiction

Beachy, Eli R. *World War II in Medina County, Ohio: At Home and Overseas*. The History Press (Charleston, SC) 2014. PB \$19.99. With the outbreak of WWII, people who had never before left Ohio traveled the world as part of the war effort. In this book Beachy shares the stories of Medina County residents from the front lines to the home front, documenting one small community's greatest generation.

Fensch, Thomas. *At the Dangerous Edge of Social Justice: Race, Violence, and Death in America*. New Century Books (North Chesterfield, VA) 2013. HC \$30. Fensch shares the stories of twelve Americans who either risked or sacrificed their lives in pursuit of social justice and racial equality.

Koile, Wendy. *Legends and Lost Treasure of Northern Ohio*. The History Press (Charleston, SC) 2014. PB \$19.99. With a cast of characters ranging from French colonial soldiers to John Dillinger, this book shares the stories of northern Ohio's missing treasures, from sunken ships to lost loot.

Pathy, Sam. *Wrigley Field Year by Year: A Century at the Friendly Confines*. Sports Publishing/Skyhorse (New York, NY) 2014. HC \$35.

Chicago's Wrigley Field is one of only two major league ballparks to survive for 100 years. Baseball

historian Pathy divides this book into nine "innings," each describing a period in the park's history and containing year-by-year statistics, interesting events, and photographs.

Reitelbach, Diann Auld. *Catching the Thief: A Story, A Search, and Schizophrenia*. Tate Publishing (Mustang, OK) 2013. HC \$12.99. In the fall of 1972, Diann Reitelbach's son Kirk was a scholar, athlete, and president of his senior class. Then his personality began to change. This book documents Kirk's struggle with schizophrenia, its effect on the rest of his family, and Reitelbach's 30-year journey to free her son from the disease that is "the thief of the soul."

Roach, Edward J. *The Wright Company: From Invention to Industry*. Ohio Univ. Press (Ada, OH) 2014. PB \$22.95. In 1909, six years after their first flight at Kitty Hawk, Wilbur and Orville Wright decided it was time to start manufacturing their airplanes for sale. With the backing of Wall Street tycoons, the Wright Company was established and trained hundreds of early aviators. However, the shift from running a bicycle shop to running a corporation was a difficult one. This book provides a detailed look at a relatively unknown part of Wright Brothers history and its impact on early aviation.

Shaffer, Bev. *Chocolate Desserts to Die For! The Complete Guide for Chocolate Lovers*. Pelican Publishing (Gretna, LA) 2013. HC \$26.95.

Shaffer's latest cookbook includes recipes for more than 100 different chocolatey desserts as well as

tips for buying and working with various forms of chocolate.

Fiction

Brown, Duffy. *Pearls and Poison*. Berkley Prime Crime (New York, NY) 2014. PB \$7.99.

Regan Summerside's mother, Judge "Guillotine Gloria," is up for re-election. When her opponent is murdered, she becomes the prime suspect. Can Regan clear her mother's name before the real killer puts an end to her investigation—permanently?

Bryan, Lissa. *Under These Restless Skies*. The Writer's Coffee Shop (Waxahachie, TX) 2014. PB \$21.99. In Tudor England, Will has spent his life alone. When he finds Emma, a selkie, sleeping on the beach, he steals her pelt, binding her to him. Together they travel to the court of Henry VIII, where Will serves as the king's fool and Emma befriends Anne Boleyn. As the king's behavior becomes more erratic, can Will protect the woman he has come to love?

Poetry

Bilgere, George. *Imperial*. Univ. of Pittsburgh Press (Pittsburgh, PA) 2014. PB \$15.95.

Bilgere's sixth poetry collection documents moments large and small in the lives of post-WWII Americans, from childhood to the present.

Fix, Charlene. *Frankenstein's Flowers*. CW Books (Cincinnati, OH) 2014. PB \$19.

The three sections in this poetry collection—"Persephone and the Light," "The Reader," and "Filmography"—bridge the gap between culture (whether ancient or modern) and introspection.

Young Adult

Arnett, Mindee. *The Nightmare Dilemma*. Tor Teen (New York, NY) 2014. HC \$17.99.

Sixteen-year-old Dusty Everhart is a nightmare—literally—and attends Arkwell Academy, where her classmates include mermaids, sirens, wizards, and demons. Life at school is getting complicated: the class jokester has been accused of a vicious assault, her new boyfriend's prophetic dreams are turning into nightmares, and her ex-boyfriend is back at school with a hidden agenda. Dusty must get to the truth in this sequel to *The Nightmare Affair*.

Middle Grade & Children's

Kennedy, Anne Vittur. *The Farmer's Away! Baa! Neigh!* Candlewick Press (Somerville, MA) 2014. HC \$15.99.

When the farmer's away, the animals play—and dance, and picnic, and waterski. Simple text that mimics the sounds made by barnyard animals helps even the youngest listeners follow along, while older children and adults will laugh out loud at the animal antics in Kennedy's colorful illustrations.

COMING SOON

Hamilton County Author's Tea April 6, 2014 at the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County's Main Library—Reading Garden Lounge

Each spring, Ohioana Library founder Martha Kinney Cooper would host a tea for Hamilton County authors at her Cincinnati home. Today, Ohioana and the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County continue this tradition by recognizing Hamilton County authors at a ceremony at the Main Library. See page 5 of this newsletter for details!

Ohio Poem in Your Pocket Day April 24, 2014 sponsored by Cleveland Public Library

Celebrate poetry with Cleveland Public Library as they host a reading by the Midwest's National Student Poet, Sojourner Ahebee, then hit the streets to pass out poems. Ahebee will also lead three poetry workshops for Cleveland teens. See last year's poems [here](#).

Ohioana Book Festival May 10, 2014 at the Fort Hayes Metropolitan Education Center, Columbus

Once again we will host nearly 100 authors at our annual book festival. Authors have been chosen, programming and activities are being planned, and books are being ordered. Watch your e-mail and Ohioana's [Facebook](#) page for announcements about authors, activities, and more!

Ohioana Book Club meets May 14, 2014 at the Ohioana Library

May's book is *The Coldest Night* by Robert Olmstead, which won the 2013 Ohioana Book award for fiction. 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.

Ohioana 2014

The Writer's Life: Creative Minds At Work

Join us for an exciting literary event honoring authors from Hamilton County, including the presentation of the 2014 Ohioana Cooper Award for outstanding promotion of books and reading. Meet authors and learn more about the publishing world through an author panel discussion.

This year's panelists, speaking on creative influences that inspire them to write, include:

Emma Carlson Berne (Never Let You Go; Still Waters)
David Lyman (Cincinnati Ballet Celebrates 50: 1963-2013)
Dann Woellert (The Authentic History of Cincinnati Chili)
Mary Kay Carson (How Does The Earth Spin?; What Was Your Dream, Dr. King? And Other Questions About Martin Luther King, Jr.)

All authors in attendance will be recognized during the event. Books by many of the authors will be available for sale in the Main Library's Atrium. Meet local authors and have your books signed.

Ohioana 2014 Schedule of Events

1:00-1:30 p.m. - Author registration, introductions, photos
1:30-2:00 p.m. - Welcome, speeches, Cooper Award
2:00-3:00 p.m. - Panel discussion, author recognition
3:00-4:00 p.m. - Author meet-and-greet

Sunday, April 6, 2014

MAIN LIBRARY - READING GARDEN LOUNGE
THIS EVENT IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL (513) 369-6919



Main Library -
Reading Garden Lounge
800 Vine Street
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