

Sent 4-5-96

Rec 4-10-96

The Parke Society

Promoting Fellowship, Genealogical Research, and the Preservation of our Heritage
Clearing the way for research in all Park-Northern families from the 17th century

A WORD FROM YOUR RETIRED EDITOR

David L. Parke #13

When I advised the Officers and Trustees that the Fall issue would be my last, it proved to be a wise move. The incoming Editors, Doug Park and Keith Harrison, were willing to take over which I greatly appreciated. Doug planned to be in Gettysburg PA in November and so agreed to stop in Reading prior to that engagement. He was to arrive the morning of the 17th driving straight through from Lansing MI.

What he found was an ambulance just ready to leave my home with me in it! Moments before, I had suffered a stroke, technically a CVA. Since I was no help at this point, Jill called our Society's Librarian, Jean Churchill, to help Doug. As you know, the Library is still housed in my basement office. She was able to acquaint him with much that will be helpful in his new undertaking. Cartons of materials have already found their way to Michigan.

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Jimmy Doolittle and Me by Robert Park #156



We met in 1924 at McCook Field in Dayton, Ohio, to fly to Nashville, Tennessee, for an air meet being held to celebrate the opening of a flying field. Doolittle pointed toward the gunner's seat and I mounted. Then he mounted the pilot's seat. What he wanted from his passenger was to keep my head down. Starting from McCook Field, we flew south down the Miami River to its confluence with the Ohio River, and down the Ohio to a point north of Nashville, where we left the river and flew across western Kentucky and Tennessee until we picked up the Cumberland River. We followed the Cumberland upriver to Nashville, Tennessee. We put down on the flying field and registered as visiting fliers. We received arm bands identifying us as such and the world of hospitality opened for us. Taxi drivers would accept no money. The Maxwell House in Nashville checked us in cheerfully without discussion of rates. We liked their Southern hospitality.

THE RACE Saturday morning we got into the air for a race. I was again the passenger (there were only two seats) and Doolittle was the pilot flying the airplane. Six planes competed on a triangular course. The first pylon (mark) was a 300-foot smokestack, which we had to fly around. We went around in a very tight circle, so tight that Doolittle turned the wings from horizontal to vertical. Doolittle had the plane standing on its left wingtips, circling right around the mouth of the chimney. I felt as though I were looking down the muzzle of a cannon.

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IN MEMORY

Word has been received from the family regarding the passing of Alice Arnett, wife of the late Earl F. Arnett #604, on April 25, 1995. Earl had been a consummate researcher of the southern lines, especially of Roger and Thomas. Earl was able to make much headway with these formerly muddled lines. When Earl suffered a serious stroke, Alice served as his chief *aide de camp*, rolled up her sleeves and performed a great service to our organization by working the projects near and dear to her husband.

We received belated news of the passing of Dr. G.K. Parke #864. Dr. Parke died Jan 10, 1995.

Cora Reid #231 informed us that her husband Hugh died suddenly and unexpectedly on Sept 14, 1995 of a heart attack. Hugh is buried in the family cemetery near the house and son, Paul, is carrying on with the farm.

QUERIES

Seeking information on SUSANA PARKS m JOHN LONG on Sept. 15, 1836 in Winston County, NC. Also seeking information on FREELAND PARKS b. 1841, Smythe County, VA m. SARAH JANE (aka Sally) EADS. FREELAND'S parents were ANDREW PARKS m. NANCY ANDERSON.

Ms. Marlene Parks Dawson #1196
282 Pond Branch Rd.
Lexington, SC 29073

CONGRATULATIONS and GET WELL SOON!



A 50th wedding anniversary was celebrated near Flint, MI in November, 1995 by Willodean (Wright) and James H. Park #1105. They were married there December 1945 several months after Jim returned from three years with the Army Air Corps. Jim served as a bombardier in the European Theater of Operations (ETO). Coincidentally, Dean helped to manufacture bomb sights at AC Spark Plug in Flint during World War II. Their three sons and daughter have presented them with a total of 10 grand-children.

James is a descendant of Roger (NJ 1682) through John I (2), John II (3), George (4), John Sr. (5), Joshua N.(6), John Newton (7), Hosea Preslar (8), and James Piner Park (9). Jim, father of Co-Editor Doug Park, is presently healing from a fall on Feb 11 this year which resulted in a broken shoulder and elbow.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

- #1198L Ms. Diane Maureen Park
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Kalamazoo, MI
- #1200 Miss Lillian G. Ward
Lakeville, NY
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Weston-Super-Mare/England
- #1218 Patricia H Burich
Yuma, AZ
- #1219 Mrs. Marvel J Lippert
Traverse City, MI

Published by the Society for its members three times per year. Copies sent to libraries and genealogically oriented societies on request. Articles on research, historical records as well as news items and queries always welcome.

Notify Co-Editors of Change of Address

Keith G. Harrison, PS#710
4209 Santa Clara Dr.
Holt, MI 48842-1868
517-694-9394
yjn42a@prodigy.com

J. Douglas Park, PS#749
404 Kenway Dr.
Lansing, MI 48917-3039
517-321-6768
jdpark@sojourn.com

The
Parke
Society
1996
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The Parke Society serves as a clearinghouse for research on all Parke/s immigrants from the British Isles. Regular membership is open to any descendant. Associate membership is open to any interested person. Inquiries and requests for membership should be directed to the Registrar.

Application Fee	\$ 15.00	Mrs. Marjorie Isaac #825
Annual Dues	\$ 15.00	202 Meadowbrook Dr.
Life Membership	\$150.00	Clarks Summit, PA 18411

Continued from page 1

Doolittle treated each pylon the same way. To fly the shortest possible distance, he made his turns at each corner of the course by tilting the wings until they were vertical. He took the lead at the outset and kept it. The other pilots tilted their wings some but not much, and they made broad arcs of turns that covered a lot of territory. Doolittle's course was the chord of their arc. The course was five miles on each of its three sides. We flew around the course three times, covering a total of 45 miles, averaging about 100 miles an hour, and won the race. Everyone finished.

Our airplane was powered by a Liberty motor, war surplus from World War I. A guy with a used airplane was glad to replace his original power plant with a brand-new government surplus Liberty engine. The airplane was a CO-2 biplane. These were first used as fighter planes in World War I and by 1924 they were used as multi-purpose, open-cockpit military airplanes.

THE STUNTS
Doolittle was delighted to win the race, and he showed it. Following the race all the other planes landed and left the sky to him alone. The first thing I knew, he took the plane up to an altitude of half-a-mile and lined up on the row of cars and spectators along the runway. Jimmy nosed the plane over, turned into a power dive, and headed for the near end of the line of cars. Just before he struck, he pulled back a bit on the stick and skimmed over the heads of the people on the end car. He flew all down the line, just above the car tops. After a single pass, there was no one left on top of the cars. Then we ascended, went into a power dive, and did the same thing to the spectators on the other side of the runway. Having cleared both

rows of spectators, Jimmy spotted a large crowd of people near a hanger. He power dived at the center of the crowd. At the last minute he pulled up, but the crowd had already scattered in all directions. Jimmy did twenty power dives that day. He did thirty loops, going up and over again and again and again. He did maybe twenty barrel rolls, in which you turn the plane upside down and around by tipping sideways. He climbed to one-half mile and flew around upside down. Doolittle did everything you can do with an airplane except crack it up. He was having a wonderful time and I was in the plane all the way. I was scared, but I had a wonderful time too. After the show, Jimmy gathered with the pilots and I talked with spectators. Everyone was cordial and helpful. It helped that I was with the star pilot.

HOW DOOLITTLE CHOSE ME

I was on an Antioch College co-op job at McCook Field, Dayton, Ohio in 1924. McCook was the heavier-than-air craft center for the U.S. Army. (The lighter-than-air craft center [balloons and dirigibles] was at Rantoul Field, Illinois). My assignment was staff assistant, maintaining the flight schedule obtained from nearby Wilbur Wright Field. Lt. Jimmy Doolittle was an Army pilot, one of the elite group of officers who flew Army planes at night and in foul weather and received premium pay for doing so. The day before the flight to Nashville, he and I were part of a group of men hanging around at McCook. Everyone was talking about the upcoming trip and I said to Doolittle, "Are you going to make the flight tomorrow?" He said, "Yes." I asked, "Have you got a passenger?" He said, "No, do you want to come?" I said, "Yes." So I traveled as his mechanic.

DOOLITTLE THE HERO In the late 1920's and for the rest of his career, Jimmy Doolittle was known as the man who developed "flying blind" with instruments only, making possible commercial and military aviation at night, in all kinds of weather and circumstances. In 1928, he was named as head of a new lab at Mitchell Field, Long Island, which was established to develop instruments and techniques for blind flying. Aviation needed instruments to provide exact information on the direction of the airplane, its height, and its attitude (whether its wings are tipped or level) in circumstances where the pilot cannot see the ground. Among the devices developed under his leadership were an accurate altimeter and the Sperry artificial horizon. In 1929, Doolittle flew an airplane equipped with these instruments. The plane's cockpit was completely hooded - nobody could see in or out. He took off, flew, and landed using instruments to tell where he was headed, where to go, how high he was, and whether he was in level flight or not. Doolittle was the first person to successfully fly blind on instruments. In World War II he led the first bombing raid on Tokyo.

Ed. General Doolittle died in 1995 but took the undying devotion of his fellow airmen with him. Along with my father James #1105, I had the pleasure of attending an 8th Air Corps reunion in Detroit a few years ago. Doolittle commanded this unit in WWII and, although he could not personally attend, appeared before his men on a wide screen. He was more than 90 years old at the time and still appeared extremely fit and had a commanding "presence." Colonel Potter, his navigator on the Tokyo Raid, served as General Doolittle's representative at the reunion.

Ed. The author of this work, Robert #156, has made significant contributions to the work of the Society and has extensively researched several family lines.

DANA PARKS JR. MEMORIAL CIRCULATING LIBRARY

Jean Churchill #934, Librarian
221 S. Wyomissing Ave
Reading PA 19607-2535
phone 610 / 775 3292

Well, here we are shoveling out from the "great blizzard of 1996"! The snow is beautiful and it is quiet out with very little traffic - a good time to catch up with indoor activities.

I would like to remind members to please use your Parke Society # on your correspondence. Our book list is available for \$1. The book loan fee is \$3; those over 3 pounds is \$5. Make your check payable to: The Parke Society. Books are shipped US Postal Service and should be returned the same way with the label provided. The following books have been added to our Library:

929.2 HAYES, JOHNSON, AND ALLIED FAMILIES GENEALOGICAL FAMILY HISTORY Vol 1 by Charles Hayes

000 GENEALOGY OF THE PARKE FAMILY, NINE GENERATIONS FROM ARTHUR & MARY PARKE by John Wallace

000 A CHICK AND KIN BOOK Vol 4 PARK-ROSS FAMILIES by Eula Eunice Park Mitchell #623

*The Parke Newsletters, Volume 1-25, bound with index (1963-1988) is available for loan.

Mrs. Phyllis Kumler #525, Lineage Leader for Thomas (VA 1768), has graciously agreed to review Mr. Hayes book since most of this book is concentrated within her area of research.

I enjoyed reading A CHICK AND KIN BOOK by Mrs. Mitchell

(#623). She traces her Park ancestry from James Park (PA 1746) married to Frances, who lived in Pennsylvania. James was of the Presbyterian faith and served in the Revolutionary War. James and Frances had six children: John b. 1771; David b. 1780 m. Rebecca Fitzgerald; Samuel b. 1786 m. Rebecca Park; Thomas bap. 1789 m. Sarah B. Scott; Joseph b. 1790 m. Ann; William b. 1791 m. Hannah Rundel; and James.

After James Park's death in 1837, his son David with other family members made the trip down river and reached Cloverport, Breckinridge County, KY. They traveled by flat boat and Mrs. Mitchell gives an excellent description of this means of travel. They continued on by road to Ohio County, KY where they settled in the community of Shiloh which is located on the border of Ohio & Grayson Counties.

Mrs. Mitchell continues with personal history of her family down to the present day. Her book contains both original and typed copies of letters, deeds, and wills. There are ancestor charts, family group sheets, 2 indexes of surnames, and photographs. There are listings of Park, Byers, and Cooksey marriages copied from the marriage Record Book in Hartford, KY. Her title "Chick and Kin" is after the nicknames given to her parents.

History of Wyoming by Charles Miner was first published in 1845. This is the area which was contested by both Pennsylvania and Connecticut. The Connecticut claim arose from a grant first made

by King James of England in 1606, then the charter was renewed and confirmed by King Charles II in 1662. However in 1681, King Charles II gave a land grant to William Penn, Governor of Pennsylvania, which could also be read as including some of those same lands. This was a fertile valley, well suited to farming and therefore very attractive to new settlers. The Susquehanna Company purchased the land from the Iroquois Nation and the Settlement of Wyoming was begun in 1769. This led to the Yankee-Pennamite Wars as both CT and PA settlers tried to claim the same land. Settlement was not reached until 1784 and in 1786, the county of Luzerne was formed from the northern part of what was then Northumberland County.

Mr. Miner also includes the early history of the Indians of the northeast. This book of 488 pages also has a 68 pg. appendix of family sketches, including the "Ballad of Wyoming Massacre" by Uriah Terry of Kingston; and an index of names. It is a very detailed, unprejudiced account.

THE BISHOP'S BOYS by Tom Crouch is the biography of Wilbur and Orville Wright. This book is interesting because it gives the Wright brother's genealogical background as well as their life, much of which dealt with the field of aeronautics. Their father, Milton Wright could trace his Wright ancestry back to Samuel Wright born in England about 1600 and who emigrated to Springfield, MA ca. 1637. Milton, a clergyman, married Susan Koerner in 1859. He was a great

believer in family and kept in contact with all his relatives through letters and personal contact. There are few records of Susan's family since she kept few letters or written records and died of tuberculosis in 1889 before her sons became well-known.

Wilbur and Orville inherited their father's strong character, confidence and strength of purpose, but their mechanical aptitude and ability to solve technological problems came from their mother. She was the one who was able to design and build simple household appliances. Milton and Susan had a long courtship which led to a devoted marriage and seven children. Wilbur was the third son born on April 16, 1867. In 1869, the Wright family moved to Dayton, OH when Milton was elected as editor of "The Religious Telescope". Their sixth child, Orville, was born August 19, 1871.

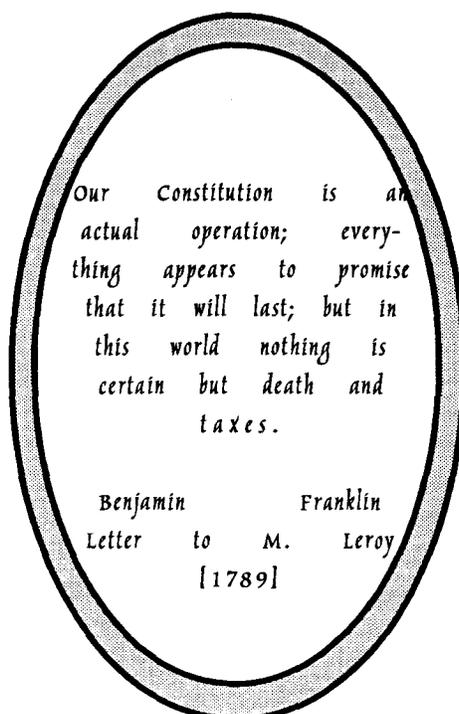
The Wright children enjoyed a normal, somewhat mischievous childhood on the West Side. Their affectionate parents encouraged a closeness between their children. In later years, Wilbur and Orville would point to this strong relationship which began back in their childhood. This is the background which gave the Wright brothers the ability to succeed over great odds where others, although better trained and better financed, failed. An excellent book!

PHOTOGRAPHING YOUR HERITAGE by Wilma Sadler Shull published in 1988 is 128 pages. It contains many helpful suggestions relating to the use of photography in the field of genealogy: in the library reproducing illustrations, maps, coats of arms (in color); in the cemetery; copying photographs, etc. She discusses cameras, film filters, and the proper care of the camera when traveling. A helpful book.

Book Review: HAYES, JOHNSON AND ALLIED FAMILIES--GENEALOGICAL FAMILY HISTORY

Phyllis J. Kumler #525, lineage leader for Thomas of VA

Compiled and edited by Charles Clifton Hayes and Associates. This is a 515 page book, well documented with easy-to-read print. The first generations of each related family is covered with all records that were available for that time period. Since the Johnson and Parks families intermarried, the complete every name index is a tremendous help in following the families, especially for someone who is not completely familiar with the genealogy of the different families. Thomas Parks, Schoolmaster of Essex County, VA, was given lifetime use of land with the deed dated 14 Jan 1692/3. From the writings of Zella Armstrong and the diary of E.M.Parks, this Thomas Parks is the progenitor of the Parks family known as Thomas Parks of VA. Written by Charles C. Hayes, 3635 Laurel Oak Lane, Knoxville, TN 37931-1622.



YOU SHOULD KNOW:

The New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS) has announced a special series of lectures on "English Family History for Americans" with Dr. George Redmonds, a leading authority on English surnames and their origins, from Yorkshire, England. Other speakers will include TAG Editor Dr. David L. Greene, and NEHGS reference librarians David Dearborn and Jerome Anderson. The lecture series will be two-fold; i.e. a) a one day seminar on Saturday, April 20, 1996 at the Peabody-Essex Museum, Salem, Massachusetts or b) a complete week-long program April 14-21, 1996 at the Hawthorne Hotel on the Common, Salem, MA. Call 617-536-5740 ext. 202 for a brochure and details.

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THE CONQUEST AND AFTER: THE QUATREMAINS OF OXFORDSHIRE

by William G. Cook #66

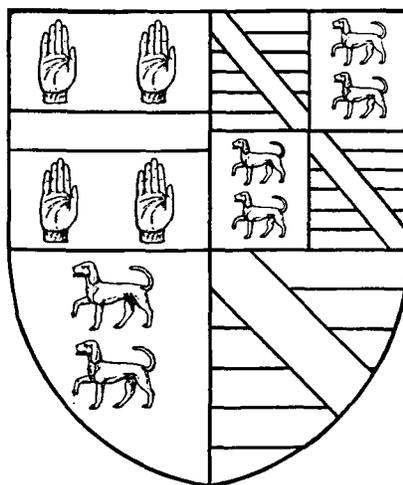
"There is no doubt," says a chronicler, "that the Quatremain family came across the Channel either with the Conqueror or soon after his day." They brought with them an odd name, in fractured French for "Four Hands." It was apparently a nickname whose origin is unknown.

We find the first Quatremain--Herbert I--as a witness to deeds in the time of King Steven (1135-54), so we may put this elusive character in that time frame. He seems to have had four children, but the records do not show where his estates lay. Later documents indicate that they were considerable, in the parishes of Thame and Middleton, and the names North Weston and Ascote (Ascot), keep popping up during the nearly 400 years that the Quatremains fiercely defended their holding in the Thames Valley.

His eldest son, Herbert II, appears as early as 1166 on a certification by the Bishop of Lincoln, as holding one knight's fee in North Weston and Ascot, and known as Quatremain's Manor, (This is not the Ascot of neck-wear fame; that one is in Berkshire). This Herbert was dead by 1200, when his widow Leticia had to prove her right to a widow's dower. There were two sons.

Herbert III, eldest son and heir, was probably alive 1160-1230. He still held the one knight's fee in Weston and Ascot (sometimes rendered as Estcote). In 1205 he was on an Oxfordshire jury at the Great Assize (High Court) to decide a property suit. The implication here is that he must have achieved knighthood or its equivalent. (Knighthood was an honorable state which, however, involved feudal responsibilities, and consequently, land owners were often anxious to pass up the honor and avoid the headaches).

Herbert III had one son, William, born about 1190, when Herbert



Quatremain

was about 30. He must have married late (age 30 was late in these short-lived times).

William I, Quatremain, only son and heir, who was living c. 1190-1278, witnessed grants to Thame Abbey, now in ruins. In 1253 he and his wife Agnes were parties to a financial settlement about lands and rents, with Roger and Rees de Pettes.

His son, William II, born about 1260/5 and dead by 1332, was under age at his father's death, so he became a ward of the king. According to current custom he would be married off quite young in order that his guardian, at the earliest possible opportunity, could claim a handsome payment from the father of the bride.

His wife was Maud...By her he had a son Thomas I and a daughter Cecily. There was also a son William who died without issue. Extant documents indicate that the couple had very extensive property rights, including fishing from the banks of the river Thame (not to be confused with the great river Thames). Maud survived him and later married as her second husband Eustace de Esthale.

Thomas I Quatremain, son and heir of William II was born about 1270/5 and was alive 1335. Again, his record is little more than a name on a pedigree. The record shows that in 1312/13, he settled a suit against Henry de Arden for illegally holding lands in the Manor of Rotherfield Grey. In 1316, he sued one Richard Wace for a right to property in North Weston. After many adjournments the jury decided against Thomas.

Thomas II Quatremain, son and heir, was born about 1300/10. He too is little more than a name on a document. He was married to Katherine le Breton, daughter of Guy le Breton, of an old Warwickshire family. His name tells us that his ancestors came from Brittany, attracted to Duke William's standard no doubt by the booty which the conquest of England would offer. Not a few families so named held their own among the landed families of England in the centuries following the Conquest. But records of this particular Breton family go back only as far as Robert le Breton, holding land in Bascote in 1195-96.

Both Thomas II, and Katherine le Breton died on the same day, 6 June 1342. There could be a story here. They were buried in Thame Church.

Later, Thomas and Katherine were reburied in a handsome tomb, along with their son, Thomas Quatremain III and his wife Joan Russell. The tomb now rests in the

southwest corner of the south transept. The memorial brasses identifying the occupants are badly mutilated. What's left depicts two gentlemen in armor and their wives, clad in costumes of the time. They are not likenesses, but conventional renderings. The tomb was formerly known as the "Poor Stone" because the various charitable gifts were placed on it before distribution.

Thomas III, son and heir, was of full age in 1342, when he is recorded as holding Ascote and North Westcote. He was listed as first among the jurymen of Thame Hundred. In April 1351 he was appointed a collector of subsidies, in Oxfordshire to meet King Edward III's heavy demands for the "French Wars", which we now call the Hundred Years War.

Though he ran afoul of the law twice for minor infractions, he was pardoned and in November 1370 he was named by Master John Bryonne to act as his attorney in Ireland when trouble arose there.

Thomas III, was married 1377 to Joan Russell, daughter of John Russell of Brdenstoke. Thomas was then over 50 and probably a widower. By Joan he had several children who inherited the estate, each in turn, until it finally came to a daughter Elizabeth who was married twice and is no longer of interest to us. Another sister, Maud (Matilda), Alice Parke's ancestor, was married off well to John Bruley of Waterstock, Oxon., which his family had held for generations. Their sole heiress was Joan Bruley and the descent continues through the genteel families of Danvers, Langston, Gifford, Samwell, Edwards, Coles and Freeman to Alice Parke.

Of some interest is the Quatremain shield, which depicts four right hands with the hounds of Breton and bend and bars of Grey. In the many records, the family name is variously spelled "Catermain, Katermayn, Catermans" and the inevitable clerical Latin "Quatuor manus".

References: A Guide to St. Mary's Church, Rev. J. Howard Brown, 1961; Memorials of the Danvers Family, F. M. Macnamara, 1895, 207-12; The Quatremain of Oxfordshire, William F. Carter, Oxford, 1936, 1-45, 62, 71; Victoria County History, Buckinghamshire, IV: 161; VCH Oxfordshire, V: 10; VIII: 127, 208; VCH Wiltshire, IX: 55.

David L. Parke - from pg 1

Meanwhile, I then spent 10 days in the hospital. A wonderful Thanksgiving dinner was brought in by David Jr and his family which we enjoyed in a nearby conference room. I was moved to the Reading Rehabilitation Hospital for four weeks of therapy. My right side was immobile at the start, but with their excellent care and the prayers offered by so many, I am well on the road to recover. You may have read that the Harvard Medical School has recently proven that prayers make a difference! The many cards received were a great support as well. I was home by Christmas.

I am now sorting through much that remains and will soon have it packed. Many regular contributors have already prepared articles for this issue. Perhaps you have come across new information in your research. Even if you haven't written for the Newsletter, now is a good time to start. Send it to the new Co-Editors J. Douglas Park, 404 Kenway Dr., Lansing, MI 48917-3039 or Keith Harrison, 4209 Santa Clara Dr., Holt, MI 48842-1868.

MY DAVID

by Jill Parke #14

When asked to write "something" about David, his recent illness, and on-going recovery, I questioned - what would strangers as well as "cousins:" want to know? Neither David nor I had ever experienced a stroke in our families before.

David was essentially a very healthy 73 year old man, active in several civic and religious organizations. His interest and activity in the Parke Society you know, that he and Tad Parks have nurtured over the past 15 years. David neither smoked nor drank and our doctor said, "He was one of the last patients he would expect to have a stroke."

Friday morning, November 17th, began pleasantly with our breakfast and my doing dishes. We expected the arrival of Doug Park from Michigan around 9 (the new Newsletter editor) who was driving straight through the night! I went up stairs to dress while David watered plants. Shortly, I heard a bump and crash, but it didn't sound too serious, so I continued dressing.

Coming down a few minutes later, I found David in the kitchen putting the dishes away. Just then he had a handful of silver in his right hand which he dropped. I could see that his face was white and drawn and perspiring. His right arm and leg were not working. I hastily pulled a chair over for him to sit down, as he appeared dazed and rather dizzy.

Somehow my first thought was to call the doctor before calling an ambulance. When I made contact, the doctor gave me the "go ahead" to call 911. In perhaps 10 minutes the ambulance crew arrived with their apparatus and gurney.
Continued on page 16

LITTLE STROKES FELL GREAT OAKS

B. Franklin, Poor Richard's Almanac, August, 1750

**RECENT PROGRESS on
GEORGE PARK (d. 1782) of
ROWAN CO., N.C.**
by Percival D. Park #140

As lineage leader for George and Agness Nichols Park (marr. 1762, Rowan Co., N.C.), I am pleased to report completion of a draft of a history of their family. The work is very far from complete, covering only some lines of descent from their son John, Sr., and his wife Elizabeth Owen Park, but it is a start.

One descendant of John, Sr., and Elizabeth, is Co-Editor Douglas Park #749, of Lansing, Michigan. His line is through John's son Joshua, and Joshua's son John Newton Park.

Since the writer's last report (v32p27), a breakthrough has been achieved concerning George Park (b. ca. 1789), another son of John, Sr., and Elizabeth Owen Park. Census information from various Tennessee counties shows that George Wilson Park (1840-1896) of Carroll Co., Tenn., was a son of George (b. ca. 1789). This breakthrough was the result of research of Ms. Jean Lurvey of Springfield, MO., who is researching the Owen family. Many questions remain. For example, George (b. ca. 1789) married Betsy Winders in 1813, but he almost certainly had a second wife, name not presently known, who would have been the mother of George Wilson and others. But the basic family connection has been established with reasonable certainty.

Children of George Park (b. ca. 1789) are thought to include: Martha (marr. Michael Swink, lived in Rutherford Co., Tenn.); Mary; Elizabeth; Joshua; Lucy (marr. William H. Bayless); James (marr. Emily Worrell); Charles; George Wilson (marr. Elizabeth Jane Rowland); Eliza Ann (marr. Eben Rowland);

Albert; and Henry. Some of these people may not have been children of George; and George is believed to have had other children besides these.

The writer's draft history of the family of George and Agness is called George Park (d. 1782) and Agness Nichols Park of Rowan (Davidson) County, North Carolina, and Some of Their Descendants (short title): George and Agness Nichols Park (Sept. 1995). A large portion of the material set forth in the draft was originally researched by other people; the present writer's aim has been simply to collect all relevant information in one place. The work consists of 194 pages including a detailed table of contents and a family chart. A copy has been provided to the Parke Society Library.

The writer would like to make contact with anyone who has knowledge of the family of George and Agness, or the families of Moses and Mary Hill Park, and Noah and Anna Reed Park. (P.D. Park, P.O. Box 5464, Charlottesville, VA 22905.)

BRAINERD PECK
by David L. Parke #13

It was especially nice to receive word from past president Brainerd Peck #11 at Christmas. Many of our members will not have had the pleasure of knowing the Society's fourth president so it is well to acquaint you with him.

During its organizing years, our Society was most fortunate to have Brainerd to guide us. He is an 11th generation descendant of Robert (MA 1630) and many other Connecticut pioneers. He was inspired to give much time to researching these families and has assisted others in tracing their lineages.

As a founder of the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, he served on its Board of Governors for over 20 years and was the book review editor for its publication The Nutmegger. The Federation of Genealogical Societies in 1983 presented him with the George Williams Award, their highest honor. Our Society in 1986 presented him with our Dedicated Service Award.

Brainerd retired from the Conn. Department of Agriculture in 1972 after 41 years. He was director of pest control and for many years was the guiding light for farmers on an early morning radio program. In retirement he started planting blueberry bushes and today has over 500!

He is still active in the Society of the Cincinnati, Colonial Wars, and the local Rotary. His daughter, living nearby, has given him four grandsons. One is now with the US Army Intelligence in Germany flying regularly over Bosnia at 40,000 ft detecting what is happening on the ground. Brainerd's lovely wife Grace died four years ago. He still travels to the British Isles and spends time in libraries collecting ancestral material. There's no stopping him!

Ed. Perhaps Mr. Peck will honor us with us with a contribution to the Newsletter soon!

TRIPLETS!!!

Loyal #478 & Mary Alice Park of Lincoln, NE became grandparents of triplet granddaughters on April 22, 1995. Rachel, Emily and Carrie Jones live with their parents in Yardley, PA

PRESERVING YOUR HERITAGE

by Percival D. Park #140

While research and writing are the essence of family history, we should not neglect other means of preserving our family heritage. Photographs, letters, furniture, jewelry, and countless other personal possessions can bring the past vividly to life. At the same time, through modern technology, we future ancestors have a great variety of ways to make a record of our lives and activities.

The first task in preserving heirlooms are to identify and inventory them and research and document their origins. Once this is done, consideration should be given to setting up a "family museum," a set of shelves for display of family memorabilia. Many ideas on this subject can be gleaned from the pamphlet Grandma's Attic: Making Heirlooms Part of Your Family History (1991), by Russell D. Earnest, available in the Parke Society Library.

We have opportunities never known before to record our own lives and activities. The present writer is not technologically oriented, and finds it a challenge to operate a modern telephone. But even such a technical klutz need not find still photography an intimidating experience with the availability of disposable or recyclable cameras, with few or no settings or adjustments to be made. The cumbersome movie technology of a generation ago has mercifully been replaced by the home video camera and VCR. (Just don't ask me how to program the latter!) For oral history, voice recording without video accompaniment is simple and its quality is much better than in the past.

When we think of photographs, we normally think of people, but anything associated with those people may be worth recording on film: their homes, inside and outside, including yards and gardens; places where they work; streets on which they live, and other scenes which they observe frequently; favored vacation and recreational sites; automobiles; and gravestones. The photographer's imagination and range of interests are the only limitations. An overview of the subject may be found in Wilma Sadler Shull's Photographing Your Heritage (1988), also the article "How to Showcase Family Photographs," by Reid Goldsborough, in Americana, in the Society Library. (Ref. also Jo White Linn, Rowan County (N.C.) Register, v10p2216 [Feb. 1995]).

A general caution about photographs, clippings, letters, and documents: acid-free paper is a must. It may be necessary to have photographic reproductions of old items prepared on the proper paper. But the paper requirement applies not only to the preserved items themselves but also to any albums

or paper containers in which these may be stored or displayed. In the past, problems have been noted in particular with the so-called "magnetic" albums, with sticky pages and a clear plastic overlay. ("Splinters from The Tree," Pasadena [CA] Genealogy Society Newsletter, v19p14 [1989]). Some album vendors offer products which reportedly do not have these problems (e.g., "Exposures, A whole new way to look at pictures," catalog of the firm Exposures, Oshkosh, WI [late fall, 1994]). As alternatives to albums, many types of multiple-picture frames, collages, and other devices for display may be obtained or prepared.

If you have labored long on your family history, you are entitled to take satisfaction in, and receive credit for, the results of your efforts. Unfortunately, not everyone will be interested in reading your charts and biographical summaries. But all kinds of people can enjoy a tasteful display of pictures and memorabilia, and hopefully gain an understanding of why you care, and they should care, about family history.

HISTORIAN'S CORNER by Tad Parks #425

E-MAIL: 70741.2122@compuserve.com

Phone: 414/332-9984 (evenings)

As you will have noted elsewhere in this issue, The Society experienced something of a jolt last November 17th when Editor Emeritus David Parke, #13, of Reading, PA suffered a stroke.

The timing was something of a wonder. The last Newsletter had just gone out. David was up early preparing for a visit from one of the new Co-Editors. Doug Park, #749, had driven, I am told, all night, only to arrive in time to wave to the am-

balance as it sped off to the Hospital. What a rude way to take over a task!

Fortunately, and this says a lot about concern for The Society, David's wife Jill, #12, got Librarian Jean Churchill, #934, on the scene. Together with phone calls to myself in Milwaukee, things were accomplished. Probably not as David would have wanted, but not all was for naught.

Continued on page 11

A LOOK AT MAC FOR GENEALOGY

by Curt Parks #1166

The Denver Convocation was interesting and enjoyable. It gave this searcher a much better perspective on the kind of work it takes to do quality family history, and the wonderful resources that have been accumulated for the Park/e/s lines. There are also some challenges for our organization. Indexing, and developing computer resources may take us the next step toward easing our search through automation and perhaps on-line information. This attendee was given some challenges in return; this article is one of those.

Some weeks ago, Tad professed a familiarity with only the IBM and compatibles (actually MS-compatible) kind of personal computer. He asked that someone describe other computers that we could use for research. For tasks ranging from word processing and associated graphics to genealogy this Parks leans a bit more toward the Macintosh line. (My engineering work, however, requires a UNIX system.) Why a Mac? Mostly because it is as well integrated as the minis and main-frames. Because of this integration, there is very little time required for computer set-up and nonproductive "computing tasks."

Several years ago my choice would have been more difficult. Then, there was a very distinct problem in communicating or exchanging files between the computers that ran DOS and those that ran the Mac operating system. We had to evaluate whether the wonderfully friendly way the Mac presented our information was worth the difficulty of communication with the DOS kind of files. Things have changed these last couple of years. A Mac can read and write DOS files. You still need to buy Mac-specific applications, but those applications now are largely capable of generating files that can be read by their counterparts on the other computer. I have learned that some people have opted to use a computer running DOS at work and a Mac at home, sim-

ply because it is now not a problem to accommodate both.

The Mac was designed around a workstation central processor and for many years that kept the price somewhat higher. Now there is little price difference, and the PowerPC version (which uses IBM's newer processor) is a great buy for a multimedia system. The notebook Mac that I took to Denver cost a reasonable \$630. There are desk-top models available for under \$500, and PowerPC models are presently available at \$1800.

Earlier I had mentioned databases, and most genealogy involves databases. Some of you at the Denver meeting wanted to know what Hypercard was. I demonstrated examples of what could be created with that application, because among other things, Hypercard is a create-your-own database or "stack." For example, there are large numbers of educational programs, called *stackware*, available for the Mac. This application, from its introduction in 1985 until a couple of years ago was free, and Hypercard *players* are still free. Apple recently developed a Hypercard player for DOS-based computers.

I mention this application because once you are comfortable with one or two applications on a Mac, this is one of the most interesting pieces of software around for making your own custom database. The one I demonstrated in Denver was for collecting family medical data. The data is related to the genealogy records but can be used separate from my genealogy database. Then, too, I can change the database at any time and not lose the data already collected.

Is there some reason that the Mac is still considered the friendly kind of computer? Originally developed with a graphic interface, it keeps the details about the files and applications in special little resource files. We can use the Mac forever without knowing about those little files, but they allow the computer to seem to know what we are creating on it, adding to it, or attaching to it. If one wants to do some custom computer programming there are

ways to work directly with that added file. Those of us who don't want to do programming can happily let the Mac keep track of the details.

Indeed, past articles in our newsletter have explored the things that are useful about PCs in doing genealogy work. As these articles have pointed out, a PC can be a lot of help in organizing our work, sorting through the collections of details in a database, and communicating data in a way that eliminates a lot of re-typing. Those uses are often compelling enough that some of us have bought them specifically to help us collect and document our family history.

All computers offered on the market, from the mainframes to our person computers, are changing. There are graphic interfaces-sometimes several-available for almost all of them, and new features are continually added. Unless you are already well involved with computers, you may find the Mac is easier to get used to. It will also be an easy one to add onto for multimedia, Internet or other uses.

The computer has helped a lot with my records. It provides a good way to create reports and is almost indispensable for indexing them. I have a lot of research yet to do - but that little machine sure is a big help.

Ed. It would be a TREMENDOUS HELP to your new editors for all contributing writers who have computers to send your material by computer disk and hard copy. Articles such as this, then, would not require a second complete key line retyping. THANKS!!!

We must all hang together, or assuredly we shall all hang separately.

Benjamin Franklin
(at the signing of the
Declaration
of Independence)

Historian's Corner

Continued from page 9

Happily we can report that David is now back home and doing fine. Although still in some therapy, he is pretty well back to his old self, busy as ever.

Events like this are wake up calls for all of us. Illnesses and accidents do not make appointments. They come unbidden and occur unannounced. They can and do effect not only our own lives, but others, especially organizations in which we are actively involved. Hence, we all need to have a certain level of preparedness for these eventualities. I have chatted about this in the past (notably CCTM #28, Winter 1995, "Here and Now, and In The Future").

Often times, people do not realize how much is going on behind the scenes in an organization such as ours. Its a lot busier than the becalmed surface would lead you to think. Thanks to several willing hands, the activities of The Society continued without much noticeable change, until David could get back on the scene.

Volunteers all, that's what we are. And as volunteers we sandwich The Society in between our other life activities. We personally enjoy what we are doing, or we would have quit a long time ago. We thank you for your support and your patience when things don't happen as fast as one might like. As a recent Ad Council radio ad stated, "We won't be remembered so much for what we have, as for what we did and what we gave."

SPEAKING OF SUPPORT:

Back in that same issue of the CCTM, we talked about various ways you can help and support The Society, directly and indirectly. In the latter category we listed the

prompt payment of annual dues. By doing so, our efforts can be spent doing genealogy, instead of sending out renewal reminder notices. It's easy to set a renewal notice aside. Even I've been guilty of that little sin.

So, here's a gentle reminder concerning annual dues. If you haven't yet renewed, please do so today by sending your check to The Secretary. Otherwise, this might be the last issue of the Newsletter you will be seeing.

MORE ON E-MAIL:

One of my computer mentors noted that with the release of my E-MAIL address, I was going to have to log onto my service provider more than once a month to check my mail and to reply as necessary. I was pleasantly surprised that there was indeed mail awaiting me by a week after the Newsletter had gone out.

In fact, I had not included my E-MAIL address in my original piece. Actually that was a bit dumb on my part, as Editor (Emeritus) David Parke pointed out in a call to me while reviewing my Historian's Corner. Fair enough. I was asking for yours so I really should tell you mine.

Being an infrequent user of the Information Superhighway (an under-statement if there ever was one), I had to do a little rushing around to find the appropriate data, and I apparently missed some of the finer nuances in the matter of the address-

COMPUTER USERS!!!

Please send:

- 1) your email address to Tad, and
- 2) your newsletter contributions by hardcopy and diskette to the editors (all brands of word processors acceptable!)

Thanks!

ing as was soon pointed out to me by various members. So to set the record straight, here is the scoop.

If you are a Compuserve Client, my E-MAIL address is:

70741,2122.

If you are not a Compuserve Client, then the proper format for my E-MAIL address is:

70741.2122@compuserve.com

Notice that the comma (,) that is used within Compuserve is changed to a period (.) for interfacing with the inter-network gateways. Your own service provider may have some other addressing conventions which you should be using. Your documentation should have the information you need to properly utilize the E-MAIL connections.

ON-LINE SERVICES:

The advent of the "NET" and the various online services has created an explosion in information availability, hitherto unknown. There are literally thousands of "Web Sites" with information that might be useful to others. However, just because it's out there, does not make it accurate or correct. Its the old problem again, except now there are even less controls than before.

Unlike the past when you needed to find a publisher with a printing press to get something into print, now anyone can be a publisher. With this freedom, comes also a responsibility, but that isn't always taken seriously. A lot of dubious data is being handed out as facts when it just isn't.

An editorial in PC/NOVICE a few months back (October 1995), gave this point a sharp focus. The information age isn't EVERYTHING it's cracked up to be by media hypsters and computer pundits (who after all make their bucks by

Continued on page 13

ST. MARY THE VIRGIN IN GESTINGTHORPE, ENGLAND BEING RESTORED

by Jean Wisner #332

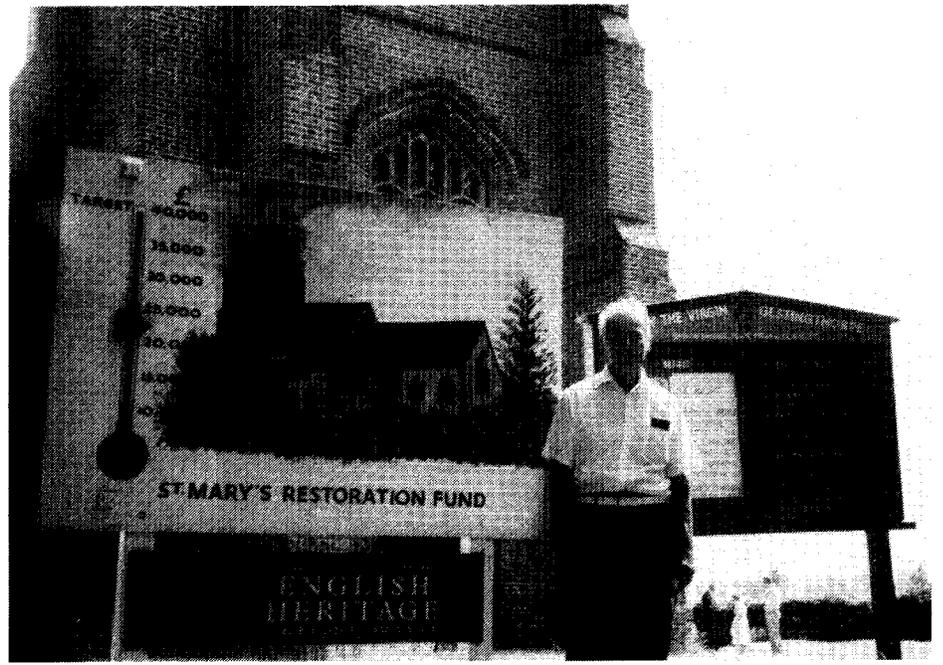
This summer, husband Jack and I finally took our long-awaited trip to Great Britain. It was appropriate for us to choose 1995 as this year marks the 50th Anniversary of the end of World War II, an event much celebrated throughout that land.

Jack spent many months in England the Spring of 1945 recuperating from wounds received in action in the Saar Valley of France in December, 1944 with the 87th Infantry Division.

Our ambitious month-long goal was to revisit those towns where Jack convalesced, to explore the birthplace or haunts of as many authors as possible, to check out some of Scotland's famous golf courses, to sight-see in the tourist spots and, of course, to see for ourselves the villages and neighborhoods where our ancestors long ago dwelt.

This last pursuit brought us on one bright Sunday morning from Stowmarket, on to Bury St. Edmunds, and Sudbury, and the small towns of Acton, Semer, Preston, Poslingford and finally Gestingthorpe. These towns are all associated with ancestor Robert Parke who, as we recall, sailed from Boston, England in 1630 on the ship Arbella with John Winthrop, later the first Governor of Plymouth. (More information on John Winthrop and the Arbella can be found in Berlitz Britain, pages 66 and 162, Berlitz Publishing Co., 1990, Lausanne, Switzerland).

Gestingthorpe, in particular, is associated with Robert Parke (MA1630). (See Parke Society Newsletter, Vol. XXIII, No. 3, article by David L. Parke, #13, titled "Robert (MA 1630) Ancestry Verified to 1400 in Co. Essex, England.") My line, incidentally, is Robert, Thomas 2, Nathaniel 3, Joseph 4, Daniel 5, Daniel 6, Solomon 7, Zina 8, Wallace 9, Effie May Parks (Lockwood) 10, Eleanor Iris Lockwood (Reymann) 11.



In Gestingthorpe we found the church, St. Mary the Virgin, that we understand the Parkes attended those many years ago. Some parishioners were still at the church including Tony Dagnall, Churchwarden, who had conducted the morning service as the church is temporarily without a regular minister, and Jean Fox-Ward, Church Secretary, and her husband, Allen Ward.

We were greeted warmly and were told that it was well known the Parke families from the area had early emigrated to America. We were also told of other Parke descendants who had visited over the years. The Wards believed there was a plaque somewhere in the church in honor of the Parke family. A cursory search, however, did not disclose it. But Mrs. Fox-Ward did find an entry in her record book regarding a contribution from an American family named Ellis in memory of Robert and Margaret Parke.

We learned something of the history of the church. The oldest part of the present building dates from the 13th Century, with most of the chancel, nave and aisle dating to the 14th Century. The roof is so-called double-hammer-beam and one of the finest such in Essex, and the chancel windows and font are 14th and 15th Century.

We also learned that St. Mary's is being restored. English Heritage, a conservation organization well known

in England, is providing financial support for the restoration. English Heritage will accept contributions toward the restoration. Their address is 23 Savile Row, London W1X 1AB.

Credit for much of the restoration effort goes to Mrs. Fox-Ward. She raised some 28,000 pounds toward the restoration from her efforts writing to trusts, and also other fund raising events such as Sponsored Cycle Rides, a concert at St. Mary's by the Chelmsford Cathedral Choir, and Harvest Festival events. It was only after these funds were raised that English Heritage agreed to their assistance in a sort of matching funds agreement. Contributions for the restoration can also be sent directly to the church: St. Mary's Church Fabric Fund, c/o Mrs. Jean Fox-Ward, P.C.C. Secretary, Delvyn's Cottage, Gestingthorpe, Halstead, Essex, CO9 3AX UK.

I further understand that the Society is establishing a fund for contribution from members to the restoration of St. Mary the Virgin. Contributions can be sent in, c/o the Parke Society, to our Secretary.

We actually accomplished most of the goals we set for ourselves for our wonderful trip to Great Britain not the least of which was our journey to retrace the steps of our ancestors.

“reporting on the cutting edge”). They went so far as to say that “Though the Internet and other online resources bulge with information, much of it is unreliable.” A word to the wise is sufficient. I’ve said it before and I will say it again. As in all research work, be wary of what you see and read on the Infobahn just like anywhere else. Weigh your evidence. Try to find truly confirming external sources (not just the same fact, true or not, reported in another place). Be only semitrust. And finally be humble in your addressing of possible errors. Remember, whether on the I-Way or in person, we do have to get along with one another. It’s not nice to indiscriminately trash one another’s work.

COMPUTER UPGRADES:

Crazy as it might seem (after all I am a CPA, and this is tax season) I have been busy over the last couple of weeks doing a major system upgrade of my home computer. From a 386SX-16, with 4 Mb of RAM to a Pentium 100 and 8 MB EDO RAM. For those not up with the latest terminology, that translates into a nice machine, Not the hottest, but nice.

I’m doing it the hard way, on my own. I really don’t need another spare machine sitting around so I bought the motherboard (the guts as it were) and the case, and transferred everything else from the old machine. For the time being, I’m sticking with Windows for Workgroups 3.11 instead of switching to the new Windows 95. I’m just not satisfied that it’s the end all of operating systems.

Obviously this is not a task for the faint of heart. There have been

some anxious moments, e.g. software infighting, hardware disagreements, and perfectly new cables that decided to go bad once installed. Nevertheless, I am fairly satisfied with the results so far. It’s surely a lot faster than the 386! Indexing the MEMBERS file now takes 3 minutes flat, down from 20 minutes.

TO PUBLISH OR NO?

We recently were asked by a renewing member “Just how much research do we have to do before we start publishing?” This answer may not make a lot of people happy, but it really is “That depends.” It depends upon what kind of expectations will be placed on anything we do put into print.

Some years back, The Society, and myself personally, got sort of burned on this issue. One of our members had innocently passed long a Society provided group sheet to a professional genealogist doing additional work. In his subsequent report, we were scorched for disseminating shoddy work as authoritative, and referred to in most unkindly terms.

I fumed for quite a while about this. I felt we were being accused of something we had never claimed in writing or otherwise. Subsequently, whenever I have provided group sheets from The Society files, I include a carefully worded caveat as to the representations being made. The point being that these group sheets are based upon individual member’s submissions and materials gathered from compiled works and other sources.

Short of stamping this on each and every group sheet, we are saying that the information contained thereon has not been independently verified as to accuracy by us (we don’t have those kind of resources), and therefore The Society makes no

warranties as to validity. We’re not saying that its not right. What we show is what we believe, at the time of writing to be the best available information on the group sheet in question. But it always remains open for further changes based on new research.

Then there is the other school of thought. That it really doesn’t matter, just so long as you get things out there in print. This would be okay if it were possible to have clear disclaimers everywhere. Unfortunately, when something appears in print, it becomes gospel, whether true or not.

This position, taken to an extreme brings about the genealogists’ worst nightmare. Not so long ago I read a piece from someone who really didn’t care if his work was right or not. He didn’t give a twit as to sources, or accuracy. He was doing this for his own curiosity and didn’t care what anyone else thought of his work. The author of that piece was kind enough to refer to himself as a scoundrel, reprobate, and rouge. I had a few more colorful adjectives that I wanted to add. That’s just great. Wonderful. He gets his jollies, and mucks up the works for generations to come. Thank you so very much.

Its the matter of perception that concerns me and I think it would concern the Board also. By sticking our corporate name on published works we are making a warranty. Whether we like it or not. We can say all we want in the preface, foreword, whatever. It won’t matter (they usually aren’t read anyway.) It will be perceived as the final word. Print makes it gospel, and we have to acknowledge that condition.

Hence the reason for The Society taking a more measured ap-

Continued on page 15

New Lineage Leader for Robert (NC/GA)

Roy L. Park (#1197)
1584 N.E. 172nd St.
Shoreline, WA 98155-6029

By way of introduction, I am Roy L. Park Jr. (#1197) and I, too, am a volunteer. I volunteered to be Lineage Leader for the line of Robert Park of North Carolina and Georgia (lineage key "U"). Robert was my great, great, great, great grandfather. That is my only qualification for the job. I am the first born of Roy L. Park, who was first born of Albert Alma Park, who was first born of Priscilla Court, who was first born of Joseph and Martha Court. Priscilla married William Asbury Park, who was the first born of John Miller Park, who was the only son of James Park and Sarah Miller. James was first born of Robert Park who is 1U1.

My great grandfather, William Asbury Park, is the one who is of most interest to most people. He fathered 19 children by four of his five wives (once two at a time) over a period of 35 years. He was 23 years old when his first child was born and 58 years old the day before his last child was born.

William Asbury was born 25 October 1826 in Bedford County, Tennessee. He moved to Council Bluffs, Iowa in 1846. There he joined the Mormon Battalion and marched to Santa Fe, where he fell ill, was sent to Salt Lake City and was finally discharged. He then returned to Council Bluffs where his family was still living. After being married to Katherine Wilson, he went to Missouri where daughter Martha Jane was born in 1850. They went back to Iowa and then on to Provo, Utah where son John Miles was born. Katherine died there in December of 1851. He next married Mary Ann Beilby in August, 1852 and had William Christefer (sic) in 1853, Mary Matilda in 1855, Thomas Asbury in 1856, Esther Ann in 1858 and then twins Jesse and James in December 1860. The twins were born three days apart. James and Mary Ann both died.

In December of 1862 he married Priscilla Court. William lost his second child when Esther Ann died in January 1864. My granddad, Albert, then was born May 1864. William then married Priscilla's mother, Martha Court Hazel on 24 November 1865. Priscilla had Clara Zillah in May of 1866 and Martha had her only child by William, Agnes Elizabeth, in May 1867. Priscilla had Ada Irene who was born in March 1868, Samuel Horace in 1870, Linetta Bertha in October 1871, and Alice Delcena in January 1874. All the children were born in Utah.

Then William saw a chance to get away from the Mormons. He was asked to volunteer as an escort to move an unwanted woman and her family out of Utah. He agreed and suggested that to make it look like they were just moving, he would take his wife and younger children along. They followed the San Bernardino - Salt Lake wagon road that ran near present day Interstate 15. When they reached Nevada, William continued until he reached Los Angeles County. (Imagine taking seven kids and a wife across the desert with a team and wagon). Louis Alonso was born 5 November 1876 and Arilla Mae in March 1879 in Fountain Valley, California which is about 12 miles south of Disneyland. There he bought a farm for \$400 only to find out later the seller did not own it. The 1880 Census finds them all in Kern County. Then they surprised everybody by going back to Utah in order to "rescue" all his brothers and sisters from the Mormon Church. His son, Thomas Asbury, was the only one interested in leaving.

William and Priscilla had Joseph Leroy in July 1882 in Payson, Utah. Thomas Asbury and his wife went for a little drive in the family surrey one Sunday afternoon and ended up in Montrose County, Colorado. That gave William Asbury the way out, so he moved to Pleasant Valley, Utah

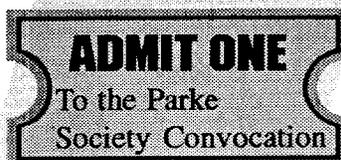
(about where Helper, Utah is today). In June of 1884, they rented a house from a Mr. Engles at the "Y" (where the locomotives turn around) for \$4.00 per month. On the October 25th, William Asbury was 58 years old. On the next day his last child, Elsie Pearl, was born. On Saturday, the 15th of November 1884, they left for Colorado. They arrived in Montrose County on the 5th of December 1884. That is 287 miles across a cold barren desert in 20 days. They lived with his son, Thomas, for eight weeks and five days before obtaining a house of their own. There were 12 in William's family and five in Thomas', so I imagine they kept close count of the days of their stay.

After Priscilla died in 1900, William became lonely and married again in 1906 to Mary Ann Spalding; she died in 1908. He then moved back to Missouri to await the Second Coming of the Lord. There, in 1910 at age 84, he married for the last time to Mary Schwentker. In 1915, at age 89, he died in Knob Noster, Johnson County, Missouri.

Granddad Albert later returned to Utah, got married, had my dad in 1895. Albert later returned to Colorado, along with his brother, John Miles Park. William and Priscilla helped start the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in Delta, Colorado.

This may provide some background on your new lineage leader for Robert 1U1. I am 72 years old and am in the 7th generation, my granddad was the 9th child. My cousin, Blanch Boyer Underwood, is also 72 and is the 6th generation. Her mother was Elsie Pearl, the last child. My cousin, Loni Gardner, in Bountiful, Utah, is a bit younger but is the 8th generation. Her great grandmother was Mary Matilda, the 4th child. She is the one who scattered the Park cousins all over. Her eldest daughter went to Mexico while the rest went to Canada. Another cousin, Valerie Boyer Milhoan, is the only one remaining who knew William Asbury. She was born 4 August 1897 and was living in Knob Noster, Missouri when William died.

I would like anyone who is of Robert 1U1 lineage to please write.



proach. The Society, even as this is being written, has been and continues to discuss how to best get the information out to the genealogical public. Its going to take a concerted effort.

Money and, more importantly, time will be needed to accomplish this publication task. It could be a revenue source for The Society, but only if it is carefully done. That means a lot of rechecking of facts needs to be accomplished. As I go through the group sheets, I see lots of things that beg for reverification. Was it the 11th or the 22nd? Was it Sharon County, Township, or village? Was his initial M or N?

This answer will be liked by some and hated by others. Clearly we do need to publish, and that is in our long term plans. But, and I think I speak here for the Officers and Trustees of The Society in addition to myself, we really don't want to be just another part of the problem. When we do publish, it must measure up to the standards found out there in the genealogical world. We have no other choice if we want to speak as the clearing house of PARK/E/S information.

Since this is an all volunteer organization, it may take a bit longer than one might hope for. But the end result will be worth the effort, believe me.

Pax,
Tad

Next Issue:

**Geologist Dr. William A. Parks
& Parksosaurus**

James E. and Janet M. Hart PS #448 of Centerville, IN, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on 28 Oct 1995. He worked for Starr Piano Co., Gennett Records, General Electric Jet Engine Division and drove a truck for Holthouse Furniture and Dealer's Transit. His wife worked in the accounting department at General Electric at Evandale, Ohio, Moto-Mower and Hill Floral Products Company.

They are the parents of Deborah M. Samms of Richmond and Douglas E. Hart of Cincinnati. They also have two grandchildren.



Parks Reunion in Sioux Falls S.D.

Joelene I Johnson, PS #944, writes to share that her granddaughter, Nicole Ashley Johnson, was born to son Wesley M. Johnson and wife Kristin on 21 Oct 1995 in Lincoln, NE. (*Ed. First things first.*)

Joelene also shared that a Parks family reunion was held in Sioux Falls, S.D. on 22 July 1995. Over 76 cousins were in attendance. All were descendants of Benjamin Wadestill Parks b. 5 Feb 1853 in Cole Camp, Mo and Mary Estell (Swind) Parks b. 15 Oct 1865 in New York. Joelene's father, Marvin Henry Parks, who is 87 years old, is the last of 11 children of Benjamin and Mary.

Editorial Notes from Keith and Doug.....

Since the retirement/illness of Editor Emeritus David L. Parke, there has been a blur of activity behind the scenes which are likely invisible to the membership. Transportation of essential materials from Pennsylvania to Michigan, installing and learning three software packages, computerizing/mechanizing the task of publishing the Newsletter, assembling materials pertinent to a first issue, analyzing a membership database for upgrade into a bulk mailing package, etc., etc. have been a few items on our plate. We are extremely indebted to David and to Tad Parks and to Vir Harrison for their help in shoving us in the right direction. We will surely make mistakes and we will gladly receive any and all criticism. Just remember, we are volunteers also and please make the criticism constructive.

We have in this first issue assumed a great many tasks and it has not been without a steep learning curve, many long nights and much study. The Newsletter is now being produced in PageMaker and if errors creep into the format or text it is likely due to our inexperience with this software. If any of our members have experience with PageMaker, please feel free to offer suggestions for improvement. This is your Newsletter, so we want to hear from you! As noted elsewhere in the newsletter, if you have a computer, you can make our task more efficient and timely if you contribute articles by hardcopy and diskette. Most importantly, whether you have a computer or not, please consider contributing an article for publication. The membership wants to hear from you, not the Editors.

GOOD TIDINGS OF GREAT JOY

J. Douglas Park #749
Co-Editor

As most members know, Keith Harrison #710 and I were asked, prodded, cajoled, and even needled by our dear friend, David L. Parke #13, (Editor Emeritus), until we agreed to assume the office of Editor of the Parke Society. As we succumbed to David's pressure tactics last Fall, it seemed fitting that we visit David and learn as much as possible about the office and the enormous gifts that David has brought to bear here for the last 20 years. Arrangements were made so that when Keith and I were in Gettysburg, PA on another matter that I would continue on to Reading, PA to visit David and his lovely wife Jill on November 17th.

On turning the corner into the subdivision at the appointed hour of 9:00am, I immediately saw an ambulance that was showering the neighborhood with bright red and white lights and realized it was parked in the very driveway I sought. With the presence of mind of a saint, Jill ushered me into their home and explained that David had apparently suffered a stroke and was being administered to in the ambulance as we spoke.

After a call to Jean Churchill, Society Librarian who lives nearby, Jill was prompted to leave for the hospital and be with David who was already on his way by this time. Jean arrived at David and Jill's home and, after learning David was stabilized, Jean proceeded to explain the organization of the Parke Society Library. Together, we also explored the many nooks and crannies of David's enormous files. Without knowing exactly what David had in mind for our day together, neither Jean nor I were

absolutely sure what items needed priority attention and, further, which holdings were to be brought to Michigan. Jean was exceptional in her advice and we are indebted to her for drastically changing her plans for that day and ensuring this visit would at least partially satisfy David's desires.

The most important issue, of course, was David's condition and this we obtained on occasion through phone calls and visits from some of David and Jill's exceptional neighbors.

The medical side of this very unique day is better explained by David himself, as found on Page 1. We are, indeed, fortunate that God answered the many prayers uttered in David's behalf and that He agreed David's work here is simply not done.

If you haven't already done so, please be sure to drop a line to David and Jill Parke at 805 Evergreen, Reading, PA 19610. David has for twenty years been the glue of this Society and has been selfless in his donation of talent, funds, study, travel and stewardship to our members. The best thanks we can give David is to ensure his dedication is reflected in all of us who call ourselves members. As David takes a well earned rest, let's work together to ensure his legacy of dedication and commitment continues.

David - Godspeed and continued good health as you work in rehab.

My David - continued from page 7

How do our minds work? On how many levels at one time? Two things I remember about that space of time. One was hearing these competent, caring PA Dutchmen talking to each other about "rutching" David up onto the gurney; this meant lifting or pushing up apparently! The other was a

series of events: wheeling David out to the waiting ambulance about 9:15 (when most neighbors were up and became alarmed) and having a dear neighbor trying to help by opening the back doors of the ambulance (he couldn't); watching the ambulance drive off; and, most vividly, seeing Doug Park leaning against the wall opposite our front door. The look on his face was incredulous! After a 10-11 hour drive to meet David to discuss the transfer of the editorship, he had arrived just in time to see the ambulance drive away!

After welcoming him and quickly explaining the situation, a wonderful neighbor arrived and said she would stay with Doug until our "true saviour", our Society's Librarian, Jean Churchill, could come over. This left me free to follow David to the Emergency Room! Jean & Doug worked over the Society's books and papers most of the day.

Now, on the 9th of February, as I sit writing this, David is busy sorting Society papers at his work table (our ping pong table). We actually played left-handed ping pong a few days ago! We get much exercise picking up the ball.

After 5 1/2 weeks in the hospital and the rehab hospital, David came home on the Friday before Christmas much to our joy! Since then he has spent three half-days a week at the rehab and enjoys the young therapists. He walks unaided and picks up lightweight objects with his right hand. However, he is still unable to write with it. He has always liked challenges - and this remains one of his greatest.

Last night we were at a Salvation Army volunteers dinner buffet style. He picked up his own plates and drink. Yes, he's doing well - and he does like to eat! He is gradually returning to his old self!