

LAWCO LORE

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



Message from the President's Desk

Fall weather is approaching. There is no better time for a genealogist to visit cemeteries—the weather is cooler and less humid, the leaves are falling all around you, and the air is clear and brisk. Find more of your ancestors and clean tombstones. If you have not heard me speak about safely cleaning gravestones, send me an email at Reth0411@aol.com for some great tips on making those old tombstones look like new again. If done improperly, your best intentions can go awry and the stone may be damaged irreparably! Fall is also the time that our Lineage Society applications are arriving and being approved. If you have procrastinated in completing those applications this summer, you can still get one to us for review. Just email me soon and I'll arrange for someone to help you get your application to us. Remember that the lineage banquet is Saturday, November 4 at 1pm at Briggs Library in Ironton, Ohio. We hope members will come and honor the great research of our applicants. Who knows? Maybe researchers have filed applications for YOUR ancestors.

We are starting a series of articles that will appear in each newsletter. DONALD RUSSELL'S SCRAPBOOK. I will tell you more about this successful Lawrence County native in the articles. We are very proud to have his daughter, Ann Russell Wise, as our recording secretary.

As always we welcome those photos and articles for the Lore! Your research "finds" may not seem that important to you but could break that brick wall for someone else! Have a great Fall.

Becky Wilson Thissen, President

CALENDAR OF EVENTS/DEADLINES

Date	Time	Event	Where	Speaker	In this issue:
Sept 2, 2017	1:00 pm	Bimonthly Meeting	Briggs Library	TBA	Summer researchers.....3
Sept. 5, 2017	5:00 pm	Deadline for	Lineage Society	Applications	School Days.....4
Nov. 4, 2017	1:00 pm	Lineage Society Banquet	Briggs Library	TBA	Doctor Swango..... 5, 7
Jan. 6, 2018	1:00 PM	Bimonthly Mtg	Briggs Library	TBA	Meetings.....6
					Rev. Raymond Dillon... .. 8
					Migration.....9
					DNA.....10

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

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Have a question or genealogy query? Email us at contact@lawrencegenealogy.com

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PHYLLIS HAMNER ROOM

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

Wednesday — Thursday 10 AM — 8PM

Friday — Saturday 10 AM — 5PM

NOW CLOSED MONDAY / TUESDAY



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

It is with great pleasure that we welcome the following new member to the LawCo Gen Society:

Kevin Hayes, Pace, FL
KH Hayes440@aol.com

Phone 352-586-7752
HAYES

SUMMER IS A GREAT TIME FOR VACATIONING GENEALOGY RESEARCHERS TO COME TO THEIR ANCESTRAL AREAS. Pictured here in the bottom picture are Bob and Kathy Lewis who visited Lawco this summer. The top picture shows David Bradley, Bob Lewis and Fran Wheeler who all met at the Briggs Library to research and share family histories.

A FUN WAY TO SPEND A FRIDAY

“Time flies when you’re having fun.” That expression was proven true on Friday, Aug 5 when my cousin, David Bradley, and I met with Cousin Robert Lewis and his wife Kathy from SC at Briggs Library. We met at 10:00 am, took a few minutes for lunch, and returned for more discussions. Before we realized it, we heard the words, “You have five minutes left.” We quickly took some pictures and said our good-byes.

Bob, David, and I are connected through our Lewis line, and we have some brick walls. David and Bob have other family surnames in common (Sowards and Harbour). We shared our DNA results and

found some common matches, letting us know we are related, no matter whether Lewis is really our name or not (a question was raised about this fact). Our Lewis family came to Lawrence County in the early 1830-40s, but we are not exactly sure how our respective Madison and Wallace Lewis are related.

Our DNA matches seem to tell us they are the sons of Catherine Hill Lewis, also mother to James J. Lewis, who lived in the Rome-Proctorville area of Lawrence County. We do know they did not have the same father. In 1850 census, Madison,

James, and Catherine were living together. My first assumption was that James was Madison’s father. I have since learned from my many hours of research and studying mistakes made by many researchers not to make assumptions. Because of our shared DNA matches, I believe he may be the uncle of all three of us.

Continued on page 10....



SCHOOL DAYS, SCHOOL DAYS

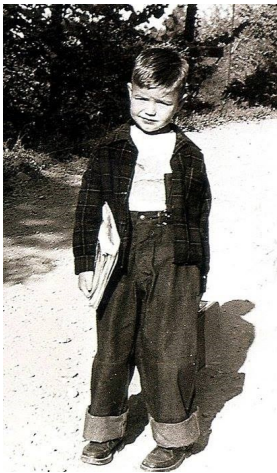
Dear old Golden Rule days....



FROM DONALD RUSSELL'S SCRAPBOOK.....

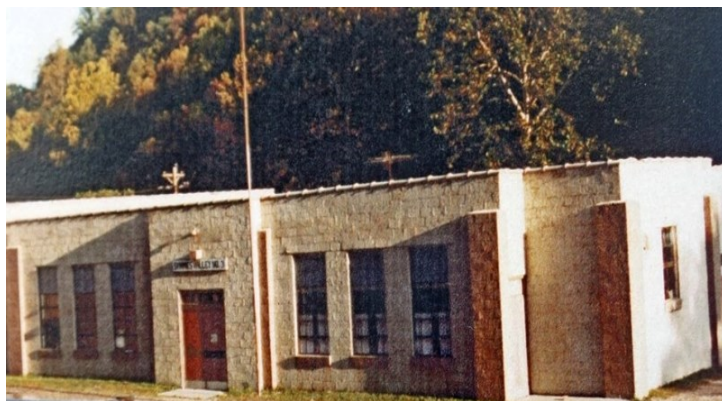
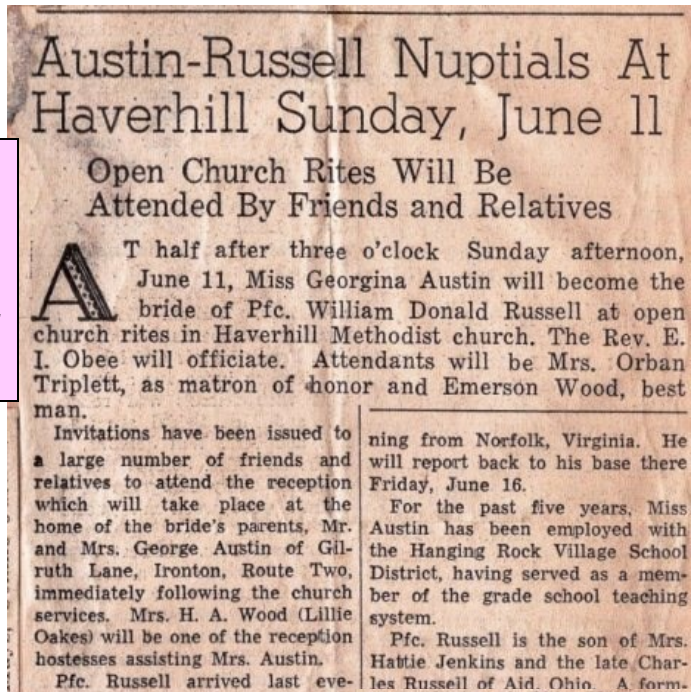
It is very fitting to begin a series of articles about Donald Russell in the September issue of the Lore. As kids start back to school and as we older generations recall our own school days in Lawco, we remember Donald Russell, a well-known teacher and superintendent of our schools for many years.....William Donald Russell was born Aug16, 1906 at Aid in Lawrence County Ohio, the son of Charles and Hattie Burton Russell. Donald married Georgia Alice Austin Jun 11, 1942 in Haverhill Methodist Church. Mr. Russell was then stationed at the Navel Operating Base in Norfolk, Virginia. He arrived the evening before the wedding and had to report back Friday, June 16. He had been principal at Mason Aid and Hanging Rock High Schools before enlisting in the US Marine Corp Reserves. The Russell family ancestors came from Virginia and date back to the 1820s in Lawrence County. Donald died Mar 27, 1987 in Ironton and is buried at Aid Cemetery in Aid, Ohio. The next issues of the Lore will have a few photos from his scrapbook and some stories about his school teaching days. I hope you enjoy them.

By Becky Wilson Thissen with pictures and scrapbook material from Ann Russell Wise



Russell-Austin Wedding, Ironton Tribune, June 1942. From Donald Russell Scrapbook.

Our very own Carl Murdock, School year 1952-53 at Windsor #2, pictured below. Photos from Carl's collection.



Send your school memories to the editor, T3Wilson@aol.com.

ning from Norfolk, Virginia. He will report back to his base there Friday, June 16.

For the past five years, Miss Austin has been employed with the Hanging Rock Village School District, having served as a member of the grade school teaching system.

Pfc. Russell is the son of Mrs. Hattie Jenkins and the late Charles Russell of Aid, Ohio. A former graduate of Ohio University, Mr. Russell was for 15 years associated in different capacities with the Lawrence County School system, having recently served as principal of Mason-Aid and Hanging Rock High Schools.

Since July of 1942, he has been a member of the armed forces serving in the U. S. Marine Corps, Reserve at various bases throughout the United States. He is at present located at Naval Operating Base, Norfolk, Virginia.

WATERLOO, OHIO..... who doesn't remember Doc Swango? He was the best of the best country doctors. This article by one of his former patients reminds us all of what he contributed to our rural areas.



WATERLOO BRIDGE 1909 WATERLOO OHIO

This wonderful old picture of the covered bridge at Waterloo from the collection of Carl Murdock.

Dr. Jefferson Davis Swango was born 4 Apr 1898, at Compton, Kentucky, and graduated Frenchburg High School and Berea College, Berea, Kentucky. He received his medical degree from Hanoman Medical School, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He served as plant physician at Armco Steel in Ashland, Kentucky, for five years. On 2 Apr 1926, Dr. Swango married Ruth Blythe. The family moved to Waterloo, Lawrence County, Ohio, in 1930, and he practiced there for 27 years. He traveled almost impassable roads to care for his patients, and seriously ill patients were loaded in his car and driven to the hospital. In 1942, he enlisted in the United States Medical Corps as a Captain. He served in California, and was at Guadalcanal in the Pacific for 16 months, returning to Waterloo at the end of World War II. Dr. Swango was active in the community. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church, Waterloo F.& A.M., as well as medical societies of both Boyd County, Kentucky, and Lawrence County, Ohio. At the time of his death, November 14, 1957, he was President of the Lawrence County Health Board and a newly elected member of the Symmes Valley District Board of Education. Dr. and Mrs. Swango had two sons, Jefferson II and George, and a daughter Ruby Swango Spurlock. He

and his family are buried at Mound Hill Cemetery in Gallia County, Ohio.

On a personal note, I remember going to his office several times. I also remember his coming to our house to deliver my two sisters. On the day of his funeral the teachers took some of our classes to the church to see him for the last time. What a caring man whose life was cut short at such a young age!



Photo courtesy of the Duane Null Collection.

Sources:

Virginia Bryant. *Medical Professionals: A History of Those Who Have Practiced in Lawrence County, Ohio.* *The Ironton Tribune*, 15 Nov 1957.

Editor's note: See pictures of Dr. Swango and his family on page 7.

COME TO MEETINGS, HEAR INTERESTING SPEAKERS.....

Our Saturday, July 1 meeting featured Kelli Bergheimer on using DNA in genealogy research.....

The meeting was held at Briggs Library on July 1, 2017. Over 30 members and friends attended, and each one heard an informative speech about DNA. Our speaker, Kelli Bergheimer from Columbus, Ohio, gave a visual presentation entitled “DNA for Beginners.” Her introduction cautions those who may be planning to have their DNA tested: **WE MUST BE SURE WE CAN HANDLE THE RESULTS** because our ethnicity may be different, our parents or grandparents may not be who we think, or we may be adopted or born out of wedlock. We must remember that DNA is only part of the story; we still need to continue researching to find records, photos, and documents. Kelli explained what we know about DNA, what DNA is, where DNA is, and how we get our DNA. There are three kinds of genealogical DNA tests. (Paraphrased from Kelli’s handout-thanks, Kelli!). Kelli is quite knowledgeable about DNA and so willing to answer questions.



I urge people to have DNA testing unless they cannot handle results. I personally am so glad I did mine, for I now know more about my maternal grandfather. As more and more matches come in each day, I am confident I will find more information about other family members. I have found names that I do not have in my family tree, so what does that tell me? I must keep digging for those roots. Yes, there may be surprises, but the past is the past; and, as one lady told me, “Skeletons in the closet just make ancestry more interesting.” The past is gone, and we must do our best to give our loved ones

great memories.

By Frances Ross Wheeler

(see page 10 for a great chart from Kelli’s presentation materials)

Our Friday, July 28 “Lock-in”.....

was a huge success. Thanks to Marta and Judy for their help. We had twenty-one people there, including several researchers from out of the area and some local friends who came for their first time. Some were researching before our dinner, consisting of many delicious foods. After the meal we engaged in a variety of activities: copying, using the computer, finding books and information, and talking.



Research is fun at the annual Lock-in. Picture by Marta Ramey.

By Fran Wheeler

DOCTOR SWANGO continued.....

THE SWANGO FAMILY

JEFF, DR SWANGO, RUTH, RUBY & GEORGE



Photo courtesy of Sandy Wiseman.



Doc Swango's house and office in Waterloo, Ohio. Photo from Sandy Wiseman.

A very special thank you to cousin Fran Wheeler for contributing so many articles and pictures for this Lawco Lore. Fran, you are real gem....MGW

LAWCO LOVES FAMILY REUNIONS.....



William and Nancy Roach Family Reunion August 20, 2017
Photo taken by Debra McCarty Short

QUERIES FROM OUR MEMBERS.....

We always welcome queries from people who are searching for help with their genealogical research. But, this time we had no queries submitted but we did have a request for a copy of an obituary as follows. Anyone who can help obtain this obituary, please help our requester. Send your queries to T3Wilson@aol.com, Lawco Lore Editor. Be sure to put the words "LAWCO LORE" in the subject line of your email. They will appear in the next issue.

Daniel Rolph, Ph.D, 6332 E Valley Green Rd, Flourtown, PA 19031-1641, needs a copy of the obituary of Elijah Rolph that appeared in the *Ironton Register* on December 26, 1901. His email is droph@hsp.org.

Memories from years past.....

He Lived What He Preached

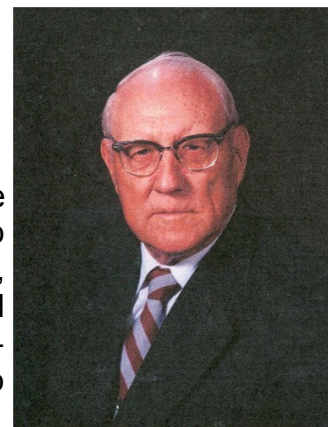
That's how I remember Rev. Raymond Dillon (Apr 12, 1910-Jul 5, 1998). He was a well loved United Baptist minister in Lawrence County. He was also my uncle. Some of his churches were Linnville, New Zion, Good Hope, Oakland Chapel and Center Point. His grandfather, Cyrus M. Dillon, helped build Center Point church. Rev. Dillon's ancestors have deep roots in Lawrence County and trace back to McCager Dillon from Franklin Co., VA who arrived in Lawco between 1830-1840.

They say that in the spring of 1951, Brother Raymond Dillon held a revival at Mount Pleasant (Old Baptist) church that lasted six weeks, and saved over sixty souls and over thirty of those joined Mt. Pleasant on May 12, 1951. Many will also remember him as the owner of the Aid Feed & Supply store. He loved to talk with his neighbors and so preaching and feed store work suited him well.

On 16 May, 1936 he married my mother's sister, Grace Riggle. They traveled many miles spreading the word of the Lord. They took my sister, Georgellen, and me to Christmas programs and homecomings in OH, KY, and WV along with their daughter, Eva Lorraine Dillon Augerbright. Those were some of the happiest days of my childhood. Uncle Raymond was generous at heart. He gave me my first 30 inch bride doll, a birthstone ring, a Cinderella watch and a Brownie camera. I still have all but the doll. But most important of all, he gave me his love and faith in God.

I have tears in my eyes as I write this article. Tears of love.

Submitted by Becky (Evalee) Wilson Thissen



Raymond Dillon

McCager Dillon→William Cyrus Dillon→Cyrus M. Dillon→Cyrus Harvey Dillon→Raymond Dillon
 (1786-1859) (1817-1903) (1843-1924) (1875-1948) (1910-1998)

Migration from Virginia.....

David W. Willis contributed an article, the first part of which appeared in the June 2017 Lore. This is the second part of the article which reports on other prominent Lawco families that came from the Bedford and Franklin County, Virginia area. The final part of the article will appear in the December 2017 issue of the Lore.

PEMBERTON.....In 1830, four young Pemberton men—John (m. Mary I. Corbin), George (m. Mary Pratt), Joseph (m. Purlina Willis), and William (m. Elizabeth Jane Corbin)—all married with young children, are listed on the same

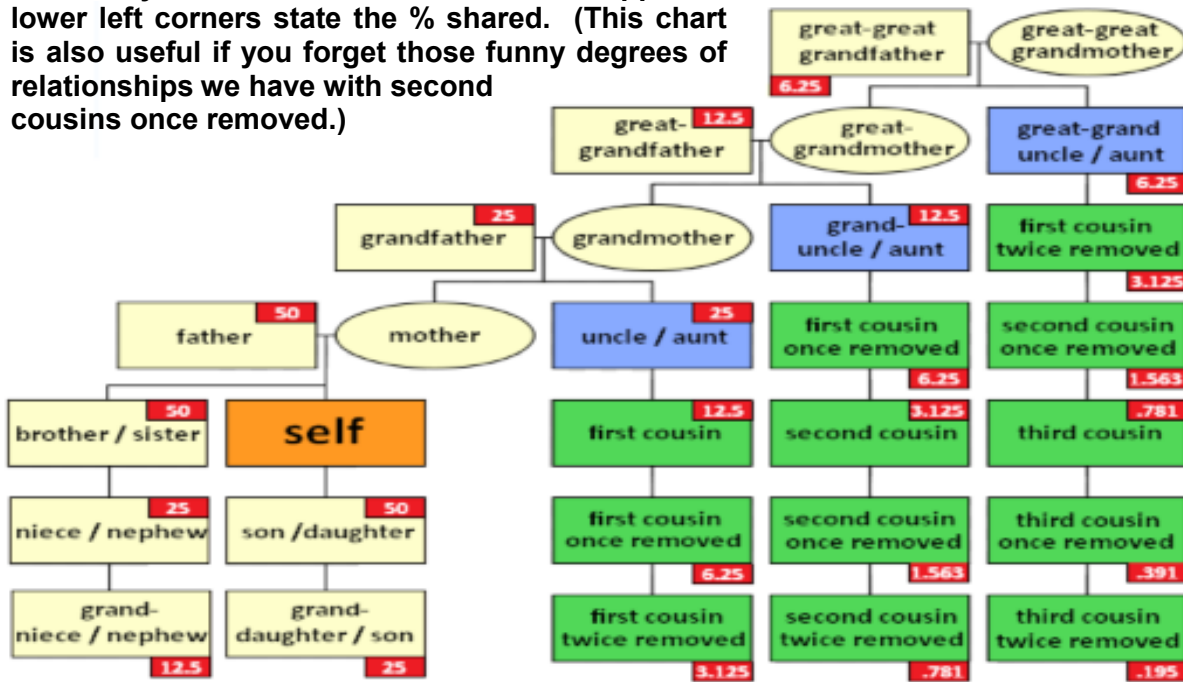
page of the 1830 census for Windsor Township, Lawrence County. Before moving there, about 1825, they lived for some number of years in Kanawha County. John, the eldest, first appeared on the Kanawha County tax list in 1820. He is listed on the same enumeration date as James Pemberton, about whom nothing is known. In 1822, John married Mary I. Corbin, a daughter of David Corbin. John is the only Pemberton listed in 1821 and 1822. In 1824 he is listed on the same enumeration date with George and Joseph, who appeared for the first and only time. William, the youngest, does not appear on the list, but in 1826, in Lawrence County, he married Elizabeth Jane Corbin, another daughter of David Corbin. There appears to be a lack of agreement about who the father of these men was. There is a William Pemberton on the 1806 Kanawha County tax list. Other than this William, there are no other Pembertons listed between 1800 and at least 1830.

BLANKENSHIP.....Many of the early Blankenships in Lawrence County are said to be descended from Lodewick Blankenship, born in Goochland County, Virginia in 1726. He was on the 1782 and 1783 tax lists of Greenbrier County and died there in the late 1780s. Several of the men said to be his sons—Richard, Isham, and Beverley—are connected with Henry Willis in various Greenbrier and Monroe County records. Two of Henry's sons married Blankenships. Isham Blankenship, along with several of his children and/or nephews and nieces, moved to Lawrence County. The names Richard, Isham Jr., and Beverley are names given to several younger Lawrence County Blankenships, but none of these names show up in Kanawha County tax records. A Peter Blankenship married Nancy Jones in Kanawha County in 1825. He was on the tax list in 1826 and 1827 and was in the 1830 Kanawha County census. He is said to have settled later in Lawrence County.

NEAL.....Thomas Neal appeared in a Kanawha County tax list between the years 1816 and 1819. According to an account in 1925 by a great grandson, Thomas worked in the "Kanawha Salines." About 1819 he married Sophia Corbin, another daughter of the above David Corbin. In the mid-1820s they moved to Lawrence County, where they raised a large family.

Submitted by David W. Willis

Kelli Bergheimer’s presentation included this chart explaining the percent of DNA each of us shares with the different generations and relations within our family. The small red boxes in the upper or lower left corners state the % shared. (This chart is also useful if you forget those funny degrees of relationships we have with second cousins once removed.)



“A Fun Way to Spend a Friday,” continued from page 3.....

I have valuable information about my Madison Lewis, except for his parentage. Wallace is also our brick wall, and we would so love to find out more about him. We know about his children, but who were his parents? When did he die? Bob would so love to know more about him. Bob has researched for many years and has shared so much of his information with me. He has given much of his research to me. I will study it thoroughly, then organize it into a notebook, and donate it to our genealogy department.

If any of our LAWCO LORE readers share our family members and can add anything, please feel free to let us know. And, if you need any information, we are more than happy to help. We may not have made a dent in our brick wall, but how enjoyable it was to meet and discuss possibilities! Bob and Kathy, it was a pleasure to meet you. You are a wonderful couple, so easy to love. Thanks for lunch, and please come back any time you are in Ohio.

“Time flies when you’re having fun.” My neighbor Ruth said, “Whoever said that must have been a genealogist!”
By Frances Ross-Wheeler

Note to those who receive the Lawco Lore by U.S. mail: If you would like to start receiving the Lore by email rather than mail please jot a note to Don Clark at lawcoloreman@aol.com. We appreciate you considering this option. If you choose to receive the Lore by email you will get it as a pdf (Adobe) attachment to an email.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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additional issues in same order- \$1.50 includes S&H

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

Lawco Lore---The First Decade---1984-1993
Reprint -not indexed-523 pgs. \$49.00 + \$5.00 S&H

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

"History of Lawrence County, Ohio Vol. 2
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Are you currently a member of the Ohio Genealogical Society? Yes ___ no ___

Lawrence County Families being researched: _____

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

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

May we send our newsletter by email as a pdf file? Yes _____ Prefer hard copy _____

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from that new address to: Lawcoloreman@aol.com
Please be sure to include your name in the email.**



Remember dues expire December 31st unless paid ahead!

Need help tracking down an ancestor? We can help! Send us your inquiries and let's work together to break through that "brick wall." Email us at contact@lawrencegenealogy.org

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