

*Lorain County*  
**RESEARCHER**

Lorain Co. Chapter, OGS - PO Box 865 - Elyria, OH 44036-0865

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## A Life History of Lionel A. Sheldon

*Submitted by*

### Deb Mohler, longtime LCC-OGS Member

It was a cold January night in 1862 when Col. James Garfield and 1100 troops of the 40<sup>th</sup> and 42<sup>nd</sup> Ohio Volunteer Infantry and two Kentucky units arrived, after an 18 mile march, at the mouth of Abbott’s Creek near Prestonsburg, KY. Garfield meant to force a fight with Marshall. Marshall had moved his Rebel Troops from Virginia into eastern Kentucky. President Lincoln meant to keep Kentucky in the Union. Marshall’s men were encamped about 3 miles upstream. Garfield sent an order back to 33-year-old Lt. – Col. Lionel Sheldon, who was left in command at Paintsville 14½ miles north, to bring up every available man with all possible dispatch, for he intended to force a battle in the morning.

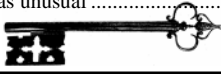
At 4 a.m., Garfield’s troops started their march. Sunrise was several hours away. About daybreak, they were charge upon by Confederate horsemen. Garfield gave the Confederates a volley that sent them up the valley, and so started the Battle of Middle Creek. By late afternoon, the Union forces were driven back, but with a brave charge, regained their ground. When the sun set, the battle was still unfinished. Garfield’s heart was full of alternating hopes and fears. It looked as if the day were lost, when, at a critical moment, the starry banner was seen waving over an advancing host. It was SHELDON and reinforcements! The day was won by the Union troops, launching Garfield’s military career, and Lionel Sheldon’s, too!

Lionel Allen Sheldon was born in Worcester, Otsego County, New York, August 30, 1828/1831 to Allen SHELDON and Anna Maria De Les DERNIER. At the age of six, Lionel Sheldon moved with his family from New York State to Lorain County, Ohio. Later, Sheldon attended Oberlin College, and graduated from a Poughkeepsie, NY law school. Returning to Elyria, Ohio, Sheldon practiced law, soon becoming the Probate Judge in Lorain County. In 1856, Lionel Sheldon was a delegate to the Republican National Convention, an honor to be repeated in 1880 and 1896. In 1858, he was a Brigadier General of the Ohio State Militia. In December of 1858, he married 17 year old Mary Greene Miles whose father was a merchant in Elyria. The couple was without issue.

When the Civil War broke out, Ohio Gov. Dennison offered Sheldon a commission and asked him to raise troops. Sheldon raised five companies in six days. He was mustered in as Lt. Colonel of the 42nd Ohio Infantry, the regiment that Col. James A. Garfield, later to become President, was commanding. A year later, he was promoted to Colonel and took command of the regiment. During the war, he fought in many battles. At Battle of Port Gibson May 1863 Sheldon was wounded in the hand by a musket ball. Sheldon recuperated in time to participate in the siege of Vicksburg. He spent the remainder of the war building forts and repairing levees

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**Check Out Our Website: <http://loraincoogs.org/>**



**The President's Pen**  
By  
**Norm Lewicki**

**Have You Hit a Roadblock?**



Here are few hints that will help you jumpstart your genealogy research and help you break through that roadblock.

**Focus-Focus-Focus: Set Research Goals**

It is far too easy to get distracted and start tracking another relative because you found something interesting. So set goals, for example a specific line of relatives you wish to follow and make sure your research path is relevant to your goals and supports them.

**Change the Way You Research**

Besides looking for new and different sources, get out and about. Tear yourself away from the computer. Do on-site research at a library, historical center, churches and archives, as an example. Not everything exists on the web.

**Set Up A Network**

No, I am not talking about setting up a wi-fi! Join on-line forums relative to genealogy and get posted on message boards. And spend some of your Christmas loot on a DNA test. You can post this on various DNA sites and find potential relatives through DNA matches. And Facebook is not necessarily your enemy. There are many valid and quality genealogy research groups posted on Facebook.

**And Finally, Seek Out Education and Advice**

You can find a lot on line by yourself, but the best way is to maintain your membership in a genealogy group such as the Lorain County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society. In addition to an excellent lineup of topics and speakers for 2017, we have a number of resources available to our members. If you can make the monthly meetings that we have, in addition to our speakers, we have, an on-site resident expert who will help you with your research, not to mention our members who know all kinds of research secrets.

For our out-of-state members we offer many services through our website, but there are two I would like to mention in particular that are on the **Members Only** portion of our website:

- First, we post many of the handouts from our meetings in the **Members Only** section of our website. These handouts usually contain many valuable websites and research suggestions.
- Second, we have purchased a series of fifteen genealogical

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**Chapter Officers 2016**

**President**

Norm Lewicki ..... [president@loraincoogs.org](mailto:president@loraincoogs.org)

**Vice-President**

Jean Copeland ..... [vicepresident@loraincoogs.org](mailto:vicepresident@loraincoogs.org)

**Secretary**

John Kolb ..... [secretary@loraincoogs.org](mailto:secretary@loraincoogs.org)

**Treasurer**

Norm Lewicki ..... [treasurer@loraincoogs.org](mailto:treasurer@loraincoogs.org)

**Membership**

Lynn Buchholz ..... [membership@loraincoogs.org](mailto:membership@loraincoogs.org)

**Lineage Chairperson**

Margaret Cheney ..... [lineagechair@loraincoogs.org](mailto:lineagechair@loraincoogs.org)

**OGS Cleveland District Trustee** ..... Debby Abbott

**LCC-OGS CHAPTER MEETINGS**

Meetings are held at the North Ridgeville Library, on Bainbridge Rd, east of Route 83, just south of Route 20/Center Ridge Road on the 2nd Monday of every month unless otherwise stated. Time: 6:30 PM - Social, 7:00 PM - Chapter meeting and program. Event schedule is posted on the Chapter website.



**CANCELLATION OF LCC-OGS MEETINGS**

If we have to cancel our monthly meeting, due to the weather, please check out our websites and your email for notifications of the closings, also you can contact the North Ridgeville Library at 440-327-8326.

You can also contact,

Jean Copeland: [jecopeland1975@gmail.com](mailto:jecopeland1975@gmail.com) or

Margaret Cheney: [margcheney@aol.com](mailto:margcheney@aol.com)

**LORAIN COUNTY RESEARCHER**

Editor 2007—present

**Pam Casper Rihel** ..... [newsletter@loraincoogs.org](mailto:newsletter@loraincoogs.org)

Co-Editor 2015—present

**John Kolb** ..... [nkolb@oh.rr.com](mailto:nkolb@oh.rr.com)

## OHIO MAILING LISTS—LORAIN COUNTY

Lorain County Chapter's mailing list Administrator is John Kolb.

So copy the link below to your browser and add your query or start searching for you surnames.

<http://lists.rootsweb.ancestry.com/index/usa/OH/lorain.html#OHLORAIN>

## CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS NEWSLETTER

<http://www.barbsnow.net/census.htm>, Norm Lewicki, John Kolb, Jean Copeland, Margaret Cheney, Lynn Buchholz, Pam Rihel

## LORAIN COUNTY COMPUTER USERS GROUP

Please check out our free programs and classes at

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

*Our meetings are the 2nd Tuesday of the month.*

Come to our meetings at our location, **Amherst Church of the Nazarene, 210 Cooper Foster Park Rd.** The doors open at 6:00 PM and the general meeting starts 6:30 PM.

*Check our Newsletters at our website for more information on the programs.*

Refreshments are served at the meeting

Pam Rihel LCCUG

Newsletter Editor

[prihel1947@gmail.com](mailto:prihel1947@gmail.com)



## SURNAME LIST FILE

On our website <http://loraincoogs.org/> is a link to our Surname file. In that file is an alphabetical listing of a number of family names that you and your fellow genealogists have been working on.

We recently performed a massive overhaul on our Surname File. Much of the previous information dated to the 1990s and we were unsure about many of the individuals who are not current members of our chapter.

Please take some time to look at the new file to see if there are any names that you are interested in. Also, please consider adding some of your family names to this listing as this can help you connect with others searching similar family names.

You can simply reply to the email that brought you The Researcher with your list of names. We will add these to our file associating your name and email address to the names. You can tell us if you DO NOT want your email address listed. You can also bring your names and information to any chapter meeting.

(Continued from page 31) *Presidents Pen*

webinars for use by our members that you can view as many times as you like. Currently we have three posted, and plan to post about 2 new webinars every quarter. The webinars that are currently posted are:

- 1 **Back to Basics: Craft a Compelling Family History Narrative from Start to Finish**, presented by Lisa A. Alzo, M.F.A.  
Learn the basics of crafting a compelling family history narrative in simple, manageable steps.
- 2 **Secrets You Should Know to Survive Microsoft Word** presented by Thomas MacEntee.  
Learn how to tame Microsoft Word and get it to work for you, not against you! Soon you'll have no fear of creating complex documents for your family history stories, genealogy research or your business functions.
- 3 **Genealogy Goals: How to Set Them, How to Keep Them**, presented by Lisa A. Alzo, M.F.A.  
Want to make 2017 your best genealogy year ever? Whether you desire to improve your research skills, find new cousins, break through a brick wall, or finally write that family history, this session will show you effective ways to set realistic and attainable goals, and offer tips and tricks to help you achieve them.

Start working on breaking down that roadblock today. Take a few minutes and lay out your research goals. And make sure you include renewing your membership in the Lorain County Chapter as one of the first things you do!

Good luck! If you do find anything or break down a roadblock, no matter how minor, I would like to hear about it and include it in our next issue of The Researcher. Send an email to [president@loraincoogs.org](mailto:president@loraincoogs.org) about your adventure.

I look forward to hearing from you!!!

Norm

## OHIO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY LINEAGE SOCIETIES

### First Families of Ohio

Any member of OGS who is a direct descendant of an individual who settled in the area now encompassed by the State of Ohio by the end of 1820 may become a member of the First Families of Ohio.



### Century Families of Ohio

Any member of OGS who is a direct descendant of any person residing in Ohio from 1861 to 100 years prior to the current year, or year of application is eligible to become a member of The Century Families of Ohio. In 2014, your ancestors would have had to have been in Ohio by the end of 1914; in 2015, by 1915 and so on.



### Settlers and Builders of Ohio

Any member of OGS who is a direct descendant of an individual who settled in the area now encompassed by the State of Ohio between 1 January 1821 and 31 December 1860 may become a member of Settlers and Builders of Ohio.



### Society of Civil War Families of Ohio

Any member of OGS who is a direct descendant, or a collateral relative, of any person with Ohio ties who served in the Civil War, for the Union or the Confederacy, is eligible to become a member of The Society of Civil War Families of Ohio (SCWFO). The person must have lived or died in Ohio or served in an Ohio unit. Service is not limited to an Ohio outfit. "Squirrel Hunters" and "Spies," male or female, are also eligible.



### Society of the Families of the Old Northwest Territory

Any member of OGS (or non-member) who is a direct descendant of any person who lived in what is now Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin or eastern Minnesota (east of the Mississippi River) between 13 July 1787 and 7 May 1800 (when Indiana Territory was created) or your ancestor lived in what is now Ohio or Michigan between 13 July 1787 and 3 March 1803 (Ohio Statehood) or your ancestor lived in what is now Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin or eastern Minnesota prior to 13 Jul 1787 as a citizen of either France or Great Britain, or as a Native American, you may qualify for this new Society.



Application forms and additional information can be found on the Ohio Genealogical Society website:

<http://www.ogs.org/about/lineage.php>

Mail completed applications and fees to:  
Ohio Genealogical Society  
611 State Route 97 West  
Bellville, Ohio 44813

## NEW MEMBERS & QUERIES

Mike Prill - [prillmi@gmail.com](mailto:prillmi@gmail.com)

Kelly Waite -- [kgwaite@gmail.com](mailto:kgwaite@gmail.com)

Barb and Jim Verbickey -- [barbverb1967@gmail.com](mailto:barbverb1967@gmail.com)

Michelle Worden [s4worden@yahoo.com](mailto:s4worden@yahoo.com)

Ken White [ken.white@yahoo.com](mailto:ken.white@yahoo.com)

Lynne Clemmons Morris [lynneclemmons@hotmail.com](mailto:lynneclemmons@hotmail.com)

### Ray, Guion, Tucker, Lathrop:

Searching for NAMES of parents of William Henry Ray. Born 28 May 1847 in Northwestern Ohio or New York. His mother died when he was 8 and his father died in the Civil War—No names. Henry served in the 14th Ohio Infantry, Co. F and joined when he was 14 years old. I have his Civil War papers, but no reference to his parents. Henry may have had a brother, Willis Ray, and sisters Susan and Electra. William (Henry) lived with William and Hannah Swift in Richfield Twp. Lucas Co., Ohio, in 1860 census. William (Henry) married Emily Alice Tucker on 28 Sept. 1869. They lived in Riga Twp., Lenawee Co. Michigan. Sarah J. or Susan J. may be William (Henry's) sister living with James and Susanna Wolfinger in 1860, Richfield Twp., Lucas Co., Ohio. Willis Ray lived with John S. and Louisa Leonardson, in 1860, Richfield Twp., Lucas Co., Ohio. I cannot find Electa. Their father may be Stephen Ray married to Nancy Barber, married 22 Oct. 1843 in Cuyahoga Co., Ohio. Stephen Ray's will is posted on Ancestry in Wills and Probate Information, 24 March 1864, Lucas Co., Ohio. All four W. H., Willis, Sarah J. and Electa are all listed in the probate record of Stephen Ray's will.

Nancy Guion Ray Stiggow

[anstriggow@msn.com](mailto:anstriggow@msn.com)

## OGS NEWS

### OGS Announces New Lineage Society

The Ohio Genealogical Society (OGS) is proud to announce the formation of its fifth lineage society, The Society of Families of the Old Northwest Territory (SFONT). This new lineage society will be open to both members and non-members. Applications will be accepted starting on January 1, 2016 with the first induction ceremony to be held during the 2017 annual conference in Sandusky, Ohio. More information can be found on the Lorain County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society website.

### Win-Win is Still Available!

OGS is excited to re-introduce a proven membership program which benefits OGS and OGS chapters as well. Effective immediately, new members to OGS may designate that their local OGS chapter receives a \$5.00 rebate from their new membership application. This does not apply to renewals. Starting in 2017, dues are \$40.00 for twelve months for a single membership. More information can be found at: [ogs.org](http://ogs.org)

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with his regiment in Louisiana. By the end of the war, Sheldon was promoted to brigadier general of the militia by Governor Chase "for faithful and meritorious service during war".

After the war, Lionel Sheldon settled in New Orleans where he practiced law until 1879. During his time in Louisiana, Sheldon became a Republican Congressman, serving 3 terms in the House of Representatives, along with James A. Garfield.

In 1871, Lionel Sheldon, age 43, was an attorney for the U.S. Government in what was known as the "Alabama Claims".

In Feb. 1872 Lionel A. Sheldon voted in the affirmative on Senate bill to set apart a certain tract of land lying near the headwaters of the Yellowstone River as a public park. Of course, we now know this area as Yellowstone National Park.

Towards the end of Reconstruction, Sheldon was quoted in a New York Newspaper: "the race issue in politics was passing away, and that it seems as if intelligence and integrity would now dominate without regard to color."

Lionel Sheldon returned to Ohio in 1879. He owned over 900 acres of land in LaGrange and Pittsfield Townships in Lorain County, Ohio. Sheldon spent his summers at his farm in LaGrange, maintaining a stable of prize-winning horses.

James A. Garfield was also from Ohio and Sheldon had a strong role in the Presidential campaign of 1880, Sheldon being one of four men to nominate Garfield for president at the 1880 Republican National Convention in Chicago.

Garfield won the 1880 Presidential Election! Lionel and Mary Sheldon were among Garfield's party to leave Mentor, Ohio for Washington, D.C. on February 28, 1881. Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon were guests of the Garfield's at the White House.

On March 23, 1881, President Garfield nominated Lionel Sheldon for the post of Governor of the Territory of New Mexico. Sheldon assumed office on May 15, 1881, replacing Gov. Lew Wallace, Civil War hero and author of the novel, Ben-Hur.

Also in May 1881, the President's wife, Lucretia Garfield, fell gravely ill - apparently from malaria. It is reported that Mrs. Lionel Sheldon officiated at the White House during the short term of President Garfield due to the poor health of Mrs. Garfield.

President Garfield was shot on July 2, 1881 and died on September 18, 1881, unable to fully recuperate from the attack. The first two carriages in the funeral procession contained Garfield's family Grandma and Mrs. Garfield and children, Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon, followed by all the members of the Cabinet and their wives.

Back in New Mexico, Sheldon ingratiated himself with the ruling "Santa Fe Ring".

The new governor had to deal with considerable unrest caused by the Apache and by the bands of cattle rustlers and other outlaws. The governor authorized the use of the territorial militia and citizens' posses against the disruptive forces. Sheldon launched a campaign - "The Rustler War" - against the outlaws.

In July of 1881, Billy The Kid was shot dead at Fort Sumner in New Mexico.

In 1883, 55-year-old Lionel Sheldon ordered the territorial militia company known as the Mesilla Cavalry to track down and

arrest John Kinney "one of the most dangerous and desperate characters...since Billy the Kid", and arrest or disperse his gang members. When this was accomplished, the welcome news electrified the entire territory. In Santa Fe, Gov. Sheldon was loudly congratulated. A large crowd in the evening assembled at the Governor's Palace to shake the governor's hand, until he had to beg for rest.

Near the end of his term, at the behest of the Santa Fe Ring, Sheldon reappointed all the territorial officials, so that they could not be removed for two years by his Democratic successor.

June 15, 1885 Sheldon left the governorship, replaced by Edmund G. Ross, another man who grew up in Northern Ohio. Governor Sheldon had succeeded in what appeared to be his special desire, which was the building of the penitentiary to accommodate the increasing number of condemned criminals.

During his career as governor Sheldon thoroughly cleared the territory of its lawless element, promoted industries and education, and brought peace and prosperity to the land.

"July 23, 1885 President Grant died. Ex-Governor Sheldon delivered the address for the Grant memorial services held in August, 1885 in the M.E. church. [Methodist Episcopal Church, LaGrange, Ohio] There was a full house. The address, which was very interesting from the fact that the great hero was considered from a military standpoint. The services were participated in by the pastors of both churches. The church was tastefully draped for the occasion." - Aug 13, 1885 The Elyria Republican.

Later in 1885, Lionel Sheldon was named Receiver of the Texas and Pacific Railroad by the United States Circuit Court of New Orleans. In this position, Sheldon put an end to the great labor strike, and presided over the sale of the railroad.

In 1888, 60-year-old Lionel Sheldon moved to Los Angeles, California where he practiced law, and was among the persons named in 'a collection of hall of fame of southern California 'movers and shakers' in in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century'.

For a short time, he was co-editor of the Los Angeles Tribune.

By 1890, Sheldon was the president of the Centinela-Inglewood Land Company in Los Angeles.

At a mass convention to adopt a platform and nominate candidates for city offices in Pasadena in 1890, "Gov. Sheldon was called for; and although quite hoarse he made a short speech. He said he was a very decided republican, but he believed in his party going forward and not backward. The marching line of this People's movement is forward and that of the other side is backward. If the opposition policy should prevail, it means flooding the city with liquor-selling and all its evil results. He also expressed himself in favor of woman's equality in social affairs, business affairs, and political affairs."

Lionel Sheldon was in attendance at the first session of the National Irrigation Congress which was held in Dec 1891 in Los Angeles. At its 1893 convention, Lionel Sheldon insisted that reclamation must become a federal matter although he recognized that the public was as yet unwilling to accept that policy.

It was not until the 1896 session at Phoenix, AZ that the irrigation congress moved toward a positive national program, where it adopted a resolution calling for federal financial assistance in building reservoirs. Responses to various speeches were made by ex-Governor Lionel Sheldon of Los Angeles.

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By 1900 the congress' official position was that the reclamation of arid public domain was a national obligation.

At the end of his life, Lionel Sheldon was in the process of writing book called "Reminiscence of Men and Events", consisting of several hundred pages, in 6 parts. The work was never published.

Sheldon also wrote about the eternal problem: "Taxation a Growing Burden".

In June 1914 The U. S. Government placed a bronze plaque of Lionel A. Sheldon, Col. 42<sup>nd</sup> Ohio Infantry, in Vicksburg National Military Park, Vicksburg, Mississippi, at a cost of \$227.25.

Lionel Allen Sheldon died January 17, 1917 at the age of 88, in Pasadena, California. His remains were cremated and were interred at Mountain View Cemetery, Altadena, California.

His spouse, Mary Green Miles Sheldon, died in Aug 1930 at Glendale, California, herself a Washington, D.C. and Pasadena socialite.

Although Lionel Sheldon had a long career in regional and national affairs, one can only surmise what may have ensued in Sheldon's political career should President Garfield have been able to fulfill his term as President. With Garfield's backing, perhaps Lionel Sheldon would have one day been President of the United States.



SFA Lionel Sheldon-Plaque



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## Louise Moran

05/06/2016 - Obituary



Louise Moran (nee Boughton), age 89, of Lorain, passed away Friday, May 6, 2016, at Amherst Specialty Hospital after a brief illness.

She was born on April 8, 1927, in Lorain, Ohio to Herbert and Helen Boughton and graduated from Lorain High School in 1944.

Louise made her career as a secretary working at [General Motors](#), Elyria Memorial Hospital, Dr. Pepper Bottling Company and the former St. John Parish, in Lorain. Later in her career she became a medical transcriber and case aid with Jobs and Family Services.

She was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Amherst, Catholic Golden agers, Red Hat Society, TOPPS, a contributor to the Senior Years Newspaper, and the Lorain County Genealogical Society. While tracing her roots, she discovered that she is considered to be a part of the First Families of Lorain County, Ohio, a direct descendent of an individual who settled in the county by the end of 1850 and she was a part of the Civil War Families of Ohio.

Louise enjoyed traveling on bus trips, cross word puzzles and spending time with her grandchildren. She is survived by her son, Kirk (Lynette) Fitch of Lorain; Karen Fitch Chawansky of Sheffield Lake, and Barbara Moran (Wayne) Marshall of La Grange; grandchildren, Craig (Lisa) Fitch, Andrea Fitch (Levent Baykut), Taylor Cooksey, and Peyton Cooksey; great-grandchildren, Trista and Colton; her sister, Betty Schneider; and her granddog, Pogo.

Louise was preceded in death by her husband, Bill Moran, in 2015; daughters, Laurie Moran in 1982 and Tracy Moran Cooksey in 2002; and her grandson, Brian Zelina in 2009. The family will receive on Tuesday, May 10, from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Dovin and Reber Jones Funeral & Cremation Center, 1110 Cooper Foster Park Road, Amherst. Closing prayers will be held on Wednesday, May 11, at 9:30 a.m. followed by Mass of Christian Burial at 10:00 a.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 200 St. Joseph Drive, Amherst. Rev. Father Michael Denk will officiate. Interment will follow at Ridge Hill Memorial Park, Amherst. Twp.

Online condolences may be left for the family at [www.dovinreberjones.com](http://www.dovinreberjones.com)

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## Chapter Dues for 2017

A reminder to all LCC-OGS members that our annual dues are paid each year in January and not on the anniversary of the date that you joined the chapter. We will be accepting dues for the 2017 calendar year at our November and December and January meetings or you can mail them to the address listed below.

I would like to take this opportunity to tell you about some of the benefits that you receive by being an active member of our chapter. These benefits are:

### Access to the 'Members Only' Section of our Website

[www.loraincoogs.org](http://www.loraincoogs.org) where you will find:

⇒ **The Researcher** – We have posted many past issues of ***The Researcher*** in the Members Only section of the website and will continue to post each quarterly issue as it is published along with many more back issues.

⇒ **Inquiries** – As a member, you may to submit inquiries to the group requesting any information about ancestors that you are researching.

⇒ **Presentations** – New this year, we are posting the presentations and/or handouts of our speakers who have chosen to participate in this effort.

### ⇒ **Webinars. (New this year.)**

Active members have access to a series of webinars covering a wide range of genealogy related topics. These can be viewed on our website at your convenience. Each webinar is about one hour in length.

⇒ **Lineage Society Membership** – You may be eligible for membership in one or more of our Lineage Societies.

### Email Notices of Upcoming Meeting and Events.

Active members receive reminders, announcements and advance notice of meetings and events sponsored by our chapter via email.

**Note that for 2017, membership dues will remain at \$15 per household. Please make checks payable to LCC-OGS.**

LCC-OGS  
P.O. Box 865  
Elyria, Ohio 44036-0865

If you have any questions about the status of your membership or dues, please contact me at: [membership@loraincoogs.org](mailto:membership@loraincoogs.org).

**Thank you!**  
**Lynne Buchholz**  
**LCC-OGS Membership Chair**

## BIOGRAPHIES FOR 2016 LINEAGE INDUCTIONS LCC-OGS



James Louis Moore – First Family Number 294 is honoring his great-great grandparents, Johann (John) F DeChant and his wife Anna Maria Glockner, and Anna’s father, Joseph.

One Hundred Sixty Four years ago, on October 26, 1852, John and Anna were

married in Avon. How appropriate that Jim has chosen to honor his ancestors at this time. John and Anna both came from Bavaria. John came in 1847 when he was 19 years old. John and Anna had 9 children, 5 daughters and 4 sons. They were a prominent family in Avon, Ohio.

Congratulations, Jim for honoring your early Lorain County ancestors.

## All the members and their guests attending our 2016 Annual Banquet



### The great church women who made our delicious meal.



Pam Rihel has submitted a supplemental application to Century Families of Lorain County to honor her father, Robert A. Casper, Sr. Robert was born in 1916 in Avon and was the youngest of 10 siblings – 8 sisters and 2 brothers. The house he was born in still stands in Avon and is now a restaurant/antique shop called the Tree House & Tea Room. At the age of 10 he was a paper boy and earned enough money for a bicycle that he treasured and had for many years. Robert was drafted into the army in 1942 and served overseas. He reached the rank of staff sergeant and was also a technician 4<sup>th</sup> grade in the 1275<sup>th</sup> engineer battalion. He was discharged just after Christmas in 1945. Before and after his time in the army, he worked for Parker Hannifin as a machinist set-up man for 41 years. He retired in 1981. He married Dorothy Ryan in 1941 and they had 5 children. They had been married for 49 years when Robert passed away from cancer.

Congratulations, Pam on honoring your father as a resident of Lorain County.

*More pictures will be in the Winter Researcher*

## LORAIN COUNTY COMPUTER USERS GROUP

Please check out our free programs and classes at  
[www.LCCUG.com](http://www.LCCUG.com)

*Our meetings are the 2nd Tuesday of the month.  
December 13, is our Annual Holiday Party, Chinese Raffle,  
food, drinks, we just ask that you bring a dish to share.*

*This will be our last meeting at the Amherst Church of the Nazarene. Starting in January we will be at St. John’s church in Elyria next to I-Hop. More info to come.*

Come to our meetings at our location, **Amherst Church of the Nazarene, 210 Cooper Foster Park Rd.** The doors open at 6:00 PM and the general meeting starts 6:30 PM.

*Check our Newsletters at our website for more information on the programs.*

Refreshments are served at the meeting

Pam **Rihel** LCCUG  
Newsletter Editor  
[prihel1947@gmail.com](mailto:prihel1947@gmail.com)





# And I thought my name was unusual...

By John Kolb

Recently, I went on a vacation that I have been wanting to take for many years, a trip back to the “Old Country” where my ancestors emigrated from. Today, the municipality of Sippersfeld lies in southwest Germany; when my great-great-grandfather left there in 1848, it was part of the kingdom of Bavaria.

I have been working on my family tree for over 40 years; way back then, I had to write to various people or offices requesting information. Today, thanks to the Internet, there is a world of information and forms at my fingertips and the major limits to getting information is figuring out what I want to know, where to search for the information, and how to pose an inquiry to get what I am looking for.



Canals of Amsterdam

The vacation started in Amsterdam, in The Netherlands, where we boarded a Viking Cruise ship for the trek up the Rhine River. I traveled with my niece, as she is the only one in the family who shares my interest in Genealogy. We stopped at a variety of ports along the way to see cathedrals, castles and a Chocolate Museum, we did a reasonable inspection of a variety of beers, wines and schnapps.

In Köln (Cologne) Germany, we travelled to the spectacular Cathedral, started in the year 1248 and halted in 1473, restarted in the 19th century and was completed, to the original plan, in 1880. We were able to ascend to the roof and walk about on a parapet around the outside of the building about 200 feet above the ground and climb into a bell tower at the center of the roof.



Cathedral of Köln (Cologne) Germany



Marksburg Castle

Cathedrals in Speyer and Strasbourg, France, numerous castles along the Rhine all contributed their share to this great trip.

However, the best was saved for last. The cruise itself ended in Basel, Switzerland, where we boarded a train for Frankfort Germany. There we rented a car and drove to the municipality of Sippersfeld.

The town was founded in 1019, yes almost a thousand years ago!



Heidelberg Castle

(Continued from page 38) And I thought my name was unusual...

Today the town has about 1200 residents.

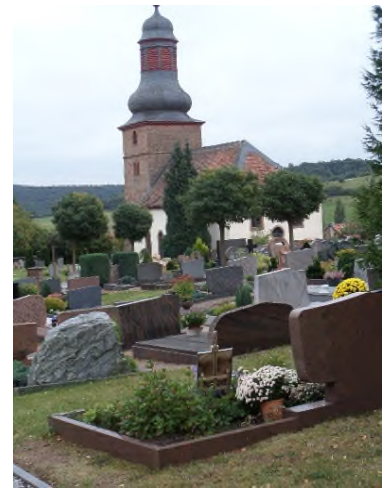
The new part of the local church was built in 1768; the old bell tower dates back to sometime in the 1300s.



My initial reason to go there was to see if there was any direct family still there, was I in for a surprise – and not a good one!

My niece had been in contact with Udo Desh, the deputy mayor. Over a period of about 2 months they communicated, him in German and her in English – thanks to Google Translate – and our meeting was set up. Udo and his wife Gundella treated us like family and for 2 days he was our personal tour guide for Sippersfeld and other towns in the area. Fortunately, his English is very good as my German is marginal at best.

My initial hope to find more Kolbs took a bad turn when Udo explained that there were Kolbs aplenty, but none of them appeared to be related to me or each other as best they could tell.



His story behind the name explained the reason. At some point in time, there was someone (knight, prince, duke, whoever) who hired locals to work for and protect him. The specific weapon in use was a club or mace, the German word for that weapon was “kolb”; hence this band of individuals each acquired the name Kolb from the weapon. That is why there are so many of them and they are not related that they know of.

The mayor is a Kolb, Udo’s grandfather married a Kolb, his son has 3 neighbors named Kolb, he pointed out 9 homes of Kolbs, we stopped to talk with one of his friends another Kolb. The local cemetery has numerous Kolb graves.

Oh well, even negative information is still information in any genealogy quest.



If you have an interesting story or an item with a good story or history, please let us know as we are always looking for articles that we can publish in *The Researcher*. These can be multi-page articles or just a paragraph, and photos are always helpful.

Please send your article to either Pam Rihel [prihel1947@gmail] or John Kolb [nkolb@oh.rr.com]



Alicia Phillips and John Kolb at Köln Cathedral