

The Livermore Roots Tracer



Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 901, Livermore, California 94551-0901

<http://www.l-ags.org>



Membership News

Welcome New Members

Kathleen Elm and Kathy Miranda

Thanks to the generosity of the following L-AGS members:

Patrons

Anonymous, Dick & Jean Lerche, Madelon Palma, Kay Speaks, Duncan Tanner

Benefactors

Kristina Ahuja, Marilyn A. Cutting, Linda Driver & Walt Crawford,
Gail Fairfield, Richard & Wanda Finn, Jim and Ray Ann Kenyon, Cindy McKenna,
Patricia Moore, Ileen J. Peterson, Peggy Weber

Total L-AGS Members as of August 25, 2015—124 Memberships and 148 Members

Meeting News

General meetings are held on the second Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton.

L-AGS Leadership for 2015

President	president@L-AGS.org	Patrick M. Lofft
First Vice President & Program Chair	program@L-AGS.org	Marilyn Glass/ Diane Wiedel
Second Vice President & Membership Chair	membership@L-AGS.org	Thomas Mathews
Business Manager	business@L-AGS.org	Duncan Tanner
Corresponding Secretary		Nancy Southwick
Recording Secretary		Leora Frise

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A Message from our President

Everyone loves to see photos. Especially photos that tell stories. Consider those photos of ancestors that you collected as you researched your genealogy. What were the stories told by those photos? Genealogy magazines contain abundant articles explaining techniques for restoring old photos, scanning old photos, finding genealogy clues in old photos, etc. Isn't it a shame that those old photos were not accompanied by a list of the folks in the photo and an explanatory paragraph?

Your shoe boxes of your photos contain many that **tell your story**. Isn't it about time that you selected any one of the photos from those boxes and wrote a paragraph or two **revealing your story for your grandchildren?** Unfortunately, too many photographs are unaccompanied by detailed captions as to who was pictured, where, when and how the persons and objects were related to everyone else in the photo.

Or, will you choose that the events and the names of others in your photos will remain anonymous?

Pictures are worth thousands of words, but rather than reading the stories directly we often have to fashion the stories. "Reading" photographs is more about interpreting the information, building conjectures. Are you willing to provide your descendants with the larger context of your escapades? If so, the rewards will be far greater.

Include what facts you want to include and leave out the rest. You are not writing an academic paper or an exhaustive chronicle. This is your memoir of your photo that you and other members of your family have lived. Tell what happened as a result, and what you learned. Were you changed by the event portrayed?

Did your parent take the photo during or following a particularly important event at your school, at your athletic or other extracurricular event or at your church? Who else was present that was included or excluded from the photo?

Use visual words to paint a picture in the mind of the reader. Merely "I rode my bike to the store," can become "Pedaling my red bike as fast as I could go down the cracked sidewalk, I tore out for the little corner store."

What is your immediate impression? Who and what will you write about? What feelings does the photo evoke in you? What is obvious, and what is subtle? What, if anything, is happening in a photo? What is the photographer's relation to the subjects? Is he a family member, a professional? Do people look relaxed or tense? Is the significance of the background, real or symbolic? Gossip about the body language of the people photographed? Do people show themselves off or hide behind?

Write about your family life as well as your circumstances at the time. Writing something about your emotional responses to what occurred or was said by another can be interesting to others. Relating the little details that were important to you about various relationships you've had with the others in the photo will entice people to continue reading. This richly -told approach can apply to any other significant event.

Describe people physically. How tall is your brother? What did he look like? What did his laugh sound like? Did he laugh often? What did it smell like in the old house or when opening the old book? What did that mud or beach sand feel like between your five year old toes? How did the distant music sound from the radio in the next room? **Start. Select a photo each day.** Write a paragraph every day. Have fun. Do it your own way. You'll be glad you did, and so will your descendants.

Sincerely,
Patrick M. Lofft



From the Editor's Desk

By Teresa Costa Fraser



Each October the Livermore Amador Genealogical Society celebrates Family History Month with events at local libraries to promote interest in family history. It takes many volunteers to show up and make these events successful. Please consider volunteering this year. You will be glad you did. Now, for the highlights of this issue.

In his president's message, Patrick Lofft discusses the importance of drafting detailed captions of your family's photographs. He explains how to *read* photographs and provides a variety of prompts to *flesh* out the stories behind your photographs.

Linda Driver uses her genealogy research skills for a worthy cause. She is part of Unclaimed Persons, a volunteer genealogy group that works with coroners and medical examiners from across the country to help find the next of kin of unclaimed persons. Read her article, "Seeking Next of Kin," to learn how this group of genealogists tracks down next of kin and makes a difference in the lives of others.

Lois Barber leaves us with a cliffhanger about the unusual situation she encountered after submitting her ancestral surnames. Read about it in "DNA Helps and Hurts,"

Barbara Hempill is "totally convinced of the value of making genealogical connections." Learn what she gained from these connections in her article, "It Pays to Make Connections."

In "Keeping the Memories Alive," John Tuohy discusses why he began his genealogy journey and shares his admiration for his Irish ancestors.

Our "Meet the Members" column features returning member, Chris Smith.

"Mississippian: Frank Leslie Whittington," is my first *adventure* into writing about my Whittington family line who arrived in Virginia in 1642 from England.

Finally, G.R.O.W. columnists Susan Johnston and Kay Speaks provide an overview of webinar resources to help you expand your genealogy knowledge. Some are *free to view* anytime and others are *free live* webinars with the option to *pay to view* later.

I hope you enjoy reading this issue of the *Livermore Roots Tracer*. If you are interested in submitting an article for the November issue, please contact me at terrifraser.sanfrancisco@gmail.com.

Teresa Costa Fraser, Editor



Livermore Roots Tracer

The *Livermore Roots Tracer* is the quarterly publication of the Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society. The mission statement of the Livermore Roots Tracer is: **"Instruct. Inspire. Inform."**

Members are encouraged to submit articles for publication. Email articles to: rootstracer.chair@L-AGS.org or mail articles to L-AGS, P.O. Box 901, Livermore, CA 94551-0901.

Livermore Roots Tracer Staff

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 G.R.O.W. Column.....
Susan G. Johnston and Kay Speaks

Seeking Next of Kin

By Linda A. Driver

What do the following people have in common?: A woman struck by a car while crossing a street at night; a man who died under a bridge in Iowa after living there for over ten years; and the son of a former Hollywood silent film star.

Answer: All three of these individuals died unclaimed, their next of kin unknown. Their cases were referred to Unclaimed Persons, an all-volunteer genealogy group that works with coroners and medical examiners from various counties across the country to help find next of kin for unclaimed persons. All three cases were ones that I managed as one of the case administrators for the group.

Cases from participating counties are sent to Unclaimed Persons once the investigator from the coroner or medical examiner's office has exhausted resources in trying to locate next of kin. Typically, by the time the case comes to our group, the decedent has already been cremated.

Unclaimed persons come from all walks of life, but—not surprisingly—most stories are not happy ones. As Tolstoy wrote, "Happy families are all alike; every unhappy family is unhappy in its own way." Some unclaimed persons die alone, without family, in hospitals, assisted-living facilities and nursing homes. Others are transients, homeless, incarcerated or have mental or physical disabilities. Some are simply estranged from family members. A surprising number are veterans who, even though unclaimed, are given proper military burials.

Confidential details from each case are posted on a private forum. In order to participate, members must agree to abide by stringent rules. No member is allowed to contact anyone involved

in the case, such as the decedent's family or friends. All contact is handled by the official investigator from the coroner's office.

Once a case is posted, the team of volunteers goes to work, tracking down potential next of kin using a variety of sources available for genealogy, such as Ancestry.com, FamilySearch.org, people databases, online newspapers, court records and more. Sometimes finding the family of the decedent is easy (sometimes not), but the most challenging task is finding current contact information for living relatives. Those relatives might be children, mothers, siblings, nieces, nephews or cousins, even second cousins, if there are no other closer relatives. Each case has its challenges and the team of volunteers often becomes attached to the case and the family of the decedent.

Case administrators guide the process and write the final report which is sent to the appropriate office. Eventually (sometimes soon but often later) a response comes

back as to whether the case was solved or not. When a case is solved, the investigator might let us know who was contacted (the report usually includes several contacts) and perhaps a bit more about the decedent's life story.

I have been a volunteer for Unclaimed Persons since 2009 and a case administrator since 2010. In that time, I have handled over 100 cases, but the most memorable was one of the first cases I posted. The decedent was a 78-year-old man in Florida who was found deceased on the street still wearing a hospital ID tag. It was a challenging case, but we found four elderly paternal first cousins on his father's side, none of whom knew his father or him.



But the cousins looked at the report provided by Unclaimed Persons, had a family meeting, claimed the man's cremains and buried him in their family plot. It was an act of pure kindness and generosity.

Sadly, the case of the woman who was struck at night crossing the street was never solved. But the siblings of the man who lived under a bridge were grateful to know what happened to him; they had not seen him for twenty-five years. And the son of the former Hollywood star? Well, it was a fascinating case that resulted in scouring old newspapers online to find revealing details about the man's mother—and *his father*.

I wish I could tell you more, but...it is confidential. Only the team of researchers on the case know the truth. And don't believe everything you read in movie and film databases!

Tired of researching your own family? Need new challenges? If you cannot leave mysteries unsolved and have time to dedicate to a worthy cause, consider volunteering for Unclaimed Persons. Fair warning—the hunt for next of kin is addictive and time consuming. It is not everyone's cup of tea, but perhaps it is yours. To learn more, "Like" us on Facebook or visit the Unclaimed Persons Forums.

<https://www.facebook.com/UnclaimedPersons>

<http://www.unclaimed-persons.org/forums/>

If you would like to know more about the man under the bridge, his story made the local news: <http://tinyurl.com/pwh36ff>.



U.S. Wills and Probate

By Teresa Fraser Costa

In case you have not heard, Ancestry.com has launched a new category of records, "U.S. Wills and Probate." In a press release published September 2nd, Ancestry announced the following:

"...More than 170 million pages from the largest collection of wills and probate records in the United States is now available online exclusively on Ancestry. With searchable records included from all 50 states spread over 337 years (1668-2005), this unprecedented collection launches a new category of records for family history research never before available online at this scale in the United States..."

If you would like to read the press release in its entirety, click on the following link <http://tinyurl.com/nj85bb4>.

Of course I dropped everything to search the new collection. I discovered my paternal 3rd great-grandfather, Joseph Silveira Santos' (1826-1892) probate records were in the new collection. That means I do not have to return to the basement of the Alameda County Courthouse to finish copying his file.

I also discovered that his son, Joseph S. Santos' (1863-1892) probate records were also in the collection. His last will and testament was dated 11 days before his death. I was surprised to learn that my 3rd great-grandparents actually had five children instead of four. Apparently, there was another daughter that I never knew existed. Her name was listed as Mary Joze Betencourt. She was living in San Francisco at the time of her brother's death.

I'm sure there will be a few surprises waiting for you to discover in this new collection. To learn how to use the new collection Ancestry Anne Gillespie Mitchell has developed a *free* class at Ancestry Academy titled, "Navigating Wills and Probates on Ancestry." Follow Anne on Twitter at @AncestryAnne.

DNA Helps and Hurts

By Lois M. Barber

Some years ago, as a gift to myself, I had Y-DNA testing done on several males in my Dickson/Dixon, Hatfield and Parker lines. Although there is a surviving male on my Waggoner side, he is not interested in having the test done.

Unfortunately, no close matches were found. I gave up on doing more Y-DNA testing and decided to do an Autosomal test of myself in June 2012. Understanding the many matches and what they mean was more difficult than I had imagined. There were some query exchanges with some matches, but a common ancestor was very hard to find, especially when the people I matched had not submitted an Ancestral Surnames List or Tree by uploading a GEDCOM file. I too contributed to that failure, but only because I didn't have the knowledge to do the work..

In December 2014 I had a first match where we were able to find a "common ancestor", even though I had not submitted a GEDCOM. VLJ (initials of the person who matched me) matched me with a relationship range of 2nd- 4th Cousins and shared 46 cM (centimorgans) of DNA. We also shared five surnames in her Ancestral Surname List and we discovered a "common ancestor" in our Ancestral Trees. This match confirmed that we are third cousins once removed and our common ancestor is Joseph Parker. It was exciting to discover a distant cousin through our matching DNA.

I knew from attending the DNA Discussion Meetings that everyone should add their Ancestral Trees (GEDCOM file) to their data pages, no matter with whom you test, so that others can also look for possible shared common ancestors if a match is found.

Doug Mumma offered to assist me in preparing a GEDCOM file for uploading. I took advantage of his offer and we created the file and uploaded it.

Then in March of this year I received a most interesting e-mail. I have a match where we share

146 cM the highest I have ever had. A value this high suggests a fairly close match, perhaps as close as 2nd cousins. I will tell you about this unusual situation in another issue of the *Livermore Roots Tracer*.

DNA TESTING FOR GENEALOGY

Interested in learning more about DNA testing for genealogy? Here's a list of resources to help you understand what DNA testing for genealogy is all about.

L-AGS GENERAL MEETING DNA and Genealogical Research

Garl Satterthwaite will be presenting "DNA and Genealogical Research," at the upcoming September 14th L-AGS general meeting.

FAMILYSEARCH

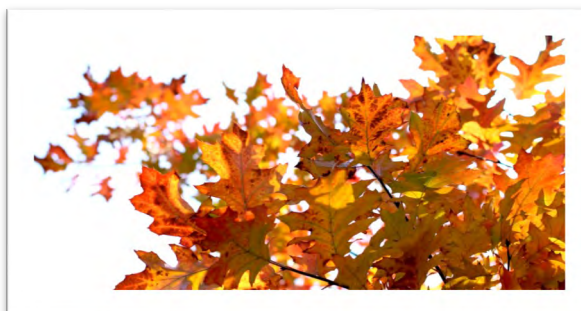
Hiring a DNA Testing Company

<http://tinyurl.com/q2lpeyo>. What is Y-DNA Testing ? What is Autosomal DNA Testing? Click on FamilySearch Wiki page link above to learn the basics.

CYNDI'S LIST:

DNA, Genetics & Family Health

<http://www.cyndislist.com/dna>. Want to expand your knowledge about DNA testing and genealogy? Check out Cyndi's List. There are approximately 322 links on Cyndi's List pertaining to DNA testing for genealogy.



It Pays to Make Connections

By Barbara Hempill

My paternal great-grandparents, Adam and Margarethea Kurth immigrated to the United States from Germany in 1872 and settled in Chicago, Illinois.

They had nine children, five of whom died in infancy. The four surviving children included my grandfather Henry (b. 1873-), John (b. 1875), Elizabeth (b. 1882), and Katharine (b. 1886). When the boys grew up, they joined their father in his bakery.

Several years ago, I submitted an article to the *Livermore Roots Tracer* describing how in 1897, while she was hanging laundry in the back yard, Margarethea was critically burned when a neighbor in an upstairs apartment threw a burning oil stove over the porch railing. I had heard brief references to the story from my father, but I was able to get the facts from the Cook County coroner's report about Margarethea's death.

The following story is about two other unusual events that occurred in Adam's family, three years after his wife's death.

Early in 1900, Adam and Margarethea's son John deserted his wife, Anna and baby Willie, to run off with a woman named Mary.

He later contacted his brother Henry who was urged by his wife Emma (my grandmother) to

tell the police where John was. Subsequently, John was found in New York City by detectives who returned him to Anna and Willie. Soon after, John left again with Mary. That time John did not get in touch with Henry, and John was never seen again by his family. This information was based on my father's memory and the 1900 census.

Later in 1900, Adam, who was fifty years old, married Clara Dice, who was eighteen years old. In the 1910 Federal Census for Chicago, I discovered the ages of their three children, Robert (b. 1902), Edward (b. 1903), and Irene (b. 1904) who were born before Adam died in 1910.

What my father didn't know, and I discovered in the 1910 census, was that someone named John Kurth born in 1875 in Chicago to parents who had come from Germany lived in New York City. His wife was Mary and they had a three-year-old son named John.

Then, earlier this year there was a fluttering leaf on my Ancestry.com page. It was a message from a Marty in North Carolina who is the granddaughter of Katharine Kurth, my grandfather Henry's younger sister. Marty is fascinated by the fact that John deserted his wife and child to run away, not just once, but twice, with Mary. Marty had found the same information as I had,



Margarethea (Kurz) Kurth (abt 1850-1897)



John Kurth (1875—)

but she also located John in the 1930 Federal census as well as the city directory for Yonkers, New York.

His wife Mary, whose parents were born in England, was 52 years old and his son John was 23. He had become the owner of a restaurant and was listed as a confectioner. Later in the 1936 Yonkers city directory, John's wife Mary is listed as a widow and her son John had married someone named Grace.

About a month after hearing from Marty, I received a message from a Charles in Massachusetts. He found my *Livermore Roots Tracer* article about Margarethea on Google while searching for information about Adam Kurth.

Charles provided information about Adam's 1910 will in which he declared: "In case John Kurth does not claim his share within five years, it shall go to this wife, Annie Kurth and to their son Willie Kurth." The address for John Kurth was listed as "unknown."

Charles, who is about my age, is descended from Irene Kurth, the daughter from Adam Kurth's second family with Clara Dice. Consequently, Adam is his grandfather but my great-grandfather because my grandfather was Henry Kurth, the oldest son from Adam's first marriage to Margarethea.

Thanks to Marty and Charles' research, I know a lot more about Adam's marriage to Clara Dice in St. Joseph, Michi-

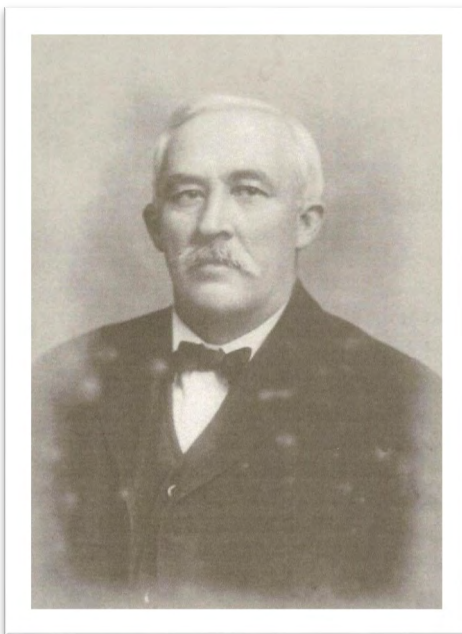
gan, on August 5, 1900. Clara was about the same age as Elizabeth (Lizzie) Kurth, Adam's daughter from his first marriage. At the time, Clara's father, George Dice, who had been an agent for the N.E. Stock Car Co. in Kansas City, had almost finished serving an eight-year sentence in Ohio for counterfeiting.

I have no idea whether it was Clara's age, or the fact that Adam remarried too soon after Margarethea's death, or that George Dice was incarcerated, but my father said that Clara and her children were never guests in his parent's home. He knew their names and had seen them at school, but he was never introduced to them. However, Adam visited my grandfather Henry and his family occasionally.

Charles sent me a chronological list of events in Adam's life from 1850 when he was born until 1910 when he died. He also provided statistical references for each event. Charles is planning to write a biography about Adam and is researching descendants from Adam's first and second marriages.

Until Marty contacted me, I had no photos of Adam, Margarethea, John and Clara or my grandfather Henry's sisters Lizzie and Kate.

Moreover, thanks to Charles, I have a comprehensive chronological reference. I am totally convinced of the value of making genealogical connections.



Adam Kurth (1850-1910)



Clara (Dice) Kurth (1882-1953)

Keeping the Memories Alive

By John Carl Tuohy

Like most folks, my genealogy journey began with a personal decision to learn more about my family. Five years ago my first grandchild was born. This event created an overwhelming desire to learn more about my family and more importantly, to pass on the family stories to my children and grandchildren. I also realized that eventually one day, like me, they would want to know more about *who they are and where they came from*.

Proud to be Irish

I have always been proud of my Irish name and the association with the brave immigrants who risked their lives to make a better life in America. I hope that I can pass this admiration along to future generations.

From Limerick, Ireland to Paulding, Ohio

I am a direct descendant of William Tuohy (1827-1887). He was my great-great-grandfather. He was born in 1827 in Limerick, Ireland. He was one of six children born to Daniel Tuohy and Ellen Josephine Walsh. William was 60 years old when he died in 1887 in Paulding County, Ohio.

His father, Daniel died in Ireland and William immigrated to the United States in 1849, due to the potato famine. He worked on the Hardin County Ohio railroad. In 1851, his mother (Ellen) with his three sisters immigrated to America. Unfortunately, Ellen died in Cleveland, Ohio in route.

The Black Swamp

In 1853, William purchased 60 acres of land from the government in Paulding County, Ohio. He paid \$1.25 per acre. The land purchased was called the 'Black Swamp.' The swamp was so difficult to travel that wheeled transportation was impossible during most of the year, and travel 'suitable only for adult men.' In the 1850's an organized attempt began to drain the swamp for agricultural and travel (only a task the Irish would entertain!).



Location of Paulding County in Ohio map. Courtesy of FamilySearch.org.



Location of Ohio in United States map. Courtesy of FamilySearch.org.

Eventually the land became some of the most fertile to be farmed in the Mid-West and became associated with the Miami and Erie Canal for transportation of people and farm commodities.

William Tuohy is recognized as a member of one of the founding families of Paulding County, Ohio and the name is woven into the local history. William had eight children. Several years ago, I visited Paulding County. I discovered the Tuohy Family Graveyard, numerous cousins still in the area, and learned that Tuohy's are still farming the land purchased 162 years ago!

I will be attending the annual Paulding County, Ohio Founding Family Dinner in October. I hope to learn more about my ancestors and make a toast to these brave immigrants.

Meet the New Member: Chris Smith

By Teresa Costa Fraser

Editor's Note: Chris Smith agreed to be interviewed for this issue's column. Next time you see her at our meeting, be sure to say hello.

What got you started doing genealogy? I started doing genealogy when my kids were young. Now, they are in their 20's. I was a stay at home mom and I had some time. My relatives always enjoyed hearing when ever I found a new relative or if I got some additional information on another relative. All my grandparents are gone now. The last one died three years ago at 98 years old.

I went back to work and worked full time for the last 11 years. My employer was recently acquired and I am not going to be working for a while. I could not wait to get back into genealogy things.

I am also very excited to be working with my Dad (age 76) on going through all his old boxes. He has boxes of photos and all kinds of documents (papers) that belonged to his mom and dad. This is going to be a long-term project, but at least we are getting started!

I moved my data to Legacy Family Tree and am very happy with that so far. I bought a scanner and a bunch of archival safe boxes and armed myself with the books from Denise Levenick and off I went.

My goal is to get caught up from not working on my genealogy over the last 11 years and get information and images into my computer, rather than in binders. I probably will not give up the binders, but want everything on my laptop. I use Microsoft One Note and love it.

What surnames and locations have you researched? My Gaarde family line came from Denmark in 1880. I found the passenger list they came over on and that was very exciting. My family was lucky enough to go to Denmark in 2014 and see where the family lived and worked. It was amazing.

My Neeld family line is in Ohio and Pennsylvania and goes back to the mid 1600's. Supposedly, I can join DAR, but I have not done so yet.

I need to work on other surnames, too - Spoon (Tennessee and Illinois), St. John (Ohio), and Churchill (Iowa), among others.

The furthest back I have researched was the early 1700's in Denmark. I searched church records and a very nice gentleman who read Danish met me at the church and helped me interpret the records. That was a long time ago. My relatives did the work into the mid 1600's on my Neeld family line.

How did you acquire your genealogy knowledge? I am self-taught. I belonged to LAGS back in the day and attended a few seminars. Now, I am listening to some podcasts and webinars.

How did you hear about LAGS? What motivated you to join? I was motivated to join in case anyone else was working on a picture/document project as I am and wanted to share their experiences with me or to share my experiences with them. I look forward to meeting the other members of the LAGS community and getting involved in some of the groups.



Chris Smith



Mississippian: Frank Leslie Whittington (1885-1967)

By Teresa Costa Fraser

I never met my maternal great-grandfather, Frank Leslie Whittington. He died in 1967 when I was in the 6th grade, a year after my grandfather (his firstborn), died unexpectedly. The following describes his early life, marriage and children, rail road career, and the history of McComb, Mississippi.

Early Life

Frank Leslie Whittington, was born in the springtime, just before the annual cotton seeds were planted. He was born on 29 March 1885 in Liberty, Amite County, Mississippi to Young Jasper (1852-1902) and Eliza (Durham) Whittington (1867-1940). Young Jasper was a farmer, originally from Amite County, Mississippi. Eliza was originally from Scott County, Mississippi, the daughter of a laborer.

Frank was the oldest of eight children and the third generation of Whittington's born in Mississippi. Cornelius Whittington (1749-1837) was the first Whittington to migrate to Mississippi after the Mississippi Territory was formed in 1798. Cornelius appears in the 1805 Mississippi Territorial Census living in Wilkinson County.

Young Jasper passed away on 29 June 1902 in Liberty, Mississippi, at the age of 50. In 1903, Eliza married Henry A. Swearingen in Amite County. Henry, a 50 year old bachelor gained a ready-made family of eight children.

Marriage and Children

Frank and Beulah Ferrell probably married in Amite County in about 1903. Beulah was the daughter of Daniel Bestier Ferrell (1858-1930) and Fannie Bett Sanders (1858-1918) also of Liberty, Mississippi. The Whittington and Ferrell families lived on neighboring farms.

Frank and Beulah had three sons and one daughter together between 1905 and 1921. They were Leslie Ray "Richard" (1905-1966), Roy Lee (1907-1975), Paul William (1917-1979), and Christine Gregory (1921-2015).



Frank and Beulah or C.C. Whittington at New York Street, McComb, Mississippi. Circa 1940's.

Richard was my grandfather. I do not actually remember ever meeting him. I do remember my grandmother leaving abruptly when he called to say he was in town and she was visiting my family. They had been divorced for many years. Sadly, that's my only memory of him.

I did forge a relationship with Christine, my grandfather's only sister. I met her when I was living in Arizona in the 1980's. After I moved back to California, we kept in touch for years via letters. She was eager to share information about the Whittington's and Ferrell's.

Frank's mother Eliza passed away on 16 May 1940 in Amite County. She was 73 years old. Two years later, Beulah died on 13 April 1942 at 57 years old. Frank and Beulah had been married 39 years. Beulah is buried in the Hollywood Cemetery in McComb. Frank married C.C. Conerly on 20 July 1942 in Pike County, Mississippi.

Career

In 1910, the Whittington's lived on Twenty Fifth Street in McComb, Mississippi. Frank worked as a log grader at the local saw mill. Most likely, it was the J. J. White



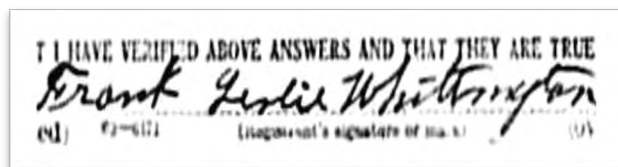
Lumber Company founded by Civil War veteran Captain J. J. White. Sometime in 1910, Frank had a mishap and broke his left leg, just above the ankle. It may have been a work related mishap—such as a log rolling incident.

McComb is located about 25 miles west of Liberty where Frank grew up and about 100 miles north of New Orleans. It was founded in 1872, by Colonel Henry Simpson McComb. He was the president of the New Orleans, Jackson, and Great Northern Railroad—now Illinois Central Railroad. For moral reasons, he wanted his locomotive and car shops to be located outside of New Orleans, away from the saloons. Interestingly, the McComb city charter stipulated that no alcoholic beverages were to be sold within the city limits. It has been repealed.

McComb is the birthplace of several famous individuals, including blues musician Bo Diddley, actor Jimmy Boyd, Major League Baseball outfielder Adrian Brown and singer Britney Spears.

Illinois Central Rail Road

By 1918, the McCombs had moved to 3rd Street in McComb. Frank was employed as a safety apprentice for the Illinois Central Rail Road (ICRR) Company. During this time, Frank was required to register for the World War I draft. Like the majority of registrants, he was not called up for military service.



Signature from World War I Draft Registration Card.



Frank Leslie Whittington after a good day's catch. McComb, Mississippi. Circa 1940's.

Two years later in 1920, the family purchased a home at 902 Venable Street in McComb. The family lived there for about 20 years. Frank was still working for the ICRR Company and was now a car inspector. In 1930, the family was still living on Venable Street. Frank was now working as an air brakeman.

By 1940, the Whittington's had purchased another home, located at 424 New York Street in McComb. Frank, now 56 years old was still employed with the ICCR and was working as a car inspector. He had been employed by ICCR for about 22 years.

At the end of his life, Frank would have seen major social and political changes in the Deep South. He passed away in 1967 and is buried in the Hollywood Cemetery in McComb, Mississippi. He was 82 years old.

Whittington Lineage

5th Great-Grandparents

Cornelius Whittington

Birth: 24 April 1749; Sussex County, Virginia

Marriage: 1774; Place Unknown

Death: 27 March 1837; Amite County, Mississippi

Rebecca Gilliam

Birth: 23 November 1754; Sussex County, Virginia

Death: 1837; Amite County, Mississippi

4th Great-Grandparents

James Whittington

Birth: 1775; Cheraw, Chesterfield, South Carolina

Marriage: About 1796; Place Unknown

Death: 1838; Amite County, Mississippi

Sarah Jackson

Birth: 1780; Wilkes, Georgia

Death: August 1855; Amite County, Mississippi

3rd Great-Grandparents

Arthur R. Whittington

Birth: 15 October 1816, Amite County, Mississippi

Marriage: 29 July 1844, Amite County, Mississippi

Death: 20 May 1906, Amite County, Mississippi

Orra Heard Butler

Birth: 22 August 1825; Amite County, Mississippi

Death: 21 May 1912; Amite County, Mississippi

2nd Great-Grandparents

Young Jasper Whittington

Birth: 17 April 1852; Liberty, Amite, Mississippi

Marriage: 5 November 1883; Amite County, MS

Death: 29 June 1902; Liberty, Amite, Mississippi

Eliza Durham

Birth: Abt 1867; Amite County, Mississippi

Death: 16 May 1940; Amite County, Mississippi

Great Grandparents

Frank Leslie Whittington

Birth: 29 March 1885; Liberty, Amite County, MS

Marriage ¹: Abt 1903; Amite County, Mississippi

Marriage ²: 20 July 1942; Pike County, Mississippi

Death: 1967; McComb, Pike County, Mississippi

Beulah Elizabeth Ferrell

Birth: 8 October 1884; Alcorn County, Mississippi

Death: 13 April 1942; McComb, Pike County, MS

For additional information about the Whittington family line, please contact terrifraser.sanfrancisco@gmail.com.



Frank Leslie Whittington grave marker at Hollywood Cemetery, McComb, Mississippi. Photo used with permission of Virginia Zeigler, Find A Grave Contributor.



Part of entrance to Hollywood Cemetery, McComb, Mississippi. Photo by Martha McKay, Find A Grave Contributor.



G. R. O. W.

Genealogy Resources On the Web — The Page That Helps Genealogy Grow!

Compiled by Susan Johnston and Kay Speaks



WHEN BATHROBES ARE CLASSROOM ATTIRE

Regional and national genealogy conferences are great places to learn about new resources, new tools, and new methodologies, but sometimes they are just too distant or too expensive. Fortunately, webinars make a great substitute – and you can even attend in your bunny slippers! This list should get you started on a wonderful learning adventure.

FREE WEBINARS

FamilySearch Learning Center:

<http://tinyurl.com/8x3cjam>. If you have not made *FamilySearch* one of your go-to sites for all things genealogy, you should. Hundreds of webinars, from 5-minute tips to 90-minute case studies are available here. Filter by skill level, subject, location – even language – and do not forget the handouts!

Know Your Records Program:

<http://tinyurl.com/phft79b>. Watch the National Archives' genealogy programs on its own *YouTube* channel. Speakers include records specialists and archivists, and most of the presentations include handouts. This is a great opportunity to learn about the valuable records of our National Archives.

NEHGS Webinars:

<http://tinyurl.com/p5vykvx>. You don't need to be a member of the New England Historic Genealogical Society to take advantage of these webinars. Most are about one hour in length and the topics are not limited to New England. The next live airing will cover the digital collections at NEHGS and the American Jewish Historical Society-New England Archives. Don't forget to register!

Family Tree DNA Webinars:

<http://tinyurl.com/muqb2ed>. Are you interested in learning more about genealogy research and DNA? Many of these webinars are oriented towards Family Tree DNA and its products, but some good, in-depth presentations can be found here, as well. Live webinars have been suspended, but check out the archived talks on the FTDNA *YouTube* channel.

USCIS History and Genealogy Webinars:

<http://www.uscis.gov/HGWebinars>. Unlike many other webinars, the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services are not recorded, so bookmark this page and send yourself a reminder to attend the webinars of your choice. The "Records Found" Case Studies are unique presentations. The others rotate throughout the year.

FREE LIVE WEBINARS – PAY-TO-VIEW LATER

Legacy Family Tree Webinars:

<http://familytreewebinars.com/>. A great lineup for 2015 and 252 archived classes make this site a must. It's free to attend a live webinar or view it up to seven days after the event. You must subscribe to view the archived webinars (now \$49.95/year or \$9.95/month).

SCGS Webinar Series:

<http://tinyurl.com/lupfq5q>. The Southern California Genealogical Society presents two one-hour lectures each month, and its speakers are among the best in the world of genealogy. It's free to attend the live broadcast, but more than 100 archived presentations are available to members only. The \$35 annual membership fee is a bargain!

BCG Webinars:

<http://tinyurl.com/pg6q26x>. You expect quality from the Board for Certification of Genealogists and these webinars are excellent. Live presentations are free, as are some archived presentations. Others are pay-per-view (\$2.99).

WHAT'S NEW AT ...

Ancestry.com: No images. Important information possibly redacted. Still, the "U.S., Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936-2007" is a must-see database. Important clues to parentage and multiple marriages abound.

FamilySearch.org: If you have Mexican ancestry, you must investigate the wonderful collections of Catholic Church records. The records of 29 states are now available, images and indexes, and many of the records date back to the early 16th century!

Future General Meetings

Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton

Visitors are always welcome.

September 14, 7:30 p.m.

Garl Satterthwaite

DNA and Genealogical Research

October 12, 7:30 p.m.

Joy Cohn, Tom Matthews

*Witches: Genealogical Aftermath of Salem
Witch Trials*

November 9, 7:30 p.m.

Susan Goss Johnston

To be determined



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