



# SGS Newsletter

Seeley Genealogical Society Est. 1965



HISTORY ★ FAMILY ★ RESEARCH

Issue 168-2016-02/May/2016

## Draft Minutes of 2015-2017 Executive Board Meeting, April 29-30, 2016

*Prepared and Submitted  
by SGS Secretary  
Patricia Brooks Palmer*



### IN THIS ISSUE:

**TWO:** The latest news and information from SGS President Lynda Simmons

**FOUR:** The Seeleys of the WWII Destroyer USS *Rowan*

**FIVE:** The Celebrated Life of Colonel Sylvanus Seeley

**SIX:** A Chat with One of SGS's Earliest Members

**NINE:** Children's Ancestry Corner

**SIXTEEN:** The latest SGS Queries from Chief Genealogist Linda Crocker

President Lynda Simmons called the meeting to order in the first of two sessions at 1:06 p.m. on April 29, 2016, adjourning at 3:51 p.m. The second session began the next morning, April 30, at 8:06 a.m.



*SGS Secretary  
Patricia  
Brooks Palmer*

### Elected and Appointed Officers Attending:

Lynda Simmons, Margaret Peterson, Pam Turner, Jesse Crisler, Wesley Waring, Kathie Olsen, Linda Crocker, Terry Tietjens, Michael Hook, \*Chris Havnar, \*Paul Taylor, \*Walt Seelye,

\*Marie Seelye, \*Patricia Palmer. A quorum was present. (Asterisks indicate members present via webcam)

**Excused:** Ruthetta Seelye Hansen, Dian Little, Pauline Cilley Gamer, George Seeley, and Bob Seeley.

Lynda welcomed members to the annual Executive Board Meeting, and thanked those attending in Abilene as well as those attending via \*Google Hangouts. She also thanked two officers in memoriam: Jerry Havnar and Mary Palley for their generous, **Please See Executive Board Meeting Page 7**

## The Seeley Genealogical Society Newsletter

is published quarterly by the  
Seeley Genealogical Society

### Editors

Paul Taylor  
Jesse Crisler

Address newsletter correspondence to:  
SGS Newsletter Editor  
Paul Taylor  
See Contact Info on Page 19

### 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, Sealey, Seley, Selye, Seale, Seelee, Seela, Cieley, 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

Marie Seelye

See Contact Info on Page 19

### Seelye Research Center

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

Seelye Research Center, Director

Terry Tietjens

See Contact Info on Page 19

### SGS International Reunions

are held every two years. The next one is scheduled for 2017, in the vicinity of Parkersburg, WV. Please advise the editor if your branch or family has plans for a sectional or local reunion in the interim. Others might like to know about it.

### Editorial Position

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

## SGS PRESIDENT'S REPORT

*Seeley Genealogical Society President, Lynda Simmons*

We had an exciting SGS Board Meeting on April 29 and 30 in Abilene, KS. Thanks to Paul Taylor for setting up the webcam broadcast and Michael Hook for connecting us in the Seelye Research Center where we were meeting. Our officers present in the room and on the webcam had good discussions and ideas, and we accomplished a great deal. I am very appreciative of all officers, their ideas and all they do for SGS!

All officers reported on what they had been doing since last July and what they would like to do in the future. We also reviewed recent research completed by Apryl Cox, updated the Benefits of Membership sheet, discussed ways to attract new members and explored ways to involve young people in our newsletter and reunions.

We want to thank our Area Coordinators who have served for many years. It was decided that with so much information available on the Internet we did not need these positions any longer. When Jesse Crisler got in touch with them to thank them for their service, several responded that they would like to continue to help SGS in any way they were needed. Thank you for being such good members.

We will continue to do DNA testing to increase our knowledge of various Seeley lines. We also talked about the society's long-term financial investments and ways to improve the yield on our investments when our CDs come due. We appointed members to both the Awards and Recognition Committee

and the Nominating Committee. We talked about the SGS Facebook Page. Paul Taylor will assign board members to put

something new on our page once or twice a week to increase interest in SGS.

We are excited about the redesign of our website. We must first know exactly what is on our current site and convert it to our new website. We will then decide what should be included in a members-only section which will include functionality enabling people to join and pay membership fees on line. Logan Seelye is the web designer. If you have any questions about the website, please contact Paul Taylor or me.

Our next reunion will be in Parkersburg, WV, in 2017. The Reunion Committee will meet there this summer to set exact dates, choose venues, tours, sites to visit, speakers, and plan activities to make it a great reunion. Please look for details in future newsletters and plan to come. It is always fun to visit with cousins in a new and interesting place.

There will be many interesting and fun days ahead for the Seeley Genealogical Society. We are glad you are members and would love to hear from you and get you involved!

Please take care and plan to come to the SGS Reunion in Parkersburg in the summer of 2017!





## Area Coordinators Have Served SGS Faithfully

By Linda L. Crocker, SGS Chief Genealogist

Years ago SGS recruited a group of people to assist the Query Editor with genealogical research. This was before the age of digitization when often the only way to obtain genealogical information was to visit local county offices, cemeteries or libraries. Various members agreed to look into local resources as asked. While we did not have the whole country covered, we did have folks in several significant areas. We are very grateful for their willingness to help and the information they were able to gather.

Since more and more records have become readily available online in the last few years and the need for local

research has decreased dramatically, we have decided to end the formal designation of Area Coordinators.

Instead, I would like to ask each member of SGS to consider themselves local researchers. As the queries are published in the newsletter, check to see whether any of the people mentioned lived in your area or passed through it. *You* are the person who is most likely to know about a local resource that is not online – a vertical file in the genealogy section of your library, records at a local genealogical or historical society, family cemeteries, land records, court records, etc.

If you think you can help, jump

right in and share your findings with me, I will make sure they are published in the newsletter and submitted to our Research Center. While you are at it, remember that

we are always especially eager to find original Seeley family source documents such as wills, birth, marriage and death certificates, and obituaries.

Whether you have served in the past or plan to help in the future, thank you very much.



## Update from Seelye Research Center

By Pam Turner, SRC Librarian

The last week in April saw the filing team hard at work in the Seelye



Research Center. This year we concentrated on insuring that the SRC index matched the location of items on the shelves

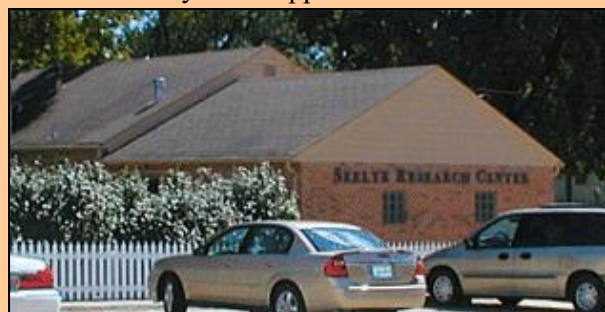
and that all of those items had new labels. Both of these goals were met, and there is now a new revised SRC Index. Because the SRC Index has been completely re-done, there will not be any posted changes in this newsletter. If you would like an electronic copy of this new index, please e-mail me, and I will send you a copy of it. We also re-labeled all of the shelf items with the exception of new binders that were received from Kathie Olsen. These binders are listed

on the index and contain the information used by her mother, Madeline Mills, and herself to publish the SGS generation books.

Another project that was started was scanning Family Compilation Files containing family information sent to and collected by the SGS over the years. We have not gone into these files in any depth, but I thought it important to start digitizing these files as a matter of protection. If you are interested in these files, they have been scanned up through FC-81. I can send you a digital copy of the file you need.

In my last newsletter article I mentioned a new addition to the SGS number file, William W. Seeley, son of Solomon Seeley. As an interesting side note to this information, I discovered that the very first query made to the SGS in the

second newsletter published was from someone looking for information regarding a Wm. Seeley married to Tryphena Mattoon. The work of SGS in finding answers to queries, even fifty years later, continues. This is why all of us should support the society through memberships and donations. All of us need to insure that the expansion of Seeley information continues for the generations that follow us, even if we have completed our own lines. To all who came to Abilene to help with the SRC and attend meetings, thank you. Your help is very much appreciated.



## The Fate of USS *Rowan* and the Seeleys Who Sailed in Her

By Jesse S. Crisler, SGS Second Vice President

Most of us remember 9/11, the date in 2001 when, in four concerted attacks, Al-Qaeda terrorists hijacked airliners and deliberately crashed them into the famous Twin Towers in New York City, and the Pentagon in Arlington Co., VA, while heroic resistance by passengers foiled the planned target of the fourth plane, forcing it to crash near Shanksville, PA, killing all aboard.

But exactly fifty-eight years earlier, another attack, this one by a German E-Boat, is less well known. For Lewis Everett Seeley (1917-1999), however, this earlier attack would never be forgotten. He and his brother, Francis Kirwan "Bob"

Seeley, had enlisted in the U.S. Navy in October 1940. Later that year on Dec. 9, they boarded a destroyer, the USS *Rowan* (DD 405), for their first assignment. Little did they know that exactly a year later on this same day President Franklin D. Roosevelt would declare war on Japan with a declaration of war on Germany following two days later.

Originally assigned to duty in the Pacific, *Rowan* was transferred to the Atlantic in the spring of 1941 as part of the Neutrality Patrol. When the U.S. entered WWII, *Rowan* was anchored in the harbor of Cape Town, South Africa, having just completed escorting a convoy from Halifax, Nova Scotia. Through the rest of 1942 and much of 1943, *Rowan* continued her convoy service.

On Sept. 9, 1943 *Rowan* joined in the invasion of Sicily. Screening transports and freighters carrying needed supplies to the Gulf of Salerno for the next two days, *Rowan* then headed across the Mediterranean Sea towards Oran, an important Algerian port. En route, she was hit by a torpedo, sinking in less than a minute taking 204 of her 273-man crew with her in what would become the single greatest loss of life by an American destroyer in the Atlantic theater during WWII. Among the dead were Lewis Seeley's brother Bob.

As young boys, Lewis and Bob had inherited a family trunk from their grandfather, Luke Seeley (1857-1929). Among other treasures in the trunk was a bugle belonging to their fourth-great-grandfather, Abner Seeley (b. 1739), who had blown it as one of Ethan Allen's Green Mountain Boys during the Revolutionary War.

Bob was especially enamored of this bugle. When he and Lewis enlisted in the Navy, they were clearly continuing a family tradition by serving their country.

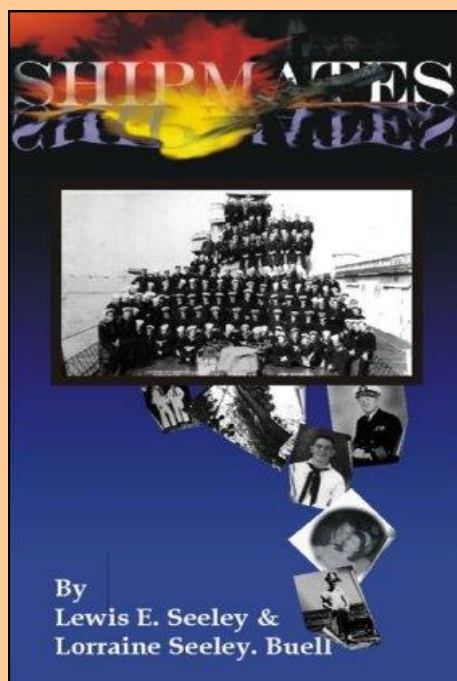


Chief Petty Officer Lewis Everett Seeley, U.S. Navy

Years later with the help of his daughter, Lorraine Seeley Buell, Lewis recounted the sometimes harrowing but always inspiring story of one memorable example of that loyalty in his book *Shipmates: A Personal Journal Aboard a World War II Destroyer* (2000), an account of the three years he, Bob, and many comrades spent aboard *Rowan*. Memories Lewis had not been able to forget after more than a half-century he finally shared with future readers.

Lewis traces his Seeley descent from Robert, his ninth-great-grandfather—Everett (1893-1946), Luke, Nathaniel B. (b. 1824), Luke (1791-1855 SGS#2255), Sheldon (b. 1760 SGS#813), Abner (SGS#279), Joseph (b. 1714 SGS#95), John (1683-1740 SGS#32), Benjamin (1658-1695 SGS#7), Nathaniel (1627-1675 SGS#2), Robert (1602-1667 SGS#1).

Please See USS *Rowan* Page 5



## Colonel Sylvanus Seeley Celebrated July 4, at Morristown

By Lynda Simmons, SGS President

Gayle Ann Livecchia spearheaded the effort to recognize the Revolutionary War service of Colonel Sylvanus Seely at the Morristown National Historical Park in Morristown, NJ, during Independence Day celebrations July 4, 2016.

She sent news releases to area newspapers, TV and Internet about Colonel Sylvanus Seely, his diary, and the celebration. Sylvanus Seely was a colonel serving with George Washington during the Revolutionary War. During the winter of 1779 to 1780, Washington's headquarters was located near Morristown.

Sylvanus Seely (SGS #447) was born on Dec. 30, 1743 in Chester, Orange County, NY, and died on April 17, 1821 at Seely Mills, Wayne County, PA. He married Jane Williamson in 1769 and they lived to celebrate their 52nd anniversary.

Sylvanus's parents were Christopher Seely (SGS #178) and Mary Ball. Sylvanus was a farmer and pioneer on the frontier in Pennsylvania. The family then moved to Chatham, NJ, near Morristown and lived there for nearly 30 years where Sylvanus continued to be a farmer, but also was a storekeeper and innkeeper. He became a major and then a colonel of a state militia in 1777.

In 1778 Seely's militia marched to Elizabeth Town to join General Dickinson for the battle of Monmouth. His militia helped prevent the British from encircling the Americans. Many died on both sides in this battle. In 1780, when Washington and his troops stayed the winter near Morristown, Sylvanus and his men fought the British near

Rahway River. The British retreated. After the battle, Sylvanus and his militia took forty prisoners. Seely watched the bay and informed Washington about a British fleet of 24 ships and a number of frigates sailing out of New York Harbor. Sylvanus continued to serve as the colonel of his militia for the rest of the war, trying to stop communication and flow of goods between the British and the Tories of New Jersey.

Between battles, Sylvanus would return home to take care of business. Probably because of this, Sylvanus was charged with dereliction of duty, and tried by court martial, but was found innocent. After the war, he went back to Chatham, but in 1800 moved to Wayne County, PA, where he first built a saw mill and then later a gristmill. He named his place Jane's Mills in honor of his wife. Later, it

was called Seely's Mills and is now Seelyville.

Sylvanus started writing his journal in 1768 and wrote in it faithfully until almost his death. Oliver Popenoe transcribed 30 volumes of Sylvanus's diaries into three large volumes with 1600 pages. Sometimes the dairies were hard to read and Popenoe put ( ) to indicate what wasn't clear. Now all 30 volumes been photographed page by page. CD's of the photographed diary will be available for \$15.00. Please contact Gayle Ann Livecchia if you are a descendent of Sylvanus, if you would like a CD of his diaries, or want details about the celebration. Her email address is:

[gayle.ann.livecchia@gmail.com](mailto:gayle.ann.livecchia@gmail.com). You can learn more about the site by visiting <https://www.nps.gov/morr/>.

### CONTINUED From Page 4: USS *Rowan*

The loss of his brother was difficult for Lewis, but he was happy that on the anniversary in 1985 of Bob's death (and the loss of *Rowan*), the first reunion of survivors of that fateful night took place in Williamsburg, VA. A poem Lewis wrote more than a year before *Rowan* sank foreshadowed in ways he could not then have known the fate of his beloved ship:

*I am weary of my journey  
For my sea is dark and rough.  
I cannot think, I cannot see,  
But Jesus knows and that's enough.*

*When I am lonely and forsaken,  
Foes annoy and friends rebuff,  
My heart is stone, I walk along,  
But Jesus knows and that's enough.*

*When my eyes are closed forever,  
No temptations can ensnare.  
Oh, may I hear the gentle whisper,  
"Weary one, I know, I care."*

*When I am living in His presence  
In that city four square,  
Thrilled with joy and sweet  
remembrance  
When He said, "I know, I care."*

*In a vision I was standing  
Beneath the harbor lights,  
Gazing out over the ocean,  
When a ship came into sight.*

*Hark! I hear some calling.  
I raise my hand to my brow.  
"Mother! Look! See! Here we are  
In the lookout on the prow."*

Please See USS *Rowan* Page 16



## E-Mail Interview with Early SGS Member Esther Walter

By Jesse S. Crisler, SGS Second Vice President

*Editor's Note: Below is the text of email correspondence Jesse Crisler had with Esther Houtz Walter, one of the first members of SGS.*

**Jesse:** How and when did you hear about the Seeley Genealogical Society?

**Esther:** It was 1965 or 1966. Using *The Genealogical Helper* as a guide and with my old Remington upright typewriter, I was writing letters to the most promising Seeley leads available. I cannot recall which correspondent referred me to Garner Osborn, who then lived in Lyons, CO, fifteen miles north of where we were living in Boulder.

I made contact with Garner and arranged to meet him. I drove to Lyons with my pre-school daughter, Ann. Garner and his wife, Elsie, welcomed us, and before long Garner and I were into the Seeley material he had collected. Meanwhile, Elsie and Ann were also busy: Elsie was mending, while Ann played in her button box. That was the beginning of our relationship.

I do not recall whether Garner had enough data at that time to make a connection with my line, or whether that came in later.

**Jesse:** What positions did you hold in the organization and what did they involve?

**Esther:** Besides all his correspondents, Garner included all Seeley-Seely-Seelye- etc., names that he had gathered from phone directories as well as from anyone willing to send them. His mailing list at one time numbered over six hundred, but I doubt that there were fifty active members then. Keep in mind that we were not yet "organized"

in any true sense: we had no dues but existed solely through donations. Sometimes there was not even enough money to pay for printing, envelopes, and postage, but we held on.

Garner had written and mailed at least three issues of the newsletter by the time I came along. He had used a mimeograph machine, probably one in the Methodist Church in Lyons. Each newsletter was placed in an envelope, which was in turn hand addressed. Garner felt that copies would be less likely to be discarded if they looked more personal.

This was where I came in. Garner needed help with the newsletter. I arranged with the *Lyons Recorder*, the local newspaper, to print the newsletter. Then I folded copies, stuffed envelopes, and addressed, stamped, and mailed them. Also in those days, the Post Office wanted large mailings to be sorted. So I did that as well.

I never wanted or needed to hold titles of office. I remember that I was named Genealogist. Garner also made me Contributing Editor in 1967. At one time I think that one of our later presidents gave me the title of Genealogist.

**Jesse:** Tell us about your association with Garner Osborn.

**Esther:** At the time of our first meeting, Garner had already established the Seeley Genealogical Society, but he insisted that the president should have the last name of Seeley or one of its other spellings. He had more or less appointed Lloyd Seeley as the Society's first President, though he was president in name only. Marion Seelye of Abilene, KS, was the first secretary, and Preston Seeley

of Denver, CO, served as the first Treasurer.

Garner and Elsie were a delightful couple—friendly, kind,



understanding, so sweet. Sometimes Garner would get his dander up, and I was delighted when that happened. It showed he had a backbone. Eventually, they gave up their little home in Lyons and moved into the first of several different assisted living homes in the Longmont, CO, area.

I continued to visit them. Their situation did not improve. The rooms where they lived became progressively smaller; the facilities housed more residents, offering increasingly less privacy. Finally, in 1971 Garner asked whether I could assume the job of keeping the Society going. I agreed, taking all his files to Allenspark, CO, where I had since moved.

**Jesse:** What are some of your favorite memories of your association with SGS?

**Esther:** My favorite memories are those that included making connections. What a thrill for a researcher and for me to be a part of a success story.

Other memories are the visits I had with other Seeley descendants.

The Seela brothers—I think that there were four of them. Carey was the clown. Lloyd lived in Fort Collins and carved aspen tree branches into

**Please See Esther Walter Page 7**

## CONTINUED From Page 6: Esther Walter

various items. There is probably a Seela there with you today.

John Seeley from California—he and his wife, Maurine, were always great supporters. John came here in the early days to peruse the records.

Hank and Millie Seeley of White Bear, MN, and Lawrence, KS—Hank was my special friend and supporter. He designed a letter to send to prospective relatives. I depended on him and Don Eff. The first time he and Millie visited, my son's pigs had managed to get loose. He liked to bring that up often.

There were special times when members outdid themselves. Mark Seeley in California visited as many libraries as he could, reading shelves, searching all the book indexes for THE name, and copying any data he found for us.

Then Doug Seeley of Connecticut researched the Seeley coat-of-arms and was a serious researcher and supporter.

Don Eff, the first president of SGS to be elected, was my savior after a fire in my home. He came up from Boulder, retrieved ALL my data, and stored it in his garage. I cannot tell you all that he did for the Society.

The first reunion in 1980 in Lyons was a blessing. I thank all who helped with that. Dues were established; the mailing list was cut dramatically; and officers were elected, all of which eased pressure I had been feeling in the years since Garner's death.

You are an amazing group, all related. Turn to your left. Now turn to your right. After you laugh and laugh, give each other great big hugs! I send my love to you all!

## CONTINUED From Page 1: Board Meeting

gracious, and altruistic work for SGS. On behalf of the society, memorial gifts had been sent to their families.

**Minutes from the July 2015 SGS Executive Board Meeting:**  
Minutes were read from the July 2015 SGS Executive Board Meeting. Jesse Crisler, SGS Second Vice President moved to accept that the minutes be accepted as read. Linda Crocker, SGS Chief Genealogist seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

**SGS Treasurer's Report:** SGS Treasurer Margaret Peterson presented and then defined the categories of the SGS Financial Report (below). See Margaret Peterson's Treasurer's Report for definitive elements of the income and expenses of the Seeley Genealogical Society, in their entirety.

### *Seeley Genealogical Society Financial Report Oct. 1, 2015 to April 25, 2016*

BEGINNING BALANCE \$17,791.53  
(from closed account)

INCOME	
Dues	\$470.00
Life Memberships	\$250.00
CDs	\$30.00
Donations	\$392.00
Printed Newsletters	\$72.00
Souvenir Books	\$70.00
Total Income	\$1,284.00

EXPENSES	
Postage	\$54.86
Supplies	\$9.99
Newsletters Printed	\$1,091.99
Newsletters Postage	\$284.34
Maintain Website	\$464.98
SRC Maintenance	\$1,000.00
Genealogical Research	\$971.25
Total Expenses	\$3,877.41

ENDING BALANCE \$15,198.12

CDs 1-4 (mature Jan. 2017)  
about \$77,000.00

\* Note - Pre-orders for souvenir book for \$1,120.00 in general fund

### *Submitted by Margaret Petersen SGS Treasurer*

- Margaret reported SGS income-to-date as \$19,075.53 with expenses of \$3,877.41. The SGS checking account has a balance of \$15,198.12.
- Margaret supplied information regarding SGS long-term investments; SGS has three certificates of deposit (CDs) totaling \$75,000 one for \$50,000, two for \$10,000, and one for \$5,000. The CDs reflect the "Johnson money" and are deposited at the Patriot Federal Bank, Canajoharie, NY.
- The CDs mature in January 2017. Exact worth of the CDs was not available at this time, though Margaret noted that they are earning .65% annually.
- The end-of-year report noted \$1,287.77 in interest for the four CDs.
- Discussion followed regarding whether a better return on the CDs is possible. Margaret will investigate possibilities, prior to the CDs' maturity date, to determine whether the society can find a greater return on them.
- Margaret presented information related to newsletter printing costs:
  - September cost of printed newsletter: \$702.65, plus \$188.20 for postage.
  - December cost of printed

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## CONTINUED From Page 7: Executive Board Meeting

newsletter: \$389.34, plus \$96.14 for postage. (Total cost for printed newsletter for September 2015 and December 2015 was \$1,376.33.)

- Sue Craven has taken on the responsibility to mail the newsletters to those members who have chosen to receive a hard copy of the newsletter.
- Forty-two members of SGS continue to receive the newsletter via the U.S. mail.
- Ten copies of the newsletter are mailed to Marie Seelye, SGS Membership Chair, for new membership packets; five copies each are sent to Lynda Simmons and the SRC for a total cost to the society of \$78.02.
- A subscription fee of \$12.00 covers the cost of printing and mailing four issues of the newsletter per year.
- Jesse Crisler moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Linda Crocker seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.
- Discussion occurred later in the meeting, though noted here, in which a disaggregated treasurer's report was requested by members of the Executive Board. Members requested an Excel-like spread sheet to provide more clarity regarding how income of SGS progresses. The income/expense Excel-like spread sheet would show in more detail the income and expenses for the following line items: Johnson Fund, DNA, general membership, Library Fund, Seeley Research Center, SGS Reunion 2015, and SGS

Reunion 2017, for example.

- Margaret agreed to develop a spread sheet which would indicate the data requested by the Executive Board.

### Seelye Mansion Report, Part 1:

**Terry Tietjens:** Terry Tietjens, SGS Director, reported that tours of the Seelye Mansion are increasing in number. Wedding receptions and tours are an integral part of the Seelye Mansion and Patent Medicine Museum experience. Michael Hook, chair of the Seelye Mansion Foundation as well as the Chisholm Trail Association, is connecting the Mansion with the Chisholm Trail Association in order to promote the Mansion and its historical significance.

### Publication Committee Report:

Paul Taylor, SGS First Vice President, brought up several publication issues.

- **SGS Facebook Page:** Paul noted the need for the development of content on the SGS Facebook page. At present, it has 400 "likes." But the page is not maintained daily, and is not growing. Only sixty individuals have found the page since the 2015 SGS reunion. The page is one vehicle by which queries come to Linda Crocker and/or Chris Havnar.
- **Souvenir Book:** The layout of the 2015 SGS Souvenir Reunion Book has not been completed. Questions regarding the souvenir book include how it will be distributed, how much printing will be, how much distribution costs will be, and who will print it?
  - The Board decided to retain the current printer which

produced the books from Grand Rapids and Elmira reunions.

- Kathie Olsen agreed to distribute the souvenir books, once they have been printed.
- **Newsletter distribution:** Sue Craven mails the hard copies of the newsletter to SGS members who have paid for them. E-mail distribution for other members is working well.
  - Discussion occurred later in the meeting, though noted here, regarding the present process of hard copies versus electronic newsletter. Walt Seelye noted the process used by the Winthrop Society. At present 229 SGS members receive the newsletter via email, while 42 members have requested it in hard copy. An additional 53 members have either not provided a current e-mail or street address, or have not paid current dues.
- **SGS Newsletter** will be posted to the website, two years in arrears; hence the May 2014 newsletter will be posted to the SGS website May 2016.
- **Award Programs.** Discussion followed regarding the process for entering the newsletter in newsletter competitions in order to recognize the hard work, long hours, and creativity that the editors and contributors devote to it. Lynda Simmons noted that two consecutive issues are required for the judging process. At present the newsletter design/redesign cues emulate those from award

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# Children's Ancestry Corner

By Seeley Genealogical Society  
Membership Chair Marie Seelye



*Editor's Note: This section of the newsletter is the first of what is planned as a series dedicated to youngsters. You are encouraged to share these pages with your children, grandchildren and greatgrandchildren. Use it as a way to begin a conversation with them, tell them stories about their family history, and perhaps engender in them a love for genealogy.*

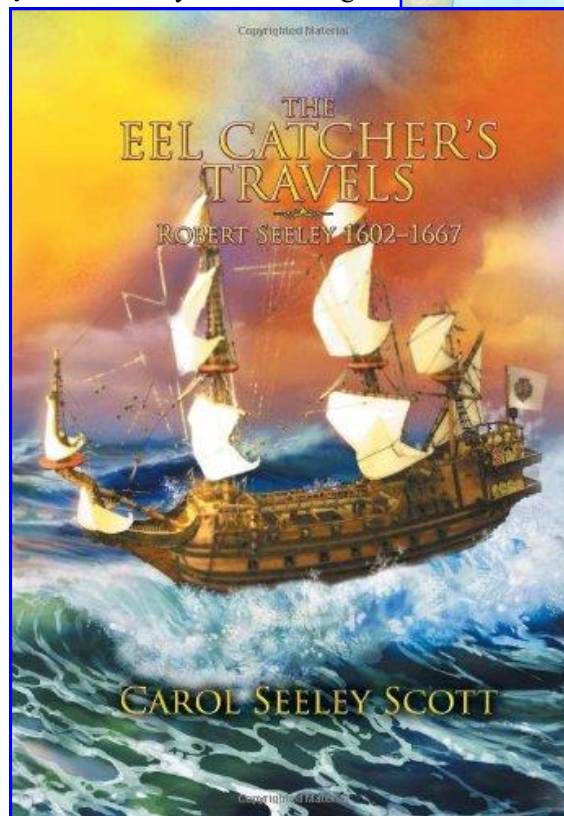
## Robert Seeley in the 1600s and You in the 2010s

Do you know what ancestry means? The dictionary defines it as “a collection of your ancestors,” and an ancestor is “a person from whom you are descended; someone who lived before you, is related to you, and is more remote than your grandparents.” To all Children: Would you like to have a special part of this newsletter that is only for you? What would you like to talk about? What would you like to see in this Corner? Please write to me to tell me what you think of this Corner and what you would like to see in it and contribute for other children to see.

Our Seeley family came from Great Britain. We are still investigating where Obadiah Seeley lived, but Robert Seeley lived with his parents in Huntingdonshire, England. That is near Cambridge, and Robert Seeley was an eel catcher, earning money to help his mother. The eels he caught looked like the eel to the right and were cut into pieces to put into an eel pie. Eel pie was a great delicacy that everyone liked. You can read Robert's story in the book *The Eel Catcher's Travels*, by Carol Seeley Scott. It is an interesting book that tells about his life in England, including when he went to London to

be a leatherworker, before he sailed to the New World. Look at the map of England to the right to see where Robert lived.

Robert was from the working class and did not have much money. The working



class ate food that was cheap, in plentiful supply, and easy to prepare. European eels baked in a pastry crust were a common worker's meal, since eels were one of the few forms of fish that could survive in the heavily

**Please See Robert Seeley in the 1600s Page 10**





## CONTINUED From Page 9: Robert Seeley in the 1600s

polluted River Thames and other London rivers. The supply of eels was plentiful, and eel pie houses served “pie and mash,” an eel pie with added mashed potatoes for a hearty meal. A sauce was made from the water used

to cook the eels, colored and flavored with parsley, and became the “gravy” poured over the pie. Would you like this for supper?

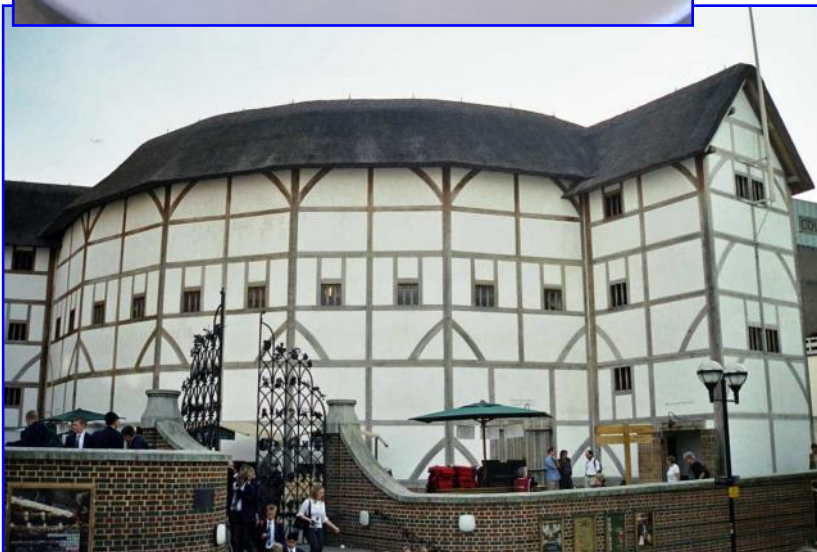
Here is your pie and mash dish. Doesn't it look delicious?

When Robert was in London, he met Mary Mason. Today when a young man goes on a date with a young girl, he will take her out to dinner and then perhaps to a movie. Robert could have bought “pie and mash” for both of them at an eel pie house. Then they might have gone to the Globe

Theatre to see a presentation of a play by William Shakespeare. Below is what the theatre looked like around 1625 when Robert and Mary lived in London.

Look at the balconies. People pay money to sit in the balconies. But if you don't have much money, you can pay a penny to stand on the ground floor up against the stage. Do you think you could see very well when you are standing in front of the stage? We hope the man in front of you doesn't wear a big hat. If he is taller than you are, you will have a hard time seeing the stage. But you can hear easily, if your neighbors are quiet.

**Please See Robert Seeley in the 1600s Page 11**





## CONTINUED From Page 10: Robert Seeley in the 1600s



The king of England at this time was Charles I. He made many changes in the country, including raising taxes. No one was happy with him. Also, his wife, Henrietta Maria, was sister of the king of France and was a Catholic. The clergymen and congregations of the Anglican Church in England were worried about the enforcement of church rules and the possibility of England returning to the Catholic religion. Robert and Mary decided to Sail with Governor John Winthrop, a Puritan, to the New

World. The settlement started there was called the Massachusetts Bay Colony.

Mary had lost all her family in the plague of 1625 and was very sad. She had only her sewing and her flower garden to console her. She wanted to take something with her to the new country to help her remember her family. One such thing may have been seeds which reminded her of her family and friends left behind. I had a grandmother named "Daisy." I would like to take seeds of daisies. I have a



cousin named Rose and many family members and friends named Mary. I would like to take seeds of Rosemary. It is an herb, which I could use to flavor the stuffing I put into chicken and turkey and ducks, which I will find in the New World. I have neighbors named Marigold and Petunia, so those seeds would be nice reminders of London.



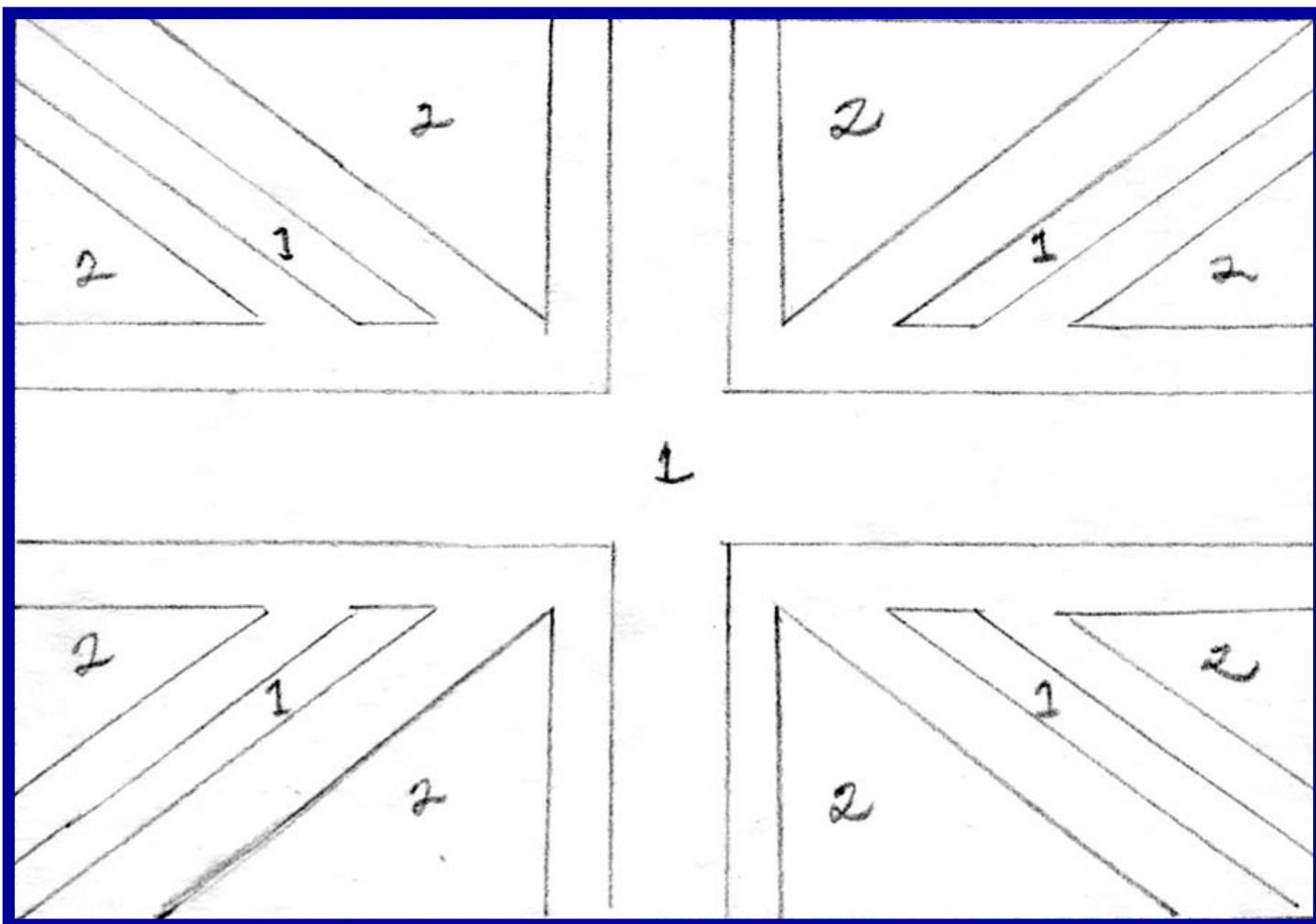
Do you have ancestors named for a flower? Who are they? What seeds would you take to help you remember your family? Remember you will probably never see you family or friends again and it is difficult to send them letters. They had no cell phones or computers in the 1600s, so how would you communicate with them? What would you do to remember them? There were no cameras then, so you would have no pictures of them. Think about what you would do and take to remember them.

**Please See Robert Seeley in the 1600s Page 12**





## CONTINUED From Page 11: Robert Seeley in the 1600s



Another reminder of home was the flag of Great Britain. Although they left England in search of greater religious freedom, they still considered themselves British and may have taken comfort in seeing the flag of their nation.

When we went to Germany to visit cousins, we were welcomed with the U.S. and German flags seen to the left. The sign says

“Warm Welcome” in German. We felt very welcomed and thought it was very friendly to see these two flags. I imagine Robert and Mary felt the same way when they saw their flag.

Because Robert came from England, let's color an English flag (above). Perhaps you can think of a use for this flag. Color the #1 areas red and the #2 areas blue.

I would like you to tell me if you like these pages. Would you like to see more? Do you have suggestions of things we could investigate together? The next newsletter will have more pictures and maybe a puzzle for you to work on. You might want to save these pages and put them all together in a book.

## CONTINUED From Page 8: Executive Board Meeting

winning publications.

- **SGS Dropbox account.** Paul next brought up the possibility of creating a Dropbox account for keeping SGS files shared, synced, and safe. The Board decided that having a Dropbox for SGS on-line files is not a good idea at present.

### DNA Project Report: Walt

Seelye reminded the board that the Seelye DNA Project is pursuing Y-DNA results only. The project is particularly interested in understanding the relationship between Obadiah Seeley and Robert Seeley. Linda Crocker noted that SGS will subsidize the Y-DNA testing of a particular member whose results may help the society clarify relationship questions. However, the individual(s) should join SGS before Y-DNA testing is subsidized. There was no SGS Y-DNA activity in 2015. Patricia Palmer, SGS Secretary, noted that Ancestry.com's AncestryDNA social platform may be a route for increasing membership.

### Membership Report: Marie

Seelye reported that SGS currently has 283 annual and life members, 17 foreign members, and 24 library or society memberships.

- We are losing approximately 20 members per year. Many members, when contacted via e-mail or U.S. mail, do not respond to our query.
- Discussion regarding increasing membership included the following suggestions and commentary:
  - Increase membership, by what means?
  - Include a children's corner in the newsletter

- Consider free registration at reunions
- Suggest that grandparents give memberships to grandchildren
- How do we maintain membership?
- Other organizations, like SGS, have suffered from reduction in memberships
- What is the best way to track membership, and how is membership tracked in SGS?
- Between 20 and 25 individuals have not renewed SGS membership and the Society has not been able to find them by phone, U.S. mail, or e-mail.
- Since 2015, 15 SGS members have died.

- One out-of-country member is receiving the newsletter. The Board considers maintaining membership and broadening outreach for new members of primary importance for the society.

### Ancestor File Report: Linda

Crocker continues to answer queries and work alongside Chris Havnar, SGS Webmaster.

- Linda noted that she and Chris remain vigilant in their development of sound and correct responses to queries.
- The Board members discussed at length processes related to the Ancestor File and queries. Comments included:
  - Is it to SGS's advantage to ask individuals who make a query to join SGS?
    - ◆ Linda noted that it is to the advantage of SGS to assist individuals who

have queries because the SGS Ancestor File may be served in the process.

- ◆ Marie Seelye sends out welcome letters to individuals who have sent queries. No present members of SGS joined as a result of a query or response to a query.
- On the website, how much information is "given away," and how much is for SGS members only?
  - ◆ Walt Seelye explained how the Winthrop Society develops membership and involvement.
  - ◆ Chris noted that she has a backlog of information to be added to the website including 123 pages of new word documents.
- Chris continues to scan sources for Seeley/Seelye/Seely obituaries.
- Lynda Simmons reminded the Board that all are volunteers and thanked officers and members for their involvement in SGS.

### Apryl Cox Research Report

**Part 1:** Apryl Cox's report was reviewed. Members of the Board noted conflicts with SGS records and Apryl Cox's report: Apryl Cox did have Dian Little's research, but in June Lynda Simmons will share with Apryl, records obtained from the Seelye Research Center. Can Apryl Cox validate Dian's research? What are the next steps based on Apryl's recommendations?

### Seeley Research Center and

**Library:** Pam Turner, SRC Librarian, reporter work completed at  
**Please See Executive Board Meeting Page 14**

## CONTINUED From Page 13: Executive Board Meeting

the SRC:

- Scanned the first ten years of the Ancestor File, which are now digitized and searchable. Email Pam for further information.
- Made 288 new pages on Obadiah Seeley available for use.
- Continued to facilitate a logical, searchable process in the SRC.
- Provided protective covers provided for ephemeral items.
- Continue to scan family compilation files.
- Noted the importance of protecting and digitizing lines; which is imperative for storage of important files.
- Developed a new filing index, rearranged books, and ephemera on new shelving.
- New index reflecting changes to be published.

### Seelye Mansion Report, Part 2:

Michael Hook reported that Abilene appreciated having the SGS Fiftieth Anniversary Reunion located there in 2015. The Chisholm Trail Association will include the Seelye Mansion in the Chisholm Trail Festival, in Sept. 2016 as well as a guest representing the Cowboy Hall of Fame, cowboy poets, a dance with a live band, and other activities.

- Jesse Crisler requested that Michael write a piece to be included in the newsletter regarding the Chisholm Trail.

### Awards and Recommendation

**Committee:** Kathie Olsen reported that she and Marshall Seelye will continue to serve on the Awards and Recommendation Committee.

- She explained that she had received a letter from Mary Jean Eisenhower requesting that SGS become a charter member of the

Eisenhower Legacy Society. A \$34.00 donation to the Eisenhower Legacy Society was requested as a one-time gift.

- Discussion followed. Jesse Crisler moved that SGS become a charter member of the Eisenhower Legacy Society, with a one-time tax-deductible gift of \$34.00. Kathie Olsen seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.
- Discussion occurred later in the meeting, though noted here, during which Lynda Simmons agreed to ask Thera Seeley Clarke to continue to serve on the Award Committee.

### Future Direction of the Seeley

**Genealogical Society:** Board members reported on or commented about the following items as they relate to the SGS:

- Lynda Simmons reported that the Connecticut Genealogical Society has asked for a one-page history of the SGS.
- Jesse Crisler noted that a history of SGS will be included in the 2015 Reunion Souvenir Book.
- Board members discussed sharing information electronically in the future.
- Paul Taylor, Wesley Waring, Linda Crocker, and Lynda Simmons remarked that interactions regarding the SGS could be exponentially increased with the continued use of the newsletter, reunions, the website, and Facebook.
- Michael Hook recommended that a Twitter account be established for SGS, noting that social media is free advertising for the society.

- Paul observed that SGS does not contribute to Facebook on a regular basis, noting that Facebook could be a means to increase SGS visibility on social media.
- Suggestions included sharing information from the newsletter on Facebook, posting on Facebook regularly, four times weekly at a minimum, and engaging with other genealogical organizations on Facebook.
- Paul will construct a "Facebook posting schedule" for members of the Board, thereby increasing content and developing more responsibility for SGS Members for Facebook and other social media content.

### Redesign of the Website Part 1:

As the chair of the SGS Website Redesign Committee, Paul Taylor advised the Board that a listing of all content on the current site is necessary, prior to a redesign of the website.

- Linda Crocker explained that mapping a website is a way for board members to learn what is on it.
- A redesigned website may be another way of planting the seeds of interest in SGS and driving up traffic to Facebook, and vice versa.

### Benefits of Membership in SGS:

Board members reviewed the "Benefits of Membership" sheet. Jesse Crisler will revise the sheet and send it to Lynda Simmons for approval before it is sent to Marie Seelye. Board members noted that the Benefits of Membership sheet should reflect various facets of SGS.

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## CONTINUED From Page 14: Executive Board Meeting

- Remind potential members that SGS is a (501)(c)(3) tax-deductible organization.
- SGS counts professional genealogists and volunteers among its members.

**Area Coordinators:** Discussion of the SGS Area Coordinators included the following:

- Marie Seelye will provide Jesse Crisler with a list of Area Coordinators.
- Jesse will get in touch with them and thank them for their service to SGS.
- Linda Crocker will then write an article for the newsletter thanking the Area Coordinators and explaining why this position is no longer necessary.
- Jesse Crisler moved to remove the Area Coordinators as a position in SGS. Linda Crocker seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

### Reconsideration of Y-DNA

**Testing Subsidy for Tom E.** Walt Seelye proposed partial funding of a Y-DNA test for Tom E. because we're not sure where his family fits into the Seeley line. A DNA test for Tom E. might yield new information that connects a new line into the SGS family. At this juncture, there are no other candidates to test.

- Discussion followed, and it was determined that Walt Seelye will contact Tom E. to determine whether he is still interested in being tested.

### Nominating Committee for

**2017-2019:** Kathie Olsen read the SGS Constitution, Article 5, Section 2, regarding nomination of officers.

- Present officers were polled and all wish to continue in their

positions. Jess Crisler and Pam Turner volunteered to be members of the nominating committee, if necessary.

**SGS Generation Books:** Kathie Olsen noted the following information regarding the SGS Generation Books:

- All SGS Generation Books have been scanned and digitized.
- Individuals should consider ordering the CD of the books rather than hard copies.
- Cost of hard copies: \$17 for Generations 1-5, \$35 for Generation 6, \$35 for Generation 7, or \$85 for a complete set.
- Linda Crocker noted that all correct/corrected SGS information is reflected in the SGS database.

### Redesign of the SGS Website:

Paul Taylor provided an update regarding the redesign of the SGS Website:

- Logan Seeley has been contracted as the web designer.
- Logan's proposal includes importing current SGS website information into a WordPress platform so that officers may add or subtract information to/from the website.
- The existing website must be diagrammed before turning it over to Logan.
- Chris Havnar noted a need to spread out the workload of the diagramming process.
- Logan will retain the present website while setting up the new website.
- Logan does not recommend a new host for the website; the current host is Blue Host.
- Logan will facilitate theme, text, sections, headers, outline, and basic design of the new website.

- Discussion from the Board included:

- The web site should contain a members only section.
- What should be considered free information on the website? What should be included in a members-only section?
- What research should/will be included on the website?
- At present, traffic on the website indicates visitors are looking to find information regarding their families.
- Reunion information should be on the website.
- Back issues of the newsletter should be available on the website two years after publication.
- The website is an enticement to join the SGS and a vehicle for membership connections.
- The Ancestor File, should NOT be on the website.
- Marie Seeley, assisted by her husband, Walt, will arrange for SGS members to have a new annual password for access to the new SGS website's members-only section, as needed.
- Paul Taylor and Pam Turner will draw up a list of material to be included in a members-only section.
- Should members be able to pay dues online via PayPal or a donations tab with no ads, since SGS has 501(c)(3) status.
- Website update notifications will be shared on Facebook.

### Apryl Cox Research Report

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## CONTINUED From Page 15: Executive Board

**Part 2:** Lynda Simmons read Apryl Cox's recommendations for further research. Members of the Board voiced the following concerns:

- Do not duplicate records or research previously completed. For example, Dian Little's research and James Seeley's research are important material which does not need duplication.
- The Board determined that \$500 of the remaining funds allocated for research be provided to Apryl Cox to continue research, based on her recommendations.

**Reunion 2017 in Parkersburg, West Virginia:** Committee Members of the SGS 2017 International Reunion include: Linda Crocker, George and Sally Seeley, Kathie Olsen, Lynda Simmons, Jesse and Lou Ann Crisler, and Paul Taylor.

- Reunion date options are June 22-25, 2017, July 13-16, or July 20-23, 2017.
- Board members recommended including activities of interest to children, general meetings, tours, various speakers member speakers including Nick Taylor
- Linda will get in touch with possible speakers from Parkersburg Community College as well as the Parkersburg Historical Society.
- All Board members should be ready to give reports regarding their duties and be willing to take questions from the membership.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, Lynda Simmons adjourned the second and final session of this SGS Executive Board meeting, April 30 at 10:55 AM.

## CONTINUED From Page 5: USS Rowan

*Suddenly, I awake to find  
I had fallen asleep and dreamed,  
But my heroes had called and waved  
to me.  
It was all so real, it seemed.  
But I cannot dream on longer.  
They are in danger, 'tis true.  
But the mighty Rowan sails gracefully  
on,  
Bearing the Red, White, and Blue.  
(23 July 1942)*

Lorraine Buell has generously donated a copy of the book she helped her father write to the Seelye Research Center in Abilene, KS, where members of the Seeley Genealogical Society and other researchers can read it at their leisure. Shipmates won a 2002 Clara Award for Best Biography/Memoir.

## SGS Queries

*Coordinated and Compiled by SGS Query Editor Linda Crocker*

The SGS query column leverages the amassed knowledge of SGS, the research skills of the society's query team as well as the knowledge of SGS members to help query submitters answer research questions.

Submit your queries to SGS Query Editor Linda Crocker at llbc100@msn.com or mail to Linda at home (see inside back cover). Queries are assigned a query number by the query editor, researched, and then sent to the query team and area coordinators for their input. Linda summarizes each query and any responses for inclusion in the newsletter.

Be sure to follow a few guidelines when submitting your query.

**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 and complete contact information—sometimes we receive new information months or even years after your query appears.

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, **so the query can be updated in the next newsletter. Please include the query number**, preferably in the subject line of your email. Remember to cite your sources.

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

**Please See SGS Queries, Page 17**

**CONTINUED From Page 16: SGS Queries****Query Updates (Data Current as of May 13, 2016)****Update to Query 1602-1** Re: Ebenezer Seely's Powder Horn

Submitter Bruce Miller ([nordata@earthlink.net](mailto:nordata@earthlink.net)), owner of an antique powder horn, wanted help in identifying which Ebenezer Seely was the original owner. We had tentatively suggested that SGS# 63 was likely to be the correct Ebenezer. After the query appeared we were contacted by Steve Hollands ([sjhollands@yahoo.com](mailto:sjhollands@yahoo.com)), a life member of SGS. Steve believes the powder horn was indeed owned by Ebenezer Seely SGS#63.

Steve checked Ebenezer's will which was published in the Orange County, NY, *Genealogical Society Journal* (Vol 6, No. 1, May 1976). It does not list any powder horns, but Steve thinks it very likely that Ebenezer's children and grandchildren would have taken the powder horn with them when they moved to the Chemung County area after the Revolution. Also while researching CT military records Steve learned that Ebenezer was with parties that attempted to relieve Fort William Henry in 1757 and with Col. Wooster for the better part of 1758. Wooster's units were part of General Abercrombie's 1758 Fort Carillon campaign. Steve also learned that Fort Herkimer was used in the 1757 and 1758 campaigns. All of this evidence corroborates our theory that SGS# 63 was the original owner of the powder horn.

**Update to Query 1308-2** Re: William Mearill Seeley

Donn Osborn ([my.dream@frontier.com](mailto:my.dream@frontier.com)) is the grandson of William Mearill Seeley, but he never met or heard much about his grandfather. In response to the original query we found plenty of records about William Mearill but were unable to verify his claim to be a son of George and Agnes Seeley of Onondaga Co. NY. His marriage record and the parentage of the children mentioned in his obituary were also dubious.

I found five relevant Michigan Marriage records:

- Marr. License issued 11 Sept 1922 for Mearill Seeley age 21 of Detroit, b. NY son of George Seeley, truck driver, and Agnes Boyne to Elizabeth Corlew of Detroit, b. NY to George Corlew and \_\_\_\_\_, factory worker. No marriage performed, license returned.
- Mearill W. Seeley, age 24, of Detroit, b. NY, to Geo. Seeley and Agnes Boyce md. 27 Mar 1923 at Detroit to Elizabeth Corlew age 18 of Detroit b. NY to Geo. Corlew and Elizabeth Ackerman
- William Seeley, white male b. about 1900 in NY, son of George Seeley and Agnes Boyce, md. at Detroit, Wayne, MI, 17 Oct 1931, to Jessie Dew, white female, age 20, b. in Canada to Simeon Dew and Allie Shepherd.
- William M Seeley b. about 1902, married 17 Oct 1931 in Wayne Co. MI, divorced Jesse P. Seeley on 3 Mar 1943 in Wayne Co., MI
- William M Seeley, white male born about 1900 in NY, son of George P Seeley and Agnes Boice, md. at Livonia, Wayne, MI, 2 Aug 1945 to Elizabeth M. Boyd, age 40, b. N. Syracuse, NY, to George Corlew and Elizabeth Ackerman

I have made a thorough search of both the WWI and WWII draft records as well as other military records and I cannot find William Mearill Seeley listed anywhere. If he

was born in 1897 as indicated in his obituary (or 1898 as in the Soc. Security Death Index) he should have been listed somewhere. So we still have no evidence to support William Mearill Seeley's claim that his parents were George and Agnes nor a confirmed birth date.

**New Queries****Query 1605-1** Submitted by Terry Marks ([terrymarks123@comcast.net](mailto:terrymarks123@comcast.net))

Terry submitted a photo of a painting of his wife, the late Gina Marks (see below). Gina was the daughter of Johnny Maschio (a Hollywood talent agent) and his wife, actress Constance Moore. The artist is a Seely. Gina was born in 1941. Terry wonders if we can help him date the painting. Terry says her parents were "Hollywood Royalty" in the 1930s, 40s and 50s.

**SGS Response:** We have an obituary for artist Walter Frederick Seely as well as a newspaper article on the SGS website: <http://www.seeley-society.net/vitals/vcally414b.html>.

In part the article states that WF "has a portrait studio on the famed 'strip' or Sunset Boulevard near Beverly Hills. Here he has painted the children of such noted Hollywood stars as Harold Lloyd, Alan Ladd, Abbott and Costello and Gordon McCrae." The article is dated Sept. 2, 1954. Terry verified that the signature on the painting is W. Frederick Seely. W.F. is the great-grandson of SGS# 3223, an Obadiah descendant. As for dating the painting, Terry guesses that Gina was aged 8-12. If anyone has an idea on how to date the painting more specifically, please contact me and Terry Marks.

**Query 1605-2** Submitted by Carol Kennedy ([carolandfranksr@gmail.com](mailto:carolandfranksr@gmail.com))

Carol found a reference to Robert James Duden Hutton on the SGS website and wondered why it was there.

**SGS Response:** We had Robert in our database as a son of Ruth Ann Duden and Frank Wesley Seeley Hutton. Frank is a son of Ada Elizabeth Seeley and Herbert Hutton. Ada Elizabeth is in the 10<sup>th</sup> generation, a granddaughter of SGS# 1924, Lloyd Seeley. Through correspondence and research Carol, Chris Havnar, and I added information to this family.

Frank WS Seeley's first of two wives was Ethel Butterfield.

**1925 census Queens, Queens, NY**

- Hutton, Herbert W., age 53, b. US, carpenter
- Hutton, Ada S., age 52, b. US
- Hutton, Frank W., son, age 24, b. US, radio mechanic
- Hutton, Ethel A., age 22, daughter-in-law, b. US, shipping typist

**1930 census Brooklyn, Kings, NY**

- Hutton, Frank N., age 29, b. PA, PA, PA, automobile salesman, md. 8 yrs. to
- Hutton, Estel A., age 27, b. NY, NY, NY, bookkeeper for lithographing firm

**1940 census New York, Queens, NY**

**Please See SGS Queries, Page 18**



## CONTINUED From Page 17: SGS Queries

- Hutton, Frank W., age 39, widowed, b. NY
- Hutton, Edward, age 15, son, b. NY, student
- Hutton, Herbert W., father, age 68, b. NY
- Hutton, Ada, mother, age 67, b. NY

### SS Applications

- Name: Edward Leroy Hutton [Edward L Hutton]
- SSN: 093228233
- White male
- Born: 23 Oct 1924 at Cooperstown, NY
- Died: 4 Jul 1998
- Father: Frank Wesel S. Hutton
- Mother: Ethel A. Butterfield

### SSDI

- Edward L. Hutton, b. 23 Oct 1924, d. 4 Jul 1998 at Ridgecrest, Kern, CA; SS# issued in NY

### CABI

- Robert James Duden Hutton, b. 19 Feb 1946, Kern Co., CA
- Mother's maiden name: Duden

### NVMI

- Frank Wesley S., Jr., Hutton & Diana Ward Finney md. 21 Sep 1978, Carson City, NV

### New Orleans Passenger Lists

- Arriving on SS *Cuba* 2 Apr 1945 from Cristobal, Canal Zone
  - Hutton, Ruth Anna Duden b. 15 Aug 1915, Brooklyn, NY, going to 93rd St., Queens Village, NY
  - Hutton, Ada S., b. 15 Dec 1872, Ringtown, PA, going to 93rd St, Ozone Park, NY
  - Hutton, Frank W.S., Jr., b. 3 Mar 1943, Balboa, Canal Zone, going to 93rd St., Queens Village, NY

We have not been able to find Edward, son of Frank W.S. Hutton Sr., and Ethel Butterfield, in census records before 1940. Perhaps he was adopted?

**Query 1605-3** Submitted by Mark Barleben ([mark.barleben@videotron.ca](mailto:mark.barleben@videotron.ca)).

Jane Sceli is Mark's wife's second great-grandmother, born in County Tipperary, Ireland to Joseph Sceli and Isabella Hodgins. She married Henry Cunningham and they moved to Ontario in 1850. He has found online information that she was descended from Edward Seely and Lucretia Gray as follows (with his comments in italics):

- William Seely (1633-1707) married to Martha Abbott?, son of Edward Seely and Lucretia Gray. *So far so good.*
- Robert Sceli (1650 - ?) married to Elizabeth Marsh, son of William Seely and Martha Abbott. According to this, William would have been 17 when his son was born. *Young but possible.*

*Now it gets interesting!*

- John Sceli (1730-?) married to ?, son of Robert Sceli and Elizabeth Marsh. *According to this, Robert Sceli would have been 80 years old when his son was born. Is this correct?*

**SGS Response:** I found photocopies of the book *Hodgins...Kindred Forever* by Lester Hodgins, Hodgins Family History Society, 1977, at the Seelye Research Center in Abilene.

Ch. 122 "The Sceli Family in Ireland" shows Edward Seely b. 18 May 1609, md Lucretia Gray and they had three sons: Henry, William and John. Then it says:

*"William Seely of Corker (county Devon, son of Edward) had a son who was born about 1650. In the year 1667, during the reign of King Charles the second, he went to live in County Kerry in Ireland. His son, Robert Seely, was born at Maugh in County Kerry. Robert grew up and married the sister of a certain General Marsh. There were three sons by this marriage: Armiger, George and John.*

*"John Seely was born about 1730. He was married and lived in Richmond, County Cork. His son, Robert Seely, born in 1765 in Richmount but later lived at Bandon, County Cork before moving to Tipperary, where he lived first at the village of Scilly near Kinsale but later made his home at Ballymackey. Robert was a parish clerk ... for many years at Ballymackey. ...For some reason his surname went through various changes from Seely and Seeli but more commonly Scilly as in the village where he lived for a few years."*

At Ballymackey Robert married Maryann Hodgins, either a daughter or niece of William of Ballymackey. The couple had at least six children. The first two sons, names unknown, grew up and joined the British Army. One served under Wellington at Waterloo and died in 1814. Four children eventually emigrated to Canada: Robert Jr, Joseph, John and Jane.

*"Joseph Sceli, son of Robert Sr and Maryann Hodgins Seely was born at Ballymackey in 1794 and lived to March 25 1875. In 1821 he married Isabella Hodgins, daughter of John and Jane (Napier) Hodgins of Ballymackey. Isabella lived from Oct 1803 - April 24 1891."* At least 6 of their children were born in Ireland.

Notes report that Joseph and Isabella left Ireland for Canada in April 1834. They either spent a long period in Cork waiting for a ship, or the trip was unusually long, for they did not arrive in Quebec City until Aug. 19, 1834. Their first child born in Canada was born that same day." They joined Joseph's brother in Biddulph Ontario, on neighboring land where Joseph lived the rest of his life. They had 12 children but three died before adulthood.

*"Jane Sceli, first of the twelve children, was born at Ballymackey and lived from 1822 to Oct 19, 1900. She married Henry Cunningham, son of Thomas of Biddulph. Henry lived from 1818 to April 14 1876. The couple made their home in McGillivray Township, Omt. They had 10 children: Mary-Jane, Elizabeth-Emma, Ann-Harding, Isabella, Thomas, William-Henry, Robert, Wesley, James and Joseph."*

Information on other members of this extended Seely/Sceli family can be found beginning on page 365 here: <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~aek740/hkf/HodginsKindredForever.htm>. From the above, information, Jane's line seems to be:

- Jane md. Henry Cunningham
- Joseph md. Isabella Hodgins
- Robert Sr md. Maryann Hodgins
- John
- Robert Seely md. \_\_\_ Marsh
- Son, b. 1650 to William Seely of Corker
- William of Corker
- Edward Seely md. Lucretia Gray

You can see that there are still a few blanks. If you have further information on this Irish Seely/Sceli family please share it with us.

## SGS Elected Officers & Board of Directors for 2015 - 2017

**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 and Volunteers for 2015 - 2017

**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.
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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 (\$12 a year)
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
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## Seeley Genealogical Society

% MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

MARIE SEELYE

13802 PINE GLEN Dr. E.

BLACK FOREST, CO 80908

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Please notify SGS via email at [seelyew@gmail.com](mailto:seelyew@gmail.com) if the person on the above label is no longer living at this address.

### SGS Publications for Order

SGS has several publications and research tools for sale.

1. Print/mailed version of the *SGS Newsletter* (U.S. \$12 per year)
2. *The Descendants of Robert Seeley (1602-1667) and Obadiah Seeley (1614-1657), Generations One Through Five, 1997 Edition* (U.S. \$17)
3. *The Sixth Generation Families, 1995 Edition* (U.S. \$35)
4. *The Seventh Generation Families: Descendants of Robert Seeley (1601-1667) and Obadiah Seeley (1614-1657), 2000 Edition* (U.S. \$35)
5. Set of All Three SGS Publications (above) (U.S. \$85)
6. The SGS CD-ROM -- Revised August 2013 (U.S. \$15) that includes:
  - The Three SGS Publications by Madeline Mills and Katherine Olsen
  - SGS Newsletters from Issue 1 in 1965 through August 2013
  - 1980s Research Rpt. on Obadiah Seeley (New Eng. records), Fred C. Hart, Jr., CG
  - Research Report on Robert Seeley by Alan Phipps, MA, AG
  - 2006 Research Rpt on Obadiah Seeley (old English records), Clifford L. Stott, CG
7. The SRC Document Index (with Change Seven entered) lists documents shelved at the Seelye Research Center (U.S. \$10)
8. The SGS GEDCOM CD is a file of genealogical information from SGS publications and the International Genealogical Index (U.S. \$15)
9. Souvenir Book of 2013 Grand Rapids, MI Reunion (U.S. \$30)
  - Item 1 should be ordered from Marie Seelye
  - Items 2, 3, 4, 5 should be ordered from Terry Tietjens
  - Item 6 from Bob Seeley
  - Item 7 from Pamela Turner
  - Items 8 and 9 from Kathie Olsen

Contact information is on page 19.

All checks should be made payable to SGS.

When the photo below was posted to the Facebook page of one SGS Reunion attendee, there were an astronomical number of comments, the overwhelming majority of which said how **AWESOME** Veronica Seeley Newell and Nick Taylor looked in their commemorative

### SGS 50th Anniversary T-Shirts!



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To order yours, get in touch with Linda Crocker (see contact info on page 19).