

**Madison County  
Genealogical Society,  
Box 631, Edwardsville, IL  
62025-0631**

**DUES 2022-2023:**

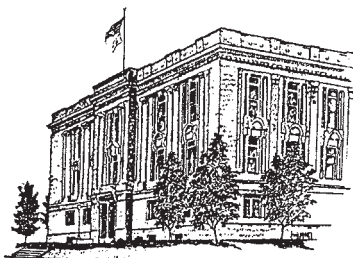
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# NEWSLETTER

Volume 42 Number 1 Spring 2022

**\*\*\* NOTICE \*\*\***

**Dues for 2022 were delinquent December 31, 2021. If you no longer wish to be a member of the MCGS, please contact Robert Ridenour at [rwridenour566@gmail.com](mailto:rwridenour566@gmail.com) so we can remove your name from our membership list. Otherwise, send your renewal checks to: *Madison County Genealogical Society, Box 631, Edwardsville, IL 62025-0631.***

**If you have not paid your 2022 dues by the end of March 2022, you **WILL** be removed from the Stalker mailing list.**

***Death of a Member***

***Dolores Ullrich***



Dolores Ullrich (nee Budde) died January 1, 2022, after a brief illness. She was preceded in death by her husband Don, parents Clarence and Ethel Budde.

Dolores was a well-known musician, music teacher, and patron of the arts. She frequently attended concerts by or performed with numerous bands and orchestras, including the Alton Symphony Orchestra, Compton Heights Concert Band, and Merry Tuba Christmas – among others. She was a retired member of the Deutschmeister Brass Band, and the director emeritus of the Letter Carriers Band of St. Louis. Her teaching career spanned over 45 years in Illinois, Florida, and Missouri.

Dolores never met a stranger and often referred to new acquaintances as a friend. She was also involved in Fosterburg Seniors and the Madison County Genealogical Society.

Her musical legacy lives on in her children, Ralph “Buzz” Ullrich, Roy Ullrich, and Amy Brinkley, all musicians. She is also survived by her daughters-in-law, Karen Ullrich and Lilly Allison, two Grandchildren, Gretchen Ullrich and Damon Ullrich, other family members, numerous cousins and hundreds of friends.

Burial was in Valley View Cemetery in Edwardsville. Memorial donations to the Alton Symphony Orchestra and ABOB are encouraged.

## March 10, 2022, Meeting

On March 10, 2022, the Madison County Genealogical Society held a meeting at the Edwardsville Public Library. Our presenter, Laura Chaplin, was in Sugar Grove, Illinois, and presented via ZOOM.

Her program was titled **What's Your Mission: Inherited Collection, Futureproofing, or Attacking Your Stacks?**

This presentation briefly discussed a series of steps that can be used to attack a collection of genealogical data, regardless of the size of the collection.

The [PDF of the PowerPoint presentation](#) is posted on the MCGS website, along with a [PDF form](#) designed to assist you in evaluating your material. There is also a template that can be used in this evaluation. However, it is an Excel file and you will have to contact Mary Westerhold to get her to email you a copy of the template.

Although the audience was small, this presentation was very well received. There were very few comments or questions because the presentation lasted almost until the library closing time.



### *Mitochondrial DNA Tests Disclose Ancient and Modern Indigenous Ancestry*

For decades, archeologists and anthropologists have posited that migrants from East Asia populated the Americas by navigating seaworthy crafts in the Pacific Ocean or by crossing over the Bering Sea land bridge that used to connect Asia and Alaska. In recent years, genetic testing has confirmed these theories by revealing the existence of haplogroups that are shared in prehistoric remains (ancient) and among contemporary persons (modern). DNA testing and analysis has also enabled scientists to plot specific migration patterns from Asia to the Americas.

Roberta Estes, author of *DNA for Native American Genealogy* defines a Haplogroup as follows: “For Y and mitochondrial DNA, a group of people who share specific mutations that place them in a common genetic clan. Haplogroups, based on a series of mutations, can be traced forward and backward in time.” In other words, individuals whose mitochondrial DNA test results (think, matrilineal descent) reveal a particular strand of DNA that is unique to them and to certain indigenous Americans and/or certain East Asians (modern or ancient) can be said to possess Native American Ancestry.

Ms. Estes, who is both a geneticist and genealogist, has written at length about the various Native American haplogroups in her new book and in her popular blog, **DNA-Explained**. She writes that we derive our understanding of the various haplogroups from academic publications, thousands of National Geographic Genographic Project testers, various Native American DNA projects conducted by FamilyTreeDNA, and DNA samples uploaded to GenBank. Geneticists have given letter titles to these haplogroups (A, A2, C, X) and to the subclades, or subgroups, who possess additional defining mutations.



### Women Who Served in the American Revolution

According to Jack Darrell Crowder, author of *Strange, Amazing, and Funny Events that Happened during the Revolutionary War*, many females served in that conflict. Some of them were camp followers accompanying their husbands or other family members; however, others were hoping to support themselves or were simply out for adventure. In a few recorded instances, they actually fought alongside the men. Here are some examples from Mr. Crowder's book:

"Anna Maria Lane wore the clothing of a soldier and was wounded performing her duties during the Battle of Germantown. Even though they were dressed as men, they did not pass themselves off as males. There was no doubt in anyone's eyes that they were females.

Some women, however, went a step further. They disguised themselves as men and fought along with the soldiers. They knew that if they were discovered they would be removed from the ranks and could face jail time.

Ann (Nancy) Bailey enlisted in 1777 under the name of Samuel Gay. She served in the 1<sup>st</sup> Massachusetts Regiment, and in just a few weeks she was promoted to the rank of Corporal. After three weeks, for reasons known only to her, she deserted. Her company commander, Captain Abraham Hunt, swore out a warrant for her arrest. She was soon captured and discovered to be a woman. She was fined by a civilian court for 'appearing in men's clothing' and she was sentenced to two months in prison.

A young New Jersey woman enlisted as a male in 1778 and was discovered almost at once. She was ordered to march through town while being humiliated by soldiers and townspeople.

The most famous of the impersonators was Deborah Sampson. She enlisted under the name of Robert Shurtliff and served for seventeen months. She was wounded twice in battle and her secret was not discovered until she was taken ill with a fever in 1783. She was given an honorable discharge and later awarded a pension for her service."

Sally St. Clair disguised herself as a man and served in a South Carolina Regiment. It was reported that she fought alongside either her husband or boyfriend. They were both killed in the same battle. Her true identity was not discovered until her death.

Jack Crowder's book, *Strange, Amazing, and Funny Events that Happened during the Revolutionary War*, is full of little known, funny, and inspiring accounts from the War for Independence. Check it out today, and while you're at it, look into his other two books on that conflict covering Women Patriots who earned their fame mostly in non-combatant roles, and his detailed account from original sources of the Battle of Concord.

## Strategies [and Sources] for Using Tax Records by Emily Anne Croom

ALPHABETICAL LIST of Persons in Division No. *One*, of Collection District No. *One* of the *State* of *Arkansas*, liable to a tax under the Excise laws of the United States, and the amount thereof, as assessed by *Wm. E. Ewing*, Assistant Assessor, and by *J. Smith*, Assessor, returned to the Collector of said District for the *Year* *1867*.

No. of Lists	NAME	LOCATION AND POST OFFICE ADDRESS	ARTICLE OR OCCUPATION	No. in Abstract	QUANTITY OR VALUATION	RATE OF TAX	AMOUNT OF TAX PARTICULAR ARTICLE	TOTAL	No. of Lists
1	<i>Alauidy S.</i>								1
2	<i>Basley S.</i>								2
3	<i>Boyd Ward</i>								
4	<i>Berry W. C. 1860</i>								
5	<i>Berry W. C.</i>		<i>Wholesale Dealer</i>	<i>171</i>	<i>12 mo 50</i>				
6	<i>Berry W. C.</i>		<i>Drum &amp; Co.</i>	<i>216</i>	<i>7755 61</i>	<i>5%</i>	<i>3978</i>		
7	<i>Boyd Abo</i>		<i>Manufacturer</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>12 mo 11</i>		<i>1000</i>		
8	<i>Buster Dr. W.</i>	<i>DeWitt</i>					<i>1000</i>		
9	<i>Buchanan Dr. W.</i>	<i>Cotton Plant</i>	<i>Lawyer</i>	<i>193</i>	<i>+</i>	<i>+</i>	<i>1000</i>		
10	<i>Burrows S. P.</i>		<i>Physician</i>	<i>209</i>	<i>+</i>	<i>+</i>	<i>1000</i>		

“He was excited. Excited and happy, like a dog which has followed a cold trail for a long time, and suddenly finds it a hot one.”  
[Nurse Detective Hilda Adams about Inspector Patton 68]

Research in tax records has produced this reaction of excitement for many genealogists and has resulted in many “hot trails.” A number of states and towns have preserved tax records that date to their early years; others have not been so diligent. Nevertheless, the genealogist needs to use them whenever they exist. They are particularly valuable for research in Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, Virginia, and early West Virginia when it was part of Virginia. The surviving records are usually found in county courthouses or in state archives. Many have been microfilmed and are available from the Family History Library.

Tax records are kin to land records because residents paid taxes on land they owned, as well as on slaves, horses, cattle, oxen, personal property, and luxury items such as clocks and carriages. In some cases, specific items were taxed in a given year, such as certain items of furniture, mirrors, and window curtains in Virginia in 1815. Sometimes, as in Virginia, the land tax records and personal property tax records are separate. People who owned no land could still have paid poll taxes (head taxes) on themselves, slaves, or sons of taxable age. Widows were not normally taxed except on their land and slaves, although men of taxable age in their households were taxed.

Following the existing tax rolls for a given ancestor over a period of years can give the researcher quite a bit of information. Yet, each state had its own laws, forms, and lists of taxable property. Free men could begin being taxed when they became 16 or 18 or 21 years old, depending on the state and the time period. Slaves were often classified in the tax rolls in age groups, such as those under 12, 12 to 16, over 16, or 16 to 55. These categories also varied from place to place and year to year. Usually, the tax laws designated an age after which a person was exempt from certain taxes.

### Information Sometimes Found in Tax Records:

What kind of information, in general, may be shown in these records? Below are some of the standard column headings, but these vary from state to state, even from year to year:

1. Name of the person charged with the tax, usually the head of household
2. Names of free men of color being taxed
3. Number, and sometimes names, of taxable free white males in the household

4. Number of acres of land owned, sometimes with location information – adjoining neighbors, watercourse, distance from the courthouse, or district number
5. Name of original grantee of land
6. Number of slaves in the household each year, sometimes with their names
7. Rent received on rented property
8. Number of horses, oxen, or cattle owned
9. Value of land, slaves, or other taxable property
10. Amount of tax paid

**What other information might the genealogist glean from studying some tax rolls?**

1. Relationships, either expressed, deduced, or suggested
2. Suggestions of birth order among sons in a family, depending on when they first were named or became a head of household
3. Suggestions of death year or moving, when someone no longer was listed, when an estate was listed, when someone was named as guardian of the children or administrator of an estate, or when someone is taxed for the property formerly belonging to another person
4. Occupations, expressed or implied by paying license fee
5. Suggestions of family groups of slaves, when, over the years, the same slaves were named in a household; sometimes, slaves' ages
6. Changes in a person's net worth or lifestyle, expressed in changes in the number of slaves, livestock, and luxury items
7. Preliminary identification of neighbors by studying adjoining landowners and watercourses, or when the tax collector dated each entry and it appears that he visited the households in person.

The foregoing article was excerpted from the recent reprint of Emily Anne Croom's excellent manual, *The Sleuth Book for Genealogists: Strategies for More Successful Family History Research*. *The Sleuth Book* is brimming with wonderful checklists, case studies, and novel approaches for using any number of genealogical source records.

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*Stalker Needs Articles*

The Stalker is in dire need of articles. We need input from all members. Send your contributions to Mary Westerhold at [mtw127@gmail.com](mailto:mtw127@gmail.com)

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*Keep Us Up to Date on Your Address*

Please let the secretary, Petie Hunter, know about any change of address: [petie8135@att.net](mailto:petie8135@att.net). The Stalkers are sent via Bulk Mail and will NOT be forwarded. We can even change your mailing address if you 'winter' in the South.

## ***“Bogus Stories of Military Ancestors Can Confound Family Historians”***

**by Richard Hite**

*[The following article was excerpted from Chapter 7 of Sustainable Genealogy, entitled “Military Service of Ancestors.”]*

“When I hear of some of the wildly exaggerated claims of the military exploits of my own ancestors and anyone else’s, I am reminded of “The Battle of Mayberry” episode of the *Andy Griffith Show*. In one episode, Opie’s class was assigned to write an essay about the so-called “Battle of Mayberry” which had involved the early settlers of the town of Mayberry and the Native American population two centuries earlier. Andy and Aunt Bea immediately told Opie about his own ancestor, Colonel Carlton Taylor who, by their account, played a leading role in the battle. Opie then went on to talk to all of the major characters in the town . . . [who] all told stories about ancestors who held the rank of “Colonel” at the time of the battle. All of them described the settlers winning the battle with only fifty armed men facing 500 Native Americans. Andy, realizing Opie’s confusion over the conflicting accounts, took him to visit a local Native American named Tom Strongbow . . . who told of his own ancestor, Chief Strongbow, leading fifty warriors to a victory over 500 armed settlers. . . . Finally, Andy took Opie to Raleigh, North Carolina, the state capital, to give him an opportunity to look up contemporary accounts of the battle. What Opie found was a newspaper account that told of a dispute that started over a cow accidentally killed by a Native American in Mayberry. Instead of fighting a battle though, fifty settlers and fifty braves settled the dispute by sharing several jugs of liquor and killing some deer to compensate the owner of the cow.

### **From Private to Major**

That whole story is, of course, fictitious but exaggerated accounts of ancestors’ military exploits are a dime a dozen in oral history whether “truly oral” or “written oral.” One of the most common mistakes is an inflated rank assigned to an ancestor. A likely source of this, particularly for Civil War soldiers, stems from the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century habit of referring to elderly veterans of that war as “Colonel” or “Major” – even for those that never rose above the rank of private. This was most common for Confederate veterans, but Union veterans were also referred to by these honorary titles in some instances. It is easy for overeager descendants who hear an ancestor referred to by an honorary rank to jump to the conclusion that he actually did hold such a rank while in the service. Usually, these claims of such high rank are relatively easy to check, especially for Civil War soldiers. Records for soldiers in earlier wars are not so voluminous but there are many, nonetheless. Service records and pension applications give the ranks soldiers achieved and it is not at all unusual to learn that an honorary major never actually rose above the rank of private. In the case of common names, proof (or disproof) may be a bit more of a challenge. A descendant of a private named John Smith will undoubtedly have little trouble finding a colonel or a major with that rank in some regiment from the state their own ancestor served from. In this kind of case, researchers should examine the economic circumstances of the ancestors, before and after the war. Assuming that a man named John Smith, who owned less than fifty dollars’ worth of real estate at the time of the 1860 and 1870 census enumerations held the rank of “Colonel” during the Civil War is not a leap of faith I would make.

### **The General’s Right Hand Man...**

Sometimes the stories of ancestral military exploits are more specific than an overinflated rank. One of the Pennsylvania German families I descend from is a family named Ickes. In the late 1990s, I was searching for information on them on *Genforum.com*, which was the primary means of exchanging genealogical information on the Internet at the time. I came across an account posted by a descendant of Nicholas Ickes (1764-1848), the founder of the town of Ickesburg in Perry County, Pennsylvania. Nicholas is not a direct ancestor of mine, but he is related. This descendant noted a family story (which she expressed skepticism about) that Nicholas Ickes had been a right hand man to George Washington and had looked between the logs of the General’s cabin to see him kneeling in prayer before a battle.

### **...Who Only Served Two Months!**

This is, of course, a spectacular story. Another family member, however, replied to this message less than a month later. Quoting from Ickes's pension application, she noted that in September 1781, he enlisted in the Continental Army as a substitute for a man named George Evans and marched from Philadelphia County (where he then resided) to Uniontown in Bucks County, Pennsylvania where he was stationed in the garrison and served about two months. His pension application was, in fact, rejected because he did not serve six months.

Clearly the contrast between tradition and documentation here could not be much more stark. The idea that a private who served in the Continental Army for two months became a right hand man to George Washington screams exaggeration. In fact, at the time Nicholas Ickes enlisted in Pennsylvania, Washington was in Yorktown, Virginia, preparing for the siege that became the climactic battle of the war. While Washington did spend the winter of 1781-1782 in Philadelphia, dealing with administrative matters relating to the Continental Army, he was not with the army and so the chances that Nicholas Ickes personally encountered him are virtually nil – and he certainly did not cross the General's path just before a battle. The original poster followed up with a less dramatic version of the original story – a tradition that Nicholas Ickes, while on duty near Washington's headquarters at Valley Forge, peeped through an opening between the boards and saw the General alone on his knees in prayer. This story, while omitting the tradition that Ickes had been a right hand man to Washington, is no more believable. The Continental Army spent the winter of 1777-1778 at Valley Forge and Nicholas Ickes did not enlist until September 1781.”

**Editor's Note:** Confounding stories of military forebears illustrates just one way genealogists can be lead down the primrose path in their research. Mr. Hite's acclaimed new book, *Sustainable Genealogy: Separating Fact from Fiction in Family Legends* is full of such cautionary tales.

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***“The Labyrinth of Cousinhood:  
Identifying Degrees Of Relationships Through Multiple Generations”***  
by  
**Denise R. Larson**

While paging through a tome about the history of the Madawaska Territory in Maine and Canada, aka British North America, I encountered several references to Pierre Duperré, a woodsman, pioneer, and all around good guy. Aha! thought I, a hero ancestor of mine. But before I could pencil him into the family lineage, I had to link him to the Duperré branch on my family tree. Little did I know about the tangle of genealogical relationships in which I would become ensnared.

Evidently there's more than one way to calculate cousinhood. There are rectangular-graph cousin and kinship charts. There's a canon law relationship chart shaped like a diamond, and there's a mathematical formula for figuring out degrees of cousinship.

Beyond degrees of cousinship and removal, there are considerations of the double cousin, the half cousin, the step-cousin, and the cousin-in-law. It was sounding more and more like the seating arrangement for a family Christmas dinner.

I followed my Duperré line back to the same generation as Pierre Duperré in the late eighteenth century and found my direct ancestors in Kamouraska, Canada, Pierre's hometown, which was a good sign. The problem was that my ancestors were a bunch of homebodies who stayed in Kamouraska, along the south shore of the St. Lawrence, for a few more generations before moving to the south shore of the St. John. That eliminated Pierre, who established his family along the Madawaska, as a direct ancestor.

Tracing Pierre's pedigree led me to our ancestor in common, but I needed a chart to figure out to what degree we were related, i.e., our consanguinity. A graph-type chart with an increasing number of “greats” along the *x* and *y* axes is called a “cousin table” or an ancestral, progenitor, or relationship chart. The direct ancestor who appears in both persons' charts is placed at the junction of the axes. One person follows the *x* axis, the other follows the *y* axis, each stopping at the

position the ancestor plays in his or her line, e.g., great-grandfather. Following the row or column from the ancestor's position to the junction of the two gives the degree of relationship, e.g., first cousin, and the degree of removal, e.g., once removed.

The mathematical method calls for counting the number of "greats" and "grands" assigned to the ancestor in common, with each great or grand counting as a 1. The smaller of the two numbers is the degree of cousinship. Pierre's great-grandfather (for a count of 2) was my great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-grandfather (for a count of 8). Pierre was my second cousin, 2 being the smaller number.

The degree of removal is calculated by subtracting the lesser from the greater number: 8 minus 2 equals 6. Pierre was six times removed.

Pierre as my second cousin six times removed was confirmed by an ancestral chart with *x* and *y* axes. Cyndi's List provides illustrations of several relationship charts at <http://www.cyndislist.com/cousins/>.

Disappointingly, I can't claim good citizen Pierre Duperré as a direct ancestor, but I can call him Cousin Pierre. It's nice to have a local hero in the family.

### **Close relationships of the regulated kind**

The conquest of Canada by the British Empire in 1759 created a cultural island of French Catholicism in a sea of English Protestantism. This was exacerbated by the arrival of 40,000 United Empire Loyalists at the end of the American Revolution. The silver lining of the situation, genealogically speaking, was that a clergyman of the Catholic Church undertook the heroic task of cataloging the pedigrees of the people of Quebec province and some Acadians so that men and women of marriageable age could avoid unions of too close a degree of consanguinity (the limits of which were set by the Church) yet still marry within their ethnicity and religion.

The genealogical dictionary produced by the Rev. Cyprien Tanguay (1819-1902) also served to collect and preserve parish registers and civil records. Occasionally it was cited in court cases to settle claims to estates. Tanguay's *Dictionnaire généalogique des familles canadiennes* is still an esteemed genealogical resource for French-Canadian families from 1617 to 1760. The seven-volume reference work is available for free use online through the Bibliotheque et Archives Nationales du Quebec at <http://bibnum2.banq.qc.ca/bna/dicoGenealogie/>.

**For more resources about French Canada, see:**

***Genealogy at a Glance: French-Canadian Genealogy Research*** by Denise R. Larson. If you think you might be a descendant of the first generation of French settlers in Quebec, see her book, ***Companions of Champlain: Founding Families of Quebec, 1608-1635. With 2016 Addendum.***

**For further reading about consanguinity and the pitfalls of claiming a hero as one's own:**

***Kinship: It's All Relative, Enlarged Second Edition***, by Jackie Smith Arnold includes explanations, descriptions, and methods of calculating degrees of relationship including a relationship chart. There also are chapters on legal issues, such as marriage, names, and wills.

For a lighter look at genealogical entanglements there is: ***The Sunny Side of Genealogy*** by Fonda D. Baselt and Laverne Galeener-Moore's sassy yet insightful ***Collecting Dead Relatives*** and ***Further Undertakings of A Dead Relative Collector***