



Seeley Genealogical Society Newsletter

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History ★ Family ★ Research

February 2012

DNA Testing Settles a Long-Standing Seeley Question

Story by Frederick C. Hart, Jr., C.G. and Anita A. Lustenberger, C.G.

Editor's Note: For many years it was widely believed that Robert Seeley (SGS#1) was the father of Obadiah Seeley (SGS#3), both of whom immigrated to America in the early part of the 17th century. However, advances in DNA testing not only disproved this relationship, but also showed they were likely not even closely related. However, the belief they are father and son continues to be found in research today. This article by two certified genealogists explains the findings that the two Seeleys are not related. It was published in the May 2005 SGS Newsletter with permission of the New England Historic Genealogical Society. Frederick C. Hart, Jr., and Anita A. Lustenberger, "DNA Testing Results Settle a Long-Standing Question in the Seeley Family," New England Ancestors 6 (spring 2005): 46-7, 51.

For a century and a half there has been speculation that the Obadiah Seeley who died in Stamford, Connecticut, in 1657 may have been a son of Captain Robert Seeley (1602–ca. 1667), a resident of Watertown, Mass., Wethersfield and New Haven, Conn., and other locations throughout the Long Island Sound Region.[1] But no one was certain. Donald L. Jacobus felt it appropriate to list Obadiah as “s. of Robert?” with a question mark and a notation that there was “no positive proof that Obadiah belongs here.” [2]

Diligent research by the Seeley Genealogical Society (SGS) and other interested descendants was never able to make a solid case for or against this relationship, so the question remained open in various quarters.[3] At one point, it was argued that Capt. Robert had a second son named Nathaniel, baptized in London on May 1, 1629, who may later have changed his name to Obadiah, and could therefore be the later resident in Stamford.[4] This theory remained alive until 1983 when Alan Phipps, researching for the SGS, discovered that this baptismal record was actually for a son of one Robert Hoskins, not Seeley at all, a finding reported almost immediately in the SGS Newsletter.[5] Phipps continued to note the significance of his finding in SGS Newsletters, and his *The English Ancestry of Robert Seeley (1602–1666)*, published for SGS as part of a genealogy of a branch of the Seeley family.[6] Inconsistently, that same genealogy went on without hesitation to treat Obadiah as Capt. Robert's son. [7]

For his sketch of Capt. Robert Seeley in *The Great Migration Begins*, Robert C. Anderson came to the

conclusion that no real evidence supported a relationship between Capt. Robert and Obadiah Seeley, and that there were several good reasons to doubt that Obadiah was Robert's son. He summarized as follows (emphasis added): “Many secondary sources claim that Obadiah Seeley of Stamford was a son of Robert Seeley, but this should be rejected.” [8] Fair enough. This statement was certainly an unambiguous conclusion by one of the country's leading genealogists. But even though this opinion deserved great respect, it was still based on analysis and interpretation of available evidence, rather than contemporary statements of fact.

With this background, after his own immersion in this same Seeley question at the request of SGS, and as an interested Obadiah Seeley descendant himself, one of us (FCH) attended GENTECH 2002 in Boston, where lectures on DNA and discussions with members of other surname societies already using DNA analysis to resolve similar long-standing questions made it immediately clear to him that SGS should consider using this new technology. SGS should be able to make a final resolution of the Obadiah/Robert question through a study of selected Y-chromosome samples from within their own membership. The project was soon approved and initiated under the direction of Wesley A. Waring.

Oxford Ancestors[9] was selected as the laboratory for the project. YDNA samples were chosen to represent descendants of Nathaniel Seeley (SGS ID#2), a known son of Capt. Robert Seeley, from three of Nathaniel's sons: Nathaniel (SGS #5), Benjamin (SGS #7) and John (SGS

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Member: Federation of Genealogical Societies and National Genealogical Society



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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

Effective Oct. 1, 2011 SGS Membership dues are \$10 per year, \$18 two years, \$25 three years, or \$36 five years. Lifetime memberships are \$125. (Dues are in U.S. dollars and the membership year runs from Oct. 1 to Sept. 30)

Pay all dues to:

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

Seelye 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 late summer or early fall 2013 in Grand Rapids, Mich. 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.

SGS President's Report

If you haven't already done so, I encourage you to order a copy of the Souvenir Book, whether you were able to come to the 2011 Reunion or not. It will contain the happenings at the Reunion as well as happenings in the Society since the 2009 Reunion including the updated Constitution and By-Laws. Send a check for \$25.00 payable to SGS to me. My address is on page 15. It should go to press by March 1, 2012.

I am still playing catch-up from our recent Reunion. It was a wonderful and busy few days where we had the opportunity to visit with each other and learn new things about our Seeley family. I appreciate so much those who had any part in making it such a success. Our Secretary, Mary Palley, has completed the minutes of all the various meetings. They are in this newsletter. Thanks to Mary!

Our Facebook page is up and running. If you are a Facebook user, consider joining and contributing where possible. We also have a wonderful website at www.seeley-society.net. It is maintained by our webmasters, Chris and Jerry Havnar. Take the time to visit this website. It is an important resource for all of us.

Researching and writing about research are certainly at the heart of a genealogical society and Seeley Genealogical Society is no exception. It has been suggested that SGS should focus on learning more about other early (17th Century) Seeley (of any spelling) settlers. Linda Crocker has agreed to do some preliminary work on the topic.

With that in mind, this issue of the newsletter has the first of what I hope will be a long and interesting series of written histories about Seeley descendants with any spelling called "In Their DNA: Notable Seeley Descendants." For this first column I asked Jesse Crisler to write a history of his ancestress, Mary Young Wilcox, granddaughter of Justus Azel Seeley, SGS#836. I encourage you to write histories of Seeley descendants and submit them for publication in this column. The guidelines for submission to this column are: (1) include complete name including married surnames, (2) give the Seeley lineage, (3) subject should be deceased, (4) show a timeline of pertinent information such as birth, marriage, children, death and etc., (5) Include achievements of this individual, (6) Include a photo, if one is available, (7) cite source information and give references in footnotes, (8) submit the written history for peer review to me a minimum of two weeks before the submission deadline for the newsletter. These histories will also be posted on our website as well as our Facebook page.

Speaking of the newsletter, we are interested in learning if you would be interested in receiving the newsletter electronically via e-mail. If so, please provide your e-mail address to Paul Taylor.

The next meeting of the Board will be on Thursday, April 26, 2012 at 1:00 pm in Abilene, Kansas at the Seelye Research Center. We will be working in the SRC to organize and file materials that have been received by SGS in the past two years. We hope to hear from an expert at the Eisenhower Center about preservation of historical materials while we are there. You are always welcome to join us!

Kathie Olsen (Katherine M. Olsen)

President, Seeley Genealogical Society

2013 Reunion Planning Committee Meeting Set

The 2013 SGS International Reunion will be in Grand Rapids, Mich. There will be a meeting of the reunion planning committee in Grand Rapids on Monday, April 30, 2012 at 11:00 am. The dates, place, theme and activities will all be determined at this meeting. Bill Hileman and Marion Hileman, who live in Michigan; Richard Speer; Anita Speer; Mary Palley and Linda Crocker have volunteered to serve on the committee. If you have ideas for the reunion or would like to attend the planning meeting, contact SGS President Kathie Olsen (see contact info on page 15). Everyone else should start planning now to come to the reunion in the fall of 2013!



News Regarding Seeley Genealogical Society Operating Funds

Story by Kathie Olsen, SGS President

As the people around the world continue to struggle with fiscal difficulties, volunteer organizations like the Seeley Genealogical Society must also face challenging financial realities and are not immune from rising costs.

Fortunately, past SGS boards of directors have positioned the society to weather the financial storm. Plus we have recently learned that SGS will eventually benefit from a generous bequest.

Robert Seeley Johnson and his wife, Evelyn R. Johnson, who had been active in SGS in the 1980s, left money in their estate for SGS. Robert was elected SGS Vice President Aug. 16, 1980 at the first Seeley reunion. He served in that position until becoming SGS Judge Advocate in 1986. He was re-appointed to that position at the 1989 reunion in Ft. Wayne. It is not known how long he served as judge advocate before passing away Feb. 23, 1992. His wife Evelyn passed away March 23, 2011. In their will, they generously left SGS \$5,000.

The money will be deposited in the SGS Memorial Fund. \$2,500 of the funds will be donated to the Seelye Mansion Foundation to help defray the cost of re-roofing the Seelye Research Center. The rest of the funds will remain in the Memorial Fund to help fund SGS research, DNA testing and other expenditures, as needed.

Although this is good news, it does not mean an end to the financial challenges faced by SGS. Our membership numbers continue to decline which means expenses are up and income is down.

SGS Executive Board Meeting Minutes -- July 14, 2011

Submitted by Mary Palley, SGS Secretary

Editor's Note: During the 2011 SGS Reunion in Elmira, N.Y., the 2009-2011 SGS Board of Directors met once, followed by the General Membership Meeting, and a meeting of the 2011-2013 SGS Board of Directors. Minutes from those meetings are included in the following pages.

President Katherine Olsen called the meeting to order at 10:04 am at the Hilton Garden Inn in Horseheads, New York.

Board Members Present: Kathie Olsen, Linda Crocker, George Seeley, Sally Seeley, Mary Palley, Ruthetta Hansen, Wesley Waring, Paul Taylor, and Terry Tietjens.

Past President and Appointed Officers Present: James R. Seeley, Lynda Simmons, Margaret Petersen and Dian Little.

SGS Members and Friends Present: Donna Seeley, Veronica Seeley Newell.

Excused: Bob Seeley, Pam Turner and Chris Havnar.

Welcome and Thanks. President Olsen welcomed and thanked those present for their dedication to and efforts on behalf of the SGS. Past President Jim Seeley thanked President Olsen for all she does.

Reading of Minutes. Secretary Mary Palley read the Board Meeting Minutes of the April 29, 2010 meeting held at the Seeley Research Center in Abilene, Kansas. The minutes were approved as corrected.

Like my predecessors, I am very concerned about this as are the rest of the Society's elected and appointed officers.

Our belief is that one path to better financial health is to increase the number of members on our rolls. Be sure to invite others to join our Society. Memberships also make great birthday and holiday gifts.

Lynda Simmons, our Membership Chairperson, would love to hear ideas on how to increase membership from you!

Other alternatives are being considered. Reunions are to be self-sustaining and hopefully raise some money for the Society. We will continue to pay dues to the National Genealogical Society but will not renew our membership in the Federation of Genealogical Societies. We have also given some thought to changing from four newsletters to three per year. The cost of printing and mailing the newsletter is a major portion of our annual budget. If you have any ideas or concerns in this area, please contact me (see contact info on page 15).

Another way to help is to make a donation to the Memorial Fund in the name of a deceased relative. If you're interested in helping in this way, your donation and the name of the person you wish to honor should be sent to our treasurer Sally Seeley. Please note that at this time donations to the Society are not tax deductible. Please consider this as a great way to memorialize your loved ones!

Treasurer's Report. Sally Seeley presented the Treasurer's Report through July 10, 2011, which was unanimously approved.

Membership Report. Lynda Simmons reported that membership is down. The membership count includes life members who do not pay each year and courtesy copies to libraries. It was suggested that future membership reports distinguish between those who pay every year, those who made one life-time payment and those libraries who receive courtesy copies.

Constitution & Bylaws. Chairman George Seeley proposed changes to provide that the assets of SGS go to another non-profit organization in case SGS should dissolve and cease to exist. George has supplied suggested language for this change, titled "Constitution Article VI". No action was taken on this proposal.

DNA Tests. Jim Seeley, acting DNA coordinator, reported that at this time the DNA test instructions for ordering the test in the SGS newsletter and on the website are not accurate. They will be updated in the near future. Please let him know if you have had the test and which Seeley line you believe you descend from.

Professional Advice. President Olsen sought advice about IRS reporting and whether to become a non-profit organization. SGS is filing annual reports with the IRS.

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July 14 SGS Board Meeting Minutes *(continued from page 3)*

Current advice is that we probably should incorporate, but not as a non-profit because of the cost and complications of reporting to IRS for non-profit organizations. Expenses exceed income and SGS has an educational purpose.

Webmaster. Webmaster, Chris Havnar sent a written report which was presented by Linda Crocker. Chris reminds us to keep sending her information for the website -- such as diaries, obituaries, histories, more Civil War Ancestors, marriage entries and city directories. The Board applauded Chris and her accomplishments in absentia.

Seeley Research Center. Librarian, Pam Turner, also submitted a written report which was presented by Linda Crocker. Pam reported that hard drives had been purchased for SGS and are in use. Pam requested a dehumidifier which Terry Tietjens reported has already been installed in the Research Center. Terry suggested that we have a speaker from the Eisenhower Center educate us further about storing papers at our next Abilene meeting.

Trip to England in 2014. James Seeley suggested a second trip to England to concentrate on Obadiah sites in England and to repeat some Robert sites. 2014 would be 10 years after the first England trip. We need a volunteer to organize this trip. Linda Crocker who has lived in England agreed to help with this project. President Olsen is not willing to organize this trip.

SGS Facebook Page. Vice President Paul Taylor suggested a Seeley Genealogical Society Facebook Page which received strong support from the Board. Board members expressed their willingness to supply information to the site. Daily change is necessary to keep visitors coming.

SGS Ancestor File. The databases of the SGS Ancestor File are available on CD to members, but will never be available online because it contains information on some living people.

Awards. Paul Taylor suggested that SGS establish an Award and Recognition committee. SGS can present its own internal awards as well as applying for external awards available from other genealogical organizations.

Souvenir Books. Paul reported that the 2011 Salt Lake City Souvenir books sold for \$20. The sale of these books barely broke even. The board approved an increase in price to \$25 each for the 2011 Horseheads Reunion Souvenir books.

Paul reported that the 2007 Wethersfield Reunion books sold out quickly at the 2009 reunion in Salt Lake City and suggested ordering additional 2011 books to sell at the 2013 reunion.

After a discussion, it was agreed that the 2011 Souvenir books be dedicated to John and Maurine Seely, who contributed so much to SGS over the years. John R. Seely established the SGS Ancestor Files.

Newsletter. President Olsen asked us to consider changing from 4 newsletters per year to 3 in order to save on postage and printing. She also suggested electronic delivery for those with email. No action was taken on this proposal.

History of Seeley Genealogical Society. There was a discussion whether SGS should write an organization history. Ruthetta is the Historian. We discussed writing the history from 2009 - 2011 and then move backward in two year increments to the SGS founding in 1965. Reunions began in 1980.

We discussed the establishment of a History Committee, headed by Ruthetta Hansen, to put together a SGS History.

Reunions. The Board voted to continue Reunions every 2 years rather than returning to every 3 years. The Board approved \$100 Honorariums for 2011 reunion speakers.

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm.

SGS General Membership Meeting Minutes -- July 16, 2011

Submitted by Mary Palley, SGS Secretary

President, Katherine Olsen, called the meeting to order at 9:00am.

Quorum. Parliamentarian, George Seeley, announced that a quorum was present at the meeting.

Minutes. Secretary, Mary Palley, read the Minutes of the last Membership meeting held August 8, 2009, at Salt Lake City, UT. The Minutes were approved as read.

Treasurer's Report. Sally Seeley presented the Treasurer's Report which was approved as presented, subject to audit. The report does not reflect any Reunion expenses, but it does include Reunion revenue.

LeAnne Seely and Margaret Petersen presented the Audit Committee report that the Treasurer's records are in order.

Membership Chair's Report. Lynda Simmons reported that there were 401 members when the Reunion began and an additional 6 members joined before this meeting, making a total of 407 members. This is lower than in past years.

The membership in attendance voted to ask the membership chair to report yearly in the SGS Newsletter the number of members in various categories. The categories include libraries, genealogical societies, life members and members who pay yearly.

Discussion whether membership cards should be sent to renewing members was referred to the Executive Board for decision.

SGS Facebook Page. www.facebook.com/seeley.society This is the address of the new SGS Face Book page. Paul Taylor announced the existence of the page and both hopes and expects that more Seeleys (of every spelling) will find the SGS organization and want to be involved &/or find their ancestors. It is also a place to find out what is happening at SGS.

DNA Testing Report. James R. Seeley reported that DNA Heritage Lab, which the SGS has used for DNA tests, has disappeared. SGS members requesting tests online

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were asked for numbers which they do not have. Instructions for the DNA Test Application are no longer correct. Watch the SGS website for new DNA instructions at "SGS Research". There are about 2 mutations in each Obadiah descendant; fewer in the Nathaniel line.

Website Report. Chris Havnar submitted a written report which was presented by Linda Crocker. The SGS website is about to be "Refreshed".

Chris requests that we contact her with our ideas for the website. She also asks that we send information about Seeleys in the Civil War.

SGS Ancestor File. Chief Genealogist, Linda Crocker, reported that the SGS Ancestor File was started by John R. Seely and is available for purchase on CD. The file is not online because of privacy issues for living people. There are two databases, one for those whose surname is Seeley (of every spelling) and another for those who descend from Seeley ancestors but have other surnames.

The file is now maintained by Linda Crocker and Chris Havnar. It is sometimes possible to add 35 individuals to the databases from one newspaper article. They are also adding source information to entries.

People should send information for the databases to Chief Genealogist, Linda Crocker, or Assistant Genealogist -Robert/Nathaniel, Chris Havnar. They will forward the information to the SGS Librarian, Pam Turner.

Constitution & Bylaws. George Seeley presented the proposed changes to the members present. They were unanimously approved. The 2011 Souvenir Book will contain the newly approved Constitution and Bylaws.

George also presented the proposed increases in dues. They were unanimously approved by the members.

It was suggested that we consider a sliding scale for life members based on the number of years they are likely to enjoy their membership. It was also suggested that life members be asked to make contributions to the organization as they are the people who generally have a closer involvement with SGS.

Seelye Research Center. Librarian, Pamela Turner, submitted a written report which was presented by Linda Crocker. Pam reported that the Research Center is making great strides in protection of its paper files. A dehumidifier was requested; Terry Tietjens reported that one has been installed.

Multi Generational Records of Female Descendants. Members expressed concern that the offspring of female Seeleys who would not have the Seeley surname are kept in paper files, but not in the SGS Ancestor File beyond the first generation. There was concern about the ability of the current volunteer staff to handle this additional workload.

Jesse Crisler and Camille Seeley Bell were asked by President Olsen to study this situation along with Linda Crocker and Chris Havnar. President Olsen requested that Linda Crocker and Chris Havnar serve as co-chairs for this committee.

Volunteers Needed. Chief Genealogist Linda Crocker asked for volunteers who are willing to go to their local libraries, court houses or cemeteries to check vital records. Please sign up to help. Contact Linda.

Nomination and Election of Officers. The Nominating Committee consisting of Jim Seeley and LeAnn Seely nominated the following individuals for the new Executive board:

President:	Kathie Olsen
1st Vice President:	Paul Taylor
2nd Vice President:	Marshall Seelye
Secretary:	Mary Palley
Treasurer:	Sally Seeley
Chief Genealogist:	Linda Crocker
Director:	Terry Tietjens
Director;	Ruthetta Hansen
Director;	Wesley Waring

There being no further nominations, nominations were closed and all nominees were unanimously elected.

Jim Seeley thanked George Seeley for his service to SGS and welcomed Marshall Seelye back to the Board as 2nd Vice President.

Appointees. President Olsen requested that all members in appointed positions continue in their positions.

2011 Souvenir Books & Newsletters. Paul Taylor announced that the Souvenir Books cost \$25 this year.

Paul asked that members send stories and Seeley information for the newsletter to him by email. His new email is: <paul.taylor.va@gmail.com>

Bequest to SGS. Evelyn R. Johnson and her husband, Robert Seeley Johnson, were long-time members and officers of SGS. Attorneys for the estate of Evelyn have notified SGS that the Johnsons left a bequest to SGS. We don't yet know what the amount of the bequest will be or when it will be received.

2013 Reunion. The locations considered for 2013 were: San Diego, California; Abilene, Kansas; Washington, D.C.; or somewhere in Michigan. It was pointed out that there are 20 SGS members in Michigan and that we have never had a meeting there. After discussion, Grand Rapids, Michigan was selected as the site for the 2013 reunion.

President Olsen appointed a Reunion Committee to assist her with planning the next reunion. Those appointed were Richard Speer and Anita Speer who nominated the Grand Rapids area; Bill Hileman and Marion Hileman who live in Michigan as well as Linda Crocker and Mary Palley. If you are willing to serve on this committee, please contact President Olsen.

The committee will select the dates, venue, theme and activities for the 4 day reunion.

Feasibility of Another Trip to England. Jim Seeley proposed a second trip to England in 2014 in order to visit Obadiah sites and some of the Robert sites which were visited in 2004. Such a trip requires a minimum of 30 people. Please contact Past President James R. Seeley if you are interested.

2012 Seelye Research Center Meeting. In the last week of April in even numbered years, the officers have met in Abilene, Kansas for a work session at the Seelye Research Center. The board will meet on Thursday, April 26, 2012 at 1:00 pm. All SGS members are welcome to

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attend these sessions.

After the 2012 meeting in Abilene, reunion committee members will meet in Grand Rapids, Michigan on Monday, April 30, 2012 to make the necessary arrangements to plan the 2013 Reunion.

Accomplishments and Goals. President Kathie Olsen reminded us of accomplishments from 2009 to 2011.

We are here together in Elmira.

We have published 8 outstanding newsletters.

We did lots of filing in Abilene.

Six more people did DNA Testing

The Website expanded.

The SGS Ancestor File database is larger.

Suggested Goals for 2011 to 2013.

Do more research on Seeley lines.

Outline Research projects and raise funds to accomplish them.

Other Business & Adjournment. President Olsen asked for other business and there being none, the meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

SGS Executive Board Meeting Minutes -- July 16, 2011

Submitted by Mary Palley, SGS Secretary

President Katherine Olsen called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

Board Members Present: Kathie Olsen, Marshall Seelye, Linda Crocker, Mary Palley, Sally Seeley, Paul Taylor, Terry Tietjens, Ruthetta Hansen and Wesley Waring

Past President and Appointed Officers Present: James R. Seeley, Lynda Simmons, Margaret Petersen, Dian Little

Members and Friends Present: Veronica Seeley Newell, Richard Speer, Anita Speer, Marion Hileman, Bill Hileman, Jesse Crisler and Camille Bell

Board members excused: Chris Havnar, Pam Turner and Bob Seeley

2013 Reunion. The 2013 reunion will be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Grand Rapids has about one million people and is the home of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library. Spring Hill Suites at Grand Rapids airport North East was suggested for the hotel and meetings. Bill Hileman, Marion Hileman, Richard Speer, Anita Speer, Mary Palley and Linda Crocker volunteered to help with the reunion. President Olsen appointed all of them to the Reunion Committee. There will be a Reunion Committee meeting on Monday, April 30, 2012 at 11:00 am in Grand Rapids.

SGS Ancestor File. John R. Seeley began a computer index to maintain the records of Seeleys (by any spelling) and their descendants. Linda Crocker and Chris Havnar currently serve as the co-chairs of the SGS Ancestor File. They each enter data and check each other's work. This file has been called by various names. It consists of two databases; one for those whose surname is Seeley (by any spelling), and one for those persons who are descendants of a Seeley ancestor but have another surname because they descend from Seeley women who have married and have other surnames. There was concern expressed by several members because the present policy is to only add those whose mothers were Seeleys to the second database. This leaves many descendants of Seeley ancestors not represented in this second database. After much discussion, the Board unanimously voted that the name of the index should be SGS Ancestor File and the two databases in the file would be named SGS Seeley Surname Database and SGS Database of Other Surnames. It was also decided to form a committee to study the feasibility of expanding the SGS Database of Other Surnames to include any descendant of Seeleys with

another surname. President Olsen appointed Jesse Crisler, Camille Seeley Bell and herself to serve on the committee with Linda Crocker and Chris Havnar as the co-chairpersons of the committee.

No Sliding Scale for Life Members. The Board voted against a sliding scale for the cost of Life Memberships. The Board voted to ask current Life Members for additional contributions.

Awards and Recognition Committee. The Board voted to establish a committee to deal with the possibility of awards and recognitions. President Olsen appointed James Seeley, Chairman. She appointed Marshall Seelye and herself as members of the committee. This committee will consider the feasibility of both Internal Awards to Members and Officers by the SGS, and external awards which are offered by other genealogical organizations. The Committee will determine the external awards for which SGS should apply.

2012 Work Session at Seelye Research Center in Abilene, Kansas. The next work session at the Seelye Research Center in Abilene will be the last week of April in 2012. President Olsen announced an Executive Board meeting there on Thursday April 26, 2012, at 1:00 pm. Five members of the Executive Board are required for a quorum.

History Committee Appointees. The Board voted to establish a committee to write an updated history of SGS. President Olsen appointed Ruthetta Hansen, SGS Historian, as Chairperson of the Committee, with Dian Little, Jim Seeley, Wesley Waring and herself as members.

Membership in National Genealogical Society and Federation of Genealogical Societies. President Olsen questioned whether SGS should discontinue its memberships in the National Genealogical Society and the Federation of Genealogical Societies to save money. The discussion was tabled because dues had already been paid for the coming year. Since the dues for the year have already been paid, the discussion of whether to continue to pay for these memberships was moot. This discussion will be continued in the April 2012 meeting or by e-mail as needed and should include the necessity of an SGS representative to each organization.

Other Business. President Olsen asked that Board members consider where we should focus SGS research for the next few years.

Adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 5:10 pm.

SGS Considers Return Trip to England in 2014

Story by Jim Seeley, SGS Past President

I suggested, during the 2011 SGS Reunion in Horseheads, NY, that SGS sponsor another trip to England in 2014.

The overall objective of the trip would be to visit sites where immigrant Obadiah Seeley may have lived and to revisit some of the sites we visited in 2004 where immigrant Robert Seeley lived. I went on the 2004 trip that Kathie Olsen planned and it was a huge success!

The only thing missing was an attempt to visit Obadiah Seeley sites, but we didn't know enough about Obadiah locations at that time. Although we don't have a smoking gun pointing to Obadiah's origins in England, circumstantial evidence now quite convincingly indicates that he was a son of William Seeley of Birmingham, England and lived with Nehemiah Wallington in London as an apprentice in the turner trade in the early 1600s.

Are you interested in joining an SGS group for a tour of England during the summer of 2014? If so, let me know (see contact information on page 15).

In 2014 it will have been 10 years since the last SGS trip to England, and since we have learned more about immigrant Obadiah Seeley's origins, hopefully some of the 2004 SGS participants would like to go again. We will need



Travelers in the SGS Trip to Robert Seeley's England pose for a photo in front of Buckingham Palace in London.

a group of about 30 people to make the trip economically feasible. Finally, Kathie Olsen says she will be unable to organize this proposed tour. I won't either. Therefore, we are looking for a volunteer to be the tour organizer. I'm sure Kathie would be willing to pass on her lessons learned from the 2004 trip.

SGS Forms Awards and Recognition Committee

Story by Jim Seeley, SGS Past President

During the 2011 SGS Reunion, President Kathie Olsen appointed me Chair of an SGS Awards and Recognition Committee with Past President and current SGS 2nd Vice President Marshall Seelye as a member. Of course, as President, Kathie is also a member of this and all committees.

We plan to nominate the SGS Newsletter to the National Genealogical Society's Family Association Newsletter competition. Our newsletter took second place in that competition two years in a row a few years ago and we haven't entered that competition since. We plan to enter the 2012 NGS Newsletter competition. You can help us win that recognition by contributing an article or announcement to the newsletter editor, Paul Taylor. Inputs

are due on the 15th of each month before each newsletter is published in February, May, August, and November. Although the competition selection criterion isn't very specific, I believe a healthy number of newsletter inputs from SGS Members would contribute to our success. Please contribute.

If you feel an SGS Member should receive an award or recognition by fellow members, let me know with a description of the reasons you believe that member is worthy.

Quite frankly, we have a lot of hardworking members who contribute freely of their time and resources to SGS objectives. We need to do a good job recognizing them appropriately.

SGS#1924 Lloyd Seeley Lineage Verified

Story by Linda Crocker, SGS Chief Genealogist

SGS member Ardienne Damcis had some research done last year to prove the lineage of Lloyd Seeley, SGS# 1924.

This Lloyd had published a genealogy that differed from that by Jacobus in Families of Old Fairfield and Ardienne wanted to know which was correct and asked for corroborating evidence.

Genealogist Claire Ammon did a thorough analysis of records available in Connecticut and determined that the Jacobus lineage is correct. This is the lineage we show in our SGS publications. The report she prepared includes copies of many of the documents she consulted.

Ammon also researched the wives of the Seeleys in

Lloyd's line and found some new information on Anna, wife of Ebenezer Seeley SGS# 606, father of Lloyd. She found that Anna is Anna Coley, daughter of Peter Coley and Rebecca Bennett.

Anna Seeley died at Weston, Conn. April 14, 1813 age 51 according to a death notice in the Connecticut Mirror that also states that her sister Mrs Catherine Oakley died on May 1 the same year.

Ardienne has had copies of both research reports sent to me. I will update our database with the information on Anna, wife of Ebenezer and take the reports to Abilene for filing later this spring.

In Their DNA -- Notable Seeley Descendants: Mary Young Wilcox

Submitted by Jesse S. Crisler

Seely Lineage Mary Young, Elizabeth Seely, Justus Azel Seely (#836), Justus Seely, Joseph Seely, John Seely, Benjamin Seely, Nathaniel Seely, Robert Seely

Timeline: 6 Jun 1831 Born in Whitby, York, Ontario, Canada (then known as Upper Canada), to Elizabeth Seely and James Young, their second child.¹

Feb 1838 Her maternal grandparents, Justus Azel Seely and Mehitable Bennett, joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Canada; her parents had previously been baptized in the church.²

Summer 1838 Her extended family (parents, maternal grandparents, several aunts and uncles, and their children) journeyed from Canada across Lake Ontario, through the Welland Canal, across Lake Erie to Cleveland, through the Ohio and Erie Canal to the Ohio River, down the Ohio to Cairo, Ill., to the Mississippi River, up the Mississippi to St. Louis to the Missouri River, and finally up the Missouri in Chariton, Mo., a village which no longer exists.³

11 Oct 1838 Arrived with her family in Chariton, Missouri.⁴

11 Dec 1838 Anti-Mormon mob informed extended Seely family they had just four hours to leave Missouri; should they fail to comply with this ultimatum, their goods would be burned and they would be killed.⁵

12 Dec 1838 Seelys and Youngs settled in Calhoun County, Illinois, where they spent the winter of 1838-39.⁶

Spring 1839 Moved up the Mississippi to Burlington, Des Moines, Ia., with her parents, then in 1845 joined her Seely grandparents in Nashville, Lee, Iowa, just to the south.⁷

16 Jun 1846 Seely and Young families leave Nashville to travel across Iowa to Pottawattamie County, across the Missouri River from Winter Quarters (now Florence), Neb.⁸

Winter 1846-47 Spent that winter in Winter Quarters, Neb.⁹

19 Jun 1847 Seely and Young families began westward trek on what would become the famous Mormon Trail from Winter Quarters to Salt Lake valley in Utah; their company, known as the Edward Hunter-Jacob Foutz Company, after its leaders, numbered 155 people traveling in 59 wagons, one of which Mary, at sixteen, drove all the way herself, yoking and unyoking her oxen each day alone.¹⁰

21 Jun 1847 Roster of Jacob Foutz company filed, listing the names of Mary, her brothers and sisters, her parents, her maternal grandparents, and the families of three of her mother's brothers.¹¹

6 Jul 1847 Company passed a ruined Pawnee village and crossed to the north side of the Platte River.¹²

6 Aug 1847 Reached Fort Laramie, Wyo.¹³

17 Aug 1847 Reached Red Hill, Wyo., sixty-three miles west of Fort Laramie.¹⁴

6 Sep 1847 Reached the last crossing of the Sweetwater River in western Woming.¹⁵

1 Oct 1847 Arrived in Salt Lake Valley.¹⁶ Mary Young was eventually the longest-lived member of her pioneer company, dying a month before her ninety-eighth birthday.

Christmas 1847 Having been camping in tents, Mary Young, her family, and other pioneers at last moved into cabins they had built as South Fort, the genesis of what is now Salt Lake City.¹⁷ She and her father had cut logs for

their cabin in City Creek Canyon.

14 Mar 1848 Married John Henry Owen Wilcox, who had crossed the plains in the same pioneer company; they were married by her uncle, William Seely, another member of this company.¹⁸

Spring 1848 Drew land in Sugar House area of Salt Lake but moved back to South Fort after crickets destroyed their crops.¹⁹

15 Feb 1849 Mary gave birth to a son, Hassard Wilcox, in Salt Lake City, the first of eleven children.²⁰

Fall 1850 Called with her husband to settle in Manti, Sanpete, Utah.²¹

13 Jul 1851 First dau., Elizabeth Wilcox, b. in Manti.

Spring 1853 Moved into the fort at Manti after Indians killed their stock and burned their wagons, sawmill, lumber.

1 Aug 1853 Dau. Sarah Wilcox b. in Manti.

10 Nov 1855 Son James Henry Wilcox b. in North Ogden, Weber, Utah.

13 Mar 1858 Son John Carlos Wilcox b. in Pleasant Grove, Utah, Utah.

1860 Moved to Mt. Pleasant, Sanpete, Utah, in order to acquire land.²²

8 Nov 1860 Dau. Mary Mehitable Wilcox b. in Mt. Pleasant.

20 Mar 1863 Dau. Clarissa Jane Wilcox b. in Mt. Pleasant.

6 Oct 1865 Dau. Sabra Ellen Wilcox b. in Mt. Pleasant.

13 Apr 1868 Dau. Hannah Emeline Wilcox b. Mt. Pleasant.

23 Jul 1871 Dau. Martha Anna Wilcox b. in Mt. Pleasant.

1 Aug 1874 Son and last child, Justus Azel Wilcox, b. in Mt. Pleasant.

15 Mar 1897 In answer to a call to surviving pioneers in connection with the jubilee of the arrival of the first pioneers to the Salt Lake Valley, Mary Young dictated a letter to her sister Hannah Young Moore, telling briefly of her experiences in crossing the plains, which Hannah sent along with a note of explanation on 14 July that same year to Spencer Clawson who had been detailed by Mormon Church authorities to gather pioneer statements.²³

14 Mar 1908 Mary Young and her husband wrote brief statements concerning their baptisms in the Church, their marriage, and their arrival in Utah.²⁴

21 Nov 1909 Mary Young's husband John Henry Owen Wilcox died in Mt. Pleasant.²⁵

27 Dec 1919 Granted pension of \$12.00/mo. for husband's Indian War service.²⁶

16 May 1929 Mary Young died in Mt. Pleasant.²⁷

Achievements: Asked if she saw any buffalo on the plains, she responded, "Oh, yes, hundreds and thousands of them. One day, we had to stop a half-day to let them go by, half-mile wide and fifteen miles long. They were bellowing just as loud as they could and going so fast and at such a rapid rate that they jarred the ground... Most every day, we would see droves of a hundred or more, feeding peaceable as we drove along."²⁸

Mary had just married in Salt Lake when the crickets came and ate all the newly seeded wheat. She saw the famous miracle of the seagulls, when seagulls from far-off

Please See Mary Young Wilcox Page 9

A Note From the SRC Librarian Warranty Deed from 1880's New York Uncovered

By Pam Turner, Seelye Research Center Librarian

In November we received a warranty deed from SGS Member Beverly Smith. This deed involves the sale of land by Nathaniel Seeley (SGS#1951) and his 2nd wife Charity. The deed pertains to the sale of land from Nathaniel to James Miles in the towns of Ovid and Lodi, Seneca County, NY in 1880. The description of the land sold is given in great detail. The details give the names of the bordering families or businesses and even reference a previous land sale on an adjoining property. The item I find most interesting is the measurement of the land. These measurements are given as lengths of chains and links, with turns being measured in degrees. Since I didn't know about chains, I went to the internet for help. The chain

measurement, which is 66 feet long and consists of 100 links, came to us from Britain and was developed by a clergyman named Edmund Gunter (this information was obtained from Wikipedia). So looking back to this deed, I can see that the land sale consisted of three parcels of land. The first was twelve acres, the second four acres and 1 rood (1/4 acre of land) and 27 rods (148.5 yards), the third parcel's measurements seemed to be a lot that had a measurement of 62 links on one side. With information like this, you could find out where your ancestor lived and see what it looks like today. I think it's wonderful that new information like this is constantly being added to the Seelye Research Center. Thanks Beverly.

Mary Young Wilcox (continued from page 8)

Great Salt Lake came, as she later recorded, "in great droves with their great white wings and ate the crickets. Then, they would rise and squawk and go to the Lake to come back in a few hours, and they would do this until they devoured all the crickets. It was not too late plant again, but we did not have anything to plant. There was nothing to be got."²⁹

She was a midwife and delivered more than three hundred babies. She lived to see six living generations of her family, counting herself. When she died, her posterity numbered more than six hundred.³⁰

¹ Patriarchal blessing No. 329, 31 Jan 1857, by John Young, Church History Library, Salt Lake City, UT.

² Baptismal dates from New FamilySearch.

³ Interview with Mary Young, conducted by George Edward Anderson, 18-25 Aug 1925.

⁴ Seely, Montell and Kathryn, *Seely History* (1988), p. 103

^{5, 6, 7, 8} Interview.

⁹ "Personal History of Mary Young," dictated between 27 Jan 1924 and 6 Jun 1926, to her granddaughter-in-law, Annie Caroline Carlston Bills.

¹⁰ "Mormon Pioneer Overland Travel, 1847-1968, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Web; "Personal History."

¹¹ *Journal History of the Church*, Church History Library, Salt Lake City.

¹² Searce, William, "Sketches of Journey to the Western Mountains," *Diary, 1847 June-Sep.*, pp. 1-5, Church History Library, Salt Lake City.

¹³ Searce, "Sketches."

¹⁴ Letter from Edward Hunter and Jacob Foutz to Brigham Young, 17 Aug 1847.

¹⁵ Searce, "Sketches."

¹⁶ "Mormon Pioneer Overland Travel."

¹⁷ "Personal History."

¹⁸ "Personal History"; family tradition states that theirs was the first wedding performed in the new territory ("Oldest Pioneer Tells Own Story," newspaper article).

¹⁹ Interview.

²⁰ Death certificate of Hassard Wilcox; birthdates for Mary Young's other children also derive from their death

certificates.

^{21, 22} "Personal History."

²³ Copies of both letters in possession of Jesse S. Crisler, third-great-grandson of Mary Young.

²⁴ Copies in possession of Jesse S. Crisler

²⁵ Death certificate of John Henry Owen Wilcox.

²⁶ National Archives, Washington, DC.

²⁷ Death certificate of Mary Young Wilcox.

^{28, 29} Interview.

³⁰ Morgan, Ruby Hurst, "Mary Young Wilcox," 1988.

Membership in SGS is Important

Story by Lynda Simmons, SGS Membership Chair

It breaks my heart that each year I must remove names from our membership list of those who have forgotten to send in their dues. Reminder letters were sent and many responded. Some did not. Don't be one of those!

You don't have to worry as much about renewing, if you pay for multiple years. It is cheaper, too. In these days of high prices, SGS dues are very reasonable.

Your benefits for Membership are this great Newsletter, expert help with your Genealogy, fun meetings to get to know your relatives and much more!

If a Seeley you know, regardless of their spelling, is not a member or has let their membership lapse, please share the Membership form in this newsletter with them.

Our present membership is 418, but some of those memberships will be removed before this newsletter is sent. Please watch your renewal date!

DON'T FORGET YOUR DUES

Not sure if your dues are due?

Check out the address label on this issue of the Newsletter. The second line gives you the month and year your dues are paid to. For example:

08/12 means Paul & Carolyn's dues are paid up to August 2012

Paul & Carolyn Taylor
Paid To: 08/12
3848 Frazier Lane
Virginia Beach, VA 23456

Walt Seelye Appointed SGS DNA Project Manager

Story by Kathie Olsen, SGS President

Jim Seeley has served admirably as the Interim DNA Lineage Project Manager as we sought a replacement for Dr. Ken McCrea. Jim has done a great job and joins me in welcoming Walt Seelye, a life member from Black Forest, Colo., to the team. Walt has volunteered to take on the position of SGS DNA Lineage Project Manager. Jim and Ken have both agreed to help get him trained.

Before I tell you a little about Walt, I don't want to miss this opportunity to invite you to participate in the DNA Lineage Project. Contact Walt (see contact info on page 15) to join in. Many important things have been learned from this DNA project but probably the most notable is the fact that Robert Seeley and Obadiah Seeley were not closely related.

Walt was born in Worcester, Mass. and graduated from Clark University (Math), Worcester, 1964. Upon graduation, Walt attended Air Force Officer Training School and went on to serve on active duty in Colorado Springs, Colo. and Thule, Greenland. After leaving active duty he remained in the Air Force Reserve as an Admissions Liaison Officer, recruiting, advising and interviewing high school students for USAF Academy and ROTC. In civilian life, he worked as a software engineer for defense contractors and commercial businesses.

DNA Answers Seeley Question *(continued from page 1)*

#9). There were no donors available for Nathaniel's two other sons Robert (SGS #6) and Joseph (SGS #8). Sample donors were also chosen to represent descendants of Obadiah Seeley (SGS #4) from two of Obadiah's sons: Obadiah (SGS #17) and Jonas (SGS #19). There was no donor available to represent Obadiah's third son Cornelius (SGS #18).[10]

The final report of the project is now available on the SGS website.[11] The two groups of descendants differ by three out of ten markers. The conclusions are:

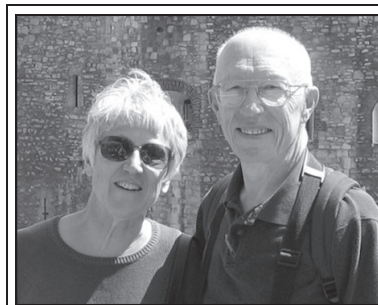
1. The test results have produced a DNA signature (haplotype) for the Nathaniel line and a DNA signature for the Obadiah line.
2. The DNA signatures show there is not a close relationship between Robert Seeley (1602–1667) and Obadiah Seeley (d. 1657).

Thanks to these recent efforts in two separate but important areas (Bob Anderson's authoritative genealogical analysis for *The Great Migration Begins*, and the SGS DNA Test Project), researchers interested in Obadiah Seeley may now be confident that he was not a son or close relative of Capt. Robert Seeley, as had once been thought. The simple ten-marker signatures were adequate to differentiate the descendants of Nathaniel and Obadiah and answer the original question. Subsequently, higher resolution tests of twenty-five and thirty-seven or forty-three markers have been run on the DNA of Seeley men at various laboratories. On a forty-three-marker test, descendants of Nathaniel and Obadiah have been found to differ on eleven markers.

The discovery of the two separate DNA signatures has

After retirement, Walt volunteered with the Black Forest Fire Dept.. He still participates in community support activities for the Dept., but he now has time to dedicate to genealogy. A descendant of Robert/Nathaniel (proven by a 10-marker Y-DNA test from Oxford Ancestors 2003), Walt attended SGS 1999 Reunion in Abilene, Kan.

He and his wife Marie have taken many trips to the East Coast to visit family and along the way gathered genealogical and historical information for both their families. Marie has established herself as her family's genealogist and repository of records and photos. She's a member of seven lineage societies, including Alden Kindred, Mayflower Society, DAR, Daughters of the Union, Flagon & Trencher, and a couple of State societies. She has not done any DNA research, but wants to get started in this area. She's eager and willing to assist Walt with Seelye research.



SGS DNA Lineage Project Manager Walt Seelye and his wife Marie.

already been of aid to Seeleys whose paper trail did not link them to either man. Another male Seeley man independently submitted a sample to see if he could match the signature of either the Nathaniel or Obadiah line. His sample was sent to a different lab that uses twelve markers.[12] The converted results showed he was related to Obadiah, and he is focusing his research in that direction.

A similar problem has been solved for the descendants of Augustus Seeley, born in New England about 1739. Augustus joined the New York Provincials in Queen's County, New York, at age nineteen, listing his occupation as hatter. He was listed again in the Muster Rolls in Albany County in 1761.[13] As a Loyalist he went to Upper Canada with Sir John Johnston, receiving land grants in Lancaster, Ontario, but settled in Elizabethtown (now Brockville), Ontario. His parents have never been located. A descendant in Ontario underwent a DNA analysis and his results showed the Obadiah signature. So Augustus may be descended from Obadiah, or from a cousin of

Please See DNA Answers Seeley Question Page 11

CORRECTION

In the November 2011 issue of the SGS Newsletter an article on page five entitled *Two Friends, Two Ancestors: A Connection From Nearly 400 Years Ago* incorrectly listed the town portrayed by the accompanying map as Watertown, Conn. The town in question is actually Watertown, Mass. The mistake was the editor's. It has been corrected in the version that now appears on the SGS web site www.seeley-society.net.

Even A Changed Name Won't Hide You From SGS Chief Genealogist

Story by Linda Crocker, SGS Chief Genealogist

A few weeks ago I received a copy of this obituary from Chris Havnar our webmaster:

Clyde S. Seeley – May 28, 1997 – Lincoln, NE

Seeley - Clyde S., 89, Lincoln, died Wednesday (5/28/97). Born Lincoln, (8/8/07). Retired U.S. Postal Service carrier. National Guard, 20 years. Member: St. Paul United Methodist Church; Masonic Lodge; other fraternal organizations. Survivors: daughter, Shirley Martinez, Boise, Idaho; four grandchildren; nieces; nephews. Preceded in death by wife, Marian. Graveside services: 3 p.m. Friday, Lincoln Memorial Park. The Rev. Armin Vogt. Family and friends may meet at Lincoln Memorial Funeral Home, 6800 S. 14th St., gate 3. Visitation: Friday, 2-3 p.m., funeral home. Memorials to St. Paul United Methodist Church, 1144 M St., Lincoln, 68508.*

Published in the Lincoln Journal Star (NE) - May 29, 1997 page 2

Chris was frustrated because she couldn't find Clyde's death recorded in the SSDI (Soc. Sec. Death Index) or elsewhere. I couldn't resist the challenge.

Looking for Clyde I found 1930, 1920 and 1910 census entries for a Cleeve Seeley in Lincoln NE, son of William E and Jennie. In 1930 Cleeve had been married 1 year to Alice with daughter Shirley R age 6 months.

I tried Cleeve Seeley in the SSDI and voilà!

Name: Cleeve S. Seeley
Last Residence: 68847 Kearney, Buffalo, Nebraska
Born: 8 Aug 1907 **Died:** 28 May 1997
SSN issued: Nebraska (1956)

Please See **SGS Chief Genealogist Page 12**

DNA Answers Seeley Question (continued from page 9)

Obadiah; he and Obadiah have a common surname ancestor.

One Seeley in England has been tested so far. He does not share a recent common paternal ancestor with Obadiah or Nathaniel, so there were at least three Seeley lineages in Great Britain. The Society is particularly interested in DNA analysis of Seeleys with Warwickshire ancestry because the only Obadiah Seeley found in early seventeenth-century English records was an Obadiah Seeley, son of William, baptized June 5, 1614, at St. Martin, Birmingham, Warwickshire.[14]

Readers are encouraged to visit the SGS website, www.seeley-society.net, for further information and complete results and comments from the project team. We are seeking additional participants for the project — both those with known lineages who would like to confirm their "paper trail" genealogical research, and those still seeking to identify their Seeley/Seely/Seelye/Sealy/etc. ancestry. Currently the Seely line that settled at the Isle of Shoals in Maine is of particular interest. Additional SGS projects are planned to make further and more detailed uses of DNA analysis for the benefit of members.

Notes

1. James Savage, A Genealogical Dictionary of the First Settlers of New England, 4 vols. (Boston, 1860–1862, repr. Baltimore, Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1965), 4: 49. Savage even felt rather confident in this relationship, using the words, "Obadiah, Stamford, prob[ably] s[on] of Robert . . ." Elijah B. Huntington, History of Stamford, Connecticut From Its Settlement in 1641 To The Present Time (Stamford: the author, 1868, repr. Harrison, N.Y.: Harbor Hill Books, 1979), 61, perhaps following Savage, since the word "probably" is used again here for the relationship.
2. Donald L. Jacobus, History and Genealogy of the Families of Old Fairfield, 2 volumes in 3 (Fairfield, Conn.: Eunice Dennie Burr Chapter, NSDAR, 1930–1932, repr. Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1976), 1: 525.

3. As recently as 1998–1999, one of us (FCH) was asked to undertake some research and analysis on this subject for SGS. Although some new information was added to the mix, none of it rose to the level of being conclusive on the issue of a Robert/Obadiah relationship.
4. The American Genealogist, 22 [1962]: 194; Ralph M. Seeley, "The English Life of Robert Seely," Register, 116 [1962]: 159–65.
5. "Addenda & Comments on Alan J. Phipps, 'The English Ancestry of Robert Seeley'," SGS Newsletter, Issue 34 [February 1983]: 7.
6. Harold N. Fanjoy and C. G. Ward, The Seeleys of New Brunswick, First Edition (Saint John, New Brunswick: Ronalds Printing, 1992), 1–11 at 5–6.
7. Ibid. 15, 340.
8. Robert C. Anderson, The Great Migration Begins: Immigrants to New England 1620–1633, 3 vols. (Boston: NEHGS, 1995), 3: 1650.
9. OxfordAncestors.com
10. The SGS ID numbers were assigned at a time when it was still considered likely that Obadiah was a son of Capt. Robert, and that numbering is preserved today as a convenience.
11. www.seeley-society.net/final_report.html. The project management and analysis on the site is provided by Dr. Ken McCrea (Ken@SeeleyDNA.info).
12. FamilyTreeDNA.com
13. Florence Christoph, Upstate New York in the 1760s, (Camden, Maine: Picton Press, 1992), 244. He was described as twenty-two years old and from Boston.
14. Alan J. Phipps, "Seeley Interim Research Report," prepared for the 23-26 August 1989 Annual Reunion of the SGS, 6.
 FREDERICK C. HART, JR., CG, can be contacted at Hartfc@aol.com; the Seeley Society home page is seeleysociety.net.
 ANITA A. LUSTENBERGER, CG, although bereft of Seeley ancestry, is certified in genetic counseling and in genealogy.

SGS Chief Genealogist *(continued from page 11)*

So Clyde S is really Cleeve S. Seeley and he had a 1st wife named Alice.

From Findagrave.com

- Wyuka Cemetery, Lincoln, Lancaster County, Nebraska, USA
- William E Seeley b. 11 Jan 1872, d. 12 Sep 1954, Sec-35 Lot-337 Sp-3
- Jennie Lou Seeley b. 5 Jul 1877, d. 1 Jul 1963, Sec-35 Lot-337 Sp-2
- Lois Elvira Seeley b. 24 Apr 1845, d. 9 Jun 1916, Sec-12 Lot-161 Gr-12
- Myrtle Lou Seeley b. 1875, d. 23 Nov 1892, Sec-12 Lot-161 Gr-1
- Ralph W. Seeley b. 8 Aug 1867, d. 11 Jun 1944, Sec-12 Lot-161 Gr-11

Unfortunately I couldn't find William E Seeley (any variation) b. about 1873 in the 1900 census.

1900 census Chester, Thayer, NE

- Seeley, Burr W b. Dec 1844 OH, OH, OH, merchant, md 9 yr to
- Seeley, Janette E b. Sept 1859 NY, NY, NY 0 ch.

1910 census Lincoln, Lancaster, NE

- Seeley, Mrs LE age 65, widow b. VT, VT, NY, lodger in home of Roy and Huldah Jackson ages 32 and 30, both b. MI, 3 ch., 2 living (I think this is Louis/Lois, 1st wife of Burr)

1880 census Cherokee, Cherokee, IA

- Seeley, Burr W., age 36 b. OH, OH, OH, machine agent
- Seeley, Louis E age 35, wife b. VT, VT, NY
- Seeley, Ralph W age 11, b. MN, OH, VT; Willie E age 7, b. WI, OH, VT; Myrtle age 5, b. IA, OH, VT
- Hall, Elwin, bro-in-law age 26 b. VT, Vt, NY, farm laborer
- (In 1885 in Cherokee the family is Burr W Seeley, Louis, Ralph, William E and Myrtle L.)

1870 census Forest, Richland, WI

- Seely, BW age 25 b. OH, farmer
- Seely, Louis E age 25 b. VT
- Seely, Ralph, age 1 b. MN

1860 census Genesee, Waukesha, WI

- Seeley, Franklin, age 40 b. OH, farmer
- Seeley, Louisa age 31 b. OH
- Seeley, Burr age 15, Wm age 13, both b. OH; Laura age 7, Earl age 5, James age 3, Sarah age 1 yr 1 mo.,

all b. WI

(In 1870 in Stark, Vernon, WI it is Wellington Seeley age 50 with Louisa age 37 and ch. Laura A age 17, Earl W age 15, James R age 13 and Adell age 4)

1880 census Stark, Vernon, WI

- Seely, Louiza age 51 b. OH, CT, CT
- Seely, James age 23, Adell age 13, Merritt age 10, all b. WI, OH, OH

Next door:

- Crouse, Walter, age 32 b. NY, POLAND, NY, farmer
- Crouse, Laura age 27 b. WI, OH, OH
- Crouse, Jesse, age 6, dau. b. WI, NY, WI
- Crouse, George, bro. age 24 b. NY, POLAND, NY, laborer
- Smith, Mary age 57, mother b. NY, NY, NY
- Smith, Franklin, age 14 b. WI, OH, OH, laborer

Looking in our database I found: SEELEY, WELLINGTON WALTER b. 1820 Medina Co. OH, d. 1880 Vernon Co. WI, md Louisa DEAN in 1843 in Medina Co. OH, son of Walter SEELEY and Sarah Ann GREEN who were md 1819 in Medina Co. OH. Walter b. 1795.

We had Burr W. and the other children of Wellington Seeley in our database but no information on spouses for most of them and nothing on Wellington's grandchildren, etc.

I continued to look through the censuses, vital records and cemetery records for further information. Besides filling in details on the family of Burr W. I was also able to expand on the families of Laura Seeley Crouse, William Seeley, Earl Seeley and James R Seeley, all children of Wellington. Additionally I found an obituary for the husband of Shirley Martinez, daughter of Clyde/Cleeve which mentions her children. Due to space limitations in the newsletter I am not including all the records here but the complete article can be found in the Query Section of our website under 2012 Queries - Research and will be called Research Query Number 2012-A

Summary: I have added all the newly found family members to our databases but we don't know the ancestry of Wellington Walter Seeley's father Walter. It would be great if we could find a male Seeley-surnamed descendant of Wellington who would be willing to have a DNA test. At least then we would know if Wellington is in the Nathaniel or Obadiah line. If you can help us identify Wellington's line please contact me.

SGS Queries

Coordinated and Compiled by SGS Query Editor Linda Crocker (Data Current as of January 13, 2012)

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 or mail to Linda at home (see inside back cover). Queries are assigned a query number by the Query Editor, researched and 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 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 Research Query 2009-B Re: Charles Seely b. 1818 CT

I recently received the following query from Harold B Seeley (seeleyji42@gmail.com). Harold is attempting to find anything he can on his grandfather Harold B Seeley.

This is what he has but has not been able to confirm: Harold B. Seeley, born 1876, Manston (Mauston?), Juneau County, Wisconsin. He married Clara Bertha Junker April 14, 1903, at Toledo, Iowa. Their son, Eugene Lewis Seeley, was born February 25, 1912, occupation - travelling salesman.

I discovered that we already had some information on Harold in the query information and updates. You can find the original query at: <http://www.seeley-society.net/qlist2k9-res.html>

We had started from Harold B Seeley's younger brother Lewis Earl Seeley and worked his line up and down but hadn't done much with Lewis's siblings. Lewis Earl and Harold B were both sons of William, son of Charles and Caroline Johnson Seely.

About Harold B. b. 1876

1880 census Lindina, Juneau, WI

- Seeley, William age 31 b. WI, parents b. CT, farming
- Seeley, Mattie A age 29 b. WI, NY, NY
- Seeley, Luna age 5, Harry B age 4, Infant dau b. May 1880, all b. WI, parents b. WI
- Seeley, Arletta age 13, niece b. WI, parents b. WI

1900 census Toledo, Tama, IA

- Seeley, Martha b. May 1851 WI, parents b. NY, widow, would have been md 29 yr, 5 ch., 4 living
- Seeley, Bessie b. May 1880, Louis b. May 1886, both b. WI, parents b. WI

1900 census Toledo, Tama, IA

- Corols, Lenine b. Nov 1874 WI, parents b. WI, parents b. WI, widow but md 1898, 1 child, 1 living
- Corols, Harold E b. Apr 1899 IA, WI, WI
- Seeley, Harold B, brother, b. Feb 1876 WI, parents b. WI, dep. postmaster
- 4 lodgers

1910 census Union, Crawford, IA

- Seeley, Harold B age 35 b. WI, father b. NY, mother b. WI, farmer, md 7 yr to
- Seeley, Clara B age 37 b. IA, parents b. GER, no children

In 1915 IA census Clara and son Eugene are listed in Toledo, Tama, IA, Clara is still md.

1920 census Toledo, Tama, IA

- Seely, Clara age 47 b. IA, parents b. GER, matron at county rest room, divorced
- Seely, Eugene age 7 b. IA, father b. WI, mother b. I

(In 1930 they are still in Tama and he is Eugene Lewis Seeley. She is still the matron and Eugene is a janitor at the Presbyterian Church)

1925 Iowa census Toledo, Tama, IA

- Clara B Seeley names her parents as Fred Junker and Mathelou(?) Breithaup both b. GER, md IA

Eugene Seeley names his parents as Harold B Seeley age 50 b. WI and Clara B Junker age 53 b. IA, md IA. This indicates that Harold is still alive... but I can't find him in any later censuses nor a death record.

About Lenna/Luna/Lenine, sister of Harold B.:

1910 census Decorah, Winneshiek, IA

- Knorr, WM F age 38 b. GER, GER, GER, harness maker, 2nd marr of 3 yr to Knorr, Lena age 35 b. WI, ?, WI, also her 2nd marr., 1 ch., 1 living
- Knorr, Bessie age 14, Charles age 12 both b. IA, GER, IA
- Knorr, Harold, step-son age 11 b. IA, IA, WI

1925 census Decorah, Winneshiek, IA

- Knorr, Wm F age 53 b, NOR to Frank Knorr b. GER and ?
- Knorr Lanna M age 56 b. WI to Wm Seeley b. WI and Martha Ward b. WI

(In 1930 in Decorah she is Lenna M age 55, still with William F age 58; also Lenna in 1920. No other children listed)

WWI Draft

- Harold Albert Cowles of Decorah, IA b. 14 Apr 1899, machinist in Moline, IL, names mother Mrs WF Knorr of Decorah as next of kin.
I was not able to find Harold Cowles in later records.

New Queries

Query 1202-1 Submitted by Teresa McCauley Porter (katieteresa@msn.com)

Teresa has hit a brick wall in the search for her Great Great Grandmother Ella Mae Seely's parents. Ella was born Aug 14 1857 and died Dec 12 1909. She married Samuel Michael McCauley possibly between 1873-1874. Their first child Herbert Barnard McCauley was born 4 Sept 1875 in Rockbridge, Richland, Wisconsin. Second son Frank Lewis McCauley was born 15 Aug 1877 also in Rockbridge. Teresa's Great Grandfather Thomas Eugene McCauley was born 23 September 1884 in Rockbridge. The fourth son was Edward Harrison McCauley born 3 June 1891 in Bartlett, Wheeler, Nebraska. Teresa is sure he was born on the trip to Alpine, Utah where Ella died and is buried in American Fork Cemetery next to her husband. Ella is in the 1880 census in Rockbridge, Richland, WI. Her birthplace is stated as Indiana and it is stated that her parents are both from Pennsylvania. In the 1900 Census it states that she is born in Pennsylvania, her father is born in Pennsylvania and her mother is born in Maine. I was able to get a copy of her death certificate (Samuel Michael McCauley is the informant on the form). He states that Ella's mother's maiden name was Hannah Stone, born in Maine. He also states that Ella Mae's father was named Seley.(spelled that way - no first name given) . The 1910 census has the birth place of the boys' mother as PA. Teresa has searched Ancestry, Family Search, Findagrave, and Rootsweb to no avail. She has found marriage certificates for the entire McCauley family but NOT for Samuel and Ella. The only other Seeley family in the area is Franklin Edgerly Seeley born 1834. He had 14 children, none were named Ella or matched her birth date. Teresa is beginning to wonder if Ella was an orphan and took the Seeley name right before her marriage.

SGS Response: I have checked our records and did my own Ancestry searching and I cannot identify Ella either. We also do not have a Hannah Stone married to a

Please See Queries Page 14

SGS Queries (continued from page 13)

Seely/Seeley in the database. If any of our readers has further information on Ella Seeley or her mother Hannah Stone please contact Teresa and your Query Editor.

Query 1202-2 Submitted by someone identified only by their e-mail address: hunterlanemcdonald@gmail.com

Seeking ANY information on John H. Seeley, my great grandfather. Listed on daughter, Georgia Seeley Killpatrick's death certificate, as born in Canada. Served in the Union army or Militia(?) in 1864 in Ky. Was married to Georgia Robinson and had three daughters, Carrie, Lizzie and Georgia. Family story is he left after Georgia died giving birth to her namesake to lead wagon trains west????? I know nothing about his parentage or fate and want desperately to unravel this puzzle.

SGS Response:

1880 census Carlisle, Nicholas, KY

- Robinson, Carrie, age 37 b. KY, KY, KY, single
- Robinson, Louise age 35 b. KY, KY, KY, single
- Robinson, Ben N age 26, single, lawyer
- Robinson, Eva, age 23, single b. KY, KY, KY
- Seely, Carrie age 19, Lizzie age 17, Georgia age 11, all b. KY, father b. CAN, mother b. KY

1870 census Precinct 4, Nicholas, KY

- Georgia Celia age 9 mos in the home of Logan Eshorn and Noah and Jane Anderson

1870 Carlisle, Nicholas, KY

- Robinson, Jas, age 55, b. KY
- Robinson, Carrie age 30, Lou age 28, Benjamin age 18, Eva age 16, all b. KY
- Seely, Jno H age 54 distiller b. CANADA
- Seely, Mary age 12, LE age 10, both b. KY

1860 census Millersburg, Bourbon, KY

- Seely, J A age 40 b. VT, livery stable
- Seely, George A, female, age 16 b. KY

1860 census Carlisle, Nicholas, KY

- Robinson, James age 50, trader b. KY
- Robinson, Adaline age 45 b. KY
- Robinson, Caroline age 20, Louisa age 17, Robert age 14, Agnes age 11, Benj age 8, Eva age 5, all b. KY

1850 in District 2 Nicholas Co. KY

- James Robinson age 39 and Adaline age 35 with Thomas C age 15, Mary 13, Caroline 11, Louisa 8, George Ann 6, Robert 3, Agnes

Kentucky Death Index

- Mrs Carrie Seeley Moore d. 6 Oct 1925 Fayette Co. KY, b. KY, parents John H Seeley and Georgie Roberson both b. KY

I haven't been able to identify John H Seeley, father of Carrie, Lizzie and Georgia. Let us know if you have any information on John.

Query 1203-2 Submitted by Victoria Manning (vmanning@lycos.com)

Victoria is researching an image from a postcard of an oil tank fire. One of the postcards says the picture was taken in Olean, NY and it states: Copyright 1901 Don Seeley. Although not related to the Seeley family herself she would love any information anyone might have on a Don Seeley living and working in the NY/PA oil region around the turn of the century. You can see the postcard

at <http://www.victoriemannings.com/> (look under Work) and read an interesting article written by Victoria about the postcard (look under Statements).

SGS Response:

1880 census Wellsboro, Tioga, PA

- Seeley, Don, age 26 b. PA, PA, PA, compositor
- Seeley, Julia age 18 b. PA, PA, PA
- Seeley, Harry T age 10 mos. b. Jul 1879 PA, PA, PA

1880 census Bradford, McKean, PA

- Seeley, Daniel T age 46 b. NY, NY, NY, gunsmith
- Seeley, Anna age 37 b. NY, IRE, IRE
- Seeley, Don A age 8, Nellie May age 6, both b. NY, NY, NY

I found Don Seeley b. 1872 NY in the 1910 and 1920 censuses in Pittsburgh, PA and in 1930 in Olean, Cattaraugus, NY working as a commercial photographer.

There is also a Donald H Seeley b. Feb 1892, residing in Alma, Allegany, NY in 1900. His step-father is an oil driller. This Don lives in Olean when he registers for the WWI Draft and later lives in OK where he works in the oil industry but he would have only been 9 yrs old when the postcard photo was copyrighted....

We have several members who come from that part of the US – perhaps someone will know which Don/Donald Seeley is the oil fire photographer. Contact me with any info you have.

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 2011 - 2013

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.

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SGS Appointed Officers & Volunteers for 2011 - 2013

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."

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Seeley Genealogical Society Membership Form

NAME (First, Middle Initial, Last)		TELEPHONE NO. (Optional)
ADDRESS (Number, Street)		E-MAIL ADDRESS (Optional)
ADDRESS (City, State, Zip)		<input type="checkbox"/> New Membership <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal
DESCENDANT OF: <input type="checkbox"/> Robert <input type="checkbox"/> Obadiah <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Attached) <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown		
I/we have submitted our Seeley line as far as known to Linda Crocker or Chris Havnar (contact info above) for inclusion in the SGS Ancestor File		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> PLANNING TO <input type="checkbox"/> NO
MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS: <input type="checkbox"/> ONE YEAR \$10.00 <input type="checkbox"/> TWO YEARS \$18.00 <input type="checkbox"/> THREE YEARS \$25.00 (In U.S. Dollars) <input type="checkbox"/> FIVE YEARS \$36.00 <input type="checkbox"/> LIFETIME \$125.00		
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

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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 July 2011 (U.S. \$15) that includes:
 - Folder A: the Three SGS Publications by Madeline Mills and Katherine Olsen
 - Folder B: SGS Ancestor File Version 2011 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 15.

SGS Area Coordinators

Area Coordinators help the Query Editor respond to queries. They also help the Membership Chair recruit new members in their areas.

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*New York	Mary Palley, (Remainder of N.Y.)
Ohio	Andrew Waber, wabnoles@yahoo.com
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*Oregon	Bob Seeley
*Pennsylvania	Jim Seeley
Wyoming	Ann Hall, ramonhall@prodigy.net
*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 15