



Mahoning Meanderings

The Official Newsletter of
The Mahoning County Chapter
of The Ohio Genealogical Society

Volume 34 – Issue 1 January – February 2009 Page 1

The Computer Interest Group
Meets at 6:00-6:45PM with computer related subjects. All are welcome.



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Mahoning Meanderings Newsletters

Two CD set of our newsletter from September, 1978 to the present, is available for \$12.00 (shipping and tax included). Mail check to the Chapter with ATTN: John Holderman.

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Submit Newsletter Articles

Any member may submit an article to the newsletter.

E-mail articles to:

John Holderman at: jaholderman@sbcglobal.net

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Mahoning Meanderings newsletter deadline for March – April is: February 16th

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Cookies for:



January: Barb Smith & Ron Garchar
February: Sally Joseph & Carol Check

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Newsletter Editor

Carol Check has resigned her position as newsletter editor because of work, family commitments and can no longer be editor. The officers and membership thanks Carol for her work on the newsletter and Carol will continue to help with articles.

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The Mahoning County Chapter OGS Meeting **Location – 7:00PM**

St. Charles Church Parish Center
St. Matthew Room

7325 Westview Drive, Boardman, Ohio

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January, 2009 Program

Steffon Jones – Boggess Family History Research.

Steffon's expertise regarding Civil War Colored Troops is also well known, and he will be able to answer a range of questions concerning African American genealogical and historical research in the Youngstown area.

February, 2009 Program

Toni Sheehan and Loretta DeSantis, from the Mercer County Genealogical Society.

They will talk about Mercer County genealogical research the interests of our membership who seek information about ancestors who came from western Pennsylvania. They will discuss resources and research methods.

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MCCOGS Newsletter Information

Starting in January 2009 you will have a choice in how you receive your newsletter. You can continue to receive by US Mail or you can now receive it via email. If you choose to receive via email please send the form in if you have not responded to the e-mail Lou sent in December. The newsletter will be in a PDF file. You can download *Adobe Reader* free off the internet.

Each January you will be given a choice to change. Also if you change your email address do not forget to notify us via email of the change. If you choose email it saves the chapter money both in cost of printing and postage which goes up every year.

Please make sure your e-mail address is updated. If you do not receive your newsletter by Thursday before the chapter meeting contact Lou Joseph.

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Minutes November Chapter Meeting

Meeting was called to order at 7:03 by President John Holderman; meeting was temporarily suspended and the Speaker Martha Bishop was introduced by Vice President Tim Seman. Martha is the Librarian at the Steel Museum. The Museum has information of NE Ohio encompassing the following counties: Carroll, Columbiana, Harrison, Jefferson, Mahoning, and Trumbull.

A catalog of information available is on line at www.ohiohistory.org Archives library is free and the hours are Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday 12 - 4PM and the first Saturday of the Month also. They have information and death certificates on line from Dec. 29, 1908 to Dec. 1944. Except 1933 - 1937 (available on line only). Ancestry.com and Heritage.com available also. Ohio pictures from a variety of societies.

Martha was thanked for informative presentation and the meeting resumed at 7:53. No treasurer's report due treasurer being ill. Lou has completed 1000 lots in Oak Hill. Computer interest group - 12 members present and discussion was on cutting and pasting photos. Books and Membership - no report, Records Committee- Tim reported that will be a meeting on Nov 18 at 2PM in the Probate Court and is open to the public.

January's meeting speaker will be Stefan Jones and February speaker will be from Mercer County OGS.

Newsletters will be available via e-mail to all members who would prefer, must give John e-mail address, in January all members will receive newsletter via snail mail and e-mail and in March the newsletter will go out only e-mail to those who sign up. This is being done to help with the cost of postage.

Also at the January meeting any member who would like to may take to opportunity to make pay tribute to Jocelyn Wilms. Mike Heher expressed the lack of eulogy at Jocelyn's services and thought "all her children" might like the chance to say something in honor of a fine, loving and extremely helpful member to all.

Deadline for the next newsletter is De. 15th, the next meeting will be Jan 19th at 7PM Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Mike Heher and seconded by Peggy Wade. Meeting adjourned at 8:12PM

Respectfully Carol Check

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Tips from the Pros

Check Local Historical Societies for Family Photos

George G. Morgan of the Trumbull county OGS

If you've been unsuccessful locating photographs of your family members, or if you have old photos and cannot identify the people, make contact with the local, county, or state historical society where they lived. Their archives may contain just the information you need to make the connection in identifying photographs of your family members. They may also have city directories, telephone directories, school yearbooks, letters, diaries, and newspaper clippings unavailable anywhere else. Older members also may have recollections of your family members.

Trouble Free Cemetery Labels

I take lots and lots of cemetery photos. Here's a tip for trouble free labeling: I write on a white page on a clipboard, in dark felt tip, the name of the cemetery and the city/state (and location number is there is enough space to write) all clearly and large enough to show up in my photo.

Then religiously, I put the card at the base of the monument on either the west or north position to the marker. I only deal with west or north, so west would be to the left of the monument and north would be to the right on the monument. Every photo I take is immediately identifiable. I don't need labels or a pen.

I can use the photos the second they come out of the photo envelope.

(Valentine from Trumbull County OGS)

Additional suggestion use a dry erase board, then you won't need paper and it wipes off easy for the next monument, and faster.

Now Is the Time

Winter is a good time to work on genealogical projects. Sit down with members of the older generation during holiday get togethers and ask lots of questions. Don't forget to write down the answers! You won't remember what they tell you; better yet use a tape recorder (no room for error and the story will be precise). Each holiday is the "best one yet and gone when over).

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World War I Draft Cards Open Doors

In reading about your WW I draft cards, I recalled that my grandmother's brother's information was sketchy at best, until I opened up a huge door by looking up his WW I draft card. I hadn't thought at all about looking it up, until I realized that he was probably of draft age during that was. I had only an idea that he may have lived in North Tonawanda NY, from a letter that I had.

I checked his name in the WWI draft cards and lo and behold, there he was! And what a wealth of information I got from one little card I found out his definite birth date, his wife's name and address (I wasn't even sure he ever married), the name of the company he worked for, and what his position was (Master of Steam Ships of the Great Lakes, for O.W. Blodgett), and the fact that, even though he lived in Tonawanda NY, he registered in Duluth, Minnesota.

Because of this information, I started a querying on line, was put in touch with man who has a site started that is about Great Lakes ships and their personnel. He found even more about my ancestor, Henry Wilson Spaulding. And because of the kindness of others online, I now know that he died suddenly (I still don't know of what) in Menominee, Michigan in 1926, and is buried in Elm Lawn cemetery in Tonawanda.

(Reprinted from Ancestry.com newsletter/Cuyahoga Valley OGS)

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New legislation in congress aims to help preserve State and Local Records

Preserving the American Historical Record Act HR 6056 would establish federal formula grant program.

Legislation was introduced in Congress May 14 that would make federal formula grants available to each state for the preservation of historical records held by the state and local governments, historical societies, libraries and other organizations.

HR 6056, also know as the Preserving the American Historical Record (PAHR), was introduced by Representatives Maurice Hincey (D-NY) and Chris Cannon (R-UT). Hr 6056 would provide \$50 million to states based on a formula that takes into account population and geographic size. If funded at the \$50 million level, PAHR would allow the State Archives, part of the Ohio Historical Society, to provide grant funding for more than \$1.65 million annually to Ohio's local recordkeeping institutions.

Ohio's local governments, libraries, genealogical societies, archival institutions and local societies would benefit tremendously by the enactment of PAHR. The legislation has been referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. Ohio Congressmen Dennis Kucinich (D-Cleveland), Mike Turner (R-Dayton) and Jim Jordan(R-Urbana) serve on the Committee. Please contact your member of Congress to urge their support of PAHR (HR 6056).

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Grand Army of the Republic

Dennis Northcott, St. Louis, MO

Founded in 1866, the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) became the largest association of Civil War Union veterans. The following three books contain death records of more than 90,000 members fo the G.A.R. (1) *Grand Army of the Republic, Department of Illinois; Transcription for the Death Rolls, 1879-1947* **contains records of 1,955 veterans of Ohio Civil War units.** (2) *Iowa, Kansas, and Nebraska, Civil War Veterans: Compilation of the Death Rolls of the Departments of Iowa, Kansas, and Nebraska, Grand Army of the Republic, 1883-1948* **contains death records of 3,591 veterans of the Ohio Civil War units.** (3) *Indiana Civil War veterans; Transcription of the Death Rolls of the Department of Indiana, Grand Army of the Republic, 1882-1948* **contains death records of 1,859 veterans of Ohio Civil War units.**

To see if your ancestor is listed in one of these books, visit www.ngpublications.com. If you would like to order any of the books, send \$30 for each book plus \$4 shipping for the first book and \$1 for each additional book, and mail to: Dennis Northcott, P.O. box 11801, St. Louis, MO 63105. Make checks payable to Dennis Northcott. Or you can print an order form from the website.

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From the Youngstown Sheet and Tube Bulletin

Thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Grimm

Back from Over Seas

Mr. Frank Brunton has returned after eleven months service oversea, to assume his duties as foreman of the electric Shop Bench Department. Mr. Brunton went direct to Kelly Field, Texas. After being transferred to France he served the first three months with the English Air Forces and the last eight months with the American Air Forces. His many friends were glad to hear of his safe return.

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The Girls Sent in This

Mr. Harold Delaney, Manager of the Invoicing Department, has applied to the authorities higher up to change the name of his department to the Old Soldiers' Home- which title he maintains is more appropriate, his department affording shelter for such army officers of Gene Crawford, Al Frazer, Dave Morgan, Ducker Jones, and Earl Williams.

A Word of Condolence

The bulletin desires to express, on behalf of his fellow workmen and associates, its sympathy with the widow and children of Mr. Henry Brunswick, Representative of the Hubbard Furnaces, who died at his home in Hubbard on June 10, 1919.

Mr. Brunswick was a popular and faithful workman, and his place will be hard to fill. He is survived by Mrs. Brunswick and two children as well as by three stepchildren, all of whom except Earl are residents of Hubbard.

WEDDINGS, PAST AND PROSPECTIVE

From the Youngstown Sheet and Tube Bulletin

DULA - SLY

On August 5th, Miss Nellie Sly of the Invoicing Department was married to Lieutenant Thos. Dula, recently discharge from the U.S. Army. Mrs. Dula will leave the employment of the Sheet & Tube shortly to live in St. Louis, Mo. where Lieut. Dula is engaged in business.

Ohio Genealogical Society 2008 Writing Competition

Showcase your genealogical writing talent in one of the Ohio genealogical Society's journals. OGS is sponsoring its second annual genealogical writing contest open to authors of genealogical and historical material. In doing so, OGS will reward genealogical authorship and will feature these outstanding winners in its journals.

Two OGS journals will reach our 6000 member base while the two subscription journals reach genealogical and historical groups with special interests in early Ohio history and in Ohio Civil War soldiers.

The contest is for articles dealing with Ohio history and genealogy, Ohio records groups, Ohioans who left to settle elsewhere and Ohio families. OGS

welcomes articles ranging in size from 750 words up to 5,000 words, depending on the subject.

Authors may submit up to eight entries with a maximum of two entries in each of the following OGS journal categories:

Ohio Genealogy News (OGN - quarterly newsletter, included in OGS membership) concentrates on genealogical record groups, collections, research techniques, databases and websites related to Ohio genealogy and history, as well as articles about OGS, its chapters and other genealogical news.

Ohio Genealogical Society Quarterly (OGSQ - quarterly journal, included in OGS membership) publishes articles relating to the full spectrum of Ohio history and genealogy. Types of articles include case studies, abstracts and transcriptions of Ohio related materials, and Bible records.

Ohio Records & Pioneer Families (ORPF - quarterly, by subscription) focuses on Ohio from pre-colonial times to the Civil War historically and accepts articles on Ohio records groups including abstracts and transcriptions of such records.

Ohio Civil War Genealogy Journal (OCWGJ - quarterly, by subscription) features anything relating to Ohioans who served the Civil War including post-war related activities such as reconstruction and the GAR.

Three winning articles will be selected. For each journal, the first prize winner will receive a one-year OGS membership, a one-year subscription to Ohio Records & Pioneer Families and a one-year subscription to the Ohio Civil War Genealogy Journal.

The second place winner will receive his/her choice of two of the above listed prizes. The third place winner will receive her/his choice of one of the above named prizes.

Winning articles will be featured in appropriate OGS journals as space permits. OGS will not give every award in each category if sufficient entries do not meet the criteria.

Entries will be judged on four criteria:

Overall impact and interest: 0-15 points

Accuracy, points: 0-10 points

Language and voice: 0-10 points

Writing mechanics: 0-10 points

Judges' comments will be returned to each entrant. By submitting articles, authors are giving OGS permission to publish. Entries may not have been previously published in other journals.

Entries will be accepted from 1 January 2009 through 28 February 2009. Send entries as hard copy or as an electronic file on CD or via e-mail. All electronic files should be saved in Rich Text format (rtf) or in Microsoft Word or WordPerfect only.

Include the following information with each entry: Category (journal for which you wish your article be judged), author's name, full address, telephone number, e-mail address and any other pertinent contact information.

The contest is open to OGS members as well as non-members. Both amateur and professional writers may submit articles.

Please send entries to:
Writing Contest
The Ohio Genealogical Society
713 South Main Street
Mansfield OH 44906-1644

e-mail: ogs@ogs.org
Please put Writing Contest in the subject line.

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Common Mistakes in Genealogy Research

- Not using family group sheets and pedigree charts.
- Not contacting relatives for assistance.
- Assuming that "no one else is working on my line."
- Not using maps of the area at the time of your ancestors.
- Not knowing the history of your research area.
- Not using primary sources--land, probate, church, and county.
- Not making photocopies.
- Not making a master copy. Take a duplicate when you travel.
- Not organizing your records.
- Assuming that your surname is never spelled differently.
- **GIVING UP!!!**

(Source: Gleanings, Beaver Co. G.S. Summer, 2006, Vol. 30, No. 4)

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Ohio Cultural Facilities Commission Approves \$350,000 for Ohio Genealogical Society

Columbus, Ohio – The Ohio Cultural Facilities Commission approved \$350,000 at its quarterly meeting today for the Ohio Genealogical Society.

The Ohio Genealogical Society is embarking on construction of an 18,000-square-foot facility to better accommodate the Society's expanding membership and its growing library collection. The new home for the Ohio Genealogical Society, to be located near Mansfield, will serve professional and hobbyist genealogists with climate-controlled space for archives, a reading room, a preservation and digitization lab, meeting space and classrooms, and office space.

Established in 1959, the Ohio Genealogical Society is the largest state genealogical society in the country, with over 6,000 members, 95 chapters, nearly 35,000 books and a lending library with more than 2,000 titles and publications. For more information on OGS, visit www.ogs.org.

The Commission approval, coupled with the signing of legal agreements, allows the Ohio Genealogical Society to be reimbursed on a pro rata basis with funds appropriated in Am. Sub. H.B. 562 of the Ohio 127th General Assembly.

Richland County General Assembly members who voted in favor of the bill include Senator Bill Harris, and Representatives Thom Collier and Jay Goyal. The new facility will be located in Belleville in Richland County.

The Ohio Cultural Facilities Commission is a state agency that helps enhance the quality of life for Ohioans by improving the state's cultural facilities. Since 1988, the Commission has disbursed more than \$400 million of capital funds appropriated by the

Legislature and Governor for facility improvement projects at nonprofit theaters, museums, historical sites and publicly owned professional sports venues. The Commission partners with nonprofit groups and local governments on more than 300 projects in 72 of Ohio's 88 counties. For more information on the Commission, visit www.culture.ohio.gov.

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New Service for Immigration and Naturalization Records
A new Genealogy Program provided by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (formerly the Immigration and Naturalization Service) allows researchers to access the immigration and naturalization documents of deceased individuals without having to go through the effort and delay of a Freedom of Information Act request.

Index Search

USCIS will search its historical immigration and naturalization record indexes for all citations related to a specific immigrant. Search results in the form of record citations are provided along with instructions on how to request the files from USCIS or the National Archives. The cost of an index search for one individual is \$20.

The USCIS historical record indexes contain about 48 million entries. While some pertain to people born before 1850, most entries refer to people born since about 1875. To make an Index Search request, provide the individual's full name including variations, date of birth (actual or estimated), and country of birth.

Additional facts such as date of arrival in the U.S. and places of residence are essential to locate index entries for the correct person, especially if the name is common. Index citations, if they exist, will be mailed within four to six weeks.

Record Copy Request

Researchers with USCIS file numbers gained through a USCIS Genealogy Program index search or through independent research may request copies of historical immigration and naturalization records.

The copy cost of a file on microfilm is \$20 while the copy cost of a textual file is \$35. Records available through the USCIS Genealogy Program are the following:

Naturalization Certificate Files (C-Files), September 27, 1906 to April 1, 1956. (Before the naturalization process was centralized under INS in 1906, local, state and federal courts kept naturalization records.) C-Files from 1929 onward contain photographs. Most C-Files exist only on microfilm.

Alien Registration Forms, August 1, 1940 to March 1, 1944 (on microfilm), completed by all individuals age 14 or older who entered the U.S. during that period. The two-page forms have detailed personal information.

Visa Files, July 1, 1924 to March 31, 1944 (textual format). Visa forms include the immigrant's places of residence for the five years prior to emigration, names of both the emigrant's parents, and other information normally found on a ship passenger list of the period.

Registry Files, March 2, 1929 to March 31, 1944 (textual format). These are the records for people who entered the U.S. prior to July 1, 1924, for whom no arrival record could be found later. Most files include documents supporting the immigrant's arrival claims.

Immigrant Files (A-Files), April 1, 1944 to May 1, 1951 (textual format). These individual alien case files were created or consolidated since April 1, 1944. A-numbers ranging up to approximately six million were issued to aliens and immigrants within or entering the U.S. between 1940 and 1945. A-numbers from six to seven million date from about 1944 to May 1, 1951. Documents dated after May 1, 1951, even if they are in an A-File numbered below eight million, are still subject to FOIA restrictions.

The content of each file varies according to the file series and the life story of each immigrant. To make a Record Copy Request, provide the correct file series, complete file number, full name of the immigrant, and date and country of birth. Copies will be mailed within six to eight weeks.

Ordering Process

To make a request by mail, go to www.uscis.gov/genealogy to print out the form you need. The mailing address is USCIS Genealogy Program, P.O. Box 805925, Chicago, IL 60680-4120. Include payment in the form of a money order or cashier's check and proof of death if the person was born less than 100 years ago. Requests may also be made online, with payment by credit card. To contact USCIS, call 1-800-870-3676 or write to genealogy.uscis@dhs.gov.

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Upper Ohio River and Town Maps

Bob Moyer has digitized maps for the year 1877, following his ancestor's travels along the Ohio River from Cincinnati to Pittsburgh, and posted them on his website, <http://tinyurl.com/3whb8z>.

Part XVI of Ohio River Maps includes Sweet Wine, California, East Columbia, Dayton, Bellevue, Newport, Covington and Cincinnati. Another section of town maps includes Cincinnati, Dayton, Bellevue,

Newport and Covington. These maps identify wards, districts and townships, and also include land-owner and street names.

The maps are extremely detailed and have excellent quality. The large PDF files take about three to four minutes to download. Left-click to view or right-click to save to your computer. Print any selected area at any scale by using the Adobe Reader camera icon. Version 7 of Adobe Reader is recommended and a free link is available.

The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County has an encapsulated set of these maps, entitled Illustrated Atlas of the Upper Ohio River and Valley, from Pittsburgh, Pa. to Cincinnati, Ohio: from United States Official and Special Surveys. It sits on a shelf on the public floor for all to use. (*The Tracer* V29, #4 Hamilton County, Ohio OGS)

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Pictures from the Past - Right – Accepting our first Charter – 1972
Below – 1986 Chapter Officers.

1986 Chapter Officers (Below)
Ruth Welch-President, Ann Casper-Secretary
Sally Kenny-Vice President
Robert Secrist-Treasurer
Standing: Barbara Morey-Historian
Grace Gerthing-corresponding Secretary



OGS State Convention (Above)
Columbus, Ohio – April, 1972
Accepting the Charter for
Mahoning County Chapter OGS
Dr. Jean Stephenson, FASG
Barbara Gay – Guest Speaker
Ruby Rupe, Secretary
Carol W. Bell – President
Lida Flint Harshman – President OGS

E-Mail **Mahoning Meanderings** Newsletter

To get your Newsletter by E-Mail please return this form to:

E-Mail **Mahoning Meanderings** Newsletter

Mahoning County Chapter OGS

P.O. Box 9333

Youngstown, Ohio 44513-9333

Att. John Holderman

or

MCCOGS@zoominternet.net

Please send my newsletter by e-mail.

Name _____

E-Mail Address _____

You will receive your newsletter on Wednesday before the chapter meeting in January, March, May, July, September, and November. Please make sure that your e-mail address is correct and my e-mail address (jaholderman@sbcglobal.net) in your contact list. If you do not receive your newsletter please contact me at 330-881-5782.

The Mahoning County Chapter of
The Ohio Genealogical Society
PO Box 9333
Boardman, Ohio 44513-9333

**Chapter Officers
2008 – 2009**

President
John Holderman
Vice-President
Timothy Seman
Recording Secretary
Carol Check
Corresponding
Secretary
Janet Griffin
Treasurer
Louis Joseph
Historian
Sue Bell



Committees and Members

Visit our Website:
www.mahoningcountychapterogs.org



Cemetery Recording & Website: Louis Joseph
Computer Interest: Gary Confoey & Ron Garchar
Education: Barbara Morey
Membership: Sally Joseph
Research: Georgene & Keith Fry
Fed. of Gen. Soc. Delegate: Ron Garchar
First Families of Ohio: Barbara Morey
Newsletter Editor: Carol Check & John Holderman
Newsletter Mailing: John Holderman, Eva Doyle,
Tom Flynn, Judy Williams, Georgene Fry
Hospitality & Pioneer Families: Georgene Fry
Library Volunteer: Judy Williams
Publications Mailing: Sally Joseph
Courthouse Volunteers: Georgene Fry, Peggy Wade,
Mary Weese, Pat Grimm
Chapter Librarian: Peggy Wade

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION – New membership, change of address should be submitted on the following form and mailed to Sally Joseph at the chapter address above. Dues for individuals are \$15.00, for husband and wife is \$17.00.

Membership includes six (6) issues of **Mahoning Meanderings**. **You have a choice of receiving your newsletters through the US Mail or have them sent by e-mail.** Submit your Query on a separate sheet of paper include all information below. Membership includes free queries within Mahoning or adjacent counties. Queries will be printed in the newsletter. Form may be photocopied & also is found on our website.

Membership: New ___ Renewal ___ Phone (Opt) _____

Receive Newsletter by: US Mail _____ or **E-Mail** _____

E-Mail Address _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Are you a member of The Ohio Genealogical Society? Yes No