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 parking lot. Meetings are the 4th Monday of each month except August and December or as noted.

Board meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. the second Thursday of the month in the Tiffin Room of the Defiance Regional Medical Center.

Chapter Meeting Dates - 2012

March 26 - Celebrating our Chapter’s 35th Anniversary
April 23 - Lucille Sunderman
“The Hanover Settlement and German Heritage”
May 23 - TBA
June 25 and July 23 - Tentative visits to the Defiance County Record’s Center and the County Recorder’s Office
August 27 - A Visit to the Andrew Tuttle Museum
Meet at 7:00 p.m. at the museum.
September 24 - Cecelia Brown
“Ghost Towns of Eastern Defiance County”
A Power Point presentation
October 22 - TBA
November 26 - Dianne Kline
“Using the Newly Released 1940 Census”
December - no meeting

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Blade Highlights Defiance in War of 1812

On the front page of the Sunday, March 11, 2012 edition of The Blade appeared the article “Region looks back on strife of war fought 200 years ago. It is the first in a series about the War of 1812 in Northwestern Ohio. The article written by Janet
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change of address or email?

If you change your address or e-mail 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 $12.00 for an individual and $15.00 per family.
An additional $5.00 is required for mailing the four annual newsletters through the U. S. Post Office.
Download a membership form at www.defiancecountygenealogy.org

What’s been happening at DCGS?

January 23 - chapter meeting highlights

Corresponding secretary diane kline noted that volunteers are being solicited to help index the 1940 census. A coordinator for defiance county is needed as well as volunteers for indexing. Diane also announced coming conventions— all of which will be held fairly close to our area. Palatines to america will meet in Indianapolis June 14-16, the National genealogical convention will be held in Cincinnati, and the Ohio genealogical convention in Cleveland.

The meeting then adjourned to hear gladys donson's presentation of ghost towns of defiance county. Gladys spoke of ghost towns of the western part of the county as she had researched these in cooperation with richard helwig who had published material for ghost towns throughout defiance county and all of ohio. Gladys noted that some ghost towns were only "on paper"—that is they were platted but never settled. Georgetown was an example of a paper town. Some ghost towns came as a result of transportation routes being diminished such as many canal towns and some as the result of improved transportation such as Rosedale which was no longer needed as a watering spot for steam trains. Some of the other ghost towns gladys highlighted were Nebo, Mark Center, Williams Center, Cicero, Union Town, Wilseyville, Lost Creek, Moats, Delaware Bend, Logan, Glenburg, and Ney (an "almost" ghost town).

February 16 - board meeting highlights

Diane Kline reported that there currently are 80 memberships paid for the 2012 year.

June 18 at noon will be "Ring the Bell," an event to be held at all courthouses in Ohio commemorating the War of 1812. Commemorative flags will be raised and flown through 2015.

Progress on a DVD highlighting Fort Defiance is continuing. There will be two versions—one to be shown at the city museum and one available for purchase. The video may be ordered from DCTV at a cost of $10.00.

Diane Kline moved that the chapter pay all member-
ship renewals of $10.00 each to the three county libraries of Defiance, Hicksville, and Sherwood. The motion was seconded by Lavina Boesling. Motion carried. A motion was made by Dianne Kline to renew the Stryker Area Heritage membership of $30.00. Gladys Donson seconded the motion which passed.

Dianne Kline has volunteered to work on a substitute for the 1890 census for Defiance County. She will first index the plat map for 1890 and perhaps also incorporate the 1892-1893 directory for Defiance City and County.

February 27 - Chapter Meeting Highlights

Mary Williams announced that Cindy Heilshorn has nominated two of her ancestors for our chapter Defiance County Civil War Honor Certificate. The Civil War soldiers were Abraham Brechbill and Harold Dewit Coleman.

Corresponding Secretary Dianne Kline noted that the 1940 U. S. Census is to be released in April but it will not be indexed. OGS has asked for volunteers from each county to help index. Dianne also asked someone to act as coordinator for Defiance County volunteers.

Rich Rozevink noted that research is continuing on William Preston and that a tombstone has been requested from Veterans Affairs. David Lupien of William County is helping to establish the memorial and to cooperate on a program. Rich reminded the board that the Town and Gown series next Thursday will be "Forts along the Auglaize." The program is at 7:30 at Schomberg Auditorium.

June 18 at noon will be "Ring the Bell," an event to be held at all courthouses in Ohio commemorating the War of 1812. Commemorative flags will be raised and flown through 2015.

A DVD highlighting Fort Defiance is available for purchase from DCTV at a cost of $10.00.

Mary Williams, a chapter member, presented a Virtual, Monumental Tour of Defiance. She noted an excellent website-HMdb.org which is searchable for monuments by subject. The site shows photographs of the monuments with transcribed inscriptions. The site provides directions to the monument—both with latitude and longitude and with driving directions. It also cross-ref-

(Cont. from page 1 - Blade Highlights Defiance)

Romaker, contained much information on the war efforts around the Defiance area supplied by our own chapter member, Richard Rozevink, who gave credit to the chapter for its part in the establishing of five historical markers. The article also mentioned the tour guide, Campaigns of the Army of the Northwest 1812-1813, coauthored by Richard and David Bennett. This booklet is available from the chapter and is listed on the order publication at the end of this newsletter. The article also included a map created by Richard and David showing important events in NW Ohio during the War of 1812 which may be found in Campaigns of the Army of the Northwest 1812-1813.

Other notable historians included in the Blade article are Joseph H. Zerby IV, chairman of the Ohio War of 1812 Commission and Rick Finch, director of Fort Meigs.

The article is available online at www.toledoblade.com/local/2012/03/11/Region-looks-back-on-strife-of-war-fought-200-years-ago.html

"First Settlements" [in the Northwest Ohio Counties]

by Simon D. Fess, Ohio: A Four Volume Reference Library on the History of a Great State (1937), v. 3, pg. 478,

First settlements: "The earliest occupants of the land, under British auspices, were properly squatters, and that term might also be applied to the veterans of Harrison’s army who, after the war, returned to occupy the buildings of Fort Winchester. Two of these soldier-settlers, William Preston and John Perkins, were elected to office when Williams County was organized with Defiance as the county seat. By 1820 Defiance had about a hundred inhabitants and three trading places. One of the last families to occupy a building in the old fort was that of Robert Shirley, who came from Ross County in 1821. A few Canadian French were among the pioneers, but otherwise these first comers bore such typical American names as Hollister, Driver, Plummer, Travis, Hilton, Kepler, Wasson, Evans, Hull, Smith, Craig, Watson, etc."
Our chapter would like for you to join

**First Families of Defiance County**

If you can prove your ancestor was here in Defiance County before January 1846, your ancestor will be classified as a “Pioneer.” If he or she lived here between January 1846 and December 1860, that ancestor will 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 go to the society’s web site at [www.defiancecountygenealogy.org](http://www.defiancecountygenealogy.org) or write to the chapter at PO Box 7006 Defiance, OH 43512-7006 attention of Jan Morey, chair.

**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 1908 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 snail mail—attention Carol Ehlinger.

Applications may be completed at any time. Register your family today!

**Free Queries for Chapter Members**

Don’t forget that your chapter membership entitles you to unlimited queries in *Yesteryears’ Trails* for ancestors from the Defiance area.

Please do limit background information (to about fifty words) and ask for specific information from our readers. Queries may be sent to the chapter email listed on the first page of this newsletter.

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**George Washington Himes**

**9th Ohio Calvary**

*Article courtesy of chapter member Jeananne Steingass*

The Civil War personality I am writing about is George Washington Himes. George was the son of my Grandfather Himes’ brother, Peter. George W. was born on 21 January 1846 in Bryan, Ohio and died in December 1938 at 92 years of age, and was buried in Clunette Cemetery.

When George W. was only 16 he enlisted in the 9th Ohio Cavalry, served three years under General Sherman. George W. marched with General Sherman’s army to Savannah, Georgia and back to Salisbury, N. C. His war service ended when he and his company were captured and imprisoned in North Carolina, the day after General Lee’s surrender. They were held in prison 17 days before word reached their captors that the war was ended. He was deaf for the remainder of his life from exposure in the prison, as they were housed outside.

On December 22, 1870, he married Loretta Emaline Webster in Prairie Twp., Kosciuske Co., Indiana. He farmed for 50 years in Leesburg, Indiana, and sired seven children, including one set of twins. One baby girl died before birth.

At the time of his death, he was the only living Civil War Veteran of Plain Township, Indiana, and a former member of the G.A.R.

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**Tell Our Readers about YOUR Civil War Soldier**

We would like to publish articles about members’ Civil War ancestors. Please email your article to Mary Williams at marywill@smta.cc. Don’t forget, too, to submit your Civil War ancestor for recognition in our Defiance County Civil War Registry. The application form is at the end of this newsletter. It is free and doesn’t require too much time or energy. If your ancestor served in a Defiance County unit, or was born, lived, died or was buried in the county, you can apply.
Indian Jake

As related by Fred Egler and his son Robert in North Richland Township, Defiance County, Ohio to S. H. Green aka “Rural Rambler.”

Jake Konkapot (Indian Jake) made his home on the Egler farm, 424 East of Defiance where Riverview Memorial Garden is now, on the old Egler farm. Here he raised his herbs and dug his roots. In the Egler home was displayed the crude old “Adam grinder” on which Indian Jake ground his roots. In a box in the cupboard is also some of the salve with which Jake gained much fame as a healer of wounds. For years treasured recipes of the Indian doctor’s mixtures for liver complaints and cholera were made here, but in the passage of years they have evidently been misplaced and lost.

Contrary to general opinion, Indian Jake was not wholly a “quack!” He was an educated Indian from New York state who came into Ohio because he was disgusted with the actions of his newly married squaw. This squaw was very fond of dancing and was apt to disregard Jake’s command about going out too often. Seeing she would not obey him, Jake deeded her his forty acre farm and came to the Maumee Valley.

Recollections of the stories told the by their father and grandfather, Henry and Fred Egler related that Indian Jake’s grandfather was also an Indian doctor of no inconsiderable fame and that Defiance County’s Indian doctor had in his possession his grandfather’s doctor book then a century old.

After mixing up a generous supply of medicines and strapping them in a pack on his shoulders, Indian Jake would depart on his rounds. Sometimes he would be gone for a month, and it is said that his visits extended as far as Findlay. Upon his return, he often would have as much as $75 in his possession.

His crude medicines played an interesting part in the acquisition of the old homestead by the Eglers. It seems that an aunt of the Findlay heirs had been in poor health for years. A copy of Indian Jake’s recipe for “liver complaint” was mailed to her. She had it filled at a drug store, and in a short time regained her normal health. In her will she specified that when the farm was disposed of that the Eglers be given the first chance.

Another story related how Henry Egler, then a chubby lad of eight, was taken for a ride across the canal on Indian Jake’s shoulders, and in the water he became frightened and grasped Jake so tightly around the neck as to nearly strangle Jake. The brave Indian swam under water to the bank in order to keep the child’s head above the surface and collapsed exhausted on the bank.

It is also told that the picturesque doctor suffered from exposure during one his habitual bouts with firewater and died from pneumonia on the Egler farm. Indian Jake’s remains were interred in the Rohn Cemetery on the Rohn Farm, the burial lot of the grandfather, Jacob Egler.

S. H. Green, Rural Rambler
The Crescent-News 9 Nov. 1933

Sylvester Osborn, who has resided in Richland Township for 85 years, recalls that when he came to Independence the grocery store in this thriving river town was operated by Adam Wilhelm. Other pioneers of that day were John Botteler, Philio Young, Ben Abbel, Henry Egler, Pierce Evans, James Henderson, and Samuel Rohn.

Indian Jake was well known to Mr. Osborn who never had the privilege of using his services because he was never sick. Osborn says that the cause of this Indian doctor’s death was not poisoning as thought but from pneumonia. Jake died without receiving medical attention, would not go to bed, and had lain stretched on the floor before the open fireplace until death eased his suffering.

Indian Jake, as is commonly known, was very fond of firewater and when under its influence, was quite quarrelsome and always in a scrap, and always came out second best. He would get away into the river and being a good swimmer would remain in the water until those who sought him gave up the chase.

Sylvester Osborn to the River Ramble
The Crescent-News 3 October 1932
The 107th OVI

This regiment was composed mainly of Germans. It was reorganized August 25, 1862 at Camp Taylor near Cleveland and began its duty in September when it moved to Covington, Kentucky. Some of the major battles this unit participated in were Chancellorsville, VA (May 1-4, 1863), Gettysburg, PA (July 1-3, 1863, Hagerstown, MD (July 11, 1863), John’s Island, SC (July 5-7, 1864), Deveau Neck, SC (December 6-9, 1864 and December 29, 1864). The men of the 107th were mustered out July 10, 1865 at Charleston, S. C.

Company K Officers:
Capt. Martin Viebach, resigned Nov. 16, 1862; Capt. Samuel Surrubgr, discharged Dec. 16, 1863; First Lieutenant William Speier, promoted to Captain and transferred to Company I June 2, 1863; Second Lieutenant William Martin, died Feb. 6, 1863; First Sergeant Burkart Genter, promoted Second Lieutenant Feb. 6, 1863 and First Lieutenant Feb. 6, 1864; Second Sergeant Jacob Debusman, transferred to Invalid Corps; Third Sergeant Frederick Bolling, deserted Jan. 1, 1863; Fourth Sergeant Henry A. Keihl; Fifth Sergeant Jacques Cerman, promoted to Second Sergeant Feb. 21, 1864

Company K Corporals:
First - Franz Seinsoth, promoted to Third Sergeant Nov. 27, 1863; Second Corporal - Henry Kolbe promoted to First Sergeant Nov. 27, 1863; Third Corporal Carl Gebauer killed at Gettysburg; Fourth Corporal - Jacob Mann died July 19, 1863 at Washington, D.C.; Fifth Corporal, Michael Schlerath promoted to Third Corporal Jan. 1, 1963 and taken prisoner at Chancellorsville; Seventh Corporal - William Hockman promoted to Second Corporal Sept. 1, 1863 and wounded at Gettysburg.

Musicians - John Roedel and Werner Wrede

Company K Privates:
Batis N. Arada, John Aeigle (killed at Gettysburg), Ludwig Bockelmann, August Bockelmann (died May 24, 1863), Jacob Bise (killed at Gettysburg), George Buntz, Adaim Bormusch, Christian Benefeldt (killed at Gettysburg), John Behnfeldt, Henry Bernard, George Chaffin (transferred to Company D Dec. 1, 1863), Frederick Debusman (promoted to Fifth Sergeant Feb. 21, 1864), Nicholas Dieterick (wounded at Gettysburg), John Dauwe (discharged March 24, 1864), John Eisler (wounded at Gettysburg), Frederick Fellemann (deserted Dec. 26, 1863), Peter Fisher, John C. Groll, Frederick Grossenbacher, Joseph Gasler (killed at Gettysburg), Phillip Guillaume (Transferred to Invalid Corps, July 21, 1863), Oscar Glockler (promoted to Sixth Corporal Feb. 10, 1863 and taken prisoner at Chancellorsville), Moses Hoatz, John Holtermann, Jacob Hayes, George Hase, Joseph Hasenboeler, David Hasenboeler, Jacob Heise (transferred to Invalid Corps.), George Himes (discharged April 27, 1863), Andre Hoplinger (discharged August 19, 1863), Martin Hoplinger, Christopher Hergenrother (discharged Nov. 11, 1862), Gustavus Hartman, Theodore Krause (wounded at Chancellorsville), Christian Kistner, Christopher Kline, John Kamp, William Kundig (deserted Feb. 15, 1864), Basilius Lantz (discharged March 15, 1863), Christian Lindau, Henry Lindebrink, William Lindebrink, John Laux, Jacob Menzer, Gottlieb Munz, George I. Neher (transferred to Invalid Corps. July 21, 1863), Frederick Reuter (transferred to Invalid Corps July 21, 1863), Fridolin Rentz, Joseph Stadelbauer, Edward Stadelbauer (transferred to Invalid Corps Nov. 7, 1863), Henry Shafer (Taken prisoner at Gettysburg), Christopher Speiser (Wounded at Chancellorsville), Joseph Schlosser (promoted to Sixth Corporal Sept. 1, 1863), Casper Schlosser (killed at Chancellorsville), John Schees (promoted to Seventh Corporal Sept. 1, 1863), John Schleeser (transferred to Invalid Corps. July 21, 1863), John Stucke (discharged March 20, 1863), Christian Stucke (discharged March 20, 1863), Flory Slegel (taken prisoner at Gettysburg), Louis Sitterly (taken prisoner at Chancellorsville), Frederick Schweinhagen, Louis Schoneweg (discharged August 18, 1863), John Stephen, John Schorr (Discharged), Anselm Snider, Frank Thalmann, John Wolf (deserted Oct. 20, 1862), George Wolf, Frederick Wrede (Discharged April 15, 1863), Michael Welter, Daniel Young (wounded at Gettysburg), George Zuerl (captured at Gettysburg and discharged Feb. 28, 1864), Jacob Zuerl, Conrad Zwicky (transferred to Invalid Corps. July 21, 1863).

Newspaper articles about the 107th

Elyria Independent Democrat: September 10, 1862
Letters:
"J.W.P." Napoleon Northwest- 11/25/1863
Musician John Roedel - Co. K

Enlisted, age 28 on August 22, 1862 to serve three years; mustered out with the company on July 10, 1865

Defiance Democrat- 5/23/1863

The 111th OVI

The 111th Regiment was organized at Camp Toledo, Ohio September 5-6, 1862, to serve three years. It was mustered out of service June 27, 1865. Some of the battles in which this unit participated include: Huff’s Ferry, TN, (November 14, 1863, Loudon Creek, TN, (November 15, 1863), Lenoir, TN, (November 15, 1863), Campbell Station, TN, (November 16, 1863), Knoxville, TN (Siege- November 17 - December 4, 1863).

Company E Officers:
Benjamin F. Southworth . Captain; Daniel F. Waltz, First Lieutenant; Elijah Carnes, Second Lieutenant; L. Hutchinson, Lieutenant (killed at Resaca, Georgia); Benjamin B. Woodcox, First Sergeant- promoted to Second Lieutenant April 1863); Isaac E. Kintigh, Second Sergeant; Josiah M. Kepler, Third Sergeant (killed at Lovejoy Station Sept. 1864); Nathan F.
Brown, Fourth Sergeant; Leopold Taubitz, Fifth Sergeant; Nathaniel Vanduson, First Corporal; William Miller, Second Corporal; William Taylor, Third Corporal; George Woods, Fourth Corporal; Chauncey S. Fulton, Fifth Corporal; Alfred S. Tubbs, Sixth Corporal (died at Danville, KY), Peter Dickman, Seventh Corporal; Jacob Benter, Eighth Corporal; David Westerman, Fifer; Francis Miller, Musician; John H. Mapes, Musician.

Company E Privates-

Company F

According to the History of Defiance 1883, Company F was raised in Milford, Mark, Farmer, and Hicksville Townships within the space of four days and was taken immediately and marched over fur hundred miles in the space of thirty-six days. The enlistment of company F dates from August 13, 1862; it was mustered into service Sept. 5, 1862 and discharged June 27, 1865

Company F Officers-
John E. Hill, Captain; Solomon Callender, First Lieutenant; Hiram Weeks, Second Lieutenant; Ezra S. Crary, First Sergeant (died at Fort Baker, KY March 5, 1863); Oscar Work, Second Sergeant (killed at Dallas, GA May 27, 18640, Lewis G. Bowker, Third Sergeant (died at Bowling Green, KY Jan. 17, 1863); Henry Sweet, Fourth Sergeant; Hiram F. Rice Fifth Sergeant; John E. Hayes (First Corporal; Bela B. Beebe, Second Corporal; John W. Cleland, Third Corporal; Albert Farmsworth, Fourth Corporal; Albert Clappard, Fifth Corporal; Clinton Gibbs, Sixth Corporal; Cornelius Reaser, Seventh Corporal; John B. Farlow, Eighth Corporal; Johnson O. Foot, Musician; Samuel S. Hughes, Musician (promoted to hospital steward; F. N. Horton, Wagoner; T. H. Hines, Chaplain.

Company F Privates-
Early on Wednesday morning, our neighboring village of Hicksville was whitened by a fire of much magnitude and accompanied by great loss. Four store buildings and a livery stable were burned, and one building was torn down to prevent the spread of the fire. The fire occurred in a row of frame buildings situated on the southeast corner of High and Main streets, and originated in an open space between buildings occupied by George K. OTIS, as an agricultural implement store, and by Jacob GOLLER, as a boot and shoe store.

A lot of splints from the stave factory, used for kindling wood, had been stored away in the open space alluded to, and it was supposed that they were set on fire. An alarm was given by some men working at CLAY & CROWL’s mill and the people responded promptly and set about with vigor to fight the devouring element. The wind was blowing from the east, consequently the fire made the strongest headway at first toward Main Street. The building occupied by Mr. Otis and owned by him, also was soon consumed, with nearly all the contents. The shoe store of Jacob Goller and the large grocery of J. O. FOOTE & Co, on the corner, followed. On the east of Goller’s store, the flames ignited a one story building owned by Mr. E. M. BILDERBANK, and occupied by him as a harness shop.

At this point the Hook and Ladder Company and citizens, attacked the fire with determination, and succeeded in tearing the building completely down and getting it out of the way of the fire. The next building east, owned by U. R. LOVE, was badly scorched and the occupants, including the Hicksville Republican, moved many things out, but the building was saved. Around on Main street the fire lapped up the large livery barn owned by Geo. K Otis and occupied by William WOODRUFF as a feed and sale stable.

The building across Main street occupied by E. D. OTIS’s bank was also on fire, but was saved by prompt effort. The heaviest loser by the fire is George K. OTIS. His building was worth $1000, on which he had an insurance of $700. His stock, including reapers and mowers, rakes, plows, wagons, buggies, and general stock of agricultural implements, was worth $4000. His insurance on stock was only $800. Besides this, the barn which was valued at $400 was a total loss. Mr. Otis in a few brief hours lost fully $8900.

FOOTE & Co. loss on buildings was $1000; insurance $800. Loss on stock, $500; fully insured. About half of the goods were rescued from this store.

Jacob GOLLER, adjoining Mr. Otis, carried a stock of boots and shoes valued at $8000, on which he carried insurance to the amount of $6000. About half of his goods were saved. His loss will thus be made good by insurance. The building occupied by Mr. Goller, owned by I. B. MILLER, was valued at $1200; insurance $500.

Loss on Mr. BILDERBANK’s building $800; insurance $200. Loss to Mr. LOVE’s building and damage to the occupants estimated at $500. The total loss by the fire amounts to $13,700…

It is supposed that the fire was the work of an incendiary. A physician passing the row at two o’clock in the morning (the fire broke out at half past two) detected a strong smell of coal oil, but thought nothing strange of it until afterward. If the fire was the work of an incendiary, it is to be hoped the rascal will be discovered and punished as he deserves.

Everybody worked hard at the fire, and especially did he members of the hook and ladder company do well. Their work shows for itself and could not have been improved. The village has no fire engine, but good “bucket brigades” were brought into service and saved adjoining property. The burnt district looks desolate, but we are informed that it is probable that good substantial brick buildings will be erected this summer in place of these destroyed.

Page 8 Yesteryears’ Trails - Defiance Co. Spring 2012
Some Digitalized Resources for Defiance County

Resources from the Defiance Public Library

Digitalized and Searchable

www.defiancelibrary.org

The following resources for Defiance- city and county- have been digitalized and are searchable. To access them, go to the Defiance Public Library System’s website at www.defiancelibrary.org and click on Genealogy and Local History listed in the band at the top of the page. Scroll down to “Digital Archives.” You may do a general search of all the resources or just one.

The following online resources are now available and searchable:

**Defiance City Directories**

**Defiance City and County Directories**

**Defiance High School Yearbooks**
- 1906, 1912, 1935-1949

Maps from the Defiance County Engineers’ Office

www.defiance-county.com/engineer/maps.htm

Most maps can be loaded into Picasa, so that they may be enlarged and manipulated. The following maps are available:

- Current Plat Book Pages- Searchable by Township
- 1866 Plat Book
- 1890 Plat Book
- County Highway Map Excerpts - Searchable by Township
- Canals Maps
- Ohio State Highway Maps

Defiance County Health Department

www.defiancecohealth.org/birth_death_records.htm

The Health Department maintains birth and death records for people who were born or who died in Defiance County between December 1908 to present. (Defiance County now has statewide access to all Ohio birth records - December 1908 to present.) Certified copies of birth and death records can be purchased for a fee of $25.00 each. Forms may be downloaded from the office’s website or ordered through VitalCheck.

Bureau of Land Management

www.glorecords.blm.gov

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), General Land Office (GLO) Records Automation website provides live access to Federal land conveyance records for the Public Land States, including image access to more than five million Federal land title records issued between 1820 and the present. There are also have images related to survey plats and field notes, dating back to 1810 which indexes public land sales in various states and includes images of the original land grant certificates.

While Ohio is represented, the database does not contain the names of those who bought land on credit before 1820 and apparently Defiance County records begin with 1824.

Hayes Obituary Index

http://index.rbhayes.org/hayes/index/

The Hayes Obituary Index is an index to 2,100,000 obituaries, death and marriage notices and other sources from Ohio from the 1810s to the present day. Actual obituaries may be ordered from 50 partner libraries or from Hayes Library which has online ordering. The counties shaded below are participants; however not all counties have indexed all of their records. The site offers “post-em and notebook features.”
A LONG ABSENT BROTHER HEARD FROM

M. B. GORMAN, Esq., of this place, came to this country with his parents in 1848. A younger brother was left behind with an uncle in Ireland. Mr. Gorman’s parents died within a few years after coming to America, and Martin grew up, settled in Defiance, and is one of our principal business men. From the time of leaving Ireland until this week, he never heard of his brother, Thomas GORMAN. Yesterday he received a letter from an uncle in Ireland, saying that Thomas came to America in 1864 and is now living in Hazleton, Luzerne County, Pa. In all these years, Thomas has been writing for tidings concerning Martin, but each brother knew not of the other’s abiding place. Mr. Gorman wrote to his brother yesterday and it is probably there will soon be a joyous meeting between the two kinsmen.

Defiance Democrat May 27, 1880

While working on a road up by the Auglaize a few days ago, Thomas SPROULL, one of our township trustees, dug up an iron hatchet of curious shape. It was probably at one time used as a tomahawk by some Indian. The hatchet may be seen at this office.

A little son of William DAVIS was bitten by a rattlesnake last evening and was badly poisoned. His life was despaired of for a short time, but he is all right now.

Defiance Democrat June 3, 1880

Birchard HAYES, oldest son of the President, was in Defiance on Monday afternoon. He was on his way to Chicago. Young Hayes is a modest, unassuming gentleman and we should judge a man of good sense and intelligence.

Defiance Democrat June 10, 1880

The Defiance Blue Stockings base ball club has reorganized and will play its first match game next Monday with the Paulding club on the grounds of the latter club. The Blue Stockings consist this year of G. W. ELSER, Manager, Lincoln TATE, Charles MILLER, William PLATTOR, William DOLKE, Charles WEBB, Frank MILLER, John KIRK, Ransom KETTENRING, and Louis SUFFINSKY.

A sad accident on Tuesday evening, Frank PHILLIPS, of this place, a young man nineteen years of age, while on his way to Mark Center in company with other boys, fell from a freight train and his left leg was run over by the train. Drs. KYLE and RAKESTRAW soon after amputated the limb below the knee. He was brought home on the next train; and at 10 o’clock a.m. on Wednesday, he died from the effects of the accident. This sad accident may be a lesson to the ones who were with him.

Defiance Democrat September 2, 1880

A large number of mastodon bones were found near Ayersville on Wednesday by Johnny GLEASON and another boy. One of the big teeth was left at this office.

Defiance Democrat September 30, 1880

Safe Blown Open. The office to the factor of STRONG & CHENEY was entered by burglars last evening and from all appearances this morning, they were experts at the business. The safe was blown open and $85 in money taken and seven dollars in Turnbull’s checks which they refused to take and distributed them along the banks of the river near the office. The money drawer was found at the corner of Jackson and First streets. No clue as to the perpetrators. There are quite a number of suspicious looking characters around town this week, and it would be well for our citizens to be on the look out for them. The fair has not proven as big a bonanza for them as anticipated, and in consequence of which they will resort to house breaking or any other means to obtain money.

Terrible Accident. On Tuesday noon as Paul DIEHL, son of John DIEHL, was getting down from the new school building, where he was doing a job of tinning, his feet slipped and he slid down the main roof, striking the tin ?, which pitched him headlong to the ground, a distance of nearly fifty feet. He struck on his head on a pile of bricks. A workman in one of the lower stories saw him strike and rushed to his assistance. The poor boy’s skull was terribly broke, one of his legs was broken and he was injured internally. As speedily as possible, he was removed to his father’s residence and medical aid was called. At first, it was thought he would not live an hour, but at this writing Thursday morning, he is still alive and the physicians express slight hope that he will recover. It was a terrible accident and if he does recover, it will be almost a miracle.

Ferdinand BEHR, who has been clerking for
WERTHEIMER & Co. for the past two years, will leave for New Orleans tomorrow where he intends locating.

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**Defiance Democrat November 11, 1880**

**Hicksville and Milford Township Items:**

We understand that Steward GAYLORD of this township had some twenty bushels of wheat stolen from his barn a few nights ago, also the widow YATES in the same neighborhood, had all her cabbage stolen. Here is someone that is doing this mischief who should be shot with a heavy charge.

Mrs. Branson GOOD is very sick and not expected to recover. At this writing it is stated that she has the typhoid fever.

We have been reliably informed that Mr. William SHUPP, an inoffensive man of this township, when going to Defiance a few days ago with his team, met a would be young gentleman of this township with a red handkerchief tied upon a broom, which frightened Mr. Shupp’s team and came near throwing him into a very deep ditch. Mr. Shupp quietly requested him to take the handkerchief down and let him pass on, but the answer he received from the young man was that you are an old copperhead. Such abuse shown to a civil passer of the public highway demands the attention of the Grand Jury. We have laws to protect a man upon the public highway and why not enforce them.

A Pioneer. Death of Patsy. Patrick P. CANTLON, youngest son of Catharine CANTLON, was killed at Auburn Junction last Saturday evening. He was a fireman on the B & O Road and his engine was going west at the time of the accident, and run into a wild freight at the above station. The engineer failed to warn Patsy of danger, and the engine being a camel-back, he could not foresee danger himself. When the crash came, Patsy was thrown between the engine and tank and was crushed from the hips down. He was taken immediately to Garrett, but lived only a short time. His remains were brought home the same night. The funeral was held on Monday. Patsy was eighteen years old and was an excellent young man, popular with all who knew him. He had been on the B & O Road about five months and intended to quit the first of December. Mrs. Cantlon and the family have the sympathy of all in their affliction. Patsy was formerly an employee of the Democrat office and a good boy he was, too.

**Tiffin Township Items.**

Died on Thursday, November 4th, 1880, Donald G. KELLER, aged one year. - Benton PARTEE intends moving to Missouri soon. Alex BOHN has sold his farm and intends going to North Caroline with Lewis CARTER next week. S. S. WARREN has gone to Illinois.

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**Defiance Democrat November 18, 1880**

Let it be recorded that on the 18th of November, snow fell to the depth of six inches in Defiance. Let it also be recorded that the Auglaize River was frozen over on the 17th. The oldest inhabitant can not remember many earlier winters.

**Hicksville and Milford Township Items.**

Peter COUNTRYMAN, one of our citizens, is at present in Kansas prospecting. Ellsworth STRONG teaches the Dutch school this winter.

**Tiffin Township Items.**

Levi FIGLEY and Delores STONE intend going to Tennessee.

We understand that William CHURCHMAN has received a patent on his adjustable fence.

E. F. YODER intends going to Michigan.

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**Defiance Democrat November 25, 1880**

In six weeks time, C. F. CLEMMONS and Oscar WILLIAMS of Brunersburg, made 108 pairs of boots, averaging one and a half pairs per day, besides cutting, crimping, and repairing. It was big work.

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**Defiance Democrat December 23, 1880**

Ernest DALDORF, proprietor of the fine island below town, informs that early in the spring, he purposes erecting a large building on the island, suitable for picnic headquarters and a place of pleasant summer resort. The building will be 45 x 100 feet, two stories high. Mr. Daldorf will live on the island and will make the place as attractive as possible.

Bitten by a Hog. Last Saturday while William LEWIS was driving a lot of hogs on Holgate Avenue, one of them ran into the yard of J. D. GRAPER. Mr. Graper went to drive it out, when the hog made a rush for him, grabbed him by the leg, threw him down, bit his face, and undoubtedly, would have killed him, if a number of men had not been at hand to render assistance.
Courses from Allen County Public Library

The following information concerning classes has been taken from the ACPL’s Genealogy Gems. For anyone living in NW Ohio, it is an easy drive to Fort Wayne to take advantages of these offerings. Please call the Allen County Public Library at 260-421-1225 or email Genealogy@ACPL.Info to register.

“March Madness: Genealogy Style”

Start your spring research with a fast break by taking advantage of The ACPL Genealogy Center’s annual “March Madness: Genealogy Style.” This year’s topics focus on ethnic research. The schedule is listed below.

**”Researching Your Polish Ancestors,” Sunday March 18, 2012, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m., Meeting Room A, with Kris Rzepczynski.

**”French Canadian Research at The Genealogy Center,” Monday March 19, 2012, 2:00 - 3:00 p.m., Meeting Room A, with Cynthia Theusch.

**”The Riches of First Nations Heritage: Beginning Native American Genealogical Research,” Tuesday March 20, 2012, 2:00 - 3:00 p.m., Meeting Room A, with Curt Witcher.

**Daughters of the American Revolution Research Assistance for Membership, Wednesday March 21, 2012, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., The Genealogy Center.

**”Shadowed Roots: Antebellum Era Records for African-American Research,” Thursday March 22, 2012, 10:00 - 11:00 a.m., Meeting Room A, with Melissa Shimkus.

For more information about these free classes, see the flyer at http://www.genealogycenter.org/Libraries/2012_Brochures/Marchmadness.sflb.ashx.

Also from ACPL - Introduction to the 1940 Census

The long-awaited release of the 1940 census will occur on April 2, 2012. The unindexed census will be available that day from the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) website. Shortly after appearing on the NARA site, the 1940 census will be available at Archives.com, Ancestry.com, and FamilySearch.org. The indexing process will begin immediately, but it will be a while before those indices appear online. While you are waiting for the name indices to become available, take this class to discover tips on locating your ancestors in this valuable resource. The Genealogy Center is offering this lecture three times: Wednesday, March 28, 2:30 - 3:30 p.m., in Meeting Rooms B & C; Monday April 2, from 2:30 - 3:30 p.m., in Meeting Rooms A & B; and Saturday April 7, 10:00 - 11:00 a.m., in Meeting Rooms A & B. For more information, please see the brochure at http://www.genealogycenter.org/Libraries/2012_Brochures/Census.sflb.ashx.

Family Tree Maker Training Sessions

Struggling with your Family Tree Maker software? Have a few questions you need answered? Or just starting with the system and wondering where to begin? Ponder no more! The Genealogy Center is offering a series of training sessions to walk you through the features of this popular genealogy program. Taught by Cynthia Theusch, these training sessions will be on Wednesdays, twice a month from March to mid-June, and vary in length, depending on the aspect of the software that is to be covered.

The sessions are:

SESSION 1: GETTING STARTED
Wednesday, March 14, 2012, 4:00 - 4:30 p.m.

SESSION 2: PEOPLE (FAMILY AND PERSON TABS)
Wednesday, March 28, 2012, 10:00-11:00 a.m.

SESSION 3: PLACES
Wednesday, April 11, 2012, 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

SESSION 4: MEDIA
Wednesday, April 25, 2012, 2:30 - 3:15 p.m.

SESSION 5: SOURCES
Wednesday, May 9, 2012, 2:30 - 3:00 p.m.

SESSION 6: PUBLISH
Wednesday, May 23, 2012, 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

SESSION 7: WEB SEARCH
Wednesday, June 13, 2012, 4:00 - 4:30 p.m.

All sessions are a hands-on learning experience in the library’s Computer Classroom. Remember to bring a flash drive so that you can save your work and bring it next time. Space is limited and registration is required for these free sessions.

Beginners’ Workshop

The Allen County Genealogical Society of Indiana is pleased to offer “Getting Started in Family History & Genealogy Research,” on Saturday April 14, 2012, from 9:00 am to 12:00 Noon, in Meeting Rooms AB. This three-hour workshop, presented by Margery Graham, will show one how to begin a family history search, how to gather and organize information to produce the best results, and how to employ basic research methods. The workshop will end with a tour of The Genealogy Center. The fee is $10 and preregistration is required. To register, or to obtain more information, contact Marge at 260-672-2585 or by email at gramar57@aol.com.
Print Card System Streamlined
***************************************
Beginning immediately, only one print card will be needed in The Genealogy Center to photocopy pages from books or to print documents from the research computers. Cost for each service is 10 cents per page. Allen County Public Library cardholders may use their regular library card as their print card. Out-of-town visitors or others who do not have ACPL cards may get a $1 print card from a vending machine in The Genealogy Center. More money may be added to the cards at the same machine, using $1 or $5 bills. Put your coins in your piggy bank! It no longer is necessary – or possible – to use coins in the photocopy machines at The Genealogy Center.

FamilySearch Price Increase
***************************************
As of February 15, 2012, FamilySearch has increased the price of film loans. This increase is due to the increase in shipping and handling as well as the increase in the cost of microfilm stock. The new pricing is below.

- Short-term Film Loan—$7.50
- Short-term Film Loan Extension—$7.50
- Extended Film Loan—$18.50
- Microfiche Loan—$4.75

As you plan your next visit to The Genealogy Center, you may want to consider ordering some microfilms from FamilySearch ahead of time to complement the genealogical and historical records already at your fingertips in The Center.

The theme of the 2012 Ohio Genealogical Society’s annual conference is “History and Genealogy: Finding Clues to Ancestral Lives.” The conference will take place April 12-14 at the Intercontinental Hotel in Cleveland. The Registration Booklet is now available. Subscribe to the OGS 2012 There is a conference blog for detailed information about the event.

Also a complete agenda for the OGS summer workshop is available at the website. It will be held Monday through Friday, June 18-22 at the OGS library in Bellville, Ohio.

Go to www.ogs.org for complete information and registration for the conference and summer workshop. in Cleveland April 13 and 14th, 2012.

RootsMagic Genealogy & Family History Software, a Workshop by the Author, Bruce Buzbee
Sunday, April 15, 2012 - 1 - 4 p.m.
Hayes Presidential Center Auditorium
Admission: Free

Enjoy an informative afternoon learning how to get the most out of RootsMagic5 software. RootsMagic is a leading genealogical software that offers basic and advanced abilities to help you record and share your family history while remaining one of the easiest to use.

12:00 – 1:00 – Library will be open for browsing and research.

To help plan seating and refreshments, registration is requested. Please call 419-332-2081 (Fremont) and ask for the library or email bhill@rbhayes.org prior to the event.
**Town and Gown Lectures for 2012**

For the past few years, the Defiance College and the city of Defiance have coordinated to bring the community speakers and topics of historical interest. Listed below are the programs and sites for 2012. All programs begin at 7:30 PM

### Spring 2012

March 15**  "Ohio's Unknown Generals"
Stroede Center
Mark Holbrook
Ohio Historical Society

April 19  "The President and Ike"
Defiance College - Schomberg Auditorium
Buerk and Younger

May 10 - 12*  Native American Conference
Schomburg and Sauder Village

### Fall 2012

September 20**  "Camp Trimble"
Stroede Center
Buchman and Rozevink

October 18  "Come Fly with Us"
Stroede Center
Rozevink and Buchman

November 15**  "The Squirrel Hunter are Coming"
Schomburg
Randy Buchman
"Union Light Guard"
Richard Rozevink

*War of 1812 Theme Programs
**Civil War Theme Programs

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**Defiance Democrat**
Thursday, March 18, 1880

**A TERRIBLE PREDICAMENT** On Tuesday morning Alex BRUNER, the butcher, started for his slaughter house south of town. When passing the cemetery, he discovered a wagon upset in the mud by the side of the road and a horse floundering in the mud and water. Mr. Bruner proceeded to investigate the matter and was horrified to discover a man’s head protruding from under the wagon box. The fellow was faintly calling for help. As speedily as possible, Mr. Bruner righted the wagon box and there found Jacob DAVIS, Esq., of Richland Township, not injured, but chilled through from exposure. It appears that sometime during the night, Mr. Davis started to go to his mother’s farm (the old Smith MEAD place) and it is supposed that in passing Coe Run, his wagon ran off the bank and rolled down. Mr. Davis was caught in the wreck in such a manner as to prevent his escape and he was obliged to remain all night, stuck in the mud.

**REMOVAL OF THE DEMOCRAT OFFICE**

On May 1 the Democrat will remove to Clinton Street and will occupy the fine store room in J. S. HALLER’S building nearly opposite the Court House. In addition to the main room on the first floor, two rooms on the second story will also be used. The Democrat will not only be well located in its new quarters, but will also have the opportunity to “spread out” as occasion may require, and the demands of the growing city of Defiance may necessitate. New machinery has been purchased which will not be brought into use until the removal takes place.

In this connection we state that the Democrat office has been located in its present quarters since 1854 – twenty six years. Previous to that time it was published in the second story of the building on Clinton Street now owned by Peter WESTREICK. Judge GREENE published the paper in that place for six years, and in 1854 erected the present Democrat building. The paper has always been in the front rank of journalism in this section, and we shall endeavor to keep it there.

**YOUTH SCALDED TO DEATH**

On Wednesday the 4th, Otto WELKER, son of David and Matilda Welker. Aged 4 years, 10 months, 6 days, died by accident. The parents were at the barn doing chores, and the little fellow thought he would take a drink from the tea kettle spout (which we understand he had been in the habit of doing when the water was cold). The water at the time, however, was boiling and scalded him. He lived for six more days in terrible pain.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Description of Publications - Defiance County Genealogy Society</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
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<tr>
<td>Reprint of 1876 Defiance County Atlas with Indices (Paper- pub 2007)</td>
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<td>Plat Map Index or Biographical Index for the 1876 Def. Co. Atlas</td>
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<td>Index to the 1976 Defiance County History Book (pub 2006)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Early Death Records of Defiance Co. 1867-1884 (pub 2001)</td>
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<td>Def. Co. Deaths 1884-1907: Book A-K or Book L-Z (pub 2004)</td>
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<td>Mark &amp; Milford Twps. Def. Co. Tombstone Inscriptions (Read ’01; pub 2004)</td>
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<td>Def. Co. Births 1867-1908: Book N-Sm, Book Sn-Z (pub 2001)</td>
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<td>Def. Co. Marriages Vol. 3&amp;4: Jan. 1897-Nov. 1903 (pub 2009)</td>
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<td>Defiance County Naturalizations (pub 2008)</td>
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<td>1890 Defiance County Veterans’ Census (pub 2007)</td>
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<td>Enumerations of Males in Defiance County 1847-1895 (pub 2006)</td>
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<td>Def. Co. Probate Index 1845 - June 1995: Book A-K or L-Z (pub 2001)</td>
<td>$30.00 each</td>
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<tr>
<td>Def. Co. 1870 Census Index: Book A- La or Book La-Z (pub 2001)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Campaigns of the Army of the Northwest 1812-1813 (pub 2009)</td>
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<td>Civil War Journals of Darius W. Baird (38th OVI) of NW Ohio (NEW 2011)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Genealogical Research Guide for Defiance County, Ohio (NEW 2012)</td>
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**TOTAL (Includes all taxes, shipping handling. Prices effective May 2011)**

Paid by Cash______ Check#______ Order Received__________ Order Sent____ Form - March 2012
Defiance County's Civil War Service Certificate:
A Certificate Accorded by the Defiance County Genealogical Society

To be considered for the DCGS Civil War Service Certificate, an ancestor must be proven to have served in a Defiance County, Ohio military unit during the Civil War or have been a Civil War veteran (either Union or Confederate) who was born, lived, died or was buried in Defiance County, Ohio. The applicant must be a member of the Defiance County Genealogical Society for this certificate to be awarded.

The applicant filing for a Defiance County Civil War Service Certificate must include documentation for the ancestor for one of the above events (service, birth, residency, death, burial) occurring in Defiance County, Ohio. In addition the applicant must include proof of the unit with which the Civil War soldier served. The application must also include either a generational chart or a written explanation showing the relationship of the applicant with the ancestor who is the focus of the application. The applicant may be a direct or collateral descendant of the Civil War ancestor.

You may submit as many applications as you wish. Also you may include a story or biography of your ancestor for possible use in the chapter newsletter, website, or future publications. If you submit an article, please date and sign the submission and note that the chapter has permission to use the article.

Name of Civil War Ancestor: __________________________________________________________

Unit with which the ancestor served _________________________________________________
Rank attained if known _____________________________________________________________
Years served if known _____________________________________________________________

1. Attach documentation showing with which unit your Civil War ancestor served. For example, this might be a page copied from a unit history or information downloaded from Ancestry.com. The proof does not need to be a formal government copy.

2. Attach proof that your ancestor was connected to Defiance County in one of the following ways: service, birth, residency, death or burial. The proof does not need to be certified. It may be a copy of a birth certificate, a copy of a census, a listing in compiled birth, death or burial records, copy of land deed etc.

3. Attach a generational chart- or a written explanation-- showing your relationship with your Civil War ancestor.

Applicant's Name: ______________________________________________________________________________________

Address: ________________________________________________________________________________________________

Email: _________________________________________ Phone: ____________________________

Please send the completed application to the Defiance County Genealogical Society, P. O. Box 7006
Defiance, OH 43512-7006.
Direct questions to the chapter email: defiancegenealogy2002@yahoo.com
Defiance County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society  
Membership Form  
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 $12.00 per person, $15.00 for family. If you need to update your 5 generation charts, please sign and date with permission to publish for the newsletter and to file at Defiance Public Library Ohioana Room.

First Name ___________________________________ Last Name _________________________________

Maiden Name_________________________Spouse name____________________________

Address ________________________________________ City_______________________State______

Zip code _________ - ___________ Phone # ( ______ )________________

E-mail address____________________________

Occupation/ Former Occupation (optional)______________________Birthdate____________________

New Member ___ OR Renewal ___ Single ___ OR Family ___ OR Gift ___

(If gift membership, send name and address of person to receive membership card and newsletter on back of this form)

Donation to DCGS for $_____ Specified Intention (please name)____________________________

Would you prefer your newsletter (circle one) Snail mail/USPS or E-mail. Due to increased print/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 Suggestions?__________________________________________________________________________

What services/support would you be willing to help DCGS with? (Circle all that apply)
Officer/Trustee Committee Computer data entry Transcribing records Proof reading
Meeting Greeter Setting up displays Indexing Telephone/calling Fundraising Hospitality
1st Families Centennial Families Speaker/Program Education/Teaching Other Comments

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 # ______ Card sent____
updated: October 2011