

# AUSTIN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY *QUARTERLY*



## 2013 VOL. 54 No. 4

AUSTIN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

PO Box 10010

AUSTIN TEXAS 78766 -1010

[HTTP://AUSTINTXGENSOC.ORG](http://austintxgensoc.org)

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First Vice-President.....	TBD
Second Vice-President.....	TBD
Secretary.....	TBD
<a href="#">Treasurer</a> .....	TBD

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# 2014 AGS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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AGS meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of every month, from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm (except December). Meetings typically include time to get acquainted with other researchers, announcements and notification of upcoming activities. Meetings also feature a speaker on a genealogical topic.

**January 28 Maps & Online Resources** at the Perry-Castaneda Library  
Katherine Strickland

**February 25 General Land Office Tour** - What is Available at the GLO  
James Harkins

**March 25 Using Evernote to Organize Your Genealogical Research**  
Caroline Pointer

**April 22 Copyright & Intellectual Property Law for Genealogists**  
Matthew J. Booth, Atty.

**May 27 Effectively Using Family Search for Research**  
TBD

**June 24 Researching Free Sites**  
Member Panel

**July 22 How to Write Short Stories About Your Family History**  
Mary Scrudder

**August 26 We Bet You Didn't Know That**  
AGS Members

**September 23 DNA: Using DNA for Genealogy**  
Debbie Parker Wayne

**October 28 Document Analysis 101**  
Karen Matheson

**November 25 Fall Festival**

# FROM THE EDITOR

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First, I will start with extending my sincere apologies for the delay in getting the final issue of the 2013 *Quarterly* to you. I take full ownership of this delay and appreciate your patience and understanding.

Second, while putting together this issue, I realized it turned out to be one of the smallest issues I have put together since taking on the *Quarterly* Editor Role. With that being said, I am extending my offer to help those of you needing assistance in getting your stories submitted. Please remember this is your publication and I am open to your suggestions and feedback on what you would like to see in upcoming issues. Please contact me at [Lisa Smith-Curtean](#).

With kindest regards,

Lisa Smith-Curtean



# State Library and Archives

## Open for Researchers on Second Saturdays

Beginning January 11, 2014, the Texas State Library and Archives Commission will expand its hours of operation to accommodate researchers. The Commission's three public service areas – the Texas State Archives, Texas Family Heritage Research Center and the Reference and Information Center – will be open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. the second Saturday of each month. The facility is located at 1201 Brazos Street in Austin.

### Resources and services available include:

- Archival government records dating back to the 18th century
- Newspapers
- Books
- Journals
- Legal resources
- Manuscripts
- Photographs
- Historical maps
- Free access to online databases, including TexShare, Ancestry and Fold3
- Genealogical collections
- County histories
- City directories
- U.S. and Texas government publications
- Interlibrary loan service
- Public access computers
- Digital microform reader/printers
- Walk-up book scanner
- Knowledgeable and dedicated staff

**Please note:** Researchers using original documents in the State Archives for the first time will be required to register and must present valid photo identification and proof of current address.

On Second Saturdays, no materials will be pulled from closed stack areas after 3:30 p.m. In addition, all archival materials will be removed from the reading room at 3:45 p.m.

Our regular public service hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. The library is closed on most federal holidays.

To learn more about the Commission's collections and agency operations, please visit [www.tsl.state.tx.us](http://www.tsl.state.tx.us).

Questions concerning Second Saturdays may be sent to [reference.desk@tsl.state.tx.us](mailto:reference.desk@tsl.state.tx.us).

★ Texas State Library and Archives Commission ★  
Preserving yesterday, informing today, inspiring tomorrow.



## 2014



January 11  
February 8  
March 8  
April 12  
May 10  
June 14  
July 12  
August 9  
September 13  
October 11  
November 8  
December 13

# RUTH ELEANOR THATCHER BELL MEMORIES

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Submitted by: Marcia Arn

I was born to Royal and Maud Thatcher on August 1, 1921 at our farm home in rural Washington, IA. I was the fourth child of five. I had two older brothers (Fred and John) and one older and one younger sister, (Mildred and Edna).

We attended Prairie Flower Baptist Church, and we went each Sunday. The first memory I have of church was a baptism. I was about 4 years old, and went up to the front to look. When we got home, I got spanked. Mom started saying meal prayers after we kids were little.

We lived between Riverside and Kalona and we kids went to a rural school. My first year was at rural Lookout School, then we went to Kalona Elementary where all grades from primary through the 8<sup>th</sup> grade were taught. The kids were well behaved during class hours. We had 15 min. recesses (one in the morning and one in the afternoon) and, of course, an hour break at noon when we ate the lunches that our mothers had prepared for us. We played lots of games. Many were ones that the younger children could join in. We also played softball and "keep away" that was only for the older children. On the way home from school was a creek and Mildred, John and Fred got their feet in the mud and laughed at me when I tried to do the same, but got stuck in the mud in the middle of the road. They went home without me, and mom made them go back and get me out. One winter day it was not very cold when we went to school, but it turned cold and snowed in the afternoon. When we opened the door at 4:00 and went outside, it was cold, snowing, and the wind was blowing. We saw my father waiting for us, with our team of mules and our snow sled. It was just like a wagon except there were no wheels. It had a big bed and big runners that made it easy to go through the snow. He took all the neighbor children home, too. He brought blankets for us to cover up and had put straw in the wagon bed. We had a ball!

When May rolled around it was time for our summer break. We always had a picnic lunch and played games on the last day of school and the parents came. We welcomed the end of school and were ready for the summer activities.

Our family had our chores assigned to us. Living on a farm, there was always plenty to do: mow the lawn with the non-motorized push mower, work in the garden – planting, weeding and harvesting the crops. I would help dad sometimes, walking the corn rows and pulling weeds and other things. Mom helped a lot getting hay for the animals and horses. In the pasture was an 8-9 foot blocked in area where water was for the animals to drink. If the weather wasn't good, the animals had to be taken in at night. We had pigs and when the sows had litters and they got good sized, we would kill them for food, made lard and put the meat in a box for winter, going out to get parts of it to eat. We would sell the pigs sometimes too.

In those days no one had freezers so we did a lot of canning. My mother had a large framework made from wood with a wire mesh bottom that was used to dry apple slices and sweet corn that had already been cut off the cob. We canned peas, tomatoes, green beans, pickles and lots of fruit. When fall came we had a good supply of food for the winter. There was a huge bin for potatoes, many squash, pumpkins, carrots, heads of cabbage and apples and pears.

It was my job to take care of the hens, and had to clean out the hen house each morning, and put new straw down and feed and water every morning and evening. Because the eggs were used for hatching, we had several roosters who didn't like intruders. They would jump up at me flapping their wings, protecting the flock. The old hens would peck at me when I put my hand under them to get the eggs if they were on the nest. The cages were square wooden boxes enclosed on all sides except the front. They were fastened to the wall to keep them up off the floor which made them warmer in the winter and easier to gather the eggs. There was no heat in the building – we had a watering "container" that had a tank for water on the top and a space under the water container that had kerosene and a wick that we could light to keep the water from freezing in the winter. It did help a little to warm the building. In the winter I had to carry kerosene to keep it full and the fire going. We had a nice layer of straw on the floor which helped insulate so the chickens managed okay. There was a long row of "nests" on one whole side of the hen



house. They each had a layer of straw in them to keep the hens warm and to keep the eggs from getting broken and from freezing in the winter. We had long poles on racks that the hens roosted on at night.

Mildred was always skinny and mom thought she was sickly, so she didn't have to do any outside work and little inside. If she didn't feel like doing something she said "I don't feel good" and she didn't have to do it and the others had to do her chores on top of theirs and we resented it. The doctor told mom there was nothing wrong with Mildred, but mom didn't believe it. When mom bought fruit, like oranges, everyone would get one, and the rest would be for Mildred. Mildred also had to take castor oil, which the others did not resent. Edna didn't help with anything if she didn't want to and Fred would sometimes tell her she was a brat.

Wash day was a hard day for the women. We did not have electricity on our farm nor did any of our neighbors. We had several kerosene lamps that could be carried from room to room. We had a lamp on the kitchen wall that had a reflector behind it so that the light could be directed to the area where we were working. We also did not have running water – our water supply was a pump in the yard near the house. So we pumped the water and carried it into the house and heated the water on the stove.

Neighbors helped each other with their work. During the time when the oats were harvested and the hay was cut and put into the barns for the winter, neighboring farmers came to help. Women also shared work. When one farmer was harvesting the men helped and the wives would come and help prepare and serve the noon meal.

Life was not all work! We also got together for fun. We played around the barn and in the hayloft. We played cards and also just visited. Sometimes we made ice cream and invited the neighbors (parents and children).

When we lived between Riverside and Kalona, my father farmed and did trucking for neighbors and then hauled cattle and hogs to Des Moines once a week and other places in Iowa. We rented the Thompson house from my Uncle Lee Thompson when I was in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade through 10<sup>th</sup> grade. My father was driving a truck then, and he liked truck driving. He had been a farmer up to that time or shortly before. Fred was working for another family, so John, Mom and I did farm work because dad was seldom home. John also did odd jobs to help keep the family going. Dad had a heart attack at home once and Mom put a bed in the living room where he slept for a couple months. Later, he traded his truck for a refrigerated semi-truck and drove in Iowa and nearby states, and also to the east coast where he would visit his family. One time he had become ill in the east and his sister, Irene, took care of him. He died of a heart attack on December 13, 1935, on the steps going up to the balcony of a movie theater with a friend while in New Britain, Connecticut. Aunt Irene and the relatives in the east had a service there and then she sent his body to Iowa. We had a funeral service at the Baptist Church in Kalona and he was buried in the Washington Cemetery (Elm Grove) on a cold and blustery day in January. That is where Mom and some of her family are buried too.

Fred was working away from home and he lived with the family he worked for, coming home on Sunday mornings and took us to church, then spent the day with us. Then he went back early evening to do the chores, taking care of the livestock and milking the cows. One summer, when I was 14, I worked there also, helping to do the cooking, washing dishes, cleaning, and doing laundry. The clothes were hung outside on lines (before anyone dreamed of a clothes dryer). I helped do the annual house cleaning in the nice big house. It had a formal big living room with an open staircase that curved a little going upstairs. I was paid \$3.00 a week and thought that was a lot of money. I gave the money to Mom because she had very little income. We were renting a house and land. Mom also baked angel food cakes for other people when they entertained and she did annual house cleaning. John helped mom do the farm work and taking care of the animals. Mom raised purebred White Rock chickens. She sold eggs to a hatchery because they were a popular kind of chicken. Also, if the eggs were not perfectly shaped we sold them to the local grocery store. Mom also had two incubators that she hatched eggs/baby chicks in. That way, she kept the flock pure White Rock. We had plenty of eggs to eat and sell when it was not the season to hatch eggs. Also, we had lots of fried chicken. Mom had ducks and geese too.



I went to Kalona High School. We lived almost three miles from school and walked every day. We didn't complain, because kids from Richmond walked to Kalona High School, and that was farther. I was good in math.

After I graduated from high school in 1939, I attended in the summer and graduated from the Iowa State Teachers College (now UNI) in Cedar Falls, IA. At that time you could get your teacher's certificate over the summer, and then I taught rural schools in Washington County, IA for seven years. I was one of the few who went back the next two summers and got higher certificates. The first rural school I taught at was Look Out School, where I had attended my first year of school. I loved teaching! There was no running water or electricity, and there were two outhouses, one for the boys and one for the girls. The school was heated by a coal stove, and it was the teacher's responsibility to clean it, take out the ashes and start the fire each day, as well as sweep the floor. I learned to leave a large lump of coal in the stove overnight, so it wouldn't be freezing in the morning. In the winter, I learned not to leave any water in the water bucket or it would be frozen in the morning. On Monday mornings, I had to go in very early to get the fire going to warm up the room before the kids came at 9:00. I had 10-12 students of varying ages my first year. The second school I taught at was Union, for two years with about 15 students, and it was a large square room with a furnace! It had two cloakrooms to the side for coats and boots, etc. and stairs to go downstairs where the furnace was, and you could eat lunch there and play when the weather was bad. We had a picnic there once. There was a bell tower and a 6<sup>th</sup> grader, Ed, tried to ring the bell hard enough to turn it over, but it didn't. It was the nicest of the three schools I taught at. The third and last rural school I taught in for four years was Summit, but it was known as Straw College, and it was oblong (rectangular) and had about 15 students. I would call up a grade and they would study a subject, then go back to their seat and another grade would come up. So all 7-9 grades would go through reading, then math, than another subject until they were done. We did not have art, music or P.E. I put the alphabet on the black board with wet chalk to make it stay. You can still see it on the board in that school that is preserved in Kalona.

Every spring the 8<sup>th</sup> graders had to take tests that were county wide in order to graduate from 8<sup>th</sup> grade. The kids really worked hard the last semester preparing for the tests. The last two years that I taught in rural schools, the county superintendent chose to have the tests at my school. The younger kids got to have the day off! A room full of 8<sup>th</sup> graders! It was a day of tension for those kids but they all graduated from the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. I was proud of them. I made \$50 per month my first year and in the second year made \$70 or \$75 per month. In my last year of teaching, I made \$100 per month.

I got my first car, a Model A Ford, after I had taught school one year. Fred took me to town and we bought it, perhaps just before school started. I think I was 19 and since Mildred had driven, I never had a chance to drive before. Fred drove it out into the cow pasture and showed me how to work the gears and said "when you get so you can go backwards as well as you can go forwards, come up to the house", and then he left me to learn and I did. It went up and down the hills after a rain. The roads out in the country were dirt, so after every rain you plowed mud to get anywhere. It wasn't bad unless you met someone and then you had to get out of the middle and over on the right side. One time I met Leslie Bell going up a hill. He was taking his half of the road in the middle. I finally honked my horn and he got over just at the last minute. I saw him later and he told me that he got his car in the ruts and then went to sleep, so I needed to watch out for him.

Kalona had a skating rink where I met my husband, Donald E. Bell. I was married in the spring of the last year that I taught rural school, (March 29, 1946 in Kalona) so I resigned from my teaching job at the end of the school year. We lived on a farm near Ainsworth, IA. I thought that my teaching days were over. Not so! The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at the Ainsworth School resigned just before school started. A member of the school board lived near us and knew that I had taught so he came to see us to ask if I would take the position. So I accepted and found that 2 grades were different than rural school. That group of kids was fun! One day I stopped by one of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade boy's desk and leaned down and whispered in his ear, "Take the gum out of your mouth". He looked so surprised and he took it out. At recess he came up to me and asked, "How did you know I was chewing gum?" He had been careful and I had not noticed him chewing, but I could smell the mint flavor and I knew he was chewing gum. He was a nice boy and caused no problems but I had to correct him and have him remove his gum or all of them would try it. A few days later (after I had a chance to go to town and get several packs of gum), I passed the gum around and each kid chose a stick and was allowed to chew it all day. They thought that was great!

And no one else chewed gum in my room again. The kids brought their own supplies and I don't remember if teacher's had to supply their own or not, but I did buy my own chalk. I also bought something that made several chalk lines to put music on the board. I put white crayons in it and made lines on the upper third of one board so I always had lines to write on. I became pregnant, so resigned at the end of the fall semester.

We started our family soon after that so I did not teach school after that year. Our first son, David, was born in 1948. We moved to Iowa City in 1949 and our first daughter, Marcia, was born the next spring. Later, Caroline, Gary and Douglas joined our family.

Our children had attended church since they were tiny so they had been taught to be quiet in church. But there were some new families with little ones that had trouble being quiet. I talked to our pastor in the First Baptist Church about organizing a nursery. He thought that would be a good thing for our church. There were two rooms upstairs that could be used so I asked a friend in our church if she would be willing to help. She had a toddler and was glad to be able to bring her to our nursery/church. The two of us taught and entertained the little ones while their parents worshipped without distractions. I used the song "Jesus loves the little children" and added to it using their names "all the children here today, Mary, Tom, Beth, Dick and Susan, They are precious in his sight, Jesus loves the little children here today." They were pleased to hear their name in the song and wanted to sing it over again and again. I headed the nursery and led the class of 2, 3 & 4 year olds several years and also served as a Sunday School teacher, Bible School teacher in the summer, and other offices.

I served as a Cub Scout Den Mother until the little boys progressed to the next level. Our Boy Scout Troop did not have anyone to lead the next level. When I told the boys that they had all progressed from Cub Scouts but there was no Webelos group leader, they looked at each other and one boy said, "Why can't you do it?" I explained to them that Webelos's leaders were men. They said, "we don't care, we want you!" So I became the first woman Webelos's leader.

I was also a Johnson County 4-H leader when Marcia and Caroline were in it.

After my husband passed away in 1972, I had kids to raise and a house to pay for so I got a job at the Singer Sewing Company in Iowa City. I was a salesman and also taught lessons on the use and care of their new machines. I also taught dressmaking and tailoring for adults. I had classes every summer for teenaged girls.

Later I worked for the J.M. Swank Company for many years, and retired from there as the President of Milac Sales.

In my retirement, I worked at the Senior Center doing volunteer taxes for the AARP. Also, about once a month I worked at the gift shop at Mercy Hospital.

My five children have grown and have homes of their own and I decided that I didn't want to live by myself in my big home. So I made plans to move to Bickford. I don't have to mow the lawn, plant garden, clean the gutters, or wash the windows.

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## ANNA MARIA AND HENRY KNAUFF FAMILY

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by Nancy R. Stevens

Henry KNAUFF was born between 1760 and 1770<sup>1</sup> and died in 1840 in West Buffalo township, Union, Pennsylvania.<sup>2</sup> Anna Maria (possibly SIMON) was born between 1780 and 1790<sup>3</sup> and died in 1846 in Union County, Pennsylvania.<sup>4</sup>

Anna Maria and Henry were German-speaking immigrants.<sup>5</sup> A biographical entry for a grandson in a county history says that their oldest son Frederick came to the United States as a child in 1817, information probably provided by one of Frederick's grandchildren.<sup>6</sup> The Knauff family joined a community of German-speaking immigrants in Union County, Pennsylvania and became members of the German Reformed congregation in Mifflinburg, where services were conducted in German during their lifetimes.<sup>7</sup> Three children of Anna Maria and Henry were living at the time of the 1880 U.S. census, which asks for birthplace of father and mother. One child shows both parents born in Germany,<sup>8</sup> one child shows both parents born in France,<sup>9</sup> and one child shows father born in France and mother born in Germany.<sup>10</sup> The inconsistent responses are probably due in part to changes in the boundaries of Germany and France over the preceding 100 years. Most U.S. census records for their oldest son, Frederick, show that he was born in Germany.<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>. 1830 U.S. census, Union County, Pennsylvania, West Buffalo township, p. 289, line 1, Henry Knauff household.

<sup>2</sup>. Union County, Pennsylvania, Probate Records, probate file 1840-3W, Henry Knauff; Register and Recorder's Office, Lewisburg.

<sup>3</sup>. 1830 U.S. census, Union County, Pennsylvania, West Buffalo township, p. 289, line 1, Henry Knauff household. Union County, Pennsylvania, Probate Records, probate file 1840-3W, Henry Knauff; Register and Recorder's Office, Lewisburg. Wisconsin Bureau of Vital Statistics, Green County Registration of Marriages, (Department of Vital Statistics, Madison), 1889: 69, no. 936, Lemmel-Solomon; FHL microfilm 1,266,669.

<sup>4</sup>. Union County, Pennsylvania, Probate Records, probate file 1846-13L, Mary Anna Mariah Knauf; Register and Recorder's Office, Lewisburg.

<sup>5</sup>. Union County, Pennsylvania, Probate Records, probate file 1840-3W, Henry Knauff; Register and Recorder's Office, Lewisburg.

<sup>6</sup>. *Genealogical and Biographical Annals of Northumberland County, Pennsylvania* (1911; reprint, Evansville, Indiana: Whipporwill Publications, 1988), 34.

<sup>7</sup>. Charles M. Snyder, *Union County, Pennsylvania: A Bicentennial History* (Lewisburg, Pennsylvania: Colonial Printing House, Inc., 1976), 145-146. "Marriages by Rev. J. G. Anspach, Mifflinburg, Pa., Union Co.," *Central Pennsylvania Genealogy Magazine*, March 1967, 26. "Marriage Book of J. H. Fries of Mifflinburg, Pennsylvania," *Detroit Society for Genealogical Research Magazine*, Winter 1985, 60.

<sup>8</sup>. 1880 U.S. census, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania, population schedule, Collomsville, enumeration district (ED) 53, p. 12D, dwelling 104, family 105, Henry Knauf household.

<sup>9</sup>. 1880 U.S. census, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania, population schedule, Williamsport 2nd Ward, ED 69, p. 17 (penned), p. 478 (stamped), dwelling 173, family 179, Catharine Shaffer household.

<sup>10</sup>. 1880 U.S. census, Green County, Wisconsin, population schedule, Monroe, ED 141, p. 32 (penned), p. 157 (stamped), dwelling 317, family 338, J. C. Solomon household.

<sup>11</sup>. 1860 U.S. census, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania, population schedule, Limestone township, p. 25 (penned), p. 355 (stamped), dwelling 153, family 153, Fredk Knauff household. 1870 U.S. census, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania, population schedule, Limestone township, p. 20, dwelling 143, family 139, Frederic Knouf household.

The earliest records located for the family in the United States are entries for Henry Knauff on the 1820 U.S. census and an 1820 tax list, both for Union County, Pennsylvania.<sup>12</sup> Henry's occupation is consistently shown as laborer on tax records.<sup>13</sup> By 1825 he was a land owner.<sup>14</sup>

On the 1830 U.S. census the box for "Foreigners not naturalized" is checked for the Henry Knauff household,<sup>15</sup> and it is probable that Anna Maria and Henry never became United States citizens. Henry Knauff was literate. Although he did not sign his name on his will, marking an X instead,<sup>16</sup> his signature does appear on an 1829 deed.<sup>17</sup> Anna Maria marked an X instead of signing the 1829 deed and documents related to probate of Henry's estate.<sup>18</sup> However, the inventory of her belongings made following her death included an entry for "Lot of books."<sup>19</sup>

#### Children of Anna Maria and Henry Knauff:

i. Frederick KNAUFF was born 9 April 1808 in Germany,<sup>20</sup> died 25 December 1874 in Limestone Township, Lycoming, Pennsylvania,<sup>21</sup> and was buried in Saint Peter's Lutheran Church Cemetery in Collomsville, Lycoming, Pennsylvania.<sup>22</sup> Frederick married Hannah REICH about 1830 in Pennsylvania.<sup>23</sup> Hannah, daughter of Catharine and Henry REICH, was

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<sup>12</sup>. Union County, Pennsylvania, 1820 Tax Book, entry for Henry Knauf, Mifflin Burgh; FHL microfilm 1,449,116. 1820 U.S. census, Union County, Pennsylvania population schedule, Buffalo township, p. 92 (penned), line 10, Henry Knouf household.

<sup>13</sup>. Union County, Pennsylvania, 1820, 1823, 1826, 1829, 1832, 1835, 1838 Tax Book, entry for Henry Knauf, West Buffalo township; FHL microfilm 1,449,116-1,449,118.

<sup>14</sup>. Union County, Pennsylvania, 1825 Tax Book, entry for Henry Knauf, West Buffalo Township; FHL microfilm 1,449,116.

<sup>15</sup>. 1830 U.S. census, Union County, Pennsylvania, West Buffalo township, p. 289, line 1, Henry Knauff household.

<sup>16</sup>. Union County, Pennsylvania, Probate Records, probate file 1840-3W, Henry Knauff; Register and Recorder's Office, Lewisburg.

<sup>17</sup>. Union County, Pennsylvania, Deeds, G: 11, Jacob Gentzel et al Deed to Martin Cronamiller, 1829; Register and Recorder's Office, Lewisburg.

<sup>18</sup>. Union County, Pennsylvania, Deeds, G: 11, Jacob Gentzel et al Deed to Martin Cronamiller, 1829; Register and Recorder's Office, Lewisburg. Union County, Pennsylvania, Probate Records, probate file 1840-3W, Henry Knauff; Register and Recorder's Office, Lewisburg.

<sup>19</sup>. Union County, Pennsylvania, Probate Records, probate file 1846-13L, Mary Anna Mariah Knauf; Register and Recorder's Office, Lewisburg.

<sup>20</sup>. Union County, Pennsylvania, Probate Records, probate file 1840-3W, Henry Knauff; Register and Recorder's Office, Lewisburg. 1860 U.S. census, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania, population schedule, Limestone township, p. 25 (penned), p. 355 (stamped), dwelling 153, family 153, Fredk Knauff household. Union County, Pennsylvania, Deeds, Q: 136, Catharine Shaffer et al Release to Peter Zellers, 21 May 1857; Register and Recorder's Office, Lewisburg. *Find A Grave*, database and digital images ([www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com) : accessed 24 January 2009), photograph, gravestone for Frederick Knouf (1874), St. Peter's Lutheran Church Cemetery, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania.

<sup>21</sup>. *Find A Grave*, database and digital images ([www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com) : accessed 24 January 2009), photograph, gravestone for Frederick Knouf (1874), St. Peter's Lutheran Church Cemetery, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania.

<sup>22</sup>. Randall Crandall, "St. Peter's Lutheran Church Cemetery, Limestone Township, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania," typescript, *Lycoming County PAGenWeb* ([www.usgennet.org/usa/pa/county/lycoming/](http://www.usgennet.org/usa/pa/county/lycoming/) : accessed 18 October 2011), entry for Frederick Knauf (1874).

<sup>23</sup>. Union County, Pennsylvania, Deeds, M: 219, Jacob Reich Deed of Release to Frederick Knauf, 22 April 1847; Register and Recorder's Office, Lewisburg. 1850 U.S. census, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania, population schedule, Limestone township, p. [287]-288 (stamped), dwelling 143, family 153, Frederick Knauf household.

born 18 May 1811 in Pennsylvania,<sup>24</sup> died 17 September 1890 in Limestone township, Lycoming, Pennsylvania,<sup>25</sup> and was buried in Saint Peter's Lutheran Church Cemetery in Collomsville, Lycoming, Pennsylvania.<sup>26</sup>

ii. Catherine L. KNAUFF was born in 1819 in Pennsylvania,<sup>27</sup> died 2 July 1888 in Williamsport, Lycoming, Pennsylvania, and was buried in Washington Boulevard Cemetery in Williamsport, Lycoming, Pennsylvania.<sup>28</sup> Catherine married Samuel S. SHAFFER 26 December 1839 in Mifflinburg, Union, Pennsylvania.<sup>29</sup> Samuel was born 10 August 1815 in Pennsylvania,<sup>30</sup> died 15 December 1871 in Williamsport, Lycoming, Pennsylvania, and was buried in Washington Boulevard Cemetery in Williamsport, Lycoming, Pennsylvania.<sup>31</sup>

iii. Margaret KNAUFF was born in 1820 in Pennsylvania,<sup>32</sup> died 11 June 1861 in Union County, Pennsylvania,<sup>33</sup> and was buried in Mifflinburg Cemetery, Union, Pennsylvania.<sup>34</sup> Margaret married Peter ZELLERS 24 May 1838 in Mifflinburg, Union, Pennsylvania.<sup>35</sup> Peter,

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<sup>24</sup>. Union County, Pennsylvania, Deeds, M: 219, Jacob Reich Deed of Release to Frederick Knauf, 22 April 1847; Register and Recorder's Office, Lewisburg. 1850 U.S. census, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania, population schedule, Limestone township, p. [287]-288 (stamped), dwelling 143, family 153, Frederick Knauf household. Randall Crandall, "St. Peter's Lutheran Church Cemetery, Limestone Township, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania," typescript, *Lycoming County PAFGenWeb* ([www.usgennet.org/usa/pa/county/lycoming/](http://www.usgennet.org/usa/pa/county/lycoming/) : accessed 18 October 2011), entry for Hannah (Reich) Knauf (1890).

<sup>25</sup>. Randall Crandall, "St. Peter's Lutheran Church Cemetery, Limestone Township, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania," typescript, *Lycoming County PAFGenWeb* ([www.usgennet.org/usa/pa/county/lycoming/](http://www.usgennet.org/usa/pa/county/lycoming/) : accessed 18 October 2011), entry for Hannah (Reich) Knauf (1890). "Collomsville," (*Williamsport, Pennsylvania*) *Gazette and Bulletin*, 27 September 1890, p. 1.

<sup>26</sup>. Randall Crandall, "St. Peter's Lutheran Church Cemetery, Limestone Township, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania," typescript, *Lycoming County PAFGenWeb* ([www.usgennet.org/usa/pa/county/lycoming/](http://www.usgennet.org/usa/pa/county/lycoming/) : accessed 18 October 2011), entry for Hannah (Reich) Knauf (1890).

<sup>27</sup>. Union County, Pennsylvania, Probate Records, probate file 1840-3W, Henry Knauff; Register and Recorder's Office, Lewisburg. Union County, Pennsylvania, Deeds, Q: 136, Catharine Shaffer et al Release to Peter Zellers, 21 May 1857; Register and Recorder's Office, Lewisburg. Washington Boulevard Cemetery (Williamsport, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania), Catherine L. Shaffer marker, lot 143; photograph, Lycoming County Genealogical Society, Williamsport. 1850 U.S. census, Union County, Pennsylvania, population schedule, West Buffalo township, p. [197B], dwelling 481, family 490, Samuel Shafer household.

<sup>28</sup>. Washington Boulevard Cemetery (Williamsport, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania), Catherine L. Shaffer marker, lot 143; photograph, Lycoming County Genealogical Society, Williamsport. *Lycoming County Cemeteries* (Williamsport, Pennsylvania: Lycoming County Genealogical Society, 1991-), Volume V: City of Williamsport, 132.

<sup>29</sup>. "Marriages by Rev. J. G. Anspach, Mifflinburg, Pa., Union Co.," *Central Pennsylvania Genealogy Magazine*, March 1967, 26.

<sup>30</sup>. 1850 U.S. census, Union County, Pennsylvania, population schedule, West Buffalo township, p. [197B], dwelling 481, family 490, Samuel Shafer household. Washington Boulevard Cemetery (Williamsport, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania), Samuel S. Shaffer marker, lot 143; photograph, Lycoming County Genealogical Society, Williamsport.

<sup>31</sup>. *Lycoming County Cemeteries* (Williamsport, Pennsylvania: Lycoming County Genealogical Society, 1991-), Volume V: City of Williamsport, 132. Washington Boulevard Cemetery (Williamsport, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania), Samuel S. Shaffer marker, lot 143; photograph, Lycoming County Genealogical Society, Williamsport.

<sup>32</sup>. St. John's United Church of Christ (Mifflinburg, Pennsylvania), "Deaths and Funerals," p. 229, Margaretta Zellers (1861); FHL microfilm 1,486,673. John Casper Bucher, Pastor's Record, 1828-1887, Funerals, 1858-1861, pp. 202-203, Margaretta Knauf Zellers (1861); FHL microfilm 940,437. 1850 U.S. census, Union County, Pennsylvania, population schedule, Limestone township, p. 204 (stamped), dwelling 562, family 573, Peter Zellers household.

<sup>33</sup>. St. John's United Church of Christ (Mifflinburg, Pennsylvania), "Deaths and Funerals," p. 229, Margaretta Zellers (1861); FHL microfilm 1,486,673. John Casper Bucher, Pastor's Record, 1828-1887, Funerals, 1858-1861, pp. 202-203, Margaretta Knauf Zellers (1861); FHL microfilm 940,437.

<sup>34</sup>. *Find A Grave*, database and digital images ([www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com) : accessed 20 June 2009), photograph, gravestone for Margaret Zellers (1820-1861), Mifflinburg Cemetery, Union County, Pennsylvania.

<sup>35</sup>. "Marriage Book of J. H. Fries of Mifflinburg, Pennsylvania," *Detroit Society for Genealogical Research Magazine*, Winter 1985, 60.



son of John ZELLERS and Rosina (probably SHREINER), was born about 1814 in Pennsylvania<sup>36</sup> and died 13 September 1884 in Weeping Water, Cass, Nebraska.<sup>37</sup>

iv. Henry KNAUFF was born about 1821 in Union County, Pennsylvania,<sup>38</sup> died 5 April 1908 in Jersey Shore, Lycoming, Pennsylvania,<sup>39</sup> and was buried in Jersey Shore Cemetery, Lycoming, Pennsylvania.<sup>40</sup> Henry married Nancy CUPP about 1842 in Pennsylvania.<sup>41</sup> Nancy was born about 1820 in Pennsylvania<sup>42</sup> and died in 1890.<sup>43</sup>

v. Elizabeth KNAUFF was born about 1829 in Union County, Pennsylvania,<sup>44</sup> died 7 December 1892 in Monroe, Green, Wisconsin,<sup>45</sup> and was buried in Greenwood Cemetery in Monroe, Green, Wisconsin.<sup>46</sup> Elizabeth married John Charles SOLOMON 9 June 1846 in Pennsylvania.<sup>47</sup> John was born 27 April 1823 in Pennsylvania,<sup>48</sup> died 29 May 1881 in Monroe,

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<sup>36</sup>. 1850 U.S. census, Union County, Pennsylvania, population schedule, Limestone township, p. 204 (stamped), dwelling 562, family 573, Peter Zellers household. Union County, Pennsylvania, Probate Records, probate file 1843-20, John Zellers; Register and Recorder's Office, Lewisburg. *Pennsylvania German Church Records, 1729-1870* ([Novato, California]: Broderbund, c1966), Trinity Lutheran Church (Lancaster, Pennsylvania), Birth and Baptismal Register, transcriptions and translations, CD130, Vol. I: 116.

<sup>37</sup>. "Died in Nebraska," (*Lincoln*) *Daily State Journal*, 28 September 1884, p. 6, col. 4; Nebraska State Historical Society, Lincoln.

<sup>38</sup>. Union County, Pennsylvania, Probate Records, probate file 1840-3W, Henry Knauff; Register and Recorder's Office, Lewisburg. Union County, Pennsylvania, Deeds, Q: 136, Catharine Shaffer et al Release to Peter Zellers, 21 May 1857; Register and Recorder's Office, Lewisburg. 1850 U.S. census, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania, population schedule, Limestone township, p. 282 (stamped), dwelling 45, family 45, Henry Knauf household. Pennsylvania Bureau of Vital Statistics, death certificate 38055 (1908), Henry Knauf.

<sup>39</sup>. Pennsylvania Bureau of Vital Statistics, death certificate 38055 (1908), Henry Knauf.

<sup>40</sup>. *Lycoming County Cemeteries* (Williamsport, Pennsylvania: Lycoming County Genealogical Society, 1991-), Jersey Shore Cemetery, 244. Jersey Shore Cemetery (Lycoming County, Pennsylvania), Henry Knauf marker, section K, plot 762, grave 13; photograph, Lycoming County Genealogical Society, Williamsport.

<sup>41</sup>. 1880 U.S. census, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania, population schedule, Collomsville, ED 53, p. 12D, dwelling 104, family 105, Henry Knauf household. 1850 U.S. census, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania, population schedule, Limestone township, p. 282 (stamped), dwelling 45, family 45, Henry Knauf household. Minnesota Division of Vital Statistics, (Death Certificates, Minnesota Historical Society, Saint Paul,) vol. 974, 18786 (1928), Ullysses Grant Knauff; FHL microfilm 2,223,151. Pennsylvania Bureau of Vital Statistics, death certificate 57690 (1921), Margaret Shuman. Pennsylvania Bureau of Vital Statistics, death certificate 66794 (1939), Frances Laubach.

<sup>42</sup>. 1850 U.S. census, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania, population schedule, Limestone township, p. 282 (stamped), dwelling 45, family 45, Henry Knauf household. Minnesota Division of Vital Statistics, (Death Certificates, Minnesota Historical Society, Saint Paul,) vol. 974, 18786 (1928), Ullysses Grant Knauff; FHL microfilm 2,223,151.

<sup>43</sup>. *Lycoming, Clinton, & Centre Cos. Penna., Parish & Cemetery Records* (Jersey Shore, Pennsylvania: Fort Antes Chapter DAR, 1967), 59; FHL microfilm 896,967, item 1.

<sup>44</sup>. Union County, Pennsylvania, Probate Records, probate file 1840-3W, Henry Knauff; Register and Recorder's Office, Lewisburg. Union County, Pennsylvania, Deeds, Q: 136, Catharine Shaffer et al Release to Peter Zellers, 21 May 1857; Register and Recorder's Office, Lewisburg. 1850 U.S. census, Union County, Pennsylvania, population schedule, New Berlin, p. [6B], dwelling 83, family 87, Charles Salamon household.

<sup>45</sup>. "Death of Mrs. Lemmel," *Monroe (Wisconsin) Times*, 7 December 1892; Wisconsin Historical Society, Madison. "Lemmel," (*Cleveland*) *Evangelical Messenger*, 10 January 1893, p. 27, col. 5; Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

<sup>46</sup>. *Transcriptions of Greenwood Cemetery, Monroe, Green County, Wisconsin* (Monroe, Wisconsin: Green County Genealogical Society, 2003), p. 49.

<sup>47</sup>. Charles Adam Fisher, *Central Pennsylvania Marriages, 1700-1896* (1946; reprint, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1982), Part V: 49.

<sup>48</sup>. 1850 U.S. census, Union County, Pennsylvania, population schedule, New Berlin, p. [6B], dwelling 83, family 87, Charles Salamon household. *Transcriptions of Greenwood Cemetery, Monroe, Green County, Wisconsin* (Monroe, Wisconsin: Green County Genealogical Society, 2003), p. 51.

Green, Wisconsin, and was buried in Greenwood Cemetery in Monroe, Green, Wisconsin.<sup>49</sup>  
 Elizabeth next married John LEMMEL 9 March 1889 in Juda, Green, Wisconsin. John, son of  
 John Michael LEMMEL and Eva NOEPPEL, was born in Germany.<sup>50</sup>

*Catharine Shaffer et al*  
*Release to*  
*Peter Zellers*

Know all men by these presents that we Elizabeth Solomon, Catharine Shaffer of the County of Union and Frederick Knapp and Henry Knapp both of the County of Lycoming and State of Pennsylvania sons and daughters of Anna Mary Margaret Knapp late of West Buffalo Township in the County of Union and State of Pennsylvania deceased who died intestate do hereby acknowledge that we have this day have had and received of and from Peter Zellers Administrator of the Estate of the said Anna M. Knapp deceased the sum of Eighty nine dollars and fifteen Cents in full satisfaction and payment of all such sum or sums of money, share or shares profit and dividends which were due, owing, payable and belonging to us, by any means whatsoever for or on account of our free share, part or dividend of the personal Estate of our said mother deceased, and therefore we the said Elizabeth Solomon, Catharine Shaffer, Frederick Knapp and Henry Knapp do by these presents release, acquit, and forever discharge the said Peter Zellers his heirs, Executors and Administrators of and from the said share or dividend of the Estate aforesaid and of and from all actions, suits, payments, accounts, bookings, claims and demands whatsoever for or by reason thereof or of any other act, matter, cause or thing whatsoever from the beginning of the world to the day of the date of these presents. In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands and seals this sixteenth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty two Catharine Shaffer *mark* Elizabeth Solomon *mark* Witnesses present at this Shaffer signing S. N. Youngman Union County Sh. Be it remembered that on the day of October A.D. 1852 before me David Spitzer Esquire one of the Justices of the Peace in and for the said County came the within named Elizabeth Solomon and acknowledged the within written Release to be her act and deed and desired that the same might be recorded as such according to law. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year first above written. D. B. John Harrisdale names was drawn before Acknowledging David Spitzer J. P. Union County Sh. Be it remembered that on the sixteenth day of October A.D. 1852 before S. N. Youngman one of the Justices of the Peace in and for said County came the within Catharine Shaffer and acknowledged the within written Release to be her act and deed and desired that the same might be recorded as such according to law. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year above written. S. N. Youngman J. P. Lycoming County *mark* Be it remembered that on the sixteenth day of October A.D. 1852 before me H. Clinger one of the Justices of the Peace in and for said County came the within named Frederick Knapp & Henry Knapp and acknowledged the within written Release to be their act & deed & desired that the same might be recorded as such according to law. Witness my hand and seal the day and year above written H. Clinger J. P. *mark*

*Recorded May 21 1867*

Union County, Pennsylvania, Deeds, Q: 136, Catharine Shaffer et al Release to Peter Zellers, 21 May 1857; Register and Recorder's Office, Lewisburg. Copy provided by Union County Historical Society, Lewisburg.

<sup>49</sup>. Transcriptions of Greenwood Cemetery, Monroe, Green County, Wisconsin (Monroe, Wisconsin: Green County Genealogical Society, 2003), p. 51.

<sup>50</sup>. Wisconsin Bureau of Vital Statistics, Green County Registration of Marriages, (Department of Vital Statistics, Madison), 1889: 69, no. 936, Lemmel-Solomon; FHL microfilm 1,266,669.



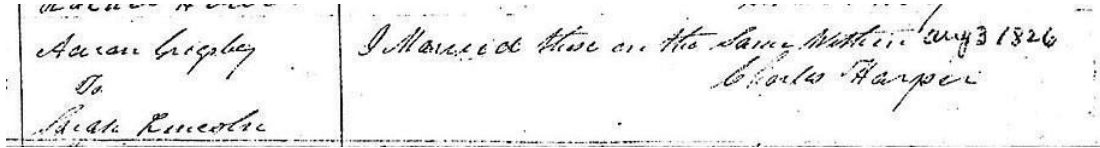
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## THE HARPER ENIGMA

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Submitted By: Robert Richardson

I am a direct descendant of Charles Harper<sup>1</sup> whose family migrated with the Lincoln family from Kentucky to Indiana and finally to near Springfield, Illinois. Harper was a Baptist preacher at the church the Lincoln family attended and officiated at the marriage of Abraham Lincoln's sister, Sarah, to Aaron Grigsby.<sup>2</sup> See Figure 1, below.



The Lincolns and Harpers knew each other well. There is a letter from Abe in the 1840s, asking that Whig campaign literature be sent to three sons of Reverend Harper.<sup>3</sup> And Lincoln liked a good joke, especially at the expense of preachers. Reverend Harper was not to be ignored. Lincoln told a rather ribald story about Reverend Harper concerning a naughty comment that the reverend made to a parishioner, a Sister Gordon - and her reaction to the reverend's comment that got him into a lot of trouble with the deacons at his church.<sup>4</sup>

I am also a direct descendant of South Carolinian Mary Harris,<sup>5,6</sup> whose first cousin once-removed was Francis Pickens<sup>7</sup> governor of the Palmetto State. It was Pickens who authorized state troops to fire on Fort Sumter triggering the Civil War.<sup>8</sup> With that I can offer up a bit of hope from my family history. Bitter enemies can reconcile. Two years after the Civil War, in Ellis County, Texas, Reverend Harper's granddaughter married the son of Mary Harris, Pickens' cousin.<sup>9</sup> Their issue was my great-grandmother, Eliza Hall.<sup>10</sup>

When I was young, my great-grandmother, Eliza, told me that she was part Indian and as a consequence so was I. Later when I developed an interest in genealogy, I discovered that this story had legs. In fact, Reverend Harper's children were convinced that he was either half or full-blooded Native American. Several of his grandchildren applied to the Dawes Commission in 1902 hoping to certify their Native American origins. And the story continues to pop up on the internet. I've seen posts claiming Charles Harper was a Mississippi Choctaw<sup>11</sup> and also that he was the grandchild of a Harper wife who was kidnapped by Native Americans – sort of an early Kentucky Quannah Parker saga.<sup>12</sup>

Several years ago I realized that DNA testing could offer a way to finally prove or disprove the story of Reverend Harper's Native American ancestry. The Y-Chromosome test available back then would reveal Native American heritage if the Harper male lineage did descend from a male Native American ala Quannah Parker. Alas, after several years of checking the Harper DNA Surname Project at Family Tree DNA, no descendant of Charles Harper appeared. In fact no Native American haplogroup has surfaced in any of the 100+ participant results posted at The Family Tree DNA Harper surname site.<sup>13</sup>

Lately, however, available DNA technology has gotten much more sophisticated and much less expensive. A full analysis of all chromosomes, the autosomal DNA test, is now available for around \$99.00 from at least three companies – Family Tree DNA, Ancestry, and 23andMe.<sup>14</sup> The autosomal test provides a much finer grained analysis of the genetic contribution of ancestors and their ethnicities than earlier Y-only and mitochondrial DNA tests. These tests have the ability to reveal DNA traces back ten generations, down to 0.01% of total DNA. So, I submitted a saliva sample to 23andMe hoping, in part, that the results would reveal my Native American ancestry as well as allowing me to match residual Harper genes in my test results to other Harper descendants.

The results came back. There were a few surprises. Test showed that I am 3.0% Neanderthal, a slightly higher proportion than most people of European descent; that I my wife and I are, ahem, distant cousins; and unfortunately, that I had no Native American genes hidden in my chromosomes. So much for family lore.

Since my results were released, I have been able to identify and contact three other descendants of Charles Harper in the DNA database. Revealingly, none showed Native American ancestry in their DNA profile. Zero for four pretty much tells the tale. Reverend Harper was not full or part Native American. But there was a surprise in the results: Good bye Quannah Parker; Hello Sally Hemings.

All four results, including mine, showed a contribution of Sub-Saharan African genetic material. Three of the Harper descendants' results showed a 0.2% Sub-Saharan contribution, including mine. One had a 0.1% contribution. This individual was born one generation later than the other three of us so the results are consistent. To determine the approximate birth year of our African-American ancestor, I rolled my 0.2% Sub-Saharan contribution back nine generations to reach the 100% mark, the generation of my most recent African American ancestor. To calculate that ancestor's approximate birth year, I estimated a 25-year mean between generations. This established my ancestor's birth as being 225 years (9 generation X 25 years/generation) prior to my birth. Going back 225 years from 1950 yielded an approximate date of birth of 1725.

For Harper descendants, having no Native American DNA but having the same proportionate amount of Sub-Saharan DNA, seems to close one story and give birth to another, more interesting story. Based upon DNA evidence provided above, my theory for the origin of the story of Charles Harper as a Native American is as follows: Reverend Harper was born around 1770.<sup>15</sup> If my theory is right, that would make one of his grandmothers or grandfathers my African American ancestor, with either his father or mother being of mixed race. Reverend Harper probably displayed some features of a mixed race heritage that were passed off as him being part Native American, since being part African-American in the 18<sup>th</sup> century south was strongly disadvantageous, at the very least. And thus the story was launched, passed generation to generation for over 200 years until science caught up with it.

In retrospect, I greatly prefer the newer story, based upon current information; that is, that the Lincoln family's preacher had African-American ancestors in his make-up. There is a lot of historic resonance in this new story. More Harper DNA results and more historic data will either buttress or refute the story's basis. Based upon current information I believe that it will stand.

It must be noted that Charles Harper's wife, Polly Chamblin, may have been the one carrying the Sub-Saharan African genes which were passed down to Reverend Harper's and her descendants. However, I do think that it is significant that Reverend Harper, not wife Polly, was the individual claiming Native American heritage. Most likely he, not Polly, appeared as if he had Native American ancestry. And I think that it is also significant that the Chamblin family is well documented, while proof of Charles Harper's parents still remains speculative.<sup>16</sup> But eventually a related, non-Harper Chamblin descendant's DNA will find its way into the DNA database and the possibility of Polly having African-American heritage can be checked. Until then the case remains open.

To conclude, I'll add a very relevant note posted at the 23andMe website regarding mixed race ancestry and 18<sup>th</sup> century culture:

"23andMe researchers looked at the genetic ancestry of about 78,000 of its customers who would identify as entirely of European descent and found that from 3 percent to 4 percent of them have "hidden" African ancestry. The percent of African ancestry is relatively low—less than 5 percent with the majority of individuals having just 0.75 percent and 1.5 percent—which suggests that those people have an African ancestor who lived about seven generations ago, or about 200 years ago."

"While much lower than the average proportion of European ancestry that African Americans have—which is from 20 percent to 25 percent—the small percentage of African ancestry that some European Americans have suggests a new narrative for the social history of American race relations.

The tradition of the "Rule of Hypodescent"—or more commonly known as the "one drop rule"—was that anyone with any African ancestry was considered black. But 23andMe's finding suggests that during the era of slavery at least some "mixed race" people were integrated back into the European American Community."<sup>17</sup>

Footnotes:

1. Citations/Sources in "Richardsons and Sanfords of Texas"; RRichardson54 database; Rob Richardson; 06 Nov 2013, World Connect ([wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com](http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com)).
2. "Church of Christ Constituted Regular Babis, Little Pigeon Church, Wareen County, Indeanne Territory (1816- 1842)"; Original Church Records; Indiana State University Library; Terre Haute, Indiana.
3. "The Writings of Abraham Lincoln, Volume 7"; Page 374; Copyright 1906; The Knickerbocker Press; New York and London.
4. "The Hidden Lincoln"; Page 368; Emanuel Hertz; Copyright 1938; Blue Ribbon Books Inc.; New York, New York.
5. Citations/Sources in "Richardsons and Sanfords of Texas"; RRichardson54 database; Rob Richardson; 06 Nov 2013, World Connect ([wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com](http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com)).
6. "The Pickens Families of the South"; Cites Francis Wilkinson Pickens and Mary Pickens who married John Harris II; Reverend Eron M. Sharp, Copyright 1963; Self-published; Memphis, Tennessee.
7. John Hall married Mary Handy Harris of Anderson District on 10 Jan 1841. Reported in the Pendleton newspaper. "John Hall of Pickens District married Miss Mary H. Harris of Anderson District on the 10 inst, by Rev. A. Tyler of Georgia. Dated 5 Feb 1841.
8. "South Carolina Governor Francis Wilkinson Pickens", a short biography, Former Governors page, National Governors Association Web Site.
9. Ellis County, Texas Marriage Records: Mary E Harper ma. Andrew Hall in Ellis Co. in 1867.
10. 1880 Texas Census, Ellis County, Texas; Hall, A.
11. "Charles Harper, Choctaw Indian in Logan County"; Cheryl Rothwell; 15 Sep 2009; Logan County Genealogy on Internet.
12. "John and Peter Harper – Boonesboro, KY"; Debra L. Patek; 29 Sep 2002; Harper Family Forum; [Genforum.Genealogy.com](http://Genforum.Genealogy.com).
13. Harper DNA Surname Project; Family Tree DNA; [www.familytreedna.com](http://www.familytreedna.com).
14. DNA testing sites at: [www.familytreedna.com](http://www.familytreedna.com); [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com); [www.23andMe.com](http://www.23andMe.com).
15. "Clark Co. Kentucky Marriages Records"; George Doyle Volume 1- 1793-1820: 2 June 1795, Charles Harper and Polly Chamblin, Bondsman: Joshua Bartlett, Consent of George Chamblin, father of Polly Chamblin attested by John Summers and Robinson Hunt.
16. Comment from Rob Richardson: Charles Harper first appears in the records living near John Harper in Eastern Kentucky in the 1790s. He is not mentioned in John Harper's will so his relationship with John is unknown. He has also been linked to a William Harper, who lived nearby and was a Baptist preacher. However there is no indisputable evidence yet found linking Charles Harper to John, William or any other Harper.
17. "Ancestry: Not So Black And White"; Research and Community; 23andMe; Copyright 2013; [www.23andme.com](http://www.23andme.com).

# FAMILY GROUP SHEET FOR WESLEY "WESS" ASHCRAFT

Submitted by Leslie D Inman

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**Husband:** Wesley "Wess" Ashcraft

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Birth: 20 Nov 1875 in Bell, Texas, USA

Death: 22 Mar 1932 in Temple, Bell, Texas, USA; Acute Intestinal Obstruction Burial: Rogers, Bell, Texas, USA; Rogers Cemetery

Marriage: 12 Jan 1897 in Bell, Texas, USA; Vol L Page 517 By John Rice

Father: Francis Marion Ashcraft Mother: Susan

"Sudie" Frances Legg

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**Wife:** Julia Ada Watson

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Birth: 02 Dec 1878 in Alabama, USA

Death: 15 Nov 1904 in Rogers, Bell, Texas, USA

Burial: Rogers, Bell, Texas, USA; Rogers Cemetery

Father:

Mother:

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**Children:**

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1 Name: Henry M Ashcraft

M Birth: 26 Oct 1898 in Rogers, Bell, Texas, USA

Death: 25 Jul 1953 in Temple, Bell, Texas, USA; Congestive Heart Failure

Burial: Temple, Bell, Texas, USA; Bellwood Memorial Park

Marriage: 18 Jan 1920 in Rogers, Bell, Texas, USA; Vol W Page 408: JC Adams PCME Church South

Spouse: Lottie Leona Ray

---

2 Name: Ruby Preble Ashcraft

F Birth: 19 Aug 1899 in Bell, Texas, USA

Death: 11 Sep 1975 in Arlington, Tarrant, Texas, USA; Arlington Memorial Hospital; Cardiac Arrest

Burial: Greenville, Hunt, Texas, USA; Forest Park Cemetery

Marriage: 05 Nov 1916 in Hunt County, Texas, USA; Volume S Page 250

Spouse: William Poole Landrum

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3 Name: John Hubert Ashcraft

M Birth: 10 Jan 1902 in Bell, Texas, USA

Death: 28 Jun 1967 in Columbus, Colorado, Texas, USA; Columbus Hospital; Coronary Thrombosis

Burial: Rosenberg, Fort Bend, Texas, USA; Rosenberg Cemetery

Marriage: 09 May 1925 in Rogers, Bell, Texas, USA; Milam County Vol 18 Page 250 by C R Joyner

Spouse: Pauline Allison

---

4 Name: Clarence Marion 'Bud' ASHCRAFT

M Birth: 15 Sep 1904 in Bell, Texas, USA

Death: 27 Sep 1982 in Bell, Texas, USA

Burial: Rogers, Bell, Texas, USA; Rogers Cemetery

Marriage: 26 Nov 1924 in Milam, Texas, USA; Vol 18 Pg 120 By W.E. Coley J.P. Precinct #6

Spouse: Ester Rae

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# PIONEER FAMILIES OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

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The Austin Genealogical Society will issue a pioneer certificate to those who can prove their ancestors lived in Travis County, Texas, prior to the close of 1880. To qualify for the certificate, you must be a direct descendant of people who lived here on or before Dec. 31, 1880, proved with birth, death and marriage certificates; probate, census and military records; and obituaries and Bible records.

Applications for Pioneer Families of Travis County can be found at <http://austintxgensoc.org> or from Kay Dunlap Boyd, P.O. Box 10010, Austin, Texas 78766-1010.

Each application is \$20 and the certificates make nice gifts. You don't have to be a Travis County resident or a member of Austin Genealogical Society, although membership in the Society is another fine bargain at \$20 a year.

<b>Austin Genealogical Society</b>	
<b>Travis County Texas</b>	
<b>Pioneer Families Certificate</b>	
	
This is to Certify that	
_____	
is a descendant of	
_____	
who was living in Travis County, Texas	
before the close of	
Certificate No. _____	President _____
Date _____	Pioneer Families Chairman _____
	Registrar _____

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# AUSTIN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY GENERAL INFORMATION

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**PURPOSE:** The purposes for which this Society is organized are: To promote an interest in genealogy. To investigate, collect, record, publish and deposit in libraries, archives, and digital or electronic repositories the genealogical and historical materials of Texas, with particular focus on items pertaining to the City of Austin and/or Travis County. To educate its members and the general public in the use of historical and genealogical reference materials. To support genealogical libraries, archival collections, and access to and preservation of records that will benefit the research efforts of the Society.

**MEMBERSHIP** is open to all upon payment of annual dues. Classes: Individual: \$20; Family (two in the same household): \$30; Lifetime: \$500 (\$300 if over age 65). All classes are entitled to one electronic copy of each issue of the Quarterly and the monthly Newsletter. **After July 1, dues are \$10 for the balance of the year**, but you will receive only the publications produced after the date you join. Membership includes a copy of the annual Membership Directory, which is published each spring.

**DUES FOR EXISTING MEMBERS** are payable on or before January 1 of each year for the ensuing year. If dues are not received by February 1, the name must be dropped from the mailing list. If membership is reinstated later and Quarterlies and Newsletters have to be mailed individually, postage must be charged.). Send dues payments to **AGS Treasurer, P.O. Box 10010, Austin, Texas 78766-1010.**

**MEETINGS** of the general membership begin at 7:00 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month except December. Members are encouraged to come at 6:30 p.m. Meeting Place: **Highland Park Baptist Church, 5206 Balcones Dr.** Take Northland (RR2222) exit Loop 1 (Mopac). Go west one block to Balcones Dr., then left ½ block. The church and parking lot are on right. Visitors are always welcome. The Board of Directors meet at 6 p.m.

**CHECK RETURN POLICY** Members and other payees must pay AGS the cost of any returned check (currently \$5) over and above the charge their bank may impose.

**AGS QUARTERLY** is issued about the middle of March, June, September and December. Contributions are always welcome, subject to editing for style and length. Contributor is completely responsible for accuracy and any copyright infringement. AGS assumes no responsibility for content of submitted material.

**SUBMISSIONS** for the Quarterly must reach the Editor at P.O. Box 10010, Austin, Texas 78766-1010, or [quarterly@austintxgensoc.org](mailto:quarterly@austintxgensoc.org) by the deadlines below, preferably by electronic means, either in an e-mail or as an attachment to an e-mail. When an electronic version is not possible, typing, handwriting or printing must be black and legible. Months must be spelled or abbreviated, not in figures. Show dates in accepted genealogical style: day, month, and year. Leave 1-inch margins at both sides and at top and bottom, and hand-number pages on the back of each page. Carefully check horizontal pages (reading in the 11-inch direction) so that one-inch margins are on top, bottom and both sides so no information is lost in stapling. No 8 ½ x 14 sheets, please. You may submit lineage or family group charts, narratives, memoirs, letters, cemetery inscriptions, Bible records, census data, queries or a combination of material, just so it is not under copyright. **Proofread** your material for accuracy and clarity so we will not publish faulty or incorrect data. Consult a recent AGS Quarterly for suggestions.

**AGS QUARTERLY DEADLINES:** Will be announced by the Editor. Send material to AGS Quarterly by email and include in the subject line AGS Quarterly Submission to [quarterly@austintxgensoc.org](mailto:quarterly@austintxgensoc.org)



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