



# Seelye Genealogical Society Newsletter

Established 1965

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History ★ Family ★ Research

November 2013

## An Update from the Seelye Research Center

*Submitted by Pam Turner, SRC Librarian*

Another reunion has come and gone, and hopefully a good time was had by all. Many new family connections were made, and new "cousins" have joined us. The next reunion will be in Abilene, Kan., and I am already looking forward to it. One of the decisions made by the board at this reunion was that all elected and appointed officers submit a report of their activities for their two-year term of office. So here is my report for the librarian position.

I was tasked to research disaster and recovery plans for the Seelye Research Center (SRC) and to look into the possibility of grant money for SGS. After speaking with directors at my hometown library and attending an archives class in Topeka, Kan., I've learned that we must

develop a written collection policy for the SRC. This should include details about what will and will not be collected. Once a collection policy is established, a disaster and recovery plan can be written. Grants are available that seem to fit our mission, but we would need to have a team in place to manage a grant and a written plan of what the money will be used for. Most donors want a budget showing the money that is currently going towards our goal, how many people are assigned to a task, and how many hours are being donated to the project. There are also requirements for most government grants that would probably be beyond our ability to complete. We will need to discuss what we want the future of the SRC to be. So before our next filing session in Abilene, the board will discuss the collection policy and the direction in which we want the SRC to go.

Work is always continuing on the descendants of the eighth-generation index; the current line count on the index is 14,338. The index can be accessed on the Seelye website under the research tab by selecting Seelye Research Center Indexes and clicking on document "g." Be sure to check out other indexes for the SRC, and let me know whether any changes need to be made.



Pam Turner is the Seelye Research Center librarian and is doing initial research in developing a disaster plan for the SRC.

We are sorry if you were unable attend the last reunion. Start planning now to attend the next one in Abilene. It is a great place to visit and a fun place for families.

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Member: National Genealogical Society

## The Seeley Genealogical Society Newsletter

is published quarterly by the  
Seeley Genealogical Society

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### Announcements

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

### SGS Mission Statement

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

### Membership

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

### Membership Dues

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

Pay all dues to:

SGS Membership Chair  
Lynda Simmons  
125 Parkview Drive  
Park City, UT 84098  
(435) 649-9878  
summitkids@gmail.com

### Seelye Research Center

is co-located with the Seelye Mansion in Abilene, Kan. 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: seelyemansion@yahoo.com

### SGS International Reunions

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

### Editorial Position

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

# SGS President's Report

## Kathie Olsen, SGS President

I am happy to report that the application for non-profit status from the Internal Revenue Service has been submitted. The application, which was complex and required a lot of work, was postmarked Sept. 27, 2013. We have not yet had any communication concerning the application.

Here is an excerpt from the application's "past, present and planned activities" section:

"Seeley Genealogical Society was founded in 1965 by Reverend Garner Osborn, a native of Burr Oak, Iowa. His mother was Alice Seelye, a descendant of a 1630 Winthrop Fleet member, Robert Seeley. Reverend Osborn had done considerable research into this ancestor and desired to share this information with other descendants of Robert Seeley. He and others contacted people with the Seeley surname or any of the variant spellings of the name all across the United States. He proposed an association to prevent 'the loss of vital family information and material.' Dues were collected from individuals who desired to join the association.

"Anyone with interest in the Seeley surname is invited to join. We consider all members to be 'cousins.'

"There are approximately 400 members in the United States, Canada and Argentina who receive the newsletter and an invitation to come to the biannual conferences/reunions.

"This association is a volunteer organization. No one receives compensation for the many hours that are expended in furthering the goals of this organization. The association is supported principally by dues from the members. The activities of this organization are self-sustaining. Occasionally, there is a request made of members to donate additional funds to SGS.

"The sale of the SGS publications raises some funds. There have been sales of personalized items such as hats, tee shirts, bags and pins. Recently a generous bequest was given to the organization at the death of long-time members, Robert Seeley Johnson and his wife, Evelyn Johnson. This money has been earmarked to provide monies for research purposes.

"The focus of the organization has been to 'engage in research, study, verification, discussion, collation, publication, dissemination, and preservation of Society information for the education and benefit of its members and for posterity.' The focus of the activities of SGS has been to educate our members and the public about the genealogical process, stories of our ancestors, the various locations where they settled, and reporting on the research that has been done.

"Extensive research has been conducted through the years by volunteers and professional genealogists contracted by SGS. In a 'pioneer' effort, SGS conducted DNA testing which determined that two immigrant Seeley men, Robert and Obadiah, were not closely related. Future plans will certainly include additional research. There are several members of SGS whose DNA tests did not match the haplotype of either Robert or Obadiah Seeley and further information is needed."

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

Thanks very much to our elected and appointed officers who volunteer their time, money, and efforts to SGS. Each one contributes to the success of this organization. In this newsletter you will find the Treasurer's Report, which Sally Seeley completed in timely fashion, as well as minutes from meetings held at the 2013 SGS Reunion in Grand Rapids, Mich., compiled by Chris Havnar and Camille Seeley Bell. Linda Crocker maintains the query section. Lynda Simmons keeps the mailing lists up to date. Paul Taylor serves as the editor of the newsletter and other SGS publications.

Please make a contribution to the Operating Fund of SGS. These funds are dwindling. Since SGS has applied to become a non-profit organization, all donations



Please See President's Report Page 7



## Seeley Genealogical Society

### Annual Treasurer's Report

For the Period Oct. 1, 2012 to Sept. 30, 2013

Beginning Balance, Oct. 1, 2012 \$100,969.65

#### Receipts

|                        |                    |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Dues                   | \$1,026.36         |
| LIFE Memberships       | \$375.00           |
| Generation Books       | \$136.00           |
| CD's                   | \$45.00            |
| Research Donations     | \$45.00            |
| General Fund Donations | \$1,000.00         |
| Reunion Receipts       | \$8,337.50         |
| <b>Total Receipts</b>  | <b>\$10,964.86</b> |

#### Disbursements

|                                 |                    |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Newsletter Printing             | \$2,288.88         |
| Newsletter Postage              | \$403.72           |
| Other Postage                   | \$259.23           |
| NGS Dues                        | \$50.00            |
| DNA Sample Kits                 | \$75.00            |
| Seelye Research Center Donation | \$750.00           |
| Webmaster Expenses Donation     | \$125.00           |
| Photocopying                    | \$26.70            |
| NGS Conference Registration     | \$195.00           |
| Estate Taxes                    | \$775.00           |
| US Treasury: 501(c)(3) App Fee  | \$850.00           |
| Reunion Disbursements           | \$12,794.14        |
| <b>Total Disbursements</b>      | <b>\$18,592.67</b> |

Ending Balance, Sept. 30, 2013 \$93,341.84

#### Fund Balances:

|                          |                    |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Research Fund            | \$1,458.62         |
| DNA Fund                 | \$804.00           |
| General Memorial         | \$245.00           |
| Johnson Memorial         | \$85,144.16        |
| General Fund Donations   | \$1,000.00         |
| General Fund,            | \$4690.06          |
| Excluding Above Donation |                    |
| <b>Ending Balance</b>    | <b>\$93,341.84</b> |

#### Distribution

|                           |                    |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Checking Account          | \$18,341.84        |
| CD's #1 - 4               | \$75,000.00        |
| <b>Total Distribution</b> | <b>\$93,341.84</b> |

Submitted Oct. 1, 2013 by  
Sally Seeley, SGS Treasurer

## Seeley Genealogical Society

### Treasurer's Report

2013 Reunion, Grand Rapids, Mich.

#### Receipts

|                                 |                   |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| Registrations                   | \$6,322.50        |
| Sales, "Eel Catcher's Travels"  | \$1,045.00        |
| Advance Sales of Souvenir Book* | \$850.00          |
| Sales, 2011 Souvenir Book       | \$120.00          |
| <b>Total Receipts</b>           | <b>\$8,337.50</b> |

#### Disbursements

|                                   |                    |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Purchase of "Eel Catcher"         | \$790.98           |
| GR Hopper: Transp. to Library     | \$250.00           |
| Andrus Travel: Grand Rapids Tour  | \$825.00           |
| Gerald Ford Museum                | \$100.00           |
| Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park | \$324.00           |
| Hilton Airport Hotel              | \$9,943.21         |
| Tim Gleisner: Honorarium          | \$200.00           |
| Jack Dempsey: Honorarium          | \$200.00           |
| Katherine Olsen: Supplies         | \$160.95           |
| <b>Total Disbursements</b>        | <b>\$12,794.14</b> |

Net Loss (\$4,456.64)

\* Income includes pre-orders of souvenir book, to be printed and invoiced in early 2014.

## Seeley page on WikiTree



SGS Member Jesse Crisler sent along a link to the Seeley page of WikiTree that allows for searching of individual names.

The page can be found online here: <http://www.wikitree.com/genealogy/SEELEY>

"It gives considerable information on some people, as well as sources," said Crisler.

According to the WikiTree web site, "WikiTree's mission is to create a rich worldwide family tree resource by striking the perfect balance between collaboration and privacy. It gives families a free and easy way to privately share information and organize their facts, memories, and photos. At the same time, it enables distant relatives and strangers to grow a worldwide family tree and create a valuable resource for future historians."

## SGS Welcomes the Following New Members:

Kathleen S. Brennise Gunnison, Colo.  
Renee' Mizar Sequim, Wash.  
Steven Lee Seeley Rancho Palos Verdes, Calif.

## Milford, Conn. Celebrates 375 Years in 2014

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

Did you receive this edition of the newsletter electronically?

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

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

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

## Thank You!

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

# SGS Membership Is Important to All of Us!

*Story by Lynda Simmons, SGS Membership Chair*

*Seeley, Seelye, we love you!*

*Seely, Cilley, we need you!*

*Sealey, Ceilley, what you gonna do?*

*Leaders, Recruiters, all of us!*

We sang these words to the tune of "Skip to My Lou" at our Seeley Conference in Grand Rapids, Mich. It was so fun to be with our cousins. We renewed old acquaintances and made new friends. We had a wonderful time visiting, learning about ancestors and history, and sharing research. This is what the Seeley Genealogical Society (SGS) does very well along with excellent Seeley research, answering queries, a wonderful SGS Newsletter, an informative Website, a great Facebook page, an outstanding Ancestor File, and various publications and CDs. You probably have many other reasons for belonging to SGS that you could add to this list.

SGS needs you as leaders and recruiters. Our officers have challenged each member to bring in one new member by August 1, 2014.

You know your cousins, children, grandchildren. Please share all of these benefits of membership with them. Please recruit at least one of these as a member by August 1, 2014.

Please look at the date on your newsletter, which tells you when it is time to renew your membership by paying your annual dues. For many of you that date is October 1, 2013. There is a Membership form in each newsletter. Members receiving their newsletters by email will be sent a notice by email.

It is cheaper and easier to renew your membership for multiple years. Think about renewing for several years or for life.

## Be an SGS Recruiter -- Invite Your Friends to Like the SGS Facebook Page

*Story by Paul Taylor, SGS Publications Editor*

Have you "liked" the Seeley Genealogical Society Facebook page yet? If not, you're missing out on daily genealogy-related news updates as well as information about Seeleys shared from [www.seeley-society.net](http://www.seeley-society.net) as well as other friends of the page.

The Facebook page also serves as a great advertisement for SGS and will hopefully encourage others to become full members of the society.

What can you do to help? First, if you haven't already done so, go to [www.facebook.com/seeley.society](http://www.facebook.com/seeley.society) and "like" the page.

Then, look at the top of the right column and you'll see text that allows you to invite your friends to like the page. Go through your friends list and send an invite to everyone who you think might have an interest in Seeley Genealogy.

At the last SGS reunion, the board of directors resolved that all members are recruiters for the Society. You can help in that objective by inviting others to like the Facebook page. As we increase the number of dues-paying members, we'll guarantee that the Society will be able to continue doing its work as outlined in our constitution.

Right now the page has 239 likes. The Society's goal for the next year is to drive that number up to 400. Sharing the news of the society and the story of our family is only a few mouse clicks away. Invite your friends today!

We encourage you to receive your SGS newsletter by email. If you are willing to receive your newsletter electronically, please send me your current email address at [summitkids@yahoo.com](mailto:summitkids@yahoo.com).

SGS needs your help to increase membership. You are the important link. Look for the membership form in this newsletter. Interest others in SGS.

Thanks for making SGS even better!

### SGS Membership as of Aug. 1, 2013

|                            |     |
|----------------------------|-----|
| Total Membership           | 369 |
| Life Members               | 161 |
| Yearly Dues Paying Members | 189 |
| Libraries                  | 12  |
| Genealogical Societies     | 12  |

## Does SGS Have Your E-Mail Address?

### The Answer Is: Probably Not.

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

Please send an e-mail note with your e-mail address to SGS Membership Chairman Lynda Simmons at [summitkids@yahoo.com](mailto:summitkids@yahoo.com)

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





## 2013 SGS Reunion Souvenir Books For Sale

Once again SGS will compile and produce a Souvenir Book commemorating the Seeley Genealogical Society's 2013 International Reunion. The book's contents will be similar to those of the past five reunions and will include lots of pictures of attendees (accompanied by the names of those in the photos to help you learn our cousins' names).

It will also include a "Dedication" page; a list of SGS members known to have recently passed; reunion highlights; a description of the tours we took; copies of the presentations; a copy of the SGS Constitution and By-Laws; a copy of the treasurer's report; a list of past reunion locations and the officers elected at those reunions; a list of reunion attendees with a group photo; and more.

The book is designed to inform members who were unable to attend the reunion of what took place at the Grand Rapids reunion AND as a souvenir for those who did attend. It is also one part of our initiative to document our society.

If you haven't already ordered a book, please send a check, payable to SGS, to Kathie Olsen (her address is on page 15) for \$30.00 U.S. per copy. We anticipate the books will be mailed early next year. To give you an idea of the book's probable size, the 2011 Reunion Souvenir Book was 94 pages.

The SGS Reunion Souvenir book is a great gift idea, but only one printing is planned so order yours today!



## An Historical Seeley Site

*Story by Kathie Olsen, Seeley Road Trekker*



The Seeley Road Trekkers of 2013 discovered an historical site with a Seeley connection on their way home from the recent conference.

Fort Belmont, Minn., was a civilian fort built to protect settlers from Indian attacks. We stopped at the site and were lucky enough to get an after-hours tour by a very kind man. When we were in the Fort itself, we spotted a genealogy chart on the wall and on closer inspection saw that one of the granddaughters of the Langeland family had married Orel J. Seeley, born in 1884 in Westbrook, Minn. We checked with Linda Crocker who informed us that Orel J. Seeley is a descendant of SGS#3664, Francis Tuttle Seeley, born in 1807 in Orange County, N.Y., and died in 1890 in Cottonwood County, Minn.

Stop in yourself sometime. It was well worth the visit.

## Meet the Elected SGS Board of Directors and Appointed Officers

*EDITORS NOTE: Over the course of the next few issues of the SGS Newsletter, we'll introduce you to the Elected SGS Board of Directors (indicated with \*) and appointed officers with photos and brief biographies.*



**Kathie Olsen\***  
**President**

777 E. South Temple, Apt. 13H  
Salt Lake City, UT 84102  
(801) 355-0301

[katherinemolsen@gmail.com](mailto:katherinemolsen@gmail.com)

It has been twenty one years since my mother returned from the Seeley Genealogical Society Conference/Reunion with the news that she had agreed to serve as the Chief Genealogist of the organization with the charge to prepare to publish the Sixth Generation Descendants of Robert Seeley, and she needed my help! I have been on board ever since. I assisted her in the publication of not only the Sixth Generation book (1995) but also a revision of Generations One through Five (1997) and the Seventh Generation (2000). I also served as the tour leader for both the Robert Seeley's England tour (2004) and the Robert and Obadiah Seeley's New England tour (2007). I served in various offices until being elected President in 2007. In that capacity I have been the chairperson of three conferences/reunions: Salt Lake City, Utah (2009); Horseheads, New York (2011); and Grand Rapids, Michigan (2013). I am glad for all the "cousins" whom I have had the opportunity to work with in SGS.

*Please See Board of Directors Page 6*

## SGS Board of Directors *(continued from page 5)*

*Editor's Note: Kathie has been a member of the SGS Board of Directors for 16 years, starting as assistant genealogist. She was appointed to that position at the 1997 SGS Reunion in Saint Johns, New Brunswick, Canada. She next served as director at large when she accepted that position at the 1999 reunion in Abilene, Kan. At the 2001 Reunion in Tacoma, Wash., she was elected as 1st vice president. She served two terms in that position before being elected SGS President at the 2007 SGS Reunion in Wethersfield, Conn. At the 2013 reunion in Grand Rapids she was elected to her third term as SGS president.*



**Jesse Crisler\***  
**2nd Vice-President**  
 2221 West 850 North  
 Provo, UT 84601  
 (801) 375-8004  
[jesse\\_crisler@byu.edu](mailto:jesse_crisler@byu.edu)

While I have only been a member of SGS for two years, I am happy to serve as Second Vice-President. I became fascinated with genealogy as a tool for exploring one's heritage when I was twelve. A woman in my church asked my parents and the parents of two of my friends if they would mind if she taught us basic research tools and methods in a course that would meet on Sunday evenings after our last church meeting. This represented quite a commitment for a youngster such as myself, since, typically, our church meetings consumed from four to five hours each Sunday. But I knew that my mother and her mother had always loved family history, so I agreed to attend the class. Our teacher adapted her lessons to her charges, making them fun and using a variety of hands-on techniques. For our final activity we visited a genealogical library in a nearby town, where I was able to find information that eventually led to a real breakthrough on our Crisler line, which my mother had been working on by then for many years. This course whetted my appetite for both genealogical research and compiling family histories, and the rest, as they say, is history. My guess is that this early training also led to my choosing to become a college professor as well as to write scholarly books based on my own empirical research. I definitely look forward to working with our Seeley "cousins" in SGS.



**Camille Bell\***  
**Secretary**  
 93 North Valley View Drive  
 North Salt Lake, UT 84054  
 (801) 298-0279  
[onthego801@gmail.com](mailto:onthego801@gmail.com)

Camille Seeley Bell is from North Salt Lake, just ten minutes north of downtown Salt Lake. Camille is married and the mother of five children and grandmother of eighteen. She and her husband are both retired from full-time jobs but Camille works a couple of hours a day for Bountiful City Power Dept. Camille recently stepped down

from her position as President of the Justus Azel Seelye Family Organization where she had served for eight years. She is currently serving as a specialist on that Board. Camille and her five sisters attended their first SGS Conference in Williamsburg, VA. She loves family history and is thankful for her Seeley family heritage. She is excited to serve as SGS Secretary under Kathie Olsen's direction.



**Pam Turner**  
**Seelye Research Center Librarian**  
 Pamela D. Turner  
 1935 Okeechobee Drive  
 Colorado Springs, CO 80915-1743  
[Cello\\_t@comcast.net](mailto:Cello_t@comcast.net)

President Kathie Olsen has asked that I continue in my position as librarian of the Seelye Research Center (SRC), and I have agreed to do so. Although I don't have any formal training as a librarian, it seems that I have always been involved in keeping track of some type of a library in my various jobs over the years. I enjoy the process of organizing genealogical data and plan on continuing to index and scan our data. One of the items I would like to see accomplished by the next reunion is to have a formal written acquisition plan for the SRC. This would chart what we want the SRC to become and what will be collected in the future. I welcome all ideas on this matter; after all, the SRC belongs to all SGS members. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns regarding the Seelye Research Center.

*Editor's Note: Pam was first appointed to the position of SRC Librarian at the 2005 SGS Reunion in Abilene, Kan. She has been reappointed to the position at every reunion since.*



**Lynda Simmons**  
**Membership Chair**  
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I am Lynda Simmons and I am the Membership Chairperson of SGS. I love people and I love life. I am a wife, mother, grandmother of fourteen, and great-grandmother of four. I love my family very much and spend as much time with them as I can. I am a retired teacher and principal. I still consult in Special Education and attend education meetings at the Utah State Legislature. I am interested in the genealogy of all of my lines and am an active member of my church. I love to learn new things each day. I love this beautiful world and being part of it. Life is interesting and busy for me, but very good!

*Editor's Note: Lynda was first appointed as SGS Membership Chair at the 2011 SGS Reunion in Elmira, N.Y. She was re-appointed to her second term at the 2013 SGS Reunion in Grand Rapids, Mich.*

# Draft 2011-2013 SGS Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Grand Rapids, Mich. Aug.9, 2013

*Submitted by Chris Havnar, SGS Secretary*

**Elected and Appointed Officers Attending:** Kathie Olsen, Wesley Waring, Linda Crocker, Sally Seeley, George Seeley, Paul Taylor, Terry Tietjens, Ruthetta Hansen, James R. Seeley, Pam Turner, Lynda Simmons, Dian Little, Walt Seelye, and Chris Havnar.

**Excused:** Marshall Seelye, Margaret Petersen, and Bob Seeley.

**Other Members Attending:** Marie Seelye, Carol Haddon, Jesse Crisler, Dee Bardes, Gene Seeley, Patricia and John Palmer, and Jerry Havnar.

President Kathie Olsen called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. A quorum was present. Kathie gave the names and hometowns of twenty-three people who would be attending the reunion for the first time. She also expressed thanks to all present for their commitment to SGS.

**Minutes:** Minutes of the last board meeting, held April 26, 2012, were read by Chris Havnar, interim Secretary; Linda Crocker moved that the minutes be approved as read with Sally Seeley seconding the motion, which carried unanimously.

**Secretary's Report:** Chris Havnar reported on action taken by majority vote by e-mail of the Executive Board since the last meeting:

- The Board accepted Mary Palley's resignation as SGS Secretary and called for a volunteer; Chris volunteered and was appointed to serve as Secretary for the balance of Mary's term
- The Board determined not to hold a meeting in April 2013.

**Treasurer's Report:** Sally Seeley presented the Treasurer's report for the period of October 1, 2012 through July 31, 2013.

- The balance as of October 1, 2012 was \$100,969.65;

on July 31, 2013, it was \$100,345.97. The receipts for this period totaled \$6,465.86; disbursements totaled \$7,089.54.

- The ending balance was divided into the following funds: General Operating Fund \$12,694.19; DNA Fund \$804.00; Research Fund \$1,458.62; General Memorial Fund \$245.00; and Johnson Memorial Fund \$85,144.16. These totals include reunion receipts and expenditures to date. There will be a complete accounting at the end of the fiscal year.
- The Board had one question: were the estate taxes listed under disbursements deducted from the Johnson Memorial Fund or the General Operating Fund? Sally noted that the estate tax expenses were deducted from the Johnson Memorial Fund.
- Walt Seelye moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted as read; Lynda Simmons seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
- Kathie Olsen appointed Lou Ann Crisler and Lynda Simmons as auditors of the records of the SGS Treasurer.

**Membership Report:** Jim Seeley presented a report detailing SGS historical membership numbers and end-of-fiscal-year financial balances, pointing out the decline in both membership numbers and General Operating Fund balances; although the financial balance continued to decline after the increase in dues, effective November 1, 2011, he noted that it was still too early to tell whether increasing the amount of dues has stopped the downward financial trend.

- Lynda Simmons reported that as of August 2013, SGS membership totaled 369, which includes 14 libraries, 24 genealogical societies, 161 life members, and 189 yearly dues-paying members.
- Lynda Simmons said the drop in membership since the last renewal period was 28, one-year memberships failing to renew or memberships for people now in assisted living facilities.
- Since all organizations face the problem of an aging membership with young people choosing not to be involved, SGS needs to articulate a "Reason to Belong," a "Reason to Commit," and ponder the question, "Why should people belong to SGS?"
- One of Jim Seeley's proposals was to ask each Board member to become a recruiter for SGS; Kathie believes that every SGS member should be a recruiter for SGS and will bring this up at the membership meeting.

**Constitution and By-Laws Report:** George Seeley reported on the SGS Constitutional changes that will be voted on at the membership meeting, most which are required by the decision of SGS to apply for 501(c)3 status.

- One change is the addition of education to SGS objectives.
- 501(c)3 designation also requires that an organization determine the disposal of assets in case of dissolution of that organization; the committee wrote a new Article 6 for the Constitution to detail the disposal of assets.

*Please See 2011-2013 Board Meeting Minutes Page 8*

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

will be tax deductible, when that application is approved, from the date of the application itself (Sept. 27, 2013). Send donations to Sally Seeley. Her address is on page 15.

All members need to consider having the newsletter sent to themselves via email which involves no cost for printing or mailing. SGS sends newsletters free of charge to some libraries and other societies. Please let Lynda Simmons know your correct/current email address. Please notify her if your email address changes. Her address is on page 15.

I encourage you to order a copy of the Grand Rapids Reunion Souvenir Book. It will contain a report of activities at the reunion as well as of the happenings in the Society since the last reunion, including a copy of the updated constitution and by-laws. Send a check for \$30.00 payable to SGS to me by Dec. 1, 2013. My address is on page 15. Paul Taylor will compile and edit the Souvenir Book.

Plan now to attend the reunion in 2015 in Abilene, Kan., where we will be celebrating the Golden Jubilee of the founding of SGS.



## 2011-2013 Board Meeting Minutes *(continued from page 7)*

- Additionally, the committee proposed a change to duties of the publications editor to resolve a discrepancy between the SGS Constitution and By-Laws on the frequency of publication of the newsletter.

**Nominations Committee Report:** Linda Crocker presented the names of those who have agreed to accept nomination to the following offices: President: Kathie Olsen; First Vice-President: Paul Taylor; Second Vice-President: Jesse Crisler; Secretary: Camille Seeley Bell; Treasurer: Sally Seeley; Chief Genealogist: Linda Crocker; Directors: Terry Tietjens, Ruthetta Seelye Hansen, and Wesley Waring. Linda and Camille will present these nominations at the membership meeting.

**DNA Lineage Project Report:** Walt Seelye updated the DNA Lineage Project.

- New spreadsheets will soon be posted on the SGS website; these will include DNA results from one Robert descendent, three Obadiah descendants; and one descendant of "other" lineage.
- Walt will also notify contributors which lines of data are from their test and will only share with the Chief Genealogist the identities of the contributors.
- Kathie Olsen stated that authorization has been granted for two DNA tests from unknown/other lines in Kansas, one from the Mary Seely line and the other a male from Ivey Harris's line.
- Dee Bardes mentioned that she runs the DNA project for the Cilley family; she wonders where Joseph Cilley falls in the Robert/Obadiah lines.
- She also mentioned that the Family Tree DNA project does not have a current contact point for the Seeley family; Dee and Walt will continue that conversation.

**History of Seeley Genealogical Society Report:** Ruthetta Seelye Hansen reported that her committee has reviewed newsletters and picked out one significant SGS item for each year; she will make a copy of these items for Paul to print in the Souvenir Book.

- Jim Seeley would like to see the history of SGS documented to a greater degree with all Executive Board Members providing the President and Publications Editor an account of their accomplishments or volunteer efforts during the two years of their terms of office for SGS Reunion Membership as well as the Souvenir Book; such reports would include every vote participated in, every recommendation made, etc. If the officer had nothing to report, then that fact would be reported.
- He also wants input from all speakers and master membership lists housed at the SRC.
- Dee Bardes asked if SGS had considered audio tapes; Paul responded that this meeting is being taped, but transcribing such tapes could be problematic.
- Kathie Olsen charged each officer with providing a report of their activities every two years; this report would assist future officers in knowing what actions have previously been taken, how things were done, what their assignments are, etc.
- Ruthetta Hansen asked that Board members ensure that photos of themselves are housed at the SRC; Board members whose photos are not there should send one to her as soon as possible.

**SGS Website Report:** Chris Havnar reported that

the website has not changed much in substance over the past two years, though it has increased in size.

- The most significant change since the 2011 website report is the addition of a new category of obituaries, Seeley Daughters, which encompass the obituaries of women born with the Seeley surname (all spellings) who married and passed away with a different surname; as of August 1, 2013, the website lists 409 Seeley daughter obituaries.
- As of August 1, 2013, it contains 3736 Seeley surnamed (all spellings) obituaries; 383 marriage entries; and 525 listings under Directories.
- The website is not just a reflection of what Chris finds and what Chris wants; it is a reflection of SGS and its members.

**SGS Ancestor File Report:** Linda Crocker reported that the SGS Ancestor File is a system for storing basic data about all Seeleys of any spelling and their descendants; co-chairs Linda and Chris keep the database offline since it includes not only ancestors but also living people.

- The current database grew out of a system John Seely devised beginning in 1982.
- As of July 31, 2013, the Seeley Surname database contained information on 31,319 individuals, and the Other Surname database had 13,672 individuals.
- Additionally, Linda and Chris add, update, and correct birth, marriage, and death dates and places and names of spouses for many individuals already in the database; they occasionally encounter duplicate entries and consolidate them into one as well.
- SGS members can help by sending copies of or links to obituaries and wedding and birth announcements; they customarily add anywhere from five to thirty-five individuals to the database from information found in a single newspaper article.

**Seelye Research Center Report:** Pam Turner, tasked to research disaster and recovery plans for the SRC and to look into the possibility of grant money for SGS, spoke to directors of her local library, attended an archives class, and learned that SGS must develop a written collection policy for the SRC to include details about what will and will not be collected; once such a policy is established, a disaster and recovery plan can be written.

- Grants are available that seem to fit the SGS mission, but we would need to have a team in place to manage the grant; most donors want a budget showing what money is going towards our goal, how many people are assigned to a task, and how many hours are being donated to the project.
- There are requirements for most government grants that she thinks would be beyond our ability to complete.
- The current line count for descendants of the 8th generation index is 14,338.

**Awards and Recognition Committee Report:** Jim Seeley reported that the committee has selected an outstanding individual for an award to be presented Saturday, the name to be kept confidential until then; retiring members of the Executive Board will also be honored at that time

*Please See 2011-2013 Board Meeting Minutes Page 9*



## 2011-2013 Board Meeting Minutes *(continued from page 8)*

- Jim also announced that the SGS Newsletter received an honorable mention from the National Genealogical Society; Kathie Olsen went to Las Vegas to receive the award from NGS.

**Publications Report:** Paul Taylor reported that as with all reunions he needs input for the Souvenir Book, including speeches, reports, etc.

- For the SGS Facebook page he needs Seeley content; currently, there are 192 "likes" to the page.
- He suggested a possible way to increase membership would be for those members on Facebook to recommend SGS on their individual feeds.
- Dee Bardes stated that SGS gives away information.
- Paul said that many other genealogical societies do not post their newsletters online; he tried to find a copy of the newsletter that won the NGS competition, but it was not online.
- Currently, the newsletter runs to sixteen pages and is published quarterly.
- SGS has several of the Generation 1-5 books available for purchase but is out of copies of the Generation 6 and Generation 7 books; Terry Tietjens will check on possible publishers in Abilene that could reprint these books at a reasonable price.
- After Dee Bardes mentioned that the Cilley Society was looking into e-publishing, Kathie Olsen appointed a committee, consisting of herself, Chris Havnar, Paul Taylor, and Dee, to determine whether e-publishing might be a possible means for reprinting the SGS Generations Books.
- Chris brought up the concern that since SGS databases are currently bundled with the Generations 6 and 7 books on CDs for sale, the data from these databases could leave SGs control; she suggested that perhaps we should unbundle the databases from books and research reports.
- Walt Seelye moved that database information be removed from CDs for sale; Linda Crocker seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
- The Reunion and the Souvenir Book will be dedicated to Robert Seeley Johnson and his wife, Evelyn Johnson.

**Reunion Stipends:** Linda Crocker moved that checks for \$200 be given to Tim Gleisner, Grand Rapids Library History and Special Collections Supervisor, and Jack Dempsey, author of *Michigan and the Civil War: A Great and Bloody Sacrifice*.

- SGS is already paying for the hotel rooms for Carol Seeley Scott, her daughter, and her grandson; she is the author of *The Eel Catcher's Travels: Robert Seeley, 1602-1667*.

**Next Reunion:** Kathie Olsen reported that members had nominated Williamsburg, Virginia, and Abilene, Kansas, as possible sites for the 2015 SGS Reunion.

- After discussion, Linda Crocker moved that the Board recommend approval of Abilene as the 2015 Reunion site; Walt Seelye seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**Adjournment:** 11:50 am

## Draft 2013 SGS General Membership Meeting Minutes

Grand Rapids, Mich. Aug.9, 2013

*Submitted by Chris Havnar, SGS Secretary*

SGS President Kathie Olsen, called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m., and George Seeley, Parliamentarian, announced that a quorum was present.

### Announcements:

- Today is Carol Seeley Scott's birthday.
- Sue Ann Craven has volunteered to create an initial database and manage registration for the next reunion.
- Paul Taylor has already designed the cover for the 2013 Souvenir Book, which will cost \$25, if prepaid at the reunion, and \$30 thereafter; these prices include postage.

**Minutes:** Chris Havnar read the minutes of the last membership meeting, held July 16, 2011, at Horseheads, N.Y.; the minutes were approved as read.

**Treasurer's Report:** Sally Seeley presented the Treasurer's Report, announcing that the Johnson Bequest totaled 88,919.16.

- Lynda Simmons presented the report of the Audit Committee (Lynda Simmons and Lou Ann Crisler), which found the Treasurer's books organized, accurate, and in order.
- Linda Crocker moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted; Liz Alexander seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**State of the Society:** Kathie Olsen reminded members of SGS accomplishments from 2011 to 2013:

- Johnson Bequest: The 2013 Reunion and the 2013

Souvenir Booklet will be dedicated to Robert Seelye Johnson, an active member and officer of SGS, and his wife, Evelyn Johnson; the Executive Board had decided to keep the bequest as a separate fund for research purposes and other activities.

- Current SGS officers are Kathie Olsen, President; Paul Taylor, First Vice-President; Marshall Seelye (absent), Second Vice-President; Chris Havnar, Interim Secretary, Ancestor File Co-Chair, and Assistant Genealogist; Jerry Havnar, Webmaster; Sally Seeley, Treasurer; Linda Crocker, Chief Genealogist, Query Editor, and Ancestor File Co-Chair; Wesley Waring, Director; Ruthette Seelye Hansen, Director and Historian; Terry Tietjens, Director and SGS Research Center Director; Jim Seeley, Past President; Lynda Simmons, SGS Membership Chairman; Dian Little, Assistant Genealogist—Obadiah; Pam Turner, Librarian; and Walt Seelye, DNA Lineage Project Manager.
- Both membership and finances have declined; current membership numbers 369 with one person joining at this reunion, bringing the total to 370.
- The DNA Project has more participants.
- SGS Historian Ruthetta Hansen reported that SGS and Seeleys have done, invented, and accomplished interesting things; an idea for the newsletter is an

*Please See 2013 Membership Meeting Minutes Page 10*

## 2013 Membership Meeting Minutes *(continued from page 9)*

article on accomplishments of Seeley ancestors.

- The website added more items and expanded every category, adding a new category for obituaries of Seeley Daughters; currently it contains 3736 Seeley surnamed obituaries.
- SGS Librarian Pam Turner is working on an emergency response plan to be decided by the Executive Board.
- The 8th generation descendant index numbers 14,338 individuals.
- Jim Seeley will present awards and recognitions to hardworking volunteers tonight.
- The Ancestor File database of Seeleys has grown to 31,319 individuals; the Other Surname database has grown to 13,672 individuals
- SGS has produced eight newsletters.
- SGS has conducted this Reunion.
- SGS has a Facebook page.

**Membership:** Lynda Simmons announced that membership has dropped to 369.

- She directed each member's attention to a flyer at each place titled, "Every SGS Member is a Recruiter!";

the flyer includes a membership form.

- She encouraged members to talk to their Seeley cousins about the benefits of SGS membership.

**Proposed changes to the Constitution and By-Laws:** George Seeley introduced the committee, consisting of himself, Kathie Olsen, Mary Palley, Linda Crocker, Jim Seeley and Richard Speer (deceased).

- In order to meet IRS requirements to file for non-profit tax exempt status, SGS needs to have a provision in the Constitution directing how assets will be distributed should the organization be dissolved; the proposed Section 2 was added to strengthen our IRS filing, and a new Article 6 was added to meet the requirement of IRS for 501(c)3 status.
- There is also discrepancy between the wording in the constitution and the by-laws regarding the frequency of the newsletter; Section 1 of the by-laws was re-written to resolve that discrepancy; it also includes a mention of other publications.
- The proposed changes have been printed in two previous editions of the newsletter

*Please See 2013 Membership Meeting Minutes Page 11*

## Draft 2013-2015 SGS Executive Board Meeting Minutes

**Grand Rapids, Mich. Aug.9, 2013**

*Submitted by Camille Seeley Bell, SGS Secretary*

**Elected and Appointed Officers Attending:** Kathie Olsen, Lynda Simmons, James R. Seeley, Paul Taylor, Jesse Crisler, Terry Tietjens, Ruthetta Hansen, Chris Havnar, Pam Turner, Linda Crocker, George Seeley, Sally Seeley, Wesley Waring, Dian Little, Camille Bell.

**Excused:** Bob Seeley, Margaret Petersen, Pauline Gamer, Walt Seelye.

**Other Members Attending:** Thera Clark, Gene Seeley, Lynn Sandquist.

SGS President Kathie Olsen called the meeting to order at 3:45 p.m.; Parliamentarian George Seeley confirmed that a quorum was present and reminded members that votes can only be cast by elected officers.

- Kathie Olsen asked all appointed officers to remain in their positions.
- Paul Taylor, SGS photographer, will take pictures of the board members.
- Kathie will proceed with the application for 501(c)3 status for SGS.

**Discussion of 2015 Reunion to be held in Abilene, Kan.:** A Reunion Committee was formed, consisting of Kathie Olsen, chairperson, Terry Tietjens, Jesse and Lou Ann Crisler, Jim Seeley, Linda Crocker, Chris Havnar, Camille Seeley Bell, Ivey Harris; Ruthetta Hansen, Sue Ann Craven, Thera Seeley Clark and Walt & Marie Seelye.

- After discussion of possible dates for the reunion, it was decided that Terry should check on Abilene events and make a recommendation; officers agreed.
- The Reunion Committee will meet in Abilene on Thursday, July 17, 2014, at 1:00 p.m.

**Discussion of Publications:** Jesse Crisler proposed that a committee be formed to address possible changes to the newsletter; those appointed include Paul Taylor, chairman, Wesley Waring, Jesse Crisler, Linda Crocker, and Kathie Olsen.

- Discussion of maintaining a newsletter e-mail mailing list ensued.
- Terry Tietjens will contact a printer in Abilene for an estimate to reprint the Generation Books.
- Paul Taylor suggested that previous newsletters should be included on the CD.
- E-book possibilities will be explored by Chris Havnar, Terry Tietjens and Kathie Olsen.

**Discussion of Membership Recruitment:** The elected and appointed officers will recruit one new SGS member per year.

- Lynda Simmons will write an article for the newsletter to encourage new members to join.
- Linda Crocker will request that those submitting a query consider joining SGS.

**Discussion of Research Goal for 2013-2015:** A committee, consisting of Walt Seelye, James R. Seeley, Linda Crocker, Wesley Waring and Kathie Olsen, was formed to prioritize research goals.

- Such goals could include helping those who have given presentations on personal brick walls in past conferences; working with Walt on DNA problems; and possibly hiring professionals to help with brick walls.

**New Business:**

- Jesse Crisler moved and Sally Seeley seconded that George Seeley continue to look for the best possible investments to enable SGS to accrue interest on the bequest monies; the motion carried unanimously.
- Pam Turner asked that a dialogue about the purpose and future of the SRC in Abilene begin; do we want it to be strictly a storage facility or a research center?

**Next Meeting:** The next Board Meeting will occur in Abilene, Kan., on Friday, July 18, 2014, at 1:00. The 2015 Reunion will be the Golden Jubilee of the SGS.

**Adjournment:** 5:30 p.m.

## 2013 Membership Meeting Minutes *(continued from page 10)*

- Jim Seeley, Pam Turner, and Chris Havnar commented on the proposed constitutional changes.
- Lynda Simmons moved that the recommended changes to the Constitution as proposed by the committee be accepted; Pam Turner seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
- It was moved that we accept recommended changes to the by-laws as proposed by the committee; Jesse Crisler seconded the motion, which carried with one dissenting vote.

**Publications:** Paul Taylor demonstrated the SGS Facebook page.

- He announced that SGS is removing the Ancestor File from the CD.
- He also announced that SGS does not have any more Generation 6 and Generation 7 books but that a few Souvenir Books from both Salt Lake City and Horseheads are available for \$20 each.
- He asked that all the speakers at the Reunion send a copy of their remarks to him as soon as possible and announced that the Reunion and the Reunion Souvenir Book are dedicated to Robert Seeley Johnson and his wife, Evelyn Johnson.
- The Souvenir Book will include the names of SGS members who have died since the last reunion; SGS members should forward names of deceased SGS members to Paul to ensure that the list is complete.
- Forty-five SGS members are currently receiving an electronic version of the newsletter; others interested in

receiving the newsletter electronically should let Lynda Simmons know.

- Terry Tietjens sells individual copies of the newsletter at the Seelye Mansion in Abilene, Kan.

**Nomination and Election of Officers:** The Nominating Committee, consisting of Linda Crocker, Camille Seeley Bell, and Marshall Seelye, presented the following slate of officers: President: Kathie Olsen; First Vice-President: Paul Taylor; Second Vice-President: Jesse Crisler; Secretary: Camille Seeley Bell; Treasurer: Sally Seeley; Chief Genealogist: Linda Crocker; Directors: Terry Tietjens, Ruthetta Hansen, and Wesley Waring. There being no further nominations, nominations were closed. and all nominees were unanimously elected.

**2015 Reunion:** Nomination forms for the 2015 Reunion site were published previously in the SGS newsletter; the Executive Board recommended Abilene, Kan., as the site for the 2015 Reunion.

- Jesse Crisler moved that the recommendation of the Executive Board be accepted; Eugene Seeley seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
- The 2015 Reunion Committee will consist of Kathie Olsen, Terry Tietjens, Jesse and Lou Ann Crisler, Jim Seeley, Linda Crocker, Chris Havnar, Camille Seeley Bell, Ivey Harris; Ruthetta Hansen, Sue Ann Craven, Thera Seeley Clark and Walt & Marie Seelye.
- The committee will determine the date of the reunion, which will probably occur during the summer.

**Adjournment:** 11:15 am

## SGS Queries

*Coordinated and Compiled by SGS Query Editor Linda Crocker  
(Data Current as of October, 2013)*

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

Send queries to SGS Query Editor Linda Crocker at [llbc100@msn.com](mailto:llbc100@msn.com), or mail her at home (see inside back cover). Queries are assigned a query number by the Query Editor, researched, and then sent to the Query Team and Area Coordinators for their input. Linda summarizes each query and any responses for inclusion in the newsletter.

If you have any information on the queries below, contact the submitter but also remember to send a copy of the information to Linda, so the query can be updated in the next newsletter.

### Query Updates

**Update to Query 1208-4** Re Walter E. Seeley, b. 1868, WI or IL, md. Mary Spears

A descendant of Walter's son, Walter Clyde Seeley, contacted us with some information on his family. Stephen Rowan ([stephen\\_rowan@roadrunner.com](mailto:stephen_rowan@roadrunner.com)) is the great-grandson of Walter Clyde Seeley. Walter Clyde married Clara Johnson, and they had one child, Florence. Clara committed suicide when Florence was five, and later Walter Clyde remarried. His new wife was Alma Tuytschaevers. Later Florence married Alma's younger brother Frank. Stephen is the son of their daughter Susan.

The problem is that we still have not been able to identify the parents of Walter E., b. in 1868, and we cannot

find him in the 1870 or 1880 census records. In 1900 and later Walter E. and Walter Clyde are in Kane and DeKalb counties, IL. You can read the original query here:

<http://www.seeley-society.net/qlist2k12.html>

### New Queries

**Query 1311-1** Submitted by Karen Hart ([karen-hart@torchlake.com](mailto:karen-hart@torchlake.com))

Karen is the granddaughter of Vera Seeley Buckel, wife of Henry Buckel, and daughter of George and Isadore McFarren Seeley. Family papers indicate that George is George William Seeley, b. 1871, Elyria, Lorain, OH. Karen and her family have been trying to find George's parents. Some papers indicate that he is the son of William George Seeley who married Bridget Kelley, while others say that his father is George F Seeley. Vera was b. in 1899, Kalkaska Co., MI. Vera has siblings named Donald, Clayton, and Clark Seeley; her sister Doris H. died in infancy. Family papers also indicate that Vera's father, George, had an older sister Annie Seeley who died in Michigan at age sixteen in December 1884 or 1885 of a gunshot wound and is buried in Kalkaska, MI. This would mean Annie was b. in late 1868 or early 1869.

#### SGS Response:

MI Death certificate: <http://cdm16317.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/p129401coll7/id/124214>

*Please See Queries Page 12*



**SGS Queries** *(continued from page 11)*

- Doris H. Seeley, b. 20 Oct 1916, died 21 Jan 1917, Rapid River, Kalkaska, MI.
- Parents: Geo Seeley and Isadore McFarren.

Also

<http://cdm16317.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/p129401coll7/id/463658/rec/2>

- Eleanor Pierce, b. 20 Jan., Beera, OH, age 44, divorced, died 6 Aug 1919, Kalkaska, Kalkaska, MI, of tuberculosis. Her parents were Geo. Seeley, b. NY, and Bridget Kelley, b. IRE.
- Informant: Geo. Seeley of Kalkaska.

1920 census Rapid River, Kalkaska, MI

- Seeley, George, age 49, b. OH, NJ, Ireland, Farmer General Farm
- Seeley, Isador, wife, age 45, b. MI, NY, IN
- Seeley, Clayton, son, age 18, b. MI, OH, MI, Laborer—Factory
- Seeley, Donald, age 8, Clark, age 6, both sons, b. MI, OH, MI

1910 census Rapid River, Kalkaska, MI

- Seeley, George W., age 39, b. OH, NJ, Ireland, Farmer, md. 15 yrs. to
- Seeley, Isador, wife, age 35, b. MI, NY, IN, mother of 2 ch., 2 living
- Seeley, Vera, age 10, Clayton K., age 8, both b. MI, OH, MI
- Chambers, Lena, sister, age 35, wd., b., OH, NJ, Ireland, mother of 1 ch., 1 living

1900 census Rapid River, Kalkaska, MI

- Seeley, George W., b. Feb 1871, OH, NJ, Ireland, Day Laborer Teamster, md. 4 yrs. to
  - Seeley, Isador, b. May 1874, MI, MI, IN, mother of 1 ch., 1 living
  - Seeley, Verak, daughter, b. Jul 1899, MI, OH, MI
- I cannot find George or his sisters Eleanor or Lena in the 1880 census.

1870 census Bearea (Berea), Cuyahoga, OH

- Cely, George, age 30, b. NY, laborer
- Cely, Bridgett, age 33, b. Ireland
- Flanagan, Joseph, age 9, Mary, age 8, both b. OH
- Cely, Ann, age 1, b. OH

1930 census: Cadillac, Wexford, MI

- Buckel, Henry E. age 35, age at first marriage, 23, b. MI, MI, MI, Fireman for Rail Road
- Buckel, Vera A., wife, age 30, age at first marriage, 23, b. MI, OH, MI
- Buckel, Alvin C., age 3 2/12, B Blaise, age 1, both sons b. MI, MI, MI

I found Vera A Buckel with husband Henry E. in the 1919 directory of Owosso, Shiawassee, MI, and also in 1924. In the 1920 census of Owosso they are listed separately, both as roomers but in different homes. He says he is married and a RR worker. She has no occupation, is listed as divorced, b. MI, both parents b. Sweden!!!

1940 census Wilson, Kalkaska, MI

- Buckel, Henry, age 45, b. MI, farmer
  - Buckel, Vera A., age 40, b. MI, public school teacher
  - Buckel, Alvin C., age 13, Blaise age 11, Arlene M., age 8, all b. MI
  - Seeley, Isa C., age 65, wd., wife's mother b. MI
- In doing research for the database we also have

information on Vera's brothers Clayton, Donald, and Clark. About Lena, sister of George W. Seeley:

Cook Co. IL Marriages

- Lena Seeley, age 24, md. 20 Oct 1897 to Frank T Chambers, age 28

1900 census Mackinac Island, Mackinac, MI

- Chambers, Frank T., b. Oct 1858, MI, IRE, MI, painter, md. 3 yrs. to
- Chambers, Lena, b. May 1875, OH, NY, OH, 0 ch.

1920 census Chicago, Cook, IL

- Lena Chambers, age 43, b. OH, NY, OH, is working as a servant for family of Ralph Baurine. With her is daughter Dorothy Chambers, age 16, b. MI, MI, OH
- In Chicago in 1930 Lena is a lodger in a boarding house. In 1940 she and Dorothy are living together again in Chicago. Dorothy is a stenographer at a publishing co.

ILDI

- Chambers, Lena E., age 67, d. 16 Oct 1949, Cook Co, IL

SSDI

- Dorothy Chambers, b. 7 Oct 1903, d. Jan 1982, Chicago, Cook, IL
- About Eleanor, daughter of George Seeley and Bridget Kelley, probable sister of George W.

1900 census Charlevoix, Charlevoix, MI

- Pierce, Harris, b. Jul 1866, MI, NY, CAN, drayman, md. 2 yrs. to
- Pierce, Eleanor, b. Jan 1875, OH, NY, IRE, 1 ch., 1 living
- Pierce, Seeley K., b. Nov 1898, MI, MI, OH
- In the previous house were Daniel and Addelia M. Pierce, ages 69 and 54

In 1910 in Charlevoix, Seeley Pierce, age 11, and his brother Kenneth, age 3, are living with their grandmother Adelia Pierce. Adelia's son-in-law Albert Holmes, age 37, is the head of household. Also there are his wife, Bertha, age 38, and their son, Ivan, age 9. They are all still together in Charlevoix in 1920.

WWI Draft

- Seeley Kingsley Pierce, b. 24 Nov 1898, resides Charlevoix, truck driver, names father Harris Kingsley Pierce as next of kin.

1930 census Morrow, Warren, OH

- Pierce, Seeley, age 31, b. MI, MI, MI, proprietor oil station, md. 2 yrs. to
- Pierce, Irene, age 32, b. OH, OH, OH
- Pierce, Phillis A., age 6 mos., b. OH, MI, OH
- Pierce, Kenneth, age 24, brother, b. OH, MI, MI, assistant at oil station

1940 census Morrow, Warren, OH

- Seeley K. and Irene and Phyllis Ann are still there. He is proprietor of service station; Irene is proprietor of restaurant

1940 census Williamsburg, Clermont, OH

- Pierce, Kenneth, age 33, b. MI, resided rural Warren Co. in 1935, salesman for wholesale cannery co.
- Pierce, Alice, age 26, b. OH, resided rural Warren Co. in 1935
- Pierce, Donald, age 8, b. MI, Edward, age 2, b. OH

OHDl

- Seeley K Pierce, b. 1899, d. 25 Apr 1964, Silverton,

*Please See SGS Queries Page 13*

## SGS Queries *(continued from page 12)*

Hamilton, OH, resided Silverton, Hamilton, OH

- Please contact SGS if you can identify the parents of George, Lena and Eleanor Seeley or have more information on George and Bridget Cely of Berea, Cuyahoga, OH.

**Query 1311-2** Submitted by Lowana Seeley Mannlein ([dlimannlein@centurylink.net](mailto:dlimannlein@centurylink.net))

I was contacted by Lowana who is a descendant of Edwin J. Seeley (Lowana, Lloyd M, Albert, Merrick, Edwin J.) She has a copy of the marriage certificate of Edwin J. Seely and Carrie Coburn. It states that Edwin was b. in Monroe Co., NY. She wants to identify Edwin's parents.

### SGS Response:

#### 1880 census: Brooks, Newaygo, MI

- Seeley, Edwin, age 28, b. NY, NY, NY, works at saw mill
- Seeley, Carrie, wife, age 18, b. IN, OH, IN
- Seeley, Anna, daughter, age 1, MI, NY, IN

#### MIDI

- Edwin Seeley, son of Emma and Hiram Seeley, b. abt 1852, NY, d. 11 Jan 1886, Alpine, Kent, MI, married, RR hand

#### 1900 census Traverse, Grand Traverse, MI

- Galbreth, Cashirs, b. Jul 1856, MI, OH, NY, saw filer, md. 12 yrs. to
- Galbreth, Carrie, b. Feb 1862, IN, OH, IN, 6 ch., 6 living
- Galbreth, Flora C., b. Apr 1889, Nellie, b. Jul 1891, Margrett, b. Jan 1896, all b. MI, MI, IN
- Seeley, Aalice, step-daughter, b. Mar 1879, Maryc A., son, b. Dec 1880, Eva E., daughter, b. Oct 1886, all b. MI, MI, IN

In 1910 in Traverse it is Cassius J. Galbreath, b. OH, Oh, OH, millwright at saw mill, md. 22 yrs. to Carrie. It is 2nd marriage for both. Galbreath children Nellie and Marguerite M. are still with them.

#### California Death Index

- Name: Marguerite Muriel Goodspeed
- Soc. Sec. No. 373058983
- b. 10 Jan 1897, MI
- d. 25 Feb 1980, San Diego Co.
- Mother's Maiden Name: Coburn; Father's Surname: Galbreath

This shows that this is the same Carrie as married Edwin Seeley. I have not been able to identify Edwin in the 1870 or 1860 censuses.

#### 1850 census Clarkson, Monroe, NY

- Seely, Rhoda, age 60, b. NY
- Seely, Norman, age 30, Laville, age 21, Hiram, age 25,
- Eunice, age 17, Alanson, age 7, all b. NY

#### Findagrave.com

- Norman Seeley, b. 1820, d. 1853, age 33; buried at Clarkson, Monroe, NY

Rhoda Seeley is the wife of SGS# 1908, Bennett Seeley. Hiram is listed as one of his sons. Can anyone find proof that this Hiram is the father of Edwin?

**Query 1311-3** Submitted by Dwight Mossman ([ddmossman@comcast.net](mailto:ddmossman@comcast.net))

Charles Rollins Seeley is the great-grandfather of Dwight's wife. Dwight wonders if this Charles is SGS#2784, who is the son of Schuyler and Abigail Requir Seeley of CT. Charles was married in 1892 to Rose

Fitzpatrick. Dwight says this was a second marriage and believes there was a son Charles from the first marriage.

### SGS Response:

#### 1850 census Bridgeport, Fairfield, CT

- Seeley, Schuyler, age 51, b. CT, shoemaker
- Seeley, Abigail M., age 46, b. NY
- Seeley, Adaline, age 21, Charles, age 13, both b. CT
- In 1860 in Bridgeport Adeline is the only one at home with Schuyler and Abigail.

#### 1860 census Warrenton, Warren, MO

- There is a Charles Seely, age 23, b. CT, laborer, living in the home of C. W. Bennett, age 26, b. NY, brick mason, and his wife, Sarah, age 21

#### 1870 census Bridgeport, Fairfield, CT

- Seeley, Schuyler, age 72, b. CT, tollgate keeper
- Seeley, Abigail M., age 67, b. NY

#### 1880 census Bridgeport, Fairfield, CT

- Seeley, Schuyler, age 83, b. CT, parents b. CT, tollgate keeper
- Seeley, Abigal, age 77, b. NY, parents b. CT
- Seeley, Charles, son age 43, divorced, b. CT, CT, NY, laborer

#### 1900 census Bridgeport, Fairfield, CT

- Seely, C. R., b. Jan 1838 CT, CT, NY, superintendent, md. 8 yrs to
- Seely, Rose R., b. Mar 1861, PA, IRE, IRE, 2 ch., 2 living
- Seely, Abigal R, daughter, b. Sept 1892, Hugh R., son, b. Apr 1897, both b. CT, CT, PA

#### 1910 census Bridgeport, Fairfield, CT

- Seeley, Rose, wd., age 41, b. PA, PA, PA, operator at cartridge co., 2 ch., 2 living
- Seeley, Abigail M., age 17, b. CT, Ct, PA, operator at telephone co.

- Seeley, Hugh R., age 13, b. CT, CT, PA

#### 1920 census New Rochelle, Westchester, NY

- Komar, Joseph H., age 33, b. NY, Germany, Sweden, electrician
- Komar, Abigal M., age 27, b. CT, CT, PA, hairdresser

#### 1925 NY census Pelham, Westchester, NY

- Seeley, Rose A., age 60
- Seeley, Hugh R., son, age 27, electrician
- Seeley, Dorothy T., daughter-in-law, age 22
- Komar, Joseph H., son-in-law, age 43, electrician
- Komar, Abigail M., daughter, age 31
- Komar, Hugh S., grandson, age 3

In 1930 Joseph, Abbie, and Hugh Komar are in New Rochelle. Joseph and Abigail are md. 11 yr.

#### 1940 census Westport, Fairfield, CT

- Seeley, Hugh R., age 41, b. CT, electrician
- Seeley, Elsie M., age 29, b. CT
- Seeley, Raynor N., age 9, Robert H., age 2, Gail E., age 0 mos., all b. CT
- Seeley, Rose A., mother, wd., age 78, b. PA

#### SSDI

- Abigail Komar, b. 20 Sep 1892, d. Mar 1983, Ossining, Westchester, NY, Civil: CT
- Hugh Seeley, b. 26 Apr 1897, d. Oct 1963, VA, Civil: CT
- Hugh S. Komar, b. 21 Nov 1921, d. 25 Apr 2003, Mount Kisco, Westchester, N.Y., Civil: NY

*Please See Queries Page 14*

## SGS Queries (continued from page 13)

I'm not sure whether the Charles Seeley in the 1860 census of MO is the correct man, and I cannot find Charles/C. R. in 1870. We would love to hear from you if you can find an earlier marriage for Charles and/or other children.

**Query 1311-4** Submitted by Stephanie W. ([sure\\_ya\\_do@yahoo.com](mailto:sure_ya_do@yahoo.com))

Stephanie is searching for information on Albert R. Seeley, b. 2 Jun 1867, Minnesota City, Winona, Minn. Albert md. Martha Booth and had two children: Clarence, b. 20 Jul 1887, MN, and Mabel, b. 8 Dec 1900, IA. Martha died giving birth to Mabel. Nothing is known about Albert's parents except that his father was b. in Scotland and his mother in England.

### SGS Response:

1900 census LaPorte, Black Hawk, IA (June 6th)

- Seeley, Albert R., b. Jun 1867, MN, SCOT, ENG, day laborer, md. 15 yrs. to
- Seeley, Martha D., b. Jul 1866, IL, MI, OH, 2 ch., 1 living
- Seeley, Clarence F. b Jul 1887, MN, MN, IL

### MNBI

- Clarence Seeley, b. 20 Jul 1887, Chatfield, Fillmore, MN, father: Albert Seeley, mother: Mattie, b. MN
- Martha Seeley, b. 25 May 1886, Chatfield, Fillmore, MN, father: Albert Seeley b. MN, mother: Mattie, b. MN

1905 census Jordan, Fillmore MN

- Seeley, Albeart R., age 49, b. MN, ENG, PA, laborer, resided in this enumeration district 4 yrs. 3 mos.
- Seeley, Betsa, age 46, b. IN, VT, -, resided in this enumeration district 15 yrs., 5 mos.
- Murphy, Clifton R., age 11, b. MN, IRE, IN, resided in this enumeration district 11 yrs., 4 mos.
- Sutherland, Lester B., age 79, b. VT, IN, -, resided in this enumeration district 15 yrs., 4 mos.

1910 census Jordan, Fillmore, MN

- Seeley, Albert R., age 51, b. MN, NY, IA, 2nd marr., odd jobs, md. 7 yrs. to
- Seeley, Betsy S., age 51, b. IN, NY, PA, 2nd marr., 1 ch., 1 living
- Murphy, Clifton, age 15, stepson, b. MN, IRE, IN, laborer—general farm
- In 1920 Albert is in Jordan living with his stepson Clifton and Clifton's wife, Fannie

1880 census Battle Plain, Rock, MN

- Rexford, Harriet, age 46, divorced, farmer, b. NY, NY, NY
- Seeley, Albert R., age 21, son, b. MN, NY, NY
- Seeley, Maggie A., daughter, age 20, b. MN, NY, NY
- Rexford, Job W., son, age 13, b. MN, NY, NY

1870 census Bloomfield, Fillmore, MN

- Rexford, Vincent, age 38, b. CAN, farmer
- Rexford, Harriet, age 36, b. NY
- Rexford, Willis, age 3, Harriet, b. Oct 1869, both b. MN
- Seely, Albert, age 12, b. MN
- Gates, Henry W., age 61, grocer, b. NY

1865 census Fillmore, MN

- Willis, G. W., male, H. E., female, R. A., male, J. P., female, H. J., male
- Seeley, H. A., female, A. R., male, M. L., female
- Wilson, M. L., O. M., both female

1860 Chatfield, Fillmore, MN

- Seeley, John, age 40, b. VT, farmer
- Seeley, Harriet A., age 26, b. NY
- Seeley, Albert H., age 2, Margaret age 1, both b. MN

1857 Chatfield, Fillmore, MN (October)

- Seely, John, age 38, b. WI, joiner
- Seely, Harriet, age 24, b. WI
- Page, Mehitable, age 17, b. VT
- Lowery, Charles, age 25, b. NY, blacksmith
- Lowery, Mary, age 20, b. IRE
- Lowery, James A., age 1, Jane, age 5 mos., both b. MN

MN Marriage Index

- Albert R. Seeley, md. 1 Oct 1902, Preston, Fillmore, MN, to Betsy Stone Sutherland
- Albert Seely, md. 3 Mar 1885, Fillmore, MN, to Mary Boath
- Harriet Ann Seelye, md. 3 Jul 1866, Fillmore, MN, to Vincent Rexford
- Harriet A. Willis, md. 15 Jan 1857, Fillmore, MN, to John K. Seely

1850 census Paris, Kenosha, WI

- Willis, Grove W., age 40, farmer, b. NY
- Willis, Harriet, age 38, b. NY
- Willis, Harriet A., age 16, Mary, age 14, Grove, age 12, all b. NY
- Willis, Rufus, age 8, Matilda, age 4, Jane, age 2, all b. WI

John Seely, husband of Harriet Willis is SGS# 2325, according to our records. We have him dying in Chatfield, MN, on 22 Jan 1861. It would be helpful to have a death record or something to tie him to his father Philo.

## How to Submit a Query

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

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

**What resources have you already consulted?** SGS publications or website? Census? Cemetery records? County histories? Family Bible? Others? (specify)

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

**After your query is printed,** please keep us informed about any information you receive or further progress you make on your own. Other members may be interested in or related to your line. We will publish an update to your query with any new information we receive. This may lead to even more information. One more name, date, or place may be the key to linking your line to another. Your query will also be posted on our website. Make sure we have your current contact details; sometimes we get new information months or even years after your query appears.

## How to Answer a Query

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



## SGS Elected Officers & Board of Directors for 2011 - 2013

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

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## SGS Appointed Officers & Volunteers for 2011 - 2013

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

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☐ New Membership ☐ Renewal

DESCENDANT OF:

☐ Robert

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☐ Other (Attached)

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I/we have submitted our Seeley line as far as known to Linda Crocker  
or Chris Havnar (contact info above) for inclusion in the SGS Ancestor File

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## Seeley Genealogical Society

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

1. *The Descendants of Robert Seeley (1602-1667) and Obadiah Seeley (1614-1657), Generations One Through Five, 1997 Edition* (U.S. \$17)
2. The SGS CD-ROM -- Revised July 2011 (U.S. \$15) that includes:
  - Folder A: the Three SGS Publications by Madeline Mills and Katherine Olsen
  - Folder B: SGS Ancestor File Version 2011 by Chris Havnar & Linda Crocker (original by John Seely)
  - Folder C: 1980's Research Rpt. on Obadiah Seeley (New Eng. records), Fred C. Hart, Jr., CG
  - Folder D: Research Report on Robert Seeley by Alan Phipps, MA, AG
  - Folder E: 2006 Research Rpt on Obadiah Seeley (old English records), Clifford L. Stott, CG
3. The SRC Document Index (with Change Five entered) lists documents shelved at the Seelye Research Center (U.S. \$10).
4. The SGS GEDCOM CD is a file of genealogical information from SGS publications and the International Genealogical Index. (U.S. \$15)
5. 2011 Horseheads, N.Y. Reunion Souvenir Book (U.S. \$25)

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

## SGS Area Coordinators

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

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

\*Means address is on page 15