



# Union Echoes

Newsletter of Union County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society

The Mission of the Union County Chapter of The Ohio Genealogical Society is to promote and nurture an interest in genealogy by providing instruction, information, and inspiration, while encouraging members and others in the development of family histories and genealogical records for the benefit of future generations.

*The Union County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogy Society*

*P.O. Box 438, Marysville, OH 43040*

*Website: [WWW.uccogs.org](http://WWW.uccogs.org)*

**Librarian & Queries-** Nancy Katzenbach [nankatzen@gmail.com](mailto:nankatzen@gmail.com)

Nancy is at the Marysville Public Library every Tuesday from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. to assist all comers.

**Queries:** UCCOGS Query Committee

Send queries to newsletter editor at [slowe49@icloud.com](mailto:slowe49@icloud.com)

All queries are FREE

## In This Issue

A Letter from a WWII W.A.A.C.

page 43

York Township

page 44-45

What was Happening in the Colonies?

page 46

Stephen Badenhop, Records Manager & Archivist

page 47



LIBRARY VISITORS – If you are researching any Union County family, please sign our register. Other visitors may be researching the same family.

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are held at 10:00 A. M. in the lower level, at the Marysville Public Library, 231 S. Plum Street, Marysville. (Elevator located inside back door.) 10:00 am on the third Saturday of each month except for December 2025, January 2025, February 2025, and July 2025.

Check us out on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/UCCOGS/](http://www.facebook.com/UCCOGS/)

## Coming Events:

Remember to pay your 2026 membership dues. If you have a lifetime membership or you have already paid your 2026 dues thank-you. If you are not sure of the status of your dues ask Nancy Katzenbach: [nankatzen@gmail.com](mailto:nankatzen@gmail.com)

### **Remember to renew your 2026 MEMBERSHIP**

APPLICATION or RENEWAL:(Renewals: please mark with an **X** any changes in your information)

May we use your information on our Web site (members only section). Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

Name\_\_\_\_\_ Member No.\_\_\_\_ Spouse\_\_\_\_\_ Member No.\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS\_\_\_\_\_ Email\_\_\_\_\_

CITY\_\_\_\_\_ STATE\_\_\_\_\_ ZIP\_\_\_\_\_

New Member\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_ Returning Member \_\_\_

Phone:\_\_\_\_\_ Are you a member of *Ohio Genealogical Society*? Yes \_\_\_ No\_\_\_

Surnames you are researching in Union County \_\_\_\_\_

**GO GREEN!** May we send the Union Echoes news letter to the above email? Yes \_\_\_ No\_\_\_

Dues are \$15 per household for 12 months, January-December. Lifetime Member (\$150.00)\_\_\_\_\_

Donation \_\_\_\_\_ Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ Make check payable to: Union County Chapter OGS

**Return form and dues to: Union County Chapter, PO Box 438, Marysville, OH 43040-0438**

These monies are used to purchase research materials, microfilm for the Marysville Public Library, and for guest speakers. We are a 501(c)(3) society.

Letter From a WWII  
W.A.A.C,

I recently requested members of the post and auxiliary to submit information about their military experiences, and Opal McAlister was the first to respond. I would like to print her letter in it's entirety because I believe you will enjoy it as much as I did.

On December 5, 1942, I reported to DesMoines Iowa, as a W.A.A.C. (Women's Auxiliary Army Corps). I had resigned my teacher and principal positions at Flint School, Franklin County to serve my country.

The W. A.A.C. was organized in May 1942, with Col. Ovita Culp Hogley as its director. I felt that I was needed to serve. So late in November 1942 I volunteered, was accepted and ordered to Fort DesMoines, Iowa. Here, I was an auxiliary (private) for three weeks. I was then sent to Officer Candidate School and graduated in February 1943 as a Second Lieutenant.

The Second Training Center in Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., had just opened. I was sent there and served in the Training Department. Late in 1943, I was assigned to take a troop train of auxiliaries to Dallas, Texas.

This poem was written by one of them:

I am a WAC and proud as can be  
 I'm part of the army and love liberty  
 I work hard and long and do all I can  
 I work right beside my old Uncle Sam  
 I have my gripes and speak them free  
 For I can't help the soldier in me  
 I gave up home, pleasures, and game  
 Can you honestly say you'd do the same  
 I have my work, it must be done  
 But, there's always time for a little fun  
 I scrub and clean, sometimes I'm a sight  
 But, I'm sure not expected to give up my life  
 I'd give up my life for this great land  
 But, all that is asked is a helping hand  
 When my day is through, I really feel swell  
 For what I am doing, I try to do well  
 This is my war and I'll stick to the end  
 I want to give all and not only to lend  
 If I've made you think, feel ashamed, or blue  
 American girl, you've something to do  
 Question yourself - are you doing your part  
 You'll find the answer deep down in your heart

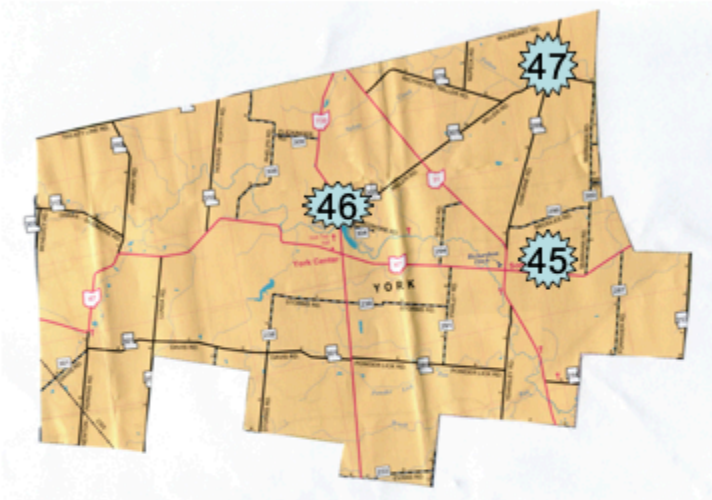


The women who served in the service were dedicated, loyal, and true.  
 Opal Mc Alister

2025 UCCOGS CALENDAR

November	December
11/4 Executive Board Meeting	No Meeting
	No Meeting

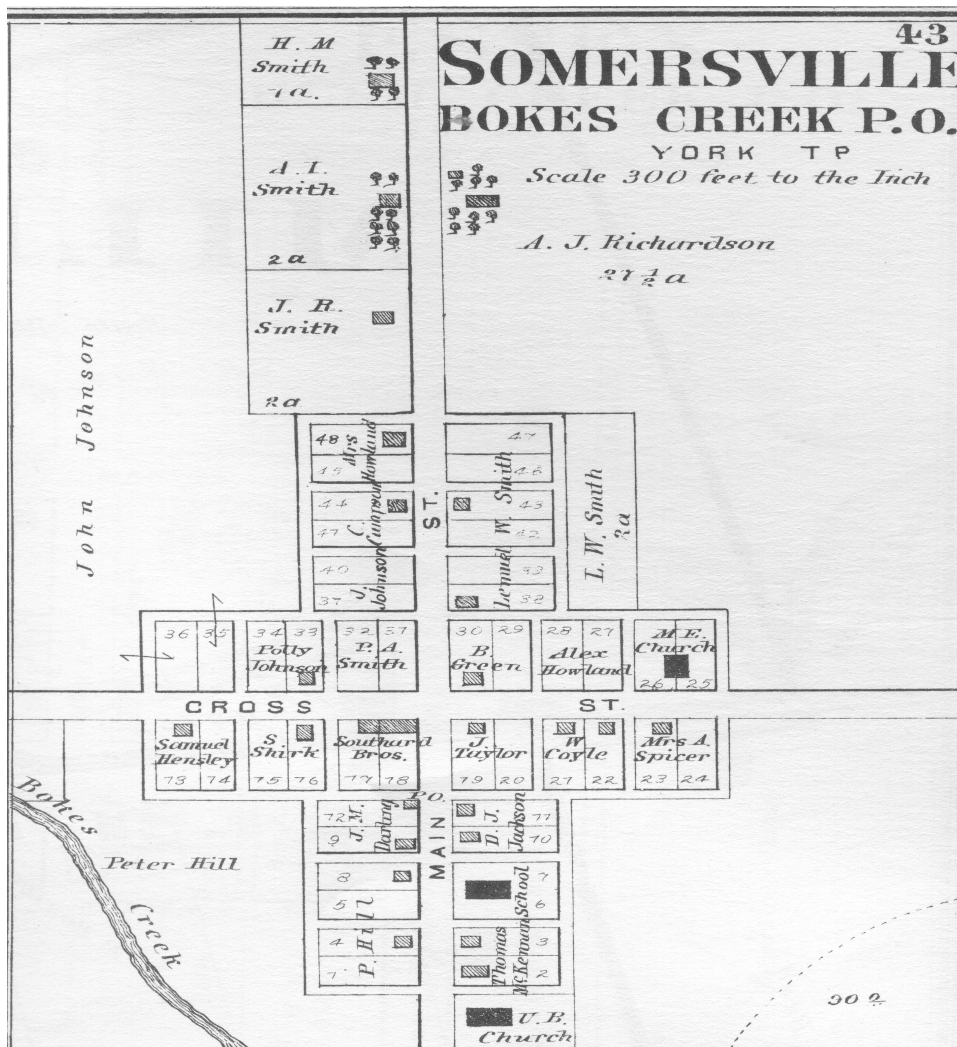
# York Township - 1834



45. Summersville/Somerville (Green) - Laid out in 1835. The post office was established in 1840 as Bokes Creek

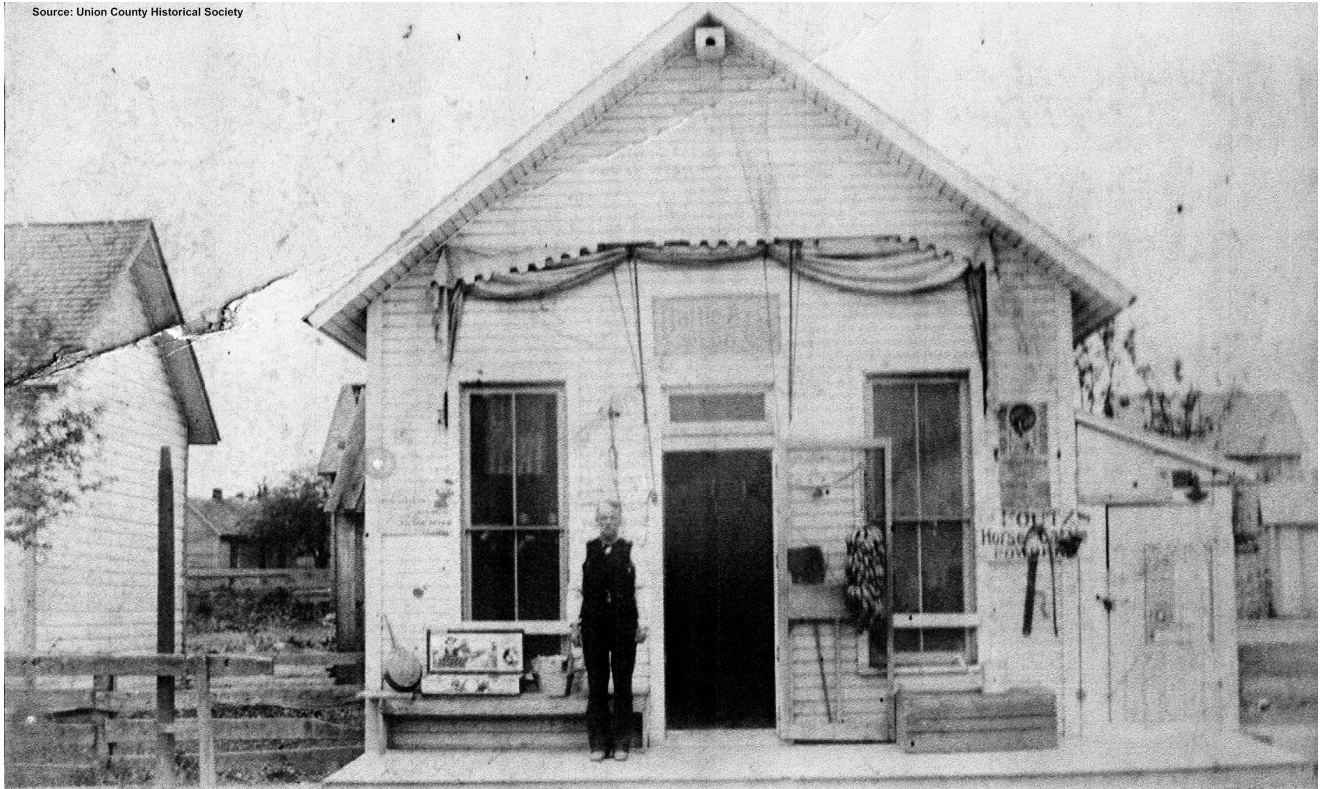
46. York Center (Red) - The post office was established in 1861.

47. Williams Post Office (Blue) 1855 - Intersection of Williams & Osborne Roads.

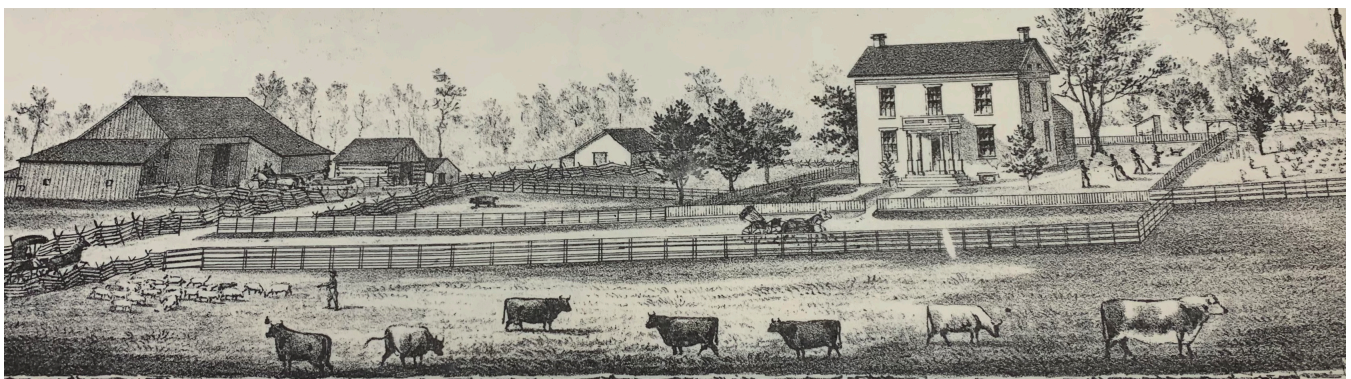


# York Center General Store

Source: Union County Historical Society



View of Farm and York Presby Church.



"FOREST HOME"

RES. OF T. W. MILLER, SITUATED ON RICHLAND & MILLER PIKE, YORK TWP, UNION CO. OHIO.  
THIS FARM WAS SETTLED BY JONATHAN G. MILLER .OCT. 2<sup>d</sup> 1826, THE FIRST FARM SETTLED IN THE TOWNSHIP

## What was happening before 1775 in the Colonies?

### Colonial Era (1600s-1700s)

- 1607: The English founded Jamestown, Virginia, the first permanent English settlement, which grew tobacco as a cash crop.
- 1608: Samuel de Champlain founded Quebec for the French.
- 1609: Henry Hudson explored the river that bears his name for the Dutch.
- 1619: The first documented Africans were brought to Virginia, marking the beginning of the forced migration and enslavement of Africans in the colonies.
- 1620: The Pilgrim Fathers established Plymouth Colony in New England.
- 1620s-1670s: Other European powers continued to establish colonies: the Dutch expanded on the Hudson River, while England developed colonies in New England, the Middle Atlantic, and the Chesapeake.
- 1630-1640s: Religious and political conflicts in England led to waves of Puritan and other settlers coming to North America.
- 1680: The Pueblo Revolt in New Mexico challenged Spanish rule

## What was happening before 1775 in the Ohio Territory?

### Pre-European and Early European Presence

- Indigenous Peoples: For thousands of years before European arrival, the Ohio region was inhabited by various Native American tribes, including the Adena and Hopewell cultures, who left behind elaborate burial mounds.
- French Claims: The French claimed the region by right of discovery, and explorers planted leaden plates to signify their possession in 1749.
- English Traders: English traders from Pennsylvania and Virginia began entering the area in the early 1700s





## **Minutes of the Union County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society held their meeting on Saturday, September 20 at 10 am at the Union County Records & Archives Center with Stephen Badenhop, Records Manager & Archivist.**

Marie Bouic mentioned this is our last meeting for the year and we will be touring Marysville First Presbyterian on April 11 and Bob Parrott will do a program on May 9.

We met in the Law Library which is free for attorneys and the public to use. Even though Stephen can't answer legal questions he can direct you in the right direction of where you can find your information. The bookcases that are holding the books are original from 1906 from the Courthouse. There are copies beginning from the Northwest Territory until the present. The Records and Archives combined with the Law Library in 2015. There is a computer to use along with a copy machine for making copies.

2008 the County Commissioners remodeled the present building for Record retention and Archives. Records had been stored in various county buildings in basements, attics, closets. Stephen was hired shortly after the renovations in November 2008. The architects had designed the space to fill in 25 years, but it was filled in 10 years. There are 7662 boxes now along with the old record books. There are to be renovations in two offices on the upper level to house 3000 more boxes. Since records are being electronic there are not quite as many papers to keep as before. On the Website there are many of the records that can be searched from your home computer. The different sections are : Record Collection, Map Collection, County Records Commission, Online Records and Record Retention Schedules. The records start from 1820. He also mentioned that microfilm is on the way out as it is getting too expensive to produce. The LDS has been digitizing early records from 1820 which they started in 2017 and hope to finish by the end of the year. They have digitized over 1.5 images which some on the County's website and the FamilySearch website.

There are 3 employees, 2 full time and 1 part time working on the records. One is an Imaging Technician who was hired last year. They are working on digitizing Marriage Records from 1950 – 2024 and Tax Records from 1992 – 2024. Projects Stephen is working on are Justice of the Peace Records from all the townships. In 1958 the Municipal Court began and the Justice of the Peace records were abolished. He had a Justice of the Peace record book from Paris Twp. on display. Another project he has been working on are collecting Old School Records. He is trying to scan the school records before they were consolidated. Township meeting records is another project he is working on also. Future projects are Cemetery Records. He had some old records out for the group to look at. Then he took us a tour of the facilities and where he stores all the old records. Another fascinating thing everyone enjoyed were the old aerial pictures of Marysville from the top of the Courthouse taken in the Spring 1890 that are displayed on the walls of the hallways.

Those enjoying the Stephen's presentation and tour were: Nathan Rausch, Sharon Parrott, Nina Boerger, Wanda DuPuis, Marie Bouic and Nina Lee Hampton.

Respectively Submitted Marie Bouic

CLASS OF SERVICE CHOICE		WESTERN UNION 1207	CHECK \$ ACCOUNTING INFORMATION \$ TIME FILED F
TELEGRAM	ORDINARY		
DA LETTER	URGENT RATE		
SERIAL	DEFERRED		
NIGHT LETTER	NIGHT LETTER	A. N. WILLIAMS PRESIDENT	

Send the following telegram, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

To *E. M. F. Mrs. Florence Howe* *2307 Intl. From* 19

Care of or Apt. No. *F. Amarel*

Street and No. *Peoria, Ohio* *Via R.T.A.*

Place *Peoria, Ohio*

*FOR VICTORY BUY WAR BONDS TODAY*

*Birthday Greetings You are more than ever in my thoughts at this time. All my love.*

*Peoria, O. 3:50pm* *Deutscher*

Sender's name and address (For reference only) *Peoria, Ohio*

Sender's telephone number *Aug. 19-1944*

Representatives of a number of Union County youth organization will be featured in the program to be broadcast over Station WRFD's temporary studio at the Rohr furniture store on North Main Street according to Kemper M. Wilkins, studio representative. A crowd of some 400 persons attended the initial broadcast from this city held at the senior high school auditorium with Robert Wagner, high school speech instructor acting as announcer. This afternoon interviews will be held with Marilyn Coleman, representing the Maryville high school Y-Teen Club; Football captain Richard Graves, Basketball Captain Harry Evans and Barbara Asman, of the Girl's Athletic Association. James Beck and Jane Beasecker will speak in regard to the senior play production. Leonard Belleville will present a vocal solo, Connie Weidman and James Beck a piano duet and Carl Kandel, a violin solo.

50 YEARS AGO

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

FOR QUICK SERVICE ANSWER BY BEARER

NUMBER *Mrs. Florence Howe*

CHARGES *Peoria, Ohio*

*Paid*

Pay no charges on this message unless indicated on delivery sheet

