



Seeley Genealogical Society Newsletter

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History ★ Family ★ Research

May 2014

Kansas Genealogical Resources to Take Advantage of During Your Trip to Abilene for the 2015 SGS Reunion

Compiled from Online Sources by Paul Taylor

Now is the time now to start planning your trip to Abilene, Kan., for the 2015 SGS International Reunion. In addition to the resources available at the Seelye Research Center in Abilene, you will not want to miss out on the other opportunities the state offers for genealogical research. Here are a few resources available across the state that may be options for you, depending on the direction from which you are travelling to Abilene.

Kansas Genealogical Society Library Dodge City, Kan.

According to its web site, the Kansas Genealogical Society (KGS) was formed as a nonprofit corporation in 1958 for the purpose of "creating and fostering an interest in genealogy as well as preserving genealogical, biographical, historical and educational data relating to the ancestry of members and the founders of our country."

KGS maintains an extensive library holding more than 15,000 books and manuscripts, thousands of vital records,



cemetery records and census records on hard copy, and microfilm, microfiche and computer databases. Its primary focus is

on records of the state of Kansas; however, records, books, and manuscripts of national and international interest are included.

The KGS Library, along with the Kansas Society Daughters of the American Revolution Library, is located in the Village Square Mall, 2601 Central Avenue, Dodge City, Kansas 67801. The Library is accessible by elevator and escalator. Check out the KGS website (www.kgs-genlibrary.com) for hours of operation and additional details on holdings.

Kansas State Historical Society Archives Topeka, Kan.

Following the end of the Civil War, Kansas newspaper editors and publishers sought a way to record the founding of the state and its heroic role in the fight against slavery.

To that end a committee of the Kansas Editors' and Publishers' Association met on December 13, 1875, and formed the Kansas Historical Society (KHS) to collect newspapers and manuscripts on the territorial period.

KHS was the first society that began its career by collecting and preserving every copy of every newspaper published in the state. Consequently, the Kansas State Historical Society has one of the most comprehensive collections of state newspapers in the nation.

The collection has grown over the last 139 years to include an archive of genealogical records as well: vital records, birth records, marriage records, death records, cemetery records, federal and state census records, old newspapers, local government records, military records, city and phone directories, land records and maps, photographs, and more.

The Kansas State Historical Society Archives Center for Historical Research is located at 6425 SW Sixth Avenue, Topeka, Kansas 66615-1099. For more information about the state archives and other KHS historic sites, check out their website at www.kshs.org.

Midwest Historical and Genealogical Library Wichita, Kan.

The Midwest Historical and Genealogical Society began in 1966 when concerned citizens of the Wichita area recognized the need for a genealogical organization to

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Announcements

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

SGS Mission Statement

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

Membership

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

Membership Dues

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

Pay all dues to:

SGS Membership Chair

Lynda Simmons

125 Parkview Drive

Park City, UT 84098

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summitkids@gmail.com

Seelye Research Center

is co-located with the Seelye Mansion in Abilene, Kan. For more information, contact:

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Terry Tietjens

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Phone: (785) 263-1084

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SGS International Reunions

are held every two years. The next one is scheduled for the summer of 2015 (exact dates TBD) in Abilene, Kan. Please advise the editor if your branch or family has plans for a sectional or local reunion in the interim. Others might like to know about it.

Editorial Position

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

SGS President's Report

Kathie Olsen, SGS President

Aloha from the beautiful state of Hawaii. The weather here is marvelous, and I hope you are enjoying lovely spring weather wherever you are. I have been working hard helping my daughter move. She and her husband and family will soon be relocating to the Washington, DC, area for his work.

If you have not already done so, I encourage you to order a copy of the Grand Rapids Souvenir Book, which will contain the happenings of the last reunion as well as of SGS since then, including the updated Constitution and By-Laws. Send a check for \$30.00, payable to SGS to Sally Seeley, SGS Treasurer (contact information on page 15), by June 15, 2014.

The book will go to press shortly after that date. I am sorry that the publication date has been postponed several times, but thanks to Paul Taylor and Jesse Crisler, it is almost ready to go to press.

Thanks very much to our elected and appointed officers who volunteer time, money, and effort to SGS. Please consider volunteering to help. It is time to begin to plan for the next slate of officers to be elected in 2015. I will be appointing the nominations committee very soon to consider nominations. If you are willing to serve on this committee, please get in touch with me (contact information on page 15). This committee is charged with locating possible nominees and arranging for the election of SGS officers. I will not be running for reelection in 2015, so a candidate for President will be needed along with candidates for several other offices. Please consider serving if committee members call you.

The application for non-profit status from the Internal Revenue Service has been submitted. It was postmarked September 27, 2013. I was notified that it had been received and that I would hear again, but I have not yet heard anything. In checking on the status of this application, I did learn that there is a large backlog of applications, and it still could be several months before our application will be examined.

Our Facebook page is up and running under the capable hands of Paul Taylor. If you are a Facebook user, please join and contribute information where possible. We also have a wonderful website at www.seeley-society.net, maintained by our Webmasters, Chris and Jerry Havnar. Take the time to visit the site and discover important resources for all of us.

Every member of SGS is a recruiter for new members. You know your relatives better than anyone else. Explain the benefits of SGS and invite them to join. A membership form appears in this newsletter. We need to encourage new, younger members who will be willing and able to help do the work of SGS. This organization has been functioning for almost fifty years, and I hope it will still be functioning fifty years from now. SGS needs many committed people to move forward its purposes, and we welcome all to join us.

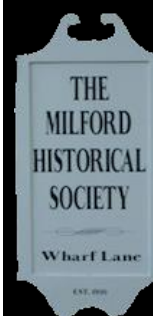
The next meeting of elected and appointed officers will be Friday, July 18, 2014, in the Seelye Research Center (SRC) in Abilene, Kan., at 1:00 p.m. In addition to this meeting, we will be working in the SRC to organize and file materials that have been received by SGS since we met there in 2012. Everyone is welcome to join us.

The 2015 SGS International Reunion will be in Abilene, Kan. There will be a meeting of the reunion planning committee on Thursday, July 17, 2014, in the SRC at 1:00 p.m. Dates, venues, theme, and activities for the Reunion will all be determined at this meeting.

If you have ideas for the reunion or would like to serve on the planning committee, please get in touch with me. Please start planning now to attend the reunion in the summer of 2015!



Milford, Conn., Celebrates 375 Years in 2014



Descendants of early Milford, Conn. families and others who would like to visit are invited to the many activities being planned during the summer of 2014. There will be an Early Families Weekend July 19 and 20. Other events throughout the year include a Gala, Parade, and Town and Cemetery Tours. Check the Milford Historical Society website for details.

<http://www.milfordhistoricalsociety.org/>

Kansas Genealogy *(continued from page 1)*

collect, preserve, and disseminate genealogical and related historical data with special emphasis on the preservation of the unique history and heritage of Sedgwick County.

The society operates the Midwest Historical and Genealogical Library, located at 1203 North Main, Wichita, Kansas 67201. It is the largest Society-owned library in the state. MHGS holdings include over 21,000 volumes and issues of books, magazines, manuscripts, collections, and CD-ROMS. These are varied and include many items of genuine interest to the beginning genealogist as well as those farther along in their research.

For more information about the Midwest Historical and Genealogical Society and its library see its web site at www.mhgswichita.org.

The Kansas Office of Vital Statistics

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment's Office of Vital Statistics offers limited assistance to genealogical researchers for records pre-dating the 1940s. Because the Kansas Legislature has determined that the vital records filed with the Office of Vital Statistics are exempted from the Kansas Open Records Act, they are not open for public inspection, since they may contain sensitive information sufficient for establishing a false identity. The office thus has no indexes available to the public.

Connection: Doshisha University, Kyoto, Japan and the Seelye Family

Story by Linda Crocker, Chief Genealogist, SGS

Recently your Chief Genealogist, Linda Crocker, was contacted by Mr Hideo Isso (deoisso@mac.com). He wrote:

"I am a Japanese filmmaker who conducts research on the Seelye family, especially Julius Hawley Seelye (1824-1895), Laurenus Clark Seelye (1837-1924), and most importantly their direct ancestors up to Robert Seely (1602-1667 or 1668), his wife, Mary, and their son Nathaniel. In fact, I have learned a lot from your Genealogical Society website.

"Fortunately, I have obtained portraits and needed information concerning the above two persons from Amherst College and Smith College, respectively. At the same time, Bethel Public Library, CT, provided information on their siblings, because they were born in Bethel.

"According to their family Bible, [their] father [was] Seth Seelye (1795-1869) and [their] mother [was] Abigail Taylor (1796-?). The couple had ten children . . . Thomas Taylor (1818-1890), Thomas Benedict (1820-1823), Samuel Taylor (1822-1902), Julius Hawley (wife, Elizabeth Tillman James [1833-1881]), Henry Eckford (1827-1913), Elizabeth Benedict (1829-1880), Abigail Clark (1831-1833), Hannah Hawley (1833-1912), Laurenus Clark (wife, Henrietta Sheldon), and an unknown daughter.

"Also, they disclose the seventh generation concerns the family of Laurenus Clark Seelye. The third son, Nathan Seelye, was born on Oct. 26, 1766, in Stratford and married Hannah Hawley in 1790. He died on Nov. 4, 1849 in Bethel, Conn. The third of eight sons, Seth was born in 1795, and was the father of Laurenus C. Seelye.

"However, detailed information between the second and the sixth generations is still unclear. So could you

However, it does accept requests for genealogical research. Pre-1940 records may be requested by an individual for immediate family members and cousins. Post-1940 records must be requested by an immediate family member.

The office is located in Suite 120, Curtis State Office Building, 1000 SW Jackson, Topeka, Kansas 66612-2221. However, if you are turning to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment's Office of Vital Statistics for genealogical research, you should first get in touch with people in the office to determine whether they will be able to help you. Contact and other information is available on the website at <http://www.kdheks.gov/vital/index.html>.

Family History Centers

There are more than a dozen LDS Family History Centers across the state (including one in Salina, just 26 miles west of Abilene). According to the Kansas State Historical Society website, centers in Independence, Kansas City, Topeka, and Olathe offer the most comprehensive genealogy resources, including census records, death records, family history records, obituaries, marriage records, vital records, court records, and various other public records. Find the locations of LDS Family History Centers around the world at <https://familysearch.org/locations/centerlocator>.

please advise me where I could obtain necessary information or teach me whatever you have in your genealogical records."

I sent Mr Isso (Deo) information on Seth Seelye, SGS# 2056, father of Joseph Hawley and Laurenus Clark Seelye, and the line back to Nathaniel Seelye, son of Robert. I also asked why he had this interest in the Seelye brothers. I knew that Laurenus was the first president of Smith College and his brother Julius was a president of Amherst College. You can read more about them on the SGS website.

Deo replied that Doshisha University of Kyoto is celebrating the 140th anniversary of its founding in 2015. He has been asked to give an educational talk on the Seelye family because of the influence of both Laurenus Clark Seelye and Julius Hawley Seelye on the founder of the university, the Rev. Joseph Hardy Neesima (1843-1890). Deo is also in the middle of remaking an educational documentary on Neesima that was originally made almost a decade ago. He wants to expand the information on these two Seelye men. He also sent a short history of Neesima which I have lightly edited.

A Short History of Joseph Hardy Neesima (12 February 1843-23 January 1890)

Nijima Joh (as he is named in Japanese) was a Protestant missionary, an educator of the Meiji era (1868-1912), and the founder of Doshisha University and Doshisha Women's College of Liberal Arts in Kyoto, which now respectively have 27,000 and 6,200 graduate and post-graduate students.

An interesting biography of a very remarkable man
Please See Japan Seelye Ties Page 4

Japan and Seelye Ties *(continued from page 2)*

named Joseph Hardy Neesima will be introduced. He was born in Yedo (present-day Tokyo) on February 12, 1843, a son of a retainer of the Itakura clan of Annaka. His childhood name was Nijijima Shimeta. In his early days he was ardently devoted to the acquisition of knowledge. Besides arithmetic, algebra, geometry, and other elementary studies, he achieved considerable proficiency in the Chinese classics and had learned to read the Dutch language. In studying algebra he used a textbook in that language. The reading of a Chinese translation of Bridgeman's historical and geographical book on America and a Japanese translation of Defoe's *Robinson Crusoe* awakened in him the desire to visit foreign lands, especially America. Reading some Chinese translations of Christian books, he was also led to see the insufficiency of the religion of the Japanese and to look to God as his heavenly Father.

The Japanese were at that time forbidden to leave their country without permission from the government. But at the age of 21 in 1864, Neesima sailed to Hakodate (now in Hokkaido), one of the five treaty ports available to foreign vessels. It was situated in northernmost Japan, quite far from Yedo (Tokyo), which he believed safe, and some Western commercial ships were legally anchored there. Under the support of his friends, he entreated Captain William T. Savory of Salem, Massachusetts, commander of the brig *Berlin*, for safe passage to the United States in order to further study Western science and Christianity. Captain Savory agreed to help him, so long as Neesima came on board at night without assistance from the ship's crew, knowing Neesima could be executed if apprehended. He succeeded in eluding the vigilance of the Japanese officials, and Captain Savory hid Neesima from the customs officials in his stateroom and secured his passage to Shanghai, China. Captain Savory then had to return to Japan, but he secured Neesima's passage from Shanghai to Boston on another ship, the *Wild Rover*, commanded by Captain Horace Taylor of Chatham, Massachusetts. Neesima worked his passage, having previously studied the theory of navigation. The captain became interested in him and called him "Joe." The *Wild Rover* was owned by the Hon. Alpheus Hardy of Boston.

When he arrived in Boston in August 1865, he was fortunately introduced and sponsored by Alpheus and Susan Holmes Hardy, members of Old South Church, who also saw to his education. They became like American parents to him and paid the whole expense of his education during the ten years of his residence in the United States. Neesima studied first at Phillips Academy at Andover, Massachusetts, from 1865 to 1867 and then at Amherst College from 1867 to 1870. During his enrollment at the college, he was academically and spiritually influenced by Julius Hawley Seelye. He called Mrs. Seelye "a Mother in America." Upon graduating from the college, Neesima became the very first Japanese person to receive a degree from a western college.

In the meantime, in 1866 he was baptized, and from 1870 to 1874 he studied at the Theological Seminary at Andover. In 1874 he became the first Japanese to be ordained as a Protestant minister.

In 1871 when the Tomomi Iwakura Mission visited the United States, Neesima was employed to assist them as

an official interpreter. The purpose of their two-year around-the-world journey was to renegotiate unequal commercial treaties between the United States and Japan and to investigate educational methods of the US and Europe. Neesima traveled with them in Europe and the United States for more than a year and gathered much information to help effect the modernization of Japan. It is believed that the official report presented by Neesima influenced the improvement of Japan's education system in the early Meiji Era.

On his return he completed his studies at the Theological Seminary in 1874, and in the same year he attended the 65th annual meeting of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions (ABCFM) at the Congregational Church in Rutland, Vermont. He made an appeal for important funds to start a Christian school in Japan. With the support and funding of some \$5,000, including a dollar donated privately by an old farmer after the meeting, the only money he had for his train fare, Neesima returned to Japan in December 1874.

He was a man of large views and formed far-reaching plans for Christian education in his own country. He accomplished much in realizing them in founding the Doshisha English School in Kyoto in 1875—2015 will be the 140th anniversary of its foundation—and made great progress in developing it into Doshisha University. He was assisted by his wife, Yae Neesima, brother-in-law, Kakuma Yamamoto, and an American minister, Jerome D. Davis, sent by ABCFM, who were also active with the local Christian community in Kyoto.

In 1889 Amherst College honored Neesima with an honorary doctorate, the first ever awarded to a Japanese person. He died in Oiso, Kanagawa Prefecture, January 23, 1890, and was buried in Kyoto. His unexpected early death at the age of 47 was an immense loss to Christian churches and schools in Japan. What he accomplished justified the expectation of still more remarkable results from his efforts, if his life had been prolonged.

The main source for this information was *Life and Letters of Joseph Hardy Neesima* by Arthur Sherburne Hardy (Boston: Houghton, Mifflin, 1891), p.350. If you want to read more about Neesima, the book can be accessed at the web site of The Internet Archive: <https://archive.org/details/lifelettersofjos00hardiala>

Whoever would have imagined that the influence of our Seelyes would have reached so far and have such an impact?

Did you receive this edition of the newsletter electronically?

If so, you received it up to three weeks before those still taking the hard copy.

You're also seeing it in living color with active hyperlinks.

Most importantly you're saving SGS a substantial amount of money, making it possible for the Society to accomplish its mission of research, collection, and preservation of Seeley information for the Society, for the education and benefit of its members and for posterity.

Thank You!

If you would like to reap the benefits of electronic delivery of the SGS Newsletter, contact SGS Membership Chair Lynda Simmons at summitkids@gmail.com.

Descendants Found for Jesse Seeley, SGS#1949

Story by Linda Crocker, Chief Genealogist, SGS

In February our Webmaster, Chris Havnar, who constantly searches for Seeley obituaries, found one for Betty Lou Seeley Watson of Caro, Tuscola, MI. You can read the obituary at <http://www.seeley-society.net/daughters/dau-Watson-BettyLouSeeley.html>. It states that Betty's parents were Oscar and Lydia (Ewald) Seeley. In earlier research we had determined that Oscar was a son of Frederick S. and Christina (Hutchinson) Seeley and that Frederick was born in 1887 in MI. I decided to see whether I could trace Frederick farther back:

1910 census Elmwood, Tuscola, MI

- Seely, Fred S, age 24, b. MI, MI, CAN, farmer, md 2 yrs to
- Seely, Christy, age 19, b. MI, MI, MI, 0 ch

1910 census Elmwood, Tuscola, MI

- Seely, Hollas D, age 82, b. NY, NY, MA, own income, widowed
- Bond, Flora B, dau, widow, age 47, b. MI, NY, NY, 1 ch, 1 living
- Next home
- Seely, Charles, age 44, b. MI, NY, NY, farmer, md 25 yrs to
- Seely, Elma J, age 45, b. CAN, CAN, CAN, 6 ch, 4 living
- Seely, George H, age 19; Earl R age 16; Fern E age 10; all b. MI, MI, CAN

1900 census Elmwood, Tuscola, MI

- Seeley, Charles, b. Aug 1865, MI, NY, NY, farmer, md 13 yrs to
- Seeley, Elma, b. Jan 1867, CAN, CAN, CAN, 6 ch, 4 living
- Seeley, Fred S, b. Apr 1886; George H, b. May 1890; Earl R, b. Oct 1894; Fern, b. Dec 1899; all b. MI, MI, CAN
- Kanman, Cebastine (male), boarder, b. 1886 CAN, CAN, CAN, to US in 1892, farm laborer

WWI Draft, Tuscola Co., MI

- Fred Sanford Seely of Gagetown, MI, b. 7 April 1886, farmer, names Christy Seely of Gagetown as next of kin

1880 census Elmwood, Tuscola, MI

- Seely, Hollis D, age 52, farmer, b. NY, NY, NY
- Seely, Mary, age 49, wife, b. NY, NY, NY
- Seely, George E, age 17; Charles H, age 14; both b. MI, NY, NY
- Furguson, Delilah, mother, boarder age 72, b. NY, NY, NY

1870 census Elmwood, Tuscola, MI

- Seely, Hollis D, age 42, b. NY, farmer
- Seely, Mary, age 39, b. NY
- Seely, Emmy A., age 15; Francis, age 11; Flora B, age 7; George E, age 6; Charles H, age 4; Mary L, age 1; all b. MI
- Knapp, William, age 20, farm laborer, b. NY

1860 census Elba, Lapeer, MI

- Seely, Hollis, age 33, b. NY, farmer
- Seely, Mary, age 29, b. NY
- Seely, Emma, age 5; Francis, age 1; both b. MI

1860 census Owosso, Shiawassee, MI

- Palmer, Jotham, age 33, b. NY, carpenter
- Palmer, Martha, age 29, b. NY

- Palmer, George Jay, age 4; Frank C, age 3; Charles S, age 1; all b. MI
- Seeley, Phoebe, age 52, b. MA
- Seeley, Mary, age 12, b. MI
- French, Louisa, age 28, b. NY, domestic
- French, Edwin P., age 4, b. MI

1850 census White Lake, Oakland, MI

- Seely, Jessy, age 45, b. NY, farmer
- Seely, Phoebe, age 43, b. MA
- Seely, Hollis, age 22; Martha, age 19; Louisa, age 17; all b. NY; Esther, age 15; Lucy, age 13; Phoebe, age 11; Hannah, age 7; Emily, age 5; Mary, age 2; all b. MI

1840 census White Lake, Oakland, MI

- Jesse Seely
- 2 males 10-15, 1 male 30-40; 2 females under 5, 3 females 5-10, 1 female 30-40

1830 census Friendship, Allegany, NY

- Jesse Seely
- 2 males under 5, 1 male 20-30; 1 female 20-30

From Findagrave.com

Fred Seeley

- Birth: Apr. 7, 1886, Tuscola Co., MI, USA
- Death: Dec. 11, 1956, Tuscola Co., MI, USA
- Married Christie Hutchinson who is buried next to him
- Burial: Elmwood Township Cemetery, Elmwood, Tuscola, MI
- Findagrave Memorial #6814239

Charles Hollis Seeley

- Birth: Aug. 3, 1865, Tuscola, MI
- Death: Apr. 4, 1951, Elmwood, Tuscola, MI
- Son of Hollis Daniel Seeley (Oct. 6, 1827-Sept. 9, 1916), native of NY (son of Jesse Seeley and Phebe Jane Reed), and Mary Ferguson, also native of NY, who were married in Oakland, MI, Nov. 12, 1851
- His siblings were:
 - ♦ Emma A. (1855-1929), wife of John Huckins
 - ♦ Francis J. "Frank" (1859-Jan. 20, 1881)
 - ♦ Flora B. (1862-1937), wife of Byron Bond
 - ♦ George E. (1863-Apr. 18, 1882)
 - ♦ Leila Mary (July 13, 1869-Jan. 26, 1972)
 - ♦ Elmer (Aug. 30-Sept. 20, 1872)
 - ♦ two others who died in infancy
- He married Elma Jane Slough (1866-1946) on Sept. 22, 1884, in Elmwood, Tuscola, MI. They had six children:
 - ♦ Burley F. (June 27-Oct. 9, 1885)
 - ♦ Fred Sanford (Apr. 7, 1886-Dec. 11, 1956)
 - ♦ Oscar Theron (Feb. 19, 1887-bef. 1900)
 - ♦ George Hollis (May 22, 1890-Mar. 14, 1972)
 - ♦ Earl Ray (Oct. 24, 1893-Sept. 5, 1970, Tuolumne, CA)
 - ♦ Fern E. (Dec. 1899-aft. 1940), married Ralph J. Arrowood (1900-1981), Nov. 29, 1923
- (div. bef. 1930); married second Howard E. Fleming, Jul. 27, 1937, in Summit Co., OH
- Burial: Elmwood Township Cemetery, Elmwood, Tuscola, MI, USA
- Find A Grave Memorial# 124912610

Please See Descendants of Jesse Seeley Page 6

Descendants of Jesse Seeley (continued from page 5)

From *Portrait and Biographical Record of Genesee, Lapeer and Tuscola Counties, Michigan, Containing Biographical Sketches of Prominent and Representative Citizens, Together with Biographies of all the Governors of the State, and of the Presidents of the United States* (Chicago: Chapman Bros., 1892):

HOLLIS D. SEELY. Like so many others of his neighbors and co-laborers, he of whom we write came hither from New York State, where he was born and reared to the age of six years. His native place was Friendship, Allegany County, N.Y., and his birthday October 6, 1827. He is a son of Jesse and Phebe (Reed) Seely, both of whom were natives of the Empire State. His mother was born in Saratoga County and his father in the same county. The latter was by occupation a farmer and he of whom we write finds his earliest recollections connected with farm life in his native State.

In 1833 the parents of our subject came to Oakland County and made this their home until their decease, it being the home of our subject until the present time. He was here given a common-school education. There was at first no school but as soon as a place and teacher were

found, he was in attendance and was faithful to his studies until eighteen years of age. He began life for himself at the age of twenty-three, adopting farming as his life calling. He purchased a small place in Oakland County and gave his whole attention to it until he was thirty-four years of age, when he went to Lapeer County where he farmed for three years and then came to Tuscola County, his advent hither being made in October, 1860, coming here in time to attend the second township meeting.

When the original of our sketch first settled on the place of which he is still a resident, the country was a wilderness and the fine farm that to-day presents so attractive an appearance at that time had but thirty acres cleared, and it was a dreary waste of stumps. He first had a log house built which was guileless of doors and windows, neither had it a floor, serving merely as a covering and place of protection against the weather and wild animals that still prowled about. Although he had but little to work with—only a pair of oxen and one cow—he set himself vigorously to work with a prospect before him of securing a comfortable and well-stocked farm. During the years that have passed he has fully realized his anticipations and is now the owner of a large and well-tilled place. It comprises one hundred and eighty-four acres and of this one hundred and fifty-four acres is in a high state of cultivation. These improvements he has made himself.

Mr. Seely took unto himself a life partner, November 12, 1851, the lady of his choice being Mary Ferguson of Pontiac Township, Oakland County. They have three living children: Emma A., Flora B. and Charles H. Emma A. married John Hankins; Flora B. became the wife of Byron Bond; Charles H. resides in this township. Besides these children our subject has lost five. His two sons—Frank J. and George E., were victims of diphtheria, one dying at the age of twenty-one and the other when nineteen.

In connection with his farming interests our subject owns and runs a threshing machine, which has brought him in a comfortable income. He has also spent some of his winters in lumbering. At one time he removed to Detroit and engaged in the grocery business with his brother, but this partnership lasted only one year, when he returned to his farm. Our subject breeds thorough-bred Short-horn cattle and has a good grade of horses and hogs. He also raises a variety of crops and has a fine line of farm machinery and everything necessary to successfully conduct his place. Politically, he affiliates with the Republican Party and for one year held the office of Supervisor and was also Treasurer for four years. He has moreover been Highway Commissioner and Constable of the township. He is greatly interested in the progress of educational advantages. He and his wife were united in their membership in the Methodist Episcopal Church but for the last eight years Mr. Seely has not been connected with any church organization. The wife, however, is still a member of that organization and they are good and conscientious Christian people.

Conclusion: Based on the census records and the biography of Hollis D Seely, we have a match with SGS #1949, Jesse Seeley, son of Daniel Seeley and Phoebe Ball Wood. Jesse's birth date should be corrected to 1805. I have plenty of other information on further descendants of Jesse; please contact me if you are interested.

Seelye Research Center Update

Story by Pam Turner, SRC Librarian



It is time once again for the quarterly update of the Seelye Research Center (SRC). Since the Seeley Genealogical Society (SGS) reunion in Michigan, the Board has been having discussions regarding what it would like the SRC to become. To start the framework of how to accomplish this, a proposed mission statement has been

drafted, which Board members are currently reviewing. I thought Society members might also like to review it and give me your feedback. So this is the proposed mission statement:

"The mission of the Seelye Research Center (SRC) is to preserve the genealogical legacy of the Seeley name (of any spelling), to house artifacts related to the Seeley surname, and to share information we collect with the public in accordance with current privacy protection policies. To accomplish this mission, the SRC will collect and preserve any and all genealogical information and artifacts related to the Seeley surname. Artifacts and information will be collected with the intent of expanding the knowledge of the Seeley name and legacy. Items accepted to the SRC will be handled in accordance with the SGS acquisition policy."

The SGS has a mission statement, but none was ever drafted for the SRC. I believe this is necessary to help guide collection efforts. I would love to hear from you regarding what you think of the mission statement and the SRC in general. What would you like it to look like; what would you like to see stored there? Please email me to let me know your thoughts. We will be discussing this at the next meeting in Abilene, Kan., on July 18, 2015. We would love to see you there.

Timeline for Justus Seeley (SGS #282)

Story by his Sixth-Great-Grandson, Jesse S. Crisler

28 Jul 1735	Parents, Joseph Seeley and Thankful Bartlett, married in New Milford, Litchfield, Connecticut (Barbour Collection of New Milford, FHL Film 02975; note that family records indicate that Joseph had been married earlier to a woman named Margaret, for whose baptism his grandson Justus Azel Seeley served as proxy in the Mississippi River at Nashville, Lee, Iowa, in 1841 [Nauvoo Baptisms for the Dead, Book B, p. 90, FHL Film 183,377]; even so, which of the wives of Joseph Seeley is the mother of his sons Justus and Joseph remains unknown))		
8 Jan 1736/37	Sister Martha born in New Milford; she apparently died in infancy (Barbour Collection of New Milford, FHL Film 02975)		
26 Apr 1738	Sister Martha born in New Milford (Barbour Collection of New Milford, FHL Film 02975)		
17 Feb 1739/40	Brother Abner born in New Milford (Barbour Collection of New Milford, FHL Film 02975)		
17 Dec 1741	Sister Margaret born in New Milford (Barbour Collection of New Milford, FHL Film 02975)		
1743	Brother Joseph born in New Milford (Family Tree, LDS FamilySearch.org)		
1744	Sister Thankful born in New Milford (Family Tree)		
7 Apr 1745	Wife Sarah Stewart born in East Haddam, Middlesex, Connecticut (Connecticut, Births and Christenings, 1649-1906)		
1745	Justus born in New Milford (Family Tree)		
1747	Sister Keziah born in New Milford (Family Tree)		
1749	Brother Ephraim born in New Milford (Family Tree)		
2 Dec 1754	Sister Martha married Ephraim Richmond in New Milford (Family Tree; Montell Seely and Kathryn Seely, <i>Seely History</i> , Provo, UT: Community Press, 1996, p. 66)		
22 Mar 1759/60	Brother Abner married Hannah Thayer in New Milford (Family Tree)		
1760	Sister Margaret married her first husband, James Pennock, Jr., in New Milford (Family Tree)		
24 Jan 1764	Brother Joseph married Mary Tupper in Bennington, Bennington, Vermont (Family Tree)		
10 Jul 1766	Married Sarah Stewart in New Milford (New Milford, Connecticut, Register of Deeds, vol. 9, FHL Film 5193)		
5 Feb 1767	Son Orange (SGS #832) born in New Milford		
		11 Apr 1769	(New Milford, Connecticut, Register of Deeds, vol. 9, FHL Film 5193) Son Philo (SGS #834) born in New Milford (New Milford, Connecticut, Register of Deeds, vol. 9, FHL Film 5193) Purchased 12 acres of land in two plots from his father for £28 (New Milford, Connecticut, Register of Deeds, vol. 11, p. 396) Son Stewart R. (SGS #833) born in New Milford (New Milford, Connecticut, Register of Deeds, vol. 9, FHL Film 5193) Witnessed the sale of two tracts of land by his father to Elihu Northrup for £28 (New Milford, Connecticut, Register of Deeds, vol. 13, p. 379) Deeded the 12 acres of land he had purchased from his father to his brother Abner (New Milford, Connecticut, Register of Deeds, vol. 15, p. 190) Purchased 39 acres, including a house and a barn, for £300 from his father in New Milford on Woolfpit Brook (New Milford, Connecticut, Register of Deeds, vol. 13, p. 58) Leased this same acreage to his father (New Milford, Connecticut, Register of Deeds, vol. 14, p. 412) Witnessed the sale of 7 acres by his father to Cornelius Bristow for £16 in Sheppauge Neck (New Milford, Connecticut, Register of Deeds, vol. 13, p. 272) Offered a commission as a lieutenant in rebel army but refused it and was fined (Peter Wilson Coldham and Sally Lou Mick Haigh, <i>American Loyalist Claims</i> , New York: National Genealogical Society, 1980, p. 439; Peter Wilson Coldham, <i>American Migrations, 1765-1779</i> , New York: Genealogical Publishing Co., 2000, p. 29) Sister Margaret married her second husband, Jonathan Benedict, in Stratford, Orange, Vermont (Family Tree) Joined the King's American Dragoons (also called Thompson's Light Horse Dragoons) as a sergeant as a Loyalist (Gregory Palmer, <i>Biographical Sketches of Loyalists of the American Revolution</i> , Westport, CN: Greenwood, 1984), p. 772; Peter Wilson Coldham, <i>American Migrations, 1765-1779</i> , New York: Genealogical Publishing Co., 2000, p. 29) Sent with Gideon Hawley and women and children by Thomas Chittenden to
		1 Feb 1770	
		28 Jan 1771	
		11 Oct 1771	
		11 Oct 1771	
		15 Feb 1773	
		16 Feb 1773	
		17 Jun 1775	
		1777	
		1 Oct 1778	
		1779	
		1 Sep 1779	

Please See Justus Seeley Page 8

Justus Seeley *(continued from page 7)*

	report movement of Sir Henry Clinton and George Washington on the Hudson River (<i>Renseignements secrets provenant de divers lieux</i> , 1775-1782, Vol. 1, p. 235)	27 Mar 1786	during the Revolutionary War (FHL Film 266,714, p. 365) Samuel Canfield sold the 39 acres to Justus's brother-in-law Ephraim Richmond for £150 (New Milford, Connecticut, Register of Deeds, Vol. 15, p. 473)
9 Sep 1779	Noted that he had never served in the rebel army but "was given the title of lieutenant so that he could carry a white flag"; at this time determined to "escape with the intention of becoming a soldier in His Majesty's service" (<i>Renseignements secrets provenant de divers lieux</i> , 1775-1782, Vol. 1, p. 239)	22 Apr 1786	Forfeited a sawmill, a yoke of oxen, three horses, a wagon, and harness in New Milford (Petition from Ensign Justus Seelye, claims, American Loyalists, p. 464, FHL Film 366,775)
17 Nov 1779	Son Justus Azel (SGS #836) born in New Milford (Patriarchal Blessing, LDS Church Archives, Church History Library, Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, UT)	4 Feb 1787	Wrote letter to Peter Hunter from St. George, Charlotte, New Brunswick, Canada (Letter from Justus Seelye to Peter Hunter, dated 4 Feb 1787, FHL Film 266,714, p. 365)
3 Aug 1783	Sailed with his wife and children aboard <i>Sally</i> from Sandy Hook, New Jersey, to Canada (Letter from Justus Seelye to Peter Hunter, dated 4 Feb 1787, FHL Film 266,714, p. 365)	9 Nov 1787	Granted 13 acres of land, Lot No. 319, in Beaver Harbour and 324 acres, Lot No. 111 in Pennfield Parish, near Seeley's Cove (<i>Seely History</i> , p. 79)
24 Aug 1783	Arrived in St. Johns, New Brunswick, Canada, settling at Seely's Cove on the Bay of Fundy (Letter from Justus Seelye to Peter Hunter, dated 4 Feb 1787, FHL Film 266,714, p. 365)	12 Dec 1789	Petitioned for land at the mouth of Pocologan River (Microfilm collection of land petitions, Saint Johns Public Library, Saint Johns, New Brunswick, Canada)
Dec 1783	Summoned to appear before a court in Litchfield, Connecticut, to answer charges of treason (FHL Film 1,029,511)	Mar 1790	Petitioned for further compensation for the loss of American property and goods amounting to £527 following his service during the Revolutionary War (FHL Films 366,739 and 366,757; <i>Seely History</i> , p. 81)
14 Feb 1785	Court in Woodbury, Connecticut, ordered that he forfeit 39 acres of property in New Milford, that property to be administered by Samuel Canfield (<i>Seely History</i> , p. 77)	9 Jun 1791	Petitioned for land in Lunenburg, Lunenburg, Nova Scotia, Canada, as reward for his service during the Revolutionary War (Upper Canada Land Petitions, Bundle S Miscellaneous, 1788-1794 [RG 1, L3, Vol. 493a], Reel C-2832, No. 51)
10 Jun 1785	Estate of 39 acres in New Milford appraised at £156 by Rueben Booth and Elisha Bostwick (FHL Film 1,029,511, #3935)	10 Jun 1791	Granted 200 acres of land (Upper Canada Land Petitions, Bundle S Miscellaneous, 1788-1794 [RG 1, L3, Vol. 493a], Reel C-2832, No. 51)
12 Apr 1785	Petitioned for land at Deadman's Cove about 5 miles east of Beaver Harbour (Microfilm collection of land petitions, Saint Johns Public Library, Saint Johns, New Brunswick, Canada)	10 Dec 1792	Brought suit against Hugh Johns in Lunenburg (Alexander Fraser. <i>Fourteenth Report of the Bureau of Archives for the Province of Ontario</i> . Toronto: A. T. Wilgress, 1917, p. 389.)
15 Jun 1785	Probate Court in Woodbury re-affirmed Samuel Canfield as administrator of the 39 acres (<i>Seely History</i> , p. 78)	11 Dec 1792	Ordered by court to re-sue Johns (Alexander Fraser. <i>Fourteenth Report of the Bureau of Archives for the Province of Ontario</i> . Toronto: A. T. Wilgress, 1917, pp. 389-90).
30 Dec 1785	Petitioned for land lying a mile east of Beaver Harbour (Microfilm collection of land petitions, Saint Johns Public Library, Saint Johns, New Brunswick, Canada)	1793	Son Stewart married Rebecca Milliken in New Brunswick, Canada (Family Tree)
17 Feb 1786	In Beaver Harbour, Charlotte, New Brunswick, Canada, petitioned for compensation of lost American lands and goods as reward for his service	14 Jan 1793	Hugh Johns ordered by Court to pay him

Please See Justus Seeley Page 9

Justus Seeley (continued from page 10)

	£16, 3 s., 6 d. and court costs (Alexander Fraser. <i>Fourteenth Report of the Bureau of Archives for the Province of Ontario</i> . Toronto: A. T. Wilgress, 1917, p. 391)		(Upper Canada Land Petitions, Bundle S 9, 1808-1811 [RG1, L3, Vol. 445], Reel C-2810, No. 41)
25 Feb 1793	Brought another suit against Hugh Johns but no decision rendered by court (Alexander Fraser. <i>Fourteenth Report of the Bureau of Archives for the Province of Ontario</i> . Toronto: A. T. Wilgress, 1917, p. 397)	5 Nov 1809	Petitioned for 200 acres of land in Elizabethtown as reward for his service during the Revolutionary War (Upper Canada Land Petitions, Bundle S 9, 1808-1811 [RG1, L3, Vol. 455], Reel C-2810, No. 121)
15 May 1795	Sold 324 acres, Lot No. 111 in Pennfield Parish, to Eleazer Langer (<i>Seely History</i> , p. 81)	24 Apr 1810	Granted 100 acres of land (Upper Canada Land Petitions, Bundle S 9, 1808-1811 [RG1, L3, Vol. 455], Reel C-2810, No. 121)
31 May 1798	Having received 200 acres, petitioned for an additional 300 acres of land in Elizabethtown, Canada as reward for his service during the Revolutionary War (Upper Canada Land Petitions, Bundle S Miscellaneous, 1783-1818 [RG1, L3, Vol. 446a] Reel C-2808, No. 52)	5 Sep 1811	Petitioned for land as reward for service during the Revolutionary War (Upper Canada Land Petitions, Bundle S 14 [RG1, L3, Vol. 464], Reel C-2815; <i>Seely History</i> , p. 75, n. 9)
4 Jul 1798	Request for 300 acres of land denied (Upper Canada Land Petitions, Bundle S Miscellaneous, 1783-1818 [RG1, L3, Vol. 446a] Reel C-2808, No. 52)	9 Oct 1811	Sister Margaret died in Stratford, Orange, Vermont (Family Tree)
4 Feb 1799	With his nephew Jonathan Richmond, both listed as residents of New Milford, sold his father's farm, formerly his own farm, to Benjamin Mead for \$834 (New Milford, Connecticut, Register of Deeds, Vol. 22, p. 72)	18 May 1812	Died in Markham Township, York, Home District, Ontario, Canada (Family Tree; <i>Seely History</i> , p. 86)
9 Apr 1800	Son Justus Azel married Mehitable Bennett in Luzerne, Luzerne, Pennsylvania (Family Tree)	<div data-bbox="828 903 1526 1827"> <h3>Call for Articles Concerning Our Seeley Ancestors</h3> <p><i>By Kathie Olsen, SGS President</i></p> <p>Thanks to Linda Crocker and Jesse Crissler for sharing stories about our Seeley ancestors in this issue of the newsletter. When our society's founders established the newsletter, it was to share these stories and the genealogy of our great family. I challenge each of you to write a newsletter article about one of your ancestors. Here are some simple guidelines:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete name, including maiden and married surnames, 2. Give the Seeley lineage including SGS#'s, if known, 3. Subject is deceased, 4. Include a timeline of pertinent information including birth, marriage, children, death, etc., 5. Include pertinent achievements of this individual, 6. Include a picture, if available, 7. Cite source information with references in footnotes, 8. Submit the history to me for possible inclusion in an upcoming newsletter, on our website, or on our Facebook page. <p>For an example, see the February, 2012, newsletter article by Jesse Crisler, "In Their DNA -- Notable Seeley Descendants: Mary Young Wilcox."</p> <p>I look forward to reading more exciting stories about the Seeley family in coming issues of the newsletter. Be sure to send your stories via e-mail to SGS Newsletter Editor Paul Taylor (contact information on page 15).</p> </div>	
3 Jun 1800	Having received 200 acres of land, petitioned for an additional 100 acres in Elizabethtown, "the usual quantum," as reward for his service during the Revolutionary War (Upper Canada Land Petitions, Bundle S 5, 1799-1802 [RG1, L3, Vol. 452], Reel C-2808, No. 75)		
30 Sep 1800	Request for additional land received "too late" (Upper Canada Land Petitions, Bundle S 5, 1799-1802 [RG1, L3, Vol. 452], Reel C-2808, No. 75)		
3 Mar 1804	Sister Margaret married her third husband, Levi Root, in Stratford, Orange, Vermont (Family Tree)		
28 Jun 1808	Petitioned to lease lot No. 25 in the 7th Concession of Pickering Township, Ontario, Canada (Upper Canada Land Petitions, Bundle S Leases, 1797-1809 [RG1, L3, Vol. 493], Reel C-2831, No. 41)		
8 Nov 1808	Petitioned for 200 acres of land (Upper Canada Land Petitions, Bundle S 9, 1808-1811 [RG1, L3, Vol. 445], Reel C-2810, No. 41)		
17 Jan 1809	Granted two hundred acres of land in Pickering Township		

Call for Articles Concerning Our Seeley Ancestors

By Kathie Olsen, SGS President

Thanks to Linda Crocker and Jesse Crissler for sharing stories about our Seeley ancestors in this issue of the newsletter. When our society's founders established the newsletter, it was to share these stories and the genealogy of our great family. I challenge each of you to write a newsletter article about one of your ancestors. Here are some simple guidelines:

1. Complete name, including maiden and married surnames,
2. Give the Seeley lineage including SGS#'s, if known,
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4. Include a timeline of pertinent information including birth, marriage, children, death, etc.,
5. Include pertinent achievements of this individual,
6. Include a picture, if available,
7. Cite source information with references in footnotes,
8. Submit the history to me for possible inclusion in an upcoming newsletter, on our website, or on our Facebook page.

For an example, see the February, 2012, newsletter article by Jesse Crisler, "In Their DNA -- Notable Seeley Descendants: Mary Young Wilcox."

I look forward to reading more exciting stories about the Seeley family in coming issues of the newsletter. Be sure to send your stories via e-mail to SGS Newsletter Editor Paul Taylor (contact information on page 15).



SGS Welcomes New Members:
AWAITING INPUT FROM LYNDA

Meet the SGS Board of Directors and Appointed Officers

EDITOR'S NOTE: Over the course of the next few issues of the SGS Newsletter, we will introduce the Elected SGS Board of Directors (indicated with a *) and appointed officers with photos and brief biographies.



Ruthetta Seelye Hansen*
Director & Historian
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 McCracken, KS 67556
 (785) 394-2316
rhansen@gbta.net

The first SGS office that I held was Publicity Chair; later I became Historian. I am also now a Director.

I first heard about SGS in 1995 while visiting Terry Tietjens at the Kirby House in Abilene, Kan. He informed me of a Society reunion to be held in Salt Lake City, Utah. Several friends and I attended that reunion, and I have not missed one since. Researching old newsletters to learn about recent and former members is a challenge. There is a Wall of Honor in the Seelye Research Center, dedicated to the accomplishments of many of our members.

One important goal now is to place a picture of every SGS officer and committee chair in the research center. I am always open to new ideas, and your suggestions are always welcome.



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

Jim was raised on a dairy farm in Pennsylvania, graduated from high school, and attended one year at a local college before he entered the U. S. Naval Academy from which he graduated in 1959. He married in 1960 and was divorced in 1983. His three children are Tammy (a Vice-President with Bank of America), Tom (Project Management with Lockheed Martin), and Carolyn (a Navy wife). They have given Jim 5 grandchildren (Lauren, TJ, Cameron, Nicholas, and Kelsey). Jim's family is his number-one priority.

After Navy retirement in 1985 and civilian retirement in 2002, Jim sold his home in Fairfax County, Va., and traveled the country for a year in a motorhome before settling down in a new home with a beautiful view in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley, where he volunteers in support of community projects, genealogy, and golf.

During his 26-year naval career, all his sea tours were on destroyers, his last as a destroyer commanding officer. Jim's shore tours were all in research and development programs. After his retirement from the Navy, he established a small business within a professional services company, teaching and supporting Navy Program Managers in technical risk management.

Jim was elected Chief Genealogist of the Seeley Genealogical Society (SGS) in 1999 and then President in

2001, serving in the latter position for six years. His major contributions to SGS included establishing a tracking and numbering system for queries, managing a DNA Project that firmly established that immigrants Robert and Obadiah Seeley were not closely related, structuring a filing system for the Seelye Research Center so members can identify what documents are shelved there and how to find them, continuing research of old English records to help determine immigrant Obadiah Seeley's ancestors, and implementing an initiative to document SGS.



Margaret Petersen
Assistant Membership Chair
 2736 S Highland Drive #4
 Salt Lake City, UT 84106
kpetersen7835@msn.com

Margaret Elizabeth Mills Petersen, who serves as the Assistant Membership Chairman, was born in Salt Lake City, Utah, to Alanson Soper and Madeline Helene Merrill Mills. She was the fourth of five children: David Alanson Mills, Lynda Merrill Mills Simmons (Membership Chairman of SGS), Katherine Jane Mills Olsen (current President of SGS), and John Irving Mills.

Margaret attended public schools in Salt Lake City and graduated from the University of Utah in 1966 with a degree in secondary education. Her teaching major was mathematics, and her teaching minor was in English. She taught mathematics for thirty years in Utah, Colorado, and Washington (junior high school, high school, and community college). She earned a M.A. in mathematics education from Western Governors University in 2006. She retired in 2010 and lives in Salt Lake City.

Margaret married Kenneth Lee Petersen in the summer of 1969. They have spent twenty-eight years living away from Utah as Ken served in the Army, earned his Master's and Ph.D. degrees, and pursued his career. They are the parents of five children: Nathan Kenneth Petersen (who passed away in 2003 at the age of 30), David Alan Petersen, Aaron John Petersen, Adam Mills Petersen, and Madeline Margaret Petersen Petersen (married to Stephen Todd Petersen). Margaret and Ken have fourteen grandchildren, one of whom is deceased.

Margaret enjoys cooking and baking. She has made many wedding and anniversary cakes for family and friends. She loves to sing, has sung in many choirs, and has also been in many community musical productions. She also likes sewing.

Does SGS Have Your E-Mail Address?

The Answer Is Probably Not.

News travels fast in the information age, and sometimes it's helpful to immediately reach out to SGS membership.

Please send an e-mail note with your e-mail address to SGS

Membership Chairman Lynda Simmons at summitkids@gmail.com

Afraid of spam? Fear not! SGS will not publish, sell, or share your e-mail address and will only reach out to you with important society information.

Nominations Open for Second Biennial SGS Outstanding Volunteer

Story by Jim Seeley, Chair, SGS Awards and Recognition Committee

The Seeley Genealogical Society (SGS) Awards and Recognition Committee with help from SGS members will select the SGS member who has excelled in volunteer efforts on behalf of SGS. The committee is composed of Katherine Olsen, Marshall Seelye, and myself. The first biennial SGS Outstanding Volunteer award went to our Webmasters, Jerry and Chris Havnar.

All SGS members are invited to carefully consider who should receive this special recognition at the 2015 SGS

Reunion in Abilene, Kan., and send recommendations to a committee member. Contact information for Jim and Kathie is on page 15, and Marshall's email address is am81509@gmail.com. In order to prepare appropriate recognition materials, recommendations should be accompanied by a rationale for the recommendation, prepared by the member submitting the recommendation, AND the recommendation should be received no later than March 15, 2015.

Seeley Military Notes

Navy Seaman Brandon P. Seely Completes Basic Training

January 14, 2014 (FHTNC)—Navy Seaman Brandon P. Seely, son of Robert E. and Robin L. Seely of Nescopeck, Pa., recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

During the eight-week program, Seely completed a variety of training, which included classroom study and practical instruction on naval customs, first aid, firefighting, water safety and survival, and shipboard and aircraft safety. An emphasis was also placed on physical fitness.

The capstone event of boot camp is "Battle Stations." This exercise gives recruits the skills and confidence they need to succeed in the fleet. "Battle Stations" is designed to galvanize the basic warrior attributes of sacrifice, dedication, teamwork, and endurance in each recruit through the practical application of basic Navy skills and the core values of honor, courage, and commitment. Its distinctly "Navy" flavor was designed to take into account what it means to be a Sailor.

Seely is a 2013 graduate of Berwick High School, Berwick, Pa.



JACKSONVILLE, FLA. - Sgt. Colin C. Seeley (Left) and Gunnery Sgt. Tyler D. Mitchell, two recruiters with Recruiting Station Jacksonville, present a Semper Fidelis All-American Bowl Jersey to Stepheny Durham at Atlantic Coast High School, Fla., Oct. 15, 2013. The Semer Fi Bowl will take place in Carson, Calif., Jan. 5, 2014. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Bruno Bego)

Military Times Hall of Valor Features Seeley Marine from World War II

EDITOR'S NOTE: As often happens in this business, I unexpectedly found what I believe is a fairly significant coincidence while researching content for this issue of the newsletter. Note that Seaman Seely in the release to the left attended high school in Berwick, Pa. Then note the home of record of World War II hero Capt. Reed Seely (U.S. Army) below is Berwick, Pa. Are they related? Did Brandon join the U.S. Navy knowing of Reed's sacrifice? How did that affect his decision to serve? There are almost always more questions in genealogy, aren't there?

Captain (Infantry) Reed L. Seely
Company F, 328th Infantry Regiment
United States Army
Date of death: Feb. 18, 1945
Home of record: Berwick Pa.
Status: Killed in Action
Distinguished Service Cross

Awarded for actions during World War II
Action Date: Feb. 17, 1945



Award Citation: "The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918, takes pride in presenting the Distinguished Service Cross (Posthumously) to Captain (Infantry) Reed L. Seely (ASN: 0-355105), United States Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy while serving with Company F, 328th Infantry Regiment, 26th Infantry Division, in action against enemy forces in Germany. On 17 February 1945, during fierce house-to-house fighting in Saarlouis-Roden, Germany, Captain Seely, fearlessly braving intense hostile automatic weapons and rocket fire, moved along through a heavily mined area in order to make a personal reconnaissance. He then led his company against bitterly defended enemy fortified positions, moving from man to man and fearlessly exposing himself to the withering enemy fire in order to direct the action of his troops. Inspired by this heroic leadership, his men moved forward and reduced the enemy positions, allowing the rest of the battalion to advance and secure its objective. Although Captain Seely was killed the following day by an enemy mine, his dauntless courage and supreme devotion to duty will live on as an inspiration to his men."

SGS Queries

*Coordinated and Compiled by SGS Query Editor Linda Crocker
(Data Current as of January 31, 2014)*



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

Please send your queries to SGS Query Editor Linda Crocker at llbc100@msn.com or mail to Linda at home (see page 15). Queries are assigned a query number by the Query Editor, researched, and then sent to the Query Team and Area Coordinators for their input. Linda summarizes each query and

any responses for inclusion in the newsletter.

If you have any information on the queries below, contact the submitter, but also remember to send a copy of the information to Linda, so the query can be updated in the next newsletter. There are no query updates in this edition of the newsletter.

New Queries

Query 1405-1 Submitted by Samuel Mateer Sealy (chatnjfd236@gmail.com)

Samuel lives in Chatham, NJ, and is aware that there have been Seelys in that area since the time of the Revolutionary War. He is wondering if he is related to them. He says, "My father, Hampton Sprouls Sealy was born Jan 2, 1905 in Brooklyn, NY, son of Thomas Sealy,

born about 1867 here in NJ. My father's mother, Edith Sealy, was born about 1874 in NJ. My mother, Marjorie Helen Mateer, was born Feb 1, 1912, to Samuel A Mateer and Elizabeth Sweeney.

SGS Response: NY Marriage Index

- Name: Thomas H Sealy
- Gender: Male
- Marriage Date: 11 Aug 1895
- Marriage Place: Manhattan, NY, USA
- Spouse: Edith Meeker
- Certificate Number: 12061

1910 census Marblehead, Essex, MA

- Sealy, Thomas H, age 42, b. NJ, father b. ENG, mother b. NJ, stock and bonds broker, md 14 yrs to
- Sealy, Edith M, age 36, b. NJ, NJ, NY, 3 children, 2 living
- Sealy, Christine G, age 9, b. NJ, NJ, NJ; Hampton S, age 5, b. NY, NJ, NJ
- Francis, Dora, age 19, black, servant, b. MA, CAN, MA

1900 census Newark, Essex, NJ (Sealy transcribed as Lealy)

- Sealy, Thomas H, b. May 1869, NJ, ENG, NJ, clerk, broker, md 5 yrs to
- Sealy, Edith, b. Jul 1873, NJ, NJ, NY, 1 ch, 1 living
- Sealy, Christine, b. May 1900, NJ, NJ, NJ

1900 census Brooklyn, Kings, NY

- Sealy, Thomas, b. Nov 1823, ENG, ENG, ENG, came to US in 1828, hat manufacturer, md 38 yrs to
- Sealy, Amanda, b. Sept 1836 NJ, NJ, NJ, 7 ch, 3 living
- Sealy, Elizabeth, b. Oct 1864; William D, b. May 1866; both b. NJ, ENG, NJ; Joseph C, b. Oct 1876, CT, ENG, NJ; Edgar D, b. Sept 1882, NJ, ENG, NJ, underwear clerk

1880 census East Orange, Essex, NJ

- Sealy, Thomas, age 55, b. ENG, ENG, ENG, hat manufacturer
- Sealy, Amanda, age 42, b. NJ, ENG, NJ
- Sealy, Mary, age 20; Elizabeth, age 16; William, age 15, in brokers office; Thomas, age 13; all b. NJ, ENG, NJ; Joseph, age 3, b. CT, ENG, NJ

1870 census Newark, Essex, NJ

- Seely, Thomas, age 45, hat manufacturer, b. ENG
- Seely, Amanda, age 33, b. NJ
- Seely, Robert, age 11; Mary, age 10; Elizabeth, age 6; William, age 5; Thomas, age 3; all b. NJ
- Dawson, Amanda, age 14; Louise, age 11; both b. NJ
- Bruen, Amanda, age 61, b. NJ

1860 census Newark, Essex, NJ

- Sealey, Thos, age 35, b. ENG, hat manf
- Sealey, Mary, age 33, b. NJ
- Sealey, Rob't, age 1; Gertrude, age 1 mo; both b. NJ
- Lee, Rebecca D, age 53, b. NJ
- (Living next door to a large family of Dawsons, but no Amanda or Louise)

1850 census Newark, Essex, NJ

- Sealey, John, age 65, cabinet maker, b. ENG
- Sealey, Elizabeth, age 55, b. ENG
- Sealey, Albert, age 32, cabinet maker; Thomas H, age

Many fun Seely cousins you can know and love!
Every member is important!
Members make great officers!
Be involved in Seeley Genealogical Society (SGS)!
Excellent Seelye Research Center!
Reunions are so fun!
Spell Seeley anyway you want to spell it!
How do you want to help SGS be even better?
Impressive SGS Newsletter!
Please remember to check SGS Newsletter for renewal date and send in dues!

DON'T FORGET YOUR DUES

Not sure if your dues are due?

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

For example:

Paul & Carolyn Taylor
Paid To: 10/15
3848 Frazier Lane
Virginia Beach, VA 23456

10/15 means Paul & Carolyn's dues are paid up to October 1, 2015

Those who receive the newsletter electronically may contact Membership Chair Lynda Simmons (contact info on page 15) to find out their dues date.

Please See SGS Queries Page 9

SGS Queries (continued from page 8)

- 26, hatter; both b. ENG
- Sealey, Joseph, age 18, jeweler, b. NJ
- Rowden, Matilda, age 21, b. ENG
- Sealey, Phebe A, age 19, b. NJ
- Rowden, Henry P, age 25, jeweler, b. ENG
- (In 1860 John Sealy, age 75, is still in Newark with daughter Phebe, age 28, sons Joseph, age 26, and Albert, age 46, and Robert Raden, age 9, and 1 female, Irish servant)

England Birth and Christening Index

Thomas Hewlett Sealy

- Gender: Male
- Baptism Date: 25 Dec 1823
- Baptism Place: Worle, Somerset, England
- Parents: John Sealy and Betsy Sealy
- FHL Film Number: 1526122
- Reference ID: 33

Albert Sealy

- Baptism: 17 Nov 1816, South Brent, Somerset, England
- Parents: Elizabeth and John Sealy

Matilda Sealy

- Baptism: 8 May 1829, Worle, Somerset, England
- Parents: Betsey and John Sealy

John Sealy

- Gender: Male
- Baptism Date: 17 Apr 1785
- Baptism Place: South Brent, Somerset, England
- Parents: John Sealy and Ann
- FHL Film Number: 0990348 IT 4

England, Select Marriages

- Name: John Sealy
- Gender: Male
- Marital Status: Single
- Marriage Date: 13 Dec 1815
- Marriage Place: Banwell, Somerset, England
- Spouse: Elizabeth Hewett
- FHL Film Number: 1517682

So, Samuel's family goes back to John Sealy who was born in 1785 in Somersetshire, England, and emigrated to the US about 1830.

Query 1405-2 Submitted by Chris Havnar (chris.havnar@gmail.com)

An obituary for Dorothy Seeley mentioned her husband Lawrence Eugene Seeley. Chris found Lawrence in the SSDI (Soc. Sec. Death Index)

- Lawrence E. Seeley
- SSN: 714-18-3835
- Last Residence: 42754 Leitchfield, Grayson, KY, USA
- Born: 22 Dec 1926
- Died: 2 Sep 2001
- State (Year) SSN issued: Railroad Board (Issued through) (1951-1963)

That led Chris to the 1930 census and a cemetery record:

1930 Census Noble, Wabash, IN

- Seeley, Walter A, head, age 38, age at first marriage 23, b. IA, IA, IA, laborer farm
- Seeley, Ethel M, wife, age 35, age at first marriage 19, b. IN, MD, IN
- Clark, Eileen E, stepdaughter, age 15; Oscar C, stepson, age 12; Elsie M, stepdaughter, age 9; all

born IN, IN, IN; Seeley, Clara L, daughter age 5; Lawrence E, son, age 3 yrs, 3 mos; both born IN, IA, IN

From Findagrave.com

- William Alvin Seeley
- Birth: 1891, IA
- Died: 1937
- Pvt in US Army WWI
- Spouse: Ethel Marie Shanafelt Clark Seeley (1894-1968)
- Children: Clara L Seeley Heath (1924-2004)
- Burial: Oaklawn Cemetery, North Manchester, Wabash, IN
- Plot: Section 1
- Findagrave Memorial #46918522.

Chris also found an obituary for Lawrence's sister: Heath, Clara L.

Oct. 3, 2004—North Manchester, IN CLARA L. HEATH, 79, of North Manchester, died Sunday, Oct. 3, 2004. Survivors include her husband, Lyle A.; three sons, Barry (Susan) of Bonita Springs, Fla., Greg (Karen) of Litchfield, Minn.; Scott (Deb) of New Haven; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. Arrangements by DeLaughter-McKee Mortuary, North Manchester Chapel. www.delauthtermckee.com. Published in The News-Sentinel (Fort Wayne, IN), Oct. 6, 2004.

The question is whether Lawrence and Clara's father is named Walter A. or William Alvin.

SGS Response: I found the following obituary:

"Lawrence Eugene Seeley, 74, of Leitchfield (KY) died on Sunday, Sept. 2, 2001, at the Twin Lakes Regional Medical Center. He was born Dec. 23, 1926, in North Manchester, Indiana, as the son of **Walter and Ethel Shanafelt Seeley**.

"He was a World War II Army Veteran, a member of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, former plant manager for Tell City Chair Leitchfield Plant, and was a driver of Communicare's TAC van in Grayson County.

"He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Dorothy Smith Seeley; two sons, Michael Seeley of Portland, Oregon, and Steven Seeley of Jackson, Mississippi; two daughters, Karen Mart of Mason, Ohio, and Cheryl Logsdon of Leitchfield; one sister, Clara Heath of North Manchester, Indiana; six grandchildren, Shaun, Craig, Bryan, and Elissa Logsdon, Tracey Mart, and Andrey Seeley; and one great-grandchild, Bailey Logsdon. Watson and Hunt Funeral Directors were in charge of arrangements." (Grayson Co., KY) News Gazette, Thursday, Sept. 6, 2001, p. 4.

I also found a longer obituary for Clara:

"Clara L. Heath, 79, North Manchester, IN, died on Sunday, October 3, 2004, at 5:26 PM at Peabody Healthcare Center, North Manchester, IN. She was born on Dec. 29, 1924, in North Manchester, IN, to William and Ethel (Shenefelt) Seeley. She married Lyle A Heath on January 26, 1944; he survives.

"She was a member of United Methodist Church in North Manchester, IN, and was a 50-year member of Epsilon Sigma Alpha Sorority #1609 in North

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SGS Queries (continued from page 9)

Manchester. She graduated from Central High School in North Manchester in 1942.

"She is survived by three sons, Barry (Susan) Heath, Bonita Springs, FL, Greg (Karen) Heath, Litchfield, MN, and Scott (Deb) Heath, New Haven, IN; seven grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by three brothers and three sisters.

"Services were held at DeLaughter-McKee Mortuary, North Manchester Chapel on Wednesday October 6, 2004 with Pastor Fred Bishop officiating. Burial was in Oaklawn Cemetery, North Manchester, IN.

"Memorials are to Epsilon Sigma Alpha Sorority, 507 W. Main St., North Manchester, IN 46962." North Manchester (IN) News, Wednesday, October 6, 2004, p. 4A.

1940 census North Manchester, Wabash, IN

- Seeley, Ethel, age 46, widow, b. IN
- Seeley, Clara, age 15; Lawrence, age 13; Billie Jay, age 2; all b. IN

I have not been able to find any military record, marriage record, death record, or obituary for either Walter or William Seeley. I tried to contact the genealogy section of the Wabash Co., IN, library but have not received a response. Any advice someone can offer will be most appreciated.

Query 1405-3 Submitted by John Seely (seely-john@usa.net)

John writes, "I recently discovered the Seeley Genealogical Society website and what a treasure it is! I knew very little of my family heritage, and now I am on my way to what I hope will be a rich and more complete picture for me, my 2 older brothers and 2 younger sisters.

"I found an obit for my grandfather, **John Seely**, on the SGS site" (<http://www.seeley-society.net/obits-ly/obit-johnseely2.html>). John says his father was William Clair Seely, and his father was John Seely (as in the obit). He has not been able to trace John's father William H., back beyond the 1870 census to verify the line we show. He says, "I have been an American History student since the 8th grade and never knew that I may have had Seely family members going back potentially to the pre-Revolutionary era. I also had NO CLUE that there were so many Seeleys!"

SGS Response: The obit shows that John Seely's line is son of William Henry; Grandson of SGS # 3504—John Meyers (# 3504); Daniel Joseph (#1588); John; John; Samuel; Jonas; Obadiah (immigrated in the 1640s).

1850 census Waterloo, Seneca, NY

- Seely, J M, age 29, b. NJ
- Seely, Rebecca, age 20, b. NJ
- Seely, Wm H, age 1, b. NJ

1860 census Waterloo, Seneca, NY

- Seeley, John M, age 37, farm laborer b. NJ (*written after his name is 6 feet 7 inches—I have not seen a note like this before.*)
- Seeley, Rebecca, age 30, b. NJ
- Seeley, William H, age 12, b. NJ; Andrew C, age 5; Malissa J, age 3; both b. NY

1870 census Waterloo, Seneca, NY

- Seely, William H, age 21, farmer and carpenter, b. NY

- Seely, Jane, age 23, b. PA

In the house before William is Seely, Milissa J, age 13, a domestic servant for the family of Orville and Sarah Maynard

The house after William shows

- Seely, Henry, age 43, b. NJ, farmer and carpenter
- Seely, Lydia J, age 49, b. NY
- Seely, Andrew, age 15; Allie age 8; both b. NY

The next family is that of Nathaniel Seely, age 53, b. NJ, and his wife, Laura, age 46, and their children. The Nathaniel and Henry above are both brothers of John M, father of William H. Nathaniel is SGS #3503, John M is SGS #3504, and Henry is SGS #3506.

In the 1860 census Henry, age 32, and Lydia Seeley, age 35, are in Waterloo with Jane Avitt, age 17.

In the 1900 census Henry and Lydia are still in Waterloo. She has had no children, so Andrew and Allie with them in 1870 are probably both children of John and Rebecca, who both died before the 1870 census. This is confirmed by the 1880 census where Henry and Lida J. Seeley, ages 53 and 59, have Allie, age 18, niece, b. NY, parents b. NJ, living with them.

The SGS Database shows Andrew and Allie as children of Henry and Lydia Seely. We have changed that to show that they are children of John and Rebecca Little Seely.

How to Submit a Query

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

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

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

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

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

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

How to Answer a Query

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

SGS Elected Officers & Board of Directors for 2013 - 2015

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

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SGS Appointed Officers & Volunteers for 2013 - 2015

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

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Seeley Genealogical Society Membership Form

NAME (First, Middle Initial, Last)		TELEPHONE NO.
ADDRESS (Number, Street)		E-MAIL ADDRESS
ADDRESS (City, State, Zip)		<input type="checkbox"/> New Membership <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal
DESCENDANT OF:	<input type="checkbox"/> Robert <input type="checkbox"/> Obadiah <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Attached) <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	NEWSLETTER DELIVERY: <input type="checkbox"/> E-Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Regular Mail
I/we have submitted our Seeley line as far as known to Linda Crocker or Chris Havnar (contact info above) for inclusion in the SGS Ancestor File		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> PLANNING TO <input type="checkbox"/> NO
MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS:	<input type="checkbox"/> ONE YEAR \$10.00 <input type="checkbox"/> TWO YEARS \$18.00 <input type="checkbox"/> THREE YEARS \$25.00 <input type="checkbox"/> FIVE YEARS \$36.00 <input type="checkbox"/> LIFETIME \$125.00	
MAIL FORM AND MEMBERSHIP FEE TO: Lynda Simmons 125 Parkview Drive Park City, Utah 84098		DONATION: I/we would like to make a donation to SGS in the amount of \$ _____ (U.S.)



Seeley Genealogical Society

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

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SGS Publications for Order

All checks should be made payable to SGS.
SGS has several publications and research tools for sale.

1. *The Descendants of Robert Seeley (1602-1667) and Obadiah Seeley (1614-1657), Generations One Through Five, 1997 Edition* (U.S. \$17)
2. *The Sixth Generation Families, 1995 Edition* (U.S. \$17)
3. *The Seventh Generation Families: Descendants of Robert Seeley (1601-1667) and Obadiah Seeley (1614-1657), 2000 Edition* (None Currently Available in Print)
4. The SGS CD-ROM -- Revised July 2011 (U.S. \$15) and includes:
 - Folder A: the three SGS publications by Madeline Mills and Katherine Olsen
 - Folder B: SGS Ancestor File Version 2011 by Chris Havnar & Linda Crocker (original by John Seely)
 - Folder C: 1980s Research Report on Obadiah Seeley (New Eng. records), Fred C. Hart, Jr., CG
 - Folder D: Research Report on Robert Seeley by Alan Phipps, MA, AG
 - Folder E: 2006 Research Rpt on Obadiah Seeley (old English records), Clifford L. Stott, CG
5. The SRC Document Index (with Change Five entered) lists documents shelved at the Seelye Research Center (U.S. \$10).
6. The SGS GEDCOM CD is a file of genealogical information from SGS publications and the International Genealogical Index (U.S. \$15)
7. Souvenir Book of 2011 Horseheads, N.Y. Reunion (U.S. \$25)

Items 1, 2, and 3 should be ordered from Terry Tietjens, item 4 from Bob Seeley, item 5 from Pamela Turner, and items 6 and 7 from Kathie Olsen. You can find contact information (address, phone number, & e-mail address) on page 15.

SGS Area Coordinators

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

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Colorado	Ann Hall, ramonhall@prodigy.net
Connecticut	Ardienne Damicis, adwdmt@aol.com
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*Kansas	Terry Tietjens
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New York	Laura Condie, billaura@aol.com (Southern Tier Counties and Finger Lakes Region)
New York	Liz Alexander, mrsvquest@aol.com (Dutchess County)
*New York	Mary Palley, (Remainder of N.Y.)
Ohio	Andrew Waber, wabnoles@yahoo.com
*Oklahoma	Terry Tietjens
*Ontario, Canada	Dian Little
*Oregon	Bob Seeley
*Pennsylvania	Jim Seeley
Wyoming	Ann Hall, ramonhall@prodigy.net
*SGS Query Editor	Linda Crocker

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

*Means address is on page 15