



Volume 23, Issue 3

Summer 2019



# THE AUGUSTA ARCHIVIST

**AUGUSTA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
P.O. BOX 436  
FISHERSVILLE VA 22939**

<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	<b>18</b>
Blue Ridge Heritage Project by Bill Henry	1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Augusta Co. Public Library	
<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>16</b>
Annual Membership Meeting	1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Augusta Co. Public Library	
<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>20</b>
Annual Holiday Luncheon	

## ACGS Meeting September 18<sup>th</sup>

Bill Henry will present a program on the Blue Ridge Heritage Project. The projects goal is to establish a monument to the families displaced by the creation of Shenandoah National Park in each of the eight counties impacted.

### OFFICIAL NOTICE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The annual membership meeting of the Augusta County Genealogical Society will be held in the meeting room of the Augusta County Library at 1:00 p.m. on

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2019**

President JoAnn Pendley met with Carol Brydge to wish her a wonderful retirement life on behalf of the Society.

Carol has been a great friend to the Society for many years (17 that I know of). She has helped us with grants to copy and index the marriage bonds and marriage records.



## PURPOSE

- To help preserve genealogical records and public access to them
- To furnish aid and education in genealogical research
- To foster and encourage interest in genealogical research

## Augusta County Genealogical Society Library

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Augusta County Public Library

1759 Jefferson Highway

Fishersville, VA 22939

540-885-1991

Library Hours

**Tuesday-Thursday-Friday-Saturday**

**10:00 A.M. until 1:00 P.M.**

**Other Hours**

**by Appointment**

## Staunton Spectator – March 5, 1867

### MARRIAGES

On the 16<sup>th</sup> ultimo, by Rev. Wm. Wade, Mr. Joseph H. Chumbley to Miss Ella H. Shell, all of the Pulaski county

At the residence of Mrs. Ramer, of Moorefield, by Rev. J. C. Dice, Mr. Jacob Evans to Miss Hannah Evans, of the Bean settlement

On the 21<sup>st</sup> of Feb., by Rev. C. Beard, Robert C. Alexander to Miss Mary Susan Jordan, both of this county

On the 27<sup>th</sup> ult., at St. Francis Church, by the Rev. Father Farrau, Wm. Wholey of the Stonewall Brigade, to Miss Hannah Collins, of this place

On the 21<sup>st</sup> of Feb., by Rev. J. E. Armstrong, Mr. Tipten W. Allen, of Shenandoah county, Va., to Mrs. Maary B. Patterson, daughter of the late Judson McCoy, of this county

On the 8<sup>th</sup> day of January 1867, in Harrison county, West Va., by Rev. Mr. Helmick, Mr. N. K. Cease, of Staunton, to Miss Helen T. Johnson, recently of Holmes county, Miss.

By Rev. Haratio Thompson, D. D., at the residence of the bride's father, on the 21<sup>st</sup> ult., Mr. J. Frank Heizer to Miss Phebe Ann McCormick, daughter of Robert McCormick, all of Augusta

On the 28<sup>th</sup> ult., by the same, near Old Providence Church, John Dorsey Ballew to Miss Catharine Lotts, daughter of the late John Lotts, Esq., all of Augusta

Transcribed by: JoAnn Pendley

### Staunton Spectator Tue, Aug. 29, 1865

**MARRIAGE** — Staunton : On the 22d inst., by the Rev. J. W. Kiracofe, Mrs. JOS. W. NEWMAN to Miss AMANDA C. ARGENT-BRIGHT—all of Augusta.

**DIED** — In Staunton, on the 11th of July, LUCY LEE infant daughter of Thos. A. and Mattie R. Bledsoe, aged 9 months and 11 days. Thus have these fond parents been bereft of their jewel. It only budded on earth to bloom in a more genial clime. Far from these scenes of care and pain, safe from disease and decline. Parents,

“Weep not here, o'er hopes departed,

Seek not here, the scattered band,

Soul of mine! Look up! Look forward,

To the glorious spirit land”

### Augusta County Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 436, Fishersville, VA 22939

**MEMBERSHIP** Dues are \$15.00 per year, per member, except that dues for additional individuals (eighteen or older) who reside at the same address shall be \$5.00 per year for each additional member. New members who join after June 30 need only pay one-half of the current year's dues. Sponsor membership is \$50.00 for 12 months. Membership entitles you to receive our publication, the *Augusta Archivist*, and access to the ACGS library at 1759 Jefferson Highway, Fishersville, Virginia as long as you maintain a membership for the year you wish to use the library. The Augusta County Genealogical Society disclaims responsibility for any

erroneous statements or opinions stated in any article submitted by contributors of this newsletter. Any questions should be referred to the person who submitted the article. At this time, meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month, 1:00p.m., at the location indicated on page one. No meeting in December. Augusta County Genealogical Society is a non-profit corporation. President: JoAnn Pendley, Vice President: Leslie Hall, Corresponding Secretary: Harriett Sherwood, Recording Secretary: Sylvia Butt, Treasurer: John Sherwood, Newsletter: David Riel, and Directors: Bob Kuyendall and Sharon Sturdivant.

## Augusta County Genealogical Society Board Meeting April 17, 2019

The Augusta County Genealogical Board met at the Augusta County Library on April 17th, 2019

Vice-President announced programs for the coming months:

May 15<sup>th</sup> Sarah Young will present information on how to prepare an Ahnentafel chart, a German numbering system for listing a person's direct ancestors. Everyone is encouraged to bring a brown bag lunch to enjoy while meeting in groups to discuss individual research issues.

June 19<sup>th</sup> Lynn Coffey, local author of books about the people of the Virginia Highlands.

May 9<sup>th</sup> -A field trip has been organized to the UVA Special Collections library in Charlottesville. After an orientation by the librarians, participants will be free to conduct their own research. Participants should meet at 9 am at the Waynesboro Park and Ride to car pool to Charlottesville. Please plan on eating at the cafeteria or bring your own lunch.

July 17<sup>th</sup> ACGS annual picnic at Tinkling Spring.

July 27<sup>th</sup> Round Table -The topic will be "Breaking Down Genealogical Brick Walls".

The Treasurer reported a balance of \$13,704.23 in the general account and \$ 6,676.16 in the African American account.

The president encouraged everyone to take a look at the interesting display by Sarah Young on "Women of Jamestown" which will be up for another few days.

The library committee met on April 10<sup>th</sup> and it was decided that David will coordinate the list of ACGS library volunteers. They will call him if they are unable to fill the time slot they signed up for. Volunteer schedule will be kept in ACGS library and volunteers will sign up a month ahead. The research files have been moved to a different section of the ACGS library.

Donna Huffer offered to donate some books on behalf of the Staunton- Augusta County African American Research Society. We agreed to accept:

*Marie M. Miller Benevolent Home*  
*Black Insurance companies of Staunton, Virginia*  
*History of Black Beauticians and Barbers of Staunton/Augusta County*  
*The History of D. Webster Davis School and T.C. Edmunds School*  
*History of Montgomery Hall Park (A Negro Park)*

Bob Kuykendall reported that we now have 103 paid up members.

Webmasters (David Riel, Bob Kuykendahl, Sharon Sturdivant and Leslie Hall) will meet with Matt Frenger, the ACL's IT who has agreed to assist us with the process of submitting the pages to EasyNetSites in appropriate computer format.

A genealogy program for young people will be offered in the fall in the library.

Options for recording speakers will be addressed when the Web Site is up and running.

Board members were encouraged to invite new members to join and encourage other members to volunteer to take positions on the board in the future.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sylvia E. Butt



## **Augusta County Genealogical Society Board Meeting May 15, 2019**

The Augusta County Genealogical Society Board Meeting was held on May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at Augusta County Library.

The Vice-President announced programs for the coming months:

May 15<sup>th</sup> Sarah Young will present information on how to prepare an Ahnentafel chart, a German numbering system for listing a person's direct ancestors. Everyone is encouraged to bring a brown bag lunch to enjoy while meeting in groups to discuss individual research issues.

June 19<sup>th</sup> Lynn Coffey, local author of books about the people of the Virginia Highlands. She will present a program on "Life in the Blue Ridge Mountains."

The field trip on May 9<sup>th</sup> to the UVA Special Collections library in Charlottesville was cancelled due to a UVA staff member illness. It will be rescheduled for a Thursday in June.

July 17<sup>th</sup> ACGS annual picnic at Tinkling Spring Presbyterian Church, Fishersville.

July 27<sup>th</sup> Round Table -The topic will be "Breaking down Genealogical Brick Walls".

The Treasurer reported a balance of \$13,948.94 in the general account and \$ 6,853.79 in the African American account.

The library collection guidelines were presented and after some discussion the board voted to accept the recommendations.

Webmasters (David Riel, Bob Kuykendahl, Sharon Sturdivant and Leslie Hall) met with Matt Frenger, the ACL's IT who has agreed to assist with the process of submitting the pages to EasyNetSites in appropriate computer format. They are hoping to go live in the next few weeks.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sylvia E. Butt



## **Augusta County Genealogical Society Board Meeting Augusta County Library June 19, 2019**

Augusta County Genealogical Society Board Meeting  
Augusta County Library  
June 19, 2019

JoAnn Pendley called the Augusta County Genealogical Society Board to order at the Augusta County library on June 19, 2019. Those present included JoAnn Pendley, Leslie Hall, John Sherwood, Harriett Sherwood, Bob Kuykendall, Sharon Sturdivant. David Riel, as well as visitor, Rahul Keshop, Esq. of Shuru Law in Charlottesville. Mr. Keshop is an attorney recommended by the Community Foundation to ACGS for legal advice on several topics.

President JoAnn Pendley requested assistance recording minutes in Recording Secretary Sylvia Butt's absence. Leslie Hall agreed to assist with the minutes.

Vice-President Hall announced programs for the coming months:

Our speaker at today's meeting will be local author, Lynn Coffey, from Love, Virginia who will present a program on her work to preserve information about the residents of the Virginia Highlands.

The July meeting, July 17<sup>th</sup>, will be the annual picnic to be held at Tinkling Spring Presbyterian Church in Fishersville starting at 5:00 p.m.

## Augusta County Genealogical Society Board Meeting May 15, 2019

August 21<sup>st</sup> meeting will feature Bill Henry who will present a program on the Blue Ridge Project. This project's goal is to establish a monument to the families displaced by the creation of the Shenandoah National Park in each of the eight counties impacted. Augusta will be the final county to erect a monument.

September 18<sup>th</sup> meeting will include a presentation by member David Riel on his Surname Project. David will be looking for members to volunteer to assist in this effort.

A scheduled trip to the UVA Special Collections Library in Charlottesville is planned for tomorrow, June 20<sup>th</sup>.

Next roundtable is scheduled for Saturday, July 27<sup>th</sup>, from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon at the Augusta County Library in Fishersville in the program room on the first floor. The topic will be "Breaking Down Genealogical Brick Walls".

The fall roundtable was also discussed. A tentative date of Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup> was proposed. Topic will be using dating old family photographs.

Treasurer John Sherwood reported a balance of \$13,785.34 in the general account and \$6855.25 in the African-American account.

Corresponding secretary Harriett Sherwood sent thinking of you cards in April to two members as well as thank you notes to our April speaker, Deb Harvey, and Christy Short.

### Committee Reports:

Library Committee – Teresa Whitesell, David Riel, library volunteer coordinator, advised the board that the library still needs additional library volunteers.

### Unfinished Business

Webmasters (David Riel, Bob Kuykendall, Sharon Sturdivant and Leslie Hall) are making progress. Leslie requested advice from the board regarding the publications list.

### New Business

Graves family gathering to be held September 27-29, 2019 at Frankfort, KY  
VGS Fall Conference October 18-19, 2019 in Williamsburg  
Ulster Historical Foundation visit to Staunton March 9, 2020

Meeting adjourned at 12:45 pm.  
Respectfully submitted,

Leslie S. Hall for Secretary Sylvia Butt



### Genealogists...

collect dead relatives.

live in the past lane.

are time unravelers.

never lose their jobs, they just go to another branch.

don't die, they just lose their census.

## Augusta County Genealogical Society Board Meeting August 21, 2019

The President announced that she will be speaking at the Thomas Hughart DAR Chapter on October 5<sup>th</sup>. They would like to visit the ACGS library at 2:00 p.m. She will check to see who is available to show them the resources at the ACGS library.

The VGS Fall Conference will be held October 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, but we will not have a vendor's table.

The Ulster Historical Foundation will present at the Staunton Public Library on March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020. We will contribute to the cost.

Vice-President announced programs for the coming months:

August 21<sup>st</sup> Ashley Abruzzo from the Germanna Foundation in Culpepper will present a program on the first German settlement in Pre-Revolutionary War Virginia.

September 18<sup>th</sup> Bill Henry will present a program on the Blue Ridge Heritage Project. The projects goal is to establish a monument to the families displaced by the creation of Shenandoah National Park in each of the eight counties impacted.

November 20<sup>th</sup> - Holiday Luncheon at Sanzone's Restaurant in Stuarts Draft at 1:00 p.m.

The September 28<sup>th</sup> Round Table will be on Dating Family Photos.

The Treasurer reported a balance of \$13,601.02 in the general account and \$ 6,858.12 in the African American account.

The minutes for June were accepted electronically .

The corresponding secretary reported that thank you notes had been sent to Lynn Coffey, the UVA special collection guides, and Lillian Peters for her ACGS library service. A get well card was also sent to Darla Sallade.

Bob Kuykendall reported that we now have 113 paid up members.

JoAnn reported 612 copies of research had been completed and sent to 33 researchers in 24 States and Canada.

Webmasters David Riel, Bob Kuykendall, Sharon Sturdivant and Leslie Hall reported that the membership listing has been downloaded and they are hoping to go live in the next few weeks.

The nominating committee has been formed for the October elections. The volunteers are Clinton Davis, Sarah Young, and Delores Duncan. The annual meeting needs to be announced in the September newsletter.

The board voted to present some changes to the By-Laws to the October Meeting, including deleting the need for the board to vote on new members. The membership year is from January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> and dues must be paid by December 31<sup>st</sup>.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sylvia E. Butt





## Augusta County Virginia Men KILLED, MISSING OR WOUNDED IN ACTION DURING WORLD WAR II

- Staff Sergeant **Arthur Dewey Spitzer** of Staunton whom the Adjutant General has reported was wounded in action in France June 24. Sergeant Spitzer was understood to have received a leg wound which caused his hospitalization in England. He is a son of Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Spitzer, 403 Montgomery Avenue, and left here with Co. L, 116<sup>th</sup> Infantry. (News-Leader 28 July 1944.)
- Mrs. Edith Peyton Bowers, Staunton route two, Richmond Road, has been notified that her husband, **Lieut. William Burton Bowers**, was killed in action on the Normandy beachhead June 21. Mrs. Bowers is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Peyton, Richmond Road, city.

At the time of his death Lieut. Bowers was a member of an Anti-tank Co., 116<sup>th</sup> Infantry, 29<sup>th</sup> Division. He was an honor student and graduate of the Sixth Class, Officers' Candidate School, American School Center in England. He attended Beverley Manor High School graduating with the class of 1939. Immediately after graduation Lieutenant Bowers joined the National Guard and has been service four and one-half years.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Bowers; his father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Bowers; three sisters, Mrs. Emma Daughtry, Mrs. Mary Argenbright, and Miss Fleta Bowers, all of route one, Staunton. Also surviving is one brother, Pfc. Andrew C. Bowers Jr., now serving with the U.S. Army in India. (News-Leader 22 July 1944.)

- Beverley Manor Boy is Killed Overseas. Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Sutton, route two, Staunton, received a telegram yesterday from the War Department stating that their son, **David Elwood Sutton**, 23, had been killed in action. The telegram said, in part: "The Secretary of War asks that I assure you of his deep sympathy in the loss of your son, Pfc. David Elwood Sutton. Report received states he died June 7 in Italy as result of wounds received in action."

Pfc. Sutton was graduated from Beverley Manor High School, and for a number of years was a carrier boy for The News-Leader. He had been in service a year and six months, receiving most of his training at Camp Van Dorn, Miss., and Fort Dix, N.J. He was sent to North Africa last December.

Surviving his, besides his parents, are two brothers, Luther Mitchell and Harry O.; four sisters, Mrs. Carl Simmons, Mrs. Homer Bodkin, Mrs. E. L. Gregory, and Mrs. Harry Humphries. (The News-Leader 27 Jun 1944)

- Lt. J. M. Garnett Killed in Action. Lieutenant **James Mercer Garnett McGuire**, 26, of Richmond who, according to the War Department, was killed in action in Ital on Dec. 10, is a nephew of R. Morris Armistead of this city.

Born in Richmond, Lieutenant McGuire, was a son of John Peyton McGuire and Virginia Baylor Armistead. His family is one long widely known in the cultural and social history of his native city.

Lieutenant McGuire, who was educated at McGuire's University School, Richmond, entered the service in June, 1941. He was selected for officers' training school early in 1942 and went to Ft. Benning, Ga. After receiving his commission as second lieutenant, he was for a while at Camp Forrest, Tenn. In August, 1943, he was sent overseas as a replacement officer.

Besides his parents he is survived by his brother, John P. McGuire Jr., of the Richmond bar, and three sisters, Mrs. John W. Boyd, of Chesterfield county; Mrs. George D. Williams of Rokeby, King George county, and Mrs. Andrew J. Brent, of Richmond. (The News-Leader 13 Jan 1944)

- Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Talley, 422 Marquis Street, received a telegram from the War Department Sunday night stating that their son, Staff Sergeant **Earl P. Talley**, 21, was killed in the invasion in France June 6, D-Day.

Sergeant Talley is survived by his parents; a sister, Marilyn Talley, at home; three brothers, Glenn Talley, at home; Lt. C. W. Talley Jr., United States Army overseas; Pfc. Kenneth T. Talley, Fort Jackson, S. C.' grandmothers, Mrs. G. W. Custer, Buchanan; Mrs. Bertie Talley, Route 3, Staunton.

## Augusta County Virginia Men KILLED, MISSING OR WOUNDED IN ACTION DURING WORLD WAR II CONTINUED

A short memorial service will be held for S/Sgt. Talley at three Tuesday at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Talley, 422 Marquis Street, by the Rev. I. T. Jacobs.

Sergeant Talley was a member of Augusta-Staunton Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Woodrow Wilson Post 81, 29<sup>th</sup> Division Association. (News-Leader 25 July 1944.)

- Waynesboro, July 24. Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Ellinger, of Route 1, Waynesboro, have received a telegram from the War Department stating that their son, Pfc. **Melvin Ora Ellinger**, 30, had been killed in action. Pfc. Ellinger was fighting with the 116<sup>th</sup> Infantry, 29<sup>th</sup> Division in France at the time of his death on the first day of the invasion, June 6.

Pfc. Ellinger entered service May 6, 1940, and trained at Fort Meade, Md.; Camp Blanding, Fla.; at A. P. Hill, Fredericksburg; Fort Bragg, N.C.; and Westover, Md. He was last home on furlough in July 1942. He had been overseas more that a year. He was awarded the short shooting medal.

Pfc. Ellinger is survived by his parents; one sister, Clara Eva Ellinger, and one brother, Lyle Emmet Ellinger. ([News-Leader 25 July 1944.](#))

- Mr. and Mrs. George W. Taylor of Spottswood were advised late Thursday that their son, Staff Sergeant **George M. Taylor**, 27, died June 12 of wounds received in action June 2 in Italy.

The family on June 22 received the first report that the son had been wounded, and on July 3 was advised by the War Department that he was not progressing as well as had been hoped.

Sergeant Taylor had been in service about two years and overseas approximately half of that period. His first services abroad were in North Africa.

In civilian life he was an employee of the late S. F. McClure of Spottswood in the McClure agricultural supply store at Spottswood; a member of Old Providence Church and of Spottswood Ruritan Club, and was highly esteemed in his section of Augusta County. He was a graduate of Spottswood High School.

Sergeant Taylor was with the headquarters company of an amphibious force.

Surviving are his parents; three brothers, K. H. Taylor, Omar, W. Va.; Raymond Taylor, Waynesboro; John Lee Taylor, at home; two sisters, Miss Virginia Taylor and Mrs. George Morris, both at home. (News-Leader 7 July 1944.)

### Augusta County, Virginia, Men Missing in Action:

- Mrs. E. M. VanFossen of Stuarts Draft was notified Thursday by the War Department that her son, Pfc. **James Graham VanFossen** is missing in action in Ital since July 1. ([News-Leader 22 July 1944.](#))
- Mr. and Mrs. Kemper C. Painter, 1005 Spring Hill Road today received a telegram from the War Department stating that their son, Staff Sergeant **Earle Weldon Painter**, has been reported missing in action since July 5 over Yap Island.

Twenty years of age, he entered service in October, 1942, and was an aerial gunner on a B-24 bomber, having taken his training in Pueblo, Colo., and left the States in January, 1944. He was recently awarded the Air Medal and Oak Leaf Cluster for meritorious achievement in aerial operations. (News-Leader 25 July 1944.)

His brother, Jack, is serving in the navy, and two sisters are at home, Jean and Nancy. Earle was a popular young student in Lee High before entering service of his country. He was a member of the First Baptist Church. (News-Leader 19 Jul 1944)



## **ROBERT WILSON** By Donald Brown

My ancestor Robert Wilson emerged from the mists of time in 1742 in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia when he and his son-in-law John Holmes, also my ancestor, purchased 660 acres of land called Beverly Manor in what soon became Augusta County, Virginia. At the time, the land was in St. Mark's Parish of Orange County, with Robert and John identifying themselves as residents of Orange County, but we felt that they were recent arrivals. For some reason, two consecutive deeds were written for the purchase from Joseph Mills on June 23 and June 4, 1742 (Old Style Calendar). In 1742 the German-born George II was king of England and thus also of the American colonies, George Washington was a 10-year-old boy near Fredericksburg, Virginia, and John Adams was a seven-year-old boy in Braintree, Massachusetts.

Augusta County was created in 1745 from a huge portion of Orange County with the Beverley Manor land now being in Augusta County. The Wilsons and the Holmeses lived near Fishersville, southeast of the county seat of Staunton, where future President Woodrow Wilson (no kin) was born in 1856. Fishersville was a Scotch-Irish settlement. The local Tinkling Spring Church was Presbyterian, reflecting the Scottish character. The church named Robert Wilson on a membership roll of November 1744.

Robert Wilson, my fifth great-grandfather, did not live long in Augusta County. On November 3, 1745, he made his will, giving his residence as "Shenadore in the Colony of Virginia being very sick and weak in body." In the will, he mentioned his wife, one son and five daughters.

To his wife Jane, Robert left one-half of his plantation during her widowhood and one-third of all "moveables" except for those otherwise designated. He left son John the other half of the plantation, all implements belonging to the plantation, two "working horses," a cow and calf, and some moveables. To his married daughters, Jennet Holmes and "Catrin" (Katherine) Bell, he left 20 shillings each. To his grandson Robert Holmes, apparently named for his, he left a yearling heifer. (It is interesting to note that he called his grandson "nephew," which in the long ago could be equivalent to "grandson.") The remainder of the estate was to be equally divided among John and three unmarried daughters: Elizabeth, Jane and Francis. Robert named William Long and James Alexander as his executors. The will was witnessed by James Patterson, Gabriel Holmes and James Bell. We wish we knew if Jane was Robert's only wife, if she was the mother of all of the children.

Robert had died by February 11, 1745/6, when his will was proved in court by James Patterson and then again on April 16 by Gabriel Holmes. This was the first one recorded in **Will Book I** of Augusta County. Robert Wilson surely was buried in the graveyard of Tinkling Spring Church, but there is not tombstone there for him.

The inventory of Robert's estate on March 10, 1746/7, counted two horses, one yearly colt, one bull and three steers. There were six cows, five yearlings, three heifers and four calves (with the number of bovines making us wonder if this was a frontier dairy farm). There was one plow and tackling, one saddle and one belly bridle. Also listed were "bed clothes," one pair of shoes, one pair of britches, one pair of check trousers and one waist coat. Two items on the list were indecipherable. The total value of the inventory was 38 pounds and eight shillings. Surely there were more possessions such as furniture and kitchen and eating utensils. Were these credited as belonging to the wife?

Our guess is that Robert Wilson and John Holmes with their families, and perhaps other pioneers, ventured forth from southeastern Pennsylvania, probably in the region of Octoraro Creek where Lancaster and York Counties join; a number of Scotch-Irish people lived there. At the time there was a migration pattern along the Great Wagon Road from Southeast Pennsylvania to the Shenandoah Valley and to Rowan County, North Carolina. At the time of Robert's will, Jennet Wilson and John Holmes, my fourth great-grandparents, were married and Katherine Wilson and Thomas Bell were married. By 1748 both couple had pioneered to what soon became Rowan County, North Carolina.

The dates in this article are the original ones according to the Julian Calendar (Old Style), which was replaced the Gregorian Calendar (New Style) in all of Great Britain, including the American colonies. September 3, 1752 became September 11, 1752. To translate from Old Style to New Style, add 11 days. It is also important to note that under the Julian

Calendar, the new year began on March 25. Under the Gregorian Calendar, the new year began earlier, on January first.

Wilson is both an English and a Scottish surname meaning son of William. Holmes is also an English and a Scottish surname meaning dweller at or near a holly bush, near a hill, on a river island or on a piece of dry land in a marsh.

Was Robert Wilson born in Scotland, Ireland, one of the American colonies, or elsewhere? Perhaps some day we will know this, and more about him.

Sources: **Orange County, Virginia**

**Deed Book 8.** Joseph Mills to Robert Wilson and John Holmes, 1742, pp. 1-4.

**Augusta County, Virginia**

Chalkley, Lyman. **Chronicles of the Scotch-Irish Settlement in Virginia, Extracted from the Original Court Records of Augusta County 1745-1800** (Volumes I, II, III). Published by Mary S. Lockwood; Rosslyn, VA. Printers: Commonwealth Printing Co., 1912-1913, Vol. III, pp. 5, 10. **Order Book I.** Matters pertaining to will of Robert Wilson; inventory of estate ordered, 1745/6, pp. 7-8 **Will Book I.** Will of Robert Wilson, 1745, pp. 1-3. Bond of Administration for Robert Wilson's estate, 1745/6, pp. 3-4. Inventory of Robert Wilson's estate, 1746/7, & 1748/9, p. 122. Wilson, Howard McKnight. **The Tinkling Spring; Headwater to Freedom: a study of the church and her people 1732-1952.** Fishersville, Va.: Tinkling Spring and Hermitage Presbyterian Churches, 1954, p. 25, 114, 438.

## **ACGS OFFICERS 2020 TO BE ELECTED AT OCTOBER 16 MEETING**

ENCLOSED WITH THIS NEWSLETTER IS A PROXY FORM THAT YOU MAY RETURNED TO HAVE YOUR VOICE HEARD. PLEASE MAIL BACK TO: ACGS, P.O. BOX 436, FISHERSVILLE, VA 22939 OR YOU MAY EMAIL YOUR FORM TO MATCHER2@AOL.COM.

**Deadline for receipt of proxy vote is October 11, 2019.**

## **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

<b>Belby, Linda</b>	<b>Bend, OR</b>	
<b>Benson, Deb</b>	<b>Stuarts Draft, VA</b>	
<b>David W. Gibson</b>	<b>Charlottesville, VA</b>	<b>Gibson, Britton/Alexander/Rogers/Baird</b>
<b>Harrington, Kenneth H.</b>	<b>Louisville, TN</b>	<b>Ashton, Crawford, Sawyers, Stuart</b>
<b>Holloway, Steven W.</b>	<b>Staunton, VA</b>	
<b>Mardis, Theresa</b>	<b>Stillwater, OK</b>	<b>Craig, Donaghu</b>
<b>Nicholson, Elizabeth</b>	<b>Nashville, TN</b>	<b>Dunbar</b>

## FITZGERALD BOOK PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENT!

Michael Fletcher – [770-241-8557](tel:770-241-8557) / [mfletcher24@gmail.com](mailto:mfletcher24@gmail.com)

I have decided to spearhead a project to research and compile a documented genealogy on the descendants of Bartlett Hawkins Fitzgerald. It will require a significant amount of work and documentation to allow this publication to stand the test of time as well as critical analysis. However, in order to make this successful, I need you! Anyone and everyone who has any type of family history, pictures, stories, documents, bibles, practically anything will help. I would like everyone to be included as contributors in the publication as well as receive a copy once we complete this endeavor.

I've created a Facebook page to help get things started (<https://www.facebook.com/The-Bartlett-Hawkins-Fitzgerald-Family-Descendancy-Publication-Project-2352150738376305/>) I want to use this page to keep everyone informed, and allow for contributions as well. To get started I plan to organize a committee from volunteers to help with research, collecting data, community awareness, fund raising, and helping find others that have records or whatnot or just plain want to help. For all of you who may be interested in seeing this happen or know someone who would be willing to participate, please contact me asap.

I look forward to one day soon that we will be able to find the Fitzgerald Family recorded in history and available in our libraries.

We've received an announcement for the Genealogical Research Institute of Virginia's 2019 Fall Conference. It will be held on Saturday, October 26, 2019 at the Pocahontas Middle School, 12000 Three Chopt Rd., Henrico, VA 23233. Diane L. Richard will be speaking about Research Through Time & the Hidden Gems in Between

### **Please respond with suggestions if the following questions affected your thoughts and actions in genealogical research.**

What would you do if a bulldozer was about cover some gravestones?

Which teachers influenced your life and why?

How do you share your new discoveries with your family?

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

ACGS needs volunteers for doing research at the courthouse on Wednesdays, assisting with our publications, assisting researchers who want access our library materials on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and also on Saturdays, anyone who would like to work on the Surname Files project.

## — SPONSOR MEMBERS —

Show your support of the Augusta County Genealogical Society with a sponsor membership of \$50 a year. Each quarter you will receive a copy of the Society's newsletter which will recognize you and/or your organization as a sponsor member.

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**WHAT UNUSUAL METHODS HAVE YOU USED TO OBTAIN FAMILY INFO? LET US KNOW.**

Augusta County Genealogical Society  
P O Box 436  
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