

OHIO HISTORICAL DECORATIVE ARTS ASSOCIATION

JULY 2019 NEWSLETTER

SPRING TRIP TO MADISON A WINNER

A heartfelt thank you to OHDAAs members Carolyn & Frank Gunter, Keith Letsche and Jerry Mercer for the excellent work they did in organizing and presenting our fabulous trip to the two river towns of Madison, Indiana and Moscow, Ohio. Everyone had a wonderful time exploring the numerous historic venues, private homes and local history experiences that were abundant. Another home run for the OHDAAs organization! Check out the OHDAAs website, www.OHDAAs.org, to see the wonderful photos and commentary courtesy of our webmaster, Terry Sheridan.

FALL TRIP TO CINCINNATI- SEPTEMBER 12-14, 2019

After seeing the river towns of Madison and Moscow, we hope you will be able to join us on our tour of another river town, the Queen of the West, Cincinnati. The Cincinnati team, Pam Casebolt, Kathy Ciafardini, Susan Fischer, and Betsy Warwick have put together a schedule of activities to introduce you to our City of Seven Hills.

Our host hotel will be the Holiday Inn Express, located in suburban Cincinnati just off I 71. Our conference will begin on Thursday, September 12, at 12:15 pm, when we will meet in the lobby of our hotel. We will car pool from our hotel to downtown Cincinnati, for a guided tour of the Isaac M. Wise Temple, built in the civil war, and still retaining many of the original furnishings, including lighting devices. We will then walk to the Covenant-First Presbyterian Church built in 1870, where we will have a guided tour to see the Tiffany stained glass windows and the Fry family carved altar pieces.

Back in our cars, we will go across town to the Cincinnati Art Museum (CAM) to view their wonderful collection of Cincinnati decorative arts with a tour by OHDAAs member, and CAM Curator of Decorative Arts and Design, Amy Dehan. CAM is a treasure trove of Cincinnati decorative arts, including Cincinnati art-carved furniture, Rockwood, and Cincinnati paintings.

After a short break at our hotel, we will travel a short distance to the home of OHDA member Cay O'Bryan, for a delicious dinner on the penthouse floor of her residence. We will have a great opportunity to chat with old friends and to meet new ones, as well as to enjoy the views of Cincinnati. A short lecture will follow dinner.

On Friday September 13, after breakfast, a mini-bus will pick us up at the hotel to take us to downtown Cincinnati, where parking and car pooling can be a challenge.

Our first stop will be Cincinnati Music Hall, built in 1878 as a classical performance hall. Highlights on our guided tour will include the original rose window, and Cincinnati art-carved panels made by female volunteer students. We will also stop at Cincinnati City Hall where our tour guide will show us the stained glass windows that depict Cincinnati and the history of Cincinnati, the ceiling paintings, and we do not want to miss the gargoyles on the exterior.

Our bus will take us to the Omni Netherlands Hotel, located in the heart of the downtown, for a tour of the French Art Deco design decorative arts in this 1931 hotel. Following our tour, we will have lunch at the hotel in one of the finest restaurants in Cincinnati.

When we board the bus after lunch, we will have a step-on-guide from the Cincinnati Museum Center, who will show us some of the smaller but interesting venues in Cincinnati. Our guide will then take us to the Cincinnati Museum Center where we will see the recently restored Art Deco style railroad terminal building. We will start our tour in the rotunda with the magnificent mosaic tile history of Cincinnati. We will see the whispering fountains and the Rockwood tea room.

Our mini-bus will return us to our hotel around 5 pm. Dinner this evening is on our own. A list of nearby restaurants will be provided.

On Saturday September 14, after breakfast and checkout, we will meet at 9:30 am at the American Sign Museum, for a guided tour of their eclectic collection of signs. This family owned museum houses a collection of over 200 signs, with over 3800 items catalogued. The collection ranges in age from the late 19th century to the 1970's.

We will then car pool to the Taft Museum of Art, where we will have a guided tour of this historic 1820 federal home. A highlight will be the landscape murals in the foyer painted by African American painter, Robert S. Duncanson. We will also see some of the highlights of the private art collection of Anna and Charles Phelps Taft, who bequeathed their home and collection to the people of Cincinnati.

We will end our Cincinnati tour at the home of Kathy Ciafardini, where we will enjoy a light lunch. We have a special invitation to tour the gardens with Kathy, a Master Gardener. A glimpse of her garden and beautiful home can be viewed in the 2017 publication of Home Visual Conversations by designer John Harrison.

And now for the particulars, our host hotel is the Holiday Inn Express, 5311 Hetzell Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, 513-834-9191. A block of rooms has been reserved from Wednesday September 11 through Sunday September 15 at a special rate of \$104.00(plus taxes) for standards (1 king bed) and \$114.00(plus taxes) for suites (2 queen beds or 1 king bed, and sofa). The rate includes a hot and cold breakfast. Please mention OHDAA when you make your reservations. **Reservations must be made by August 21st, to get the OHDAA rate.** Rooms may be cancelled up to 24 hours prior to arrival.

The cost for this OHDAA trip, excluding the hotel, is \$170.00 for members and \$195.00 for non-members. This includes all admission fees for museums and tours, dinner Thursday evening and lunch on Friday and Saturday.

Please complete the OHDAA Terms of Agreement Contract, and return it with your check to Betsy Warwick, 1701 Wexwood Lane, Cincinnati, OH 45255, by August 12th. Betsy will be out of town from July 10-25th, but will respond to questions on her return.

The tentative schedule for the trip is below. A final schedule will be sent later in August.

Thursday September 12

12:15-12:30 pm- meet in hotel lobby and arrange carpools

1:00-1:45 pm- tour of Isaac M Wise Temple

2:00- 2:45 pm- tour of Covenant First-Presbyterian Church

3:15- 4:15 pm- tour of the Cincinnati Art Museum

6:00-6:30 pm- cocktails at Cay O'Bryan's, The Kenwood

6:30-8:00 pm- dinner and lecture- The Kenwood

Friday, September 13

9:00 am- mini-bus pick up at our hotel

9:30- 10:30 am- tour of Music hall

10:45- 11:15 am- tour of Cincinnati City Hall

11:30 am- 1:30 pm- tour of the Hilton Netherlands Hotel, followed by lunch

1:30- 4:00 pm- bus tour with step-on-guide and tour of Cincinnati Museum Center

4:00-5:00 pm- return to hotel

Saturday September 14

9:30- 10:30 am- tour of American Sign Museum

11:00 am- 12:00 noon- tour of the Taft Museum of Art

12:30- 1:30 pm- light lunch and garden tour at Kathy Ciafardini's home

INTERESTING OHIO DECORATIVE ARTS YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS

Cincinnati- Taft Museum of Art- "Magic & Melodrama: Cincinnati Posters from the Golden Age", through August 18. The exhibit includes seven theater posters created in Cincinnati at the turn of the 20th century.

Columbus- Columbus Museum of Art- "A Mile and a Half of Lines: The Art of James Thurber", from August 24, 2019 to March 15, 2020.

Kent- Kent State University Museum- “Ohio Quilts”, from July 19, 2019 to April 12, 2020.

Lancaster- Decorative Arts Center of Ohio- Mini-installation in the parlors of the Reese-Peters featuring decorative arts related to women and women’s roles in the domestic sphere in the mid 1800’s, and “The Ohio Presidents: Surprising Legacies” from September 21 to December 29, 2019. This exhibit will include decorative arts related to the lives of the presidents and their wives.

Mansfield- Mansfield Art Center- “Nancy Crow Quilts: Color, Mark-Making & Engineering”, through July 21. The exhibition includes both machine–pieced & engineered quilts in bold colors, as well as hand-screened and hand-painted works.

Wooster- Wayne County Historical Society- “Weavers of Wayne County” through October 26. This colorful collection of nineteenth century coverlets includes a history of their mostly male weavers. For comparison, coverlets and quilts by mostly female craftswomen are located separately, in the Dress Shop. Suggest you call 330-264-8856 for hours and to arrange a tour, if desired.

CINCINNATI FRY ART CARVED CABINET SOLD AT AUCTION- JUNE 2019

An 1860’s Cincinnati art-carved cabinet in walnut carved by Henry and William Fry, was sold at Cowan’s Auctions for \$18,750.00 (est. \$8-12,000.00). The upper case has two beveled doors opening to three adjustable shelves, over a lower case with one drawer, raised on cabriole legs. The whole is covered with hand carved decorations of grapes, grapevines, leaves and two figural heads. The piece has a Northern Kentucky provenance. On our Cincinnati trip, we will see Cincinnati art-carved furniture at the Cincinnati Art Museum, as well as the Covenant First-Presbyterian Church. We will also see the art-carved panels made to grace the organ at Music Hall, carved by female students at Cincinnati art schools.

OHIO/ MARIETTA HISTORY YOU DON’T WANT TO MISS

After spending months in Marietta, Ohio researching the early settlers, through their diaries and letters, David McCullough has released his latest book, “The Pioneers, The Heroic Story of Settlers who Brought the American Ideal West”. A winner!!!