

# WARREN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY e-News December 2022

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e-News Editor: Arne H. Trelvik <[atrelvik@gmail.com](mailto:atrelvik@gmail.com)>

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## WCGS RESOURCE LIBRARY HOURS

The WCGS Resource Library will be closed Friday, December 23, through Monday, December 26, 2022, for the holidays. We wish you and your family all the best this season!

## 2022 / 2023 PROGRAM SCHEDULE

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January 11, 2023 – WCGS Virtual Program – “**Tracking Early Family Footprints Using U.S. Land Records**” presented by Debbie Large

Wednesday, January 11, 2023, 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM EST - Zoom Program

You must [register](https://www.wcgsohio.org/events) at <https://www.wcgsohio.org/events> to receive a zoom invitation to this event.

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February 8, 2023 – WCGS Virtual Program – “**Finding German Records Using Family Search**” presented by Dana Palmer

Wednesday, February 8, 2023, 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM EST - Zoom Program

You must [register](https://www.wcgsohio.org/events) at <https://www.wcgsohio.org/events> to receive a zoom invitation to this event.

## VIDEO NOW ONLINE

The video from the November 16, 2022, presentation by **Brian Rhinehart** on “**I Have a Civil War Ancestor... Now What?**” is now available on the [Members Area](#) of our website. WCGS members can click [HERE](#) to sign in and view the video. Many thanks to Brian for allowing us to record this program. The video will remain on the website until December 16, 2022.

## 2023 / 2024 WCGS OFFICERS

The election for the 2023 / 2024 WCGS Officers has concluded, with sixty votes for the proposed slate of officers and three votes against. Thank you to all who voted and congratulations to Linda, Delores, Jo, and Judy!

President	Linda L. Eckert
Vice President	Delores Bovee
Treasurer	Jo Roth
Recording Secretary	
Corresponding Secretary	Judith Everett

## 2023 WCGS MEMBERSHIP

Membership for calendar year 2022 will expire on 31 Dec 2022. Membership fees for 2023 are \$15 for a regular membership (whether single or family). Life memberships are \$200. You can join or renew your membership and pay online on our website at <https://www.wcgsohio.org/>

A PDF copy of our membership application is attached if you do not wish to renew your membership online. The membership form is also available on our website at <http://www.wcgsoh.org/DownloadableForms.htm>.

If you took advantage of our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Membership Special last year giving you two years for the price of one, you do NOT need to renew this year. **All WCGS members should have received either a postcard OR letter in their postal mail with information about whether it is time to renew. If you did NOT receive either a postcard or letter, please contact us at [membership.wcgsoh@gmail.com](mailto:membership.wcgsoh@gmail.com).**

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## NECROLOGY

### Dorothy "Jean" Eyre (1938-2022)

We received a note from Jerry Eyre, that his wife Jean passed away October 28, 2022, at the age of 84. She was a longtime member of WCGS, joining in 2007. Jean was born May 9, 1938, in Springfield, Ohio, to Harry Frederick Stapleton and Dorothy Ann McClure. You can view her online obituary here:

<https://obituaries.pvtimes.com/obituary/dorothy-eyre-1086661882>

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## RECENT WARREN COUNTY VETERAN DEATHS

(Please send additions to [atrelvik@gmail.com](mailto:atrelvik@gmail.com).)

### World War II:

Gerald "Gerry" J. Helmkamp (1928-2022) (US Navy World War II)

### Korea:

### Vietnam:

James Robert Harris (1947-2022) (US Army Vietnam)

John Andrew Brooks (1946-2022) (US Air Force Vietnam)

Jerry Chapman (1947-2022) (US Marine Corps Vietnam)

### Other Service:

Timothy P. O'Kane (1953-2022) (US Navy )

Leroy George Pennekamp (1938-2022) (US Army )

Ann E. McGee (1949-2022) (US Army )

Homer E. Howard (1934-2022) (US Navy )

Charles Howard Reif (1928-2022) (US Army )

Roger Kirk Smith (1938-2022) (US Navy )

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## CLUES TO USE

Contributed by Linda Eckert, WCGS President

### Boxwell Law Gave Farm Youths Chance to Continue Education

With the attention the schools seem to be getting on the ninth grade proficiency tests, the writer searched through his files and found some material concerning another type of test, which in accordance should be of some interest to warren Countians. It was a testing procedure called the "Boxwell Law."

Alexander Boxwell was born in Frederick County, Virginia, and became a resident of Ohio in 1857, settling with his parents at Springboro, Warren County.

At the age of 20 years, he entered Ohio Wesleyan and subsequently took up the teaching trade which he practiced for sixteen years. While in this endeavor he studied law and in 1881 was admitted to the Ohio Bar.

He served for a time as Justice of the Peace and later was elected to the Ohio Legislature for a period of ten years, at one time becoming Speaker of the House.

School attendance was made mandatory through a law which was incorporated in 1877. The law, being lax in enforcement, was practically forgotten.

Consequently, in 1889, a new statute was written which incorporated the use of truant officers and set age standards between the age of eight and fourteen. If the student was between the age of fourteen and sixteen, and had a job, he or she could be excused.

Being a teacher and a member of the Warren County Teachers Association, and with his influence as a Legislator, Alexander Boxwell pursued a way in which to incorporate a fair practice of allowing the country schools students to be admitted to high school without the added expenses.

A Council of teachers appeared before the committee of Schools and presented arguments for a bill proposed by Mr. Boxwell, which in turn provided "that the boy or girl in the country schools shall have an equal opportunity with the pupils in the town or city schools."

The Boxwell Law gave an opportunity to the aspiring young adult, whose roots were on the farm and not in the city, to proceed with his or her education.

The new law, which was passed in 1892, stated in certain terms "that township boards of education are obligated to pay the successful applicants' tuition at the city school of their choice, but the students must provide for their own transportation or living accommodations."

Under the new law, an examination was given that tested the scholastic skills of the rural students. It set up a sort of qualification standard in which the student could participate through a testing procedure.

Subjects in which testing was given were: orthography (spelling and language study), reading, writing, arithmetic, English grammar and composition, United States history including civil government, and physiology.

Two examinations were to be given a year. Passage of these tests made the student eligible for admission to any high school in the County in which the pupil lives, or some neighboring County.

Successful applicants, where each student presented an oration, or read an essay, were arranged to meet at regular township commencements. The law also read that a County commencement of all graduates under this act should also be held.

The Boxwell Law had clearly done more for the country schools of Ohio than any other law passed previous.

The way of the "one room schoolhouse" was struggling in its composition of too little education and no future for advancement.

The new Law was an opening for the bright young students who wished to excel and make a place in society.

In the remaining space of this article, I will give some examples of the tests required. See how you do on the U. S. History.

1. Name the two oldest settlements by the English in the territory of the U.S.
2. Give the date of the beginning and close of the French and Indian War.
3. In what year was the Stamp Act passed?
4. When and where did Washington first take command of the American army?
5. When and where did the first continental Congress convene.
6. Give the date of the assembling of the American Army.
7. Name in their order the presidents of the United States.
8. Name two Battles of the War of 1812.
9. What territory was gained by the Mexican War?
10. When and where did General Lee surrender the Confederate Army?

Source:

*Warren County, Ohio and Beyond* by Dallas R. Bogan



*Boxwell Commencement 1912*  
 1st row (front) Fred Snider, Everett Banta, Frank McAdams, Arthur Cowan, Roy Osborn, Karl Fischer, Bob Hatfield, Murrell Ireton, Chas. Long, Tom Bolin, Walter Bunnell, Louis Verbyrke, Douglas Henderson  
 2d row- Rachel Monroe, Lucille McClung, Lura Irons, Bernice Hall, Rose Wall, Rosetta Young, Frieda Young, Edith Delph, Marie Balon, Allie Beedle, Maggie Berger, Pearl Gardiner, Ione Young, Grace Riley, Amy Cowan  
 3d row- Pearl (?), Mildred Miller, Martha Fischer, Mildred Meloy, Goldie Albright, R. M. Bradford, Mildred Nixon, Hazel Shumaker, Lucille Melampy, Frieda Jameson, Florence Hall, Frances St. John

**Boxwell Commencement 1912**  
 1<sup>st</sup> Row (l to r) – Fred Snider, Everett Banta, Frank McAdams, Arthur Cowan, Roy Osborn, Karl Fischer, Bob Hatfield, Murrell Ireton, Chas. Long, Tom Bolin, Walter Bunnell, Louis Verbyrke, Douglas Henderson.  
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 3<sup>rd</sup> Row (l to r) – Pearl (?), Mildred Miller, Martha Fischer, Mildred Meloy, Goldie Albright, R. M. Bradford, Mildred Nixon, Hazel Shumaker, Lucille Melampy, Frieda Jameson, Florence Hall, Frances St. John.



**Prominent Attorney Dies at Miami Valley Hospital**

Judge Alexander Boxwell, aged 70 of Franklin, one of the most prominent citizens of the county, died at Miami Valley Hospital, Dayton, at 11 p. m. Tuesday, where he was taken a few weeks ago suffering from a prostrate gland and other complications.

During nearly the whole of his life he was a resident of Warren County and he was highly honored by the people of the county. When a boy he came here with his parents and was reared on a farm, receiving his education in the district schools of the county and began teaching when quite young, an occupation he followed several years having his home in Red Lion.

While teaching he studied law and prepared himself for admission to the bar. Before coming active in the practice of law he was elected a Representative in the legislature and he served five terms in that office, 10 years in all.

While in the legislature he was elected Speaker of the House and he was one of the very few men of Warren county who was ever honored with that office. His name became well known throughout the state by the Boxwell law providing for the graduating pupils for the common schools – a law which originated with the teachers of Warren County.

After retiring from the legislature he was elected Probate Judge by an overwhelming majority and he served in that office 7 years, one term of 3 years and one of four years. He retired from the office February 8, 1913, and resumed the practice of law at Franklin. For a time he served the U. S. government as a special agent, looking after Indian affairs in the west.

He was a prominent member of the Methodist church and very active in Sunday school work and other church activities, both in Franklin and in the county at large. He was president of the County Sunday School association for about 12 years.

The widow and one son Lester survive. Funeral services will be held at the Methodist church of Franklin Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

Source:

Obituary from unnamed newspaper dated 25 January 1923 on file at the Warren County Genealogical Society.

## OHIO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

The Ohio Genealogical Society (<https://www.ogs.org>) is located at the Samuel D. Isaly Library, 611 State Route 97 West, Bellville, Ohio 44813. Phone 419-886-1903. As an OGS member, Vivid-Pix <https://vivid-pix.com/> will provide ten free fixes with no credit card required. OGS members who decide to purchase the program after the trial period will receive a 20 percent discount off the retail price of \$49.99. In return, OGS will receive a donation from Vivid-Pix. We hope you will enjoy this new member benefit. To start your free trial, follow this link: <https://www.ogs.org/join/affiliate-information>

### 2023 OGS ANNUAL CONFERENCE – “What Brought Them Here 1803-2023”

April 26-29, 2023, Kalahari Resorts & Conference Center, Sandusky, Ohio

## NATIONAL GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

6400 Arlington Blvd., Suite 810, Falls Church, VA 22042-2318 USA  
Telephone 703-525-0050 or 800-473-0060 <https://www.ngsgenealogy.org/>

### NGS 2023 Family History Conference - “Virginia: Deep Roots of a Nation”

31 May – 3 June 2023 In-Person, Online at Home, and Focus of Societies Sessions

## GENEALOGY WEBINARS

You need to pre-register. See websites below.

Note: [Legacy Family Tree Webinars](#) understands that you cannot always attend the live webinars, which is why *they make the recording available to you to view for the 7 days following the webinar for FREE!* Watch it as many times as you would like. You can pause it and take notes during the free period. If you want all the materials, including the instructor’s handouts you must join and pay a yearly membership fee.

### “Finding Unknown Descendants of a Freedmen Cemetery”

Presented by Char McCargo Bah

Friday, December 2, 2022, 2:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time

Register for the webinar at <https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/finding-unknown-descendants-of-a-freedmen-cemetery/>

### “Vintage Aerial: Historic Photography of Rural U.S. Farms and Homesteads”

Presented by Alexis Petrie, Nathan Lewis, Lance Roper, and Fritz Byers

Tuesday, December 6, 2022, 2:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time

Register for the webinar with the Allen County Public Library at

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_gLNlSzoFTWwRcZsnG9A9Cg](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_gLNlSzoFTWwRcZsnG9A9Cg)

### “Lloyd's of London: Its History and Its Records for Shipping”

Presented by Paul Milner, FUGA, MDiv

Tuesday, December 6, 2022, 8:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time

Register for the webinar at <https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/lloyds-of-london-its-history-and-its-records-for-shipping/>

### “Creating a DNA Plan for Geoff's Brick Wall”

Presented by Diahna Southard

Wednesday, December 7, 2022, 2:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time

Register for the webinar at <https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/creating-a-dna-plan-for-geoffs-brick-wall/>

**“Stories From the Archives: Family Recipes”**

Presented by Judy Lucey

Thursday, December 8, 2022, 3:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time

Register for the webinar with the American Ancestors by New England Historic Genealogical Society at

<https://hubs.americanancestors.org/familyrecipes>

**“Trendy Tech Tools for Your Research: Yay or Nay?”**

Presented by Cyndi Ingle

Friday, December 9, 2022, 2:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time

Register for the webinar at <https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/trendy-tech-tools-for-your-research-yay-or-nay/>

**“Looking Back & Peeking Ahead: 2022 at MyHeritage”**

Presented by Daniel Horowitz

Tuesday, December 13, 2022, 2:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time

Register for the webinar at <https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/looking-back-and-peeking-ahead-2022-at-myheritage/>

**“Indiana Church Records”**

Presented by John Beatty

Tuesday, December 13, 2022, 2:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time

Register for the webinar with the Allen County Public Library at

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_Upne6aBKSeijfGcRQRwGxO](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Upne6aBKSeijfGcRQRwGxO)

**“How To Organize All of This Genealogy Stuff!”**

Presented by Lisa Louise Cooke

Wednesday, December 14, 2022, 7:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time

Register for the webinar with the Allen County Public Library at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZllcOmqpzkvHtXBWwCpQDMPOJAs6tSn4SBf>

**“Let's Talk: Holiday Traditions”**

Presented by Allen Co. Public Library Genealogy Center & the Indiana Historical Society

Thursday, December 15, 2022, 6:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time

Register for the webinar with the Allen County Public Library at

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_BB0DfxIMTOuBfk7PF2-Oaw](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_BB0DfxIMTOuBfk7PF2-Oaw)

**“Surviving the Digital Dark Ages-Backups and Archiving”**

Presented by Mark Stephen Middleton

Thursday, December 15, 2022, 8:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time

Register for the Florida State Genealogical Society Poolside Chat webinar at

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1629792215197667855>

**“How the West Was Won in Canada”**

Presented by Lianne Kruger

Friday, December 16, 2022, 2:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time

Register for the webinar at <https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/how-the-west-was-won-in-canada/>

**“New York State Genealogy”**

Presented by Sara Allen, Senior Librarian

Tuesday, December 20, 2022, 2:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time

Register for the webinar with the Allen County Public Library at

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_-zCVWJq3SzmMEXWqemoU6g](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_-zCVWJq3SzmMEXWqemoU6g)

**“Wayward Girls: A Context Case Study”**

Presented by Stephanie O'Connell, CG

Tuesday, December 20, 2022, 8:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time

Register for the webinar at <https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/wayward-girls-a-context-case-study/>

**“Designing With Canva for Your Genealogy, Society, or Business”**

Presented by Colleen Robledo Greene, MLIS

Wednesday, December 21, 2022, 2:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time

Register for the webinar at

<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/designing-with-canva-for-your-genealogy-society-or-business/>

**“Resources for Oregon Research”**

Presented by Dawn Carlile

Thursday, December 22, 2022, 6:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time

Register for the webinar with the Allen County Public Library at

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_x5r\\_oQpTdyxF4\\_Tg0oGsw](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_x5r_oQpTdyxF4_Tg0oGsw)

**“Ask the Experts: Genealogy Software”**

Presented by Cynthia Theusch & Allison DePrey Singleton

Tuesday, December 27, 2022, 2:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time

Register for the webinar with the Allen County Public Library at

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_1kYlrmOYTiKA0-n4ovpRLw](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_1kYlrmOYTiKA0-n4ovpRLw)

**“Idaho Research: Genealogy Gems Galore”**

Presented by Sharon Monson

Wednesday, December 28, 2022, 2:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time

Register for the webinar at <https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/idaho-research-genealogy-gems-galore/>

**“Virtual Tour of the Genealogy Center”**

Presented by Allison Singleton

Thursday, December 29, 2022, 6:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time

Register for the webinar with the Allen County Public Library at

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_6BaS6s02Q-umpm46Wig5RA](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_6BaS6s02Q-umpm46Wig5RA)

**“MyHeritage's Latest Photo Innovations”**

Presented by Tal Erlichman

Tuesday, January 10, 2023, 2:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time

Register for the webinar at <https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/myheritages-latest-photo-innovations/>

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

Membership is \$15 for a regular membership (single or family) or \$200 for a Life Membership. Please visit the [Join or Renew](#) page on our website or you can download a Membership Application at <https://www.wcgsohio.org/downloadable-forms>.

Phone: 513-695-1144 Email: [wcgsoh@gmail.com](mailto:wcgsoh@gmail.com)

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

WCGS OLD Website (has broken links, but also GREAT databases): <http://www.wcgsoh.org>

WCGS Virtual Cemetery: <http://sites.rootsweb.com/~ohwarren/Cemetery/burial.htm>

WCGS Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/262311627671559/>

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

Warren County OHGenWeb Site: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ohwarren/>

**LIBRARY HOURS:** Mon-Fri from 9am to 4pm [subject to closing for inclement weather, volunteer illness, etc.]  
**The WCGS Resource Library is open to the public. No appointment is necessary.**

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