

Outstanding OGS Chapter Officer Award

Warren County Chapter of Ohio Genealogical Society nominates Arne Trelvik for the outstanding OGS Chapter officer for his service as one of our outstanding officers, his work in preservation of Warren County records, and his efforts managing the US Gen Web page for Warren County.

Arne serves as our corresponding secretary and is in charge of all correspondence for WCGS. He regularly sends out E-News to members on the email list as new programs or events are announced or when there are updates to our website and press releases as needed. He creates, prints and sends out invitations to the new inductees for our First Family and Early Settler Banquet. He also creates the program for the banquet and the certificates presented to the new inductees. He sends out thank you cards from donations of books, money or materials submitted to our society. He actively attends state and national genealogy conferences to keep current in the genealogy field.

In addition to serving as the corresponding secretary, he volunteers his time in the library helping patrons, answering WCGS research requests via phone, mail and email. He serves as the chairman for the GenWeb site committee and co-chair for the cemetery committee. These are two of the WCGS larger projects. As the Gen Web site coordinator and webmaster, he maintains the US Gen Web site for Warren County and loads information on that site such as cemetery photos. It is such a great opportunity to have the two sites work together since the WCGS website has limited space and amount of materials we can load to it. As the cemetery co-chair he helps manage which cemeteries need to be photographed, which ones are complete, which ones have ledger books and which ledger books we have copied. Once a cemetery is assigned and completed, the photographer reports back and provides him with the digital images. If these images have not been organized into an Excel file, he creates one from the images and compares it to what has already been compiled by our society in our published cemetery books. These photos loaded to the Gen Web site are arranged by cemetery, and linked alphabetically to make it easy for researchers to find headstone pictures of their ancestors. So far he has loaded over 18,600 digital images on the site, and has at least that many still that need to be loaded. This is a very time consuming task and he excels at his work. He also helps load the new cemetery data to the WCGS website.

Arne is actively involved in many of our projects. He co-created our master indexes (births, marriages, deaths, obituaries, military, coroner's records, tax records, etc.) searchable by surname on our computers, website and in book format. In addition to being the webmaster for the US Gen Web site, he also helps maintain the cemetery and obituary and other miscellaneous pages for the WCGS website as the need arises. This is a great help as there are many records to index and put online and this takes a lot of time.

Arne created the standardized book format we now use for all our books and has compiled five of our publications as follows: Births, 1892-1896; Births, 1897-1902; Births 1903-1908; Delayed and Corrected Birth Records 3rd Edition; and Marriages 1803-1834. He is currently working on updating our Lebanon Cemetery book by including all the new people buried since the reading over 20 years ago and merging this with those individuals listed in the Lebanon interment book who are buried in this cemetery but who have no tombstone. This is a huge undertaking, one he has been working on for the past few years.

Arne Trelvik has been an outstanding officer for the Warren County Genealogical Society chapter of OGS. He goes above and beyond the call of the officer position in which he serves and we highly recommend he be recognized for his efforts by awarding him the Outstanding OGS Chapter Officer Award for 2007.