



# Seeley Genealogical Society Newsletter

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History ★ Family ★ Research

November 2010

## Beware of Scams: Online, Phone or Mail

Story By Kathie Olsen, SGS President

In the past two months, I have received two different reports from Seeley Genealogical Society members who were supposed to be



“in London, England and have been mugged at gunpoint and have lost their money, credit cards, etc.” (These were only two of seven similar reports I have received, six of the seven being folks involved with Genealogy/Family History.) While I am concerned for the well-being of our members and would be so sad if something like this really happened, I am more concerned that someone will fall for this scheme and send money!! I responded to one of these reports and received instructions to send \$1850.00 to a helpful hotel clerk, who must remain a secret so he/she wouldn't be in trouble. I contacted our members to make sure they were safe at home. Their email address books had been hijacked, which takes time, effort and money to fix.

A dear friend of mine with married grandchildren received a phone call from an hysterical “granddaughter who had been picked up by the police in Ontario, Canada with drugs in the trunk and was being arrested.” Could grandma send the bail? The young woman said she was only allowed one call and please don't tell anyone because she was so embarrassed. In an elaborate scheme with at least three people involved (the young woman, the police officer and the bail bondsman), my friend was fleeced out of almost \$10,000.

And there are the scams that ask you to trade checks. They send you a \$7,000 check which you must hold for a specified time. You send them \$5,000 immediately. When you try to cash their check, guess what? It is not good. I have heard reports that a young adult in my neighborhood fell for this one and lost her college savings. Here in Salt Lake City, attorney offices have been targeted with this scheme.

According to an article in the Reader's Digest, August 2010 issue, “There is a new breed of crooks “who use personal account information and sophisticated computer programs to trick you into thinking they are legitimate companies, services or even your friend.” “According to

the Internet Crime Complaint Center (run by the FBI and the National White Collar Crime Center), reported Internet fraud last year raked in almost \$560 million, more than double the figure from 2008. And researchers estimate the amount is really higher because many people never report their losses. “Likely victims include the elderly, who are increasingly comfortable with computers yet tend to be overly trusting.” “Young adults; however, are also a target because they “tend to think they are infallible.””

What are some of the “red flags” that should make us wary?

- Immediate need for money
- Requests from people who normally wouldn't ask
- Need for secrecy
- Getting something for nothing, or at least very little
- If it sounds too good (or bad) to be true, it probably is
- Send cash immediately via Western Union

What can we do to protect ourselves and others?

- Try to contact the so-called “victim” and let them know of the scam attempt
- Report the scam attempt to your email provider, police, etc.
- Have up-to-date security protection on your computer
- Don't use the same password for everything
- Be aware that these types of schemes are being perpetrated by “crooks”
- Have in mind questions you could ask if you received such a call. “What is our favorite family movie?” as an example.

If you have comments, questions or concerns that you would like to share with SGS, please let me know.

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Member: Federation of Genealogical Societies and National Genealogical Society



## The Seeley Genealogical Society Newsletter

is published quarterly by the  
Seeley Genealogical Society

### Editor

Paul Taylor

Address newsletter correspondence to:

**SGS Newsletter**  
3848 Frazier Lane  
Virginia Beach, VA 23456

Phone: 757-471-1188  
email: pccntaylor@cox.net

### Announcements

The SGS Newsletter is published every February, May, August, and November. Announcements are published for free and are due to the editor by the 15th of the month preceding publication.

### SGS Mission Statement

The Society shall engage in research, study, verification, discussion, collation, publication, dissemination, and preservation of Seeley information for the Society, for its members and for posterity.

### Membership

Membership is open to anyone interested in genealogy, history or biography; amateur or professional. Although the name Seeley refers to one family surname, SGS counts among its family those with surnames spelled a variety of ways such as: Seeley, Seelye, Sealy, Sealey, Seley, Selye, Seale, Seelee, Seela, Cielely, Cealy, Cilley, etc.

### Membership Dues

\$8 per year, \$15 two years, \$21 three years, or \$30 five years. Lifetime memberships are \$100. (Dues are in U.S. dollars and the membership year runs from Sept. 1 to Aug. 31)

Pay all dues to:

SGS Membership Chair  
Lynda Simmons  
125 Parkview Drive  
Park City, UT 84098  
(435) 649-9878  
summitkids@gmail.com

### Seelye National Research Center

is co-located with the Seelye Mansion in Abilene, Kan. For more information, contact: Seelye Research Center, Director Terry Tietjens  
P.O. Box 337, 1105 N. Buckeye  
Abilene, KS 67410-0337  
Phone: (785) 263-1084  
email: terryt@access-one.com

### SGS International Reunions

are held every two years. The next one is scheduled for July 14-17, 2011 in the tri-counties area of New York and Pennsylvania (Bradford County, and Tioga County, Pennsylvania and Chemung County of New York). Please advise the editor if your branch or family has plans for a sectional or local reunion in the interim. Others might like to know about it.

### Editorial Position

The editorial opinions expressed in this newsletter are the opinions of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Society or the editors, nor are the Society or its editors responsible for errors of fact or opinion. Proved errors will be corrected.

# President's Report

Due to circumstances beyond the control of Seeley Genealogical Society, the August newsletter was either late or never received by many of our members. We apologize. The original publication date was late because we were anxious to include information from our 2011 reunion committee which met in Elmira, New York on August 16. After that there was a mix up with the printer apparently followed by a snafu at the post office because they are only just now trickling in. Linda Crocker got her copy yesterday, October 14 and I still have not received mine. Anyway, we are sorry for the inconvenience caused to any SGS member.



I would like to thank everyone who is involved with the Seeley Genealogical Society in any way. Each member is very important. Thanks to all of our elected and appointed officers! They are all volunteers who give of their time and energy freely and I thank them all! Thanks to all those who spend many hours to help the Society reach its goal to "engage in research, study, verification, discussion, collation, publication, dissemination and preservation of Society information for the Society, for its members and for posterity." SGS Constitution, Article II, Section 2.

Many of you know John R. Seely, who has contributed so much to the Society over the years. His influence in this organization has been tremendous. He has not been well for several months and after a stay with his son, Robert and family, has moved to a retirement center. If you would like to send him greetings, his address is John R. Seely, c/o Robert Seely, 3028 Fairview Drive, Vista, CA, 92084. He enjoys getting mail.

John has many years of research documents and other materials that he would like to donate to the Seelye Research Center in Abilene, Kansas. SGS has agreed to pay the shipping costs for these materials from John's home in Carson, California. If you would like to help with the shipping costs, please send your donation to the treasurer, Sally Seeley. Some donations have been received.

Jim Seeley has kindly agreed to serve as the DNA interim project manager. He is doing a great job. He has worked with ancestry.com to clear up a problem and he has started submitting test results to the website. Jim has written articles about the DNA project in this newsletter. Thanks, Jim. If any of you are interested in working with him on this project, please contact him

The Executive Board has established an SGS Memorial Fund. When one of our members or relatives passes away, we could remember him/her by making a donation to the SGS Memorial Fund in his/her name. The money should be sent to Sally Seeley, the treasurer. A note will be sent to the family acknowledging your donation. The donation will not be tax deductible. Please consider this as a great way to memorialize your loved ones! Some donations to this memorial fund have been made.

For our upcoming reunion, I would like to present some awards to those who have contributed so much to the success of this organization. If you have suggestions, please send them to me at katherinemolsen@gmail.com

Of interest to everyone will be our upcoming reunion in 2011 to be held in the tri-counties area of New York and Pennsylvania. Many Seeleys from different branches of the families have resided in this area. The committee has chosen July 14 through July 17, 2011 as the dates for the conference. Registration will be held on Thursday, July 14 with the opening session at 1:00 pm. A variety of tours will be conducted on Friday, July 15. Activities will continue on Saturday, July 16 and end with a brunch on Sunday, July 17. The conference hotel will be the Hilton Garden Inn, Elmira/Corning, New York. More details are in another article. Registration forms will be printed in the February 2011 newsletter. Please mark your calendars and plan to be there. Encourage all your Seeley (no matter how you spell it) relatives to be there. It is always fun to be together!

Kathie Olsen (Katherine M. Olsen)  
President, Seeley Genealogical Society

## DNA Project Status

By Jim Seeley, SGS Interim DNA Lineage Project Manager

Three new sets of DNA results have been added to the Seeley website [www.seeley-society.net/sgs-research/seeleydnaresults.html] over the past few months. Our thanks go to those members who have contributed their DNA results. Your contribution will surely help some Seeley descendant.

How do you join the project? One answer is to contact me at jrseeley@comcast.net or write to me at 108 Westridge Drive, Churchville, VA, 24421. Or, you can go to the Seeley website [http://www.seeley-society.net/sgs-research-SeeleyDNAlineage.html] and click on Instructions for Joining the Project. We are using the DNA Heritage laboratory to analyze the test results and the cost is \$149.00.

What have we learned so far?

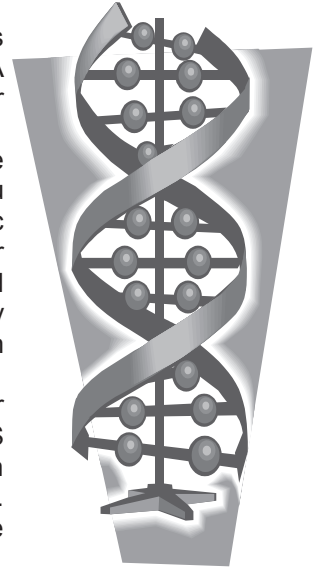
1. We learned that immigrants Robert and Obadiah Seeley were not closely related.
2. We have established a 43 marker DNA profile for both the Robert and Obadiah Seeley lines.
3. We have learned that there are other lines of Seeleys who do not belong to either of these two lines.

What are the benefits of having a DNA Y-chromosome

analysis done?

1. We can determine if you descend from Robert Seeley, or...
2. We can determine if you descend from Obadiah Seeley, or...
3. We can use your results to help establish a DNA profile for some other Seeley line.
4. It is possible that we could determine if you descend from a specific descendant of Robert or Obadiah. (Item 4 would require considerably more DNA results than we now have.)

We are still asking for someone to assume the SGS DNA Project Manager position on a more permanent basis. Please let me know if you are interested.



## What is the Seeley Eighth Generation Index?

By Jim Seeley, SGS Past President

What is the Seeley Eighth Generation Index?

SGS has published family groupings for the first eight generations of the immigrants Robert and Obadiah Seeley. These three volumes can be ordered from Terry Tietjens, Director of the Seelye Research Center in Abilene Kansas. These three documents (and much more info) are also on the SGS CD-ROM and it can be ordered from Bob Seeley. Ordering instructions are contained on the last page of each SGS Newsletter.

Several years ago, SGS decided NOT to compile an Eighth Generation Descendants book that would contain family groupings of the 8th and 9th generations of the immigrants Robert and Obadiah Seeley. SGS has so much information on these families that compiling such a document would not only be time consuming, but it would probably need to consume several volumes. Instead, the SGS Board of Directors decided to do two things. First was to establish a folder for each 8th Generation SGS Number and place all the information held on that person's descendants in that folder. These folders are kept at the Seelye Research Center and filed by 8th Generation SGS number. An electronically scanned copy of the info was also made for preservation reasons.

The second thing the SGS Board decided to do was to

develop an 8th Generation Index. This index contains the names of each individual in all these folders. This Index was recently put on the Seeley website (www.seeley-society.net). Three people have a copy of the 8th Generation Index and work to update the index as more Seeley information is received; they are the SGS Chief Genealogist Linda Crocker, the Seelye Research Center Librarian, Pam Turner, and the SGS Assistant Genealogist (Robert/Nathaniel) and Webmaster Chris Havnar.

In the August 2010 SGS Newsletter, Pam Turner wrote an excellent article explaining how the 8th Generation Index is organized. Consulting this article may help you make better use of the Index on the Seeley website. As Pam says in that article, "...please realize that this is an index. All we are trying to do is to list the names we have information on, what that information is, and where it is located. You can use it to trace the lineage of a person or see sibling relationships by looking at the page numbers..." Thanks to Pam, Linda and Chris for all of their hard volunteer work on this index. Another thank you must go out to Chris and Jerry Havnar for putting this and much more info up on the Seeley website. This effort goes a long way toward making the info SGS has available to all its members.



## 2011 Reunion Plans are Underway

*Story By Kathie Olsen, SGS President*

The 2011 Reunion Committee recently met in the Steele Memorial Library in Elmira, New York to draw up plans for our upcoming reunion. July 14 through July 17, 2011 has been selected for the date and the Elmira/Corning Area has been selected for the place. The theme will be "Settling Down and Migrating Through: The Seeley Family in the Twin Tier area of Southern New York and Northern Pennsylvania."

The Conference will begin on Thursday, July 14, 2011 at 1:00 pm at the Hilton Garden Inn, Elmira/Corning in Horseheads, New York in the ballroom. Kerry Lippincott, Education Coordinator of the Chemung County Historical Society will give the keynote address on "An overview of the early history of Chemung County, New York; Tioga County, Pennsylvania;

and Bradford County, Pennsylvania including Seeley families." This session will be followed by member presentations on Seeley families who settled or migrated through the area. See the call for presentations also in this newsletter.

Thursday evening we will enjoy dinner and a speaker, possibly Joyce Tice or J. Kelsey Jones, both prominent researchers in the Tri-counties area. Registration will begin at 9:00 am and a Board Meeting will be held at 10:00 am.

Friday, July 15, 2011 is going to be an exciting day. The committee is arranging for several area tours. There will be a chance to select two!

The morning tours will include a visit to the Corning Museum of Glass which is probably the most well known tourist site in the area and an historical tour of Elmira including sites relating to Mark Twain who summered there for 20 years and is buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, and a visit to the Chemung County Historical Society and the Booth Library in the Chemung County Historical Library. Either would make a great choice! In the afternoon you can choose either a winery tour or an historical tour of Tioga Point, Pennsylvania where the Chemung River and the Susquehanna River converge; Fitzsimmons Cemetery where many Seeleys are buried; Seeley Creek, New York; and the Revolutionary War site of Newtown Battlefield. Again, how will you choose? In the evening, we will meet at the hotel for dinner and a speaker.

We will begin the day, Saturday, July 16, 2011 with the membership/business meeting at the hotel from 9:00 until 11:00 and a group photo scheduled immediately following the meeting. There will be a family picnic at noon at a County Park on Harris Hill, where soaring can be observed. Lunch will be served. Presentations will be given by board members to enlighten our members and prospective members. There will be time after for people to go to the National Museum of Soaring or you can even

ride a sailplane over Chemung Valley! The new board will meet at 4:00 pm. An installation dinner will be held at an area restaurant to install new officers and enjoy visiting with "cousins."

How can Sunday be here already? There will be a late breakfast served at the hotel at 11:30 after church services. A late check-out from the hotel has been arranged for those leaving the hotel after breakfast.

Hilton Garden Inn, Elmira/Corning in Horseheads, New York has been selected as the Conference Hotel. We were able to negotiate very generous terms for our stay. Rooms with either 2 doubles or 1 king bed are available for \$99.00 per night plus taxes. You can call now to reserve your room at 1-607-795-1111 or 1-877-

STAYHGI. Be sure to mention Seeley Genealogical Society. You can fly into Elmira/Corning Regional Airport which is very close to the hotel. The committee will arrange for shuttles to and from the airport, if desired.

Many thanks to the wonderful 2011

Reunion Committee! Jim Seeley, Linda Crocker, Gene Seelye, Laura Condie, George Seeley, Sally Seeley, Veronica Newell and Kathie Olsen are committed to make this a very enjoyable experience for all! Gene, Laura and Veronica live in the area and will make sure that all local Seeley folks are aware of the conference and motivated to attend! Jim, who was raised in the area, is helping to spread the word.

We hope you will make plans to come! Mark your calendars! Save your money! It is going to be great! At the conclusion, we will all know more about "Settling Down and Migrating Through: The Seeley Family in the Twin Tier area of Southern New York and Northern Pennsylvania."



## Call for Reunion Presentations

The theme of the SGS 2011 International Reunion is "Settling Down and Migrating Through: The Seeley Family in the Twin Tier area of Southern New York and Northern Pennsylvania."

Did your ancestors settle down or migrate through the Twin Tier area of Southern New York and Northern Pennsylvania? Many Seeley families did. SGS would like to know about these people.

Would you be willing to prepare and present a paper on the history of your ancestor? Length of presentation will be about 15 minutes. An afternoon session on Thursday, July 14, 2011 will consist of member presentations and we hope that will include you! Please contact Kathie Olsen at [katherinemolsen@gmail.com](mailto:katherinemolsen@gmail.com). Please include your ancestor's name and SGS # if applicable.



## JASFO Plans Tour to SGS Reunion

The Justus Azel Seelye Family Organization (JASFO) is planning a tour to highlight "The Mormon Experiences of Justus Azel and Mehitable Bennett Seelye."

The tour will leave from Salt Lake City on July 8, 2011 and return on July 24, 2011 and visit Mormon History sites and pageants. The group will attend the Seeley Genealogical Society's 2011 International Reunion in Elmira/Corning, New York from July 14 to July 17.

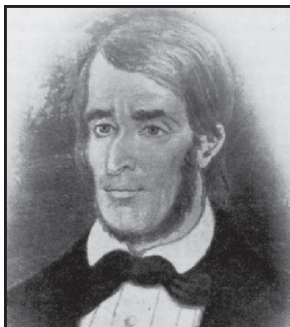
The cost and all the details have not been determined. Everyone is welcome to join us. If you would like further information, please contact JASFO President, Camille Seeley Bell, 93 N Valley View Dr., North Salt Lake, UT, 84054, [bellfam77@msn.com](mailto:bellfam77@msn.com), 801-298-0279.

Justus Azel Seelye (1779-1859) (SGS#836) and his wife, Mehitable Bennett (1780-1861) married April 9, 1800 in Luzerne County (now Bradford), Pa. After living in the area for several years, they migrated to Upper Canada.

While living there, in 1838, they, along with several of their adult children, joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. They moved from Ontario to the Nauvoo, Illinois area.

After several years, they were driven from their homes and took refuge in Winter Quarters, Nebraska. In the summer of 1847, they became part of the Pioneer exodus to the valley of the Great Salt Lake arriving in September. They later settled Battle Creek (now Pleasant Grove), Utah where Justus Azel died.

After his death, Mehitable went with members of her family to Mt. Pleasant, Utah to settle.



## Seeley Genealogical Society Treasurer's Report

For the period October 1, 2009 to September 30, 2010

Beginning Balance	\$19,158.67
<b>Receipts</b>	
Dues	\$1207.00
LIFE Memberships	\$900.00
<b>Books</b>	
SGS Generation Books	\$152.00
Reunion Souvenir Books	\$540.00
	\$692.00
<b>CD's</b>	
SGS CD-ROM	\$105.00
SGS Gedcom CD-ROM	\$60.00
	\$165.00
Research Donations	\$10.00
DNA Fund Donations	\$35.00
Memorial Fund Donations	\$20.00
Donation (To Move J. Seely Files)	\$100.00
<b>Bank Interest</b>	<b>\$972.55</b>
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$4,101.55</b>

<b>Disbursements</b>	
<b>Postage</b>	
Newsletters	\$483.69
Reunion Books	\$385.00
Other	\$100.69
	\$969.38
<b>Printing</b>	
Newsletters	\$2,142.01
Reunion Books	\$943.25
	\$3,085.26
FGS Dues	\$75.00
NGS Dues	\$50.00
Ancestry.com Subscription	\$299.00
Two Hard Drives	\$193.30
Deposit to Restaurant For Reunion Installation Dinner	\$50.00
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>\$4,721.94</b>

Ending Balance \$18,538.28

<b>Cash Accounts</b>	
CD (Matures 5/15/11)	\$10,939.74
Checking Account	\$7,598.54
	\$18,538.28

<b>Individual Fund Balances</b> (included in above cash accounts)	
DNA Fund	\$185.00
Research Fund	\$1,739.27
Memorial Fund	\$20.00

Submitted Oct. 1, 2010 by  
Sally Seeley, SGS Treasurer

## National Archives Holds Special Programs November 2010

*Story By U.S. National Archives*

If you're planning a trip to the nation's capitol this month, the National Archives has several research learning opportunities for you. The National Archives will feature programs highlighting records from its holdings. All programs are free and open to the public, and will be held in the National Archives Building in Washington, DC. Please note that two of the programs will be repeated at the National Archives at College Park, Maryland.

Visitors to all programs in the National Archives Building Research Center (Room G-24) should use the Pennsylvania Avenue entrance, between 7th and 9th Streets, NW. Note: please use the Special Events Entrance on Constitution Avenue and 7th Street for the program held in the Adams Presidential Conference Room. The National Archives at College Park, MD, is located at 8601 Adelphi Road. See directions to both locations.

### **Veterans Records at Ancestry.com**

Tuesday, November 2, at 11 a.m.

Room G-24, Research Center

Sabrina Petersen, Business Operations Manager from Ancestry.com, discusses National Archives World War I and World War II veterans' records available at Ancestry.com. (The lecture will be repeated at the National Archives at College Park, MD, in Lecture Room D, Thursday, November 4, at 11 A.M.)

### **Introduction to Genealogy**

Wednesday, November 3, at 11 a.m.

Room G-24, Research Center

Archives staff present a lecture on basic genealogical research in Federal records. This lecture is offered the first Wednesday of the month.

### **Beyond the Basics: Headstone Applications for U.S. Military Veterans**

Saturday, November 13, at 10 a.m.

Room G-24, Research Center

Archives staff teach "beyond the basic" archival research skills on using headstone applications for U.S. Military Veterans (all skill levels welcome).

### **"Help! I'm Stuck"**

Saturday, November 13, noon to 4 p.m.

Room G-24, Research Center

Not sure where to begin? Has a genealogical problem stumped you? Would you like to explore new directions in your research? An archivist is available from noon to 4 p.m. to answer questions. Look for the "Help! I'm Stuck" sign at the Research Center desk.

### **From the Records Book Group**

Tuesday, November 16, at 11 am. and noon

Adams Room (Special Events Entrance on Constitution Avenue)

The Book Group will hold a related presentation at 11 a.m. followed by a discussion at noon on *A Special Mission: Hitler's Secret Plot to Seize the Vatican and Kidnap Pope Pius XII*, by Dan Kurzman. Please bring your own refreshments to enjoy. Check the Archives Shop (202-357-5271) for book availability and a special discount for book group participants.



### **Beyond the Basics—The Weather and Family History**

Wednesday, November 17, at 11 a.m.

Room G-24, Research Center

Archives staff teach "beyond the basic" archival research skills. This month's topic is "The Weather and Family History: From the Revolution to the 1940 Census" (all skill levels welcome).

### **Gateway to Family Research: Records of the Panama Canal**

Thursday, November 18, at 11 a.m.

National Archives at College Park, MD, in Lecture Room B

In recognition of today's 107th anniversary of the treaty signed with Panama for building the canal, archivist/genealogy specialist Reginald Washington presents Panama Canal records for genealogical research at the National Archives. People from over 40 nations worked on the Canal.

The National Archives Building is fully accessible. To request an accommodation (e.g., sign language interpreter) for a public program, please e-mail [public.program@nara.gov](mailto:public.program@nara.gov) or call 202-357-5000 at least two weeks prior to the event. To verify the date and times of the programs, the public should call 202-357-5333, or view the Calendar of Events online.

## Life Stories of Ellis Island Immigrants Now Available Online

*Story By Ancestry.com*

Ancestry.com has launched a collection of more than 1,700 recorded oral histories from immigrants who arrived in the United States through Ellis Island.

This is the first time this collection of poignant recordings has been available online. To celebrate the new addition, Ancestry.com is making its entire U.S. Immigration Collection free through Labor Day.

“As immigrants created new lives in the U.S., the stories of their homelands and their remarkable journeys to America were often lost,” said Christopher Tracy, senior vice president of global content for Ancestry.com. “We are thrilled to offer people the opportunity to hear the voices of their ancestors sharing stories of their lives.”

Ellis Island was the gateway for millions of immigrants between 1892 and 1954. The oral histories were captured by the National Park Service starting in the 1970s, and contain uniquely inspiring first-hand accounts recalling the lives these immigrants left behind, their reasons for leaving and their incredible and often-trying journeys to America. These recordings are housed at the Ellis Island Immigration Museum and until now could be heard only by visitors to the Island itself. In addition to oral histories from immigrants, the collection also includes recordings from military personnel who were stationed on Ellis Island and former Ellis Island/Statue of Liberty workers.

“To our family it is important that we in the U.S. know the origin of the people who came to this country, settled here and made it what it is today. It makes us very proud to know that our mother was part of this,” said Yvonne Rumac, daughter of oral history participant Estelle Belford, who immigrated to the United States from Romania via Ellis Island in 1905.

The Ellis Island Oral Histories are the latest addition to Ancestry.com, which boasts the world’s largest online collection of U.S. immigration records. Comprised of more than 170 million records, the Ancestry.com U.S.

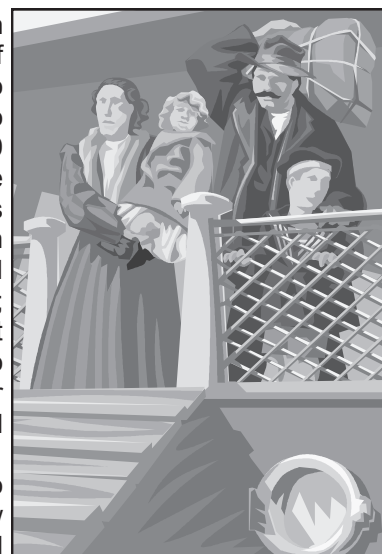
Immigration Collection includes lists of passengers who immigrated by ship to America between 1820 and 1960, including those who came through Ellis Island; more than 7 million citizenship and naturalization records; border crossings, passport applications and more to help reconstruct our ancestors’ journeys and early lives in America.

Ancestry.com has also added nearly 2 million new U.S. naturalization record indexes, thanks to the many individuals who are part of the Ancestry.com World Archives Project –a community effort aimed at transcribing historical records. The indexes span 11 states (AK, CA, CT, HI, LA, ME, MT, NY, PA, TN, WA) and will provide Americans greater opportunity to learn more about their ancestors’ citizenship experience.

In addition, Ancestry.com has added nearly 2 million records documenting crew members on ships who arrived in the port of Boston. The records were added to an existing collection of over 3.8 million records from Boston Passenger and Crew Lists, 1820-1943.

To honor our nation’s immigrant heritage, Ancestry.com has opened up its entire U.S. Immigration Collection so that it can be searched free through Labor Day. The Ellis Island Oral History Collection will remain permanently free on Ancestry.com.

To begin exploring your family’s journey to America, visit [www.ancestry.com/immigration](http://www.ancestry.com/immigration).



## U.S. Alien Files Find New Home at National Archives

*Story By U.S. National Archives*

For the first time, more than 300,000 case files on alien residents of the United States who were born 1909 and prior are now open to the public at the National Archives at Kansas City. These files, known as “Alien Files” (commonly referred to as “A-Files”) were transferred to the National Archives from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS) and are only a small part of the millions of case files that will eventually be transferred and opened to the public.

“The A-files are a key to unlocking the fascinating stories of millions of people who traveled to the United States in search of opportunity, including my own grandfather” said Archivist of the United States David S. Ferriero. “They include information such as photographs, personal correspondence, birth certificates, health records, interview transcripts, visas, applications and other information on all non-naturalized alien residents, both legal and illegal. The snapshot of American life that

develops from each file can, in some cases, serve as a one-stop-shopping for researchers.”

The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), the predecessor agency of USCIS, began issuing aliens Alien Registration numbers in 1940, and on April 1, 1944, began using this number to create the A-Files. A-Files document the famous, the infamous, the anonymous and the well-known, and are an historical and genealogical goldmine. These files contain an abundance of relatively modern immigration documents in one file, making them a rich source of biographical information.

A-Files are eligible for transfer to the National Archives when 100 years have passed since the birth date of the subject of a file. These transfers to the National Archives ensure that these records will be saved and made available to the public. The National Archives at Kansas City will maintain A-Files from all USCIS district offices

*Please See Alien Files Page 10*

## New Version of the Canadian Naturalization Database Launches

*Story By Library and Archives Canada*

Library and Archives Canada (LAC) is pleased to announce the release of a new version of the online database Canadian Naturalization 1915-1951.

It now includes digitized images of the lists of names of people who applied for and obtained status as naturalized Canadians between 1932 and 1951; these lists were originally published in the Canada Gazette. This database is one of the few Canadian genealogical resources specifically designed to benefit researchers having roots other than British. The reference numbers indicated in the database can be used to request copies of the original naturalization records, which are held by Citizenship and Immigration Canada.

The database is available at the following address:

[www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/databases/naturalization-1915-1932/index-e.html](http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/databases/naturalization-1915-1932/index-e.html)

Library and Archives Canada thanks the Jewish Genealogical Society of Montreal [<http://jgs-montreal.org/>] and its volunteers, without whom this project would not have happened.



The mandate of Library and Archives Canada is to preserve the nation's documentary heritage for present and future generations and to be a source of enduring knowledge accessible to all, contributing to the cultural, social and economic development of Canada.

Library and Archives Canada also facilitates cooperation among various historical and genealogical communities involved in the acquisition, preservation and diffusion of knowledge, and serves as the continuing memory of the

Government of Canada and its institutions. Genealogy Services ([www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/genealogy/](http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/genealogy/)) includes all physical and online genealogical services of Library and Archives Canada. It offers information, services, advice, research tools and the opportunity to work on joint projects, in both official languages.

The efforts of the many LAC staff members who have contributed to the realization of this project are greatly appreciated. For more information, please contact [webservices@lac-bac.gc.ca](mailto:webservices@lac-bac.gc.ca).

## FindMyPast.co.uk Adds Five New Military Record Collections

*Commissioned By FindMyPast.co.uk*

Online genealogy site FindMyPast.co.uk has just published five new military record collections made up of 482,879 records.

The collections and the number of records included in each are:

- WWII Prisoners of War 104,838
- Distinguished Conduct Medal Citations 24,928
- Ireland's Memorial Records of the Great War 49,602
- Register of the Second Anglo-Boer War 259,581
- WWI Naval Casualties 43,930

### WWII Prisoners of War

The register of over 107,000 British Army prisoners of war held in Germany and German occupied territories. On [findmypast.co.uk](http://findmypast.co.uk) you can search for each individual soldier's number.

### Distinguished Conduct Medal Citations

This award was instituted in 1854 during the Crimean War to recognise gallantry for Other Ranks (i.e., non-officer rank). Second only to the Victoria Cross in terms of prestige, this award was prized as much by the soldiers of the time as it is by medal collectors today. Bars were awarded in recognition of further acts of gallantry meriting the same award.

This set of military records lists the full citations of the Distinguished Conduct Medal (and second and third award bars) in the Great War, which means that when you search, you'll discover fascinating and rich detail about each soldier.

### Ireland's Memorial Records of the Great War

Eight volumes of details of over 49,000 fatal casualties.

The men and women commemorated either served in Irish Regiments or were born or resident in Ireland at the time of their death and were serving with units from Britain and its empire. On [findmypast.co.uk](http://findmypast.co.uk), you can search by each soldier's number.

A remarkable feature of the volumes is the beautiful symbolic borders designed by the artist Harry Clarke, best known for his work in stained glass.

### Register of the Second Anglo-Boer War

A unique database for genealogists, military historians and medal collectors: a quarter of a million records of men and women who served in the British Imperial Forces during the war in southern Africa: soldiers, sailors, nurses and civilians. You can search over 258,800 names, including a completely revised casualty list of 59,000 casualty records.

### WWI Naval Casualties

These records contain details of naval other ranks deaths in service during the First World War. The original records are held by The National Archives and are in a perilously damaged state.

When you search these records you'll find the soldier's full names, rating, number, branch of service, name of ship or unit, decorations etc., as well as other valuable information. The date and cause of death, location of their cemetery and reference of grave (where applicable) is shown together with the name and address of the relative notified of the death.

Find your ancestors in FindMyPast.co.uk's extensive military collection 1656-1994.



## New Online Yearbook Collection Includes Photos of Celebrities World's Largest Family History Website Adds 58 Million New Yearbook Records

*Story By Ancestry.com*

Ancestry.com has launched millions of records that now make up the largest searchable collection of yearbooks available online. Along with Ancestry.com's existing collections, there are now more than 60 million yearbook records available in the site's U.S. School Yearbook collection, which also includes class and candid photos of famous celebrities.

The 10,000 yearbooks included in the new U.S. School Yearbook collection feature yearbooks from high schools, junior highs, academies, colleges, and universities—military, public, parochial, and private—from almost every state in the United States spanning 1875-1988.

"The new U.S. School Yearbook collection just made starting your family history even easier by adding an entirely new dimension to your research," said Christopher Tracy, Senior Vice President of Global Content at Ancestry.com. "Yearbooks contain graduation and candid photos, which add insight into an ancestor's extracurricular activities in school. Along with our ever-expanding database of billions of other historical records, the U.S. School Yearbook collection will help people discover the deeper details about their ancestors that they would not have otherwise been able to find."

What can be found in an old yearbook? Perhaps you will find a photo of your great grandfather or even a famous classmate. Like Ancestry.com that discovered the Academy Award-winner, Sandra Bullock, at her high school homecoming dance was already fighting off men – or in this case a young man – trying to steal a kiss on the dance floor, or a teenage Will Smith tackling science class before he ventured off to be the Fresh Prince of Bel-Air.

Below are more details on the new celebrity photos found in the U.S. School Yearbook collection. In addition to their official yearbook photos, many of today's biggest stars were captured in their school activities exhibiting the dynamism that later brought them to fame and fortune.

**Sandra Bullock** – "To be a varsity cheerleader, the girls had to sacrifice a lot of time, money and energy," appeared in the 1982 Washington-Lee High School yearbook story on the Arlington, Virginia Varsity Cheerleaders, which included Academy Award-winner Sandra Bullock. Bullock had no shortage of energy since Ancestry.com also discovered her high school photos from the Thespian Honor Society and the German Honor Society. Of course she still had time to attend the Homecoming Dance where her dancing partner was captured trying to steal a kiss.



**Betty White** -The Emmy Award-winning actress is experiencing a career comeback after a Facebook campaign landed her a gig as the most popular guest host on this past season of "Saturday Night Live". Along with

her newly discovered popularity, White's fans can now share her newly discovered high school photo from Beverly Hills High School in 1936.

**Will Smith** – The Overbrook High School yearbook photo of top international box-office star and Academy Award nominee, Will Smith, shows he was once a high school student perplexed by science, in 1986 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, before he was a 'man in black.'



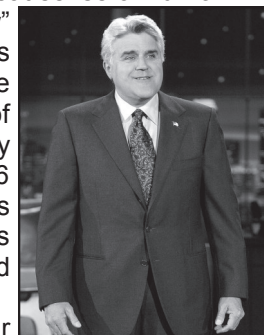
**Alec Baldwin** – Alexander Baldwin was no high school activity slouch at Alfred G. Berner High School in Massapequa, New York. In 1976, he served as Class President, and was a member of the youth council, drama club, the student activities council, the lacrosse and football teams.

**Brad Pitt** – Academy Award-nominee and Angelina Jolie's significant other exercised his creativity in high school as a member of the 1981-82 Kickapoo High School Student Council in Springfield, Missouri. This newly discovered photo finds Pitt creating the decorations for the school's "Chief Ceremonial."



**Nicolas Cage** – A very young Nicolas Coppola is pictured in his Beverly Hills High School 1979 yearbook official picture looking quite serious hiding any glimpse to the versatile star's great sense of humor.

**Jay Leno** – The "Tonight Show" host was recognized early on by his classmates who named him the "funniest" in this candid photo of Leno in his Loyola Academy (Andover, Massachusetts) 1966 yearbook. Also noted next to his class yearbook photo, Leno listed his possible future career as "retired millionaire."



**Matt Lauer** - The popular "Today" show anchor revealed his secret to success as a broadcast journalist, who often has to ask tough questions, in the quote he selected by English writer William Hazlitt that ran under his official 1975 Greenwich High School (Connecticut) yearbook photo, "He will never make true friends who is afraid of making enemies."

The entire yearbook collection will be available on Ancestry.com to existing members or through a 14-day free trial for new members.

Discovering your ancestors in the yearbook collection online by visiting [www.ancestry.com/yearbook](http://www.ancestry.com/yearbook).

## National Archives to Put the Founders Online

*Story By U.S. National Archives*

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), the grantmaking arm of the National Archives, is pleased to announce a cooperative agreement with The University of Virginia (UVA) Press to make freely available online the historical documents of the Founders of the United States of America.

The NHPRC and UVA Press will create a new web site which provides access to the fully annotated published papers of key figures in the nation's Founding era. The project is designed to include the papers of George Washington, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, and Benjamin Franklin. The National Historical Publications and Records Commission will provide funding in the amount of up to \$2 million for the UVA Press to undertake the work on the published papers.

Through this web resource, users will be able to read, browse, and search tens of thousands of documents from the Founding Era. A prototype web site including the contents of 154 volumes drawn from print editions of the papers of Washington, Adams, Jefferson, and Madison will be prepared by October 2011. The fully public version will be launched by June 2012 and will also include the 27 volumes of the Papers of Alexander Hamilton. By June 2013, the Founders Online expects to add the 39 published volumes of the Papers of Benjamin Franklin. The new resource will include the complete contents of 242 printed volumes, including all of the existing document transcriptions and the editors' explanatory notes.

"This new archive of the Founding Era will revolutionize our understanding," said David S. Ferriero, Archivist of the United States, "by creating for the first time a free and fully searchable collection of the Founders' own words in the context of their time. As scholars and statesmen debate the meaning of documents such as the Constitution and Bill of Rights, they can turn to the originals and the wit and wisdom of the Founders' own debates. And we can only express our gratitude for the effort of dedicated editors and scholars to create this work, a national monument to the founding of our nation."

This award to help the University of Virginia Press create a new online presence for the papers of our nation's founders is great news for the University and for scholars everywhere," said University President Teresa Sullivan. "For ten years, the Press has built on the pioneering vision of U.Va. faculty to harness digital technology in the service of scholarship and education through the Rotunda imprint. As a public university, we applaud the leadership of the National Archives in bringing this important archive to life. Making these materials available to the public for free reflects the core values of the University and indeed of our nation's founding generation, whose words will now be readily available to teachers, students, and citizens."

Historian Ron Chernow, author of the recent biography *Washington: A Life*, said, "Unfortunately, the Founders have become remote and abstract, when in fact they are rich, full-blooded, and fiery characters. This new site will not only help students learn more deeply and develop a



visceral love and respect for this era, but it will stimulate interest in history for teachers, too, and will reconnect them to primary sources."

In conjunction with entering into the cooperative agreement, Archivist David S. Ferriero also announced the appointment of three leading scholars to a special Founding Fathers Advisory Committee. The three members are Edward L. Ayers, President of University of Richmond, and leading scholar on the Civil War and American South; Mary Beth Norton, Professor of American History at Cornell University, and leading scholar on the social and political era of the 17th and 18th century America; and David Hackett Fisher, Professor of History at Brandeis, a leading scholar on the colonial era and Pulitzer Prize-winner author of *Washington's Crossing* (2004). The Committee will advise the Archivist on the progress of the Founders' editorial projects, and it is scheduled to meet at the National Archives on December 13, 2010.

### **Alien Files** *(continued from page 7)*

except San Francisco, Honolulu, Reno, and Guam. These files will be housed at the National Archives at San Francisco because of the significant research use of related immigration files there. Files to be housed at the National Archives at San Francisco are currently being prepared for transfer.

A-Files may be viewed in person by appointment at the National Archives at Kansas City or copies of files may be ordered for a fee. Search A-Files online at <http://www.archives.gov/research/arc/>

The National Archives at Kansas City is one of 13 facilities nationwide where the public has access to Federal archival records. It is home to more than 50,000 cubic feet of historical records dating from the 1820s to the 1990s created or received by nearly 100 Federal agencies. Serving the Central Plains Region, the archives holds records from the states of Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota. The facility is located at 400 West Pershing Road, Kansas City, MO 64108. The National Archives at Kansas City is open Tuesday-Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. for exhibits viewing and Tuesday-Saturday from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. for research.

# Library and Archives Canada Digital Preservation Pathfinder Project

## Preserving the digital memory of Canada through collaboration and stakeholder engagement

*Commissioned By Library and Archives Canada*

### Introduction

This document should be read in the context of the three following documents, which are available on the Library and Archives Canada website Library and Archives Canada's Story Continues; the Documentary Heritage Management Framework; and the Acquisition Orientation Instrument.

This document is part of a series of eight discussion papers that seek, through practical projects, to validate the four guiding principles and four key roles of the Documentary Heritage Management Framework developed by Library and Archives Canada (LAC) during summer and fall 2009. Specifically, each pathfinder project seeks to demonstrate the applicability of these principles and roles in the context of the acquisition business pillar. Each pathfinder project will result in a final report, which will add overall conclusions about the implementation of the Documentary Heritage Management Framework and the Acquisition Orientation Instrument. Based on observations, the final report will be even more effective in contributing to the achievement of LAC's mandate, within the current operating environment.

### The Challenge

In 2008, International Data Corp. (IDC) released its report on the growth of the digital universe.<sup>1</sup> Among its many projections, IDC calculated that by 2011 the digital universe will be 10 times the size it was in 2006. The same report also noted that in addition to an explosion of digital content, there is an increase in the variety of information "containers"-files, images, packets, and tag contents. In general, the report paints a picture of a digital universe exploding in size, diversity, and complexity, and is one in which digital information is increasingly without a permanent home.

In addition to the exploding size and complexity of the digital universe, digital content is, by its very nature, fragile. It is dependent on computer hardware and software, and it is highly vulnerable to the rapidly changing technology industry as it cycles through new products and formats. While it is relatively straightforward to store digital content, the ability of users to access and use the information is at risk if the computer platforms, hardware, and software needed to interpret the information are no longer available. In short, digital preservation is a complex problem that requires the active commitment of organizations, the development of appropriate plans and strategies, and the implementation of sound practices.

As highlighted by the report of the international Blue Ribbon Task Force on Sustainable Digital Preservation:

Digital information is fundamental to the conduct of modern research, education, business, commerce, and government. Future accomplishments are accelerated through persistent access to data and digital materials and

their use, re-use, and re-purposing in ways both known and as yet unanticipated. Digital assets can be extremely fragile and ephemeral ... Our prolific capacity to create digital information amplifies the scale of the potential challenge.<sup>2</sup>

This challenge, to preserve, and ensure the authenticity and integrity of digital information over time is urgent and shared by all.

### Canadian Landscape

In 2008, Library and Archives Canada commissioned a survey on digital preservation practices in Canada in order to gain a clearer understanding of the current state. Yet unpublished, the intent of the survey was to determine existing practices and resources for digital preservation as well as to identify gaps and challenges. The survey respondents were from a variety of organizations-libraries, archives, government departments/agencies, museums, research institutes-and crossed a number of sectors-academic, government, and not-for profit.

While one should be cautious about generalizing the survey results beyond the sample of repositories from which they came, the survey provides an indication of the types of digital preservation practices in use in Canada, and the challenges faced by Canadian repositories. It points to a range of digital preservation readiness and practices across Canada, and multiple, alternative approaches that have arisen as many players start to wrestle with the issues related to metadata, file formats, policy, organizational requirements, technical and security infrastructures, financial and human resource capacity

At the same time, the Canadian digital preservation landscape boasts a number of organization-specific digital preservation projects, key initiatives, and broad collaborations.

Within the Canadian university domain, there are networks of institutional repositories and digital libraries, projects for content creation and preservation, such as Synergies. Canadian universities are also involved in significant international research projects such as InterPARES at the University of British Columbia. As well there is the Council of Prairie and Pacific University Libraries (COPPUL) Private LOCKSS Network, a pilot program that utilizes the LOCKSS digital preservation system as a means to archive collections of local interest to members.

Provincial and national initiatives such as the Alberta Digital Library and canadiana.org represent collaborative approaches to addressing preservation challenges, and a number of provincial and municipal archives have begun to build digital preservation infrastructures to serve their specific mandates for preserving the authenticity and access to archival records under their care.

Federal institutions such as Library and Archives

*Please See Library and Archives Canada Page 12*

## Library and Archives Canada *(continued from page 11)*

Canada and provincial institutions such as Bibliothèque nationale du Québec are fully engaged in developing Trusted Digital Repository (TDR) capacity for long-term preservation.

### Strengthening Collaboration

Martha Anderson, director of the National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program in the United States has described collaboration as "something you do when you realize you can't do it by yourself."<sup>3</sup> Given the enormity of issues within the digital preservation challenge, the need to collaborate is paramount and it is a strategy embraced throughout the world. Library and Archives Canada is reaching out to stakeholders within government, cultural, academic, and research communities across Canada to engage in conversation, to gauge our national readiness, to explore further opportunities to work together, and to share expertise, research, and tools.

Proposed starting points for sharing and collaboration would be through national meetings and the use of technologies such as open or invitational webinars. Library and Archives Canada is working with organizations such as the Canadian Library Association and the Association of Canadian Archivists to leverage the timing of their national conferences to participate in pre-conference sessions on digital preservation. It is hoped that these pre-conferences will appeal to archivists, librarians, technologists, digital collection managers, IM professionals, developers, and consultants in the field.

### Expected Outcomes

The immediate goals of the pre-conferences along with strengthened on-going dialogue are to take stock, to provide vehicles for institutions to share information, to learn about varying approaches to the issues, and to move towards an identification of gaps and potential partnerships for further collaboration within Canada. An exploration of the emerging digital preservation infrastructure in Canada (including established networks, trusted digital repositories, and successful collaborations) would set the stage for

more detailed discussions regarding specific issues in Canada and it would identify what is needed and how to get there.

The ultimate goal is to strengthen the national network to preserve valued Canadian digital content. Such a network would address the range of digital information at risk as well as the standards, tools, and methodologies required, and it would contribute to the global effort.

### Conclusion

The final report in March 2010, will describe the results obtained by the implementation of the project described in this document and will be used to achieve the objectives of Library and Archives Canada (LAC) in two respects. On the one hand, each of the eight pathfinder projects will produce operational specific deliverables, which will develop approaches and practices of LAC in respect of certain specific activity areas. On the other hand, the lessons learned during the implementation of each pathfinder project, in the context of the four guiding principles and the key roles, feed the LAC approach to the acquisition, preservation, and the resource discovery of Canada's documentary heritage. Your comments and feedback on this discussion paper will support the modernization work of LAC, as it prepares to revise its approach to meet the challenges of the digital environment in order to continue fulfilling its mandate, and thus better serve Canadians.

### Footnotes

1. The Diverse and Exploding Digital Universe: An Updated Forecast of Worldwide Information Growth through 2011. [www.emc.com/collateral/analyst-reports/diverse1-exploding-digital-universe.pdf](http://www.emc.com/collateral/analyst-reports/diverse1-exploding-digital-universe.pdf)
2. "Sustaining the Digital Investment: issues and challenges of economically sustainable information." [http://brtf.sdsc.edu/biblio/BRTF\\_Interim\\_Report.pdf](http://brtf.sdsc.edu/biblio/BRTF_Interim_Report.pdf)
3. Enabling Collaboration for Digital Preservation, [www.cdlib.org/iPres/presentations/AndersonM.pdf](http://www.cdlib.org/iPres/presentations/AndersonM.pdf).

## SGS Queries

*Coordinated and Compiled by SGS Query Editor Linda Crocker (Data Current as of Oct. 15, 2010)*

### What's New in Queries

Not much! Unfortunately I haven't been able to devote the usual amount of time to queries and research this quarter. A week after I attended the SGS reunion planning meeting in Elmira in mid-August I fell down a flight of stairs at our Cape Cod home. I was very lucky to only break my collarbone and gain a bunch of beautiful bruises. The break put my right arm in a sling for 6 weeks. On top of that one of my bruises turned into a nasty infection on my left shin which slowed me down some more. I am all healed now although my shoulder does start aching if I'm on the computer too long. Hopefully I can get caught up before the next newsletter deadline.

### Introduction to Queries

Query number is 2 digit year, 2 digit month of newsletter, query sequence number.

Please send your queries to SGS Query Editor Linda Crocker at [llbc100@msn.com](mailto:llbc100@msn.com) or mail to Linda at home (see inside back cover). Queries are assigned a query number by the Query Editor and are then sent to the Query Team and Area Coordinators for their input. Linda summarizes each query and any responses for inclusion in the newsletter.

If you have any information on the queries below

*Please See SGS Queries Page 13*

**SGS Queries** *(continued from page 12)*

contact the submitter but also remember to send a copy of the information to Linda so the query can be updated in the next newsletter.

**Query Updates****Update to Query 0211-2** Re: J Randall Seelye

Annabelle Seelye Fuhr was looking for information about her father. We were recently contacted by Roger R Seelye (seelyerr@chartermi.net) who says he is a cousin of J. Randall.

**SGS Updated Response:**Texas Birth Index:

Annabelle June Seelye b. 30 Dec 1966 in Harris Co. TX to Jay Randall Seelye and Edwina June Dalton

California Birth Index

Jay Randall Seelye b. 20 Jun 1948 in Los Angeles County, mother's maiden name Walls.

Missouri Marriage Index

Jay Randall Seelye age 26 md 29 Apr 1966 at Joplin, Jasper, MO to Edwina June Dalton age 20

California Marriage Index

Jay R Seelye age 30 md Elizabet A Delay age 26 on May 24 1979 in Calaveras Co. CA

Social Security Death Index

Edwina J. Seelye b. 19 Nov 1945, d. 13 Jan 2006 - Joplin, Jasper, Missouri, SS # issued in CA

California Birth Index

Eleanor Elizabeth Seelye b. 9 May 1984 Sonoma Co. CA, mother's maiden name Delay

From our database:

Jay Randall Seelye b. 1948 Los Angeles CA to Gloria Jean Walls and Howard Seelye. Gt-gt-gt grandson of Schubel Seelye, SGS# 2486

**Update to Query 0311-8** Re: John W Seeley b. 1814

CT

This query was concerning the parentage of John W Seeley who moved from CT to Polk, Washington Co. WI in the late 1840's. Previous updates showed that John and his wife Lavinia Shove moved to TX with their 2 youngest children before the 1880 census. I recently received another query about John's son Truman Seeley from Emily Willis (ewillis@cwo.com). She believes that Truman was born in Warren, Connecticut in 1843 and married Helen Mowry in 1863 in Hartford, Wisconsin. They had five daughters, Maude, Myrna, Grace, Azuba, and June, but he abandoned his family and the family has no further record of him. However, for some reason, Emily's grandmother, Grace, gave Emily's father the middle name of Truman. Emily wonders what happened to Truman Seeley.

**SGS Response:**1870 census Polk, Washington, WI

Seely, Truman, age 29 b. CT, farmer

Seely, Hellen, age 23 b. WI

Seely, Grace E age 5, Azuba age 3, both b. WI

Bail, Frances, age 17, b. WI, domestic service

1880 census Burr Oak, Mitchell, IA

Household 28

Jennings, Mack, age 42, farmer, b. NY, NY, VA

Jennings, Mary, wife age 39 b. NY, NY, MA

Seeley, Grace age 15, farm laborer, b. WI, NY, NY Household 31

Doudna, JH, farmer age 27 b. OH, OH, VA

Doudna, Martha B., wife, age 23 b. WI, CAN, PA

Doudna, Maud age 3, Myrtie age 1, daughters, b. IA, OH, WI

Seeley, Azuba, age 13, servant, b. WI, WI, WI

1880 census Osage, Mitchell, IA

Hamilton, John S, age 40, divorced b. SCOT, SCOT, SCOT, farmer

Seely, Hellen S age 34, sister-in-law, divorced b. WI, NY, NY

Seely, Juneau, age 8, niece b. WI

In the 1900 census Martha Doudna says she has 2 children, both living. Unless she adopted both girls as babies it seems unlikely that they are sisters of the others. I couldn't find any further census entries for Truman.

If you have information on Truman Seeley or the ancestry of his father John of CT, please pass it on.

**New Queries**

**Query 1011-1** Submitted by Heather Sarrail (heather@sevenboroughs.com)

Heather is descended from SGS# 975 Jeduthan Seely and his wife Sally Gibbs. In The 7th Generation Families of Nathaniel Seeley we list Sally's parents as William R and Sally Mix Gibbs. This information is also widely available online. Unfortunately this is an error. The Sally Gibbs who married Jeduthan was b. 28 Sept 1781 in Utica, Oneida, NY, married Jeduthan in Onondaga Co. NY and their 1st child was born in 1802.

From the History of Cattaraugus Co. NY, " William R Gibbs was born in the county of Saratoga, State of New York, the 25th of May, 1797. His father died when our subject was a mere child; too young, indeed, to have any remembrance of him. He was a farmer, and upon the home farm young Gibbs received his education, and passed his youth and early manhood. There, also, he was married, June 8, 1817, to Miss Sally Mix. He subsequently removed (about the year 1827) to Wayne Co., N. Y., thence to the county of Orleans, from whence, in 1834, he emigrated to this county, settling in the town of New Albion, upon the farm now occupied by his son, John S. Gibbs... ..He died Aug. 16, 1865, and his remains repose in the Snyder Hill cemetery, along with those of his wife, who departed June 23, 1849. Of the eight children of William and Sally Gibbs (viz.: Isaac, Elisha, Norman, Emeline, William, John S., Philemon, and Sally) two only are living at the date of this writing, - Isaac and John S.

Sally born in 1781 is obviously not a dau. of a father b. in 1797.

**SGS Response:** I looked at the 1800 census of Onondaga County, NY which is where Jeduthan Seely married Sally Gibbs (their 1st child born in 1802). The only Gibbs listed there is Lovell Gibbs. He is listed with one male age 10-16, 1 male age 26-45; 2 females under 10, 2 females 10-16, 1 female 16-26 and 1 female 26-45. According to one online resource

*Please See SGS Queries Page 14*

## SGS Queries *(continued from page 13)*

(<http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com/users/g/i/b/James-H-Gibbs/GENE8-0013.html>) #CHILD11111. Lovell<sup>5</sup> Gibbs (Gershom<sup>4</sup>, Benjamin<sup>3</sup>, Samuel<sup>2</sup>, Giles<sup>1</sup>) was born 23 Aug 1763 in Litchfield, Litchfield Co., CT and died Feb 1819 in Columbia Co., NY. He married (1) Polly Russell, daughter of John Russell and Mary Linsley. She was born 25 Jun 1764 in Branford, New Haven Co., CT and died 19 Dec 1797 in NY. He married (2) Pamela Snyder. She was born Bet. 1753 - 1783, and died Unknown.

Child of Lovell Gibbs and Polly Russell is: 167. Horace C.<sup>6</sup> Gibbs, b. 25 Mar 1787, New Lebanon, Albany Co., NY; d. 18 Aug 1875, Salt Lake City, Salt Lake Co., UT.

Apparently (from 1800 census) Lovell Gibbs had other children. Perhaps Sally belongs to this family. She named her 2nd son Horace Gibbs Seely. If you can document the true parentage of Sally Gibbs please contact me.

**Query 1011-2** Submitted by Judy Laslo (juteshouse@comcast.net)

Judy wrote asking if we could identify the parents of Raymond Sylvester Seeley (see CTDI below).

SGS Response:

### CTDI

Raymond S Seeley d. 12 Apr 1984 Danbury, Fairfield, CT age 78; b. New York 8 Oct 1905, widowed, spouse was Evely(n), machine operator at Bard Parker Corp., resided at 13 Hakim St., Danbury 06810

Evely(n) P Seeley d. 4 Sep 1977 at Danbury age 74, married to Raym(ond), resided Danbury

1930 census Danbury, Fairfield, CT Farrell, Lawrence, age 60 b. CT, CT, CT, hatter in hat factory, md 32 yr to Farrell, Mary A age 58 b. CT, IRE, CT Seeley, Raymond, age 25 boarder, b. CT, CT, CT, single, retail clothing sales clerk 3 other male boarders.

### 1920 census Great Barrington, Berkshire, MA

Seeley, Fredrick C., age 44, single, b. RI, MA, RI, truck teamster Seeley, Mary L age 66, widow, b. RI, RI, RI Seeley, Raymond, age 14 b. NY, RI, Ireland(crossed out), nephew (In 1930 Fred Seeley age 54 is living alone in Great Barrington)

### 1910 census Great Barrington, Berkshire, MA

Seeley, Frank, age 35 b. MA, MA, MA, planer at saw mill, md 4 yr to Seeley, Emma, age 35 b. NY, NY, NY, 2nd marriage, 2 ch., 2 living Perry, Lester, age 17, step-son b. MA, MA, NY, helper at golf grounds

### 1900 census Great Barrington, Berkshire, MA

Seeley, Mary b. Dec 1855 RI, RI, CT, md 28 yr, 7 ch, 7 living Seeley, Frank b. Jun 1875, Fred b. Mar 1876, both b. CT, MA, RI, both teamsters Seeley, Hattie L b. Jun 1879, Stuart b. Jan 1881, Harry b. Feb 1883, all b. CT, MA, RI, Stuart and Harry groc. Clerks Seeley, Howard b. Apr 1889 MA, MA, RI

### 1900 census West Stockbridge, Berkshire, MA

Albert A Seeley b. July 1845 MA, MA, NY, md 25 yr, working as farm laborer for John G Wilson, widower, age 75 b. MA, MA, MA

### 1880 census Coventry, Tolland, CT

Seeley, Albert, age 33 b. MA, MA, NY, runs steam

engine Seeley, Mary L age 25 b. RI, RI, RI Seeley, William E age 7, Frederick T age 4, both b. RI, MA, RI Seeley, Hattie age 1 b. CT, MA, RI

### WWI Draft Reg'n

Fred Theodore Seeley of Great Barrington, Berkshire, MA b. 29 Mar 1876, teamster, names Mrs Mary L Seeley as next of kin Frank Albert Seeley of Great Barrington, Berkshire, MA b. 5 Jan 1874, blacksmith, names Mrs Emma Seeley of same address

### CTDI

Frede T Seeley d. 12 May 1956 New Milford, Litchfield, CT, age 80, never married

1920 census Manhattan, NY, NY

Seeley, Howard, age 28 b. MA, MA, MA, porter

Seeley, Elizabeth age 25 b. NY, NY, NY

Seeley, Thomas age 1, Harold age 3 both b. NY, MA, NY

Seeley, Stuart, brother age 39, widowed b. MA, MA, MA, laborer

So, Raymond is the nephew of Frederick who seems to be the son of Albert and Mary L Seeley.

The following 2 entries are in the SGS database

Seeley, Albert A. b. 1845 Berkshire Co. MA, died 1903, son of Maryette Curtice and William C Seeley

Seeley, Albert A. b. 1850 RI?, md Mary L Carr in 1873 in Providence RI according to IGI

Please contact us if you can verify or disprove any of these supposed relationships.

## How to Submit a Query

If you would like to submit a query please follow a few guidelines.

Be specific and detailed: Give us all the information you have about the person or family in question, especially dates and locations.

What resources have you already consulted? The SGS publications or website? The census? Cemetery records? County histories? Family Bible? Others? (specify)

What exactly do you want to know? Parents' names and details? Sibling information? Information on a family marrying into the Seeley family? Our sources?

After your query is printed please keep us informed about any information you receive or further progress you make on your own. Other members may be interested or related to your line.

We will publish an update to your query with any new information we receive. This may lead to even more information. One more name, date or place may be the key to linking your line to another. Your query will also be posted on our website. Make sure we have your current contact details – sometimes we get new information months or even years after your query appears.

## How to Answer a Query

If you have information to share on queries from current or past issues, send it to the query submitter and also to Linda Crocker, Query Editor. Please include the Query number, preferably in the subject line of your email. Remember to cite your sources.

## SGS Elected Officers & Board of Directors for 2009 - 2011

**SGS Constitution, Art IV, Sect. 1:** The elected officers of the Society shall be a President, First Vice-president, Second Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer, Chief Genealogist, and three Directors elected from the general membership.

### President

Katherine M. Olsen  
777 E. Temple, Apt. 13H  
Salt Lake City, UT 84102  
(801) 355-0301  
katherinemolsen@gmail.com

### 1st Vice President & Publications Editor

Paul Taylor  
3848 Frazier Lane  
Virginia Beach, VA 23456  
(757) 471-1188  
pccntaylor@cox.net

### 2nd Vice President

George Seeley  
1442 Thousand Acres Rd.  
Delanson, NY, 12053-2223  
(518) 895-8009  
sseeley3@nycap.rr.com

### Secretary

Mary Palley  
1616 Sunset Drive  
Logan, UT 84321-4308  
(435) 752-5546  
mary@palley.com

### Treasurer

Sally Seeley  
1442 Thousand Acres Rd.  
Delanson, NY, 12053-2223  
(518) 895-8009  
sseeley3@nycap.rr.com

### Chief Genealogist

Linda L Crocker  
61 Ronald Reagan Drive, Westwood,  
Parkersburg, WV 26101  
(304) 210-5591  
llbc100@msn.com

### Director

Terry Tietjens  
P.O. Box 337, 1105 N. Buckeye  
Abilene, KS 67410  
(785) 263-1084  
terryt@access-one.com

### Director

Wesley Waring  
16179 89th Ave. N.  
Maple Grove, MN 55311  
(763) 494-3277  
wesleyawaring@cs.com

### Director & Historian

Ruthetta Seelye Hansen  
1129 S County Line  
McCracken, KS 67556  
(785) 394-2316,  
rhansen@gbta.net

## SGS Appointed Officers & Volunteers for 2009 - 2011

**SGS Constitution, Art IV, Sect. 1:** "The President shall appoint an Ancestor Files Chair, a Membership Chair, a Publications Editor, Assistant Genealogists as required, and a Director for the National Research Center." **SGS By-Laws, Art. III, Section 9:** "The immediate past President shall be an ex-officio member of the board of directors and committees in a non-voting advisory capacity." **SGS By-Laws, Art. III, SECTION 10:** "The President, with the approval of the Executive Board, may establish other positions and collateral duties not named elsewhere."

### Director (Past President)

James R. Seeley  
108 Westridge Dr.  
Churchville, VA 24421  
(540) 337-8633  
jrseeley@comcast.net

### Ancestor Files Chair, Emeritus

John R. Seely  
160 E. 234 St.  
Carson, CA 90745  
(310) 834-6244  
JRNMBSEELY@AOL.COM

### Membership Chair

Lynda Simmons  
125 Parkview Drive  
Park City, Utah 84098  
435-649-9878 cell 801-910-0300  
summitkids@yahoo.com

### Assistant Membership Chair

Margaret Petersen  
2736 S Highland Drive #4  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84106  
kpetersen7835@msn.com

### Assistant Genealogist – Robert/Nathaniel

Chris Havnar  
625 Canyon Drive  
Pacifica, CA 94044  
(650) 359-5617  
Jchavnar@sbcglobal.net

### Assistant Genealogist – Obadiah

Dian Little  
18210 15th NE #102, PO Box 55607  
Shoreline, WA 98155  
(206) 306-0988  
little44@msn.com

### Webmaster & Ancestor Files Co-Chair

Chris Havnar  
625 Canyon Dr.  
Pacifica, CA 94044  
(650) 359-5617  
jchavnar@sbcglobal.net

### Query Editor & Ancestor Files Co-Chair

Linda L Crocker  
61 Ronald Reagan Drive, Westwood,  
Parkersburg, WV 26101  
llbc100@msn.com

### Seelye Research Center

Terry Tietjens  
P.O. Box 337, 1105 N. Buckeye  
Abilene, KS 67410  
(785) 263-1084  
terryt@access-one.com

### Interim DNA Lineage Project Manager

James R. Seeley  
108 Westridge Dr.  
Churchville, VA 24421  
(540) 337-8633  
jrseeley@comcast.net

### SGS CD-ROM Project Director

Bob Seeley  
861 SW 48th St  
Lincoln City, OR 97367  
(541) 557-4192  
rps@rpseeley.com

### Librarian, Seelye Research Center

Pamela D. Turner  
1935 Okeechobee Drive  
Colorado Springs, CO 80915-1743  
Cello\_t@comcast.net

## Seeley Genealogical Society Membership Form

NAME (First, Middle Initial, Last)

TELEPHONE NO. (Optional)

ADDRESS (Number, Street)

E-MAIL ADDRESS (Optional)

ADDRESS (City, State, Zip)

DESCENDANT OF:  Robert  Obadiah  Other (Attached)  Unknown

I/we have submitted our Seeley line as far as known to Linda Crocker  YES  PLANNING TO  
or Chris Havnar (contact info above) for inclusion in the SGS Ancestor File  NO

MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS:  ONE YEAR \$8.00  TWO YEARS \$15.00  THREE YEARS \$21.00  
(In U.S. Dollars)  FIVE YEARS \$30.00  LIFETIME \$100.00

MAIL FORM AND MEMBERSHIP FEE TO: Lynda Simmons  
125 Parkview Drive  
Park City, Utah 84098

DONATION: I/we would like to make a  
donation to SGS in the  
amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (U.S.)



## Seeley Genealogical Society

% MEMBERSHIP CHAIR  
LYNDA SIMMONS  
125 PARKVIEW DRIVE  
PARK CITY, UT 84098

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PRSR STD  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Norfolk, VA  
PERMIT NO. 508

## SGS Publications for Order

All checks should be made payable to SGS.

SGS has several publications and research tools for sale.

1. *The Descendants of Robert Seeley (1602-1667) and Obadiah Seeley (1614-1657), Generations One Through Five, 1997 Edition* (U.S. \$17)
2. *The Sixth Generation Families, 1995 Edition* (U.S. \$17)
3. *The Seventh Generation Families: Descendants of Robert Seeley (1601-1667) and Obadiah Seeley (1614-1657), 2000 Edition* (U.S. \$25)
4. The SGS CD-ROM -- Revised August 2009 (U.S. \$15) that includes:
  - Folder A: the Three SGS Publications by Madeline Mills and Katherine Olsen
  - Folder B: SGS Ancestor File Index Revised August 2009 by Chris Havnar & Linda Crocker (original by John Seely)
  - Folder C: 1980's Research Rpt. on Obadiah Seeley (New Eng. records), Fred C. Hart, Jr., CG
  - Folder D: Research Report on Robert Seeley by Alan Phipps, MA, AG
  - Folder E: 2006 Research Rpt on Obadiah Seeley (old English records), Clifford L. Stott, CG
5. The SRC Document Index (with Change Five entered) lists documents shelved at the Seelye Research Center (U.S. \$10).
6. The SGS GEDCOM CD is a file of genealogical information from SGS publications and the International Genealogical Index. (U.S. \$15)
7. Souvenir Book of 2009 Salt Lake City Reunion (U.S. \$20)

Items 1, 2, and 3 should be ordered from Terry Tietjens, item 4 from Bob Seeley, item 5 from Pamela Turner, and items 6 and 7 from Kathie Olsen. You can find contact information (address, phone number, & e-mail address) on page 11.

## SGS Area Coordinators

(List Updated as of November 2007)

Area Coordinators help the Query Editor respond to queries. They also help the Membership Chair recruit new members in their areas. Here are the volunteer SGS area coordinators:

Arizona	Ann Hall, <a href="mailto:ramonhall@prodigy.net">ramonhall@prodigy.net</a>
*California	Christine Havnar
Colorado	Ann Hall, <a href="mailto:ramonhall@prodigy.net">ramonhall@prodigy.net</a>
Connecticut	Ardienne Damicis, <a href="mailto:adwdmt@aol.com">adwdmt@aol.com</a>
Florida	Andrew Waber, <a href="mailto:wabnoles@yahoo.com">wabnoles@yahoo.com</a>
*Kansas	Terry Tietjens
Michigan	Paul Seeley, <a href="mailto:pnseeley@juno.com">pnseeley@juno.com</a>
Montana	Ann Hall, <a href="mailto:ramonhall@prodigy.net">ramonhall@prodigy.net</a>
*Nebraska	Terry Tietjens
New Mexico	Ann Hall, <a href="mailto:ramonhall@prodigy.net">ramonhall@prodigy.net</a>
New York	Marshall Seelye, <a href="mailto:am815@localnet.com">am815@localnet.com</a> (Warren, Washington, and Saratoga Counties)
New York	Janet Seely, <a href="mailto:jseely@frontiernet.net">jseely@frontiernet.net</a> (Genesee and Monroe Counties)
New York	Laura Condie, <a href="mailto:billaura@aol.com">billaura@aol.com</a> (Southern Tier Counties and Finger Lakes Region)
*New York	Mary Palley, (Remainder of N.Y.)
Ohio	Andrew Waber, <a href="mailto:wabnoles@yahoo.com">wabnoles@yahoo.com</a>
*Oklahoma	Terry Tietjens
*Ontario, Canada	Dian Little
*Oregon	Bob Seeley
*Pennsylvania	Jim Seeley
Wyoming	Ann Hall, <a href="mailto:ramonhall@prodigy.net">ramonhall@prodigy.net</a>
*SGS Query Editor	Linda Crocker

Is your state or province missing from the above list? If so, we need you! Contact Kathie Olsen.

\*Means address is on page 11