

**INVITATION TO ALL ARCHIVES, MUSEUMS, HISTORICAL SOCIETIES,  
LIBRARIES, AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS WITH ARCHIVAL AND  
HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN ARCHIVES MONTH  
2007**

**"Reunions: Together in the Archives"**

The Society of Ohio Archivists will observe the first annual Archives Month in Ohio in October 2007. To promote the significance of archives, the Society extended the week-long celebration to an entire month.

The theme for this year is "Reunions: Together in the Archives." Reunions celebrate connections between people, through a family, school, religion, organization, town or city. Archives hold thousands of photographs, manuscripts, and objects, documenting these occasions and preserving our shared history. As archivists, we encourage you to take this theme one step further and view archives as not only the repository for collections relating to family reunions, but also as a meeting place *for* reunions. Reunions are yet another way to connect with an audience that otherwise may have little contact with the archives.

Archives Month 2007 is the fifteenth annual celebration of archives in Ohio. Through Archives Month activities and exhibits, we hope to promote public interest in and understanding of archives and archivists, and emphasize the importance of archives and the need to preserve the history of Ohio. We hope that this year's broad theme will complement any programs you may have already planned. Archives, museums, historical societies, libraries, and other organizations with archival and history collections are invited to participate in Archives Month this year by scheduling a special event or exhibit to highlight the collections in your institution.

Some suggested activities include:

- Hold a kick-off reception with a featured speaker on the importance of preserving archival records, eg., an archivist or librarian, researcher, or local government official. Don't forget to invite the press!
- Display the official Archives Month poster. Contact the Archives Month Committee for additional copies of the poster or print it online at <http://www.ohioarchivists.org/aweek.html>
- Develop a website consisting of your institution's contributions to the Ohio Memory Project. <http://www.ohiomemory.org>
- Send press releases to local media, including a description of your archival materials, an article using research from the materials in your collection, or photographs of some of the most interesting materials in your collection.
- Contact your local government officials and organizations in your community to let them know about Archives Month. Offer to speak about your collection and what resources in your collection could be of use to them. Or (if possible) offer to

- be a repository for their historic materials or offer your expertise in helping them organize their archives.
- Create a display some of your materials in your institution.

If you are able to participate with an exhibit or event and would like it publicized through the Society of Ohio Archivists website and listserv, please send a description of the event and contact information to me at the address below.

Finally, special thanks to all of the institutions who submitted images for the Archives Month poster. While we were unable to accept all images that were contributed, the willingness of the membership to get involved with Archives Month was greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

**OHIO ARCHIVES MONTH 2007 COMMITTEE**

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