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 St. John UCC at 950 Webster Street.

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Coming Meetings

Monday, June 21
“The Moravian Church - History and Highlights from 15th Century Europe to America” with Mary Williams, chapter member

Monday, July TBA - Watch for a coming announcement in local newspapers.

August - no meeting
Officers and Trustees

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Gladys Donson
Pat Wise
Dianne Kline

Change of Address or Email?
If you change your postal or email address, please make sure you email the chapter at <defiancegenealogy2002@yahoo.com> or send the changes to Defiance Chapter OGS, POBox 7006, Defiance, OH 43512-7006 so that your current information is on file.

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 members of the Defiance County Chapter OGS to apply. 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 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 1915 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.

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.

A membership form may be downloaded at the following website. www.defiancecountygenealogy.org.
April

President Brown noted at the April chapter meeting, that over 500 visitations have been made to the chapter’s new blog site. The site is defiancecountyohiogenealogy.blogspot.com. It can also be accessed through the chapter website link.

Rich Rozevink announced that he and Dave Bennett are at work to place a cemetery marker on the gravesite of Albert W. King who was a prisoner of war in the Civil War and also a passenger on the Sultana which sank carrying prisoners of war home from the South. A Town and Gown presentation will also take place at a future date telling of Mr. King’s exploits. The chapter authorized the spending of funds from the veterans memorial fund for this project.

Dave Bennett noted that he has started a blog, Dave’s History Corner, at blogspot.com. He will have items of interest in local history.

Following the business meeting, Steve Charter of the Center for Archival Collections housed at BGSU outlined some of the many types of materials available. The center is located in the university's library building.

The archival collection was one of 8 regions proposed and funded by the Ohio Historical Society in 1969. The northwest region takes in 19 counties. Its goal is to collect and preserve historical records and items. Funding now is through individual donations.

The website for the archive is www.bgsu.edu/colleges/library/cac. There are three main ways to search for materials: use the BGSU catalog, browse or search the topical listing, or use the search engine to search the site. To browse, click on the orange headers. There then will be a break down into smaller topics. Items can be sent to the center by scanning the materials and emailing. The library is open Monday 8-9 and Tuesday through Friday from 8-5.

May

At the May 18 meeting, chapter member Dianne Kline told how genetic testing can augment one’s genealogical research. Using her personal testing with the company Ancestry.com, Dianne explained the procedure for submitting DNA which for Ancestry is spitting into a collection tube and then sending the tube to the company with an anonymous, indentifying number.

Ancestry is currently using autosomal testing which can be used by either men or women. It uses approximately 700,000 markers to compare with the results of others who have tested at Ancestry to identify possible cousins within three generations. Processing takes about 6-8 weeks before test results are returned.

Using her personal test results, Dianne noted her ethnic breakdown and revealed 45 possible cousins.

Ancestry will continue to notify those who have been tested if any new relationships are revealed in the future.

Dianne cautioned that although DNA testing may connect with possible new ancestors and relatives, it is only one avenue for establishing genealogical connections. Standard genealogical research is still needed to confirm relationships and to confirm the genealogies gleaned from the newly discovered “cousins.” Also DNA testing cannot provide those interesting and unexpected stories that make genealogy so much fun and addictive.

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.
Dave Bennett's Corner
From Dave's Files - Maple Sugar Making

It is the month of June, a little late for tapping the trees and gather the sap, but Dave's corner for this summer issue is based upon an early article describing the importance of maple sugar making in our area.

We are in the season of maple sugar making. The run of sugar water this spring will be but of little consequence because of the great drought of the past year which continued through the winter. The season will probably be ended by the first heavy spring-like fall of rain.

Our ridges were once a continuous line of sugar camps; sometimes these were as wide as half mile. Along the streams in the dense forests of the dry and second bottoms, sugar trees were also sufficiently numerous to justify tapping. These ridges and bottoms which were of the driest and most desirable farming lands were a matter of course. The lands now cleared for cultivation, have are almost entirely without trees, except for the ravines, or where a few have been left for house shade.

The first settlers on the Maumee were famous sugar-makers. Thirty and forty years ago the Waites, Lowerys, Kings, and Coles on the river realized more from their sugar and molasses than from all their other produce.

We remember one year, perhaps 1812, of John Lowery selling in Maumee City three tons of grained sugar and frequently large lots were marketed here. The price varied from six to eight cents per pound—usually selling slightly less than New Orleans sugar—not being as good for cooking purposes. We also remember Judge Waite selling to an amount of 1200 pounds in Defiance for 6 cents a pound in 1843 which would now readily bring 53 cents. It was pure, clean, sharp-grained and of a rich god color—exceedingly "toothsome."

War of 1812 Pension Records Available at Fold3.com

The Federation of Genealogical Societies, in collaboration with Fold 3, is endeavoring to raise funds to make all War of 1812 pension-related records available free. The project is approximately 64% completed.

According to Fold 3: "This series consists of approximately 180,000 pension and bounty land warrant application files relating to claims based on service between 1812 and 1815. The files generally contain documentation submitted in support of a claim, such as the original application form, affidavits, and statements from witnesses.

"The following information will be captured with the images and available to researchers when it exists in the file.

- Veteran's name
- Place of residence
- Age
- Widow name
- Service data & dates
- Organizations
- Acres Granted
- Marriage date
- Soldier death date
- Widow death date
- Year of BLM act
- Warrant number

To access this information, go to go.fold3.com/1812pension

Hayes Obituary Index

Family Tree Magazine chose the Hayes Obituary Index and the Ohio Memory Project as the top two Ohio genealogy sites for 2014.

The obituary index is compiled by volunteers and currently has over 3,000,000 obituaries, death & marriage notices & other sources from Ohio from the 1810s to the present day.

The original index was compiled by Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center Library staff and
volunteers from original newspapers, in hard copy or microfilm. Starting in 2001, other Ohio libraries started entering their data into this index, so it now extends beyond the holdings of the Hayes Presidential Library. Currently 60 libraries are partners in the Ohio Obituary Index and are indexing old and current newspapers.

The obituary index is also available through Ancestry.com. Actual obits may be ordered from the participating partner libraries listed on the website.

The map below shows in red (or dark) participating counties. For a complete listing of the newspapers indexed and for what time periods, check the “List of Newspapers” at index.rbhayes.org.

Newspapers for the Defiance area that have been indexed are the following:

Defiance Democrat - 1844 - 1894
Defiance Democrat - 1900 - 1901
Defiance Democrat - 1911 - 1918

Crescent-News - 1903 - 1914
Crescent-News - 1942 - 1945

**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

**White Cap Baseball**

The Hicksville News
April 27, 1882

"The following persons compose the White Cap base ball club of Hicksville: ALBERT RANDOLPH, HARRY REX, IRTAS ACKLEY, CHARLES LOVE, WILLIAM HENRY, HARRY DOWELL, FRANK LANDIS, IRA BABBITT, and ED THOMPSON.”
Couples Celebrate 50th Anniversaries

Mr. and Mr. Samuel Shuter of Evansport entertained a company of their many friends at a delightful reception Wednesday afternoon and evening in honor of the fiftieth anniversary of their wedding day.

Mr. and Mrs. Shuter were married at Evansport December 30, 1858, and have always made their home in that city. They are the parents of four children, three of whom are living: T. Shuter who is engaged in the hardware business at Evansport, J. W. Shuter who is in the telephone and undertaking business in his home town, and C. R. Shuter who is in the telephone business in Toledo.

Samuel Shuter was born December 8, 1834, in Montgomery Co., Ohio and was the fifth of a family of 12, nine of whom are living. He lived in Montgomery County until April 1857 when he came to Evansport. In 1858 he entered into the mercantile business until August 14, 1861, when he enlisted in Co. D 38th Regiment OVI and served in that company until mustered out July 23, 1865. He was in numerous engagements and accompanied Sherman on his famous march to the sea. After the war, he returned to his mercantile business in Evansport.

Mrs. Shuter was the daughter of John and Nancy Snider who were among the oldest residents of Tiffin Township. She was born December 22, 1840 at Evansport where she has always lived.

Happy Couple Celebrate 50th Year of Wedding

Defiance Democrat
September 7, 1916, p. 5

In the old log house on the homestead on the pike that sheltered for many years the family of Henry and Elizabeth (SHAFFSTALL) ROCK, August 23, 1866, their daughter, Miss Susannah ROCK was united in marriage to Mr. Thomas JOHNSON, in the presence of the relatives who a few years previous to this had settled here from the east.

One of the most delightful events recorded on the pages of time was the celebration, August 23, 1916, in beautiful Crystal Fountain Park, Sherwood, of the golden wedding anniversary of this aged couple who in their young days plighted their troth and in their marriage vows pledged each other 'for better or for worse.'

In response to invitations issued, relatives gathered in the park with well filled baskets at about 10:30 a.m. to join in the pleasures of the occasion. Great, long tables loaded with eats were 'good to look upon but the eating was better' such eatables as fried chicken galore, cake cookies, pie, salads, buns, bread, pickles – and ever so many other good things to eat – and after 'grace,' all fell to and with keen appetites did justice to the feast spread before them. Over fifty partook of the dinner.

Immediately after dinner, while seated at the table, Mr. and Mrs. Johnson were given a number of nice presents, among them being six $5 gold pieces. But the gift which will be a source of pleasure to them was a fine instrument – a meg-a-phone- from the eldest son, E. A. of Auburn, who was also spokesman in presenting the other gifts. With a few remarks upon the music box and how it would be enjoyable to them in their old days, as they both dearly love music, he started the player with the beautiful, yet sad, song, 'Silver Threads Among the Gold.' This scene seemingly touched a tender spot in almost every heart as the song was sung, but other more cheerful selections followed which eradicated the dampness as record after record was played.

Kleinhen Anniversary Celebrated

Mr. and Mrs. John Kleinhen of Ayersville entertained a happy company Wednesday December 30 in celebration of their 50th anniversary of their wedding day.

The Kleinhen's have been blessed with eight children of whom six are still living, four of whom were able to attend the reception: William with whom the aged couple make their home, George whose farm is four miles west of Brunersburg, Mary now Mrs. Laro of Ayersville, and Maggie Rothenberger of Henry County.
Those attending the 50th anniversary were the following: E. A. JOHNSON and wife of Auburn, Ind.; Emerson JOHNSON, wife and daughter, Leola, of Chicago Junction, Ohio; Mrs. Ivy WORTHINGTON and daughter, Gladys, and son, Dale, of the village; children and grandchildren of the couple; Mrs. Mary BLAIR; Mr. and Mrs. Warren WATTS; Mr. and Mrs. Tommy WATTS of Defiance; Mrs. J. E. LONG of the village; Henry ROCK and wife of Sandusky; Mrs. Nancy HELLER; Mrs. Edna BLACKFORD; Mrs. Mary GREEN and Miss Huldah DURR from Crawford Co.; E. REYFF and wife; G. A. REYFF, wife and daughter, Doris; Lester SHIRLEY, wife and daughter, Lynn and Baby Mary; Dr. and Mrs. LINDERSMITH and Miss Iris; Mrs. J. E. ETCHIE and Miss HALEY; Mrs. Lyrl LEHMAN and Little Evelyn from the village; F. L. ETCHIE, wife and son, Perry, of Hamler; Mrs. N. J. KLOTZ of Van Wert; D. L. PITTS and wife; G. W. RENZ and wife; also Mrs. Elva FLECK and children, Cyril, Elmer, and Baby Robert of Toledo; Harry JOHNSON and family of Defiance.

Beginning of Library in Hicksville
The Hicksville News
March 19, 1882

"A library association has been formed in Hicksville, to be known as the Library of Hicksville and vicinity with 100 volumes of popular authors and which embraces books of fiction, history, and science. Every man and woman of a literary mind should have a share in this association and thus obtain access to the library, as it is an effort to promote a taste for the best class of literature, enabling rich and poor alike to enjoy its advantages.

"The association intends to add new volumes from time to time, and swell its resources so that it will be a credit to our town. Any person can become a member upon the payment of $2. A meeting of the shareholders was held on Tuesday and elected the following officers for the ensuing year:

- President - Dr. B. M. RAKESTRAW
- Vice-President - Dr. T. C. KINMONT
- Secretary - M. V. STARR
- Treasurer - A. D. F. RANDOLPH
- Librarian - F. DALRYMPLE, at whose drugstore the library will be kept."
Where Is Union Street?
A Story about Defiance Streets
Defiance Democrat, December 19, 1913

How many people know all the streets in Defiance and how they were named? Just stop to think a minute, and it's a safe bet that you couldn't tell where Emery Avenue or Columbus Avenue or Union Street was located.

Defiance has eighty miles of public streets. In all there are one hundred and seventy streets. Some of them are only a block long and are grown over with grass and perhaps have only one house located on them or maybe none at all, but they are streets just the same. Defiance has one of the longest main stems of main drags as some folks like to call it, of any town in this part of the state. It is like Columbus with its famous High street.

Clinton starts at Defiance College at the north city limits, crosses the Wabash Railroad on a viaduct, come downhill and crosses the Maumee River, goes through the business part of town, passes south and over the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and terminates at a street at the south city limits at Riverside Cemetery. It has a college at one end and Riverside Cemetery at the other, with a public school building in the middle. It crosses one river and two railroads. It is paved with brick the entire distance, except the section south of the B & O tracks which is stoned. It is two miles long.

Like all American cities, Defiance has many streets named after presidents. These are Adams, Cleveland, Van Buren, Harrison, Jackson, Jefferson, Lincoln, Madison, Washington and Wilson. Everybody knows where Jefferson and Jackson and Washington are located, but who can tell the location of Van Buren and Adams and Lincoln? Van Buren is located in North Defiance, Madison is an East Defiance street. Wilson Avenue is in the new College Hill addition.

Among other prominent national characters who have streets in Defiance named after them are: Blaine, Douglas, Franklin and Webster. There is a Wesley street, but it was not named after the venerable Dr. Wesley of Methodist fame. It is one of a group of streets named after the sons of Isaac Warren, a pioneer who once owned nearly all of the second ward. There is a Warren street and a Wesley, Asa and Franklin, named after the Warren boys.

Defiance folks have always been patriotic and a number of the streets have been named after prominent military men, generals or commodores. The streets bearing the names of great military leaders are Hamilton, Logan, Perry, Pierce and Wayne. Everybody knows where Perry and Wayne streets are located, but how about Douglas and Pierce? Douglas is the street from East Second to East Hopkins along the fourth ward school building and Pierce is from Harrison to Perry, crossing the Wabash Railroad.

Many of the streets are named after local men, pioneers who helped to build the town or who owned large tracts of land. Holgate Avenue is not named after the village of Holgate, but after W. C. Holgate, a pioneer of Defiance who owned large tracts of land and who did much for the community in its early development. Streets named after local men are: Worthington, Williams, Wilhelm, Widmer, Warren, Turrell, Thurston, Thurman, Tiedeman, Stasel, Squires, Southworth, Sessions, Schultz, Schrack, Sauer, Rulf, Rowe, Phelps, Nicholas, Neil, Martin, Leevre, Latty, Kintner, King, Karnes, Kahlo, Horace, Holgate, Hilton, Henry, Harding, Grover, Greer, Greenler, Greenie, Gray, Gorman, Gibson, Frances, Fales, Emery, Elbert, Downs, Davison, Dexter, Danforth, Corwin, Colby, Charles, Boughton, Berney, Beide, Allen, Wesley and Asa.

There are a number of streets with feminine names. Among these are Agnes, Arabella, Maggie, Maud and Pearl.

A great many of the streets secured their names from their locations. There is a Water Street, so named because it is along the river; Summit, because it is at the rise in ground from the river in East Defiance; Riverside, along the river; River, because it overlooks the river; Ridge, because it is along a small ridge; Ravine, because it enters into a ravine. Railroad, it being along a railroad track; Preston, after Preston Run and also after an early pioneer character of the Maumee Valley. Pleasant, because it commands a pleasant view form the top of a bluff; High, because of being along the top of the North Defiance hill.

Others are Plain, North Hill, East High, West High, Grove, Front, East Canal, Court and the streets that are in numerical order system like Front, First,
Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth.

There are none of the prominent streets named after trees, but a number of the smaller thoroughfares bear the names of different varieties of trees. For instance, there is Ash, Cedar, Chestnut, Linden, Locust, Maple, Oak, Pine, Spruce, Vine and Walnut. Walnut is in North Defiance. Linden is near the B & O depot.

Defiance has a street named after Cleveland's celebrated avenue, Euclid Avenue. It is located in East Defiance. Defiance has a Sunday Street situated near Riverside Cemetery. Some of the streets in the outskirts are named after cities. Among them are Tacoma, St. Paul, and Columbus. The latter street secured its name through the building of the Ohio Electric Railway, which when it was built was known as the Columbus, Lima & Milwaukee railroad. Union street is located off of High Street in North Defiance.

Clinton street, the main thoroughfare, was named after General Clinton of New York, who was famous in the Indian wars just previous to the 1812 period. Hopkins street was named after a connection of the Holgate family, getting its name from Hopkins-Holgate. College Place, is a new thoroughfare, along the north side of the Defiance College grounds.

There is one sad fact about this story. Of the eighty seven miles of Defiance streets there are only about eleven miles improved. Now you can see why the street department has such a worrying job of it, with nearly ninety miles of streets to keep in repair and only about a dozen miles improved.

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**News of Hicksville - 1882**

June 22, 1882 - Respected citizen Mr. **JOHN SWILLEY**, aged 52 years, 11 months and three days, died at the family residence on Monday, June 19th, 1882. Mr. John Swilley was a German by birth, being born in Wurttenburg, Germany 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 form 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."
Members of Area Lodges of the Free and Accepted Masons in Service in WW I

Tuendawie Lodge, No. 195 Defiance
Beardslely, C. L. Cole, E. B.
Conrad, Raymond L. Dekay, A. B.
Douty, George W. Emery, Bartlett E.
Folk, John W. Goldnetz, A. J.
Kerns, W. W. Lindhardt, Walter J.
Marlatt, John C. Morse, Harry R.
Mallett, Chauncy I. Martin, Richard W.
Rath, Alva R. Rieckhoff, Fred’k
Roberts, Laird K. Robertson, J. F.
Seibel, Oscar F. Seibel, Peter F.
Shore, W. H. Smith, Carol A.
Spangler, Harvey D. Thompson, Samuel
Winkler, Herman Woodward, J. W. R.

Evansport Lodge, No. 511
Christy, I. S. Kittredge, M. R.
Little, D. D. Mignin, Fred
Partee, B. C. Rollin, Lloyd
Steger, Otto

Sherwood Lodge, No. 620
Conley, F. W. Dickey, A. M.
Elder, Lavon A. Long, Ora Franklin
Musselman, Forrest Renz, H. E.
Streip, Earl Swigart, A. W.
Ward, J. L.

Those with * in front of their names died during their service.

Hicksville Lodge, No. 478
Arrowsmith, J. C. Battershell, E. R.
Blalock, W. C. Blakeslee, H. G.
Blosser F. R. Bricker, F. D.
Bricker, F. C. Carey, L. D.
Carr, H. H. Cottrell, I. C.
Cottrell, E. R. Crow, R. S.
Daniels, Wm. H. Deardorff, L. M.
Edson, Dale Hart, Lawrence
Hook, Fred Hooker, E. G.
Jackson, F. D. Hartzler, L. S.
James, Garrett Huber, F. G.
Patterson, George A. Jackson, Geo. D.
Tract, C. E. Kincade, J. W.
Walter, Clyde L. Overholt, V. S.
Wineland, Burr R. Smith, Ray M.
Wort, L. D. Wagner, C. E.

Physicians

Hicksville

1905

H. W. Cook
J. M. Coombs
N. T. Dean
J. Hull
J. S. Hull
N. Jackson
T.G. Kinmont
W. S. Lawning
Wm. H. Richards
J. W. Ridenour
S. F. Welty

Page 22 Yesteryears’ Trails - Defiance Co. Summer 2015
My Great-Aunt AUGUSTA LOUISA (K?nig) GLENN
by Joanne Allison

Augusta Louisa K?nig was born in Eicherhoefe, Prussia, to Johann Christian and Anna Dorothy (Henning) K?nig in 1837. Her father was a schoolmaster for many years, and her earliest schooling and appreciation for education came from him. Also, her paternal grandfather was a war hero who fought under "Old Blücher" (Gebhard Leberecht von Blücher,) helping to defeat Napoleon in the battle of Waterloo.

Coming to this country in 1849 at the age of 12, Augusta and her parents and siblings settled in Defiance County, Ohio, where her father worked as a teacher, a carpenter, and a boat builder. He died in 1874 followed by her mother in 1875, and both parents are buried in Riverside Cemetery, Defiance.

In approximately 1855 while in Defiance, Augusta met and married a barber named George Mathewson Glenn. I'm sure this marriage raised many eyebrows, and the newlyweds, no doubt, were the subject of much gossip because George Glenn was a black man. Augusta and George moved to Delphos in Allen County, Ohio, and lived there eleven years.

By the time of the 1860 census, they had two children. Like many others in the years that followed, Augusta's brother, Albert W. King, still a Defiance resident, served in the Union Army, risking his life to preserve the union and assure the rights of black men like his brother-in-law. Racial tensions were extremely high during the Civil War years.

By the 1870 census, the Glenn family was living in the village of Oberlin, Lorain County, and that census lists six children. Providing an education for their mixed-race children was of primary importance to George and Augusta, which is why they moved to Oberlin in 1866 after the close of the Civil War to gain Oberlin's educational advantages. Oberlin College was unique in that they were the first to allow women students to enroll in college level classes, thus making the Institute the first coeducational college in the country. Not only was Oberlin the first college in the nation to admit women students, but African American students, as well.

George spent his first seven years in Oberlin in the draying business (hauling large objects by wagon or cart) and then resumed his former occupation of barbering, which he continued for 50 years. His shop was located on College Place, and he advertised himself as "The College Barber." In his half century of business in Oberlin, he was a highly respected citizen and member of the First Congregational Church of Christ which included a number of African Americans, both students at the college and Oberlin residents. Augusta may have attended church with him, but having been raised in the Lutheran faith, she remained a member of the Lutheran Church.

In all, Augusta, a white German immigrant, and George, a black barber, raised ten children--seven boys and three girls. All of those children were educated, and some became teachers or worked in other professions requiring a secondary education, all during a time when the country was hurting from the Civil War and society in general was not very tolerant of women's or black people's rights.

Joanne Allison

Mr. G. M. Glenn - the College Barber

Pays his respects to the Students of Oberlin College.
He will be found at 15 College Place
during business hours, or any week day.

N. B. Special attention is given to Ladies
in neat and attractive apartment.
The “Meet Your Navy” Radio Broadcast Was on Friday Nights

Article by Richard Baranowski, a freelance writer from Perrysburg, Ohio

The following article was submitted by DCGS member Debra Perry. It is reprinted from the February 2015 issue of the “Bend of the River.”

Longtime Perrysburg, Ohio resident, Printy Arthur was a hospital corpsman attached to the U. S. Navy Amphibious Battalion. He participated in five Pacific invasion, Saipan, Palau, Leyte, Lingyen Gulf, and Okinawa.

Mr. Arthur was born in Sherwood, Ohio in 1924. His father was a Methodist minister and the family moved often. In 1939 the family relocated to Arlington, Ohio, just south of Findlay.

Printy Arthur led the football and basketball teams to conference championships! After school, he worked for a veterinarian earning 25 cents an hour. “It doesn’t sound like much,” he said, “but with movies and gas only 25 cents, a dollar went a long way.”

He grew up amid the Great Depression and in 1942 enrolled at Bowling Green State University in pre-veterinarian. “Most of the guys were either in or on their way to the service,” he said. “I decided to drop out of school and told the draft board that I was ready.” After two months he joined the Navy.

Boot camp was in Great Lakes, Illinois. And, Printy Arthur was recruited into a choir company and later selected for the Admiral’s Blue Jacket Choir. The elite group same with the Chicago Symphony and on the “Meet Your Navy” radio Broadcast. It was aired on Friday night from Great Lakes. “It was wonderful duty; we rehearsed and sang.”

Because of his pre-vet background, Mr. Arthur became a hospital corpsman. They were attached to the Marines and provided medical care on the battlefield, shipboard and in hospitals. Printy began medic schooling.

Later, he was shipped to Florida for intensive training with the amphibious battalion. “That was when we learned all the details of making an invasion,” he said. “We learned to set up an aide station on the beach. It was tough, rigid training.”

Four months later, Mr. Arthur was shipped to Little Creek, Virginia, and assigned to the ship “USS Leon,” a troop transport. It was March of 1944 when they sailed through the Panama Canal to Pearl Harbor.

He said, “Our task force left Pearl Harbor in late May. There were about 100 ships of all types, ten across and ten deep. We headed to the Marshall Islands where we met up with a full complement of ships. For a preacher’s kid from Ohio, it was quite a sight.”

The troop transport carried about 1,500 men. A beach party officer was in charge of a stretch of beach about 200 yards wide. The troops were to land there. Mr. Arthur said, “We handled all the casualties that came to us.”

They landed on Saipan on June 15, 1944, in the first wave. It was chaotic. “Nobody knew what was going on and we landed on the wrong beach.” He continued, “We eventually found our group and for the next three days we took constant mortar fire. I recall once when I was on my knees giving plasma to a badly wounded Marine, a mortar fragment killed him. You come to love your foxhole very much.”

Due to the great number of casualties, the “Leon” was turned into a hospital ship. He said, “We became a ship of meat ball surgeries, working rapidly around the clock to stabilize patients as quickly as possible.”

Some of the men died and were buried at sea. “It was always a sad occasion. The chaplain would speak, and the bodies had been sewn into canvas bags with a five pound shell at their feet. From a stretcher draped with an American flag the bodies were slid into the water.”

Later they sent some ambulatory patients to a regular hospital ship. Mr. Printy said, “I went with them in a landing craft and when they were taken aboard we headed back and saw that our ship was headed out to sea.”

The Japanese sent a large aircraft counter attack and all transports were ordered out. This was later known as the Marianas Turkey Shoot. The Hellcat fighters (Continued on next page)
knocked down almost 100 Japanese aircraft.

“After loading troops at Pearl, we left for Palau and landed there on September 15, 1944. The causalities were quite heavy.”

In October 1944, they landed on Leyte in the Philippines. The convoy took several direct hits from Kamikazes.

Then with Army troops aboard, they landed in Lingayen Gulf in the Philippines in January 1945.

At Pearl Harbor, Mr. Arthur was assigned to the U. S. Naval Hospital, Alea Heights. He soon discovered there was a Big Band on the base. He had played the trombone in high school and college, so he auditioned and was accepted.

“What a sweet duty!” he said. “We played for dances at the officer clubs all over the island, as many as three times a week.”

Mr. Arthur was in Hawaii when the atom bomb was dropped. He said, “When we heard about the bomb, we all thought it was so much shuttlebut. But it was true, and the war ended.”

Because Mr. Arthur had participated in five invasions, he was among the first to be discharged. He returned home in December 1945.

Richard Baranowski

### Black Sea School
**District No. 5**
**Noble Township**
**1915-191**
**Leorah Dreher - teacher**

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### Physicians
**1905**
**Defiance City**

D. S. Babbitt  
Nettie Belau  
E E. Chapman  
J. W. Davis  
R. W. Finch  
Catherine Hoover  
G. W. Huffman  
R. R. Parcher  
W. M. Powell  
G. A. Rigrish  
J. J. Reynolds  
ADele A. Rohn  
C. E. Slocum  
M. B. Stevens  
J. B. Ury  
J. D. estrick  
Charles W. Zeller

**Evansport**

M. V. Repogle  
G. E. Winn

**Sherwood**

J. K. Denman  
H. G. Lindersmith  
J. L. Slager  

**Jewell**

R. B. Cameron

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**Warning: Genealogy "Pox" Very Contagious**

**Symptoms:** Continual complaint for need of names, dates and places. Patient has blank expression; sometimes deaf to spouse and children. Has no taste for work of any kind except feverishly looking through records at libraries and courthouses. Has compulsion to write excessive emails and letters. Swears at computers when vital information can’t be located. Frequents cemeteries, churches, courthouses. May make secret night emails or calls. Hides phone bills from spouse and often mutters to self. Has strange, faraway look in eyes.

**Treatment:** NO KNOWN CURE! Medication is useless. Disease is not usually fatal, but gets progressively worse. Patient should attend genealogy workshops, subscribe to genealogy magazines and online resources, and be given a quiet corner where he or she can be alone.

**Remarks:** The unusual nature of this disease is-- the sicker the patient gets, the more he or she appears to enjoys it!
Name_______________________________ Phone________________
Address____________________________________________________
City___________________ State________________ Zip_____________

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