

The Genie



PUBLISHED QUARTERLY BY

ARK-LA-TEX GENEALOGICAL ASSOCIATION, INC.

P. O. BOX 4463
SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA 71134-0463

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ARK-LA-TEX GENEALOGICAL ASSOCIATION, INC.

P.O. Box 4463

Shreveport, Louisiana 71134-0463

The Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Association is a Section 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization incorporated in the State of Louisiana.

The purpose of this organization is:

- To collect, preserve and make available genealogical documents and records
- To encourage an interest in genealogy and to sponsor educational programs for its development
- To promote the Shreveport/Bossier City area as having significant resources for genealogical and historical research
- To compile and publish a quarterly publication, *The Genie*, composed of records of genealogical and historical importance, helpful research information, and ancestral queries.



The Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Association meets on the second Saturday of each month from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm at the Randle T. Moore Center, 3101 Fairfield Avenue, Shreveport, LA.

The membership year is from January 1 through December 31 and dues are \$20.00 annually for individual or same household family memberships. Dues for those members joining in the last half of the year (July 1 - December 31) are \$10.00. Membership renewals are due by January 31 at the "whole year" annual rate. Payment may be made online through PayPal, by regular mail, or at regular meetings. Refer to our website: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~laaltga/join.htm> for details.

Statement of Publication: *The Genie* is published on a quarterly basis and distributed electronically as a pdf document to members and subscribing institutions that have provided an email address. The Association also participates in an exchange agreement with other organizations that publish similar genealogical publications. Those publications that are received are donated to the Broadmoor Branch Genealogy Department of the Shreve Memorial Library.

We welcome family history and genealogy research articles and records, especially those that are likely to be of an interest to others. Some examples are family pedigree charts, cemetery surveys/records, family and community histories, and transcribed courthouse records. We also accept articles describing a genealogical "brick wall," as well as queries. All submitted material should be typed or very plainly written and sent to our mailing address or emailed to our editor. Please note that *The Genie* cannot be responsible for errors or inaccuracies, but will hasten to publish correction.

Copyright Laws: All who submit material from other sources should be aware of copyright restrictions. When articles are obtained from another source, permission should be obtained from the author, compiler, or owner of the material being submitted and a statement to that effect provided. Also, we encourage use of source citations when applicable.

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The President's Message

Genealogy is an amazing interest! It can be a hobby or a means to make a living; a class which one teaches or a reason to learn more about an inherited ailment. Genealogy can be a driving force one explores due to a curious nature. (Did Great Grandpa really drive a covered wagon across the Sierra Nevada?) For some, genealogy may fulfill a promise to leave a recorded legacy to descendants. For many, for whatever purpose, it is an obsession!

This great fascination appears to have roots in the idea of connectedness. Since Biblical times a need was apparent to connect with ancestors to "ground" one with "someone," especially if the "someone" was of personal importance. Recorded family history can provide this sense of being grounded with a group. The key word to note is "recorded." One can sit at the feet of relatives for hours on end and listen to their inspiring stories, but how many of those narratives will be remembered and carried over into future generations? If time is taken to write down those stories, especially while relatives are alive, the chances are much greater that perhaps a niece, a great, great grandchild or a distant cousin will be captivated and thus begin another cycle of research and storytelling!

This kind of logic has been around for years, but for some reason, neglecting the obvious seems to get in the way. For family stories to continue, family historians may need to put pen to paper or fingers to computer keys and just begin to write what they remember of daily life experiences. It is not necessary to "begin at the beginning" of a life history. Just jotting down a paragraph or two about a first home, the day the stove caught on fire, the delight attending a daughter's wedding or the great value of possessing a grandfather's rifle, can become precious family memories for someone in the family.

Genealogy helps to ground us as to who we are and where we are from and helps to nurture a connectedness to kin that is almost undefinable. Recorded genealogy keeps the history alive. We are the conduit between our ancestors and our descendants. Let your family know where these stories are kept. Have you considered emailing these "paragraphs" or snippets to someone in your family as you write them? Maybe include a photo? What one of us would not love to receive such a remembrance in our inbox? Another great place to share a family story would be in our association's quarterly, *The Genie*. You don't have to be a great writer or storyteller to contribute your memories. Your family will appreciate it and readers will love to share in your enthusiasm.

No matter the reason we became "hooked" on this great "love affair" with genealogy, we must begin to write what we know...now! We can do this!

Glenda Efferson Bernard

Vice President's Message

It is my pleasure to report the activities of the Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Association for the spring of 2015. Our meetings this spring have included great programs and the Education Committee continues to do wonderful work. Look for information from our recent Hornbook Sessions in this issue. Our Family History Day was an excellent day for the association. Many of us schedule research trips for the summer. We look forward to our annual August seminar as the high point of our year.

For our March meeting, Ellen T. Kyle discussed "How Our Genetic Heritage Makes Sugar a Poison for Us." Ms. Kyle holds an advanced nursing degree and works as a healthcare operations consultant. She is also an avid genealogist. She explained how the same bloodlines that have made us great actually handicap us and makes us victims of our food culture. Obesity and the health risks that accompany it, high blood pressure, heart disease and diabetes seem to be our natural inheritance. The good news that Ms. Kyle presented was that these risks can be avoided with proper diet and exercise, so that we may live longer, healthier lives.

Our April meeting was devoted to our annual Family History Day, an all-day event conducted at the Broadmoor Branch of the Shreve Memorial Library. The Education Committee invited beginners to "discover our roots, explore family relationships, and evaluate our place in history." In the morning, Sonja Webb instructed participants in the use of family group sheets and charts. Peggy LaCour assisted Sonja in a discussion of how family researchers organize data. Peggy explained interviewing techniques for genealogists and Jim Johnson provided an overview of the US Census.

Family History Day continued in the afternoon with a directed exploration of the Genealogy Department at Shreve Memorial Broadmoor. Joe Slattery gave participants a tour of the department. Glenda Bernard, Brenda Randall and other members of the association offered one-on-one training in such varied topics as Regional Obituary files, MyHeritage, Microfilm, Vertical Files, Ancestry.com, Fold3, City Directories, Maps and Basic Internet Searches. The Education committee and other volunteers shared their expertise with the newcomers. All of the participants benefited and some were able to extend their family histories by several generations.

Jim Johnson, past president of the association, presented "Strategies for Solving Brick-Wall Problems" for our May meeting. Brick walls come with the territory when we try to study family history. It is just inevitable that our research brings us to a point at which we cannot seem to find more information. Sometimes, it is difficult to even start. Jim explained the importance of seeking original sources and of revisiting and re-evaluating all the evidence at hand. These brick-wall problems drive researchers to take their studies to higher levels and to seek information that is not readily available from online sources or compiled publications.

Jim's presentation was not all theory, however. He had asked that members submit their toughest problems in writing before the time of the meeting. Several did. Jim used these problems as case studies, suggesting specific techniques and sources that might help. He was able not only to direct participants in their research, but he actually brought some of this methodology to bear on their problems. Jim gave more than one participant the solution they had been seeking.

Joe Slattery spoke on "Shreveport's Historic Oakland Cemetery" on June 13 and on July 11 Education Committee Members Sonja Webb, Peggy LaCour, and Glenda Bernard will present "How Technology has Changed Genealogy Research." The summer program is going strong!

I am very excited that Charles Gardes will be speaking for our August seminar. Mr. Gardes was a fixture at the annual Angelina College Genealogy Conference for many years and is well-known as a genealogical speaker in the Houston area. Look for further information concerning our August seminar in this issue. We actually had to turn people away for our seminar last year, so I recommend that you register early if you can. I will see you there.

In 2003, I plunked down a check for \$200 to purchase a lifetime membership in the Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Association. It was a lot of money for me, then and now. (They figured the cost by multiplying the annual membership fee of \$20 by 10.) I do not do such things without some thought. It was a real question as to whether I could ever win on the deal. Would I even live at least 10 years to get my money's worth? Would I continue to get pleasure from participating with the group?

That lifetime membership turned out to be a pretty good deal. I essentially got 10 annual memberships by paying in advance. I feel compelled to repeat that the Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Association has never had more meaningful, educational meetings in my 25 years' experience. The longer I live, the better the deal is, of course. I am thinking that I am as healthy as most 57-year-old men. You all may have me for another 20 or 30 years. I do not know why I bring it up just now. I guess I feel like you all would want to know.

I wish you all the best of luck in your travels and in your research this summer.

Reed Mathews
2nd Vice President

PREPARED BY FRIENDS OF GENEALOGY

Contributed by Brenda Randall

CATALOGUE OF DISCS

ORGANIZED BY

**LOUISIANA PARISHES, SURROUNDING
& VARIOUS OTHER STATES**

**OBITUARIES, WEDDINGS, BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS,
REUNIONS, NEWSPAPERS, FUNERAL HOMES, HISTORICAL
ARTICLES, MEMORIALS, CEMETERY LISTINGS,
COLLECTIONS**

This is Part 2 of 3

(Desoto Parish - Tensas Parish)

Part 1 was published in *The Genie* 1st Quarter, March 2015

Part 3 will be published in a subsequent quarterly

This is an index to CDs that are available at the main desk in the Genealogy Department, Broadmoor Library. If you find something you would like to look at, ask for the disc or discs you wish to peruse.

The records on these discs contain dates ranging from 1800's to 2013 and are arranged in Adobe searchable files. The name typed into the search box does not need to be limited to the name of the deceased. It may also include family members, pallbearers, pastors, etc.

If there is no search box, press the "Control button + letter F" to access the Adobe search feature.

Poor conditions of some of the material makes it "unsearchable" via Adobe feature, so you might wish to also manually scroll (alphabetically) through areas which interest you.

Published in *The Genie*, 1st Quarter, March 2015

Published in *The Genie*, 2nd Quarter, June, 2015

LOUISIANA PARISHES

Avoyelles

Beauregard

Bienville

Bossier

Caddo

Calcasieu

Caldwell

Catahoula

Claiborne

Concordia

DeSoto

East Carroll

Franklin

Grant

LaSalle

Lincoln

Madison

Morehouse

Natchitoches

Ouachita

Rapides

Red River

Richland

Sabine

St. Landry

Tensas

Union

Vernon

Webster

West Carroll

Winn

Discs 027 & 028

East Baton Rouge

East Feliciana

Pointe Coupe

Tangipahoa

OTHER STATES

Alabama

Arkansas

Arizona

California

Colorado

Florida

Hawaii

Idaho

Illinois

Indiana

Kentucky

Maryland

Michigan

Mississippi

Missouri

New Mexico

New York

North Carolina

Oklahoma

Oregon

Pennsylvania

Tennessee

Texas

Virginia

Washington, D.C.

DeSOTO PARISH

Parish seat is Mansfield. Nearby towns and villages include Logansport, Stonewall and Grand Cane. Neighboring parishes are Caddo, Red River, Natchitoches and Sabine, plus Shelby and Panola Counties, Texas. The parish is served by Mansfield Enterprise, a weekly, and Shreveport Times, a daily newspaper based in Shreveport (Caddo) LA.

Mansfield Enterprise (Mansfield, LA)

| | |
|-----------|----------|
| 1934-1998 | Disc 027 |
| 2010 | Disc 016 |
| 2011 | Disc 018 |
| 2012 | Disc 021 |
| 2013 | Disc 022 |

The Enterprise and Interstate Progress (Mansfield)

| | |
|------|----------|
| 2011 | Disc 018 |
|------|----------|

Jenkins F.H. (Mansfield, La)

| | |
|------|----------|
| 2011 | Disc 018 |
| 2012 | Disc 021 |
| 2013 | Disc 022 |

EAST CARROLL PARISH

Parish seat is Lake Providence. Transylvania is the only other town in the parish. Neighboring parishes are Madison, Richland and West Carroll, plus Chicot County (AR) and Issaquena and Warren Counties (MS). Banner Democrat is the major newspaper in the area, published weekly.

Banner Democrat (Lake Providence, La)

| | |
|----------------|----------|
| Feb – Dec 2010 | Disc 016 |
| 2011 | Disc 018 |
| 2012 | Disc 021 |
| 2013 | Disc 022 |

Cox Funeral Home (Lake Providence, Oak Grove, Delhi, Bastrop) See West Carroll Parish for listing.

FRANKLIN PARISH

Parish seat is Winnsboro. Nearby towns and villages include Baskin, Gilbert, and Wisner. Neighboring parishes are Richland, Madison, Tensas, Catahoula and Caldwell. The Franklin Sun, a weekly, provides news coverage for the area.

Franklin Sun (Winnsboro, LA)

| | |
|---------------------|----------|
| 1939-2000 | Disc 027 |
| Sep 2009 – Mar 2010 | Disc 013 |
| Apr – Jun 2010 | Disc 015 |
| 2007 – 2010 | Disc 016 |

Gill Funeral Home (Winnsboro, La)

| | |
|---------------------|----------|
| Jan– Jun 2009 | Disc 003 |
| Jan – Jun 2009 | Disc 004 |
| Jul – Sep. 2009 | Disc 005 |
| Feb 2005 – Dec 2009 | Disc 010 |
| Jan – Mar 2010 | Disc 013 |
| Apr – Jun 2010 | Disc 015 |
| 2010 | Disc 016 |
| 2011 | Disc 018 |
| 2012 | Disc 021 |
| 2013 | Disc 022 |

Young's Community F.H. (Winnsboro)

| | |
|---------------------|----------|
| Jun 2006 – Dec 2009 | Disc 010 |
| Jan – Mar 2010 | Disc 013 |
| Apr – Dec 2010 | Disc 015 |
| 2010 | Disc 016 |
| 2011 | Disc 018 |
| 2012 | Disc 021 |
| 2013 | Disc 022 |

Mulhearn F.H. (Winnsboro, Rayville, Monroe, West Monroe) See Ouachita Parish for listing.

GRANT PARISH

Parish seat is Colfax. Nearby towns and villages include Creola, Dry Prong, Montgomery and Pollock. Neighboring parishes are Winn, LaSalle, Rapides and Natchitoches. The Chronicle provides weekly news coverage. Obituaries, weddings and other Grant Parish news might be found in The Town Talk, a daily newspaper published in Alexandria (Rapides).

The Chronicle (Colfax, LA)

| | |
|------|----------|
| 1999 | Disc 027 |
| 2009 | Disc 027 |
| 2010 | Disc 016 |
| 2011 | Disc 018 |
| 2013 | Disc 022 |

JACKSON PARISH

Parish seat is Jonesboro. Nearby towns and villages include Chatham, Quitman, Eros, Hodge and Weston. Surrounding parishes are Lincoln, Ouachita, Caldwell, Winn and Bienville. The Jackson Independent, a weekly, is the major newspaper.

Jackson Independent (Jonesboro, LA)

| | |
|---------------|----------|
| 1930's-2000's | Disc 027 |
| 2010 | Disc 016 |
| 2011 | Disc 018 |
| 2012 | Disc 021 |
| 2013 | Disc 022 |

Edmonds F.H. (Jonesboro, La)

| | |
|----------------------|----------|
| Nov. 2007 – Dec 2008 | Disc 001 |
| Jan 0 Mar 2009 | Disc 002 |
| Nov 2007 – Dec 2009 | Disc 010 |
| Apr – Jun 2009 | Disc 003 |
| Jan – Jun 2009 | Disc 004 |
| Jan – Mar 2010 | Disc 013 |
| Apr – Jun 2010 | Disc 015 |
| Jan – Dec 2010 | Disc 016 |
| 2011 | Disc 018 |
| 2012 | Disc 021 |
| 2013 | Disc 022 |

Southern Funeral Home (Jonesboro & Winnfield, La) See Winn Parish for listing.

LaSALLE PARISH

Parish seat is Jena. Nearby towns and villages include Olla, Tullos and Urania. Surrounding parishes are Caldwell, Catahoula, Avoyelles, Rapides, Grant and Winn. The Jena Times, a weekly, is the major newspaper. Obituaries, weddings and other area news might also be found in The Town Talk, a daily, published in Alexandria (Rapides) LA.

Jena Times

| | |
|------------------------|----------|
| Jan – Mar 2010 | Disc 013 |
| Apr – Jun 2010 | Disc 015 |
| 2010 | Disc 016 |
| 15 Apr 2009 – Dec 2011 | Disc 018 |
| 2012 | Disc 021 |
| 2013 | Disc 022 |

Riser F.H. (Olla, La) See Caldwell Parish for listing. Disc 013

Hixson Brothers F.H. (Jena, Marksville, Alexandria, Pineville, La) See Rapides Parish for listing.

LINCOLN PARISH

Parish seat is Ruston. Nearby towns and villages include Choudrant, Grambling, Dubach, Vienna, Simsboro, and Downsville (which is partly in Lincoln and partly in Union). Lincoln is served by Ruston Daily Leader. Neighboring parishes are Ouachita, Union, Jackson, Claiborne and Bienville.

Ruston Daily Leader

| | |
|---------------------|----------|
| 1930-2004 | Disc 027 |
| Sep 2007 – Dec 2008 | Disc 001 |
| Jan – Mar 2009 | Disc 002 |
| Apr – Jun 2009 | Disc 003 |
| Sep 2007 – Jun 2009 | Disc 004 |
| Jul – Sep 2009 | Disc 005 |
| Oct – Nov 2004 | Disc 010 |
| Sep 2007 – Dec 2009 | Disc 010 |

Ruston Daily Leader (continued)

| | |
|----------------|----------|
| Jan – Mar 2010 | Disc 010 |
| Apr – Jun 2010 | Disc 015 |
| 2010 | Disc 016 |
| 2011 | Disc 018 |
| 2012 | Disc 021 |
| 2013 | Disc 022 |

King's Funeral Home (Ruston, La)

| | |
|----------------|----------|
| Jan – Mar 2010 | Disc 013 |
| Apr – Jun 2010 | Disc 015 |
| 2010 | Disc 016 |
| 2011 | Disc 018 |
| 2012 | Disc 021 |
| 2013 | Disc 022 |

Owens F.H. (Ruston, La)

| | |
|----------------|----------|
| Jan – Mar 2009 | Disc 002 |
| Apr – Jun 2009 | Disc 003 |
| Jan – Jun 2009 | Disc 004 |
| 2005 – 2008 | Disc 004 |
| Jul - Sep 2009 | Disc 005 |
| 2005 – 2009 | Disc 010 |
| Jan – Mar 2010 | Disc 013 |
| Apr – Jun 2010 | Disc 015 |
| 2005 – 2010 | Disc 016 |
| 2011 | Disc 018 |
| 2012 | Disc 021 |
| 2013 | Disc 022 |

Kilpatrick F. H. (Ruston, Farmerville, Monroe, West Monroe, La) See Ouachita Parish for listing.

MADISON PARISH

Parish seat is Tallulah. Nearby towns and villages include Delta, Mound and Richmond. Neighboring parishes are East Carroll, Tensas, Franklin and Richland, plus Warren County, MS. Madison news is covered by Madison Journal, a weekly. Major funeral home is Cox.

Madison Journal (Tallulah, La)

| | |
|------|----------|
| 2010 | Disc 016 |
| 2011 | Disc 018 |
| 2012 | Disc 021 |
| 2013 | Disc 022 |

MOREHOUSE PARISH

Parish seat is Bastrop. Neighboring towns and villages include Bonita, Collinston, Mer Rouge and Oak Ridge. Abutting Morehouse are West Carroll, Richland, Ouachita and Union Parishes, plus Union, Ashley and Chicot Counties in Arkansas. Bastrop Daily Enterprise is the major newspaper. Obituaries, weddings and other news might also be found in Monroe News Star, a daily publishes in Monroe (Ouachita).

Bastrop Daily Enterprise

| | |
|---------------------|----------|
| Dec 2008 – Mar 2009 | Disc 002 |
| Apr – Jun 2009 | Disc 003 |
| 2008 – Jun 2009 | Disc 004 |
| Jul – Sep 2009 | Disc 005 |
| Dec 2008 – Dec 2009 | Disc 010 |
| Jan – Mar 2010 | Disc 013 |
| Apr – Jun 2010 | Disc 015 |
| 2010 | Disc 016 |
| 2011 | Disc 018 |
| 2012 | Disc 021 |

Bastrop Daily Enterprise (African-American Obituaries)

| | |
|-----------|----------|
| 1977-1985 | Disc 014 |
|-----------|----------|

Golden F.H. (Bastrop. La)

| | |
|----------------|----------|
| Apr – Jun 2009 | Disc 003 |
| Jan – Jun 2009 | Disc 004 |
| Jan – Mar 2009 | Disc 002 |
| Jul – Sep 2009 | Disc 005 |
| Jan – Dec 2009 | Disc 008 |
| Jan – Mar 2010 | Disc 013 |
| Apr – Jun 2010 | Disc 015 |
| 2010 | Disc 016 |
| 2011 | Disc 018 |
| 2012 | Disc 021 |
| 2013 | Disc 022 |

Cox Funeral Home (Bastrop, Oak Grove, Lake Providence, Delhi, La) See West Carroll Parish for listing.

NATCHITOCHEs PARISH

Parish seat is Natchitoches. Nearby towns and villages include Campti, Goldonna, and Robeline. Neighboring parishes are Bienville, DeSoto, Grant, Winn, Rapides, Vernon, Sabine and Red River. Natchitoches Times is the major newspaper in the area.

NATCHITOCHE PARISH *(continued)*Natchitoches Times

| | |
|---------------------|----------|
| 1953-2012 | Disc 027 |
| Jan – Mar 2009 | Disc 002 |
| Apr – Jun 2009 | Disc 003 |
| Jan – Jun 2009 | Disc 004 |
| Jul – Sep 2009 | Disc 005 |
| Jan – Dec 2009 | Disc 007 |
| Dec 2009 – Mar 2010 | Disc 013 |
| Dec 2009 – Mar 2010 | Disc 016 |
| Jan – Nov 2009 | Disc 017 |

Blanchard–St. Denis FH (Natchitoches)

| | |
|---------------------|----------|
| Nov 2008 – Mar 2009 | Disc 002 |
| Apr – Jun 2009 | Disc 003 |
| Nov 2008 – Jun 2009 | Disc 004 |
| Jul – Sep 2009 | Disc 005 |
| Nov 2008 – Dec 2009 | Disc 007 |
| Jan – Mar 2010 | Disc 013 |
| Aug 2006 – Dec 2008 | Disc 013 |
| Apr – Jun 2010 | Disc 015 |
| Aug 2006 – Dec 2010 | Disc 016 |
| Nov 2008 – Dec 2009 | Disc 017 |
| 2011 | Disc 018 |
| 2012 | Disc 021 |
| 2013 | Disc 022 |

Winnfield F.H. See Caddo Parish for listing.

OUACHITA PARISH

The parish seat is Monroe, with West Monroe, Sterlington, Calhoun and Richwood other communities. The Monroe News Star is the major newspaper, but the Ouachita Citizen in West Monroe also serves the area. Neighboring parishes include Union (N), Lincoln (W), Richland (E), Caldwell (S), and Morehouse (NE). Mulhearn, Kilpatrick, and Griffin funeral homes provide mortuary services to the citizens.

Ouachita Citizen (West Monroe, LA)

| | |
|---------------------|----------|
| 2008 | Disc 027 |
| Sep 2008 – Mar 2009 | Disc 002 |
| Apr – Jun 2009 | Disc 003 |
| Jan – Jun 2009 | Disc 004 |
| Sep – Dec 2008 | Disc 004 |
| Jul – Sep 2009 | Disc 005 |
| Jan – Dec 2009 | Disc 010 |
| Jan – Mar 2010 | Disc 013 |
| Apr – Jun 2010 | Disc 015 |
| 2010 | Disc 016 |

Ouachita Citizen (West Monroe, LA) (*continued*)

| | |
|------|----------|
| 2011 | Disc 018 |
| 2012 | Disc 021 |
| 2013 | Disc 022 |

The News Star (Monroe, LA)

| | |
|-----------------|----------|
| 1865-1910 | Disc 027 |
| 1998-2000 | Disc 027 |
| 2004 | Disc 027 |
| Oct 2004 - 2010 | Disc 016 |
| 2011 | Disc 018 |
| 2012 | Disc 021 |
| 2013 | Disc 022 |

Griffin F.H. (West Monroe, La)

| | |
|---------------------|----------|
| Jan – Mar 2010 | Disc 013 |
| Mar 2009 – Dec 2010 | Disc 016 |
| 2011 | Disc 018 |
| 2012 | Disc 021 |
| 2013 | Disc 022 |

Kilpatrick Funeral Home (Monroe, West Monroe, Ruston, Farmerville, La)

| | |
|---------------------|----------|
| Mar 2008 – Dec 2009 | Disc 010 |
| Apr – Jun 2010 | Disc 010 |
| Jan – Mar 2010 | Disc 013 |
| Apr – Jun 2010 | Disc 015 |
| 2010 | Disc 016 |
| 2011 | Disc 018 |
| 2012 | Disc 021 |
| 2013 | Disc 022 |

Mulhearn Funeral Home (Monroe, West Monroe, Rayville, Winnsboro La)

| | |
|----------------|----------|
| Jan – Jun 2009 | Disc 004 |
| 2007 – 2008 | Disc 004 |
| Jul – Sep 2009 | Disc 005 |
| Jan – Mar 2010 | Disc 013 |
| 2007 – 2009 | Disc 010 |
| Apr – Jun 2010 | Disc 015 |
| 2010 | Disc 016 |
| 2011 | Disc 018 |
| 2012 | Disc 021 |
| 2013 | Disc 022 |

RAPIDES PARISH

Alexandria is the parish seat, with Pineville, Tioga, Boyce, Forest Hill, Lecompte, Woodworth, Deville, and Cheneyville other towns. The Alexandria Town Talk is the major newspaper. Grant (N), Avoyelles (E), Vernon (W), LaSalle (NE), Natchitoches (NW), Allen (SW), and Evangeline (SE), are nearby parishes. Those researching Grant Parish might also consult Rapides resources. Hixson, Hixson Brothers, Forest Lawn, Kramer and Sons and Griffin funeral homes provide mortuary services.

The Town Talk (Alexandria, LA)

| | |
|----------------|----------|
| 1990's-2000's | Disc 027 |
| Apr – Jun 2009 | Disc 003 |
| Apr – Jun 2009 | Disc 004 |
| Jul – Sep 2009 | Disc 005 |
| Apr – Dec 2009 | Disc 007 |
| Jan – Mar 2010 | Disc 013 |
| Apr – Jun 2010 | Disc 015 |
| Jan – Dec 2010 | Disc 016 |
| Apr 0 Dec 2009 | Disc 017 |
| 2011 | Disc 018 |

Forest Lawn Funeral Home (Ball, La)

| | |
|---------------------|----------|
| Apr – Jun 2009 | Disc 003 |
| Jul – Sep 2009 | Disc 005 |
| Apr 2005 – Dec 2010 | Disc 016 |
| Apr – Dec 2009 | Disc 017 |
| 2011 | Disc 018 |
| 2012 | Disc 021 |

Hixson Brothers Funeral Home

| | |
|----------------|----------|
| Apr - Jun 2009 | Disc 003 |
|----------------|----------|

(Alexandria, Jena, Marksville, Pineville, La)

| | |
|----------------|----------|
| Jul - Sep 2009 | Disc 005 |
| Apr – Dec 2009 | Disc 007 |
| Jan – Mar 2010 | Disc 013 |
| Apr – Jun 2010 | Disc 015 |
| 2010 | Disc 016 |
| Apr – Dec 2009 | Disc 017 |
| 2011 | Disc 018 |
| 2012 | Disc 021 |

Kramer Funeral Home (Alexandria, La)

| | |
|------|----------|
| 2011 | Disc 018 |
| 2012 | Disc 021 |
| 2013 | Disc 022 |

Rush Funeral Home (Pineville, Central, La)

| | |
|---------------------|----------|
| Apr – Jun 2009 | Disc 003 |
| Jul – Sep 2009 | Disc 005 |
| Nov 2008 – Dec 2009 | Disc 007 |
| Jan – Mar 2010 | Disc 013 |
| Apr – Jun 2010 | Disc 015 |
| 2010 | Disc 016 |
| Apr – Dec 2009 | Disc 017 |

Winnfield Funeral Home: See Caddo Parish for listing.

RED RIVER PARISH

The parish seat is Coushatta, which is served by the Coushatta Citizen weekly newspaper. Villages and towns include Hall Summit, Edgefield, and Martin. Rockett-Nettles, Rose-Neath and Gethsemane funeral homes provide mortuary services. Adjacent parishes include Caddo (NW), Bossier (N), Bienville (NE), Natchitoches (SE), and DeSoto (W). Researchers may find help in those parishes.

Coushatta Citizen (Coushatta, LA)

| | |
|------|----------|
| 2008 | Disc 027 |
| 2010 | Disc 016 |
| 2011 | Disc 018 |
| 2012 | Disc 021 |
| 2013 | Disc 022 |

Rockett – Nettles F.H. (Coushatta, La)

| | |
|------|----------|
| 2011 | Disc 018 |
| 2012 | Disc 021 |
| 2013 | Disc 022 |

RICHLAND PARISH

Rayville is the parish seat and is served by the Richland Beacon News. Delhi, Mangham, and Start are local towns. Neighboring parishes are Morehouse (N), West and East Carroll (NE), Madison (E), Franklin (SE), Caldwell (SW), and Ouachita (W). The Monroe News-Star (Ouachita Parish) might provide information for researchers. Funeral homes in Rayville are Mulhearn and Tennant Mortuary, and in Delhi are Cox and McFarland funeral homes.

Richland Beacon News (Rayville, La)

| | |
|---------------------|----------|
| Aug 2008 – Dec 2009 | Disc 010 |
| Jan – Mar 2010 | Disc 013 |
| Apr – Jun 2010 | Disc 015 |
| 2010 | Disc 016 |
| 2011 | Disc 018 |
| 2012 | Disc 021 |
| Jan – Jun 2013 | Disc 022 |

Brown-Holley F.H. (Rayville & Oak Grove)

| | |
|---------------------|----------|
| May 2006 – Dec 2009 | Disc 010 |
| Jan – Mar 2010 | Disc 013 |
| Apr – Jun 2010 | Disc 015 |
| 2010 | Disc 016 |
| 2011 | Disc 018 |
| 2012 | Disc 021 |
| 2013 | Disc 022 |

Cox Funeral Home (Delhi, Bastrop, Oak Grove, Lake Providence) See West Carroll Parish for listing.

Mulhearn F.H. (Rayville, Winnsboro, Monroe, West Monroe, La) See Ouachita Parish for listing.

SABINE PARISH

The parish seat is Many, whose newspaper is the Sabine Index. Zwolle, Pleasant Hill, Converse, Florien, Noble, Fisher, Ebarb, and Negreet are local communities. Researchers should include Natchitoches Parish records in their endeavors, as Sabine was originally part of Natchitoches. Adjacent parishes are Vernon (S), DeSoto (N), Natchitoches (E) and the Texas counties of Sabine County (W), Shelby County (NW), and Newton County (SW). Funeral homes that serve the parish include Warren Meadows, Rose-Neath, Thomas Mortuary, and Jenkins funeral homes.

Sabine Index (Many, La)

| | |
|---------------------|----------|
| Oct – Dec 2008 | Disc 001 |
| Apr – Jun 2009 | Disc 003 |
| Oct 2008 – Jun 2009 | Disc 004 |
| Jul – Sep 2009 | Disc 005 |
| Jan – Dec 2009 | Disc 007 |
| Oct – Dec 2008 | Disc 007 |
| Jan – Mar 2010 | Disc 013 |
| Apr – Jun 2010 | Disc 015 |
| 2010 | Disc 016 |
| Jan – Dec 2009 | Disc 017 |
| Oct – Dec 2008 | Disc 017 |
| 2011 | Disc 018 |
| 2012 | Disc 021 |
| 2013 | Disc 022 |

Warren Meadows F.H (Many & Zwolle)

| | |
|----------------|----------|
| 2007 – 2008 | Disc 001 |
| Jan – Mar 2009 | Disc 002 |
| Apr – Jun 2009 | Disc 003 |
| Jan – Jun 2009 | Disc 004 |
| Jul – Sep 2009 | Disc 005 |
| 2007 – 2009 | Disc 007 |
| Jan – Mar 2010 | Disc 013 |
| Apr – Jun 2010 | Disc 015 |
| 2010 | Disc 016 |
| 2007 – 2008 | Disc 017 |

Warren Meadows F.H (Many & Zwolle) (*continued*)

| | |
|------|----------|
| 2011 | Disc 018 |
| 2012 | Disc 021 |
| 2013 | Disc 022 |

ST. LANDRY PARISH

Opelousas is the parish seat; Opelousas Daily World serves citizens within a 100-mile radius. Towns in St. Landry Parish include Eunice, Arnaudville, Grand Coteau, Port Barre, Krotz Springs, Sunset, and Washington. Those researching all small towns within St. Landry, Point Coupee, West Baton Rouge, Evangline, and Acadia parishes should research their surname within the Daily World as well as Lafayette Parish publications. Nearby parishes are Avoyelles (N), Pt. Coupee (E), St. Martin (SE), Lafayette (S), Acadia (SW), and Evangleine (NW). Funeral homes in the area include Sibille, Ford and Joseph, Quirk and Sons, Lafond Ardoin, and Williams.

Opelousas Daily World (Opelousas, La)

| | |
|----------------|----------|
| Jul – Sep 2009 | Disc 005 |
| Jan – Dec 2009 | Disc 007 |
| Jan – Mar 2010 | Disc 013 |
| Apr – Jun 2010 | Disc 015 |
| 2010 | Disc 016 |
| Jan – Dec 2009 | Disc 017 |
| 2011 | Disc 018 |
| 2012 | Disc 021 |
| 2013 | Disc 022 |

TENSAS PARISH

The least populated parish in the state, Tensas has three major towns: St. Joseph (parish seat), Newellton, and Waterproof. The weekly newspaper is the Gazette. Tensas is bordered by Madison Parish (N), Concordia Parish (S), Catahoula Parish (SW), and Franklin Parish (W). To the east, Tensas eastern neighbors are across the Mississippi River: Warren (NE), Claiborne and Jefferson (NE), and Adams (SE) counties in Mississippi. Riser and Sons Funeral Home serves the St. Joseph area; Richardson Funeral Home serves Newellton. Also serving the Tensas area are funeral homes in Canton, Natchez, Port Gibson, and Fayette, Mississippi.

Tensas Gazette (St. Joseph, La)

| | |
|------|----------|
| 2010 | Disc 016 |
| 2011 | Disc 018 |
| 2012 | Disc 021 |
| 2013 | Disc 022 |

Part 3 will be published in *The Genie*, 3rd Quarter, September 2015

GERMANTOWN CEMETERY

Webster Parish, Louisiana

Germantown Cemetery is located some seven miles north of Minden at 120 Museum Road, off Hwy. 534. While the Germantown Colony Museum is currently closed due to construction, the cemetery is still accessible.

The Germantown Colony Museum tells the story of a small group of settlers led by the Count and Countess von Leon. This couple made their way into the isolated wilderness of north Louisiana to establish a pure Christian community, their own “kingdom of heaven”. The poor Count did not make it all the way, dying of yellow fever along the Red River, but his wife continued on and managed to establish a remarkable settlement that endured for the next 40 years. Members of the original families still live nearby. The site includes several original buildings plus the community cemetery. (Narrative taken from official State site at www.sos.la.gov/HistoricalResources/VisitMuseums/GermantownColony .)

The “Find a Grave” listing is complete* and headstone pictures are included for each grave. Many of the memorial listings also include survivors (or “links”) with dates of birth and death, in addition to location of interment of that ancestor.

The listing for Edith Gertrude Langheld Krouse (18 Oct 1896 to 03 Nov 1972) , for example, includes a family portrait, an obituary, plus listings of her children and siblings.

**A “complete” cemetery is one that has been surveyed, with listing made of each and every headstone, no matter its condition, and a photograph made of each. These have then been entered as memorials in the “Find a Grave” program. By contrast, an “incomplete” cemetery would be one in which there are burials not yet documented on “Find a Grave” and/or headstone pictures not yet posted.*

Just because you don’t find your ancestor at a particular site doesn’t mean he/she is not buried there. It simply means that no one has yet entered the data.

Brenda Custer Randall “custerbren@aol.com”

| LAST NAME | FIRST NAME | MIDDLE | MAIDEN | BIRTH DATE | DEATH DATE |
|-----------|-----------------|----------|------------|------------|------------|
| | | | | | |
| Brunson | Amous, Jr. | | | 11/18/1920 | 11/18/1920 |
| Brunson | Angeline | | | 1861 | 8/26/1932 |
| Chanler | Albert | Robert | | 10/15/1916 | 4/29/1977 |
| Chanler | Clara | Emaline | Schneider | 12/05/1871 | 12/3/1928 |
| Chanler | Lulu | Morine | | 2/3/1933 | 4/1/1933 |
| Chanler | William | Robert | | 03/18/1853 | 3/16/1923 |
| Chanler | Willie | Fay | | 8/10/1911 | 8/11/1921 |
| Davenport | Francis | Otto | | 10/18/1892 | 10/15/1895 |
| Geontgen | Bernhardt | | | 02/15/1841 | 5/15/1907 |
| Geontgen | George | | | 08/18/1791 | 10/07/1858 |
| Geontgen | Magdalena | | | 02/09/1800 | 04/24/1867 |
| Hahner | Barnardena | | | 06/15/1827 | 12/25/1900 |
| Hahner | Phillip | | | 08/18/1821 | 12/28/1904 |
| Krouse | Adelia "Addie" | | Elkins | 1875 | 1/15/1932 |
| Krouse | Alma | | | 03/10/1878 | 08/16/1878 |
| Krouse | Chester | Phillip | | 04/28/1899 | 5/6/1981 |
| Krouse | Clara | Elisa | | 06/15/1866 | 08/31/1868 |
| Krouse | Clarence | Phillip | | 1875 | 1956 |
| Krouse | Clarence | W. | | 1/10/1903 | 4/22/1977 |
| Krouse | David | Earl | | 10/24/1966 | 4/1/1986 |
| Krouse | Earl | Ray | | 8/18/1941 | 9/4/2006 |
| Krouse | Edith | Gertrude | Langheld | 10/18/1896 | 12/3/1972 |
| Krouse | Elaine | | Hammontree | 8/8/1928 | 12/5/1974 |
| Krouse | Ellenore | Theresa | | 08/30/1872 | 08/09/1873 |
| Krouse | Emitt | L. | | 05/15/1893 | 1/16/1972 |
| Krouse | Ettie | E. | | 12/12/1906 | 1/14/1999 |
| Krouse | Florence | D. | | 1903 | 9/27/1993 |
| Krouse | Florence | Vashty | Veazey | 12/14/1911 | 2/10/1992 |
| Krouse | Francio (Dr.) | O. | | 03/23/1822 | 04/20/1890 |
| Krouse | Francis | Otto | | 10/09/1893 | 12/??/1966 |
| Krouse | Frank | Lewis | | 08/10/1863 | 3/13/1912 |
| Krouse | Gladden | A. | | 9/4/1917 | 8/22/1918 |
| Krouse | Infant Daughter | | | | 2/2/1930 |
| Krouse | Infant Son | | | | 11/23/1904 |
| Krouse | Infant Son | | | 9/17/1935 | 9/17/1935 |

| LAST NAME | FIRST NAME | MIDDLE | MAIDEN | BIRTH DATE | DEATH DATE |
|-----------|-------------|-------------|----------|------------|------------|
| | | | | | |
| Krouse | John | Otto | | 9/18/1860 | 01/04/1895 |
| Krouse | Leo | | | 9/22/1934 | 9/22/1934 |
| Krouse | Leon | J. | | 3/29/1914 | 7/15/1971 |
| Krouse | Louis | B. | | 1901 | 1970 |
| Krouse | Louis | Bernard Jr. | | 7/31/1927 | 8/2/1927 |
| Krouse | Louis | Prescott | | 7/21/1915 | 10/25/1994 |
| Krouse | Max | Virgie Lee | | 1916 | 8/23/1918 |
| Krouse | Maximillian | Joseph | | 1864 | 5/2/1938 |
| Krouse | Nora | A. | | 10/30/1888 | 3/14/1967 |
| Krouse | Rosaura | | Goentgen | 9/13/1839 | 9/7/1918 |
| Krouse | Ruby | Elaine | | 2/6/1942 | 4/1/1944 |
| Krouse | Ruby | F. | | 1906 | 2005 |
| Krouse | Susie | Florence | Chanler | 9/22/1868 | 6/22/1928 |
| Krouse | Ulric | T. | | 12/1/1914 | 10/21/1915 |
| Krouse | Urcy | | | 7/28/1910 | 10/17/1911 |
| Krouse | Vivian | Ann | | 1/29/1944 | 3/5/1944 |
| Marks | Eller | Zelma | Kirkhan | 01/06/1898 | 10/6/1968 |
| Martin | Bashie | Hellen | Krouse | 09/10/1897 | 7/17/1922 |
| Miller | Annie | | Chanler | 12/09/1895 | 11/28/1930 |
| Miller | Berniece | | | 8/27/1924 | 4/23/1931 |
| Miller | Elton | Lawrence | | 09/17/1894 | 7/15/1970 |
| Miller | William | Eddie | | 2/20/1921 | 12/30/1981 |
| Schneider | Annie | E. | | 09/09/1868 | 09/30/1872 |
| Schneider | Charles | | | 06/27/1841 | 10/3/1921 |
| Schneider | Charles | E. | | 06/30/1877 | 08/08/1878 |
| Schneider | Frank | W. | | 10/18/1880 | 12/29/1893 |
| Schneider | Henry | W. | | 03/24/1875 | 03/??/1926 |
| Schneider | Rosa | Friedericka | Lieb | 06/20/1847 | 2/25/1919 |
| Schneider | Willie | W. | | 10/18/1880 | 5/21/1963 |
| Tassin | Otis | Jesse | | 1939 | 1996 |
| Unknown | Unknown | | | | |

MYSTERY SISTERS: A search for a lost sister finds two!

Research by *Ken Dailey, ALTGA member since 2014

Only a few of my oldest cousins have the vaguest memory of our paternal grandfather, William Florence "Billy" Dailey (09-04-1868 / 08-31-1937), who was born in Paulding Co., GA and the first child of C.S.A. veteran Samuel Yancy Dailey and Martha Jane Turner Howard-Dailey.

In 1870, at the age of two, Billy crossed the Mississippi River to settle with his parents in Claiborne Parish near Haynesville, LA. That same year, his first sibling, a sister, was born. Unlike the life records of Billy's six other siblings, the documentation of her life was filled with contradictions and the family lore passed down did little to illuminate her life or to locate her final resting place.

The "official" family story stated, "Grandpa Billy had a sister who died during childbirth at the turn of the century. Her name was 'Dimie' Jane and her widower became remarried to Dimie's younger sister." Their recollections were a little bit right, but oh, so very wrong!

The only written collaboration of the family lore appears in a 1997 work by Florine Williamson of Haynesville, LA, entitled The Family History of John Franklin Williamson and Anna Pricilla Watters. In that exhaustive study of the Williamson Family, Florine, working from little more than was known by the Dailey descendants, writes, "Garland (Garland Percy Williamson, oldest child of John and Anna Pricilla) was first married to Dime [Dimie] Daily [Dailey], who died in childbirth. Later he married her sister, widow Sally [Sallie] Daily [Dailey] Bates ca. 1906." As I looked deeper, the mystery doubled and the facts became more convoluted than the fiction.

Dimie Jane Dailey (Dimie was probably a nickname) was born in Claiborne Parish, LA one month before the visit of the 1870 U.S. census taker. Her older brother, Billy, is listed as "William Daley" [sic] and curiously, her name appears only as "L.A." She next appears in the 1880 U.S. census as ten years old "Vatieta Jane Dailey," who now has a younger brother and three younger sisters. At that point the written record grows cold. Dimie Jane does not appear in her father's household on the next available U.S. census of 1900.

It was assumed that upon coming of age, Dimie Jane had married Garland P. Williamson (09-04-1877 / 06-02-1948), but no record of that marriage in Claiborne or surrounding Parishes could be found.



Sallie Eugenia Dailey
Bates-Williamson
circa 1942

However, a probate record in the Claiborne Parish Clerk's office at Homer, LA describes Garland as "married twice, his first marriage having been contracted with Anna Dailey in the year 1904 . . . until the date of the death of the said Mrs. Anna Williamson, which occurred in the year 1906, and that no children were born of this marriage; that the second marriage of decedent was to petitioner's mother, Mrs. Sallie E. Williamson, nee Dailey, in the year 1907 . . ."

But who was this Anna? No family record or oral history mentioned the name "Anna Dailey." And what of Dimie Jane? Could "Anna" be yet another moniker for Vatieta "Dimie" Jane? More surprises were to come.



This is the only known surviving photo of Yancy and Martha's family, circa 1879. The girl on the back row left is Dimie Jane. The writer's grandfather, "Billy" Dailey is back row, right.

Page 2

The Claiborne Parish Public Library in Homer, LA has an extensive collection of information about cemeteries in Northwest Louisiana. By chance, in February 2015, I was looking among those records and in Cemetery Inscriptions of Webster Parish, LA, Vol. III, I began to peruse interments listed in Springbranch Cemetery. The cemetery is actually in Columbia Co., AR, but just a short distance northeast of Springhill, LA. I was familiar with Springbranch Cemetery, because my great grandparents, Yancy and Martha (Dimie Jane's parents) are buried there. In 2013 the great and the great-great grandchildren of the pair restored their worn and neglected headstones. The source above listed the grave inscription of one "Anna R. Williamson, born 12 Oct 1882 and died 15 Jan 1906." Next to her listing was, "Infant Son of G.P. and A.R. Williamson, 09 Jan 1906." This was surely the first wife of Garland, listed in the affidavit of his probate record. – but what did the middle initial "R" stand for, and who was this "Anna?"



The writer sits between Anna's large grave stone and the smaller one of her infant son in Springbranch Cemetery. The restored grave stones of Anna's parents, S.Y. and Martha Dailey, are shown over the writer's shoulders just one row west of Anna's marker. There are no known photos of Anna Roberta "Bertie" Dailey Williamson.

Marriage records archived in Minden, LA (Webster Parish) began to unravel the mysteries. On May 3, 1905, Garland P. Williamson and Anna Roberta Dailey applied to the Parish Clerk for a license to marry. They were married May 7, 1905.

I knew that my family had occasionally referred to one of my great aunts as "Aunt Bertie" and that sketchy notes by the late Vernon Dailey of Walkerville, AR bore the name "Bertie Franks" showing her to be the next-to-the-youngest sibling of Billy and his sister Dimie Jane. However, we had known little more about "Bertie" than we did Dimie Jane, and we always assumed that Bertie married a man with the last name of "Franks." Clearly, "Bertie" was a nickname for Anna Roberta Dailey who was the first wife of G.P. Williamson and who died six days after the birth/death of their son. She was only 23 years old. Incidentally, Anna "Bertie" Roberta's grave and the grave of her infant son is adjacent to, and one row east, of those of her father and mother. For more than one hundred years, she was hiding in plain sight.

Anna's (Bertie's) older sister, Sallie Eugenia Dailey-Bates (06-??-1878 / 09-30-1951), who had a son by her first husband, married G.P. Williamson in 1907 and they had three sons, two of whom lived to adulthood. Upon Garland's death in 1948, Sallie filled his unexpired term as elected Assessor for Claiborne Parish. She and Garland may have been married in Winn Parish, LA. But what of Dimie Jane? Certainly she was not Garland's first spouse and she remained missing.

A further search of records in the Columbia Co. Clerk's office in Magnolia, AR added another "maybe" piece to the puzzle of Dimie Jane. Marriage record index book DD listed several females with Dailey as surname. On page 550 and within the time range in which Dimie Jane could have attained the age of consent, I found that on Dec 22, 1888, "W.T. Franks," aged 29, and "Miss Jennie Daily [sic]," age 18 of Horsehead (a community and school in southwest Columbia Co. before Walkerville or Emerson came into existence) applied for a marriage license and solemnized the event on Dec 24. "Jennie's" age on the certificate coincided with Dimie Jane's age and the name of "Franks" previously thought to be the married name of Bertie (Anna) popped up again. More proof was needed, however.

Page 3

A cemetery search in Columbia Co., AR revealed that “Jennie Franks” was buried in Western Cemetery near Plainfield, but the date of birth on the marker (1868) was too early to be that of Dimie Jane’s. The date of death was listed as Jul 8, 1891. A few feet south of Jennie’s marker is one bearing the inscription, “Infant Franks, Jun. 11, 1891 / Jun. 11, 1891.” Could this young woman be the mystery sister of family lore who had died incidental to childbirth? If so, there were two sisters who had a similar fate. The name “Jennie” had not surfaced before the marriage application of 1888. Was Jennie another alias of Dimie Jane? Could Dimie Jane’s younger siblings, unable to enunciate the name “Jennie,” have corrupted her name to “Dimie” and it stuck?

Again, the records of the Clerk of Columbia Co. provided insight. Samuel Yancy Dailey outlived his wife, Martha by 21 years and drew a Confederate pension. Billy Dailey, Yancy’s oldest child and the only one born in GA, was the executor of Yancy’s estate. In his affidavit as administrator, dated March 19, 1927, Billy lists himself and five surviving siblings as heirs to Yancy’s estate. However, in the final settlement dated Nov 7, 1928, Billy provides an accounting of settlements to seven heirs after expenses. Each of the seven heirs received \$3.44, no insignificant amount in that day and age. A review of the receipts and cancelled checks confirmed payment to the six heirs (siblings) originally listed and one other – Grover Franks. Was Grover a surviving child of Jennie Dailey (A.K.A. Dimie Jane) and W.T. Franks and therefore, a grandson (heir) of Yancy and Martha? Working backward from “Grover” I found his WWI draft registration card and the burial site of him and his wife, Barbara (King), in Forest Grove Cemetery near Walker’s Creek, AR in Lafayette Co. A search of various family trees and U.S. census records appearing on Ancestry.com strongly suggested the following: Dimie Jane Dailey, A.K.A. “L.A.,” “Vatieta Jane,” “Jennie Dailey,” “Jennie Franks,” etc., was born around May 1870 (the 1868 date of birth on her headstone in Western Cemetery is incorrect) in Louisiana. She married William Thomas Franks (01-10-1858 / 08-22-1921) on Dec 24, 1888. On Dec 17, 1889 she gave birth to Grover Cleveland Franks who lived until 1937. Dimie Jane’s second son was born and died on Jun. 11, 1891. She died 27 days later from complications of childbirth on Jul. 8, 1891. Her son Grover was 18 months old and Dimie (Jennie) was only 21. In 1895, her husband, W.T. Franks, married Drucilla Jane Talley of Western Community (Columbia Co., AR). They had several children together. Grover’s only child, Grover Cleveland, Jr., died before his second birthday and Dimie’s line ended with him.

Dimie Jane’s true name may have been **JENNIE JANE DAILEY**.

I began to look for a lost and forgotten sister of my grandfather and actually found two. Their fates were similar, often interwoven, but were misinterpreted in both fact and fiction. They deserve to be remembered. They deserve to be not-lost.

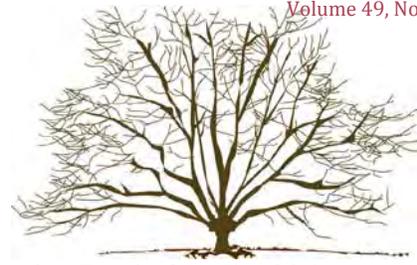
Notes: The unraveling of the mystery sisters was gratifying for the writer, the great-nephew of both women. It provided a stronger foundation of my roots. The writer offers the following tips to fellow amateur genealogists –

- 1) Never assume anything
- 2) Remember that family stories, headstones, family trees, census records, and other public records are not always accurate
- 3) Persevere; keep digging
- 4) Have a dust mask handy for digging in ancient public records

* Ken Dailey is the unofficial genealogist for the Dailey/Beckham families. He lives near Emerson, AR on the original Dailey homeplace. He would like to receive information about the mentioned families or any corrections to his research. Contact: ksdailey@outlook.com.

May 2015

Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Association
Hornbook: Researching Death Records
March 14, 2015
Sonja Webb



Death records can provide important information for the genealogist. But before the 20th century there was no uniform method of record keeping among the states, nor even an interest in a standard set of records. Population mobility probably contributed to the resistance of well kept death records. The American Medical Association, as early as 1855, had called on government leaders to establish some sort of vital records. The AMA was not concerned with family genealogy, but had a scientific interest in collecting death information as a means to track epidemics. The earliest vital record keeping was done by public health entities tracking illnesses. A few counties managed death registers. For example, Ohio had county level records by 1867 and by 1908 records were kept at the state level.

The researcher ideally wants to see the original source document. The original source document was created at the time of an event by someone who had personal knowledge of the event or was a participant in the event. The original document is a more reliable piece of information. More often than not the researcher will be using a derivative source for information. The derivative source is based on an original document that someone has transcribed, prepared compilations, created a database or prepared an index. The caveat is that the compiler may have left out a piece of information or misinterpreted the handwriting, or missed a page. Seek the original when possible.

Before the 20th century few records detailed decedent death information. The researcher looking into periods before the 20th century will need to seek data from probate and estate records, gravestones, Bibles, church records and newspapers. The family researcher may find bits of information about the decedent, but will rarely find detailed data or even a cause of death listed. The recording of cause of death was considered unimportant.

Finding sources of death information will take some sleuthing efforts. Look into local community records. If ancestors were living in New England, there may be local records. New England has county records dating back to the 1600s. Check cemetery records for interment books that in some cases listed death and burial date, age, and cause of death. Many church denominations kept death and burial registries. An original family Bible is a good source, but be cautious. Check the Bible's publication date and the handwriting. If the Bible was published in the later part of the century and the entries are for the early part of the century, then the person entering information may not have been a witness to the events listed in the Bible but was relying on memories of others. Family Bibles may well be those elusive sources in the possession of unknown family members or unfortunately were lost in estate sales. The Library of Virginia has 6000 Family Bible Transcriptions, the DAR has a collection with transcriptions and The National Genealogical Society has a collection currently being indexed and digitized. These repositories are worth investigating.

Explore Federal Mortality Census Schedules for 1850, 1860, 1870 and 1880 for death information. The Mortality Schedules list deaths 12 months prior to census day of June 1. These records can be found in the National Archives and at the Family History Library.

A few newspapers printed death notices but generally were only of well-known people in the community. Newspapers did not have regular obituary columns like those found in today's newspapers. The death notice may appear with other short community notices, such as The Blount County News & Dispatch, August 30, 1894: "Mr. Eli Glover was found dead a few days ago, lying across the shafts of his one ox cart, near Garden City. He was well known in this section. Heart failure was the cause of death."

The listing before Glover's death notice was of a visiting local professor and the listing following Glover was of meeting at a local hotel. Patient sifting through newspapers can yield results. In these older newspapers the terms "ult" or "ultimo" and "inst" will appear next to the death notice. "Ult" or "ultimo" means on the death date preceding the current month. For example, the decedent died on "the Wednesday of the 10th ult" means the preceding month of the current publication date. If the notice was "the Wednesday of the 10th inst" it is the current month of publication. Older newspapers can be found at the Library of Congress' Chronicling America page and at commercial web sites like Ancestry, GenealogyBank and Fold3.

Other sources that need to be examined are Pension Application Records that are found in the National Archives and at the FamilyHistory Library website. Probate records are an important source. The Petition for Probate will in most cases give a death date. The FamilyHistory Library has many of these records on microfilm.

The Social Security Death Index furnished the date of death and the decedent's parents' names as found on the original applications. Because of privacy issues, this access will soon be denied to the public.

Tombstone inscriptions can supply a source of death information, IF the stonecutter was given correct facts by the family informant. Be careful with this data. Double check. If the researcher is unable to visit a cemetery, then there are options to locate tombstone inscriptions. Check out the DAR records of transcriptions, genealogy societies' transcriptions, the FamilyHistory Library, published books, and Find-A-Grave website.

Keep in mind while researching, that inadequate records kept by counties tend to be meager or flimsy in nature creating challenges for the researcher. The researcher will need to consider non-traditional sources. Many Churches printed bulletins with lists of members' deaths. Church members assembled lists of deaths over a period of time and recorded them in bulletins or registers.

Always remember that probate records are a viable source and that community newspapers may have minimal facts.

20th century death certificates can provide a wealth of information. The caveat is who is the "named informant". If the informant knew very little about the decedent or was not a family member then there may be little information OR correct information. Determine who the informant is named on the certificate and proceed with caution.

Remember to investigate as many sources as possible. One never knows where the trail may lead.

- ★ www.cyndislist.com/newspapers
(Links to religious publications & newspapers)
- ★ www.usgennet.org/usa/ar/county/greene/olddiseases1.htm
(Alphabetical list of diseases)
- ★ www.nlm.nih.gov/medliveplus/mplusdictionary.html
(Merriam-Webster Dictionary; type disease name for a search; pronunciation feature)
- ★ www.cdc.gov/nchs/w2w.htm
(National Center for Health Statistics; vital records information)
- ★ vitalrec.com
(United States Vital Record Information)
- ★ familysearch.org
(Free access to documents)
- ★ loc.gov
(Library of Congress)
- ★ lva1.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com
(6000 Bible transcriptions)



From the Files.....

Contributed by Brenda Randall

The Southwestern, Shreveport, Louisiana, January 23, 1856:

The will of John D. Fink, a well-known rich old miser, who died in New Orleans a few days since without having any family or relations in the United States has been proven and filed in the second district court. He was a native of Wirtemberg and about 70 years old when he died. He had resided in New Orleans between 35 or 40 years.

The Southwestern, Shreveport, Louisiana, September 25, 1867:

Died on Wednesday evening, September 18, on board the steamboat Cuba, No. 2, of yellow fever, Louis Falk, of Lewisville, Arkansas, aged 24 years; native of Thorn, West Prussia. (Memphis and St. Louis papers please copy.)

The Southwestern, Shreveport, Louisiana, January 6, 1869:

Fatal Mistake: We regret to learn that Capt. Wm. Ferry, and old and esteemed citizen of Jefferson, Texas was shot and killed last Saturday on his own premises, by a United States soldier. It is stated that he was shot through mistake. We look for serious trouble up there.

The Ouachita Telegraph, Monroe, Louisiana, Saturday, June 23, 1871:

(Claiborne) The Advocate has the following in reference to a deplorable occurrence: We regret to learn that a difficulty between Dr. J. F. Gladney, Mr. A. M. Simmons and J. E. Ferguson, occurred near town a few evenings since, in which Mr. Ferguson was severely wounded by a cut. He lived but a short time. We do not know the particulars, and as the matter will undergo a judicial investigation, we refrain from expressing any further opinion.

The Shreveport Times, Shreveport, Louisiana, October 06, 1900:

Marshall, Tex.—Oct. 5: News has just been received here of the death of Hiram Fisher, a young man raised in this city. He was running on the railroad out of Tuscumbia, Alabama and was killed while in the discharge of his duty.

The Shreveport Times, Shreveport, Louisiana, November 03, 1900:

Vital Statistics—Deaths: Henry Fisher, white male, age 14, swamp fever, non-resident, body sent here for burial.

Coordinating Photography and Genealogy

Presented to the General Session of the Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Association's Horn Book by Member Bob Horne.

09 May 2015, Submitted by Glenda Bernard

Bob Horne, noted local photographer and genealogist in the Shreveport-Bossier area, shared his ideas regarding the many ways that photography can enhance one's genealogy. Bob commented on various uses of the camera for taking photos of special locations, heirlooms, historical markers, and pictures from books, highlighting people, places or maps. Bob felt the smart phone cameras work very well in capturing these photos.

An idea that Bob presented that was new to most, was Screen Shot. When using a computer, smart phone or iPad, it is possible to take a picture of whatever is on the screen and save it to the desktop. This would save recording important found information manually and could be very time saving when researching records. The captured information can then be cropped to be a more usable form. The method of doing this varies with the computer or electronic device.

Using a scanner, documents treasured by genealogists such as marriage licenses, birth and death records, military records and social security records can be scanned. Scanning makes it possible to see or share the document without touching or possibly damaging the original. Scanning also preserves the picture indefinitely and the original can be stored for posterity.

Vue Scan is scanning software which Bob sometimes uses that can help to restore color and sharpen the images. The Infrared feature removes dust or scratches from slides. It can also remove the reddish tones on slides due to aging and improve older negatives, which have a greenish tint. It is inexpensive.

Scanned photos are said to be digitized; they are no longer in paper form. The digitizing process is a definite improvement in technology. Once the images have been digitized, they can be improved using software like Photoshop. There are other programs, but Bob says that Photoshop is the best for him. With Photoshop one can eliminate marks and smudges, repair bent creases, crop the parts of the picture, and enhance the color or exposure to make the picture more appealing. Photoshop Elements is a less expensive but excellent version, especially for photographers. Computers, cameras & software do not have to be understood in their entirety to be used effectively. Like the car, we drive it, but don't know how it all works.

New images taken with a camera, or documents or photos that have been scanned and enhanced, can be printed on a home printer or printed by an online photo company or the nearest Walgreens or CVS. The new printed copy that has been improved and repaired by the photographer/genealogist can also be shared with others.

Bob brought several time span framed collections which showed a picture of his granddaughter, his daughter and his wife when each of them was the same age. Another photo showed how a family picture taken years ago was placed near a photo as the people appear today. Several in the audience were impressed with these ideas. Most were especially in awe of how successful Bob was in improving the overall clarity of his photos from a faded, difficult to see image to one in which fine details could be examined easily.

The two photos on the following page demonstrate an example of his work. Bob submitted these to show what is possible. It is a photo of his grandparents and the baby is his mother.



These photos show what can be done using computer software

Thomas SMILEY/SMYLIE/SMILIE Query

I would like to find when and where Thomas SMILEY/SMYLIE/SMILIE entered what is now known as the United States. His country of origin and birth is not known. I first find him in 1781 in New Iberia, St. Martin Parish, Louisiana, signing a quit claim in the succession of his deceased wife, Sarah Bonn SMILIE, and her WEST children from a previous marriage.

In 1784 records in the succession of Ursula SIMMONS indicate that Thomas SMILEY/SMYLIE/SMILIE was a resident in the Spanish Natchez District and married to the daughter of James and Ursula SIMMONS of the Cole's Creek area, not far from the town of Natchez. By 1785 he is married to Mary DYSON of the Natchez District and is seen on the census of the Natchez District living in the area called Villa Gayoso as a tobacco "farmer." The children of Thomas SMILEY/SMYLIE/SMILIE and Mary Dyson are believed to be Samuel, John Andrew, and a daughter Smiley.

Depositions in the Spanish records reported that he was thrown in prison or sent out of the "country" due to "wife abuse." I can find no records before 1781 of Thomas SMILEY/SMYLIE/SMILIE and none after 1794. The Natchez District was known to be a haven for Loyalists to the British crown. Was he a British soldier who had deserted from military action in Pensacola, Florida, at that time? From what country had he originated?

Thomas' son, John Andrew SMILEY (1790-1874), is my 4th great grandfather. Anyone with information concerning the SMILEY/SMYLIE/SMILIE family is requested to contact me. All suggestions and comments are appreciated.

Glenda Efferson Bernard

May 2015

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Patience and Luck

Finding the Death and Burial Place of Phoebe Bragg Moreland

Contributed By Elaine Johnson (Elaine.Johnson@suddenlink.net)



This is a story of patience and luck that shows that you never know where or how you might find information. More specifically it is about the amazing way I found the death and burial place for my gg grandmother Phoebe Bragg Moreland, daughter of Samuel Bragg and Orcelia Tayer.

Photo: Phoebe Bragg Moreland, (left) siblings: William Wellington Bragg and Estella Bragg Fletcher.

In 1999 I started researching my maternal grandfather's side of the family. My grandfather was Harold Moreland. My great grandparents were Deforest Moreland and Lela May Burpee. My gg grandparents were John Moreland and Phoebe Bragg.

I initially found John Moreland and Phoebe Bragg through the marriage record of their son Deforest Moreland. I also found their marriage record and found them on census records in Hillsdale and Barry Counties, Michigan. In 1900 they were in Barry County, Michigan. I never found either one of them on the 1910 census. So for several years, that is all that I had on them.

In June 2003 I made contact with descendants of Phoebe's brother, William Bragg. They had a copy of the family bible which showed that Phoebe Bragg Moreland died April 26, 1919. However, they did not have any information regarding where she died or where she was buried. I wanted to know. Since I had a date of death I wrote to the State of Michigan for a death certificate. They did not find it. Over the years I continued to search for Phoebe Moreland, but did not find her (or John).

Several years passed by and I was still no closer to finding out where she died. In the meantime I was working on a website for the 27th Iowa Volunteer Infantry, a Civil War regiment that my great grandfather served in. This great grandfather was on my dad's side and had no relationship to Phoebe Bragg Moreland.

I was working on a "soldier by soldier" research project. Specifically I was trying to determine where the soldiers of the 27th Iowa had died and were buried. One day I was working on a soldier that was buried in Oakhill Cemetery, Battle Creek, Calhoun County, Michigan. As I browsed through the cemetery listing I saw the name Phoebe **Bragg** and noted that she was buried two days after the date of death that I had previously been given for Phoebe Bragg Moreland.

It immediately raised a flag in my mind. But after thinking about it, I realized that her name should be Phoebe Moreland – not Bragg, which was her maiden name. I briefly wondered if my gg grandparents had divorced and she had changed back to her maiden name. I had nothing to indicate that was the case, so I felt certain that it was just a coincidence. But I kept the question in my notes.

A couple more years passed by and I was corresponding with a distant relative about another branch of my family. I suddenly realized that he lived in Battle Creek, Michigan. We had corresponded regularly for several years, so I felt comfortable asking his opinion about what I had found. He said he would go to the court house the next day and see what he could find. I provided him with her date of birth, death and parent's names. The next day he emailed me a copy of her death certificate.

The death certificate had a couple of discrepancies, but it was definitely my Phoebe Bragg Moreland. The death certificate showed that Phoebe Bragg was born April 10, 1855 (Bible records said April 10, 1853). She died April 26, 1919, was the daughter of Samuel Bragg and Ophelia Tare (the marriage record shows that her mother's name as *Orcelia Tayer*). The death record showed that she died in Battle Creek, Michigan, and that she was buried in Oakhill Cemetery. It also showed that she was the widow of *William Bragg*. The informant was Lulu Parkis. *Lulu Parkis is her known daughter, Lulu Moreland, married to Sydney Parkis.*

Prior to this point I had no indication that John Moreland and Phoebe had lived in Battle Creek, Michigan. After I got her death certificate, my husband Jim and I took a trip to Battle Creek. I found city directories that showed they had lived there from at least 1901, and that John had worked at the Postum Cereal Plant. I found her obituary - until now I had searched for Phoebe **Moreland** - I never would have searched for an obituary for Phoebe **Bragg**. But there it was and it listed her Moreland children as survivors. There was no husband or parents mentioned. I also found a newspaper article indicating that John and Phoebe Moreland had divorced in February 1907. I eventually got their divorce records. By 1910, she was listed as the widow of *Warren Bragg* in the city directory. So sometime between 1907 and 1910, she remarried. I have not found the marriage record yet - and have not yet determined whether she married William or Warren. But from her death record and city directory I feel certain that she remarried to William (or) Warren Bragg - and did not revert back to her maiden name.

I have often thought about the fact that John Moreland and Phoebe Bragg Moreland divorced and she remarried. What if I had not been researching that 27th Iowa soldier and browsed through the Oakhill Cemetery listing? I can't think of any reason why I would have ever checked it otherwise. And what are the odds that she would marry a man with her maiden name? If it had been a different name, I doubt seriously that I ever would have found her - or the rest of the story that I now know.

I don't think this followed any "genealogy principal". It seems to me that she just wanted to be found. I don't know how else to explain all the different circumstances that led me to her. I was not even looking for her when I found the cemetery listing - and didn't pursue it for a while because I was so sure it was not her. (In hindsight, I now know I should have pursued this sooner). I'm pretty sure I just got lucky. So you just never know -- keep looking for those hard to find ancestors.



It is as though our ancestors want to be found. Uncanny coincidences. Olympian luck. Phenomenal fate. Tremendous intuition. Remarkable miracles. We call it, "Serendipity in Genealogy."

Newspaper Research Contributed by Glenda Bernard and Elaine Johnson

Newspapers are often overlooked resources that can provide extensive value in genealogy research. Newspapers can contain a multitude of genealogical information — obituaries; notices of births, marriages, and deaths; legal notices; estate transactions; biographies; military service; and immigration.

They also provide insight into life as it was at a given moment in time. It answers questions like, What world events shaped their lives? What neighborhood happenings occurred? What fashions were being advertised, and what was their cost? What were the brands of food and other household items used and their cost? What were the forms of entertainment on a Saturday night? What opportunities were there in the want ads? Was there a letter waiting at the post office?

Many current newspapers are online and an increasing number of older newspapers are being digitized or portions transcribed and put online. If one can't find what he or she needs online one stands a good chance of finding a microfilmed copy that can be obtained through interlibrary loan. ([Genealogy by Barry](#))

Online Newspaper Resources:

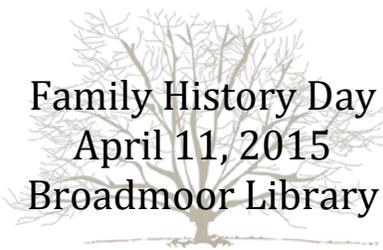
Some newspapers for Caddo Parish and other parishes have been digitized and can be accessed on [Chronicling America](#), which is a free website. *Le Raconteur*, the publication of the Louisiana State Archives, provided the following list of some local newspapers found on this website:

The South-western, 1854-1870
Shreveport Daily News, 1861
The Shreveport Weekly News, 1861
Shreveport Semi-Weekly News, 1861-1862
The Semi-weekly Shreveport News, 1862-1864
Shreveport Weekly News, 1863-1866
Shreveport News, 1864-1865
Semi-weekly News, 1865
Shreveport Semi-Weekly News, 1865-1866
The Progress, 1892-1898
The Caucasian, 1900-1920

[LSU Digital Collections](#) also has newspapers, including the following:

Caddo Gazette, 1846, 1855, Louisiana Newspaper Access Program, [LOUISiana Digital Library](#)

[United States Online Historical Newspapers](#): This resource covers the entire United States broken down by state, and county (not all counties are represented). Note that every newspaper is not Free – but there is a column called “COST” which indicates which newspapers are free and which are paid websites. Also note that there is a link to “United States Online Historical Directories” at the top.



Family History Day April 11, 2015 Broadmoor Library

Submitted by Sonja Webb

The Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Association held its annual Family History Day at the Broadmoor Library on Saturday, April 11, 2015. The purpose for the workshop day was to introduce basic genealogy research techniques to the beginner and provide a refresher note for the



President Glenda Bernard introducing program.

intermediate researcher. A morning session was held in the library auditorium. President Glenda Bernard made introductions and explained the Association's purpose for the Family History Day. Following her remarks, the morning was divided into four periods of thirty minutes with a break after the first two periods.

Sonja Webb explained the structure of Pedigree Charts and the importance of preparing Family Group Sheets.

Peggy and Sonja shared tips on "Organizing Genealogy Research," both digitally and with hard copies, boxes, binders and all necessary materials.



Attendees are working on a pedigree chart.

Peggy LaCour provided practical "Tips for Conducting a Family Interview."

Jim Johnson, using a PowerPoint presentation, supplied the basic steps to "Searching the Census Records."



Peggy LaCour explaining how to conduct an interview.



Peggy & Barbara are preparing to assist with research.

After a lunch break, the members and attendees met in the Genealogy Department for a tour of the library resources or for one-on-one assistance with their researching.

Are You Going to a Reunion?

If you are going to a reunion this year, you might be interested in this tip from Brenda Randall:

“For our all-classes high school reunions at Calhoun H.S. (Ouachita Parish), I paid for printing for a two-sided card that was made available to graduates who attended the events. I've collected lots of information about "The Families of Calhoun" and will continue to work on this project.

This same information could be gathered at family reunions and church anniversaries, etc. with a little adaptation.

It could be expanded to top/bottom of sheet of paper or front/back. Mine is on a card about 5" x 4" but could fit on 5x8 index card or other sizes available for printing with personal equipment.”

The _____ FAMILY

YOU: _____
 DOB: _____ Place of Birth: _____
 YOUR DAD: _____
 DOB: _____ Place of Birth: _____
 YOUR DAD'S DAD: _____
 DOB: _____ Place of Birth: _____
 YOUR DAD'S MOM: _____
 DOB: _____ Place of Birth: _____
 Date of Marriage: _____ Place: _____
 YOUR SPOUSE: _____
 DOB: _____ Place of Birth: _____
 Date of Marriage: _____ Place: _____

The _____ FAMILY (continued)

YOUR MOM: _____
 DOB: _____ Place of Birth: _____
 YOUR MOM'S DAD: _____
 DOB: _____ Place of Birth: _____
 YOUR MOM'S MOM: _____
 DOB: _____ Place of Birth: _____
 Date of Marriage: _____ Place: _____
 OTHER: _____

Use OTHER space for Date/Place of Death/ Cemetery & Location
 Siblings, Marriage Date/Place, etc.

THE BROWNLEE FAMILY OF BOSSIER PARISH, LOUISIANA

By Dale Jennings

(My wife Larri Jennings' 2d great grandparents, John Archie and Mary Jane Brownlee, came to Bossier Parish, Louisiana, from South Carolina well before the Civil War. This is their family story.)

The Brownlees, Scotch-Irish and undoubtedly Presbyterian, came to America from Ireland in 1768. They embarked from Belfast to Charleston, South Carolina, on the Brig Lord Dungannon, mastered by Captain Robert Montgomery. The passenger list of the Lord Dungannon contains two Brownlee families. The head of one was John's great grandfather, James, and the other was James' brother, John. The roster incorrectly shows James' age as 32, rather than 42. Daughter Jane is 18, George (John Archie's grandfather) is 11, and John is 8. The children's mother Jean (Webb) Brownlee had died in Ireland. It is not known how long the Brownlees had been in Northern Ireland, but they are believed to have been from Tarfoot, Lamarkshire, Scotland, where the name of Brownlee goes back to 1550.

From Charleston, James Brownlee took his family to the frontier in what would become Abbeville District in northwestern South Carolina. They settled on 200 acres near the present town of Due West. George grew up there and married Sarah Caldwell in 1778. Their first born, in 1779, was John A., John Archie's father. George and Sarah are buried in the Greenville Presbyterian Church cemetery at Donalds, just north of Due West (not to be confused with the city of Greenville in an adjoining county). His grave stone notes that he had been a Revolutionary War veteran.

John A. Brownlee was married first to Jane Agnew in 1808. His second marriage was to Maria Lomax in 1814. John Archie Brownlee was born of the latter marriage the following year, 1815. He would have one half sister, one full sister and three full brothers, the youngest being James Harvey.

John Archie Brownlee and Mary Jane Cowan were married in South Carolina in 1848, whereupon he brought his bride back to Louisiana. In the August 20, 1861 probate for Mary's deceased husband, the executor related that they had married in the summer of 1848, and departed to Louisiana a few weeks later. He stated that her husband had been a resident of that state for several years and owned 160 acres of unimproved land in Bossier Parish. He further stated that between the marriage and the eve of their departure, her father in Abbeville District gave her two slave women. They were Doll, now age about 27, and Diana about 32. Doll now has four children, Adeline 10, Cinda 8, Isaac or Ike 6, and Henry 3. Diana has two children, Lucy 7 and Moses 2. According to available information, John Brownlee and Mary Cowan were married on July 28, 1848.

On July 25, 1848, three days before the marriage, John Brownlee and Mary Cowan entered into a legal agreement. Mr. Brownlee agreed to give Mary Jane Cowan of Abbeville District, South Carolina, during her lifetime, his land in Bossier Parish. He also gave her his slaves Bill, Warren, Dianah and Amanda, and Amanda's children, Matilda, Jim and an infant, as well as

\$1,000 in cash. All of the property and money were to be returned to John should he outlive his wife. He had patented this U.S. government land in April and May of that year. It was in the proximity of Benoist Bayou below where that bayou came off Red River, a few miles north of Canes Landing, now Bossier City. The agreement clearly identified the Bossier property – which was actually 240 acres, rather than 160.

The 1850 Bossier Parish population census shows John Archie's age incorrectly as 25 rather than 35, and Mary's as 24. They have a one year old son, J.C. (James Cowan). The agricultural census for that year shows that they have 320 acres of land, 80 of which are improved. They have 2 horses, 2 mules, 3 milk cows, 4 other cattle and 40 swine. They have 8 slaves, according to that decade's slave schedule. It is evident from the agricultural survey that their efforts have been to prepare the land and grow 400 bushels of corn. Much of the pork was probably produced for market, and most of the corn for the hogs, other livestock and sustenance for the family and slaves. The production of the cash crop cotton would soon follow. By the advent of the Civil War they will have nearly doubled the cleared acreage of the plantation, more than doubled the number of slaves, and seen all aspects of the plantation prosper. On the eve of the war they had three living children, another having recently died.

The 1860 farm census shows that it had been a good year and a good decade for the Brownlees. They now own 600 acres of land. They have improved 140 acres of their plantation, on which in 1860 they grew 2,000 bushels of corn. The figure for ginned cotton is not clear, but appears to be 40-some bales. They have 4 horses, 6 mules, 4 working oxen, 20 milk cows, 15 other cattle, 12 sheep and only 20 swine (probably raised for home consumption). The wheat, peas, beans and potatoes were probably for consumption also. Part of their 100 pounds of butter may have been for sale or barter. The combined value of their real property and personal property (which included the slaves) was given as just over \$50,000 and split about evenly. The nineteen slaves, predominately women and children, lived in five slave houses.

The 1860 population census shows that besides James Cowan 11, they have N.C. (Newton Calvin) 7 and L.J. (Louisa Jane) 6 (Larri Jennings' great grandmother). John Marks was born that year after the census was taken. J. Harvey Brownlee had died on June 26, 1859, at age 19 months.

John Archie Brownlee died on July 31, 1861, shortly after Louisiana's entry into the Confederacy and the war. Notwithstanding his health, he had in all practicality been past the age for military service. His eldest son, James Cowan, would not yet have turned sixteen when the war ended. John's youngest brother, James Harvey, served in a Texas and then a local Louisiana unit.

John's succession required that an inventory and appraisal be made of the estate. A determination was made as to what was his separate estate property, what was Mary's and what property was held in community. The 240 acres acquired by John previous to the marriage remained his estate property, as well as the slaves owned previously, and their increase. The slaves given to Mary, by her father, and their increase, were still her separate property. All else was community property, to include the one slave acquired during the marriage (Adolphus).

Total estate land in the parish was found to be just less than 600 acres, the Brownlees having donated three acres to the Baptists for a church site the month prior to his death. Found in the

Brownlees' personal effects, and identified as Item "G," was a document signed by both John and Mary, in which he agreed to give her certain property. It was dated and signed in Abbeville District, SC, on July 25, 1848. This agreement had been recorded in the Bossier Parish court, but was never acted upon. Mary would outlive her husband by thirty years.

Mary Jane Brownlee remarried in November 1863 to Mr. James M. Saggus. Little is known about Mr. Saggus, who apparently predeceased his wife sometime between 1868 and the 1870 census. The first of her children to die after the Civil War was James Cowan, who was killed in 1868 shortly after turning nineteen.

The circumstances of James Cowan's murder and its aftermath are pieced together here from accounts by the two local newspapers, the *Bossier Banner* and the *South-Western*; also taken from Freedman's Bureau reports and an 1869 report by the joint session of the Louisiana State Legislature. The latter was primarily through the testimony taken from local freedmen. Tensions were running high on the Bossier river plantations preceding the fall 1868 elections, leading to the "Bossier or Shady Grove" "riots."

In late September 1868, a man named "Gibson" from Arkansas was traveling back up river to that state after having concluded business in Shreveport. He stopped at the Shady Grove Plantation across Benoist Bayou from the Brownlees to procure corn for his team. In an altercation with one of the African American tenants, he called the man a "damn radical" and fired a shot at him. The plantation freedmen subdued him and chained him to a tree with the intent to take him to the sheriff in Bellevue the next day. "Captain Curtis" (probably Carter) and others, said to have included James Brownlee and Beverly Ogden, either freed the man or persuaded his captors to do so. He was then allowed to make bond to turn himself over to the sheriff. Adding to the man's indignation, his wagon was reportedly pilfered.

It was reported by Shreveport's *South-Western* that an armed party came down from Arkansas and killed a number of Shady Grove tenants. Subsequently, Brownlee and Ogden had just returned from across the river in a skiff after a cattle hunting expedition, when they were accosted near "Mr. Saggus" by a large group of armed freedmen. The freedmen may have thought the young men had been involved with the Arkansas group. They were disarmed and released, but were then shot and killed. The *Bossier Banner* said that Ogden lived a few hours, and that Brownlee lingered longer but without hope. The *South-Western* reported that the Arkansas delegation upon learning of the killing of the boys commenced an indiscriminate slaughter of the Negroes wherever they could be found.

The congressional committee later investigating "the conduct of the late elections and the peace and order in the state" told a different story. One freedman witness testified that some fifty planters, armed and mounted, met at Benton and went in squads to the different plantations, killing black occupants. The planters were also armed with a "death list." Their obvious intent was to relieve the authorities of the need to try those believed to have been involved in the killing of Brownlee and Ogden. Another local freedman named no less than nineteen planters in one party, most being veterans of the war. He included among them Captain Carter, one of the Ogdens, a Brownlee (James Harvey), four Vances and one Arnold. The last five would have future ties with James Cowan through the marriage of Brownlees into those families. (No acknowledgement of the killing of Brownlee and Ogden can be found in the congressional report, through its witnesses or otherwise.)

John M. Arnold had been a young first lieutenant in the “Bossier Cavalry,” Company C, 6th Louisiana Cavalry Regiment. He would later marry James Cowan’s sister, Louisa Jane (Lou) Brownlee. Louisa’s brother, Newton Calvin Brownlee, married John’s sister, Loucinda (Louda) Arnold. John and Lou Arnold’s daughter, Mary Emily, would later marry Captain W. C. Vance’s son, William Calvin Vance, Jr., to whom a daughter, Larry, was born in 1908. Larry (Vance) Hunt was a grand niece to James Cowan Brownlee, making him the great grand uncle to Larri (Hunt) Jennings.

The 1870 census shows 26-year-old John M. Arnold and some of his siblings living with their widowed mother on her plantation. John is a farmer who is shown to have no real property, but \$10,000 in personal property. His mother, Salina, was head of household and “retired.” In the same census, Lou Brownlee is 15 and living with her mother, Mrs. L. J. Saggus.

John Arnold purchased the 1,804 acre Red Chute Plantation (encompassing the present Legacy subdivision and school) in November 1870. He took out a \$75,000 mortgage, obligating himself to a \$25,000 payment on January 1, 1871, and five more notes of \$10,000 each, due on their anniversary dates through January 1, 1876. John had overextended himself. His plantation was seized by the sheriff in May 1872 and sold at sheriff’s sale the next year. He had to use his inheritance to apply to his mortgage debt.

John and Lou were married on September 23, 1874, and went to live on Brownlee land, where he farmed and they started a family. Their children were Newton Alonzo, John Brownlee, Mary Emily, and James Harvey Arnold. The children of Newton Calvin and Loucinda were James Willis, Mary Beatrice, Newton Calvin, Jr., Louda, Emma Lou and Daisy Wimbish Brownlee.

In 1887, Mary Jane Saggus partitioned her plantation between her daughter Louisa Jane Arnold and her son Newton Calvin Brownlee, each receiving three hundred acres. The following year the St Louis and Southwestern (Cotton Belt) Railroad completed its tracks from Lewisville, Arkansas, down along Red River, through the Brownlee plantation, and across the river into Shreveport. The little community of Brownlee soon grew up around the Brownlee flag station, post office and store, there on the Cotton Belt and Shreveport-Arkansas Road, now Louisiana State Highway 3 or Benton Road.

A December 31, 1897 survey map shows the store near the railroad in the southwest corner of the Southeast Quarter of Section 5, Township 18, Range 13. It also shows the “John Arnold House” in the northwest corner of the Northwest Quarter of that section. A later map shows that the northwest corner of Section 5 has been sloughed off by the encroachment of the Red River. The home was probably moved back before going off in the river, but valuable land would have been lost.

Over time all of the Brownlee land would be sold off by succeeding heirs. Much of it was absorbed by the large Beene Plantation and subsequently into various Bossier City subdivisions – to include Green Acres Place and the Brownlee Estates – and other usages. The community center of Brownlee no longer exists as an entity, but reminders of its past existence are Brownlee Road, Old Brownlee Road and the Brownlee Estates subdivision.

Surnames Being Researched By ALTGA Members

To contact a member please email altgenassn@gmail.com

| Member's Name | Surnames Being Researched |
|----------------------------|--|
| Donna Adams | Walker, Smith, Holland, Harris |
| Philip Adderley | Adderley, Boorman, Hollis, Sedweeks |
| Debi Adderley | Barton, Pate, Sawyer, Pearce |
| Jack Anderson | Farrington, Badnes, Teague, Powell |
| John D, Anderson | Wallace, Allen, Youngblood, Shackelford |
| Dr. Daneta Daniel Bardsley | Sullivan, Litton, Daniel, Worthington |
| Bonnie Beran | Blakeley, Blackburn, Shephard, Walker |
| Glenda Efferson Bernard | Efferson, St Clair, Brister, Smiley |
| Mary Ann Blunt | Blunt/Blount, Chance, Allen, Robinson |
| Winnie Boothe | Gambill/Gamble, Larkin, Oates, Winham |
| Dorothy Brown | Crouch, Flaherty, Miller, Newsom |
| Frank N. "Doc" Carter | Carter, Jarvis, Cook, Linville |
| Marleta Childs | Johnson, Whittington, Palmer, |
| Marilyn Bradley Christian | Crump, Bradley, Polk, Garrison |
| George Cole | Cole, Smith, Dawkins, Gathright |
| Carolyn M. Cole | Mcgee, Gunter, Cole |
| Johnnie Hall Covington | Hall, Conly, Leshe, Johnson |
| Ken Dailey | Dailey, Beckham, McMahan, Teutsch |
| Susan Dailey | Horton, Zachary, Alpuente |
| Judy Davis | Schulz, Davis, Burkhart, Dodson |
| Nicky Davis | Kerr, Smith, Charles, Wyble |
| Wanda Bowlin Davis | Johnston, Goff, Walker, Wade |
| Janine Johnson Dunlap | Johnson, Rhodes |
| William Farrington | Kimball, Mcmain, Mclaughlin, Farrington |
| Ellen Fillippino | Whitaker, Ingle, Morgan, Morphew |
| Margrett Ford | Ford, Farrell, Peters, Webb |
| Cheryl Gaines | Smith, Johnson, Jones, Gilmer |
| Leonard Gresens | Fiduccia, Messina, Gresens, Fulco |
| Denise Gresens | Cotton, Thrashen, Southern, Driggens |
| Willie Ray Griffin | Kelley, Hartwell, Jackson, Grissom |
| Patricia B. Griffin | Williams, Wagner, Forte, Cobb |
| Mary Ann Heinsohn | Heinsohn, Taylor, Durham, Wallace |
| Robert S. Hendrick, Jr. | Hendrick, Stephens, Mccook, Nicholson |
| Datha Renee Hopkins | Doxey, Adams, Funnyhow, Odom |
| Bob Horne | Horne, Pentecost, Wedgeworth, Comelander |
| Judy Horne | Rhodes, Rentro, Pettigrew, Duncan |

| Member's Name | Surnames Being Researched |
|----------------------------|--|
| Doris Hunt | Hunt, Barr, Williams, Parker |
| Dale Jennings | Vance, Brownlee, Arnold, Jennings |
| Jim Johnson | Broom, Morrow, Beene, Keener |
| Elaine Johnson | Arts, Adrian, Moreland, Fretter |
| Barbara Jones | Bright, King, Bennett, Partle |
| Brenda Kelly | Englehart, Hochmuth, Broadwater, Koehler |
| Barbara Dean S. Kronenberg | Dawson, Toombs, Sparks, Bailey |
| Ellen T. Kyle | Teer, Kyle, Mims, Strickland |
| Peggy S LaCour | Lacour, Barron, Appleton, Cable |
| Linda Lynn | May, Webb, Kirkland, Morgan |
| Jimmy Lynn | Lynn, Battle, Warren, Fields |
| Wade Lyons | Kelly/Kelley, Lincecum, Lyons, Harris |
| Reed Mathews | Mathis, Rogers, Kirtley, Carlton |
| Carole Neal | Neal, Seals, Ward, Warren |
| Ora A. Penn | Penn, Bass, Butcher, Hall |
| Mable Pennywell | Pennywell, Moore, Grant |
| Helene Pockrus | Metnitz, Gutierrez |
| Sylvia Dean Powers | Davidson, Hilliard, Sipes, Plunk |
| Brenda Custer Randall | Custer, Foster, Brooks, Randall |
| Robert Edwin Reed | Van Sciever, Maines, Barkman, Struble |
| Katie Slack Reed | Slack, Lewis, Edwards, Frazier |
| Robert Roy Sanderlin | Sanderlin, Kendrick |
| Doris L. Sanders | Clark, Fisher, Sockwell, Blake |
| June Scholes | Landry, Brunette, Mcelroy, Medine |
| Linda Scott | Sanders, Scott, Gilliard, Gillyard |
| Paula M. Sen | Moody, O'neal, Hoyt, Dill |
| Sherry Stack | Johnson, Massey, Sptachowlak, Hoerres |
| Suzanne Stimits | Lindsey, Condit, Woodward |
| Chris Stoll | Stover, Mays, Garland, Fowler |
| Richard M. Tatum | Tatum, Kinnebrew, Barrow |
| Lise' Taylor | Brannaman, Chatelain, Coulon, Gauthier |
| Judith Vestal | Vestal, Carson, Stewart, Stamps |
| Walter Howard Ward | Murphy, Gary, Wilson, Kent |
| Sonja Webb | Dowling, Waid, Mccleskey, Jarrett |
| Jack Talley Weddle | Weddle, Steves, Rainwater |
| Mary Weddle | Talley, Tomlin, Rockson, Low |
| Clara Currey Woods | Beard, Scott, Neeley, Currey |
| Isabelle Woods | Causey, Huggins, Dantzler, Moniz |
| Betty Zeigler | Henderson, Twitty, Mcdade, Sanders |

Strategies for Solving Brick Walls

Presented by Jim Johnson to the Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Association
May 9, 2015

At some point, almost every researcher will run into a proverbial 'brick wall'. A brick wall is a term that we have coined to label a road block or a dead end in our genealogy research on one or more ancestral lines. However, sometimes we tend to be too quick to label the problem as a brick wall, when it might be merely an obstacle that with a little more effort could be solved. Most genealogy problems, particularly those reaching back within the last 300 years and the ancestor having lived in the United States, can possibly be solved by further analyzing the problem and conducting more in depth research. To be successful in finding a solution, you must tackle the problem with optimism and an open mind to possibilities.

Some important elements to include in your research are as follows:

1. Name of the ancestor: While this may seem obvious, we all know that most names can be spelled multiple ways. You may want to consider in your research various spellings or the use of 'wild cards' to broaden the search. Many ancestors used nick names instead of their given name, while some ancestors added to or shortened their surname. Another challenge can be determining the maiden name of a female ancestor particularly those of third and older generations.
2. Date of event and ancestor's age: To be successful, we must narrow the date range of the search down to within a few years of the event and the same is true with the person's age. Inconsistencies in ages listed in different census schedules are probably caused by estimates or a 'best guess' of an individual's age either by the census enumerator or the informant that provided the information. Prior to the requirement to file a birth certificate in the early 20th century, family bibles and church records were among the most commonly used sources for documenting the birth, marriage and death dates.
3. Place of event: Often our ancestors were on the move and we must consider that as a factor in our research. Be aware of county and parish boundary changes and that any change in jurisdiction may result in a change where records are maintained. Those ancestors that lived near a state or county boundary might have records recorded in the adjoining state or county.
4. A valid record source: This part of the equation may sometimes be beyond our control. Over the years, some records have been destroyed in courthouse fires or floods, and simply no longer exist. However, if you are researching a county in which the courthouse burned, there may have been an effort made to reconstruct those records, or the surviving records may have been moved to an adjacent county courthouse. The good news is that there is at least in some locales a large number of records, either at the federal, state, or local level that might be helpful. These vary from occupational licenses to livestock branding records to federal land transactions. If a person cannot be found in the census records, perhaps, local tax records or voter lists can be used to document a person in a particular place.

At our regular February meeting, attendees were each asked to submit a brick wall problem to be used as part of an upcoming program. Ten brick wall problems were submitted and became the focus of a PowerPoint presentation for our meeting on May 9th. Each slide showed a brick wall scenario followed by clues derived from the member's submissions. The audience was asked to provide possible solutions using the above guidelines. The presentation was very informative and audience members provided some very helpful problem solving suggestions. Some preliminary analysis helped solve two of the brick wall problems prior to the meeting.

References:

Marsha Hoffman Rising. *The Family Tree Problem Solver*. Cincinnati: Family Tree Books. 2005.

George G. Morgan. *How to Do Everything with Your Genealogy*. Emeryville: McGraw-Hill/Osborne. 2004.



Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Association will host an all day seminar and book fair in Shreveport on **August 8, 2015**, featuring Charles Gardes, professional genealogist and lecturer.

Lecture topics are:

- **What Did You do in the Civil War, Great Grandpa?** (Tracing your civilian Ancestor in the Civil War)
- **Made in the USA** – (Beginning German Genealogy)
- **Meet Me at the Raccoon Lodge** – (Researching in the International Order of Hoo-Hoo and other fraternal organization records)
- **It's a Gusher!** (Actual probate case study of heirship verification)

Location: Broadmoor United Methodist Church (Pearce Hall), 3715 Youree Drive, Shreveport

Hours: 9:00am - 3:30pm

Barnes & Noble will be on site with a special selection of genealogy and history books. Registration fee is \$40 and includes lunch if pre-registered. Click [here](#) for a printable seminar flyer/registration form or for online registration and PayPal instructions. Email Jim Johnson at jjohnson747@suddenlink.net for additional information.