Volume XL Issue Number 4 July – August 2020

Union Echoes

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.

Letter from the President

I hope everyone is healthy. I miss our monthly meetings, talking to each of you, and listening and learning about researching our family trees. At this time, we are not sure when we will be able to gather together again to share our love for our family histories.

In the spring of 1970, I was a junior at Ohio University, a member of the Army ROTC program and married. I was not prepared for what I saw and experienced as the anti-war protests sweeping the Nation arrived at Ohio University. After a week of demonstrations, brick-throwing, burning buildings, and tear gas, the National Guard arrived on campus. Orders were given to all students to get off the campus and leave Athens, Ohio as Ohio University was closed. A guard from the National Guard was standing at every parking meter holding a rifle with a fixed bayonet and wearing a gas mask as I drove out of town, I never dreamed that I would see and experience something like that again in America.

Say a prayer for our Nation. Take strength from your families, and we will survive these terrible times.

***Steven C. Lowe**, President*

UCCOGS EXECUTIVE BOARD

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ALL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO EVERYONE! COME AND JOIN US!

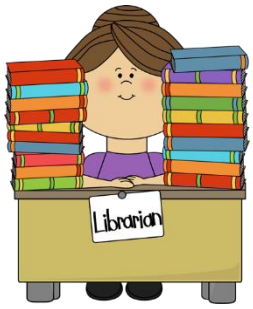
WHAT'S INSIDE

	Page
Mission Statement	43
Letter from President	43
Executive Board	43
What's Inside	43
Address/Website	43
From the Desk of Librarian	44
Family Tree Magazine	44
Ancestry is FREE	44
No Minutes January-June	44
Upcoming UCCOGS Meetings	45
COVID-19 Alert	45
Upcoming Events	46-47
Welcome New Members	47
Facebook	48
Ohio Genealogical Society	48
UCCOGS 40th Anniversary	
10 Facts to Know for Every Ancestor	48-50
Did you know? Union County lost one of its finest to the flu pandemic.	50
ORB	51
Ancestrally Challenged!	52

Website: www.uccogs.org

Address: UCCOGS
PO Box 438
Marysville, OH 43040

From the Desk of UCCOGS Librarian, Nancy Katzenbach



Nancy Katzenbach, nankatzen@gmail.com

UCCOGS Mailing Address: **UCCOGS**
P.O. Box 438
Marysville, Ohio 43040

Nancy is at the Marysville Public Library on Tuesdays from 10 am to 3 pm to help all comers. The library will NOT be open until further notice.

Check out Lisa Louise Cook's Genealogy Gems https://lisalouisecooke.com/ She has free podcasts on genealogy information or hints on research.

FAMILY TREE MAGAZINE

In light of recent events, Family Tree Magazine is offering a FREE digital copy of their latest issue. Download yours here, and please share with other family history lovers who might need something to pass the time. I hope you enjoy it. https://bit.ly/33V5eDJ.

ANCESTRY IS FREE

If you have an Ohio Library card, Ancestry has just made its library edition temporarily free!

https://auth.oplin.org/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fancestrylibrary.proquest.com&fbclid=IwAR1fjGFf0IgQ2w_sLQvTt4gZP1ryT6SS5ztU2CsOeYWdbDHVpUQDyC9Nc6g Copy and paste in your browser, add your library card number, and pick your library. It will go to Ancestry.

The Union County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society Minutes

NO MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY, FEBRUARY,
MARCH, APRIL, MAY, JUNE
Due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19),
The library was closed.

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

No meetings: January, February, July, or December 2020.
Due to Coronavirus (COVID-19), NO meetings
until further notice.

COVID-19 alert

Event information may be out of date due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19). Confirm details with event organizers.

FOR MORE EVENT INFORMATION, PLEASE LOGON TO THE APPROPRIATE WEBSITE:

Union County Chapter of OGS: uccogs.org

Ohio History Connection: ohiohistory.org/genealogy

Ohio Genealogical Society: ogs.org

Union County Bicentennial Celebration: 200uc.org

Upcoming Events

OHIO HISTORY CONNECTION

Website: www.ohiohistory.org/genealogy

Cemeteries for Genealogy Research

Saturday July 18, 2020, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Online

Hunting for an ancestor's gravestone can be an exciting adventure or a frustrating series of dead ends. When we find our ancestor's gravestone, we often are in awe, as it can give important birth, death, and marriage dates. To provide this information, cemeteries need to be preserved and be taken care of. Join cemetery expert **Krista Horrocks** as she explains how the gravestones and historical documentation on cemeteries provide important genealogical information, how Ohio law treats cemeteries (all 14,637 of them), and cemetery preservation.

FREE ***Advance Registration Required*** **Email: reservations@ohiohistory.org**

Library of Congress, ***John McCormack*** *Family*

Researching Your Irish Ancestors

Tuesday August 4, 2020, 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Ohio History Center

Have you wondered where in Ireland your family came from? Come join **Dwight Radford**, professional genealogist from Utah, as he describes the process to find this information. He will highlight the United States records that may identify a county or parish in Ireland and then the Irish records themselves which may pinpoint the place your family was from. Both Catholic and Protestant ancestors will be discussed.

$20/Adult; $15/Ohio History Connection member

Advance Registration Required **Email: reservations@ohiohistory.org**

OHIO HISTORY CONNECTION - CONTINUED

Website: www.ohiohistory.org/genealogy

Latino Genealogy Webinar

Saturday September 19, 2020 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Online

Explore how to trace your Latino roots in the United States with **Nicole Martinez-LeGrand**, Multicultural Collections Coordinator of the Indiana Historical Society Archives and Library Division. Learn the history of Latino immigration in the early 20th century and how to use online sources both free and subscription websites to discover your ancestors.
FREE Advance Registration Required **Email: reservations@ohiohistory.org**

Civil War Records

Saturday October 10, 2020 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Ohio History Center

Many of our ancestors served in the Civil War. Come join **John Haas**, Manuscripts Curator, as he shows how to find the records of our ancestors. What battles did they fight in? What was camp life like? John Haas will discuss collections at the Ohio History Connection that answer these questions.
$20/Adult; $15/Ohio History Connection member
Advance Registration Required **Email: reservations@ohiohistory.org**

Heather and Lanny Greenbaum Jr.
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Families Researching: Greenbaum, Gruenbaum, Grunbaum, Meeker, Colflesh, Hooper, Hilbert, Harris, Weiser, Stanforth, North, Kinniard, Phillips, Fyffe, Hay, Skaggs

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Families Researching: Neer, and Moder

Christian Roush
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Families Researching: Roush, Nicol, Bouic, Graham, Main

www.facebook.com/UCCOGS/

Find us and like us on Facebook!

Founded in 1959, the Ohio Genealogical Society (OGS), the premier gateway for discovering Ohio family roots, is the largest state genealogical society in the United States with a mission of protecting and sharing Ohio's family history resources, developing engaging educational opportunities, and connecting genealogists.

611 State Route 97 West, Bellville, OH 44813
419-886-1903

- The OGS Library is currently operating with only staff. Safety protocols are in place. It is best to call the library before you visit at 419-886-1903.
- May 13, 2020 was the launching of the new website. www.ogs.org

Thank you to OGS for recognizing Union County Chapter on their 40th anniversary:

40 Year

Union County Chapter OGS, 1980

10 Facts to Know for Every Ancestor

1-4 Vital Statistics

Vital statistics are the essential events that define a person's existence; in fact, the definition of the term vital statistics is "statistics relating to births, deaths, marriages, health, and disease." So, the first four of ten facts should be **birth**, **marriage**, **death**, and **burial**. These are the most basic details we all naturally try and gather as beginner researchers.

The dates of these events themselves are incredibly helpful in pinpointing your ancestor's place in history. But do not stop there. Find and include in your records the location of each fact (city/community, county, state/province, country, etc.) and collateral details (person who married your

ancestor, or a midwife assisting with birth, or the directions to a long-abandoned family cemetery.)
Go beyond the dates here and do what you can to expand on the information.
Try to determine the cause of death. Although common death certificate terms, "old age" and "unknown," are not beneficial. Learning that there is a family history of cancer or heart disease, can be extremely helpful notations to your medical history.

5-6 Faith-Based Records

Affiliation with a particular faith or church was a prominent and defining factor in our ancestors' life. For genealogists, knowing more about your **ancestor's religion** and their involvement in pivotal religious ceremonies can offer significant clues for further research and help to confirm other facts you have gathered.
Once you know what faith your ancestor practiced, try to determine in which church, synagogue, mosque, or other places they worshiped. Religious institutions have been bastions of recordkeeping for thousands of years, and even those with small congregations will have attendance rolls and records from various ceremonies. Baptismal records record the names of parents, Godparents, or sponsors.

7-8 Occupational and Service Facts

What did your ancestor do for a living? Did they leave that job to serve in the military–or was being a soldier their lifetime occupation? Knowing your ancestor's **usual occupation or industry** and any **military service** they may have performed can give you great insight into their daily lives, talents, character, and perhaps even acts of heroism.
The majority of women will be assigned the job title of "keeping house," there is still lots of information to be learned about how their husband/brother/neighbors made a living or the roles they played in historical conflicts.
Understanding your great-great-grandfather was a farmer or grandmother who worked in a factory during World War II can give an exciting image of how each spent his or her days at least during that particular period of life, so take the time to gather this information.
Census records can be a big help with this – see which years have the information you need.

9-10 Geographical Information

The last two facts in the top ten–**residences** and **migration**–are certainly not among the least important. Finding out where your ancestor lived at different times throughout his or her life is usually one of the first and most exciting searches you will attempt as a beginning genealogist.
After all, the communities, towns, or cities of our ancestors shed light upon multiple facets of their

lives, and studying their neighbors, geography, and the histories of those areas help to put our ancestors in perspective. And of course, those ancestors who immigrated to the United States from foreign countries add another dimension of cultural beliefs and customs to study.
Take time to discover communities' ancestors lived and worked in, and where and why they moved. Create a map of their movements, read old newspapers to understand what was happening in the locations they lived in, and make sense of migration patterns and significant events and the records associated with them.

Did you know?

The 1918 influenza was a severe pandemic. An H1N1 virus caused it. It spread worldwide from 1918-1919. The estimate was about 500 million people, or one-third of the world's population became infected with this virus. Union County lost one of its finest. NOTE: The funeral was private due to health restrictions. Submitted by **Frank Scott**, great-grandson of **Ben Rutan**.

BEN RUTAN FALLS IN FULL VIGOR OF LIFE PNEUMONIA STRIKES DOWN
ONE OF THE BEST OF CITIZENS THAT UNION COUNTY HAS EVER HAD

One of the saddest messages that has come to Marysville in a long time was the telephone message Thursday morning from the farm home west of town telling that Ben M. Rutan was dead. Mr. Rutan was one of Union county's foremost men, a level-headed man of the business world and one who had led the way in various avenues of successful farming. Death was caused by pneumonia, following an attack of influenza. All members of the Rutan family had been ill, but it was hoped there would be no serious results. Mr. Rutan's death occurred at 3:20 Thursday morning. The news spread over the community like a pall. It was hard to believe that this good friend and promoter of everything that was good for the community and county was gone forever. Mr. Rutan's age was but forty-six years. He was born in Mechanicsburg, May 5, 1872. His father was the late David W. Rutan, well known in that section. Nineteen years ago, the son came to Marysville and with scarcely a dollar of capital he built up an estate which any man might be proud. For several years he operated the Marysville creamery and its success in that venture was due to diligence and good management. His products were just a little bit better than were being turned out in other similar enterprises. Then he invested in other local enterprises and also in farmlands which he has managed to good advantage. He was one of the heaviest stockholders in the Bank of Marysville. September 22, 1896 Mr. Rutan wedded Jennie Owen of Woodstock, who survives with three children, Glenn, Lucy, and Milton. Besides these he leaves four brothers and three sisters living elsewhere but known to most of our citizens. The funeral will be held at 2:00 Saturday and on account of the health restrictions the service will be private.

Courtesy of Marysville Journal-Tribune
Marysville, Ohio
17 Oct 1918, Page 2
Kevin Behrens, Editor

Mind you, all of this is speculation and none of us will ever really know until we die and either become ghosts or orbs, or whatever else people may believe, but let us continue anyway. A site maintained by the American Ghost Society, www.prairieghosts.com, includes an essay by **Troy Taylor**, author of the "Ghost Hunter's Guidebook" and president of the American Ghost Society.

Taylor writes, "Despite what you might see and hear, there is absolutely no hard evidence whatsoever to suggest that orbs are in any way related to ghosts. Yes, they do often turn up in photos that are taken at haunted locations, but as you will soon see, many of these photos have been called into question. However, I do think that legitimate photos of image anomalies (or orbs if you prefer) exist. These photos do show a type of paranormal phenomena, but just what type that is remains to be seen."

Marty Scott, Editor UCCOGS, took these photos.

In 1997 we visited a cemetery in Virginia, which contained numerous family members. Before digital cameras, this photo was taken. Was this an orb?

Now in 2014 the age of digital cameras did we capture another orb at a family cemetery?

I'm not stuck,
I'm Ancestrally Challenged!