



Seeley Genealogical Society Newsletter

Issue No. 2004-03

History Family Research

August 2004

SGS Board of Directors Meets in Abilene

Editor's Note: The SGS Board of Directors met in Abilene, Kan. on May 14, 2004 at the Seeley Research Center. Seven Board members (five elected, two appointed) attended the meeting. SGS President Jim Seeley provided the following notes from the meeting.

Decision - The Board decided not to initiate efforts to develop an 8th/9th Generation document.

Decision - The Board decided to terminate efforts on compiling a Seeley Women Book for the following reasons:

- All the data we have already exists on the SGS CD (SGS Ancestor File Index).
- All the info Kathie Olsen and Madeline Mills have is contained in the 3 SGS Publications.
- No new information has been submitted to the Chief Genealogist and Director of the Seeley Women Book Project despite her request during the 2001 and 2003 Reunions and in each of the SGS Newsletters.

The Board emphasized its desire to **maintain universality in SGS research** regardless of ancestral origins. In other words, members are encouraged to recommend areas they wish the Society's help in researching their ancestors.

Action - A copy of the Obadiah Seeley DNA Test Project final report was reviewed and will be published in the August 2004 Newsletter and on the SGS website. The Board requested Jim Seeley to rewrite the report to improve clarity.

Decision - The Board authorized the President to approve Sandra Pitts' three "Suggestions for Future Research" up to a limit of \$200. However, her suggested research objectives need to be validated before research is commenced, against Jerome Anderson's May 17, 2004 comment to Jim Seeley that he has researched all the probate records for the William/Obadiah period in the Birmingham, England area.

Action - A copy of Sandra Pitts' report will be published in the SGS Newsletter.

Action - Dian Little agreed to develop a paper on "What we now know about Obadiah Seeley's Ancestry."

Decision - The Board authorized the President to pay up to \$200 to complete efforts to obtain a copy of Jerome Anderson's research that contains considerable Seeley information.

Action - When a copy of Jerome Anderson's research is obtained, Jim Seeley will ensure that the parts of it pertaining to the Seeley surname are published in the SGS Newsletter.

Action - Dian Little and John Seely agreed to investigate the reference used by Jeanne Majdalany in her book *The Story of Early Settlers of Stamford, CT 1641-1700* that would verify her statement that "Obadiah was a carpenter who built Miller's house." Oliver Popenoe mentioned this book in response to a Slawson query on SEELY-L. This would be an attempt to link the Obadiah of Stamford, CT to the Obadiah who was an apprentice in carpentry in London.

Decision - The Board authorized the President to approve up to \$200 to Fred Hart to engage Bob Anderson to review some of Fred Hart's findings regarding possible connections that Bob may not have considered in detail for his Great Migration sketch. [Jim Seeley has contacted Fred regarding this research initiative and Fred now believes it has

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Editor:
Paul Taylor

Address newsletter correspondence to:

SGS Newsletter
3848 Frazier Lane
Virginia Beach, VA 23456

Phone: 757-471-1188
email: pccntaylor@cox.net

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.

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, Seelye, Sealy, Sealey, Selye, Sely, Seale, Seilee, Seela, Cieley, Cealy, Cilley, etc.

Membership Dues

\$8 per year, \$15 two years, \$21 three years, or \$30 five years. Lifetime memberships are \$100. (Dues are in U.S. dollars and the membership year runs from Sept. 1 to Aug. 31)

Pay all dues to:

SGS Membership Chairman
Ramon E. Hall
155 Bear Drive
Evergreen, CO 80439-4323
(303) 679-0384
ramonhall@prodigy.net

Seelye National Research Center

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

Seelye Research Center, Director
Terry Tietjens
P.O. Box 337, 1105 N. Buckeye
Abilene, KS 67410-0337
Phone: (785) 263-1084
email: terryt@access-one.com

SGS International Reunions

are held every two years. The next one is scheduled for September 2005 in Abilene, KS. Please advise the editor if your branch or family have plans for a sectional or local reunion in the interim. Others might like to know about it.

The editorial opinions expressed in this newsletter are the opinions of the writer 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. Proven errors will be corrected.

The President's Report

The SGS Board of Directors met in Abilene, Kan. at the Seelye Research Center on May 14, 2004. A quorum was present. The Board's agenda was published on page 4 of the May 2004 Newsletter. A separate article in this Newsletter summarizes the decisions made and the actions the Board has taken or intends to take.

I would like to particularly commend the Board for their thoughtfulness and diligence in considering the various research objectives proposed, assigning actions and making decisions. It was a difficult task, but there was a good feeling among the Board Members attending that progress was made on these important research efforts. See the article *Status of SGS Research* in this Newsletter for more details.

Ruthetta Hansen has agreed to accept the additional duty as SGS Historian. She has agreed to update the history of the Seeley Genealogical Society that appeared in the February Newsletter that was written by Donald Eff. She retains her present duties as Assistant Membership and Promotion Chairwoman. Many thanks to Ruthetta for accepting this new responsibility. If you have inputs for Ruthetta's history, her contact information is on page 15.

The SGS CD has been updated to include all 5 of the Fred C. Hart, Jr., CG research reports on Obadiah [with attachments]. The plan is to also add Alan Phips' English research on Robert Seeley to a future CD revision. Our objective is to put all major SGS compilations and research reports on one CD and make it available to SGS members and researchers. The CD cost remains just \$15. Ordering information is on page 15.

Certified Genealogists Sandra Pitts and Fred C. Hart, Jr. have agreed to be advisors to the SGS Research Objectives Committee. Committee members include Ray Hall, Wesley Waring, Dian Little, Kathie Olsen, and me.

At John Seely's recommendation, I had a telephone conversation with Jerome Anderson, now retired, but who was a research librarian with the New England Historic Genealogical Society. Jerome has done considerable research on the Seeley surname and his recollection of facts was impressive. He plans to submit his research to the NEHGS for publication. He told me he has already researched all available English records on William Seeley, father of Obadiah Seeley (b. 1614), in the Birmingham, England area. See the article on the status of SGS research elsewhere in this Newsletter for additional details. I told Jerome that SGS is very interested in obtaining a copy of his research.

SGS Board Member Terry Tietjens is President of a nonprofit corporation that is rebuilding and constructing an area in Abilene, Kan. known as the Old Abilene Town Project. [See the article on page 6 of the May 2004 Newsletter for additional details.] Current plans, subject to construction schedules, are to host the 2005 SGS Reunion meetings and provide meals to Reunion attendees at this facility. The Old Abilene Town Project is located on Buckeye Street just south of the President Eisenhower Library and Museum complex.

SGS Member Dr. Ken McCrea has volunteered to manage a General Seeley DNA Test Project. Dr. McCrea's degree is closely associated with genetics. The objective of this project is to help individual members better understand their ancestral line. Costs will be born by the test subjects. Dr.

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Status of SGS Research as of August 2004

Story by Jim Seeley SGS President and Chairman, SGS Research Objectives Committee

In the May 2004 issue of the SGS Newsletter I reported that **SGS has reinitiated research** into the ancestry of Obadiah Seeley (presumably b. 1614, d. 1657). Initial efforts are focused on trying to determine whether the Obadiah Seeley who was baptized in Birmingham, son of William, in 1614 is the same Obadiah Seeley who died in Stamford, Conn. in 1657.

Sandra Pitts, BA, AG, was engaged to do an LDS Library microfilm **search of probate records in the Birmingham, England area for a document made by William Seeley** during the time frame subsequent to the recorded baptism of Obadiah in 1614. The intent of this search was to see if such a document might provide information on the career of his son Obadiah. Ms. Pitts was unable to find reference to such a document. A complete copy of Ms. Pitts' report is in this Newsletter.

The **SGS Board approved Ms. Pitts' recommendations for further research**. However, it was subsequently learned, during a phone call with Mr. Jerome Anderson, that he had already conducted the research Ms. Pitts recommended and with no positive results. Therefore, SGS will hold in abeyance implementing Ms. Pitts' recommendations until we've analyzed Mr. Anderson's research report. **Mr. Jerome Anderson has done significant research on the Seeley surname** and has an impressive recollection of his findings. He stated that Obadiah's grandfather was also named William and this William was a town father (mayor). Mr. Anderson believes the Seeley name derives from "The Blessed or Holy One" and that this family was strongly Puritan. He plans to submit his research to the New England Historic Genealogical Society for publication. I told Mr. Anderson that SGS would very much like a copy of his research dealing with the Seeley surname. The SGS Board approved limited expenditures for this.

Our Chief Genealogist, Dian Little, has agreed to give a presentation at the 2005 Reunion in Abilene, Kan. on **What we Know about Obadiah Seeley's Ancestry**. Hopefully we'll know a lot more by then. Members are requested to provide Dian all information they may have on this subject. Her Email and postal addresses are on page 15.

The **Board also approved requesting Fred C. Hart, Jr. to engage Bob Anderson** to review some of Fred Hart's findings regarding possible connections that Bob may not have considered in detail for his Great Migration sketch. I have contacted Fred regarding this new initiative and he wanted to view the Final Report on the Obadiah DNA Test Project before contacting Bob Anderson. Fred was also requested to try to obtain Bob Anderson's approval to publish pages 1647 – 1650 of Mr.

Anderson's 3 Volume book *The Great Migration Begins: Immigrants to New England, 1620-1633* in the SGS Newsletter, and to add those pages to the SGS CD. Those pages contain a sketch of Robert Seeley and his family. An important excerpt from page 1650 reads as follows: "Many secondary sources claim that Obadiah Seeley of Stamford was a son of Robert Seeley, but this should be rejected."

The **July 2004 Revision of the SGS CD contains the 5 Research Reports done for SGS by Fred C. Hart, Jr., CG**. These reports have been added to the CD containing the three SGS Publications and John Seely's Ancestor File Index. Our approach is to put all major SGS compilations and research reports on one CD that can easily be downloaded onto individual PCs. We plan to add Alan Phips' research report of English records on Robert Seeley as well.

At its May 14, 2004 meeting, the SGS Board of Directors spent considerable time reviewing proposed SGS Research Objectives. Actions assigned and decisions made on this subject are in the summary of the Board's minutes elsewhere in this Newsletter. **The Board emphasized its desire to maintain universality in SGS research regardless of ancestral origins**. In other words, members are encouraged to recommend areas they wish the Society's help in researching their ancestors.

I currently plan to provide a **status of SGS Research Efforts in each SGS Newsletter**, at least for the foreseeable future. If you have material you think should be included, please contact me. My first article on this subject was published on page 3 of the May 2004 SGS Newsletter.

New SGS Logo Adopted

Well, the votes are in and despite a large contingent of folks from the reunion who had voiced the desire to include a covered wagon in the new logo, the membership voted to stick with the traditional "ship-only" logo. The new logo represents the maritime history and migration of our family. Although many Seeleys are not descended from Robert or Obadiah, and although many Seeleys eventually settled in western North America after difficult migrations, we all started some place in Europe. That includes the many members of SGS who don't live in America or Europe. So hopefully everybody finds the new logo pleasing and representative of our pioneering family. Thank you to those who voted.

Sincerely,
Paul Taylor
Logo Committee Chair

Final Report of the Obadiah Seeley DNA Test Project

Rev: 12 July 2004

Objective: The objective of this Project was to help SGS understand any relationship between Robert Seeley (1602-1667) and Obadiah Seeley (presumably 1614-1657).

Test Director: The SGS Obadiah Seeley DNA Test Project Director was Wesley Waring. Anita Lustenberger, CG was the geneticist advisor to the Project Director.

Type of DNA Test: The type of DNA test selected was a Y-Chromosome analysis. This required that DNA samples be taken from male donors with an unbroken male line back to the original ancestor. Volunteers were requested from the male children of Nathaniel (son of Robert) and the male children of Obadiah. When test results match, then the Lab refers to the original ancestor as the Common Paternal Ancestor (CPA). When the Obadiah DNA test began, the Oxford Laboratory offered a test that included 10 markers. The result of the 10 markers is referred to as the signature (haplotype) for the donor.



Conclusions:

- The test results indicate that there is not a close relationship between Robert Seeley (1602-1667) and Obadiah Seeley (presumably 1614-1657).
- The test results indicate that we have a DNA signature (haplotype) for the Nathaniel line and one for the Obadiah line.

Analysis of the Results:

1. According to the Oxford Laboratory, results of the analysis of samples provided by SGS members showed that two signatures in the Nathaniel line were identical. Similarly, three signatures from the Obadiah line were identical. Tables 1 and 2 show the test results. There is some concern that only two matching signatures are not sufficient to establish a signature for the Nathaniel line.
2. The geneticist advisor commented that it looked as though Nathaniel's signature and Obadiah's signature have now been set. They differ by 4 out

Please See Obadiah DNA Page 5

Table 1 – Seeley DNA Chart - Oxford Laboratory - SGS #2 Nathaniel

Sample Number		DYS 19	DYS 388	DYS 390	DYS 391	DYS 392	DYS 393	DYS 389i	DYS 389-ii-I	DYS 425	DYS m426
Y6876	Nathaniel SGS # 5	14	12	24	11	13	13	09	16	12	12
	Robert SGS #6										
Y6402	Benjamin SGS#7	14	12	24	11	13	13	09	17	*M	12
	Joseph SGS#8										
Y7020	John SGS#9	14	12	24	11	13	13	09	17	*M	12

Table 2 - Seeley DNA Chart - Oxford Laboratory - SGS #4 Obadiah

Y7409	Obadiah SGS#17 1 st Sample	14	12	24	11	13	12	10	16	12	12
	Obadiah SGS#17 2 nd Sample	14	12	24	11	13	12	10	16	12	12
	Cornelius SGS#18										
Y6376	Jonas SGS#19 1 st Sample	14	12	24	11	13	13	09	18	*M	12
	Jonas SGS#19 2 nd Sample	14	12	24	11	13	12	10	16	12	12

Table 3 - Seeley DNA Chart – Family Tree Laboratory - SGS#4 – Obadiah

Kit #	Name	19/ 394	388	390	391	392	DYS393	389-1 #	DYS 389-ii-I #	DYS 425	426
12389	SGS# 17 1st sample	14	12	24	11	13	12	10	16	---	12
	2nd sample	14	12	24	11	13	12	10	16	---	12

Obadiah DNA (*continued from page 4*)

- of 10 markers. At an assumed rate of one mutation per 600 years, we're back to the time of adoption of surnames.
3. There were no donors on the Nathaniel side for Robert SGS # 6 or Joseph SGS # 8 lines. Similarly, there were no donors for Cornelius SGS # 18 on the Obadiah side.
 4. A member contacted the Project Director to see if he could submit a sample to see if he could match the signature of either the Nathaniel or Obadiah line. This donor was the second sample for SGS # 17. He didn't know which side he was on based on the research he had done.
 5. His and another sample from SGS # 17 were sent to Family Tree who analyzed 12 markers. The results appeared to be a match for the Obadiah signature. The results are shown in the Table 3 on page 4. A conversion factor, supplied by Family Tree DNA laboratory, allows the results to be compared with those from the Oxford Laboratory.

**Table 3a - Seeley DNA Chart – Family Tree Laboratory - SGS#4 – Obadiah
(Markers not used by Oxford Laboratory)**

Kit #	Name	439	385a	385b
12389	SGS# 17 1st sample	12	12	14
	2nd sample	12	12	14

Explanatory Notes:

1. # in Table 3 Kit Numbers - These numbers use a conversion factor supplied by Family Tree DNA so values can be compared to those from Oxford Laboratory.
2. *M - "an unusual change in the DNA sequence making it impossible to allocate a specific band for marker (*M)."
3. SGS numbers have been in use since the earliest publications. Robert is #1, Nathaniel is #2, and Obadiah is #4.

President's Report (*continued from page 2*)

McCrea provides additional details in a separate article in this Newsletter. My sincere thanks go to Dr. McCrea for volunteering to manage this project.

A copy of the Obadiah Seeley DNA Test Project final report is in this Newsletter. We also hope to put it on the SGS website. The objective of this project was to gain a better understanding of any relationship between Robert and Obadiah. Note that the objective of this project is completely different than the General Seeley DNA Test Project described above.

Shortly after the May 2004 Newsletter went to press, the URL for the SGS website changed. The new correct URL is www.seeley-society.net. Chris

Research Report on William Seeley of Birmingham

Editor's Note: The following research report entitled "A Probate Document for William Seeley" was submitted to SGS Vice President Kathie Olsen by Sandra Pitts, B.A., A.G. The Report is re-printed in its entirety below.

Subject: William Seeley of St. Martin, Birmingham, Warwickshire, England, the presumed father of Obadiah Seeley (1614-1657)

Objective: Locate an English probate document for William Seeley who died in England some time after 1636.

Limitations: Four hours of research

General

William Seeley was the father, by two successive wives, of at least nine children who were christened in the Church of England parish of St. Martin Birmingham between 1611 – 1636. (Details are found in Frederick C. Hart's March 13, 1999 report "SGS-3") The transcript of St. Martin parish registers, on Family History Library (FHL) microfilm 97316 Item 2, covers the time period 1554-1708 and includes baptisms, marriage, and burials. I have not studied this record to see if there are any gaps.

Even though there are burials in the St. Martin transcript for a few of William's children and his first wife there are no burials (barring gaps) for William Seeley or his second wife Hannah. Consequently, there is no way I could determine a specific year to search for his probate document; I had to assume he died somewhere in England after 1636 when his last known child Jonas was christened.

The Civil War (1642-1649) and Commonwealth era (1649-1660) in England impacted almost every facet of daily life – parish records were often not kept or were completely destroyed. It is an extremely difficult time period for doing family history research.

The traditional probate process was disrupted.

Please See William Seeley Report Page 7

Havnar, the webmistress for our SGS website is also our SGS Treasurer and a full time workingwoman (!!). Dan Seelye has removed some of the data from his website but he plans to provide a link to the new SGS website.

The Nominating Committee's efforts are the most important elements affecting the future of SGS that I can think of. I asked for volunteers to serve on that committee in the May Newsletter but I've had no response. I will be announcing the committee members in the November Newsletter. Please contact me if you are interested in serving on this important committee.

SGS Launches General Seeley DNA Lineage Project

Story by Dr. Ken McCrea, Seeley DNA Lineage Project Director

After reviewing the results from the Obadiah Seeley DNA Test Project, I became very interested in the possibility of starting a follow-up study. Although the finding that Obadiah and Nathaniel were probably not closely related comes as a disappointment to many SGS members, it opens up another potential use of Y-chromosome DNA for our research. There were some consistent DNA differences found between the Obadiah and Nathaniel descendants tested. It should therefore be possible to use those differences to help determine to which line some of the currently unconnected Seeley lineages belong. This project can also help to clarify the relationship between Obadiah and Nathaniel.

Towards that goal, we are starting a second DNA project with the objective of building a database of Seeley Y-DNA profiles for use in helping determine unknown lineages and to confirm suspected lineages. This project will be structured in the following manner:

- We will collect Y-DNA profiles from male Seeley/Seely/etc.-surnamed individuals. The individuals will pay for their own testing. Individuals interested in participating in this project who are not Seeley/etc.-surnamed males can participate by identifying suitable Seeley-surnamed males and paying for their testing.
- Individuals can either arrange for their own testing or we can assist them in obtaining testing. They will submit their test results to the project director for inclusion in the database. They will also submit as much of their lineage as is known to the project director.
- The Y-DNA profiles will be placed on the SGS web site at www.seeley-society.net with the earliest 2-3 generations of the test subject shown, but without the identity of the test subject to maintain privacy. The data will be available for public viewing.
- When we find matching or similar Y-DNA profiles in the database, if both test subjects consent, we will provide each test subject with the email address of the other so they may exchange information and coordinate their research efforts.

Listed below are SGS Projects that need volunteers. Also listed is a person to contact if you are willing to contribute. Addresses for each POC are found on page 15 of the Newsletter. It would be wonderful if each SGS Member would contribute to at least one Project. About 20 members, plus folks who respond to queries, do SGS volunteer work now. Thanks to them all!

1. Volunteer as an Area Coordinator
2. Assist with planning SGS Genealogical Research
3. Assist at SGS Research Center, Abilene KS
4. Plan for SGS Reunion in 2005
5. Present Paper at SGS Reunion in 2005
6. Submit names for "Famous Seeleys" list
7. Submit names of Seeley Vets in Armed Forces
8. DNA Test Subject (see article this Newsletter)
9. Establish SGS as a nonprofit organization
10. Constitution & By-laws changes
11. Increase SGS Membership

Based on what we learned from the Obadiah Seeley DNA Test Project, and from another DNA project I manage, I am now recommending that all future DNA testing be done with a minimum of 25 markers, and preferably more. After evaluating the various DNA testing labs I have concluded that the lab used for the original study (Oxford Ancestors) is not cost effective enough for this study. Their current price is roughly \$325 for 10 markers (the price varies with the exchange rate for UK Pounds). I believe that the most cost effective lab is now Relative Genetics [<http://RelativeGenetics.com>], offering a total of 43 markers for only \$195. They are somewhat less expensive than FamilyTreeDNA [FTDNA], and return results in roughly four weeks versus the 2-3 months for FTDNA.

How to Participate

Contact the project director Dr. Kenneth McCrea for instructions, at: Ken@3cat.us or (717) 336-5520 or 20 Terrace Avenue, Stevens, PA 17578

Who may participate

Tested individuals must be male and have the Seeley surname or one of the variant spellings. We are encouraging both those with known lineages to an immigrant and those, like myself, who can't yet connect their lineage. Descendants of known immigrants other than Obadiah and Nathaniel are also encouraged to participate. This project will only work if we have several participants on each of the known lines. Test subjects from the first project are encouraged to obtain analysis of additional markers to add to the database. The larger the database, the more effective the project will be.

About the Project Director

The project director, Ken McCrea, received his Ph.D. in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from Purdue University. He has been researching his SEELEY ancestry for almost 25 years (and still can't get beyond John SEELEY, 1751-1825 of Monmouth Co., NJ). He is also the director of the SPRENKEL DNA project [<http://Reamstown.org/sprenkel/>].

**HELP
WANTED**

Dian Little, little44@msn.com
Jim Seeley, jrseeley@aol.com
Terry Tietjens, terryt@access-one.com
Jim Seeley, jrseeley@aol.com
Jim Seeley, jrseeley@aol.com
Marshall Seelye, mseelye@localnet.com
Marshall Seelye, mseelye@localnet.com
Dr. Ken McCrea, Ken@GermanNames.com
Jim Seeley, jrseeley@aol.com
Kathie Olsen, davidkathie@mstar2.net
Ray Hall, ramonhall@prodigy.net

William Seeley Report (*continued from page 5*)

Prior to 1642 probates were handled in about 300 ecclesiastical courts throughout the country. From earliest times, Warwickshire parishes fell under the jurisdiction of the Episcopal Consistory Court of Lichfield, with the exception of "Peculiars" (Birmingham is not a Peculiar).

During 1642-1660 probates were usually administered by one of two central courts – the Prerogative Court of York (covering northern counties) or the Prerogative Court of Canterbury (southern counties). Warwickshire is a southern county.

Records Searched

- Probate Indexes for Warwickshire and England.
- Calendar of wills & administrations in the Consistory Court of the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, 1516 to 1652, *Index Library, British Record Society*, 1892. British book 942 B4b vol. 7.
- Index of wills and administrations now preserved in the Probate registry at Canterbury, *Index Library, British Record Society*. British book 942 B4b vols. 8-11, 18, 25, 43-44, 50, 54, 61, 65, 67-68, 71-72, 74, 76-77, 80-81, 83, 100.

Findings and Analysis

I was unable to find reference in Vol. 7 of *The Index Library* to any post-1614 probate document (Obadiah's christening date) made by a William Seeley (variant spellings: Seale, Seele, Zealy, Ceely, Cily). However, there are other Seeley probates indexed in Vol. 7:

1614	Richard (2)	no locales listed
	Humphrey	no locale listed
1617	Nicholas	no locale listed
1623	Richard, administration	no locale listed (died intestate; administrations typically name a wife but no children, unless, of course, she is deceased.)
1624	Edward, administration	no locale listed

Looking at these wills may or may not reveal anything of interest regarding your William Seeley. One of these men may be the grandfather or other relative to William's children.

Also in Vol. 7 are indexed some post-1614 probates for Bissells (variant spellings: Byshell, Byssell) and Bloxwiches (variant: Bloksiche)-

<u>Bissell</u>		
1622	John	no locale listed
1630	John	no locale listed
1639	Edward	of Polesworth
<u>Bloxwich</u>		
1619	Richard	no locale listed
1629	William	of Birmingham

1638	Thomas	no locale listed
1642	Humphrey of Aston	(probably Aston juxta Birmingham)
1647	Edward of Handworth	

These probates could tie the Seeleys to the Bissells and Bloxwiches. They might even identify where William Seeley and family moved (if they did). If one of these individuals is a grandfather to William's children he may have made bequests to them naming them individually. He may also have named his daughter as the wife of William. Finding and reading these probates will require additional time, anywhere from 30 to 60 minutes each.

Regarding the Prerogative Court of Canterbury probates – I searched in all the volumes listed above and found a few Williams in appropriate time periods but could find no probate where the wife and children matched.

Suggestions for Future Research

1. As noted above, Bissell and Bloxwich probates may reveal whether or not Obadiah Seeley's father is indeed William Seeley of Birmingham, and where he may have moved.
2. Two other Warwickshire sources may be helpful. They are countywide surveys that list, parish by parish, the names of men who were living in Warwickshire.
 - a. The first is the 1641-1642 Protestation Returns. This is a lengthy, handwritten, unindexed record so would be very time consuming to search. It would, however, pinpoint parishes where Seeleys were living.
 - b. The second source is the Hearth Tax Returns from the 1660s. It provides information similar to the Protestation Returns except that it includes women's names. Like the protestation Returns this is also very extensive, unindexed and handwritten.
3. Birmingham is two to three miles from the borders of Worcestershire and Staffordshire. Different ecclesiastical courts administered probates for these counties. I wouldn't be the least bit surprised if some Seeley probate documents were found in the indexes for these two counties. It could take a couple of hours to conduct a search of the indexes.

SGS President's Note: Bissell is the surname of William's first wife. Bloxich is the surname or William's mother. On May 14, the SGS Board of Directors approved Ms. Pitts' suggestions for future research, however, they are being held in abeyance pending receipt and review of Mr. Jerome Anderson's research.

Jim Seeley

Co-Author of the Three SGS Publications Passes Away



**Madeline Helene Merrill Mills
1916 — 2004**

If you own a copy of one of the three SGS books that trace the first seven generations of Seeleys from Robert (SGS 1) and Obadiah (SGS 2), or if you have been a member of SGS at anytime in the past 20 years, you probably know the

priority. Not only did she do it, she did it while keeping up with other tasks including prompt replies to queries. Madeline enlisted Kathie's help and the work was accomplished along with corrections to earlier publications, not to mention the awesome job she did on the Seventh Generation book. I will miss her and never forget her commitment to SGS."

For the members of SGS, Madeline's work will remain an important part of our continuing research and is obviously appreciated – we share her interest in genealogy. But she passed on to her children and grandchildren her interest in family. "I love you Grandma and miss you terribly already," wrote Madeline's Granddaughter Michelle Olsen on July 26 in the electronic guest book for Madeline on the website of the Deseret Morning News. "Thank you for your energy, your love, your wisdom, your determination, your hugs (and even those big wet kisses), your laugh, and your sweet presence. Thank you, Grandma, for the Book of Remembrance you prepared for us, tracing back our family history, generation after generation. You did this the hard way: without computers, through years of patient work. You have honored your ancestors and blessed your posterity. I love you Grandma!"

Madeline will be lovingly remembered by her husband, Al; their children and spouses, David and Lana Mills, Lynda and Mark Simmons, Kathie and the late David Olsen, Margaret and Ken Petersen, and John and Barbara Mills; 21 grandchildren; 39 great-grandchildren; and countless other family and friends. Funeral services were held Wednesday, July 28, 2004, followed by interment at the Salt Lake City Cemetery. In lieu of flowers the family requests donations be made to your favorite charity.

Clifton C. Cilley Sr. WWII veteran, Volunteer

Clifton C. "Kip" Cilley Sr., 82, died on Thursday, May 13, 2004, at the Country Village Health Care Facility in Lancaster, Pa.

He was born on April 18, 1922 in Columbia, the son of Leon and Effie (Neary) Cilley. He attended local schools, leaving early to support his ailing father, two sisters and a handicapped brother. In 1942 he was drafted into the Army, and his exceptional trade skills earned him training and assignment as a combat engineer. He assaulted several beachheads and was one of the first troops to take Japanese soil. After the war, Kip was employed as a construction foreman before starting his own contracting business from 1952-69.



**Clifton C. Cilley
1922 - 2004**

Kip helped develop a workshop to teach
Please See Kip Cilley Page 13

name Madeline Mills. It is with great sadness that SGS brings you news of her passing. Madeline passed away peacefully at LDS Hospital surrounded by her family July 24, 2004. She was 88 years old.

Born in Salt Lake City to Albert and Zella Seely Merrill June 16, 1916, Madeline was the fifth of seven children. She married Alanson Soper Mills Dec. 27, 1937 and they were sealed in the Salt Lake Temple Sept. 8, 1955. Al and Madeline were lifelong sweethearts, enjoying 66 years of togetherness in preparation for eternity. They were inseparable and he will miss her dearly. Madeline was also a devoted mother and grandmother who was so supportive she attended every family event possible.

Madeline valued education and was an avid learner. She worked as a secretary in the University of Utah's Graduate School of Social Work for 16 years. She traveled the world. She enjoyed entertaining and was an accomplished seamstress and a willing volunteer. Madeline was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and had a deep-felt faith that blessed her life and the lives of her family. She served in many capacities and, with Al, worked for nine years in the Salt Lake Temple. Together they filled a mission in New York City from 1979 to 1980. She was a great example to everyone around her. She loved God and was always grateful for life's blessings.

Her family and we in SGS remember Madeline for her passion for genealogy. For her, it was a way to honor her pioneer ancestors. In fact, she was a Daughter of the Utah Pioneers and, ironically, passed away on the day Utah recognizes as Pioneer Day -- commemorating the founding of Salt Lake City by Brigham Young. With the help of her daughter, SGS Vice President Kathie Olsen, Madeline compiled the Sixth and Seventh Generation books and updated the book covering the first six generations.

"It was at the reunion in Connecticut that I asked Madeline to assume the position of Genealogist," said former SGS President Marshall Seelye. "She readily accepted. I'm sure she had no idea how great a task I had asked her to tackle because I also told her that the membership had been promised a sixth generation book for more than 10 years, and she, as SGS Genealogist, should make its publication a

The End of a Seely Line

Story by Terry Tietjens and Ann Seela Hall

The renowned patent medicine vendor, Dr. A. B. Seelye and his family have long been recognized as residing in Abilene; however it has been found there was also another notable Seeley family member in Abilene history. During research in preparation for the re-creation of Old Town Abilene, Kan., George B. Seely was discovered to have operated a mercantile store in old Abilene during the years leading up to 1880. An advertisement appearing in the February 25, 1870 Abilene newspaper under Dry Goods, &c. (sic) reads: "G. B. Seely, Wholesale and Retail Dealer in Dry Goods, Staple & Fancy Groceries, Clothing, Gents' Furnishing Goods, Boots, Shoes, Hats, Caps, Fine Cut Smoking & Plug Tobaccos, Cigars,

Tinware, Hardware, Table and Pocket Cutlery, &c., &c., North West Corner of C and First Sts., Abilene, Kans." One of the buildings being restored for the Old Town Abilene exhibit will be the mercantile store that George B. Seely operated from before 1870 to about 1879 while resident in Abilene, Kan.

Records indicate that George B. Seely had been born in Madrid, St. Lawrence County, N.Y., on June 8, 1829. He was the son of Bishop Seely, SGS#3052, and Betsy Brush. Bishop Seely was the son of Stephen Bishop Seeley SGS#1323, a seventh generation descendant of Obadiah Seeley. In about 1835, George Seely moved to Illinois with his family. In Sangamon County, Ill., on April 26, 1850, he married Mary L. Childs, who had been born in Potsdam, Madrid County, N.Y., in August 1832; and had likewise moved to Illinois with her family.

In late 1879, George and Mary Seely apparently decided to leave Abilene to join the "gold rush" pioneers moving to Colorado. A young woman named Ella B. Bower, who was born in about 1848 in Ohio, accompanied them. It appears that Miss Bower had never married and may have been a clerk in Mr. Seely's store in Abilene. In the 1885 Colorado State Census for Alma, Park County, Colo., these three appear in the same household, and Miss Bower is shown as a boarder. George and Mary Seely initially purchased land for a home in Alma in May of 1880; and, since only Mary Seely and Ella Bower were recorded as living there in the 1880 Federal Census, it is likely that George Seely spent the summer of 1880 trying his hand at "placer" gold mining in the gold fields near Alma. In October of 1880 George and Mary sold the land they had purchased and bought a lot on the corner of Buckskin

and Main streets, the principal intersection in Alma. At that time, Alma was a bustling gold mining town, located at 10,500-feet elevation, and having about 2,000 occupants, mostly miners and those supporting work in the gold fields. Alma today has a population of about 400, and is the highest incorporated town in the United States.

George built a store and home on the corner of Buckskin and Main streets and opened the Seely Mercantile in 1881. He operated the business with

the help of his wife Mary and the boarder, Ella, until about 1887, when he apparently sold half-interest to a James L. Welch. Land records indicate that at this time he may have become an investor in an on-going

gold mining company involved in "sluice mining," the newly evolved method for recovering gold from lower yield ore deposits. He sold his gold mining interests in April of 1901, just four months before his death.

In the 1900 Federal Census, George and Mary show as still residing in Alma, Park County, Colo. Ella B. Bower still shows as being a member of the household, except in this census she is shown as an adopted daughter. No record has been located of such an adoption; however, in the heirship judgment for George B. Seely, she is judged to be an heir, which lends credibility to such an adoption, even though the judgment never specifically refers to her as an adopted child. There is no recorded evidence of George and Mary ever having any natural children.

On July 21, 1901, George B. Seely died. The Park County Bulletin of July 26, 1901 reported that "he died at his home at 7:10 pm of heart failure. Two days previously he had collapsed while sawing wood near his residence, and never recovered." The newspaper reported that his wife, Mary L. Childs, survived him, but that there were no other known survivors. George was buried in the Buckskin Cemetery near Alma.

On Dec. 19, 1909, Mary L. Seely died. The Park County Bulletin dated Dec. 24, 1909, reported that "Mary had been an invalid for several years and her death was not a great surprise as she had been failing for several weeks and had recently suffered from a hemorrhage from her nose and had failed rapidly thereafter." Mary was buried next to her husband in Buckskin Cemetery. A large headstone now is in place identifying the burial place of George and Mary Seely. Of note, there are two apparent errors on the headstone: The birth year of George is

Please See George Seely Page 11

Sarah Edmunds Seelye documentary reviewed

It was well worth the wait. For more than fifty years I have longed to know the full story of my courageous great-great aunt whose exploits have intrigued me since hearing of them from my mother. The story of Sara Emma Edmonds Seelye was presented on the History Channel in March of this year. It was a production by Pepita Ferrari of Montreal, Canada and was, in my estimation, a wonderful presentation of Sara's unique challenges and feats.

I particularly liked the narrative style with Sara telling her own story via the "voice over". This helped me form my own mental picture of Sara without causing me to identify with the performer. I was impressed with the entire production and the efforts put forth to tell Sara's amazing story.

How fortunate we are that people like Sara and the others who fought that horrific war have earned for us a more just and equitable society. We have



Canadian Corner

been freed from the bondage of slavery and social rigidity. We are now able, man or woman, poor or rich, to strive to attain what we want and need in life and to do so in security and peace. Thank you, great-great Aunt Sara.

If you're a Canadian Seeley and have a short note of interest you would like to see in this column, please contact me (see contact info below), so I can help share your story with our membership. Of course, if you have something of more substantial size, please don't hesitate to contact the Newsletter Editor Paul Taylor (see contact info on Page 15), he's always looking for news to share.

Dorothy Boucher
7331 Route 102
Glenwood, New Brunswick
Canada E5M 2M7
Phone: 506-468-2346
E-mail: vboucher@nbnet.nb.ca

A Mini-Seeley Reunion is Held at Wendell O. Seeley's Home

The beautiful hills of Bradford County, Pa. were the scene of a local Memorial Day Weekend Seeley family celebration and reunion. SGS Member Wendell Seeley hosted the annual event assisted by sister Veronica Newell, niece Nancy Seeley, and many others. Nancy's husband David Seeley officiated at a Memorial Day Sunday Worship Service in Wendell's living room; Newsletter Editor, Paul Taylor, brought his karaoke machine for evening entertainment to the delight of the younger generations. Wendell oversaw the preparation of a huge spaghetti dinner on Friday night with the assistance of his brothers and sisters. There was also a pork roast (over a handmade roasting pit) for a delicious BBQ on Saturday with the help of David Seeley and Ralph Coppola. A bonfire was enjoyed every night of the weekend and on Saturday live music was provided by a local guitar/banjo band. Many pictures were taken and a guest book was used for capturing the weekend for the years to come. A camper, a motor home, and area relatives provided sleeping accommodations for the attendees



who came from around the country for the annual festival affectionately referred to as Seeley-puhlooza. This was the second year Wendell hosted this long-standing family gathering. It spans the weekend, beginning with the Spaghetti dinner Friday night to the annual "bring-a-dish-to-pass potluck picnic" on Sunday afternoon. The weather was beautiful throughout the weekend. If you're in northern Pennsylvania next year, you really should stop by for a day or two or three (contact SGS President Jim Seeley to find out more).



George Seely (*continued from page 9*)

shown as 1830, when in fact he was born in 1829; and the death year of Mary shows her year of death as 1910, when in fact she died Dec. 19, 1909. It could not be determined who had placed the headstone or when it had been placed with these errors. The error in Mary's death year might have been partially a result of the practice at that time of not burying the dead during the depths of winter, but rather holding them in a frozen state until the ground softened in the spring, which would then have been in the year of 1910.

Prior to Mary Seely's death, she had transferred her half-ownership in the land and store, which she had inherited upon George's death, to Miss Ella B. Bower, who still resided with her. At an heirship hearing before the local court, the judge decreed that Ella Bower was the rightful owner by heirship of the half-interest in the land and store in Alma. In May of 1910, six months after Mary's death in December of 1909, Ella Bower left Alma and moved to Sangamon County, Ill. Miss Bower's death has not been determined; however in April of 1915 she executed a small land transfer in Alma while she was a resident in Sangamon County, Ill.; and in August of 1916 she sold her inherited half-interest in the land and store in Alma to Susie B. Bradley, a Sangamon County resident. Ella Bower could not be located in the 1920 Federal Census so it is likely that she died in Illinois between 1916 and 1920, ending the story of this line of the Seeley families. In January 1918, Susie Bradley and her husband Stephen sold the land and store to an Alma resident, possibly signaling Ella Bower's death.

SOURCE RECORDS:

1. Land Records, Park County, Colorado, 1880 to 1916.
2. Microfilm copies of the Park County Bulletin and the Fairplay Flume, weekly newspapers from 1880 to 1910.
3. Colorado State Business Directory for 1881.
4. Colorado State Gazetteer for 1884-85.
5. Federal Census Records for the years 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920 and 1930.
6. Miscellaneous Records, Park County, Colorado, Book 75, pages 319 & 320.
7. Colorado State Census for 1885

New Life Members

Richard Samp 3120 202 nd S.W. Lynwood, WA 98036	James & Evelyn Seeley 110 Eagle Dr McGregor, IA 52157
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Montell & Kathryn Seely P.O. Box 934 Castle Dale, UT 84513	Robert & Kathy Seely 3028 Fairview Vista, CA 92083
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Seeley Military Notes



BMC Paul Seely

(Navy News Service) Chief Boatswain's Mate Paul Seely (above), assigned to Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit Eight (EODMU-8) Rota, Spain, discusses safety issues with members of his team and their Spanish counterparts, the Unidad Especial Desactivado de Explosivos (U.E.D.E.), during exercise Magre 03-1. The exercise joined the Spanish and U.S. EOD teams to defeat a simulated explosive device containing a chemical agent. U.S. Navy photo by Chief Journalist Dan Smithyman.

LCPL Shawn Seeley

In the May 12, 2004 edition of the Los Angeles Times, Reporter Tony Perry highlighted some examples of bravery among United States Marines stationed in Iraq. Among those cited in his story was Lance Cpl. Shawn Seeley who distinguished himself in the face of 20 armed insurgents who had ambushed his convoy. According to Perry's story, Seeley refused to take cover in the face of "intense machine-gun and rocket-propelled-grenade fire." Perry reported that for his actions that day, Seeley had been nominated for the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal. Perry wrote the story in the wake of numerous examples of bravery that he said "matches that of Marine battles of the past." He went on to quote Col. John Toolan, Commander of the 1st Marine Regiment as saying, "Those are the kind of guys we've got."

A1C James Seelye & A1C Jessica Seeley

(AFNEWS HTNC) Air Force Airman 1st Class James E. Seelye III and Air Force Airman 1st Class Jessica L. Seeley have graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

During the six weeks of training, the airmen studied the Air Force mission, organization, and military customs and courtesies; performed drill and ceremony marches, and received physical training, rifle marksmanship, field training exercises, and

Please See Military Notes Page 16

SGS Queries

(Data as of July 15, 2004)

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

Please send your queries to Query Editor Linda Crocker at lhc100@btopenworld.com or mail to Linda at home (see page 15) or to P.O. Box 1326, Harwich, MA 02645. Queries are assigned a query number by the Query Editor and are then sent to the Query Team and Area Coordinators. 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 remember to also send a copy of the information to Linda so the query can be updated in the next newsletter.

QUERY UPDATES

Update to Query 0311-8 Re: John W. Seeley

James O. Martin (503 West Center St., Logan, UT 84321-4427) has written again requesting the parentage and ancestry of John W. Seeley, born abt. 1813 in CT and m. 30 March 1833 in Warren, Litchfield, CT to Lavina Shove. He has recently located them living in 1880 in Franklin, Robertson Co. TX with their two youngest children, Wilbur and Lavinia. The property there was sold 18 months later, after John's death, by which time Wilbur and Lavinia had both married.

James is eager to correspond with anyone else related to this family.

Update to Query 0402-3 Re: Ezra D Seeley

Mary Anne Seeley Pyle(marypyle@hotmail.com) has found a bit more information on Ezra D. Seeley and family. She says that the deed executed between Ezra D. Seeley and Eliza Jane Seeley to his daughter Evaline Manning was in **Chillicothe, Livingston Co., MO.** She has also found an Ezra D. Seeley in Peoria IL in the 1840 census in the La Marsh Precinct Roll M704_67, page 60. She has not found any family names except Ezra D. Seeley in Peoria in 1840. The profile of this family (age and sex of family members) matches the profile of the Livingston Co., MO family in 1850. Ezra D. Seeley's daughter Evaline B. Manning did name one of her daughters Peoria.

Update to Query 0405-2 Re: Mary Angell Miller, wife of Obadiah Seeley, SGS #4

Jim Seeley checked our records while in Abilene for the SGS Board meeting. He reports that we hired Fred Hart Jr., Certified Genealogist, to research the

ancestry of Obadiah in New England records. Regarding the maiden name of Mary, wife of Obadiah and widow of John Miller, here is a verbatim of Fred's "Summary of Results" in the 4th of his 5 reports to SGS.

"All available references to the wife of Obadiah Seeley have been considered and investigated and analyzed. My conclusion is that she was probably not named Mary Angell, as so often proposed (although she was indeed the widow of John Miller)." In one of his findings, Fred further states "I do not believe now...that there is any justification at all for calling her Mary Angell, or even Mary Husted, as has sometimes been done."

NEW QUERIES

Query 0408-1 Submitted by Susan Scott (sscott@cox.net)

Subject: James Seely and his daughter Betsey Elizabeth Seely.

Susan is researching the Drake surname in Orange, Cayuga, Seneca, and Steuben Counties in New York State. She has been looking for a James Seely who married a Galloway. This James Seely's daughter was named Betsey Elizabeth Seely. She married Francis Drake and lived in Ovid, Seneca Co. and Dansville, Steuben Co., NY. Her great grandson left letters concerning the names of her father and last name of her mother. She believes that the James Seely (SGS #520) we have listed as married to a Galloway are her parents. Francis Drake and Betsey Elizabeth Seely had the following children that she knows of; there may have been three other daughters and at least one other son.

Francis Peter Drake ca 1800, James Seely Drake ca 1812, George W. Drake ca 1814, Thaddius Drake, Jonas Drake, Mary Drake, Minerva Drake. These Drakes moved on to Indiana, Ohio, West Virginia and Wisconsin around 1830/40.

Susan is also interested in knowing the source of the marriage record of James Seely and the unknown Miss Galloway.

SGS Interim Response: After submitting this query Susan discovered the marriage record of Betsey Elizabeth Seely and Francis Drake. They were married 9 April 1808 in the 1st Presbyterian Church, Romulus, NY. No other information has been received. Will anyone who can find details on James Seely, SGS #520, his wife or family please contact me, your Query Editor.

Query 0408-2 Submitted by Gail Jensen (JensenG@ldsmail.net)

Subject: Samuel Brown Seeley

Gail is looking for information on the family of Samuel Brown Seeley. Samuel was b. 27 March 1838 at Mallet Creek, Medina, OH. He married there on 29 March 1858 Martha Depew. Martha was b. 6 May 1839 Rockland Co. NY. Samuel died 25 July 1881, Whitewater Twp., Grand Traverse, MI. Martha died 24 Nov. 1905 at Williamsburg, Grand Traverse, MI. There were several children: Wendall Emerson b. 4 Apr. 1858, Artus C. b. 1862, Chancy b. 1863, Alonzo b. 1865, and Mary b. 1866, all born in Ohio. Also George b. 1870, Martha Estelle b. 29 Jan 1872, Samuel b. 1874, Leman b. 1875, Albertha b. 1877 and Emil b. 1879, all born in Michigan.

Gail's direct ancestor is Martha Estelle Seeley who married Fred C. Hall (b. 1860-70 in Rochester, Monroe Co. NY) in 1888.

Can anyone provide information on Samuel Brown Seeley's ancestry?

SGS Interim Response: Samuel Brown Seeley doesn't appear in the 3 SGS volumes. Dan Seelye's database contained some information that he sent to Gail.

Query 0408-3 Submitted by Rebecca Spencer (5612 Lawrence 2100, Stotts City, MO 65756-9116)
Subject: Charles R. Seely

Rebecca writes that she has placed queries before but she is still looking for information on Charles R. Seely b. in OH in 1851. He married Margaret M. Kershner 14 Oct 1880 in Osage Co. KS. Margaret Kershner was b. Nov. 1859 in VA or WV to Jonathan and Rebecca Kershner. Charles and Margaret (aka Maggie) had 3 children: Oliver Cromwell Seely b. 21 Oct. 1881, Arthur b. Apr. 1885 in KS, and Shonda who d. abt 1890, age 2.

In Nov. 1931 Charles and Maggie were living in Liberty, Clay Co. MO. There is no death record for either of them in MO and Rebecca hasn't found them elsewhere.

Rebecca is descended from Oliver and she has information on that part of the family. Can anyone identify the parents of Charles?

SGS Interim Response: Dan Seelye has some information on Arthur Seely, son of Charles and Maggie that was submitted by Chris Havnar. This has been sent to Rebecca. We still need to know about his parents.

Query 0408-4 Submitted by Jeanette Loomis Hagan (rcjhagan@aol.com)
Subject: Asenith Seely, SGS # 1412

Jeanette is trying to verify that her ancestor, William Loomis is the son of our Asenith Seeley and her first husband William Loomis. Does anyone have information beyond what is listed in The Sixth Generation Book about Asenith such as her birthplace, place of marriage to William or any other

information on either of her marriages or any of her children?

Jeanette has also been in touch with a Loomis cousin who has had DNA tested to match a known descendant of Samuel Loomis, an ancestor of William Loomis. She has also compared results to those published in the Seeley newsletter. She would like to correspond with someone who could discuss the DNA project with her.

Please send me a copy of any information you send to Jeanette.

SGS Interim Response: Jim Seeley has contacted Jeanette with the names of two SGS members who can discuss the DNA project with her. Our query team hasn't responded with any further information.

HOW TO SUBMIT A QUERY

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

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

What resources have you already consulted? The SGS Publications? The census? Cemetery records? Ancestry.com?

What exactly do you want to know? Parent's names and details? Information on siblings? Information on a family marrying into the Seeley family?

After your query is printed please keep us informed about any information you receive or any further progress you make on your own. Other members may also be interested or related to your line. One more name, date or place may be the key to connecting your line to another. Also make sure we have your current email and normal address – sometimes we get information several months after publication.

Kip Cilley (continued from page 8)

handicapped people vocational trade skills. And was more recently known for his MacGyver-like abilities to produce something out of nothing. He also sold and repaired used lawn mowers from his shop: he was truly a master tinkerer.

Kip was in the American Legion, loved genealogy and was interested in old graveyards.

He is survived by his son, Clifton Cilley Jr. and his wife Joanne (Burrill) of Pittsburg; two daughters, Marlene Cilley and companion Kenneth Eraser of Lancaster, and Mrs. John (Mary Anne) Sledzinski of North Conway; a sister, Hazel Lund of Mass.; four grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Funeral services were held on Monday, May 17, at the Monadnock Congregational Church, followed by a military burial at Colebrook Village Cemetery.

Board Meeting Report (*continued*)

this research initiative and Fred now believes it was overtaken by the Obadiah Seeley DNA Test report.]

Decision – Recap – The Board authorized the President to approve up to \$200 each, for SGS approved Research Objectives, to Jerome Anderson, Sandra Pitts, and Fred Hart.

Decision - The Board recommended the Constitution & By-Laws Committee consider the following changes: Delete the appointed position of Judge Advocate; Clarify the list of elected and appointed positions of Board members and their duties; Broaden the purpose statement of SGS to include all Seeley (regardless of spelling) ancestral lines.

Action – The C&BLs committee's recommended changes will be published in the May 2005 Newsletter in preparation for a vote by members at the September 2005 Reunion in Abilene, Kan.

As of May 2004, there were 385 active (including LIFE) members.

2005 SGS Reunion Plans

Decision - The overall theme of the reunion will emphasize Seeley Families settling the frontier and will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Seelye Mansion.

Tentative Decision – The 2005 reunion meetings and many of the meals [lunches and dinners] will be at the Old Abilene Town project. It is planned to sell box lunches for those wanting to take tours or visit the Research Center during lunch hour. People will be encouraged to arrive by 6:00 PM Wed., Sept. 14 in order to attend a welcome picnic at the Seelye Mansion hosted by Terry Tietjens and the SGS Board of Directors. Some similar farewell function, scheduled after church services on Sunday, is desirable and will be arranged if feasible.

Action – Ruthetta Hansen agreed to head the reunion registration committee.

Action – Program: Jim Seeley was requested to invite one of the SGS researchers [e.g., Sandra Pitts, Fred Hart, or Jerome Anderson] to conduct an afternoon/evening program that will afford members an opportunity to ask questions. Other speakers may be invited but will be local in order to hold down travel and per diem costs.

Action – Terry Tietjens plans to arrange entertainment for dinners and/or luncheons to replace or augment speakers as appropriate.

Action – Kathie Olsen volunteered to conduct genealogy training as she has in the past.

Action – Dian Little was requested to prepare and give a presentation titled *What we now know about Obadiah's Ancestors*. Dian also plans to give a presentation on using a Family History Library.

Action – Ray Hall agreed to give a presentation on using the Personal Ancestral File [PAF], a

genealogy application that may be downloaded free off the Internet.

Decision – More time will be scheduled for group meetings, tours, and use of the Seelye Research Center. Time allocated for the business meeting will be compressed compared to the 2003 reunion. A two-track schedule will be considered to give attendees more flexibility. To accomplish this, some program events may be scheduled twice.

Action – Terry Tietjens intends to arrange for the Abilene Trolley to pick up SGS Members at their hotel, take them to the meeting location, and return.

Decision – Attempts will be made to keep the reunion costs neutral. In other words attendees will pay costs incurred. A reunion souvenir book will be developed and sold to members who attend and it will be sold as a detailed report of what happened for those who will be unable to attend. SGS CDs and tote bags will be sold, as will the remaining stock of pins, hats, and T-shirts that were purchased by Dan Seelye. Other articles may be sold if there is a possibility they can help defray reunion expenses. Items sold will display the new SGS logo supplemented with appropriate notation of the reunion and its theme.

Other Agenda Items

Decision - The Board of Directors decided that no additional postage would be charged for foreign mailings in the interest of encouraging Canadian and other non-U.S. members to join and remain active members of SGS.

2007 Reunion Suggestion – Kathie Olsen suggested the 2007 reunion be held in Wethersfield, CT vice Salt Lake City [possibly 2009]. This will be decided by a vote at the 2005 Reunion.

A Note to England Trippers...

There was some confusion regarding the dates for the England trip between previous editions of the newsletter and the flyer sent out to the membership. Additionally, the hotel where we will be staying in London changed. For clarification: the folks taking the trip to England will meet at the Thistle Euston Hotel, in London, on the evening of Sept. 12 at 6:00. This is the hotel where we will be staying that night as well as on the return leg of the trip on the 16th and 17th. We leave from there for Huntingdon the next morning at 7:30. If you have any questions, contact Janice Johnson at Columbus Travel at 800-373-3328 (ext. 2001) in Salt Lake City or send her an e-mail at jjohnson@columbuscompanies.com. If anyone plans to extend their stay to visit London, Jim Seeley and I are staying at the Comfort Inn Notting Hill, London on the 18th & 19th. Hope to see you there! - Carolyn Seeley Taylor

SGS Publications

Descendants of Robert Seeley (1602-1667) and Obadiah Seeley (1614-1657): Generations One Through Five, 1997 Edition, and The Sixth Generation Families, 1995 Edition, are both available for \$17 including postage. **The Seventh Generation Families: Descendants of Robert Seeley (1601-1667) and Obadiah Seeley (1614-1657), 2000 Edition,** is available for \$25 including postage. Prior issues of the **SGS Newsletter** are available for \$2 each. They can be ordered from Seelye Research Center Director Terry Tietjens (contact info at right).

Also available is a CD-ROM containing the SGS Ancestor Index File (John Seely's Blue Books), the three SGS Pubs above, and Fred C. Hart's research reports on Obadiah with attachments. The **SGS 2003 Reunion Souvenir Book** has reunion highlights, presentations, SGS Constitution, a list of attendees, reunion photographs, including a group photo with all attendees identified, and much more! The CD is \$15 and the reunion book is \$27. Both are available from SGS President Jim Seeley (contact info at right).

SGS Officers for 2003 - 2005

President James R. Seeley, 108 Westridge Dr., Churchville, VA 24421, (540) 337-8633, jrseeley@aol.com
1st Vice President Katherine M. Olsen, 639 8th Ave, Salt Lake City, UT 84103, (801) 355-0301, davidkathie@mstar2.net
2nd Vice Pres. & Membership Ramon E. Hall, 155 Bear Drive, Evergreen, CO 80439 (303) 679-0384, ramonhall@prodigy.net
Secretary Joan J. Phillips, P O Box 969, Saugatuck, MI 49453, (269) 857-2839
Treasurer Chris Havnar, 625 Canyon Dr., Pacifica, CA 94044, jchavnar@sbcglobal.net
Chief Genealogist Dian Little, 18210 15th NE #102, Box 55607, Shoreline, WA 98155, (206) 306-0988, little44@msn.com
Director (Past Pres.) Daniel P. Seelye, 17800 Langlois Rd #508, Desert Hot Springs, CA 92441, (760) 329-0422, SeelyeDan@worldnet.att.net
Director Wesley Waring, 16179 89th Ave. N, Maple Grove, MN 55311, (763) 494-3277, wesleyawaring@cs.com
Director Marshall B. Seelye, 945 Vaughn Rd, Hudson Falls, NY 12839, (518) 792-3867, mseelye@localnet.com
Director & Research Center Terry Tietjens, P.O. Box 337, 1105 N. Buckeye, Abilene, KS 67410, (785) 263-1084, terryt@access-one.com
Asst. Membership/Promotion, Ruthetta Seelye Hansen, 1129 S County Line, McCracken, KS 67556, (785) 394-2316, rhansen@gbta.net
SGS Ancestor File Index John R. Seely, 160 E. 234 St., Carson, CA 90745, (310) 834-6244, jrnmbseely@aol.com
Newsletter Editor Paul Taylor, 3848 Frazier Lane, Virginia Beach, VA 23456, (757) 471-1188, pccntaylor@cox.net
Query Editor Linda L Crocker, 14 The Avenue, Stokesley TS9 5ET U.K., llc100@btopenworld.com
Judge Advocate Eugene Seelye, 5 Sherman St., Wellsboro, PA 16901, (570) 724-0960, easeelye@epix.net
Historian Ruthetta Seelye Hansen (See Above)
Asst. Genealogist Vacant

Seeley Genealogical Society Membership Form

NAME (First, Middle Initial, Last)			
ADDRESS (Number, Street)	TELEPHONE NO. (Optional)		
ADDRESS (City, State, Zip)	E-MAIL ADDRESS (Optional)		
DESCENDANT OF: <input type="checkbox"/> Robert <input type="checkbox"/> Obadiah <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Attached) <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown			
I/we have submitted our Seeley line back as far as known to Terry Tietjens, Director, Seelye Research Center, P.O. Box 337, 1105 N. Buckeye, Abilene, KS 67410		<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> PLANNING TO DO
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	SO LATER
MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS: <input type="checkbox"/> ONE YEAR \$8.00 U.S. <input type="checkbox"/> TWO YEARS \$15.00 U.S. <input type="checkbox"/> THREE YEARS \$21.00 U.S. <input type="checkbox"/> FIVE YEARS \$30.00 U.S. <input type="checkbox"/> LIFE \$100.00 U.S.			
MAIL FORM AND MEMBERSHIP FEE TO:		RAMON HALL, SGS MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN 155 BEAR DRIVE EVERGREEN, CO 80439-4323	

Military Notes (*continued from page 11*)

special training in human relations.

In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Seelye is the son of James Seelye of Paine St., Athens, Pa., and the former ward of Susan Robbins of Rural Route 2, Columbia Crossroads, Pa. He is a 2003 graduate of Troy Senior High School, Pa.

Seeley, the daughter of David and Nancy Seeley of Liberty, Pa., also received the Distinguished Airman Award when she completed her technical training school at Sheppard Air Force Base, Wichita Falls, Texas. She is a 2003 graduate of Liberty High School, Liberty PA. Jessica is the granddaughter of longtime SGS member Clyde Seeley.

Private Troy S. Mazzell

(AFNEWS HTNC) Army Pvt. Troy S. Mazzell has graduated from One Station Unit Training (OSUT) at Fort Knox, Ky., which consisted of basic military training and advanced individual training (AIT).

The first nine weeks of initial entry training, or basic combat training, the trainee received instruction in drill and ceremony, weapons, rifle marksmanship qualification, bayonet combat, chemical warfare, field training and tactical exercises, marches, military courtesy, military justice, physical fitness, first aid, and Army history, traditions, and core values.

During AIT, the soldier completed the seven-week cavalry scout course. The training included subjects and instructions to operate, maintain and fire M2/M3 Bradley fighting vehicles; call and adjust fire on enemy targets, recognize friendly and threat vehicles; conduct reconnaissance and security missions, perform foot patrols, conduct land navigation, locate and neutralize mines; and operate and maintain scout vehicles.

He is the son of Shirley F. Sealy of Eutawville, S.C.

Steven Sealey

(AFNEWS HTNC) Steven A. Sealey has joined the United States Army Reserve under the Delayed Training Program.

The program gives young men and women the opportunity to delay reporting for basic military training for up to 270 days. An enlistment in the reserve gives many new soldiers the option to learn a new skill, serve their country, and become eligible to receive more than \$7,000 toward a college education, \$20,000 for repayment of college loans, and a maximum \$5,000 cash bonus.

After completion of basic military training, most soldiers receive advanced individual training in their career job specialty prior to being assigned to their first permanent duty station.



Seeley Genealogical Society

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