



Roots & Branches Genealogical Society of West Volusia County

Winter Newsletter Jan – Mar 2015

A quarterly newsletter published Jan (Winter), Apr (Spring), Jul (Summer), & Oct (Fall)

President's Message

Dear Fellow Tree-climbers,



Happy New Year! I hope your holidays were pleasant ones.

What resolutions have you made for the new year? My goal is to attend a least two seminars in 2015. The first will be on January 24th in Daytona Beach, presented by

the Volusia-Flagler Council of Genealogical Societies. There is still time to register before the deadline. Forms are on the wall in the Genealogy Room at the library. Other events are listed in this newsletter.

My second resolution is to get my paper files in order. Perhaps a sub-resolution should be to file papers in a proper order in the first place, instead of just jamming them in the folder.

The speakers for our meetings look like they will be bringing us much new insight into our searches. I'm looking forward to the session on using newspapers to find clues to my ancestors. Don't forget the Lessons at 1:00 o'clock before the General Meetings. I seem to be able to find at least one good hint every time I attend a meeting.

Let's give 2015 a chance to speed us along in our research. Happy tree-climbing,

--Harriet Bedell Bolin

Who We Are:

Roots & Branches was formed in 1986, and is dedicated to educating its members and the community about proper genealogical research methods and sources, preserving records of genealogical value, and making them available to others.

When & Where We Meet:

Our meetings are held on the **third Sunday** of every month (except July and August), at 2:00 PM, in the first floor Auditorium of the DeLand Public Library, 130 East Howry Avenue, DeLand, Florida.

Our Programs include knowledgeable speakers on a variety of topics. We also have a 45 minute lesson before the meeting, at 1:00 PM in the first floor Conference Room, given by one of our experienced members. Guests are always welcome

What Else We Do:

Our members provide volunteer coverage in the **Genealogy and Local History Room** on the second floor. We attempt to provide coverage whenever the library is open. The library hours are: Mon-Thurs 9:30 am to 7:30 pm, Fri & Sat 9:30 am to 5:00 pm, and Sun 1:00 to 5:00 pm.

We sponsor an **annual writing contest** to encourage members and those in the community to share their family history. Monetary prizes are awarded for first, second, and third place entries.

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New Edition of *Genealogy Online*

--Jane Burr

There is a new book in the Genealogy Room, *Genealogy Online*, by Elizabeth Powell Crowe. It is the 2015, tenth Edition, donated by Friends of the Public Library. Ms. Powell has been involved in genealogy for over 30 years and lives in Navarre, Florida.

The book starts out with a basic "Contents at a Glance", followed by a more comprehensive 9-page "Contents." The book is broken down into three parts: basics of getting started; using the Internet for Genealogy (including social networking and DNA) and Nitty-Gritty: names, dates and places (including Ellis Island) to publishing your own book!

As usual, when it comes to genealogy, the author says you need two things to initiate research: print off forms for documentation and yourself. She gives a list of eleven sources for finding forms--you may even find a better form than you usually use! Then, beginning with yourself, write down what you know about yourself, your spouse and children, including birth and death dates, marriage dates, graduations, residences and occupations. She reviews primary sources (original certificates and photographs); and secondary sources (sites that give information like newspaper stories, obituaries, births, printed and website genealogy sources).

The latter may have errors, since all their information is based on human entry or documentation.

The author recognizes new technology: Tablets, Smartphones, SKYPE, Google, DNA, Interment.com, on-line storage (X drive, box.net, iBackup, iCloud, external hard drive.) Using these venues, you can look for records from past generations: search on-line, send for records, post queries, and research libraries and courthouses. Again, always remember to document where, when and how you found your information.

There are numerous research ideas including courses, blogs, newsletters, and many sites that were completely new to me. I look forward to exploring them. The author listed reference books for further research, two of which I was able to find in our Genealogy Room: *Handy Book for Genealogists* and *The Source*.

One area that really surprised me was a chapter on "Boolean," on page 88. The term was totally foreign to me, but I quickly learned I have been missing out on some good research pointers. The author gave a brief explanation and then I found a very complicated description in Wikipedia:

"Boolean data type: In computer science, the Boolean data type is a data type, having two values (usually denoted true and false), intended to represent the truth values of logic and Boolean algebra. It is named after George Boole, who first defined an algebraic system of logic in the mid-19th century. The Boolean data type is the primary result of conditional statements, which allow different actions and change control flow depending on whether a programmer-specified boolean condition evaluates to true or false. It is a special case of a more general logical data type; logic does not always have to be boolean."

Needless to say, this explanation meant nothing to me, but I will give you an idea of the practical application of Boolean. You may find you want to read page 87 in the book for yourself. It may be clearer than what I will be presenting here, but hopefully, you will get the idea. When searching for any topic, or name, etc., follow these hints to make your findings more accurate and save time. Here are a few high-lights:

Go Boolean

Use quotation marks "___" around your phrase to yield an exact match with all the words
Use + [plus] immediately before a word to yield a match for that word on the page.

Use - [minus] immediately after a word to prevent that word from appearing on the page
Use "or" between a list of options: Mac Namara or McNamara to find one or the other of the names.

Use "and" between words to find both words, but not necessarily together: General and Washington; try using quotation marks, "General and Washington"

Use "with" between words: George with Washington to yield George and Washington next to each other

Use "not" between words: Powell not Colin to yield findings with Powell, none with Colin; also used to exclude second meanings. (Powell and General) not (Colin and Secretary of State) to yield findings with General Powell not including information about him as Secretary of State
In Google:

Insert two periods .. between numbers 1800..1820 to find information in that time frame

Use site or -site to limit use of a site or exclude that site

Use a tilde ~ to search for synonyms

Use an asterisk * as a wildcard: “as * as it gets” to yield possible words that would complete the phrase, in this case, “as good as it gets.”

The author gives a long list of search sites, many of which I have used in the past, but there is always something new. Here I also learned that RootsWeb.com only uses Boolean “or”, so your search will yield a wide variety of results. Even when I tried to limit the options, I could not do so, but never understood why it was so, until now!

In the “Talk to Me” chapter, new applications have appeared since the 2003 Edition: Twitter and Tweets, Hashtags, Facebook, LinkedIn, Pinterest, tumblr, Flickr, MeetMe, are just a few of those listed. Since I don’t use Twitter, Facebook or other social networking, I now realize I am probably missing out.

When I compared the Indexes from 2003 to 2015 editions, I wondered, “What technology will the next twelve years bring?”

The author has included several anecdotal stories shared by people who have experienced genealogical finds while using various applications, sites, etc. Each story is interesting and an adventure in research. In fact, some are really amazing and are well worth taking the time to read, if only for the fun of it.

I think you would find Genealogy Online to be very informative.

Five Boys Drown in South Gibson, Pennsylvania, January, 1899

-- Jane Burr

The first portion is taken from the memoirs of my great uncle, Kenneth Michael. Names that are in bold print have stories at the end which tie them to my family. This story was originally printed in the Forest City News, January, 1899, and another Pennsylvania newspaper from Montrose, describing the tragedy at South Gibson, when the five little boys were drowned.

Drowning Accident, Five families suddenly plunged into grief at South Gibson.

Word was received here last evening of the drowning at So. Gibson yesterday at noon of five little boys ranging in age from five to ten years. While coasting down the hill by the pond in the village, the ice broke through and the poor little fellows went under to their watery death. Their names were: Mason, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Holmes; Gaylord, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Pritchard; Merrick, son of Mrs. Wm. Rogers; Mertell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Howell; and Ray, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Tripp. Willing hands were quickly at work, and by two o’clock all of the bodies had been recovered but that of Ray Tripp. This is the most terrible event that has ever happened in So. Gibson, and the sorrowing parents have the deepest sympathy of all, in their sudden bereavement.

Drowning Accident at South Gibson

The morning of Tuesday, Jan 17, 1899, dawned upon the little hamlet of South Gibson the same as any other ordinary day—no one was sick, everyone seemed happy; but just before

noon a distressing drowning affair occurred, that was destined to mark this day in the minds of their inhabitants as the saddest ever known in the annals of its history and proved the words of the poet true:

*Fate steals along with silent tread,
Found oftenest in what least we dread,
Frowns in the storm, with angry brow,
But in the sunshine strikes the blow.*

The facts in the case as near as can be learned from Little Herbert Decker (only survivor of the terrible affair) are printed in this account of the disaster. It has been the custom of the primary teacher, Miss Ida Belcher, to excuse this class of six little boys after spelling in the forenoon, (four of them lived in town) always forbidding them going to the creek nearby. All had been forbidden by their parents to go on the ice at all, as they feared it was getting tender. The class consisted of **Mertell Howell**, aged 9 years; Mason Holmes, 7; Gaylord Pritchard, 6; Merritt Rogers, 5; Ray Tripp, 7; Herbert Decker, 6.

After leaving the school house [South Gibson School, pictured below] the little company went to the store of **W. E. Resseguie**, where the Howell boy purchased some crackers, then started up town, helping themselves on the way by eating the crackers out of Mertell's pocket. They went around Mrs. Roger's house, unobserved by her, where they found Merritt's sled, near the pond, and thought it would be fun to draw one other on the ice. Marks of the place of the disaster. We learned from Little Herbert Decker, that at the time of the accident, Merritt Rogers and Mertell Howell were drawing the sled, and Mason Holmes was running along by the south side of the pond, where the current was swiftest, and the water the deepest, a piece of the ice about four foot square gave way, the sled and its occupants going down first, the two boys who were running along beside the sled were the last to fall in the hole. Little Herbert was near enough to the edge of the channel to be able to drag himself out of the icy water and onto the bank. He says he did not see anyone but Jay Tripp after they went down, and he had on a long overcoat which deterred him from using his limbs to any advantage. It is said that this was the first time he had been on the pond this winter. The little survivor was so exhausted when he got out that he could scarcely walk and crept up the little hill to the road.



The terrible news that children were under the ice spread like wildfire, and everybody ran to the pond where everything was still and only the hole in the ice told where the missing children had gone. The scene that followed, beggars description, as the inquiry went around, whose children are they, and the pained look that came over fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, and grandparents faces when they were convinced that their darlings were among the lost, can never be pictured.

Immediate efforts were made by willing hands to secure the bodies. The ice was cut, and hooks were made in a very few moments. The sled and one shoe, were hooked out first; after

which Charles Lewis secured the Rogers boy first, then the Howell boy, Willie Barnes found the Holmes' boy next; the Pritchard boy was found by Robert Ellis; the Tripp boy was not found until five o'clock, after the ice had all been cut and boats were sent out. He was found near the middle of the pond by **Frank Resseguie**. During the whole afternoon, the shores were lined with people. Scarcely a dry eye was to be seen. The whole community felt bereaved. They were all beautiful children and belong to the same Sunday school and day school.

The funeral of all five was held in the M. E. Church on Thursday at 1p.m. Long before the hour arrived, people began to gather from the adjoining towns, and it is estimated that fully one thousand people were present. It consumed over an hour for the immense throng to view the remains. Great credit is due to the funeral director, H. D. Pickering, for the excellent manner of conducting such a complicated and immense funeral. The Howells' occupied the south side of the church, the Holmes' the next tier of seats, the Rogers' and Pritchard's, the next, and the Tripp's', the north side. The pure white caskets were arranged in front, according to families to which they belonged. Beautiful flowers were collected and placed on everyone by their teachers. The altar was occupied by the Sunday school class to which the boys belonged, and their teachers, **Miss Mary Maxey** and Miss Belcher. The lecture room was packed and every place in the auditorium of the church and hall was taken up, and some say fully one-third of the congregation was obliged to stay out of doors.

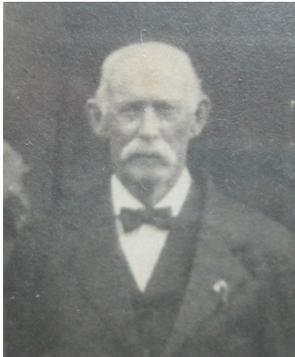
After everything was arranged as well as could be under the circumstances, the solemn services were conducted by Rev. Isaac Jenkins, pastor of the church and Rev. Mr. Bevans, of the Welsh church, Clifford. Rev. Bevans preached a beautiful and appropriate sermon, from 2 Samuel 12:23 "I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me," after which Rev. Jenkins spoke words of comfort to the mourners. During the service four beautiful and appropriate selections were sung by a choir consisting of Mrs. Lewis and Mrs. Gardner, soprano; **Miss Grace Brundage**, alto, **F. M. Brundage**, tenor; **C. W. Michael**, bass. Miss Genie Fuller, played the organ. The selections were entitled: "Where Do the Children Go, Ten Little Feet Have Gone to Rest, Beckoning Hands, and Jesus, as Thou Wilt." Five hearses were in attendance—two from Jackson, one from Gelatt, one from Clifford, and the South Gibson hearse. Meritt Rogers and Jay Tripp were buried in the So. Gibson cemetery; Mason Holmes and Mertell Howell, at Manzer cemetery, and Gaylord Pritchard at Union Hill. The sorrowing families have the sincerest sympathy of the whole community, and may a like calamity never visit our little town again.



*Where do the children go out of this world of care?
Chilled by the frosts of death, like to the blossoms,
Up to a cloudless clime, fairer than earth below,
Borne upon angels' wings, innocent children go.
Where do the children go? What did the savior say?
That is His kingdom all, must be as pure as they.
Nearer to the throne of God, never a grief to know;
Ever to praise his name, innocent children go.*

--by **Mrs. A. E. Brundage**

This was taken from Uncle Ken Michael's memoirs, but here is the "rest of the story." This sad event was not only entwined in my father's family, but also involved my mother's family, even when we have no evidence that the two families were friendly or even personally knew my father's family. The names are in the order in which they presented in the story. **Mertell Howell** was 9 years old. He was the connection on my mother's side. My mother's father was Homer Collum. He and Mertell Howell were first cousins because Mertell's mother, Katarah Jane Gow, and Homer's mother, Margaret Gow, were sisters. Homer would have been 10 years old at the time. My mother says she heard about the drownings in the past, but doesn't recall much discussion. Besides that, my grandfather was well known for not doing much talking. Nevertheless, it must have affected him a great deal, since he was a cousin and so close in age to Mertell. It was true that South Gibson was only 6 miles from Clifford where Homer lived, but in those days of horse and buggy transportation, it's hard to say how friendly they were. He was my first cousin, twice removed.



W. E. Resseguie, (William Emory) [pictured left], store owner. He was the father of Frank Resseguie and was my step-gr-great-grandfather.

Frank Resseguie found the last body of Jay Tripp. Frank was married to Julia Manzer in 1894 and had 1 child at this time. However, in 1919 Julia died during childbirth leaving Frank with 6 children. In 1920, just 21 years after the drownings, Frank Resseguie married my great-grandmother, Grace B Michael (Ken's mother), see below. Frank was my step-great-grandfather.

Miss Mary Maxey was the boys' Sunday School teacher. She married Charles W. Michael May 3, 1899, 4 months after the accident, so she was my gr-great aunt.

Miss Grace Brundage sung alto in the choir. Grace would marry William Michael on February 22, 1899, just one month after the drowning. However, William died December, 1917, leaving Grace with 3 children. Her daughter was Thelma Grace Michael, who become my grandmother. Therefore Grace was my great-grandmother. Three years later she married Frank Resseguie March 24, 1920, making him my step-great-grandfather.

F. (Frederick) M. Brundage sung Tenor in the choir. He was Freeman Brundage's brother. Freeman was Miss Grace Brundage's (see above) father. He is my gr-great uncle.

C. W. Michael (Charles W.) sung bass. As a brother of William Michael, he was Grace Brundage's brother-in-law and was my gr-great uncle. He married Mary Maxey (see above) May 3, 1899.

Mrs. A. E. Brundage (Amanda Eliza) wrote the poem. She was Miss Grace Brundage's mother and was my gr-great-grandmother. Amanda was known for her writing in her daily journals, family historian and record keeper for the family reunions.

Ken Michael was the son of William W. and Grace Brundage Michael and my grandmother, Thelma Michael (Adams) was their daughter. Ken was my great uncle.

In January of 1989, 90 years after the drownings, my father, John Adams, wrote a letter to our family telling us about the events on that sad day. We had all gotten together for Christmas and the boys wanted to ride their ATVs (all-terrain-vehicles) on the pond behind my brother's

house. My father refused to let them do it and then sent them the story to help them understand why he was so adamant.

Central Florida Genealogical Society Fall Seminar with Thomas W. Jones

---By Harriet Bolin

Our trip to the seminar in Winter Park in late September was a fruitful one for learning techniques to gather evidence about an individual and how to squeeze out the very most that could be found in a particular source. Thomas Jones was well organized in his presentation. He compared genealogical research to assembling a jigsaw puzzle. Sometimes a bit of evidence fits right in and expands the picture nicely. Other times the evidence doesn't quite fit with the other pieces nearby, but it still has enough credibility that you set it aside (carefully noticing source details) and eventually it slides right into a spot in another corner of the puzzle.

Mr. Jones also presented some pointers for searching when primary sources are missing. Some of these are tax records, military records, newspaper articles, church records, and manuscripts in local historical societies. These records are more difficult to locate. They require an *exhaustive* search, emphasis his. I am glad we had the opportunity to learn new ways to assemble our family puzzles from Thomas Jones.

--By Dianne Goshorn

I was able to attend the seminar with Thomas Jones as well and in particular appreciated his thorough review of the step by step research process he uses. He presented case examples in each session and explained his research goals, his "exhaustive" search, his review and analysis, and his conclusions.

If you would like to see him presenting his process and case examples there is a free seminar on the family search website: *Inferential Genealogy* <https://familysearch.org/learningcenter/lesson/inferential-genealogy/251>.

Eighteenth Annual Central Florida Family History Conference

---John and Carol Izzo

On November 8, 2014 we attended the 18th Annual Central Florida Family History Conference at the Olympia High School in Orlando, one of the largest family historical conferences on America's East Coast. It ran from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. with an estimated 500 people attending. There were five class periods throughout the day with about ten concurrent sessions. This re-

gional event brings world-class speakers from all over the country. Among the sponsors of the conference were Latter Day Saints Church and the Central Florida Genealogical Society.

The keynote address was by Jim Greene, Product Marketing Manager at Family Search in Salt Lake City, Utah. Jim has 30 years' experience in the computer industry, working for IBM and Novell before coming to Family Search seven years ago.

During the talk, Jim Greene mentioned that Wikipedia can be a great resource for genealogists since it has 17 million articles and is one of the ten biggest sites online. Jim also mentioned that Familysearch is hard at work digitizing the 2.4 million rolls of microfilm stored in its mountain vault in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Kory Meyerink (Founding VP, Senior Genealogist and Research lead at Ancestry Pro Genealogists) presented a class on "What's new at Ancestry?" She mentioned that Ancestry.com has: 15 billion records from 40 countries; 32,400 databases; 60 million member trees with 6 million profiles; 250 million photos, scanned documents, and stories; and 40 million searches conducted each day. One of the major new databases added in 2014 was the 4.85 million Pennsylvania death certificates from 1906-1944.

A class by Jim Greene entitled "Family Search's New Mobile Applications" told about a recent new app called "Family Search Tree" which allows I-Pad or other tablet users to have access to their family tree without Wi-Fi.

Jim mentioned that a few years ago he was asked by his employer, Familysearch.org to visit Argentina to see why they--more than any other location around the world--were so successful in getting people to visit the Family History Center. He said that most of the people in Argentina were doing work on their Italian ancestry. At that time in Argentina, the economy was in recession and many Italian descendants wanted to go to Italy to live. The only way to be admitted to Italy was to prove Italian ancestry, so many started working on their family trees.

Dan Poffenberger, a faculty member of the Family History Library, presented a class entitled "Finding Tombstone Records Online." He mentioned that "Find-a-Grave was originally started as a celebrity website and now has over 121 million graves in its database. Another site Billiongraves.com is a growing tombstone database with over 9 million gravestone records.

Maureen Taylor presented a class on "Solving Photo Mysteries." She mentioned that a person must start at home and network with relatives. Ask questions, such as: Why is this picture in your collection? Who do you think the people are? Are there any stories associated with the image? How did it end up in your collection?

Gary Smith presented a class entitled "Talking with grandpa: interviewing the living for leads to the past." He said do not discount family stories—they may be based on some grain of fact. Use them as starting points and clues.

Jack Butler presented a class on "And Now...The Rest of the Story - Getting beyond the vital statistics for a peek into our ancestors' lives." He spoke of using:

Traditional sources: court records-wills, probate, estate and land records, etc.; or military records of service or pension applications

Less Traditional sources: letters, diaries, journals; state archives, libraries and local historical associations; newspapers for published letters or records; birth, marriages, deaths and obits; school news, public announcements, gossip/society, church announcements.

Where to Find Them:

The U.S. Newspaper Program – <http://www.neh.gov/projects/usnp.html>.

The Catalog of Periodical Publications or PERSI

The Olden Times theoldentimes.com

Historic Newspapers Online

Newspapers Online onlinenewspapers.com

Cyndi's List cyndislist.com

World Vital Records worldvitalrecords.com

Godfrey Memorial Library godfrey.org

Timelines worldhistoryproject.org

Smalltownpapers.com

Jumping Over Brick Walls with DNA

-- Elliott Lee

Brick Walls are the feared end of the road of a particular branch of the family tree or maybe even the entire trunk. Instead of tearing down that brick wall with the traditional paper trail method, I like to think that when using DNA we actually jump over the wall. DNA matching with cousins of our common ancestors allows us to collaborate with these DNA cousins and use their information to continue building our family tree beyond that stubborn brick wall.

DNA genealogy is helpful to all who are trying to learn about their ancestors but especially to adoptees and African Americans with little or no paper trail to follow. So, just how does DNA allow us to make that leap over that wall? It lies in how we became who we are. The passing of our genes down from our parents to us and our siblings--our parents got their genes the same way back to the beginning of human existence.

If, for example, we start with a couple (Adam and Eve) that lived 6 generations ago and say they had 4 children. Each of those kids would get 50% of their DNA from their father and 50% from their mother. (Although, not exactly the same half which is outside this brief article).

Assuming each generation with four children per couple:

Four generations ago 16 children of this generation are DNA first cousins. Each cousin has inherited 12.5% of their DNA from one of their two sets of grandparents, Adam and Eve.

Three generations ago we have 64 second-DNA cousins, who each have inherited 3.12% of their DNA from one of their four sets of great grandparents, Adam and Eve.

Two generations ago we have 256 DNA third cousins, who each have inherited 0.78% of their DNA from one of their eight sets of g-g-grandparents, Adam and Eve.

One generation ago we have 1024 DNA fourth cousins, who each have inherited 0.2% of their DNA from one of their sixteen sets of g-g-g grandparents, Adam and Eve.

At the current generation you have 4096 DNA fifth cousins, who each have inherited 0.05% of their DNA from one of their thirty-two sets of g-g-g-g-grandparents, Adam

and Eve. This is an inverted family tree (decendant chart) with Adam and Eve at the top and you and your DNA fifth cousins at the bottom. Your parents and aunts/uncles at Gen 1, grandparents and grand aunts/uncles at Gen 2, great grandparents and great grand aunts/uncles at Gen 3 up to Adam and Eve at Gen 5.

So, let's say you are a member of Gen 0 and have taken a DNA test. You also have a paper trail to a set of great grandparents Gen 3 that has ended in a brick wall. As a result of your DNA test, you now have a list of DNA cousins who match a segment your DNA. The length of the matching DNA segment and number of chromosomes the segments occur on determine how close a cousin you two are and how many generations back you might have a common ancestor.

Let's say that this DNA match indicates that you two are probably fourth cousins (you share some DNA from the same g-g-g-grandparent). **If your DNA cousin is willing to share DNA information and has a family tree with a paper trail that goes back 8 generations, this is where you prepare to make that leap over the wall.**

In addition to the DNA match you must now match your Gen 3 data to that of your match's Gen 3 data. This data would consist of names, locations, timelines and other source information that would indicate a high probability of a connection. The DNA match is the backbone of this connection. It's the link to the common ancestor.

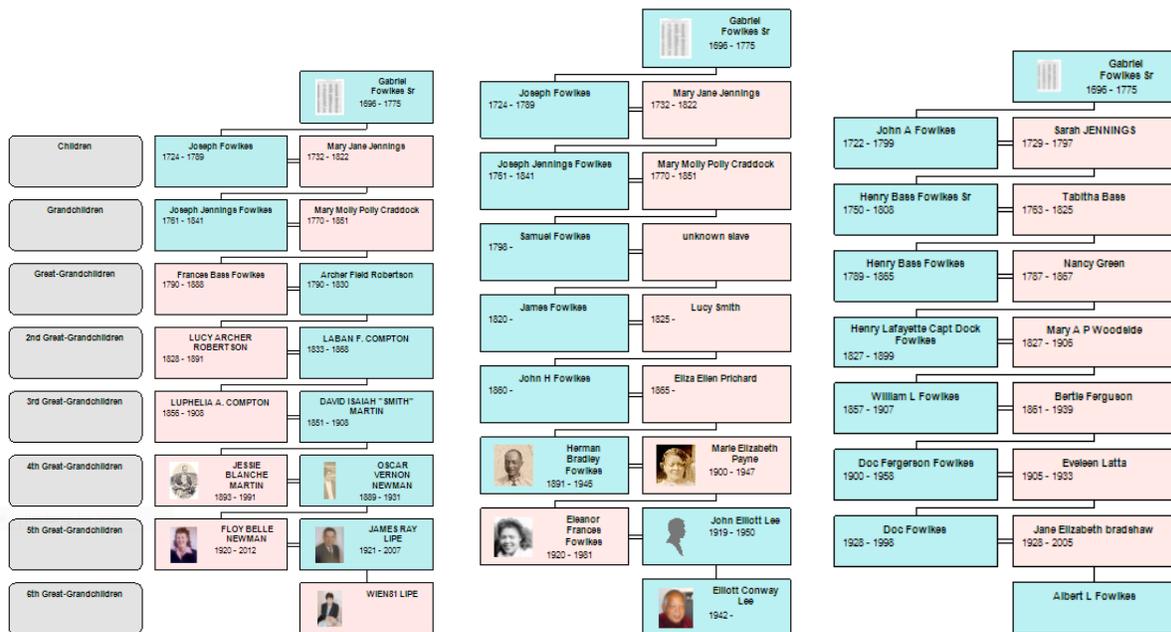
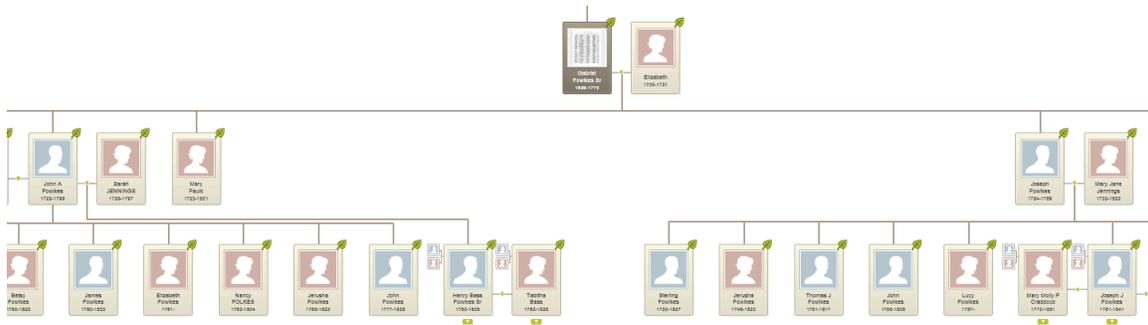
Because you will have maybe 1,000's of cousins from your great great great grandparents. Of these, there will be more that have tested their DNA and like the previous match, provide a path to the same common ancestor. This now reinforces the common ancestor connection.

This jump over the brick wall can be made at any generation level and can be used by the adoptee, African American of mixed African/European heritage or almost anyone with a brick wall.

Of course there could be some downside to jumping over brick walls when we find out that we are not "Who We Think We Are." But genealogy is about the search for the "Truth" isn't it?

A more detail example of using DNA to jump over brick walls can be found on the Roots and Branches website <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flrbgs/>. Go to Current Information and then select Last Month Speaker's Charts "DNA and Me." DNA testing for \$100.00 or less is provided by AncestryDNA, Family Tree DNA and 23andMe.

The following charts are an example of how I jumped over my brick wall ending at James Fowlkes born in about 1820. It was not known who his parents were but his decedents were listed as mulatto in the census.



I have two AncestryDNA matches that have Fowlkes in their family tree and have common ancestors in the same location and time frame as my James Fowlkes. Dyer, Tennessee was the key location. DNA match, alfwlkes, ancestors lived in Dyer, Tennessee as did WIEN81

AncestryDNA home > Member Matches for Elliott Lee > WIEN81



WIEN81
Member since 2009, last logged in 2 days ago

Predicted relationship: 4th Cousins
Possible range: 4th - 6th cousins (What does this mean?)
Confidence: Extremely High

[Send message](#)

2 Messages

Ethnicity

Regions: Ireland, Great Britain, Europe West

Trace Regions: Scandinavia, Iberian Peninsula, Finland/Northwest Russia, Caucasus, Italy/Greece

AncestryDNA home > Member Matches for Elliott Lee > alfowlkes

alfowlkes
Member since 2010, last logged in today

Predicted relationship: Distant Cousins
Possible range: 5th - 8th cousins ([What does this mean?](#))
Confidence: Good

Ethnicity
Regions: Scandinavia, Ireland, Great Britain, Europe West
Trace Regions: Iberian Peninsula, Italy/Greece, Europe East, Middle East, Africa North

Fowlkes, Smith, Duncan - European - Fowlkes in Dyer, Dyersburg, TN mid 1800's

Based on this information and the family trees of the two matches, the most likely parents of my James Fowlkes would be Samuel Fowlkes and an unknown slave. Samuel's sister was Frances Bass Fowlkes and their father was Joseph Jennings Fowlkes. Joseph Jennings would be the Most Recent Common Ancestor (MRCA) for WIEN81 and myself, making us fourth cousins.

Joseph Jennings brother was John A Fowlkes. John A decedents leads down to my alfowlkes DNA match. This makes Gabriel Fowlkes Sr. our MRCA and puts us at around fifth to eighth cousins. Gabriel was born in 1696 in Denbigh, Denbighshire, UK and died 1775 in Amelia, Colonial, VA.

Calendar of Events

January

Jan 8, 1:30 – 3:45 PM: Wills & Estates – Genealogy's Gold Mines by Jack Butler, Halifax Genealogical Society, Ormond Beach Library Auditorium, Ormond Beach, FL, www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flhgs.

Jan 8, 7:00 – 9:00 PM: Next 10 Ways to Be a Better Ancestor Paul Enchelmayer, Central Florida Genealogical Society, Family History Center, 45 E. Parr St., Orlando, FL. www.cfigs.org.

Jan 24. Volusia-Flagler Council of Genealogical Societies Genealogy Seminar: At The Club at Pelican Bay, Daytona Beach, FL. Sessions start at 9:00 AM, luncheon at 12:00, and sessions again at 1:30 PM. The cost for both is \$45.00 before December 15, and \$50 thereafter. Featured speaker is Claire Bettag, a professional genealogist from Washington D.C. Her topics will be *Assumptions: A Genealogical Slippery Slope, Federal Land Records at the National Archives, and The Congressional Serial Set and Government Documents*. For more information call Bill Meister at 386-445-3253, email GSFCFL@gmail.com, or www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flhgs.

Jan 24. 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM. Southwest Florida Germanic Genealogy Society Annual Seminar: At 24 Twenty-One Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte, FL. Featuring Kory L. Mererink, a full-time researcher who is accredited in four areas including Germany. A published author and a consultant for the popular TV series "Who Do You Think You Are?" his topics are: *Accessing Records in Germany: Local Repositories, Has It Already Been Done? German Compiled Records, Internet Sources for German Research, and US Sources for Learning the German Hometown*. A home-cooked German lunch is included in the cost of the seminar: \$30, members and \$35, non-members. Pre-registration required. Contact Joanne Ryder, ryder.joanne@gmail.com.

Jan 2015. Genealogy Roadshow Season 2 on PBS: The second season of the popular show is scheduled to begin in January 2015, airing on Tuesdays at 9:00 PM starting January 13. Please check your local PBS listing to verify the date and time. This season will include 6 one hour episodes, plus a seventh show featuring the “best of” previous shows. The episodes will spotlight participants from St. Louis, Philadelphia, and New Orleans.

February

Feb 11–14: Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) Conference: Salt Lake City, Utah, www.fgs.org.

Feb 12-14: RootsTech: Salt Palace Convention Center, Salt Lake City, Utah. <https://rootstech.org>.

Note: This year FGS and RootsTech are hosting their conferences with overlapping dates and are sharing some of the keynote speakers, activities, and the exhibit hall. There will be separate classes for each conference, and some special pricing if attending both conferences.

Feb 14, 8:00 AM-3:00 PM: Pinellas Genealogy Society, Inc. Educational Seminar: John Philip Colletta will present four talks: *Lesser Used Federal Records, Library of Congress, Case studies in Reconstruction Real Life Events, Discovering Real Stories of Immigrant Ancestors*. Cost is \$40.00 for members ahead of time; \$45.00 for non-members and \$50.00 at the door - with breakfast, lunch and beverages all day. Contact: www.flpgs.org. Library - 120 Central Park Drive, Largo, FL

Feb 21, 10:00 AM-2:30 PM: Citrus County Genealogical Society Seminar: Dick Eastman: *Genealogy Searches on Google, Using Online Genealogy Programs, The Organized Genealogist*. Good Shepard Lutheran Church, 439 E. Norvell Bryant Highway, Hernando, FL. **Advanced registration required!** \$12 for members, \$16 non-members. Bring your own lunch; free coffee, tea and cookies. Contact Mary Ann Machonkin 352-382-5515. www.citrusgenealogy.com.

Feb 23, 7:00 – 9:00 PM: A Family Association Visits Their Ancestors in England: Elaine Powell, Central Florida Genealogical Society, Family History Center, 45 E. Par St., Orlando, FL. www.cfigs.org.

Feb 24, 2015, Who Do You Think You Are? 10:00 pm. Season six of the television show will air on The Learning Channel (TLC) on Tuesdays starting in February. This is an early start as last year it aired in the summer. This season will feature 8 new episodes and will include Julie Chen, Angie Harmon, Sean Hayes, and Bill Paxton. The remaining guests have not been announced yet. Please check your station listings to verify date and time.

Feb 27 & 28. The Florida Chapter of The Ohio Genealogical Society Annual Conference: The speaker Craig Scott is also the featured speaker at the 2015 Ohio Genealogical Conference in Columbus. Come hear him closer to home and meet other Ohio researchers living in Florida. Craig is the CEO and President of Heritage Books, Inc., and a professional genealogical and historical researcher for more than twenty-eight years, with a specialization in the records of the National Archives, especially military. The conference begins Friday evening for dinner and continues for a genealogical roundtable, one of the chapter’s most popular events. On Saturday, he will speak on the following topics: *Quaker Records and Migrations; Pension Research: You Stopped Too Soon; and Finding Females*. At the West Melbourne Hampton Inn, Melbourne, Florida. Cost is \$45 for members / \$50 for non-members. Additional details: www.ogsfl.org.

March

Mar 12, 7:00-9:00 PM: What Really Happened at Ellis Island: Gladys Paulin, Central Florida Genealogical Society, Family History Center, 45 E. Parr St., Orlando, FL. www.cfgs.org.

Mar 21, 8:45 AM-4:00 PM: North Florida Genealogy Conference: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Orange Park, FL, www.nfgenealogyconference.com.

May

May 13-16: National Genealogical Society, Family History Conference (NGS). “Crossroads of America” at St. Charles Convention Center, St. Charles, Missouri, www.ngsgenealogy.com.

Roots & Branches Meetings Calendar

LESSONS (1 p.m – Conference Room) - Rosemary Sutton presenting:

- Jan 18** Tracing My Roots
- Feb 15** Sources, Citations, Documentation
- Mar 15** Avoiding Mistakes - Rosemary Sutton
- Apr 19** Migratory Patterns and Territorial Records
- May** Skeletons in the Closet
- June** Armchair and Road Research Trips
- Sept** Family History Including Genetic Heredity
- Oct** Hitting a Brick Wall
- Nov** Indentured Servants, Apprenticeships and American Surnames

PROGRAMS (2 p.m. - Auditorium)

- Jan 18** “Wills & Estates” by Jack Butler
- Feb 15** “All Rise: Researching at the County Courthouse” by Clyde Stickney
- Mar 15** “Finding Our More About Your Ancestry in Newspapers” by Kathy Stickney
- Apr 19** “Civil War Medicine: Infectious Disease & Immunity” by Peter Mullen

Check the calendar for any changes <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flrbgs>

Editorial Policy

The Editor reserves the right to edit articles, files or queries prior to publication. Neither Roots & Branches Genealogical Society of West Volusia County nor the Editor assumes any responsibility for errors on the part of the contributor. Material contained in this publication may be quoted if credit is given for the source.

Please Note: Submission of articles and information by members is essential to the continuation of this newsletter. If you enjoy receiving the newsletter please submit articles about your family research. Contact the Editor with questions about potential articles, or to share your ideas or feedback. Thank you.

Suggestions? Ideas? Questions?

We strive to produce an interesting newsletter with original material. Our goal is to leave a trail that will help others. Our focus is an ever expanding circle: Volusia County, Florida, United States---and the world! Are we succeeding? Please send feedback to guide us. Send your ideas and your problems, perhaps someone in the Society can assist you with a brick wall. Have a Query? We will include it in the newsletter so the WORLD will see it and assist. The newsletter is widely distributed including to the **PERSI** database at Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana (ACPL).

Editor: Dianne Goshorn, [dgoshorn@cfl.rr.com]

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<p align="center">Roots & Branches Genealogical Society of West Volusia County</p> <p>Volusia County Regional Public Library 30 East Howry Avenue DeLand, Florida 32724 Genealogy and Local History Room Phone: (386) 822-6930 ext 117 eMail: Roots.Branches.Volusia@gmail.com R&B Website: www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flrbgs Library Website: http://volusialibrary.org</p>	<p align="center">Officers 2014-2015</p> <p>President: Harriet Bolin VP Programs / Publicity: Marsha Zitzelberger VP Membership: Mary Lois Kelley Recording/ Corresponding Secretary: Jane Burr Treasurer: Judy Warensford Newsletter Editor: Dianne Goshorn Associate Editor: Gerald Remington Distribution: Mary Lois Kelley Web Master: Elliott C. Lee</p>
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130 E. Howry Avenue,
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To: