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Fiske Genealogical Foundation

FALL 2026 VOLUME 34 NUMBER 1

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Important September Opportunities

Celebrate 100 Years of Genealogy at The Seattle Public Library

Roots, Routes & Revolution: Discovering the Stories of Our Ancestors
Saturday, Sept. 19, 9 a.m.–4:45 p.m.

Central Library, Level 1 – Auditorium Join four nationally recognized genealogy experts for a special all-day seminar exploring the past, present, and future of family history, held in celebration of the 100th anniversary of The Seattle Public Library's genealogy collection. Registration is required. Click here.

Upcoming in October:
The DNA Detective: A Day with CeCe Moore
Saturday, Oct. 3, 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m.

Central Library, Level 1 – Auditorium Join internationally recognized genetic genealogy expert CeCe Moore for a day exploring how DNA can uncover answers once thought impossible to find. Registration is required. Click here.

Also note Librarian John LaMont's Shelf Talk Blog post about the history of the Library's genealogy collection and this centennial celebration:
A Century of Discoveries: Genealogy at The Seattle Public Library

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And From the other side of the Globe:
Scottish Indexes Conference XXXIII, Saturday 19 September 2026

Scottish Indexes is a family-run business based in central Scotland. In 2014 they launched Scottish Indexes, bringing a growing collection of Scottish genealogy records online. Go to https://www.scottishindexes.com/conference.aspx and explore the site for more details. Past conferences are also available. The conferences are free, although donations are appreciated.

"Interested in tracing your Scottish genealogy? The Scottish Indexes Conference is an opportunity to learn new research skills, discover diverse records and see how others have put these into practice. If you want to trace your Scottish family tree, this is the event for you. It is free to register for this event on Zoom. Click here, fill out the registration form and you should receive an email confirmation within a few minutes. You will also receive reminders in the week before the conference.

Don't live in the UK? No problem. We are live from 7 am to 11 pm UK time. We do this to make our conferences time-zone friendly. Each presentation is shown twice, once between 7 am and 3 pm UK time, then again between 3 pm and 11 pm. A schedule will be posted on our website a week or so before the conference."

Fiske Fall Class Presentations

Our education coordinator, Ken Peterson, has arranged an exciting list of presentations this quarter. The virtual classes are offered Wednesdays from 10:00 am to 11: 15 am Pacific Time. Our thanks and appreciation for the time and effort put in by each of the presenters.

Wednesday, September 16
What's in a Name? *Presented by Sara Cochran.*

How much does spelling matter when we're dealing with historical records? Why are there so many variations, anyway? Have you ever wondered if that record for Abraham Miller is really for your Abram Meuller, or why you can't find an ancestor in the Springfield marriage records? This presentation takes a deeper look at how relying too much on spelling has the potential to trip up our research.

Sara Cochran is a full-time professional genealogist with over thirty years of research experience. She especially enjoys breaking down brick walls, discovering the stories of black sheep ancestors, and helping individuals preserve their photographic legacy. Sara holds a Boston University Genealogical Research Certificate, a Bachelor's Degree in Library Science, and is an alum of the ProGen Study Group. She is a member of DAR and other lineage societies, the Association of Professional Genealogists, and the Genealogical Speakers Guild. You can find her online at TheSkeletonWhisperer.com.

Wednesday, September 23
19th Century America: Cultural Changes and Their Effect on Records *Presented by Sylvia Tracy Doolos*

America in the 19th century underwent geographic, cultural, and historical shifts that influenced recordkeeping, especially for women, African Americans, and immigrants. We will explore the century broadly to understand these changes.

Sylvia Tracy Doolos, owner of New Leaf Genealogy, is the President of the Wales, Ireland, Scotland, England Family History Society (WISE-FHS), and Past-President of the Colorado Chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists, and the International Society for British Genealogy and Family History (ISBGFH).

Wednesday, September 30
Grandma Nellie's Scrapbook: Identifying and Interpreting Historic Photographs
Presented by Tina Beaird

Many people become heirs to a box of unidentified family photos and have no clue what to do with them. Tina Beaird will offer solutions for identifying these 'lost' family members by demonstrating how to use genealogy sources in conjunction with observational techniques.

Tina Beaird, owner of Tamarack Genealogy, is the genealogy & local history librarian at a mid-sized Chicagoland public library. She holds a Masters of Library and Information Science degree with a specialization in Archives/Preservation, and is the First Vice-President of the Illinois State Genealogical Society, and board director for the Oswegoland Heritage Association.

Fall Class Presentations, continued from p. 1

Wednesday, October 7
The Art of Self-Editing for Genealogists
Presented by Pam Anderson

This presentation focuses on editing genealogical manuscripts. Elizabeth Shown Mills first wrote in Evidence! Citation and Analysis for the Family Historian, 1997, "Effective source citation is an art, not a science. No formula can cover all situations." The same applies to the skill of self-editing, which must be honed. This presentation begins with assessing our genealogical writing as a whole, progressing to paragraph development and organization, then to sentence structure, and finally to word choice, using Evidence Explained and The Chicago Manual of Style as our guides.

Pam Anderson owns Anderson CoGen in Franklin County, Pennsylvania. She began studying her family history in 2010, went professional in 2014, and obtained her Certification in 2018. Pam mentored ProGen 47 and GenProof 95; and taught self-editing classes for the Applied Genealogy Institute (2023, 2024) and the Association of Professional Genealogists (2024, 2025, 2026). She is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, National Genealogical Society (NGS), and genealogical societies of New England, New York, Maryland, New Jersey, and Utah. Pam has written articles for and presented to these and many other local organizations. She received the NGS "2025 Family History Writing Competition" award and "2024 Award of Merit."

Wednesday, October 14
Google for Genealogists
Presented by Tina Beaird (see biography above)

Google can be a useful tool for genealogical research. Utilizing services like google maps, google news and google books can make you feel like Indiana Jones. But be wary, google has some traps and pitfalls as well! Tina will discuss ways to get the most out of google so you can find your holy grail. This webinar will not cover specific uses of Google's AI tool, Gemini.

Wednesday, October 21
Prior to Departure: Uncovering Overseas Emigration Information
Presented by Lisa Vogele

Most genealogists focus on arrival records, but valuable clues often exist before an immigrant boarded a ship. Explore passports, emigration permissions, military clearances, police registrations, health certificates, parish records, censuses, departure lists, and otherpre-departure sources that document the decision to leave. Through examples from Germany, Italy, Scandinavia, Ireland, and beyond, learn effective strategies for locating and interpreting these records to uncover ancestral origins, migration stories, and clues that may help solve genealogical brick walls.

Lisa Vogele is a professional genealogist and certified travel advisor (CTA). She is the Chief Tree Climber at Travel Your Tree: Where Ancestry Meets Adventure, a full-service family history research, travel planning and tour operator. In 2016, Lisa authored Food & Folklore: A Year of Italian Festivals, a guide book to assist travelers with incorporating festivals into their itineraries and experience local culture through food and historic events. Her travel tips have been featured in the Huffington Post, 1000traveltips.com and her travel blog, LisaLovesToTravel.com.

Fall Class Presentations, continued from p. 2.

Wednesday, October 28
Faith and Founding Fathers: Religion's Role in America's Story
Presented by Sylvia Tracy Doolos (See earlier biography.)

Beginning with the American Revolution, religion has shaped our ancestors' lives. Discover faith-driven events that can help unlock your family's story.

Wednesday, November 4
FREE LAND: Homesteading on the Frontier
Presented by Tina Beaird (See earlier biography.)

The Homestead Act of 1862 allowed any qualified individual to claim up to 160 acres of free land. Over 1.6 million people rose to the challenge and claimed 270 million acres of land of which an estimated 17 million Americans are descendants. Original homestead claims are a fantastic collection of documents, including applications, land descriptions, citizenship affidavits and more. Learn how to access these great records and how they can fill in the gaps to your research.

Wednesday, November 11
Navigating Ancestral Arrivals: A Genealogist's Treasure Map to Immigration Records
Presented by Lisa Vogele (See earlier biography.)

Your ancestors' arrival in the U.S. is a key chapter in your family's story—are you searching in the right places? This session will guide you through the intricacies of immigration records, helping you decode passenger manifests, interpret cryptic notations, and uncover the stories of those "Held for Inquiry." With research tools, proven strategies, and real-life case studies, you'll gain skills to track down elusive ancestors and bring their immigration journey to life.

Wednesday, November 18
Shaky Leaf Syndrome: Using Website Generated Hints More Effectively
Presented by Sara Cochran (See earlier biography.)

Indexing, optical character recognition, and computer algorithms make finding obscure records about our families easier than ever! Unfortunately, computers can't distinguish between people of the same name who lived in different places or at different times. Using real examples, we'll practice evaluating hints and attaching the keepers to our trees.

Please join us for these informative sessions. For links to join the meeting and get class notes, select https://fiskelibrary.org.

Fall 2026 Education

All classes are scheduled from 10:00 A.M. to 11:15 A.M. unless otherwise noted. Presentations are currently virtual. Please check the website for linking information ahead of the start time and any class notes. **Check the home page frequently for announced schedule changes and updates.**

2026	Topic	Instructor
Wednesday September 16	What's in a Name?	Sara Cochran
Wednesday September 23	19th Century America: Cultural Changes and Their Effect on Records	Sylvia Tracy Doolos
Wednesday September 30	Grandma Nellie's Scrapbook: Identifying and Interpreting Historic Photographs	Tina Beaird
Wednesday October 7	Irish Friends Migration to Pennsylvania – Uncovering an Ulster Family Story	Steven W. Morrison
Wednesday October 14	Google for Genealogists	Tina Beaird
Wednesday October 21	Prior to Departure: Uncovering Overseas Emigration Information	Lisa Vogele
Wednesday October 28	Faith and Founding Fathers: Religion's Role in America's Story	Sylvia Tracy Doolos
Wednesday November 4	FREE LAND: Homesteading on the Frontier	Tina Beaird
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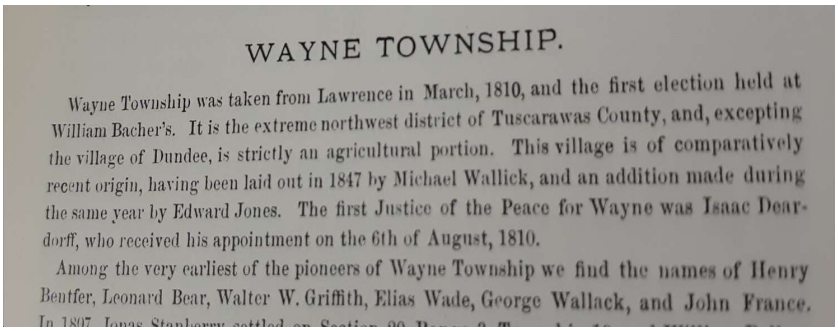
Wednesday November 18	Shaky Leaf Syndrome: Using Website Generated Hints More Effectively	Sara Cochran

Surplus Book Spotlight

Combined History and Atlas of Monroe County, Ohio, 1898. The History was originally published 1882 and includes biographical sketches, portraits, and local history. The Atlas was originally published 1898 and includes township plat maps [names on the maps] and local history. Business directories. Full indexes. 170pp. Recently rebound into the combined volume.VG condition. Retails for $90. H $45.00

Historical Atlas, Tuscarawas County, Ohio, 1875 and 1908 combined. 1973 reprint. Cover shows rough wear, but contents intact, Fully illustrated. Plat maps [with names]; biographies with photos; 236pp; indexed. H $15.00

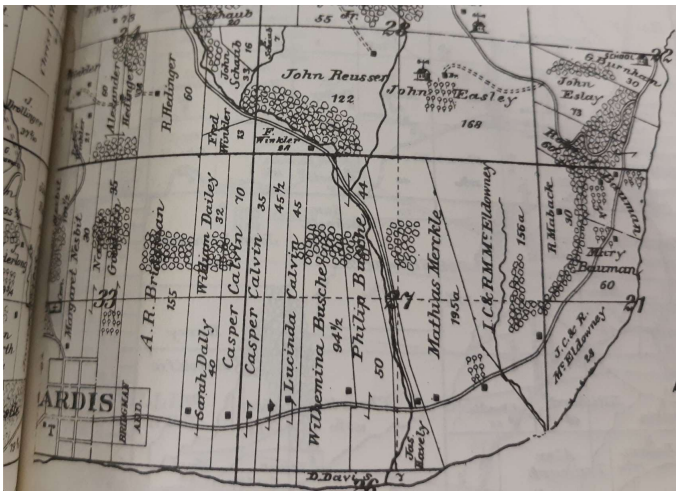
These two historical atlases are real gems! The format is the same on both suggesting they were published by the same company. The paper used is glossy so content is crisp and clear.



WAYNE TOWNSHIP.

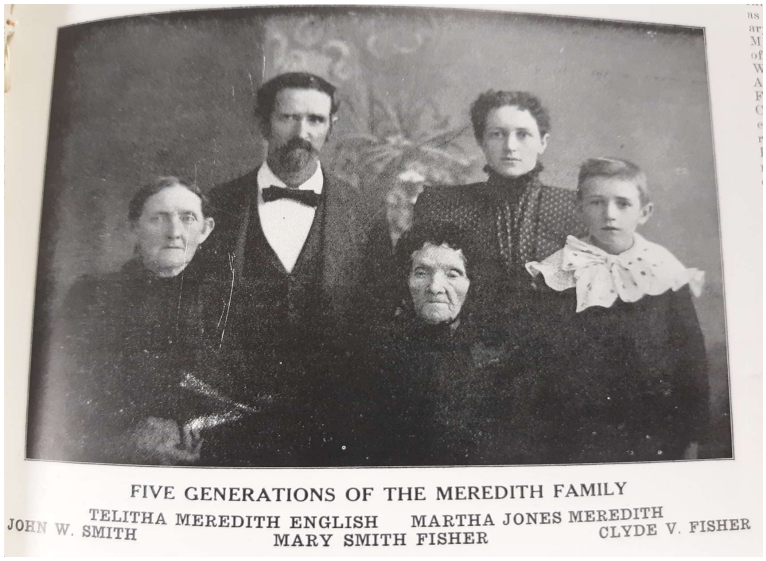
Wayne Township was taken from Lawrence in March, 1810, and the first election held at William Bacher's. It is the extreme northwest district of Tuscarawas County, and, excepting the village of Dundee, is strictly an agricultural portion. This village is of comparatively recent origin, having been laid out in 1847 by Michael Wallick, and an addition made during the same year by Edward Jones. The first Justice of the Peace for Wayne was Isaac Deardorff, who received his appointment on the 6th of August, 1810.

Among the very earliest of the pioneers of Wayne Township we find the names of Henry Bentfer, Leonard Bear, Walter W. Griffith, Elias Wade, George Wallack, and John France.



CATHERINE UHRICH,

youngest daughter of Michael Uhrich, Sr., was born in Litiz, Pennsylvania, February 23, 1792. She was twice married; first, to Godfrey Haga, by whom she had four daughters: Susan, Sarah, Elizabeth, and Mary. Mr. Haga was a very highly educated man, spoke four languages, and was one of the first judges of the Common Pleas Court of Tuscarawas County. Mrs. Haga's second husband was John Andreas, whom she married in February, 1825; noticed under the head of John Andreas.



FIVE GENERATIONS OF THE MEREDITH FAMILY

JOHN W. SMITH — TELITHA MEREDITH ENGLISH — MARY SMITH FISHER — MARTHA JONES MEREDITH — CLYDE V. FISHER

With new book donations coming in, its more urgent than ever that we make space by selling our surplus books. Due to the server crash in May the surplus book inventory is being totally redone; updates should be posted monthly. A glitch in the August list has been corrected and posted September 3. Do check it out!

Consult with Marge Jodoin, Surplus Book Manager if you have any questions. surplus@fiskelibrary.org

Newsletter Submissions

Have you discovered a particularly useful resource in your research, or broken through a brick wall? Would you be interested in submitting an article for the newsletter? Articles can be 1-2 pages long and may be subject to gentle editorial comment.

Our newsletter is published quarterly in September, January, March and June. Deadlines are the 20th of the month preceding publication. Please send queries or submissions to editor@fiskelibrary.org .

Thanks to our Donors

The Fiske Genealogical Foundation and Library has always been dependent upon donations, but this has been doubly true since the pandemic when the library was closed to regular use. Your ongoing patronage and support is most appreciated. Thank you! ~ The FGF Board

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS to expand our hours of opening! Your interest and your reliable presence is all that is needed. When not helping researchers you are free to use the library yourself. Please call David Brazier to discuss hours and training.
Call 206-687-5249.

In Memoriam

Priscilla Colstad Greenlees was born October 28, 1931, and passed away on July 23, 2026. She was a longtime benefactor to the Fiske Genealogical Foundation and her ongoing support was much appreciated. Her primary interest was New England; she was very active with the New England Historic Genealogy Society as well as the Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society and Fiske, always working to ensure researchers had needed materials available. She frequently brought groups from Bainbridge over to our library for research and events.

Our condolences to her family. Her daughter is generously going through her genealogy book collection and will be donating them to Fiske Genealogical Library and the Bainbridge Is. Genealogical Society.

The Fiske Genealogical Foundation is a nonprofit organization that provides genealogical training and resource materials.

The Fiske Genealogical Foundation Newsletter is published four times per year by the Fiske Genealogical Foundation, 1644 43rd Avenue East, Seattle, WA 98112; phone (206) 328-2716. The newsletter is included with membership or a separate mail subscription of $6.00 per year. It is also available online for no charge.

https://fiskelibrary.org

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David Brazier

Fiske Library Hours

Monday	By appointment. Call David 206 687-5249
Wednesday	The Library is open from Noon to 3 P.M.
Thursday	By appointment. Call David 206 687-5249
Friday	Reserved for research groups from outside the greater Seattle Area. Contact David to make reservations. 206 687-5249
Saturday	By appointment. Call Larry 206 720-4719

Fiske Genealogical Foundation Information

The Fiske Genealogical Foundation is a non-profit service organization providing genealogical training and resource materials. Current Board Members are:

President	David Brazier
Vice President	Larry Pike
Treasurer	Michelle Lyons
Secretary	Linda Blais
Director	Mary Peters

FISKE GENEALOGICAL FOUNDATION FEES

Daily Use Fee $5.
Annual Library Pass $50.
Annual Family Pass $70.
Wednesday Seminar Series (10 sessions) $35.
Annual Library Pass plus Full Year Seminar Series (30 sessions) $85
Newsletter—Mail Subscription $6 for 4 Issues

Fiske Genealogical Foundation
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Seattle, WA 98112-3222

Return Service Requested

How to Find Us!

Fiske Library is located on the lower level of the Washington Pioneer Hall.

- Drive east on E Madison Street to the third crosswalk after reduced speed zone of 25mph. The crosswalk has a yellow blinking light. A one-way street sign is on your right.
- Turn right and follow E Blaine Street to the end of the street.
- The Washington Pioneer Hall faces onto 43rd Ave. E.
- The Fiske Genealogical Library is located on the lower level of the building.
- The #11 bus drops you right at our door as it turns from E. Blaine to 43rd Ave.