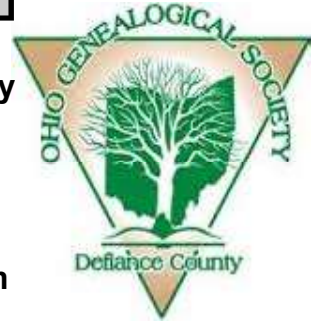


Yesteryears' Trails



Quarterly Newsletter Published by the Defiance County
Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 7006 Defiance, OH 43512-7006
Web Site: [Http: www.defiancecountygenealogy.org](http://www.defiancecountygenealogy.org)
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2023

Vol. XXXIX

Issue 2

Defiance County Genealogy Chapter and Board Meetings

Regular monthly meetings of the Defiance Chapter OGS are held at St. John United Church of Christ at 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise stated. The address is 950 Webster Street— on the northeastern corner of the Defiance College campus. Entry is on the north side of the church adjacent to the college gymnasium.

Chapter meetings are the 4th Monday of each month except as noted.

Board meetings are held at 2:30 p.m. the third Thursdays of the month at the St. John UCC at 950 Webster Street.

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DCGS Programs for 2023

Beginning with the April 24th meeting-- Histories of Notable Buildings in the County. On the 24th Dan Hasch will present the histories of three Sherwood buildings.

May 22 - Sarah Marshall
The Worthington Project

June 13 (Tuesday) at 7:00 p.m. meet at
the Tuttle Museum

September 25 - Early Local Amusement
Sites - panel of DCGS Board
members



Surname Index and Verical File to Be in Ohioanna Room

Due to popular demand, the Defiance Library has brought the two local resources back to the Ohioanna Room where patrons have easy access. The **surname index** is useful in the search for family history and the **vertical file** for research of local history.

Defiance County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society
Yesteryears' Trails Vol.XXXVII Issue 4 2022

Officers and Trustees -2022

President - Joanne Allison
joanne.richolt.allison@gmail.com

Vice-President - Rhonda Casler

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Kim Bercaw

Dawn Hasch

Pat Wise

First Families of Defiance County
and Centennial Families

Defiance County First Families

If you can prove your ancestor resided in Defiance County before January 1846, your ancestor can be classified as a "Pioneer." If he or she lived here between January 1846 and December 1860, that ancestor can be classified as a "Settler." To prove your lineage back to your ancestor, you may use birth records, death records, marriage licenses, census records, Bible records, and other primary or supportive secondary records.



The application fee is \$15.00 which covers as many ancestors as you can prove and also covers your membership pin. You must be a member of the Defiance County Chapter OGS. This membership may be paid at the same time as your application fee is paid. The cutoff date is August 1st of the year in which you apply. For more information and to download the application for First Families, please go to the Society's web site at www.defiancecountygenealogy.org or write to the chapter at PO Box 7006, Defiance, OH 43512-7006 attention of Mary Scranton, chair.

Change of Address or Email ?

If you change your postal or email address, **please** make sure you email the chapter at <defiancegenealogy2002@yahoo.com> or send the changes to Defiance Chapter OGS, PO Box 7006, Defiance, OH 43512-7006 so that your current information is on file.

Become a Member of DCGS

Chapter dues are \$15.00 for an individual and \$18.00 per family.

An additional \$5.00 is required for mailing the four annual newsletters through the U. S. Post Office. Membership form is at the end of this newsletter or you may download a membership form at www.defiancecountygenealogy.org

Defiance County Centennial Families

To acknowledge families which have been in Defiance County for 100 years or more, our chapter has established a centennial recognition program. Just one item of proof showing that a family member was here in 1918 or before is needed to register a family. Upon registration, a certificate will be sent from the chapter. For more information, please contact the chapter via email or by postal mail-- attention of Carol Ehlinger.



Defiance County OGS Chapter News

March Happenings

DCGS Board News

The DCGS Board meet at 6:00 preceding the monthly chapter meeting. In the absence of President Allison due to illness, Vice-President Rhonda Casler presided over the board meeting.

Dianne Kline, Kim Bercaw and Mary Williams will audit the treasurer's books for 2022.

Dianne Kline noted that there were queries for the surnames Schubert and Baum. She also noted there were 3041 hits on the blog site so far in March. Dawn Hasch, membership chair, announced that currently there are 52 memberships paid for the 2023 year.

Those board members in attendance at the help session at the Defiance Public Library felt it went well and would be willing to provide assistance again. It was suggested that on the application for the workshop that some idea of what the patron would like help with would be beneficial.

Dianne agreed to contact the DPL to see if they would like to have the files we have in storage for schools, churches, and cemeteries now that they have resumed their vertical files. Dianne also will ask for clarification on Sarah Marshall's tentative cemetery cleanup day.

In consideration of a possible visit in July, Mary Williams noted that the Hayes Museum/Library is open Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Programs were reviewed: April 24 - Dan Hasch - Historical Sherwood Buildings, May 22 - Sarah Marshall - Worthington Cemetery Project, June 13 - Visit to the Tuttle Museum (Tuesday evening), September -Early Local Amusement Sites.

Chapter Highlights

Vice-President Rhonda Casler opening the monthly meeting at 7:00 p.m. . Minutes of the previous chapter meeting were read and the treasure's balance noted of \$6578.55.

Rhonda noted the IGGP will be meeting in June in Fort Wayne June 9-11. She also noted the genealogy help session the Defiance Library went well with four people being helped one-on-one with four DCGS members.

There was no unfinished or any new business, the meeting adjourned.

Following the business meeting, Mary Williams presented ideas to think about when planning to publish a family history book. She presented many questions to be answered to determine what type of book and what to include in the book. Mary showed examples of different types of family history books, and members also shared the books that they had brought.

Mary Williams - recording secretary



Friday, April 28, 2023

DDVB Events

10:00 Defiance Community Auditorium - Commemorative Presentation

6:00 Defiance Public Library Grounds:

Time Capsule Presentation, Live Music, Photo Booth, Outdoor Games. Jacob's Meats, Arps Ice Cream, Meek's Birthday Cake, Fireworks at Dusk

Tiny Towns Went with the Wind

Farmland News May 20, 1980

*Researched by Gladys Donson
and Theresa Kennedy*

For residents of the former Black Swamp around each Palm Sunday come the tornados of the spring. While Brunersburg rebuilt after the great tornado of Palm Sunday March 28, 1920, other towns were totally destroyed. The editors, named that infamous tornado the "ghost town maker" because it left destruction from the eastern border of Indiana to Lake Erie.

"That Palm Sunday of March 1920 began on a 'lovely, beautiful spring day.' However late in the day towering thunderheads began to roll from near Edgerton Indiana four miles west of the town of Payne, Ohio. Within a short period of time it reached the town of Emmett or Emerald in Paulding, Ohio. Emerald, named by many who had settled nearby from Early settler from Ireland; it was located on the Wabash Railroad just south of the Defiance county line. In it heyday Emerald had a telegraph office, and express office, a hotel, two general stores, a daily "hack" line to Paulding and a post office.

"The town was already in decline with the coming of the railroad to Paulding and the two stores that remained were finished by the Palm Sunday tornado.

"Three miles northeast of Emerald or Emmett, the tornado gaining strength struck the town of Renollet. Renollet was primarily a station on the Wabash Railroad used by farmers for shipping. In addition to the elevator, there was a store and several homes. The town was completely destroyed along with five lives.

"From Renollet, the storm roared onto Brunersburg where it "leveled every building and destroyed the Brunersburg bridge which as that time was said to be "the largest single span bridge in the world in the early 1900s."

"It is said that the Grant Clinker family had be driving in the countryside and had just crossed the bridge when the twister struck."

"Clinker ran his auto into town, seeking shelter. He found a brick building and drove in. How-

ever, the building began to crumble almost immediately. The Clinker auto was showered with bricks and other debris, but the people inside were not seriously injured."

"The storm continued destroying much of Gerald in Henry County and parts of Swanton in Fulton County. "The final casualty was the little Lucas County hamlet of Raab. After completely destroying homes and businesses there, the twister departed into history over Lake Erie."

"It is recorded that the 1920 Palm Sunday squall line left 20 persons dead and multitudes injured... Renollet and Raab are but "fond memories in the sands of time. Emerald became Emmett' and many other towns had to rebuild."



Post card showing Brunersburg 's destruction.



A Bronson photo showing the remnants after the Palm Sunday twister went through Brunersburg..



Another view showing the total destruction of the town of Brunersburg in 1920.

Surname Research List for DCGS Members

The following list of surnames are those associated with members of the Defiance County Genealogy Society. In order to protect the privacy of members, only the membership numbers have been provided. If you are interested in contacting any of these members, email Dawn Hasch, membership chair dh_apple@yahoo.com and she will provide you with contact information.

Mem. # Surnames Being Researched

528 Richolt, King, Cooper
 258 Rose, Hively, Wilson, Lewis, Gaskill
 653 Smith, Viebach, Watson
 398 Campbell, Gier, Strahle, (related by marriage: Wilhelm, Mock Goller, Garver, Kibble, Troxel/Troxal, Keller, Doll/Dull, Stenger, Ginter)
 392 Hussey, Stuckey, Mansfield, Stork, Sieren, Link, Bennentt, Lloyd
 689 Clinker, Reed, Mulligan, Woodcox, Tharp, Sanders, Lorah, Kuhn, Hoff, Meeker, Messerly, Geir, Riek, Mehring, Bradley, Magers/Majors
 471 Gurwell, Partee, Purtee, Renz, Keller, Dunkin, Vollmer, Rath
 302 Diehl, Herr, Schmaltz, Conn, Mattocks, Keller, Rantz, Schwartzel
 416 Breininger, Zipfel
 629 Wolfrum, Stuckey, Sprow, Wonderly, Breininger, Miller
 5 Varner, Baum, Deckrosh, Ankney, Hill, Bish, McClure
 376 Meek
 15 Smith, Wheaton, Hemlinger, Foust, Lenhart, Corressel, Hall, Clemens, Domeyer, Weaver, Marckel, Hardy, Osborn, Sullivan, Lehman, Williams
 417 Bottenberg, Chaney, Perry
 103 Peter, Miller, Patten, Kirschner, Osmun, Scranton, Scott, I Miller, Kurtz, Boon(e) Kurtz, Martin, Willard
 264 Durfey, Carr, Miller, Heller, Shoos, Fruchey
 688 Koerner, Riehle, Frey, Richardson, Smith, Royer, Weidler, Palmer
 679 Gorman, Hovestadt, Carney
 520 Argabright, Coy, Coonrod, Blood, Bruggeman, Brownlee, Garber, Fritz, Kurtz, Pollock, Romanus, Scranton, Snider,

Winters, Yargas, Yekisa
 536 Donley, McFeeters, Bergman, Fieldner, English
 554 Haug, Houck, Partee, Schondel, McFarland, Skee, Schontel, Groselle
 530 Johns, Hall, Edward Hall, Lydia Franklin, (Highland Twp. 1860), Bills
 428 Lewis, Hively, Shasteen, Whitten, Karnes, Lang, Moore, Harader, Shoup
 415 Dickman, Endsley, Love, Relyea, VanVlerah, Boucher, Hughes
 433 Geiger, Glanz, Konzon, Lenhart/Lenhardt 687 Wilhelm/Willhelm, Strahle (Washington Twp. 1850-1860), Harriger, Strahly
 356 Ross, Shoemaker, Kuhl, Heller, Miller, Roush, Helmick
 698 Bercaw, Skiver, Grine
 551 Bowers, Paxton, Speck, Cooper
 700 George Carpenter
 703 Drake, Bowdle, Richardson, Lantow, Weidenhamer, Blanchard
 332 Hohenberger, Demland, Severence, Dirr, Clinger, Fraker
 433 Gieger, Lenhardt/Lenhart, Glanz, Konzo
 704 Colby, Bernard, Spindler, Gecowetts
 705 Monroe, Griner, Fisher, Rice, Blythe, Long, Landel, Fix, Whitman, Spiet



One of the photos from the Hoffman Family collection. Taken around 1910. This photograph shows a horse drawn wagon traveling east on west Third Street. The city hall building is on the left and the Miami and Erie Canal is shown in the center.

Sugar Beet Production in Northwestern Ohio

From the pamphlet "Sugar Beet Production in Northwestern Ohio" [ublished in 1930

" Interest in the sugar beet production in Ohio dates from 1897. The first beet sugar factory was built at Fremont in 1900 by the Continental Sugar Company. The second was erected at Paulding in 1910 by the Columbia Sugar Company. During the next two years three more were established; one at Findlay, one at Rossford and one at Ottawa.

" The northwestern Ohio counties now [1930] growing sugar beets are Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Hancock, Lucas, Ottawa, Putnam, Paulding, Sandusky, Van Wert, and small portions of Allen, Mercer, Seneca, and Williams Counties. These counties have favorable climatic conditions, and a part of the soil in each is of a type best adapted to the growing of sugar beets."



"The world supply of sugar is secured chiefly from two sources, sugar cane and sugar beets. The world production of cane and beet sugar for the year ending June 30, 1929, was approximately 30 million tons, of which about 10 million tons was beet sugar, and 20 million tons was cane sugar."

Defiance Democrat - July, 1915

"Sugar Beet Industry Is Important Washington Township Agricultural Pursuit –Ney Newsletter

"The sugar beet industry is a very important department in the agricultural pursuits of the

farmers in Washington and Farmer Townships, the acreage running into the hundreds. Following is the list of those with whom Mr. Hartshorn of Ney holds contracts and the acreage allotted this year [1915]."

<u>Name</u>	<u>Acres</u>
William ADKINS	25
A. ALGEA	10
Saul ANDRES	4
E. W. BALSER	55
S. W. BEATTIE	20
Frank BEERBOWER	10
John BILLOW	3
G. F. BROWN	10
H. F. BURGBACHER	12
John BURK	6
Fred G. BRUNNER	4
H. CARTEYN	15
D.E. CONNELLY	6
August DEKEN	10
John DeLAERE	15
Guy DITTAMON	10
M. C. GARBER	2
Wheeler G. GOLLER	6
A. G. GINTHER	10
W. F. GOLLER	8
Hamiel GILLIS	30
H. A. GOLLER	6
Fred HAASE	10
Joseph JERGER	13
W. I. JOHNSON	7
M. M. MOOG	3
J. E. MITCHELL	11
Bert MOOG	2
H. J. MASON	10
W. P. MOOG	3
George McCAVITT	21
B. M. McFETERS	3
G. L. NELSON	5
Clarence PARKER	4
C. I. PIERCE	4
John PUDLINER	25
John RIDENOUR	20
Wm. REAGLE	5
A. L. STRAILEY	5
W. H. STRAHLE	5

Loren STRATTON	4
Theo SCHWARTZBACH	6
Jessie T. SMITH	10

“Sixty-four farmers are growing 600 acres and 46 laborers are required to do the blocking, thinning and hoeing. The crop, so far this year, is very promising and it is expected that 800 cars will be needed to handle the export products that will be shipped from the Ney station, which includes grain, live stock and hay. This fact means that Washington and Farmer townships are efficient in soil facility and production.

Decline of beet farming in NW ohio

Perhaps some of the reasons for th decline of beet production in the early years of the 20th century:

- 1) The cost of planting and harvesting sugar beets became much higher than corn, soybeans or wheat,.
- 2) cheaper imports from Mexico and other countires,
- 3) the loss of seasonal immigran labor

Although, the raising of sugar beets in our immediate area has almost diminshed entiryl, the state of Ohio did rank 12th of the U. S. state in beet production.

C. W. Brown

Defiance Democrat - July, 1915

C. W. BROWN is one of that class of men it does one good to meet. He was born in Tiffin township, near the site of the old Children’s Home, March 12, 1844 and is the son of Henry and Hester Ann (PARTEE) BROWN. He was married April 19, 1867, to Hannah, daughter of Jacob DIEDEN of Tiffin township.

Mr. Brown enlisted in Company E, 111th Ohio, in August 1862. He marched under Sherman from Atlanta to Lovejoy Station, and is now a member of the Bishop Post G.A.R., Defiance.

He served as trustee for Children’s Home for 11 years, or from 1902 to 1913, and has been a member of the M. E. church for 50 years, begining his religious service at Rural Chapel. This building was erected on the banks of Tiffin River, near the County Infirmary in 1871.

The land now occupied by the County Farm was acquired by Reuben BROWN, grandfather to the subject of this sketch in 1833. The first congregation of Rural Chapel consisted of Methodists who worshipped in the school house one mile west – 25 persons in all – and services are still being held in the chapel they built. Mr. Brown was superintendent of the Sunday School for 25 years.

Carrie E., wife of Byron HANNA, is the only child. Four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren make grandfather Brown happy. The grandchildren are Myrtie V. PETERSON, Elsie – wife of J. B. BERGMAN, Bessie G. and Charles Wesley HANNA. Great-grandchildren are Richard L.C., and John Raymond BERGMAN, Ford PETERSON. In politics, Mr. Brown is a Progressive



From the Hoffman famiily Photos Collection. Taken about 1910. A woman crosses on the Miami and Erie Canal bridge at west Third Street in downtown Defiance. The building in back on the left with the pillars is the Crosby Hotel

War of 1812

OhioHistoryCentral.org

The War of 1812 was fought between the United States and Great Britain from 1812 until 1815.

“The war had several causes. During the late 1700s and the early 1800s, Great Britain was at war with France. Britain began to face a shortage of skilled sailors. To acquire more men for its navy, Great Britain began to stop American and other ships and impress (take by force) sailors from them. Britain also tried to prevent United States farmers from trading with the French. Finally, British soldiers continued to occupy territory belonging to the United States, despite Great Britain's promise to remove these soldiers in the Treaty of Paris (1783) at the end of the American Revolution. Most of the soldiers were located along the Great Lakes, providing Native Americans, like the Shawnee leader Tecumseh, with support in their struggle against American settlers. In 1812, President James Madison asked the United States Congress to declare war.

“The United States had hoped to invade Canada in 1812, but British soldiers successfully rebuffed the assault. However, America did have some important victories the following year. The success of Oliver Hazard Perry at the Battle of Lake Erie, gave the United States control of that Great Lake.

“In the Battle of the Thames, General William Henry Harrison defeated a combined British and Native American force led by Colonel Henry Procter and Tecumseh. Tecumseh died in the battle.

“In 1814, despite a great naval victory at the Battle of Lake Champlain, the war turned against the Americans. A British army captured and held Washington, D.C. for a brief period. Before the British evacuated the city, they set fire to several of the buildings, including the White House.

“By late 1814, both the Americans and the British were ready to conclude the war. The two sides signed the Treaty of Ghent on December 24, 1814. Before news of the peace treaty reached America,

one final battle, the Battle of New Orleans, which resulted in an American victory, occurred in January 1815.

“Some of the British soldiers who remained on United States soil following the American Revolution were located along Lake Erie in western Ohio. These British soldiers also were trading guns with the Native Americans, helping the natives to resist the advance westward of white Americans.

“The United States' victory in the War of 1812 ended British support to the Native Americans and virtually ended the native threat to white Ohioans, allowing these Americans to fully settle Ohio without further opposition.”

War of 1812 Veterans of Defiance, Ohio

In 2012 the Jacob Stemple Chapter of the Ohio society of Daughter of war of 1812 compiled a listing of known veterans buried in nine counties of northwestern Ohio. Galdys Donson used six reference sources to identify veterans from Defiance County.

Blair, Joseph

d. 1824. Probably buried on his farm on the Maumee River in Delaware Twp. where he died. Noted that he served near Detroit.

Blue, Barnabas

Served in Capt. Charles Hillard's Company Feb. 22-Aug. 21, 1813. Lived on a farm in Delaware Twp. before 1830 until after 181. Probably buried in Blue Cemetery on his farm but no tombstone found. Delaware Twp.

Callender, William

Capt. Samuel Herrod's Co. Served in Sept. and Oct. 1812 and August 1813. Buried in Kent Cemetery, Farmer Twp.

Chruchman, Thomas

Buried in Old Evansport Cemetery, Tiffin Twp.

See 1883 p. 356

Downs, Jehu P.

Sgt. in 1st Regt. McDonald's Ohio Militia. Buried in old section of Riverside Cemetery in Defiance.

Zigler, Philip

Pvt. in Capt.. George Richardson's Co. Aug- Dec. 1813. Buried In Kent Cemetery, Farmer Twp.

Evans, Pierce

Born in Bourbon Ky. Served with Winchester's Troops in War of 1812. Buried in Old Riverside Cemetery in Defiance.

Also died and were buried near Independence Dam were Kentucky and Ohio soldiers killed in battle.

- Ballard, Bland
- Barkley, William
- Bevis, William
- Bomar, James H.
- Burass, James
- Clark, John
- Coleman, Thomas
- Ellis, William
- Emmett, Matthias
- French, John
- Henderson, Samuel
- Hill, James
- Hinton, Guy
- Holliday, Bash
- Kelsoe, Elijah
- Kenny, James
- Leavell, Tabor**
- Leon, Moses
- Liggett, James (Indian scout)
- Logan, Johnny (Indian scout)
- Mitchell, Nathaniel
- Muldrough, John
- Robb, Andrew
- Robinson, John
- Shryock, Christian
- Stepp, Wyatt
- Williams, B.
- Williams, John
- Williamson ?
- Woodruff, William

Iliff, Sylvester

Served with Co. B, 6 Mich HA. Buried in Moats Cemetery, Delaware Twp.

Kepler, Samuel

Born in PA. Pvt. in Capt. Henry Slack's Co. Aug-Sept 1812. Pvt. in Capt. Ichabod Plum's Co. May - Aug. 1813. Buried in Hire Cemetery, Richland Twp.

Mann, William

Pvt. in Capt. John Wilson's Co. May - Aug. 183. Buried in Kent Cemetery, Farmer Twp.

Martin, Reuben

Capt. Simon Wright's Co. in VT. Served June 1813-1814. Buried in Farmer Cemetery, Farmer Twp.

Partee, James

Served Pvt. in Capt. William Mill's Co ? until March 1814. Buried in Webb Cemetery, Noble Twp.

Snook, William

Sgt. in Daniel Reeder's Co. Served Sept. and Oct. 1812. Early settler (1824) in Delaware Twp. Buried in Blue Cemetery in Delaware Two.

Sullinger, Adam

Served two months in stockade in Dayton, Ohio. Buried in Old Evansport Cemetery in Tiffin Twp..

Todd, Edward

Enlisted in Feb. 1812 for 18 months. Served at Zanesville, OH. Buried in Moats Cemetery in Delaware Twp.

Wissler, John

Buried in MacCauley Cemetery in Tiffin Twp.

Early Population of the City of Defiance	
Census	Pop.
1850	800
1860	1,399
1870	2,750
1880	5,907
1890	7,694



This sculpture is not in Ohio but is so beautiful, I would like to share the Facebook posting. It is located in South Dakota and is called 'Dignity.' It was created by artist Dale Lamphere to honor the women of the Sioux Nation. It is rewarding to know that the Native Americans are still being honored.

IGGP Comes to Fort Wayne

If you have German heredity, look no further than Fort Wayne, IN to discover more about your ethnic background! The following is from the Genealogy Center at the Allen County Library's

The International German Genealogy Partnership conference is just around the corner, and the Allen County Public Library and its Genealogy Center are hosting this event June 9 to 11, 2023. The IGGP website is iggp.org. In no particular order, are reasons to attend the conference.

1

More than 100 presentations, and no two the same! The topics cover the range of the German experience on multiple continents and during multiple time periods. Most will be presented during the

conference weekend. But another set will be recorded for viewing at your convenience. And ALL will be accessible for 3 months after the end of the conference. You also can buy the USB and watch the programs for years to come.

2

The conference app, Whova, makes it easy to connect with other attendees, whether in Fort Wayne or online. You'll set up your Whova account weeks before the conference, giving you plenty of time to post on the message board, plan your schedule and a lot more.

3

Sponsors and exhibitors with a story to tell. You can visit those present in Fort Wayne and explore their products and services. Then join your fellow attendees in cyberspace to wander the virtual exhibition hall. Even more to explore there!

5

The Genealogy Center at the Allen County Public Library. The second-largest family research center in the United States is a hop and a skip from the conference center where IGGP will be meeting. Virtual attendees can set up appointments for research assistance and catch up with some of the many recorded webinars about genealogy.

6

Speaking of librarians — the family researcher's best friend — IGGP is offering its first Librarians' Day on June 8, the day before the conference opens. The speakers will share tips for locating German genealogy resources, and allow you to show off your new knowledge when a patron comes to you for help.

7

Make new friends. Connection sessions bring together people with an interest in the same topic, encouraging you to share your experiences and get help from others.

8

There will be document translation and transcription assistance. We're running our first hands-on workshops.

9

If we're being honest, this is THE most important reason to attend the IGGP 2023 conference, in-person or virtually. It's German genealogy and only German genealogy all day long for three wonderful days!

Ohio Memory

<https://ohiomemory.ohiohistory.org/>

About Ohio Memory

“Established in 2000, Ohio Memory is the collaborative statewide digital library program of the Ohio History Connection and the State Library of Ohio. On this free website, you can explore digital content from over 390 cultural heritage institutions representing all 88 of Ohio’s counties covering a wide range of topics from prehistory to present day.”

The Defiance Public Library System Digital Archive

“This collection contains the Defiance County yearbook collection, Historic Homes of Defiance County collection, the Edward Bronson Photograph Collection and other historic items from Defiance County.”

About this collection

“The Defiance Public Library System and the Ohio History Connection are pleased to present a digital archive of the special collections of the Defiance Public Library System.

About the Defiance Public Library System:

“The Defiance Public Library was first conceived in 1867 by a group of 25 men dedicated to furthering the educational and intellectual lives of Defiance’s citizens. In 1904 Andrew Carnegie donated \$22,000 toward the construction of a public library building on the historic Fort Defiance grounds at the confluence of the Auglaize and Maumee Rivers.

“The Defiance Public Library was dedicated and officially opened on July 4, 1905. Since that time the Defiance Public Library System has opened 2 branch locations throughout Defiance County including the Johnson Memorial Library in Hicksville (1939) and the Sherwood Branch Library in Sherwood (1940). The Defiance Public Library still maintains its residence in the original historic Carnegie building at 320 Fort St., Defiance, Ohio and still honors its commitment to serve the citizens of Defiance County by helping them to Learn

from the Past, Understand the Present, and Prepare for the Future.”

“

Our digital archives contain:

Defiance County Yearbook Collection

“The Defiance Public Library System houses many local yearbooks from area schools and has digitized much of their historic collection for you to browse and search. Yearbooks ranging from graduating years 1906 to 1950 and including schools from the Farmer, Hicksville, Jewell, Delaware, Highland, Sherwood, and Mark Townships are available now. Further materials are being added to the digital yearbook collection as they become available. Search "yearbooks" in the search bar above to access the collection.

The Historic Homes of Defiance Calendar Collection

“Since 2001 the Historic Homes of Defiance has published a monthly calendar featuring original pen and ink drawings of area historic homes and buildings. The full collection has been scanned and digitized for viewing by the public here. The mission of Historic Homes of Defiance is to research the historic homes in the area; to highlight the significance of these homes and surrounding neighborhoods to the attention of others; and to promote preservation and growth. All original drawings are by Historic Homes Member Betsy Hileman. For more information or reproductions please visit www.historichomesofdefiance.org.

The Bronson Collection

“The Edward Bronson Collection consists of 808 contact prints (5.5 x 14 in), made from original 10 x 31 cm. panoramic negatives. As the work of an amateur photographer active between 1906 and 1949, the collection provides a comprehensive view of the life of Defiance, Ohio through the first half of the twentieth century. The collection has numerous shots of civic activities (such as parades, festivals, and other ceremonies): views of the physical community (street scenes, buildings, ground-breakings, cornerstone laying, construction sites, bridges, and dams); noteworthy events related to floods, fires, political campaigns, or social

activities; and scenes of personal interest to the photographer. The full collection can be viewed on site at the Defiance Public Library in Defiance, Ohio.”

Hoffman Family Photographs

Contains over 80 photographs in and around the city of Defiance.

Defiance Oral History Project

Accounts of lifelong residents from 1970s - 2000s. There are 81 interviews of residents reflecting lives of residents from all walks of life. The Defiance Oral History Project was a collaborative effort between Defiance City Historian Randy Buchman, the Andrew L. Tuttle Memorial Museum, and the Defiance Public Library System.

The following are just samples of the interviews. For complete accounts, visit the site and read about other residents of Defiance and their lives in and about Defiance.

Betty Wurst

“Recorded January 12, 1972, this oral history features Betty Wurst discussing her experiences as both a student at Defiance College in the 1920s and as a professor there in the 1940s. Wurst speaks about the student atmosphere on campus in the 1920s, May Day events, her professors and colleagues on the faculty, and her involvement in establishing the Newman Club at Defiance College in 1947, now a world-wide network of Catholic ministries located on non-Catholic university and college campuses...”

Nellie Gary

“Recorded by a student on January 17, 1972, this oral history features Nellie Gary, head librarian at the Defiance Public Library. Nellie's childhood home was near Melrose, Ohio, where she attended a one-room schoolhouse and a four-year high school. In 1921 she attended Defiance College where she majored in history. She discusses her experience as a student at Defiance College in the 1920s, student life, the curriculum, memorable faculty and staff, and dormitory life...”

Bob Ort

“Recorded April 4, 2006, by Dan Nutter, this

oral history features World War II veteran Bob Ort discussing his childhood; memories of the Great Depression; his time serving in World War II, especially in the Battle of the Bulge; his career as a fire fighter in Defiance; and the ways Defiance, Ohio, has changed over the years...”

Del Hammon

“Recorded by Jan Craig, this oral history features barber of 57 years Del Hammon. Born in Florida, Ohio, in Henry County, Del moved around northwest Ohio throughout his early childhood, but settled in Defiance in 6th or 7th grade when his father gave up farming. In the early 1930s, Del attended Spencer School, but couldn't attend school for one and a half years after contracting rat-bite fever or jaundice. Del discusses his early employment history at various local Defiance businesses such as the Harley Whittaker Store, the Arnold Haverland shipping yard, and Zeller Corporation. After being discharged from the service, Del attended Andrews Barber College in Toledo, Ohio. Del discusses his career as a barber in Defiance, humorous experiences with his clients, and offers insights about the future of the industry...”

James Kile

“Recorded October 7, 2004, by Dan Nutter, this oral history features barber James Kile. Born in 1943 in Defiance, Ohio, James graduated from Ayersville High School, worked at a gas station for a year, and then went to barber school in Toledo. James' parents met in Indiana, but after his father was hired at All Star Products, his mother and sister moved to Defiance and he was born there. James reminisces about playing for the Ayersville High School basketball team and winning the state championship in 1961. James describes the course of his career as a barber from barber school and passing the written and practical state exams to earning a barber's license, and finishing his apprenticeship with Tim Cup on Clinton Street. He cut hair in the army after he joined the National Guard and in 1965 bought his own barber shop for \$12,000 when he returned to Defiance. James discusses hunting and acting as a hunting guide, teaching shooting at the Maumee Valley Gun Club, serving as a township trustee, and being a volunteer firefighter.”

Defiance County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society
Membership Form for 2023

Please **print or type and** send with check made **payable to DCGS.**

Send to: Defiance County Chapter OGS, PO Box 7006, Defiance, OH 43512

Membership year is January 1 through December 31, annual \$15.00 per person, \$18.00 for family. If you need to update your 5 generation charts, please return a five generation chart, sign and date the form giving permission to publish in the newsletter.

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Maiden Name _____ Spouse Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip code _____ - _____ Phone # (_____) _____

E-mail address _____ Birthdate _____

New Member ___ or Renewal ___ Single ___ or Family ___

Donation to DCGS for \$ _____ Specified Intention (please indicate) _____

****Would you prefer your newsletter (circle one) Snail mail (USPS) or E-mail. Due to increased printing and postage costs, please add \$5.00 to your membership fee for snail mail.**

Member of First Families of Defiance County, Yes ___ No ___ OGS Member? Yes ___ No ___

Your surnames in Defiance County:

Program Suggetions: _____

What services/support would you be willing to offer DCGS? (Circle all that apply)

Officer/Trustee, Computer data entry, Transcribing records, Proofreading, Meeting greeter, Setting up displays, Indexing, Telephone/calling, Fundraising, First Families Committee, Speaker, Teaching, Other

I do ___ do not ___ give permission to have my information printed in any handouts, newsletters, or publications.

Office use only: Date Pd. _____ Ck. # _____ Cash _____ Membership # _____

Name _____ Phone _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Defiance County Genealogy Society
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Description of Publications

	Price	Quantity	Total
Reprint of 1876DefianceCountyAtlaswith Indices (Paper- pub. 2007)	25.00		
Plat Map Index or Biographical Index for the 1876Def.Co.Atlas	\$8.00 each		
Index to the 1976DefianceCountyHistoryBook (pub. 2006)	\$15.00		
Index to theHistory of DefianceCounty 1883 (pub. 2008)	\$30.00		
Def. Co. Tombstone Index '78-'83: BookA-K or Book L-Z (pub. 2001)	\$30.00 each		
EarlyDeath Records of Defiance Co. 1867-1884 (pub. 2001)	\$25.00		
Def. Co. Deaths 1884-1907: BookA-K or Book L-Z (pub. 2004)	\$25.00 each		
Def. Co. Deaths 1908-1996: BookA-E, Book F-K, Book L-R or Book S-Z	\$30.00 each		
Def. Co.Out of County and State Burial Permits 1973-1998 (pub. 2004)	\$25.00		
Def.Co.Riverside Interments: Jan. 1978-July 2006 (pub. 2007)	\$25.00		
Adams Township Def.Co. Inscription Book (Read in 2000; pub. 2005)	\$25.00		
Def. Twp.& CityTombstone Inscription. (New Riverside Cem. not included) (Read in '78-'82; pub. 2001)	\$25.00		
Defiance City New Riverside Tombstone Inscriptions (Read '78-'82; pub. 2001)	\$35.00		
Delaware Twp.Def.Co. Tombstone Inscriptions (Read '01-'02; pub. 2005)	\$30.00		
Farmer Twp.Def.Co.Tombstone Inscriptions (Read '94; pub. 2008)	\$30.00		
Hicksville Twp.Def.Co.Tombstone Inscriptions (Read '00-'02; pub. 2007)	\$35.00		
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Def. Co. Births 1867-1908: BookN-SI, Book Sm-Z (revised 2016)	\$35.00 each		
Def. Co. Marriages - SmallVol 1: 1845-1861 (pub. 2001)	\$30.00		
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Civil War Journal of DariusW. Baird (38thOVI) ofNWOOhio (pub. 2011)	\$10.00		
Reproduction of Turnbull Wagon Co. Catalogue 1904 (pub. 2011)	\$21.50		
225th Anniversary of Anthony Wayne's Fort Defiance; A Collection of Short Stories (newly published 2019)			
	\$10.00		
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