



# Seeley Genealogical Society

# Newsletter

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History Family Research

May 2006

## Research on Obadiah Seeley's Ancestors Begins... Again

*Story By Jim Seeley, SGS President*

These past few months have been exciting for me. I know many members have been anxious to see SGS recommence research efforts. The SGS board has decided not to wait any longer to obtain a copy of the research by the genealogist who we understood had researched immigrant Obadiah Seeley's ancestors in the Birmingham area of England. As one member put it, we've been waiting since 1992 (when the researcher was invited to give a presentation at the Wethersfield, Conn. SGS reunion).

The board voted to hire a genealogist with an excellent reputation and experience in researching English records of the early 1600 time period. Mr. Clifford L. Stott, CG, FASG of Orem, Utah has accepted an invitation to help us *identify the ancestors in England of Obadiah Seeley who died in Stamford, Conn. on Aug. 25, 1657.* Mr. Stott has agreed to develop a research plan on how he proposes to proceed, then the board will vote to approve the plan. The researcher has been provided copies of SGS materials pertinent to the task. I'll keep the membership up to date on his progress. I do not anticipate the need for Mr. Stott to actually travel to England. If there is a need to research records not held in the USA, then I hope Mr. Stott will contact and direct the efforts of an English researcher in Great Britain.

I want to thank SGS Asst. Genealogist Karl Weiler for helping find a researcher and for providing data Mr. Stott should have that summarizes what we know about Obadiah. Obadiah researcher Mr. Fred C. Hart, Jr., CG and genealogist Bob Anderson were the specific individuals who identified Mr. Stott as an experienced and recognized researcher of English records.

I should emphasize that the board and I want to ensure that future research efforts include the ancestors of all Seeley surnames, not just the descendants of immigrants Robert and Obadiah Seeley. Our past focus has been on Robert and Obadiah since such a large majority of our members descend from one of those two immigrants. If you would like SGS help to fund research on your ancestors, a lot will depend on how many

members may be affected, but that may not be the only criteria. Please put your request in writing and send it to me. E-mail is acceptable. The SGS research committee

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[that includes Dian Little, Karl Weiler, Wesley Waring, John R. Seely, Kathie Olsen, and me] will review your request. Obadiah Seeley researcher Fred C. Hart, Jr., CG is a non-SGS member of the committee who has

graciously offered his advice and support. The executive board will approve any expenditure of funds.

For new members, it is worth repeating that the Seeley DNA Project has determined that immigrants Robert Seeley (1602-1667) and Obadiah Seeley (presumably 1614-1657) were not closely related. For more details, see the DNA test results and analysis at <http://reamstown.org/seely/>. I encourage males with a Seeley (or a variant spelling) surname to participate in the Seeley DNA Lineage Project. Contact the project manager, SGS Member Dr. Ken McCrea, [Ken@SeeleyDNA.info](mailto:Ken@SeeleyDNA.info) for details.

Now that SGS has begun new research efforts, it is appropriate to request that members make contributions to the SGS research fund. There is currently about \$2,378 in the research account. You may contribute by sending a check, made out to SGS, to SGS Treasurer Chris Havnar. Chris' address is on page 15.

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### The Seeley Genealogical Society Newsletter

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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 2007 in New England. 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.

## President's Report

The 2005 SGS International Reunion Souvenir Books were mailed in February 2006 to those who purchased them. If you believe you purchased one, and didn't receive it, please let me know as soon as possible. I have two books left to sell on a first come, first served basis. The cost is \$25 and checks should be made payable to SGS. I have received comments on how wonderful the book is. Some say even better than the 2003 book and that was pretty great. Thanks and congratulations go to our hardworking and talented Newsletter Editor, Paul Taylor for his research, photography, editing and organizing the inputs, and for producing such an impressive book.

As I reported in the November 2005 issue of the SGS Newsletter, our membership is growing, slowly, but it is growing. REMINDER – the membership year runs from Sept. 1 through Aug. 31. The month and year of expiration of your membership appears on the newsletter address label. Please send in your membership renewal to Ray Hall, the membership chairman (address on page 15) before the end of August to ensure you receive your November newsletter. If you change your address, the post office will forward mail to your new address for only a specific period of time. Ray sends a reminder of overdue dues to the last address he has.

When you renew your membership, please include your e-mail address, postal address, phone number, and lineage [e.g., Nathaniel, Obadiah, Other].

We have recommenced research on the English ancestors of immigrant Obadiah Seeley. A separate article on this initiative appears elsewhere in this Newsletter.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors a few years ago, we voted to emphasize the universality of the various lines of Seeley descendants, regardless of the spelling of the surname. The SGS CDROM contains (1) significant compilations of the Seeley surname and (2) significant research reports on Seeley ancestors. BUT, the only files currently on the SGS CDROM are compilations and research reports of the descendants of immigrants Robert and Obadiah Seeley. There are other Seeley lines that are not in either of these sets of documents. If you have a Seeley (of various spellings) compilation or research report that you think may be of significant interest to members of SGS or Seeley researchers, please send an electronic copy to Bob Seeley, the SGS CDROM project director. Bob will forward it to the appropriate board members for review and approval for adding to the SGS CDROM. You will be notified of the board's decision.

I do not plan to run for another term as president of SGS. I am announcing this early to hopefully attract candidates to seek the position. Managing the society has been as great a thrill for me as serving as commanding officer of a Navy ship was. I have met people I would have never met otherwise and that is one of the greatest joys of the job. The talent of our members has amazed me, not only in genealogy, but in other fields as well. Our members include stay-at-home spouses, teachers, librarians, secretaries, doctors, lawyers, ministers, nuclear engineers, software developers, and many more professions. All are interesting to talk with and most will pitch in to help when called on. Most important, our members are just plain nice people and make wonderful cousins. I will leave the job with pleasant memories and a commitment to continue to support SGS in any way I can.

Do you have suggestions or questions about SGS? Or, why we aren't doing something you think we should? I would love to hear from you. My contact info is on page 15.

Jim Seeley  
SGS President



## News from the SGS Board of Directors

**Vice-President Kathie Olsen** -- Dian Little and I recently spent a week visiting Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island, searching for sites to include in the upcoming Seeley Genealogical Society Reunion and Tour. The reunion is scheduled for Sept. 13 - 16, 2007. The theme of the tour is "Robert and Obadiah Seeley's New England" and it is planned for Sept. 16 - 22, 2007. We hope you are planning to join us for both! More details to be announced.

**Asst. Genealogist (Obadiah) Karl Weiler** -- I was recently assigned by SGS President Jim Seeley to be a leader of the Obadiah Seeley (1614) family research team.

I will be archiving all correspondence regarding the new research project with professional researcher Clifford Stott.

Mr. Stott is being hired to find proof sources or documents to prove the Obadiah born (1614) in England is the same persons as Obadiah in Stamford Conn. who died in 1657.

Another project I work on is the Descendants of Obadiah Seeley born (1614) in England tracing backwards to find a connection to Augustus Seeley born (1739). The Seeley DNA project showed Augustus to be related to Obadiah.

**Ancestor File Coordinator John Seely** -- Dan Seelye

and I got together in January and started to work on the CD update of the Ancestor File Index reports. I now have produced an eight-file CD which I will bring to the May board meeting. The new data will include all of Esther Houtz Walter's page designations as well as the SGS number assignments as published in the three SGS books.

A copy of my CD will be available at the Seelye Research Center for use by visitors.


No new charts have been received, but I am adding non-Seeley names and data from previously submitted data sheets to the Ancestor File Index. These names were originally omitted because of space limitations on my hard drives.

One trivia item: From Milton Rubicam's book *Pitfalls in Genealogical Research*. In Chapter 8, regarding problems of surnames, he states "Surnames can be misleading. An American family with an English name may find it's origin is rooted in continental Europe. The Seeley family of Upstate New York was originally French Usilie."


**Historian & Assistant for Promotion Ruthetta Hansen** As assistant for promotion, I have sent out many letters to prospective members. These letters include membership forms. I am hoping that future members would be interested enough in SGS to join.

## Plans for Robert & Obadiah's New England Trip

By Kathie Olsen, SGS Vice-President



**Stamford, Conn., (city's seal to the left) founded in 1641, and Wethersfield, Conn., founded in 1633, are among the historic New England cities being considered as possible stops on the 2007 SGS trip. (Below) Webb House in Wethersfield is one of many museums reunion attendees can see as they visit Robert and Obadiah Seeley's New England.**



<http://www.ci.stamford.ct.us/HistoryOfCity/CitySeal.htm>

<http://www.webb-deane-stevens.org/webbhouse.html>

In 2004, 24 members of SGS visited sites related to the life and times of Robert Seeley in England. We learned a lot and had a wonderful time together. Robert Seeley left England in 1630 with the Winthrop Fleet and participated in the settlement of several communities in New England before his death in New York City in 1667. Some of these communities include Salem and Watertown (now Boston), Mass.; Wethersfield, New Haven, Saybrook Fort and Stratford, Conn.; Elizabeth, N.J.; and Huntington, and Easton's Neck, Long Island, and Manning's Island, N.Y. Robert's son, Nathaniel lived in Fairfield, Conn. and died at the Great Swamp Fight in Narragansett, R.I. Obadiah appears as a property owner in Stamford, Conn. in 1647 and died there in 1657. SGS is exploring options for another adventure, Robert and Obadiah Seeley's New England. Would you like to

*Please See Seeley New England Page 9*

# How Does SGS Work?

*Story By Jim Seeley, SGS President*

This article is designed to answer questions you may have about how things are done in SGS. The term "Seeley" used here includes all spellings of this surname.

**Membership** – A membership application is included in each SGS Newsletter. If you know someone who wants to join, or if you want to buy an SGS membership for one of your children, or if you know someone who might be interested in joining SGS, contact **Ray Hall**. Ray's contact information is on page 15. He will send a candidate member a "list of benefits of joining SGS." If he can spare a copy, he might also send a candidate a free copy of the SGS Newsletter. Ray maintains the address, phone number, ancestral line, and e-mail address of members if they provide that info to him. Ray sends a mailing list to the newsletter editor the month before the newsletter mailing. This SGS roster gets updated on a quarterly basis.

**SGS Ancestor File** – John Seely (contact info on page 15) maintains the SGS Ancestor File and has done so since about 1983. It is probably the most complete compilation of Seeley surnames in existence. If you have not yet done so, send John your Seeley ancestral line. When I asked John how long he planned to continue providing the service of adding names to his database, he said, "until I tell you to stop." Over 600 families have

submitted their lineage to John. The Ancestor File Index is available on the SGS CDROM. John and Dan Seelye are preparing an update to the index at this writing. John maintains a "submitter's list" (also on the SGS CDROM). After John enters your info in his database, he assigns a

"submitter number" to you, copies the info you provided, and then forwards it to the Seelye Research Center in Abilene, Ks. for permanent filing. (The ancestral information you submitted is currently located in file drawers "JRS 3 & 4" at the bottom of the steps as you enter the Seelye Research Center.) The updated SGS CDROM will be available from Bob Seeley when it is ready. This will be announced in the SGS Newsletter.

**Queries** – If you are asked a question regarding a Seeley ancestor, pass the question on to SGS Query Editor Linda Crocker (contact info on page 15). Linda has a query team that helps her research the question (although she's been doing most of the research work herself!). Queries are also submitted via the Seeley website, but they eventually must all get to Linda. Linda summarizes the query and responses in the quarterly SGS Newsletter for the benefit of all members. Linda and her query Team have available all the info SGS has in order to answer the question/query, so please keep her in the loop! There are often dozens of Seeleys of a specific "given" (first) name. So, give Linda as much info as is

known on a person, e.g., spouse's name, birth, death, and marriage dates, locations, names of children, etc. It also helps to tell Linda where you have looked (e.g., SGS publications, Ancestor File Index, census records, etc.).

**Obtaining Seeley Ancestor Information** – A major objective of SGS has been to make the information we have available to all members and Seeley researchers. See the article in each Newsletter titled "SGS Publications Available for Order." In summary they are:

- The three SGS publications (order from Terry Tietjens at the Seelye Research Center).
- The SGS CDROM (order from Bob Seeley – contact info on page 15).
- The Seeley Website at [www.Seeley-Society.net](http://www.Seeley-Society.net) (of course, the information on the web site is free.)

Nothing can replace a visit to the Seelye Research Center in Abilene, Ks. Although the SGS CDROM contains ALL MAJOR Seeley compilations and major research reports, the SRC contains many more family compilations that are not on the CD.

**Changes to the Three SGS Publications** – Kathie Olsen is the point of contact for making changes to the 3 SGS Publications that she and her mother, Madeline Mills, compiled. When you submit a change to Kathie, include your rationale with documentation. See the front

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of each book for further details. Kathie has issued one change to the *Generations One through Five* book, six changes to the *Sixth Generation Families* book, and no changes so far to the *Seventh Generation Families* book. See the article on page 6 of the

February 2006 SGS Newsletter for more details. Change six to the *Sixth Generation Families* book was published in the February 2006 SGS Newsletter on page 7. All other changes are included with copies you obtain from the Seelye Research Center. When you order SGS publications from the Seelye Research Center, copies of applicable changes will be included.

**Submitting Newsletter articles** – Paul Taylor, the Editor of the SGS Newsletter, would like to receive obituaries, local family reunion announcements, items of family/genealogical interest, info on Seeleys in the armed services, and, in particular, info from our Canadian and Argentinean cousins. To a great extent, the success of the newsletter depends on our members.

**Seeley Website** – Chris and Jerry Havnar are looking for ideas to increase the value of the Seeley website. Go to [www.seeley-society.net](http://www.seeley-society.net) or contact Chris (contact info on page 15) if you have suggestions or information you believe should be posted.

Future newsletter articles will discuss other processes that SGS follows. Questions? Contact Jim.

## Samuel Seeley's Revolutionary War Record

*Editor's note: Damien Aragon sent SGS scanned images of documents discussing the Revolutionary War record for Samuel Sealy (1750-1827, son of John Sealy of South Carolina, married Sarah Jagers 29-May-1777). See them at <http://www.seeley-society.net/veterans.html>*

"On this the Second day of November A.D. Eighteen hundred and forty three, Personally appeared before me Garrett Sealy a Justice of the Peace in and for Said State, and County of Talbot Sarah Sealy a resident of said State and County aged eighty years Who being \_\_\_\_\_ duly sworn according to the law within her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress provision made by the act of congress Passed on the Fourth of July AD Eighteen hundred and Thirty Six. That she is the applied for a pension in Talbot County, GA as follows: State of Georgia On this the second day of November AD Eighteen Hundred and Forty-three, personally appeared before me Garrett Sealy, a Justice of the Peace in and for said State, County of Talbot, Sarah Sealy, a resident of said State and county, aged Eighty years who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress Passed on the Fourth of July AD Eighteen Hundred and Thirty-Six; That she is the widow of one certain Samuel Sealy who was formerly a Private Soldier in the army of the United States of America of and during the war of the Revolution between England and the said United States; That in the year Seventeen Hundred and Seventy-Eight and from that time continued to serve in the same in the following manner: He entered the army as above stated and in my recollection does not deceive me - he was first mustered into Service under General Winn and Colonel Lacey. He never was afterwards never at home except on leave till the month of December Seventeen Eighty-three when he was discharged; That he served while in said army under the following officers that she recollects: General Sumpter, General Winn, Colonel Taylor, Major Perison,

Major Bond, Captain Frost and Lieutenant Hardwicke. That he was in no particular battle that she can now recollect. He served and marched principally in South Carolina; That he joined the army first at Winnesborough in said State and was with the army at Charleston, S.C. Declarant has not at this time any documentary evidence of her husband's service having lost his discharge which was formerly in her possession. She recollects that Major Bond was the first captain of her husband and was afterwards promoted. Said Sarah further declared that she was united in marriage to the said Samuel Sealy on the Twentieth day of May AD, Seventeen Hundred and Seventy-seven and that her said husband was after that time in the army as above declared. That the said Samuel died in the State of South Carolina on the sixth day of September in the year Eighteen hundred and Twenty-seven and that she has remained a widow ever since as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereunto annexed.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year written before.

Garret Sealy J.P. (signed) Sarrah Sealy (signed)

**[Page 5]**

State of Georgia,

Talbot County

I, Garret Sealy, a Justice of the Peace in said county and state, do hereby certify that Sarah Sealy whose name appeared subscribed to the foregoing declaration did make the same before me on this day after being duly sworn according to law. That she is reputed and believed and by many in this county known to be the widow of one certain Samuel Sealy, Late a soldier in the war of the Revolution; That her character for veracity and truth is unimpeached and her declaration entitled to credit. I do certify that the Family Record of her marriage with the said Samuel attribute to this declaration. Made cut from (blank space) with my own hand. I further certify that said Sarah is from bodily infirmity unable to attend court. Given under my hand the day and date above written. Garret Sealy, J.P."

## Why Continue the Seeley DNA Lineage Project

*Story By Jim Seeley, SGS President*

Not so long ago it was thought that immigrant Robert Seeley had two sons, named Nathaniel and Obadiah. Then, evidence began to unravel that assumption.

Most SGS Members recall that we completed a DNA test project in 2002. That project showed there was NOT a close relationship between immigrants Robert and Obadiah Seeley. That project also established a DNA profile for Robert (through his son, Nathaniel) and for Obadiah. So why continue the Seeley DNA test project?

Now, if a Seeley descendant is not sure of his or her line, a male with a Seeley surname can be tested to determine if they are either a Nathaniel descendant, an Obadiah descendant, or neither. After the initial Seeley DNA test project, SGS Member Dr. Ken McCrea agreed to manage a follow-on Seeley DNA Lineage Project.

Using a more accurate 37-marker test, Ken has determined a more accurate DNA profile for the Nathaniel and Obadiah lines. He has also assisted a few Seeleys in getting the test performed and discovered they were not in either the Nathaniel or Obadiah line.

The more male Seeleys we get to volunteer to have the DNA test, the more value it will be to those who already have. If you have run into a genealogical wall, maybe DNA testing will help you find a cousin who shares a common paternal ancestor and can help you.

Your test results are kept private and are shared with only those you want to share them with. For more information, view the Seeley DNA Lineage Project Results at [http://reamstown.org/seely/dna\\_results.htm](http://reamstown.org/seely/dna_results.htm), and contact Dr. Ken McCrea at [Ken@SeeleyDNA.info](mailto:Ken@SeeleyDNA.info).

## 20 Years Ago in SGS -- Where, Oh Where Can They Be?

*Editor's Note: The article below appeared in the May 1986 issue of the SGS Newsletter. At the time, members were preparing for the third SGS reunion (held in Ft. Wayne, Ind. that year), but it still seems relevant today.*

Most of us have experienced that frustrating feeling of searching year after year and book after book in St. Catherine's House, only to discover that great grandad isn't listed where he should be or where we thought he ought to be. Why isn't he there? What could be the reason?

Actually there could be several reasons. Although there is a possibility that some births between 1837 and 1875 were not registered, it is generally thought that very few in fact were not recorded. However, the possibility of incorrect information being given was a much more realistic reason. In most cases the giving of incorrect information was unintentional, but the registrar had no way of knowing so recorded whatever the informant told him. Accent and dialect too were misleading. If the person reporting could not read or write he had no way of checking the spelling, etc. and often a name would be misspelled. It is always wise therefore to check all variations of a name as it is not unusual for children of the same family to be registered with their surname written differently from each other on their certificates. The indexes at St. Catherine's House are in strict alphabetical order, so the difference between an A or an I in a name could create quite a problem and if the informant dropped an H in the name then the name Hannah would be under Anna....a very easy thing to happen.

Many of us own family Bibles and find that when we compare the date of a birth in the Bible with the date of the same birth on a certificate that it doesn't always tally. One of the most likely reasons for this is that the child was not registered within the six weeks allowed by law, and rather than risk prosecution, a few weeks were taken from the child's age when the birth was registered, although the correct date was entered in the family record. It is to be noted also that the index books are made up from the date a child was registered and not from the date of birth, so that if a birth took place on 30 Nov. 1870 and was registered the 6th. of Jan. 1871 the entry would be found in the first quarter of 1871 and not in the last quarter of 1870. But the most common cause for not identifying a person is that they were called by a different name than the one they were given at registration. Most families have an uncle "Bill" who is really George William, or an Auntie Rosie who is really Elizabeth but just took on a pet name in babyhood because of the rosy hue in her cheeks. One society member wrote to say that although he was registered as Rupert Harry Andrew...he was later christened and called by the name of Normal Athol... imagine trying to identify someone in that situation! There are also cases where no name was given the child and it is simply listed as male or female.

Illegitimacy can sometimes cause problems - apart from the obvious. Perhaps a child born out of wedlock

was registered by the mother under her surname, but the mother married shortly afterwards and the child assumed the surname of the husband and went through life knowing nothing of the true situation so he might be known as Fred Jones but registered as Fred Smith.

Locality also can throw us. Too often we assume that because a person was brought up and perhaps married in a town that he must also have been born there, but not so.... There are a number of reasons why a child brought up in Devon could have been born in Scotland. Perhaps Dad was a serviceman or had a job where he traveled around, The census of course can often help here, providing that the person knows where he or she was born. A family example shows that a second great grandmother gives her place of birth as Bickleigh in Devon, but in fact she was born at Lewtrenchard but had been brought up from babyhood at Bickleigh and so assumed that was where she had been born.

All these possibilities must be considered when we meet problems and maybe we will find that great grandad is tucked away somewhere after all and that he wasn't just a Mr. Nobody.

### SGS Nominating Committee Appointed

As announced in the February 2006 SGS Newsletter, Veronica Seeley Newell (vanewell2005@yahoo.com) is Chairwoman of the nominating committee to select a slate of candidates for the 2007-2009 SGS Board of Directors' term. Assisting Veronica are SGS Members Thera Clark, Sally Seeley, and Ruthetta Hansen. If you are an elected board member, as defined in the SGS by-laws, article III, you should contact Veronica soon and tell her if you would like to run for the board again. For other members, if you would like to run for a board position you should contact her. All candidates must have e-mail capability. Nominations will be accepted from the floor, but the nominee's agreement to run must be ascertained beforehand.

### SGS Reunion Souvenir Book

There are only two copies left of the *SGS 2005 International Reunion Souvenir Book*. To order your copy, send a check for \$25, payable to SGS, to Jim Seeley (address is on page 15). The books will be sold on a first come, first served basis, so order yours today.

Here is a summary of the book's table of contents:

- *Dedication, Acknowledgements, and Welcoming Remarks*
- *Reunion Highlights*
- *Where the Chisholm Trail Ends: Abilene, Kansas*
- *Historic Seelye Mansion*

## Mrs. MacNeill Throws Down a Genealogical Gauntlet

Story By Paul Taylor, SGS Newsletter Editor

On a cold February afternoon our Membership Chairman Ray Hall sent an e-mail to several of the SGS board members. The note said that he received in the mail a question from Mrs. John H. MacNeill in the same envelope in which she sent her membership renewal. The question was, "What is the origin of naming of Seeley Avenue in Chicago, Illinois, 60647, as of January 2006?"

We all must have been at our computers that day because several people rose to the challenge and jumped right on it.

I was able to find the following: according to the Web site of the Chicago Historical Society ([www.chsmedia.org](http://www.chsmedia.org)), Seeley Ave. is "named after Amos S. Seeley a subdivider." I checked the blue books and found this entry for an Amos S. Seeley who died in Cook County (Chicago), Ill.:

Amos Seymour Seeley (eighth generation from Robert), born in 1808 in Fairfield County, Conn. His mother was Anthea Foot and his father was Ezra Seeley. He was married to Laura Sherwood and died in 1877.

His father, Ezra Seeley (SGS #635), is listed in the Seventh Generation (Robert) Book.

Then SGS Historian Ruthetta Hansen sent along some information that her son, Steven, found on the subject. Steven found a book called *Streetwise Chicago*:

*A History of Chicago Street Names* (By Don Hayner and Tom McNamee, Published 1988 by Chicago: Loyola University). According to Steven, the book says that there are more than a thousand streets in modern day Chicago and more than 170 are named for real estate developers like Amos Seeley who the book describes as a "subdivider."

Our query editor Linda Crocker also jumped in with this note: "I checked the census. Amos S. Seeley and Laura are in the 1870 census Ward 13, Chicago, Cook Co. Ill., ages 55 and 52, both born in Connecticut. He was retired. Then in the 1860 census they are in Ward 5, he is 50, she is 47, he is a flour merchant and has real estate valued at \$35,000., still both born in Connecticut. I haven't been able to find them anywhere in 1850. I also found that the ordinance changing the name of Josephine Ave, to Seeley Ave. is in file 0443-A dated 03/06 for 1864/65 of Chicago City Council proceedings. These are available at Northeastern Illinois University for researchers to view."

I'm still new to the genealogy game, so I thought it was neat how we all kind of took the question as a challenge and started looking into it. We each found a different piece of the puzzle and immediately shared our findings. It was a lot of fun for a novice like me to actually find something!! Might I be catching the bug?

## Plans Taking Shape for a Cilley Family Reunion Cruise



Brad Cilley of Issaquah, Wash. is spearheading a plan to put together a reunion cruise for members of the Cilley family.

The seven-day sailing aboard Holland America's MS Westerdam begins Jan. 21, 2007 from Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.'s Port Everglades. It's an eastern Caribbean itinerary to the Turks & Caicos Islands, Tortola, Saint Maarten, and the Bahamas.

Prices for the cruise range from \$785 to \$1515. Although that does not include transportation to Ft. Lauderdale, it does include taxes, fees, cruise accommodations, meals, entertainment, and port taxes. There is also a hosted cocktail party in the evening of the

first full day at sea, and a follow-up reception later in the week. The only additional cost to those who join the cruise is the purchase of beverages aboard the ship, shore excursions, and gratuities, should you care to tip the cruise staff.

There will be a number of family events put together for the week aboard the ship. Beginning with a welcome reception the evening of the cruise. A few days later, there will be a genealogy workshop and discussion regarding the Cilley family and its branches. Later on, family groups will be able to take part in the Cilley Quiz Night, a contest designed to test your knowledge of historical Cilleys and events. There will be prizes. The week will wrap up with a farewell gathering the last night of the cruise. Guests will receive a directory of participants.

In addition to the adult activities, Cilley recommends packing up the homework for the kids and taking them along. A program will be developed to keep them entertained aboard the ship. Not only will the kids have a set time to work on assignments from school, they will experience an interactive course in American History.

Extensive details about the cruise, pricing, itinerary can be found at [www.nwtravel.com/cilleycruise.php](http://www.nwtravel.com/cilleycruise.php) or you can contact Brad Cilley via email at [brad@nwtravel.com](mailto:brad@nwtravel.com), by phone at 425-313-1691 or by post at 4271 257th Place SE, Issaquah, Washington 98029.

## Meet Your Board of Directors

*Editor's Note: It's been my true pleasure to work with the hard-working (and fun) volunteers of the SGS Board of Directors over the past two years, and as I begin my second "tour of duty" as the editor of the SGS Newsletter, I'm looking forward to working with them for at least two more years! I thought you would like to get to know them a little better as well, so I hope to be able to include bios and photos of all of them in the coming issues of the newsletter.*

### **Ruthetta Hansen, Historian and Asst. for Promotion**



My dad raised wheat and livestock, so I was born at home on the farm in Rush County, Kansas. It was a cold day in July and harvest had stopped for a day because of the rain and not me.

I was the third child born to Arthur Grant Seelye and Alverta Carolina Seelye (Doerr). I had two older brothers.

When I was two we moved across the road to Ellis County, Kansas, to my grandfather's, Alvin Seelye, farm. This is where I live today with my son, John.

I attended a country school for eight years. I went to high school in LaCrosse, Ks., where I stayed with my grandmother. After high school, I attended Fort Hays Kansas State College, Hays, Ks. I received my Bachelor of Science degree in education, and later my master's degree also from Fort Hays.

I spent thirty-five years in the teaching profession. I have a lifetime membership in the National Education Association. In addition, I belong to Delta Kappa Gamma which promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education. Throughout the years I have held many different offices. I retired from teaching in 1993.

On June 1, 1955 I married Charles A. Hansen . We were married for thirty-five years. We have two sons: John Arthur Hansen and Steven Charles Hansen. My family also includes my daughter-in-law, Steven's wife Bonnie Hansen.

My husband and I liked to travel and the most memorable trip that we went on was to Denmark, where we visited the home of his father. While there we met many of his cousins.

My friend, Geneva Hobbs, introduced me to Terry Tietjens in 1995 and Terry then told me about SGS. After that my first SGS reunion was at Salt Lake City, Utah, in 1995.

I am descendant from both Robert and Obadiah.

Helen and Marion Seelye gave my son their genealogy research . This made it easier for me as we belong to the same line.

I enjoy working at the research center and learning about our many cousins.

I hope that I'll be able to attend many SGS reunions in the future.

### **Karl Weiler, Assistant Genealogist—Obadiah**

Karl L. Weiler was born February 8, 1938 in Kenilworth, Carbon County, Utah. I am the son of a coal miner. My father Fred M. Weiler lost his leg in a mine accident in 1941. In around 1945 my mother and father divorced, shortly thereafter my father left town and was not heard or seen of until I found his death notice in the state of Oregon in 2000.

My father's family came to America in 1847 from Schwenningen, Germany to Ohio and still live there today.

My mother Odessa H. Wilcox's family has a long history with the Seeley and Wilcox family. My mother was a wonderful mother and took very good care of our family. Odessa loved to research the family tree.

I became interested in family research around 30 years ago. At first I was driven to find my father but as I experienced the joy of finding out the details of my family I truly developed a love of this work and a love of the Wilcox and Seeley families.

I started my profession out as an engineer in the aerospace industry. For the last 20 years I was a professional sales rep for 3M Pharmaceuticals. I have been retired for three years.

I have been a director of a Family History Library for ten years. I work three days a week in the library which gives me lots of time to research the Wilcox and Seeley lines.

One of my greatest goals in life is to find the parents of Augustus Seeley and his connection to Obadiah Seeley. Augustus is my 7<sup>th</sup> great grand father. I am also related to Nathaniel's line.

I have a Web site that shows all my family data and many pictures and histories. I post on this web site the research I do on the Wilcox and Seeley family. [www.deesnetworks.com/karl](http://www.deesnetworks.com/karl)





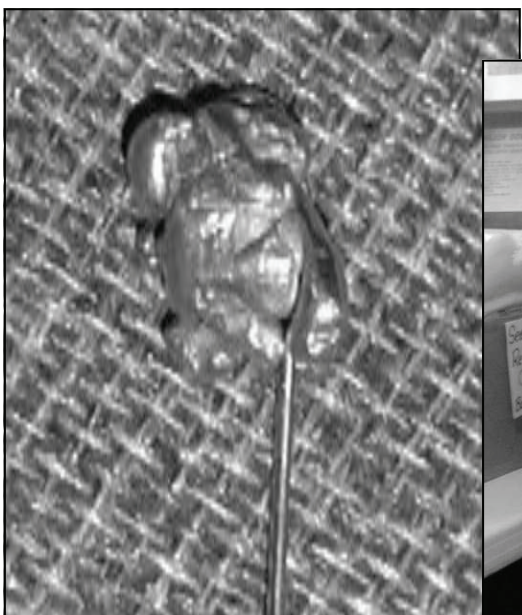
### Seeley New England *(continued from page 3)*

participate? What historical sites and/or genealogically significant sites should we see? During the 2005 reunion, the membership decided to have the trip coincide with the 2007 SGS International Reunion which is also scheduled to be in New England. Keep your eye on the SGS Newsletter for details about the trip!

The itinerary for the trip has not yet been set, but one New England historical site that SGS members might be particularly interested in during a visit to Robert & Obadiah Seeley's New England is America's first living history museum: Pioneer Village in Salem, Mass. Pioneer Village (right) is a recreation of Salem as it would have appeared at the time of the arrival of John Winthrop's fleet in 1630. The complex features various types of early colonial dwellings including dugouts, wigwams, and thatched roof cottages. Herb gardens, and other plantings help depict the agricultural life of the 17th century as do specially bred animals from Plimouth Plantation. Have ideas about what should be included in the trip? Contact SGS Vice-President Kathie Olsen! See contact information on page 15.



### A Follow-Up on the Michigan Men



The August 2005 SGS Newsletter featured a re-print of a story that originally ran in the SGS Newsletter over several issues in 1985. The story chronicled the adventures of John V. Seeley during his 1850-1851 journey in search of riches during the California gold rush. At the 2005 reunion we were fortunate to meet his great-great-granddaughter Joan Weaver (above with her husband Jerry). Joan brought along photos of John (with his wife Esther at the left) as well as a newspaper clipping from 20 years ago detailing how her son, Ty Holborn won first place in the junior division of the National History Fair for his history project describing his great-great-great-grandfather's journey and the route he took. Joan also brought along a beautiful pin (left) that was hand crafted by John Seeley himself from one of the gold nuggets he found during his adventure.

## SGS Life Member Passes Away

Virginia May Sunkel Macek died on March 21, 2006. She was born May 27, 1919 in Dayton, Ohio. A graduate of DePauw University, Greencastle, Ind., where she met her husband, Frank Otto, with whom she shared 62 years of marriage and raised five children.

Virginia, a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend was preceded in death by her son, Frank Louis. She is survived by her husband, Frank Otto Macek; four children, Anne (Richard) Paige, Broomfield, Colo., John (Ruth) Macek, Denver, Colo., Karen Macek, Denver, Colo., and James (Cindy) Macek, Castle Rock, Colo.; grand and great-grandchildren, John (Dana) Michael, Nicholas and Tabitha Paige, Scott Paige, Roren, Rachael (Jed Campagnoli), Rhom and Holland Stowell, Garrick and Jake Macek. Donations may be made to the American Lung Association of Colo., 5600 Greenwood Plaza Blvd. #100, Greenwood Village, Colo. 80111. Services were held Saturday, March 25 at St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, Denver, Colo., 1280 Vine Street at 1 p.m. Virginia was laid to rest in Dayton, Ohio next to her parents Louis and Lottie Sunkel and her son, Frank Louis Macek. Her strength and love of life will be forever remembered.

### A Note From Our Membership Chairman

SGS members who move or change their mailing address are encouraged to furnish their new address to the membership chairman as soon as possible. Each quarter several newsletters are returned, or forwarding addresses are furnished by the postal service resulting in a monetary charge to the society. These penalty charges exceed the cost of printing and mailing the newsletters, and often require re-mailing at first class postal rates rather than the normal bulk rate. By keeping our postal costs down, we do much to keep our dues to a minimum. Please help by sending your address changes as quickly as they become effective.

## Military Note

### Air Force Airman Wesley W. Seely

(USAFNS) -- Air Force Airman Wesley W. Seely has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

During the six weeks of training, the airman 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 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.

He is the son of Vickie Seely of Fairway Lane, Huntington Beach, Calif.

The airman is a 2005 graduate of Marina High School, Huntington Beach.

## WELCOME!!!

### New SGS Members

Jill Renee Castro-Conde 4255 N 2nd St Fresno, CA 93726-3437	Robert & Kathleen Plantz P.O. Box 5273 Salem, OR 97304-0273
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Mrs. Sylvia Seeley Duncan 1216 LaRonde Ct Alexandria, VA 22307	(Diana) Jean Seeley 5813 Kentland Ave Sciotoville, OH 45662-5470
--	--

Barbara W. Hoyes 451 Colonial Ridge Ln Arnold, MD 21012-2390	M. Joseph Spangler 2920 15th Ave S Minneapolis, MN 55407
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Joan Mushka 104 Lockwood Rd Regina, Saskatchewan CANADA S4S 3G2	SGS Membership Chairman Ray Hall notes there were no new life members this quarter.
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## Volunteers Needed

Here is a list of SGS projects that need volunteers. Also listed is a person to contact if you are willing to help. U. S. Mail addresses for each POC are found on page 15 of the Newsletter.

### Project

- \*Area Coordinator (Assist with Queries & Membership)
- Plan SGS Genealogical Research
- Present paper at 2007 SGS Reunion
- Submit names for "Famous Seeleys" list
- Submit names of Seeley veterans in Armed Services
- Participate in Seeley DNA Lineage Test
- Establish SGS as a non-profit [501 C (3)] organization
- Contribute to SGS Newsletter
- Recommend sites to visit during 2007 New England trip
- On Site Rep for 2007 SGS Reunion [Wethersfield, CT]

\*The only areas covered are Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Montana, New Mexico, New York (Warren, Washington, & Saratoga Counties only), Oregon, Utah, Wyoming, and Quebec Canada. For duties, see the February 2005 Newsletter, page 3.

### Points of Contact

- Jim Seeley, [jrseeley@adelphia.net](mailto:jrseeley@adelphia.net)
- Jim Seeley, [jrseeley@adelphia.net](mailto:jrseeley@adelphia.net)
- Jim Seeley, [jrseeley@adelphia.net](mailto:jrseeley@adelphia.net)
- Marshall Seelye, [mseelye@localnet.com](mailto:mseelye@localnet.com)
- Marshall Seelye, [mseelye@localnet.com](mailto:mseelye@localnet.com)
- Dr. Ken McCrea, [Ken@3cat.us](mailto:Ken@3cat.us)
- Jim Seeley, [jrseeley@adelphia.net](mailto:jrseeley@adelphia.net)
- Paul Taylor, [pccntaylor@cox.net](mailto:pccntaylor@cox.net)
- Kathie Olsen, [katherinemolsen@comcast.net](mailto:katherinemolsen@comcast.net)
- Jim Seeley, [jrseeley@adelphia.net](mailto:jrseeley@adelphia.net)

## SGS Queries

(Data as of April 12, 2006)

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

Please send your queries to Query Editor Linda Crocker at [llbc100@msn.com](mailto:llbc100@msn.com) or mail to Linda at home. 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** 0602-2 re: Charles Harvey Seeley Carolyn Fairall ([fairall@earthlink.net](mailto:fairall@earthlink.net)) sent the following information. Contact Carolyn for her sources.

Charles Harvey Seely, b 31 Aug 1826 MO, d 30 June 1891, bur Gamble Cem, Centerton, Benton Co, AR, m(1) 15 Oct 1845 Lawrence Co, MO, Syntha R. Foster, b Nov 1824 SC, d 23 June 1884, bur Gamble Cem, Centerton, Benton Co, AR, m(2) after 1884, Mary Ann Pendergraft, b 1837, d 1914, bur Gamble Cem, Centerton, Benton Co, AR, widow of Williamson Seamster. Charles sold his land in MO in 1867 and moved to Gravette, Benton Co, AR where he was a Baptist minister. Children of Charles and Syntha:

1. Elijah L. Seely, b. 2 Sep 1846 MO.
2. William H. Seely, b 14 Apr 1848 MO, m. Rozilla A. ..., b 1852 MO
3. James Francis Seely, b 22 Mar 1850 Lawrence Co, MO, d 8 Sep 1948 McDonald Co, MO, bur. Jasper County, MO, m. 22 Feb 1876 Lawrence Co, MO, Martha Deema Costley.
4. John F. Seely, b. 25 Apr 1852 Lawrence Co, MO, m. Sarah H. ..., b Mar 1848 GA.
5. George W. Seely, b 27 Apr 1854, d bef 1860.
6. Mary Ann Seely, b. 6 Jun 1858 Lawrence Co, MO, m. 13 Jan 1880, George C. Bates.
7. Elzora Josephine Seely, b 21 Sep 1862 MO, d 9 Nov 1921, m. 19 July 1883 Benton Co, AR, Albert Harrell.
8. Charles Harvey Seely, Jr, b 26 May 1866 Lawrence Co, MO, m. 23 Sept 1888, Rosa B. Burress.

Carolyn thinks Charles' father was probably Elijah Seely, who received 160 acres in Missouri (Warrant #11,236) for his service as Pvt in 25th Regt of Infantry - deed dated 30 Apr 1819. No additional information was found about Elijah Seely.

**SGS Response:** This further information led to a search of the US Census.

1880 census, Osage, Benton, AR

Seely, George (!), age 55, b. MO, parents b. MO  
Synthie, age 55, b. SC, father b. SC, mother b. Ireland  
Elzira, age 18, b. MO, father b. MO, mother b. SC  
Charles H., age 14, b. MO, father b. Mo, mother b. SC  
1870 Census Osage, Benton, AR  
Seely Charles, age 43, b. MO

Cynthia, age 45, b. SC

James, age 20, b. AR, John, age 17, b. MO, Mary, age 11, b. MO, Elzera, age 9, b. MO, Charles, age 4, b. MO  
1860 census Mount Pleasant, Lawrence, MO

Seely, Charles, age 34, b. MO

Cynthia, age 36, b. TN

Elijah, age 14, William, age 12, James, age 10, John, age 8, Mary, 2, all b. MO

Next house is Frederick Foster, age 73, b. SC, Mary, age 71, b. SC, Nancy, age 22, b. SC, Sarah, age 19, b. TN, John Bryant, age 17, a farmer and servant.

Perhaps this is Synthia/Cynthia's family?

1850 census District 47, Lawrence, MO

Seely, Charles, age 24, b. MO

Synthia, age 26, b. MO, Elijah L, age 4, b. MO, William H., age 2, b. MO, James F., age 6/12, b. MO

1840 census Pike Co. MO has George Seeley age 50-60 with several children including 2 sons 10-15.

1840 census Sarcoxie, Newton, MO has Isaac Seely, age 30-40 with several children including a son age 10-15.

*Please See SGS Queries Page 12*

## Seeley Family News from Bradford County Pennsylvania

### Wedding Bells

SGS Life Member Clyde Seeley passes along this note regarding the marriage of his granddaughter.

David and Nancy Seeley, Liberty, Pa. are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Jessica to Ira F. Nienhuesser III, son of Sara Engel, Williamsport and Fred Nienhuesser, Jr., Liberty.

Jessica is in the Air Force stationed at Lackland AFB, Texas.

Ira is a full-time student at Lycoming College, Williamsport, majoring in accounting and also works part-time.

A May 6, 2006 wedding is planned. The couple plans to live in San Antonio where Ira will attend college.

Jessica is the granddaughter of John and Eloise Bennett, Grover, the late Robert L. Cole, Sr., also Clyde T. Seeley, Windfall and the late Joanne Seeley.

Ira's grandparents are Alan and Mary Jane Krotzer, Liberty and the late Ira Frederick Nienhuesser Sr. and also Ed and Alice Hughes, Wellsboro.

### Family Reunion

SGS Member Wendell Seeley is hosting a weekend-long reunion of the friends and family of Mildred Smith Powers Seeley and Clyde Herman Seeley May 26-29, 2006. The event will be held on Wendell's farm in Gillett, Pa.

The annual reunion features a whole host of food, activities, games, food, bonfires, camping, food, karaoke, genealogy, cards, as well as a LOT of food.

## SGS Queries (continued from page 11)

Additionally the 1850 census for Ralls Co. MO has an Abraham Seely age 55, b. TN, wife Angeline age 31, with several children including 4 sons who are named Abraham B., William, Elijah and Lorenzo. This corresponds to Abraham Seely SGS #1499. It would seem that Abraham would be a likely father for Charles but both the 1830 and 1840 census show that Abraham didn't have a son the right age.

Please contact us if you can provide further information on the origins of Charles Harvey Seely.

### NEW QUERIES

**Query 0605-1** Submitted by Bob and Kathy Plantz ([bobkathyp@comcast.net](mailto:bobkathyp@comcast.net))

They are trying to identify the husband of **Susannah Seely (SGS #1611)**. They initially supposed he might be Thomas Dunn, Jr. Thomas Dunn, Sr. came to Sullivan County, New York around 1800 with his wife Susanna Sweazy (like Seeley, there are many different spellings of this surname), their seven sons, and a nephew, from Sussex County, New Jersey. Two of Senior's brothers, Levi and William, were killed in the Wyoming Valley Massacre. After getting his family safely back to New Jersey, Thomas and his brother Samuel became Revolutionary soldiers. According to the Tri-Counties website on Rootsweb, the Nathaniel Seely/Jemima Collins family (Nathaniel is SGS# 189) was in the same area of Sussex County, New Jersey after the Revolution as the Dunns.

The Plantzes have established multiple connections between several families with origins in Connecticut, Long Island, Orange County, Sullivan County, and the Finger Lakes region. Most prominent among them are Seeley, Sweazy, Dunn, Hopkins, Hinchman, Sayre, Satterlee, Tuthill and Reeder.

They think Susannah Seely married a Dunn, either in New Jersey or New York, and they had at least 6 children who are as follows:

William S. Dunn b. abt 1797  
 Rebecca Hinchman Dunn b. 1801 (SGS #3611)  
 Hiram Dunn b. abt 1803  
 Henry S. Dunn b. abt 1807  
 Fanny Dunn b. abt 1811  
 Homer Dunn b. abt 1814 (SGS #3610)

There is a Thomas Dunn Jr family in the 1810 census of Sullivan Co. NY with several children but that doesn't fit the information below.

In the 1830 census of Yates Co. NY, Rebecca (now married to Benjamin Tuthill) and Hiram (now married to Charlotte Clark) are enumerated next door to each other. Their respective fathers-in-law, Joshua Tuthill and Elisha Clark, are listed as founding board members of the Starkey Methodist Church and Mrs. Susanna Dunn is a member of the congregation.

In the New York state census for 1855, all of the Dunns in the supposed Susannah Seely Dunn family--Hiram, Rebecca Hinchman, Henry S., Fanny and Homer W. report being born in Steuben County except the

eldest, William S., who reported Seneca, which was not yet a county at the time of his birth.

A bio-sketch on Homer said he was born in Painted Post, Steuben in 1814. In 1810, there is a Joseph Dunn family in Painted Post with several children about the right ages. This Joseph seems to be connected to the William Dunn who married Mercy Sayre and was the first sheriff of Chemung County, NY. There is a website from Penn State that has a bio-sketch on one of William's descendants that has a sort of tangled relation to the Dunn family and references to the Wyoming Massacre.

So, there still is no explanation of what happened to the 8 people listed in the 1810 Sullivan Co. Thomas Dunn, Jr. family. There is also another group of up to 5 children that supposedly belonged to the William Dunn slain at Wyoming.

**SGS Response:** None to date. Can anyone identify the 'Mr Dunn' who married Susanna Seely?

**Query 0605-2** Submitted by Sharon Seeley-Smith ([lmsharonss@aol.com](mailto:lmsharonss@aol.com))

Sharon's father was Lewis A Seeley- b. 13 July 1927, His father was also Lewis A Seeley b. 21 April 1899, son of Matthew S Seeley (born in Knoxville PA) & Ruth Wallace (born in West Union NY). Sharon would like to know the ancestry of **Matthew S Seeley**.

**SGS Response:** West Union is in Steuben County, NY. In the 1910 Census, Greenwood, Steuben, NY Matthew Seeley is listed with Ruth, Lewis and 3 younger children but very fuzzy and hard to read. I can see that Matthew says he is b. NY, mother b. NY, father b. PA 1900 Census West Union, Steuben, NY

Seeley, Matt. b. Aug. 1857, age 42, he and parents all b. NY State, working as fireman at saw mill

Ruth, b. Nov. 1879, age 20, she and parents all b. NY State

Lewis, b. Apr. 1899, age 1

1870 Census Knoxville, Tioga, PA

Seeley, Samuel, age 46, laborer, b. PA

Mary, 46, b. NY Noah, 22, b. PA

William, 20, b. NY Nathaniel, age 18, b. NY

**Mathew, 15, b. NY** Julia, 13, b. NY

Charles, 10, b. NY

I can't find Matthew in the other censuses.

John Seely, our SGS database manager indicated that the Samuel Seeley above in the 1870 census was either SGS #2477 or SGS # 2565. In the 7<sup>th</sup> Generation Families of Nathaniel these appear to be married to the same person. I asked Kathie Olsen, another member of our query team, to check her records. She replied with the following:

*It appears there are two Samuel Seeleys.*

1. SGS #2477 SAMUEL SEELEY (b 11 Oct 1802, Cornwall, Connecticut; d 18 Mar 1887, Austinburg, PA; buried County Home Cemetery, Austinburg, Tioga Co., PA) m unnamed. Resided Austinburg, PA; Two sons; (9) Noah and Nathaniel. Reference: Luman Seely Family Record, Excerpt from History of Tioga County (unfortunately, this is a copy without a citation)

2. SGS #2565 SAMUEL CONANT SEELY or SEELYE (b 4 Jan 1824, Tioga County, Pennsylvania; d 1 Jan 1908; buried Riverside Cemetery, Knoxville, Tioga County, Pennsylvania) m 5 Feb 1844, Troupsburg, New York, Mary Etta Hubbard (b 24 Mar 1824; d 19 Oct 1902; buried Riverside Cemetery, Knoxville, Tioga County, Pennsylvania). Resided Knoxville, Pennsylvania; Children (9) Noah (b ca 1848), William (b ca 1850), Nathaniel (b ca 1852), Matthew (b abt 1855), Julia (b abt 1857, and Charles (b abt 1860). References: Census Records, 1870, 1880, Knoxville Boro, Tioga County, Pennsylvania Seelye, Eugene Family Record Seelye, Mary Conant Family Bible (mother of Samuel Conant Seelye) record transcribed by Abbie Kelts, granddaughter

The two men were about 20 years different in age. They were second cousins. **This is a change that will be noted in the next list of published changes to the Seventh Generation Book.**

Can anyone document that the Matthew Seeley in the 1870 census, a son of Samuel Seely, SGS #2565 is the same Matthew Seeley who married Ruth Wallace in West Union, Steuben, NY? If so, send your information to both your Query Editor and Sharon Seeley-Smith.

**Query 0605-3** Submitted by new member Sylvia Seeley Duncan ([SylvDuncan@aol.com](mailto:SylvDuncan@aol.com))

Sylvia is looking for further information on her grandfather **Franklin Henry Seeley**. He is in the 9th generation from Robert, a son of SGS # 2403, Isaac Benjamin Seeley. Below is the information on the SGS CD-ROM.

**FRANKLIN HENRY SEELEY b.1869 PHIL PA m. CLARK, EDNA HUSSEY in Lanc. Co. NE His parents: WALKER, HELEN R. and SEELEY, ISAAC BENJAMIN**

**FRANKLIN HENRY SEELEY b.1869 PHIL PA m. LOWE, BLANCHE DANA in 1893 in DC (same parents listed)**

According to information left to Sylvia by her father, Franklin Henry Seeley was married to Edna Hamilton. The census indicates that she was born in GA. Family lore says she was the 'Belle of New York', but what does that mean? Franklin supposedly had a son Bromley from a previous marriage. The SGS CD-ROM shows a Bromley Seeley born in 1895 according to the Cook Co. IL census. Sylvia's father is Franklin Hamilton Seeley born in 1913.

Sylvia's information about Isaac Benjamin Seeley matches ours, except she thinks he was b. in Danby, VT and we have his birth listed in Dunham, Quebec. The older children in Isaac's family were born in Danby and Whiting, VT but the family relocated to Quebec where the last 3 children were born. This is according to information in the 7th Generation Book on William Bromley Seeley, SGS# 870, father of Isaac Benjamin.

**SGS Response:** As Query Editor I did some census research and found Frank Seeley (age 11) in the 1880 census for Philadelphia with his parents Isaac and Hellen along with a 7 year old brother Walter

In the 1900 census Chicago Ward 32, Cook Co. IL Seeley, Franklin, boarding b. Feb. 1869, PA, father b.

Canada, mother b. IL working as a manufacturer of trusses, married 5 years to Blanche L., b. Oct 1872, MI, her parents born MI and son Bromley b. Nov. 1895 in PA, father b. PA, mother b. MI.

In the 1910 census I find Blanche L. Seeley, age 37 working as a clerk in Washington, DC and living with her mother Josephine Lowe age 62 (head of household) and her son I. Bromley age 14. I can't find Franklin in 1910.

I found in the 1920 census for District 77, Norfolk Jefferson Ward, Norfolk, VA: Seeley, Franklin H., age 52, b. PA, parents b. PA. Occupation: Doctor with own office. Edna H., age 32, B. GA, parents b. GA; Elinor H., age 14, b. NY; Edleigh L. (son), age 13 b. NY; Hamilton F. age 6, b. TX; Stewart S. age 5, B. TX; All children show father b. PA and mother b. GA

In the 1930 census for Daytona Beach, Volusia, FL Seeley, Franklin H. age 61, widower, married 1st time at age 28, he and parents all b. PA. Occupation: Doctor, industry: Exporter of trusses. Son: Franklin H. Jr, age 17, b. TX, Stuart S., age 15, b. TX; Housekeeper: Marie B. Law, age 57 from Denmark

Does anyone have further information on this family, especially the marriages of Franklin to Blanche and Edna and/or a divorce of Franklin and Blanche?

**Query 0605-4** Submitted by Martha Zimmerman ([zimfarm@consolidated.net](mailto:zimfarm@consolidated.net))

Martha is a descendant of **John Seeley of SC** through his daughter Elizabeth Seeley (Hardin) Walker. She has searched for a LONG time to go back farther on this line and has never found good evidence of his arrival and from where in SC. Someone was always going to "send" information, but after many years she is still waiting. She asks if anyone has sound information on this subject?

**SGS Response:** The following entries are in the SGS database:

SEELEY, ELIZABETH b. 1750 in SC? m. HARDEN, HENRY in 1762, dau. of JAGGERS, JEAN S. & SEELEY, JOHN

ELIZABETH b. 1750, m. WALKER, ROBERT in 1783 in SC, dau. of JAGGERS, JEAN S. & SEELEY, JOHN

ELIZABETH b. 1757 BEAU SC dau. of SUSANNA 2 & SEELEY, JOHN (from IGI)

JOHN b. 1715 died 1791 in CHES SC, m. JAGGERS, JEAN

JOHN b. 1730 in SC d. 1792 in CHES SC m. JAGGERS, JEAN

JOHN b. 1730 in SC? m. SEELEY, SUSANNA in 1754 BEAU SC (from IGI)

JOHN b. 1730 in SC? m. SUSANNA in 1757 BEAU SC (from IGI)

JOHN b. 1733 BEAU SC m. HANNAH (from IGI)

ENOCH J. b. 1801 CHES SC m. CORNWELL, NANCY S. in 1822 CHES SC son of JAGGERS, HESTER & SEELEY, WILLIAM (IGI)

SAMUEL b. 1753 m. SARAH in 1778 son of JAGGERS, JEAN & SEELEY, JOHN

WILLIAM b. 1778 CHES SC m. JAGGERS, HESTER in 1803 CHES SC son of JAGGERS, SARAH & SEELEY,

*Please See SGS Queries Page 14*

## SGS Queries (continued from page 13)

SAMUEL (IGI)

REBECCA b. 1766 BEAU SC dau. of SUSANNA 2 & SEELEY, JOHN (IGI)

Some of these entries are from the IGI, others are from submitters including Martha. There are several inconsistencies.

It looks as though John Seeley may have been married twice (if it is the same John). Which birthdate is correct, 1715 or 1730? If the same John married Jean Jagers and then Susanna, is it likely he named a 2nd daughter Elizabeth? If Elizabeth was born in 1750 as indicated it seems unlikely that she married Henry Harden in 1762 at age 12. I included information on Samuel and Rebecca since they could be siblings of Elizabeth. I included William and Enoch because they were Seeleys in the same area with a Jagers connection (look to be father and son).

Does anyone have further information on Seeleys in SC, in particular this family? Thanks for your help. Remember to refer to the query number in your response.

**Query 0605-5** Submitted by Jean Seeley ([djseeley@adelphia.net](mailto:djseeley@adelphia.net))

Jean, a new member, asked for information on Samuel Seelye, identified in the Nathaniel line in the DNA study. She is a direct descendant.

The DNA results are from a descendant of Samuel Seelye, b. 6 Aug 1778, VT, d. 27 Apr 1854, Greenup, KY. Samuel married, in Whitehall, Washington, NY in 1802, Electa Fuller, b. 19 Jun 1783 or 1785, d. 14 Apr 1871, OH.

According to Jean their eldest child was a son, Amos, b. January 27, 1805 in Whitehall, Washington Co., NY, d. June 27, 1883, Scioto Co., OH. Amos married Sophia Bertrand on October 29, 1835 in Scioto County. She was a daughter of Jean Baptist Bertrand, one of the original French settlers of the French Grant in Green Twp. On the marriage record, found in Adams County deed book in 1802, Jean married Sectoque Duglee (doubtful this is an accurate spelling of her name) in April 1802. Sophia was b. January 30, 1806, d. Aug. 6, 1891, Scioto County.

Jean has found five, and possibly six, children of Samuel and Electa:

1. Amos, listed above. Jean also has information on his descendants.
2. Amanda, b. Nov. 20, 1806, Whitehall, NY, m. Arthur Van Wye, III, Nov. 5, 1828, Washington Co., PA., d. Aug. 14, 1890 in MO. Amanda and Arthur had the following children: Mary, Almira, George, Charles, Electa, Josephine, Samuel Seeley, and Lucy. This family settled in Sullivan Co., MO.
3. Almira, b. Mar. 19, 1808, m. a Ferguson, d. Sept. 20, 1877, South Webster, Scioto Co., OH. I know that they had a least one son, Samuel Seeley Ferguson.
4. Electa, b. April 17, 1810, Washington Co., PA, m. W. C. Richart, Mar. 29, 1877, Scioto Co., d. July 24, 1878, South Webster, Scioto Co.
5. Ruby, b. Feb. 12, 1815, Washington Co., PA, m. John P.B. Hill, Nov. 5, 1835, Scioto Co., d. June 13, 1894.

6. Eliza--I do not know that she is a dau. of Samuel and Electa, but there is a marriage record for her and Adam B. Miller, Sept. 18, 1839, in Scioto Co. I haven't found any other Seeleys there in this time period, but have no other record of Eliza.

**SGS Response:** There is no further data on the SGS CD-ROM.

In the 1800 census for Washington Co. NY there are two Seeleys in Whitehall:

Benjamin 2 - -1 - / 1 - - 1 -

Nathaniel 2 1 - 1 - / 3 - - 1 -

Neither has a son in the right age range to be Samuel but Washington County borders VT so perhaps Samuel was there or elsewhere in Washington County. There are many Fuller families in the 1800 census for Whitehall.

Can anyone identify the origins of Samuel Seelye and/or his wife Electa Fuller?

### 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? Others? (specify)

**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.

We will also publish an update which may lead to even more information. One more name, date or place may be the key to connecting your line to another. Your query will also be posted on our website. Make sure we have your current email and normal address – sometimes we get information several months after publication.

### HOW TO ANSWER A QUERY

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

### WHAT'S NEW IN QUERIES

I have had some fun researching some of the queries as you can see. It's something I try to do if I have the time and there is enough information in the query to work with. I have also re-directed information and questions sent to me via our website. Sometimes someone submits some photos for our archives or has a question that we can answer without generating a query. I do wish I would get more responses to queries so I could provide more updates.

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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 John R. Seely, SGS Ancestor File Index Coordinator, 160 E. 234 St., Carson, CA 90745

YES     PLANNING TO DO SO LATER  
 NO

**MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS:**

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**RAMON HALL, SGS MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN  
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# Seeley Genealogical Society

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## SGS Publications Available for Order

All Checks should be made payable to SGS.

There are three major SGS publications available for order from the Seelye Research Center.

1. *The Descendants of Robert Seeley (1602-1667) and Obadiah Seeley (1614-1657): Generations One Through Five, 1997 Edition (U.S. \$17)*
2. *The Sixth Generation Families, 1995 Edition (U.S. \$17)*
3. *The Seventh Generation Families: Descendants of Robert Seeley (1601-1667) and Obadiah Seeley (1614-1657), 2000 Edition (U.S. \$25)*

Prior issues of the *SGS Newsletter* are also available and can be purchased for \$2 each. Make checks out to the Seeley Genealogical Society and send to Seelye Research Center Director Terry Tietjens who has all the information you need to obtain your copies. Terry's contact information is on page 15.

The *SGS CD-ROM* includes numerous files in both MS Word and Adobe Acrobat formats, both of which are user-friendly and easily searchable. Also, when any of the included documents are updated, those changes will be forwarded to those who have already purchased the CD. The *SGS CD-ROM* (U.S.\$15) is available from Bob Seeley (see contact data on page 15). It includes:

### Folder A - SGS Publications

(By Madeline Mills and Katherine Olsen)

1. Generations One Through Five Robert & Obadiah
2. Sixth Generation Robert
3. Sixth Generation Obadiah

4. Seventh Generation Robert
5. Seventh Generation Obadiah  
*Folder B - SGS Ancestral File Index*  
(Database Index by John R. Seely)

1. John Seely Seeley List
2. Seeley Children, Alphabetical List
3. Seeley Children, List by Mother
4. Non-Seeley Children, Alphabetical List
5. Non-Seeley Children, List by Seeley Mother
6. Submitters SGS

### Folder C - Fred C. Hart, Jr., CG Research Reports on Obadiah Seeley (with attachments)

1. Origin of Obadiah Seeley
    - a. Chronological Listing of Obadiah Seeley's Stamford, CT Records
    - b. Stamford, CT Records (Introduction)
  2. Obadiah's Relationship with John Lawre(n)son and Family of John Miller
    - a. Lawre(n)son/Seeley Events
    - b. Miller - Seeley Events
  3. Origin of Early Stamford Settlers
    - a. Register of St Martin
    - b. The Family of William Seeley
    - c. Stamford Settlers Before 1700
  4. Mary, Wife of Obadiah
    - a. Doubtful Angel
  5. Probate Record for William Seeley
- Folder D - Report from Alan Phipps, MA, AG,**
1. The English Ancestry of Robert Seeley