REGISTER TODAY!



FINDING YOUR FAMILY'S HEROES

OHIO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

APRIL 28 - MAY 1, 2027

SHARONVILLE, OHIO

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OGS
Ohio Genealogical Society

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Greetings!

The OGS 2027 Conference will be held April 28–May 1, 2027, at the Sharonville Convention Center, conveniently located right off I-75 and I-275, just 15 miles north of downtown Cincinnati. With the attached Hyatt Place and three other hotels within walking distance, there will be plenty of choices for your accommodations.

Our Conference Coordinator, Marleen Applegate, along with the 2027 Conference Chairs, Stacey Adger and Deb Deal, along with the entire Conference Team, have been working hard to make this one of the best OGS conferences yet!

The conference theme for 2027 is "Finding Your Family's Hero's" and our Keynote Speaker, Kimberly Powell, a well-known genealogy speaker, will kick off the conference on Thursday morning.

Once again, we will have Workshops available on Wednesday afternoon, with the regular sessions on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Topics covered will include military history and records; Carolina, Virginia and Southern records; a heavy concentration on Midwest research; land records; research tips; AI; religious records; and a lot of sessions on DNA by a number of experts in the field. With so many topics to choose from, it will be a challenge to decide which ones to attend!

The OGS Annual Meeting will take place, as usual, at the Saturday Lunch. And do not forget to sign up for several of the lunches and dinners, including the Lineage Banquet, where members remember and honor their ancestors.

We look forward to seeing you in Sharonville!

Dot Martin • *OGS President*

IMPORTANT DETAILS

Registration Opens	Nov 27, 2026
Early Bird Registration Ends	March 7, 2027
Registration Ends	April 15, 2027
Last Day for Refunds in writing	March 7, 2027

Refund Rules

A refund will be issued up until March 7, 2027 but a $75.00 administration fee will be charged. **No refunds** will be issued after March 7, 2027. All refunds must be requested in writing and can be done so via a letter to OGS or via email to ogscord@ogs.com.

Workshop Rules

In order to attend any Wednesday workshops an attendee **must be registered** for at least a one-day conference registration Thurs-Sat as well as pay for the workshop they wish to register for. Walk-in workshop registrations with at least one day regular conference registration can be accepted (no guarantees) for an additional fee of $40.00 per workshop (please note workshop syllabi may not be available at the conference venue) but will be emailed to you as soon as possible.

Syllabus

Pre-Ordered $40.00 (plus tax & shipping) each

The syllabus is a compilation of all session handouts for the Thursday through Saturday sessions (Wednesday workshop syllabi are only sent to workshop attendees). Once again, this year it will be print on demand just like last year. If you are interested in getting a print copy you can order directly from Lulu Print on Demand once it is available (estimated date is mid-March). *Please note the normal print and ship timeline is 3 weeks.* Once the syllabus is available from Lulu for printing an email will go out to all registered attendees along with the link for the electronic download. **There will be no print copies available for purchase at the conference venue.**

Motorized Scooter Rental

Judy's Scooty's www.judysscootys.com will be able to provide motorized scooters for anyone who requires a motorized scooter. They will drop off and pick up at the Sharonville Convention Center lobby, please plan accordingly when you make your arrangements. You will need to fill out the request form on the company's website and a representative will reach out to you and finish the rental process and invoice you for the rental. If you have any questions, you can reach out to them at (614) 465-6551

Hotel Reservations

This year we have two choices for hotel accommodations:

Hyatt Place Cincinnati (limited availability). Reservations: https://tinyurl.com/H-Sharonville or (513) 771-1718

LivInn Hotel Cincinnati. Reservations: https://tinyurl.com/LivInn-Hotel-Link or (513) 772-7877.

Make sure you mention that you are with the 2027 OGS Conference. The room rate is $139.00 per night plus tax on available rooms in the room block which includes a hot breakfast each morning for registered guests.

The last day to register for hotel reservations in the OGS room block is March 30, 2027.

Wednesday

Registration and vendor hall set-up will be open 12:00–6:00 pm

B=Beginner I=Intermediate A=Advanced

GENERAL WORKSHOP SESSIONS*

$30 each, with conference registration (see previous page)

1:00 pm

W01 Help! 6.27-Ancestry Clusters

Gil Bardige

Move beyond basics. This hands-on workshop tackles Ancestry clusters, shared matches, and proven strategies for turning your match list into tree-friendly research leads. I/A

W02 German Script

Warren Bittner, *MS*

This workshop focuses on upper-case letters, lower-case letters, and if time permits common given names. Hang on for the ride, this one is fast and furious. B

W03 When Records Conflict: Building a Proof Argument

Kate Penney Howard, *MDiv*

Conflicting evidence is common. Learn how to evaluate sources, resolve discrepancies, and write clear, defensible genealogical proof arguments using structured reasoning and real examples. I/A

3:15 pm

W04 Who Owned It First? Finding Ohio's Original Landowners

Kimberely Powell, *AG*

Learn how to identify Ohio's first landowners using patents, maps, surveys, tract books, and land entry records to place ancestors in time and place. I/A

W05 Find Your Family Heroes: AI for Beginners

Steve Little

Learn how to use AI to develop leads, understand records, organize clues, and verify results without letting tools outrun evidence. All attendees must have a fully charged laptop or tablet, with a free account on one AI assistant (ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini or Copilot) created and tested at home before the conference. No paid subscription is needed. Optional: bring one ancestor question you'd like to work on. B

Sponsored by Deborah Lichtner Deal

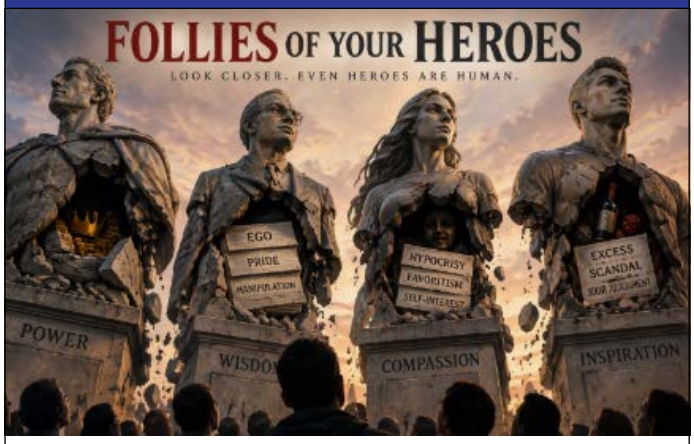
W06 Introduction to German Church Records

Warren Bittner, *MS*

In this two-hour class learn the basics of reading German baptism, marriage, and death records. B

Any workshop that does not have at least ten registered attendees by March 1, 2027, will be canceled.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SOCIAL



6:30 pm

W07 Follies of Your Heroes $61

Michael John Neill

A comical and light-hearted drama reminding us that ancestors weren't perfect and the records they left behind weren't perfect either. This one-act play based on the family of siblings Ira and Emmar Sargent born in New York and Canada in the 1840s. The drama follows them through several states, eight spouses between them, and a variety of sad and humorous experiences. The scenes show Ira and Emmar interacting with various individuals who then go on to create the genealogy records of them that got left behind.

Low Country Buffet: Southern house salad with shredded cheese, bacon bits, hard boiled eggs, cornbread croutons with a pimento cheese or balsamic molasses dressing.

Fried Chicken, Fried Catfish, Dirty Rice

Southern style green beans topped with bacon bits

Southern biscuits and honey glazed cornbread with sweet butter

Chef's selection of fruit cobbler

Beverages: Regular and Decaffeinated coffee, assorted herbal tea, iced tea, and water

Thursday

Registration will be open 7:00–11:30 am • 1:30–3:00 pm

	8:00 AM	9:30 AM	11:30 AM	1:00 PM
DNA	**T01 Keynote Session** **Kimberly Powell, AG** **Everyday Heroes: Finding Drama in Ordinary Lives** Not everyone led armies or founded towns, but every ancestor faced moments of choice, struggle, and heartbreak. They're there in our family trees—the young widow running a farm alone, the immigrant learning a new language, the factory worker sacrificing to send a child to school. Learn how to uncover their stories hiding in ordinary records and bring their quiet triumphs and everyday courage to life. **B/I/A**	**GRAND OPENING: EXHIBITOR HALL** **Come visit with representatives of many organizations and companies in the Exhibitor Hall who are there just to meet YOU!**	**T02 Speaker Luncheon** **Kelli J. Bergheimer** **The Long Way Home: DNA and Military Repatriation** Long after lives are lost in battle, come learn how scientists and genealogists work to give names to the dead and closure to families. **B/I/A** Tri-County Buffet $58 Seasonal house salad with a choice of ranch and balsamic vinaigrette. Lemongrass brined chicken with white wine butter sauce Herb roasted tri tip with a wild mushroom demi-glaze Garlic and herb roasted tri-colored potatoes Seasonal heirloom vegetables Artisan assortment of bread and rolls with honey whipped butter Chef's selection of dessert **Beverages:** Regular and Decaffeinated coffee, assorted herbal tea, iced tea, and water	**T03 Help! I Got My DNA Results and I'm Confused** *GIL BARDIGE* Confused by your DNA results? Learn to prioritize tree-friendly matches across all four testing platforms. **B/I/A**
TECHNOLOGY				**T04 Meyers Gazetteer** *WARREN BITTNER, MS* Learn to read and interpret Meyers Gazetteer and its abbreviations and symbols. Many German genealogical databases use jurisdiction locations as they are listed in Meyers. **B**
MILITARY				**T05 From Enlistment to Grave: Providing Narrative to Record our Military Soldier's Story** *LADONNA GARNER, MA* Building a written account of your ancestor's military experience, especially for those soldiers with few details obtainable, can honor their service and provide encouragement to future generations. **B/I/A**
ETHNIC				**T06 The German Forty-Eighters Fight for Freedom** *MICHAEL STRAUSS, MA, AG, AGL* Examines German political refugees who fled failed 1848 revolutions to America, tracing their immigration, remarkable assimilation, and contributions through surviving records. **B/I/A**
RECORDS				**T07 Reconstructing Families Through Property and Probate** *KIMBERLY POWELL, AG* Learn how to use deeds, wills, and estate records to uncover family relationships, migration, and connections that help reconstruct scattered families. **I/A**

Exhibitor Hall will be open 9:30 am–6:00 pm

Thursday

2:20 PM	3:40 PM	5:30 PM	6:00 PM
T08 Look at Your DNA from Different Angles *PAULA WILLIAMS* Stuck with your genealogical DNA research? Looking at our matches in different ways can give us new directions to explore. **B/I/A**	**T13 Ethnicity Estimates: Learn What They Can (and Cant') Tell You** *PAULA WILLIAMS* Ethnicity estimates are intriguing, frustrating, and often misunderstood. Learn how to understand what the results can teach us and the limitations we should respect. **B/I/A**	**Great Lakes Chapter, APG Annual Meeting** Come to the Association of Professional Genealogists Great Lakes Chapter annual meeting. For more information, contact Kelli Bergheimer, kbergheimer@gmail.com.	**T18 Speaker Dinner** ***LaDONNA GARNER, MA*** **Diary of a Ragman's Granddaughter** Have you taken the time to understand how your ancestors earned a living? Let's appreciate our ancestors' ordinary or unusual occupational histories and share them on the family tree. **B/I/A** Taste of Italy Buffet $61 Panzanella (Italian Bread Salad) Italian brined chicken topped with an olive tapenade Red wine brined flank steak with a demi-glaze and topped with a tomato ragout Tomato and spinach tortellini Roasted Tuscan vegetables Artisan breads and rolls with infused oils Lemon pound cake & tiramisu **Beverages:** Regular and Decaffeinated coffee, assorted herbal tea, iced tea, and water
T09 The Leeds Method Sorting Your DNA Matches to Make Progress *KELLI J. BERGHEIMER* Learn how to sort your matches (Leeds Method) to build a master list of how each match is related to you! Learn to take advantage of inferred matches of your siblings to add more depth and data to your list. And develop a plan for identifying each first, second, and third cousin match in your match list. **B/I/A**	**T14 When AI Becomes a Genealogist's Collaborator** *GIL BARDIGE* Two refugee ancestors. Sparse records. Family lore. A hundred years of silence. See how AI collaboration reconstructed Gittle's Journal a historically grounded family narrative. **B/I/A**		
T10 Not Everyone Was a Patriot: Rethinking Revolutionary Ancestors *KATE PENNEY HOWARD, MDiv* Family traditions can mislead. Learn how to evaluate Revolutionary War claims using records, context, and DNA while uncovering complex, sometimes contradictory ancestral stories. **I/A**	**T15 Divided by a Revolution: Loyalists in the Shadow of American Independence** *MICHAEL STRAUSS, MA, AG, AGL* Examines Loyalist experiences before, during, and after the Revolution, tracing their service, exile, and survival across a fractured Atlantic world. **B/I/A**		
T11 Introduction to Online Research in Alsace-Lorraine *LAUREN KUNTZMAN, MA, MLIS* Provides an overview of online archives for departments within Alsace-Lorraine, examples of available records, and tips for making sense of the documents. **B/I/A**	**T16 The Bittner Bastards of Bavaria** *WARREN BITTNER, MS* See new light on nineteenth century morality. How common was illegitimacy and marital pregnancy? What forces influenced its occurrence? Includes an engaging case study. **B/I/A** Sponsor: Deborah Lichtner Deal		
T12 Clergy Connections: Tracking Ministers, Pastors, and the Records They Left Behind *SUNNY JANE MORTON* Ministers left more traces than you think. Learn to identify denominations, navigate church archives, and uncover the records that bring clergy to life. **B/I/A**	**T17 The Family Didn't Move Alone: Finding Migration Clusters** *KIMBERLY POWELL, AG* Learn how migration clusters, neighbors, churches, and chain migration can help solve identity, migration, and parentage problems. **I/A**		

Friday

Registration will be open 7–11:30 am • 1:30–3:00 pm

	8:15 AM	9:30 AM	10:45 AM	12:00 PM
MEMORIES	**F01 How to Move from Files and Piles to a Biographical Sketch** *KELLI J. BERGHEIMER* How do you move from files and piles to stories? Learn how to write a biographical sketch with or without a little AI. **B**	**F06 Healing Generational Trauma Through the Family History Narrative** *LaDONNA GARNER, MA* Ancestral shame or unmentionables need not stall the family story. Discover avenues around and through generational trauma that encourage healing. **B/I/A**	**F11 How Learning About the Past Can Change the Future** *SUNNY JANE MORTON* Consider how our ancestors' acts—from courageous to cowardly—impact our self-identity, and how we can edit that self-identity with intention and integrity. **B/I/A**	**F16** **Amber Oldenburg** **Explore the evolving roles of women during Daughters of Valor Women's Contributions to America's Wars** America's major wars, from the Revolutionary War through World War II. By examining their contributions in homes, battlefields, and beyond, we'll uncover the social history and historical context that shaped women's involvement in wartime efforts. **B/I/A** **Chester Road Smokehouse Buffet $58** House salad with ranch & balsamic dressing Red bliss potato salad Three cheese blend mac and cheese Smoked and pulled whole chicken Smoked and sliced beef brisket Assorted barbecue sauces House made pickled onions and pickles Honey butter cornbread and whipped smoked honey butter Chef's choice of dessert **Beverages:** Regular and Decaffeinated coffee, assorted herbal tea, iced tea, and water
TECHNOLOGY	**F02 Reading Photographs and Records with AI** *STEVE LITTLE* Use AI to extract details from photos and record images, then separate visual clues, transcribed text, and evidence you can rely on. **B/I/A**	**F07 Determining and Sourcing What FamilySearch Full-Text Dropped in My Lap** *MICHAEL JOHN NEILL* See how to determine what full-text search at FamilySearch located for you and how to create a citation for it. **I/A**	**F12 Harnessing the Power of HathiTrust for Genealogical Discoveries** *LAUREN KUNTZMAN, MA, MLIS* HathiTrust is a full-text searchable digital library. Learn how to search, save, and share content from HathiTrust's millions of books. **B/I/A**	
REGIONAL	**F03 Churching the Midwest: Religions, and Their Records from Ohio to Iowa** *SUNNY JANE MORTON* As settlers headed west, so did churches. Learn about religions of the Midwest and how their records can help you find your Midwestern migrants. **I/A**	**F08 Bluegrass State Research: Finding Family in Kentucky** *DANA PALMER, CG, CGL* Changing boundaries and loss of records make finding family in Kentucky challenging. Learn tricks to overcome these obstacles and find your Kentucky kin. **B/I/A**	**F13 The Trails Through Penns Woods: Records of Colonial Pennsylvania Researching Colonial Pennsylvania** *SANDRA RUMBLE* Pennsylvania records can be challenging for genealogists unfamiliar with the diverse populations that settled in William Penn's colony. **B/I/A** Sponsor: Ashland Co Chapter, OGS	
ETHNIC	**F04 From Welsh Immigrants to FBI Headlines: The Remarkable Story of the Rose Family** *AIMEE ROSE-HAYNES* Follow the Rose family from Welsh immigrant roots in Ohio to a shocking 1971 kidnapping case involving escaped convicts, the FBI, and survival against impossible odds. **B/I/A**	**F09 Ortsfamillnerbucher [Village Genealogies]-Valuable Resource in German** *WARREN BITTNER, MS* These books are available in many areas of Germany; learn the abbreviations and symbols used, and will see how to reconstruct multiple generations of family. **B/I/A**	**F14 The Old Northwest: Researching the Great Lake States** *MAUREEN BRADY* Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin were formed from the "Old Northwest Territory". Resources and strategies for the territorial period an after will be discussed. **B/I** Sponsor: Deborah Lichtner Deal	
RECORDS	**F05 Michigan Roots: Family History Research in the Wolverine State** *KRIS RZEPCZYNSKI, MLIS, MA* This state overview session will explore Michigan's migration patterns and the abundant genealogical resources available in print and online. **B/I/A**	**F10 America's Forgotten Women's Census** *AMBER OLDENBURG* Discover the Woman's Committee registration cards, a massive yet overlooked census of American women, and learn how to locate and use them in genealogical research. **B/I/A**	**F15 American Citizen: Family History Research with Naturalization Records** *KRIS RZEPCZYNSKI, MLIS, MA* This program will explore the many resources available, whether online or in print, and successful research strategies to locate naturalization records. **B/I/A**	

Exhibitor Hall will be open 9:00 am - 6:00 pm

Friday

1:30 PM	2:45 PM	4:00 PM	6:00 PM
F17 Publishing a Family Book: Remembering Our Unsung Heroes *DANA PALMER, CG, CGL* This lecture will focus on publishing a family book about your family and unsung heroes. We'll discuss how to determine what to include in your book, steps in the process, some must-haves, editing, marketing, and choosing a printer versus publisher. This is a good introduction for anyone wanting to preserve their heritage and stories. **B/I/A**	**F22 Turn Research Discoveries into Stories That Get Handed Down** *SUNNY JANE MORTON* Step-by-step, with expert coaching, you'll turn a specific family history find into a short, powerful story that resonates meaningfully—every time you tell it. **I/A** Sponsor: Muskingum Co Chapter, OGS	**F27 Beat the Children So the Animals Don't Get Worms** *WARREN BITTNER, MS* Reading for Historical Context. How to use books about the cultural, political, social and occupational history to understand ancestor's lives. **B/I/A**	**F32** **OGS Lineage Chairs** **OGS Lineage Banquet** Come join and celebrate this year's OGS lineage inductees to the five OGS Lineage Societies. All are invited and you do not have to be a current or previous inductee to attend. **Regular Meal $63** House salad Seared center cut pork chop, port wine demi-glaze Roasted sweet potatoes Citrus roasted asparagus Rolls and butter Chef's choice of dessert **Vegetarian Meal $63** House Salad Eggplant Napolean, cream of spinach, rustic tomato sauce Rolls and butter Chef's choice of dessert **Beverages:** Regular and Decaffeinated coffee, assorted herbal tea, iced tea, and water
F18 Build an AI Research Workspace for Your Sources *STEVE LITTLE* Build an AI research workspace using Claude Code and Codex to read records, follow instructions, keep sensitive data out, and produce consistent analysis. **A** Sponsor: Deborah Lichtner Deal	**F23 Technology and Records: Digital Strategies for Modern Genealogy Research** *AIMEE ROSE-HAYNES* Explore modern genealogy research using digital archives, OCR, online databases, citation practices, and DNA tools to build accurate, organized, and evidence-based family histories. **B/I/A**	**F28 Joseph or Jethro? Resolving Name Conflicts with AI** *STEVE LITTLE* A real family case shows how AI can organize conflicting records while researchers weigh source quality, informants, correlation, and conclusions. **A**	
F19 Hierarchy of Research Archives of Ohio *KELLI J. BERGHEIMER* Learn about the hierarchy and collections of genealogical libraries, archives, and repositories in Ohio. Find some hidden gems to visit in person or to search online. **B/I/A**	**F24 At the Crossroads of America: A Tour of Indiana Archives** *AMBER OLDENBURG* Explore Indiana's major archives, key collections, and research strategies to effectively locate records and trace Hoosier ancestors across the state's rich archival landscape. **B/I/A**	**F29 Researching Northwest Territory Ancestors** *DANA PALMER, CG, CGL* This lecture will discuss records in the northwest territory and how to find them. We'll briefly cover settlement in the Northwest Territory. We'll then cover finding Northwest Territory records including deeds / patents / military bounty land, territorial papers, the federal land series, court records, and the Draper Manuscript collection. **I/A** Sponsor: Trumbull Co Chapter, OGS	
F20 German Research and the Law *WARREN BITTNER, MS* Learn about the individual estate, the territorial state, tenants and land, das alte reich, French Revolution, the civil state, Germany after 1871, German inheritance laws. **A**	**F25 Roots Revealed: Discovering Your Ancestor's Town of Origin** *LAUREN KUNTZMAN, MA, MLIS* Discovering your immigrant ancestor's hometown is essential for transatlantic research. Examples of American immigrants, mid-1800s to early 1900s, illustrate strategies for uncovering this crucial detail. **B/I/A**	**F30 Scottish Family Research: Beyond Basics** *MAUREEN BRADY* Scotland's records are closely tied to the history, geography and culture of the country. This presentation reviews "beyond" the usual church, civil and census records. **I/A**	
F21 Notes from the Courthouse: Using Probate and Other Neglected Court Records to Crack Brick Walls *LADONNA GARNER, MA* The courthouse remains a valuable record refuge overlooked by online researchers. Understanding and visiting records can scale brick walls in family research. **B/I/A** Sponsor: Holmes Co Chapter, OGS	**F26 Finally Finding Females** *MICHAEL JOHN NEILL* See ways to uncover female ancestors whose details are often buried in records on their sons, husbands, and fathers. **I/A**	**F31 Pen to Paper: Writing a Proof Argument** *SANDRA RUMBLE* What do we do when we can't find the information spelled out in black and white? We gather the documentation, analyze it, assemble our thoughts, and put them on paper. An internet-connected laptop or iPad is recommended. **B/I/A**	

Saturday

Registration will be open 7:00–11:00 am

	8:15 AM	9:30 AM	10:45 AM	12:00 PM
DNA	**S01 A DNA Test, a Medical Mystery, and a Century-Old Family Secret** *AIMEE ROSE-HAYNES* Driven by her child's medical mystery and a 23andMe DNA test, Aimee uncovered a century-old adoption mystery and began helping NPE families through genetic genealogy. **B/I/A**	**S06 10 Essential Resources for Genetic Genealogy for Your Ohio Ancestors** *PAULA WILLIAMS* Learn about essential resources for DNA analysis, education, and research to take you from match list overwhelm to solving genealogical puzzles in Ohio and beyond! **B/I/A**	**S11 Beyond the Paper Trail: How DNA Changed Modern Genealogy** *AIMEE ROSE-HAYNES* Learn how traditional genealogy and DNA testing work together to solve family mysteries, verify relationships, uncover hidden ancestry, and strengthen historical research. **B/I/A**	**S16** **OGS President Dorothea Martin** **OGS Annual Business Luncheon** This is the annual OGS Business Meeting, in which new board members are inducted. This is also when OGS presents awards to various chapters, as well as the presentation of the writing contest winners. **Regular Meal $53** House salad Pan seared chicken, seasonal brined chicken with hunter style velouté Roasted red skin potatoes Heirloom vegetable medley Rolls and butter Chef's choice of dessert **Vegetarian Meal $53** House Salad Portobello Mushroom topped with seasonal noodled vegetables Tri-color roasted potatoes Haricot verts Rolls and butter Chef's choice of dessert **Beverages:** Regular and Decaffeinated coffee, assorted herbal tea, iced tea, and water
TECHNOLOGY	**S02 Avoiding Fake Ancestors** *MICHAEL JOHN NEILL* Avoid adding Fake Ancestors to your family tree. No tree is 100% accurate, but mistakes can be minimized. **I/A**	**S07 3 Types of DNA, 4 Challenging Types of Families, 5 DNA Testing Companies-Help Me Understand** *KELLI J. BERGHEIMER* Come learn about different types of DNA, different DNA testing companies, and how different types of families can present challenges to figuring out your DNA matches. **B** Sponsor: Medina Co Chapter, OGS	**S12 Remaining Relevant in a Digital World: An Assessment** *ELAINE KUHN, MLS* This presentation offers insights and suggestions for thriving and remaining relevant in one's community. **B/I/A**	
MILITARY	**S03 Tomb of the Unknown Soldier** *SANDRA RUMBLE* The United States was not the first nation to have a Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Discussion of the background, protocols, remains, and selection of guards for this sacred military memorial. **B/I/A**	**S08 Crossing the 38th Parallel: Lessons Learned from the Korean War** *MICHAEL STRAUSS, MA, AG, AGL* Rescues the "Forgotten War" from historical obscurity through military personnel files, casualty records, and unit documentation covering America's Korean conflict. **B/I/A**	**S13 The OMPF: The Modern Military Service Record** *SANDRA RUMBLE* The Official Military Personnel File (OMPF) is the personnel file for U.S. service members from WWI through today. Fire damaged a portion of the Army OMPF's but substitutes are available. **B/I/A**	
ETHNIC	**S04 The First Frontiersmen: The Scots-Irish** *MAUREEN BRADY* This presentation will provide a brief review of the history of the Scots-Irish, their migration to the American frontier and resources for research. **B/I**	**S09 The Fisherman Who Wanted to Marry the Executioner's Daughter** *WARREN BITTNER, MS* Explore the wide range of German marriage sources usually overlooked by genealogists and the stories they contain. **I/A**	**S14 A Comparison of U.K. Records** *MAUREEN BRADY* The U. K. countries have recorded both similar and different records. This presentation will review and compare each record type and suggest key online search sites. **B/I**	
RECORDS	**S05 A Nation Goes Dry: Temperance in America** *AMBER OLDENBURG* Examine the rise of temperance and its path to Prohibition and learn how to use records of reformers to uncover stories of activism and community life. **B/I/A**	**S10 Building Proof: Turning Clues into Credible Conclusions** *KATE PENNEY HOWARD, MDiv* Move beyond collecting records. Learn how to evaluate evidence, resolve conflicts, and construct clear, defensible genealogical conclusions using structured reasoning and practical proof-building techniques. **I/A** Sponsor: Mahoning Co Chapter, OGS	**S15 Code Dead: Using Death Certificate Codes** *MICHAEL JOHN NEILL* Learn how to get the most of the death codes that frequently occur on 20th century US death certificates. **I/A**	

Saturday

Exhibitor Hall will be open 9:00 am–4:00 pm

1:30 PM	2:45 PM
S17 Are You, My Mother? Solving Unknown Parent Cases *KATE PENNEY HOWARD, MDiv* Learn a repeatable process for identifying unknown parents using DNA evidence, shared matches, and records, even when documentation is limited, misleading, or entirely absent. **I/A**	**S22 Expect the Unexpected: Surprises We May Find in DNA Results** *PAULA WILLIAMS* From ethnicity estimates to matches, we'll talk about the kinds of surprises that may happen when DNA testing, and ways to deal with them. **B/I/A**
S18 Researching Canadian Records Online *MAUREEN BRADY* This presentation will include a brief overview of Canadian history, and a review of the major record sources and websites for Canadian research. **B/I**	**S23 Finding Family in Ohio Newspapers** *DANA PALMER, CG, CGL* This presentation focuses on how to locate Ohio newspapers online and in repositories. We'll compare some of the most popular online newspaper websites (Ohio Memory, Newspapers.com, GenealogyBank, and Chronicling America). Many tips on how to be successful will be shown. **B/I/A**
S19 In the Cause of Liberty: Voices from the Revolutionary War *MICHAEL STRAUSS, MA, AG, AGL* Surveys the full documentary record of Revolutionary War service—from compiled service records to pension files—including post-war rebellions that tested the republic's foundations. **B/I/A**	**S24 Forging a National Army: From the Colonial Era to the Early Republic, 1750–1800** *MICHAEL STRAUSS, MA, AG, AGL* America's military evolution from colonial militias through the Continental Army to the early republic, examining how each era's records document the soldiers who served. **B/I/A**
S20 Unreasonable and Exhausting —The Impossible Immigrant *WARREN BITTNER, MS* Wrong information, multiple dead ends, and one brick wall after another, make finding immigrant origins for one man, almost impossible. **B/I/A**	**S25 Native Americans in America's Wars: Divided Loyalties and the Fight for Sovereignty** *AIMEE ROSE-HAYNES* Explore how Native Americans navigated divided loyalties during the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, and Civil War while fighting to protect sovereignty and homelands. **B/I/A**
S21 Cholera to Consumption: Understanding the Diseases that Shaped Our Families *AMBER OLDENBURG* Explore how disease shaped ancestors' lives and learn to use records to uncover causes of death, epidemics, and resilience in your family history. **B/I/A**	**S26 The Heroes in My Life: Tracing the Women Who Created Me** *ELAINE KUHN, MLS* This presentation will use case studies to demonstrate how the women in my life overcame adversity to care for their families. **B/I/A** Sponsor: Kim Harrison

THANK YOU!

2027 OGS Conference Door/Raffle Prize Donors

419 Glass N Crafts
Cheryl Abernathy
Stacey Adger
Deanna Applegate
Marleen Applegate
As I See It
Ashland Co Chapter, OGS
Brewing Heritage Trail
Deborah Deal
Marcella Derrenberger
Garst Museum & National Annie Oakley Center
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FINDING YOUR FAMILY'S HEROES

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REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Registration opens Friday Nov 27, 2026 at 8:00 AM

EARLY REGISTRATION (by March 7, 2027)	
OGS Member (Full registration)	$225 / person
OGS Member (2 day)	$185 / person
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REGULAR REGISTRATION (by April 14, 2027)	
OGS Member (Full registration)	$305 / person
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Non-OGS Member (Full registration)	$385 / person
Non-OGS Member (2 day)	$345 / person
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WORKSHOPS (Additional fee/registration required)	
W01 Help! 6.27-Ancestry Clusters	$30 / person
W02 German Script	$30 / person
W03 When Records Conflict: Building a Proof Argument	$30 / person
W04 Who Owned It First? Finding Ohio's Original Landowners	$30 / person
W05 Find Your Family Heroes: AI for Beginners	$30 / person
W06 Introduction to German Church Records	$30 / person

Walk-In workshops registrations are available for purchase for a fee of $40.00 along with the minimum of a one day conference registration.

MEALS/SOCIALS (Additional fee/registration required)	
W07 Wed Night Social	$61 / person
T02 Speaker Lunch: The Long Way Home	$58 / person
T18 Speaker Dinner: Diary of a Ragman's Daughter	$61 / person
F16 Speaker Lunch: Daughters of Valor	$58 / person
F32 Lineage Banquet	$63 / person
S16 OGS Annual Business Meeting	$53 / person

Regular and Vegetarian meals available

REGISTER ONLINE AT
http://bit.ly/4ATmb0i

All registrations should be made online. OGS will accept Check, Cash, or Credit Card at checkout.

Questions? Call (419) 886-1903 or e-mail **ogsconference@ogs.org**

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Exhibitor-space fees will increase after 15 Feb 2027.

To add your organization to this list at the reduced rate, contact the exhibit chair at ogsconference@ogs.org today!

19 59
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