

Genealogical News

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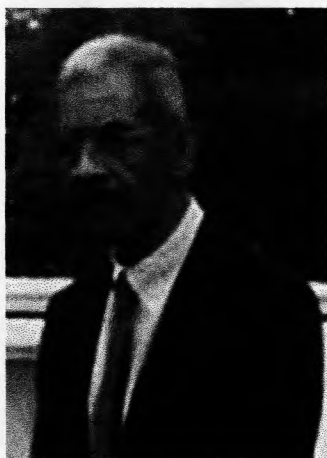
The Multicultural Genealogical Center Quarterly Publication

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THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

By Ada Woodson Adams

The following is an update on the 'HAPPENINGS' at the Multicultural Genealogical Center:



A Sad 'Happening'

On May 5, 2012, MGC lost a longtime beloved friend and member. Henry Robert Burke died at the age of 69 in Marietta, Ohio. Henry loved history and knowingly set about finding the history he did not read or hear about in school. He traced his family history and the Underground Railroad. Thanks to his work, people of all ages have and will continue to have insights and historical data they might otherwise not have had. He was MGC's Historian: He was a researcher and writer who made a commitment to documenting significant historic events. He made sure these events were visi-

ble to all through the placement of markers. For example, he had a hand in the placement of the UGRR marker at the Friends Meeting House in Chesterhill. Henry was one of MGC's founding board members and continued through the years as our conductor of history.

MGC will do a tribute to Henry in our next issue. Anyone who wants to share a Henry story, please write MGC, PO Box 125, Chesterhill, OH, or e-mail us at adams1803@gmail.com.

A Dream 'Happening'

Thanks to the generous donations of our many members and friends and support through grants and matching dollar funds, MGC was able to renovate the Vanlaw-Patterson House that is now the MGC Center. We are now preparing the Center for the purpose it was intended: a research library for public use. We are adding office equipment, computers for public use, and researchable data and books. If, you offered to share genealogy research, family trees and history data with MGC, now is the time to send or bring them.

A very large collection of research material will be available: Melungeon data,

Ohio history, County history, West Virginia history, Black history, Native American history, Quaker history, and Underground Railroad history. When the data entry is completed, we will publish our holdings in our Newsletter and on the Web.

The Center's doors have been open for our MGC monthly meetings, special programs, requests by the public for meeting space, and for workshops. Recently, the Center was host to a "Share Your Pictures Day" sponsored by Polly Flowers of Waterford and Billy Day of Zanesville, Ohio. Irita Canady of Michigan did a workshop on a "How to Enter Your Family Tree into a Database". If, you have a workshop, history or genealogy event, let MGC know about it. We may be able to schedule your program here at the Center during our preparation phase of creating our library research Center.

The preparation phase is a slow process, and we could use some volunteers to help with sorting, data entry, scanning, and many sundry other needs. We also need people who have library skills and have some free time to help with cataloging

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AFRICAN-AMERICANS IN EARLY MUSKINGUM COUNTY, OHIO RECORDS

By Michel Perdreau and Nancy E. Aiken

(Part 2: continued from the previous Newsletter)

The only census record in which Mess was found is the 1840 census (Roll 313, p. 418) which has Mess Johnson, a free colored person, living in Falls Township, West Lanes, Muskingum County, Ohio. He was employed in agriculture and five persons lived in his household: 2 males under 10, 1 female under 10, 1 female between 36 and 54 years old, and Mess who was between 55 and 99 years old. If the female between 36 and 54 years old was Ann, she would have been closer to 54 than 36, thus, putting into doubt that the young children were hers. One wishes for more information from these early census records!

Lill Johnson appears in the 1830 census for Zanesville (NARA roll: M19-137, p. 292). She is the only one in the household and is listed as a free colored person between 55 and 100 years old. While George King was the only other back person listed on the page with Mess, these other free colored heads of households were listed after Lill on p. 292 and more were on the next page. They are: John Brown, Sandy Casey, Mary ____, Enos Jones, Samuel Gassaway, Margaret Henderson, Wells Henderson, William Fielding, Lyda Burham, Ezekiel

Harris, Henry Atchison, Sarah Jones, Arthur Reed, (another) John Brown, Thomas Root, Thomas Lawrence, Samuel Jones, and Ephraim Gscars (?).

In the Common Pleas Court Records, Book J? Vol. C? August Term, 1810, pp. 10-11 is a case: State of Ohio vs Samuel Thomas on the complaint of Black Lill, who swears that Samuel Thomas, a black man, is the father of her two children now lying by her side."

Lill is questioned by the accused's counsel concerning the time of conception. She answers that it was the first part of the previous August. Then, she is asked when the first time was that she had been with Sam and how often. She answered that she did not know. Then she is asked where the child was begat, and she answered that it happened in Dr. Mitchell's house. No one else was there at the time. Then she is asked if she had been with any other person during the months of June, July, August or September of last year. She answers, "No."

"Did you ever tell any person that you did not know whether the child would be white or black? She answers, "No."

"Did you ever tell any person that you would not swear whose child it was until it was born for you did not know but it might be white?"

She answers, "No."

She admitted that Sam came to see her often. "Was there any person there at any time

when Sam came?" "No! No person at all."

The attorney asked her if she "connected" with anyone last summer besides Sam, and Lill replied, "Yes."

Then she was asked when she went to live in Dr. Mitchell's house, and she answered in March or April the previous year. "When did you leave Dr. Mitchell's house?" Lill answered that it was sometime last winter.

"How long after the last time that Sam had connection with you before you discovered you were with child?" "About two weeks."

"How often was Sam with you?" She answered, "Two or three times a week or two or three times in a month."

Testimony sworn before Samuel Thompson, J.P. 25th April 1810

State of Ohio in complaint of Lill, a black woman, vs Samuel Thomas, a black man: Bastardy - 22 Aug 1810. The jury (Silas Smith, Joseph Hawkins, James Bell, Michael Hahn, Benjamin Fickle, Francis Henderson, John Willy, Edward Tanner, Christopher Myers, Samuel Frazey, George Beard & Timothy Gaylord) found the defendant guilty. The court orders Samuel Thomas to pay \$50 in the following manner: \$10 to the complainant now and \$10 every six months until the money is paid. The forty dollars was to be paid to the overseer of the poor of Zanesville Township for use of the complainant's children and that Thomas should give bond with security to the overseers of the

poor and pay court costs. Jesse Fulton, Judge, Common Pleas Court of Muskingum County; A. Lewis, clerk; William Wilson, presiding judge

While Lill (if she is the same person in the court and census records) ended up alone in 1830 using the name Johnson, Sam Thomas was not found in the census. However, a Samuel Thomas appears in two records below.

Court of Common Pleas, August term, 1810, p. 79.

Samuel Thomas, Junior, black man of Muskingum County, was summoned to answer the plea of Jacob Crooks for trespass. Jacob complained that whereas the commissioners of said county on 10 Feb 1810 at Zanesville caused a well of water to be dug and stoned, which well is known as the public well. On the first of March 1810 Sam promised and agreed to pay Jacob \$4.00 to install a pump in said well when the job was completed. Jacob says he had the job done by 1 Apr 1810. [Though the photocopy ends, it appears that Samuel did not pay for the pump. How is that trespass?]

Ross County, Ohio Clerk of Courts, Records of Black and Mulatto persons (Microfilm edition Ohio Historical Society):

State of Ohio, Muskingum County

To all whom this may come, Greeting:

I hereby certify that I have

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**AFRICAN-AMERICANS IN EARLY
MUSKINGUM COUNTY, OHIO RECORDS**
(continued from page 2)

MGC Publications
By Nancy Aiken
Publications Chairperson

recorded black Jo, black Samuel Thomas's son, as a free man in my office, having legal authority to do the same. I have therefore, to this certificate affixed the seal of the said County of Muskingum.

Certified this 19th day of July 1804. Abel Lewis, Clerk Courts C.M. Rec'd & recorded March 17, 1829 (Ross Co., Ohio).

Note: 1830 U.S. Census for Muskingum County, Ohio; Putnam in Springfield Township has John Thomas (m) age 36-55 and the 1850 census for Putnam (Roll M432-718, p. 21A) has John Thomas, age 65, black, laborer, born N.C. in the household of C.C. Convers, age 39, sawyer, born in Ohio, with Catherine Convers, age 31, three Convers children, Elizabeth Irvin, age 25, and Mary Jane Halters, age 18 (all presumably white).

Muskingum County Clerk of Courts. Complete Record, Vol. C, p. 158:

Court of Common Pleas, April term, 1811, Grand Jury. Charles, a black man, on 1 Feb 1811 at Zanesville, did beat and cause great damage to Mess, a black man. Bill of indictment signed by Joseph F. Munns, foreman. Charles pleaded "not guilty."

State of Ohio vs Charles, a black man:

A Grand Jury (George Mathus, Solomon Wood, Alexander Ewing, Peter Livingood, Isaiah Culver,

Ralph Hardisty, John Reynolds, Thomas Dew Junior, John Bush, Christian Spangler, William Organ, and Daniel Diekney) was impaneled on 17 Apr 1811 to try "issue of traverse between the parties."

The jury found the defendant guilty and fined him \$5.00 and costs for which John Hamm and Abel Lewis stand accountable to the sheriff. Signed: William Wilson, presiding judge; A. Lewis, clerk

Court of Common Pleas, April Term 1811 (Vol. C, p. 157).

A Grand Jury found Jesse Carter, a black man, on 1 Mar 1811 at Zanesville with "force and arms" stole a pair of boots valued at \$4.00 from Thomas Feree. A bill of indictment was signed by Joseph F. Munns, foreman, and was endorsed on back with plea of "non Cul."

State of Ohio vs Jesse Carter, a black man: 17 Apr 1811 the jury (William Organ, John Reynolds, Thomas Dew Junior, Alexander Ewings, Peter Livingood, Christian Spangler, John Bush, George Mathews, Ralph Hardisty, Solomon Wood, Daniel Stickney and Isaiah Culver) found the defendant guilty.

State of Ohio vs Jesse, a black man: 18 Apr 1811 the court gave sentence as follows: 15 "stripes" on his naked back, 15 days in prison, \$5.00 fine and costs. The "stripes" were to be received at 2:00 pm that afternoon.

Signed: William Wilson, presiding judge
A. Lewis, clerk

Muskingum County Court Records, Complete Record, Vol. F (1819-1820), p. 360.

State of Ohio vs Jack, a black man: Larceny. March term

either 1819 or 1820 (photocopy not clear).

The grand jurors returned an indictment against Jack, a black man of Muskingum County, on 31 Jan 18__, who with force and arms took \$32.00 in bank notes from the Lebanon Miami Banking Company, the Columbiana Bank of Lisbon, and the Bank of Fayette County, Pennsylvania, and ____ Society belonging to Luke Walpole. Stockton & Goddard were the attorneys. The indictment was indorsed as "a true bill" by Daniel Convers, foreman.

On 22 March 18__ Jack was brought to the bar under custody of the sheriff and was arraigned. A jury was called (Mathew McElhenny, Nicholas ____, Monroe, Robert Oliver, Lee Humphrey, David Richardson, Goodheart Trusler, ____, John Lee, Joseph F. Munroe, John Sheward, and John Caldwell) and found Jack guilty of stealing \$20.00.

On 26 March Jack was again brought to the bar and the court pronounced sentence upon him. Jack was to be imprisoned and kept at hard labor in the Penitentiary at Columbus for three years.

NEXT NEWSLETTER: PART 3

The Multicultural Genealogical Center publishes books as part of its mission to disseminate information about multicultural families in southeastern Ohio. One of these books is *As Long as Hearts Remember*, edited by the late Alvin C. Adams. It is a collection of remembrances (in the form of articles, poetry, obituaries, and photos) of ancestors and other loved ones who have passed away. It is a celebration of their lives. One of these celebrations is the account from Madeline O. Scott of Thomas Henry Barnes, who was born January 2, 1849, in Lewistown, Pennsylvania, and died December 11, 1942. His was a long life filled with activity.

His father, Henry, had been a slave on the Barnes plantation in Hagerstown, Maryland. Henry married Jane, daughter of Daniel and Sarah Williams, of Lewistown, Pennsylvania, in 1842. Of their five children, only two sons, Thomas and Peter, survived their first ten years. As a child, Thomas had the opportunity to see Abraham Lincoln—an event he always remembered.

Henry Barnes died in 1856 and his wife, Jane, died in 1859 leaving the two small sons. An uncle took the two boys to New York City where he placed

Web site is
under construction
www.mgcenter.org

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THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

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the collection. We also need people to sort and clip news stories, prepare power-point presentations and teach research techniques. We will need volunteers to assist others once the Center is open for research.

Military 'Happenings'

Dana Gisser, Curtis Hightower, and Logan Lowe—Hocking College students majoring in Natural and Historical Interpretation class—presented their work at a special gathering to showcase the contributions of the United States Colored Troops (USCT) from Athens, Morgan and Washington Counties. The student's work will be included as part of the Multicultural Genealogical Center's 150th Civil War Anniversary documentation of the histories of the USCT.

Civil War Veteran, Israel Johnson, from Washington County was honored on Memorial Day at the Athens State Hospital Cemetery in Athens, Ohio, by NAMI and the FRIENDS OF ATHENS ASYLUM CEMETERIES. The Multicultural Genealogical Center was a part of the service, and Ada Woodson Adams presented a paper on the contributions of Mr. Johnson and the United States Colored Troops with whom he served. Polly Flowers and son, Stanley, who are related to Johnson, placed a wreath on Mr. Johnson's grave during the Memorial services. (See picture below.) Israel Johnson will be one of the civil War soldiers honored in October at the 150th Anniversary Program presented by MGC.

Program 'Happenings'

Mary Cowan Doxsee: Mary taught textiles in the Ohio

University School of Home Economics from 1953 until her final retirement in 1989.

The Multicultural Genealogical Center Monthly Membership programs have had some outstanding presenters and presentations. Trina Gannon presented "Conservation of Textiles and Historic Clothing—When you are not the Metropolitan Museum of Art." The Butcher Family presented "Quilting With Love, Elsie Tabler Butcher Remembered." Tom O'Grady did a presentation on Ohio barns, "An Architectural Legacy in Ohio's Rural Landscape."

MGC Annual Heritage Day at Cutler Community Center was well attended with many shared histories and genealogies. Members of the MGC Board thank the Cutler Ladies for helping MGC by preparing and serving the food. They also

gave all donations received to MGC. Thank You, Ladies!

'Denial 'Happening'

MGC's application to the Morgan County Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) was again denied. The past two years MGC applied for monies from this program—a flexible program that provides communities with resources to address a wide range of unique community development needs in an effort to better conditions in blighted areas and to provide assistance to rehabilitate or redevelop homes. Our application addressed the issues of restoration of the outside of MGC's historic Center. With two sides of our Center insulated, new windows, and siding replaced, MGC will not give up on this goal. We will continue to apply for help from the CDBG and also seek other resources to complete the exterior work. MGC has added to the economic growth of Chesterhill through bringing people into the community for Underground Railroad tours, meetings, fundraisers and other events. We have added to the beautification of Main Street Chesterhill.

Research 'Happening'

The Multicultural Genealogical Center has an ongoing request for any information on the following



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News from the Past

Courtesy of Genealogy Trails History Group: <http://genealogytrails.com>

From Mississippi to Idaho:

Local man made history across the country. William "Billie" Payton, Great Uncle to Bertha "Bert" Payton Woodson, lived to be over 128 years old made national news. "Bert" remembers her Uncle coming to spend the winter with her family in Glouster, Ohio.

The Daily Herald, Mississippi, Date Dec. 27 1919, (Mortuary Notice) Almost as Old as the Nation:

Negro in Ohio Died Yesterday at the Age of 128

Years - One of the Country's Oldest Men.

Parkersburg, W. Va., Dec. 27 - William Peyton, a negro, 128 years old and said to have been one of the oldest men in the United States, died yesterday at Little Hocking, Ohio. He began life as a slave and served a Virginia family through six generations.

The Idaho Daily Statesman, Idaho

Dec. 28, 1919, (Mortuary Notice)

Former Slave Served Same Family During Six Generations.

PARKERSBURG, W. Va. William Peyton, a negro,

one of the oldest men in the United States, died Friday at Little Hocking, Ohio, near Parkersburg, at the age of 128 years.

As a slave and a freedman he served one family through six generations, it is said. Peyton was in full possession of his faculties until within a few weeks of his death.

Salt Lake Telegraph - Utah

Nov. 15, 1920, Ohio University. **Mortuary Notice:**

OHIO EDUCATOR DIES.

ATHENS, O., Nov. 15. - President Alston Ellis, 73, for the past twenty years

president of Ohio University, died suddenly from heart trouble at his home here. Dr. Ellis had purchased a home in Wyoming and had intended to retire from active school work next June.

The Duluth News Tribune - Minnesota, Jan. 1, 1905
Soldiers Fined and Sent to Prison, Athens, Ohio, Dec. 31

ATHENS, OHIO, Dec. 31. - Today seven members of the 14th field battery, United States army, were fined \$500 and 30 days in

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Civil War Publication Planned

By Nancy Aiken

As part of the observance of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, MGC plans to produce one or more publications on the United States Colored Troops (USCT) from Athens, Morgan, Muskingum, and Washington Counties, Ohio. Member participation is needed. If you have information on soldiers meeting our criteria, please send it in an e-mail to aikennancy@yahoo.com or by mail to Nancy Aiken, P.O. Box 27, Guysville, OH 45735 as soon as possible.

We are including soldiers who were born, lived, died or enlisted in any of the above counties.

Soldiers are often identified as such on their tombstones. The company and

regiment are often given, and this can lead to their service record. Civil War soldiers were asked to register their service and discharge at their local courthouses. Local histories, written in the nineteenth century, often list Civil War soldiers. Online are military sites such as "Fold3" which are currently featuring Civil War service and pension records that can be accessed. Ancestry.com is a good site for census, death, birth, marriage, and military records, but *do not* use the family trees on this site as a reliable source. Cite each and every source used.

This project will culminate in one or more publications and everyone who assists will be given credit. This is an exciting project which will enrich our knowledge of the

involvement of the USCT in the Civil War. Students from Hocking College in Nelsonville, Ohio, kicked off this project by researching and presenting their research on two soldiers apiece. We found that most of the soldiers from these counties served in the 5th or 27th USCT. These men saw plenty of action. Both units were at the Battle of New Market Heights in Virginia.

Currently, we have a list of some of the African-American Civil War soldiers buried in Washington County and we have no other information about them. We want to include something about their lives, families, vocations, where they lived, service records, etc. These soldiers are:

Francis Armstrong
Harrison Armstrong
Anthony Asbury
Lemuel Austin
Salathiel Austin
Allen Bolden
Charles A. Bradley
Nimrod Burke
Titus Burke
George W. Burkett
James Carmichael
George Creal
John Curtis
Moses L. Davis
David Dix
John Dixon
George W. Ellis
Wesley T. Fletcher
John Goins
Washington Goodnig
James Harris
Richard Hedgepath
William Hill
William Hunter

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Akron's First Black Mortician

By Carol Wood

Many years ago, my Aunt Sophia Ramsey and I attended a convention in Indianapolis. My aunt got into a conversation with another lady in her eighties who told her that she was from Akron, Ohio. Aunt Sophia told her that she had visited some people there who owned a funeral home. The lady replied, "Fletcher Funeral Home." My aunt said, "Yes, they were distant cousins of my mother's." Unfortunately, I forgot the first names of these Fletchers.

After I became active in genealogy organizations, I heard a member say that her grandparents had lived in Akron for many years and that she had her grandfather's death certificate. I told her that I was having difficulty finding the first name of my relative who had been a mortician there. After finding her grandfather's death certificate, my friend emailed me the name of the funeral director who had handled the burial of T. M. Fletcher, my grandfather. In Ancestry.com, which I did not have at the time, she found Thomas Fletcher, occupation listed as "undertaker" and his wife Minnie.

Thomas M. Fletcher, born in Marietta, Ohio was one of many children of James, born in Lowell and Sarah (May) Fletcher, born in Ripley. According to a Marietta city di-

rectory, Thomas was working as an assistant undertaker as early as 1902. That same year, he married Minnie Carter, daughter of Thomas and Georgiana (Coursey) Carter. A 1920 census shows Thomas working as an assistant undertaker to O.J. Fuller in Marietta. Thomas and Minnie also appear in a 1920 census living in Akron after he started his own funeral home.

For several years, Thomas was president of the Independent National Funeral Directors Association, composed of morticians of color. In 1934, he was elected as one of fifteen members of the NRA Code Authority for the funeral industry. This made him the first member of his race to serve a code authority governing any industry. At his death in September, 1940 Thomas Fletcher remained the only African-American appointed to the National Board of Undertakers.

In addition to working as a mortician, T.M. was also very active in civic affairs. He served the NAACP as campaign manager in their annual membership drives. When Akron established the Association for Colored Community Work, which affiliated with the National Urban League, he became the first chairman of its board of directors and later became a trustee of that organization. Not having children themselves, he and his wife Minnie were strong advocates for the welfare of Akron youth. When given a scroll of honor

in 1939 by the Association for Colored Community Work, T.M. gave a humble response: "I live to serve my people."

Sources

Ancestry.com.
Bain, Benjamin. *Multiracial Pioneers of the Ohio Valley*: B.F. Bain, 1999.
Chicago Defender, June 23, 1934; October 5, 1940.
Cleveland Call and Post, June 29, 1939.
McClain, Shirla Robinson. *The Contributions of Blacks in Akron, 1825-1975*: University of Akron, 1975.

MGC Publications

By Nancy Aiken
Publications Chairperson
(Continued from page 3)

them in an orphanage. In 1864 at the age of 15, Thomas left the orphanage and traveled to Susquehanna, Pennsylvania, to apprentice as a barber. In 1870, having learned his trade, he moved to Tidioute, Pennsylvania, to begin his career. There he married Mary Belle Peoples of Tidioute on January 2, 1873. They were the parents of seven children, but four of them died in infancy.

In 1880 they were living in Olean, NY. They owned a boarding house and barber shop in the downtown area. Thomas and his wife were married for 57 years. She died in 1930. Thomas practiced his trade for 73 years and claimed to be the oldest barber in the U.S. He re-

tired at the age of 88 in 1937.

Thomas was a well-known figure in Olean and along the Pennsylvania border. Fredrick Douglass stayed at his home. In 1898 Thomas served on the committee to erect a monument to Fredrick Douglass in Rochester, New York. Thomas was a founding member of the Colored Masonic Organization in Olean. He served as recording secretary of the Colored Voters League and as a trustee of the Olean Bethel AME Church.

Thomas was also a collector of books and walking canes. He owned most of the books by or about blacks that had been written before and during his time. He also collected canes, especially those that had belonged to famous men. He had as many as 128 canes at one time including canes that had belonged to a president, governors, John Brown (the abolitionist of Harpers Ferry fame), a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and Bert Williams (a comedian).

Thomas lived a full, interesting, and active life until his death at 93 in 1942.

For a complete list of books available through the MGC, please look at the insert with this newsletter.

2012 Multicultural Genealogical Center Board Members

Ada Woodson Adams, President
Nelson Myers, Vice-president
Karyn Armstrong, Treasurer
Virginia Norris, Secretary
Nancy Aiken
Anita Jackson
Ron Luce
Anthony Tony Mayle
Junior Walker
Emilie Wood
Dessie Workman

Family Reunions

May 26, Holbert/Mayle, Elizabeth, WV

May 27, Dalton/Mayle, Belpre, OH

June 9, Osmer Mayle, Cutler, OH

June 16, Alleganey Lenape, Philippi, WV

June 30, Ethel Holbert/Thompson, Pennsville, OH

July 15, Mayle, Zanesville, OH

July 21, Honesty, Zanesville, OH

Aug 4, Adams, Philippi, WV

Aug 11, Jimbo Mayle, Malvern(Canton, OH)

Aug 11 & 12, Stevens, Waterford, OH

Aug 18, Barnett Ridge Picnic, Fleming, OH

Aug 25, Needham, Zanesville, OH

Aug 25, Tabler, Unknown

Sept 8, Dalton, Philippi, WV

Sept 15, Jenkins, Zanesville

Civil War Publication Planned

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William Jackson

James Keyhoe

Charles D. Lewis

Eli B. Lukins

Aaron Male

Reuben Simons Mason

Harrison Montgomery

John D. Muncey

William H. Muncey

Azariah Norman

William Parsons

Henry Robinson

Thomas E. Sampson

Henry Scott

Harry Taylor

James Tyler

If you want to research any of these men or contribute research on other soldiers from the counties designated, please let Nancy know as soon as possible so we can coordinate research. MGC looks forward to a good turnout of member participation.

Volunteer Opportunities Abound at MGC!

If you can write, edit, do research, compile and organize materials, do layout, prepare copy for printing, or do printing, MGC can use your talents. With computers and the Internet, much of this can be done from long distance. Maybe you have an idea for a publication? A project on hold for want of volunteers is the reading of the Mt. Herman Cemetery in Sharpsburg, Ohio. This project requires local volunteers, but, perhaps you are local and just forgot about this project? If you would like to help, please contact us at mgc7540@gmail.com.

News from the Past

Continued from page 5

jail for their part in the Athens riot, during the guard maneuvers last summer, when O.H. Ohl, Ohio national guard lieutenant, was killed. John Lott, found guilty of rioting, will receive his sentence later.

[EDITOR'S NOTE: In reality, it was Corporal Charles Clark who had been killed and Ohl had been badly beaten but survived.]

The Athens Messenger

Athens, Ohio, Thursday, March 23, 1876.—The Trustees of York township, in this county, have brought suit against the authorities

of Salesbury township, Meigs county, to recover a claim of \$243.50 to satisfy an incidental indebtedness assumed by the Trustees above named, for medical treatment of a **colored woman** who was injured by cars near Nelsonville, last Spring, and who was a resident to the township last named. The Trustees of the latter claim, both, that the charge is unreasonable and that they never received any official notice of the service as the law requires, and they will contest the claim in the courts.

THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

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Quaker families who have ties to Chesterhill, Morgan County, Ohio: Vanlaw, Patterson, Beck, Doudna, Smith, Boswell, Hiatt, or

Bundy families contact Ada Woodson Adams at 740-554-3257 or by email at mgc7540@gmail.com.

Monthly Programs and Meetings

Membership meetings are held at the Center on the first Saturday of each month at 1 PM. No meetings in January, July and September. The Center is located in Chesterhill, Morgan County, Ohio. The Center is on the corner of where routes 377 and 555 intersect. There is parking with handicap accessibility in the back of the center.

LOCAL HISTORY AND GENEALOGY FAIR

Saturday, October 6, 2012

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Barlow Library's New Community Resource Center

Join us to learn of Western Washington County's history. Everyone is invited to display and share their family's or organization's history through photos, diaries, family trees, posters, scrapbooks, artifacts or slide presentations. Tables and chairs provided. Food and beverages will be available.

To reserve a table at no charge, call 740/678-2471 or 740/885-8822.

Sponsored by the Western Washington County Area Historical Society

MILITARY NEWS

John Ogden has been working on finding more information on soldier, James Reed and found this article in the Monroe County, Ohio Woodsfield newspaper and wanted to share the story and hopefully, get some more information on the soldiers from our readers:

Monroe Gazette, 26 February 1891, STAFFORD—A little less than a year ago there were two funerals in this place the same day; today there was a recurrence of the same, Mr. James Reed, an aged colored ex-soldier, who never fully recovered from grippe of last winter, died Sunday evening at the residence of Harrison Curtis, where he had received every kind attention during his last illness. His remains were

taken charge of and buried by the G.A.R. Funeral services were held in the M.E. Church, where an impressive discourse was preached by Rev. Russell. Jimmie had no relatives to drop a tear upon his casket; but many friends will remember him as an honest, industrious man, who made much better use of the gifts nature endowed him with than many who are more abundantly blessed. He was judged to be about 66 years of age—was a slave until Lincoln's proclamation freed him—and came here about the year 1865. *The Spirit of Democracy*, Woodsfield, Ohio, dated, March 5, 1891—

Two funerals took place last Monday. The first was that of James Reed who was born in Virginia in May 1830, and died February 21, 1891. He was an

old soldier, a member of Co. I, 5th Mass. Regiment. His remains were laid to rest in the Stafford cemetery with the honors of the Grand Army of the Republic.

John Ogden notes the following: I do not find James Reed listed in 1870 census for Monroe Co, OH. In the 1880 Census, Franklin Twp, Monroe County, OH, 148/149, "Reed, James, Head, B, 45, works on farm, VA. Martha, wife, B, 35, keeping house, WV."

An email from Dan Hinton dated May 14, 2012, to John shared the following information: *Reed, James, 5th Mass. Inf., buried at Stafford, Row 23, Grave 27, Franklin TWP Born 1/22/1840, Died 2/21/1891, enlisted 4/30/64, discharged 8/6/64, upright marker. Lived in Stafford, Ohio at time of*

death. WPA records indicated he was buried in Stafford.

The second funeral was that of Mrs. Wesley Luburg, who also died February 21. She was the daughter of Menausa Lindemood. She was 39 years of age and highly respected by all who knew her. She leaves a husband and eight children to mourn her untimely death. Her remains were laid to rest in the Stafford cemetery.

THE MULTICULTURAL GENEALOGICAL CENTER MEETING HOUSE



Multicultural Genealogical Center
P.O. Box 125 - Chesterhill Ohio 43728

Phone: 740-544-3257

Email: mgc7540@gmail.com



Newsletter Questions: Ron Luce, mgc7540@gmail.com, Phone: 740-554-3257