Yesteryears’ Trails
Quarterly Newsletter Published by the Defiance County
Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 7006 Defiance, OH 43512-7006
Web Site: http://www.defiancecountygenealogy.org
Email address: defiancegenealogy2002@yahoo.com

Spring 2015 Vol. XXXIV Issue 1

Defiance County Genealogy
Chapter and Board Meetings

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.

Chapter Meetings are the 4th Monday of each month except May, August, and December or as noted.

Board meetings are held at 3:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month at the St. John UCC at 950 Webster Street.

Coming Meetings:
Monday April 27
Steve Charter of the Center for Archival Collections at the Bowling Green State University. Steve will highlight what is in the collection.

Monday May 18
(Third Monday due to Memorial Day)
“Genealogy and AncestryDNA” presented by Dianne Kline. Dianne will explain how DNA testing is used in researching a person’s ancestry and what exactly the testing reveals.

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First Families of Defiance County  
and Centennial Families

Defiance County First Families

If you can prove your ancestor resided 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 to the Society's web site at www.defiancecountygenealogy.org or write to the chapter at PO Box 7006 Defiance, OH 43512-7006 attention of Mary Scranton, 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 postal mail-- attention of Carol Ehlinger.
**News of the DCGS**

**Highlights of the DCGS Meetings**

**January**

Dianne Kline offered to set up a blog for the chapter. Dan Hasch provided a link from the chapter web site to the blog.

It was voted to pay for memberships to each of the Friends of the Libraries in the county ($10.00 to each Defiance, Hicksville, and Sherwood) as well as the Maumee Valley Heritage Corridor ($25.00) and the Stryker Heritage Council ($30.00).

Following the business meeting, the first half of the DVD, "Light of Freedom" was played. The DVD has two focuses-- one is on Ohio’s part in the underground railroad, and the second is the involvement of Ohio soldiers in the 14th OVI in the Civil War. The involvement of the Ohio 14th was revealed through letters both to soldiers of the unit and letters from the veterans.

**February**

**Meeting cancelled**

Due to the extreme cold and blowing snow, the February meetings were cancelled.

**March**

An order for new pins for First Families’ inductees has been placed. Dianne Kline noted that so far 350 visitations have been made to the blog site she has set up.

Longtime chapter member Wilma Sponsler will be celebrating her 90th birthday. Also it was announced that other longtime members, Jeanne Steingass and Bill Moore are both at the Laurels.

The second half of “Light of Freedom was viewed.

**April**

Dianne Kline, Cecelia Brown, Gladys Donson, and Lavina Boesling assisted those in attendance at the genealogy workshop held Saturday April 18 at the Defiance Public Library. This was a help session with attendee ranging from “newbies” to those needing help with their roadblocks.

Dianne Kline noted that 479 visitors had been to the new blog site.

President Brown met with Michelle Eppel of the Defiance Public Library. Ms. Eppel noted that the genealogy room should be completed in early fall. She also noted that plenty of extra outlets are being added. The *Pioneers of NW Ohio* (two volumes and an index) will be reprinted and rebound. Ms. Eppel will look for other reference volumes which may need reprinting or rebinding.

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**Ohio Adoptees Can Now Obtain Original Birth Certificates**

A new Ohio Law affects individuals who were born in Ohio and adopted between 1964 and 1996. This new state law could open access to birth parents for as many as 400,000 adoptees.

Those born before 1964 already had unrestricted access to state records disclosing names and other information about their biological parents and siblings. Those adopted after 1996 can review their files unless their biological parents have denied access to the information.

To get copies of the documents, adoptees can submit an application and the required fee of $20.00 to the state health department’s vital statistics office.

Details of the process including the application form and requirements are posted online at www.odh.ohiogov.

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If you would like to join the Defiance County Genealogy Society for 2015, please see the membership form at the end of this newsletter. Memberships run from January to January of each year.
During the summer of 1833, two solitary horsemen might have been seen winding their way down the Auglaize River, and at intervals swimming their horses over the swollen streams along side of a canoe.

At this period Defiance was the county seat of Williams County. Paulding, Putnam, and Henry Counties were attached for judicial purposes under the name of Williams County.

The location of white settlers was then confined to the rivers with but little exception. The settlers on the Auglaize were the Shrouffes, Judge McClish, the Hudsons, the Shirleys, Isaac Carev, and John Oliver. On Blanchard’s Fork was Henry Whig. On the Maumee River west of Defiance were the Phillipses, the Bankes, Henry Glassmire, the Gordons, Gen. Curtis, the Rogers, Jas. Miller, the Clemmers, the Platters, Gavin W. Hamilton, the Hughes, Jas. Shirley, J. D. McAnally, Montgomery Evans, Thos. Warren, the Snooks, Abraham Davis, the Hills.

The county officers were Commissioners Jas. Craig, Jesse Hilton, and Montgomery Evans; Auditor Wm. Semans; Treasurer Robert Wasson; Recorder and Clerk of Courts John Evans. Side Judges of the Common Pleas were Robert Shirley, Foreman Evans and Payne C. Parker. Judge Higgins of Norwalk was the President.

J. M. May of Mansfield, and County Coffinberry of Perrysberg were intinerant lawyers and were regular attendants at Defiance counts.

A case where in the old rule of starving a jury to agree upon a verdict was applied. The case was assaults and battery. The trial commenced at 10:00 a.m. and closed without recess late in the afternoon. The jury retired to their room tired and hungry, and a deputy was posted to answer their calls, and give them nothing but water. The jury hung. The court adjourned. The sheriff and deputy were left to guard and watch events.

At about midnight, an unusual stir in the jury room induced the guard to reconnoiter, when the discovery was made that the jury had made a rope from their clothing, and were about to lower one of their number to forage. They were headed off and held in proper order for a final unity of judgement until about 10:00 a.m. when they sent a message to the court stating that they did not agree as to the statement of a witness. They were ordered into court, the testimony was repeated, and they were remanded to the jury room, still fasting. The judges were inexorable, and now the jury had but one of two things to do, starve or agree-- and they agreed.

Defiance at this time was supplied with two weekly mails, one from Maumee City via Defiance to Fort Wayne; the other from Piqua to Defiance--both carried on horseback.

The Maumee River and tributaries were a transit line used by the merchant and trader for ingress and egress. Goods were hauled in wagons from Maumee City to the head of the rapids, a distance of 18 miles. Here they met the line not of steamsters, but perogues, or large canoes, propelled by the muscle of the stalwart and jolly boatmen.

The immigration was slow. The Maumee Valley had the reputation of being unhealthy, money was not plentiful, and farmers in other localities were thus restrained from immigration.

Tell Us About One of Your Ancestors

We all have interesting tales to tell from our family research about that one courageous, notorious, beautiful, inventive or… well, you fill in the blank… ancestor. Tell us about one of your ancestors!

We are inviting each of our members to write a brief account (about one page or less) about one ancestor for an article in this newsletter, “Yesteryears’ Trails.”

Please send your article along with permission to publish to the newsletter editor Mary Williams in care of the chapter address or email it to marywill@smta.cc.
**WW I Draft Registrants from the Sherwood and Ney Areas**

*The Defiance Democrat*  
**Sept. 19, 1918**

**Sherwood**
- Raymond Lilo Baker
- Clyd Albert Miller
- Harry Owen Miller
- Dale Elwin Worthington
- Edward Bryan Smith
- Roscoe Allen Rhoades
- Owen Milton Miller
- Basil Raymond Heller
- Lowell Leslie Miller
- William Payton
- Charley Carl Sohn
- Curtis Henderson
- Leyl Henry Ream
- Oscar Ambrose Parlee
- Leroy Wilson Wilder
- John Albert Koch
- George Amos Parker
- George Walter Fiehl
- Elmer Anson Wheaton
- Frank Payton
- Francis James Kenney

**Ney**
- M... Yarlowt
- Hillard Moats
- Elmer George Sutton
- Emery George Reynolds
- Ward Leslie Snyder
- Fred Maiers
- William Walter M...
- John Leonard Dodd
- Charles Franklin Loch
- John Elser
- William Harrison

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**Defiance County Veterans Database Report**

The Defiance County Veterans Database was established several years ago to be a source of information on veterans who were born in, died in, are buried in, or ever lived in Defiance County. It is a cooperative project between Defiance County Genealogy Society and the Defiance County Veterans Office. We believe this to be the only such project in the State of Ohio.

Over 45,000 entries have been made to the database and it is constantly being updated. Researchers and Family members are encouraged to enter veteran biographies into the database. You can access the database by going to www.defiance-county.com, select County Agencies, scroll down and select Veterans Affairs. On the left side of the screen you will see Veterans Database. When you select the database, you have the option of finding a veteran, entering information on line about a Defiance veteran or printing out a veteran biography form.

Our office will accept handwritten or emailed information and enter it into the database. You can search the database by name of veteran, Cemeteries, Branch of Service, War Era, Special Status of Veteran (Killed in Action, Missing in Action, Prisoner of War, Died in Service), Male or Female, Medals of Valor (such as Purple Heart, Silver Star, Medal of Honor, etc.) If a report is a very large, you may get a message to contact the Veteran’s Office to access the information. For example, if you search for all Army records, there will be over 10,972 entries. You also may see several entries for the same veteran. The reason for this is because each of those entries has a different source document and was probably entered at a separate time.

The database does contain errors and miss-information. This may be due to incorrect source documents, human error and computer conversion issues. If you discover an error, or have any questions, please report it to the Veterans Office. You can reach us at veterans@defiance-county.com; or 419.782.6861. Please ask for Tanya Brunner.

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**Veterans Buried in Old Riverside Cemetery**

It has come to the attention of the Defiance Veterans Office that several grave sites of veterans buried in the older section of Riverside Cemetery may be unmarked. Rita Relue of the Defiance Public Library has researched internment records to come up with a list of veterans believed to be buried in the cemetery. Tanya Brunner of the Veterans Office is asking for volunteer assistance to visit the cemetery and physically attempt to locate those grave sites to determine which are unmarked, or have markers that are damaged or no longer readable.

The Department of Veterans Affairs does have a program to provide replacement headstones for U.S. armed forces veterans. Once we have identified the markers needed, the veteran’s office
will then need to order military documentation from the National Archives. When that information is received, the Veteran’s Office will do a formal request for the new headstones. The office will work with the City of Defiance to place the markers in the cemetery. Please feel free to pass this request for volunteer assistance along to any groups or individuals looking for projects to honor and remember veterans.

Contact Defiance County Veterans Office at veterans@defiance-county.com or call 419.782.6861 and ask for Tanya S. Brunner.

Help Needed to Expand Defiance County Entries in the Hayes Obituary Index


Many more years need to have obituaries abstracted by reading through the microfilm for that year, and many years have already been abstracted, but the names need to be added to the database online. Volunteers are needed to go to the library and abstract obituaries from newspapers and other volunteers are needed to add them online. Neither is a difficult task and just taking responsibility for one year would be of significant help.

Let’s get this task completed to help all who have Defiance County ancestors to research.

The website for the Hayes Obituary Index is http://index.rbhayes.org/hayes/index/

“Thomas Warren - Old Pioneer of Maumee Valley”

*Defiance Democrat*

January 18, 1917

Mr. Thomas WARREN was instrumental in the building of the old Russell House, having furnished S. S. SPRAGUE with the means for that purpose. He, for a time, kept a store in a building erected by Dr. John EVANS. He was a member of the first grand jury in this county (then Williams) in 1824. In the ‘50s and ‘60s, he was the ‘& Co.’ in the firm of Sprague and Co., and the indifferent business methods, to speak very charitably, of the first part of the firm, rendered Mr. Warren will-nigh insolvent.

About 1851 Thomas WARREN, in partnership with Norman DRAKE and William STILWELL, of Genesee County, N.Y., from stock from Rochester, started a nursery on his farm. Stilwell died before any active work was done and Cyrus BRITTON was taken into the partnership. At his death in four years, Hiram BIGNALL took an interest. In several years, at Bignall’s death, all shares were bought by Thomas Warren and his sons, Isaac N. and Benjamin F. and was conducted by them until the nursery was discontinued in 1865.

Mr. Warren was largely instrumental in securing the B & O Railroad, having donated twelve acres of land where the depot is situated as an inducement. In fact, there was but little concerning the building up and for the general good of Defiance, but that Mr. Warren was connected therewith. His wife died October 6, 1866, and he passed to the Christian’s reward January 12, 1877. At the time of his death, he was the oldest citizen of the city.

The country was an unbroken wilderness when he came here, and he was subject at the time to all the hardships and privations of frontier life. He and his good wife, Aunty Winnie, she was called, lived to see ‘the wilderness blossom as the rose and the solitary places to be glad.’ He was a hard working man and did his full share in company with his few pioneer associates in the clearing up of the land, the cultivation of the soil and the improvements of the country.

Of the Warren family, Wesley, Anza, B. F., Elizabeth and Emily were school teachers, Wesley having the reputation of being a very successful teacher, was employed in the Defiance schools about 1863-64 to extract the kinks from some obstreperous boys, which he did with neatness and dispatch.

Emily BICKMORE is a landscape artist and instructor in elocution. Matilda WARREN, who married Dr. Irvin WRIGHT, of Huntington, Ind., died in a few years, leaving a daughter, Edith, who about 1900, was for a time a missionary in Japan. B. F. and Thomas J. served in the Civil War and are yet living, the former in Chicago, the latter in Kansas City, Kas. Of the daughters, Emily lives in San Jose, Calif., Elizabeth (MARTIN) in Chicago, and Margaret (RYDER) near Ney, Ohio.
THE HICKSVILLE NEWS - 1882
Miscellaneous Obituaries from January - June 1882

-January 5, 1882 - "Mark Center. Died MISS IDA ROHRS, last Saturday, with typhoid fever. Death visited their family only one week before, taking an older daughter."

-January 19, 1882 - "On Saturday afternoon, January 7th, 1882, CHRISTAIN SEIBERT of Richland Township committed suicide by cutting his throat, using a razor and butcher knife. It is thought that he was not in his right mind when the deed was done. He was 72 years old and leaves a family."

-February 2, 1882 - "Died of typhoid fever, on Thursday morning last, MRS. DEBORAH HARRISON, aged 78 years, at the residence of her son, DAVID HARRISON in Hicksville. Mrs. Harrison was born in Connecticut in 1804, from whence she moved with her husband, BENJ. HARRISON to Belmont County, Ohio, in 1822, where she resided until one year ago when she came to Hicksville to live with her son. Mrs. Harrison had been a member of the Baptist Church for 35 years and a faithful and devoted Christian."

"Died, at the home residence, near Mark Center, on Thursday, January 26, 1882, Mary M., eldest daughter of WILLIAM HILBERT, aged 13 years. The funeral services were held at the Lost Creek Church on Sat., Rev. Weaner officiating, at the close of which, the remains of the deceased were interred in the cemetery near the church."

-March 2, 1882 - "From Six Corners. HENRY MILLER, only son of JONAS MILLER, died Sunday morning, Feb. 26th of consumption, aged 26 years and 9 months. The funeral services took place today (Monday), conducted by Rev. J. W. Lilly, who preached from Hebrews. This was one of the largest funeral gatherings that ever took place here. Henry was a good young man and will be missed in the community."

"MRS. WILLIAM KEENER died on Sunday last from paralysis, aged about 71 years. She died very suddenly, being ill only about 20 minutes. The funeral services were held at the Presbyterian Church after which her remains were interred in the Hicksville Cemetery."

-March 30, 1882 - Died, on Sunday, March 26th, at 0 o'clock, p.m., at the family residence in Hicksville, MRS. MARGARET MILLER, wife of J. A. MILLER. Deceased was born in Wayne Township, Jefferson County, O., and was one of the early residents of Hicksville, having moved here with her husband in 1846. She was ever ready to extend her hand to the wretched or the needy, and in her life gathered many friends about her who will ever remember her amiable and generous disposition. For many years she had been a faithful and earnest member of the U. B. Church at this place and in her death, the church loses a truly Christian woman. She was 67 years of age. On Tuesday the funeral services were conducted from the U. B. Church, Rev. J. W. Lilly officiating, which was largely attended. She leaves a husband and five children, and a large circle of friends to mourn her death."

-April 6, 1882 - "Died, at the family residence in Hicksville on Saturday, April 1st, Mrs. ELIZABETH BRINKER, at the advanced age of 73 years. The funeral services were held in the Presbyterian Church on Sunday, Rev. Wesner officiating. She was a good, kind lady and leaves many friends to mourn her departure."

"Died on Saturday, April 1st, 1882, Mrs. SUSANNAH ATEN, aged 54 years. The funeral services were held on Monday from the Presbyterian Church, Rev. S. S. Hyde delivering the address. Mrs. Aten united with the Presbyterian Church in 1841, in which she was a consistent member up to her death. She removed with her husband to this county in 1868, where she resided until death called her hence. She leaves a family and a large circle of friends to mourn her loss."

-April 20, 1882 - "Died April 17th, 1882, aged 77 years, JAMES BATCHELOR. He was born on the
24th day of December 1804, at Bradford, Wiltshire County, England. He was the oldest child of a family of nine children, only one of whom survive him. In early life he was compelled to struggle with poverty, and at a very tender age the necessity of his father’s family required him to labor in a woolen mill in his native town. He therefore had neither the means nor the opportunity to acquire an education, although in after life he had a keen relish for historical and theological literature, and until his eyesight failed him, he spent much time in the perusal of books and papers.

When he was sixteen years of age, his father died, leaving his widowed mother with a large family of helpless and dependent children, whose chief stay and support he was. Soon after arriving in America, he determined to seek in the United States a home where the opportunities for a humble and useful life, he believed to be greater than in his native land.

He was married on the 28th day of January, 1828, and having in the course of two years by honest toil and the frugal life acquired the means of transporting his little family, he emigrated to the country in 1830. The pioneer of all his father’s family, all the living members of whom followed him hither at different periods.

By industrious labor and economical habits he acquired the means of supporting, raising and educating a large family of children all of whom, except one son who sleeps at Gettysburg, surviving him. He possessed native power of mind which only needed the opportunities and the direction to have filled almost any position in life or to have followed any calling.

He early united with the M. E. Church and continued as a humble and faithful servant until the day of his death, a period of more than half a century... The funeral took place yesterday (Wednesday) from the Fairview Chapel which was largely attended."

April 27, 1882 - "Died, MR. JOHN MOTHERSPAW, one of the pioneers of Delaware Township, last Thursday and was buried last Saturday. The funeral services will be conducted by Rev. N. Crary, of Hicksville, next Sabbath at 2 p.m., in the Dunkard Church near Sherwood."

"JOHN MOTHERSPAW, one of the oldest residents on Mud Creek in this county is dead, and his funeral will take place next Sunday at 2 p.m. at the German Baptist Church, near where he has lived so many years. The services will be conducted by Rev. N. CRARY. Text: 1st Cor. 4,5. The deceased requested, years ago, that Mr. Crary preach his funeral sermon while he was yet alive that he himself might hear it."

-June 8, 1882 - "Died, on Monday evening, June 5th, in her 27th year, ALVIRA, wife of ALONZO THOMPSON, of Milford Township. The funeral services were held in the Disciple Church in this place on Wednesday, and the remains interred in the Hicksville Cemetery. She leaves a husband and four children. She was a member of the Disciple Church of this place, and was an amiable and pious woman, and held in warm esteem by all who knew her."

"Died, on Monday, June 5th, at his residence in Farmer Township, Mr. ONA ALLEN, aged 40 years. The cause of death was a complication of diseases and the outgrowth of a fever last winter. Increased during his life, by careful habits and industry, he accumulated a large property. He was a worthy and unobtrusive citizen, and was held in high esteem by all who knew him. In the last six months, four gentlemen living on adjoining farms in Farmer Township have died, and of whom Mr. Allen is the fourth, ISIAH JOHNSON, JOHN WILDER, and PETER RINGER, dying some time previously."

-June 15, 1882 - "Died, on Thursday, June 8th, 1881*, of apoplexy, Mrs. ELIZABETH JOHNSON, aged 81 years. On the morning of her death, she arose and performed her usual work and was ready to go visit with a neighbor when she dropped dead. She was buried the following day from the Fairview Chapel. She was highly respected by all who knew her, and her loss will be deeply felt."

(*Possible error in date as the paper was dated 1882.)

-June 22, 1882 - "Again we are called upon to record the death of another of Hicksville's old and most respected citizens, Mr. JOHN SWILLEY, aged 52
years, 11 months and three days, who died at the family residence on Monday, June 19th, 1882. Mr. John Swilley was a German by birth, being born in Wurttenburg, German in 1829 whence he sailed for America in April 1849 at the age of 20 years, and settled in Preble County, this state, where he engaged in the manufacturing of wagons and buggies. Here he was married to Miss MARIA HUFFMAN, Oct. 6th, 1853, who survives him.

In 1855 he removed with his family to Defiance County and settled in Hicksville, and engaged in his former business, that of a wagon maker, and also established a tavern which is now known as the Union House. Mr. Swilley was honest and industrious and very successful in business, having accumulated considerable property. His loss will be greatly felt.

The funeral service took place on Wednesday, June 21st, from the M. E. Church, under the auspices of the order of Legion of Honor, Rev. S. S. HYDE, delivering the address, after which his remains were interred in the Hicksville Cemetery. His funeral was attended by a large concourse of friends and relatives. The family have the sympathy of all our citizens. In honor of the memory of Mr. Swilley our village council, at its session on Monday evening, adopted a resolution asking the businessmen to close their place of business from 1 to 3 p.m. in the afternoon of the funeral, to which all willingly responded.

-June 29, 1882 - " On Sunday afternoon at about 3:30 o'clock, BENJ. WILLITS, while bathing, with four or five companions in the Maumee River below the Jackson Crossing, came to a sad and untimely death. A pleasant wager was made to swim to the opposite side of the river, in which all joined, but when only part way across, young Willits, either from exhaustion or cramp, was unable to proceed and sank. He made no sign of distress and when noticed from the shore, it was too late to rescue him, although the greatest effort was made by his companions. The alarm was immediately given and steps taken to recover the body, which was accomplished after dredging the river for several hours.

He is the son of ISAAC WILLITS, living in Jerico, four and one-half miles southeast of town, and was 21 years of age. Deceased was highly respected by his associates and those of his acquaintances. The stricken family has the warm sympathy of a large circle of earnest friends. The funeral services were held at the family residence on Tuesday, Rev. S. S. HYDE officiating. The remains were interred in the Hicksville Cemetery.

Auctioneer License Applications
Defiance County, Ohio
1845 - 1879

<table>
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<td>Charles (Harley &amp; Son)</td>
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“Relative of Gen. Wayne Passes Away”
Defiance Democrat
July 20, 1916, p. 6

Funeral Services will be held Friday afternoon for Mrs. Harriet Augusta MEEKS, wife of C. E. MEEKS, at 2 p.m., at the family residence at 215 Auglaize Avenue. The remains will be laid to rest in Riverside Cemetery. Funeral services will be conducted at the house by Rev. Frank ZIMMERMAN, of Grace Episcopal Church.

Mrs. Meeks was one of the pioneer residents of Defiance County, having been born at Brunersburg in 1844. She was one of thirteen children born to Mr. and Mrs. Peter DODD, a well known character in early Defiance County history, and a distant relative of Gen. ‘Mad’ Anthony WAYNE.

Indians Called at House.

She had many memories of childhood associations with the Indians, who still inhabited this section and frequently called at the home of her father. Peter Dodd. Her father, was well known to the inhabitants of this section 75 years ago. He was prominently connected with the Defiance Democrat during its earlier years when it was published by Judge GREEN.

Mrs. Meeks passed through the cholera epidemic of the early 50s, her mother falling a victim to the plague, when she was but nine years of age. Harriet Augusta Dodd was married to C. E. Meeks, a veteran of the Civil War in 1874, and leaves as survivors, her husband, a daughter, Birdy Meeks BAKER, of Toledo, a sister, Mrs. I. J. ANDERSON, also of Toledo, and one brother, Amos DODD, of Sawtelle, California.”

“FIGHTING STOCK ARE THE ROMINES”
Defiance Democrat
July 20, 1916, p. 5

Company G Boy Will Have to Travel Some to Keep Pace With Relatives

Ney – McKinley ROMINE, of Washington Township, who lately enlisted in Co. G, 6th Reg. O.N.G., comes of good fighting stock; as his father, James ROMINE, enlisted in the famous 38th Regiment in the Civil War at the age of 15 and served through the war, dying August 9, 1904, at the age of 57.

Two uncles of the young man also served in that war, Robert KIBBLE enlisting in February, 1862, in Co. F, 48th O.V.I. and was killed at the battle of Shiloh, Apr. 4, 1862. His son, John, enlisted at age 14 and served through the war.

Joseph KIBBLE, brother of Robert, served in Co. C, 15th Ohio Infantry, in the Mexican War, from March 20, 1847, to August 3, 1848, and was also in the ‘Fighting 48th ’ with his brother, Robert, in Co. F, and was discharged with the Regiment in May, 1866.

Wm. N. KIBBLE, father of Abe KIBBLE, the Defiance grocer, was one of the gallant Squirrel Hunters from Defiance, captured by the late John CROWE, who rushed to Cincinnati in September, 1862, to defend it from Kirby SMITH’S expected raid. So, coming of fighting stock, it is now up to Wm. McKinley ROMINE to make good as they did.”

Search Free OGS Databases

Everyone loves FREE, searchable databases. The following are available from the Ohio Genealogy Society at www.ogs.org.

**Lineage Societies**
- Century Families of Ohio
- First Families of Ohio Roster
- Ohio Mayflower Society Index
- Roster of Society Of Civil War Families of Ohio (SCWFO)
- Settlers and Builders of Ohio Roster

**Military**
- Names of Union Soldiers with Civil War Service in Ohio Units
- Ohio’s Revolutionary War Veterans Index
- World War I 83rd Division Personal Information Cards Index

**OGS Indexes**
- OGS Bible Records Index
- Ohio Cemetery Locations Index
- Ohio Obituary Index
- Whissemore Photograph Collection

**OGS Journal Indexes**
- Ohio Civil War Genealogy Journal - Subject Index
- Ohio Civil War Genealogy Journal - Surname Index
- Ohio Civil War Genealogy Journal - TOC Index
- ORPF & OGQ Civil War Subject Index
Genealogy Gophers (Beta)  
by Cynthia Theusch  
**************************************************  
The complete following article can be found in the March 31, 2015 edition of the Allen County Public Library’s Genealogy Gems No. 133.

Genealogy Gophers, is a new, free database to be found at www.gengophers.com. At this time, the Genealogy Gophers library has approximately 40,000 family histories and regional genealogy books. The site plans to add at least a thousand books each month.

Most of the books included are out-of-copyright volumes that have been digitized by FamilySearch where these same digitalized books can be found, however, Genealogy Gophers is also adding materials from other sites that have free digital books, such as Internet Archive (Archive.org). The goal of Genealogy Gophers is to become “the premier website for genealogy books.”

Each search result includes the title of a book or periodical, along with a brief context surrounding the name. When you find a result you are interested in viewing, you can click on the title link. Then you can view the full page or download the pdf file.

Listed below are the “search hints” provided by Genealogy Gophers for searching the database.
• Everything you enter must be found in the text, so fewer fields yield more results.
• First name(s) can include a middle name.
• Place must be a US State, Canadian Province, or Country
• Start and End year are rounded to the decade.
• Relative’s names must be found near the searched for name.
• See the FAQ for more information.

Archive.org  
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Since 2005, the Internet Archive has collaborated and built digital collections with over 1100 Library Institutions and other content providers. Partnerships include: Boston Public Library, the Library of Congress and the Lancaster County’s Historical Society. These collections are digitized from various mediatypes including: microfilm and microfiche, journals and serial publications, and a wide variety of archival material. Significant contributions have come from partners in North America (American and Canadian Libraries), Europe and Asia, representing more than 184 languages.

For example, of interest to those who have ancestors in the neighboring county to Defiance, Paulding County, the entire 1892 Atlas is online and fully searchable at archive.org/stream/HistoricalAtlasOfPauldingCountyOhio

Investigate this free site today.

“MARRYING JUSTICE ENTERS SILENT REALM”

Defiance Democrat  
May 24, 1917

Many Defiance Couples Were United in Wedlock by Deceased.

Many expressions of regret were heard in Defiance Tuesday about the death of Patrick Henry Williams, ‘marrying’ justice of the peace, of Monroe, Mich. He died Monday, aged 79 years.

During the last 20 years, he held his last office of justice of the peace, and in that time, he married more than 3,000 couples.

Justice Williams was born in Ireland. During the civil war, he was a union locomotive engineer in the south. An accident necessitated amputation of one leg.

He was clerk of Monroe county five terms and city collector of Monroe two years previous to election as justice of the peace.

Many Defiance couples faced him as he stood at the altar and pronounced the words that joined their lives.”

(If you cannot find a marriage record that you think should be in Defiance County, check Monroe, Michigan!)
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.

FirstName___________________________________LastName________________________________
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: ______________________________________________________________________
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Program Suggestion?________________________________________________________________________

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
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1st Families Centennial Families Speaker/Program Education/Teaching Other Comments

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