

**2022
JANUARY
FOV NEWSLETTER**



Dear Friends of Oberlin Village,

Happy New Year! We wish everyone a healthy and happy year ahead. On behalf of the generational families and the esteemed elders, we thank you for being a friend and advocate for the Oberlin community. By preserving Oberlin, especially the original cottages, we gift future generations with a visual history of our beloved community that has made many contributions to the state and beyond. Your commitment is invaluable and admirable!

Sincerely,

Sabrina Goode
Executive Director
Friends of Oberlin Village

Oberlin Village Stories

Each newsletter will feature a story about Oberlin Village, possibly from a current or former resident, a feature of the community, or the history of the village. What follows today is a poem by Mable Scarver Patterson, written during the beginnings of Friends of Oberlin Village, so it seems appropriate for the beginnings of these Oberlin Village stories.

MY LORD WHAT A MORNING!

“Gabriel has sounded the trumpet and the nations underground have awakened. “The Saints of Old” are rejoicing because a prestigious honor is being bestowed upon Oberlin Cemetery today.”

“MY LORD! WHAT A MORNING!”

FRIENDS OF OBERLIN CEMETERY,
We applaud you for your vision
to protect this OBERLIN LANDMARK.
What a wonderful decision!

GOD, In His Infinite Wisdom, always keeps a “ram in the bush”,
so He made a Divine choice to give your vision a push.
A vision to “break the chains” and “set the captives free,”
then proclaim this place historic for the OBERLIN COMMUNITY.

Nestled behind Interact,
Hidden completely from view,
lies this hallowed, sacred burial ground,
so many never knew.

Has existed since the 1800s,
founded by freed slaves,
was always kept in pristine condition,
until forgottenness took over the graves.

Demonized by a sea of brokenness,
along with years of neglect,
when along came some special new friends
that they really didn't expect.

These friends advocated for the speechless,
for all the world to see,
those unable to fend for themselves
as they lay covered in debris.

On Monday nights, once a month,
you met to discuss your plans,
to analyze and strategize,
seeking approval by the raising of hands.

You met with the city council
and cut through all the "red tape,"
still having to meet with the historic society
concerning this precious landscape.

Your vision was finally realized,
historic status has been granted
to our beloved OBERLIN CEMETERY,
what a loving seed you've planted.

FRIENDS OF OBERLIN CEMETERY,
What a marvelous job you've done!
You've run the race, you've kept the faith,
Now the VICTORY is won.

"MY LORD! WHAT A MORNING!"

- Mable Elizabeth Scarver Patterson (April 21, 2013)



Celebrating Our Volunteers

We have a new spotlighted volunteer on the FOV website! Many of you know this dedicated volunteer, Becky Boston, who has done so much for FOV, from tours to cemetery to admin work. Thank you Becky for all of your many contributions to FOV! Read the Celebrating Our Volunteers featuring Becky on [the website](#).



Photo Credit: Walter Novak

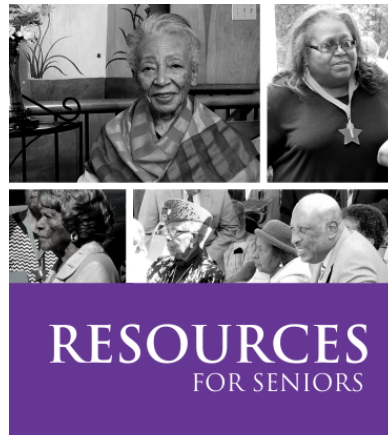
[Oberlin Alumni Magazine Story](#)

The Fall 2021 issue of Oberlin Alumni Magazine, the college whose name inspired Oberlin Village, included a story about the history of Oberlin Village, North Carolina and the man who gave it its name, James H. Harris. The story includes the renaming of Oberlin Magnet Middle School, Harris' story, and the impact FOV has had on the community. Click the link below to read the story.

[Oberlin Alumni Magazine Article](#)

[Seniors' Guides Distributed to the Community](#)

The Resources for Seniors guide has been distributed to community churches and organizations, thanks to FOV and the backing of Smedes and Rosemary York. The guide lists local and national programs and organizations that may be useful to seniors in caring for their home and health, and planning for the future, as well as providing a common place to store important information like document locations and contacts/phone numbers for financial, medical and veterans affairs. If you know a senior member in our community who could benefit from this resource, or are one yourself, please email friendsofoberlin@gmail.com to inquire about receiving a copy.



[Amazon Smile Reminder](#)

As the new year starts, remember that an easy way to support Friends of Oberlin Village, or any charity, is to use Amazon Smile whenever you visit Amazon. Set your Amazon Smile settings by searching for "Amazon Smile" in the Amazon search bar on the webpage or the Amazon App. You'll be able to choose your charity from there.

smile.amazon.com

[Tributes](#)

A wonderful way to extend the impact of your donation is to designate your gift as a tribute in honor or in memory of someone special.

The following tributes were made in the 2nd half of 2021:

- In Honor of The Turner House, by Rodney Turner
- In Honor of Isabelle Bowen Henderson House & Gardens, by Russ Stephenson
- In Honor of All of those people that created and prospered in Oberlin Village, by David McQuoid
- In Honor of Mable Patterson, by Sue Adley-Warrick
- In Honor of Colton Flick, by Alyse Arnold
- In Honor of Kathy Huffstetler, by Christine Georgopoulos
- In Honor of Kathy Huffstetler, by Alexander Georgopoulos
- In Memory of Mr. Robert A. Goode, Sr. and the Goode Family, by Jamee Alston

Thank you to all who donated in 2021! Your contributions keep FOV running, supporting research, the website, cemetery plans and clean ups, BBQs, publications like our brochures and Senior Guides, and much more! Thank You!

2021 Notecards Available

The 2021 Limited Edition Notecards feature beautiful renderings of Oberlin's historical structures by NC artists. Each \$12 set includes six assorted notecards and envelopes. Notecards may be ordered by visiting the FOV [website shop page](#).



Virtual FOV Meetings Continue

Out of an abundance of continued caution, our FOV monthly meetings will continue to be virtual for the next several months, 6 pm on the 4th Monday of the month, with the Zoom link distributed to meeting announcement RSVPs.

Upcoming Events:

1/24 Virtual FOV Meeting 6PM
 2/28 Virtual FOV Meeting 6PM
 4/09 Oberlin Cemetery Clean-Up 9AM-noon
 6/18 Oberlin Village Heritage 5K Run/Walk

If interested in attending any of our Upcoming Events, email friendsofoberlin@gmail.com for more details.

Friends of Oberlin Village greatly appreciates your financial support. If interested in making a donation, please click on the link below.

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