



## WCGS RESEARCH SERVICES

*Submitted by Jim Brokaw, WCGS Cemetery Chair and new WCGS Research Chair (Yay!)*

Need help with your research? We welcome requests to locate documents related to your ancestors in Warren County, Ohio. We have an extensive Genealogical Resource Library containing thousands of vital records, obituaries, family histories, indexes, books, and so much more! Our volunteers are ready to assist you with your research questions at rates that are a fraction of those charged by professional genealogists. Research Request forms are available on our website, or you are welcome to visit our library to do your own research. We will help you find the local records you need, and you will have free access to many online websites and collections!

Would you like to help us help others? We welcome volunteers who enjoy doing genealogical research, either in our library or at home!

For more information about our Research Services, please visit <https://www.wcgsohio.org/researchservices>.

For more information about volunteering for WCGS, please visit <https://www.wcgsohio.org/volunteer> and complete a Volunteer Interest Form.

:-:-:-:-:-

## CLUES TO USE

*Submitted by Linda Eckert, WCGS President*

### Check out our Special Collections! (Part 7)

This month, we are featuring the Roger Stiles family history collection. It consists of several binders with information on the following families:

Crosson Family	Ross Family	Creager Family
Puckett Family	Parks Family	Wene – Pray Family
Franz Family	Carr Family	Ross – Wycoff/Wicoff Family
Long Family	Snell Family	

Also included in this collection is research contributed by the following members of the family:

William W. Stiles	Christopher C. Garrison & Sarah Pray Garrison
Leon Stiles	Paul R. Orr
James F. Keim	Jerry D. Nelson
Linda Boorum	Kirby D. Brouillard
George Eberhart	Roy A. & Sheila Carlson
Mrs. Heminger & daughter, Mrs. George W. Brown	Ray B. Armstrong & Virgie Armstrong Battin
Kirby D. Brouillard	Ross D. Brown
Rich Schroer	

If you share any surnames with the Roger Stiles family, visit our library and check out this collection. If you are not local to the area, feel free to contact our Research Services for help searching this collection. Good luck with your research!

:-:-:-:-:-

## KENTUCKY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY FREE COURSE ON YOUTUBE

In September 2023, Susan J. Court of the Kentucky Genealogical Society presented a five-session course on *Becoming a Genealogist and Family Historian*. This course was excellent, with information for both beginners and seasoned researchers. KGS has added all five sessions to their YouTube channel and you can now view it online!

Part 1: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JUghokIQGLU>  
Part 2: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dSV4LynEazo>  
Part 3: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oqZM37s3OQc>  
Part 4: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=23wwleAIwWk>  
Part 5: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2EJrc8Mxuno>

:-:-:-:-:-

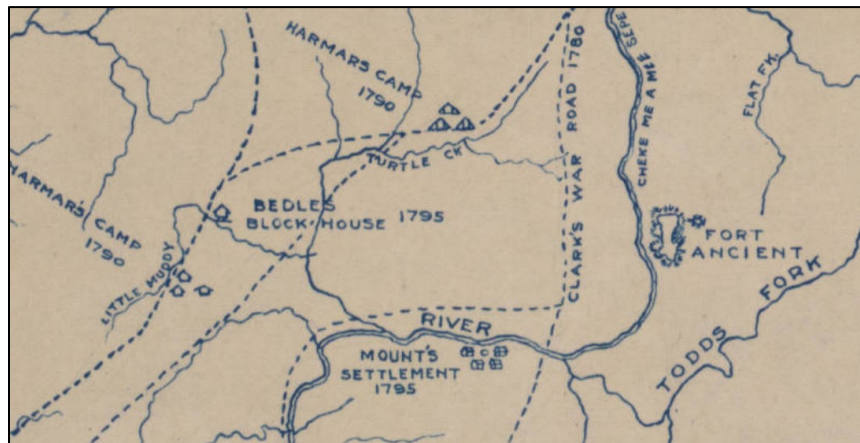
## MAP OF INDIAN TOWNS, VILLAGES, CAMPS, AND TRAILS

The Cincinnati and Hamilton County Public Library has a map online in their digital collection that caught our attention: “Map of the Indian Towns, Villages, Camps and Trails in the Virginia Military District and South-western Ohio” <https://digital.cincinnati.library.org/digital/collection/p16998coll9/id/9204>

A snippet is shown below highlighting Bedle’s Blockhouse, Fort Ancient, and a few other places that may be familiar to you. This map can be viewed online and even downloaded to your device. Many thanks to Candy Jo Tucker Hartman for sharing this valuable link with us!



Jim Brokaw located another version of the same map on the Ohio History Connection website. This map has the colors inverted, making it a bit easier to read: <https://ohiomemory.org/digital/collection/p267401coll32/id/23924/>



-----

## OHIO GRAVESTONE PHOTO PROJECT

Have you ever checked out the Ohio Gravestone Photo Project? They now have over 247,000 gravestone photos from across Ohio! Their search function is easy and fast. Check it out! <https://ohiogravestones.org/>

-----

## THE HISTORY OF ROSS CHAPEL AME CHURCH

*Submitted by Karen Bentley, WCGS Volunteer*



According to the Texas State Historical Association, “The African Methodist Episcopal Church grew out of a protest by Richard Allen against racial discrimination in St. George’s Methodist Episcopal Church, Philadelphia, in 1787. Rather than suffer indignities in the White-controlled church, Allen formed a separate Black congregation.”

Richard Allen and Absalom Jones had wanted to partake in communion at St. George’s Episcopal Church in Philadelphia but were asked to move. The men were literally pulled up as they knelt at the altar, so the men left St. George’s and established the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church in a blacksmith shop in 1793. The group decided to stay with the practice of the Methodist-centered theology.

As the membership grew amid the discrimination, Mr. Allen sued the Pennsylvania courts, to be independent of the white Methodist congregations and won in 1807 and 1815. He was selected to be the pastor of Bethel AME Church in Philadelphia, also known today as “Mother Bethel.” The following year in 1816, other churches in the Mid-Atlantic – Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey – wanted to be separate from the white Methodist congregations, so Richard Allen called the churches clergy to form a Wesleyan doctrine and decided to form a church organization known as “Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church.”

Most AME churches have the anvil as a symbol because of its beginnings in a blacksmith shop. As the AME churches grew in numbers, in 1859 the Union Agriculture bought twelve acres of land west of Jamestown, Ohio. In 1875 a frame church was purchased from the Jamestown Methodist church, located on the corner of Washington and Church streets in Jamestown, Ohio. The building, a framed structure, was 40’ x 70’ x 20’, and was later moved further onto the lot. Ross Chapel trustees purchased the land from the executors of the estate of John Davis; this transfer was recorded on January 7, 1881. The church doubled as a school for the Black children with W.P. Shields as a teacher in 1881. Four years later the church was destroyed by a windstorm. Under the leadership of Rev. Isaac N. Ross (1855-1927) and its membership, the new church was erected in 1894. Because of his work the church was renamed “Ross Chapel A.M.E.” In 1916, Reverend Ross became the 41<sup>st</sup> Bishop of the AME church.

Jamestown was founded in 1816 and named after James Browder, an early pioneer from Jamestown, Virginia. Nothing is mentioned about Black people in early history except a preacher called “Black Isaac,” who preached in the Tran Jacket House in Jefferson Township.

On November 2, 1880, Rev. Isaac N. Ross, who lived in Bowersville, Ohio, requested at the annual conference to combine Jamestown, Cedarville, and Union Village as part of the Cedarville Mission. Later, Jeffersonville and Jamestown were placed together on a circuit named the “Jamestown Circuit.”

As the church grew in members, various organizations were developed such as the following: A.C.E. League and Missionary Society, the Brotherhood, the Sisterhood, Busy Bees, Welfare Circle Clubs, and later Brotherly Love League Club, and a moonlight picnic was organized for a homecoming to support Ross Chapel AME church. In the years going forward, Ross Chapel AME church became host to various annual meetings, conferences, and conventions until the Third District outgrew Ross Chapel’s capacity to hold the events. The membership declined due to aging, moving out of the area, illnesses, and death. The Third District officials, with the remaining Ross Chapel members, and members of Bethel Lebanon, decided to merge both churches. Pastor Karen R. Schaeffer took over pastoring both Bethel Lebanon and Ross Chapel. In early 2023, both congregations along with approval from church officials started the process of decommissioning Ross Chapel AME in Jamestown, Ohio.

*(Continued on next page.)*





## RECENT WARREN COUNTY VETERAN DEATHS

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

### WORLD WAR II

**Cecil "Lee" Greenup Jr.** (1926-2024) (US Navy World War II)

**Albert H. Pierce, Sr.** (1921-2024) (US Air Force World War II)

### VIETNAM

**Glenn W. Earnhart** (1946-2024) (US Army Vietnam)

**Julian G. Farley** (1938-2024) (US Army Vietnam)

**Anthony C. E. Hall** (1952-2024) (US Army Vietnam)

**David Lee Hollon** (1955-2024) (US Navy Vietnam)

**Ryan Robert Sr. Patterson** (1941-2023) (US Air Force Vietnam)

### OTHER SERVICE

**Robert M. Arnold** (1946-2023) (US Army)

**Alvin Harold Arvio** (1933-2023) (US Army)

**Dennis Lee Clark** (1943-2023) (US Navy)

**Jay W. Collins** (1938-2023) (US Army)

**James Denney** (1933-2024) (US Navy)

**Mark Allen Frederiksen** (1976-2024) (US Marine Corps)

**James Michael "Jim" Hayes** (1960-2023) (US Marine Corps)

**Richard Oglesbee Hecker** (1931-2023) (US Army)

**James R. Hembree** (1945-2023) (US Army)

**David Richard Ille** (1939-2023) (US Air Force)

**Thomas R. Ivins II** (1935-2023) (US Army)

**James Hunter McEvoy** (1961-2024) (US Navy)

**Charles Franklin McKinney Sr.** (1940-2023) (US Air Force)

**Carter A. Merris** (1966-2024) (US Air Force)

**Timothy Wayne Morath** (1960-2023) (US Marine Corps)

**Carl Donald Murphy** (1932-2023) (US Army)

**Robert Gene Perdue** (1928-2023) (US Army)

**Donald Eugene Perry** (1934-2024) (US Army)

**Sgt. Somart Jason Pil** (1995-2023) (US Marine Corps)

**Richard A. Radenheimer** (1934-2024) (US Air Force)

**James Lowell Squire Richard** (1929-2023) (US Marine Corps)

**Roy Glenn Richardson** (1936-2023) (US Army)

**Roger Neil Rovekamp, Sr.** (1951-2023) (Army National Guard)

**Shirley "Charles" Cox Sanders** (1931-2023) (US Air Force)

**Ray Spurlock** (1935-2023) (US Army)

**Douglas Harrison Tallmadge** (1931-2024) (US Navy)

**Harold Wayne Thomas** (1953-2023) (US Army)

**Roy Thomas Walters** (1936-2024) (US Marine Corps)

**James Ralph York** (1946-2023) (National Guard)

-----

## MIAMI COUNTY HISTORICAL & GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

### 2024 Routes for Roots Workshop

Saturday, March 16, 2024 – In-Person

Registration is \$30 and starts at 8 a.m., welcome opening at 8:45 a.m. and classes start at 9:15 a.m. For questions, please call 937-773-6753 or email [mchgsOhio@gmail.com](mailto:mchgsOhio@gmail.com).

<https://www.mchgs.org/>

Fort Piqua Plaza Conference Center, 116 West High Street, Piqua, OH 45356

<https://www.mchgs.org/routes-for-roots>

-----



## **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 2024 Virtual Institute**

Sunday, July 21 – Friday, July 26, 2024 – Virtual

Registration opens March 9, 2024!

### **IGHR 2025 Virtual Institute**

Save the Dates – Sunday, July 27 – Friday, August 1, 2025 – Virtual

-----

## **36<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF GENEALOGICAL AND HERALDIC SCIENCES**

**2024 Congress: “Origins, Journeys, Destinations”**

September 24-28, 2024 – In-Person

*Being held in the United States for the 1<sup>st</sup> time in its 93-year history!*

Hosted by American Ancestors and FamilySearch: <https://www.americanancestors.org/>

The American Ancestors Research Center, 99-101 Newbury Street, Boston, MA 02116-3007

<https://www.americanancestors.org/icghs-2024>

-----

### **ROOTSTECH 2025**

<https://rootstech.org>

Save the Dates! Thursday, March 6, 2025 – Saturday, March 8, 2025 – In-Person and Virtual

-----

### **GENEALOGY WEBINARS**

You need to pre-register. See websites below for complete lists of webinars being presented.

#### **Allen County Genealogical Society of Indiana**

Please check under the “News & Events” heading for upcoming webinars. <https://www.acgsi.org/>

#### **Allen County Public Library**

Events can be found on the Events page for the ACPL Genealogy Center:

<https://acpl.libnet.info/events?r=days&n=30&t=Family+History+%26+Genealogy>

#### **American Ancestors by New England Historic Genealogical Society**

Check the boxes for “Online only” and “Free” to see their list of webinars for the month.

<https://www.americanancestors.org/events>

#### **Florida State Genealogical Society**

Scroll down the Home page to find “Poolside Chats: A Genealogy Webinar Series.” <https://fsgs.org/>

#### **International Society for British Genealogy and Family History**

The final Winter Webinar is March 16, 2024, and the series will resume in November. Webinars are listed here:

<https://isbgfh.com/winter-webinars/>

#### **Legacy Family Tree Webinars**

LFT Webinars makes the webinar recording available for FREE for 7 days to those who register. To get the handouts, you must join and pay a yearly membership fee. <https://familytreewebinars.com/upcoming-webinars/>

#### **National Genealogical Society’s Conference Keeper**

Virtual Events Live & Online

<https://conferencekeeper.org/virtual/>

-----



## 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 \$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:

<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/>

**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.**

-----

## 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!

-----

## 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!

Jean Andrews  
Brenda Arnett  
Elizabeth Ann Buchanan  
Pat Gallaher  
Eric Hopkins  
Beverly Kirby  
Linda and Mark Krum

Pat Perkins  
Gregory Robertson  
Irene Saul  
Cynthia Spargur  
Bob Ward  
Kay Weiss

-----

