

Ohio Mayflower Society

Cleveland Colony Summer Event

Meeting Date & Time: Sunday June 28, 2026 at 1:30pm

Meeting location: 103rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry Civil War Museum

Program: Private Museum Tour - Light refreshments will be served

Parking: *FREE*

ABOUT THE 103RD OVI

The unit was organized in Cleveland in August 1862 and became known as the 103rd Regiment of the Ohio Volunteer Infantry. The 103rd saw action in Kentucky, Georgia, Alabama, and Tennessee. In an effort to maintain the close friendships that were formed as a result of their service, the veterans created the 103rd O.V.I. Association in 1866. They also established an annual reunion for themselves and their families. In 1907, the Association became a corporation. In 1908, the corporation purchased property in Sheffield Lake, Ohio. This property became the permanent home of the organization, its reunions, and (later) a museum dedicated to preserving the history and artifacts of the regiment. In 1971, the non-profit 103rd O.V.I. Memorial Foundation was established to maintain the organization's museum, which is dedicated to the 103rd and to perpetuating the heroic service of the men who served the Union during the Civil War. The Museum building itself is a historical treasure listed on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places. The building was funded and built by four members of the 103rd: George Ellsasser, Co. G; George B. Ford, Co. D; Andrew Dillon, Co. D; and Jacob Nodine, Co. C. After the building was completed, it was named "Elfordilno" in honor of these men. It was used by veterans of the 103rd as a barracks during the annual reunions.

Today, the descendants of the 103rd continue to hold reunions on the banks of Lake Erie, as they have every year since 1867. They gather each summer to nurture the relationships that have formed as a result of the organization, reminisce, and ultimately to continue to honor the service of the brave soldiers of the 103rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry.

In the 1970's the structure was completely restored and became the permanent home for the Museum and its artifacts. The Museum is open to the public during the spring and fall pancake breakfasts and one Sunday a month during the summer.

Please RSVP to:

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Mayflower Society Cleveland Colony

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103rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry

Civil War Museum

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<https://www.103ovi.com/>