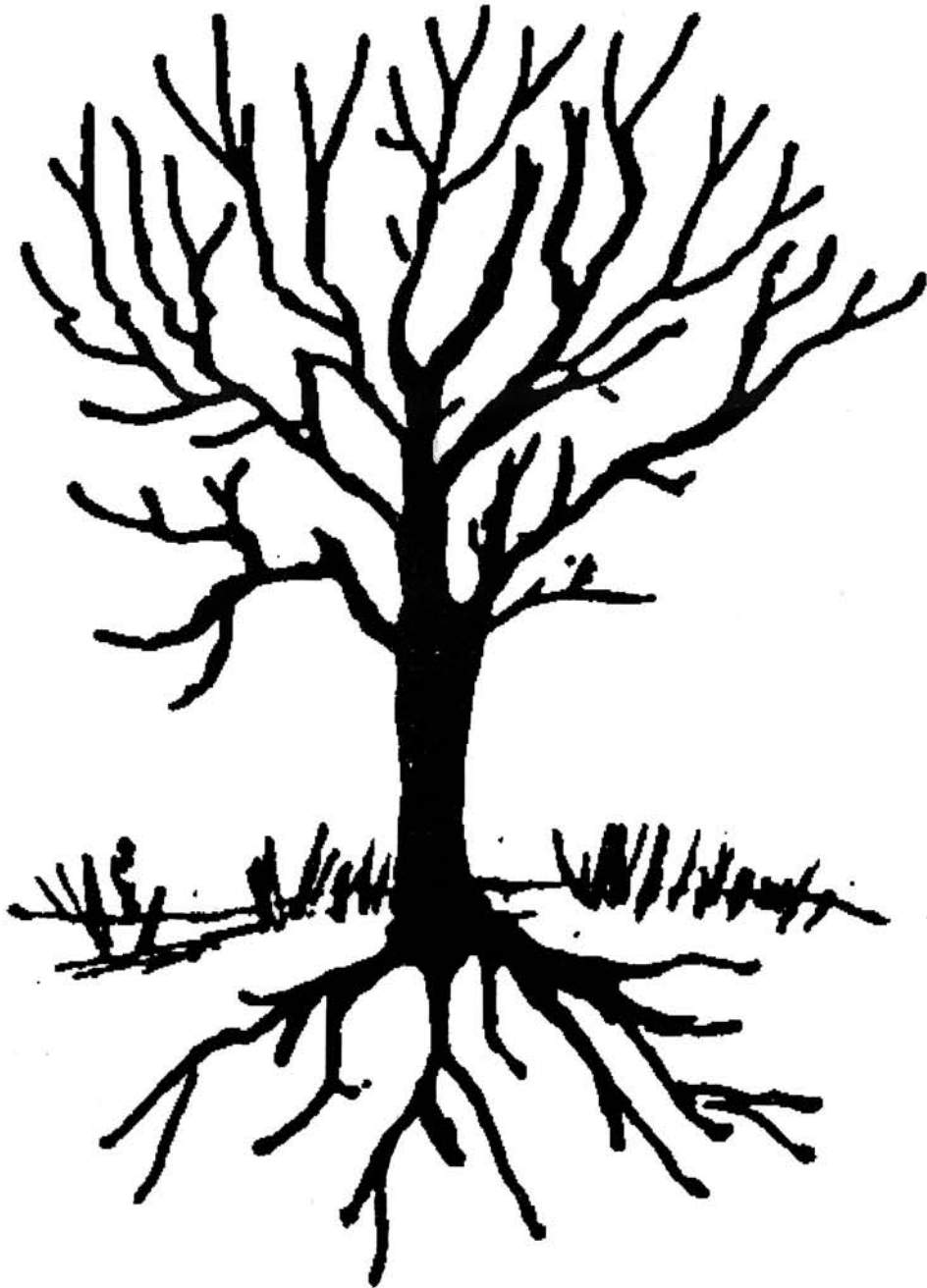

ROOTS AND BRANCHES

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Carol Izzo would appreciate any genealogy related information for the Newsletter. The information can be provided to her by e-mail (jizzo@totcon.com), at meetings, or at the DeLand Library Genealogy Room with her name on it. Please put your name on the article so you get credit.

Meeting Schedules

The Roots and Branches Society meets at the DeLand Library at 6:00 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month, September through June.

HISTORY OF SUFFOLK COUNTY – TOWN OF BABYLON, NEW YORK - SHIPWRECKS

The Long Island STAR, Brooklyn, New York – November 14, 1822 "Came ashore at Babylon, SAVANNAH", Capt. Coles from Liverpool to New York, cargo of coals, and crates of goods, is mostly lost. Capt. Coles left a family, residing on Long Island.

"The body of Capt. Joseph Coles of the ship SAVANNAH of this port, of Brooklyn, which was cast away on the south shore of Long Island on or about the 27th of October, 1822, has been recognized by his family among the eleven bodies driven ashore. The remains were carried to Mosquetah Cove (Glen Cove), Long Island, the captain's late residence. The ship had on board a large sum of gold and silver money, which was in the Captain's trunk. This came ashore on part of the wreck, but the action of the waves broke open the trunk and the coin was scattered on the beach. In this condition, it was found by a man named SMITH MUNCY, who was the first, and alone at the wreck at daylight on Monday morning. It was a sad sight. The ship had gone to pieces, and the dead bodies, together with the debris lay strewn along the strand. Had Mr. Muncy been so disposed, he could have secreted the treasure and appropriated

the whole of it to his own use, but he was an honest man, and delivered every dollar to the wreck master."

"The Brig BRILLIANT, Captain Webber, met the same fate. This vessel struck Cedar Island Beach, in this town, and the officers and crew, being in imminent danger, were landed in a small boat from the wreck by a fisherman named EZRA SAMMIS. A rather romantic incident in connection with this wreck deserves mention. Some years after the occurrence above mentioned, John Webber, son of the Captains', married Nancy, a daughter of Ezra Sammis at his home in Babylon. At the wedding, Capt. Webber, on being introduced to the bride's father, remarked that they had met before, but Mr. Sammis had no recollection of ever having seen the mariner. Capt. Webber reminded him of the circumstances of the wreck, and remarked that on that occasion he was in such peril, and so glad to see his rescuer, that it was not easy to forget his countenance. The next day, the Captain was shown a small building used as a schoolhouse which he recognized as the former cabin of the BRILLIANT."

These true stories submitted by Gerry Hirsch, whose maternal Great, Great Grandfathers were SMITH MUNCY and EZRA SAMMIS.

VETERANS RECORDS DISCOVERED

10 Million duplicates of 20th century military records, thought to have been destroyed in the 1973 fire have been found by the Veterans' Administration. If you have been told the records you need were burned in that fire, you may want to write again to National Personnel Records, GSA, 9700 Page Blvd., St. Louis, Mo.

Taken from "The Quest," Sept.-Oct. 2000

AMERICAN FLAG QUIZ

- In What year was the flag first authorized by Congress?
 - 1777
 - 1776
 - 1778
- What name was given to the flag by William Driver, a 19th century sea captain?
 - Old Glory
 - Stars & Stripes
 - The Betsy

Source: "The Quest," Sept.-Oct. 2000

ANSWERS TO FLAG QUIZ (Page 1)

1. a. 1777 2. a. Old Glory

DIXON/DICKSON FAMILY NEWSLETTER

There is a newsletter entitled "Dixon/Dickson Family Newsletter", but is actually what is known as a surname periodical. The newsletter covers all Dixon family lines everywhere and is intended as a reference for Dixon family researchers (all spellings). Information on Southern family lines does tend to dominate. The author welcomes material on Northern/New England families and print information whenever it becomes available.

The newsletter is published quarterly with each issue usually containing eight pages, although some earlier issues varied in length by a page or two. The cost as of June, 1999 was \$5.00 per year for the four issues. Subscriptions begin with the current issue unless otherwise requested. The four issues of each volume are published approximately the first week of May, August, November, and February (of the following year). The newsletter has been published continuously since the Spring of 1987. Back issues and comprehensive indexes for each volume are available, as described in the newsletter information section of each issue. Back issues as of June, 1999 were \$6.00 per volume, or \$1.50 per single issue for the first three volumes (the author of this newsletter said he was not the editor for these and has to make photo copies). Volumes four through twelve are \$5.00 per volume, or \$1.25 per single issue, the same as the subscription rate. Indexes are \$2.50 per volume. This is as of June, 1999.

According to the author, each issue of the newsletter normally contains, at a minimum, queries, marriage records and information on various Dixon family lines as space permits. Family information is normally based on Family Group Sheets (FGS's) but is printed in a continuous column style to conserve space. Other material is published when it becomes available, such as cemetery records, wills, reports on books referencing Dixon families, family reunions and other Dixon family information of general interest.

A special feature in each issue, according to the author is the research assistance section. The author maintains a computer database which currently contains over 19,000 Dixons (all

spellings) born *prior* to 1900. The author also has on file more than 1,300 Dixon family group sheets with marriage *prior* to 1880, representing 412 unrelated Dixon family lines with from 1 to 147 FGS's per line. The author states that the database and the FGS file are expanded and updated on a continuous basis. He provides information from the database or the FGS file to subscribers, upon request, for only a SASE, or via e-mail if possible. Instructions for obtaining this information, which can be sent in a variety of formats, can be found in each issue of the newsletter. The database also allows matching of subscribers researching the same Dixon family line.

Queries from non-subscribers are gladly accepted by the author. There is no charge. He will also answer all inquiries regarding a Dixon family line, to include reviewing the database for information. For further information contact Richard D. Couzins, 20 Curtis Drive, New Oxford, Pa. 17350. E-mail: Tcouzins@aol.com
Source: Jean Dixon Anker

**SENTINEL NEWSPAPER ARTICLE -
TUSKEGEE AIRMAN TO BE HONORED**

Bo Poertner, a columnist for *The Orlando Sentinel*, October 19, 2000 wrote the following column: Seven hundred dollars and a few phone calls. That's what it has taken Beverly Outlaw to see that former Tuskegee Airman Charles Bailey was awarded some long-overdue recognition.

The \$700 was the cost of a bronze plaque that Beverly arranged to be dedicated to Bailey on Veteran's Day November 11, 2000 at the Veteran's Memorial Hospital Museum in DeLand.

Mr. Poertner stated that up until a few months before he wrote this article Beverly, who handles publicity for a couple of local veteran's organizations had never heard of Bailey. She knew nothing of his exploits as a member of the WW II Tuskegee Airmen, the first black fighter pilots. She didn't know he had flown 133 missions, waged dogfights with enemy planes and earned the Distinguished Flying Cross. Then one day Bailey, 82, suffering from Alzheimer's disease, strayed from his DeLand home and disappeared for a few days. Ms. Outlaw read about the missing hero in the newspaper. She visited the museum at Bill

(Continued from page 2)

Dreggor's Park in DeLand and looked at the bronze plaques honoring WWII veterans, expecting to see one for Bailey. There was none. Aghast, Ms. Outlaw began raising money for a plaque and in a few days she raised nearly half of the amount needed. She said that people and organizations had been so generous that she was considering using any extra money that was raised to establish a scholarship fund for a DeLand High School student to attend Bethune-Cookman College in Daytona Beach where Bailey attended college.

Donations were solicited. Anyone who may still want to contribute can ask Beverly for details at one of our meetings.

Bailey was a member of the famous 99th Fighter Squadron when many people still held to the racist belief that blacks could not learn to pilot an aircraft. Bo Davenport, City of DeLand Public Works Director was a student of Bailey's in high school and was elated to hear that someone had taken the ball and run.

Bailey's story was overlooked for years in DeLand, according to the author perhaps because he wasn't born in DeLand and operated one of the smaller funeral homes. Also, little was known about the black pilots until after Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. was established in the early 1970's and their story began to be told.

The author states that the bronze plaque will help educate the public.

The honors he has received in the past are cherished by the family. The plaque, however, will be a permanent tribute to a man who had to fight for his chance to defend his country.

Orlando Sentinel, October 19, 2000

Submitted by Beverly Outlaw

FREE POLISH TRANSLATION SERVICE

Writing to a Polish archive is not as difficult at it was. Arthur Teschler at the University of Giessen in Germany provides a free Translation Services which includes Polish-to-English and English-to-Polish assistance. This site is:

<http://www.toledolink.com/pl/translations.html>

Source: Ancestry Daily News July 19, 2000

NEW YORK GENEALOGY ONLINE

New York has over 100,000 census records now online and is especially strong with the 1790 census (over 32,000), 1850 (over 32,000) and the 1860 (over 25,000). The 1790 is strong in the counties of Columbia, Montgomery, Suffolk, Saratoga, Queens and New York, with Montgomery having over 6,000 records. The 1850 census is strong in Jefferson County with 30,237 entries, and the 1860 in Genesee County contributed by the Genesee Area Genealogists, Batavia, N.Y.

Looking over other parts of the site, you will see a collection of burial records (over 38,000) and death/obits (over 24,000). In the recently created area of city/county directories New York already has over 11,000 entries.

There is a listing of what appears to be the majority of the schools in New York State with over 8,000 addresses. Visit the NYGenExchange at <http://www.genexchange.org/state.cfm?state=ny>. Source: NY/GenExchange

PENNSYLVANIA RESOURCES

Did you have ancestors in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania? The Lancaster County Historical Society (230 N. President Ave., Lancaster, Pa. 17603-3125) maintains an extensive research library with many specialty items which are not available elsewhere and must be searched either in person or by society members for you. One such item is a file of marriage and death notices from newspapers spanning the years 1800 to 1905. Write for a copy of their Research Authorization, and request a copy of their list of Lancaster area researchers too.

Source: Links And Bridges, September 2000

HOW TO BECOME A CYBERVOLUNTEER

Ready to volunteer? Many projects would benefit from your involvement. A quick way to review the possibilities: Look at the volunteer projects hosted by RootsWeb (see "Hosted Genealogy Projects") at www.rootsweb.com. Or contact these projects directly:

-Immigrant Ships Transcribers Guild. People worldwide look for their ancestors among the lists

(Continued from page 3)

transcribed and indexed by these volunteers. To volunteer, go to istg.rootsweb.com.

-Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness. Volunteers devote one day a month to helping someone else in the genealogical community—such as doing research at a local courthouse or documenting records at a local cemetery. Go to raogk.rootsweb.com.

-USGenWeb. This mammoth volunteer effort seeks to provide individual websites listing historical resources for every U.S. county and state. Volunteers are needed to sponsor a county or state website (or several); most include links to local history sources. USGenWeb also sponsors several other fascinating projects. Learn more at www.usgenweb.org/volunteers/volunteers.html.

Volunteers need e-mail accounts. If you don't have a computer, get a free e-mail account from mail.yahoo.com, hotmail.com or familytree.com and access it at an Internet-linked computer at your library.

Source: AARP Bulletin, January 2001

U.S. ALPHABET ONCE CONTAINED A 27TH LETTER

At the time of the American Revolution, there were two forms of "s" – the one we use (short form) and another which resembles an "f" (long form) but did not have as long a crossbar. As a result, one finds "expense, bufinefs and neccaffary" in the writings of that era.

The long form was created as an alternate, space-saving device. By the ninth century, it had gained such popularity that the short form was dropped from the alphabet.

The short form was reintroduced in the 12th century, and by the ...1400's, both forms were used. If a word ended in a single "s," the short form was used. If a word ended in a double "s," a long form followed by a short form was used. If the word had a double "s" in the middle, one used either two long forms or a long form followed by a short one. The rules were violated often. By the early 1800's the long form of the letter "s" disappeared from normal use.

Source: Links and Bridges, September 2000

GROWING GENEALOGISTS ONE BRANCH AT A TIME

The Ancestry Corner Web page: <http://www.ancestrycorner.com> offers 50 online forms to print. Marriage compilers, cemetery log, family group sheets, illness charts, soundex cards and census history form. With this form you can track one individual from 1790 to 1910 on 2 sheets. These forms print nicely. There is no charge for the forms or using this site. It is a new site that is growing daily.

Source: The Quest, September-October, 2000

SOME MEANINGS OF INITIALS ON DOCUMENTS

This explains some of the initials after the name on probate records. It is Latin. Initials after your ancestor's names may provide useful information that you'd not expect. You may come across these when reading old wills or other documents:

d.s.p. Died without issue (decessit sine prole legitima)

d.unm Died unmarried

d.v.p. Died in the lifetime of his father (decessit vita patris)

Inst Present month (instans)

Liber Book or volume

Nepos Grandson

Nunc Nuncupative will, an oral will, written by a witness

Ob He/she died (obit)

Relict Widow or widower (relicta/relictus)

Sic So or thus, exact copy as written

Testes Witnesses

Ult Late (ultimo)

Viz Namely (Videlicet)

Source: GenNews, October 2000

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