



## 2005 Annual Report

Headquarters and Library  
713 S. Main St.  
Mansfield, Ohio 44907-1644  
419-756-7294

## **Officers**

President	Diane VanSkiver Gagel
First Vice President	Kenny Burck
Second Vice President	Sunda Anderson Peters
Third Vice President	Amy Johnson Crow
Treasurer	E. Paul Morehouse
Secretary	Frances Mercer
Immediate Past President	Ted Minier

## **Board of Trustees**

Jean Barnes	Karen Miller Bennett	Jana Sloan Broglin
Donald R. Clark	Deborah Lichtner Deal	Ruth Stage Emmons
Miriam Hawk Fetters	Dwane Grace	Kay Ballantyne Hudson
Wallace D. Huskonen	Robert Keener	Roger Marble
Gwen Gotham Mayer	Jean Overmeier Nathan	Gary M. Smith
Patricia Van Skaik	Flora VerStraten	Bvenitta J. Williams

## **Ex-Officio Trustees**

Ted Minier  
Robert A. Cunning  
William R. M. Houston  
Dr. Hartien S. Ritter

## **Staff**

Tom Neel Library Director  
Sherri Dulin Administrative Assistant  
Linda Reed Secretary

## **OGS 2005 COMMITTEES AND CHAIRS**

### **Kenny R. Burck**

#### **First Vice-President Standing Committees:**

Archives: Diane VanSkiver Gagel  
Audit: Miriam Hawk Fetters  
Bylaws and Standing Rules: Barbara Wright Lindsey  
Education: *Open*  
Fellows and Awards: Gary M. Smith  
Information Technology: Gerry Hudson  
Library Advisory: E. Paul Morehouse  
Membership: Amy Johnson Crow and Frances Schaer Mercer  
Nominations and Elections: Jean Barnes

### **Sunda Anderson Peters**

#### **Second Vice-President Standing Committees:**

First Families of Ohio: Karen Miller Bennett  
*Ohio Civil War Genealogy Journal*: Susan Dunlap Lee  
*Ohio Genealogy News*: Sue Zacharias  
*OGS Quarterly*: Jean Overmeier Nathan  
*Ohio Records & Pioneer Families*: Dana Hudson Kragick  
Publications: Kay Ballantyne Hudson  
Settlers and Builders of Ohio: Sunda Anderson Peters and Kay Ballantyne Hudson  
Society of Civil War Families of Ohio: Brent Morgan

### **Amy Johnson Crow**

#### **Third Vice-President Standing Committees:**

Cemetery: Lolita Thayer Guthrie  
Chapter Liaison: Co-Chairs-Jana Sloan Broglin and Bvenitta Williams  
Chapter Management Seminar: Kenny R. Burck  
Church Records Survey: Karen Miller Bennett and Dwane Grace  
Historian: Deborah Lichtner Deal  
Marketing: *Open*  
Publicity: Wallace D. Huskonen

### **Diane VanSkiver Gagel**

#### **Special Committees under the Direction of the President:**

Building: Robert A. Cuning  
Chapter Channel: Miriam Hawk Fetters  
Conference -  
    2006: Jana Sloan Broglin  
    2007: Gary M Smith & Diana Crisman Smith  
    2008: Kenny R. Burck, Karen Miller Bennett, Miriam Hawk Fetters  
    2009: Gary M. Smith  
Fund Development: Chair-Ted Minier, Co-Chairs - Bob Cuning, Ruth S. Emmons, and Diane V. Gagel  
Legislative Affairs: Gwen Gotham Mayer  
Strategic Planning: *Open*

# OFFICERS' ANNUAL REPORTS

## PRESIDENT

Diane VanSkiver Gagel, M. A.

**TOTAL HOURS VOLUNTEERED BY ALL OGS VOLUNTEERS: 12,104.25 HOURS**

**[Note: Documentation of individual volunteer hours can be found in the 2005 Annual Report file at headquarters in Mansfield, Ohio.]**

This past year at OGS has been one of ups and downs like most years in our lives. However, the positives show we are heading in the right direction. Last year I mentioned that 2004 was a year of building, so I will give an update on some of those aspects.

### **1. Building public awareness of OGS**

We continue with this project as it is an ongoing one in today=s fast paced world where the internet and instant results is considered the norm for many people. The Marketing committee will be a priority in the future.

First Fall Seminar for Family History Month: Cyndi Howells: This was a huge

We have

110 attendees. The 2006 Seminar will feature John Colletta on Oct 7 in Mansfield.

We continued the Genealogy Librarians Day as well as the summer workshop,

Chapter management seminar and genealogy sessions at OGS.

We also had booths at conferences in Pittsburgh, Indianapolis, Salt Lake City, as well as local events.

### **2. Building our membership benefits**

Adding Heritage Quest to our online benefits has definitely been a big bonus. Amy Crow, our webmaster, has also added other online databases and has plans for even more exciting additions

More than 3500 people visited our library and we added more than 1600 new titles bringing our library to more than 30,000 titles and we now have 2500 Lending Library titles. Our library became wireless in 2005 which is a must these days for the Techies among us. We also ordered the first batch of the Ohio Death Certificate film.

Our Quarterly Editors continue to do a great job with their publications.

### **3. Building our membership base**

With the improved benefits, promotion, and the work of the membership committee, we had over 6000 members at the end of 2005. Many societies are losing members, but OGS continues to maintain and add to our membership. Add that 6000 to the 20,000 chapter members, we are the largest state genealogical society.

### **4. Building our online presence**

Adding to our online databases is a definite plus for adding new members to our rolls. Amy Crow has done a great job in redesigning our website and adding to the databases.

#### **5. Building a firmer financial base for the future**

This past year we have evaluated our investment strategies and are making changes to ensure we are getting the best returns on our money for our current expenses but also for the future. The finance committee will be studying the current strategy to make suggestions to the board on how to improve our bottom line. We received over \$93,000 in donations last year, but we must continue to locate new sources and encourage Ohio genealogists and members to continue to support OGS.

#### **6. Building a state of the art genealogical library**

Ted Minier has done a great job in locating and investigating all avenues of resources from the Federal Government to the individual donor. Despite all his committee=s efforts we still need to increase our donations to the building fund. In fact, if each member of OGS would give just \$300.00 to the building fund, we would meet our goal. Then we can build a state of the art genealogy library.

#### **What does the future hold for OGS and Genealogy.**

We must continue to attract Volunteers on all levels to continue our work. The greatest asset of OGS is the number of volunteers who put in countless hours of time and often personal expense to make OGS the great society it is.

Meeting the challenge of proving society membership is relevant in today=s society not only for individuals but also as a group to maintain and expand access to historical and genealogical information.

One of the biggest challenges to all genealogists is the growing trend in state and national government to limit access to vital records. This is largely due to Identity Theft being used as an excuse to limit our access; however, all agencies and institutions dealing with this issue do not include vital records as part of the problem. Government officials and legislatures need to be informed about the true sources of identity theft and only a large group, like OGS, can effectively address this problem. We must continue to be vigilant on all levels regarding government restrictions on record access.

Finally I want to thank the Board of Trustees for all their time and effort in continuing the great tradition of OGS. The committee chairs and members contribute a great deal with the daily running of the library and the society. I also want to thank the staff Tom, Sherri and Linda for their work and patience in dealing with so many different personalities and demands. I especially want to thank the officers I have served with these past two years: Kenny Burck, 1<sup>st</sup> VP, chapter management and conference chair; Sunda Peters, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, always being there when we needed someone in Mansfield and for her work on the lineage societies; Amy Crow, 3<sup>rd</sup> VP, not only for her work as VP but also as webmaster, membership committee, and conference work; Frances Mercer,

Secretary, for all she does keeping the records of OGS and keeping me on schedule, not always an easy task. She also works on the membership and conference committees among others; Paul Morehouse, Treasurer, for always watching the bottom line and keeping me informed about issues at headquarters. These officers, board members, and volunteers have put in thousands of hours of time to run our Society.

#### Summary of Selected President's Activities: 2005

Chapter Meetings: Lucas, Huron, Hancock, Erie.

Board Orientation and Retreat.

April 3: Spoke at Ann Arbor genealogy meeting: distributed OGS materials.

April 14-17: OGS Conference, Akron

May 1: Attended Mercer Chapter's anniversary banquet.

May 7: Westlake for Pioneer Families banquet.

June 23-24: Spoke at the Summer Camp in Mansfield.

June 25: Monitored the Board Orientation

July 5: Met with Jana, Miriam, and Karen Bennet on program for 2006 Conference, Toledo

Worked with Mike Easley, Education Chair, on putting together the fall seminar, which we hope will be an annual event.

Met with IT chair, Roger Marble, about the library patron computers need to be upgraded to accommodate better the online access.

Worked with Sue Zacharias and Jana Broglin on promotions for 2006 conference in national genealogical magazines via ads.

August 18-21: Midwestern Roots Conference, Indianapolis, IN.

August 26-28: Chapter Management Seminar, Batavia.

September 30-Oct 1–FALL SEMINAR. On Saturday Paul, Sunda, Tom and I manned the tables at the Fall Seminar. We had 110 people at the conference, and we heard many positive comments about the concept and Cyndi's presentations.

Oct 4, 11, 18–I gave three beginning genealogy seminars at the Toledo Lucas County Public Library for Family History Month. All attendees were given literature on OGS, the Toledo Conference, etc.

Oct 14, 15–Spoke at Cumberland Trail Genealogy Conference. OGS literature was available in the vending area. I talked to representatives from Belmont, Jefferson and Monroe chapters. I gave them flyers, etc. to take back to their chapters.

October 22–Attended the First Families of Lorain County Induction ceremony in Wellington, Ohio.

November 4–Meeting at Seagate with Jana and OHS representative.

December 11: Attended the Volunteer Christmas Party at OGS.

Volunteer hours: 701

## **FIRST VICE PRESIDENT**

**Kenny R. Burck**

### **Volunteer Activities in 2005**

Served as Co-Chair for 2008 OGS Conference in place yet to be determined with Co-Chairs Miriam Feters & Karen Bennett

Served as Chair for 2005 Chapter Management Seminar in Batavia, OH

Attended 2005 Annual Conference in Akron, OH

Attended OGS Board meetings in March, April, May, July & November

Planning 2006 Chapter Management Seminar in county yet to be determined

### **Major Project Report & Accomplishments in 2005**

The 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Chapter Management Seminar was held in Batavia, OH on August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2005 hosted by the Clermont County Chapter of OGS. This event was free to OGS members and members of OGS chapters. All speakers served as volunteers. Costs associated with the seminar were well within budget. There were 60 attendees from 20 different counties.

Planning continues for the 2008 OGS Conference. Made site visits to Wilmington, Sharonville & Dayton, OH and received proposals for all 3 locations.

### **Volunteer Hours for 2005**

260 hours

### **Out of Pocket Expenses for 2005**

\$500.00 (including hotels in Batavia & Akron, OH)

### **Mileage for 2005**

455 miles

**SECOND VICE PRESIDENT**  
**Sunda Anderson Peters**

Our editors continue to work diligently to produce quality publications. I continued to proof the Ohio Genealogy News, which was submitted for the 2006 National Genealogical Society Newsletter Competition. Discussions have continued on the topics of increasing quality article submissions and promoting that through a contest.

I participated in the annual conference, where FFO, SBO and SCWFO certificates and awards were presented.

I assisted Tom Neel in evaluation meetings with the office staff. In addition, I continue to sign checks each month. I met with the building fund committee and participated in many discussions for planning of and fund raising for a new building..



### **THIRD VICE PRESIDENT**

**Amy Crow Johnson**

No report submitted

### **TREASURER**

**Paul Morehouse**

#### Volunteer Hours for January 2005

12<sup>th</sup> - OGS to sign checks, 6 hours, 141.5 miles; 13<sup>th</sup> - Conference Cte, mtg, 2 hours, 4.5 miles; 21<sup>st</sup> - OGS to sign checks, 141.5 miles, 10 hours; 23<sup>rd</sup> - ORPF article, 3 hours; 24<sup>th</sup> - ORPF article, 2 hrs; 26<sup>th</sup> - ORPF article, 2 hrs; 27<sup>th</sup> - ORPF article, 5 hours; 28<sup>th</sup> - OGS to sign checks, 141.5 miles, 10 hours; 29<sup>th</sup> - OGS Bd mtg, 141.5 miles, 11 hours; telephone and email time, 10 hours.

Hours at OGS 37; hours elsewhere 26; mileage 570.5.

#### Volunteer Hours for February 2005

1<sup>st</sup> - Chapter Channel article 2 hours; 4<sup>th</sup> - OGS to sign checks, 10 hours, 141.5 miles; 11<sup>th</sup> - OGS to sign checks, 10 hours, 141.5 miles; 18<sup>th</sup> - OGS to sign checks, 10 hours, 141.5 miles; 23<sup>rd</sup> - Cuyahoga Falls Library to drop off conf materials, 1 hour, 13 miles; 25<sup>th</sup> - OGS to sign checks, 10 hours, 141.5 miles; telephone and email time, 10 hours.

Hours at OGS 40; hours elsewhere 13; mileage 579.

#### Volunteer Hours for March 2005

4<sup>th</sup> - OGS to sign checks, 10 hours, 141.5 miles; 8<sup>th</sup> - meeting with Marie Herlevi re: conf syllabus, 2 hours, 4 miles; 17<sup>th</sup> - Conference cte mtg at Crowne Plaza, 2 hours, 4.5 miles; 18<sup>th</sup> - OGS to sign checks, election committee meeting, meeting with architect, 10 hours, Delaware US Daughters speech, 5 hours, 110 miles; 19<sup>th</sup> OGS Bd mtg, 9 hours, 141.5 miles; 28<sup>th</sup> - Chapter Channels article 2 hours; 31<sup>st</sup> - trip to Marietta to visit Library about exchanging materials with OGS and to Chester Court House in Meigs County to promote OGS membership, 12 hours, 341 miles; telephone and email time, 10 hours.

Hours at OGS 29; hours elsewhere 33, mileage 773.

#### Volunteer Hours for April 2005

1st - to Office Max re: signage, 1 hour, 21 miles; 2nd - to OGS to sign checks & 1812 meeting; 10 hours, 172.5 miles; 4th - Office Max re: signage, 1 hour, 21 miles; 8th - OGS to sign checks, 9 hours, 141.5 miles; 11th - Office Max to pick up signs, 1 hour, 21 miles; 12th - Crowne Plaza, two trips, 2 hours, 9 miles; 14th OGS Conference, 8 hours, 4.5 miles; 15th OGS Conference, 14 hours, 4.5 miles; 16th OGS Conference, 14 hours, 4.5 miles; 22nd - OGS to sign checks, 10 hours, 141.5 miles; 26th - lunch with Ted and meeting at Crowne Plaza, 3.5 hours, 8 miles; telephone and email time, 15 hours.

Hours at OGS 29, hours elsewhere 59.5, mileage 549.

For Financial Summary for 2005 See Appendix

**SECRETARY**  
**Frances Mercer**

During 2005 I carried out the duties of recording secretary as outlined in the OGS Bylaws and Standing Rules.

I prepared the materials for the “new board member” orientation.

I kept the official Bylaws and Standing Rules up to date.

I did not miss any of the Board meetings.

I spent approximately 250 hours as Recording Secretary.

***Membership Committee Co-Chair:***

This committee met a number of times. The committee reviewed the membership brochure; reviewed and revised materials that are sent out from OGS for renewals, new members, members that have not renewed; reviewed expenditures for 2005 and submitted a budget for 2006.

## Staff Annual Reports Tom Neel, Library Director

Our library at OGS continues to grow. We served 3565 visiting patrons this year. Most stay all day, some for a week, even parking their campers on our parking lot. We accessioned 1616 new titles in 2005 and passed the 30,000 title mark if one counts our Lending Library – over 2,500 books alone – which can be borrowed by members nationwide. We are adding more entries to our popular online catalog, 2074 more books in 2005. Acquisitions amounting to \$9604.46 were purchased from your Library Fund donations and from the proceeds of the Ohio Records and Pioneer Families magazine to supplement the majority of books that we receive as gifts from our members. We began to raise funds to purchase Ohio death records on microfilm for the period 1908 to 1953 and the first batch has now been ordered. Wireless technology came to the library In July for the benefit of those who utilize laptop computers in their research.

Although 2005 started out with a major Ohio ice storm that damaged our roof drainage system, cracked one of the large front windows, and caused an outdoor heating/air-conditioning unit water line to burst, all things were repaired at modest expense through the wonder of insurance. The death of James J. Strong in February in Canton continued our string of bad news in early winter. Jim was the member who had got our Endowment Fund going with a \$100,000 matching gift in 1995, our largest donation to date. But as the year progressed, our fortunes turned. Our Board of Trustees hired the Seckel Group, Dan Seckel, architect, to proceed with plans to design our facility. In March, Kathryn and William Marble, a brother to our Trustee Roger Marble, offered us a \$10,000 matching grant to the Building Fund if we could raise that amount. The catch: we had 20 days, and our member easily met the challenge. A Founders Luncheon was held in the summer to honor those who came together to create our Society back in 1959. Do you realized that we still have at least six charter members still active in genealogical pursuits – William R. Houston MD, Louise Krause, Ernest G. Urban, Donna Urban, Elizabeth Reed MD, and Barbara Reed MD. Ernie Urban still volunteers in the library every Tuesday.

We have also been blessed with many in-kind donations including thousands of hours contributed by our many volunteers at the library and throughout the organization. We only have 2 ½ paid staff. A new volunteer coordinator, Joan Wyatt, took over at the end of the year replacing Lois Dunham who had served in that capacity for two years. We signed a memorandum of understanding with RSVP in 2005, and this Richland County senior organization has placed many new volunteers with our group. OGS was fortunate in having three student interns this year. David Etzler and Dan Barwick came to us under work-study grants from the Ohio State University to help process our extensive manuscript collection and develop finding aids to enable users to find things in the archives. Katy Webb, from Kent State University, did a study of our library volunteer reference procedures.

Education has always been the foremost OGS theme. Our first Fall Conference with longtime member Cyndi Howells, creator of cyndislist.com, attracted well over 100 satisfied attendees. Our Back to School sessions, Summer Genealogy Camp, Genealogy Librarians' Seminar, Chapter Management Seminar, and of course, our annual OGS Conference continue to provide ways for all of us to further our knowledge of genealogy. We also extended our reach beyond the library walls and had tables at national conferences in Pittsburgh, Indianapolis, Salt Lake City, Pittsburgh, and even visited the Civil War Show promoting membership and our periodicals.

## **Staff Annual Reports**

### **Sherri Dulin, Administrative Assistant**

Basically my job duties and responsibilities remain the same. The only change that I'm seeing is an increase in new membership applications. People are using PayPal and calling in with their credit card information more, and they are also printing off the application from our website and mailing it in. I'm also seeing more people that have not renewed their membership in years joining again. With all of that being said it's a good thing for OGS.

I'm also seeing an increase of phone calls and e-mails regarding not being able to log into Heritage Quest. Amy and I are working together and it's getting taken care of. Tom and Linda also help with the phone calls too. Amy has provided me with the access to be able to get our members into Heritage Quest right away if I need to. I really appreciate that because most of our new PayPal members sign up and one minute later they are e-mailing us for access to the databases. Ask Tom if you don't believe me. ☺

I also monitor my e-mail from home everyday and even on the weekends for people who need their membership number or are having problems trying to log into Heritage Quest. If I can't help them with their Heritage Quest problems then I forward it to Amy because I know people want to use Heritage Quest over the weekends.

The Volunteer's don't bother me too much, but when they do it's just cash register, computer, printer or copy machine problems. I handle it and if I can't I do what I do best I ASK TOM. <grin>

My daily responsibilities include answering the phone when required, open, answer and distribute mail, answer OGS and my personal e-mail. Process incoming checks, credit charges, publications, store purchases, PayPal, memberships, subscriptions, donations, workshop, conference registrations, FFO, SCWFO, SBO and any other income sources received at OGS post it to Peachtree Accounting system. Make bank deposits, balance the money in the cash register, snacks and building fund jar. Keep track of and replenish petty cash. Reconcile the postage meter and add funds when the meter is running low on postage.

In Peachtree I enter and print checks for all of the bills that need to be paid for OGS, process refunds, enter deposits, and print reports. Fax time sheets to Mark so he can process our payroll when received I have to enter payroll in Peachtree. End of each month I have to gather all of the items needed for Mark so he can produce our financial reports and send Peachtree backup. Year end complete 1099 forms and send to Mark. Update the membership database in Access with new and renewal memberships, and subscriptions, change of addresses, cancellations, deletions, etc., assign membership numbers, mail membership packets and membership cards. Mail membership renewal notices for our non-calendar year members February thru December. Mail missing or back issues of OGN, Quarterly, ORPF & OCWJ. For our Life members I have to get their gold cards printed and their wall plaques made and also send them their certificates.

I'm also responsible for updating the Chapters/Officers database in Access. I e-mail a list of our new and current paid members to the Webmaster so she can update the website so our members can have access to the databases.

For the printers I provide mailing labels for the OGN, Quarterly, ORPF, OCWGJ, membership renewals and any other special mailings. I prepare bulk mailings and keep track of the money in our postal bulk account and add money when needed. I also assist with any special mailings.

Maintain correspondence with individuals requesting information on membership, additional funds when insufficient funds are submitted with orders, etc. Submit the meter readings for the two copiers for billing. Prepare purchase orders and send collection letters for outstanding invoices.

Type and distribute monthly staff calendar, Membership/ORPF/OCWGJ report and Fund report. Acknowledge all money donations by sending thank you letters. Screen FFO, SCWFO and SBO applications correct fees.

Backup OGS system files, typing as required, filing, run errands, order office supplies, oversee upkeep and maintenance of the building, assist volunteers and patrons when needed, perform other duties or special projects as directed by the Library Director, Officers, Trustees and Committee Chairs. I'm responsible for the sales table at the OGS Conferences.

To Do List for 2006:

Take a Peachtree accounting class at Madison Adult Education they didn't have a course available when I checked last year, but they do now it's new and it's in their 2005-2006 school year brochure.

Learn more about genealogy, research and the library with training to better understand and answer questions to assist patrons in the library or on the phone. Maybe have a cheat sheet from Tom with answers to basic questions.

Organize my filing cabinets get rid of old make room for new.

Make individual file folders for our members to be able to file each piece of correspondence received into their own file folder.

## **STAFF ANNUAL REPORTS**

**Linda Reed**  
**Secretary**

My daily responsibilities include answering the phone, answering questions if I can, or directing the call in the proper direction if I can't. I help the volunteers with whatever problems they may have, with the copier, printers or finding things. I fill book orders, publication back orders, requests for lineage society applications or membership information, and prepare all of the outgoing mail with correct postage. I accession any new books that we get in, put spine labels on books that have been cataloged as they are given to me, and create a monthly accessions list. I keep the volunteer hours spreadsheet current. I also straighten and stock the book sales area.

The rest of my duties are quite varied, as what is going on determines what needs to be done. I helped prepare for the conference, luncheons, the summer camp, the librarians seminar, workshops, special mailings and any other special activity that came up during the year.

I also have worked on a number of special projects such as typing up the contents pages for all of the Report/Quarterly for the website, organize and redo list for the CD cabinet, and label most of the manuscript boxes. I started the updated Chapter Directory, which includes typing the entire current directory into Access, sending out mailings to request updated chapter information, and correcting the information once it was received. I am currently working on a microfilm list for the website and taking inventory, which I do at the beginning of each year. I am also learning to catalog family history books.

This year I have learned a great deal more about the library and genealogy in general.

## **LINEAGE SOCIETIES**

### **SETTLERS AND BUILDERS OF OHIO**

At the 2005 OGS conference in Akron, 43 applicants received certificates and medals for honoring their 265 Settlers and Builders of Ohio ancestors. Many applications took several days to complete because of the large number of ancestors submitted.

The SBO committee consisted of Sunda Peters, Kay Hudson, Kerry Kimberly and Bvenitta Williams.

### **SOCIETY OF CIVIL WAR FAMILY OF OHIO (SCWFO)**

I assumed the chair of the Society of Civil War Families Society from Jocelyn Wilms, who conducted this as fine functioning mechanism, in 2005. Early on, applications came in at a moderate rate and have since come in at a steadier rate the closer we came to the December 31, 2005 deadline. Not knowing how to handle some situations and having many questions I phoned Jocelyn for her advice and she was extremely helpful.

At this writing we have received new applications from 24 OGS members representing 57 Civil War veterans. We have received supplemental applications from 24 previously inducted SCWFO members. These supplemental applications represent 5 veterans.

The quality of these has varied greatly. Some are quite well done with small or no errors. Others are confusing in that some people seemed to redesign the form to suit their needs. Others presented questions that we need answers to. I am presently in communication with several of these folks via phone and email regarding additional documentation and/or answers. This has been a very educational experience for me.

We have approved 22 of the 24 supplemental applications and have approved over half of the 57 applications in the new member category.

Brent D. Morgan  
SCWFO Chair

### **FIRST FAMILIES OF OHIO**

Other Committee Members: Miriam Fetters & Deb Deal.

Volunteer Activities in the Past Year:

- I took over as chair in September, after the resignation of Bill Huber.
- I sorted through the applications, reviewed the oldest first, sent replies and acceptance letters, and printed and sent certificates as needed.
- Miriam has reviewed 3 of the 8 applications she took and Deb has review 4 of her 6. I have reviewed 52 applications (numbers include new and supplemental). I have either sent acceptance letters or letters explaining what further documentation is needed for most of the applications.
- I replied to the unanswered FFO mail that was received from Bill Huber.

- The FFO program for the 2006 Conference FFO Banquet is nearly complete, as is the 2005 FFO Roster.
- Plans are to combine the two FFO rosters (1964-2000 and 2001-2005) and place them on the OGS Web Site.
  - Non-members will have access to ancestor name, date & county proven.
  - Members will have access to ancestor name, date & county proven, spouse's name, member number.

Karen Bennett  
Chair



## **Trustee Annual Reports Submitted**

**Jean Barnes**  
**Cleveland District Trustee**  
**Nominations and Elections Chair**

### **Volunteer Activities:**

- ❖ Registration Committee—2005 Annual Conference, Akron
- ❖ OGS Training Session (New Board Member), Mansfield
- ❖ OGS Open House
- ❖ Speaker Shelby and Mansfield
- ❖ OGS Volunteer Recognition Banquet
- ❖ Tri-C-Go Workshop
- ❖ Chaired Two Roundtable Meetings for Cleveland District
- ❖ Nominations and Elections Committee Chair
- ❖ Cuyahoga Pioneer Committee Meetings
- ❖ Attended 55 Chapter meetings in District
- ❖ OGS Board Meetings
- ❖ Indexing Death Notices and Obituaries for New Philadelphia and Cleveland newspapers.

Mileage: 6232

Volunteer Hours: 1719.75

**Karen Miller Bennett**  
**Wapakoneta District Trustee**  
**First Families of Ohio Chair**  
**Church Survey Co-Chair**

### **Volunteer Activities, 2005:**

- Visited each chapter in my district at least twice during the year
- Attended each chapter's First Families program
- Sent bi-monthly OGS newsletters to chapters in Wapakoneta district
- Gave the OGS presentation at the Auglaize Chapter
- Met and talked with Shelby County president at two Allen Co. meetings
- Attended all OGS Board meetings during the year
- Contributed information to the Conference Handbook
- Attended 2005 OGS Conference in Akron
  - Introduced speakers
  - Banquet Coordinator Co-chair with Miriam Fetters
- Attended 2005 NGS Conference in Nashville
- Attended and participated in the Chapter Management Seminar in August
- Reviewed several SBO application early in the year

- FFO chair in September
  - Caught up on a back-log of FFO applications
  - Caught up on a back-log of FFO correspondence

**Major Projects Report & Accomplishments:**

- Became FFO Chair
- Committee member of West Central Ohio Genealogical Workshop, 4 counties sponsoring George Schweitzer in October in Auglaize County

Volunteer Activities in the Past Year:

- We were Banquet Coordinators at the Conference
- I introduced several speakers at 2005 OGS State Conference

**Total OGS Volunteer Hours, 2005:** 686

**Out-of-pocket Expenses, 2005:** \$396.30

**Total OGS Mileage, 2005:** 2626

2005 Ohio Genealogical Society  
Year-end report

**JANA BROGLIN**

1. Visited ten Ohio Genealogical Society chapters during the year.
2. Attended the National Genealogical Society and Federation of Genealogical Societies conferences. Worked the OGS table when able
3. Lectured in California, Texas and Indiana. All places were given information regarding OGS and also the 2006 conference.
4. Attended four board meetings in both Mansfield and the site visitation in Toledo.
5. Attended the Chapter Management Seminar in Batavia, Ohio.

**Conference Chair 2006**

1. Held meetings with the Radisson and SeaGate Centre in Toledo regarding the conference.
2. Have been in touch with program chairs, Miriam Feters and Karen Bennett.
3. Have discussed advertising with Sue Zacharias and ads were placed.
4. Have all committees in place.
5. Have received the majority of the required forms due by November 30 from the speakers.

6. Have all committee chairs working on a time line to be submitted after conference.
7. Have met with Ohio Historical Society for their needs at the conference.
8. Have contacted A/V supplier for conference as well as a display company.
9. Developed conference e-zine for the first time with Amy Crow, webmaster.
10. Sent two e-zines (as of this report).

### **Bylaws Review/Chapter Liasion**

1. Have received only a few bylaws this year: Pike and Mahoning.
2. Have been in contact with Pike regarding not only bylaws, but also ideas for improving membership.

### **MIRIAM FETTERS District Trustee for Dayton District**

#### **Volunteer Activities in Past Year (Headquarters & Others):**

Filed timely trustee reports prior to each board meeting.  
 Filed timely reports of volunteer hours each month.  
 Joined RootsWeb mailing lists for all counties in my districts and monitored them for chapter or other activity of interest to OGS.  
 Attended board meetings in January, April, May, July, September, and November.  
 Attended trustee orientation workshop at OGS library in June.  
 Sent newsletters to all officers of chapters in assigned districts following board meetings.  
 Attended OGS Conference.  
 Introduced at least five speakers at OGS Conference.  
 Coordinated banquet room set-up for dinners and lunches at OGS conference.  
 Attended meetings of chapters in Dayton District as follows: Preble County meeting in February; Darke County meeting in March; Montgomery County in June; Darke County workshop in October; Greene County meeting in November; and Miami County meeting in November. Also made condolence call at funeral home in Greenville at death of Susan Kendall, President of Preble County.  
 Served as Chair of Charter Committee and prepared recommendation for Board as to issuance of charter to Gallia County.  
 Reviewed many FFO applications.

#### **Major Projects Report and Accomplishments:**

Reviewed FFO applications.  
 Completed goal of visiting each chapter in Dayton District at least once.  
 Presented, with Paul Morehouse, a session at Chapter Management Seminar on Duties of Officers.  
 Chaired Charter Committee regarding re-issuance of Charter for Gallia County Chapter.

**Volunteer Hours for Year:** 501                      **Out of Pocket Expenses:** \$400

**Mileage:**        2251

**DWANE GRACE  
TRUSTEE**

At the 12 November 2005 OGS Board meeting I was elected by the OGS Board to fill an unexpired term as a trustee-at-large. Since that time I have been serving as liaison to the Defiance District.

Of the six chapters in the Defiance District, five appear to be very healthy. The sixth is struggling with declining membership, very low attendance (3-5) at meetings, and little operating money. I have offered to work with them to develop possible ways of turning things around.

**December 2005**

- Mailed a letter to Defiance District Chapter presidents to introduce myself as the new OGS Trustee for their district.

**DEB DEAL  
ROGER MARPLE  
GARY SMITH  
BVENITTA J. WILLIAMS  
RUTH EMMONS  
No reports submitted**

**FLORA L. VERSTRATEN  
CADIZ DISTRICT TRUSTEE**

**HARRISON COUNTY CHAPTER OGS** – Harrison County has a small group of dedicated members. I was able to attend 2 chapter meetings in 2005 and found the group friendly and active in the community along with the local Historical Society. Allen Sparrow, newsletter editor of Our Harrison Heritage, has worked hard to make the newsletter available in PDF files and sent me all of the 2005 issues of the newsletter, which I enjoyed reviewing. The group is active with continued memberships in First Family, which celebrated three new members during their Christmas Banquet, which I attended. Several members volunteer at the Puskarich (in Cadiz) Public Library and donate hours for researchers.

12 volunteer hours from July 2005 to December 31, 2005

**CARROLL COUNTY CHAPTER, OGS** - Carroll County has a small but active group of members. The Carroll Cousins newsletter does a good job of keeping members updated on projects and activities within their chapter. They celebrated and inducted 4 members to their First Family society this past year.. I am in close contact with several chapter members with collaborating county projects and cemetery interests. They have their own library and several volunteers work at the library. They report an active cemetery restoration project in Perry Township. I arranged for the Utah Genealogical Society to microfilm courthouse records and the chapter library received copies of these

films for patrons. They considered their library to be a "one stop researching center." They have a new cemetery book titled, Carroll Co Cemeteries, Brown Twp, vol. VI.  
14 volunteer hrs. from July to December 2005

**BELMONT COUNTY CHAPTER, OGS** - Belmont County is a small mostly older group of researchers. The other genealogical society, Cumberland Trail is larger and has many more active young and older members. I gave speeches at two of their meeting this past year. This chapter has been in existed since 1978. Their First Family Banquet was held in October of 2005. Two new members were inducted into the First Families.

10 volunteer hrs. from July to December 2005

**MONROE COUNTY CHAPTER, OGS** They meet on the third Sunday afternoon each month in the Monroe County District Library, Woodsfield, Ohio where the volunteers from the chapter work and donate time to the library. The newsletter is titled, *The Navigator* and is very informative and helpful and well edited with a complete calendar of meetings included

6 volunteer hrs. from July to December 2005

**GUERNSEY COUNTY CHAPTER, OGS** - I finally received contact after several months of attempting by Debbie Blackstone. She has promised to put me on their newsletter mailing list. To date I have not received a newsletter from their chapter. I plan to attend a chapter meeting in the early spring and at that time receive updates on the chapter status and memberships.

4 volunteer hrs. from July to December 31, 2005

20 hrs. from July to December 31, 2005

### **DON CLARK ATHENS DISTRICT TRUSTEE**

Karen Smith and I share the Athens District. On behalf of both of us, I sent letters of introduction to all chapters. In the case of Gallia County, I sent this letter to both groups. Karen and I are going to begin sharing the Columbus District also.

Additional activities:

- I have worked with the designer to update the membership brochure, this time with address and phone numbers: - }
- I have worked with Clare Harding, a retired teacher, in cataloging more of the family history collection. I catalog; she inputs the data.
- I have attended building committee meetings.
- I have created publicity items for the summer workshop.
- 

Saturday June 4: - Attended Gallia County Historical/Genealogical Society "GeneFest 2005" representing Lawrence County. Following organized event, had discussions with officers of the society, including: the board president, the genealogical president, the museum/library director, and others.

Thursday June 9: - Attended regular meeting of the Gallia County Genealogical Society, Inc. Following meeting had discussions with members and officers.

Saturday June 25: - Attended OGS New Trustee Orientation in Mansfield

Sunday June 26: - My wife and I were guests of the Athens County Historical Society at the chapters annual First Families of Athens County Recognition Dinner. Was introduced as the new OGS District Trustee, and had chance to make brief remarks. That included pitch for OGS Library Fund. Dropped off variety of OGS brochures for display and distribution at their museum and library in Athens. Eighteen new members were recognized, including both parents and the seven children of one family. They reported plans to file the grandchildren next year.

Have not been successful to date in trying to contact Meigs or Vinton county chapters by email. Posted requests for contact on the county Rootsweb mailing lists. Did have response from Jackson County chapter president.

Sent email to available contacts in the Chillicothe District, urging them to identify and send Jean Barnes names of any area members who would be willing to serve as an OGS District Trustee.

For Lawrence County: - Built, assisted in decoration of, and rode chapter float in annual Ironton Memorial Day Parade. Set up and helped man chapter booth at July 9-16 County Fair. We shared that space with the county historical society.

In early November I sent a letter to all six chapters in the district asking for some basic information, and to be regularly updated on the activities of the chapters. I have not received a direct response from Athens Co., although I know they are active and seem to be on line to host the 2006 Chapter Management Seminar. I have not, to date, received a response from Vinton Co. In late November, I did receive a letter from Keith Ashley, President of the Meigs Co. Chapter. I have attached the portion that pertains to OGS directly. I have real reservations about the continued operation of this group as an OGS Chapter. Any suggestions are welcome.

## **ANNUAL REPORTS COMMITTEES**

### **AUDIT COMMITTEE Miriam Fetters**

23 February 2005 Drove to OGS library to review past Audit files. Consulted with Tom Neel regarding past audits. Got names of area accounting firms, auditors, etc. Contacted four firms for quote on performing audit.

March to May – Corresponded with potential audit firms.

21 May 2005 – Recommended to Board in form of motion that firm of J. E. Slaybaugh be chosen to audit books for 2003 and 2004 at cost of \$4200. Motion carried.

Audit was completed by the July 2005 Board meeting. No findings or recommendations for change were made by auditor.

Miles - 270 for special trip in February

Hours spent – approximately 40.

**WEBMASTER**  
**Amy Johnson Crow, CG**

The website saw a great deal of change in 2005. In late 2004, I began working with Gerry Hudson on a prototype for a revised website. I became Webmaster in February 2005. Gerry has provided a great deal of guidance before, during, and after the transition.

The site was moved to a new hosting provider, Tiger Technologies. This has resulted in a cost saving and an increase in space and functionality. For example, we can now offer mailing lists and an increased number of ogs.org email addresses.

A goal of the Webmaster, in conjunction with the Publications Chair, was to have at least one database for each county on the website by the end of 2005. While we did not quite reach that goal – only 37 counties were covered by the end of 2005 – progress continues to be made. Several Chapters, including Allen, Fairfield, Mercer, Southwest Cuyahoga, Cuyahoga Valley, Huron, and Wood, have contributed data for the site.

Search functionality was increased with the development of a consolidated search. A user can search all of the OGS databases with one search. This includes the ability to do exact, fuzzy, or Soundex searches.

Work was made on an online store, so that people can buy OGS books and merchandise directly from the site. This should go online in February 2006.

Member service increased with the development of a system that allows staff to add individual members to the log-in database. This decreases the time between a person joining and that person being able to access the members-only portion of the site and HeritageQuest Online. This has decreased the number of questions and complaints from new members.

Since 1 March 2005 (shortly after the site was revised), the site has had:

- 140,000 visits
- 617,000 pages viewed
- an average visit time of nearly six minutes

The Events page was expanded to include Chapter events. The Webmaster has worked in conjunction with the OGN editor to get information about these events. Major regional and national events are also included.

I estimate that I spent approximately 500 hours working on the website in 2005. This includes design time, coding, transcribing records for the databases, and converting data. This also includes time spent in technical support for users having trouble with the site (usually having trouble connecting to HeritageQuest Online.)

## **PUBLICITY COMMITTEE REPORT**

### **Wally Huskonen**

The publicity function of OGS for 2005 consisted of three main activities:

1. Distributing news stories to chapter newsletter editors via the OGS E-News Service.
2. Creating and distributing news releases to publicize the 2005 OGS Conference to the following news outlets:

Newspapers  
Genealogy-related news outlets

The committee subsequently issued an announcement of the dates and venue for the 2006 Conference to the same outlets.

3. Providing news releases for a news release archive on the redesigned OGS website.

The committee also aided the editor of OGS Genealogy News in preparing the conference preview.

## **OGS PUBLICATIONS**

### **Kay Hudson, Chair**

This year the publications committee has been working toward policy standardization for all four journal editors. In May we presented a journal editor policy that covered promoting our two subscription journals, acquiring quality articles for the four journals we publish, and delineating editor needs, re-imbursements and publishing software issues. Two editors upgraded their software to the latest Adobe desktop publishing products and one editor upgraded WordPerfect and photo processing software. We also welcomed new ORPF editor Dana Hudson Kragick who joined journal editors Susan Dunlap Lee, Jean Nathan and Sue Zacharias, and web site developer Amy Johnson Crow on the OGS publications team. In September, Sue Zacharias notified OGS that she would need to cut back on time spent editing in order to fulfill her full-time job responsibilities. The Board issued permission to reduce the OGN from six to four issues for the near future. The Board feels that the quality of Sue's publication far outweighs the cut-back in number of issues.

Treasurer Paul Morehouse headed a committee that determined which Ohio libraries and individuals were not subscribing to our journals. He developed a mailing for libraries and for those individuals who subscribed to one journal but not the other, hoping to increase not only membership (who receives the *Ohio Genealogical Society Quarterly* and *The OGS Genealogy News*) but also circulation of *Ohio Records & Pioneer Families* and *Ohio Civil War Genealogy Journal*.



In September the Board voted to enter into a contract with EBSCO publishers to license EBSCO to disseminate the Content of the Publications, in text, image, other electronic format or such other formats or on such other media as may now exist or hereafter be discovered, to end-users through the re-license or sale of information products using the media of CD-ROM, tape, online hosts, internet services and other electronic or optical media or formats now known or hereafter discovered for all four OGS journals. EBSCO will include the journals in their subscription database usually made available through libraries. OGS will receive royalties equal to twenty percent (20 %) of the net revenue collected for inclusion of Content from the Publications on Products sold.

During 2005, OGS has re-printed *Ohio Cemeteries 1803-2003*. An additional 200 copies was ordered and has been delivered. OGS secretary Linda Reed spent this year collecting updated information from all chapters for inclusion in *The 2006 OGS Chapter Directory*. All data has been collected and formatted. The directory will be printed in early 2006.

Thanks to the hard work of Amy Johnson Crow, OGS unveiled its new web site design this fall. Amy has added many new features to the site, most importantly the search feature for the members-only databases. The publications committee has also begun to develop policies for putting OGS lineage society information on the web site in 2006. We are also working with the cemetery committee to begin the process of putting data from the Ohio Cemeteries book on the web site.

### **CEMETERY COMMITTEE** **Lolita Guthrie**

Meetings, when called, were held on the Friday preceding regular Board meetings. Virtual meetings, relying on e-mail exchanges, worked very well.

An informal list of needs and “jobs” of the Committee have been outlined. A presence on the OGS website under OGS Projects has high priority. Need to inventory cemetery holdings in OGS Library with goal of adding to weakest geographic areas. Encourage Chapter donations of cemetery books as well as Chapter-sponsored reading and recording of tombstone inscriptions, inventorying of local cemetery records, restoration projects, etc.

With the publication of *OHIO CEMETERIES: 1803-2003*, comes the need for establishing a process for corrections and additions. So that addenda and corrections can be made to the Ohio Cemeteries Database, an OGS-Cemetery Worksheet is to be completed for each entry, with photocopy filed in Cemetery Vertical Files. A sample of this “Worksheet” appears in the book and is included in the Cemetery’s website pages. Forms and county extractions were available at the ‘05 Conference, and will be again in ‘06. Chapters as well as individuals are encouraged to add to this basic statewide resource.

A Reprint of 200 copies of *OHIO CEMETERIES: 1803-2003* has been ordered and received. It is evident that through the use of this valuable reference tool, individual

researchers have been able to locate probable burial sites of ancestors, which then extends their research to the proper county Chapter.

A column on cemeteries was submitted and published in each of the six issues of *OGN*. Clippings, miscellaneous published tombstone readings from Chapter Newsletters, ODRE Registration forms, etc. are filed by county in the two four-drawer file cabinets in the OGS Library.

Inquiries regarding individual cemetery cases of neglect, preservation, restoration, etc., are responded to via snail and email (from home). Organizations with whom we continue to work include the Ohio Township Association, Ohio Div of Real Estate & Professional Licensing; and the Ohio Historic Preservation Office.

I reported a total of 143 volunteer hours for OGS; recorded \$100 in personal expenditures for photocopying and postage; and drove 780 miles to meet OGS commitments..

Respectfully submitted,  
Lolita (Thayer) Guthrie

### **CHURCH RECORDS SURVEY** **Dwane Grace**

**Purpose:** To compile a directory of Ohio churches and the location of their records (1803–1905).

**Background:** This OGS project was reinstated a couple of years ago after a long lapse of inactivity. Many of the early Ohio churches now longer exist or have merged with other congregations and denominations over the years. As a result, their records become more and more difficult to locate. Few churches have done an excellent job in retaining and/or microfilming their records. Fortunately some early records have been placed in denominational or historical society archives.

**Activity:** We have designed a two-sided note card for data collection and provide an instruction sheet. Several volunteers have requested permission to collect their data in Microsoft *Excel* or *Access* format and that is fine. Right now we would just want to get the data compiled!

Although the original intention was to first focus on one OGS district (Wapakoneta), as other counties express an interest in the project we certainly encourage them to participate.

**Present known data collection:**

<b>Athens:</b> Al & Cindy	<b>Lawrence:</b> Donald Clark
Montle gave us 200+	<b>Mercer:</b> Karen Bennett

completed church record survey cards at the 2005 OGS Conference.

**Allen:** Dwane Grace

**Auglaize:** Bill Huber

**Cincinnati District:**

Jean Nathan

**Henry:** Karen Sunderman

**Ross:** Survey cards mailed

**Van Wert:** Completed in earlier survey but data needs to be verified and updated.

**Logan:** Karen spoke with them in 2004 and they said they would start on it.

**Gallia & Meigs:** Were contacted about the project in 2004, but they did not commit at that time.

**Hardin:** Kathy Hines

**Final thoughts:** This is a very time consuming project for the volunteers. Data collection requires reading county histories; checking old county atlases; locating and reading the WPA Church Surveys; contacting local, county, state, and denominational historical societies (archives); and telephoning and visiting churches.

Hopefully in the next year or so we can really focus on the original district of intent (Wapakoneta) and get that completed to serve as an example of what the potential of this project is.

Karen and Dwane presented a session on the project at the OGS Chapter Management Seminar in August 2005 to more participation in the state level project by showing chapter officers how they can also develop this into a local chapter project that will benefit both the state and local levels.

## **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**Diane VanSkiver Gagel, acting chair**

### **FALL SEMINAR**

We had 110 people at the conference, and we heard many positive comments about the concept and Cyndi Howell's presentations. Of course, we need to smooth out the seminar details, but since I had to take over chairing this from a distance and on short notice, I think it went smoothly

At the last minute, Paul and I decided to have a 50/50 raffle to benefit the Death Record Fund. As a result we raised over \$150.00. Between the sessions, I promoted our various activities. Roger Marble had dropped off the updated CD for the new building that week, so I was able to run that on my laptop during the breaks. Prior to the seminar, I developed a flyer for next year's seminar with John Colletta, and all the attendees were given one. (The ad will also appear in the 2006 syllabus.) Some of the attendees were at the Open House at headquarters after the seminar. Although we did not have a huge turnout, I feel it was a success. While we were at Headquarters, Cyndi was able to research a local family connection, and Sunda was able to locate some family documents for her, which Cyndi greatly appreciated.

I want to thank Paul, Sunda, Tom, Sherri, and Linda for their assistance in preparing and assisting in the Fall Seminar. Hopefully, the education committee will be able to handle all these duties in 2006.

## **CHAPTER MANAGEMENT**

### **Kenny Burck, Chair**

The 20th OGS Chapter Management Seminar was held 27 August 2005 in Batavia, Ohio, and hosted by the Clermont County Chapter - OGS. There were 51 participants who signed in. The breakdown of attendees from 22 different counties is as follows: Clermont 10, Hamilton 6, Brown 5, Fairfield 4, Mercer 3, Madison 3, Highland 2, Warren 2, Gallia 2, Summit, Fulton, Preble, Ross, Wayne, Huron, Knox, Jackson, Hocking, Muskingum, Lucas and Cuyahoga all had 1 and 1 person was an OGS member from Michigan and 1 person did not state their county. I wish to thank all OGS speakers and Curt Witcher for their participation and many thanks to Clermont County volunteers. It was a successful event with many rave reviews.

### **LIBRARIANS SEMINAR**

The seminar was held on October 14 with thirty attendees. The sessions included digitizing records, preservation and technology, chapter librarians working with public libraries, and non-traditional users. In the afternoon a panel, Joe Palmer, Richland Co. Public Library, Paul Immel, State Library of Ohio, and Louis Jones, Ohio Historical Society, discussed Libraries and their financial future.

### **Election Fellows & Awards Committee**

Standing Rule 6.A. At the first Board of Trustees meeting following the annual election, the Board of Trustees shall elect from the members of the Society a Fellows and Awards Committee of six (6) members other than members of the Executive Committee of the Society to serve one three (3) year term. Four (4) of the committee members must be from the membership of the Society and not Trustees; two (2) members to be elected each year.

Standing Rule 6.B. Not less than three (3) nominations for members of the committee shall be made. Voting on these nominees shall be by ballot. The President shall appoint the committee chairman from the members of the committee. No member may serve two consecutive terms on the committee.

At the May Board Meeting we accepted the resignation of Ken Davison. The Board elected Pat VanSkaik to finish Ken's term, which will end May 2007. The Board elected Gary Smith to a full 2005 to 2008 term position.

At the July Board Meeting we voted for:

- 1) A replacement to finish Donna Gruber's term, which ends in 2006. one year term.
- 2) A nomination for the one short-term position (2005 thru 2007). Two year term.
- 3) And a nomination for the full term position (2005 thru 2008). three year term.

The one short term will bring the election of committee members in compliance with the Standing Rule to elect 2 members each year.

The Fellows and Awards Committee received two nominations for Fellow of The Ohio Genealogical Society in 2006. One nominee Lolita Guthrie was elected and will be presented to the Society at the Forty - Fifth Annual Conference held April 27 – 29, 2006, in Toledo, Ohio.

At the request of several OGS Chapters the award for outstanding chapter newsletter was reinstated the award was named in honor of Frances Dana Gage.

The Committee is in the process of judging this year's entries in the awards categories as listed below. These awards will also be presented at the conference in Toledo.

1. Outstanding OGS Chapter Award
2. Outstanding OGS Chapter Newsletter Award - Frances Dana Gage Award.
3. Outstanding OGS Chapter Officer
4. Outstanding OGS Chapter Volunteer
5. Outstanding Web Site Award
6. OGS Book Awards

The following book awards may be presented:

- The Simon Kenton Award for transcriptions of Ohio records
- The Salmon P. Chase Award for abstracts of Ohio records
- The U.S. Grant Award for finding/research aids (indices, bibliographies)
- The Tecumseh Award for Ohio-related genealogical instruction books
- The Henry Howe Award for an Ohio state, county, or local history
- The William H. & Benjamin Harrison Award for an Ohio-related family history
- The Lida Flint Harshman Award for a book produced by a Chapter or special interest group of the Society
- The Governor Thomas Worthington Award for Ohio biography or collective biography
- The Oliver Hazard Perry Award for Ohio-related military historical record

**Note: Not all Awards are awarded every year.**

## **2005 Awards**

The Ohio Genealogical Society presented its annual book awards for 2004 at its annual luncheon on April 16 during its 2005 Conference in Akron, Ohio. The awards are presented each year to authors and publishers who create books of interest to genealogists and family historians. Seven books were honored at the 2005 conference.

The Simon Kenton Award for transcriptions of Ohio records was presented to Karen Miller Bennett, CGRS, who translated, compiled, and published *Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, Chattanooga, Ohio, The First 75 Years, 1855-1930*.

The Salmon P. Chase Award for abstracts of Ohio records went to the Hardin County Genealogical Society, chapter of OGS, for its 2003 publication of *Hardin County Birth Index 1908-1920, Vol. 1*. compiled by Kathy Hines with the help of Cindy Fown.

The Henry Howe Award for best Ohio state, county or local history was awarded to William S. Snyder, for *The Rattlesnake and The Ramsey: The History of the Lorain, Ashland & Southern Railroad*, published 2004 by Custaloga Press.

James Snow Jr. won the William H. & Benjamin Harrison Award for best Ohio-related family history for *Snow Family History and Genealogy -- 1500-2002 and Beyond*.

Lida Flint Harshman Award for a book produced by a chapter or a special interest chapter group went to *Richland County, Ohio Marriages: 1872-1900*, compiled by Mohican Area Genealogists Interested in Computers. The publisher was the Richland Country Genealogical Society, OGS, 2004.

The book *Linking Rings: William W. Durbin and the Magic and Mystery of America* won the Governor Thomas Worthington Award for Ohio biography or collective biography. The author was James D. Robenalt, and the publisher was Kent State University Press.

Lenette S. Taylor won the Oliver Hazard Perry Award for Ohio-related military historical record for her book, *The Supply For Tomorrow Must Not Fail: The Civil War of Captain Simon Perkins, Jr., a Union Quartermaster*, published by Kent State University Press, 2004.

The Ohio Genealogical Society honored two chapters and two members for outstanding achievement its annual luncheon on April 16 during the 2005 Conference in Akron, Ohio.

### **Outstanding Chapter Award**

This award is conferred for achievement during the 2004 program year in three or more of the following areas: 1. Variety of membership activities throughout the year. 2. Contribution of service to genealogical records preservation (i.e. cemetery preservation, publishing, newsletters, providing /assisting local libraries/repositories). 3. Genealogical education of members or of the general public through workshops, etc. 4. Inter/intra chapter-OGS-local historical society activities/relationships/communications.

For 2005, this award was conferred on Crawford County Genealogical Society, a chapter of OGS, for its activities during 2004. It was the second year in a row that the Crawford County chapter was honored with this award.

### **Outstanding OGS Chapter Officer Award**

This award recognizes a person or persons who performed exemplary service to a chapter in the previous year. The 2005 award recognizes the work of Mary Fox, president, and Winnie Kleinknecht, treasurer, of Crawford County Genealogical Society.

## **Outstanding OGS Chapter Volunteer**

This award is presented to a chapter member in good standing who contributed service above and beyond the normal level of chapter activity. OGS recognized Mary Carabin, Huron County Chapter, OGS, for her extensive support of chapter activities during 2004.

## **Outstanding Chapter Webpage Award**

A panel of judges reviewed OGS chapter websites that were linked to the OGS website at [www.ogs.org](http://www.ogs.org) and granted the Thomas A. Edison Award for the Best Chapter Web Site to Licking County Genealogical Society, a chapter of OGS, for its website, which can be accessed at <http://lcgs.npls.org/>

## **FUND DEVELOPMENT**

**Ted Minier, Chair**

Special Committee under the Direction of the President

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### **1. USDA Rural Development Loan** - Originally applied on September 30, 2005.

Over the past 3 1/2 months, we have been responding to their various requests for documentation. On January 4, 2006, the USDA advised via letter that OGS had provided all the documentation required for them to request funding under this application.

**2. Opportunities for Other Federal Money** -I met with staff from the offices of Congressman LaTourette (my local congressman), Senator Voinovich and, Senator DeWine (appropriations committee member). Tom Neel has touched base with staff in Congressman Oxley's office (Mansfield U.S. House member). Senator DeWine's staff is going to send me an appropriations request form for an "earmark" in the 2007 federal budget. This may be a long shot; but we need to explore all options for funding. Our completed form will be needed in DeWine's office in March 2006. The application asks 23 questions. I am told it will be difficult to get an "earmark" due to the many competing interests for federal dollars.

**3. Potential Major Donors** - I have followed up by letter with Carl Wood Brown, Ted Sloane, Ruth Bishop, Bill Pomeroy and a new potential major contributor, Samuel D. Isaly.. Mr. Isaly is a member and has previously visited our library. His grandfather William Eugene Isaly, 1862-1923, founded Isaly Dairy Companies of Ohio. Mr. Isaly is listed in "Who's Who - Notable members of the Isaly family" as "The financier "tycoon" of the family". Mr. Isaly has been Portfolio Manager for the Eaton Vance Worldwide Health Sciences Fund (top performing fund in the health care field for about the last ten years) since 1989. He contacted us in response to the year-end mailing that we sent out.

**4. Potential Challenge Grants from Foundations** - I have reviewed the application requirements for a challenge grant from The Kresge Foundation. It looks like we should be able to qualify for a grant from this organization. We will discuss this option at the FDC meeting on the 27th of January. I would like to apply as soon as we get approval of our loan from the USDA. The committee needs to decide how much we should ask for. OGS will need to raise a like amount to match the grant in order to qualify for the funds.

The Richland Foundation has advised that they feel we will be ready to approach them for a challenge grant by the end of 2006. I would expect that we will try for a total of about \$500,000 from these two foundations. That would mean that OGS would have to come up with another \$500,000 to qualify.

5. Public Relations/Publicity - The FDC will also discuss a plan to get an interview with the local Mansfield newspaper for an article about the new building project. We would then try to have Wally Huskonen get this article sent around to newspapers across the state. Additionally, it has been suggested to me that we should consider conducting a letter writing campaign in support of our project. We need to have the Board and OGS Chapters send letters to all state and federal congressmen and senators as well as the governor in support of our project. I will discuss this plan with the FDC and the Board on 1/28/06.

6. Building Fund Donations 2005 - We received \$71,338.07 in donations to the Building Fund in 2005. The two biggest months were November with \$17,915.22 and December with \$19,401.30. This proves the effectiveness of offering people a year-end tax write off. The third largest donation month was March with \$14,326.51. In no other month was more than \$6,800 received.

## BUILDING AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

*Designing a library/headquarters and member services for the 21<sup>st</sup> century*

Our collective committees' goal:

To be ready to launch an organized building campaign by the April 2005 conference

Steps:

- Amend strategic plan based on the wants and needs of the membership, the various publics we hope to serve, and those entities with significant resources to help fund this project
  - Add core values segment
  - Survey library experts re: their vision of OGS in the overall Ohio and national genealogical picture
  - Survey membership re: their needs and wants
  - Talk with entities that are poised to help us: regional, state, genealogical, specific members
  - Add statements re: member services needs and wants
  - Add statements in line with corporate and philanthropic agencies' giving requirements
  - Add statement re: annual member survey through the OGN
- Create leadership awareness documents answering questions of staff, board, chairs and membership interested in assisting OGS meet this goal
- Revise original Goettler case document to reflect our findings from the above two activities
- List cost estimates based on the vision of the new OGS headquarters, library and distance member service needs



- Prepare financial plans for the campaign
  - Produce well-designed donor documents (procedures, forms, flyers)
  - Determine values associated with naming rights and other types of corporate and private funding
  - Assemble lists of specific donors and their wants and needs
  - Organize sustaining endowment information in an easily understood form
- Create campaign literature
  - Flyer
  - Web page
  - Publicity
  - Presentations suitable for groups and media
- Write grants for foundation and corporate giving
- Determine campaign volunteer structure; write training plans and documents for campaign members
- Hold training sessions for campaign volunteers
- Launch formal campaign at the Akron conference
- 

- **Formal Campaign Timeline**

At some point in this timeline, the Executive Committee will select an architect for the project.

June 2004

- Tom and Kay to write library needs questions for library experts and patrons; people to interview: Curt Witcher, Carol Guzzo, Becky Hill, Pat VanSkaik, Ann Sindelar, summer camp participants, library visitors; focus on the function of the OGS library within the Ohio historical/genealogical network
- Membership committee help devise a member survey to do ASAP; random sampling; aimed at OGS staff, members, electronic users, preservationists, historians, genealogists, political entities. These two items might be combined
- The strategic plan fab four will work on amending the plan

July Board Meeting 2004

- Ted & friends will work on providing necessary information in an easily digested form to the board by the July meeting
- Strategic plan committee will present the amended plan

After the July Board Meeting (by early August)

- The original Goettler case document will be revised after the above has been completed by Ted, Kay, Paul and Sunda. The document will reflect the needs of our publics as determined by the above processes.

September Board Meeting 2004 and using the revised case document

- Roger and Bob will do a cost analysis for all items determined to be needed by our various publics
- An alternative is having our selected architect help/do this segment

Beginning ASAP after the July meeting and later incorporating the above cost analysis

- Finance committee (Ted, Chuck, Paul) to determine naming rights, ID past donors; brick promotion; make list of specific donors and their needs; create a well-designed, sustaining/long term donor form/procedure.

October/November/December 2004 design/organize:

- Campaign literature
- Publicity
- Campaign volunteer training

January Board Meeting 2005

- Present the total campaign package to the Board
- Schedule training sessions for campaign committees

February/March 2005

- Hold campaign volunteer training sessions
- Begin publicity dissemination as determined by the chair

April 2005 Conference

- Formal building campaign begins

## JOURNALS

### *Quarterly Annual Report*

A goal of the *Quarterly* is to have an article for each Ohio county appear at least once every five years. 2005 is the fifth year I have been keeping track, and the goal was met. The series of articles *Blacks Immigration to Ohio 1861-1863* has been completed.

The series of articles *Deaths in Cincinnati, Ohio with Ohio Burials Outside of Hamilton County* will continue.

Bible records are very few and far between.

Abbreviated county histories with a map has been discontinued and the unnumbered page replaced with an add for the OGS library.

Approximately 400 hours were spent working on the *Quarterly* in 2005.

Jean Nathan, Editor

### OHIO CIVIL WAR GENEALOGY JOURNAL

This year has been a very busy year for OCWGJ. Dan Reigle and I have spent many hours working on 1) locating Civil War experts with Ohio information to share with OCWGJ; 2) locating graves of Ohio soldiers with help from people from all over the country and Australia; 3) upgrading and improving our computers to be able to improve the looks of OCWGJ and to be able to accept articles, material, documents and photographs in a wider variety of formats.

At the request of Kay Hudson, OGS Publishing Chair, I spent many hours reformatting the layout of OCWGJ which will appear in Issue 1, 2006; and have been working with Herb Brewer at Walter Graphics on electronic submission of the masters. There are still some minor glitches, but Issue 1, 2006, was sent electronically along with a hardcopy as backup during the last week of December.

Dan and I have been very busy working with a people from WV, WA, OR, KY, SC, MN, GA and OH in search of graves of Ohioans along with the information for articles. While searching for Captain Bell who drowned in WV, Dan located his grave only to find that the top part of the monument had fallen. No longer, Dan with the aid of the local GAR Post and the local OGS Chapter in Washington Court House, had the monument restored. Dan and I also helped Darrell Helton locate information on John Schutte of Cleveland OH who was buried in an unmarked grave in WV. No longer, a US marker has been delivered to the site and a memorial service will be preformed by local re-enactors and GAR members later in 2006. Darrell just reported that he has found a descendant in Cleveland who was thrilled that the grave has been found. I met with Jack Lundquist of MN here in Columbia SC during one of his research trips for Andersonville National Park. We are working together to document the Ohioans that were reportedly POWS at various POW Camps in VA, NC, SC, AL and GA and are making progress. I met with Harry Benedict in Atlanta GA and visited various sites pertaining to the Ohioans involved in the Great Locomotive Chase and the Battle for Atlanta which will appear

later in 2006. A call was put out by various GAR members to help locate Ohioans' graves. So far, we have received information from WA, OR and KY.

The Ask The Experts Panel "recruits" (or "draftees") under the command of Dan Reigle have been very successful in answering questions for people. In some cases, the questions have been expanded into very informative articles written by Dan and other members of the ATE Panel.

We are beginning to receive requests for book reviews with a donated copy for the OGS Library. Again, Dan has done an excellent job at reviewing these books with support of the authors.

Dan and I have been working with Paul Morehouse on trying to increase subscriptions. It concerns us that the subscription numbers are not going up although OCWGJ is being discussed heavily on various roundtable websites as being "unique" and "an excellent source of Ohio Civil War material." Dan and I believe that subscriptions would increase if the following steps were taken:

- 1) the database of Ohio Soldiers found in OCWGJ articles that we have been putting together for the last several years was put on the OGS website to draw people to OCWGJ. If people find their ancestors on the website, they are going to want the journals. We would continue to add to the database as each issue is published which will keep people coming back to the website.
- 2) OCWGJ was advertised in several of the Civil War publications such as *Blue and Gray* *Civil War Times* and/or *America's Civil War*.

Dan and I would also like to see subscriptions start with the current issue and stop the practice of mailing the back issues for the year which would save money on postage. We would then like back issues sold individually at a higher price per issue instead of selling a whole year at a reduced price. All other Civil War publications that we have reviewed are using this method. We believe that sales of back issues would increase and bring in more money for OGS. A database of articles in each issue was compiled and sent to the webmaster, but has not appeared on the OGS website yet. It is our hope that this database will appear soon so we can draw more people to OCWGJ.

Another possibility if we were to sell subscriptions starting with the current issue, we could put the back issues on the website so that people could "look" at the issue but not print it out by buying it through PayPal. Then, if they wanted a hardcopy, they could get it for an additional fee.

Respectfully,  
Sue Lee  
OCWGJ Editor

## **CONFERENCE AKRON, OHIO**

### **Ted Minier, Conference Chair**

Special Committee under the Direction of the President

Attendance/Revenues – The conference drew 533 attendees (including speakers, vendors, etc.). According to the OGS PeachTree accounting system, revenues were \$55,491.50. Expenses were \$52,048.50. Our net profit on the conference was only \$3,443.00.

After the 2001 conference, we no longer included meals in the registration fee. As a result, this is the first conference where we have had a direct comparison of the impact of separately charging attendees for meals. Obviously, many things can impact attendance; but the fact remains that charging extra for meals played a role in reducing attendance in Akron by some percentage of the 11% reduction in attendance (2001 – 600, 2005 – 533). The 11% reduction in attendance reduced revenue by about \$6,633. If we had attendance of about 600, our net profit would have been about \$10,000.

Site Selection – It was determined by the OGS Board that the 2005 Conference would be held in Akron primarily due to the fact that the Cleveland volunteer base was suffering from burnout from hosting the 1993 and 1997 conferences.

The 2001 Conference had been held at the Akron/Fairlawn Hilton. This hotel did a lovely job of hosting our 2001 conference although generally, the attendees felt that the hotel was too small for our group. About 600 people attended the 2001 conference.

The Crowne Plaza, which was ruled out as a site in 2001 because it didn't have adequate space, added the Grand Station Conference Center after the 2001 conference. This made the Crowne Plaza the only hotel in Akron suitable for our 2005 conference.

We considered using the hotel for housing the attendees and holding the conference at the Akron/Summit County Convention Center; but determined that use of this facility for meals and meetings would add an additional \$7,000-\$10,000 to overall costs.

Letter Of Agreement – The Letter Of Agreement was signed by the hotel on December 26, 2002 and by me on behalf of OGS on December 27, 2002.

Volunteers – I recruited twenty-four chair people to oversee the various aspects of the conference. Unfortunately, Connie Ferguson, my Registration Chair passed away prior to the conference. Marilyn Carlson replaced Connie. Also, my original Publications Chair relocated out of the area and Marie Herlevi took her place.

Generally, I felt that the volunteers did a good job. I agree with Diane Gagel that we would be much more effective if we had a Conference Manual that detailed how various activities were to be handled.

Meals – I need to point out that OGS has traditionally served about 1,700 lunches and dinners at conference. This was the case in 2001 at the Akron/Fairlawn Hilton. At the Crowne Plaza, we served 245 lunches and 254 dinners. Total meals were 499. This is a reduction in meals of 341%.

Future conference chairs need to be aware that contracts should indicate how many meals that we expect to actually serve. The host hotel makes their revenue from room charges and meals.

Hospitality – Several chapters donated money to help us with the cost of the hospitality room. Nevertheless we actually ended up subsidizing the hospitality room by a couple of hundred dollars.

My Hospitality Chair recommended that in future, the room be open more. In my opinion, attendees are trying to compensate for the fact that they no longer get meals as part of their registration by eating at the hospitality room.

Crowne Plaza – The performance of the hotel was less than stellar. Our original contact person Jenni Pearl resigned a couple of weeks before the conference. Her replacement Kelly Butler was a raw recruit and actually didn't show up for the conference.

As a result, Dave Cox the hotel Director of Sales ended up spending three days running errands for us. Although we had some glitches due to the unexpected changes in personnel, I believe the attendees were oblivious to the problems for the most part.

## Annual Giving for 2005

**Total: \$93,590.65**

### Giving by Month:

January - \$6,759.96  
February - \$2,654.32  
March - \$14,326.51  
April - \$14,439.76  
May - \$1,562.19  
June - \$3,119.85  
July - \$1,398.30  
August - \$2,482.38  
September - \$5,643.16  
October - \$3,887.70  
November - \$17,915.22  
December - \$19,401.30

### Giving by Fund:

Building - \$71,338.07  
Census - \$520.85  
Technology - \$529.00  
Endowment Bricks - \$3520.00  
Endowment - \$4261.50  
General Donations - \$475.90  
Library - \$2774.33  
Life Membership - \$7200.00  
Sustaining Membership - \$1042.00  
Operating - \$1929.00

### BUILDING FUND

Acker, Betty W.  
Acord-Greathouse, Nancy  
Akerboom, Joyce and Jack  
Albright, Barbara L. and James L.  
Albright, Lois I.  
Alf, Ernest Edward  
Allen, Laura  
Altona, G. Diane  
Anderson, Brooke  
Anderson, John  
Ankney, Sandra L.  
Armstrong, Donald  
Ashtabula County Genealogical Society  
Athens County Genealogical Chapter OGS  
Athens County Historical Society & Museum  
Bair, Harold Roger  
Baker, Mary E.  
Baker, Rodney  
Ballman, Kathleen Ray  
Banks, Grace H.  
Banks, Sheryl  
Bard, Ella Mae  
Barnes, Jean  
Barnes, Larry  
Barnhard, John L., Jr.  
Barry, Mary Lou  
Bartels, Bernice  
Bartels, Eltha J.  
Beal, Kathleen  
Beam, Helen J.  
Belmont County Chapter OGS

Bennett, Karen  
Bernard, Jane E. and A. Maris  
Berndsen, Shirley Baxter  
Blantz, William A.  
Blevins, Diane Green and Rondell  
Boardman, Charles  
Bodkin, William C.  
Boeing Gift Matching Program  
Boltinghouse, Joseph C.  
Bordner, Dorothy L.  
Bougher, Carolyn M. and Donald F.  
Bowman, Cynthia  
Boyd, Madora Allin  
Brabson, Shirley S.  
Bragg, Raymond  
Braun, Willis H.  
Breedlove, Dorothy  
Bridgestone/Firestone North American Tire, LLC  
Brittenham, William R.  
Broestl, Jayne A.  
Broglin, Jana  
Brook, Mary L.  
Brown, Anna  
Brown, Carl Wood  
Brown, Doris Ann Hardway  
Brown, Theresa A.  
Buck, Brenda  
Burley, Regina M.O.  
Burton, Robert E.  
Butler, Karen  
Byers, June M. and Harry E.  
Cady, Miriam  
Callaghan, Patricia  
Carvalho, Cecelia  
Cassady, Virginia L.  
Castor, Arlene  
Chain, Linda  
Chamberlain, Joyce and Craig  
Chapman, Mary S.  
Chittenden, Edward A.  
Clark County Chapter OGS  
Clark, Beverly  
Clark, Rose Ann  
Coddling, Alta Baker  
Cody, Robert A.  
Colby, Joanne  
Coller, Kaye  
Conner, Art  
Conner, Carolyn M.  
Conroy, Carol V.  
Copeland, Angeline L.  
Corbitt, Paul  
Crabtree, Lela  
Crippen, Suzanne T. and J. Patrick  
Crocker, Carol Ann Stillion  
Cullins, Kaci  
Cunning, Barbara and Robert  
Curtis, Mrs.  
Cuyahoga Valley Genealogical Society  
Cuyahoga West Chapter OGS  
Dams, Douglas  
Darling, Loraine  
Davis, Carla  
Deal, Deborah  
Dearborn, Phyllis M.  
Deighton, Karen and Gary  
Deitz, Linda  
Delaware County Genealogical Society  
Desenberg, Mary C.  
Devore, Mary L.  
Diedrichs, Tanis and Robert O.  
Dillon, Paul e.  
Dovenbarger, Betty  
Doyle, Linda L.  
Drumheiser, Patricia K.  
Dukes, Vicki and Terry  
Dulin, Sherri  
Dunham, Elois  
Edwards, Janice L.  
Elliott, E. Ann  
Ellis, Kathryn Young  
Ellis, Patricia  
Emmons, Ruth and Carlton  
Epworth Guild  
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Evans, Lawrence Martin  
Evans, Sara  
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Ewers, Patricia G.  
Farkas, Louise Duncan  
Fayette County Genealogical Society  
Fetters, Miriam  
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Fitzenrider, Ruth A.  
Ford, Carolyn  
Foster, Nancy B.  
Fox, Joann W.  
Franklin, Elizabeth and John, Jr.  
Frantz, Tina  
Freed, James M.  
Freeland, Peter  
Freeman, Nola J.  
Freitag, Margaret E. "Peg"  
Frueh, Michael E.  
Funk, Linda  
Furniss, John N.  
Gagel, Diane VanSkiver and Joseph V.  
Garn, Kenneth H.  
Gates, Barbara E. Wade  
Gerderman, Martha  
Geske, Edith E.  
Giancotti, Lydia  
Gibson, Dr. David M.  
Gilbert, Miriam  
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Goodrich, Margaret A. and David R.  
Gorney, Terri L.  
Gosline, Mary E. and Robert B., Jr.  
Grace, C. Dwane  
Graham, Helen C.  
Grantham, Luella M.  
Guthrie, Lolita and Mearl  
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Gutin, Barbara

Guzzo, Carol Noe  
Haire, Betty L.  
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Hamm, Roberta  
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Haynes, Jeanne A.  
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Hewitt, Patricia Brown  
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Hill, Rebecca B.  
Hill, Smith and Julia  
Hill, Thomas A.  
Hlavac, Jeanne K.  
Hoerger, Fred and Helen  
Hoffman, C. Gay  
Holderbaum, Kelly L.  
Hudson Genealogical Study Group  
Hudson, Kay and Gerry  
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Johnson, Carl  
Johnson, Marilyn J.  
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Lewis, Cleoyn  
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Limbach, Dorothy "Doty"  
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Linhardt, Diana  
Linn, Culver and Alma  
Logan County Genealogical Society

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Mancer, Suellen K.  
Marble, Roger  
Marble, William and Kathryn  
Martin, Janice E.  
Martin, Sharon Lynne  
Maurath, Shirley  
McBee, Carol  
McCoy, Richard E.  
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Mitchell, Elizabeth  
Mitchell, S. Anita  
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Moore, Darlene Harris  
Moore, Dick  
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Morey, Barbara L.  
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Morris, Dorothy  
Morton, Alice H.  
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Moulder, Elizabeth Marion and Leonard Dwight  
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Prechtel-Klusdens, Claire  
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Pursel, Allen  
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Reed, James F.  
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Ritter, Liesa  
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 Stevens, Roger P.  
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 Strope, JoAnne K.  
 Swymeler, Richard W.  
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 Workman, Jeanne  
 Wragg, Laurie Swanger  
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 Zimmerly, John W.

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 Brown, Theresa A.  
 Crocker, Carol Ann Stillion  
 Ellis, Marjorie and Rev. Stanley  
 Green, Millie A.  
 Gutchall, Gertrude  
 Hazelwood, Shirley A. and John E.,  
 Jr.  
 Hewitt, Patricia Brown  
 Hiehle, Evelyn Joan Boyce  
 Jones, Timothy L.  
 Mack, Marjorie T.J.  
 Mancer, Suellen K.  
 Martin, Janice E.  
 McInteer, Carol S.  
 McVicker, Elsie and David  
 Miller, Dorothy Anne and Orlando J.  
 Morehouse, E. Paul, Jr.  
 Parrish, Sandra S. and Kenneth W.  
 Parrish, Tiffany  
 Riley, Nancy M.  
 Samples, Jan and Gary R.  
 Sheets, John  
 Smith, Gretel Heinzerling  
 Stillion, Shirley Suter  
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 Treat, Samuel Butler, Jr.  
 Wood, Carol Mae Hubbard and V.E.

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 Brown, Theresa A.  
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 Coleman, Linda Minor  
 Crocker, Carol Ann Stillion  
 Culbertson, Jo Ellen Partee  
 Eddy, Naomi E.  
 Golden, David R.  
 Gribbins, Ann  
 Herrin, Moreland  
 Holthouse, Marilyn Lucile  
 Irminger, Bea Lawrence  
 Klein, Kathryn Bauer  
 Mancer, Suellen K.  
 Martin, Janice E.  
 McConahay, Ruth and Treva  
 McInteer, Carol S.  
 Miller, Diana Spitnale  
 Newcomb, Joyce Rickards  
 Parrish, Sandra S. and Kenneth W.  
 and family  
 Payne, Marjory  
 Purchase, Nancy Schneider and H.  
 Graham  
 Ratay, Nancy  
 Riley, Nancy M.  
 Sabin, R. P.  
 Schlesinger, Karen A.  
 Sheets, John  
 Stevens, Roger P.  
 Stillion, Shirley Suter  
 Stratfull, Patricia G. Watson  
 Watson, Russell D.

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 Burck, Kenny R.  
 Clegg, Michael  
 Cody, Robert A.  
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 Johnson, Carl L.  
 Keenan, Bill  
 Ling, Sharon  
 Madison County Chapter OGS  
 Martzolf, Pamela and Gary  
 McMullen, Joy Unger  
 Moore, Dick  
 Nelson, Margaret Van Ness  
 Osborn, Ruth A.  
 Perna, Jane T.  
 Robertson, Jerome  
 Schmotzer, Mary Frances  
 Schumacher, Beverly  
 Scioto County Chapter OGS  
 Sheets, Joan  
 Shupp, Katherine F. and Atwood  
 James

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 Brown, Theresa A.  
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 Edney, Ruth Ann  
 Emmons, Ruth  
 Fitzenrider, Ruth A.  
 Foster, Nancy C. and Frank M.  
 Grible, Linda A.  
 Grimm, Chester J.  
 Haire, Betty L.  
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 Jr.  
 Heath, Lisa  
 Hewitt, Patricia Brown  
 Hiehle, Evelyn Joan Boyce  
 Light, Diana  
 Mancer, Suellen K.  
 Martin, Janice E.  
 McInteer, Carol S.  
 Meyer, Carolyn Y. and Richard C.  
 Meyers, Nancy M. and Elmer L.  
 Morris, Bonnie  
 Mullen, Mary Alice  
 Myers, Robert R.  
 Osmer, Malcolm  
 Ovendorf, Bonnie L. and James R.

Pahnke, Janis  
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 Prechtel-Klusdens, Claire  
 Ramga, Dean C.  
 Smith, Frances and Timothy J.  
 Smith, Gale E., Ph.D.  
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These 31 major contributors to the OGS Building Fund brought in \$48,875.25 or 68.5% of the total raised in 2005.

We would also like to recognize our large donors to the Endowment Fund:

BUCKEYE (\$500 to \$2,499)  
 Ruth A. Fitzenrider  
 Betty L. Haire  
 Carl L. Johnson  
 Jay B. Wright

## SUBMITTED CHAPTER ANNUAL REPORTS

### JEFFERSON COUNTY CHAPTER, OGS –

We have many projects in progress, the most important is the Cemetery Restoration and Tombstone Inscription Project which has been underway for over three years now. We plan to begin publishing our first tombstone inscription book this year. Many pioneer cemeteries have been located, cleaned and is either on the list for repairs to begin or are currently being photographed and inscriptions read. Many cemeteries had to be cleaned of weeds, debris and severe overgrowth before we could get in to even see the tombstones. We are beginning a new society and are announcing it in the spring newsletter, The Civil War Society of Jefferson County, Ohio. During our Christmas Banquet, two new members are inducted into the Pioneer Families and two were inducted into the First Families Society. We are enjoying an “all time” high membership of 300 members since the chapter was formed in the winter of 1986. The chapter meets the first Thursday of each month at the Schiappa Branch Library; business meeting begins at 6:30p.m. followed by a program and refreshments. We recently announced the release of FOUR NEW chapter books and will be soon announcing another.

- *Deeds of Yore*, (earliest deeds available for Jeff. Co), by Robert Richardson
- *Springfield Twp. School Ledger 1839-1857*, by Jean Scarlott
- *The History of Jefferson County*, by Rev. Milligan, reprinted by F. Milligan
- *The Western Herald Newspaper All Surname Index 1806-1819*, Cindy Stock

### WOOD COUNTY CHAPTER

The officers and committee chairs of Wood County Chapter offer an overview of 2005 accomplishments:

Newsletters: Over 500 bi-monthly *Newsletters* were collated and mailed on scheduled dates. The Nov-Dec issue included an index to subjects as well and a 3,000+ every-name index. A business-lunch meeting followed each of the six sessions, with fifteen or more officers and members attending regularly.

Program. Six planned monthly programs were held; with 35 to 50 in attendance. E-mail joggers were sent to over 100 who reside within driving distance. One meeting focused on the use of digital cameras while conducting family research. June event was held in the Ft. Meigs Union Cemetery at Perrysburg.

Ten or more persons participated in either or both one-day research trips offered in November, with one to the Genoa-Elmore Library and a second to the Allen County/Fort Wayne Library.

Chapter website. Readily accessible from <[www.ogs.org](http://www.ogs.org)>. Some databases, membership and other Forms, links to WCDPL, etc.

Education/Outreach. The Chapter and Historical Center/Society jointly prepared the annual Wood County Fair exhibit, focusing on “Oak Grove Cemetery.” For the second year, the Chapter supported the Oak Grove Cemetery Living History Day Project, with an ad hoc community committee under the sponsorship of the W. C. Historical Society. Our publication *Oak Grove Cemetery Inscriptions* was available for purchase.

Library. The purchase of books and related research materials continued for placement in the Wood County District Public Library, Local History Department. All Chapter Newsletter Exchanges are accessible at the WCDPL.

The On-line “Obituaries Index” continues to grow as one of the most frequently accessed websites. Extractions from all earlier issues of the *Sentinel* (Bowling Green newspapers) as well as 1885 through 1890 of the *North Baltimore Beacon* are nearly complete.

“Ancestors on Parade” - a database to Chapter members’ ancestors - is now accessible online.

First Families of Wood County. Eleven persons were inducted into First Families of Wood County, having documented the residence of one or more in Wood County by the end of 1855. Names (only) of proven ancestors are being added to the Chapter website.

Correspondence research. More than 215 requests for information and/or obituaries received responses in writing. Responses were also made to over 90 first-time e-mail inquiries.

Publications & Projects: Published *Source Book 2 - Newsletters 1991-1995; Oak Grove Cemetery;* and *Marriages, Vol 1-4, 1820-1867.* Anticipated for completion and publishing 2006 are: *Wills & Estates 1820-1900* and *Probate Births Volume 3.* This Committee is reviewing changing trends of fewer book purchases by researchers, with more expecting access to genealogical records online.

Treasury/donations: Large donations included: \$1,000 to OGS Building Fund as well as \$40 to OGS Death Records Project; \$500 to the Center for Archival Collections, BGSU; and \$100 to the Oak Grove Cemetery Living History Presentation. The \$615. received as donations from our members went directly to the Library Trust Fund at WCDPL. Income from the LTF is used for purchase of additional books.

Membership: 2004 membership totaled 434, including 36 first-timers, for an increase of 16 members. All new members receive a “New Member Kit”, which includes useful information on “Where to Start” (research), Wood County Courthouse and other Resources, Questionnaire, 1886 map, as well as previously published current year’s *Newsletters.*

Volunteers: Over 6,128volunteer hours were reported for 2005; with 2,159 hours recorded working in workroom/office; and 3,969 hours spent doing other research work at home or elsewhere. Thirty-two volunteers staffed the 42 two-hour shifts at the Wood

County Fair. Not included for the year would be many more hours donated but not reported.

Local and Family History Room. All Chapter members, near and far, are most grateful to the Wood County Commissioners for the existence of our special room located on the first floor and accessible from the newly-opened Atrium of Courthouse Square. Volunteers appreciate the pleasant atmosphere in which to continue projects of extracting and compiling county records. Visitors are encouraged to sign in.

Increased security measures went into effect in November. All visitors to any office within the Courthouse Complex must enter via the N. Summit Street entrance and pass through a scanner.

Officers worked well together, along with other members of the Chapter to make 2005 an outstanding year and we look forward to next year.