Deb Cyprych is the former editor of the Hamilton County Genealogical Society's *Tracer*, and the current editor of the National Genealogical Society's *NGS Magazine*. She has been researching since 1993 and is a professional genealogist. Deb particularly enjoys tracing colonial German ancestors. She can read old German script and taught classes on the topic for eight years. She is a member of the board of the Palatines to America Ohio Chapter.

**TOPICS:**

**Research in German Church Records without knowing much German**

Willing to travel within Hamilton County
Jayne Shoots Davis, native of Columbus, Ohio, has been a professional genealogist for 25 years. Genealogy lecturer at the Ohio Historical Center, area genealogical societies, Sr. Centers & retirement communities. 3 time President of the Franklin County Genealogical & Historical Society. "Family Treasure Hunt" 4-H project judge at the Ohio State Fair for 6 years. Member of OGS, PalAm Ohio Chapter, NGS, FGS & APG. Graduate of The Ohio State University with a Bachelor of Music Education.

TOPICS:

Beginning Genealogy  
Researching courthouse records  
Researching newspapers  
Franklin County and Ohio History  
Children's Home  
Naturalization  
Religious Roots & Records  
Making Sense of Census Records

Will travel throughout Ohio
Linda Dietrich

Over the past 25 years, she has researched far and wide, met cousins across the country and the world, and learned stories of her ancestors as far back as the 1600’s. She co authored and self-published *The Dietrich Family: 1655—2005, Three Hundred Fifty Years; 13 Generations with subsequent updated editions*. Linda has developed the Ohio Chapter’s 8 Step Self-help Study Course in 7 volumes. She has done research both in America and Germany Linda has published articles for several organizations. She is a member of several Genealogy Societies including Pal Am, and presently President of the Ohio Chapter Palatines to America.

**TOPICS:**

- **AFTER THE SEARCH** – How to continue your research after the search on Ancestry.com
- **GENEALOGY FOR YOU** – What you can discover about your Ancestors
- **GET THE PROPER TRAINING FOR YOUR SALT LAKE CITY TRIP** – What to do before you get on the plane
- **GETTING STARTED IN FAMILY HISTORY** – How to start and stay on track while gathering ancestors
- **HOW TO START YOUR RESEARCH** – Identifying where to look and what to look for
- **FIND YOUR ROOTS** – Knowing Who and Where you come from
- **MISTAKES I WISH I HADN’T MADE WHEN I STARTED SEARCHING FOR ANCESTORS** – Things you only learn after you need them
- **ORGANIZING YOUR FILES** – Keeping everything in the right place, in your paper files and on your computer
- **WEB SITES OF INTEREST TO GENEALOGIST** – Local, State, National and International web sites to help your research

Will Travel Southwestern Ohio
Diana Druback

Diana is retired for the OSU Libraries, Fine Arts Library after 30 years. She began doing genealogy in 1980 researching her English and Slovak lines and presently researching her husband’s German lines. She has volunteered at the Westerville and New Albany Ohio Family History Centers. Diana has done research at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. She is a member of the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International and has had articles published in their *Nase Rodina* magazine. Diana is a member of the Ohio Chapter Pal-Am and attends genealogical conferences and seminars regularly.

**TOPICS:**

- Beginning German Genealogical Research
- What You Need to Know Before Researching in Germany and How to Find It
- Using Family Search for German Genealogical Research

**Travel:** only within the Columbus area
Lauren A. Kattner

Lauren has earned a Ph.D. in history at the University of Texas. She published a book on the history and genealogy of the Amand Kattner Family. She has written articles, book chapters, and encyclopedic entries. Lauren is presently adjunct professor in European History at Columbus State Community College. She teaches courses that cover time from the early Bronze Age to the end of the Thirty Years War and from 1648 to the collapse of the Warsaw Pact and the formation of the European Union in the 1990s. Her studies and research covers many states. I have been a member of the Palatines to America Ohio Chapter for several years.

Topics

Using Family Search for German Genealogy Research
Researching German-Speaking Girls and Women

Travel Central Ohio
Lauren E. Kuntzman MA, MLIS

Lauren, first became interested in documenting her family history with a school project, it wasn’t until May 1999 (when FamilySearch.org came online) that she began seriously pursuing genealogy research. After working nearly a decade at the Canton Museum of Art, she returned to Kent State University to complete a degree in library science, with the goal of serving fellow genealogists and individuals just starting to research their roots. Presently, Lauren manages the Medina County District Library’s Virginia Wheeler Martin Family History Learning Center. She is a member of the National Genealogical Society and the Ohio Genealogical Society, as well as several local chapters in Ohio. She volunteers for the OGS Engage committee and is the editor of the “Medina County Story,” the newsletter of the Medina County Genealogical Society. Her most recent publication in OGS Quarterly, “Separating Sisters from Cousins” she was the winner of the OGS 2019 writing contest. Lauren’s research interests include the Midwest, France, finding living relatives, and tracking criminal ancestors.

Topics

Introduction to Online Research in Alsace-Lorraine Provides an overview of online archives for departments within Alsace-Lorraine, examples of available records, and tips for making sense of the documents.

Introduction to Geneanet: Resources for Continental Europe and Beyond Despite its origin as a French genealogy website, Geneanet offers resources for countries worldwide. Learn how Geneanet’s collections and family trees can enhance your research.

Locating the Living: Resources, Strategies, and Tips Locating living relatives can add new growth to your family tree and DNA testing opportunities.

Learn resources and strategies to help with this challenging research. Making the Most of the U.S. Federal Census Take an in-depth look at census records and learn to make the most of population and non-population schedules. Includes tips for locating hard-to-find ancestors.

Genealogical Resources in Internet Archive, HathiTrust, and other Digital Libraries In this comparison of five popular digital libraries, learn tips for efficient searching, the types of resources available, and how they can enhance your research.

And more are available

Travel within Northern Counties of Ohio
Gerald Miller (Jerry)

Jerry was president of the Ohio Chapter and charter member and past president of the North Carolina Chapter. Served as vice president of national Pal-Am. He received the Palatines to America Harvey Harsh award. Jerry has gone on two Pal-Am research trips to Germany as well as two Pal-Am trips to the LDS Library in Salt Lake City. He is retired from business and now lives in the Bristol Village retirement community in Waverly, Ohio.

Topics

How to begin finding your Roots

Researching German Immigration Patterns

Researching in Family Tree

Travel within the south central counties of Ohio
ROBERTA has been researching the surnames Neukommet/Newcomer, Gochenour/Coughenour, Hirtzel/Hartzell, and Brandt for over 25 years. She has conducted family research at the National Archives in Washington, D.C., the Family History Library at Salt Lake City, the Pennsylvania Archives in Harrisburg and the Ohio Historical Society Archives in Columbus in addition to the Pal-Am collection at the Columbus Metropolitan Library. She is a founding member of the Pal-Am Kocherthal Circle and was inducted into Pioneer Families of Western Pennsylvania. Roberta is a Past President of the Ohio Chapter of Palatines to America. Recently elected president of Palatines to America. I retired from the Ohio Department of Education as the music and theater education consultant (Franklin County).

**TOPIC:**

An introduction to the Ohio Chapter and Palatines to America and its History

Travel the state within reason
Nancy Ottman

Nancy is retired Director of HR and Loss Prevention for the JC Penney Co. She has been involved with genealogy research for 30 years. Nancy is a member of the OGS, Pal-Am and the KS Genealogical Society. She has spoken to numerous Genealogical and Historical Societies, and fraternal organizations. Lectured at the Columbus Metro Library, Groveport Madison School District and Palatines to America both Ohio Chapter and National organization. In 2014 she completed a study with the Univ. of NC on American Gravestones and Cemeteries. Nancy was recently published in the “Your Genealogy Today” magazine.

TOPICS:

Beginning German Genealogy
19th Century German Travel/Traveler
Finding Your Germany Ancestors migration from Germany to America
Language of the Cemetery
German Beerdigung (Customs/Laws and German Friedhof).. (cemeteries)

Will travel throughout Ohio
Russ Pollitt

Russ is the Genealogy Subject Specialist for Columbus Metropolitan Library and is a member of the Ohio Genealogical Society, Palatines to America Society, and the Franklin County Genealogical & Historical Society. He currently serves on the boards of the Ohio Genealogical Society, Palatines to America Society-Ohio Chapter and the Franklin County Genealogical & Historical Society. Russ has a B.S. in History from Wilmington College of Ohio and a Masters in Library and Information Science from Kent State. He’s written articles for several genealogical publications and presents workshops on varied topics dealing with genealogy research and resources.

TOPICS:

Introductions to online resources such as Ancestry, Family Search, Heritage Quest
PalAm Collection at CML Genealogy Collection
Using WorldCat.org

Travel: within the Franklin County area
Carol Swinehart

Carol is webmaster for the Ohio Chapter and recently was awarded for her work in developing and continues monitoring and updating the Chapter website. She has owned a web design business for many years. Carol has been working on her family genealogy both here in the America and Germany. She has given talks to both Pal Am and other genealogical societies.

TOPICS:

- Researching the web
- Creating a web page
- German Town Books

Limited travel within Ohio
Ernest Thode in 1992 was manager of the Local History and Genealogy Department of the Washington County Public Library in Marietta, Ohio until his recent retirement. He was born in Marion, Indiana, and is a graduate of Purdue University. He holds a Master's degree in German from Stanford University and has studied abroad at Bad Boll, Germany and the University of Salzburg, Austria. He taught German in high schools in Indiana and as a graduate assistant at The Ohio State University.

He is the author of several books, including German-English Genealogical Dictionary, Address Book for Germanic Genealogy, and Genealogical Gazetteer of Alsace-Lorraine, and co-author of A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your Germanic Ancestors. His column "Family Tree" in The Marietta Times has won awards in the General Interest Column and Ethnic Column Categories of the Council of Genealogy Columnists (now called ISFHWE) competition. He also writes the "Ask Ernie" column in The Palatine Immigrant.

Ernie served for 14 years as Program Chairman for the Ohio Chapter of Palatines to America and is currently Vice-President and Webmaster of the Washington County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society. He is a lecturer on Germanic genealogy and has taught at several elder hostels. His genealogical interests include Germanic surnames, locating immigrant places of origin, and reading the old script. His ancestors come from Schleswig-Holstein and Hannover.

**TOPICS:**

- German Research Is Different
- Locating Your German Ancestors
- German Geography for Genealogists
- German Settlements in America – *Can design a topic to fit a specific program*

Will travel throughout Ohio prefers to receive fee for 1 night lodging before morning talks.