

SCCOGS NEWS

The Scioto Chapter of
the Ohio Genealogical
Society

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March 2011

A Note From The Editor

Hello Members,

We hope this issue of *SCCOGS News* finds you and your families doing well in 2011. This issue is full of information about SCCOGS happenings and research information, so let's get to it!

President Mima Vita states that we have been asked to participate in the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 12th. Please see page 17 for more information and how you may help.

Vice President Jodi Wright has submitted information that Dr. John Lorentz has offered the DVD *River Voices* to Society members at a discounted price! More information on this may also be found on page 17. This is a limited time offer, so act fast!

There was a wonderful article published in *The Portsmouth Daily Times* about the February SCCOGS meeting. You will find this on page 2 of this newsletter.

And, last, but most definitely not least! Please check page 5 and the names listed to be sure we have received your 2011 SCCOGS dues. If your name is listed, this could be your last newsletter! We don't want to lose you as a member! We appreciate you! Also, please check your information in the Researchers Listing to make sure your address, email address and surnames you are researching are up-to-date. Please send any changes to Jan Edwards, Membership Secretary.



Joyce M. Sadler
Newsletter Editor

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Special points of interest:

- Check the listing on page 5 to be sure we have received your SCCOGS

Next Meeting—April 9th

The next meeting of SCCOGS will be held Saturday, April 9, 2011 at 1:00 p.m. in the Robert Copley Meeting Room of the Portsmouth Public Library.

The featured speaker will be Mr. David Huffman and the topic will be Portsmouth City Schools from the Beginning to the Present. Mr. Huffman will have many pictures from the past and present and interesting stories of the history of the Portsmouth City Schools.

We hope you will attend. Bring a Guest!

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What Happened at the February Meeting?

Remembering the '37 flood

by Ryan Scott Ottney / Portsmouth Daily Times Sunday, February 13, 2011 Portsmouth Daily Times

The Scioto County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society met Saturday at the Portsmouth Public Library to discuss the 1937 flood. The meeting included survivors of the flood and a showing of "River Voices" documentary film by Dr. John Lorentz of Shawnee State University.

"This (February) is the anniversary of the flood, and it was a really bad time. I think this town suffered worse from the flood than they did from the Depression. My father always told me, he worked through the Depression, but we lost everything during the flood," Chapter President Mima Vita said.

Vita was only a baby when the flood destroyed her family's home on Third Street in Sciotoville and devastated the city. For many months after, Vita lived inside one tiny room at Harding Elementary School in Sciotoville, with her parents and two siblings.

"There was nothing left. We had no money. We had no insurance. My family was totally devastated," she said.

The meeting began as Lorentz — an accomplished and respected Middle East historian — spoke about why he wanted to make a film about the 1937 flood in Portsmouth.

"It had a tremendous impact, but it also had a significant lesson for the city of Portsmouth, I think, because this was a great, tragic event with enormous devastation. But after the flood, people pulled together and rebuilt the city, and there was sort of this can-do spirit of working together. I think this is a good illustration of how cities can go through very difficult time but if they join hands and work together they can not only survive but thrive," Lorentz said.

Lorentz began working on the hour-long documentary with his filmmaker son, Nate, in 1999, and it premiered in October 2002. Since its release, the film has been played internationally and it is available for purchase at many locations; including the Portsmouth Welcome Center on Second Street and the Shawnee State University Bookstore.

The Scioto County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society meets every other month, on the second Saturday, in the Robert Copley Meeting Room at the Portsmouth Public Library. Annual membership dues are \$15 per person.

"We will help you research your family. We have unbelievable resources here at the library. The library itself is just tremendous about helping people with online references and lots of resources," Vita said.

Anyone interested in joining can also find them online at www.sccogs.com.

We Appreciate You!
Thank you for being a valued member of
SCCOGS!

2011 SCCOGS Officers / SCCOGS December & February Meetings



2011 SCCOGS OFFICERS
From left: Jodi Wright—Vice President; Mima Vita—President; Jan Edwards—Corresponding Secretary; Karen Humphrey—Treasurer; Phyllis Crawford—Recording Secretary.



To the left: Featured Speaker of the December 2010 SCCOGS Meeting—Mr. Jim Henry. The topic was Railroads in Scioto County Past and Present.

Below: SCCOGS Members attending the December 2010 Meeting.



Below: SCCOGS Members and Guests attending the February 2011 Meeting.



Below: Featured Speaker of the February 2011 Meeting—Dr. John Lorentz. His topic was the 1937 Flood. He is the producer of the documentary, "River Voices".



Where to Research in Scioto County

GENEALOGY RESEARCH SCIOTO COUNTY, OHIO

Scioto County Court House,
602 7th Street, Portsmouth, Ohio 45662
Monday thru Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Scioto County Probate Court - Room 201 (740-355-8351)
Birth and Death Records from 1856-1858 and 1868- 1908
Estate Settlements and Wills from 1803 to present
Guardianship Bonds from 1803 to present
Marriage Licenses from 1803 to present

Scioto County Recorder's Office - Room 110 (740-355-8304)
Land Records and Deeds
Cemeteries with military burials/Soldier Discharge records
Grave Registration Cards/Greenlawn Cemetery Plot Deeds

Scioto County Clerk of Courts - Room 205 (740-355-8226)
Old Common Pleas and Chancery Records
Divorce Records

Scioto County Board of Health - Room 210 (740-354-3241)
Birth & Death Records from 1909 to present
(Certified Copies \$20.00)

Portsmouth City Health Department
605 Washington St., Portsmouth, OH 45662 (740 353-5153)
Birth & Death Records from 1909 to present for Portsmouth City only

Portsmouth Public Library – 1220 Gallia St., Portsmouth, OH 45662
Local History & Genealogy Dept. (354-5304) Open Monday, Tuesday & Thursday - 10:00
to 8:00, Wednesday and Friday - 10:00 to 6:00, Saturday – 10:00 to 5:00. No Sunday hours.
Internet: www.portsmouth.lib.oh.us/genealogy

Scioto County Chapter of Ohio Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 812, Portsmouth OH 45662
Website: sccogs.com
Email: sccogs@sccogs.com

Reminder to Pay your 2011 Dues

A reminder to the members listed below—we have not received your 2011 SCCOGS dues and this will be your last newsletter. Won't you please send your dues today?? We don't want to lose you!!

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 SANDRA ACHOR
 SCOTT ADAMS
 LISA C ALLEN-BAKER
 JAMES A ARTHUR
 JANE BARRETT
 LONA M BASSETT
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 EDITH (EDE) BLAIR
 BILL & HAZEL BRANDEL
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 ANNETTE BELFORD THEOPOLOS
 SANDRA PATTENGILL TODD
 JEAN SIMPSON TUFTS
 ANNA (ANNIE) RUTH VENEER
 JOYCE VENNEMAN
 MARY E WARD
 FLOYD E WEAVER
 HAYES & CAROLYN WILCOX
 DOTTIE JEAN WOOLUM
 ELIZABETH E BETSY YOUNG



Do you have something to submit?

We would appreciate submissions to be in the newsletter. Any Scioto County History of interest—queries, pedigree charts, family trees, family stories!

Do you have a family story that you think others would find interesting or would be able to glean some family information from? Please submit it to us for use in the newsletter!

Have you hit a brick wall and are unable to find information about your ancestor? Send us a query to put in the newsletter!

QUERY

Looking for Andrew James **SMITH** who married Eleanor **MACKLEY** and lived in Scioto County for a time around 1833. He was born in 1811 in Kentucky. He bought land at the Chillicothe Land Office in 1837. The land may have been in Jackson County, but the deed said he was from Scioto County. Does anyone recognize this **SMITH** as one in your family tree?

Query is condensed from one we received from Kathy Redd. Please contact her at reddk@yahoo.com if you have any info for her.

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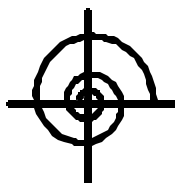
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BROOK, WEEKS



LAWSON-KENDALL CEMETERY

The following article was extracted from The Portsmouth Daily Times, September 11, 1965. Submitted by Gladys Reynolds

A smoldering controversy over planned construction of a house on an almost-forgotten East End cemetery exploded into court action Friday afternoon.

Descendants of the pioneer Lawson and Kendall families, for whom the cemetery was named, filed charges claiming mutilation of a human body through alleged bulldozing of a grave.

Filed by Wayne Clark, 1331 Lincoln St., the charges name as defendants:

Leslie and Effie Smith, 1627 Sixth St., for whom the house was to be built.

Robert Chamberlin of Wheelersburg, building contractor.

Richard Chamberlin and Thomas Ingles, also of Wheelersburg, and Everett Arthurs of Hastings Hill, Sciotoville, Rt. 4, all of whom were listed as employees of the contractor.

Edgar Harold of Portsmouth, Rt 5, identified as the bulldozer operator.

The property is located on an extension of 15th St. running east from Linden Ave. A city building permit for construction of a six-room brick cottage at 1443 15th St. was issued to the Smiths on Aug. 30. "The information that I had gotten was that all the graves had been moved from there" Homer Cox, building officer, said.

County records show the Smiths bought three lots on

15th St. from Frank Niessen in June 1964.

The deed is reported to be for lots 105 feet deep, which the Lawson family says puts the property line right in the middle of Lawson-Kendall cemetery. "These folks (the Smiths) bought three lots and started to build a home. They are platted lots." Emory Smith, attorney for the Leslie Smiths, said. "We checked it back for 25 years. The title is in the name of the person who sold it to them. It would seem if this land had a chain of title, they own the land," he added.

The land plat shows the cemetery as 150 feet long, 53 feet wide on one end and 75 feet wide on the other.

There have been many reports that "several bodies" were dug up by a bulldozer working on the construction job, however, Chamberlin said only one casket was struck by the bulldozer.

Authorities said the contractor stopped work as soon as the casket was discovered and reported the incident to city authorities and asked their advice. Dr. Don Gibson, health commissioner is reported to have recommended that the body be covered up. "The most you can do once a grave is uncovered is to cover it back up," Gibson said.

Mrs. Smith told the contractor to dig on the property and told them how far her property extended, Chamberlin said. The men started digging and "there was no sign whatever of a cemetery," he reported. "We were told that all bodies had

been moved out," he added. "There was nothing but a bunch of trees and brush."

The Lawson descendants claim that the Smiths had attempted to buy the hill where the cemetery is located and had been refused because of the bodies there. The bodies were not moved from the graveyard, the Lawsons say. "Nobody in the Lawson family ever thought of moving the bodies," Wayne Clark added. "They (the Lawsons) told her (Mrs. Smith) not to get on the property, but she had the bulldozer up there," he said.

Cox reported the contractor came to his office Friday, Sept. 3, and was told not to excavate any more until the situation is cleared up. Excavation was allowed to continue, however, in the front portion of the lots away from the cemetery area.

62 Burials Claimed

Lawson descendants report at least 62 bodies buried in the cemetery. Among those buried there, they say, is William Lawson, one of the founders of Portsmouth, who died March 18, 1832, and Gen. William Kendall, reported to have been a captain in the Revolutionary War, a General in the War of 1812, an early settler of this area and a city councilman in Portsmouth for about 25 years.

The Kendall-Lawson cemetery reportedly is mentioned by Nelson Evans' History of Portsmouth and in the original deed is set aside as

LAWSON-KENDALL CEMETERY

the Lawson Burying Ground, authorities say. It reportedly was taken off the tax rolls and exempted from taxes back when William Lawson was one of the first commissioners of Scioto County.

"Must Have Been Mistake"

"There must have been a mistake made in laying out the lots way back when the subdivision was laid out," a Lawson descendant said in attempting to explain why the Smith's deed to their lots overlapped the cemetery. Members of the Lawson family say that a "good, strong fence" was around most of the cemetery and that they saw several tombstones when they visited it last spring. They also say that most of the tombstones were rolled off the hill by gangs of boys about 50 years ago, making it impossible to tell who was buried where.

City authorities estimate that the last burial in the cemetery was about 100 years ago, but members of the Lawson family say a baby is believed to have been buried there about 70 years ago.

The Lawson relatives say they have been advised by a lawyer that since the cemetery was there first, the legal rights of the Smiths stop at the fence of the cemetery. This would leave the Smiths with about 70 feet of the 105 feet shown on their deed, authorities say.

Conviction on a charge of mutilation of a human body carries a fine of not more than \$10,000 or imprisonment of not less than one nor more than 10 years, officials say.

Uncovered during the inves-

tigation of the controversy was a state statute revealing that all private cemeteries in a city belong to the city and are to be under the care of the director of public service. An ordinance passed by the city of Portsmouth in the 1920's designates the city manager as director of public service. This apparently means that the city is in charge of the upkeep of old cemeteries.

In another article extracted from The Portsmouth Daily Times, October 12, 1965. Submitted by Gladys Reynolds

Harold Bound Over To Jury In Cemetery Case—Six Others Dismissed

One man was bound to the grand jury, and charges of mutilation of a human body were dismissed against six other persons in Municipal Court Monday.

Edgar Harold of Portsmouth Rt 5, operator of a bulldozer which allegedly struck a casket in the Lawson-Kendall East End Cemetery, pleaded innocent to the charge and was released on \$300 bond.

Charges against Robert Chamberlin, Wheelersburg building contractor, and three of his employees, Richard Chamberlin and Thomas Ingles, both of Wheelersburg, and Everett Arthurs of Hastings Hill, Sciotoville Rt 4, were dismissed by Judge Charles E. Smith.

A charge against Effie Smith was dismissed after the court heard evidence on the other

charges. A complaint against Leslie Smith was dismissed because of the death of the defendant on Oct. 2. Smith, who lived at 1627 Sixth St., and his wife were owners of the property adjoining the cemetery and their title apparently showed their lots overlapped the cemetery, according to county records.

The charges were filed by Wayne Clark, 1331 Lincoln St., after a controversy over the planned construction of a house at 1443 15th St. by the Smiths.

Clark is a Lawson family heir.

Extractions from The William Lawson and General William Kendall Cemetery, found at the Portsmouth Public Library and submitted by Gladys Reynolds. Unknown by whom compiled.

William Lawson—1761-1832; his wife Elizabeth Earson Lawson—1770-1846. Their children: William, Madison, Polly.

Manassah Lawson- Died 1847; his wife Agate Valodin Lawson—Died 1870. Their children: James, Lavania.

Enoch Lawson; his wife Elizabeth Lawson.

General William Kendall- 1783-1849; his wife Christina Lawson Kendall- Died 1840. Their children: John, Jeremiah, Joseph.

LAWSON-KENDALL CEMETERY

General William Kendall

General William Kendall was of Revolutionary stock. His father, Jeremiah Kendall, served in the Revolutionary War. Jeremiah's wife was Rhoda McIntire; their home was in Fauquier County, Virginia. There on November 23, 1783, our subject was born. He was the oldest son and settled in Ross County, but visited the site of Portsmouth and was there with Henry Massie before the town was laid out. He stopped with Captain John Brown, the first inn keeper in Portsmouth and fell in love with his daughter Rachel and married her, May 29, 1806. Robert Lucas, a Justice of the Peace, who married another daughter of Captain John Brown, performed the ceremony. There were eight children of this marriage.

After the death of his wife, Rachel, November 26, 1820, he married Christina, eldest daughter of William Lawson, October 12, 1821, and by her he had seven children. His second wife died August 2, 1840, and he married Mrs. Ruth Claypool of Chillicothe, for his third wife and she survived him. He died August 2, 1849 of consumption.

He was the father of fifteen children, and here are their names, dates of birth and whom they married, if married:

Jefferson, b. May 1, 1807; m. Elizabeth Fenton, Dec. 9, 1830; d. Sept. 16, 1862.

Rhoda, b. Dec. 9, 1808; m. Conrad Overturf, July 20, 1826; d. April 19, 1837

Stephen, b. Feb. 27, 1810; m. Rebecca Riggs, Aug. 6, 1839; d. Jan. 13, 1877

Milton, b. June 16, 1812; m. Ruth Lawson, the sister of his father's second wife, Jan. 23, 1833; d. Aug. 16, 1882

Thomas, b. July 16, 1814; m. Ann Glover, Nov. 16, 1836; d. Dec. 16, 1889

Eliza, b. Sept. 16, 1816; d. Oct. 1823

William, b. Jan. 2, 1819; d. Aug. 26, 1839

Rachel, (twin sister died same day as born) b. Sept. 21, 1820; m. Conrad Overturf, August 23, 1838; d. Oct. 30, 1874, he was also the husband of Rachel's older sister Rhoda, who died in 1837.

The above children were the children of Rachel Brown. The following are the children of Christina Lawson:

John, b. Jan. 5, 1823

Jeremiah, b. Feb. 12, 1825

Susannah, b. June 6, 1827;

m. Samuel Baldrige

Mariah, b. Nov. 23, 1829; m. James Salsbury, 1851; d. March 11, 1880

Joseph, b. Oct. 20, 1832; d. 1851

Franklin, b. Dec. 31, 1834;

m. Marietta Hall

Lavinia, b. Feb. 24, 1837; m. Louis Dent Adair

Joseph, died of yellow fever at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, while on his way to California.

William Lawson

He is reported to have been born in Virginia, but was born in York County, Pennsylvania in December 1761, the eldest son

of Thomas Lawson, a Revolutionary soldier. In 1799 he appeared in Alexandria. He came with three of his brothers, Thomas, John and James and three sisters. The brothers and sisters located in Kentucky opposite Scioto County.

Lawson's Run was named for William Lawson.

William Lawson married Susannah Earson. The following are their children:

Manesseh and Thomas; John, born August 27, 1790, d. Sept. 18, 1859; Madison and Enoch; Mary, m. Judge Joseph Moore; Christina, m. General William Kendall; Maria, m. General William H. Kelley of Union Landing; Ruth m. Milton Kendall, a son of General William Kendall.

William Lawson died March 18, 1832 and is buried on the hill in the spot back of where Thomas Kenyon now resides. His wife died June 25, 1846, aged seventy-six years.

The compiler of this information sighted the following sources:

Scioto County and Pioneer Record Southern Ohio, by Nelson W. Evans, 1796-1908, Page 102; Page 762

History of Adams County 1900 by N.W. Evans and E.B. Stivers. Page 285

Community Name Changes

Taken from the Scioto County, Ohio, Newspaper Index

The following table, although not totally inclusive, represents many of the name changes that occurred to Scioto County, Ohio, towns, communities and post office addresses NLE = Community name no longer exists on current maps.

FORMER NAME	CURRENT NAME & LOCATION	FORMER NAME	CURRENT NAME & LOCATION
Abashai	NLE N. of Sciotoville	Henly	NLE Washington Twp
Alexandria	NLE Washington Twp W of old mouth of the Scioto River; near present day Carey's Run	Holmesville	NLE E of Bloom Twp
Andre	NLE Andre Station, Lyra	Iron Furnace	South Webster
Basham	NLE W of Sciotoville along Ohio River	Lois	N W of Wallace Mills
Bertha	West Portsmouth	Lower Delaware Town	NLE E of Scioto River near Portsmouth
Bloom Furnace	NLE Bloom Twp S E of South Webster	Lower Shawnee Town	NLE See Alexandria
Bloom Switch	NLE Bloom Twp E of South Webster	Madland	NLE Bloom Twp, S E of South Webster
Bloomfield	South Webster	Massie	NLE Madison Twp near Warren Hill Rd and George Allen Road
Bradford	Friendship area	Moccasin	Rarden
Brookside	NLE Union Twp near Arion	Moss Mills	West Portsmouth
Burrsburg	Haverhill	Myrtle	NLE Madison Twp
Camp Eureka	NLE Rush Twp along SR 104 N of SR 73	Naim	NLE Madison Twp
Chaffins Mill	Lyra	Nauvoo	West Portsmouth
Concord	Wheelersburg	Old Lower Town	NLE See Alexandria
Cooney	NLE S of Vernon Twp, S of Lyra	Pink	NLE Brush Creek Twp, SR 125 and Rocky Fork Rd
Crawford	NLE S of Lyra in Vernon Twp	Pioneer Station	Hales Creek
Crone	NLE S E of Lucasville	Purdy Corner	Muletown
Diffen	NLE Jefferson Twp, intersection of Flatwood-Fallen Timber and Miller's Run-Fallen Timber Roads	Ryon	NLE Madison Twp, S W of Massie
Edmunds	Frederick	Stony Hill	Lombardsville
Edwardsville	Sciotoville	Stringtown	NLE Valley Twp, Pike County Border
Feurt's Flats	Lombardsville	Tempervale	NLE Nile or Washington Twp, N of former Alexandria
Freeman	Otway	Twin Oaks Mills	NLE Porter Twp, S of Wheelersburg
Freestone	Buena Vista	Union Mills	West Portsmouth
French	NLE Rush Twp, crossroads of SR 73 and Pond Creek Road	Vera	NLE Clay Twp, area of Rosemount
Galena	Rarden	Waits Station	Slocum
Gervais	NLE S of Franklin Furnace	Webster	South Webster
Harrisonville	Minford	Wharton	NLE N E Washington Twp
		Wyandot Town	NLE Location Unknown. Former Native American Village
		Yno	NLE Jefferson Twp on Miller's Run-Fallen Timber Road

The Great Flood of 1937

Taken from the 1815-1990 175th Birthday Celebration of Portsmouth, Ohio Commemorative Booklet.

Prior to 1937, a flood expert said that, "70 feet may be considered the highest possible rise for the Ohio River at Portsmouth, with one chance in 1,000 above that". As though in mockery to that statement and to the floodwall, which had twice thwarted its attempts to flood the city in 1933 and 1936, the Ohio River gathered resources from all its tributaries and rain soaked clouds and spilled over the 62-foot floodwall, reaching a record-breaking 74.23 feet.

City officials opened the seven flood valves in the outlet sewers at 3:15 a.m. Friday, January 22, and within a short time the murky water of the Ohio, which had been kept from backing up into the city for several days, was finding its way to the city's streets through underground passageways.

Factory whistles were blown and the police radio car made several visits to lower streets several hours before the valves were opened. City Manager Frank Sheehan withheld the order to open the flood valves as long as possible in an effort to give families more time to reach places of safety. It was necessary to open the sewer valves; because, if they were kept closed, they could not be opened to let the water fall back after the flood.

It was estimated that 10,000 persons were homeless temporarily as hasty exits were made from homes in the flood zone to the homes of relatives or friends on the hilltop and to public school buildings out of the danger zone.

Thursday afternoon, just prior to the water flooding the city, 20 of 54 prisoners in the county jail were released by the sentencing court to permit the men to aid in the danger zones, where there was a shortage of men to move house furnishings. Those that were released were in on minor charges. A dozen prisoners in the city jail were also released to assist in moving families.

By Sunday everyone was urged to use the supply of fresh water sparingly so that it would last longer. The warning was not heeded; and on Monday, it became necessary to ration the water.

City officials and the citizens' committee decided to turn on the water only three times a day for one hour when it was discovered that half of the water supply had been used in the last two days. There was no chance to replenish the supply, because the city pumping station was under water.

The ration order brought crowds of people on the hilltop to the once famous Kinney Spring in front of Lincoln School. All day Monday night until late at night, long lines of men and women waited to get water from the spring.

By Tuesday, the bucket brigade had grown to an all-time record as more and more residents of the hilltop district remembered about the spring. Because of weak pressure, many residents of unusually high sections of the city were unable to get

water during the time that it was turned on. Bottles, jugs, dippers, tin cans, and every imaginable utensil was pressed into service at the spring.

The "Open for Business" sign was popular in downtown Portsmouth by Monday, February 9, as a new week began with many of the city's merchants ready to resume business. In almost every case stocks had been arranged hastily to speed up the resumption of business, but there was plenty of everything available, and good-natured crowds thronged downtown to stock up on everything they had been shy on during the two-week lapse in business.

Many establishments in the West End planned remodeling and redecorating following their flood cleanup. In the final analysis a survey indicated Portsmouth suffered slightly more than 16 million dollars losses in cost of flood and its cleanup. It also showed 500 buildings destroyed, 5,734 partially lost with private property damage nearly four million dollars and 36 churches affected.

The baseball fans in Portsmouth had cause to celebrate in 1938, the Red Birds, a St. Louis Cardinal minor league club, won the Mid Atlantic League. The team was in first or second place all during the year, but the finish was close with the Red Birds emerging victors by only a half game.

This team came to Portsmouth at the start of 1937 season when Branch Rickey, a hometown boy who made good in the majors as vice president and general manager of the St. Louis Cardinals, agreed to make Portsmouth a Cardinal farm team. He transferred his Huntington, West Virginia franchise to Portsmouth.



An aerial view of Portsmouth, Ohio.
Ohio Historical Society collection

St. Patrick's Day Parade / River Voices DVD / Genealogy Tidbit

St. Patrick's Day Parade

President Mima Vita states that SCCOGS has been asked to participate in the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade!

She and Vice President Jodi Wright plan to ride in an vehicle with OGS logo on the sides.

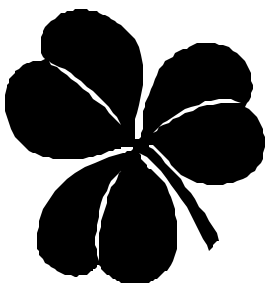
The date is March 12 and begins at 3:00 p.m. The route will be from the Valley Foods lot on Market St, (across from St. Mary's) down Market to 2nd, and up 2nd and ending in Tracy Park.

OGS sent very nice logos for both the Ohio and Scioto County chapters to be used on the vehicle identifying SCCOGS.

President Mima Vita states that the SCCOGS volunteers will be passing out candy to the children and information about SCCOGS to the adults during the parade.

If anyone would like to join in the fun representing SCCOGS, they are welcome.

Please contact Mima for more information.



River Voices DVD

Dr. John Lorentz has offered the DVD *River Voices* to Society members at a discounted price of \$20.00, which is \$9.95 off the regular price.

The DVD is a documentary of the 1937 flood in Portsmouth.

Anyone wishing to purchase a DVD should mail a check for \$20.00 plus \$2.00 shipping to Karen Humphrey, SCCOGS, PO Box 812, Portsmouth OH 45662 by April 30, 2011.

For questions, contact Jodi Wright, jwyo-ming@hotmail.com or 740-285-2424.

Future SCCOGS Meetings

The following are the planned speakers for future SCCOGS Meetings

June 11, 2011— Ernie Bouyack and Ann Snyder will be presenting on their trip to Germany from where many Scioto Countians can trace their roots.

August 13, 2011— The 7 Nations Celtic Club of Southern Ohio will be presenting on Celtic history and heritage from where many Scioto Countians can also trace their roots.

Genealogy Tidbit

HOW TO FIGURE A BIRTHDATE

REMEMBER THIS NUMBER:
8870

This is not an error: It is the number to remember when you want to find the birthdate of someone when you only have the date of death and age.

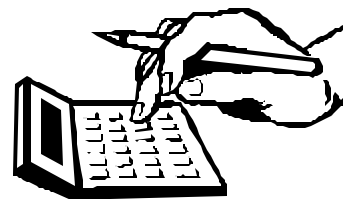
How do you figure the birthdate?

Suppose the person died May 6, 1889, at the age of 71 years, 7 months, 9 days.

1. Write the year, month, day as: -----> 18890506
2. Subtract the age at death: ---
-----> 710709
3. This gives the figure: -----
-----> 18179797
4. Now subtract 8870: -----
-----> 8870
5. The result is: -----
-----> 18170927

Year 1817, 9th month (Sept),
27th day or 27 Sept 1817

Source: Platte Co, MO Historical/Genealogical Society
<http://www.usgennet.org/usa/ga/county/polk/genealogy.html>



Branch Rickey—The Early Years

The following was extracted from the September 2010 edition, Volume 21, Issue 80, of Rickey Roots & Revels.

Rev. JACOB RICKEY (1775-1847), great grandfather of WESLEY BRANCH RICKEY (b. 20 Dec 1881 Stockdale, Pike Co. OH—d. 9 Dec 1865 Columbia, Boone Co, MO) came to Scioto Co, OH in 1817 from New York State. He farmed in Madison Twp, an area infested with bears, wolves and other forest denizens, and preached the gospel of Baptist fundamentalism for 45 years.

BRANCH's grandfather, EPHRAIM WANSEER RICKEY (1829-1907) was equally devout, but he concentrated on farming and became one of the largest landowners in the district. He started with on 10 acres of unimproved land. By hard work and economical habits, he eventually owned 1200 acres, from which he gave each of his children a house and 200 acres with stock. In 1873 he removed to California, Pike Co, OH and engaged in mercantile business and also dealt extensively in live-stock. He was a strong temperance man and member of the Baptist Church.

JACOB FRANKLIN RICKEY (1854-1939) father of BRANCH married EMILY BROWN (1856-1934) on 12 Mar 1874. When son WESLEY BRANCH was 18 months old, they sold the farm and left the tragic memories of Madison Twp and crossed the Scioto River to settle in Rush Twp.

Young BRANCH grew up in a bucolic neighborhood. Farming was the way of life, and baseball was his pastime. For BRANCH, a new interest soon challenged him. JANE "JENNIE" MOULTON (b. 16 Feb 1882—d. 16 Oct 1971) lived next to the general store and BRANCH was initially impressed with her speed afoot. She was small, but could outrun any boy or girl in the schoolyard, and had a saucy way of tossing her head at the kids who failed to catch her.

One February morning BRANCH found a folded paper addressed to him under the door. Among the many things the did not know were the exact requirements for being someone's Valentine. However, nothing could have stopped him from accepting the honor from such a nice girl. He didn't know JENNIE had made a dozen such Valentines and slipped them under as many doors.

As their friendship flourished JENNIE was the drive behind BRANCH's ambitions. Her brother was going to college, and BRANCH did not know how a person could get into college with limited schooling and little money.

Professor Finney told BRANCH if he continued to do well at school in Lucasville, he would tutor him to take the examinations to become a teacher. This would be a great opportunity for someone who had no other training except farm chores and baseball. He passed the exams and received a teaching appointment at a salary of \$30 per month. BRANCH was sure this would impress JENNIE's parents.

He taught at a 2-room school at Turkey Creek. It was the worst school on the west side of the Scioto River, an area that boasted the most active moonshine stills in the county. Despite the school's notorious reputation for bodily injuries limiting the tenure of his predecessors, BRANCH prevailed for 18 months.

Eventually he made plans to attend college. His mother made a torch from some rolled up newspaper and they flagged down the train that took him to Ohio Wesleyan University in Delaware, OH, north of Columbus. He arrived with only one pair of pants and little else of value.

Hard work translated into academic prowess, and his baseball ability soon endeared him to his classmates. Rather than kick him out of the Delta Tau Delta fraternity, his brothers subscribed a dollar per member for the baseball fund that enabled BRANCH to stay in school. As player-coach, BRANCH led the Ohio Wesleyan baseball team to the state championships in 1903 and 1904.

On 1 Jun 1906 BRANCH and JENNIE were married, and our illustrious cousin went on to become the Hall of Fame baseball legend, whose business acumen and innovations altered the game of major league baseball forever.

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