

The Parke Society

Newsletter

Clearinghouse for research on all Park/e/s immigrants from the British Isles.
Promoting Fellowship, Genealogical Research and the Preservation of our Heritage

Park/e/s in the Arts: Edgar Alonzo Parks

by Ken Parks PS#1406

Be the Powers, I'm a Broth of a Boy!

Whist me darlin's prey can you be aisy,
 Like a cat when it's licking the cream,
 And I'll sing you a song just to please ye,
 Of meself and sweet Dora McShane.

And I'll try now to tell ye me story,
 Of the gleam that's adorning me race,
 Although I've no brass in me pockets,
 Be the powers I've lots in me face.

For in rainey or sun shiney weather,
 I'm full of good humor and joy,
 And take me in parts all together,
 Be the pow'rs I'm a broth of a boy!

The words and music of this 1871 "Irish tune" came from the pen of Edgar Alonzo Parks, of Louisiana,

Pike Co., Missouri. It is just one of several tunes by him found on the Website Music for the Nation: American Sheet Music, 1870-1885, part of the Library of Congress American Memory project. My curiosity piqued, I began to see what I could learn about the latest subject of our "Park/e/s in the Arts" series.

The small town of Louisiana, Missouri sits on the banks of the Mississippi River, about 70 miles north of St. Louis and 30 miles south of Hannibal. Edgar Alonzo Parks was born there on 19 March 1845, the son of William Orr Parks and Eliza Ann Robinson. He grew up to become not only a composer of popular music, but a successful businessman, establishing the Parks Music House in 1867. With a reputation for selling fine pianos and other instruments, by 1883 he was able to have a new two-story building erected, the lower part serving as the store while the second floor served as a music hall for concerts and recitals. In 1891 the building was doubled in size, with the music hall converted to a modern theatre with a seating capacity of 800 people.

Son Edgar A. "Druey" Parks, Jr., having practically grown up in the business, took over when his father died in April, 1898. In 1901 a second store was opened with great success in Hannibal, with additional stores added in Mexico and Slater (Pike

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Contact Information

PARKE SOCIETY Board members live all over the country. Before sending a request, inquiry, article, suggestion, dues, or lineage materials, please check the listing below to be sure the material is directed to the proper Board member.

ADDRESSES AND OTHER MEMBERSHIP LISTING

CHANGES: Send all changes of mailing address, name, phone number, email address, reports of deaths or other important family events to our Executive Director, **Fr. Michael (Tad) Parks #425H** at 70741.2122@compuserve.com, or by surface mail to him at

P.O. Box 590
Milwaukee, WI 53201-0590
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ANNUAL MEETINGS: Send questions about Annual Meetings of the Parke Society to our President and Convocation Coordinator, **Curtis H. Parks**, PS#1166, at chparks@mdo.net.

DNA TESTING: Send DNA questions to our DNA Group Administrator, **Ken M. Parks**, PS#1406 at kenparks@earthlink.net.

DUES: Send dues and dues-related questions to our Secretary:

Mrs. Arlene Parks Callahan, PS#396
324 Sullivan Road
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Make dues payments payable to The Parke Society, Inc. (Note: please do not send these questions to the Treasurer.) **VERY IMPORTANT: BE SURE TO INCLUDE YOUR MEMBERSHIP NUMBER ON YOUR CHECK!**

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P.O. Box 590
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Please also send such materials to your Lineage Leader, if you have one.

GENERAL COMMENTS, SUGGESTIONS, AND CRITICISMS: Send all general correspondence of this kind to our President, **Curtis H. Parks #1166L** at chparks@mdo.net.

LIBRARY: Send all questions relating to the Library, including loans of materials, to **Ken M. Parks**, PS#1406 at kenparks@earthlink.net.

MEMBERSHIP: Send questions concerning Parke Society membership, requests for membership packets, and all application materials to our Registrar, **Mr. Ronald Neal Parks**, PS#1458, at registrar@parke.org.

MISSING LINKS: Send all questions and articles relating to Missing Links to our Missing Links Editor, **Mrs. Jean Churchill**, PS#934, at sdtjs2001@yahoo.com, or by surface mail to her at
P.O. Box 4854
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NEWSLETTER: Send article submissions and comments to our Editor, **Dr. Paul Jordan-Smith**, PS#1451 at parkenews@csedl.org. If you don't have email, send all *typed* materials to

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Milwaukee, WI 53201-0590

Please note: handwritten submissions cannot be accepted.

THE PARKE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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THE PARKE SOCIETY (org. 1963) serves as a clearinghouse for research on all Park/e/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. Fees are:

Application Fee	\$ 15.00
Annual Dues	\$ 25.00
Life Membership (US funds only)	\$250.00

THE PARKE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER is 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 are always welcome, as are photographs, document scans, and other significant visual materials.

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Park/e/s in the Arts

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County towns.) Serving northeast Missouri and western Illinois, the Parks Music House controlled much of the area's music trade through direct sales as well as mail order business. By supplying most of the pianos so common in households during that era, and with the establishment of the Parks Opera House Orchestra, the family contributed greatly to musical life on both sides of the Mississippi River.

A musical family

As I have mentioned in previous articles, musical entertainment in 19th and early 20th century America meant live performance, often produced in the home by family members or friends playing instruments or singing together. Sadly, with the invention of the phonograph and the radio, that practice began to wane, until we find ourselves in today's world where enjoying music is largely a passive activity.

It is unclear where Edgar A. Parks Sr. obtained his musical training, but he grew up in an era where exposure to music-making was not uncommon, and it obviously appealed to him enough to become his career. He was not, however, an anomaly in his family. His younger brother, William Wirt/Wurt Parks (1866-1947), lived in Hannibal at the time of his death and his death certificate lists his occupation as piano tuner. He most likely worked in the family business and almost certainly had musical training and abilities as well. Edgar's first cousin, Samuel Leonard Parks (b. 1852) was listed in several censuses in California as either a musician or music professor. Edgar Jr.'s wife, Ethel, was listed as a music teacher in the 1930 census.

Earlier generations

As previously mentioned, the parents of Edgar A. Parks Sr. were William Orr Parks and Eliza Ann Robinson. According to unsourced information found online, William O. Parks was born 28 February 1820 in New York, with some sites claiming the place of birth as Livonia, Ontario (now Livingston) County in New York. William O. Parks died 21 May 1900, and all censuses list his place of birth as New York, with the 1880 census listing both of his parents as having been born in Connecticut. This is consis-

tent with online information which places him as the son of William Parks (1787-1856) and Fanny Hyde. This Parks family is known to the Parke Society as LK=H. The earliest known immigrant ancestor is Edward Parks (ca. 1644 London, England-21 December 1669 Guilford, New Haven, Connecticut) who married Deliverance French. Thus, the line of descent for Edgar A. Parks Sr. would be:

Edward [01H1] > Nathaniel [02H3] > Nathaniel [03H23] > Elijah [04H221] > William [05H893] > William Orr [06H3574] > Edgar Alonzo Sr. [07H14296]

Three Parks brothers, all sons of William Parks and Fanny Hyde, appear in the 1850 census living in Louisiana, Pike County, Missouri: Theron (1812-1873), William Orr (1820-1900), and James Monroe (1827-1878). The 1840 Pike County, Missouri census finds this Parks family living in the town of Penno, with Theron (as Theron) and James M. in their own households, while William Orr appears to be living in his father's household, not having married until sometime before 1845. The 1830 Pike County census shows a William Parks household, with William born between 1780-1790 and three males in the corresponding age brackets to be the three sons listed above, however, this is likely not the William Parks in question, as other family information indicates he did not leave New York state until about 1834, moving first to Ohio for several years before migrating to Pike County, Missouri. There were other Parks lineages in Pike County in early censuses, so it is unclear at this time just who this William Parks might be.

Theron Parks is listed as a stonemason in several censuses (a profession his father shared), while both William Orr and James Monroe are listed as plasterers in 1850. Later censuses list William Orr's occupation variously as confectioner, sewing machine agent, and hotel keeper. James Monroe Parks followed this path of career changes as well, being listed in 1860 as a "dagarian" and in 1870 as a dentist. We assume dagarian to mean a photographer who took daguerreotypes. James Monroe Parks is mentioned on p. 477 of *Pioneer Photographers*

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from the Mississippi to the Continental Divide: a Biographical Dictionary, 1839-1865 by Peter E Palmquist and Thomas R. Kailbourn (Stanford University Press, 2005):

Parks, James Monroe (b.c. 1827) Daguerrian, photographer; active Louisiana, Missouri, 1860-1866.

An 1860 business directory listed a daguerrian identified only as Parks in Louisiana, Missouri. The 1860 census of that community listed James M. Parkes (sic) as a “Dagarian.” He was thirty-three years old, born in New York, and declared real estate worth \$1,500 and personal assets of \$300. He was married to Martha Parkes, thirty-two, from Virginia; they had three children, aged five to ten, all of whom were born in Missouri. James Monroe Parks was licensed as a photographer in the town of Louisiana for \$15 in November 1862. He renewed his license for eight months in June 1863 for \$10 and in May 1864 for \$15. Parks was probably a partner in Parks and Donaldson, photographers, licensed in Louisiana, Missouri, in May 1865 for \$10. In May 1866, James Monroe Parks renewed his tax license in his own name in that town for \$15.

The authors cite their sources as *The Missouri State Gazetteer and Business Directory* (St. Louis: Sutherland and McEvoy, 1860), p. 603; US Census, City of Louisiana, Missouri, 1860, pp.135-281; and Ross J. Kelbaugh, *Directory of Civil War Photographers, vol. 3, Western States and Territories*, 2d ed. (Baltimore: Historic Graphics, 1992), p. 64.

William Parks, Mormon convert

William Parks [05H893], the father of Theron, William Orr, and James Monroe (as well as many other children) was a descendant of Edward Parks [01H1] who married Deliverance French in 1669 in Connecticut. This Edward Parks line was discussed in a newsletter article in 1985 (Vol. XXII, No. 3, pp. 36-37) which included a group sheet of the family down to the 5th generation. William Parks is listed on the group sheet with an interesting mention within the article itself. Virginia Zadorozny, PS#567, an Edward Parks descendant and researcher on this line, stated from written family comments that Wil-

liam Parks emigrated to northern Ohio shortly before 1834 and became a Mormon. The tradition is that the other members of the family never communicated with William after that.

This is consistent with online information stating that the death of Fanny Hyde, William Parks’s first wife, occurred on 6 July 1837 in Euclid, Ohio (now a suburb of Cleveland.) The source for this information is given as: *Reuben Hyde Walworth, Hyde Genealogy, or the Descendants in the Female as well as the Male Lines from William Hyde of Norwich*, (Albany, New York, USA; 1864; p.1496). After Fanny Hyde’s death, William married Millisant London on 20 December 1837 in Kirtland, Ohio, a town just east of Euclid and an area where early Mormons had settled, including Heber Chase Kimball. Heber C. Kimball, a Robert Parke descendant, was one of the early members of the Mormon faith, and an extensive article on his life appeared in a 1981 newsletter article (Vol. XVIII, No. 2, pp. 24-28).

William and Millisant Parks are found in the 1850 census in Pottawattamie, Iowa with their new family of children: Moroni (male) born 1 March 1840, Naomi born 12 December 1842, Sarah Elizabeth born December 1843, and Mary Millisant born 12 October 1846. William Parks died 12 March 1856 in Louisiana, Pike County, Missouri, having gone back to die at the home of one of his sons. His second family is found in Bountiful, Davis County, Utah Territory in the 1860 census, and Millisant is found, listed as a widow, in the 1870 census in Bountiful, where she died on 21 June 1871.

For more information on the Edward Parks line, the Dana Parks Jr. Memorial Library has a copy of *The Parks Family*, compiled by Edward Augustus Parks, 1909. This entirely handwritten family history was reviewed by Jean Churchill PS#934 in 1997 (Vol. 34, No. 2 pp. 4-5), which members may borrow.

An idle inquiry into the origins of a composer of popular tunes from the 19th century proved to be an interesting journey. We now know a bit more about a previously unfamiliar branch of a family, and I’m sure a more detailed search would uncover many more fascinating stories. So many branches on all the trees in our ‘Park’—so little time!❖

Update on Silas Leonard Parks lineage (01CU1)

by Jean Churchill PS#934, Missing Links Editor

PS#1556 Susan Ryan traces her Parks lineage back to Silas through his daughter, Amanda (02CU4) Parks. According to earlier family history, Amanda was married to Capt. Francis Clark, Cavalry Div, Union Army, who was killed during the Civil War. However, researchers have been unable to find in the Civil War files a Francis Clark from Michigan, of the right age, who was killed during the war.

However, the *Michigan, Genesee County Marriage Index to 1934* has a record of Amanda M. Parkes married to Jetson J. Clark on June 17, 1859. Jetson Clark's Union service record states that he enlisted as a Private in Company M, 2nd Cavalry Regiment, Michigan on 31 August, 1861. He died of disease on July 24, 1862 at Rienzi, Mississippi. Further information states that he died in the hospital at Keokuk, Iowa which is where Union soldiers were frequently taken. He is buried at Keokuk National Cemetery, Keokuk, IA. The Civil War Pension files list his widow, Amanda M. Clark, and under comments is: Almon B. Clark, Gdn. From this research, I think it is reasonable to conclude that Amanda's first husband was Jetson (Judson) Clark.

There were two children from this marriage: Francis Clark and Ardella Jane Clark. There is presently a discrepancy as to the date of birth for Francis; also whether his middle name is Walter or just "M," which appears on his tombstone. PS # 1556 thinks their daughter, Ardella Jane is the first child, born on 10 September 1861 at Thompson Corners. She and other researchers believe that Almon B. Clark had guardianship and possibly physical possession of Francis since he is never mentioned in any census as being with his mother and sister.

Amanda (02CU4) Clark and her daughter are living in Detroit, Michigan in 1880 where Ardella Jane married Edward Stalzl on 11 November 1880. Edward was born in 1861 at Ontario, Canada and died 1907 in California. There were two children from this marriage: Anson George b. 12 July 1881, Michi-

gan and Gertrude May b. June 1884, Illinois. Ardella Jane's second marriage was to Henry E. Newton b. abt. 1858 at Hamilton, Canada. Ardella Jane died 1 March 1919 in Sacramento, California.

In 1880, Francis Clark gave his birthdate as about 1861. He was married, a farmer living in Summerfield, Clare, Michigan. His first wife was Alice Treadway (b. 1862, Perry, Shiawassee, Michigan; d. 1888 Morrice, Shiawassee, Michigan). The three children from this union—Judson, Claude, and Blanche Alice—were raised by their grandmother, Elizabeth Ann Treadway after Alice's death. By 1900, Francis was living in Denver, Arapahoe, Colorado married to Sarah/Sadie and they had three children: Melvina Jane (b. 1895), Erwin/Irwin (b. 1897), and Hazel Ruth (b. 1898). Sarah/Sadie was born in October, 1863 in Canada. Francis Clark died in 1922. He and his second wife are buried in Riverside Cemetery, Denver, Colorado.

It is highly probable that Amanda (02CU4) Clark moved to Pullman, Illinois with her daughter, Ardella, and family, since the Stalzl's were employed building Pullman railcars. On 9 September 1885 a marriage license was taken out by Johannes Decker and Amanda Clark, both residents of Pullman, Cook Co, Illinois. Marriage was performed on 12 September 1885 by the Methodist minister. The family researchers believe that this is their "Amanda."

By 1910, however, the location of Amanda Clark Decker is not known. She is not with Henry and Ardella Newton who are then living in Sutter, California. Both of them died in that area and are buried at East Lawn Cemetery, Sacramento, California. Researchers found a Johannie Decker, age 69, who died in Cook County, IL on 25 January 1899, but is this the correct individual? If Amanda was again a widow, did she move back to Michigan or perhaps marry a third time? She was born in 1839 at Shiawassee, Michigan and so would only be 61 in 1900.

The search still continues for the ancestry of Silas Leonard (01CU1) Parks. There is a fairly strong paper trail which connects Silas, Peter Glick (01CU2) Parks, and Loudon (01IO1) Parks together as brothers. So far, only one Park/e/s descendant from this

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Silas Leonard Parks update

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lineage has donated to our Volunteer DNA project and he does not match any others in our data base. More volunteers are needed particularly because presently there is a surname question. Be aware that descendants of this lineage have used both Park and Parks as their surname.

Sources:

- Michigan Genesee County Marriage Index to 1934:*
Vol. 2, p.592, Record date 6/17/1859
- A Hundred Battles in the West: St. Louis to Atlanta, 1861-65* by Marshall P. Thatcher. Detroit, 1884.
- Civil War Pension Index: General Index to Pension Files 1861-1934*
- Marriage license 9 Sept.1885, Pullman, Cook, IL signed by M. Ryan, Clerk of County Court
- 1880 US Census for Amanda M. Clark, Detroit, Wayne, Michigan
- Amanda M Clark (wid Jetson) h234 Abbott, in Detroit City Directory 1880, p. 259
- 1880 US Census for Francis Clark, Summerfield, Clare, Michigan
- 1900 US Census for Francis Clark, Denver, Arapahoe, Colorado
- 1910 US Census for Francis Clark, Denver, Arapahoe, Colorado
- Riverside Cemetery, Denver, CO – Francis M Clark 1862-1922 directly across from Sadie Clark
- 1880 Marriage certificate for Edward Stalze and Ardella Jane Clark
- 1910 US Census for Henry Newton (wife Ardella), Sutter, California
- Death Index, Sacramento, California for Amanda Newton
- Cemetery information for Henry and Ardella Jane Newton
- Broome County, New York deeds link Silas, Peter, and Loudon together

Please send corrections or additions to Jean Churchill, ML Editor at sdtjs2001@yahoo.com. ❖

Errors and corrections: 6T339

On p. 43 of Vol. 46 No. 3 of the Newsletter Sybil Park (6T339) born 26 Feb. 1736 was reported as having been married to Daniel Avery of Groton. There is no information regarding a marriage for this Sybil. Thank you to PS#755 for noticing this error.

Descendants of Thomas Park (06T344)

by Jean C. Churchill PS#934:

The following are notes from the Register and Records Office, Towanda Courthouse, Bradford Co, PA

Book 1, p. 248, #414 - Last Will and Testament of Daniel (07T281) Parke, April 13, 1842. Probate taken October 22, 1842 and letters of administration granted to Nancy Parke, Reuben Parke and William Osborne. Named in the Will are sons John, Reuben, James, Moses, Benjamin, Joseph, Owen, and Warren; and daughters Sally, Phebe, Abigail, Alvina, and Patty.

Book 8 p. 375 #4640 Will of Joseph Park (son of above Daniel) written 25 January 1883. Petition for probate filed by Alvarado Park, Executor on 7 January 1889. Joseph's Will names his wife, Elizabeth, his adopted son, Alvarado Park, and his niece Elizabeth Hanna, daughter of Ira Hanna of Barton, Tioga County who is to receive the sum of one thousand dollars. (This provides proof that Alvina/Elmyra Park Hanna of Barton is the daughter of Daniel Parke)

Book 13 p. 270 #6897 Will of Moses Park (son of above Daniel) written 21 January 1891. Proof provided that Moses Park died 1 January 1901, admitted to probate 13 February 1901. In his will, Moses names his wife, Hannah; his daughters: Almira Merrill, Sarah D. Chandler, and Mary Elizabeth Munn; and his granddaughter Clare H. Park.

Using census and cemetery data, Sarah (1846-1939) is found married to Alfred D. Chandler (1843-1913) Their son, Burton Alonzo Chandler (1874-1912) married Nellie Herrick (1878-1919). Sarah's grandson, Burton E. Chandler born in 1912- died in 1924. (dates are from Tioga Point Cemetery, Athens, Bradford Co, PA)

In 1880 granddaughter, Clara H. Park is living with her mother M. Dell Park, age 27 in Litchfield, Bradford Co, PA. Moses Park's son, Orlando must have been her father since he is the only son not appearing on the 1880 census with his parents. On the 1930

Census, I found a Clara H. Morse (mother in law), widowed, living in the household of “Wloser” (i.e., Ulysses) T. Moore whose wife is named Della, age 33, born in PA. Backtracking to the 1900 census, Clara is found married to Irving V. Morse and their daughter is Della born August 1897 in PA.

Tioga Point Cem. Records: Orlando Park (1848-1877); Irving V. Morse (1874-1930); Clara H. Morse (1876-1944); Ulysses T. Moore (1890-1974); Della Moore (1897-1985). Son, Orlando Dale Moore (1925-1945) killed in action in Holland, World War II.

Book 2 p. 469 #1407 Will of Thomas (07T287) Park written 9 February 1861 - Letters of Administration granted to Margaret Parks and Silas Wolcott on 6 May 1861.

In his Will, Thomas makes provision for the surviving children of Samuel (07T285) Park deceased: Minerva Wilkinson, Rushell Parks, and Charles C. Parks. The children of Thomas are in the will but not mentioned by name. (Inventory Files June 14, 1861; see Orphans Court Files.) This needs to be checked to see if the names are mentioned there.

A Story For My Children by Etta Wolcott Park names six children from the marriage of Samuel and Margaret: Minerva, Samuel, Thomas, William, Russell, and Charles. This book also gives the death date of Samuel as 1825 which is probably correct since their youngest, Charles was born in September 1824. The Park State Line Cemetery list mistakenly has 1823.

Pioneer and Patriot Families of Bradford County, PA by Clement Heverly, 1913 states that Samuel and Margaret had 4 sons and 1 daughter. I have not been able to find any further source material relating to the sons: Samuel, Thomas, and William, all of whom certainly had died by 1861. ❖

The next editorial due date is
February 15, 2011

A Parke Family Reunion

by Robert L. Parke PS#755

A resoundingly successful 2010 Parke Family Reunion was held in Santee, SC July 14-17, 2010. Traveling from states as far flung as Texas, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and Florida—and a few in between—48 members of our particular Parke family (LK=T) arrived at Clark’s Inn and Restaurant in waves that first day. A gathering of this size for this family had not been attempted since 1982 so name tags were essential, especially for the cousins. In fact, the name tags were attached to a Parke Family Reunion tote bag that each individual family received, personally equipped with items appropriate for the ages of their attendees along with matching reunion T-shirts for everyone, which members had ordered in advance.

The Inn was specially chosen for its large air-conditioned common room equipped with a monitor on which to run a continuous feed of hundreds of family photos submitted by family members; a large flat wall on which to hang an enormous family tree; and an area off to the side where people could access their Parke genealogy from a computer. Kids could spend time making crafts or watching cartoons on a large-screen TV while their parents caught up on times old and new. There was a common kitchen so that everyone could eat communally if desired. Local attractions included: group fishing, a pontoon tour, the nearby state park, historic Charleston or exploring naval museums and destroyers at Mt. Pleasant. But most chose to stay on the premises and watching the children have fun in the outdoor pool or playing pinochle, Uno, chess, or late-night poker.

Children’s games such as lawn golf, water balloon toss, plastic egg races were conducted outside. There were prizes and door prizes galore ranging from goody bags filled with candy, balloons, water pistols, stuffed animals, books, picture frames, earrings, key chains, bookmarks, to oversized calculators and remotes for those who needed glasses to read their raffle ticket numbers. This reunion was a culmination of efforts spanning over a year of planning. Chairperson Robert Parke PS#755 left no detail

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2010 Parke Family Reunion

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unattended, soliciting the help of family members to ensure a successful and fun-filled event for all ages, each day. As needed, members volunteered their time and money to create and provide T-shirts, tote bags, and goody bags, and to purchase soda, water, and juice boxes, as well as door prizes and craft materials for the kids. One member organized the children's games and prizes; another was the event recorder; another took the family photos. Still others collected the photos everyone sent and then one person scanned or otherwise manipulated them to appear as a slide show, a copy of which was sent home with each individual family on a CD, along with a digital copy of Robert Parke's book containing the family genealogy. To keep everyone informed during the preceding year, a reunion newsletter was sent periodically via email. These newsletters contained

planning details, information about local attractions, genealogy facts, and immediate family trivia (including "Guess the famous old guy in this photo and how we're related to him!").

The climax of the reunion were the family photos taken with everyone wearing their 2010 Parke Family Reunion T-shirts., individual families gathered on the lawn for photos before a group shot was attempted. Then following a celebration dinner, the six Parke brothers and sisters posed for their first photo together, without another family member or friend in the picture. The good times made departure on that last day bittersweet, but a paper survey response from all overwhelmingly demanded another reunion within the next two to five years. ❖

Be sure to renew your membership!



Society News and Notes

By Fr. Michael Parks+, SSC, PS#425H
Executive Director

Note: this new column replaces the separate Closed Circuit to Members insert in the Newsletter, both as a cost savings and because a separate insert is no longer needed.

This past September 24th and 25th, 2010, the Society held its Annual Meetings of the Corporation and Trustees at the Country Inns & Suites in Harrisburg, PA. The following summarizes the business conducted and the decisions made.

The Corporate Meeting

The Corporate Meeting's main purposes are to elect the next class of Trustees, to hear reports, and respond to questions. Most of the actual business of the Society is handled at the Trustees Meetings.

The 47th Annual Meeting of the Corporation was called to order at 11 AM by President Curtis Harvey Parks, #1166. The following members, Officers and Trustees were present: Vice President Kenneth Melvin Parks, #1406, Historian Fr. Michael Parks, #425, Registrar Ronald Neal Parks, #1458, Trustee Jean C. Churchill, #934, and Past President Jeanne Reisler, #514. The Proxy Secretary reported that we had a total of 77 valid proxy votes from members who could not be present. A quorum was declared.

Trustee Elections were held, and the following candidates were elected unanimously:

- Seat III: Kenneth Melvin Parks, PS#1406
- Seat VIII: Robert James Parks, PS#1023
- Seat VII: Curtis Harvey Parks, PS#1166.

The By-Laws Proxy Secretary reported that a total of 115 valid Adoption Ballots had been received. The vote for Adoption was 115 Aye, 0 Nay. The President declared that the Revised By-Laws had been adopted by the Society membership.

There being no further business to conduct the meeting was adjourned at 11:13 AM.

The Trustees Meetings

The first Trustees Meeting is generally a fact gathering meeting, discussing the State of the Society, and

the reports of various officers. The following Trustees were present: PS#1166, #1406, #1458, #425, and #934. A quorum was declared.

The Treasurer's Report noted that receipts for the year ending 30 June 2010 were \$8,419, with expenses of \$8,225, leaving us a net surplus for the 2009-2010 fiscal year of \$194. Most of our income—86%—comes from annual dues. Some 66% of our funds go to newsletter publication, while only 19% goes to the historian and executive functions. Our surplus constitutes a mere 2.3% of our receipts. It was decided to continue to transfer excess interest income from the Reserve Fund to the Operating Account as had been the original intention. A decision will be made each year concerning this provision.

Reports were received concerning the Library, DNA Administration, Newsletter, Registry, as well as the Executive Director's State of the Society report.

In the Second Trustees Meeting the following Officers were elected unanimously for a one year term ending at the Annual Meeting 2011.

- President: Curtis Harvey Parks, PS#1166
- Vice President: Kenneth Melvin Parks, PS#1406
- Secretary: Arliene Parks Callahan, PS#396
- Treasurer: Lu Etta Terock, PS#861
- Historian: Fr. Michael Parks, PS#425
- Registrar: Ronald Neal Parks, PS#1458
- Librarian: Kenneth Melvin Parks, PS#1406

Our search for a replacement Secretary has been successful. The Board created a new position of Secretary-Coadjutor and elected Joanne Rodgers, PS#1523 to that post. She will take over the tasks of Secretary upon Mrs. Callahan's retirement sometime early next year. We expect the transition to be complete by June, 2011.

The Trustees decided to fold the CCTM into the Newsletter itself. The only inserts will be proxy ballots. While some Trustees wish to move to a quarterly publication, it was determined that for the coming year we will remain at three 16-page issues, pending cost and authorship considerations.

There was also an extensive discussion regarding succession planning for the Society, especially

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Society News and Notes

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regarding the position of Historian and Executive Director, considering his recent automobile accident. The main issue is the storage and maintenance of the considerable Society materials that he now maintains at his residence in Milwaukee.

A tentative decision was made to hold the 2011 Annual Meetings in Charleston, WV on the final week-end of September. Details will appear in upcoming Newsletters.

There being no further business the Trustees Meetings were adjourned *sine die*. ❖

Dues renewals due soon

The Society will be sending out 2011 Dues Renewal Notices soon: you may have already received one. Be sure to send them in promptly. ❖

Historian's Corner: what kind of genealogist are you?

by (Fr.) Michael (Tad) Parks+, PS #425H

We family genealogists display considerable diversity in terms of our talents, skills, and determination to get the facts straight—not just as members of this Society, but across the board. Some individuals research just for fun, and some for what one could only call scholarly purposes, while others fall between the ends of the spectrum. Unfortunately, the work that emerges from the “fun” end of the spectrum is often treated as equal in value to that from the scholarly end; speaking frankly, it is not.

This is the one reason why “professional genealogists,” those individuals who have numerous initials after their names, and who do their work for compensation, so often hold the rest of us in such disdain. I am still stinging from a verbal assault that I took some years ago from a professional in Florida who had received from a client (one of our members) a number of our group sheets. There was no end to what he had to say about family genealogists, myself and the Society in particular. We were,

to him, part of the problem, and if we would all just stop what we were doing and leave it to the professionals it would be all so much better.

And this is why, from that date, I have always appended to any cover letter that goes out with our Group Sheets (though not on the sheets themselves, and maybe I ought to do that) a clear statement that we are a “Clearing House” of Park/e/s data and that our group sheets contain information supplied by members and correspondents that has not been independently verified. I also state that we are always open to new information that may change the data shown on these sheets. We are not the end all; you, the Park/e/s researchers, should be that.

Not that they don't often have a beef here. I have seen some work products that are simply horrible. The increased use of expressions such as “we can assume,” “obviously,” “without a doubt,” or “unquestionably” raise red flags. Work characterized by such phrases is part of the problem, not part of the solution in genealogy.

So what are we to do?

The first thing we need to determine is how far we intend to go in researching our family history, in digging up the facts, trying to sort out disagreements in the data, and perhaps destroying some firmly held family traditions. What kind of genealogist do we want to be?

Let's start off with one point. Genealogy is about finding our forebears, when they lived, where they lived, and how they lived. It is about things that happened to them that have perhaps subsequently shaped our families and maybe even us, for better or for worse. It is not necessarily about being related to the rich and the famous (although when that does happen that is kind of fun), nor is it to glory in the achievements of our forebears. What they did does not necessarily make any significant difference in our present lives. It doesn't improve our standing in society at all. We all stand on our own two feet, and our own achievements. (This is why I sometimes tire of hereditary societies, such as DAR, OFP, SAR and so on. I will probably now be asked to withdraw from the couple that I belong to!)

Genealogy is about finding the truth, to the best of our ability, and to record it without editing or editorializing. This means to give as much respect to that black sheep in the family as anyone else. And it is also being truthful about dates, even when they may be a bit inconvenient. We need to remember that our forebears were no more moral or pure than we are, and things happened for good or ill. Eventually the truth does come out, and if we have fibbed about a date to make it all the better, we will be found out eventually and our credibility questioned.

We often hear of “Internet genealogy” among family genealogists. Cyndi, of *Cyndi’s List*, takes great exception to that term. There is, in her opinion, no such thing as internet genealogy, just as there is no such thing as archive or library genealogy. All these things are tools which we use to locate information that will help us find out about our forebears. Indeed, a terrible amount of misinformation is out on the Web that would be better not there. But here is a quote worth remembering:

The Internet is not the cause of poor genealogical research or undocumented data. False pedigrees, family myths, and research errors were a part of genealogy long before the Internet. The difference is that these things are more easily found and duplicated online, so the Internet is the recent target for criticism.¹

What I think she is pleading for is that we not add to the noise, not be part of the problem. If you feel that you must publish, either in hard copy, or electronically, always include your caveat as to what extent you have gone to ascertain the correctness of what you are publishing.

So let’s address the “for the fun of it” end of the spectrum. This is where we gather some documents and information through census records, family Bible entries, letters, and interviews to try to get a sense of our ancestors. We are interested in their names and dates, and don’t get much excited about differences that we might run into. We do this for our own satisfaction, to answer our questions of where we came from.

If this is where you are, and the end to which you are doing your work, I have no quibble. There’s nothing wrong with this brand of genealogy, as long as we remember to make it clear in any of our writings that we have not “exhaustively” researched the family, and that this is one person’s perspective on who we are and where we came from. Write it up, add the necessary caveats as to the depth of work, and give it to your family if you want, and let it go at that.

What about the other end of the spectrum? Over the years I have seen some fantastic work done by “non-professional” genealogists that truly deserves being called “scholarly,” work in which the researcher has haunted the libraries and scoured census records, tax lists, and every other source imaginable to get the facts, and where there have been disagreements in the facts, has analyzed the different versions, picked a preferred date, place, or name, and documented why that choice had been made.

True, this is a tremendous amount of work. But this is what we need to do to be called part of the solution, and what we ought to be aiming for.

A prime example of this type of work was done by one of our very own members, Alice Crandall Park, PS#468, who passed away in 2006 at the age of 105. Her work, *Park/e/s and Bunch on the Trail West*, a revised edition of which was published in 1982, is an admirable piece of work. Every fact, date, place, and name is footnoted as to where it came from, disagreements in facts are noted and discussion offered as to the choice that was finally made. Indeed, the footnotes outnumber the pages about 6 to 1. What is so wonderful about her work is that you can go to a source and see for yourself what she saw. Perhaps you might disagree with her interpretation, but at least you know why she chose what she did. And this is the kind of work that can and should be published, with pride, as it is part of the solution.

I realize that not all of us can go to the extreme that she did in her research, but it would be nice to at least try to approach that gold standard. What often concerns me in the work that I receive is that I see no proof for the information given, or the statement “personal knowledge.” While it may be true that we

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Historian's Corner

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know that so and so was born on such and such a date, can we prove it?

So this is what I ask of all of you researchers, regardless of the line you are working on:

1. Decide what kind of a family genealogist you want to be. Is this a "for fun" project to answer your own inquisitiveness, or more than that, perhaps somewhere along that spectrum heading towards a scholarly work?
2. No matter where you place yourself on that spectrum, tell your readers what your aim has been in anything you might write up and distribute: was it for fun or more?
3. Learn what it means to document and cite your sources, and be sure to do so, whatever your aim. Several fine works are available for this information. I strongly recommend, *Evidence! Citation and Analysis for the Family Historian*, by Elizabeth Shown Mills (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc) 1997 (8th Printing, 2008, 124 pages), available from the publisher or from the Board for Certification of Genealogists for \$16.95 plus shipping and handling. This rather slim volume contains everything that a family genealogist needs to know about how to document and cite sources.
4. Make copies of your documents, and include them in your work product. If you're doing desk top publishing, with or without a computer program, include the documents in the appropriate places. Mills' work, cited above, will tell you what you need. For example, if one of your sources is a family Bible, you should not only include the appropriate pages, but also a copy of the page showing the publication date as well as any page that refers to the ownership of that Bible. If your citation is to an Internet Web page, print out that page, include it in your work, and when you cite that page, include not only the entire URL (Universal Resource Locator) but also the date that you found that page, as pages change, and even disappear.

5. Avoid words and phrases such as "we can assume," "obviously," "without a doubt," or "unquestionably," as they will only raise doubts and ultimately degrade your work, no matter how well you have documented it. Assumptions are suspect at any level.
6. Be honest with yourself and with potential readers. If a date is inconvenient, let it be: don't edit it so that it looks more appropriate. If you have conflicting information, let that be known, and if you decide to choose between one or another version of the fact, discuss and state your reasons for your choice.
7. If you are using a computer genealogical program, be it Family Tree Maker, The Master Genealogist, or whatever, know that they do provide tools for source citation and documentation. Use them. And don't be afraid to scan copies of the documents into the genealogical file.

To sum up, decide where you are along the genealogist spectrum, document and cite as much as you can, and remember there can always be different versions of some pieces of data. Yes, it can drive you nuts, but that's the nature of the genealogical beast.

In the next issue, I plan to shift from process and methodology to real life stories of how things have been found that help us recover another generation. ❖

¹ www.cyndislist.com/internet-gen.htm (as of 14 October 2010)

Lineage key index—part 6 by Society staff

Starting with Vol. 45, No. 1 of the Newsletter, we have been publishing the index to the Society's 250+ lineage keys, including data as to the founder and other details for the general information of Society members.

As most Society members know, we keep track of the various Park/e/s lines by assigning them individual lineage keys. A lineage key consists of one or two letters like A, or JJ or RX. When new members join the Society, we try to find if their Park/e/s

ancestry matches any existing lineage key. If not, we create a new key. Some lineage keys represent immigrant lines, but often they represent fragment lines: for example, Park/e/s who suddenly appear in Ashton, Ohio with no reference to where they came from or to whom they are related.

In the course of our work, either through identification of matching individuals, or via DNA evidence, we might discover that a fragment line is actually part of another line, either fragment or immigrant. When that happens, with positive identification, the one line is merged or consolidated into the larger or earlier line, and all group sheets and related materials are relabeled with the new lineage key. Line mergers are indicated in the narrative.

Not all lines have Society members in them, and not all Society members are still alive or otherwise active in the Society. If any members are attached to a line, the word “represented” appears after the lineage key in the description. At first, we transcribed lineages from various available compilations. Where children are listed, if the name is in boldface, then we have descendants from that child; otherwise, we know nothing further. The word “DNA” appears after the lineage key if the line has had DNA testing.

The current Lineage Key catalogue was created in 1976 by the then Historian, David L. Parke, PS#13. None of the materials that were in the possession of the Society at that time had been catalogued. He started with whatever the Society had, and then branched out into some of the available popular genealogical sources, assembling as much Park/e/s information as possible. Many lines catalogued under double letters were picked up from such sources as members’ lineage papers, wills that had been sent to the Society, and sources like the *American Compendium of Genealogy* or the *National Cyclopaedia of American Biography* (both of which must be used with caution). Many of these lines have no representation in the membership of the Society.

The following keys have been published to date:

Vol. 45, No. 1: **C** (Thomas Parkes of Virginia), **K** (Roger Parke of New Jersey), **R** (Richard Parke of Massachusetts), and the three branches of the Robert

Parke line (Massachusetts, 1630: **2S1** (the Samuel branch), **2T1** (the Thomas branch), and **2W1** (the William branch).

Vol. 45, No. 2: **A** (William Parke, line named for son Arthur); **B** (Andrew Park, ca. 1720, Ireland?); **D** (Samuel Parks, 1730-1796); **E** (Samuel Park, 1730, Ireland); **F** (Thomas Parke, 1660, Ireland); and **G** (James Park/s, 1724-1769).

Vol. 45, No. 3: **V** (William Parke of Virginia—the Park/Custis line).

Vol. 46, No. 1: **H** (Edward Parks of Guilford, CT), **I** (Mungo Park line), **J** (Alexander Park (ca. 1688, Scotland-1760/2 Windham, NH), **L** (Roger Parke of Rye, NY), **M** (Noah Parke (01M1) of Rowan Co., NC; merged into LK=K), **N** (Nathan Parke (01N1) of NJ; merged into LK=K), **O** (John Park m. 1797 Mary Ann McGee), **P** (Peter Parke of CT, b. 1726), **Q** (John Parke (01Q1) of Virginia; merged into LK=K), and **U** (Robert Parks (ca. 1751-1802 GA).

Vol. 46, No. 2: Double-letter keys AA through II.

The following continues the list of double-letter keys through WW. Lineage Keys SS through ZZ will appear in a subsequent issue of the Newsletter.

JJ David Park of PA (c1682, Ire – b1740, PA) (Represented), Spouse unknown. Two children:

John Park who married Rachel Crooks who had three children. There are descendants of this line within the Society.

Ann Park, of which nothing further is known.

DNA evidence seems to point to a relationship to the following Lineage Keys: A (Arthur), JP, and XW. There is a fair amount of material on this line due to one constant researcher.

KK James Parks of NY (1771, Sussex Co, Eng – 1842, Saratoga Co, NY) son of a John Parks. (Represented) James Parks came to NY, 31 Mar. 1804 on ship “American.”

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Lineage keys

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James m. c1793 to Mary Hanbury. Had 13 children all born in England:

John (1806, Eng – 1864, NY) married Hester Millham c. 1827, had issue.

Josiah (1808, Eng – 1867, NY) married Caroline Westfall 1828, had issue.

Stephen (1817, Eng – c1904, NY) married Mary Emile Hoffman 1841, had issue.

Of the other children, Mary, Martha, Merriam, Ann, Sarah, James, Henry, Philip, Daniel, Rhoda, nothing further is known.

Principle sources of information are descendants and F. S. Parks, *Genealogy of the Parke Families in Connecticut* (1906), pp. 274-276.

LL **Rodger Park of NJ**. has been merged into LK=KY. FGS James (3LL2) is now FGS James (2KY2). There was considerable confusion on this lineage.

MM **Matthew S. Park of PA** (c1760, Londonderry, N. Ire. -c1819, Butler Co, PA) (Represented). Matthew S. Park's will written 26 Jun 1817, probated 20 Jan. 1819. Married on or before 1775 to Martha (Unknown). Matthew (1MM1) had brother James (1MM2) Park of which nothing further is known. Matthew (1MM1) probably a son of an Andrew Park.

James Park (c1772 – 1848, PA) married Esther Brown, had issue.

Samuel Park (c1784 – 1849, PA) married Jane Roseborough, 1815, had issue.

Other children were Mary, Catherine, John, Matthew Jr., Martha, and Hester.

Mathew has qualifying DAR service. Principle sources of information are descendants

and Taylor: *History, Biographies and Family Tree*" by Lorraine Taylor Fichtel, pp. 34-35.

NN **William Park of NY** (1780-1846) m. c1805 to Jemima Slater. William b. 27 Aug 1780 at Port Chester, NY-d. 19 Apr. 1846 at Port Chester, NY, Jemina, daughter of Henry Slater and Hanna Adee b. 6 March 1784 – d. 6 June 1844. Had 6 children born between 1806 and 1824, all in Port Chester, NY, Edward, William, Sarah Ann, Phebe, John, and Henry. Only William is known to have had issue. Principle source of information is F. S. Parks, *Genealogy of the Parke Families in Connecticut. Addenda, Volume III* (1925), p. 80.

OO **John Parks of PA** (c1733, perhaps PA – ?) m. 1759, PA to Isabella Galbraith (variant spellings noted). (Represented) Six children known, all born between 1760 and 1774 in Cumberland Co., PA:

James Parks (1763, PA – 1836, KY) married in 1778 Jane Entekin, had issue.

Robert Parks (1769, PA – 1858, PA) married in 1790 Jane Bratton, had issue

Other children were William, Agnes (Fannie), Margaret, Arthur.

John is shown in the DAR Patriot Index as a Private from PA. Besides the entry in the DAR Index, you are pointed to an article by David L. Parke, PS#13, in the Newsletter, Vol. 33, No. 3, p. 38ff.

PP **James Parks of PA**, (1805 PA - A?) (Represented) m. Rachel White, daughter of Amos C and Elizabeth (unknown) White. Had at least two daughters, Rebecca Frances Parks (1841 NY-1923) who married William Summers Wheeler and Harry Jeremiah who married Madgie Leander. (Member never supplied complete documentation, nothing further is known.

QQ **Helen A. Parkes perhaps of MD** (1843 – 1928, Marshalltown, IA) (Represented)

daughter of a John Parkes (not further identified). She m. David A. Stouffer, 31 Dec. 1861 at Adelaine, IL. Had at least one child, Ora Stouffer who married Cassie Glanville. Principle source of information is descendants' lineage papers.

RR Stephen Parks of NY (c1780, NY – 1871, Whitehall, NY) (Represented) m. (1) Anna Stevens; m. (2) Thankful -?-; m. (3) Mahalah -?-. Had brothers Isaac (1804-1869) and Anson (1809-1890) of which little is known. Father may have been an Isaac Parks. These children are supposedly all from first marriage.

Emeline Parks (1819, NY – 1889, NY) married Bradley Gallett, had issue.

Other children: Henry Parks who married a Sally, Clarinda Douglas, and Stephen Parks.

Source is descendant's Lineage Application and correspondence. ❖

She later moved to Portland, again living with her daughter.

Eunice was a member of the Christian Church and belonged to the Christian Church in Molalla for many years. She was a Past Matron Orchid Chapter OES, Molalla, and Past Matron Cherry Chapters OES of Cove. Her hobbies included fishing with her late husbands, camping and traveling to Parke Society Convocations.

Her family threw a huge 100th birthday party a year ago at the Multnomah Falls Lodge, attended by 100 friends and relatives. She continued to work crossword puzzles even when she was over 100 years old. She was also still an avid reader, devouring books, newspapers and magazines.

Eunice is survived by her children, Lyle and Adele Orem of Pendleton, Raymond Orem of Prineville, and Marjorie Eggimann of Portland; a sister, Mrs. F. A. (Jean) Woods of Portland; as well as eight grandchildren; 26 great-grandchildren; and 25 great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, two husbands, two brothers, a sister, a daughter-in-law, two sons-in-law and a granddaughter.

In Memoriam: Eunice W. Bernard PS#764

Eunice W. (Orem) Bernard, 101, formerly of Cove, Oregon, died 9 July 2010 at her son's home. Grave-side inurnment will be held at the Adams Cemetery in Molalla at a later date. Eunice was born 6 July 1909, to Robert J. and Mary Grace (Hartley) Park in Minnesota Lake, Minnesota. She moved with her parents to Centralia, Washington, in 1914. A year later the family moved to Molalla, Oregon, where her father opened the Lyric Theater and Pool Hall. Eunice attended schools in Molalla.

Eunice met and married Glen T. Orem in March of 1927 in Union Mills. After her husband's death in 1957, she went to work as a secretary at Edmarks Insurance in Molalla, and worked there until her retirement. She married Hubert Bernard in 1962, who died in August, 1977. Eunice then moved to Cove and lived with her daughter until moving to Prineville, near her son.



WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

1562 Sean Allen Sparks
Hiram, GA

Lineage is Roger of NJ, LK=K. Line is Roger¹, Roger², Joseph³, Joseph⁴, Micajah⁵, Joseph⁶, Micajah⁷, Joseph Thomas⁸, William McKinley⁹, Cecilia Bertha¹⁰, who married Charles Earl Sparks, to Richard Charles¹¹ Sparks to member¹².

1563 Carey James Parks
Cape Coral, FL

Lineage is new Fragment Line, Harvey A. Parks (1866 PA – ??) who married Clara Smith (1871-1959) before 1897, probably in Pennsylvania. LK=WO. Line is Harvey A.¹, Harvey A.², James Addison³, to member⁴.

1564 Byron Neil Park
Waverly, OH

Lineage is new Fragment Line, Thomas Park (1819 England – 1898 OH) who immigrated here from England by 1853, and who married Elanor Sullivan in 1843 in London, England. LK=XO. Line is Thomas¹, James², Pearl Floyd³, Neil David⁴, to member⁵.

Reclassifications and corrections

1559 Sarah E. F. Chandler
Lillooet, BC

Correction to previously published lineage, one generation further back is found. Also an assumption is made as to previous generations. Lineage is now defined as Andrew Parke¹, who married a Margaret (unknown) [awaiting further definitive proof], to Albert Gallatin² Parke (married Phoebe Baker), John A(len)³ Parke (1846 PA - 1855 VA) who married Mary Elizabeth Clifford, Clyde Myers⁴ Parke, to Donald Clyde⁵ Parke to member⁶. Lineage Key remains LK=UO.

1561 Jerry Eugene Park
Centerville, UT

In V46#3, Mr. Park was reported without a Lineage Key, having been shown as a new Fragment Line starting with Rowland W. Park (1806, NY – 1887, KS), who married Hannah B. Mills in 1830 in NY. That Lineage Key should have been reported as LK=WO. We have since found a match to an already identified fragment line, LK=CX. The line remains Rowland W.¹, George Alonzo², George Bradley³, Eugene Ernest⁴, Frank George⁵, to member⁶. Three other members of the Society belong to this line. ❖

F. S. Parks, revised

by Robert L. Parke PS# 755

The long-awaited revision of the *Genealogy of the Parke Families of Connecticut* by Frank Sylvester Parks is nearing its completion, with publication expected in mid 2011. This is the first comprehensive attempt to update and correct this important genealogical work. Documented evidence pertaining to the families accounted for in Frank's book is still being sought. We invite all descendants of Robert Parke, 1630, and anyone interested in this family to join us in making corrections and additions to Frank's book. Please contact Robert L. Parke P.O. Box 700572, St. Cloud, FL 34770 or RLPParke828@aol.com. Cutoff date for submissions is February 2011. ❖

Have you renewed?
Check the date on your envelope.
Don't miss the next issue!

The next editorial due date is
February 15, 2011