



Union Echoes

Union County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society

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

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ALL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO EVERYONE! COME AND JOIN US! First Tuesday of months March thru June and August thru November at 10:00 at the library.

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Website: www.uccogs.org

Address: UCCOGS
PO Box 438
Marysville, OH 43040

Did you know?

UCCOGS yearly membership for 2023 will increase from \$12 to \$15, January 1st. Pay before the 1st for Only \$12.

From the Desk of UCCOGS Librarian, Nancy Katzenbach

Nancy Katzenbach, nankatzen@gmail.com



The library is open, and the Genealogy Department is now available for research. There is a UCCOGS member to help on Tuesdays from 9 until noon or by appointment.

Would you please sign the visitor's list in the notebook on top of the cabinet?

UCCOGS takes statistics on how many visitors use the genealogy department in the library.

LIBRARY VISITORS – If you are researching any Union County family, please sign our register. Other visitors may be researching the same family. Please indicate Y or N for permission to publish in Union Echoes, the Union County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society newsletter. PLEASE PRINT!

PLEASE indicate Y or N in the last column below.

Date	Visitor's Name	Email or Address	Surnames Researching	To Publish
				Y or N
8/1	Marty Scott	martylou50@gmail.com	Scott, Burnham, Child, Rutan	Y



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Veterans Day Program November 6, 2022, 2 pm Courthouse Lawn at the Plaza

A preview of the Veterans Day Program, Thanks to Suzanne Kienbaum, Local History & Digitization Specialist Marysville

War of 1812 – Simon Shover

Another unsung hero in our midst was **Simon Shover**. At first reading about **Simon** from the newspaper article, I thought of how interesting. There may have been some storytelling with the crowing like a rooster and acting like a chicken for the Indians, but that made a good war story for **Simon**.

From the clues in the article and digging into **Captain Langham**, 19th Regular Army under **General Winchester**, a brutal and hostile picture of the War of 1812 emerged with **Simon** in the middle, battles where he acted in valor, suffering trials and tribulations that conditions were compared to be worse than **Washington** experienced at Valley Forge. It was nothing short of a war hero movie.

Like **Thomas Anderson**, **Simon** fought simultaneously and in the same arena of war. **Simon Shover** enlisted in the 19th Regiment of the Regular Army under **Captain Angus Langham** of Chillicothe, Ohio. They were assigned to the Northwest army under **General Winchester**, a seasoned Revolutionary War commander. These were green recruits with little battle experience but quickly were acclimated to the British and Indian ways of war. The battle raged with the Canadians, British, and Native Indians, including **Tecumseh**, pushing south for control into Michigan and the entire Great Lakes region.

One such battle was the Battle at Raisin River, followed by the Massacre at Raisin River on January 20th and 22nd in Michigan. **General Winchester** led his regiments up through Piqua to Fort Wayne and then on to rendezvous with **General Harrison** to attack and retake Fort Malden and Detroit. With 1,000 Kentuckian sharpshooter militia volunteers and 1,300 Regular Army of the 17th and 19th Regiments, **General Winchester** led his men from the west towards Frenchtown (now Monroe, MI).

Winter had set in, and the men were poorly clothed, with only lightweight clothing at best. Little food could be found and supplies never arrived. **General Winchester** wrote desperately, begging for the much-needed supplies. Men were barefoot, in threadbare clothing, and starving, but supplies never arrived. Snow was deep, ice was thin, and swamps abound.

Simon was among them and worked as a spy scouting out front watching British and Indian numbers and artillery.

The British had overtaken Frenchtown, and they were becoming quite comfortable. The small town had stores of food that **Winchester**'s men desperately needed. Instead of waiting to meet with the other two forces as they were only a day or two away, **Winchester**'s men and the Kentuckians attacked the British and quickly took control of the town. Even though **Winchester** disregarded **Harrison**'s orders, the win was easy to overlook the disobeying. Truth be known, the men were in such a crisis. It was a matter of survival and months of freezing and low morale that drove on the battle.

The Kentuckians held the town and stayed inside the picket line protecting the fort efficiently. This was **Winchester**'s downfall. He was so confident that he set himself up in a home outside the perimeter about ½ mile from town; the regular army set up their tents beside the city outside the picket. The regular army guarded the north but left the back and sides unprotected. Spies had returned, stating that **General Proctor**, a large force, and a large party of Indians were on the move to attack. **Winchester** scoffed and said not for a few days, and **Harrison** will be here with reinforcements. The British and Indians attacked at dawn, and **Winchester** was caught in his nightgown and his regular army overtaken. The Kentuckians kept the British at bay but were running low on ammo. Meanwhile, **Winchester** officially surrendered to **Proctor**, who thought he was dealing with a noble member of the British military. He was promised that the prisoners would be taken to Fort Malden, wounded by sleigh, and the Indians would not scalp or massacre his men. The men would also be allowed their possessions. **Proctor** lied.

The white flag of truce was brought to the Kentuckians, who, at first, were set to fight to the end, but after **Winchester**'s aide de camp arrived with the surrender, they put down their weapons. Wounded were housed in the homes, and the able-bodied were force-marched, beaten, and stripped by the Indians. Those who could not keep up with the Indians were scalped and killed. The Indians enslaved some men. **Simon** was one of these men. The truth he spoke about crowing and acting out to the Indians' amusement saved his life. **Simon** was listed as a POW under **Captain Langham** from the Raisin River battle. How was he released? That story died with him. He may have escaped from the Indians, bought his way out, or been taken to Fort Malden and exchanged. The wounded Kentuckians who waited on the word of the sleighs arriving in the morning discovered very quickly that **Proctor** had given the Kentuckians to the Indians to do as they wanted. A few survivors told how the Indians attacked and scalped the Kentuckians in a drunken frenzy. Homes were burned with the gravely wounded soldiers inside, or if they crawled out, they were immediately scalped and tomahawked. Bodies were left out and wild hogs fed upon the remains. It was not until the following year that the Americans returned, collecting the bones of the fallen and finally buried. The Kentuckians back home enlisted in droves, yelling, "Remember the Raisin!"

We do know his war career was not over. **Captain Langham** had left Frenchtown the night before the attack with another officer to let **Harrison** know they needed reinforcements on the double, so he was not involved with the defeat. The article also talks about **Simon** in an undercover sortie to spike the British cannons.

Yes, there was a sortie under **Captain Langham** but not 40 men, a much larger group of over 100. It was a mission to spike the British cannons on Lake Erie on the USS Charlotte. Unfortunately, the ice was too thin, and they had to abort the mission.

An illustrious and commendable soldier was our **Simon Shover**. **Simon** died at the County Infirmary in 1863 and was buried at the Infirmary Cemetery on the grounds. This cemetery has been lost to time and progress. No one we know is old enough to recall where the cemetery was on the 200-acre site. There is no record of his body being reburied in Potters Field. There was one for **Thomas Anderson**, so it is suspected **Shover's** remains are located on County Home Road in a long-forgotten piece of ground.

For those who love primary sources and journals of history, below are links to actual journals, letters from General Winchester begging for supplies and the condition of his men, and informational sites on the Battle of Raisin River.

<https://collections.libraries.indiana.edu/warof1812/items/show/2520> Hardships, sufferings, battles, defeat, and captivity of those heroic Kentucky volunteers and regulars: commanded by **General Winchester**, in the years 1812-13: also, two narratives by men that were wounded in the battles on River Raisin and taken captive by the Indians.

<https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/siege-of-fort-erie-war-of-1812>

<https://collections.libraries.indiana.edu/warof1812/exhibits/show/warof1812/the-war-1813>

https://books.google.com/books?id=1A3k7Wqaq0wC&pg=PA177&lpg=PA177&dq=captain+langham+simon+shover&source=bl&ots=QWmrX0LZFA&sig=ACfU3U3n3MLFH1uYF5NZOpGpxSooRNNIrA&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwiK8q_vuYzsAhWYW80KHZqEAewQ6AEwAnoECAgQAQ#v=onepage&q=captain%20langham%20simon%20shover&f=false

Come to the Veterans Program on November 6th at 2pm to hear the rest of the story by Bo Johnstone.



Being taken now are paver orders, Deadline October 15th.

Honor your Veterans Day veteran with an engraved paver placed on the Veterans Monument Plaza floor and dedicated during the Veterans Day program. There are two brick sizes, 4x8" or 8x8," purchased at the Union County Foundation Office (Veterans Remembrance Fund) at 126 North Main St., Marysville. Or by mail at PO Box 608, Marysville, Ohio 43040 or by e-mail: www.unioncountyfoundation.org or phone 937-642-9618.

All veterans who have ever lived in Union County should be in the county database and kiosk located at the Plaza whether there is a paver or not. Visit the website at www.ucvetmemorial.org for more information.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are in the lower level of the Marysville Library.

(Elevator located inside the back door.)

231 S. Plum St., Marysville, Ohio 43040

10:00 am on the third Saturday of each month

except for December 2022, January 2023, February 2023, and July 2023.

September 17th – 10am, Marysville Library

Bo Johnstone – Museum & Docent Director of the Union County Historical Society, Chairman of the Marysville Memorial Day, Retired Lieutenant Colonel State of Ohio Defense Forces and U.S. Army Reserves

Since September 17 is Constitution Day, Battle of Antietam or Battle of Sharpsburg and Operation Market Garden of World War II Day. He will be speaking about the Civil War Battle where the 66th Ohio Volunteer Infantry was involved with Union County veterans.

October 15th - 10am, Marysville Library

“Heirloom Genealogy” and Show-and-Tell

Your family's history is so much more than birth and death records. Did you inherit a special family artifact: a piece of jewelry, the family Bible, a wedding dress, a piece of china, a well-worn tool? You were reunited with an artifact or found something on eBay important to your family. Please

bring an item to share or bring nothing and listen to the many items that will be shared.

November 19th - 10 am, Marysville Library

"Vintage Pictures of Marysville" Presenter – Sue Kienbaum



Sue Kienbaum is an Adult Services and Reference Assistant with the Marysville Public Library. Local History & Digitization Specialist Marysville.

MILFORD (Center(re), Darby Ford, Flint) (OT)

OLD TOWNS (OT) Towns that have existed for at least a hundred years and have either been moved or have totally changed their character and their names from what they were originally.

Excerpts from "Ohio Ghosts Towns No. 42 Union County"

Published by The Center for Ghost Town Research, Sunbury, Ohio; pages 55-58

The town of Milford Center is in the northwest one-quarter of Union Township, Union County, Ohio. The town's location can further be described as at the intersection of St. Rt. 4/US 36 and Middleburg Rd.

In the early 1800's, area settlers cleared and constructed a ford across Big Darby Creek at what was to become Milford Center. This crossing became known as Darby Ford. In 1810, George Reed built a log gristmill at the ford and thus the new settlement became known as "Mill-Ford".

When Union County was first created, the residents of Milford lobbied to become the county seat. To make their town sound more prosperous, they added the word "Centre" to the village's name. In 1820, Milford Centre did indeed become the first county seat for Union County. The first courthouse was a small log structure. However, in 1822 the county seat was moved to the more centrally located Marysville.

The Milford Post Office was established on August 4, 1823. On July 29, 1829, the name of the post office was changed to Milford Centre. The Milford Centre Post Office was discontinued on July 12, 1865. The next day, the Flint Post Office was opened in the community. The post office continued in operation under the Flint name until January 30, 1866, when the name was changed back to Milford Centre. On June 14, 1893, the post office's name was changed for the last time to Milford Center.

Tomato Tops



Where the grass is greener, and tomato plants are taller.

LeRoy Burns, of 246 W. Fourth Street is shown with a nine-foot 10-inch tomato plant in his garden. The plant has 22 tomatoes which are ripening now.

On the shoulders of Mr. Burns is his grandson, Richard Burns, seven-years-old of Neodesha, Kan., also in the picture is the dog, Peggy.

Marysville Journal-Tribune, 20 August 1954, page 3

Courtesy of Marysville Journal-Tribune, Marysville, Ohio, Kevin Behrens, Editor
(Sorry about the clarity of this picture, just wanted to show the dog.)

LeRoy Burns Dies At Home; Services Friday

LeRoy Burns, 69, former operator of the Burns Trucking Co., died at his home at 246 W. Fourth St. at 11:55 a.m. Wednesday. He had been in ill health for seven years.

The son of Anna (Gunderman) Burns of Marysville and the late J. Martin Burns, he was born Dec. 12, 1893, in Marysville. He was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church.

Surviving are his wife the former Mildred Taylor, one son, Eugene of Neodesha, Kan.; and four grandchildren.

Mr. Burn's hobby was gardening and at one time he was written up in Ripley's "Believe it or Not" for his giant tomato plant.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday in the Faulkner Funeral Home with the Rev. E. J. Goedeke officiating. Burial will be in Oakdale Cemetery. Friends may call at the funeral home any time.

Ripley's
Believe It or Not!

Unknown Where or Date



Marysville Journal-Tribune,
15 August 1963, page 2

Courtesy of Marysville Journal-Tribune,
Marysville, Ohio, Kevin Behrens, Editor