



Marty Scott, Newsletter Editor – sccogseditor@gmail.com

Scioto County Chapter Ohio Genealogical Society SCCOGS



IMPACT AND LEGACY

The actual value of SCCOGS's work is measured not just in preserved documents or published research but in the transformative effect on individuals and communities. By advancing historical information, SCCOGS helps people understand their roots, appreciate their heritage, and make informed choices for the future.



Announcing the New Improved Website

*This site was created to help researchers find
their ancestors in Scioto County,*

*Ohio. We invite you to become a member of
our society. Thank you, *Jo Reth*, for all
your expertise.*

Sccogs1976.org

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page 36	Impact and Legacy New Website Table of Contents Officers
Page 37	Letter from SCCOGS President
Page 38	Speaker – Kelli Bergheimer
Page 39	Nominating Committee Report Did You Know?
Page 39-41	NewspaperArchive.com
Page 42-44	WWII Memorial
Page 45	The Meaning of Coins on a Headstone
Page 46	Portsmouth Area History Fair
Page 47	Past Events
Page 48	Christmas Party
Page 49	Membership

2026 SCCOGS OFFICERS

Penny Blackwell, President Pennylbb7@gmail.com

Vice President - VACANT

Sandy Belford, Treasurer sandrabelford@hotmail.com

Recording Secretary - VACANT

Jodi Wright, Corresponding Secretary jwwyoming@hotmail.com





A Letter from the SCCOGS President

Hello, fellow genealogists!

I am honored and excited to introduce myself as your new President of the Scioto County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society. I look forward to serving SCCOGS and, more importantly, working alongside all of you as we continue building a strong, active organization for genealogists in Scioto County and beyond.

I would also like to thank **Mary Crist** for her service to SCCOGS. Mary recently resigned for personal reasons, and we appreciate the time and effort she has given to our organization. We wish her all the best.

There is a great deal to be excited about at SCCOGS! Our new website is up and running, giving us an updated way to share information, promote our programs, connect with members, and reach people who may not yet know what a wonderful resource SCCOGS can be. We are continuing to make improvements, and I hope you will take some time to explore the site and see what is happening.

But a website is only one piece of the puzzle. **The heart of SCCOGS is its people.** I want to sincerely thank every volunteer who has given their time, knowledge, ideas, and energy to help move our organization forward. Whether you have helped with a program, our library, research, publications, the website, membership, events, or encouraged someone else in their genealogical journey, you are an important part of SCCOGS.

We have an opportunity to build something truly special. Our goal is not simply to keep SCCOGS going; we want to see it **grow, thrive, and become a recognized heavyweight in genealogy throughout Scioto County and Ohio.** We have a wonderful history, valuable resources, knowledgeable members, and incredible potential.

Genealogy is about preserving the past, but it also requires us to look toward the future. I hope we can continue to bring new people into the organization, encourage experienced researchers to share their expertise, develop new programs and resources, and create a place where anyone interested in discovering their family history feels welcome.

Much work lies ahead, but there is also much to look forward to. I am excited about what we can accomplish together, and I hope you will join me in making the next chapter of SCCOGS one of our best yet.

The future of SCCOGS is bright—and I am proud to be a part of it.

Until next time,

Penny Blackwell, President

Scioto County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society

UPCOMING – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2026; 11:AM
DNA – Genetic Networks
Scioto County Public Library
Robert Copley Meeting Room
Chapter Meeting and Program

"Genetic Networks - Gathering a Group of Matches"
Presented by Kelli Bergheimer

What is a genetic network? Learn the value of looking at a group of matches all related on an ancestral line to answer your research questions.



Kelli Bergheimer is a writer, teacher, editor, author, and international genealogical speaker. She holds a Bachelor's in Biology, a Master's in Education: Curriculum and Instruction, and a Master's in Business Management. Kelli is the



Director of Curriculum and Assessments for Blue Kayak, a K-12 textbook company. Kelli runs a small business, Mess on the Desk, a genealogical organization company with a YouTube channel, and she is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists.

Join Kelli Bergheimer for a hybrid presentation on DNA. Those on our email list will receive a link to the presentation. To sign up for the email list, visit SCCOGS1976.org by October 8.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT



The Nominating Committee has met and is seeking members interested in leadership roles. In October, we will present nominations and welcome additional suggestions. Your involvement helps shape SCCOGS's future and keeps our organization vibrant.

In October, the Committee will present the nominations to the members and solicit any additional nominations. In November, the Committee will present the nominations to the Board. In December, we will hold a mass vote for officers and have a Christmas Party with entertainment.

German Chocolate Cake



Did you know?

It turns out that the Germans have nothing to do with German chocolate cake. Instead, it is named after Samuel German, an Englishman known as "Sammy," who came to Dorchester, Massachusetts, and eventually worked at the Baker Chocolate Company, the first American chocolate factory.

In the mid-1800s, **Sammy German** developed a bar of chocolate for Baker's that had more sugar than the other chocolate the company was selling at the time. According to the company's history, "Walter Baker bought the recipe ... for \$1,000 and began marketing it as 'Baker's German[s] Sweet Chocolate.'"

In 1957, a woman named **Mrs. George Clay** published a cake recipe in the *Dallas Morning Star* using Baker's German's Sweet Chocolate. Most sources say her recipe was called German's chocolate cake, but somewhere along the way, the apostrophe-s got lost. The cake was so famous that it caused a noticeable increase in Baker's chocolate sales.

In 1964, the company redesigned the wrapper for German's sweet chocolate bar and included the recipe for German chocolate cake. *Conclusion: I guess the recipe did not come over on the boat.*



NewspaperArchive.com is an online database of billions of newspaper articles and obituaries from around the world, spanning 1607 to 2026. Newspaper Archive is a great tool for genealogists and historians, providing dates, names, and stories about individuals, communities, and the world.

NewspaperArchive.com has permitted us to publish the two-page "Obituary Search Checklist" <https://pub-2f8494eac0cf4784bb40bf1408ed99a4.r2.dev/blog/1783951268979-f79a5b88.pdf>.

Obituary Search Checklist

What to try when an obituary won't show up

If an obituary does not appear right away, it usually does not mean there was no notice. Use this checklist to widen your search, follow the clues, and try again with a better strategy.

1. Search for more than a full obituary

Older newspapers often printed short death notices, funeral mentions, or brief community items instead of long obituaries.

- ☐ Short death notice
- ☐ Funeral notice
- ☐ Community mention
- ☐ Burial or interment notice
- ☐ Passed away / remains notice

Try keywords like:

- died • death • funeral • burial
- cemetery • passed away • remains • interment

2. Search more than one place

The notice may appear where the person died, where the funeral was held, where they were buried, or where relatives lived.

- ☐ Place of death
- ☐ Place of burial
- ☐ Place of funeral
- ☐ Last residence
- ☐ Former residence
- ☐ City where close relatives lived
- ☐ Church, cemetery, or funeral home named in a notice

3. Try more than one version of the name

Newspapers may use married names, initials, nicknames, formal name, or relationship-based names.

- ☐ Married name
- ☐ Maiden name
- ☐ Husband's name
- ☐ Mrs. + husband's full name
- ☐ Initials + surname
- ☐ Nickname or shortened name
- ☐ Formal given name
- ☐ Surname + town
- ☐ Surname + relative's name



Tip: Women may appear under a husband's name instead of their own given name.

Obituary Search Checklist

4. Search beyond the word obituary

Many death-related notices were printed under other headings.

- ☐ Died Yesterday
- ☐ Sudden Death
- ☐ Wife Dies
- ☐ Succumbs to Illness
- ☐ Passed away
- ☐ Funeral services
- ☐ Burial
- ☐ Interment
- ☐ Remains

5. Mine every notice for clues

Even a short notice can contain search terms that lead you to better results.

- ☐ Address
- ☐ Employer
- ☐ School
- ☐ Church
- ☐ Minister
- ☐ Cemetery
- ☐ Funeral home
- ☐ Relatives
- ☐ Town names
- ☐ Birthplace
- ☐ Former residence

6. Search again after every clue

1. Search the name
2. Find a short or partial notice
3. Pull out place names, relatives, church, burial, or occupation
4. Search again using those new details
5. Browse nearby days if needed

7. If searching is not working, browse the paper

Some notices are short, hard to OCR, or buried among unrelated items.

- ☐ Open the newspaper around the likely date
- ☐ Check nearby days
- ☐ Check community columns
- ☐ Check headings about deaths, funerals, or local news
- ☐ Check pages where death notices tend to appear



Key reminders

- ✓ Not every death was covered with a full obituary.
- ✓ Short notices can still contain strong family history clues.
- ✓ Death, funeral, burial, and family locations may differ.
- ✓ Search more than one version of the name.
- ✓ Look beyond the word obituary.
- ✓ The first search is often just the start.



Best next step: Use one new clue from the first notice you find, then search again.

NewspaperArchive.com

Thank you,

NewspaperArchive
by **II** Storied

**for permitting us to use this very comprehensive
“Obituary Search Checklist.”**

<https://pub-2f8494eac0cf4784bb40bf1408ed99a4.r2.dev/blog/1783951268979-f79a5b88.pdf>



President Clinton signed Public Law 103-32 on May 25, 1993, authorizing the American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC) to establish a World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C., or its environs. It is the first national memorial dedicated to all who served during World War II and acknowledges the nation's commitment and achievements.

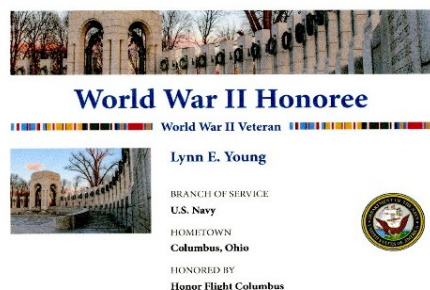
The memorial honors the 16 million who served in the armed forces of the U.S. during World War II, the more than 400,000 who died, and the millions who supported the war effort from home. Symbolic of a defining event of the 20th Century, the memorial honors the spirit, sacrifice, and commitment of the American people to the nation's common defense and to the broader causes of peace and freedom from tyranny worldwide. It will inspire future generations of Americans, deepening their appreciation of what the World War II generation accomplished in securing freedom and democracy. The memorial stands as an important symbol of American national unity, a timeless reminder of the moral strength and formidable power that can flow when a free people are united and bound together in a common cause.

Do you know about the World War II Registry online? You can honor anyone who served in WWII. The memory of America's World War II generation is preserved in both the physical memorial and the World War II Registry, which lists Americans who contributed to the war effort in uniform and on the home front. Names in the Registry are linked forever to the memorial's bronze and granite representations of their sacrifice and achievement.

To place a name within the Registry, go to <https://wwiiregistry.abmc.gov/register/>. If this is your first time honoring an individual, you will need to create an account by following the instructions on the website. You can search the Registry without an account. There are NO charges for searching or honoring an individual.

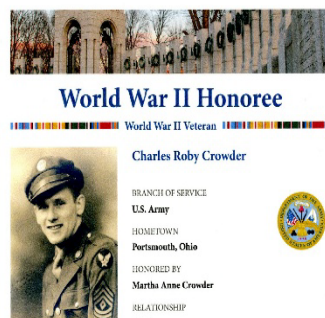
Here are two examples: one without a photo and one with a photo. These would make thoughtful Christmas gifts: you can print them from your computer, frame them, or include them in Christmas cards. If you need help, please email sccogseditor@gmail.com.

Without photo



ACTIVITY DURING WWII
Served with the Seabees. Mechanic and heavy equipment operator. Service time:
1945-1946. Rank: Machinist's Mate 3rd Class.

With photo



ACTIVITY DURING WWII
RHINELAND AND CENTRAL EUROPE COMPANY A 851ST ENGINEER AVIATION
BATTALION. RECEIVED THE GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL, EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE
EASTERN SERVICE MEDAL WITH 2 BRONZE STARS.

The one with the photo is
Charles Roby Crowder from
Portsmouth, Ohio. (1917-1994)

The other one without a photo is his
close friend, **Lynn Young** (1927-2019)

THE WORLD WAR II REGISTRY



Anyone who helped win the war, either a veteran or an American on the home front, is eligible for the World War II Registry. You may enter your own name, or the name of someone you wish to honor for their service during the war. You may register a name via the internet or by mail. Registration is free.

HOW TO ENTER A NAME IN THE REGISTRY ONLINE

1. Go to wwiiregistry.abmc.gov. Scroll down to "Register an Honoree"
2. Follow the online instructions to enter the name you wish to honor.
3. Please include all information that applies, if available. Some fields are required information.
4. You will be given the opportunity to enter more than one name if you wish.
5. You will receive an e-mail confirming registration of the name you enter. The name will be available for viewing on the website in two to three weeks.

HOW TO ENTER A NAME IN THE REGISTRY BY MAIL

1. Complete the form below. Please note required fields (marked by *).
2. Mail this page to: American Battle Monuments Commission
2300 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 500
Arlington, VA 22201-3367
3. If you wish to add more than one name, please copy this form and complete it for each honoree.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ REGISTRY OF REMEMBRANCES ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Title/Rank: _____

*Honoree Name: _____

*Honoree Status: (check one) ☐ World War II Veteran ☐ Civilian on the Home Front ☐ Killed in World War II

*Hometown: _____ *State: _____

Branch of Service: (check one) ☐ Air Force ☐ Army ☐ Marine Corps
☐ Navy ☐ Coast Guard ☐ Merchant Marine

Honoree's Wartime Activity: _____

Your relationship to Honoree: _____

*Your Name: _____

*Your Address: _____

*City: _____ *State: _____ *Zip Code: _____

*There is no fee to add a name to the Registry.
See other side to add a photograph to the record of the person you are honoring.*

Questions? Call 1-800-639-4992

How to Add a Photograph to The World War II Registry

When you enter a name in the Registry of Remembrances, you may include a photograph as part of the entry. Please complete the form below to submit a photo by mail.

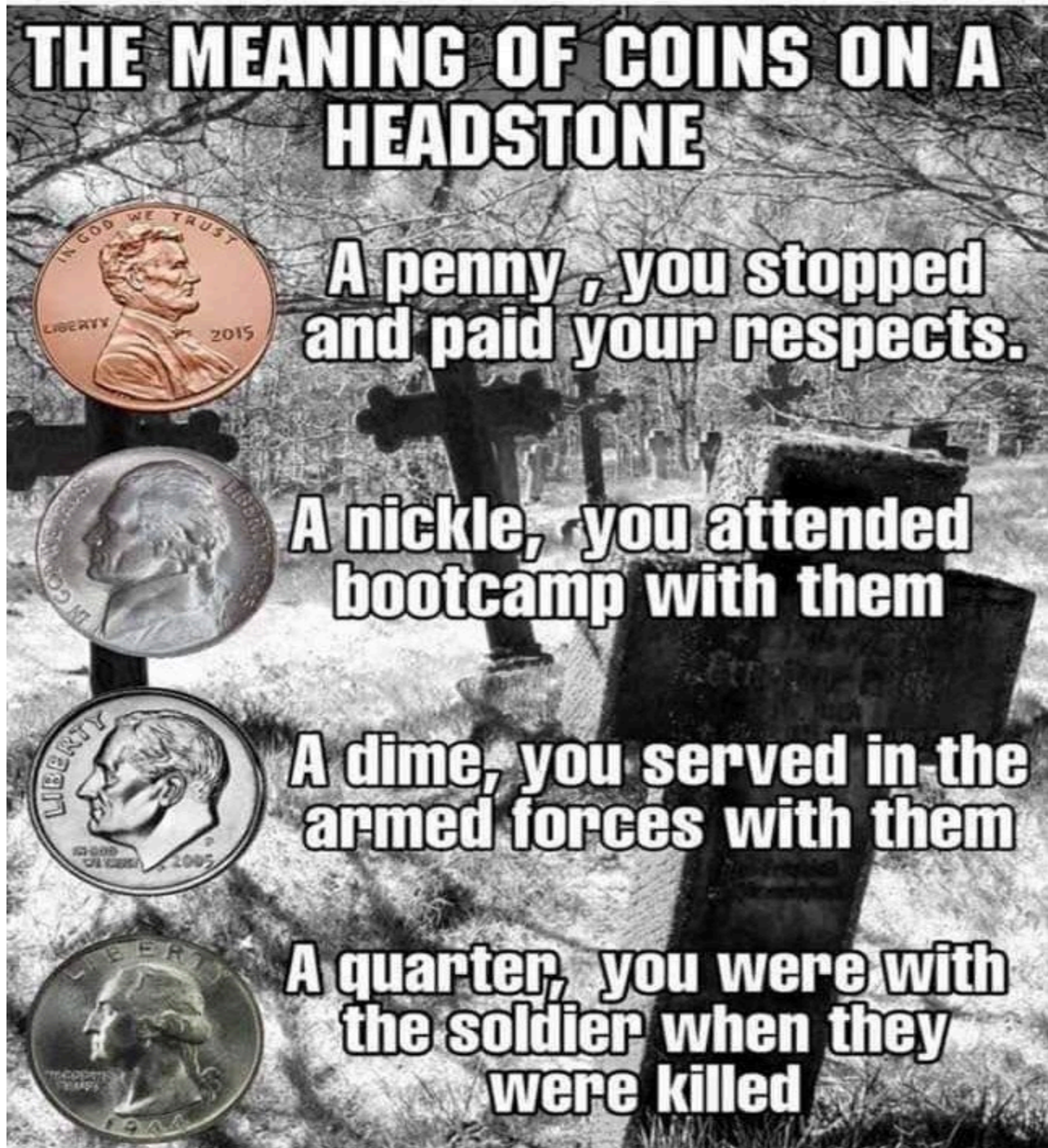
1. You may add one photograph per honoree. You may submit a photo from the WWII era or a more recent photo. Black-and-white or color is acceptable.
2. Portrait format (vertical) is recommended. Landscape format (horizontal) is acceptable, but the image may appear smaller on-screen.
3. Have a print copy of the original photo made. *Please do not send original photos, only copies. We cannot return prints, CDs or diskettes.*
4. Complete the form below and mail it with the print copy to:

American Battle Monuments Commission
2300 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 500
Arlington, VA 22201-3367

			N A T I O N A L WORLD WAR II M E M O R I A L			
American Battle Monuments Commission 2300 Clarendon Boulevard - Suite 500 - Arlington, VA 22201-3367						
☐ YES , I'm sending a copy of a photograph to include with the name I've entered in the World War II Registry.						
☐ YES , I would like to receive an official World War II Registry Certificate of Enrollment listing the name of the person I am honoring.						
Please mail my Certificate to (if other than address shown on back):						
Mr./Mrs./Family of: _____						
Address _____						
City/State/Zip _____						
Please add e-mail address: _____						

If you need help, contact sccogseditor@gmail.com.

Veterans' Day is coming, so if you visit a cemetery, don't remove the coins, as they have meaning.

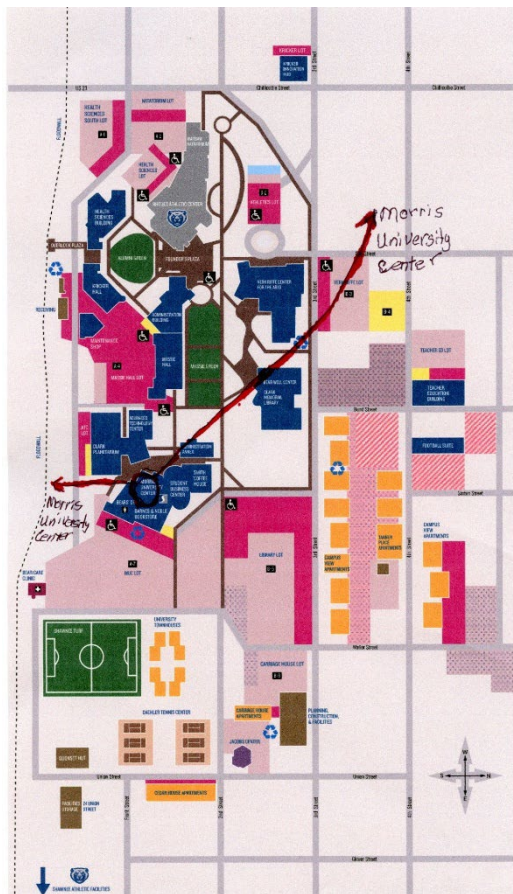




Portsmouth Area History Fair

Saturday, October 24, 2026
10 a.m.–3 p.m.

Shawnee State University Morris University Center
Second Floor, West Ballroom



WELCOME TO
SHAWNEE STATE
UNIVERSITY

(740) 354-3205 • SHAWNEE.EDU

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
(740) 354-3232 EMERGENCY
(740) 354-3243 NON-EMERGENCY

- OFFICE OF ADMISSION
- HANDICAPPED PARKING
- BEAR CARE CLINIC
- BEARS' DEN DINING HALL
- RECYCLING BINS
- ATHLETICS PARKING
- STUDENT HOUSING
- HOUSING GENERAL PERMIT PARKING
- RESERVED PERMIT PARKING
- GENERAL PERMIT PARKING
- NO PARKING
- VISITOR PARKING
After 2 hours temporary
parking permit required

PARKING PERMIT REGISTRATION:
shawnee.edu/parking



Join us for this year's Portsmouth Area History Fair, held in conjunction with the Shawnee State University's Center for Public History and **Jim Siberell**, Scioto County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society (SCCOGS).

Visitors of all ages can spend the day with us as history comes to life through fascinating displays, meaningful artifacts, and friendly community connections at Shawnee State University. The event is FREE.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2026!

PAST EVENT – SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, 2026

Scioto County Public Library

SCCOGS members, visitors, and guests met at the Scioto County Public Library and toured the Genealogy/History Department. **Mekayla Osborne**, Supervisor, gave an excellent speech regarding the department's holdings. Please check the library's website for more items online.

PAST EVENT – OPEN HOUSE, SATURDAY, SEPT. 19, 2026

The Scioto County Heritage Museum



Several SCCOGS members attended the Open House. The Scioto County Heritage Museum's mission is to preserve Scioto County's past and bring it into the future. They are doing so through education, events, and historic restoration, as well as by collecting, archiving, and displaying artifacts of historical and antiquarian value related to Scioto County, Ohio.

SCCOGS Annual Christmas Party

with Special Guests Steve and Susan Free

Scioto County Public Library

1220 Gallia St, Portsmouth, OH

December 12, 2026 – 11 a.m.



SCCOGS will host Steve and Susan Free at their Annual Christmas Party on Saturday, December 12, 2026. Steve is a treasure born on Duck Run, a fabled area in Scioto County where other famous people also lived.

Steve is a leading Folk artist in both the United States and Europe. Steve Free and his wife, Susan, will entertain the group. SCCOGS members will provide refreshments. It will be a good time for all.

Steve Free is an award-winning folk recording artist, SCCOGS member, and cherished friend. He and his talented family members, bandmates, and friends who perform on his albums create music distinguished by his smooth, soothing voice, expressive songwriting, and skill on six- and twelve-string acoustic guitars, harmonica, Native American flute, and other instruments. Proud of his Native American heritage, Steve reflects it in several songs. We invite everyone to support him by purchasing his albums. *The Light of Christmas* features his biggest hit to date, "Just a Baby Boy," as well as the favorite "Light of Christmas." *There for You* includes the sweet-sounding "I'll Be There for You," while *Seasons* features "Dance with Me Tonight" and "Count Your Blessings." Each album is special, and listeners will enjoy the full collection. Steve's wife, Susan, whose beautiful voice recalls Enya's, appears on his CDs, and his talented sons, Dakota and Nate, have also contributed to his music. With the support of many devoted friends, Steve has gained worldwide recognition and continues to help folk music thrive.



SCCOGS will

increase membership fees.



Beginning January 1, the annual membership fee will increase from \$15 to \$25. Members who pay before December 31 will still receive the current \$15 rate, and their membership benefits will remain the same.

This increase is necessary to cover rising operating costs, support programs and activities, maintain member services, and ensure the organization can continue providing value throughout the year. Paying before December 31 is the best way to take advantage of the lower \$15 fee before the new \$25 rate takes effect in the new year. After December 31, all membership renewals and new memberships will be charged at the new \$25 rate, and membership benefits will remain the same. The lifetime membership fee will increase to \$250.

SCCOGS

For more information, email SCCOGS1976@gmail.com

The Scioto County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society meets every other month on the second Saturday, beginning in February, at 11 am at the Scioto County Library (Portsmouth), Copley Room.

Membership dues are increasing to \$25.00/year (January 1st-December 31st) and include the Quarterly Newsletter and free family name queries for members. Please send your request to sccogseditor@gmail.com.

The Chapter maintains a collection of research materials at the Aurora Masonic Lodge in Portsmouth, Ohio. Our resource room is available by appointment for research at a discounted fee for members. If the SCCOGS membership fee is received by December 31, it will still be \$15; after December 31, it will be \$25.00/year. The lifetime membership fee will increase to \$250.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Research Names _____

Make check payable to: SCCOGS.

Mail to: SCCOGS P.O.Box 812 Portsmouth, OH 45662

10/2/2026mls

____ Check here if we may share
your contact info with a fellow
researcher.