Issue No. 2004-02 SGS Newsletter May 2004

Robert Seeley's England SGS prepares for fall trip to the United Kingdom

SGS Vice President Kathie Olsen has been working hard on setting up the SGS trip to "Robert Seeley's England" scheduled for Sept. 12 -18, 2004.

England is a country with a long and rich history, so it was difficult for Kathie to determine where to focus the short, six-day tour. In the end, she returned to the roots of our family.

"We chose to emphasize the time period of 1602 to 1630 when Robert Seeley lived in England," she said. "We will visit Huntingdon-area sites that were there when Robert was a boy. Oliver Cromwell was also a child in Huntingdon at that time, so artifacts from his life are similar to those that might have been used by Robert."

The trip will also feature visits to Shakespeare's birthplace, Kenilworth Castle, and the Dockyard at Portsmouth which contains artifacts detailing the maritime history of England and the means by which Robert emigrated to America.

Although harkening back to an earlier period in English history, a visit is also planned to the battlefield around Hastings. "Family lore says that the Seeleys came to England with William the Conqueror in 1066," said Olsen. "The Battle of Hastings was the first and only major engagement in the conflict that brought William and the Normans to power in England."

The trip will wrap up with a return visit to London where Robert lived as an apprentice, husband and father. The visit to England will include tours of St. Paul's Cathedral, and the Tower of London which is not far from Robert's home on Coleman Street.

"In addition to the planned portion of our trip, free time has been built into the schedule for participants to plan visits to areas of their own interest," said Olsen.

The trip includes:

- Six nights' hotel accommodations in superior tourist class or best available hotels
- Six continental breakfasts and four dinners
- Transportation in a deluxe, fully air-conditioned motorcoach
- Baggage handling at all hotels
- Full-day guided sightseeing tour of London including the Tower of London and St. Paul's Cathedral



The Tower Bridge in London is just one of the many sights SGS members will have the opportunity to see first hand during the SGS tour of Robert Seeley's England. (Photo courtesy of www.visitbritain.com)

- Sightseeing (see itinerary below)
- Local tour directors

Itinerary:

Sept. 12

Arrive in England and gather for an evening meeting in the hotel. Overnight in London.

Sept. 13

Breakfast together, then depart London for Huntingdon. There the group will visit the area where Robert Seeley was from. Visit Houghton Mills, Great

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Announcements:

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

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, Seley, Selye, Seale, Seelee, 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. Proved errors will be corrected.

The President's Report

SGS has selected a researcher, Sandra Pitts of Salt Lake City, UT to research old English probate microfilm records focusing on William Seeley of Birmingham, England who had a son, Obadiah. This is in pursuit of our efforts to understand the relationship between Robert Seeley [1602-1667] and Obadiah Seeley [1614-1657]. Additional details of our research approach are contained in an article elsewhere in this Newsletter.

The initial deposit of \$250 per person, for the SGS trip to England, was due on 2 May 2004. The rate per person for the trip is \$1099



and includes hotels, breakfasts, and some other meals, plus admissions to attractions. The itinerary for the 11 to 17 September 2004 trip was in the February Newsletter. A flyer was sent to all SGS members. If you didn't get your deposit sent yet, contact Columbus Travel at 801-295-9568 or 800-373-3328 to see if you are still able to go.

The SGS Board of Directors will meet in Abilene, KS on 14 May. I will summarize the decisions and actions the Board agreed to in the August Newsletter.

If you are interested in serving on the Nominating Committee to nominate candidates to serve on the SGS Board for the 2006-2007 term, please contact me. I plan to announce the Chair of that committee in the November 2004 Newsletter. If you are interested in being a candidate for the Board, you should contact the Chair after he or she is announced. Although not a requirement, I encourage members who want to be a candidate for the Board to have a computer with Email capability so that business of the Board may be conducted more easily.

The list of opportunities to assist with SGS projects is updated in each Newsletter. I encourage each member to assist with at least one project. There's lots of work to be done and the strength of our Society depends on your volunteer efforts.

Jim Seeley SGS President

Ancestry.com Quick Tip Family Numbering System

Many years ago, when I started gathering more information on my family lines, I set up a filing system that I still use for my direct line. I follow the numbering pattern on a pedigree chart with my husband, my children, and me in File 1; then I file the previous generations by family group as numbered on the chart. My parents are 2/3, my paternal grandparents are 4/5, my maternal grandparents are 6/7, greatgrandparents are 8/9, 10/11, 12/13, and 14/15. You will notice that the male name is always an even number and his wife is always an odd number, (no reflection on character) one digit higher. The father is always double the number of the child and the mother is double +1. Therefore it is always easy to find the next file up in a specific line. For example, if I am looking at the file of my mother's maternal grandparents it would be in file 14/15, and if I then wanted to refer to the parents of one of them I would simply double that individual's number and would know which file to go to for the parents. For 14, I would look for file 28/29, and for 15 I would look for file 30/31.

Mary-Jane Lupton Winnipeg, Manitoba

SGS Research Efforts Resume

Story By SGS President Jim Seeley

SGS held up conduct of research into understanding the relationship of Robert [1602-1667] and Obadiah [1614-1657] Seeley until the Obadiah DNA test project was completed. We have now resumed our research.

SGS has engaged Sandra Pitts to do an LDS Library microfilm search of old English probate and

other records of William Seeley of Birmingham who had a son named Obadiah. This is a first step in our goal understand the Robert/Obadiah relationship. With this initial effort we hope Robert and to learn something of the career of Obadiah. Further steps will be taken depending on the results of this initial research.

Fred Hart, a Certified Related? Genealogist, who has done Obadiah research for SGS in Colonial New England records and who is an Obadiah descendant, has agreed to serve as an advisor.

SGS Member John Seely found that a William "Seeley" had a son, Obadiah in Birmingham in 1614 per the baptism record he found on LDS microfilm. John also found, on LDS film, apprenticeship records of the Turner Company of London that an Obadiah Seeley, who was trained to carve wood and be a carpenter, was released from his apprenticeship in 1636. John Seely believes this was the same Obadiah who was baptized in Birmingham in 1614, the son of William. However, we don't know if this is the same Obadiah who died in Connecticut in 1657.

John Seely is also attempting to obtain the English research that Jerome Anderson has done containing Seeley family information. Jerome is a former research librarian of NEHGS [New England

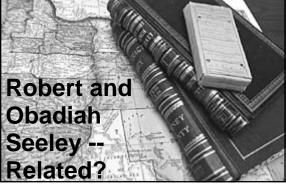
> Historical & Genealogical It is possible Society]. Jerome Anderson's research may help with understanding Robert/Obadiah relationship.

> Future research efforts will be an agenda item at the SGS Board Director's meeting in Abilene, KS on 14 May 2004. I will provide status reports to the membership via

Quarterly Newsletters. Members are encouraged to contact me if you have ideas regarding specific research objectives in pursuit of understanding the Robert/Obadiah relationship.

Also, please contact me if you recommend SGS sponsor (fund) research into the ancestry of other Seeley immigrants not descended from Robert or Obadiah.

Finally, Ray and Ann Hall's excellent paper titled Research Objectives of the Seeley Genealogical Society was printed in the 2003 Reunion Souvenir Book. Copies of that book are still available for \$27.



Volunteers Needed

One of SGS' primary goals is to encourage members to become more active in the Society. Listed below are SGS Projects that need volunteers. Also listed is a person to contact if you are willing to contribute some time. U.S. Mail addresses for each POC are found on page 15 of the Newsletter.

Proiect

- 1. Volunteer as an Area Coordinator
- 2. Assist with planning SGS Genealogical Research
- Assist at SGS Research Center, Abilene KS
- Plan for SGS Reunion in 2005
- Present Paper at SGS Reunion in 2005
- 6. Assist with developing a **Seeley Women** book
- Submit names for "Famous Seeleys" list
- Submit names of Seeley Vets in Armed Forces
- Identify DNA Projects [other than Obadiah]
- 10. Identify primary family immigrants
- 11. Act as SGS Historian
- 12. SGS as a nonprofit organization project
- 13. Constitution & By-laws changes
- 14. Contribute to SGS Newsletter
- 15. Increase SGS Membership

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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. Each has our gratitude.

SGS Board of Directors Meeting Scheduled for May 14

As required by the Seeley Genealogical Society's Constitution and By-Laws, the SGS Board of Directors will get together May 14 at the Seelye Research Center in Abilene, Kans. for its annual meeting.

At the meeting the directors will discuss a number of items including those required by the constitution as well as unresolved business from the last meeting. The board will also discuss issues that have come up since the Reunion.

The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

- Review status of action items from the last Board of Director's meeting.
- Review SGS Committee assignments.
- Review Wesley Waring's final report on DNA testing and decide if further testing in pursuit of the original Obadiah DNA Test Project objective should be done.
- John Seely will brief Board on Jerome Anderson's plan to publish Mr. Anderson's research. The Board will decide on taking appropriate action if requested.
- Kathie Olsen will brief recently initiated Sandra Pitts' research on William Seeley (father of Obadiah b. 1614).
- Jim Seeley will brief, and Board will determine SGS Research approach.
- Review proposed changes to the Constitution & By-laws: (1) Eliminate the position of Judge Advocate (as recommended by Gene Seelye),

- (2) Clarify list and duties of elected versus appointed Board Members.
- Treasurer will brief Board on income versus expenses of 2003 Reunion.
- Ray Hall will review latest membership trends.
- Kathie Olsen will brief on status of plans for trip to England in September 2004.
- Board provide Jim with their inputs and/or recommendations for the program for the 2005 Reunion scheduled for Thursday thru Saturday 15-17 September.
- Board will decide on whether or not to charge for foreign mailings (e.g., SGS Publications) considering all the implications this will have for foreign membership.
- Round robin Board comments.
- Jim Seeley will brief on status of incorporating SGS as a nonprofit corporation.
- Terry will brief on Old Abilene Town project.
- Misc. agenda items.

If you have items you would like to see the board bring up, contact SGS President Jim Seeley as soon as possible. Depending on when you receive this newsletter, you may need to contact Jim through Terry Tietjens who is hosting the board meeting at the Seelye Research Center.

Jim Seeley will provide a detailed report for the next issue of the newsletter to let the membership know about decisions made and actions agreed to at the board meeting.

Recently launched Arizona genealogy Web site puts 400,000 birth and death records at your fingertips

Arizona Gov. Janet Napolitano recently unveiled a new state web site that puts more than 400,000 historical Arizona birth and death records at the fingertips of genealogy buffs.

"This powerful new tool provides professional genealogists and casual family tree researchers alike a new connection to Arizona's past," Gov. Napolitano said. "This site enables them to save time and money when searching for their family roots."

Before the Arizona Department of Health Services' web site was available, accessing records was

cumbersome and costly, requiring manual searches by Vital Records employees, a \$3 fee per request, and a two- to three-week wait.

Thanks to a partnership between the Department of Health Services, the Arizona State Library and Archives, and the Mesa Family History Library, the web site allows free and instant access to more than 400,000 images of original Arizona birth and death

certificates that state law has made public record. The site is http://genealogy.az.gov.

By law, birth certificates become public after 75

years, and death certificates become public after 50 years. So those tracing family roots now may search by name for Arizona birth certificates between 1887 and 1928, and Arizona death certificates between 1878 and 1953.

Catherine Eden, Department of Health Services Director, said the site would provide ongoing savings. Vital Records employees who formerly conducted manual searches for

historical birth and death certificates will be freed up to more quickly process other public requests. Development of the site cost approximately \$25,000 in money that had been earlier appropriated by the Legislature.

"People are using this site to learn about their heritage, and to discover relatives," Eden said. "It's very exciting to find a connection to your past."

ARIZONA

Vote for the new SGS Logo

At the reunion in Williamsburg it was decided to form a committee to design and provide for the membership three new designs for an official SGS logo. The committee is made up of Ramon Hall, Chris Havnar, Tom Seeley, and Paul Taylor.

The clipper ship has served us well for a number of years, but it is of a design about 150 years later than the Winthrop Fleet ships of 1630. The thought was that the logo should include an image or images that are more closely related to the type of ships on which Seeleys initially emigrated around the world.

A suggestion was also made by the membership to include a Conestoga or covered wagon to represent the Seeley's who in later years

settled the frontiers of numerous countries. Based on the previous logo and the input received from the membership, the committee has come up with three logos for the membership to vote on.

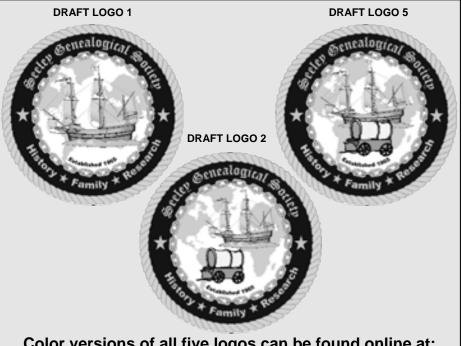
Vote by sending a letter or e-mail to Paul Taylor (contact data listed on page 15 under newsletter editor) letting him know which logo you prefer. The votes will be compiled and the logo receiving the most votes will be announced in the next newsletter and officially adopted.

In the box above, you see three of the five proposed logos. The two not pictured above the same as Draft Logo 2 with color variations. Since the newsletter is in black and white, you will not be able to see the colors of the logos here. However, the logos can be found online at the following Web address: http://community.webshots.com/album/139874410zewzKx

Although the logos are all slightly different, there are a few consistent themes. One is the rope-line border which signifies the industrious and hardworking nature of Seeleys around the world and throughout the centuries who have worked not only for their families but for their countries.

The linked chain in the center of the logo stands for the ties of family that bring this diverse group of people together as an organization dedicated to "research...and preservation of Seeley information for the Society, for its members and for posterity."

In the center of the logo is a representational map of the world representing that Seeleys can be



Color versions of all five logos can be found online at: http://community.webshots.com/album/139874410zewzKx

found all over the globe. It also symbolizes the international nature of our organization.

Draft Logo 1

This logo is a simple replacement for the current clipper ship logo and prominently features only a single ship. The ship is a close representation of a 17th century sailing vessel much like the Arabella on which it is believed Robert Seeley came to America. However, this type of ship was widely used throughout the 1600's as transport across the seas (for instance the Susan Constant, a ship very much like this one, was one of the ships that brought settlers to Jamestown in 1608).

Draft Logo 2

This logo features the addition of a covered wagon which, as mentioned above, represents the Seeleys who in later years settled the frontiers of North America.

Draft Logo 3

This one is the same as logo 2 but the colors of the ship and the wagon are toned down a little.

Draft Logo 4

Again, this one is the same as logo two, but in addition to the toned down colors of the ship and wagon, the map background has been colored in a sepia tone reminiscent of the older photographs and documents with which genealogists often work.

Draft Logo 5

This logo features the same ship and wagon as above, but in this one they are overlapped slightly so they appear a little larger than in the other logos.

Seelye Research Center Director keeps busy restoring a town

You know him as mild-mannered Terry Tietjens SGS Director, Seelye Research Center Director, and owner of the Historic Seelye Mansion in Abilene, Ks. However, to some of his fellow citizens in Abilene he is known as Mr. President. In addition to all the things he does for the Seeley Genealogical Society, Tietjens is also quite active in his community and is currently serving as president of Historic Abilene Inc.

(Oh, by the way he's also a board member for the Abilene Convention and Visitors Bureau, and is involved in local theatre, as well – a busy guy, Terry!)

His duties as president of Historic Abilene Inc. are keeping him quite busy these days as he marshals groups of volunteers and organizes fundraisers with the goal of completing preservation and renovation work on Old Abilene Town. A collection of historic buildings located on the eastern side of town, Old Abilene Town is a place where Kansas' western heritage is preserved for the enjoyment of Abilene residents and visitors alike.

"Abilene became an important 'cow town' when the railroad reached our community in 1867," said Tietjens. "The Chisholm Trail was extended north through Texas and Oklahoma to the small community of Abilene. During the 1880's many of our present day historic homes and downtown buildings were built. We have an important history to share with Kansas and the world."

Located about 160 miles west of Kansas City, Abilene was a rowdy cattle town when legendary lawman Wild Bill Hickok became its marshal in 1871. While those days are long gone, Old Abilene Town is a replica of the town during its wild western heyday. Gunfights and cancan performances are still held. Once enough money has been raised and the renovations are complete, Old Abilene Town will feature a stockyard, an opera house, city hall, shops and much more.

For now, Tietjens is working hard at completing his first goal since Historic Abilene Inc. purchased the site last December: having the site ready for limited opening by this Memorial Day. The Rock Island depot will be used by the Abilene and Smoky Valley Railroad Association, beginning Memorial Day weekend. A campaign to raise \$40,000 for roof repairs and other renovation has started to ensure that goal is achieved.

Other events starting that same weekend will be stage coach rides by Wayne Baier and the wax museum will be open. A small restaurant offering snacks and ice cream will open. Also, several artisans have been in contact about offering crafts.

It is expected the renovations to Old Abilene Town will be complete by the time SGS meets in



Town.

Abilene for its 2005 International Reunion, which means we'll all get a chance to enjoy the fruits of Terry's labor! (Not to mention all the other exciting things there are to see and do in the historic community of Abilene.)

History, Heroes, and Hospitality

That's the banner the Abilene, Kansas Chamber of Commerce uses to promote the site of the

Seeley Genealogical Society 2005 International Reunion

Thurs. – Sat., September 15 – 17
The reunion will feature the informative sessions you've come to expect, plus a chance to visit with family, as well as experience Abilene, Kansas and the remarkable history of the Great Plains!



SHAPE REMARKS CASTIN

Historic Seelye Mansion

Seelye Research Center



Abilene & Smoky Valley Railroad





Eisenhower Presidential Library & Museum

Dickinson County Historical Society Heritage Center

Mark Your Calendar Now!!!



Seely in the Spotlight Jeannie Seely Country Music Recording Artist



To Grand Ole Opry veteran Jeannie Seely, it's still a thrill and honor every time she performs on the worldfamous Opry stage. "I feel very fortunate to be part of the Opry tradition," the Grammy-winning singer says.

Seely was born July 6, 1940 in Titusville, Penn. the youngest of Leo and Irene Seely's four children.

Her interest in music was influenced strongly by her parents. Leo Seely worked on the family's farm and at a Titusville steel mill, but during the weekends would play banjo and call local square dances. Irene Seely would sing with her daughter every Saturday morning while the two baked bread together.

At age 11, she began singing for a Saturday morning radio show on Meadville station WMGW. By age 16, Jeannie was performing on television station WICU in Erie.

Following high school graduation in 1958, Jeannie worked for three years at a Titusville bank. But it was the weather conditions one Sunday morning on a country back road that finalized her decision to move to California. "It was Easter, and I got my car stuck in a snow bank," she chuckles. "I had to walk the whole way home in my new dress to get my Dad's help. I decided right then and there that I was ready to make a change."

At age 21, Jeannie packed everything she could into her car, shipped the rest to "General Delivery, Los Angeles", and headed west. She initially took a job at a Beverly Hills bank, but left it after a year to take a secretarial position for half the money at Liberty and Imperial Records in Hollywood.

There she began writing songs for Four Star Music and became a regular act, along with an unknown Glen Campbell, on the "Hollywood Jamboree" television series. Rhythm and blues artist Irma Thomas recorded a composition by Jeannie titled "Anyone Who Knows What Love Is" and scored a national pop hit with it. Her songwriting led to her own recording contract on Challenge Records.

She later moved to Nashville in the fall of 1965. Initially turned down by every record label in town, Jeannie finally got the big break she needed when a recording contract was offered by Monument Records. She recorded a Hank Cochran ballad titled "Don't Touch Me" on March 12, 1966.

Within a few weeks the song debuted on the country music charts and stayed there more than five months. It also crossed over to national pop charts.

In June of 1966 Jeannie made her first guest appearance on the Grand Ole Opry. She received

M o s t Promising New Artist" awards in 1966 from all the national trade publications including Billboard, Cashbox, and Record World. as well as from polls of country music fans and DJs radio the across country.

On March 2, 1967, the National



Grand Ole Opry Star Jeannie Seely (left), poses for a photo with Singer Patty Loveless. (Story and Photo from www.jeannieseely.com)

Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences honored Jeannie with the 1966 Grammy Award for the "Best Country Vocal Performance by a Female".

In September of 1967, Jeannie fulfilled her lifelong dream by joining the Grand Ole Opry. She remembers her Opry induction, attended by her parents from Penn. as a very emotional night. "I started crying," she recalls, "and then I encored and that was even worse." She remains the only native from Penn. to be invited to join the Opry cast.

Often referred to as the "Mother Church of Country Music", the Ryman Auditorium in downtown Nashville was home to the Opry when Jeannie became a member. Although hot in the summer and drafty in the winter, Jeannie says the Ryman had a magic all its own. But after 31 years at the Ryman, the Grand Ole Opry moved on March 16, 1974, to the new 4,400 seat Opry House on the grounds of the Opryland theme park. At the much-publicized grand opening show which was broadcast on over 1,300 radio stations worldwide, special guest President Richard Nixon told the audience, "Some girls have looks but can't sing. Others can sing but don't have looks. Jeannie Seely's got them both."

A string of hit records in the late '60's and early '70's solidified Jeannie's reputation as a country torch singer and earned her the nickname of "Miss Country Soul," a title still frequently used today. She placed singles on Billboard's national country music charts

Continued on Page 14





Above: The Oliver Cromwell Museum's purpose is to interpret the life and legacy of Oliver Cromwell, 1599-1658, by collecting, explaining and exhibiting relevant material. The Museum is in the old Huntingdon Grammar School, where Cromwell was a pupil, and close to the site of his birth. (Photo from http://edweb.camcnty.gov.uk/cromwell/)

"Robert Seeley's England" trip takes shape (Continued from page 1)

Grandsen area, St. Mary's Parrish and the Oliver Cromwell Museum. Overnight in Huntingdon and dinner together.

Sept. 14

Breakfast together then travel to Stratford for a visit to Shakespeare's birthplace and the 11th century Kenilworth Castle which is described by some as possibly the most magnificent castle in England. Overnight in Coventry and dinner together.

Sept. 15

Breakfast together then travel to Portsmouth to visit the historic dockyard and the Mary Rose display. Enroute, the group will enjoy a walking tour of Oxford. Overnight in Chichester and dinner together.

Sept. 16

Breakfast together then travel back to London through the area where the Battle of Hastings took place. The evening is free to enjoy an optional excursion to the theatre or an activity of your choice. Overnight in London.

Sept. 17

Breakfast together then enjoy a full day sightseeing in London including the Tower of London with the spectacular crown jewels. The group will enjoy a farewell dinner. Overnight in London. Sept. 18

Travel to the airport for return flights or perhaps enjoy the beginning of an extended stay (optional



Left: During the trip, participants will visit the birthplace William Shakespeare. Located in Stratford Upon Avon, the house is not far from Robert's hometown. Although Robert was only 14 years old when the Bard died at the age of 52, it is likely he enjoyed, or at least knew of, Shakespeare's work. A visit to the Shakespeare sites will offer tour participants a glimpse into the times in which Robert lived. (Photo from Grose Educational Media Photos)



Left: The HMS Victory is one of several display ships tour participants will enjoy at the Portsmouth Historic Dockyard. While the Victory is from a later time than Robert Seeley, there are displays from all periods of England's maritime history. The Dockyard will give visitors some insight into the types of conditions Robert and his family endured during the treacherous crossing of the Atlantic to America. King Richard I ordered the construction of a dockvard in Portsmouth in 1194. The Royal Dockyard title disappeared in 1984, but the Naval Base remains the home port of Royal Navy ships including the aircraft carriers HMS Invincible, Illustrious and Ark Royal. In 1985 the British Government granted a long lease over the most historic part of the Dockyard to the Portsmouth Naval Base Property Trust. This part of the dockyard is now open to the public and is home to the attractions of the Historic Portsmouth Dockvard. (Photo from www.hmsvictory.com)

excursions are available from Globus/Cosmos).

If the minimum number of 40 people sign up, the trip will cost \$1099 per person for double occupancy. If fewer than 40 people sign up, there will be a slight increase. Please direct all questions regarding the tour to Janice Johnson at Columbus travel at 801-295-9568 (ext. 2001) in Salt Lake City, UT or you can call toll-free at 800-373-3328 (ext. 2001).

Below: The Benedictine Battle Abbey commemorates one of the most famous events in English history, the Battle of Hastings on October 14, 1066. By the orders of William I, the church was built where his Anglo-Saxon opponent Harold was believed to have been killed on that fateful day. The Battle of Hastings was the last time the British Isles suffered a successful invasion. (Photo from www.battle-abbey.co.uk)



Below: The historic Tower of London is home to the crown jewels. However, due to its shady history as a prison and interrogation facility it is also believed to be the home of several ghosts! Tour participants will be able to judge for themselves as it is one of the sights that they will be able to visit during their stay in London. (Photo from www.tower-of-london.org.uk)



Family Bible Information on Jacob Seely and Elizabeth Van Campen

Submitted by Alfa Jean Carter, 892 S. 700 East, Centerville, UT 84014

"This information is taken from the family Bible and does not give a very full account of some of them. But I think (for) some of them their deaths were not known about by the ones who had the Bible until quite a time after it had happened and full date perhaps was not given. But this is the best I can give you."

Births	Deaths		
Jacob Seely was born Aug 5 th AD 1786	Jacob Seeley died Mar 31st AD 1830		
Elizabeth Seely was born Dec 30 th AD 1789	Elizabeth Seely died Sept 22 nd AD 1838		
Mary Ann Seely was born Feb 23 rd AD 1812	Mary Ann Webb died Mar 3 rd AD 1872		
Hannah Seely was born July 23 rd AD 1813	Hannah Webb died Feb 10th AD 1881 at Caldwell Summer Co Kan		
Diannah Seely was born Sept 10 th AD 1814	Diannah Webb died Jan 7 th AD 1885 aged 70 years, 3 mos, 27 days		
William Seely was born Jan 27 th AD 1816	William Seely died May 20 th AD 1851 aged 35 yrs, 4 mos, 24 days		
Stephen Seely was born Aug 20 th AD 1817	Stephen Seely died Jan 16 th AD 1896 Buried at Sac City Ia		
Thomas Seely was born Dec 31st AD 1818	Thomas Seely died May 18 th 1873 Buried at Ackley Ia		
John Seely was born July 6 th AD 1820	John Seely died Feb 12 th Aged 6 yrs, 6 mos, 6 days (no year given)		
Clinton Seely was born Nov 8 th AD 1821	Clinton Seely died Feb 11 th AD 1853 Aged 31 yrs, 3 mos, 3 days		
Jacob Seely was born May 15 th AD 1823	Jacob Seely died Dec 19 th AD 1882 at Winfield Kansas		
James Seely was born Jan 26 th AD 1825	James Seely died Dec 9 th (no year given) and is buried in Zimmerman's Cemetery 1 ³ / ₄ mis South of Polo Caldwell Co Missouri		
Joseph Seely was born July 30 th AD 1826	Joseph Seely died in New Mexico in battle against the South (no year given)		
Andrew Seely was born Dec 15 th AD 1829	Andrew Seely died Apr 22 nd AD 1896. Buried in Portland?? Cemetery. Kossuth Co Iowa."		

Note: Although this Family Bible information is not listed as a reference, the information agrees with only a few exceptions with that compiled on this family in the SGS Publication *The Seventh Generation Families*, Obadiah section, pages 25 and 26. This Jacob Seeley was assigned SGS # 1494. In a letter to the Newsletter Editor, Alfa Jean Carter lists her line as Verna May Seely, Arta McLean Seely, Joseph Seely, and William Seely, the son of Jacob Seely listed above. A copy of Alfa's correspondence, which also contained a group sheet on her grandfather, Arta Seely, has been sent to the Seelye Research Center.

Sarah Edmunds Seelye featured in Canadian documentary

This is a follow-up to the November Canadian Corner in which Dorothy Boucher mentioned her Great, Great Uncle Linus' wife Sarah Emma Evelyn Edmundson becoming the subject of a documentary film. The film debuted on Canadian TV earlier this year, however, the film will makes its U.S. debut on June 26 at the 6th Conference on Women and the Civil War sponsored by the Society for Women and the Civil War in partnership with the Museum of the Confederacy.

The conference will be held in Richmond, Va. At the Crowne Plaza Hotel. For more information. check out the organization's website:

http://womenandthecivilwar.org/2004/2004.htm

The film, entitled The Unsexing of Emma Edmunds was produced in Canada by Films Piche Ferrari. The film's director Pepita Ferrari will introduce the picture.

Sarah Emma Evelyn Edmundson was born in New Brunswick province, Canada, in December 1841. To avoid an unwanted marriage, she ran away from home when she was seventeen, disguised as a boy. She continued her male masquerade as a publisher's agent in the midwestern United States and, on May 25, 1861, enlisted in Company F, Second Michigan Volunteer Infantry Regiment, under the alias Franklin Thompson. For nearly two years she served in the Union Army undetected, with assignments including male nurse, regimental mail orderly, and brigade postmaster, and on special assignments for the secret service. Ironically, in the secret service duty she penetrated Confederate lines "disguised" as a woman. Fearing her guise would be discovered when she became ill with malaria in 1863, she deserted and resumed a normal existence



Canadian Corner

in Ohio as a female. After regaining her health she again volunteered as a nurse, but this time with the Christian Sanitary Commission at Harper's Ferry, and as a female. Under a shortened version of her maiden name, S. Emma E. Edmonds, she wrote a fanciful, but highly successful, account of her experiences in the army, Nurse and Spy in the Union Army (1865). The popularity and exposure she gained from the book and its revelation that she had deserted the army at one time led the government to cancel her pension. She later married a childhood neighbor, Linus Seelye, and reportedly had five children, three of whom died in infancy. A congressional bill in 1884 recognized her service to the Union and granted her a pension of twelve dollars a month. The charge of desertion from the army was removed by Congress in 1886. In the early 1890s the Seelye family moved to La Porte, Texas, and on April 22, 1897, Sarah Seelye became a member of the McClellan Post, Grand Army of the Republic, in Houston, Texas-the only woman member in the history of the GAR, though as many as four hundred women may actually have served in the Union army. At the time of her death Seelye was writing her memoirs of the Civil War. She died in La Porte, Texas, on September 5, 1898. Three years later, at the insistence of her fellow members of the McClellan Post, her remains were transferred to the GAR plot in the Washington (German) Cemetery in Houston.

(Story from "SEELYE, SARAH EMMA EVELYN EDMUNDSON." The Handbook of Texas Online. http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/article s/view/SS/fse16.html> [Accessed Sun May 2 15:19:27 US/Central 2004].)

Letter to the Editor

Editor's Note: I received a copy of a letter from James W. Seeley of McGregor, Iowa. The note had some genealogy questions in it that Jim Seeley answered, but there was a portion of the note that I wanted to share with our readers. It contains something of a challenge for the readers of the SGS Newsletter. Take a look:

I have read the newsletter on the internet and see they are looking for ideas for stories, i.e., my father, Warren J. Seeley recently turned 96 years old and I wonder if he comes close to being one of the eldest Seeleys. His wife died last year in March, but the June before they celebrated 70 years of marriage--possibly a record? They also made the 4th generation in a row to have celebrated over 50 years of marriage.

Thank you for your time. James W. Seelev

McGregor, Iowa

So how about it? Any Seeley's out there celebrating more than 96 years of life? How about more than 70 years of marriage? If you or someone you know can beat these two milestones, please send me an e-mail note (contact data on page 15). It would be great if you could send along a photo as well as a paragraph or two that we can share with our readers that might perhaps shed some light on how we all can lead longer, happier lives!

SGS Queries

(Data as of January 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 llc100@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 0311-6 Re: Austin H. Seeley

Leonard Seeley is also descended from Austin Seeley and Lucy Ann Vaughn but hasn't been able to contact Jesy Shepherd to exchange information. If anyone has been in recent contact with Jesy please send me her address and I will try to get the two of them together.

Update to Query 0402-3 Re: Ezra D. Seeley

Mary Anne Seeley Pyle (marypyle@hotmail.com) has discovered some more information on Ezra D. Seeley. She found Ezra D. in the 1850 census for Livingston Co. MO where it shows him age 51 and b. in VT, occupation physician. He is with a wife Susan age 36 and 2 children: Evaline B. age 17 and b. in OH and Ezra 'O' or 'D' age 15 also b. in OH. In the 1860 census he is age 61, b. VT, occupation physician and living in Princeton, Mercer Co. MO with wife Eliza Jane age 26 and 2 small children (SGS # 2384 and 2385). Mary Anne also found an 1856 deed from Ezra D. and Eliza Jane to Evaline B. Manning, his daughter, for property in Chillicothe, OH. There is also a deed from Ezra D. to Susan Seely in 1852 for the adjoining property.

Mary Anne is still trying to find out what happened to Susan Seely – did she die before he married Eliza Jane? Susan Seely may be the Susan Boyce who m. an Ezra Seeley 31 Dec. 1831 in Meigs Co. OH.

The other big question for us is the relationship (if any) between this Ezra D. Seeley and the Ezra D. Seelye (SGS # 865) who m. Laury/Lany Decker and resided in Owasco, NY with her and their 7 children as listed in the Seventh Generation Book.

Please contact me if you have any information on

these Ezra Seeleys.

New Queries

Query 0405-1 Submitted by Frances Allison (allison1709@earthlink.net)

Subject: Sarah Seeley, SGS #91A

Frances says she is a descendant of a Sarah Seeley who married Mounce Keen, a Swede, about 1737 in NJ. Frances knew that her father was Benjamin who was b. in Ct and died 20 March 1720/21 in Salem Co. NJ.

SGS Interim Response: We were able to identify Sarah as SGS #91A. Sarah and her husband Mounce/Maurice Keen had 8 children. We asked Frances to send her line of descent to Terry Tietjens. Dan Seelye was able to send Frances some data on Sarah's ancestry from the SGS database.

Query 0405-2 Submitted by Wilma Diesen (thediesens@chartermi.net)

Subject: Mary Angell Miller, wife of Obadiah Seeley, SGS #4

Wilma has questions about Mary Angell Miller Seeley who is an ancestor of her son-in-law. In particular she noticed some conflicting information on a Seeley site on the internet and wants verification that Mary is indeed the child of James and Anna Angel.

She also heard from a correspondent that Mary had possibly married David Scofield after Obadiah's death.

If anyone can offer evidence on either of these matters please contact Wilma and send a copy of the information to me.

Query 0405-3 Submitted by Jonathan Seeley (jeseeley3@juno.com)

Subject: Benjamin Seeley

Jonathan has received some records from an uncle and would like to connect his line to ours. His line goes back to a Benjamin Seeley who m. Susan Merrifield. He descends through Thomas, Benjamin, George S., Joseph B.F., Joseph H., and Elden Seeley (Jonathan's father).

SGS Interim Response:

I have asked Jonathan to send us more details if possible – dates and places and spouses.

Dan Seelye had information in the SGS database showing Benjamin Seeley b. 12 Dec 1712 Fairfield, CT and m. Marblehead, MA 30 Aug. 1742 to Susanna Merryfield, dau. of Bonnell and Susanna (White) Merryfield. Their children (born Marblehead, MA) are listed as: Benjamin b. 1743, lost at sea, George b. 1746 and bur. 8 Dec. 1747, Remember b.

1748, stolen by Indians, Thomas b. 1750, m. Mehitable Forbes and d. 1777 in Nova Scotia, Henry b. 1753 and lastly, Sarah b. 1754 in Berwick, York Co. ME and m. 1772 in Nova Scotia to Palatiah Goodwin. One source lists the parents of Benjamin as Benjamin Seely and Sarah Lane.

There isn't any information on these Benjamin Seeleys in the published SGS volumes. If you can show how they connect to Robert's or Obadiah's line please let us know!

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. 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 contact data – sometimes we get information several months after publication.

From the Query Editor

As you can see our Query column is a little light again this month. If you have some spare time, please take look at a previous edition of the newsletter to see if you've discovered something new since it came out that might help with the query. Also, we have at our disposal a group of genealogical supersleuths who love a good challenge, so don't forget to send in your own queries as well!

THIS JUST IN...

Just as this issue was going to the printer, it was learned that Chris Havnar and her husband Jerry agreed to take over management of the SGS Web Site previously built and maintained by Dan Seelye. Dan was interested in retiring from the Web business, so Chris and Jerry (well, mostly Jerry) have been working hard at building a new site that includes all the information Dan had on his site, while leaving room to grow. It can be found at www.seeley-society.org It is a work in progress and Dan will leave his site up for another month or so to ease the transition. Thanks to Chris & Jerry for their hard work, and a BIG THANKS to Dan who brought SGS into the information age when web design was a fledgling craft! Happy Surfing!!!

Longtime SGS Member Edward Walker Passes Away

Edward Henry Walker who worked at Caterpillar Tractor Company in San Leandro for 22 years as a quality control inspector, died Sunday, February 22, 2004, at age 82. A native of South Dakota, Mr. Walker was a five-year veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps and was part of the Raiders Special Force in the Pacific Theater during World War II. He was a member of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Marine League. He had lived in Newark for many years and was honored as Volunteer of the Year in 1991 for his 13 years of service with the Salvation Army, 15 years as a teacher's aide, and 10 years with the 4-H Club and the Newark Senior Advisory Board. He enjoyed photography, traveling, camping and woodworking. He is survived by his wife of 55 years Mona May Seelye Walker, children Deborah Walker, Adele Jenkins, Pamela Gough, Audrey Walker, David Walker, William Walker and Kathleen Walker; his isters Dolores and Dorothy; his brothers Charles, Allen and Duane; 13 grandchildren; one greatgrandchild; and many other relatives. Funeral Services were held Thursday, February 26, 2004.

Weren't Able to Make it to the Reunion?
Wondering what you missed?
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The SGS 2003 International Reunion Souvenir Book

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Reunion Highlights
Member Presentations
SGS Research Objectives
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Seelye Research Center
The Seeley Ancestor File & Use of the Indices

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Genealogy 101
Genealogy 102: Research Experience in N. Calif.
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My Ancestor's Journey in the 1880's Obadiah DNA Test Project Plan & Status Plans for SGS Trip to England in 2004 The State of the Society

SGS Constitution, By-laws and Treasurer's Report
After-Dinner Speakers

Deciphering Early American Handwriting Working with Early Newspapers Colonial Virginia Headrights Awards and Reunion Facts & Photos

See the SGS Publications Box on Page 15 to Find Out How to Get Yours!!!

Jeannie Seely (Continued From Page 7) every year from 1966 through 1978.

On the inside cover of one of Jeannie's early albums, the legendary Ernest Tubb wrote, "She puts heart and soul into every ballad she sings. Whether a new song or an old one, when Jeannie sings it, it becomes 'Jeannie's song'."

In spite of her heavy touring schedule, Jeannie continued to write songs which were recorded by numerous artists including Dottie West, Norma Jean, Willie Nelson, Ray Price, Tex Williams, and Connie Smith. Faron Young recorded Jeannie's "Leavin' and Sayin' Goodbye", taking it to No. 1 on the charts and earning her a 1972 Broadcast Music Industry (BMI) Songwriters Award.

In the early 80's, Seely served as the opening act for friend Willie Nelson's concert dates across the country. She also appeared in his successful movie Honeysuckle Rose and sang on the soundtrack.

During the late 80's Jeannie starred in several major stage productions. She teamed with Jean Shepard and Lorrie Morgan in the 1986 country musical called Takin' It Home, played "Miss Mona" in a 1988 sold-out run of The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas, and in 1989 took a nonmusical role as the title character in Everybody Loves Opal.

In 1988 Jeannie published her own book, Pieces of a Puzzled Mind, containing a collection of Jeannie's unique witticisms. Also known as "Seelyisms" around Nashville, Jeannie notes that many actually began as song titles or opening lines.

When not booked on concert dates out of town, Seely regularly performs on the Grand Ole Opry's Friday and Saturday night shows.

Jeannie continues to enjoy acting and for three months in 2000 she portrayed the role of Louise Seger during a successful run of the "Always, Patsy Cline" musical in Atlantic City. Along with friends Jan Howard and Rita Coolidge, Jeannie filmed the heartwarming motion picture Changing Hearts in late 2001. The movie, which stars Faye Dunaway and Laureen Holly, is now available on DVD and VHS.

Today Jeannie resides just a short distance from the Grand Ole Opry House in a Cumberland Riverfront home that she renovated and decorated herself.

Divorced for many years from songwriter Hank Cochran, Jeannie lives with her small dog Shadpoke, a Shih Tzu she found abandoned and abused several years ago (and named after a ragamuffin term her Mother used). Shadpoke has become a "star" in his own right, appearing on numerous television shows and in several magazines. Jeannie's family also includes Hamilton, a cat she named after her late friend Ed Hamilton from WSM radio, and Cheyenne, a Shih Tzu who joined the Seely family in early 2002.

Jeannie's two brothers Don and Bernie both reside in the western states, while her sister Mary Lou lives nearby in Nashville.

20 Years ago in SGS

In his column, From the Pen of the President, SGS President Robert G. Cox remarked on the inventiveness and contributions to society made by Seeleys through the years.

The creativeness of Seeleys and Seeley descendents goes on -- for the house wife, H. W. Seeley lifted some of the drudgery of house work by inventing the first electric flat-iron. Mr. Seeley received his patent (no. 259,054) on the 6th of June, 1882. This opened a new era as it eliminated the need to heat the diamond-shaped irons on a hot stove in the middle of a hot summer. There was no need to rise and do the ironing in the early dawn before the day heated up. It may have been the beginning of short order service, as the electric iron could be heated on short notice to press stiff collars or fancy dresses.

The good life was promoted even further by Elwyn E. Seeley, a civil engineer whose firm, which he founded, designed many famous structures including the Jefferson Memorial in Washington D.C., the first large radio telescope in West Virginia, and parts of the Dew Line in Northern Canada...

The Seeleys have not limited the good life to just family members, they have helped to improve the lives of others through education. Our family shares a great many educators from founders of colleges to the classrooms. Through the Seeley missionaries, ambassadors, educators, builders, and arts we have done and are doing our part to make this a better world to live in.

I am proud to be a part of one of the most important families in America!

SGS welcomes the following new members

Dr. Richard and Sherideth Seeley 65 Bystrek Dr Middletown, CT 06457-8706

Robert Paul Seeley 861 SW 48th St Lincoln City, OR 97367-1306

Obituary from the Arizona Republic

David A. Seeley, previously of Glendale, passed away unexpectedly on Oct. 6, 2003 in Seattle, WA. He was a well known auto mechanic and loved his job. He is survived by his mother, Linda Seeley, father, Ronald Seeley, brother, Dan Seeley, sisters, Rhonda Seeley & Beverly Auerbach and nieces Brehann, Courtney Auerbach and many other relatives. Private services have been held. First Call Cremation, Seattle, WA.

SGS Publications

Descendants of Robert Seeley (1602-1667) and Obadiah (1614-1657): Seeley 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 Seelev and (1601-1667) 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 Tietiens (contact info at right).

Also available is a CD-ROM containing the SGS Ancestor Index File (John Seely's Blue Books) and the three SGS pubs above in easy-to-use and searchable Microsoft Word format. The SGS 2003 Reunion Souvenir Book contains 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

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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: ☐ Robert ☐ Obadiah	Other (Attached)	☐ 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 YES PLANNING NO SO LATER					
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MAIL FORM AND MEMBERSHIP FEE TO:	RAMON HALL, SGS MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN 155 BEAR DRIVE EVERGREEN, CO 80439-4323				

Meet Chris Havnar - SGS Treasurer

Editor's Note: At the Williamsburg reunion, SGS elected a new treasurer. Her name is Chris Havnar. She's a very charming and fun person and I asked her to tell us a little bit about herself. Here's what she had to say.

I am a ninth generation Californian, born in the Balboa Naval hospital in San Diego. Growing up we followed my father around the country and world as he was stationed, or his ship was homeported in various locations. I am married with a college age son. I currently work for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. I have worked in Human Resources for 30 years, but will soon be pursuing new job opportunities - the new Medicare Drug Card will probably claim my allegiance for the remainder of my work years.

When my mother-in-law passed away ten years ago, I became interested in genealogy, initially to organize her pictures. My husband's g-g-g-grandmother wrote one of the Oregon Trail Diaries. After a few years, I figured I might as well see what information was available on my family. My California Spanish-Mexican family is fairly well documented. I became curious about my Seely roots. My grandfather was eleven when his father died in 1907 so his family information was spotty. But my great-grandfather's first family is well represented in San

Jose's Oak Hill Cemetery, so I started doing research on my half-uncles and aunts. Eventually I found a shred or two or three of information that eventually lead me to Dan Seelye's web Eventually I page. asked him if there were ties from SGS information to my family. I had enough information, and he had enough information,



that a match was made in the summer of 2001, and I joined SGS. The convention that year was held in Tacoma, where my late father-in-law's sister lives, so I visited Loretta and went to the convention. I had a ball - met people I enjoyed, and found a project or two that I could work on during vacations.

I enjoy reading old microfilm newspapers, and can critique several libraries in the far western States. I am looking forward to retirement to be able to devote more time to things that tickle my fancy - and put a real smile on my face.



% MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN RAMON E. HALL 155 BEAR DRIVE EVERGREEN, CO 80439-4323

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