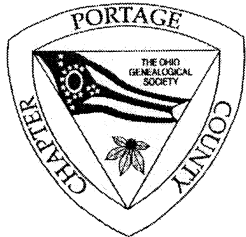


Portage Path to Genealogy

Volume 32 Number 6 November-December 2010

page 1



Please Remember to Pay Your 2011 Membership Dues See Page 5 for removable form

To Our Members:

Larry Fischer's program-What the Heck Is It-was a lot of fun. Most of our members were able to figure out the items without too much trouble. From the rain stick, the clothes plunger, to the bleeder, many of the items are thankfully no longer in use!

Twenty-three members and guests attended the First Settler's Luncheon in October. For photos and story see page three.

Lois Ragan has retired from her position as the chapter historian. Lois has been our keeper of the news clippings and photos for the past 14 years. She has filled scrapbooks of our events and filed a report each year detailing our activities. All of the material Lois collected is located at the Portage County Historical Society in the library area. Thank you, Lois, for a superb job.

We will need a new historian, as well as other new officers in the upcoming election. Please consider helping the chapter by becoming an officer. None of the positions are difficult but it does take some time. It is unfair to rely on the same people year after year, and we could use some fresh ideas for the chapter.

Your President, *Barb Petroski*

Meeting Dates—First Saturday of the Month

Where: Portage County Historical Society, 6549 N. Chestnut St., Ravenna (located next to the Ravenna High School Stadium and just south and across the street from Maple Grove Cemetery), unless otherwise noted.

TIME: 10:00 a.m. unless otherwise noted

NOTICE: NEW DAYS FOR MEETINGS---FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH starting September 2010

Time is still 10:00 a.m. Place is same: Portage County Historical Society

November 6--Election of officers. **Wayne Enders** will be the speaker. He will read from letters concerning different topics written during the Civil War era.

December –no meeting –Have a safe and happy holiday season-Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to everyone.

2011—All programs to be announced

January

February

March

April

May

THE PORTAGE PATH TO GENEALOGY is published by the Portage County Chapter, OGS, P.O. Box 821, Ravenna, Ohio 44266, 6 times a year in January, March, May, July, September, and November. Membership dues are \$10 per year for an individual membership \$12 per year for two people at the same address. Dues are payable in January of each year.

OFFICERS:

President

Barb Petroski

Vice-President

Evelyn Burgess

Secretary

Jackie Woodring

Treasurer

Tom Monroe

Historian

Lois Ragan

Newsletter

Barb Petroski

pccogs@embarqmail.com

[com](http://www.pccogs.com)

Membership Chair

Carolyn Kale

First Settler's Chair

Jackie Woodring

Loss of Member:

Word was received of the death of Leo J. DeGross of Atwater. Leo had been a member for many years having traced his roots back to the founding of New Amsterdam [now New York] Even though he had not been active for a while he was missed by the members who knew him and we send our condolences to the family.

If you wish to make a contribution in his memory they may be made to Portage Industries Inc., 7088 State Route 88, Ravenna OH 44266

Address Change

Paul Hoot 1198 Crottestown Rd Chambersburg, PA 17202.

Surname list addition:

Martha Marsh Box 342 Hudson OH 44236 mmmarsh29@yahoo.com Surnames: BIRDSILL, BEDIANT, HUMISTON, LITZELL, MYERS, PARSONS, THOMPSON, WOODRUFF

Willing to Share Information:

My grandfather was Almon Rood, the miller at Phalanx Mills in Trumbull County. He started collecting Rood information in the early 1900's. He went back as far as 1626 and did it all from his desk. I have his records, and have added more info. I would be willing to share if anyone is interested.

His grandmother came to Portage County about 1820. She was Flavia Spencer and married Isaac Nicholson of Nelson Township. Flavia was the daughter of Henry and Betsy Spencer who are buried in the Harrington Cemetery also in Nelson. My Tinker and Stow families came to Nelson around 1800. I was reading your latest newsletter, and saw the clipping about a Rood marriage. No date was marked on the article. I can give you the date. it was October 31, 1886.

Keep up the good work. I wish I lived nearer so that I could be more involved.

Sincerely,

Dorothy Rood Jacobs 909 Ginkgo Grove, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-8613 JacobsDM3@aol.com

QUERY:

Is there anyone who has information on Jonathan Williams who lived in Portage/Summit County from approximately 1800 to 1840?

Nancy & Jim Buswell 7514 River Rd, Baldwinsville, NY 13027 nbusewll@earthlink.net

CHAPTER E-MAIL ADDRESS, QUERIES There is always space for your queries, just send them in.

If you wish to send a query for this newsletter please send it to pccogs@embarqmail.com

Please limit your query to only two surnames. Queries, which are posted in this newsletter, are free for members. There is a \$1.00 fee for queries from non-members who must mail in their payment with the request. Mail to: PCCOGS, P. O. Box 821, Ravenna OH 44266-0821

First Settler's Luncheon

The Portage County Chapter's Annual First Settler's luncheon held at Belleria Pizza & Italian Restaurant on October 2nd was attended by twenty-three members and guests. **Charles Naegeli** was there to accept his certificate for his induction into the First Settler's family. He is the 52nd person to be awarded the honor for successfully researching his family roots, most of which settled in the Randolph area. Naegeli's ancestors are Peter Andes Sr., Maria Anna Artz, John Adam Knapp, Elizabeth Andes, Nicholaus Horning, Elizabeth Knapp, George Hornung, Margaretha Kerling, George P. Rothermel, Peter Rothermel and Margaret Brotz

Molly Everett was unable to attend the luncheon. Molly's certificate number is 51. Her ancestors are Solomon Johnson Payne, Lucretia Bierce and Ketchel Bell Payne.

Congratulations to both our members, well done! A special thanks to Jackie for her hard work in putting together another wonderful luncheon.



Our Members having a good time.



Chairperson Jackie Woodring & Charles Naegeli



PCCOGS members enjoyed the food-notice all the take-home boxes.

The items below are from pages copied from a bible at the Portage County Historical Society. The title page of the Bible is "The New Testament of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ Translated out of The Original Greek and with the Former Translations Diligently Compared and Revised" New York: American Bible Society, 1859.

It appears to be from the family of Capt. **Obadiah Skiff** of Williamsburg, Massachusetts. Members of the family settled in Freedom Township, Portage County. He married **Lucy Bartlet** in 9 March 1785. Their second daughter, **Electra Skiff** married **Dr. David Porter** 5 April 1808 at the residence of the brides father in Williamsburg. Dr. Porter died 7 March 1814 at age 29 in Worthington, Mass. Electra Porter remarried Mr. **Darius Noble** in Windham on 11 October 1838. [All above information is hand written on various pages in the bible.]

Died.

In Freedom, Portage Co., Ohio, at the residence of her son-in-law, D. H. Wright, Jan. 3d, 1878, in the ninetyeth year of her age, Mrs. **ELECTA NOBLE**, late widow of Darius Noble, and former widow of Dr. David Porter, of Worthington, Mass.

Although gradually becoming more feeble day by day, from failing strength and suffering, incident to her advanced years, her death was hastened by a severe fall which she experienced a few weeks previous, in attempting to walk without sufficient aid. Shortly before she breathed her last, her daughter assisted her from her rocking-chair to the bed, and, while adjusting pillows and clothing about her, became aware that, without a struggle, moan or sigh, her spirit had taken its flight.

Our dear angel Grandmother!— We remember her when in the vigor and activity of her mature years, as well as when in the quiet evening of her long and useful life; her smiles of welcome to all who came about her at the old homestead, and her entire forgetfulness of self in care for others. For many years a devoted member of the Congregational Church; and, while health and strength permitted, a regular attendant at the house of prayer, she was equally faithful in the observance of family worship, and exemplified the Christian virtues in her daily walk and conversation. Hers was indeed a sunny nature, full of cheerfulness and benevolence. We saw her when friends and companions, "like leaves in wintry weather," had fallen all around her, and knew that the Savior in whom she trusted was still her comforter and guide. And, when her days were prolonged beyond the allotted three score years and ten, and many of them days of weariness and pain, the example of patience and unselfish devotion in her was so fully exhibited, and so worthy of imitation, that we felt that not an hour was her time of usefulness outlived.

As the last autumn leaf, left withering alone, must needs be shaken by the chilling blast to loose its hold upon the bough, so was her eager, waiting spirit at last released by the grim but welcome messenger from its perishing earthly habitation.

"Not dead— and risen— the soars above
The limit of our power is hope,
And we, because we shared her love,
May cherish the uplifting hope
That life to us is more, by first,
Her attitude above our own."

J. P. C.

PORTAGE

[Garrettsville Journal.]

The funeral of Mrs. Electa Noble was attended at the residence of her son-in-law, D. H. Wright, in Freedom, on Sunday, Jan. 6th. Three or four weeks ago, she fell and received injuries from which she suffered until she died. The injuries did not seem very severe, and, although, on account of her advanced age, and general feebleness, fears were entertained that she might never walk about again, yet her friends hoped to see her comfortable. She passed away very suddenly, as her daughter was making her tidy in bed, after a short time of rest in her chair; she became aware that she had ceased to breathe. So, without a sigh or groan, passed away one who had nearly reached her ninetyeth birth-day. She was ready and waiting the summons. On account of the severe weather, the attendance from the town was not large, as all were aware there were so many relatives of the deceased. Miss Sadie Wright, from Chardon; Miss Carrie White, from Pa.; Mr. R. D. Noble, from Cleveland; Messrs. H. D. & O. V. Searles, from Ravenna, and H. J. Noble, from Windham, were present.

DIED.

On the 27th of November, Mrs. Caroline N. White, wife of Dr. Newell White and honored resident of this place.

Mrs. White was a daughter of Dr. David Porter of Williamsburgh, Mass. She was born December 18th, 1807, and was therefore in the 73rd year of her life. She was married on the 9th of May, 1834, and soon afterwards moved to Ohio. In 1850 the family came to reside in this city. For a number of years Mrs. White has been the victim of that dreaded disease, consumption, and doubtless her life has been lengthened by the careful nursing of a most devoted family. Though confined to her sick room she was always exhibiting that love for the welfare of others which drew around her a host of friends. Looking forward to the grave as the only release from her sufferings, she was always cheerful and had a good word for every one. Sustained by the only hope which can bridge the dark gulf and by that high principle of trust in God, which brings peace, she died as she had lived, a true Christian, a devoted wife, a loving mother and a valued friend. The funeral service was held at the residence on Tuesday afternoon and the remains were interred in Greenwood Cemetery. "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord."

DIED.

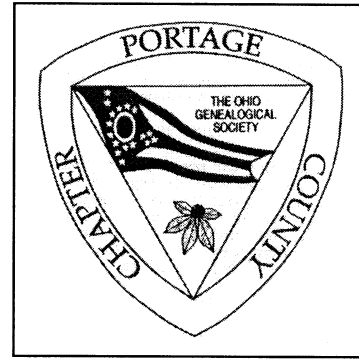
NOBLE—At Niles, Ohio, on Sunday, March 29, 1874, **WILLIAM S. NOBLE**, a native of Benson, Vermont, aged 64 years.

HALBERT—At Newburg, Ohio, on the 2d inst., **C. J. HALBERT**, aged 68 years, and 26 days.

Funeral services at 2 P. M. from his late residence, Newburg, friends of the family are invited to attend. The remains will be interred in the Greenwood Cemetery.

More items from Bible continued on page 7.

Portage County Chapter OGS
P.O. Box 821
Ravenna OH 44266-0821



Chapter Dues are due January 1st of each year.

Membership Application

Date _____

Check Box If This Is A New Mailing Address And/Or E-Mail

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Single Membership \$10.00 _____ For Year 20_____

Family Membership \$12.00 _____ For Year 20_____
(2+ Same Address)

Renewal___ New Member___ OGS Member___ Donation-\$_____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Please Make Checks Payable To: Portage County Chapter, OGS

If you wish a membership card please enclose a self addressed stamped envelope.

Please **print** or **type** the surnames you are researching below. There is a limit of 12 names. Names will appear in the March-April Newsletter.

- | | |
|----|-----|
| 1. | 7. |
| 2. | 8. |
| 3. | 9. |
| 4. | 10. |
| 5. | 11. |
| 6. | 12. |

News from Genealogy Societies

2011 OGS Annual Conference

"Genealogy through the centuries"

March 31 to April 2, 2011, The Hyatt on Capitol Square, Columbus

The Hyatt on Capitol Square in Columbus is now taking reservations for the 2011 OGS Conference 31 March to April 2, 2011.

Attendees can make reservations online via <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/OGS2011>. If you prefer to make reservations via telephone the direct number is **1-888-421-1442**.

Conference Chairs, conference2011@ogs.org

The Federation of Genealogical Societies

Preserve the Pensions

The Federation of Genealogical Societies, the National Archives, and the genealogical community have started a project to digitize the War of 1812 pension files—a fitting beginning to the bicentennial commemoration of this important war. Many know how information-rich military pension files can be, with comrades and family members providing service, family and personal data. Here are three samples:

Jehu Evans of Mississippi

Porter Howe of Vermont

Henry Lightner of Pennsylvania

This initiative seeks to raise \$3.7 million. Preserve the Pensions! seeks to raise the bulk of the funds before the bicentennial of the start of the war and finish digitization before the bicentennial of the war's end in 2015. With 7.2 million images in 180,000 files, there is much digitization to do.

A \$25 donation will digitize 50 images -- a \$500 donation will digitize 1,000 images!

Visit <http://www.fgs.org/1812/> for information about this project.

Continued from page 4-Skiff Bible -Family Record on folded sheet of paper in bible

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|------|--------------------|
| James Skiff | born July 5 th | 1727 | Matthew's Vineyard |
| Anna Skiff | " March 31 | 1727 | do do |
| Anna Skiff | died October 14 | 1792 | Williamsburgh |
| Obadiah Skiff | born Dec 26 | 1755 | Matthew's Vineyard |
| Jucy Skiff | " Sept 15 | 1762 | Matthew's Vineyard |
| Jucy Skiff 2 ^d | " June 9 | 1780 | Williamsburgh |
| Electa Skiff | " April 19 | 1780 | do do |
| Valentine Skiff | " June 25 | 1790 | do do |
| Aronath Skiff | " Oct. 5 | 1792 | do do |
| A son born | Nov. 19 | 1794 | " |
| Which died the same day it was born | | | |
| Pamela Skiff | born April 15 | 1796 | do do |
| Anna Skiff | " Dec. 12 | 1798 | do do |
| Sophia Skiff | " May 7 | 1802 | Montague |
| Obadiah Skiff Jr. | " 22 June | 1804 | " |
| Valentine Skiff | deceased 18 Feb. 1826 | | |
| Obadiah Skiff sen. | died Feb 18 | 1845 | |
| Luce - Skiff | - - - Died April 23 | 1844 | Williamsturg |

Thursday morning at half past ten at the residence of Mr. Hiram Smith 2d, Miss Mary Smith was married to a man named Skiff. Of course it was the conventional white silk tulle and tulle and tulle. The conventional formality was always drawn on with kid gloves was omitted, and a genial, informal spirit was felt through everything. They were married under an arch of ivy, with great clusters of ferns for a background. Rev. Mr. Robinson of St. Luke's church, performed the ceremony. Although the day was wild and stormy outside, all was bright and cheerful within, and as the fair bride stood chatting among her friends, a blind was opened and a ray of sunshine darted in and shone about her for an instant. The old saying came instantly to every one's mind, "blessed is the bride that the sun shines on." Mr. and Mrs. Skiff left on the western train for a short trip in the west.

Continued on page 8-Skiff Bible

~~Obadiah Skiff~~
 Obadiah Skiff was married to
 Lucy Bartlet March 9th 1875
 on Monday

When we do turn unto this leaf
 May we have joy and not have grief and when we die
 that ever in wedlock we was join'd } May we be blest
 But always have a constant mind } and live with god
 and allways live in peace and love } and saints at rest
 for this was ordered from a book
 May we live long and good days live
 and be crowned with filialties

Died.
 [Notices of deaths inserted gratis. Obituaries ten cents a line.]
 SKIFF - In Freedom, at the residence of her niece, Mrs. P. B. Stout, on 17th St., Miss Lucy Skiff, aged 83 years, formerly of Williamsburg, Mass. [Eastern papers please copy.]
 STOUT - In Freedom, March 3d, 1872, of Cancer, Mrs. P. B. Stout, aged 44 years.
 ADAMS - In Freedom, February 11, 1872, of congestion of the brain, Nettie S., youngest daughter of Nathaniel S. and Augusta Olin, aged 1 year and 23 days.

MARRIED.
 In Belchertown, May 1, by Rev. Erastus Bur-
 lingham, Jonathan T. Damon of Amherst to Ar-
 medi' Jenks of B.
 In Northampton, May 1, Myron Day to Helen,
 daughter of Horace Cook.
 In Leyden, May 1, at the residence of the
 bride's father, by Rev. Mr. Howard, Frank J. Al-
 len of Greenfield to Lottie L., daughter of R. F.
 Foster of Leyden.

DIED.
 In this town, May 1, at the residence of her
 daughter, Mrs. C. D. Gray, Mrs. Pamela Skiff
 Smith, widow of the late R. S. Smith and daugh-
 ter of the late Capt. Obadiah Skiff of Williams-
 burg, aged 84.
 In this town, May 6, James, son of Michael
 Couter, aged 8 months.
 In Westfield, April 25, Mary Ann, widow of the
 late Nathan Dickinson of Rome, Mich., and for-
 merly jeweler in this town.
 In Clinton, Ct., April 24, at the residence of
 her son-in-law, Geo. W. Hull, Lucy Howell, wid-
 ow of the late David Parsons of Amherst, aged 86.
 In North Danville, Vt., May 2, Rev. Stephen S.
 Morrill of this town, aged 45.
 In Apopka, Fla., Enza M., widow of the late
 Charles D. Hobart of Essexet, and mother of
 Mrs. John E. Boltwood, of this town. Spring-
 field papers please copy.



Continued from last issue Vol. 32 No. 5: The following four pages are copied from *The Speedometer* Ravenna, Ohio March 1920 Vol 3 No.1 Published by the Portage County Schools. On pages 4-11 of the publication are photos of the school buildings with a brief description about each one.

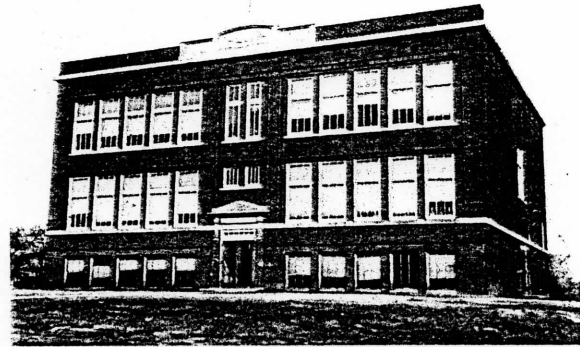
The Speedometer



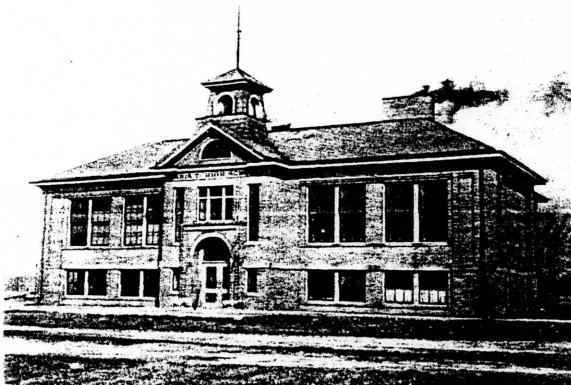
Nelson

Nelson. Built 1914—cost \$30,000—Architect, Miller & Son, Youngstown, O.—Contractor, Adam De Bassio—3 High School rooms, 4 grade rooms, assembly, Manual Training, Domestic Science—enrollment 192.

Palmyra. Built 1917—cost \$32,000—Architect, W. A. Owen & Co.—6 class rooms, auditorium, library, play rooms, inside toilet and water system—enrollment 135 grades, 125 High School.



Palmyra



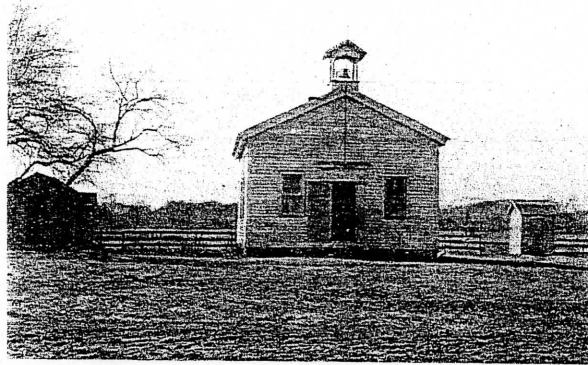
Paris

Paris. Erected 1913—cost \$13,000—one-story, four-room building—two rooms separated by folding doors and can be thrown together for auditorium—two rooms furnished in basement.

The Speedometer

9

Randolph. Type of school building used generally in Randolph Township—an \$80,000 bond issue to be submitted to voters on April 5.



Randolph



Randolph Center

Randolph Center. This building houses the township High School—enrollment, 31 High School pupils, 115 grade pupils.

Ravenna Township. Built 1914—cost \$36,000—6 grade rooms, 3 High School rooms, library, office, rest rooms, gymnasium and auditorium combined, Manual Training room, Domestic Science room, and Agriculture building erected in 1919.



Ravenna Township

Continued page 11

The Speedometer



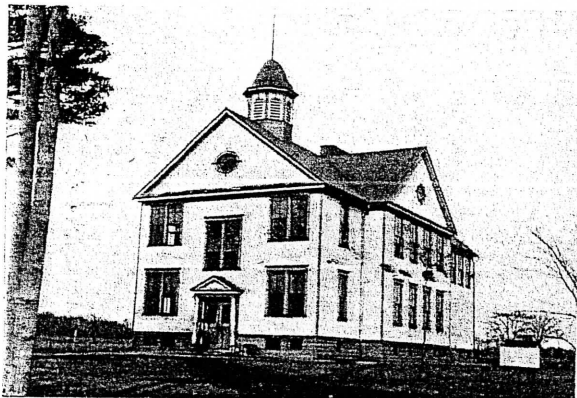
Rootstown

Rootstown. Built 1916—cost \$36,000—5 grade rooms, 3 High School rooms, office, library, rest room, combined auditorium and gymnasium, Manual Training, and Domestic Science rooms.

Shalersville. 4 High School rooms, 4 grade rooms, Manual Training room, Domestic Science room—renovated and repaired 1916.



Shalersville



Streetsboro

Streetsboro. 4 grade rooms, 3 High School rooms, Manual Training, Domestic Science, office—repaired 1915.

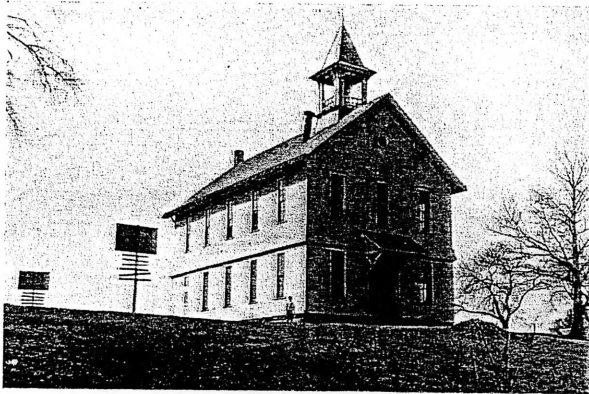
The Speedometer

11

Suffield. A representative of one-room building still used in this township—no centralization campaign has as yet been undertaken in this township, but it is hoped an effort will soon be made to improve the school opportunities of the children who reside in this district.



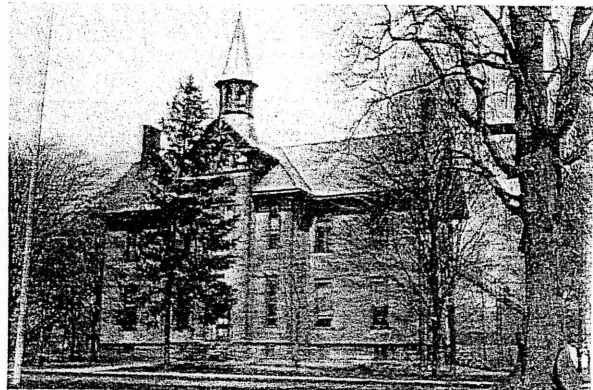
Suffield, Log-Town School



Suffield Center

Suffield Center. The High School pupils of the entire township attend school in this building. They have to furnish their own means of transportation, consequently the enrollment is only 16. There are also two grade teachers in this building.

Windham. 4 grade rooms, 2 High School rooms, office, primary grade housed in one-room building on same campus.



Windham

PORTAGE COUNTY PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

| Portage County Cemeteries: | Price-Ohio residents only add tax to price |
|---|---|
| Volume I-Franklin Twp. 1810-1990* | \$49.00 |
| Every Name Index to Franklin Twp., companion to Volume I 1810 – 1990 | \$25.00 |
| Volume II-Brimfield & Suffield Twp. 1808-1991 | \$33.00 |
| Volume III-Mantua Twp., Village & Station 1807-1992 | \$33.00 |
| Volume IV-Freedom & Windham Twp. 1812-1992 | \$33.00 |
| Volume V-Edinburg & Palmyra Twp. 1805-1993 | \$33.00 |
| Volume VI-Randolph Twp. 1804-1993 | \$33.00 |
| Volume VII-Deerfield & Atwater Twp. 1808-1993 | \$33.00 |
| Volume VIII-Paris & Charlestown Cemeteries 1819-1993 | \$33.00 |
| Volume IX-Rootstown Township 1809-1994 | \$25.00 |
| Volume X-Streetsboro & Shalersville Townships 1809-1994 | \$30.00 |
| Volume XI-Aurora & Hiram Twp. Hiram Village. 1803-1995 | \$34.00 |
| Volume XII-Nelson Twp. Garrettsville Village. 1800-1995 | \$34.00. |
| Volume XIII-Book I-Ravenna-St. Mary's, Grandview 1860-1996 | \$34.00 |
| Volume XIII-Books II & III, Ravenna-Maple Grove& 2 no-longer-existing cemeteries 1802-1996 [sold as set only] | \$55.00 |
| Complete Every Name Index to Portage County Cemetery Books Volumes I – XIII [2 books, sold as set] includes the indexes only for all thirteen volumes | \$50.00 |
| Portage Co. Chap. OGS Newsletters with Index 1979-1988 | \$30.00 |
| Undertaker's Records of Ira L. Herriff -Burials in Portage & Summit Co. Volume III is not available. | |
| Volume I-1869-1889 | \$20.00 |
| Volume II-1889-1896 | \$20.00 |
| Volume IV-1901-1907 | \$20.00 |
| Volume V-1907-1912 | \$20.00 |
| Portage County Wills, Estates & Guardianship Probate Court Records | \$40.00 |
| Located at the Portage County Historical Society Ravenna OH 1813-1942 | |
| [index includes name, date and last known place of residence] | |

All volumes are softbound. Cemetery volumes include tombstone inscriptions, available sexton records, histories of the cemeteries and maps to help locate burial plots. *Volume I includes a surname index and Volumes II through XIII have an every-name index. A separate publication for Volume I has an every name index. **Prices include shipping charges.**

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Make checks payable to: **Portage County Chapter OGS**
 Mail to: **P. O. Box 821**
Ravenna, OH 44266-0821

Date _____ Dues for year 20____ Renewal____ New Member____ Member of OGS____

Membership: Individual \$10.00 _____ Joint (2 people/same address) \$12.00 _____

Book Order \$ _____ Chapter Donation \$ _____ Total Enclosed \$ _____

NAME(S): _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

PHONE:(_____) _____ E MAIL _____

IS THIS A NEW ADDRESS OR E-MAIL? YES _____

NOTICE: If you wish a membership card please enclose a SASE (self addressed stamped envelope) Thank you.

Please attach a list of the surnames you are researching. There is a limit of 12 names for this listing! **Please PRINT Surnames-- must be received by February 15th** to be included in the March-April newsletter.

**Please remember to use the form on page 5 to renew
Your 2011 Chapter Dues.**

From *The Garrettsville Journal* November 8, 1906

HALLOWE'EN PRANK

Hallowe'en was a very quiet time in Ravenna this year and but little destruction of property was accomplished. A few of the customary pranks were indulged in and one of them was placing of a buggy on the top of one of J. A. Bennett's hay stacks near the Erie railroad. How the boys could have gotten the buggy up there is a question.



Portage County Chapter OGS
P.O. Box 821
Ravenna OH 44266