

## Return of Old Documents to Highland County

By: Marianna Morgan

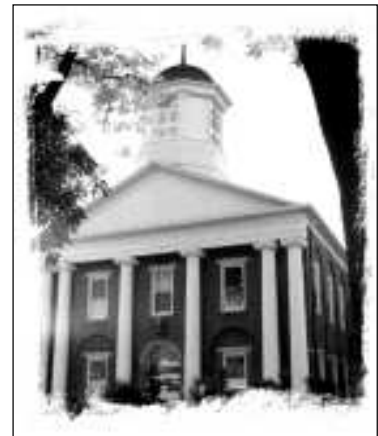
Many years ago old documents, ledgers, tax information, voter records and miscellaneous documents were sent to the Ohio Historical Society where they were microfilmed and then forwarded to the University of Cincinnati where they were stored.

It had been a project of past SOGS president, Jean Wallis, for quite a number of years to get these records back to Highland Co., because of their historical significance. Jean spent many hours on this project and laid the groundwork.

We felt that it was not only a way of preserving part of our past but a means of finding out more about our heritage and the way things were “back then”. Some of these records go back as far as the early 1800’s and some are in the middle 1900’s. SOGS is happy to announce that these records were brought back to Highland County on November 24, 2005. Since the list of items is very long, over seventy-six different groups of items, I am listing only a few at this time to whet your appetite:

- Real Estate Appraisal List 1825, ( 1 ) ON-92-29
- Poll Books and Tally Sheets 1808-1889, ( 4 ) ON-86-10
- Birth and Death Records 1867-1868, ( 2 ) ON-86-08
- Inquest Records, 1827-31, 34-35, 39-40, 42-43, 45, 58-65, 66-70, 71-77, 82-87, (4 ) ON-86-07
- Land Appraisals 1817-1891, ( 2 ) ON-86-06
- Delinquent Tax Record 1820-1845, ( 1 ) ON-80-18

The cooperation of many people and agencies were needed to complete this task. Rich Graves, Highland County Commissioner, signed the agreement for the return and safe storage. Paulette Donley, Clerk of Courts, as well as Judge Greer, aided us in locating a storage place and informing other offices at the courthouse that the records were coming and what they consisted of. Pari J. Swift, Assistant State Archivist of The Historical Society of Ohio gave assistance every step of the way and gave us information regarding the safe storage and care of historical documents. The Division Chief at the Ohio Historical Society signed the deposit agreement. The University of Cincinnati Library helped us locate the records and load them for the return to Hillsboro.



The caravan left Hillsboro early on the morning of Nov. 24<sup>th</sup> filled with anticipation. Mel Haines, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President drove the U-Haul. Bob Patton was his navigator and volunteer. Marianna Morgan, President, drove a van with the following people aboard who had volunteered to help: Joyce Patton, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Debbie Suiter, Treasurer, Becky Creamer, Corresponding Secretary, Donna J. Osborne, Volunteer and Bonnie Crago, Volunteer. We were met at the University of Cincinnati Library by Patricia Young and her husband, Al, who had both volunteered to help, as well as Kevin Grace, Head University Archivist, Adjunct Assistant Professor, College of Education, U of C, who guided us and helped us load the truck with the material.

The public can have access to this material. Hopefully it will aid in our research. The different offices at the courthouse can inform you of their policies on requesting this information. Happy Hunting!

## **PRESERVING OUR GENEALOGICAL DATA**

By: Mel Haines

On October 6, 2005, I presented a program for S.O.G.S. on how to preserve our genealogical research for future generations. This program looked at a number of areas that need to be addressed if we want to leave our research for those that follow us. We spend great amounts of time, money and energy on our search to discover our roots. We gather vast amounts of documents, photos and family heirlooms. We value all of the above because we know how hard we worked to assemble our genealogical history. I don't want my research to end up in the trash or sell at an auction for a few dollars and cents.

If you are like me, you probably have a large file cabinet of records, and photos along with notebooks, CDs and computers with the data stored in their memory. We may be able to find a family member who will take possession of our work when we are no longer able to be the caretaker.

As I researched this topic, I soon recognized the fact that modern technology is changing ever so rapidly. The IBM punch card, magnetic tape, the 8", 5 1/2", 3 1/2" and zip drive data storage disks are a think of the past. If we were to store our data on any of these or future data storage devices, they will become obsolete and unreadable by future generations. No one is going to want to keep transferring the data to the next data storage devise over a long period of time.

Thus, I will share with you some basic information I gathered on preserving your data for the next 100 years. I hope you will find it helpful.

### **Overview**

- Organize your collection of data, photos & documents
- Use genealogy software to assemble family histories
- Organize and promote family reunions
- Share your research with family and relatives
- Place printed family histories in libraries where ancestors once lived
- Mentor a family member to take over your work

### **Technology Changes**

- With the rapid revolution of computer software and hardware our data retrieval systems become obsolete and expensive to continually update.
- Data disks and drives are subject to failure and loss of data. Use archival quality disks.
- Your last computer would need to be maintained and stored with your data disks for future use.

### **High Quality Paper**

- The ideal archiving medium should be durable, compact & easily read without special devices.
- By these criteria, paper "hard copy" still works best compared to the various digital media.
- Hand written and printed paper documents have survived for hundreds of years and are still able to be read and translated
- Use archival 24 lb paper and ink to produce archival copies of your family history for distribution to family, libraries and genealogical societies.

### **Organize, Condense & Publish**

- Use a genealogy software program to generate each surname family history.
- Use high quality paper as discussed earlier.
- Print on your own inkjet printer as discussed.
- Put it in a stiff spiral bound binder for easy photo copying.
- Put contact information on front page of book.
- Place index at back of book for easy reference

### **Distribute to Libraries**

- Distribute to all descendants, especially those that have shown an interest in the family history.
- Place copies in local genealogy libraries where the family has lived back through the years.
- Contribute to large libraries like; State Library of Ohio, LDS Family History Library, Fort Wayne Library, Ohio

Genealogical Society Library, and The Cincinnati Public Library.

## Library Report: Pat Young, *Library Chairperson*

The following books are now shelved in our library.

<u>Heading</u>	<u>Book</u>
General	Family Research 1880 Census/Index Release on CD-ROM
How To	Genealogy Online by Elizabeth Powell Crowe
Ohio	Settlers & Builders of Ohio, OGS 2004 Annual Conference Program and Syllabus
Ohio	County by County in Ohio Genealogy by Petta Khouw & Genealogy staff of State Library of Ohio
Highland	1920-1995 Commitment to Community, Highland County
Highland	<b>NEW</b> Military History of Brush Creek Twp. By Dwight Crum, 2005
Highland	<b>NEW</b> Fairfield Friend's Cemetery by Ron Fetters
Family	One Fraley Family in America – A Genealogical Record Compiled by Robert Eugene Engel, Iowa City, Iowa, April 2005
Family	Johannes Yohn – Descendants of Johnnes Yohn (1751-1825) By June Yohn, 2005
Family	A Schwisshelm Saga – Georg and his Descendants by Frances Ganard

### Research Wednesday

Come to the library, located at Southern State Community College in Hillsboro, Ohio, between 1 & 4 pm. On Wednesdays and spread out your “ancestor puzzle” and let us help you find the “missing pieces”.

We had visitors in 2005 from all parts of the United States. The library is a very important resource for our society. Support your library. We accept family books as well as loose pages for the ancestral file.

“6 in 2006” Make 2006 the year to document at least 6 complete generations for your family. It will make a great gift to give to your family members 2006 Christmas!!

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## New SOGS Publication

A new book, “Highland County Marriages – 1901 thru 1905” has been completed by Joyce Patton, Bob Patton and Marianna Morgan. This book documents almost 1400 marriages in Highland County during those five years, soon after the turn of the last century. It includes the book and page numbers at the Highland County Court House for each marriage, the groom’s first and last name, the bride’s first and last name, ages of all brides and grooms at the time of their marriage, the locations of their birth and the names of their parents, the date of their marriage, as well as the Minister, Justice of the Peace or Mayor of the individual who married them.

This new SOGS publication (#663) will be invaluable to genealogical researchers working the 1901 – 1905 timeframe. There are over 152 pages of marriage records in this soft bound book that will sell for \$18.00 plus S&H.

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### “Highland County Marriages – 1901 thru 1905” Order Form

Publication # 663, Number of copies \_\_\_\_\_ X \$18.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Ohio residents need to add 7% Sales Tax, \$1.26/book \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping and Handling: \$3.50/ first book + \$1.00 each additional \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total enclosed for your order \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Ship to: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

## Services Available from Akron-Summit Co. Public Library

By: Marianna Morgan

In addition to providing telephone and in person reference services, the Special Collections Division also offers a correspondence service to patrons. You can submit your genealogy or local history questions via postal mail or electronic mail. All correspondence is answered within five weeks.

Guidelines:

- Please include your full name and complete mailing address with each request.
- When requesting Ohio Death Certificates (1908-1953) please limit your request to ten items. Your request should include the person's name, date of death (at least the year) and if available the certificate number and county where the death occurred. The Ohio Historical Society offers an on-line Death Index at <http://www.ohiohistory.org/dindex/>
- No fees are required up front for research services. An invoice will be sent with any requested photocopies. The fee schedule includes a \$1.00 processing fee plus \$.05 for each copy.
- Please be as specific as possible in your research request, including sources you have already consulted and what information you already have.
- Email us at: [speccollections@akronlibrary.org](mailto:speccollections@akronlibrary.org)
- Sent mail to: Special Collections, Akron-Summit County Public Library, 60 South High St., Akron, Ohio 44326-0001.

Since I send many requests to OHS for death certificates, I decided to try out this new service. On Nov. 13, 2005 I sent a request to the Akron Public Library Special Collections at the above Email address asking for 10 death certificates. I received the 10 death certificates in the mail on Dec. 8, 2005, with a bill for \$1.65. I was very pleased with this service.

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## The Hayes Presidential Center's Obituary Index (<http://index.rbhayes.org/hayes/index/>)

By: Jennifer West

The Highland County District Library has joined the Hayes Obituary Index, which is a web-based program designed by the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center. It was originally started in the 1970's on cards and included obituaries, death notices and some marriage notices from local newspapers. The Index is now an on-line database which contains well over 500,000 records. It is unique to most obituary indexes that are available elsewhere in that it is cross-indexed by maiden names and previous married names when given in the obituary and is searchable by a variety of methods.

Starting in 2001, other libraries started entering their data into this index, so it now extends beyond the holdings of the Hayes Presidential Library. Staff members of the HCDL have been trained on inputting data from obituaries from the Times Gazette and other local sources, so at last we will have an index to local obituaries! This is something we at HCDL have wanted for a long time and we are happy to have joined the Index. It is not something we will see completed anytime soon but we are on our way!

Anyone with an Internet connection can search the "Index," you do not need to be a member. As this is a major indexing project, we would welcome any volunteers who would like to help by filling out a simple form with basic information from obituaries that we would then input here. If you have any questions, please email me, Jennifer West, at: [jwest299@yahoo.com](mailto:jwest299@yahoo.com), or call me at: 937-393-3114.

**QUERIES: SURNAMES****Laymon  
Layman**

**Louisa A. Laymon**, b. April 2, 1835, Lynchburg, Ohio. Daughter of:  
**Pricilla Liggett** and **Tavner Laymon**. d. Dodson Twp., November 14,  
1850, age 15, buried Troutwine Cemetery, Clinton County, Ohio.  
Looking for information concerning her life and death.  
Mel Haines, 4616 Carlyle Circle, Kettering, OH 45429  
E-mail: [mel.haines@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mel.haines@sbcglobal.net)

**Smalley**

**David Smalley**, b. Dec. 1755 in Hunterdon Co., New Jersey, d. October 20,  
1838 in Madison Township, Highland County, Ohio. He served in the  
Revolutionary War from Virginia and received a pension; No. S 4865. He  
moved to Highland County, Ohio and was on the Special Census of 1811.  
His wife, **Mary** \_\_\_\_\_, b. c. 1760-1770. She died after 1842 but prior to  
1850 in Highland County, Ohio. I would appreciate information as to her  
maiden name and names of her parents; as well as the exact date of her death.  
They had two children, **James** b. c. 1794, d. after 1850, **Lucinda**, b. c. 1796,  
d. after 1850. The children were living in Paint Township, Highland Co, Ohio  
County as they were listed on the 1850 Federal Census. Any information  
concerning their deaths and burial would also be appreciated.  
**Mrs. Mary Smalley Wood**, P.O. Box 497, Ouray, Colorado 81427-0497,  
Phone No. 970.325.4654

**Houck**

**David Houck**, b. April 25, 1796, Virginia, d. April 1, 1874 in Highland County,  
Ohio, buried in Ambrose Cemetery, Hillsboro, Ohio. He married **Susanah** \_\_\_\_  
They had three children, twins, **Margaret** and **Mary** and a son **Jacob**,  
b. March 14, 1837. Seeking information about this family and their descendants.  
**Ron Houck**, 116 McCloud Church Road, Rogersville, TN 37857,  
E-mail: [houck@charter.net](mailto:houck@charter.net)

**Charles**

**Andrew Charles** immigrated from Germany before the Revolutionary War.  
His name is listed on the Highland County Court House plaque as a soldier.  
Any information about Andrew Charles would be greatly appreciated.  
**Peter Charles**, 1615 Grand Avenue, Medford, OR 97504  
E-mail: [peterc250@msn.com](mailto:peterc250@msn.com)

**West**

**Charles Allen West**, b. July 19, 1849, Dodsonville, Highland County, Ohio.  
m, **Mary Riney**, October 15, 1874 in Montgomery County, Kansas. Moved to  
Rainsboro, Paint Township, Highland County, Ohio. From 1879 till 1917 they  
owned and operated the **C.A. West Store** in Rainsboro. Looking for any  
information concerning this couple and their store.  
**Mel Haines**, 4616 Carlyle Circle, Kettering, OH 45429  
E-mail: [mel.haines@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mel.haines@sbcglobal.net)

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Each member is entitled to four free queries per year. A query must be limited to not more than 50 words, excluding name, e-mail and home address. Please limit each query to one family group. Please type or word process query. E-mail to: [sogs414@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sogs414@sbcglobal.net)

## First and Second Families of Highland County

By: Mel Haines

In 1992, Southern Ohio Genealogical Society started the First Families of Highland County. Jean Wallis was president of the society in 1992 and has continually served as chairperson of FFHC ever since. During the past thirteen years, **500** different ancestors have been proven by **147** descendants.

In 2005, SOGS initiated the Second Families of Highland County. The only difference between the two is the time frames they represent. FFHC represents 1800 – 1830. SFHC represents 1831 – 1860. We have opened up a new time frame that allows us to prove our ancestors lived in Highland County. On June 8, 2006, we will be initiating the first members into SFHC. As a member of SOGS you can request applications for either FFHC or SFHC by e-mail at: **sogs414@sbcglobal.net**

The prime objectives of The First and Second Families of Highland County, Ohio, are to identify and honor the memory of the early pioneers of the county. The research and work necessary for discovering the pioneers and their descendants is intended to foster and encourage increasing interest in the people who contributed in any way - great or small - to establishing the county, its customs, culture, genealogy and history.

Once you have been inducted into the FFHC or SFHC you may complete a short one page application for your brother, sister, son or daughter for them to become members also. This is a nice way to share the research you have completed and allow family members to become FFHC or SFHC members. They receive the same honors including a certificate and pin. This makes a special birthday gift that only you can give. The forms are designated: **FFHC or SFHC Brother, Sister, Son or Daughter Application**.

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## Test Your Genealogy Knowledge

See if you can answer all ten of the following questions. Send your answers by e-mail to: **sogs414@sbcglobal.net** to be checked for accuracy. You will receive a reply by e-mail. We will publish the names of S.O.G.S. members that answer all ten questions correctly.

1. What is the difference between a primary source and a secondary source of genealogical information?
2. Has the title, "Mrs.," always meant married woman? What then?
3. What does "D.S.P." mean on a death record?
4. How many great-great-great-great-grandparents did you have?
5. What do the letters "G.A.R." represent on a grave stone?
6. Are we legally permitted to use our ancestor's coat of arms?
7. What is a pedigree?
8. How does a Daguerreotype differ from a tintype?
9. Concerning inheritances, what is the difference between primogeniture and per stirpes?
10. A record said that my ancestor died "intestate." What does intestate mean?

## How To Receive Full Benefit From Your SOGS Membership

- Attend the educational monthly programs.
  - Make contact with SOGS members that are working same ancestral lines.
  - Become First & Second Family members of Highland County to honor your ancestors.
  - Be one of the first to learn about new SOGS research publications.
  - Reduced registration fees for SOGS workshops. Coming soon!
  - Read your informative Roots & Shoots quarterly newsletter.
  - Learn about volunteer opportunities to help your SOGS organization.
  - Submit "QUERIES" for publication in Roots & Shoots.
  - Learn about new genealogy research books placed in the library.
  - Submit genealogy articles for publication in Roots & Shoots.
  - Involve your family members in SOGS activities to help interest them.
  - Learn and share information about Highland County research.
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