



ROOTS AND GOLD DUST GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

P. O. Box 1354, Diamond Springs, CA 95619

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~cargdgs/index.html>

JANUARY 2017 NEWSLETTER

Roots and Gold Dust Genealogical Society's General meetings are held on the Third Tuesday of each month at 1:00 pm. We meet at the Family History Center in the Church of Latter Day Saints building, 3275 Cedar Ravine Road in Placerville. However, we do not have a meeting in December!

Well, here we are at the BEGINNING of 2017! We hope that all of our members return and that new guests will attend also. Participation is a very important part of our success as well as the success of our Roots and Gold Dust Genealogical Society. When we share our own experiences with other members, we find other members may be having the same problems or rewards as we are experiencing. Other members may have a solution to our brick walls and we may have a solution for theirs.

AGENDA FOR 2017

JAN 17, 2017

All Members

Richard Wilson, our President, will lead a discussion with all of the members about what we want to do in the New Year. We will also install the new board members and volunteers at the general meeting.

TIME TO RENEW OUR ANNUAL DUES

January is the time to renew our Annual dues for membership in the R&GD Genealogical Society for 2017. The annual dues is:

Individual: \$15.00

Family: \$22.00

Please pay our Treasurer, Carol Sexton. She will be sitting in the back of the room at the end of the table where you sign-in and pick up your name tag (if you are already a member). If you are registering as a new member, please obtain a Membership Application and give it to Carol Sexton with your membership dues.

A RECAP of OUR NOVEMBER 15, 2016 MEETING

This was our "Annual Finger Food and Potluck" Member Sharing event. Members brought in finger food, potluck items and beverages to share. We also enjoyed the sharing of our members' experiences of successes and/or frustrations of their family tree research.

It is always amazing to learn that Genealogists do take out time for cooking, baking, and shopping to bring delicious items to share.

FAMILY HISTORY CENTER LIBRARY

**** REMINDER **** I just received notice that the library will be closed this week, Jan. 3rd – 5th. You may not get this in time, but it's a reminder to phone before visiting the FHC if bad weather is predicted.

FHC Address: LDS Church, 3275 Cedar Ravine Rd., Placerville

Phone #: 530-621-1378

Hours: Tues., Wed., Thurs. 11:00 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Website:

<http://eldoradofamilyhistorylibrary.org>

I hope you have all had a good holiday break with family and friends and are ready to start working on all those New Year's resolutions you made about taking your family history back another generation, and finally finding out what happened to Great-Great-Uncle Josiah.

Free Genealogy Classes –

Check our website (address above) for a complete list of classes scheduled through May, and keep checking for additions and changes.

Classes currently scheduled for January and February include:

Computer Basics with Alton Sissell on Tuesday, January 10th, 10 to 11 am. "Windows 10, Snip It, Irfan View, Copy to USB Drive." [I have no idea what "Irfan View" is.] Go to <http://www.irfanview.com/> for information.

Creating Stories from Research with Marian Kile. Wednesday, January 18th, 10 to 11 am.

Church of England Church Records – webinar. Thursday, January 19th, 10 to 11 am. "How to find your English ancestors in the church records."

Research in Poland – webinar. Thursday, February 16th, 10 to 11 am.

Please sign up for classes at the FHC desk or call them during open hours to ensure a seat in the class, as we need to know what size room to reserve.

The LDS El Dorado Family History Center ("FHC") is open to all researchers and volunteers. Several R&GD non-church members (me included) are part of the volunteer staff. The library gives us access to the online records and microfilm collections of the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. Many of the FHC's own collection of books, maps and microfilms have been donated by R&GD or its individual members. The online "Portal", which can only be used at an FHC, provides free use of several major paid genealogy websites (Ancestry, Fold3, etc.)

FHC Library Volunteers

The Family History Center can always use more staff to work a regular shift or to substitute as needed. The pay isn't very good, but the rewards are great. You learn while helping others and, if patrons don't need help, you may work on your own research. Pick your day (Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday) and shift (11 a.m. to 2 p.m., 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., or 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.) Contact: FHC Secretary Teresa Power.

Email: thepowerclan@hotmail.com

Phone: (530) 626-6970 or leave a note in her folder at the FHC

—Alice Morrow, morbrowz@comcast.net

RESOURCES

STATE RESEARCH GUIDE: OHIO

12/19/2016

By Jana Sloan Broglin

Score a touchdown for your roots in the Buckeye State.

From the Ohio State Buckeyes in Columbus to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton, football is everywhere in the Buckeye State. And people with Ohio ancestors are everywhere in the United States, thanks to the Buckeye State's position between the Northeast and the wide-open West. If your ancestors lived in or passed through Ohio, we'll help you tackle your research.

STATE HISTORY

The Continental Congress created the Northwest Territory—mostly Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky—in 1787 from Revolutionary War winnings. In 1788, General Rufus Putnam founded the area's first settlement on the Ohio River at Marietta. Resident Indian tribes, egged on by the British, resisted US encroachment until their decisive defeat at the 1794 Battle of Fallen Timbers.

Ohio grew so rapidly that Congress admitted it as a state in 1803 when its population had reached 45,000—15,000 short of Northwest Ordinance requirements. Even today, Ohio is still packed with people: it ranks among the most densely populated states in the nation.

LAND RECORDS

Ohio was the first public-land state, surveyed under the rectangular survey system rather than the less-reliable metes-and-bounds scheme. Various parts of the state were partitioned off in different ways, though; some land was sold under land company ownership and

some was distributed by the government. The **Official Ohio Lands Book, a free download from the state auditor's website**, is a must-read for those researching early Ohio settlers. Visit the Bureau of Land Management **General Land Office website** to search for land patents granted by the federal government, then request land entry case files from the National Archives and Records Administration <archives.gov>.

Many Revolutionary War and War of 1812 veterans received bounty land in Ohio. Virginia awarded lands to its claimants in the Virginia Military District in southwest Ohio. The federal government handed out parcels in the US Military District of Ohio in the center of the state. Digitized US Military District warrants are searchable on subscription site **Ancestry.com**. Virginia Military District bounty warrants and rejected claims are **digitized here**; click on Digital Collections, then Collections by Topic, then Military Service. Files for both military districts are available on microfilm through the **Family History Library (FHL)**.

The "Fire lands" of north central Ohio were reserved for residents of Connecticut towns burned during the American Revolution. The **Western Reserve Historical Society** and **Fire lands Historical Society** have extensive related resources.

County recorders' offices hold deeds for land transactions between private citizens. Because of border disputes, for pre-1837 land records in Williams, Fulton and Lucas counties, you may need to check Michigan's Hillsdale, Lenawee and Monroe counties, respectively.

CENSUS RECORDS

The Northwest Territory existed before the 1790 US census, but its residents weren't

counted. Most of the 1800 Northwest Territory census is lost, but a Washington County head count is at the **Ohio Genealogical Society** (OGS) library and is part of Ancestry.com's Ohio Census, 1790-1890 collection. Only Washington County schedules exist for 1810, too; find records on Ancestry.com and **in a partial index here**).

The first extant federal census records for the entire state are from the 1820 enumeration. Most of the 1890 US census is lost, but a few records for Cincinnati in Hamilton County and Wayne Township in Clinton County survived. Ohio's 1890 veterans' schedule of Union Civil War veterans also survived. Search federal census records on subscription genealogy websites Ancestry.com, **MyHeritage** and **Findmypast**. Some census indexes and records are on the free FamilySearch (index results may link to record images on fee-based websites), and you can rent microfilmed census records through the FHL.

Non-population censuses—which are incomplete for Ohio but still valuable—include 1850 to 1880 mortality schedules, agricultural and industrial schedules, an 1880 schedule of “Defective, Dependent and Delinquent” classes, and a 1935 business schedule. Many of these records are accessible through Ancestry.com.

Ohio took no state censuses, but every four years from 1803 to 1911, it counted men age 21 and older in various counties to determine voting districts. These quadrennial enumerations are on FHL microfilm and in local genealogical society collections. Ohio counties also kept detailed tax records since their inception. Copies are available at the **Ohio History Connection** (OHC), which serves as the state archives and historical society, and on microfilm through the FHL. Records for 1800 to 1850 are available **on FamilySearch**.

City directories can help your account for ancestors between census years and when census records are missing. Ohio's cities are well-represented in Ancestry.com's US city directories collection and MyHeritage's Compilation of Published Sources.

VITAL RECORDS

Many cities and counties started keeping birth and death registers in 1867, but the state didn't centralize and standardize recordkeeping until 1908. County probate courts have original records before 1908; many are on microfilm at the FHL and OHC. **You'll find a collection of index cards created from Cincinnati's early records here**. For post-1908 records, contact the local health department or the state vital statistics office.

Many of Ohio's vital records are digitized or indexed online. FamilySearch has indexes for millions of Ohio births (1821-1962) and deaths (1854-2007), plus death certificates (1908-1953). Even more vital records are in county-level datasets. Ancestry.com has similar statewide and some county-level births and deaths. **OHC has a more limited online death index** (1913-1944); you can order some death certificates here.

Counties have always kept marriage records, but the state office has marriages from 1949. Find indexes to millions of Ohio marriages at FamilySearch (1798-2013) and Ancestry.com (1803-1900 and 1970s-2007). Search for county-level marriage datasets at these sites, too. Early records may contain only the couple's names, but after about 1900, they also give birthplaces and dates, occupations, previous marriages and parents' names.

Courthouse fires destroyed some records, but most are still in county courts and some are online (nearly 7 million Ohio probate record images can be browsed at FamilySearch). Check with county offices, which you can find by searching online for the county name and clerk or recorder. County boundaries shifted often, so don't forget to check records in parent counties.

MILITARY RECORDS

Many Revolutionary War and War of 1812 veterans and their descendants settled in Ohio. Revolutionary War muster rolls are searchable on Ancestry.com and Fold3. **Search the Adjutant General's Roster of War of 1812 soldiers here.**

During the Civil War, more than 300,000 Ohioans served the Union, many of whom are documented in OGS' Ohio Civil War databases. They're also indexed online in the **Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System**. You'll find WWI soldiers listed in the Official Roster of Ohio Soldiers, Sailors, and Marines in the World War, 1917-18, in libraries and digitized on Ancestry.com.

The **National Archives and Records Administration** (NARA) holds military service and pension records today. You can access some of these records—or indexes to them—online at Ancestry.com, Fold3 and FamilySearch. Look to these sites as well for Ohioans' WWI and WWII draft records.

County recorders' offices hold soldiers' discharge records for the Civil War and later wars. Larger counties may have forwarded these records to a federal Department of Veterans Affairs district office. These may be micro-filmed or digitized with county records at FamilySearch.

IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION RECORDS

Knowing where your ancestors settled can give you a clue to their origins. Early northeastern Ohioans likely traveled from New England or New York. Southwestern Ohio ancestors may be from Kentucky, Virginia, New Jersey or Maryland. German immigrants headed for the Cincinnati area starting in the 1830s. The Irish tended to settle urban areas. Later, industrial cities in the northeast, including Cleveland, attracted Eastern Europeans.

Most immigrants arrived via East Coast ports such as New York and Baltimore. Search and view lists for nearly all US ports on Ancestry.com, with many records and indexes also at FamilySearch. You also can search New York passengers for free at the **Castle Garden** (1820-1892; index only) and **Ellis Island** (1892-1950s) websites.

Naturalization wasn't legally required; the Alien Registration Act in 1940 prompted many aliens to file for citizenship. Before 1906, immigrants could file for naturalization in any court—local, state or federal. After 1906, naturalization records were forwarded to the US government. Naturalizations filed in US District Courts for many areas of the country are online (in indexes or as digital records) at Ancestry.com, Fold3 or FamilySearch. Pre-1906 records filed in other courts would be among records for those courts. **Order post-1906 records from Citizenship and Immigration Services from the US Citizenship and Immigration Services website.**

OHIO REPOSITORIES AND WEBSITES

Team up with Ohio's many research repositories to find your family. OHC manages the **Ohio Network of American History Research Centers**, regional archives that hold newspaper

microfilm and selected local records, such as militia lists and ferry licenses. The OHC library in Columbus holds newspapers from the entire state and offers several online indexes. Its **Ohio Memory Network**, a partnership with the state library, is a searchable online archive of information, photos, newspapers, maps and other digitized documents from repositories across the state.

In the state's southwest corner, the **Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County** has strong local history and African-American collections, microfilmed records, and a **Digital Library** of city directories, photos and more. The **Western Reserve Historical Society** in Cleveland holds records of interest to northeast Ohio and beyond.

For a records bonanza not to be overlooked, turn to the OGS library in Bellville. It holds more than 40,000 family histories and other books, a quarter million ancestor cards, censuses, military and county court records and more. OGS also keeps files on early settlers for OGS lineage societies.

From the January/February 2017 *Family Tree Magazine*. Written by Jana Sloan Broglin

NEWSLETTER EDITOR IS SIGNING OFF

I have had a nice experience being the Newsletter Editor for Roots and Gold Dust Genealogical Society for 3 years. It is time for me to give another member the opportunity to step-up and give our members a new look and view from a new perspective. I will continue to be a member, but I also need time to put my own genealogical information into a Legacy Family Tree. Now, I understand that there is a Legacy 9 com-

ing out. Here I go again to purchase the new manual and learn what is new!

Also, I have my first great granddaughter to spoil and send home to mommy and daddy! Payback is always fun...

Patty Harris has stepped up to be the Newsletter Editor for 2017. Thank you Patty for your kindness and bravery. I will help you if you need me. I will be happy to send Paul Hodel, the Webmaster, a PDF file for you. There also needs to be a little updated information on the webpage. Paul has all of our Newsletters added.

Here I go!

Signing out: *Carol Pirtle*