

PAST PURSUITS: Genealogy and Local History News at the Akron-Summit County Public Library

A Publication of the Special Collections Division

Volume 2 Number 1

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Happy New Year to all! Special Collections looks forward to another busy and productive year as we enhance our collections, offer more genealogy classes, and continue to provide the highest level of reference service to all of our customers, new and returning. The response to the first issue of *Past Pursuits* has been overwhelmingly positive, and we are continuing to add new subscribers daily. Please let us know what you think about our new publication, and feel free to offer suggestions about what you would like to see in future issues. If you missed the first issue and would like to receive it, let us know. Email: speccollections@ascpl.lib.oh.us or call 330-643-9041.

Genealogy Collection Highlights and Updates

Adding to the Ohio Death Certificate Collection, 1908-1944

In our last issue of *Past Pursuits*, we announced that we had ordered the Ohio Death Certificates on microfilm from the Ohio Historical Society. We currently have the microfilm reels for the time period covering late December of 1908 through 1928, and expect to receive 1928-1944 in the near future.

Calling Alabama Researchers

We are happy to announce that we have placed our order for the entire United States Federal Population Schedules for Alabama up to and including the year 1930. An exact shipping date is unknown. If you want to be notified when it arrives, please email Marie Herlevi at mherlevi@ascpl.lib.oh.us with "Alabama" in the subject line of your email. You will receive email updates on its arrival.

More Census Microfilm!!!

Just when we stopped to take a breath from filing, a stack of new boxes arrived at our office door stuffed with census microfilm. We have welcomed into our happily crowded quarters United States Federal Population Schedules for Connecticut (1790-1840), New York (1790-1850), and Virginia (1790-1860). Some of the microfilm reels appear to be back-ordered, but we look forward to their future arrival. Please ask a member of the Special Collections Staff for assistance if you wish to use any of these films.

Notes on the 1930 United States Federal Census

Many of you may have noticed that it is becoming easier to find relatives in the 1930 Census. Ancestry.com claims that they have the entire 1930 Census online with an every-name index. AncestryPlus, available for free at ASCPL's Main Library and all 17 branches, has helped many patrons locate their elusive ancestors. Quite a few have also had the excitement of viewing their own immediate family...with themselves listed as children! However, one reference tool will not always be one hundred percent accurate

or effective. If you don't find your family in Ancestry's index, all is certainly not lost. You can still find your family by using sources such as city directories and enumeration district descriptions. For a listing of our 1930 related resources, please visit the following page: <http://ascpl.lib.oh.us/1930census.html> The Special Collections Reference Desk is staffed at all times at the Main Library. Please stop by if you need any assistance getting started or solving a problem.

The Atlas Shelves...Great Source Receives Little Attention

Our Staff is also targeting our atlas collection for development. Atlases for Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and other states can be found in our collection. We are currently examining our holdings for the counties of Ohio. The majority of atlases cover the 1870s decade. What types of information can one normally find in a circa 1870 atlas?

- *County History*
- *Town and Village Histories*
- *Sketches of prominent businesses, homes and institutions*
- *Subscribers' reference including nativity and business*
- *Detailed population statistics*
- *Maps of Townships showing property ownership*

You can get both a view of the layout of the area and an idea of what life might have been like for your ancestors by viewing the atlas of the county. The table below illustrates counties for which we have at least one atlas.

Historical County Atlases Held by ASCPL Special Collections

<i>Adams</i>	<i>Darke</i>	<i>Lawrence</i>	<i>Richland</i>
<i>Ashland</i>	<i>Delaware</i>	<i>Licking</i>	<i>Ross</i>
<i>Ashtabula</i>	<i>Franklin</i>	<i>Logan</i>	<i>Sandusky</i>
<i>Athens</i>	<i>Gallia</i>	<i>Lorain</i>	<i>Shelby</i>
<i>Auglaize</i>	<i>Geauga</i>	<i>Mahoning</i>	<i>Stark</i>
<i>Belmont</i>	<i>Greene</i>	<i>Medina</i>	<i>Summit</i>
<i>Butler</i>	<i>Guernsey</i>	<i>Meigs</i>	<i>Trumbull</i>
<i>Carroll</i>	<i>Hamilton</i>	<i>Monroe</i>	<i>Tuscarawas</i>
<i>Clark</i>	<i>Hardin</i>	<i>Montgomery</i>	<i>Washington</i>
<i>Clermont</i>	<i>Harrison</i>	<i>Morrow</i>	<i>Wayne</i>
<i>Clinton</i>	<i>Holmes</i>	<i>Muskingum</i>	<i>Williams</i>
<i>Columbiana</i>	<i>Huron</i>	<i>Noble</i>	<i>Wood</i>
<i>Coshocton</i>	<i>Jefferson</i>	<i>Ottawa</i>	
<i>Crawford</i>	<i>Knox</i>	<i>Portage</i>	
<i>Cuyahoga</i>	<i>Lake</i>	<i>Putnam</i>	

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Do You Still Have Your Collection of Family Histories?

That is one of the questions our staff is often asked. We are at a temporary location on 1040 East Tallmadge while the Main Library in downtown Akron is being expanded and remodeled. Part of our collection is in the open stack area. Due to space limitations, however, an increasing amount of materials remains in our office. Because a Special Collections Staff Person is at the Reference Desk at all times, the materials can be retrieved quickly and easily upon request.

Over 650 family histories are located in our office area. To search for a particular family history, you can perform an author or title search on the online catalog. If you are looking to see what we may have on a particular surname, a subject or title keyword search is best. You may search our online catalog at:

<http://206.21.189.12/webpacj/ASCPL.html> A member of the Special Collections Staff can retrieve the item for you. The family histories mentioned above do not include family newsletters, family histories based on a geographical area, or the First Settlers of Summit County Collection developed by the Summit County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society. All of those plus more are available in the open stack area.

We are working to increase our family history collection. If you know of a compiled family history that you have found to be well-researched and helpful, please feel free to make a recommendation. We appreciate your input. In addition, it has recently come to our attention that a number of our patrons are authors of several volumes of family histories. Local authors, please let us know about your publications!

Local History Collection Highlights and Updates

The Frank E. Lawrence Collection

In 1991 Frank E. Lawrence, past president of the Tallmadge Historical Society donated his large collection of materials pertaining to the City of Tallmadge to the Akron-Summit County Public Library. A project archivist, John Brunswick was hired, and with funds from the Emig Committee of the City of Tallmadge, the Tallmadge Historical Society, the Tallmadge Library Association, and the Akron-Summit County Public Library the collection was processed and made available to researchers. Housed at the Tallmadge Branch, this collection contains a wealth of materials about the community of Tallmadge, many items dating from its earliest years including more than 2500 historic photographs. The primary tools for accessing the collection have been Mr. Lawrence’s index, as well as a finding aid prepared by Mr. Brunswick. Because this collection contains such specific and detailed information about Tallmadge, a decision was made to create a searchable database that will provide item level access to the collection. With the

assistance of our Electronic Services Division, Special Collections has developed a database that will be searchable by keyword and subject. Special Collections staff, with the help of Jim Mackey, member of the Tallmadge Library Association and the Tallmadge Historical Society have begun inputting data. Because many of the documents are full of information that will be of interest to genealogists, we are extracting names and adding them to the database. This is a long-term project, to be sure, but when complete will provide complete access to nearly every item in the collection. In the meantime, if you are interested in using the collection please make an appointment by calling the Tallmadge Branch at 330-633-4345. We are still looking for volunteers to help with indexing and data entry. If you are interested, please contact Judy James at 330-643-9041 or jjames@ascpl.lib.oh.us

The Ohio Memory Project

The Ohio Memory Project is an ongoing effort by the Ohio Historical Society and other affiliate libraries and organizations to digitize important materials in recognition of our state's history. The Akron-Summit County Public Library's Special Collections Division was fortunate enough to be a part of the first phase of this project that dealt with the digitization of items dated before 1903 (you can go to the Ohio Memory Online Scrapbook page, click on "search," and just type inside the search box, "Akron-Summit County Public Library" to view our submissions). The Project is now beginning its second phase that will include materials dated from 1903 to 2003. Special Collections has submitted several historical photographs from our various collections, so keep your eyes on this website through the coming year!

Visit: <http://www.ohiomemory.org>

The Wallpaper Project

As a part of the Ohio Bicentennial celebration, Special Collections, in cooperation with the National Park Service, the Summit County Historical Society, the University of Akron and the Ohio Bicentennial Committee is helping to organize special events to celebrate Summit County's history. On the weekend of September 26-28, 2003, at the Happy Days Visitor Center, these organizations will present *From Here: A Century of Stories from Ohio*, a re-enactment of life in Akron and Summit County based on oral histories gathered from people in our community. This project stemmed from one that was originally coordinated in Auglaize County, Ohio, and because of the great success they had, they are expanding this opportunity to other counties all over Ohio. Watch for further details in our newsletter, or visit the Project's website at:

<http://www.wallpaperproject.org/statewide.htm>

Upcoming Events at the Akron-Summit County Public Library

African-American Genealogy Workshop

Lecture by Bvenitta Williams at Wooster Branch. Registration requested.

15 FEBRUARY 2003, 1:00 PM Wooster Branch Library (330-434-8726)

Genealogy on the Web

****Pre-registration requested for all classes.**

6 FEBRUARY 2003, 6:30 PM North Branch Library (330-535-9423)

13 FEBRUARY 2003, 6:30 PM Wooster Branch Library (330-434-8726)

1 MARCH 2003, 2 PM Chamberlain Branch Library (330-724-2126)

3 APRIL 2003, 6:30 PM Nordonia Hills Branch Library (330-467-8595)

16 APRIL 2003, 6:30 PM Mogadore Branch Library (330-628-9228)

Genealogy and Local History Conferences

Ohio: 200 Years of Heritage

The Annual Conference for the Ohio Genealogical Society will be in Columbus this year. The event is scheduled for the 24-26 April with Kip Sperry as keynote speaker. For information, visit www.ogs.org and click on Annual Conference. You can also pick up a registration booklet available at the Special Collections Reference Desk.

Just Two Hours Away! National Genealogical Society Conference

The National Genealogical Society is having their Conference in the States in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 28-31 May 2003. For information, visit www.ngsgenealogy.org/conf.htm.

Additional Genealogy and Local History Events

We would like to thank those individuals who contributed event information for this issue. If your group would like to post its local history or genealogical event in Past Pursuits, please contact Marie Herlevi at mherlevi@ascpl.lib.oh.us or 330-643-9041.

- *These event details were contributed by Elsie Berg of the Ashtabula County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society.*

On Saturday, February 1, 2003, the Computer Interest Group of ACGS will have a free public computer workshop in the meeting room of the Geneva Public Library, 860 Sherman Street, Geneva, Ohio. The workshop begins at one o'clock. Holly Timm and Lorraine Newsome will be presenting a program on the USGenWeb project and web sites. They are also a great resource on Family Tree genealogy software, so bring any questions on that subject. A computer overhead is used for easy viewing for everyone in the room. Light refreshments are also served. No admission charge. All are welcomed.

The following events are the Chapter's general meetings. Meetings are held at the Geneva Public Library and begin at one o'clock.

23 JANUARY 2003 Cyndi Oscar, family genealogist, speaks about "Researching Old Families of Ashtabula County," her experiences & tips, and will feature the WARNER family.

26 FEBRUARY 2003 Mary Throop, archivist in the Genealogy Room at Geneva Pub Library, speaks about census records and what is available to patrons in the ACGS collection.

26 MARCH 2003 J. Peter Ducro, of Ducro Funeral Services in Ashtabula, who has an interest in local history, will speak about the early Ducro family and business history.

- *These event details were supplied by Lauren K. Landis, Genealogy Division Manager of the Stark County District Library.*

Introduction to Genealogy - Saturday, February 1, 2003, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Although this is a class for the novice genealogy researcher, experienced researchers can find the workshop of value as well. Workshop participants will learn how to organize their research, what basic court records are available and where they are located, how to read federal census, and what is available locally to further their research. To register for this free workshop, contact the Genealogy Division of the Stark County District Library by phone at (330) 452-0665, ext. 2765, or by email at scdlgen@oplin.lib.oh.us.

Genealogy and the Internet - Saturday, February 1, 2003, from 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Participants will learn what is available to genealogists on the Internet and how to use that information to their best advantage. Many of the more useful web sites will be demonstrated as well as procedures for searching out other helpful sites. To register for this free workshop, contact the Genealogy Division of the Stark County District Library by phone at (330) 452-0665, ext. 2765, or by email at scdlgen@oplin.lib.oh.us

House Histories: Researching the Genealogy of Your Home - Saturday, February 22, 2003, 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon Do you wonder when your house was built? Who lived there before you? What was there before the house? Then this program is for you. Learn how to trace your home's history using available records. To register for this workshop, contact the Genealogy Division of the Stark County District Library by phone at (330) 452-0665, ext. 2765, or by email at scdlgen@oplin.lib.oh.us

- *These event details were contributed by Dorothy Briggs of the Summit County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society.*

The Chapter will meet on February 15th at 1 P.M at Taylor Memorial Library, corner Broad Boulevard and 3rd Street in Cuyahoga Falls. Diana Zaleski, the Summit County Clerk of Courts, will talk about naturalization records, what they mean and what information to expect from them.

She will also discuss a project she has in mind for the chapter. (For information call Gerry Huhn, 330-699-1819)

The Summit County Chapter will meet again on March 15th at 1 PM at Taylor Memorial Library. March is Family History Month and a representative from the Family History Center in Tallmadge, Ohio will be the speaker. The representative will discuss the information available at the Tallmadge facility, and what they are planning in the future.

- *These event details were contributed by Leianne Heppner of the Summit County Historical Society.*

Exhibit Openings - A Canal Runs Through It and Stories the Artifacts Can Tell: Clinton - a Canal Town - Sunday, January 19, 2003
2 - 5 PM at the John Brown House (515 Diagonal Road - Akron)
A collaborative effort between the University of Akron and Summit County Historical Society.
Free to the public.

Victorian Valentine Making Workshop - Saturday, January 25, 2003
Session 1 - 9:30 - 11:30/ Session 2 - 1 - 3
Learn how to replicate these old fashioned notions.
\$5.00 for SCHS members / \$6.00 non-SCHS members

Recent Additions to Special Collections

MICROFILM:

Years 1921-1925 of the Ohio Death Certificates, 1908-1944 (The rest of the 952 reel collection will be received in batches over the next few months.)

UNITED STATES (BY STATE)

Alabama

Images of America: Birmingham and Jefferson County, Alabama

Images of America: Mobile with Photographs from the William E. Wilson Collection

Connecticut

Hartford County, Biographical Record, Part I and II

Illinois

Genealogical Records, Volume II, Daughters of the American Revolution

New England

The Art of Family: Genealogical Artifacts in New England

New York

Ulster County, History, 1883-1983

Ohio

Bouquet's Expedition Against the Indians in 1764

Hunting Expeditions of Oliver Hazard Perry, 1836-1855

Ohio: The History of a People

Biographical Encyclopedia of Ohio of the Nineteenth Century

The Ohio Valley in Colonial Days

Ohio River Valley Families

State Centennial History of Ohio

Adams County, Cemetery Records: Brush Creek, Franklin, Green, Jefferson,

Liberty, Manchester, Meigs, Oliver, Scott, Sprigg, Tiffin, Wayne, and Winchester Townships

Ashland city and *Ashland County* directory, 1895

Ashland, Ohio Centennial Home Coming Week, July 26-31, 1815-1915
Condensed History of New Lyme, *Ashtabula County*, Ohio
Genealogical Records in *Belmont County*, Ohio, Volume 10
Images of Middletown: The Steel City, *Butler County*
Butler County, Marriage Records, 1803-1834
Champaign County, Ohio Cemetery Plates, Veterans' Grave Registration WPA Project
Champaign County, Ohio Newspaper Abstracts, The Ohio State Democrat, The Urbana Citizen and Gazette, and The Urbana Free Press, May 1855-1871
Champaign County, Ohio Newspaper Abstracts, St. Paris Newspaper Abstracts, Book One (1877 to 1911), Book 2 (1878 to 1900), and Book 3 (1900-1916)
Champaign County, Newspaper abstracts, Urbana Citizen and Gazette 1884-1885 and Urbana Daily Citizen 1886-1888
Champaign County, Newspaper Abstracts, Urbana Citizen and Gazette, 1871-1884
Early Settlers of *Champaign County* and Surrounding Areas, Volume I
Public Records of *Champaign County*, Ohio: Chancery Records of the Court of Common Pleas, Record Books 24 through 38, Volume 2
Clark County, Cemetery Records: German, Green, Harmony, Moorefield and Pike Townships
Clark County, Church Records, St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church Register, Book I, 1836-1870
Sinking Creek Presbyterian Church Records, *Clark County*
Clermont County, Marriage Records, 1850-1874
Index to Newsletters of *Clermont County*, Ohio Genealogical Society, 1978-1987
History of Hanover, Ohio 1804-1913 *Columbiana County*
Images of America: Salem, Ohio, Volumes One and Two
Coshocton County Cemetery Records, Volumes I-VI
Alabama North: African-American Migrants, Community, and Working-Class Activism in Cleveland, 1915-1945, *Cuyahoga County*
Cuyahoga County, Black America Series: Cleveland
A Ghetto Takes Shape: Black Cleveland, 1870-1930
The Camp Wise Story: Home of Happiness, 1907-1988, *Cuyahoga County*
The Cleveland Grays, An Urban Military Company, 1837-1919
Cleveland and Its Germans (1897-98 Edition) *Cuyahoga County*
Cleveland and Its Germans (1907 Edition) *Cuyahoga County*
Historical Sketches of the Village of Gates Mills, *Cuyahoga County*
Index to the Administration Dockets of the Probate Court of *Cuyahoga County*, Ohio 5 March 1811 to 31 December 1896
The Jubilee Edition of the Cleveland Wachter und Anzeiger, 1902
History of the Slovaks of Cleveland and Lakewood
History of *Cuyahoga County* and the City of Cleveland, Volumes 1, 2 and 3
To Act as a Unit: The Story of the Cleveland Clinic
Franklin County, Groveport and Madison Township
Franklin County, History of Madison Township
Hamilton County, Cincinnati Revealed
Guide to Genealogical Resources in Cincinnati and *Hamilton County*
Hamilton County, Ohio Church Burial Records, 1870-1879
Hancock County, Findlay in Vintage Postcards
Hardin County, Ohio Death Index, 1867-1908
A Brief History of *Harrison County*, Ohio
Grave Records of *Huron County*, Ohio, Volumes I-III, 1957-58
Pioneer History of Clarksfield, Ohio *Huron County*
The Pathfinders of *Jefferson County*, Ohio
Images of America: Orange Township between the River and the Wooded Hills
Abstracts of *Lucas County*, Ohio, Wills, Volumes 1 to 6, inclusive
Lucas County, Toledo: a History in Architecture, 1835-1890
Lucas County, Maumee, Ohio
History of Youngstown and *Mahoning County*, Ohio
Images of America: Berlin Center, Ohio *Mahoning County*

Medina County, Bringing History Home to Granger: The Earliest Years
Biographical History of *Preble County*, Ohio
History of *Morgan County*, Ohio
Images of America: John Glenn's New Concord *Muskingum County*
Ross County, Chillicothe, Ohio
Seneca County, Fostoria, Ohio Volume II
Early History of *Wood County*, Ohio Pioneer Scrapbook

New York

History of *Westchester County*, New York

Pennsylvania

Images of American: Upper St. Clair, *Allegheny County*
Memories of Johnstown, PA *Cambria County*
Images of America Series: Beaver Falls, *Beaver County*
Images of America Series: Meadville, *Crawford County*

West Virginia

Marriage Records, *Ohio County*, West Virginia 1790-1835

UNITED STATES - GENERAL

Finding your African-American Ancestors: a Beginner's Guide
Preserving Your Family Photographs

INTERNATIONAL

Canada:

Quebec, Before the King's Daughters: The Filles a Marier, 1634-1662
Quebec, Volume I: King's Daughters and Founding Mothers: the Filles du Roi, 1663-1673

Czechoslovakia

Czech Immigration Passenger Lists: Volume 9: Baltimore, 1880-1899, Volume 10: New York, 1881-1886, Galveston, 1880-1886

Germany

Germans to America – Series II Volumes 1-4 (January 1840 through July 1847)

Ireland

Families of County Cork, Volume 4

Italy

Italian Genealogical Records