



# The Pastfinder



VOLUME 45 ISSUE 1

<http://ashlandccogs.org>

JAN - APR, 2026

## 2026 Chapter Officers / Committee Members

- President: Charlotte ELSON
- Vice-Pres: Vacant
- Treasurer: Linda FULK
- Recording Sec'y: Rebecca PLANK
- Corresponding Sec'y: Rebecca PLANK
- Senior Trustee: Barb RENNEKER
- Intermediate Trustee: Thomas S NEEL
- Junior Trustee: Vacant
- Librarian: Ginny FEIBER
- Newsletter Editor: Terry HAUN

\* \* \* \* \*

**As a chapter member, please consider volunteering as a committee member or elected officer next election. This helps Support the Society as a whole.** (Check the By-laws under the "About Us" Section of our website for more details.)

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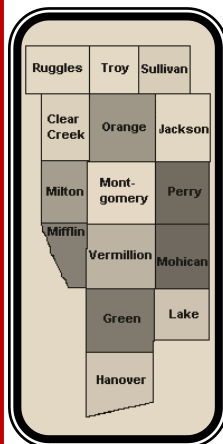
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## 2026 - A NEW YEAR TO REFLECT ON OUR CHAPTER IT'S PAST, IT'S PRESENT, and IT'S FUTURE!

**AS** we begin a New Year with our Ashland County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society, it seems like a good time to reflect on our chapter, it's accomplishments throughout our many years of providing relevant genealogy and local information to you, and what this means to our members. In 1970 several Genealogy-minded folks gathered at the home of Anne DALLAS BUDD to form a genealogy society and election of officers was held 17 Mar 1970. Thus began the Ashland County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society.



**OUR** goal has always been to create and build interest in preserving and collecting all genealogical and historical records relating to the early settlers of Ashland County, Ohio, and surrounding areas. We do this through the use of our **Monthly Programs, Website, Newsletter, Publications, and the Chapter Library** (on the second floor of the Ashland Public Library). These include many Family Histories (over 600 Family Surname books, binders, or files), We have a large variety of local history (including church, school, and township resources) as well as Obituary files. Also in the library are local newspapers on microfilm from 1852 to Dec. 2018. We also have a large amount of information on the other Ohio counties and other States. Our Chapter has published over 40 source publications, including those on our 15 townships. To that end we strongly encourage members to collect and preserve their own manuscripts, letters, pictures, Bible records, obituaries, news items and memoranda. The Chapter is quite willing to accept any of these documents that you may wish to donate. The Monthly Programs are available to all of our members (mix of *in-person and virtual*). Our Chapter has three **Lineage Societies** to honor those descendants and their pioneer ancestors of Ashland County. They are; "First Families of Ashland County", "Settlers and Builders of Ashland County", and "Century Families of Ashland County". (See page 9 for details on each Society and its requirements).



**We** also rely on our member Volunteers, who selflessly donate their time and knowledge to fulfil many of these goals. Some of these goals can be achieved by members who are located out of town or out of State. So if you are led to be an active part in maintaining these goals and achievements, please contact us. Areas which you can participate are the yearly chapter Officers and Committee Members (listed above left). Other areas of interest might be our Library, Newsletter, Website and Publications support are always welcome. As I have always said our



**"Volunteers are truly the backbone of our Society and it's continued existence".**

**WE ARE STILL STRONG AND ACTIVE THANKS TO OUR MANY VOLUNTEERS**

(See page 3 to review some of our past years accomplishments and interesting statistics.)

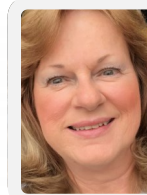
## DO YOU KNOW? The story behind the 12:00 Noon Whistle?

This was very important to our early settlers. I'll share more on this subject in the next newsletter. So, if you haven't renewed your membership yet, think about doing so soon. You may miss out on these interesting tidbits.

## P R E S I D E N T ' ' S M E S S A G E



From your ACCOGS President,  
Charlotte ELSON



Hello OGS members!

Good news! It's going to warm up to 30°! A heat wave, I hope all has been well during this cold.

Our first virtual meeting in January with speaker Kim ALBERG was a great success. We had 21 members present and speaker was great. Wealth of information.

I wanted to remind all that I am going to reach out to the Schools again this year. They had a great time and so did we. Anybody that would like to help, it was held at the Ashland Library about 9:15-9:30. By the time the bus dropped them off. Dates and Times to be announced when all info is known.

I know we are all are busy, but does anyone have an idea for a Project we could do or sponsor? Maybe getting involved in a project will put our name out there a little more. I know the school is a project but something a little different.

I am so looking forward to a great and busy year with OGS. Again, any questions or ideas that you like to share and or have done differently let me know.

Side note Jeff DRUSHEL, who was our speaker in August 2025 on the Civil War, his father Gary DRUSHEL just passed away. If anyone is on Facebook or other social media, please pass a note along. And to those who have lost loved ones, my condolences. Jeff is a family member.

Who has just found the most interesting piece of information that they would like to share at a meeting. I think it would be fun to share the most exciting thing that someone has found at a meeting In Person or Virtual. What do you think!?! Who's first??

Thanks Always, *Charlotte*

### CORRECTION FROM PREVIOUS NEWSLETTER:

Regretfully on page 60 of the last issue of the newsletter, An error was made when listing our Chapter members who have passed away in 2025. When Anna Maria (ECHO) CRUMRINE, was listed her name was incorrectly listed as "CROMWELL". It should have read as below.

**Anna Maria (ECHO) CROMRINE** - (1951-2025)  
A Life Member of Nova, Ohio passed away July 9, 2025

Sadly, another member was identified:

**Irma MARKLE** - (1933-2025)  
Longtime member passed away March 15, 2025 in Oregon

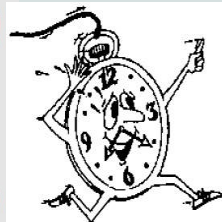
### WANTED: Newsletter Editor.

Our Chapter is still looking for a volunteer to take over the publishing of the Newsletter. In the interim, it has been decided that, beginning with our February 2026 issue, we will publish the newsletter with 12 pages and three times a year. We ask our members to help by submitting articles of interest to them to be included in future issues.

(See page 9 for more information. Contact me at [AshOGSeditor@gmail.com](mailto:AshOGSeditor@gmail.com))

### Have You Renewed Your ACCOGS Membership for 2026?

Please check your **mailing address label**. If it does **NOT** have [26] or [LM] after your name, we have **NOT** received your renewal and this will be your last issue. If you feel this is an error, please contact us.



## SOME 2025 CHAPTER Did You Know Facts?

- We had 141 individual members as of 12-31-2025. Of those members 50 are in Ashland County, 35 are in the State of Ohio and 52 are out of state. Additionally, we have 8 organizations such as libraries and historical societies. Members from Ohio represent 24 cities and Out of State members are from 25 states and Washington D.C.
- We gained 23 New Members in 2025; Ashland, State of Ohio and Out of State. Please note that most of our new members and membership renewals came by way of the store on our website.
- We had 104 individuals make 92 visits to the Genealogy Room at the library including from others parts of Ohio and out of State. Not all signed in, so there were probably more. We know that the library staff also uses some of the resources. We also had repeat visitors who returned for more information. Donations came in from numerous sources that were added to our collection. We also started getting quite a few yearbooks that have been donated to our Chapter library.
- Included in that group of visitors was two groups of 4<sup>th</sup> graders from both Mapleton and St Edwards' Schools. In an effort to encourage more youth, students had to write an essay about what they might search for and then a group from each school were chosen to participate. Chapter volunteers were there to help the students research names that they brought with them. Plans are to continue this program.
- We had 4 virtual meetings during 2025 and 5 in person/virtual events as well as annual picnic and lineage banquet. Average attendance at the events was about 20 persons both in person and on line.
- We had 15+ queries from individuals looking for a variety of information and some included meeting with the persons at the library for the gathering of information. Queries were from all over the country.
- We sold 35 books at full price and 4 at half price (from returned items) with a value of \$1,148.00. We donated 17 books to various organizations. Additionally, Denbow Gashe #2 went to print and we reprinted Orange Township and Rosella RICE. We have about 1,478 books in stock to still sell covering 37 different titles.
- We are still working on the following publications: Wappner Funeral Home, Snyder Funeral Home, and Montgomery Township Research Aide. Additionally, we need to update the Ashland Cemetery Book.
- We had 11 volunteers who provided over 1200 hours of volunteer time (December to November). We are sure there are others, but not everyone let us know their time and that they volunteered.
- We had 3 people submit 4 Lineage Applications – 3 for First Families of Ashland County and 1 for Settlers and Builders of Ohio. They were all approved.
- Website Statistics - We had 6.9K views on our website up 17% from last year, 2.7K visitors up 47% from last year. Our store page (1,474 views) was the most viewed followed by the home page (1,066 views ) and then Maps of Ashland County (242 views). Visitors viewing our location were from the United States (6.665 views) followed by Germany and India (less than 100 views each).
- Facebook Statistics - We had 600 followers with an average of 193 visits per month.
- Our total Liabilities & Assets for the year are \$15,773.56
- We provided the Ashland County Wreaths Across America Committee a list of all Veterans buried in Ashland Cemetery from 1812-2020. Thanks to Barb QUEER and Jane ROLAND getting our Veterans Book done and Marleen APPLGATE being able to filter out only Ashland Cemetery for them. Their goal is to make sure all the Veterans in Ashland Cemetery get a wreath at Christmas, but they needed help in identifying them all. We are working on a way to get the 2021 to 2025 information for them also. \* More to come on the Wreaths Across America Project
- All of the operations of the Chapter are provided by volunteers, mainly from Ashland County, as many duties do require some in-person meetings. These positions are President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Trustees. But there are some duties that can be done by anyone from anywhere. If you have an interest in writing, researching, doing layouts and being creative, our newsletter can use you. We encourage members to submit articles for print or ideas for articles. We still need an Editor and this can be done online as all items when put together go directly to the printer and then a local volunteer handles the mailing.
- Another duty that can be done is website work and technology committee. If you are an interest in this area, we can use you. Meetings for both the Technology Committee and Newsletter can be held by Zoom, so think about your talents and interest and let us know if you can help.
- Did you know that since COVID many OGS Chapters in Ohio have closed or merged with other groups. With your help the Ashland Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society can continue on for years to come.

Finally thanks to Marleen APPLGATE, Charlotte ELSON, Ginny FEIBER, Linda FULK, and Ishu SAKTHIVEL for assisting me in gathering the statistics for Did You Know?

Becky PLANK, ACCOGS Secretary

***“Failing to Prepare - is Preparing to Fail.” - JOHN WOODEN***

*Looking Back***“REUNIONS - In Times Past”***Looking Back*

Reunions have been a large part of family get-togethers' in times past, and even into today's Society. Anne BUDD has been collecting these notices and has donated to our library a notebook full of reunions, family histories, etc. If you get a chance, check out what's in our Library, and take a look at the Reunion Notebook in our Family Histories Section.

*(Spelling and grammer are usually left as was in the original newspaper article).*

**BOWERIZE-STOBER REUNION - (Ashland Press, 28 Sep 1910)**

NOVA-The fourth annual reunion of the Bowerize-Stober family was held at the Nova opera-house, September 23d, 1910, with a fine attendance of 112. Those present from a distance were John STOBER and wife, W.F. STOBER, and wife, and Mrs. Maud KILLION, of Iowa; Sam PHELPS, wife and son, of Texas; Mr. EYSTER and two sons of Indianapolis; Mrs. Henry LOND and daughter, of Pemberville, Wood county; Ben STOBER and daughter, Mrs. Jacob LEINARD and daughter, of Ada; Mr. Joseph CARTER and wife, of Middletown; G.W. BANKS and wife, of Mansfield; Mrs. BROCY, two sons and daughter, Mrs. Evan STEVENS and son, of Cleveland; Mrs. Arthur FOX and three sons, of Elyria.

Officers elected: C.C. BOWERIZE, president; G.L. BOWERIZE, vice-president; Mrs. Eliza KOPPLER, secretary; Miss Eva SQUIRES, historian. Next reunion in Nova, first Saturday of Sept., 1911.

**BOWERIZE-STOBER - (Ashland Press; 11 Sep 1912)**

NOVA-Those from a distance who attended the BOWERIZE-STOBER reunion last Saturday, September 7th.; were: Mr. and Mrs. Grant STOBER and son, Mrs. Mary GRANT, Mrs. Eliza DECKER, Mr. Benjamin STOBER, all of Ada, Ohio; Mr. and Mrs. WARD, Kenton, Ohio; Mr. Pearl STOBER, Moulton, Iowa; Mr. and Mrs. Daniel FOLK, also of Iowa; Mrs. Harley STEVENS and little son, Cleveland, Ohio; Mr. and Mrs. C.C. BOWERIZE, Akron, Ohio; Mrs. Walter ZIMMERMAN, Ashland, Ohio; Mrs. Chas. HUGHES, Mrs. Grant ORNNELL, Mrs. Sarah BOLLMAN, Ms. Luetta SALTSGAUR and Mrs. Almada HUGHES, all of Mansfield, Ohio; Mr. Lincoln STOBER, Whalen, Ohio.

**BOWERIZE-STOBER Families Reunion - (Ashland, O Press, 9 Sep 1914)**

The BOWERIZE-STOBER families held their eighth annual reunion at Nova, September 5. The families commenced gathering at an early hour, bringing well-filled baskets and cheerful smiles. After many a hearty handshake, Mesdames HEATH and HIPP announced that dinner was ready. All made way for the basement where three large tables were spread with all the good things heart could wish. All did ample justice. After dinner they all retired to the audience room where a splendid program was rendered, consisting of recitations, songs, piano and violin solos. Rev. HUSHOUR gave a splendid talk on Family Reunions.

During the year, one marriage, two births and one death occurred. There were 112 in attendance. Those from a distance were, Mr. and Mrs. C.C. BOWERIZE, Akron, Ohio; Mrs. H.E. LONG and daughter, A.L. LONG, of Pemberville; Arthur FOX, wife and family of Elyria; Mr. and Mrs. Geo. BANKS, Mansfield; Mr. and Mrs. STROUP of Spencer; Mr. and Mrs. L.H. BEVERIDGE, Mr. and Mrs. J. COWIE and son, Charles, of Greenwich; Mrs. H.P. STEVENS and son, Cleveland; Mrs. and Mrs. D.W. ELLIS and family, Plymouth; Joseph CARDER and wife, Middletown; Lane NEWKUK, Oklahoma.

A motion was made to hold the reunion at Nova the first Saturday in September, 1915. The president is C.C. BOWERIZE and secretary Mrs. Henry KOPPLER.

**BROWN Family Reunion - (Ashland, O Press, 14 Aug 1912)**

The twenty-fourth annual reunion of the BROWN family will be held at Casino Park, Mansfield, Ohio, Thursday, August 15, 1912. Please advise the secretary of any change in address. qJ.W. BROWN, president, Ashland; Mrs. J.E. RHEN, secretary, Ashland.

*We Plant Our Genealogy Trees Not For Us,  
But For The Generations We'll Never Meet.*

## 1817 POLL LIST

(Originally Vermillion Township, Richland County; Now located in Present Day Ashland County)

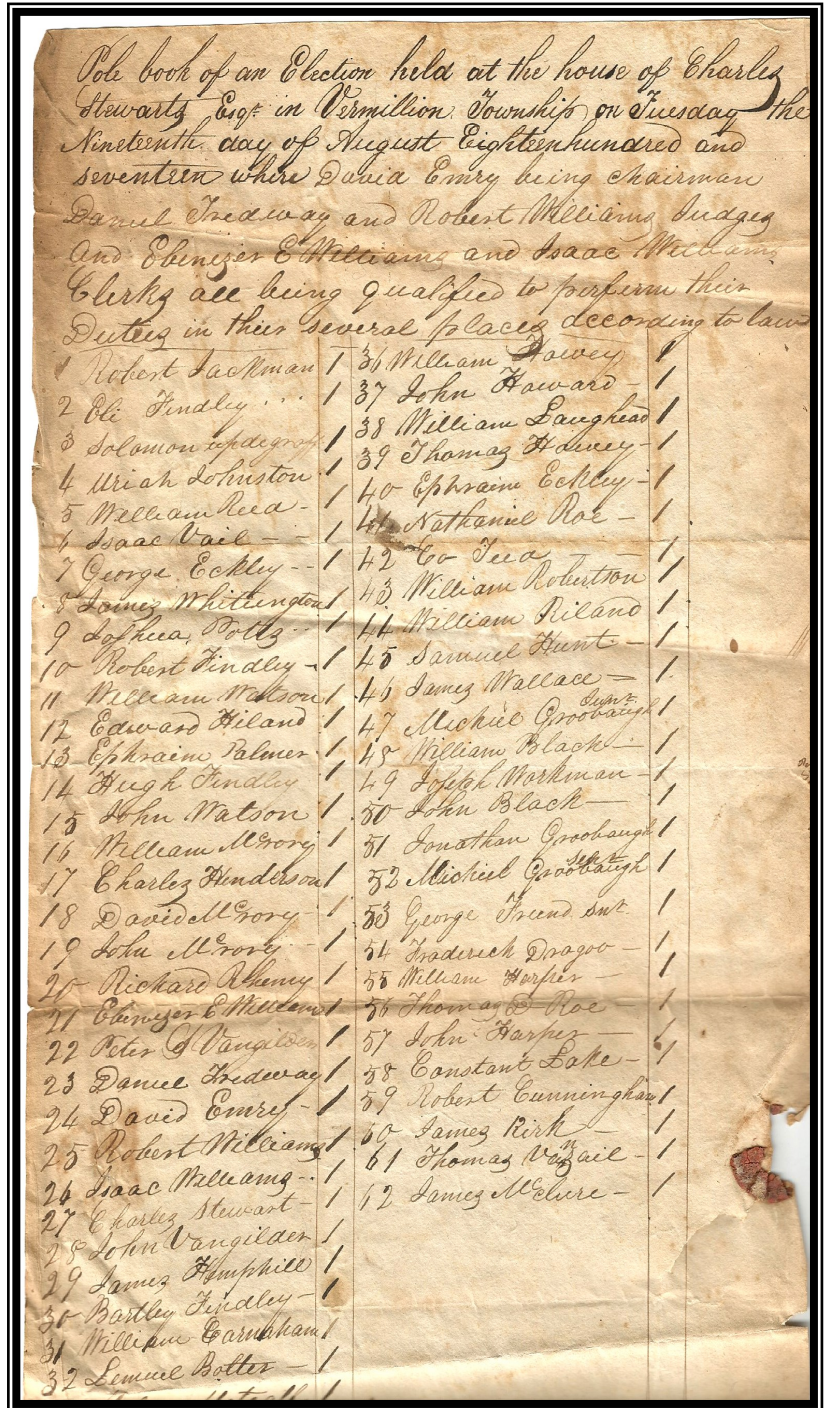
The following was submitted by Tom NEEL, New London, who purchased this at the Scott SCHAUT Auction in Mansfield and donated it to the Ohio Genealogical Society. This might serve as proof of settlement of ancestors for First Families of Ohio or First Families of Ashland County. Please Note: The boundaries of Vermillion Township (then in Richland County) were larger in 1817 than they are now.

"Poll book of an Election held at the house of Charles STEWART, Esqr., in Vermillion Township on Tuesday the Nineteenth day of August, Eighteen hundred and seventeen, where David EMRY being chairman, Daniel TREDWAY and Robert WILLIAMS, Judges, and Ebenezer E. WILLIAMS and Isaac WILLIAMS, Clerks, all being qualified to perform their Duties in their several places according to law.

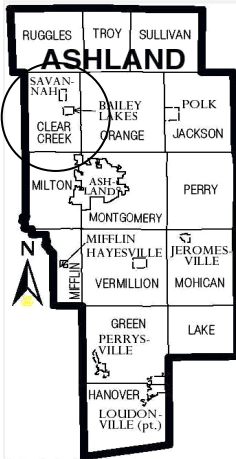
Robert JACKMAN	Stephen SMITH
Eli FINDLEY	George SHIVER
Solomon UPDEGRAFF	William HARVEY
Uriah JOHNSTON	John HOWARD
William REED	William LAUGHEAD
Isaac VAIL	Thomas HARVEY
George ECKLEY	Ephraim ECKLEY
James WHITTINGTON	Nathaniel ROE
Joshua POTTS	Co TEED
Robert FINDLEY	William ROBERTSON
William WILSON	William RILAND
Edward HILAND	Samuel HUNT
Ephraim PALMER	James WALLACE
Hugh FINDLEY	Michiel GROOBAUGH, Junr.
John WATSON	William BLACK
William MCRORY	Joseph Workman
Charles HENDERSON	John BLACK
David MCRORY	Jonathan GROOBAUGH
John MCRORY	Michiel GROOBAUGH, Senr.
Richard RHEMY	George FRIEND, Senr.
Ebenezer E. WILLIAMS	Frederick DRAGOO
Peter S. VANGILDER	William HARPER
Daniel TREDWAY	Constant LAKE
David EMRY	Robert CUNNINGHAM
Robert WILLIAMS	James KIRK
Isaac WILLIAMS	Thomas VANZAIL
Charles STEWART	James MCCLURE
John VANGILDER	Justice, Joseph WORKMAN,
James HEMPHILL	32 [votes]
Bartley Findley	Justice, Ephraim ECKLEY,
William CARNAHAN	29 [votes]
Lemuel BOLTER	Justice, James WALLACE,
Masson METCALF	1 [vote]

It is by us certified that the number of Electors at this Election amounts to 62.

Isaac WILLIAMS, T Ck [Township Clerk]  
Ebenezer E. WILLIAMS, Clerk  
David EMRY  
Daniel TREADWAY, Judge  
Robert



Return of an Election Held at the house of Charles STEWART, Esqr., in Vermillion Township for a Justice of peace, Richland County, Ohio.  
To the Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas of Richland County.



Ashland County has 15 townships of which I am focusing on Clear Creek township. If you want to know more than "just the facts" about your ancestors, you'll want to understand about where and when they lived.

Our Chapter has published 14 Research Aid books and working on the final one for Montgomery Township. If you're interested in reviewing one of our Research Aid books, check our library or our website for the Order Form. The Clear Creek Township Research Aid Book #11 is indexed with 221 pages. It contains the early historical foundation, including how it was formed, early tract book records, tax records, maps, towns, cemeteries readings, Church and school histories, etc.

### CLEAR CREEK TOWNSHIP - Research Aid Book #11

What is now Clear Creek Township (Range 17, Township 25) is part of the early Congress Lands. In 1803 it would have been a part of Richland County jurisdiction. In 1807, Maxfield LUDLOW surveyed the township and in 1818 Clear Creek was formed from the north half of Milton Township. Clear Creek was then split between Ashland and Richland counties when Ashland County was formed in 1846. Today the township is located on the west boundary of Ashland County just south of Ruggles Township. The first permanent settlement in this township was in the Spring of 1815. Many of these early settlers came from Western Pennsylvania (mainly Washington and Westmoreland counties) and Virginia. It is said that David BURNS, James HANEY, John BRYTE and William SHAW built a keel-boat where they lived in Washington County, Pennsylvania, and with their families, floated down the Ohio and up the Muskingum and its tributaries, landing near the present site of Jeromesville, and then pack animals to their future home in Clear Creek township.

Several archeological finds have been made in Clear Creek Township. Around 1830, when Mr. John BRYTE settled on Sec. 26, he found a square-shaped earthwork; and Mr. Thomas SPROTT, who settled on Sec. 35, at about the same time, also found an old mound. According to HILL's History (1880) these were located at BRYTES Fort, Mount Zion, and SPROTT'S Hill.

**Some early SURNAMENES:** Some of the early settlers of the area were: Rev. James HANEY(1815); John and Richard FREEBORN (1815), who named the creek from which the township is named. They also planted the first apple seeds, given by Johnny APPLESEED, to become some of the oldest orchards in the area; David BURNS(1815); Abraham HUFFMAN(1815); Daniel HUFFMAN(1816); Peter VanOSTRAND Sr.(1816); John McWILLIAMS(1817); Abel, and his father John, BAILEY (1818); John BRYTE(1819); James BURGAN(1826); James CHAMBERLAIN(1823); John ATON(1821); John COOK(1822); Thomas COOK (1822); John CUPPY(1819); Patrick ELLIOTT(1817); Elias FORD(1819); Isaac HARROUT(1819); Jacob McLAIN(1822); John McMURRAY(1819); Jared N. SLONACKER(1824); Thomas SPROTT Sr. (1823); and Thomas WRIGHT (1823). Other Surnames of early settlers were John and Eliphalet DOWNER, William BRYAN, Joseph MARSHALL, James DUFF, Jacob McLAIN, Garnett WHITELOCK, Robert NELSON, Joseph DAVIS, John HENDRICKS, Thomas HANEY, Joseph FAST, and Robert MacBETH.

Clear Creek township was one of the main routes of the underground railroad in the 1800's. Some of the names of the "Underground Station Masters" in the Savannah area were, John BEBOUT, Katie, Janie, and Mary COUTTS, Ezra GARRETT, Joseph GARVER, David and Robert HART, John HARVEY, George LATIMER, James and John LAWSON, Andrew and James PAXTON. The former GARRETT home is said to be the only house in the area still standing.

**Savannah** was laid out in 1818, by John HANEY (son of Rev. James HANEY, and nephew of John and Richard FREEBORN). It was first called Vermillion. In the early years, however, it went by the name of "Haneytown". In 1836-37, the name was changed to Savannah; Several efforts were made between the years 1830-1840 to erect a new county, with Savannah as the county seat; but this failed. It was the only town in the township until Baily Lakes was incorporated in 1961. In 1856-58, the Rev. Alexander SCOTT, a Presbyterian Minister, established the Savannah Male and Female Academy. Sixteen students were enrolled the first term; but by the end of the year that figure became one hundred. 1914 was the final year of enrollment before it became part of the Town and Township High School. The Savannah Academy Bell, which has been saved as a Historic Marker, was used from 1859-1924 and is located in the Savannah Academy Park.



*(pictured to the right are the early Academy building and the Historic Bell).*

Bailey Lakes is a small village within Clear Creek township, established in 1961. There are 5 lakes located within the village; James Lake, Savannah Lake, and three other private lakes. Savannah Lakes Resorts and Grove began by John and Newton McCLAIN. The maple grove was rented out to reunions and picnics. Today it is one of the five lakes that are part of Bailey Lakes community.



The home of Thomas FORD was one of the earliest places of worship; the pioneers often traveling six or eight miles on foot to attend religious services. In 1830 a church was finally erected near Mr. FORD's house, called "Ford's Meeting House" and could seat about four hundred people. Its first meeting was FORD's own funeral and preached by Rev. Elmer YOCUM. Other churches in the township are: HANEY's Meeting House, (erected around 1815), preached by Rev. James HANEY. It later became the Methodist Episcopal Church of Savannah. The Presbyterian (1833 by Rev. Robert LEE); Free Presbyterian(1851 by Rev. F.M. FINNEY); United Presbyterian (1858, by Rev. J.Y. ASHENHURST); Associate Reformed Congregation (1831, by Rev. James JOHNSON, and Disciple (1830, by Elders David BRYTE and Joseph HARVOUT).

Within the confines of Clear Creek township there are several cemeteries, some small; some larger. Atlee G MILLER Cemetery, Savannah Cemetery, Gregg Family Cemetery, Ford Meeting House, Wallace, Clear Creek (or BRYTES Church Yard or Disciple), VanORDSTRAND, Rickert Cemetery (aka Patterson-Rickert Cemetery), and Ashland Memorial Gardens.

There are three Clear Creek townships in Ohio, with Ashland being the only one spelled as two words. The other two (Fairfield Co and Warren Co) are one word. In 2025 population of Clear Creek Township was 2,035 within its 25.2 square miles.

## DID YOU KNOW ???

**THAT** - 2026 is the 250th anniversary of the birth of the United State. Which means, there will be lots of events planned nationwide for “America 250”. There will probably be many records, articles, and information available to us over the next several months on our ancestors of this American Revolutionary time period. Do you have American Revolution Patriots? If so, let us know. I’d like to honor those local Rev. War Patriots in future newsletters.

**THAT** - There are at least 5 online libraries that let you read, download and listen to millions of books for free. They are: (1) Librivox.org (2) Archive.org (3) Annas-archive.org (4) Gutenberg.org and (5) Libbyapp.com

**THAT** - Daughters of the American Revolution, Sarah Copus Chapter, Ashland, Ohio has given the State Library of Ohio permission to digitize and share online in their Ohio Memory, “Tombstone Inscriptions, Ashland County, Ohio” for which our Ashland Chapter holds the copyright.

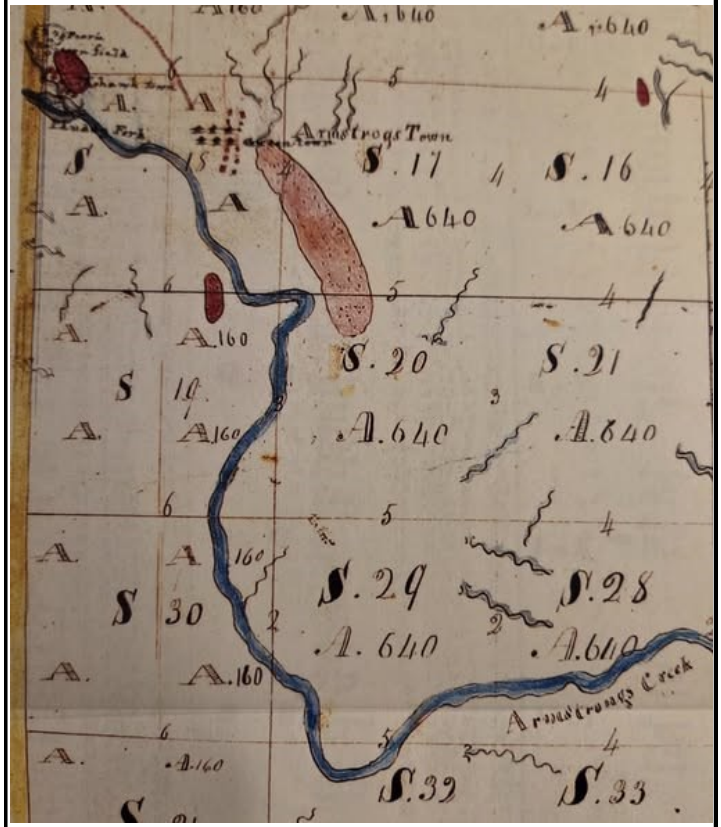
**THAT** - Only four U.S. presidents do not have Patriotic ancestors. They are Woodrow WILSON, John F. KENNEDY, Ronald REAGAN, and Donald TRUMP. Their ancestors were still in Europe or Germany during the American Revolution.

**THAT** - After a long fight, Reclaim The Records has won the release of the New York State Death Index for 1880-2017. They've created a website just for this database and a search system to access, search, and download results; and, yes, it's completely free. Read more at [www.newyorkdeathindex.com](http://www.newyorkdeathindex.com).

**THAT** - FamilySearch has added a newspapers option in their Search Section. They recently partnered with Storied (a paid newspaper subscription) to deliver newspaper results.

**THE** following was shared by Tom NEEL on the Facebook Group page of Ashland County Ohio History & Genealogy .

“This is part of Green Township, Ashland County, in the compilation of the original 1806-1807 James HEDGES survey compiled and enhanced by the late Scott SCHAUT in the Mansfield Memorial Museum’s 2006 Richland County Original Surveys publication. It shows the location of Mohawk Town and Greentown or Armstrong’s Town, The Delaware villages along the Black Fork of the Mohican River. Mohawk Town is alternatively called Helltown. The writing on the left that is difficult to read says “prairie cornfield”. SCOTT overlaid details from multiple maps so the original survey is simpler. The section numbers are given along with the original acreage. A copy of the 2-volume publication may be used at the Ohio Genealogical Society.”



The next time someone says your office is messy, just remind them that this is your Genealogy Command Center.



### Family History Tells America's Story.

As we commemorate “America at 250” in 2026, this is a perfect time to recognize the ancestors that contributed to our founding. It is important that we share the stories of these Revolutionary War soldiers who may have ended up on the now-present Ashland County, Ohio. This is how we can honor them and pass their story to the next generation.

Last newsletter I did an article on “Gold Star Mothers”. I knew there were some in Ashland County, but could not identify any. Since then I found at least 4 who were a part of this organization, though to be a part of it, means pain and suffering for those women who have lost a son or daughter fighting for our Country. They Are Mrs. Ed KENDIG, Mrs. John SHEARER A(May 7, 1930); Irrie LUCAS STINEMAN (Jul 12, 1958); and Allie GRIMES KENDIG (Jan 29, 1955)

## ASHLAND COUNTY CHAPTER NEWS



### Welcome To Our NEWEST CHAPTER MEMBERS -

We invite you to submit queries to the newsletter which help connect to others researching your same family. We hope you enjoyed our Welcome Packet of information to help you in your research.

You can start by submitting a copy of your five-generation chart to the Chapter for insertion in our 5-generation book located in the Genealogy room of the Ashland Library.

Send in your free query for the year.

- **David MARIETTA** - From Ashland, Ohio; Researching MARIETTA. Contact is dmarietta@yahoo.com
- New Member from Ashland, Ohio - Researching BOWMAN and ROLAND surnames. Does not wish to publish their contact info. If you have a connection, contact the chapter to get in touch with them.
- **Anjanette (Anjie) FISCHER-ALEXANDER** - from Wooster, Ohio. Researching GODHART, KENDALL, KNOBLE, + others. Her contact info is anjie.alexander12913@gmail.com
- **Deborah Lynn ROY** of Columbia City, Indiana - Researching Ashland Co Surnames AYERS, COE, KINNEY, OLIVER SPRANG, and TANNEHILL. She can be contacted at buttercupregina@gmail.com
- **Don COWAN** of Philadelphia, PA, researching the surname KELLOGG. Contact at donkcowan@gmail.com
- Another new member from Mansfield, Ohio does not wish for his contact info to be published
- **William HARPER** - Researching BELL, DOVE, FRIEND, HARPER, McCORRY, McKELVEY, REED, STAFFORD, WACHTEL, AND ZOOK. Contact is williampatrickharper@gmail.com
- **Sue MARKEL HICKMAN** - From Battle Ground, Washington researching MARKEL, RICHARD, HOWMAN, STROUSE, TRAUGER, and BEAM surnames. Contact her at sghick@aol.com if you have connections.

**WELCOME TO OUR CHAPTER !**

### **ASHLAND COUNTY CHAPTER LINEAGE SOCIETIES?**

Those interested in applying to one of the Ashland County Lineage Societies should complete the application by **August 31, 2026** which are available at the Chapter Library in the Ashland Public Library or at the Ashland County Genealogical Society website. You need not be a member to apply. Application fee of \$15 for all applicants. If you want a copy of the form or have questions or need help, contact our Lineage Chairperson,

Marleen APPLGATE ( ACCOGSLineage@gmail.com).

### **Requirement for Lineage Societies follows:**

- ♦ **First Families of Ashland County**  
Proving the applicant's ancestors were living in Ashland County prior to 1850, and there is a direct lineage from the ancestor to the applicant.
- ♦ **Settlers and Builders of Ashland County**  
The pioneer ancestor must have been in Ashland County between Jan 1851 and Dec 31, 1870. Again, there must be a direct line from ancestor to the applicant.
- ♦ **Century Families of Ashland County**  
The pioneer ancestor must have been in Ashland County between January 1871 and December 31 one hundred years prior to application year. *(currently, this would be 1926)* Must be a direct line from ancestor to applicant.



2026 OGS Conference  
"Finding Genealogy Gems"

April 29-May 2, 2026

Sharonville Convention Center  
Sharonville, Ohio



## ACCOGS CHAPTER LIBRARY

Located 2nd Floor of Ashland Public Library, 224 Claremont Ave, Ashland, Ohio *Assistants available most Tuesday and Thursday mornings (9-12). Contact Ginny FEIBER @vfeiber@zoominternet.net for other arrangements.*

We host a Genealogy and Local History research room on the upper level of the Ashland Public Library. It is open during normal Library hours; and is maintained jointly by the chapter and Ashland Public Library. It contains Family Histories (over 600 Family Surname books, binders, or pamphlets, local history (including church and school resources) as well as Obituary files, Chapter Lineage files, and local newspapers on microfilm from 1852 to Dec 2018. Our Chapter Library also contains several rows of other research materials pertaining to other Ohio counties and States. Our ATG OBIT INDEX file is updated yearly adding the previous years obits from the Ashland Times Gazette (ATG) through 2025

*(Most materials in this collection are not cataloged in the Ashland Public Library System as they are owned by the Chapter.)*

**DUPLICATE FAMILY BOOKS**— Following are duplicates that we have at the Chapter Library and are being offered to our members at no charge on a first come-first serve basis. However, if delivery is requested there will be a shipping charge. Please contact the librarian for additional information.

- Descendants of Samuel BARRETT - Donated Ralph HASTINGS Estate 2004
- Day Unto Day; The DAY Family in America - Margery Day HANSON 1978
- History and Antecedents of the Family of Paul James EAKIN and Jean GIBSON EAKIN - Jean G EAKIN (w/additional information from a variety of sources 1995 (3 copies available)
- Genealogy of Descendants of John CLOUGH of Salisbury, MA; Vol 1 - The John CLOUGH Genealogical Society, Inc 1952
- The HUTTON's of Southern Indiana, 1765-1998 (Including BRUCE, JACKSON, DREHOBEL, ASHCRAFT, FINE, etc - Edward L Hutton, Jul/Aug 1998
- Memories of My Experiences In WWII, The Big Red One, First Infantry Division United States Army - Marlowe KIPLINGER 2003
- A History of the KOHLER Family 1720-1996 - Anna Mae KOHLER (dedicated to and in memory of Jacob and Elizabeth KOHLER
- History of John and Mary HURSH KOHLER 1839-1965
- McWILLIAM Families of Northeast Scotland Vol 1 (James McWILLIAM and Isobel STUART Family (m.1760) and their Descendants Worldwide - Paul F McWILLIAMS, 2000
- Supplement of the Genealogies of the MORR-MYERS Families - Ralph B MORR 1971
- Velda Devilla LUTZ PRESTON-An Essence - Lovingly compiled and edited in cooperation with her, by her daughter-in-law, Betty HITES PRESTON
- Descendants of Alexander TURNBULL - Donated by Ralph E HASTINGS Sep 1, 1981
- The WEBBER Family of Maine - Data Collected by Alice WEBBER CHILD, 1940
- Descendants of John & Ellen WEBBER - Donated by Anne BUDD Mar 2001
- Descendants of John & Ellen WEBBER - Donated by Ralph HASTINGS Estate 2004
- Descendants of Ephraim and Jane McADOO WELCH - Donated by Ralph HASTINGS Estate 2004
- WISSLER, WHISLER, WHISTLER - Compiled by WHISLER Family History 1986
- The WILTROUT Genealogy - Dale E, Margaret, Roy, & F LeRoy WILTROUT 1976, 1977

## WANTED - NEWSLETTER EDITOR FOR 2026

(From Terry HAUN, Your Current Newsletter Editor)

I am still looking for someone who would want to take over publishing the Chapter Newsletter on a permanent basis in the next year.

The new Editor does NOT have to be a local chapter member, they can live away and do it remote. It would help to have some typing skills and knowledge of Word and/or Publisher. The Editor comes up with the articles of interest to members and able to research to write the various articles, though there is often help from our members. If someone is interested in the position, contact me at AshOGSeditor@gmail.com. I would be available to help the new Newsletter Editor create and write up the articles with a variety of sources and continue to provide various articles in the future. This can all be done from your computer and the internet at home (in your jammies, if you like) Our members are th bloodline of our chapter and we are here for you, but we need your involvement to keep it actively relative to our Chapter goal.

**Thank you all for your help in keeping our chapter in the forefront of Ashland County Genealogy.**

**The Pastfinder is the quarterly newsletter of the Ashland County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society and is issued four times a year.** The Newsletter is for you, our members. Please submit articles of interest with name of the newspaper, date, and page number. (We always want to see our sources.) Also, your name as contributor is requested. We look forward to hearing from you.

**We WELCOME suggestions for input in the newsletter: Pastfinder Editor, Terry HAUN (AshOGSeditor@gmail.com)**

## 2026 ACCOGS CHAPTER PROGRAMS



(Meetings are the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.. Unless noted below, Jan-Feb-Mar meetings are Virtual Meetings using “Zoom” as our platform. April-Oct will be Hybrid (which means Virtual and “in person”) unless otherwise noted. Held at the FREER Home, 1260 Center St, Ashland, Ohio except the July Picnic. Check our Facebook Page and Website for any changes.)

**MAR 17 - “Squeezing All the Info Out of Your DNA Matches -** with Kate Penney HOWARD (VIRTUAL ONLY)

**APR 21 - “Preparing for a Library/Archives Visit BEFORE You Go”** by Kelli BERGHEIMER

**MAY 19 - “Research Trip Around Ohio”** with Peggy Clemens LAURITZEN

**JUN 16 - “Polk, Ohio: What We Know”;** presented by Craig WILEY

**JUL 21 - Chapter Potluck Picnic.** Held at Freer Community Center. Begins at 5:30 PM.

**AUG 18 - “Ohio and World War I: Reconstructing your Ancestor’s Military Service Records”** by Eric E. JOHNSON

**SEP 15 - “The Trails Through Penn’s Woods, records of Colonial Pennsylvania”** with Sandra RUBLE (VIRTUAL ONLY)

**OCT 20 - “The Witch of Mansfield: The Wretched Life of Phebe WISE”** with Mark SEBASTIAN

**NOV 10 - CHAPTER LINEAGE BANQUET - “American Royalty Grace KELLY and Jackie BOUVIER KENNEDY ONASSIS”** with Julie KOENIG. (*Reservations required; \$25 per person at Freer Home; social hour begins at 6 PM*)

**NOV 17 - Chapter Cookie Exchange** (Begins at 6:30 PM at Freer Home) Everyone bring cookies or recipes and exchange.

**DECEMBER - No Meeting (Happy Holidays !)**

## OTHER 2026 PROGRAMS / CONFERENCES

**Mar 5-7 2026 ROOTSTECH** (Virtual and in person) Programs for all levels of Genealogist. Registration is required.  
[www.familysearch.org/en/rootstech/registraion](http://www.familysearch.org/en/rootstech/registraion)

**Apr 29-May 2 2026 OGS Conference** - “Finding Genealogy Gems” in Sharonville, Ohio. See OGS website for more information. <https://www.ogs.org/2025-conference-2/>

**May 16 Ohio History Connection** –Successful Sleuthing, Not Stalking, for DNA Matches

**May 27-30 NGS Conference** - “America At 250”. Held in Fort Wayne, IN; See website for details: See the NGS website for updated information. <https://conference.ngsgenealogy.org>

**Jun 18-26 The Palatine to American National Conference.** “Our German Ancestors; Building America”. Presented by Pennsylvania Chapter, Palatines to American German Genealogy Society and held in Lancaster, PA. See website for details ([www.pennpalam.org](http://www.pennpalam.org))

**Jun 21-26 GRIP Virtual** - (with Drew SMITH and Katie CRICHTON).\$\$ <https://grip.ngsgenealogy.org>

**SEP - OGS Fall Conference:** at the Samuel D. Isaly Library in Bellville, OH (details later)

\*\* Check [conferencekeeper.org](http://conferencekeeper.org), Their website states “*the most complete collection of Genealogy events online*”. If you’re interested in a program that isn’t mentioned, check their site. They list Conferences, Virtual Events, Podcasts, Genealogy YouTube Channels, etc..

## CHAPTER PUBLICATIONS:

Our Ashland County Chapter has many published Ashland County research aid books for sale.

Visit our website, <https://ashlandccogs.org/publications/publications-order-form/> for descriptions of them. You can order online, or print the order form and mail to the address shown.

## OUR CHAPTER 40th LINEAGE SOCIETY BANQUET

(Held November 18, 2025)

On November 18, 2025 we held our annual Lineage Society Banquet to honor 19 of those pioneers who helped make Ashland County what it is today. Along with a tasty buffet served, a program "The Life of Nora VESPER" presented by Hannah MILLER, the Inductees were acknowledged and then the Chapter Officers for 2026 were sworn in. (See pictures below).



← (Left) OGS 2nd Vice-President, Cheryl ABERNATY swears in our new 2026 Officers; President, Charlotte ELSON; Treasurer, Linda FULK; Senior Trustee, Barbara RENNEKER. Not present were Recording/Corresponding Secretary: Rebecca PLANK; Intermediate Trustee: Thomas S. NEEL



← Shown is Chapter Member, Keith METCALF, who provided music for The Banquet

### 2025 First Families of Ashland Co, Ohio Inductees:

**Dennis Michael KIDWELL:** Ancestors were -  
George Washington KIDWELL, 1850 Lake Twp  
John KIDWELL, 1831 Vermillion Twp  
Elizabeth OVER, 1835 Ashland County  
Henry OVER, 1850 Perry Twp  
Sarah WALTERS, 1835 Ashland County

**Cheryl VanHORN:** Ancestors were -  
Matthew DOW, 1850 Vermillion Twp  
Thomas DOVE, 1848 Vermillion Twp  
Hannah CRITCHET, 1848 Vermillion Twp

**Les S. McQUILLIN:** Ancestors were -  
William Wallace MARSHALL, 1850 Clear Creek Twp  
William MARSHALL, 1847 Clear Creek Twp  
Elizabeth PATTERSON, 1847 Clear Creek Twp  
Joseph MARSHALL, 1821 Clear Creek Twp  
Jane McMEEKAN, 1821 Clear Creek Twp  
William McMEEKAN Sr, 1844 Clear Creek Twp  
Jane McMEEKAN, 1846 Clear Creek Twp  
William PATTERSON, 1819 Ashland County  
Jane FEEBORN, 1819 Ashland County

### 2025 Settlers and Builders of Ashland Co, Ohio Inductees:

**Cheryl Van HORN:** Ancestors were -  
Mary Susan COLE, 1860 Montgomery Twp  
Charles BUCKINGHAM, 1870 Perry Twp



(Cheryl VanHORN, one of the Inductees, is shown with her two Certificates.)

# THE PASTFINDER

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ASHLAND  
COUNTY CHAPTER, OHIO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Ashland County Chapter  
Ohio Genealogical Society  
PO Box 681  
Ashland OH 44805-0681

POSTAGE  
HERE

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Mailing Label

## Ashland County Chapter of OGS Lineage Societies

Ashland County Lineage Society applications can be printed out from our web site. Go to the ASHLAND CHAPTER link of our website. **August 31 is the yearly deadline for induction.** See Marleen APPELGATE, Lineage Chair for questions

### ◆ First Families of Ashland County

(FFOAC). Pioneer ancestor must have been in Ashland County prior to 1850.

### ◆ Settler's & Builders of Ashland Co, OH

(SBOAC). Pioneer ancestor must have been in Ashland County between January 1851 and December 31, 1870.

◆ Century Families (CFOAC). Pioneer ancestor must have been in Ashland County between January 1871 and December 31 one hundred years prior to application year.

**Newsletter Editor:** Terry HAUN  
**Newsletter Mailing:** Pat DEANE

## Chapter Membership

Ashland Chapter OGS Membership  
\$5-Student; \$15.00-Single;  
\$20.00-Family (one address)  
Life—\$150.00 (S) or \$225.00 (F)

**Send to Linda FULK, Treasurer**  
P.O. Box 681, Ashland, Ohio 44805  
Membership year is January -December

See our website for an Application Form  
[https://ashlandccogs.org/membership/  
membership-form/](https://ashlandccogs.org/membership/membership-form/)

## Chapter Meetings

The Ashland County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society meets the **third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm.**

Program at 6:30 pm with Chapter business meeting immediately following. Chapter meets all months except July (annual Picnic), November (Fall Banquet, reservations only), and no meeting in December.

All meetings are free and open to the public.

## Chapter Library

*Located 2nd Floor Ashland Public Library  
(224 Claremont Ave, Ashland, Ohio 44805)*

## Volunteers

(Ginny WARNES FEIBER - Library Coordinator)  
(Linda WARNES FULK - Library Assistant)

Ginny FEIBER; vfeiber@zoominternet.net

## Ashland County Chapter website

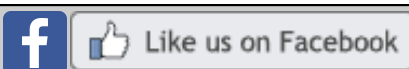
<http://ashlandccogs.org>

Ishu SAKTHIVEL, Webmaster

## Meeting Cancellations

**In-Person Meeting will be cancelled if schools are closed due to bad weather.**

**For other types of cancellations, check our Facebook page or listen to WNCO or WMFD.**



## FIND US ON THE INTERNET:

**Our Chapter Website:** <http://ashlandccogs.org>  
**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/AshlandGenSoc](http://www.facebook.com/AshlandGenSoc)

**CHAPTER CONTACTS:** Corres.Secretary: ACOGSSEC@gmail.com (OR) Newsletter: AshOGSeditor@gmail.com

*The Ashland County Chapter OGS is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization; donations to the Society are tax deductible. Your gifts help us buy books for the library, acquire speakers for our programs, and provide the means to publish our books. Consider a gift above and beyond your annual membership to help preserve the records left by our Ashland County pioneers.*