

NOA *News*

Finding the Path to your Tennessee Roots

VOL XXXVIII ISSUE 4 NATIONAL ODOM ASSEMBLY MAY 2022

2022

July 14-17

Hosted by:

Wanda Odom Holt

and

Linda Odom Tidwell



from your President



Hello Everyone,
Our annual meeting
is just around the
corner, and I am so

excited to see what
Wanda and Linda
have in store for us.
These ladies have
put in a lot of work
and effort to ensure
we have a great time
in East Tennessee.
Greeneville is the
second oldest town in
Tennessee and is
known for its historic
sites. So come
prepared to see the
town and experience
some good ole
Southern Hospitality.

NEWS LETTER CONTRIBUTORS

The Annual Meeting in
2021 in San Antonio
decided that in addition to
encouraging anyone to
contribute to the newsletter,
we should focus on each
DNA group based on

numbers to submit articles,
research, photos and
stories on a system. The
following is the agreed
upon group system that
spreads it out in a
reasonably balanced
schedule. Please share
with everyone, anytime, but
especially based on your
DNA group.

GROUP A - 27 - Feb

GROUP B - 10 - Aug

GROUP C - 10 - May

GROUP D - 10 - May

GROUP O - 19 - Nov

Remember to bring your auction items and your membership dues which we will be collecting at the meeting. Also, remember to let me or Natalie know of anyone you want to be included in this year's memorial. Our organization is still in need of a chaplain, and we are looking for volunteers to fill this position. Paula Tucker always performed a compassionate memorial service and I think we owe it to her to continue the tradition. We will be accepting nominations for chaplain and other offices at our regular business meeting. A reminder to everyone who is due a NOA Year Pin to be sure and let me, Wanda or Linda know so we can get that scheduled into the events. NOA Pins are presented in five year increments beginning with 5 years then 10 and so on. Last year we presented our first 35-year pin to Frank Odom who is currently the only member to receive this honor.

In conclusion, come prepared to have a good time and reminisce with some old and new friends. I am looking forward to seeing everyone again.

Safe travels on your journey to Greeneville,

Danny Powell

from Indiana

Hello Odom cousins! We are so looking forward to our reunion in TN! The area is where Betty's Shoemaker, Karnes, Babb, Booher relatives are from. We were really looking forward to being with you all

in Amarillo, but it just didn't work out. Hopefully, Our health will be in good shape for us to travel.

Our twin great nephews, Lennox and Barron Odom have really come a long way since their premature births. They are busy little guys and now are talking...(Somewhat) you have to figure out what they are saying! Barron still has health issues and still has a feeding tube in his stomach, He won't eat...just sucks on things and then spits them out. He is the smaller of the two but Shaun and Morgan are great Christian parents and have dealt with many issues with the boys. But progress is being made as Morgan said he actually swallowed two spoons full of applesauce and one of yogurt!!

Dan is still at Belden Wire Company here in Richmond. He sometimes fills a manager's role when they are on vacation and he really likes what he does. The company makes all of the wiring for the new NFL stadiums and also the Georgia Dome. He and Jessica have put their wedding plans on hold due to Covid...so don't know when it will be.

The girls are all doing well. Kristine, the eldest is a director at Tulane in New Orleans. Danielle has her PHD from Georgia and now is a professor of Geology at a small college in Alabama. She left SD State because she HATES SNOW!!! Her husband Kyle also has a PHD from Georgia and works for the U.S. Government. Her twin sister Kathleen is now a High School History teacher at Newnan Georgia and her husband Matt teaches Jr High Social studies...they are both Iraq veterans. Or grandson Lucas will be 18 this year....not sure what his plans are yet, but when he graduates from High School, He will be a certified EMT. Our grand daughter Lorelei will be 13 in November is quit the artist. We are going to pick her up in Georgia after our NOA reunion and bring her back to Indiana for a few weeks. We hardly ever see them and we understand they all have their own lives and interests. Have several "field trips" planned for her!

Betty continues with family research and stays busy all the time! Mike continues to Pastor at the United Methodist Church in Webster, IN and now is getting some fishing in. Our health issues have improved for our age and the good news was that Mike's cancer has not returned and blood count is good!

On a sad note, Betty's brother Tom's wife Jane passed a few weeks ago. They attended the NOA at Augusta She had to have surgery to repair a heart valve and did not survive the surgery. Tom is doing OK and I plan on taking him to the Indy 500 as he loves Indy Car racing. We also have tickets to the VIP Suites, Pit and Garage passes and will be able to go into the garage area, see the teams and meet some drivers.

Hope you all have safe travels to TN and we look forward to seeing everyone!!!!

Mike and Betty (Odom) Haskett
Richmond, IN

Irish Naming Patterns

Do Irish naming patterns work for you? Have you ever reached a stumbling block in your ancestry research? In this letter will will discuss a built in set of clues left by many of our Irish ancestors, hidden in the pattern of how they named their children.



A Letter from Ireland

Now Reading:

Irish Naming Patterns

Have you ever heard of “Irish naming patterns”? It’s a system that was in widespread use among many Irish families up to the mid 1900s. It also may offer you a very useful way of breaking through a family history brick wall. Let me explain

One of the most frequent questions I hear each week is a version of the following:

“My ancestor came to my country in the 1800s – but I have no idea where they came from in Ireland, or the names of their parents in Ireland. Is there some way I can find this information?”

How about you? Do you have a situation like this? Well, today – let’s have a look at a very useful way of going back a little further in time on your Irish family tree. We are going to chat about **“Irish Naming Patterns”**.

Let me start off by formally introducing myself:

My name is Michael Collins. I am the eldest son in my family and named after my Grandfather – also Michael Collins.

My Father’s name is John Collins – he is an eldest son and named after his Grandfather – also John Collins.

My father, John Collins has three siblings:

- Patrick (second eldest son) – named after his paternal grandfather.
- Michael (third eldest son) – named after his father.
- Kathleen (eldest daughter) – named after her maternal grandmother.

Now, why am I sharing these random facts about my family? Well, there is a useful pattern hidden in the above naming of children. The “Irish Naming Pattern” is a real system of child-naming that was in use in Ireland for hundreds of years – and often continued to be used in the Irish immigrant’s new country for a couple of generations. I have found it to be in strong use in Ireland right up to the 1960s. The naming pattern is as follows:

- 1st son was named after the father's father
- 2nd son was named after the mother's father
- 3rd son was named after the father
- 4th son was named after the father's eldest brother
- 1st daughter was named after the mother's mother
- 2nd daughter was named after the father's mother
- 3rd daughter was named after the mother
- 4th daughter was named after the mother's eldest sister

So, if this system holds true in your family, it can be very useful in taking an educated guess as to the names of your unknown Irish ancestors. When someone [asks me a question in The Green Room](#) about how to trace unknown Irish ancestors, I often ask them to share the names of already known children – from eldest to youngest. Let's take a simple example:

Patrick and Kathleen O'Mara emigrated to Australia in the mid 1800s. The names of their parents – who stayed in Ireland – are unknown. They had the following children after emigrating to Australia, from eldest to youngest:

- Michael
- Mary
- John
- Patrick
- Bridget

If this family used the traditional Irish naming pattern, then we can guess the following:

- Michael is the name of Patrick O'Mara's father.
- Mary is the name of Kathleen O'Mara's mother.
- John is the name of Kathleen O'Mara's father.

One fact that confirms that they most likely used Irish naming patterns is the fact that the third son is called Patrick – the same as his father.

- Bridget is the name of Patrick O'Mara's mother.

Now, naming patterns were not always used – or the pattern may fall apart as you approach the younger children – but they are surprisingly accurate across both religions and regions in Ireland – and very useful when taking educated guesses for further research when tracing your Irish family back to Ireland.

How about you? Do the Irish naming patterns hold up as true in your Irish family tree? Do feel free to leave your comments and let me know.

That's it for this week – as always do feel free to share your stories, comments and Irish surnames in your family.

Slán for now,

Mike & Carina.

Tassles-“lopes, and Melons

When as a young boy growing up in a large family summertime was not the time to play but a time to help raise funds for the upcoming school year, help mom with buying clothes, wherever and whenever possible.

The opportunity would always come as school neared the end and the cantelopes, watermelons and seed corn crops were just beginning to come to fruition. My father knew most of and helped most of the crop farmers in the area of southern Indiana and always arranged for us boys of 12 years old and older to find work in the fields all summer long. I worked for one farmer who grew both watermelons and cantelopes down in the sand bottoms of the Wabash River area and then after the melons were done I would move on to the corn fields for detassling until early fall. We would get out of school then go down to the “bottoms” and stay there until the melons were harvested, loaded, on the wagons and transported to the market. We were paid \$8.00 a day and would sleep in tents or worksheds in sleeping bags or mats with covers and typically worked until dark. The farmer's wife fed us breakfast, dinner,

and supper. We would sit on the machinery most of the time and eat lunch but would get to go to the house and eat supper. We would pick the ripe melons and lopes and toss them to a guy in the wagon pulled behind a tractor, the tractor driver had the good job. Once the cantelopes were done we would move to the watermelon fields and basically do the same thing except the watermelons were a lot heavier. If you dropped a melon and broke it the farmer would take fifty cents off your days pay. One day the guy stacking the melons in the wagon got smart with us pickers and so we decided to throw him more than one melon at a time and he couldn't catch all of them and he would get yelled at by the farmer, being smart with young field hands didn't pay off. We would typically make about \$240.00 in the melons and would then move on to the corn fields for the rest of the summer.

The largest corn grower in the county would hire boys from the age of twelve and up to “detassle” corn for the growing of hybrid seed corn. The farm also grew popcorn for Orville Redenbacher but only a choice few boys got to work in those fields. The field bus would pick up boys from all over the county and the bus would leave my site at 5:00 AM in the morning and if you were not there the bus did not wait. We had some boys who would chase the bus down the street at 5:01 because they were late. Let me explain how the system worked. The farm would have a contract with a producer of hybrid seed corn and would receive the “male” seed from the producer and breed it with the corn planted by him. The farm would then plant the outer four rows on the perimeter of the field in “male” corn then plant eight rows of “female”

corn and then two rows of “male” and repeat the process across the field until all fields were planted. When the corn matured and formed tassles or the” pollen producer on top” the tassel would have to be removed by pulling by hand so the only corn that could pollenate the silks on the ears would be by the male pollen from the male corn. You worked about ten to twelve hours a day rain or shine to get the job done.

The pay was 35 cents an hour and if you worked all summer without being late or missing a day you got a fifteen cent bonus added on at the end when done. One day I was so sick I couldn’t get out of bed and as my dad went to work for the packing company he saw me in bed and made me get up and go to work on the farm so as not to miss any time. Well luckily enough the foreman saw how sick I was and let me ride in the truck with him all day. I got home and was given some sassafras tea by my mother and went to work the next day and was able to get my bonus. We would typically make about \$350.00 in the corn fields.

Times were hard then but hard work didn’t kill me and it probably helped me become who I am today.

Ray Odom

News from South Carolina/TX

I am writing this letter from Texas. My wife, Joan, and I moved to Katy, Texas in April due to her continuing health problems and my getting older. Both my daughters live in the Houston area and have committed to caring for us when in need. My health is still ok and I will still be active, as I can, in the

organization but probably on a limited basis. I am not going to be able to travel much but will do my best to attend the get together in Tennessee.

I found an Odom dna line that I match with in the Greenville area of South Carolina through a William Odom who was in the NC/SC area in the late 1790s. I tried to contact them but had no luck so the mystery of finding “relatives” still abounds in such a large group. Maybe the “library” in Greeneville, TN might shed more light as a lot of Odoms moved west into Tenn and Ky. I have also found Odom gravestones in southern Ill from as early as 1793. Maybe Peggy can shed some light on these findings. I have been told that my family was one of the Odoms’ who went west into KY/TN instead of south into the Carolinas.

I have been ask to host the 2024 NOA meeting and I agreed. I am going to ask some of my family who still live in the Evansville, Indiana area if they will be willing to help me with this task. I am familiar with the area but am not up to date on things that hosting the event is going to require. I should know something before the next newsletter and will keep the organization informed.

We must always keep family and the search for more family as the number one goal of our organization. Family is a precious asset.

Ray Odom
South Carolina/Tx

75th Anniversary Reveals a Love Story and Odom History

By Marianne Odom

The 77-year love story of Raymond and Wanda Odom is so charming the regional editor of the Tyler Morning Telegraph in Tyler, (Smith County) Texas, interviewed them before their 75th wedding anniversary Feb. 5, 2021.

The resulting story published April 17, 2021, captures a saga of love, faith and music. (See link below.)

It was Raymond's talent as a pianist that led a pastor to introduce him to the love of his life, Wanda Lee Anglin, when she was 16 and he a year older.

Raymond, 95, a still-active real estate agent, surely owes his natural musical ability and strong Christian faith to traditions he inherited from his Odom lineage. The newspaper article touches on Raymond's Odom heritage, but here are more details:

His father, William Booth Odom (1900-1998), named for the founder of the Salvation Army, was a drummer for his parents' ministry at age 4.

Booth was the firstborn of Walter John Odom (1872-1928) and Ida L. (Belcher) Odom, (1883-1967). Walter was an ensign or captain in the Salvation Army, and he served the Christian charity in Florida, Mississippi and Louisiana. The family was forced to close their Salvation Army ministry in New Orleans and return to their homestead in Bascom in Smith County, Texas, between 1910 and 1915 when Walter's health began to falter. Walter's brother, Lemuel Abbott Odom (1875-1964), was a major in the Salvation Army and devoted his life to a social service ministry for unwed mothers.

Walter's father, Richmond Nollie Odom (1833-1917) came to Texas from Mississippi in 1847 with a group of 35 Odom family members, including his father, Randol Odom (1804-1885), a Methodist minister; his mother, Harriett Nollie (Hayes) Odom (d.1869); three uncles; and grandfather Malachi Odom (1770-1850). Randol settled in Maydelle in Cherokee County and built a dogtrot cabin of rough-hewn logs. Today it is designated by a historical marker as the Odom-Crawford House. Richmond, who married three times and had 14 children, bought the homestead from his father after the Civil War and sold it to Isaac Crawford in 1882.

Raymond's father, Booth, and his mother were Odom first cousins. His mother, Christine Virginia (Brownlee) Odom (1901-1981), was the daughter of Lucy Annie (Odom) Brownlee (1878-1961), Walter's younger sister. Their mother was Elizabeth Peggy (Campbell) Odom (d.1878).

Booth quit school at age 17 to manage the family's crops in Bascom while his father was ill. Booth and his brother, Marshall Stephen "Mart" Odom (1902-1969), later owned a garage and service station by the family home and donated the land for Bascom Assembly of God Church. Their much younger brother, Lewis Buford "Bert" Odom (1915-1976), pumped gas at the station. That's how he met my mother, Laura Edna (Williams) Odom (1915-2008), a schoolteacher colleague of Booth's wife, Christine, who completed the matchmaking at my mother's insistence.

Booth's business acumen made him a successful owner of small grocery stores in Tyler. His younger son, Charles William "Buck" Odom (1931-2019), worked with him throughout his life.

In the lineage of Walter John Odom, Raymond is the oldest grandchild, and I am the youngest. My father also inherited musical talent. He played the piano and mandolin by ear and led a country band as a young man. He ultimately chose police work instead of music or the ministry, but the family's faith and support for the Salvation Army continued. He never passed a red kettle without dropping something in.

You can read more details of Raymond and Wanda's beautiful Odom love story at

https://tylerpaper.com/opinion/columnists/faith-and-fate-brought-raymond-and-wanda-odom-together/article_4fbbde68-9efe-11eb-97a0-83129d238144.html



Caption for photo Walter J Odom family

Walter John Odom, his wife Ida L. (Belcher) Odom, infant son Booth and her sister Ada Belcher are pictured in about 1900. Their Christian ministry for the Salvation Army throughout the South relied on music and was a family affair. Booth lived to be 98, and his elder son, Raymond, is 95.



NATIONAL ODOM ASSEMBLY
Greeneville, Tennessee

42ND ANNUAL NATIONAL ODOM
ASSEMBLY EVENT
REGISTRATION FORM
JULY 14-17, 2022

HOTEL DETAILS

Hampton Inn, 3130 E Andrew Johnson Hwy, Greeneville, TN 37745
Call manager directly to receive NOA rate - (423) 638-3735 - Elaine Cutshall

**ROOMS MUST BE RESERVED BY JUNE 30
TO RECEIVE DISCOUNTED ROOM RATE.**

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Full Name :

Email : Phone :

Address :

City : State :

Zip Code :

Please list badge names on back of form.

EVENT REGISTRATION

REGISTRATION FORM DUE MAY 1

Event (click titles for websites)	Date/Time EST	Cost	# of People	Total Cost
<u>Genealogy Library Tour</u> T. Elmer Cox Genealogy Library Tour	Thursday Afternoon or Friday Morning	Free Groups of 10		
<u>Dickson-Williams Mansion Tour</u> Meet at General Morgan Inn and Walk	Thursday 1-3pm	\$10/Person		
<u>Van Tour with Stops, Transportation, and Narration.</u> President Andrew Johnson Homestead, Visitor's Center, Monument Hill, State of Franklin, and historic downtown	Thursday Afternoon or Friday Afternoon	\$5/Person Groups of 10		
<u>General Meeting & Box Lunch with tickets to City Garage Car Museum.</u> Over 40 cars to see (1914 to present)	Friday Morning	\$20/Person		
<u>DNA Workshop with Lori Thornton & Lunch</u> Lori is an academic librarian, professional genealogist, and genealogical speaker.	Saturday Morning - Early Afternoon	\$15/Person		
<u>Banquet & Auction</u> Enjoy a delicious meal with entertainment	Saturday Evening	\$30/Person		
TOTAL ENCLOSED				\$

Please mail registration form and checks (payable to NOA) to:
Linda Tidwell, 6644 Cairo Bend Rd, Lebanon, TN 38087
(615) 207-5226

Greetings from Tennessee!

Our NOA meeting in Greeneville, Tennessee, on July 14-17 is fast approaching! We have been working for months (really years if you count the year we skipped due to COVID) planning a fun and educational meeting for you.



We will be staying at the Hampton Inn in Greeneville. It is the nicest hotel in Greeneville. Believe me, we toured them all. It has super clean, newly remodeled rooms with a free, hot breakfast available in the lobby every morning. What it does not have is a sizable meeting space. We have arranged for offsite meeting spaces that are adequate for our needs and conveniently located to historic sites.

Friday's General NOA Business Meeting will be held at the City Garage Car Museum. The charge is \$20 which covers admission to the car museum AND your lunch. The car

museum is very interesting even to me! It is located directly across the street from the Andrew Johnson home, a national historic site. Beside the Car Museum is the Greeneville Greene County History Museum. After lunch, you can easily walk to either or both wonderful sites. We have also arranged a van for the afternoon to drive you around the town to make it easy to tour various sites. \$5 to cover fuel costs.

Saturday's Annual NOA Meeting will be held at the Andrew Johnson Clubhouse located in downtown Greeneville. After the meeting, we will have professional genealogist, speaker and librarian, Lori Thornton, speaking on DNA and answering your questions. Charge for speaker AND lunch is \$15. That charge helps cover the cost of the clubhouse, Lori, and the food. Our annual memorial for recently passed members will be held at the clubhouse.

After an afternoon of free time or historic exploration, we will again gather at the Andrew Johnson Clubhouse for our banquet and auction. We have very special entertainment planned! Trust me. You will not want to miss it. The food will be catered by Lost Mountain Catering who is well known for her amazing cakes. The cost is \$30 which helps cover the cost of the clubhouse and the food. Since I have food sensitivities, we are trying to have a suitable menu but if you have special dietary needs, please let Linda know as soon as possible. Don't forget to bring auction items to sell.

If you have already registered, a huge thank you. We have been nervous that no one is coming. If you have not registered, please call or email Linda immediately. As you can imagine, we made deposits to reserve people, places, and food. It would be terrible to not have space or food for you because you waited too late to register. Remember Greeneville with an E is in the Eastern time zone. If you have any questions, please contact us.

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OPEN

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Wanda Odum Holt
Linda Odum Tidwell

The NOA News is published quarterly by the National Odom Assembly, August, November, February, May. Information in this publication is of interest to those people doing genealogical research on the names Odom, Odum, Odam, Oldham, etc. Assistance is

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/DUES RENEWAL

(Membership Year is August 1 to July 31)

Name: _____ ☐ New ☐ Renewal

Address: _____

City, State, Zip _____

Contact Info: _____

Earliest ODOM Ancestor: _____

Newsletter Preference: ☐ Email ☐ Snail Mail Have you been DNA Tested? ☐ Y ☐ N

Please make your check out in the amount of \$25.00 payable to National Odom Assembly and mail to:

Bill Powell, 14515 Wunderlich Drive # 815, Houston, Texas 77069

Your payment of dues entitles you to receive the NOA Quarterly newsletter, publication of queries, entry of your your family line into the Members Only Section of the website and entry into the Members Only Section of the website

NOA News
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