

WARREN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY *e-News* September 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 at 513-695-1144 or email at wcgsoh@gmail.com. – Jo Roth, *e-News* Editor

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WCGS RESOURCE LIBRARY HOURS

The WCGS Resource Library will be **closed Monday, September 7, 2026, for Labor Day.**

The WCGS Resource Library will be **closed Wednesday, October 14, 2026, from noon until 4 p.m.** for the **Volunteer Appreciation Lunch and Quarterly Meeting.**

2026 PROGRAM SCHEDULE

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

September 2026 In-Person **Combined Event with Hamilton County Genealogical Society**
Saturday, September 12, 2026, 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM EDT – Symmes Township Branch Library
11850 Enyart Road, Loveland, Ohio 45140

October 2026 Virtual Program **“Proving Kinship by ‘Following the Money’”** presented by **Dana Palmer**
Wednesday, October 7, 2026, 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM EDT – Zoom Program

November 2026 Virtual Program **“The Wonderful World of WCGS – Online!”** presented by **WCGS Volunteers**
Tuesday, November 10, 2026, 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM EST – Zoom Program

December 2026 **Holiday Open House** at the **WCGS Resource Library**
Thursday, December 10, 2026, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM EST

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

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

Submitted by Debbie Schneider, WCGS Membership Chair

It's a great time to join or renew your membership!

We are starting our membership drive for 2027. Membership fees for 2027 are \$25 for a regular membership (either single or family) and Life memberships are \$250. You can join WCGS or renew your membership online at <https://www.wcgsohio.org/join-or-renew> or by returning your dues and a copy of the Membership Application included with this *e-News*. Including an optional donation with your renewal helps us keep these rates as affordable as possible and is greatly appreciated.

I am always happy to help you or answer any questions you may have, especially about membership in WCGS. You can reach me at membership.wcgsoh@gmail.com.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Submitted by Jim Brokaw, WCGS President and Research Chair

Welcome to the September edition of the WCGS *e-News*! We've had a busy and productive summer, with our wonderful volunteers making great progress on several of our ongoing projects. In August, we added the Warren County [Chancery Court Records](#) page to the Warren County Research pages on our website. These Chancery indexes are still a work in progress as we continue to fill an 1851-1853 gap and add many more names to our existing 1852-1882 indexes. Work also continues on tax records, capturing older online obituaries, and a new major digitization project we embarked upon a few months ago. It will be exciting to tell you more about that in future issues of the *e-News*!

In August, my wife and I made a trip to Bryan, Ohio, to bring Ephriam Jack's headstone home. It is in great condition, but appears to have been broken off at the base. The next step is to survey the Bethel Baptist Church Cemetery to find the base of Ephriam's tablet, so it can be repaired and replaced in its original spot. This is a very old and inactive cemetery with no existing records, so we face a significant challenge. If you have older photos from that cemetery that may show its original location in respect to the other markers there, please share them with us. Or, if you know of any records from that church, we would also appreciate knowing about those.

Over the summer, several of our volunteers have been expanding their skills and are having success incorporating genetic genealogy (DNA) into their family research. If you haven't already submitted your DNA to a testing company, I encourage you to do so. I understand that this can be a daunting prospect, but it can also be very rewarding. Your biological tree can provide a window that could allow you to peek through a brick wall in your paper tree. Many resources exist online, in books, and even on our website (<https://www.wcgsohio.org/dna>) to help you get started, or you can call or pay us a visit and we'll be happy to discuss this with you.

I hope to see you at the Symmes Township Library on September 12th. Mark your calendars and join us for a great afternoon!

Thank you for being a WCGS member and if you are not yet a member, please consider joining. A new September membership will be good through 2027, so join now! You can always reach me at president.wcgsoh@gmail.com.

GRAVE MARKER MAKES 166-MILE JOURNEY

WCGS was contacted by the Williams County Public Library this summer letting us know a grave marker that originally came from the [Bethel Baptist Church Cemetery](#) in Fort Ancient had been donated to them. They were interested in returning it to its original location and wanted to know if we could be of assistance. Of course we could, and we were very pleased to be of service! Unfortunately, no details were available as to who donated it or how it ended up so far from home.

You can read more about this breaking story (well, it's breaking news in the Warren County genealogical world) by visiting the link below: <https://thevillagereporter.com/wcpl-local-history-center-reunites-1841-tombstone-with-its-original-cemetery/>

We are working to get the marker back in the cemetery where it belongs and will keep you posted on our progress. Thank you to Jared Schnee for contacting WCGS and Jim and Charlene Brokaw for making the journey to and from Bryan, Ohio, so we could bring Ephriam Jack's grave marker back home!



Jim Brokaw, WCGS President, and Jared Schnee, Williams County Public Library Genealogy Center Manager

SPECIAL SEPTEMBER 12 EVENT FEATURING DANA PALMER AND JEFF HERBERT!



Symmes Township Library Community Room
11850 Enyart Road, Loveland, Ohio 45140
Saturday, September 12, 2026, 1:00-5:00 p.m.



As many of you may know, the Symmes Township Library, a branch of the Cincinnati Public Library, opened its beautiful new building to the public on April 11, 2026. This location is known and used by many who live and work in Warren County, including some of our volunteers and members.

What a great opportunity to combine forces with the Hamilton County Genealogical Society! We are still working out the details, but tentative plans underway include:

- Exploring some “new” resources and indexes that will provide interesting tips for local nineteenth century, Irish, and immigrant research in Hamilton County.
- Program presented by **Jeff Herbert**.
- Program presented by **Dana Palmer**.
- Extended Q&A session to learn about resources in Hamilton and Warren Counties, which are often closely aligned when researching Southwest Ohio.
- View the new building and its many patron-friendly resources, including a vinyl printer, computers with Adobe Creative Cloud, photo printer, laminator, button maker, and large format scanner.

We hope you plan to join us the afternoon of September 12!

SPRINGBORO ORTHODOX QUAKER CEMETERY

The [Springboro Area Historical Society](#) is hosting the **Springboro Orthodox Quaker Cemetery Restoration and Dedication Ceremony starting at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 12, 2026**. Please consider joining them! The cemetery is located at 145 East Market Street in Springboro, Ohio. This project has taken over two years and we applaud the incredible effort required for this. Hats off to them and all their volunteers!

From their Facebook post:

This cemetery represents an important part of Springboro’s Quaker heritage. Through its restoration, these sacred grounds will continue to serve as a place of reflection and education. This occasion honors those laid to rest here and recognizes the individuals and community organizations whose dedicated efforts made the restoration possible. Volunteers will be on hand to share information about the restoration, Quaker faith practices, and those remembered here. The event is supported by the Springboro Area Historical Society and the High Concrete Group.

For more information about the cemetery, please visit:

Warren County Genealogical Society (page on our original website)

<https://wcgsoh.org/cem/Friends-ClearcreekT.htm>

Warren County, Ohio, Virtual Cemetery Project

https://warren.ohgenweb.org/Cemetery/springboro_o/

Find a Grave

<https://www.findagrave.com/cemetery/2578385/springboro-orthodox-quaker-cemetery>

The Warren County Post

<https://warrencountypost.com/g/springboro-oh/n/385989/restored-springboro-orthodox-quaker-cemetery-be-dedicated-sept-12>

WEBINARS TO WATCH

Submitted by Jo Roth, WCGS Treasurer

Lisa Stokes

“Citations Made Simple: Strategies for Every Genealogist” gives a straightforward and easy-to-understand explanation and methodology for citations. We love to have them, but many find them challenging to create, so seeing it broken down like this may be just what you need! This webinar requires a paid membership to Legacy FamilyTree Webinars.

<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/citations-made-simple-strategies-for-every-genealogist>

Dana Palmer

Dana is presenting her wonderful webinar **“Top 10 Websites for Ohio Genealogy”** as a Legacy FamilyTree Webinar starting at 2:30 p.m. EDT on Wednesday, September 9, 2026. You can register for this for FREE and even watch it for one week following the event without a paid membership. I was lucky enough to see this when she presented it to the Scioto County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society and it is GOOD!

<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/top-10-websites-for-ohio-genealogy>

Crista Cowan

One of the Ancestry Virtual Event Series in August was **“How to Handle Duplicates and Intermarried Cousins in Your Family Tree”** presented by Crista Cowan. She covered a great deal of information in a short time and demonstrated how to correctly add people and attach records to prevent those pesky duplicates that can happen. Her explanations of how pedigree collapse is handled within your family tree was really good, although I miss the days when this was displayed a bit better in programs and online. You can register for upcoming webinars including **“Finding Educational Clues in Records on Ancestry”** and **“Ancestry Search Tips and Tricks”** and access past event recordings by visiting this page:

<https://www.ancestry.com/c/discover/education>

MY NEW FAVORITE TOOL

Submitted by Jo Roth, WCGS Treasurer

Peggy Jude presented **“Your DNA Toolkit: Expanding Your Research with Third-Party Tools”** at the East Coast Genetic Genealogy Conference (EGCGG) this year and while it was just one of many educational and informative programs given, it really hit home with me. One of the “tools” she discussed was the Genealogy Assistant Browser Extension. It was a case of seeing what it could do, giving them my money, installing it, using it, and IMMEDIATELY saving hours of time!

One of my favorite features is that it allows you to “Select All” when adding dots to your matches at Ancestry with just one click. Much faster than having to click each one! To see all the great features this tool includes, please visit their website. They have a video that gives a quick run-through of what it can do.

<https://www.genea.ca/genealogy-assistant/#>

While ECGGC is over, you can still access the recordings through the end of the year (payment required).

<https://ecggc.vfairs.com/en/registration-form>

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.

- ❖ Vicki Dalzelle
- ❖ Greg Gamble
- ❖ Shannon Gordon

- ❖ Amber Gowin
- ❖ Lee Van Houten
- ❖ Phyllis Raker

AN ALTERNATIVE TO MICROSOFT PUBLISHER

Submitted by Jo Roth, WCGS Treasurer

Those who use Microsoft Publisher (MS Pub) and are Microsoft 365 subscribers are all too aware of the looming deadline being imposed on us of **October 1, 2026**, at which time we will **no longer be able to use the program nor open and edit our existing Publisher files**. One of the suggestions was to export all the MS Pub (.pub) files to Portable Document Format (.pdf) files. The thought of having to comb through my computer files, locate the MS Pub files, and convert each one that way seemed daunting. I was one of many who held hope that Microsoft would respond to the legions of people asking for Microsoft not to do away with MS Publisher, but it appears our pleas have fallen on deaf ears.

If you have Publisher files (these with the .pub extension), there is hope! [LibreOffice](https://www.libreoffice.org/), a FREE suite of applications similar to Microsoft Office, has an application called Draw that can open and edit MS Publisher files. Yes, you heard me correctly. **It can OPEN MS Pub files!** Once you have opened the file using LibreOffice Draw, you will need to save it as that type of file (.odg). I have started to explore this program and it looks like it may be a viable option to Microsoft Publisher. The full link for LibreOffice is <https://www.libreoffice.org/>. When you download the program, you are given the opportunity to make an optional donation.

*If you install LibreOffice, it may be necessary to select the default programs you want to use to open all the file types that can be opened using LibreOffice.

Other free programs that might be a solution include [Scribus](#), Affinity Publisher, which is part of the [Affinity](#) software suite, and the web-based [Canva](#). None of these can open existing MS Pub files, so if you opt for one (or all!) of them, be sure to save your files as PDFs before October 1! Good luck and keep me posted about your experiences with this.

WARREN COUNTY COMMUNITY SHRED & ELECTRONICS RECYCLING EVENT

Saturday, October 3, 2026
10 AM – 1 PM

Warren County Administration Building Parking Lot
406 Justice Drive, Lebanon, OH 45036

It's almost fall cleanup time! When getting rid of any old family group sheets, pedigree charts, or other documents you have amassed during your genealogical research, it is ALWAYS a good idea to shred anything that might have information about living or recently deceased individuals. The Warren County Records Center & Archives hosts a Shred Event twice a year, making it easy to shred your documents without the expense or mess of doing it at home.

If you are not local to Warren County, contact your local County offices or Archives and see if there is something similar in your area.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.warrencountyohio.gov/recordscenter/geninfo/shredday/index>



CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

OHIO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Samuel D. Isaly Library, 611 State Route 97 West, Bellville, OH 44813-8813
Telephone 419-886-1903 <https://www.ogs.org>

2026 Fall Retreat

Friday, September 11 – Saturday, September 12, 2026 – Virtual AND In-Person
Samuel D. Isaly Library, 611 State Route 97 West, Bellville, OH 44813-8812
Speakers: Deborah Kitko, Eric E. Johnson, Lauren Kuntzman, Thomas S. Neel
<https://www.ogs.org/ogs-fall-retreat/>

2027 OGS Annual Conference: “Finding Your Family Heroes”

Save the dates! Wednesday, April 28 – Saturday, May 1, 2027 – In-Person
Sharonville Convention Center, 11355 Chester Road, Sharonville, OH 45246-4002

NORTH CAROLINA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

6588 Glenwood Ave., #323, Raleigh, NC 27612-7156
<https://www.ncgenealogy.org/>

2026 Fall Conference

Friday, September 18 – Saturday, September 19, 2026 – In-Person and Virtual
McKimmon Center, 1101 Gorman Street, Raleigh, NC 27606-2002
Speakers: Judy G. Russell, Linda Debe, Kate Penney Howard, Sunny Jane Morton, Cheri Hudson Passey, Diane L. Richard, Craig R. Scott, J. Mark Lowe, and more!
<https://www.ncgenealogy.org/fall2026/>

ILLINOIS STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 10195, Springfield, IL 62791-0195
<https://ilgensoc.org/index.php>

2026 Fall Conference: “Illinois 250: History in the American Bottom”

Saturday, October 24, 2026 – Hosted by the St. Clair County Genealogical Society
Gateway Convention Center, 1 Gateway Dr., Collinsville, IL 62234

ROOTSTECH 2027

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/rootstech/>
Save the Dates! Thursday, March 4 – Saturday, March 6, 2027 – In-Person (\$) and Virtual (FREE)
Salt Palace Convention Center, 100 S W Temple Street, Salt Lake City, UT 84101-1408

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETIES

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

2027 IAJGS International Conference

Save the Dates! Sunday, April 4 – Tuesday, April 6, 2027 – Virtual

NATIONAL GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 128, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701-0128
Telephone 703-525-0050 or 800-473-0060 <https://www.ngsgenealogy.org/>

2027 Family History Conference – Save the Dates!

Thursday, May 20 – Saturday, May 22, 2027 – Madison, WI
<https://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/>

GRIP 2026 GENEALOGY INSTITUTE

<https://grip.ngsgenealogy.org/>
University of Pittsburgh, 4200 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15260-0001

Save the 2027 Dates!

Monday, June 21 – Friday, June 25, 2027 – Virtual Courses
Sunday, July 11 – Friday, July 16, 2027 – In-Person Courses

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/>

Save the **2027** Dates!

Monday, July 26 – Friday July 30, 2027 - Virtual

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 Society publications and a good number of Used Books available for purchase. Please visit the [Shop and Support](#) page of our website.

2026 New Release! *Warren County, Ohio, Adoption Records, 1855-1970*, compiled by Jo Roth

<https://www.wcgsohio.org/product-page/warren-county-ohio-adoption-records-1855-1970>

Membership is \$25 annually or \$250 for a Life Membership. Please visit the [Join or Renew](#) page of our website.

Phone: 513-695-1144

Email: wcgsoh@gmail.com

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

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.





Warren County Genealogical Society

406 Justice Drive
Lebanon, OH 45036



513-695-1144

wcgsoh@gmail.com

Membership Application

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Email Address: _____

- ☐ Check here if you would like to receive quarterly newsletters via REGULAR MAIL.
*Emailing our newsletters is a huge savings of time and money to the Society, but can be sent by regular postal mail to members who do not have an email address or who prefer a paper copy.
- ☐ Check here if you are a member of the Ohio Genealogical Society.

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP ☐ New or ☐ Renewal for year _____. Dues are payable the 1st of the calendar year.

\$ _____ Membership (\$25)

\$ _____ Life (\$250)

\$ _____ Optional Donation

\$ _____ Total

Mail Membership Application and payment to:

Warren County Genealogical Society

406 Justice Drive

Lebanon, OH 45036

Or visit our [website](http://www.wcgsohio.org) to Join
or Renew and pay online!

About the Warren County Genealogical Society

The Warren County Genealogical Society was established as a chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society on May 20, 1981, and enjoys a nationwide membership. Our purpose is to build and promote interest in collecting and preserving genealogical records associated with Warren County, Ohio, and its inhabitants through the following:

Resource Library

406 Justice Drive, Lebanon, Ohio 45036

Telephone: 513-695-1144

Our Resource Library, staffed by volunteers, is open to the public, without charge, Monday to Friday from 9 AM to 4 PM. The library is staffed by experienced volunteers who can assist you in using the thousands of publications, family histories, county records, online resources, and microfilms that we have available. We are now a FamilySearch Affiliate Library! Thanks to the dedicated volunteers, our searchable library catalog is available online: <https://www.wcgsohio.org/wcgs-resource-library>

Internet Resources

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

Alleen Stephenson Digital Newspaper Project: <https://ohiomemory.org/digital/collection/p16007coll84>

Videos of our Programs, when allowed by the speaker (member login required): <https://www.wcgsohio.org/wcgsvideos>

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

Educational Programs

Monthly programs throughout the year: <https://www.wcgsohio.org/events>

Annual Cemetery Restoration Workshops: <https://www.wcgsohio.org/cemetery-restoration-workshops>

Lineage Societies

First Families of Warren County <https://www.wcgsohio.org/first-families>

Applicants must prove their ancestors were here before January 1, 1821, to join our First Families.

Early Settlers of Warren County <https://www.wcgsohio.org/early-settlers>

Applicants must prove their ancestors were here between January 1, 1821, to December 31, 1882, to join our Early Settlers.

Society of Civil War Families of Warren County <https://www.wcgsohio.org/civil-war-families>

Applicants must prove kinship to a soldier or sailor who served during the Civil War.

Publications

Heir Lines, our quarterly journal, is currently not being published; members can access all digitized back issues on our website using their website member login: <https://www.wcgsohio.org/heir-lines>

The **WCGS e-News**, a monthly newsletter, is emailed to any interested party. Members without an email address may request copies by mail.

These can be accessed on our website: <https://www.wcgsohio.org/e-news>

The society offers over 150 genealogical publications and used books for sale: <https://www.wcgsohio.org/shop-and-support>

NEW for 2026! As an additional benefit to our members, a sampling of our publications will be available online. This benefit is INCLUDED with membership and will be in the Members Area starting January 1, 2026.

Research Services

Members receive a discount on Research Services! <https://www.wcgsohio.org/researchservices>

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