

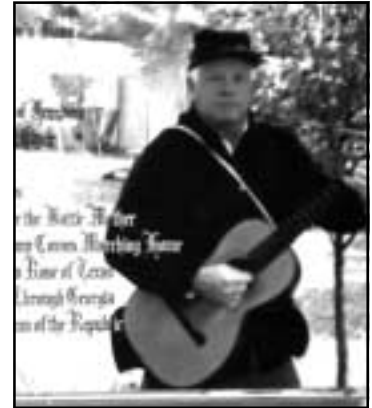
Spring Speakers Series 2010

Ross County Historical Society
at the Ross County Heritage Center
45 West Fifth St., Chillicothe
Free & Open to the Public



Songs of the Civil War: History through Music Featuring Steve Ball, living historian and musician, Columbus Wednesday, April 28, 7:30 p.m.

Steve Ball has been playing music for over 40 years. An American history buff at heart he combined his interest in the Civil War with his love for musical performance and took a great interest in the traditional music of that era. Steve has performed at Civil War events, festivals and reenactments for over 10 years. His program narrates the creation of many of the popular tunes of that period and includes interesting tales about the people who wrote them. Many of these tunes are still heard today but not recognized – one example being a melody made popular by Elvis Presley. His passion for both music and the American Civil War creates an engaging and educational experience for all age groups. Steve is a resident of Columbus, Ohio. His great-great grandfather served in the 73rd OVI from Chillicothe, Ohio. Join us for an enjoyable evening of history through music.



Musician/historian Steve Ball



Professor Timothy Anderson

Ohio's Regional Cultural Landscapes

Featuring Timothy G. Anderson, Associate Professor & Chair, Department of Geography, Ohio University, Athens
Co-sponsored by the Ohio Humanities Council
Wednesday, May 12, 7:30 p.m.

Both the historical and contemporary cultural landscapes of Ohio reflect the legacy of the settlement of a variety of population groups during the state's period of settlement. During this formative era, migrants from three of the primary East Coast culture regions, as well as foreign immigrants hailing mainly from Germany, funneled into the frontier Old Northwest via Zane's Trace, the National Road, The Great Lakes, and the Ohio River. As migrants from each of these hearth areas settled in geographically separate regions in Ohio, they brought with them characteristic values and ideals, including agricultural traditions and material culture. This resulted in distinctive regional cultures. This talk will analyze Ohio's early settlement history and geography, delineate the state's distinctive culture regions, and identify the attendant cultural landscape features that distinguish each of these regions.

Within the Realm of Reason, as told by Ambrose Bierce (Ohio's answer to Poe) Featuring Mike Follin, Interpretive Education Specialist & master of historical performance, Ohio Historical Society Wednesday, May 26, 7:30 p.m.

You may know him for his delightful portrayal of a 19th century snake oil salesman "Doctor Balthazar." Please join us as Mike Follin of the Ohio Historical Society portrays Ambrose Bierce, an Ohio-born American newspaper columnist, satirist, essayist, short-story writer, and novelist-an enigmatic figure, who disappeared in the Mexican Revolution. His fate is still a mystery. Bierce is best known for his numerous short stories collected in *Tales of Soldiers and Civilians* (1891), which show the influence of Edgar Allan Poe. As a literary critic, he was against realism. After Stephen Crane published his famous novel about the Civil War, *The Red Badge of Courage*, Bierce wrote, "I had thought there could be only two worse writers than Stephen Crane, namely, two Stephen Cranes." Come listen to the Poe-like short stories written and told by Bierce, portrayed by Mike Follin.



Ambrose Bierce portrayed by Mike Follin