

2019 ANNUAL REPORT



**HISTORY
CENTER**
OF OLMSTED COUNTY

PRESENTED
JUNE 24, 2020



THE TEAM

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Tom Leimer - President
- Christine Rule - President Elect
- Renee Ziemer - Secretary
- Eric Andringa - Treasurer
- Doug Boese
- Susan Claypool
- Daniel Dogo-
- Esekie
- Sam Gill
- Jennifer Janvrin
- Teresa
- McCormack
- Kirk Schumacher
- Roger Stahl
- Mark Thein
- Linda Willihnganz

Give people of all ages and backgrounds access and opportunity to learn about the past through interpretive programs and exhibits, research, publications and events.

OUR MISSION

STAFF MEMBERS

- Wayne Gannaway - Executive Director
- Darla Buss - Member Services Coordinator
- Kathy Dahl - Mayowood Tour Coordinator/Guide Supervisor
- Krista Lewis - Archivist
- Dan Nowakowski - Curator of Collections & Exhibits
- Aaron Saterdalen - Education & Programs Coordinator
- Kevin Whaley - Collections Manager
- Barb Whipple - Accountant

MAYOWOOD GUIDES

- Grace Curry
- Lynda Fitzgerald
- Janet Garr
- Nancy Hedger
- Sean Kettelkamp
- Kathy Lamb
- Jerri Peters
- Jeff Pischke
- Judy Smithson

To become a gathering place for the broader community that inspires and encourages the exploration of history.

OUR VISION

MEMBERS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2019

(* DENOTES ACTIVE VOLUNTEER)

Civil War Roundtable	*Burbank, Marilyn & Mahlon	Gilliland, Nancy
DAR Rochester Chapter	Buss, Darla	Gloor, James &
Robert Suk Law Office	Butturff, Curtis	Carol Reynolds
Schmitt Automotive Repair	Cadwell, Sharon	*Goodmanson, Marcia
Abels, Jean	Cain, Don	Graham, Charles
Adams, Tammy	Callahan, Carlotta	*Grebe, Coralee
Adamson, William	Carlson, Patricia	Grecinger, Miranda
Albrecht, Larry	Caucutt, Amy	Grever, Donna
Allan, Pamela	Chafos, Pete	Griffin, Mary
Allen, Doris	Claypool, Susan	Grubbs, Nancy
Allis, Carol	*Clement-Brown, Kate	Gustafson, Jeff
Allsen, Ken	Coggins, Brent	Hagler, Judy
Amadio, Peter & Bari	Couvrette, Paul & Dorothy	Hahn, Amy
Anderson, Neil	Johnson	Hamilton, Robert & Sandra
*Andringa, Eric	Cox, Ellen	Hamre, Eileen
Angstman, Mary	Crom, Lisa	Hamre, Lawrence
Annis, Beverly	Curry, Grace	Hansen, Loretta
Atkinson, Alice	Dahl, Kathy	Hansen, Susan & Steven
Bahn, Lucy	De Bus, Robert	Hanson, Don
Bailey, Janet	Dean, Patrick	Hanson, Sharon
Baker, Lloyd	Deiter, Noelle	Harrison, Shaun
Bakken, William	Didier, Lynn	Haugen, Duane & Cheryle
Baldus, Don	Digre, Ramona	Hedger, Nancy
Bauman, Dorothy	Dison, Lauren	*Hilgendorf, Lee & Kay
Beaupre, Lora & Bill	Dockerty, John	Hillesheim, Sandy
Beck, Carolyn	Dogo-Esekie, Daniel	Hoffman, Alan & Judy
Beckley, Dawn	Dougan, Brian	Hoffman, Roy
Beery, Robert	Duke, Lauren	Holtan, Breanna
Berreth, Marjory	Dunn, David J & Sonja	Houston, Margaret
Bilodeau, Katharine	Ehling, Laura	Hovel, Sara
Bird, Charlie	Elliott, Charles	Hunder, Ingeborg
Bisel, Jane	Elshoff, Hanna	Hunziker Dean, Patrick & Joan
Boese, Douglas	Evans, Titus	Huyber, Steven & Cynthia
Boeve, Maka	Feeser, Pat & Hollis	Iverson, John & Jan
Bolin, Kathy	Felton, Judy	Iverson, Orillie
Borcherding, Donald & Pat	Flynn, Matt	Jacobs, William
Bowe, Sherrie	Freeman, Darline	Janvrin, Jennifer
Branum, Martha	Fuller, Mary	Jenkins, Ardis & Robert
*Brimijoin, Maggie	Gacke, Vicky	Jones, Dorothy
Brinkman, Thomas	Gallanis, Elizabeth	Jones, Mary
Brown, Jeff & Kate (Clement)	Gamble, Gail L.	Jost, Ann
Brown, Ned	Gangloff, Jennifer	Joyce, Margaret
Brown, Zona	Gannaway, Wayne	Karsell, Catherine & Phillip
Brozovich, Angeline	Garr, Janet	Keillor, Robert (Dave)
Brubaker, Nancy	*Gaskell, Charles & Brenda	*Keith, Lorraine & Robert
Buenger, Amanda	Gifford, Larry	Kennel, Lois

MEMBERS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2019 CONTINUED

(* DENOTES ACTIVE VOLUNTEER)

Kiscaden, Sheila	Mendenhall, Virginia	Schaar, Gloria
Klaus, Diane & Zach	Mesarchik, Robert	Schafer, Alan & Julie
Klein, Jeanne	Milburn, Barbara	Schlichting, Evelyn
Kleinberg, Marion	*Miller, Leslie	Schmidt, Dixie
*Knaak, Dana & Prudy	Moe, Louise	Schmitt, Steven
Koch, Marilee	Molloy, Kevin	Schmitt, Tony
Koenigs, John & Carol	Moore, Matthew & Diane Klein	Schroeder, Susan
Koka, Karen	Morgan, Myron	*Schumacher, Curt & Kim
Kranz, Scott	Mueller, Ladwig Diane	*Schumacher, Kirk
*Krom, Richard & Sharon	Nelson, Erika	Schutz, Larry & JoAnn
Krueger, Denise	Netzel, Lisa & Elias	Sedlack, Norma
Kruger, Roy	Neumann, Harold & Janice	Seegmiller, Rosie
Kudva, Yogish	Neumann, Nancy	Sems, Heidi
Kuznicki, Randall & Ellen	Nienow, Beth	Shandley, Julie
Laechel, David	Nigon, Bernard & Julie	Shanks, Diane
Lamb, Kathleen	Norton, Terry & Wendy	Shaw III, Floyd
Laplante, Michael	Nowakowski, Dan	Sheldon, Mary (Jo Ann)
Larson, Janet	*Ohnstad, Gene & Marlys	Simon, Lindsey
Larson, Marsha	Onnen, Dorothy	Slisz, Barbara
Laudon, Dennis & Laura	Ostrom, Thomas	Sloan, James & Judy
Lee, Betty	Pagenkopf, Thomas	Smithson, Judy
Lee, Terry	Parisi, Christine	Splittstoesser, Rebecca
Leimer, Tom	*Parsons, E. Dudley	Sprenger, Linda
Lewis, Elise	Peters, Jerry	Sprenger, Lisa
Lewis, Krista	Peterson, David	Stancl, Joe
Liebenow, Michael	Peterson, Ham	Stewart, John & Marilyn
Liffrig, Denise	*Plaetzer, Beth	Stocker, Char
Lobland, Jerry & Betty	Plitzuweit, Irvin & Maureen	*Strain, Tom & Mary Jo
Lommen, Susan	Postier, Joe	Stranger, Donna
Lun, Al	Prazich, Patricia	Suk, Charles
Luna, Barbara	Prendergast, Tom	Thalmann, Sandy
Lund, Kevin	Prow, Donald	Thein, Mark
Lundstrom, Carl	Purrington, Brian & Anne	Thistle, Judith
Maccini, Aleta	Ranweiler, Virginia	Thompson, George
Mackert, Susan & Cass	Reckinger, Nanette	Thompson, Romaine
Madsen, Beverly	*Redman, Nancy	Thoreson, Jonathan
Marden, Rachel	Ritman, Erik & Elizabeth	Tlougan, Brian & Peg
Margellos, Linda	Rocca, Walter	Tlougan, Jim & Jane
Marshall, Scott	Rondeau, Kelly	Troutman, Stephen & Julie
McConahey, Peter	Rossmann, Jim & Brenda	Uthke/Distel, Lorraine & David
McCormack, Teresa	Rother, John	Van Kirk, Monica
McDonald, Carolyn	Royalty, Beth	Van Rooy, Steven
McHardy, Mary Jane	Rule, Christine & Andrew	Vanlaningham, Ella & Glenn
Mclaughlin, Mark & Kristen	Sageotis, Tina	Verdoorn, Brandon
McMullin, Kathleen & James	*Samson, Mark	Vinje, Karen
Mellinger, James & Judith	Saterdalen, Aaron	Virnig, Barbara

MEMBERS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2019 CONTINUED

(* DENOTES ACTIVE VOLUNTEER)

Vrieze, Lance
 Ward, Ashley
 Weinschenk, Russ & Janice
 Wells, Ellen
 Wentzel, Virginia
 Wetherell, Karen
 Whaley, Kevin
 Wheeler, Sue & Philip
 Whipple, Barb

Wiater, Mary
 Wichmann, Dorothy & William
 Wiegand, William & Beth
 Williams, Aileen
 Williams, Dr. Mark & Jean
 *Willihnganz, Linda
 *Winter, Merlyn & Twila
 Wise, Brian

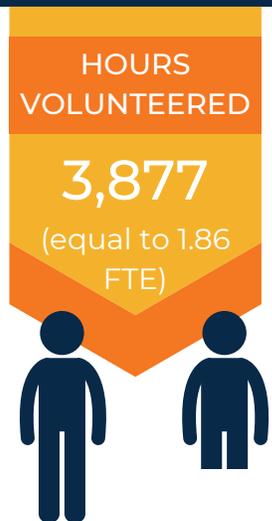
*Witter, Lanny
 Witzeman, Elizabeth
 Wood, Joyce
 Wright-Peterson, Virginia
 Yunginger, Jane
 Zabel, Linda
 Ziemer, Renee
 Zimmerman, Jeri

VOLUNTEERS 2019

1st SC Volunteer Infantry
 1st US, Battery I Light Artillery
 2nd MN Light Artillery
 2nd WI Volunteer Infantry
 3rd MN Volunteer Infantry
 6th WI Light Artillery
 Boy Scouts of Troop 80
 Scott's Battery
 DeSanoy, Joe
 Funk, Molli
 Goodmanson, Erik
 Grabua, John
 Graves, Chris

Gutschenritter, Jean
 Haeussinger, Bob
 Hoffman, Doreen
 Hopkins, Marlene
 Kettelkamp, Sean
 Knopp, Cathy
 Krom, Jim & Ian
 Martin, Mike
 McEarchern, Tessa
 Mensink, Pam
 Meyer, Mary Beth
 Mueller, Ken
 Nibbee, Chris

Plantz, Gene
 Prescher, Ella
 Sackett, Joe
 Schmitt, Dave
 Simonson, Mary & Gene
 Smith, Don
 Sundry, Tom
 Swanson, Jerry
 Thayer, Tammy
 Thronson, Les
 Till, Mary
 Turner, Russ
 Ziecina, Roxi



INDIVIDUAL DONORS 2019

Allan, Pamela
 Allsen, Ken
 Amadio, Peter & Bari
 Anderson, Neil
 Atkinson, John & Patty
 Beaupre, Lora & Bill
 Bilodeau, Katharine
 Bird, Charlie
 Bisel, Jane
 Blauwet, Lori
 Brooks, Larry & Sandra
 Burbank, Marilyn & Mahlon
 Carlson, Patricia
 Chamberlin, Barbara
 Colby, Chris

Coy, Cynthia
 Dison, Harold
 Evans, Titus
 Hilgendorf, Lee & Kathy
 Fye, Bruce
 Hoffman, Roy
 Lewis, Barbara
 Moe, Louise
 Neumann, Harold & Janice
 Ohnstad, Gene & Marlys
 Penz, Dan
 Peterson, Ham
 Peterson, Merle & Betty
 Purrington, Brian & Anne

Rule, Christine & Andrew
 Schafer, Alan & Julie
 Schlichting, Evelyn
 Schumacher, Curt
 Sheldon, Mary (Jo Ann)
 Sloan, James & Judy
 Stahl, Roger
 Stancl, Joe
 Suk, Charles
 Tollefson, Jon
 Walker, Dayton & Sue Stoppel
 Williams, Dr. Mark & Jean
 Willihnganz, Linda
 Ziemer, Renee

BUSINESS DONORS/SPONSORS 2019

Hadley, Jeannine	Lupient Automotive Group
Headley, Dana	Madonna Towers
Larsen, Paul	Mayo Foundation for Medical Education & Research
Pittner, Tina	Midwest Paddock Report
Amadio Family Arts Fund	Minnesota Energy Resources
Andy's Liquor	Olmsted Medical Center
Artistic Framers	Peoples Energy Cooperative
Carl & Verna Schmidt Foundation	Rochester Commercial Banks Association
Civil War Roundtable	Rochester Golf & Country Club
Custom Alarm	Rochester Tool & Die, Inc.
Greater Rochester Arts & Cultural Trust	Seneca Food Corp
I Heart Media	Trader Joe's
Knutson Construction Services	WaveMaker Consulting, LLC
Kristiania Lodge #47 Sons of Norway	

HISTORY MYSTERY DONORS 2019

Smith Schafer & Associates	Feeser, Pat & Hollis	Parisi, Christine
Adamson, William	Fitzgerald, Sheila	Peterson, Ham
Allsen, Ken	Gilliland, Nancy	Plitzuweit, Irvin & Maureen
Amadio, Peter & Bari	Gutschenritter, Jean	Podulke, Stephanie
Anderson, Lenora	Hamre, Eileen	Redman, Nancy
Anderson, Ralph & Sandra	Hedger, Nancy	Rule, Christine & Andrew
Atkinson, Alice	Hilgendorf, Lee & Kay	Schumacher, Kirk
Atkinson, John & Patty	Jones, Dorothy	Schumacher, Curt
Bailey, Janet	Kalmes, Bill	Seelinger, Deborah
Barsness, Sharon	Keith, Sandy & Marion	Stancl, Joe
Beaupre, Lora & Bill	Knaak, Dana & Prudy	Stocker, Char
Beckley, Dawn	Koenigs, John & Carol	Thompson, Romaine
Beery, Robert	Krom, Richard	Velsor, Paul
Berreth, Marjory	Kueker, Ted	Verdoorn, Brandon
Boynton, Jason P.	Laudon, Alice	Vinje, Karen
Brinkman, Thomas	Lawrence, Sherry & Thomas	Weinschenk, Russ & Janice
Brown, Zona	Lun, Al	Wentzel, Virginia
Burbank, Marilyn & Mahlon	McMullin, Kathleen & James	Wetherell, Karen
Cain, Don	Minett, Ardyth	Wichmann, Dorothy & William
Claypool, Susan	Neumann, Harold & Janice	Williams, Aileen
De Bus, Robert	Nienow, Beth	Williams, Steve
Dicken, Brenda	Nigon, Bernard & Julie	Winter, Merlyn & Twila
Dollerschell, Allen	Olson, Theresa	Wright-Peterson, Virginia
Dunn, David J & Sonja		

GOVERNMENT STAKEHOLDERS 2019

Olmsted County Board of Commissioners

Rochester City Council



THE YEAR IN REVIEW

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT, TOM LEIMER

As we adjust to the new environment created by Covid-19, I want to thank the HCOC staff, board, and community for your continued support – it is greatly appreciated. As we discuss a future re-opening plan, please understand that the safety of our staff, visitors, and the community is our top priority. We are creating a new Business Re-Opening plan that will encourage social distancing and cleaning of high traffic areas on a more frequent basis. We understand a strong re-opening plan is vital to our success in the new environment created by Covid-19.

I wanted to provide an update of the diligence the HCOC Board is taking to track our monthly revenues and expenses. As we started 2020, we had very high expectations for ourselves as an organization and had some new positions we were excited to roll-out. To bring additional clarity and transparency to our financial reporting, we hired the Smith Shafer accounting firm to institute best practices to our accounting and prepare monthly financial statements for the board.

In March we started tracking our monthly revenues and expenses on a very conservative basis. We have only been accounting for the revenues committed and the expenses known. In March, we had cash reserves to cover 7 months of expenses with no revenue coming in, which lead to a projected loss of \$100,000.

In early April, Wayne took quick action in applying for the Payroll Projection Plan (PPP) and was able to secure over \$79,300 of funds that can be applied to payroll for 24 weeks. Also, in April, we readjusted our expense projections and with

the receipt of the PPP, changed our projected year-end from a large loss of \$100,000 to a more manageable loss of \$15,000 while maintaining our 7 months of cash reserve.



Wayne has also created a secondary revenue analysis tool that projects future 2020 events for revenue and expenses in worst, moderate, and best-case scenarios. This tool will be used to help determine which events move forward this year based on a revenue and expense comparison. If we are able to re-open in the summer months, with a solid business re-opening plan, we feel confident we can end the year neutral with no significant financial loss. With optimism, we also need to still be conservative in our planning for 2020 and also the impact a slower economy may have on our organization into 2021. The HCOC Board is watching this very closely on a month to month basis.

Once we re-open we will continue to provide you great history programming and services that will be presented in a safe environment with social distancing and increased cleaning of high impact areas.

I would like to thank you all again for your ongoing support of the History Center and we look forward to seeing you in the coming months!

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, WAYNE GANNAWAY



What a year it has been! Although this annual report deals with 2019, it's worth

noting that many of the plans we created last year came to a screeching halt in March 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. For example, one important initiative for 2020 was increased engagement with members through quarterly meetings as well as the annual meeting. As I write this in late May, I am still uncertain how we will safely convene our members and board of directors. Hopefully by the time our 2021 annual meeting arrives, we can breathe a collective sigh of relief, with Covid-19 vanquished or at least diligently controlled.

2019 was an exciting year for me and I hope you share my excitement. We accomplished a great deal while getting a clearer idea of all of the challenges that lay ahead of us. When I interviewed for the executive director position in April 2019, I definitely noticed the curiously vintage marquee sign—but the plastic letters spelled out a message that truly grabbed my attention: Traveling While Black Exhibit. I was not expecting a county historical society to tackle such a challenging topic. Former executive director, Pat Carlson, staff, community partners, and board of directors deserve a lot of credit for conceiving of and implementing such a thoughtful exhibit. If the comments from the exhibit guest book are any indication, visitors responded very well to "Traveling While Black."

I was also heartened by the level of support and commitment shown by the community towards the History Center. From Olmsted County government to individual members and business donors, folks donated their time and money to local history. The highlight of this support, of course, was the History Mystery \$10,000 matching gift campaign. The generosity of the anonymous donor was one thing—but the community stepped up to the plate and matched the gift dollar for dollar, which totaled \$20,000. Will the

History Mystery donor lay down the gauntlet once again? Stay tuned!

We also gained more clarity in 2019 through our strategic planning and by engaging expert counsel in our financial reporting. In October staff, board members, and selected volunteers and partners gathered with a facilitator to develop a consensus driven strategic plan. The plan is comprised of three strategic directions: Expand our Foundations; Extend Our Reach; and Uphold Our Legacy. While we kicked off efforts to accomplish many goals, the pandemic has sidelined some and made others all the more important (e.g., engaging people digitally). Below is a summary of accomplishments for each of our strategic directions.

Expanding our Foundations:

- Retained Smith Shafer CPA to prepare monthly financial reports for the board
- Initiated members' quarterly update meetings
- Began rethinking the board's committee structure around the strategic directions
- Securing health care benefits for staff

Extending our Reach:

- Initiated outreach to local businesses to collect and preserve their histories
- Partnered with the Rochester Area Chamber of Commerce to hold an AM Espresso
- Gained tremendous press and social media exposure through the Creepy Doll Contest

Upholding our Legacy:

- Painted the school house and the yellow house
- Reconstructed northeast stone foundation of the Stoppel Farmstead barn
- Rebuilt the stone porch to the George Stoppel Farmstead

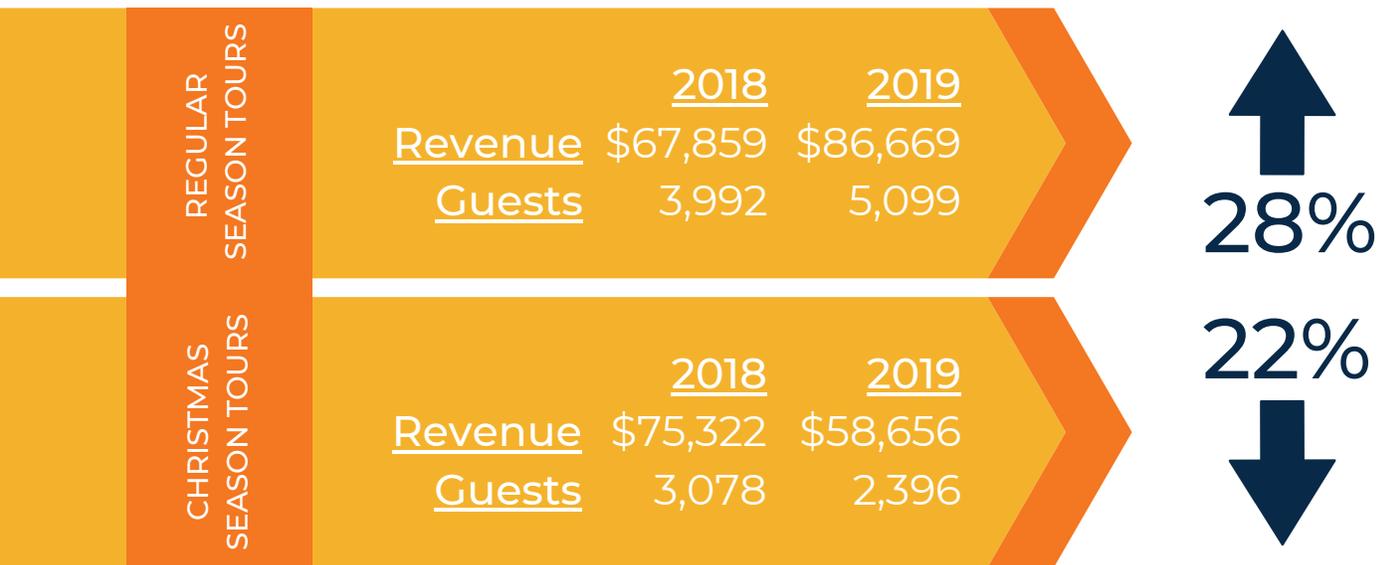
As satisfying as these accomplishments are, each hints of greater challenges ahead. For example, while the George Stoppel Farmstead is the most historically significant collection of buildings on our property, they urgently need repair and rehabilitation. Nevertheless, our strategic plan provides us a framework to adapt to changing conditions and advance our mission.



Mayowood regular season tours finished very strong in 2019, despite reducing tours to three days a week. To make up for it, we extended the hours on those three days.

Unfortunately, we fell short of our goal during the Christmas season.

HERE'S A LOOK AT OUR TOURS BY THE NUMBERS



It was a busy year for the Education and Programs Department. We reached thousands of people both at the History Center and in the community through a variety of programs, lectures, and events, giving visitors hands-on learning experiences.

New this year was the SPARK! program, which is designed for individuals with early to mid-stages of dementia and their care partners. It had a successful first year, but there is room for growth and we would be happy for more people to attend the program.

Other changes this year included the discontinuation of Movies Under the Stars and the Scavenger Hunt. A number of factors contributed to the decision, including declining interest, increasing expenses, and competing programs elsewhere in the community.

HERE'S A LOOK AT OUR PROGRAMS AND EVENTS BY THE NUMBERS



250 visitors
7 activity stations

WINTER-
FEST

320 students
5 schools

SCHOOL
TOURS/
FIELD
TRIPS

64 participants
5 programs

TRAVELING
PROGRAMS

4,000+ people

OUTREACH
&
EXPOSURE

1,403 visitors
155 re-enactors & vendors

LIVING
HISTORY
FAIR

700+ visitors
7 activity stations

HARVEST
MOON
FALL
FESTIVAL

58 participants
8 programs

SPARK!

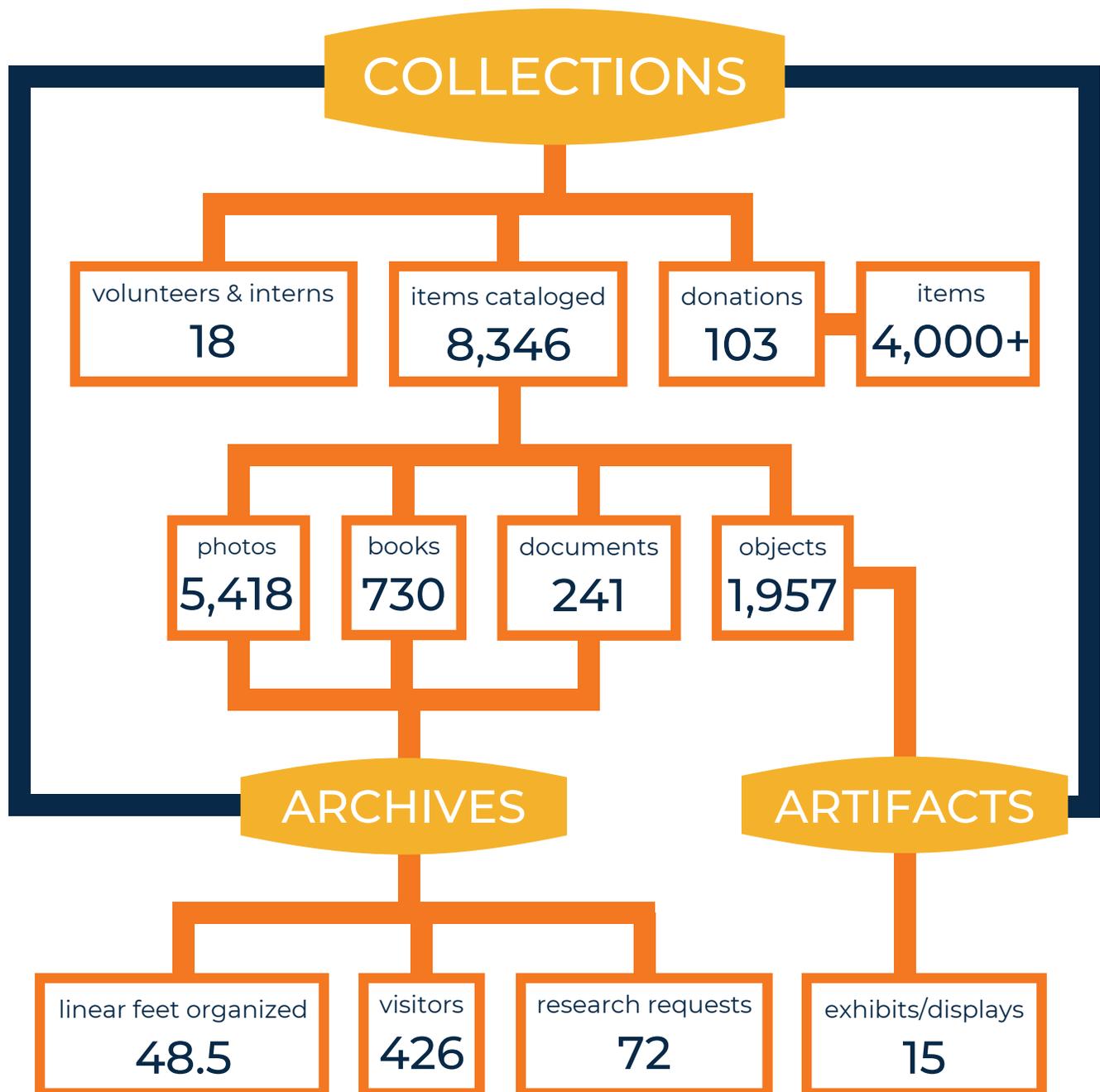
289 visitors
12 lectures

PRINCESS
CAFE
LECTURE
SERIES

COLLECTIONS

With the help of our dedicated volunteers, the collections departments had another productive year organizing, describing, and preserving our growing collections and displaying and sharing them with our many visitors and researchers.

HERE'S A LOOK AT OUR COLLECTIONS BY THE NUMBERS



EXHIBITS SPOTLIGHT

"Great living history. Very thought provoking"

"Excellent exhibit to help us learn from the past and make a more humane future."

"Thank you for opening up this important conversation."

Visitors say...

"Compelling and informative. This is a story that must be told."

"Great exhibit. Thanks to all the volunteers and staff for their hard work!"

"Many thanks for providing this history."

TRAVELING WHILE BLACK



COMING OF AGE:
1968 GENERATION



CREEPY DOLLS



ROCHESTER
SYMPHONY



The History Center is fortunate to be home to several historic structures, and every year we undertake maintenance and conservation projects to make sure these buildings are here for generations to come. This year we reconstructed the stone foundation at the northeast corner of the Stoppel Barn, made limestone and mortar repairs and laid a new floor on the Stoppel House porch, and gave both the Hadley Valley School House and the Yellow House a fresh coat of paint.

HERE'S A LOOK AT OUR CONSERVATION PROJECTS



STOPPEL BARN



STOPPEL HOUSE PORCH



HADLEY VALLEY SCHOOL HOUSE



YELLOW HOUSE

AFFINITY GROUPS

We are proud to share Olmsted County's history in partnership with our affinity groups. Each group helps us extend our reach, expand our foundations, and uphold our legacy. Many thanks must go to the Roosters Vintage Base Ball team (RVBB), Civil War Roundtable (CWRT), Mechanical History Roundtable (MHRT), Olmsted County Genealogical Society (OCGS), Women's History Circle (WHC), and Heritage and Channel One gardens (H&CO) for bringing history to the community through the many programs and events each produces.

HERE'S A LOOK AT OUR AFFINITY GROUPS BY THE NUMBERS

