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THE LAWRENCE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC. CHAPTER 74 OF THE OHIO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Message From The Presidents Desk



It has been a good year for the Society. Successful speakers, a great lock-in with an out of town visitor and a good turn out for the lineage banquet.

We continue to get emails asking for help researching. I try to travel down to Lawrence County and meet with out of towners. If you are traveling through Lawrence County and want help, we will try to meet with you. The Hamner Room is great. You can call and they will try to look up information. The Briggs staff continue to add new papers from the courthouse attic. So take a look at their website. Consents, divorces, indigent soldiers and more. You can get death date, spouse, and cemetery from an indigent soldier record. If you would like to help with research requests let us know.

Start gathering names and photos for the Memorial Day Parade 2016. The theme will be the Bicentennial of Lawrence County. You can send the info to us and we will store them so we are not scrambling around in May. Did you have relatives living in Lawrence County in 1816?

Lori Schafer is giving a presentation at the Jan. 2nd meeting about genealogy and lineage applications. You need to start now for next year and we will be here to help you.

Vickie Patterson will be giving a presentation about "Lawrence County and the Titanic" at the March meeting.

See you in January. Hope you had a great Thanksgiving and have a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Becky Wilson Thissen
President

Calendar of Events

Date	Time	Event	Where	Speaker
1-2-16	1:00 pm	Meeting	Briggs Library, Ironton	Lori Shafer
3-5-16	1:00 pm	Meeting	Briggs Library, Ironton	Vickie Patterson

The Ohio Genealogical Society's 2016 Conference will be held April 28-30th, 2016 at the Great Wolf Lodge in Mason, Ohio. Check out their website at www.OGS.org for more information!

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LAWRENCE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.
PO BOX 1035
PROCTORVILLE, OH 45669-1035

We're on the Web
www.lawrencegenealogy.org

Find us on Facebook!



Lawrence County Genealogical Society, OGS Chapter



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2014-15 Officers



From left: Betty Knipp-Trustee, Nicole Cox-Recording Secretary/Newsletter Editor, Carl Murdock-Treasurer, Becky Thissen- President & Don Clark- Corresponding Secretary. Not present : Trustees Harold Lunsford and Anne Shuff
Photo by Lori Shaffer

PHYLLIS HAMNER ROOM

For Local History and Genealogy

Briggs Lawrence County Public Library
321 South 4th Street
Ironton, Ohio 45638
Ph. 740-532-1124
FAX: 740-532-4948

Email: genealogy@briggslibrary.org
Library website: www.briggslibrary.org

Tuesday — Thursday 10 AM — 8PM

Friday — Saturday 10 AM — 5PM

NOW CLOSED ON MONDAYS



2015 LINEAGE SOCIETY BANQUET

The Lawrence County Genealogical Society held their annual lineage banquet Saturday, November 7th, 2015 at the Briggs Library Chesapeake Branch at 1 pm. A lunch was served to a large group of members, family, and friends. Medals and certificates were presented to new inductees. An informal question and answer meeting was presented. Information that people may have wanted to know and never had the chance to ask was also given. Due to a schedule conflict and room space, new applications will be available for view at our January 2, 2016 meeting at the Briggs Library in Ironton. We will be available to answer questions and Lori Schafer, lineage chairman, will give a presentation on genealogy and how to get started on your application for next year.

Below are the new applicants and ancestors with each Society for 2015:

Frances Aldridge White

First Families- Nancy Green

Civil War- Robert Aldridge

Nicole Ratliff Cox

Settlers and Builders- Elisha Ratliff

Frances Ross Wheeler

First Families- Mary Ann Nelson Waugh

Civil War- Isaac D. White

Century Families- Rosa Lewis Ross, Madison Lewis, Matilda Short Lewis

David Bradley

Civil War- Anderson Bradley

Century Families- Lloyd Bradley, Grace Wilson Bradley, Enoch P. Bradley, Sarah Blower Bradley, Lloyd Peck Bradley

Rebekah Evalee Wilson Thissen

Settlers and Builders- Benjamin Wilson-1868, Brunson Wilson, Violinda George Wilson, Evaline Short Wilson, Benjamin Wilson-1835

Century Families- Benjamin Wilson-1868, Rebecca Wilson Wilson, Brunson Wilson, Violinda George Wilson, Benjamin Wilson-1835, Evaline Short Wilson

Becky Wilson Thissen

President

2015 LINEAGE SOCIETY BANQUET



Becky Thissen
presenting certificates to
Frances Aldridge White for both
“First Families” and “Civil War.”



Becky Thissen presenting a
certificate to Nicole Cox for proving
Elisha Ratliff for “Settlers and
Builders of Lawrence County.”



Lineage Society inductees—and cousins— Becky Thissen, David
Bradley and Fran Wheeler.

A BIBLE STORY

In June of this year the Society received an email from a gentleman asking for help finding the family of William M. Wilson of Lawrence County. My maiden name being Wilson, I was excited. He had found an old Bible from this family and wanted it to go back to them. He said if we found family he would mail it to them for the price of postage. I looked in my Wilson tree and didn't find a connection. I sent him my address and said I would receive the Bible. He mailed it on a Saturday, and by Monday it was on my doorstep. I was so excited! Being a genealogist, I opened up the shoe box with the hidden treasures. He had found it at a yard sale and was intrigued by the first page. It was written by William Wilson and asked that the Bible stay in the Wilson family and to be passed down from generation to generation.

The second page of the Bible had his birth and marriage date and his wife's name. Their parents' names were also listed. Then they recorded their children and birth dates. The first three children died young. Unless a person had seen this Bible, they would never know they existed. My sister was on the phone searching for anything about this Wilson family. Various papers were in the Bible, and one was a change of address for them in Wellston in Jackson County, Ohio. We found them buried in Ridgewood Cemetery in Wellston.

On my trip to Lawrence County on July 30th, I went through Wellston and visited their graves. I took tombstone photos and added them to Find A Grave. And, we finally found a connection to our Wilsons. Next I sent a message to someone from Find A Grave about a Wilson daughter he had added and said she was his great grand aunt. Because he was closer in relation than myself, I decided to give the Bible to him if he wished. We arranged to meet at the National Cemetery in Dayton, Ohio, which was close to where he lived. It was a beautiful sunny day and an emotional experience. I told him if he ever thought he wanted to get rid of it or put it in a yard sale, call me and I would come and get it. He was thrilled to have it, and we took photos.

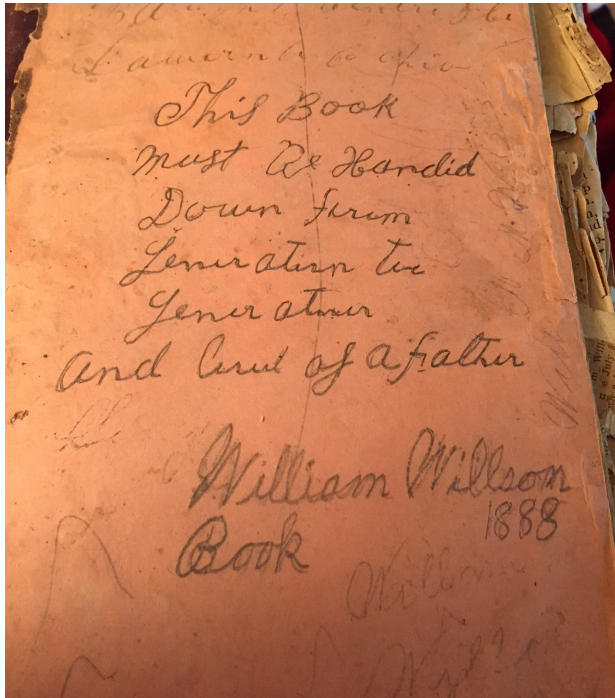
I had only had the Bible for a month, but I felt a loss on the drive home. It was a wonderful experience. I'm sure my uncle, the Rev. Raymond Dillon, was looking down and smiling.

So this is truly a Bible story!

Becky Wilson Thissen

Pictures on the next page!

A BIBLE STORY continued



William M. Wilson Bible



Becky presenting the Bible to Kurt

Saying Goodbye to a Friend

We are saddened by the death of one of our Lawrence County Genealogical Society members, Mary Ellen Bryant.

Mary Ellen passed away 15 Oct 2015, at the age of 57. Born in Lawrence County, she enjoyed genealogy and researching it with a friend at Briggs Library.



The graduate of Dawson-Bryant High School was a secretary for the Ironton Metropolitan Housing for 20 years. Mary Ellen was a member of Community Missionary Church, where she was involved with the Awana class for many years. She was also a Boy Scout leader for over 30 years with Cub Scout Pack 103 in Deering.

Mary Ellen leaves behind her father, Arthur E. Bryant II, two brothers, two sisters, and many nieces and nephews, aunts and uncles, cousins and a special friend, Carrie Hensley Patton. She is buried in Mamre Cemetery.

Obituary courtesy of Phillips Funeral Home, submitted by Fran Wheeler

On This Date in History

ONLY WOMAN IRONMASTER OF OLD FURNACE DAYS, DIES

Mrs. Nannie Kelly Wright, one of the district's most colorful personage - a woman whose life's story is a saga of American opportunity, romance and adventure-this morning entered upon life's greatest adventure-death.

Mrs. Wright, who was 90 years old last Sept. 08, died quietly in her room at the Marting Hotel at 8:30 a.m. following a critical illness of several days. With her passing Ironton lost one of its most colorful figures-a woman who was at home in the drawing room with governors and presidents, in furnace offices and furnace casting rooms. With her died a living memory of the old political, torchlight parades of other years of the business opportunities available even in those years when it was generally considered that a woman's place was in the home.

Mrs. Wright was one of the very few woman ironmasters in America's history. From 1894 to 1897, the iron industry in this country practically at a standstill and stocks were worth about 15 to 20 cents on the dollar. Buyers at that price were scarce. Mrs. Wright, a close observer of political and financial affairs, reasoned an upward trend was due and invested in old Center Furnace, near Superior. She paid the taxes, received an initial education in furnace operation and in 1898 she bid in the furnace, at auction, for \$19,950. This included 12,000 acres. She managed the furnace, conducted regular inspections of property and in additions, made regular weekly trips to Cincinnati. She continued as owner and operator until 1906 when she sold to the Superior Cement Co. for \$100,000.

During recent years, Mrs. Wright had resided in Ironton and Huntington hotels. She maintained unusual physical and mental alertness throughout her 90 years. With her death today Ironton's lost a resident who was a link with the "aristocratic" days of other years, a woman whose life was always one of bold adventure. She was the last immediate member of her family but some cousins, including the Davidson family of South Point, survive.



Above: Nannie Kelly with husband Lindsey and son, Lindsey, jr.

Obituary in Ironton newspaper December 12, 1946

Then and Now



Above, the Selby Shoe Company during the 1937 flood.
Below, the same building in 2015.



From the Ironton Register

Ironton Register, Thursday, December 15, 1892

Vernon furnace has stopped for repairs, will start up the 1st of February. J. W. Campbell and his able assistant, Isaac Yates, are busy looking after the mines and wood chopping, while Andy Dutiel attends to the office and Peter Emmitt issues the goods from the store and attends to the mail; and by the way Mr. Dutiel will be in the field for Sheriff at the next Republican convention.

The Company's land is well adapted to farming and stock raising, and Mr. Campbell turns a portion of his time to both. They raised 20,000 bushels of corn, 1500 bushels of wheat and cut 150 tons of hay. Their stock looks well. They have 175 head of cattle, which they will winter. They keep two registered bulls; they have some fine cattle. The coaling jobs are about wound up. The schools are progressing nicely, taught by the Misses Spencer and Manring. A.M. Manring is the boss sportsman. He has our thanks for two fine rabbits. Since the telephone has been taken down, the furnaces have put in the telegraph machines and now have electric communications.

Editor's Note: Vernon Furnace was located across from Phillips Grocery on State Route 93 in Decatur Township. "Misses Spencer" in the article is Mary Jane Spencer, daughter of George and Mary Jane Spencer, and is buried in Little's Cemetery (Decatur Twp, Lawrence Co)

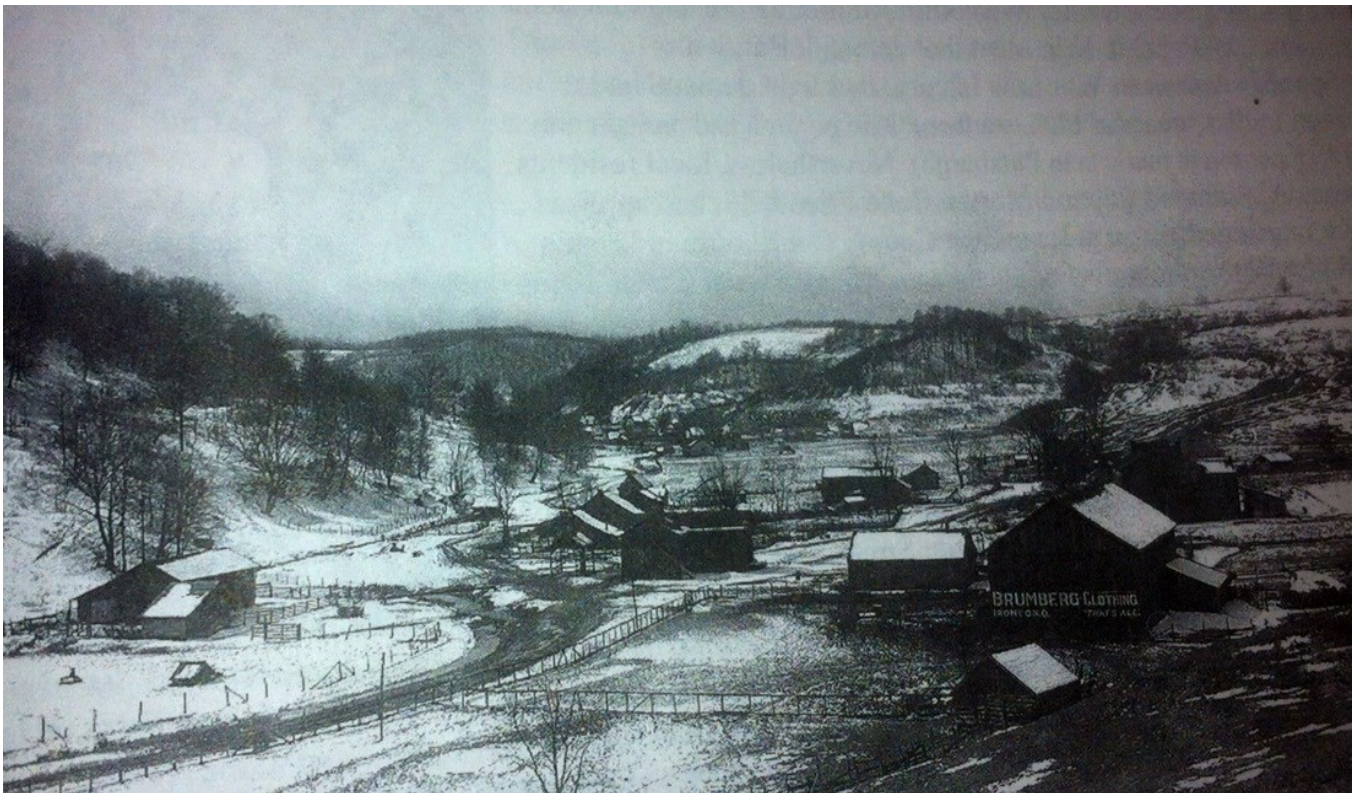


Photo above is the Vernon Furnace community in 1917. The dark building in the center of the photo is the company store, and what is now the location of Phillip's Grocery. *Photo taken from "Superior" by R.D. Null. Submitted by Nicole Cox.*

Publications for Sale by the Society:

Ohio residents must add sales tax, at their home county rate, on the order total, including any shipping charges. Please show county and rate on your order.

"1820 Federal Census of Lawrence County, OH"
by John Jones - \$6.00 + **S&H**

Lawco Lore back issues: 1st issue ordered- \$2.00
additional issues in same order- \$1.50 **includes S&H**

"1830 Federal Census of Lawrence County, OH"
By Donald R Clark - \$9.00 + **S&H**

"Catholic Cemeteries of Lawrence County, Ohio"
compiled by Lowell Slimp - \$18.50 + **\$3.50 S&H**

"Lawrence County Tax Lists 1818 & 1821"
by John Jones - \$10.00 + **S&H**

"History of Lawrence County, Ohio 1990"
3rd printing - 398 pages, every name index
\$55.00 + \$6.50 S&H

"Lawrence Township Cemetery Inscriptions"
by John Jones - \$10.00 + **S&H**

~~**"Hardesty Lake Historical Atlas of Lawrence County"**~~
NOT CURRENTLY AVAILABLE

"Windsor Township Cemetery Inscriptions"
by John Jones - \$12.50 + **S&H**

\$45.00 + \$5.00 S&H

"Rome Cemetery Inscriptions, with Rome Township to 1850" by John Jones - \$12.50 + **S&H**

**"History of Lawrence County, Ohio Vol. 2
"Ohio Bicentennial Edition — 2003"**

**"Earliest Marriage Records of Lawrence County, Ohio,
Vols. I, II, & III combined (1818-1843)"**
by Vera Murnahan - \$10.50 + **S&H**

500 family stories, 150 churches, township maps with cemeteries spotted and listed, historical update
293 pages, fully indexed
Price cut—now \$55.00 + \$5.50 S&H

"Lawrence County Declaration of Intent and Naturalization Records"
by Donna Murdock - \$11.00 + **S&H**

Shipping and handling: Where not listed with price: \$4.00
for the first item and \$1.50 for each additional item.
Under Ohio law, shipping charges are taxable.

"Index to Volumes I and II: Military Discharges"
recorded between Sept 30, 1864 & Aug. 21, 1919
by Donald R. Clark—\$9.00 + **S&H**

Members now get a 10% discount on regular priced publications. Discount should be applied before adding shipping charges. Sales tax will apply to total including shipping.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION: NEW or RENEWAL

Annual dues: \$10 per household Mail to: Lawrence County Genealogical Society, PO Box 1035, Proctorville, OH 45669-1035

New___ Renewal___ Year/s_____ Total Encl.\$_____

Name/s_____ Member No._____

Mailing Address_____

City_____ State_____ Nine Digit ZIP_____

Phone _____ E-Mail_____

Are you currently a member of the Ohio Genealogical Society? Yes _____ no _____

Lawrence County Families being researched: _____

May we share your address, email address, or phone number with other researchers?

Yes _____ No _____ Draw a line through any section you don't want shared.

May we deliver your newsletters by email as a pdf file? Yes _____ Prefer hard copy _____

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Proctorville, OH 45669-1035

**PLEASE SEND NEW ADDRESSES PROMPTLY
TO HELP KEEP MAILING COST DOWN.**

PLEASE HELP US KEEP OUR EMAIL LIST UPDATED.
If you get a new email address, please send a message
from that new address to: Lawcoloreman@aol.com
Please be sure to include your name in the email.



Message from the Editor

This will be the last newsletter I put out as your secretary. After the birth of my 4th child in October, I've found my day-to-day responsibilities to be a challenge, and anything else nearly impossible. It's been an honor—and a lot of fun!—doing these newsletters but I feel as though it should be done by someone who can give it the time and attention our members deserve. I LOVE genealogy and all the roads its taken me down and people I've met over the years so I look forward to remaining an active member of the Society. Thank you for this opportunity. From my family to yours, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Nicole Cox

Queries

Need information on burial place of Andrew Jackson Riggle who died in Elizabeth Township, Lawrence County 23 Nov., 1893. He was born in Wythe County Virginia and was the son of Simon and Catherine Knipp Riggle.

Becky Wilson Thissen
reth0411@aol.com
614-444-4579

According to a newspaper clipping from The Portsmouth Times, Steve (Stephen) Coyle was the landlord of the Junction Hotel in or around 1900.
From family stories, we think this was a stagecoach stop and later a railroad stop. Any information relating to The Junction Hotel would be very helpful. Stephen's parents, Cornelius and Bridget Coyle were alive at that time and celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at the Junction Hotel in 1900. Their residence was near Pine Creek, near Pine Grove or Powellsville, OH. We assume the hotel was somewhere near there.
It probably is very near the border of Lawrence and Scioto County.

Barbara (Coyle) Montavon
bmontavon75@bellsouth.net

Remember dues expire December 31st unless paid ahead!