

WARREN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY *e-News* February 2026

This monthly newsletter is being distributed to Warren County Genealogical Society members and other interested parties. Feel free to share with others as you see fit. If you wish to be added or removed from our mailing list, contact us by phone 513-695-1144 or email at wcgsoh@gmail.com. – Jo Roth, Acting *e-News* Editor

CONTENTS:

- WCGS Resource Library Hours
- 2026 Program Schedule
- We Are a Unicorn!
- “Tales of the Township”
- Some of Our Amazing Volunteers
- Happy Trails
- Conferences and Seminars
- Genealogy Webinars
- Kroger Community Rewards
- Warren County Genealogical Society
- Thank You!

WCGS RESOURCE LIBRARY HOURS

The Resource Library will be **closed Monday, February 16, 2026**, for President’s Day.

2026 PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Our programs are FREE and open to the public. All are welcome!

February 2026 Virtual Program “**Busting Through Brick Walls by Understanding County Boundaries**” presented by **Dana Palmer**

Wednesday, February 11, 2026, 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM EDT – Zoom Program

March 2026 Virtual Program “**Discovering Miami Valley Pioneers and Early Ancestors**” presented by **Kelli Bergheimer**

Wednesday, March 11, 2026, 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM EDT – Zoom Program

*May 2026 **WCGS 45th Anniversary and Awards Banquet!** SAVE THE DATE! Special Program by Dana Palmer!

Wednesday, May 20, 2026, 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM EDT – In-Person



If you are on our email list, you will automatically receive a Zoom invitation to join us for our Virtual Chapter Meeting and Program. You can sign up for our email list at the bottom of any website page. <https://www.wcgsohio.org>

WE ARE A UNICORN!

Submitted by Jo Roth, WCGS Treasurer and Webmaster

WCGS is unique in that it not only is a Genealogical Society but also has a Resource Library fully staffed by WCGS Volunteers. To our knowledge, we are one of the few, if not the only, Genealogical Societies fortunate enough to have this.

Having a Resource Library allows us a place to gather for projects, meetings, and discussions. It gives us the ability to house our computers, books, files, and other resource materials in an easily accessible place that is open to the public Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. The Volunteers who give their time to ensure the Resource Library is open during those hours are also great at helping those who visit or contact us asking for help with their research.

Some of these volunteers have been researching for decades; others only for a few years. But they all share a love of learning and a passion for genealogy and history. Webinars, conferences, classes, seminars, and programs are all great ways to learn new methodology, new information, and about new sources.

Many of you take part in these same webinars, conferences, classes, seminars, and programs. But how many of you find that you sit down at your computer with the best intentions to try something you may have learned recently and then find you have questions or aren't sure what to do first? Often, we end up just going back to doing things exactly like we have been doing them and remaining frustrated we aren't finding what we need.

Volunteering for your local Genealogical Society can help break that cycle! You will find like-minded people who are also trying to improve their skills and it is a great place to ask questions, practice new methods, and explore with a bit of a safety net. If you do not live in the area of a Genealogical Society where you would like to volunteer, see if they have any need for volunteering remotely. Now more than ever, technology is allowing people from all over to help in ways that simply were not possible before!

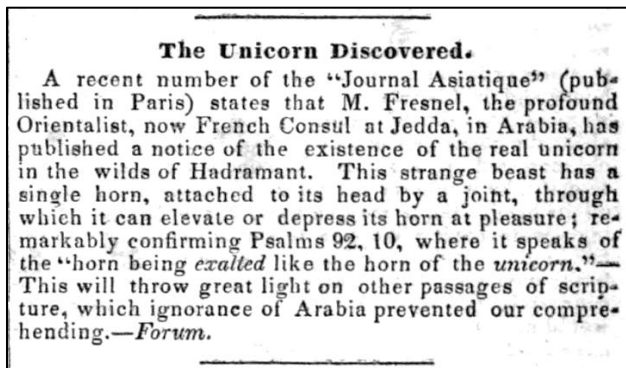
The one skill that will serve you well is the ability to use a computer. If you need to learn more about this or brush up on your skills, consider taking a class on general computer use or on the program you want to learn. It is never too late to start, and having skills in this area is well worth the time you will invest.

Another way to improve is to seek out a Special Interest Group (SIG) for the subject that interests you. A Genealogical Society from another area may have a SIG to fit your needs. And if you are really motivated, but there isn't one in your area, you can always start one! Common topics are specific family tree programs, DNA, cemetery restoration, and specific families or geographical areas.

For those who are reading this, thank you for being part of the genealogical community and thank you for supporting WCGS. We hope to see you or hear from you soon!

(The President's Message written by Jim Brokaw, WCGS President and Research Chair, will return next month. As always, you can reach him by email at president.wcgs@gmail.com.)

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The Western Star (Lebanon, Ohio), Friday, February 14, 1845, Page 1, Column 6.

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“TALES OF THE TOWNSHIP”

Submitted by Jo Roth, WCGS Treasurer and Webmaster

One of my favorite features in the Hamilton Township Newsletters is the “Tales of the Township” section. These are researched and submitted by Dr. Karen Dinsmore and cover some wonderful topics. In the Winter 2026 issue, the subject is “The Mysterious Bridge Over the Little Miami River” and includes photos and maps! In the next issue, “Hamilton Township’s Earliest Schools” will be covered.

The Hamilton Township Newsletter is published quarterly and anyone can sign up to receive them.

<https://www.hamilton-township.org/township-newsletter-and-volunteer-event-sign-up>

“Tales of the Township” starts in the Oct 2021 issue. Topics covered include:

Oct 2021	Page 9	“Hamilton Township Ghost Towns”
Jan 2022	Page 9	“Virginia Military District”
Apr 2022	Page 8	“The Butterworth Family”
Summer 2022	Page 9	“The Maineville Academy”
Fall 2022	Page 8	“Camp Butterworth”
Winter 2023	Page 7	“Judge James Hall”
Spring 2023	Page 10	“Drawing the Lines” [Township Maps!]
Summer 2023	Page 7	“The Warren County Serpent Mound”
Fall 2023	Page 9	“The Longley Brothers: Did They Play Their Cards Right?”
Winter 2024	Page 8	“The History of the Bridges at Foster”
Spring 2024	Page 8	“Ghost Towns & Hamlets of Southern Hamilton Township”
Summer 2024	Page 8	“Ghost Towns & Hamlets of Northern Hamilton Township”
Fall 2024	Page 7	“History of Maineville – Part 1”
Winter 2025	Page 9	“History of Maineville – Part 2”
Spring 2025	Page 9	“Famous Photographer – Nancy Ford Cones”
Summer 2025	Page 11	“Farm Cemeteries of Hamilton Township – Part 1”
Fall 2025	Page 9	“Farm Cemeteries of Hamilton Township – Part 2”
Winter 2026	Page 11	“The Mysterious Bridge Over the Little Miami River”

You can access past issues here:

<https://www.hamilton-township.org/elected-officials/township-newsletter-and-volunteer-event-sign-ups/>

SOME OF OUR AMAZING VOLUNTEERS

Just look at these wonderful people! They are just a few of the incredible group of Volunteers who would be so happy if you visited them in the WCGS Resource Library or sent them a Research Request. Let them know they are needed and appreciated!



Back Row (Left to Right): Jim Brokaw, Winston Cochrane, Debbie Osburn, Delores Bovee

Middle Row (Left to Right): Penny Brown, Lavonne Smith, Julie Cowger

Front Row (Left to Right): Laura Ingling, Debbie Schneider, Karen Bentley, Linda Eckert

[Many thanks to Jacob Stickel, Warren County Records Center & Archives, who took this photo.]

HAPPY TRAILS

Our deepest condolences to the family and friends of those who have passed. WCGS is fortunate to have had so many people who have become members and made contributions. We recognize and honor those who are no longer with us in body, but will be ever-present in spirit. As the song goes, "Until we meet again..."

Please visit our Virtual Cemetery on Find a Grave: [Remembering our WCGS Members](#). If you have information about a current or former WCGS member who has passed or a memorial we should add to our Virtual Cemetery, please contact Debbie Schneider, WCGS Membership Chair, at membership.wcgsoh@gmail.com.

Robert Edwin Kenyon (September 22, 1937 – October 14, 2025)

WCGS Member and Supporter



Robert Edwin Kenyon, a cherished soul known affectionately as Robert, passed away on October 14, 2025, at the age of 88. Born on September 22, 1937, in South Bend, Indiana, Robert's life was a testament to his loving, kind, and creative spirit. His journey began in the heartland of America, where his character was shaped by the values and resilience of the Midwest.

Robert's dedication to his country was evident early in his life when he served honorably in the United States Navy. From March 26, 1956, through December 13, 1962, he was stationed on the USS Washtenaw County in San Diego, California, where he formed lifelong bonds and honed a discipline that would serve him throughout his life.

After his naval service, Robert embarked on a distinguished career in the defense industry, contributing his talents to companies such as E-Systems, Raytheon, and L3. His work was not just a job but a calling, as he was deeply committed to the safety and security of his nation. He was also an active member of his professional community, where his expertise and mentorship were highly valued.

Robert found love and companionship with Patricia Marie Smith, whom he married in Fort Wayne, Indiana. He and Patricia were married just over 50 years. Together, they built a family that became the center of Robert's universe. Although his brother, Leonard Ray Kenyon, preceded him in death, Robert's legacy continues through his beloved daughter, Angelyn Marie Kenyon of Heath, Texas. His sister-in-law, Victoria Mason, and her partner, Jeffrey Sherman, also played significant roles in his life, sharing many cherished memories.

Robert's interests were a reflection of his multifaceted personality. **His passion for genealogy allowed him to connect with his roots and share those stories with his family.** An avid photographer, he captured moments in time, leaving a visual legacy of his perspective on the world. Trains fascinated him, echoing the rhythm of a life well-traveled, while his skill in clock making was a symbol of his patience and attention to detail.

To know Robert was to know a man of unwavering integrity and boundless creativity. His absence will be deeply felt by all who had the privilege of knowing him. Yet, his influence will continue to resonate through the lives he touched and the love he shared. Robert Edwin Kenyon's story is one of commitment, service, and heart, and his memory will be cherished forever.

Robert's online obituary can be found here: <https://www.resthavenfuneral.com/obituaries/Robert-Edwin-Kenyon?obId=46235367>

Sandra Lee (Culler) Konzen (July 31, 1942 – October 10, 2023)

WCGS Member and Supporter



Sandra Lee (Culler) Konzen was born July 31, 1942, in Bellevue, to Harry Elvin (Al) and Annabel Ball Culler. She graduated from Bellevue High in 1960 and from Bowling Green State University in 1964. She held a BS in Education with a double major in math and history.

She was happy to come back to her old high school to teach seventh and eighth grade math. She then taught Jr. High math and geography at Lincolnview North in Van Wert County.

Sandy married Larry H. Konzen on June 18, 1966. They moved to Findlay in Sept., 1967. Their daughter, Karen, was born in 1973 and Sandy was able to be a stay-at-home mom.

Her interest in genealogy began during this time and continued until her death. She loved old cemeteries, even if no family was buried there.

Sandy worked as a tax preparer and instructor for H&R Block and then for Knueven and Schrader.

Sandy and Larry retired to Danbury Twp. in 1995 where she began 20 years of volunteer tax prep and instructing. She was active in Port Clinton Senior Center holding Historian and President positions there.

NATIONAL GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 128, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701-0128

Telephone 703-525-0050 or 800-473-0060 <https://www.ngsgenealogy.org/>

2026 Family History Conference: “America at 250”

Wednesday, May 27 – Saturday, May 30, 2026 - Fort Wayne, IN

<https://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/>

2027 Family History Conference

Save the Dates! Thursday, May 20 – Saturday, May 22, 2027 - Madison, WI

PALATINES TO AMERICA GERMAN GENEALOGY SOCIETY

P.O. Box 141260, Columbus, OH 43214

<https://palam.org/>

2026 PAL AM National Conference – “Our German Ancestors: Building America”

Thursday, June 18 – Saturday, June 20, 2026 – In-Person

<https://pennpalam.org/>

Double Tree Resort Hotel, 2400 Willow Street Pike, Lancaster, PA 17602

Registration now open. Early Bird pricing ends April 15, 2026!

GRIP GENEALOGY INSTITUTE

<https://grip.ngsgenealogy.org/>

Sunday, June 22, 2026 – Friday, June 26, 2026 – Virtual Courses

Sunday, July 12, 2026 – Friday, July 17, 2026 – In-Person Courses

University of Pittsburgh, 4200 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15260-0001

Save the **2027** Dates!

Sunday, June 21, 2027 – Friday, June 25, 2027 – Virtual Courses

Sunday, July 11, 2027 – Friday, July 16, 2027 – In-Person Courses

University of Pittsburgh, 4200 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15260-0001

INSTITUTE OF GENEALOGY AND HISTORICAL RESEARCH (IGHR)

c/o Georgia Genealogical Society, Inc., P.O. Box 551247, Atlanta, Georgia 30355-2747

Telephone 678-439-7503 <https://ighr.gagensociety.org/>

IGHR 2026 Virtual Institute

Monday, July 27 – Friday, July 31, 2026 – Virtual

2026 KENTUCKY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY CONFERENCE

Call for Speakers and Vendors!

<https://www.lexpublib.org/historyconference>

Friday, August 7 – Saturday, August 8, 2026

Lexington Public Library – Central Library

140 East Main Street, Lexington, KY 40507

Registration opens Monday, June 1, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.

GENEALOGY WEBINARS

Please visit the following sites for complete lists of webinars being presented.

[Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center](#)

[American Ancestors by New England Historic Genealogical Society](#)

[ConferenceKeeper](#)

[Florida State Genealogical Society](#)

[International Society for British Genealogy and Family History](#)

[Legacy Family Tree Webinars](#)

KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS

Support WCGS each time you check out by participating in the Kroger Community Rewards Program.

- Visit <https://www.kroger.com> and sign into your Kroger account.
- Click the icon above your name to access “My Account” and look for Community Rewards on that page.
- Select Community Rewards and search by Organization Name or Number and enroll in the program:
 - Organization Name – Warren Co Chpr of the Ohio Genealogical Soc
 - Organization Number – SU662

Then, every time you shop and use your Kroger Plus card, Kroger will make a small donation to WCGS!

WARREN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

WCGS has more than 160 Warren County Genealogical publications available for purchase. These can be purchased from the [Shop and Support](#) page of our website or you can download an order form:

<https://www.wcgsohio.org/downloadable-forms>.

Membership is \$25 for membership (single or family) or \$250 for a Life Membership. Please visit the [Join or Renew](#) page on our website or you can download a Membership Application:

<https://www.wcgsohio.org/downloadable-forms>.

Phone: 513-695-1144

Email: wcgsoh@gmail.com

WCGS NEW Website: <https://www.wcgsohio.org>

WCGS Original Website: <https://wcgsoh.org/#gsc.tab=0>

WCGS Virtual Cemetery: <https://warren.ohgenweb.org/Cemetery/burial.html>

Warren County OHGenWeb Site: <https://warren.ohgenweb.org/#gsc.tab=0>

Western Star Digitization Project: <https://www.ohiomemory.org/digital/collection/p16007coll84>

RESOURCE LIBRARY HOURS: Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The WCGS Resource Library is open to the public. We are a FamilySearch Affiliate Library.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to the following people and organizations who have made a monetary or materials donation to WCGS recently. Our Society and Resource Library Catalog continues to expand because of your generosity.

❖ Paul Bieller

❖ Sara Stegemoller

❖ Penny Wolf

❖ Elizabeth Buchanan

❖ Kay Weiss



Hold hope! This was February 2023. Spring will come this year!



Warren County Genealogical Society

406 Justice Drive, Lebanon, Ohio 45036
513-695-1144

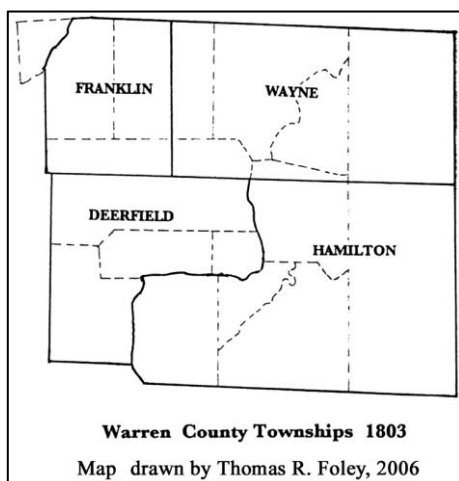
wcgsoh@gmail.com



WHEN: Wednesday, February 11, 2026

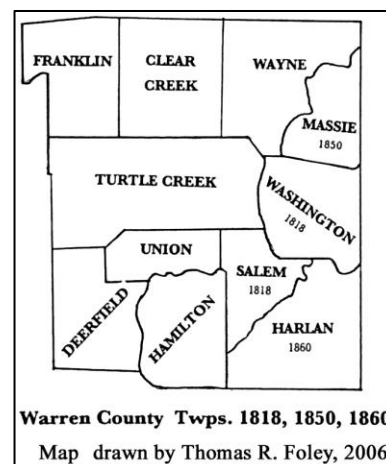
WHERE: Virtual Meeting and Program via Zoom

PROGRAM: Starting at 7:00 p.m.



Busting Through Brick Walls by Understanding County Boundaries

Sometimes your ancestors didn't move, but the county lines did! Learn how to find your ancestors' land, court, and census records even though the boundaries have changed. Online historical maps will also be shown.



Presented by Dana Palmer, CG®, CGLSM

Dana Palmer has been a certified genealogist (CG) since 2009 and a certified genealogical lecturer (CGL) since 2019. She has been a genealogy instructor at Sinclair Community College since 2010. Dana has spoken at national, state, and local genealogy events and conferences including RootsTech, NGS, FGS, and frequently at OGS (Ohio). She specializes in lineage society applications, publishing family books, Midwestern research – specifically Ohio, but also has experience in Germany, Denmark, and the U.K. Dana is also employed by the General Society of Mayflower Descendants on their Silver book team. She has over 41 years of experience in family history work and has received numerous awards for her books and volunteer efforts. Dana joined her first lineage society at age 20 and belongs to several lineage societies, including the International Society Daughters of Utah Pioneers (ISDUP), National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR), National Society United States Daughters of 1812 (USD 1812), and Colonial Dames. In addition to her career in genealogy, Dana has a bachelor's degree in math education to teach high school mathematics.



For more information about Dana, please visit her website:

<http://www.treasuredlineage.com/>



If you are on our email list, you will automatically receive a Zoom invitation to join us for our Virtual Chapter Meeting and Program. You can sign up for our email list at the bottom of any website page. You do not have to be a member to be on our email list. This presentation is open to the public and everyone is welcome!

<https://www.wcgsohio.org>

For more information, please contact WCGS at 513-695-1144 or wcgsoh@gmail.com.