

# 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*

## From the President's Desk by Ken Parks PS#1406

### 2016 Annual Business Meeting

This year's business meeting took place despite the odds seemingly being stacked against it. As you may know, Fr. Michael (Tad) Parks PS#425 suffered a fall at home just days before his scheduled departure for the trip east, and with great perseverance made the necessary arrangements to fly out wearing a bulky cast on his right leg. We had a great group of members in attendance and our first day of meetings went off without a hitch. At the end of the day, however, the hotel manager informed us that the meeting room had been double-booked and we would not have access to it the following day! After a bit of scrambling, we arranged to hold our meetings in the hotel's breakfast room,

so business went on as usual. Returning home, I contacted the VP of Operations for the company that manages this hotel, and he credited our meeting room charge for the first day and promised, should we decide to once again use this hotel for our meetings, to make the arrangements himself and give us a reduced rate. All's well that ends well, I suppose, but here's hoping next year's meeting has a bit less drama!



**Back row, left to right:** Gary Alexander Parks PS#1528, David Stephen Park PS#1138, Ken Parks PS#1406, John Russell Parke PS#1473, Ronald Neal Parks PS#1458; **front row, left to right:** Deb Park PS#1644, Susan Corney Van Allen PS#1653, Fr. Michael (Tad) Parks PS#425, Joanne Rodgers PS#1523, Susan Parke

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# 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
Annual Dues	\$ 30
Life Membership	\$265
(US funds only)	

**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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**ADDRESSES AND OTHER MEMBERSHIP 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** PS#425H at 70741.2122@compuserve.com, or by surface mail to him at

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**CONVOCATIONS:** Send questions to President and Convocation Coordinator, **Ken M. Parks** PS#1406 at parksken49@gmail.com.

**DNA TESTING:** Send DNA questions to our DNA Group Administrator, **Ken M. Parks** PS#1406 at parksken49@gmail.com.

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

Mrs. Joanne G. Rodgers PS#1523  
108 Crestview Drive  
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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!**

**GENEALOGY QUESTIONS AND MATERIALS:** Send these to our Historian, **Fr. Michael (Tad) Parks** PS#425H at 70741.2122@compuserve.com, or by surface mail to

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Please also send such materials to your Lineage Leader, if you have one.

**COMMENTS, SUGGESTIONS, AND CRITICISMS:** Send all general correspondence of this kind to our President, **Ken M. Parks** PS#1406 at parksken49@gmail.com.

**LIBRARY:** Send all questions relating to the Library, including loans of materials, to **Ken M. Parks** PS#1406 at parksken49@gmail.com.

**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.

**NEWSLETTER:** Send article submissions and comments to our Editor, **Paul Jordan-Smith** PS#1451 at parkenews@parke.org. If you don't have email, send all **typed** materials to

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*Please note: handwritten submissions cannot be accepted.*

**WEBSITE:** Send all suggestions and comments to the webmaster, **Paul Jordan-Smith** PS#1451 at webmaster@parke.org.

**From the President's Desk**

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**Election Results**

The following members were elected as Trustees, to serve a three-year term ending at the Annual Meeting in 2019:

- Seat III - Ronald Neal Parks PS#1458
- Seat IV - Curtis Harvey Parks PS#1166

The following members were elected as Officers, to serve a one-year term ending at the Annual Meeting in 2017:

- President – Kenneth M. Parks PS#1406
- Vice President – Fr. Michael Parks PS#425
- Secretary – Joanne G. Rodgers PS#1523
- Treasurer – Lu E. Terock PS#861
- Historian – Fr. Michael Parks PS#425

Our seemingly never-ending house renovation project has taken over a good deal of my time and attention these past few months, but by the time this issue goes to print things should be winding down. It's my hope this will allow me to devote more time to Parke Society projects and to the DNA project, both of which I've badly neglected during this construction project.

I did manage to get away from home for a few days and make it home to Ohio to help celebrate my dad's birthday. This was a milestone birthday, as Melvin C. Parks PS#1537 turned 90 years old on October 3rd. Still going strong, I can only hope I inherited those longevity genes from him!☺

**An alert for our membership:**  
 You'll soon be receiving a renewal notice for 2017 membership.  
 Be sure to espond promptly, so you won't miss an issue of the  
 Parke Society Newsletter

**The Park/e/s DNA Project**

By Ken Parks PS#1406

In early October I gave my presentation, "DNA Boot Camp – Basic Training for the Genetic Genealogist," at a meeting of the Lathrop Township (PA) Historical and Genealogical Society. What a wonderful surprise to meet a Parke Society member, Paula Radwanski PS#698, there!

After the presentation, Mrs. Radwanski brought up subject which was also a topic of conversation at our annual meeting in Harrisburg in September; namely, whether there is some way to incorporate relevant autosomal DNA test results into our Park/e/s DNA project.

The difficulty is that autosomal results do not lend themselves to the same kind of graphic display as Y-DNA marker results. Having had some success in my own Parks family research with atDNA, I recognize that the project, as well as the Parke Society itself, needs to find a way to acknowledge significant findings from atDNA tests. I will again be attending the FTDNA Administrators' Conference in Houston in November, and plan to canvass as many administrators as possible to see how they may be dealing with this issue. Autosomal DNA findings are growing by leaps and bounds, and at some point we need to find an effective way to acknowledge breakthroughs achieved by this type of DNA test that bear directly on a Park/e/s lineage in our database.

On a related note, we've also had inquiries from members about whether a fragment line (one which hits a brick wall before reaching the immigrant ancestor) with clear Y-DNA results linking it genetically to a known immigrant lineage could somehow be incorporated into the immigrant Lineage Key, even though the connecting generation has not yet been discovered. I've broached this subject with our Historian, who assigns Lineage Keys and deals with these issues, and we're exploring possible ways of doing so. It's a thorny issue and will need more study, but we'll report

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## The Park/e/s DNA Project

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any progress when a solution might present itself.

### Recommended reading

There are a number of excellent books on DNA available, both in hard copy and electronic form, but I wanted to mention the latest offering in this field, as I think it's both the most up-to-date and comprehensive resource available. The Family Tree Guide to DNA Testing and Genetic Genealogy by Blaine T. Bettinger is well worth the money for anyone who's taken a DNA test of any kind, or is considering doing so. The book is available in both paperback as well as a Kindle version. I've never had the pleasure of hearing Dr. Bettinger (a Ph.D. in biochemistry and a J.D. specializing in intellectual property) speak, but his blog, Your Genetic Genealogist, is also well worth following ([www.yourgeneticgenealogist.com](http://www.yourgeneticgenealogist.com)).☺

## Historian's Corner

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

### Imperfection: in life and genealogy

For a couple of years now, I have been receiving meditative thoughts from the Society of Saint John the Evangelist, outside Boston: words and thoughts that one can reflect on the whole day through. Back in early August of this year one concerned imperfection.

It was a nice point to meditate on. None of us is perfect: we all have our faults. Much as we try, we often fall short, perhaps saying the wrong thing, or neglecting to extend a hand of assistance when it might be most needed. It's a part of our human make up. And instead of getting weighted down with these imperfections we need to accept them and move on. In religious terms, we offer them up to God. And in that way we can move on. (Okay, that's priest talk.)

The same thing also applies to genealogy. No genealogy is perfect. If someone says to you that they have completed their genealogy

and it is perfect, complete, with no gaps, no holes, every date, place and name is absolutely correct, then you need to advise them to think again. Because in genealogy, no family history is that accurate or complete. None.

Now I can see the professional genealogists gathering bunches of sticks to burn me at the stake, but it's true. It is almost a certainty that we can never really be sure that any place, date or name is exactly and perfectly correct.

Imperfection reigns in genealogy. I dare say that there are few pieces of information that will be without some sort of controversy. Documents that should agree won't agree. There will be different dates, places, and names. It can (and will) drive you crazy if you allow it to.

This is one reason why I so like our paper forms for Family Group Sheets. If properly designed, it gives you space to jot down differences of opinion. That date: was it the 7th or the 17th? Were they married in Virginia or North Carolina? Even government clerks who should be paying more attention often put down the wrong things. Or the person who was giving them the information really didn't know, or was saying something untrue, to protect the guilty.

Some will say that it all can be resolved by a preponderance of evidence as to what is the correct fact. But is it? I would challenge that statement. The preponderance may just be different people using a prior statement in their own version of the event. In other words, they are compounding the mistake.

So here is how I deal with this issue: and to be honest, how the Society deals with this. We put down what we find. We try to evaluate the facts, and attempt to ascertain what is "probably" the most correct date, place, or name. We weigh evidence, evaluate its veracity. And then we move on, acknowledging that perhaps the real truth is hidden in the mists of time, and we may never know for sure whether what we have is the whole truth. When we send out group sheets, we add a caveat to this effect. Now I know that profes-

sional genealogists are probably cringing at these statements, but our job as a surname society is to be a clearing house of Park/e/s data, which means sometimes pointing out that there are differences of opinions in source documents about certain “facts.” And we move on.

But let’s be honest, genealogy is much more than just dates, places and names. It’s about real people who lived, struggled and died. Forebears who experienced joys and sorrows. By knowing the history of their times and places, we can get a feel for how they lived and what they experienced. And that, my friends, is really what genealogy is all about. To know the time and place of those who came before us.

So let not the imperfection of genealogical data get you down. Put down what you find. Know where and how they lived, and think about what they experienced and how it might have changed the family over the years.

### **Aunt Mabel’s stuff - Again**

You will remember that in the last newsletter I spoke about our long time neighbors, a brother and sister who had occupied the sister’s house just to the north of ours for 67 years. John, the brother died back in February, and Marie, the sister, realizing that she really couldn’t afford to remain there on only her retirement income, had moved to a senior residence community.

That didn’t work out very well. Marie was not a group activities type of person (an important aspect of any senior residence facility) and she ended up moving in with a long-time friend, only to pass away a few weeks later. So the house is on the market, and there’s a lot of hoping and wishing that someone will come along who can appreciate the house for what it is: a Victorian jewel in need of some polishing and tender loving care.

Now is a good time to think about what you have in your household, and what is going to happen to it when you are no longer in charge of things.☺

## **From the Executive Director**

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

The past few weeks have been rather more productive for the Executive Director (and Historian) than is usually the case. This is largely due to the fact that he took an unprecedented tumble from the third step (thinking he was on the first, lowest, step) of the main staircase in our house. Many of you probably have experienced this same sort of accident. And the problem is, once you’ve stepped out into nothingness, there is not much you can really do except to accept your fate and hope for the best. In my case it resulted in a broken right ankle, surgery and resulting leg-in-cast which continues for a another week as I write this column. The lesson here, for all of us, is to make sure of where you are before you start in a different direction. Needless to say, this has put a crimp in my style. I had to cancel my usual trip east, but I was able to fly to Harrisburg, PA for the Annual Meeting of the Parke Society. The one plus of all this has been that since I can’t be running around town doing errands, I’m pretty much grounded at my desk, and so the Society is getting a huge benefit of having a lot more of my time

### **Dealing with the Windows 10 upgrade**

By now those of you who are using PC-compatible computers (or other electronic devices) have had to make peace with a possible operating system upgrade to Windows 10. I waited to the last minute (29 July) to upgrade and not without some fear and trembling. I must admit that the upgrade went well, and in general I’m pleased with Windows 10, known as Build 1511 (I have the Pro edition). However the Anniversary (Build 1607) update did not go so well. After spinning its wheels for nearly 8 hours I came to the conclusion that something wasn’t working. So again with fear and trembling I forced a restart, and fortunately, the machine reset itself back to the Build 1511 and I will need to try it again in the future.

The big question for everyone, genealogists included, was: what software will no longer work under this new version of Windows?

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**Notes from the Executive Director**  
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Legacy software—programs we've used in the past and love dearly—don't always get along with newer releases. I've had only minor issues since the conversion. All software seems to be working; nothing got removed in the upgrade process, even some of my really old legacy software (like Norton Commander) still works like a charm, although I'm having issues with a couple of programs in creating PDF files.

Prior to the Windows 10 free upgrade deadline, Thomas MacEntee published a Windows 10 Survival Guide for Genealogists. It's available by doing a google search on his name, if you're interested. Basically it's a step-by-step guide to doing the upgrade, with all the necessary cautions and caveats. It was very helpful for me, and if you haven't taken advantage of the free upgrade but still decide to do the upgrade (now, probably at a cost, though there are some few exceptions), it could be helpful for you to have a copy of this guide.

An important part of that guide is the chapter on Genealogy Software and Windows 10. He reviews the most popular genealogical programs noting that if you are on their latest version you probably will have no issues. In a couple of cases he provides a link to the vendor for special work arounds and solutions. You probably should have an eye on your software vendor's website anyway, and subscribe to either their FaceBook page or blog to keep abreast of issues and updates. It's always important to keep your software up to date with patches and fixes issued by the vendor.

Another helpful section in MacEntee's guide is a listing of the new features in Windows 10 and how they work: things like Cortana (which I won't use) and Edge (which replaces Internet Explorer). My problem with both of these features is that they keep track of way too much of where you go and what you've looked at. Thank you, but that's my business, not yours.

I highly recommend getting this guide. It's well written and has lots of good information that will be useful to you if and when you do upgrade to Windows 10. It is offered as an eBook, but once you've purchased and downloaded it, you can print it out (which is just what I did).

**Family Tree Maker – still with us**

For much of the genealogical community, Family Tree Maker has been the de facto program of choice. Since its first release in 1989, by Banner Blue Software, it has been through a number of owners and about 24 versions. Each owner would revamp the software to make it their own, before seemingly selling it off once more. Ancestry.com has owned it on and off since 2008, and they heavily marketed the software. You could often find it on sale in office supply stores.

So it was a rude surprise when on December 8, 2015, Ancestry.com announced that they were going to retire the software with not so much as a thank you for your support over the years. If you wanted to you could download the last released version FTM 2014 for free. They did promise to support the software through 1 January 2017. But after that people would be on their own. Their message was met by fierce protest from the FTM community, with over 9,300 (almost all negative) posts to their announcement. Their only suggestion was to switch to RootsMagic as a replacement.

Fortunately, on February 2, 2016, Ancestry.com announced that Software MacKiev, the company that had developed the Mac version of the software for more than six years would acquire the FTM brand, taking over the development and publishing of both the Mac and Windows editions.

There's been a lot of comment about why Ancestry decided to retire the software in the first place. We may not know for sure—it was after all a business decision—but perhaps they weren't getting enough return on their investment to continue to develop the package as new operating systems came along, and the computing environment changed.

We know now that FTM will continue, at least for the foreseeable future. So if you're a FTM user and you're satisfied with the way FTM works, it makes no sense to change. If you have FTM 2014, there is no real need to do anything until MacKiev releases their own upgrade version. They advertise FTM 2014.1 (and MAC3.1) but I doubt it has any significant changes other than on ownership and copyright screens. If you originally bought the download version, you might want to consider getting the physical media just in case. The CD or USB Thumb drive is very reasonably priced (although it will be the .1 versions).

If you have either MAC2 or FTM 2012, you might want to take advantage of the reduced price upgrade offer. If you have still older versions, you probably need to think long and hard about upgrading. That version may work in the current Windows 10 environment but will it in the future? And more importantly, will you be able to transfer all of your data to a newer version, or will you be forced to re-enter it all over again. Upgrade might be a smart move now. While I'm basically using FTM Version 16 (2006) for Society business, I did get the free update, and I ordered the physical media CD just in case.

For the time being, those of us who are wed to FTM are still in business. But this should be a warning shot. Sometimes companies retire software, (leaving the market place altogether) because they realize that the software needs to be re-written from scratch. Something that takes a lot of time and money. It just may not be worthwhile for them to undertake such a task.

### **More on going paperless:**

In time for the Annual Meetings of the Parke Society, I prepared a White Paper concerning the steps toward moving to a paperless environment. In general when we survey the records of the Society we can come up with three major groupings:

1. Membership files (one or more for each member, stored in six file cabinets),
2. Lineage Application Binders (Forms A and B for each member, 17 binders),

3. the Lineage Key Binders, (family group sheets for each lineage key currently in use, 53)

There are other document groups (LDS Family Group Sheets, the Newsletters, Collateral Lines Binders, and so on), but the three mentioned above make up the greatest bulk of our materials found here in the Milwaukee Head Office of the Society.

We made the decision to start with the digitization of the Lineage Application Binders because they require the least amount of on-going maintenance. While stuff is always being added to the membership files, and changes are forever being made to family group sheets, once a member is integrated into the Society structure, those forms are pretty much final. We've been doing the scanning on a part time basis for the last several months and now have completed the files for about half of the 1,650 or so members we presently have records for. At the recent Annual Meetings of the Society we made a first distribution of the completed files. We expect it to take about another 5-6 months to complete the entire task.

But they've already proven their worth. It should be remembered that the Lineage Application Binders are probably the first place we go when a question comes up about someone's line. So it was a certain satisfaction that at one of the meetings when a question was raised about a certain member's lineage, we were able to pull up his file without further ado.

### **Legacy binders and control lists**

Dating to the founding of the Society, over the years there've been a number of "control lists" created to keep track of various things. We're slowly eliminating them one by one, as the same information is maintained within one of our databases. So far we've done away with the manual alphabetical membership list and the lineage key control, along with the follow-up/tickler records. Sometimes these legacy documents just keep hanging around until you finally realize that they're serving no useful purpose, except to give us something more to edit and maintain.☺

## Who's Really on First?

By Ken Parks PS#1406

At our recent annual meeting in Harrisburg, I sat down at breakfast with John Russell Parke PS#1473 and his wife, Susan. In the course of our conversation, Susan mentioned that she is a cousin of Lou Costello, of the famous Abbott and Costello comedy team. As we discussed this, John mentioned that Lou Costello's stunt double and stand-in in his movies was a man named Vic Parks. My ears perked up, I went upstairs after breakfast and got online, and by the time I came down for the day's meeting I'd managed to find a good bit of information about Vic Parks.

### The Entertainer

Vic Parks was a tumbler and dancer, part of a vaudeville act known as "The Keene Twins, Vic and LaMarr." The Keene Twins (Elizabeth and Margaret) were a dance team who'd been performing as an act since about 1927, several years before Vic Parks and George LaMarr joined them. The earliest mention I found of the four appearing as an act was in 1935. However, with the exception of Vic Parks, all performers were using stage names. The Keene Twins were actually twin sisters, Naomi Alice and Leona Ruth Krummel, while George LaMarr was born George E. Crowle.

We find all four of them using their legal names on the passenger list of the S.S. DeGrasse, arriving in New York on 24 July, 1937 from Southampton. Apparently returning from performing overseas, the twins were accompanied by their mother, Beulah Krummel. After performing together for several years the four decided to get married, with both couples (Vic and Naomi and George and Leona) announcing in The Los Angeles Times on the same date in 1938 their intention to marry.

The four can be found in the 1940 census living with the girls' parents, Thomas and Beulah Krummel, in Los Angeles. Thomas Krummel was employed as a carpenter in the movie studios, while Naomi, Leona, and George are all listed as nightclub dancers. Oddly, Vic Parks is listed as a car salesman,

a profession he continued to ply later in life. At some point in their show business career, Vic Parks and the team performed on the same bill with Abbott and Costello in Atlantic City, probably sometime before the comedy duo made their first film, and it was this acquaintance that led to Vic Parks becoming the stunt double for Lou Costello.

In a photograph published in the North County Times, along with the obituary of Vic Parks, we see Parks and Costello in identical costumes on a movie set, and it is difficult to tell which is which (Parks is on the left.) In addition to the stunts, Vic Parks appeared as Costello in many of the "long shots" and it is estimated that 90% of the time we think we're seeing Lou Costello in the monster makeup in Abbott and Costello Meet Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde we're actually seeing Vic Parks.



### The Stunt Man

Thanks to his acrobatic training and good physical condition, Vic Parks took on such stunts as walking on airplane wings, jumping out of trains, and crashing motorcycles. In a 1989 interview with the Times Advocate he stated, "Sometimes when I see the old movies, I don't believe I did this stuff, but I did it."

An anecdote about his stunt work for Costello appears in Cheap Tricks and Class Acts: Special Effects, Makeup, and Stunts from the

Films of the Fantastic Fifties by John Johnson (McFarland, 1996):

Vic Parks talked about a thankless stunt he performed in Abbott and Costello Meet the Mummy (1955), during a Filmfax magazine interview (#48).

Rontru has Bud and Charlie twirl Lou like a jump rope. When they let go, Lou shoots up through the ceiling. I was shot 15 feet straight up by compressed air. They had two guys up in the ceiling to catch me so I could dangle my legs. I said, "I want some mattresses around because if these guys don't catch me, I could fall down and break an arm or my neck." They said, "Well, this is the last scene of the evening, can you get by without them?" I said, "No way, man." Believe it or not, the first time they shot me up there, they used 65 pounds of pressure. That doesn't sound like much, but they tested me with 5, 10, and 12 pounds. I remember shooting up, crashing through the ceiling, and the guys missed me. I fell down on a big mattress. We had at least 200 people watching this scene, and I remember hearing somebody say, "Oh, that poor man." Lamont (the director) ran over and said, "Are you hurt?" Well, I learned a long time ago to never say you're not hurt. I said, "I don't know, I haven't moved yet." So we did it again, and this time they caught me. Charlie Lamont yelled to me, "Dangle your feet, Dangle your feet!" So I dangled my feet. When we were done with the shot, they pulled me up through the hole. I walked back down to the stage to take a bow, and not a person was there.

### **Personal Life**

Victor Lee Parks was born 6 March, 1907 in Lamar County, Alabama, son of Robert Lafayette Parks and Palestine O. Johnson. He had three older brothers, and would later have two sisters and another brother. His father was born in Winston County, Mississippi and his mother in Alabama, and it appears the family moved back and forth between the two states before arriving in Los Angeles, California shortly before the 1930 census. Victor Parks was living in Memphis, Tennes-

see at the time he married (in Arkansas) Nell Kennedy on 3 April, 1929. The couple most likely divorced in California sometime before his second marriage, in 1939, to Naomi Krummel. Victor and Naomi Parks had two sons, Gary Lee and William Irving Parks, before divorcing about 1957.

About 1959 he married Margie E. Wilson, to whom he was married at the time of his death. The couple had one daughter, Rebel Lee Parks, who died in 2014. Victor and Margie Parks had their own radio show from 1958 to 1959 in Calexico, California, described by son Gary Parks as an early "Regis and Kathy Lee" type program. Vic Parks died 14 February, 1996 in San Diego County, California. Margie E. Parks died in 2008.

After Lou Costello died in 1959, Vic Parks continued doing stunts, working on an episode of the TV show "Zorro" and with Buddy Hackett before calling it quits in 1961. He owned several car dealerships periodically in Imperial Valley, Fresno, and Sacramento and also sold real estate. Possessing an athletic body all his life, he was in great shape up until the last few months of his life. His son William stated, "He managed to live his entire life without ever becoming an old man."

### **Parks Lineage**

As stated above, Victor Lee Parks was the son of Robert Lafayette Parks and Palestine O. Johnson. His father was born 6 December, 1877 in Winston County, Mississippi and died 29 November 1941 in Los Angeles, California.

Robert Lafayette Parks was the son of Benjamin L. Parks (b. 1848 Winston County, Mississippi – d. 1911 Fayette County, Alabama – m. Martha E. [--?--])

Benjamin L. Parks was the son of Ambrose B. Parks (b. ca. 1806 North Carolina – d. after 1870 Winston? County, Mississippi m. Piety [--?--])

This particular Ambrose B. Parks does not appear in our Parke Society database, but given the North Carolina birthplace and the given name Ambrose, it seems quite likely

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## Who's Really on First?

*cont'd from p. 9*

he is of the Thomas of Virginia (LK=C) lineage, since that name is quite common in this particular Parks family. The older children of Ambrose and Piety Parks were born in Tennessee between 1832 and 1836, with the next child being born about 1838 in Mississippi. Indeed, the family appears to be in Winston County, Mississippi in the 1840 census, with Ambrose appearing as Andrew B. Park. There is also a land grant record in 1841 for 40 acres in Winston County to Ambrose B. Parks.

If efforts to contact one or both of the sons of Vic Parks are successful, a Y-DNA test could offer more clues as to the genetic Parks family of Vic Parks and his great grandfather, Ambrose B. Parks. Of course, if any of our members reading this have any information, we'd love to hear from you!☺

## A Matter of Time

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

For a number of years now I have had concerns about the dates that were being presented to The Society for various ancestry events. Why do we have two or three dates of birth, or death? It really shouldn't be that hard to determine what the proper date is, should it?

One of the issues that has come up is the calendar change that took place in the 18th century. I would venture that many people just coming into the field of family genealogy have no idea that there was such a thing as a calendar change, much less how that effected dates of events around that time. For those of you that use Google on a regular basis you might have been intrigued by the Google Doodle that appeared on the 4th of October. It was commemorating the 434th Anniversary of the introduction of the Gregorian calendar: a revised calendar that fixed a flaw in the calendar that had been in use for over 1600 years. You see, it's hard to match a calendar with an integer number of days

against a solar year (the period it takes the earth to arrive back at the same point in its orbit) of 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes and 46 seconds.

In 46 BC, Julius Caesar (you may have heard of him) implemented a calendar (the Julian calendar) which fixed problems of their previous calendars. They recognized the problem and sort of fixed it by adding or deleting days from time to time, similar to our present extra day in leap years. It seemed to work but by the 16th century the calendar and the solar year were 10 days out of step. For the Church, the main cultural force for over 1500 years, the problem was that Easter was falling later and later in spring than it should have and would eventually have drifted into summer.

Recognizing the problem, Pope Gregory XIII appointed a commission to solve the issue. It took five years, but eventually the group proposed not only changing the occurrences of leap years from time to time to but more significantly, synchronizing the calendar with the solar year. At that time, 10 days of the month of October 1582 (from the 5th to the 14th) simply disappeared. This new calendar was eventually adopted by most of the Roman Catholic Europe.<sup>1</sup>

While it could be said that the Gregorian Calendar is today's most widely used calendar system, its adoption was by no means a uniform event. Protestant enclaves in Europe rejected this change by the Pope, and continued to use the Julian Calendar, especially in the British Isles. No Pope was going to tell them how to count days in the calendar. So for another 170 years England continued on the Julian Calendar, and therein lies the problem for us as North America genealogists.

In a blog post, The Legal Genealogists, Judy Russell opened with the question: "When exactly was the first day of 1751? That's not a trick question. The Legal Genealogist isn't out to flummox anybody." As she so often says, "It all depends."

The problem was that over those ensuing years the calendar in England (and the colo-

nies) was getting more and more out of step with the solar year. Finally recognizing that the problem couldn't continue, England adopted the Gregorian calendar by the Calendar (New Style) Act 1750, for use throughout its realm.<sup>2</sup>

The result was that in 1752, eleven days (September 3-13) were eliminated, aligning the calendar with the solar year) and, as importantly, changing how years were to be numbered. Under the Julian calendar used in England and its colonies, from 1155 to 1751, the first month was March, and the date on which the year number changed was March 25, a major Christian Feast Day (Feast of the Ascension), and by certain pious belief, the day that the creation of the world had begun. So it was March 24, 1750, and the following day was March 25, 1751. Starting in 1752, under the Gregorian calendar, the first day of the new year was January 1.

It's hard to tell how much uproar this might have caused. Historians say not much, because a goodly amount of the verbiage contained in that act dealt with how to figure contracts and other commercial documents so that no one was getting short changed. Some outcry, on the order of "Give us back our eleven days!" was reported. In England and Wales, the legal year of 1751 was a short year of 282 days, from March 25, 1751 to December 31, 1751, with 1752 beginning the next day.

This difference in year numbering brought about the dual or double dating we often see in our genealogical research. To quote Bill Dollarhide from the GenealogyBlog:

Right after the calendar change took place in British territory, people began writing dates between January 1st and March 25th in different ways, reflecting the Old Style (OS) and the New Style (NS). Genealogists may find evidence of these different styles in old records from September 1752 forward.

For example, a Philadelphia lawyer could have indicated a date three (3) different ways in letters or documents written after September 1752.

1. He could have written, "February 22, 1753/4" (double dating); or
2. he could have written, "February 22, 1753 OS"; or
3. he could have written, "February 22, 1754 NS".

All three styles appeared in various documents for a few years after the calendar change, but the most common use was for double dating, i.e., "1753/4," indicating the situation of a date between January 1st and March 25th. Double-dating has become the standard style used in genealogy dating.

Any pre-1752 date between January 1st and March 24th, inclusive, should be expressed as a double date. The authors of the documents did not do it for you in most cases. There may have been some anticipation of the calendar change in the British North America before 1752, but in most cases, finding a date written as 22 February 1731/2 is rare. What was written was the Julian date of 22 February 1731.<sup>3</sup>

Here is another twist to this story. We can't assume that the new Gregorian Calendar was uniformly adopted. Indeed, it's doubtful that everyone used the correct dates following September 2, 1752. Some may not have been aware of the change, and some might have said to heck with that, I'm not changing the way I do things. Which brings forth Judy Russell's question: What was the first day of 1751, anyhow? And as she said: it all depends. What calendar was the person using that date determination using? We may not know to any certainty. So what do we put down in our records? It depends, again. Unfortunately, genealogical software doesn't allow us the choice of entering in anything but real dates. About the best thing that I have seen done would be to enter Abt. 1751/52 and then write copious notes.

The other thing to keep in mind is that some of the immigrant communities that came over from Europe in the 18th century, might already have been using the Gregorian cal-

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## A Matter of Time *cont'd from p. 11*

endar before arriving here. For example, the Palatine immigrant communities had already adopted the Gregorian Calendar in 1700.

As you can see, making sense of 18th century dates can be very difficult. In my notes below I give some additional interesting reference sources. Just remember, dates can be tricky, and trying to interpret them is walking into dangerous territory.

So what should we do as genealogists? My first rule is this: dates from "official" records or documents, including even information from Bibles, should be recorded exactly as they appear. Commentary can be done in your notes, but don't try to interpret the information you see. Too many researchers have tried to do that creating incorrect data points.

Using dates from other documents or compilations (prepared genealogies) is a bit more complicated. Use what they give you, but maintain an eye of skepticism. Note who gave you that date, and if there are questions, so comment in your notes.

If this leaves you with a bit of unease about the dates you've been recording, you're not alone. So again, record the date as you find it in official and Bible records, and let it stand. Otherwise, view the dates given with a certain amount of skepticism.

Data points, especially with dates, can be troublesome, but perhaps now you understand some of the issues, and can accordingly do a better job of recording the information in your own genealogical work.

### Notes

1. "October 4, 2016: 434th Anniversary of the Introduction of the Gregorian Calendar;" Google Doodles (<https://www.google.com/doodles/>: accessed 5 Oct 2016)
2. "An Act for Regulating the Commencement of the Year; and for Correcting the Calendar now in Use," 24 Geo. 2 c. 23, in Danby Pickering, *Statutes at Large from the 23rd to the*

26th Year of King George (Cambridge : Joseph Bentham, 1765), 186; digital images, Google Books (<http://books.google.com> : accessed 5 Oct 2016).

3. [http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~cacvgs2/Articles/Misc/calendar\\_change.pdf](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~cacvgs2/Articles/Misc/calendar_change.pdf): accessed 7 October 2016

Additional reference sources as to the problem and its solution:

- <http://stevemorse.org/juliancalendar/julian.htm>.
- <http://www.genealogyblog.com/?p=18500>.
- [http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~cacvgs2/Articles/Misc/calendar\\_change.pdf](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~cacvgs2/Articles/Misc/calendar_change.pdf)

The following links are thanks to Judy Russell, The Legal Genealogists

- Matt Soniak, "Why Does the New Year Start on January 1?," MentalFloss, posted 31 Dec 2011 (<http://mentalfloss.com/> : accessed 7 Oct 2016).
- Wikipedia (<http://www.wikipedia.com>), "Calendar (New Style) Act 1750," rev. 12 Sep 2016.
- Stephen P. Morse, "Converting between Julian and Gregorian Calendar in One Step," One-Step Webpages by Stephen P. Morse (<http://www.stevemorse.org/> : accessed 7 Oct 2016).
- "The 1752 Calendar Change," Colonial Records and Topics, Connecticut State Library (<http://libguides.ctstatelibrary.org> : accessed 7 Oct 2016).☞

**Postscript:** coincidentally, the Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel for October 21, 2016 notes in "Today's Highlight in History":

In 1892, Schoolchildren across the US observed Columbus Day (according to the Gregorian Date) by reciting, for the first time, the original version of "The Pledge of Allegiance" written by Francis Bellamy for the Youth's Companion.

## Resources, Internet and Otherwise

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

How genealogy has changed in the past twenty years! Back in the 80s and 90s it was a real struggle to do family genealogy. It meant incessant letter writing, trips to a (hopefully) good library, to the Archives, Family Research Centers, and all over the country to get to the records you needed to do your research.

Now? There is so much out there on the internet, both for free and in paid accounts, that you can pretty much do your work from the comfort of your own home. But the family genealogist of today is faced with a dilemma: with this plethora of information, where does one start?

One resource is Genealogy Online, by Elizabeth Powell Crowe (Osborne/McGraw-Hill, 10th Edition, 2015). You probably won't find it in your local book store but it can be ordered on line for usually less than \$20. It's a good general coverage paperback of what is out there online, how to access it, and how to use it. The only problem with printed books like this is that by the time they have been written/updated, edited, and printed, some of the information is bound to be outdated. Multiple editions will be found, so be sure to get the latest edition (10th).

My favorite magazine type of resource is Family Tree Magazine, published seven times yearly by F+W Media (\$27/year). Each issue contains a wonderful assortment of articles covering the whole range of family genealogy issues, but with some special attention to online resources. For example the current issue (October/November 2016) had a major article on "41 Web Search Tricks to find your Ancestors." Each issue has some sort of "Workbook," often with worksheets that can be torn out and taken with you on your forays into genealogical hunts. The last few issues had articles on "Military Service Records," "Local Histories," "Church Records," and most recently, "Cemetery Records," While the

name is similar, this publication has no connection to the Family Tree Maker software.

Online you should bookmark Cyndi's List. It is a list of genealogy sites on the Internet that is a categorized and cross-referenced links for genealogical research. First conceived as a simple list of bookmarks that was shared with the members of the Tacoma-Pierce County Genealogical Society in 1995 it has now grown to roughly 332,000 links in more than 200 categories. While she does use some affiliate advertising, it is not obtrusive.

As with everything in life today, online genealogical resources are ever changing at lightning speed. Keeping up with what is happening, what new things are available in a real time atmosphere can be difficult. I use the following free and paid online sites to make sure I am not missing something.

Free: Genealogy Newslines ([www.FamilyRootspublishing.com](http://www.FamilyRootspublishing.com)), edited by Leland Meitzler (formerly with Everton's Genealogical Helper). You can register for free weekly (sometimes more often) email Newsletters by going to Family Roots Publishing and subscribing in the upper left hand side of the page. You can also look at all of the back issues, not only material that Leland Meitzler has done (since January 2011).

Free: Eastmans Online Genealogical Newsletter ([www.eogn.com](http://www.eogn.com)). You can subscribe to a free Standard Version of this newsletter by going to their website and registering. The link is part way down the right side of the web site.

Paid: Eastman also has a paid version of his newsletter ([www.eogn.com](http://www.eogn.com)), known as the Plus Edition which costs \$19.95 per year. More news and no ads. I think it is worth the price.

Paid: GenealogyToday ([www.genealogytoday.com](http://www.genealogytoday.com)) "is a specialized portal providing unique databases, search tools and original articles along with links to the newest sites and online resources. We offer subscription based

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**Resources, Internet and Otherwise**  
*cont'd from p. 13*

databases and newsletters, and over 500 products in our market place.” (From their website.) Subscriptions are \$32.95/year, but can also be brought in a 6 or 3 month increment. They also let you test out the site for available information about an ancestor before you subscribe.

What about Ancestry.com? There are lots of pluses and minuses about Ancestry. We at the Parke Society use it extensively. It is not cheap, but it can be invaluable in seeing what all might be out there concerning your ancestors. I have had only fair luck with contacting people who hold their family trees as private, but there are lots of public trees to look at. You just have to remember to be creative in searching. And also you need to remember the caveats about using information that you find. They are starting points for verification for your own work.

They have been fairly aggressive in buying up other sites to put under their tent, including Archives.com, Genealogy.com, MyFamily.com, Fold3.com (formerly known as Footnote.com, Newspapers .com and Rootsweb.com). They are now the largest for-profit company dealing in genealogical information. Subscriptions can be purchased on monthly, half year, or annual basis. The one thing to remember is that if you put your information out there on their web site, technically it becomes theirs to do with as they wish. Further if you decide to drop your subscription, you will lose all access to whatever you have put out there. I do not put any of the Society's information on Ancestry.com.

Lots of information is available on the Internet. Using these resources will help you in being more efficient in your search, and keep you abreast with changes on the web.☞

**Be sure to renew your membership!**

## **Lineage Key Catalog—part 18** by Society staff

Beginning with Newsletter Vol. 45, No. 1, we've been publishing the Society's 300+ Lineage Key Catalogue, including data as to the founder and other details for the general information of Society members.

As most Society members know, we track the various Park/e/s lines by assigning individual lineage keys of one or two letters like A, or JJ or RX. We try to match new members' Park/e/s ancestry with existing lineage key. If not, we create a new key. Some keys represent immigrant lines, others fragment lines such as Park/e/s who suddenly appear in Ashton, Ohio, with no reference to where they came from or to whom they are related.

Sometimes, through identification of matching individuals, or DNA evidence, we discover that a fragment line is actually part of another line. With positive identification, the line is merged with 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 are represented by Society members, and not all members are active in the Society. The word “represented” following the lineage key in the description indicates that a current member belongs to that line. Where children are listed, if the name is in boldface, then we have descendants from that child; otherwise, we know nothing further. We also indicated when the line has had DNA testing.

The lineage keys published to date are: all single-letter keys (Vol. 45, No. 1 through Vol. 46, No. 1), double-letter keys AA-ZZ and AX through ZX (Vol. 46.2–Vol. 47.2), AY-ZY (Vol. 47.3, Vol. 48.1, and Vol. 49.1), AZ-ZZ (Vol. 49.2 and Vol. 50.1), AW-TW (Vol. 50.3 and Vol. 51.1). TW (corrected)-ZW, AV-RV (Vol. 51.2 and Vol. 51.3).

This issue completes the -V lineage keys, SV through ZV. Further lineage keys will appear in subsequent issues of the Newsletter.

**SV Aaron C. Parks/Parker** (1789, NC – ??) (Represented) m. Martha Woodruff (1799, VA – ??) before 1818 in Lincoln Co., TN, five children, possibly more. An interesting problem arises in this lineage. While the descendant line (through Barton Franklin uses the Parks surname, the other children that are attributed to Aaron seem to use the Parker surname. Was this an interpretation error, or is something else going on here.

**Source Materials:** Lineage papers and correspondence of descendant member..

**Children:**

**Barton Franklin Parks** (1818, NC – 1894, MO) married Martha Patsy Rowden (1825, IL – 1901, MO) 1841 in Illinois, five children.

William Woodruff Parker (1829, TN – 1905, TN) married Nancy E. Sumners (1829, AL – 1904, AL) date and place unknown. no issue shown.

Martha Francis Parker (b. 1833, TN) married John Word, date and place unknown, No issue shown.

Aaron Sumners Parker (1853, TN – 1918, TX), no marriage is shown nor any issue.

Sarah J Parker (b. 1831). Nothing further is known.

(PS#773D; no active members on this line)

**TV Jonathan Parks** (1777, CT – 1865, WI) (Represented) m. (1) Lois Grant (1776, CT – 1834, NY) 1798, New York, nine Children; (2) Mrs. Diana (Wetherell) Baker (1796, MA – 1876, WI) 1834, New York, four children. Possible connection to the Robert – Thomas line (Lineage Key T, FGS 06T792 on Chart 11), though as yet unproven.

**Source Materials:** Lineage papers and correspondence of descendant members.

**Children by First Marriage:**

**Amos Stearns Parks** (1799, NY – 1882, WI, some say 1870), m. (1) Alma/Almira Woodward Johnson (1801, VT – 1860, MI) 1824, place unknown, seven children; m. (2) Mary Jane Lafurge (dates and places unknown) 1850, Prattsburgh, NY, no issue; m. (3) Marshie Spencer (dates and places unknown), marriage date and place unknown; no known issue

**Enoch W. Parks** (1810, NY – 1870, WI) married Elizabeth Johnson (1810, NY – 1881, WI) 1836 in New York, 10 or more children.

Mary Polly Parks (1799, NY – 1882, WI) married William A. Flitcroft (ca. 1795, NY – 1870, WI) 1818, Steuben Co., New York, twelve children, surnamed Flitcroft.

Harriet Parks (1802, NY – 1813, NY).

John/Jonathan Parks (18043, NY – ??), nothing further known.

William Parks (1806, NY – ??) nothing further known.

Morgan L. Parks (1808, NY – 1886, MI), married Dolly (Unknown) (1815, NY – 1893, MI) date and place unknown, four children.

Harriet E. Parks (1813, NY – ??), married Dexter Benton Johnson (1810, NY – 1875, OH), 1834 Wayne Co., MI, twelve children.

Lois V. Parks (1817, NY – 1876, WI) married James Strong, his dates and date and place of marriage is not known, no known issue.

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**Children by Second Marriage:**

Jonathan Barker Parks Jr (1835, NY – 1896, KS) married Phena Laura Sanders (1839, OH – 1920, WI) 1855, Winnebago Co., WI, four children.

Fanny Parks (1836, NY – ??) nothing further known.

Nancy Ann Parks (1838, MI – 1913, ??) married Howard Richard Wood (184, ?? – 1929, WI), 1872, place unknown, one child surnamed Wood.

Hiram Parks (1844, WI – 1921, ??), married Emma Washington, dates and locations unknown, no issue known.

(PS#1582, 1592, 1438R, 782R).

**UV Clarissa Jane Parks** (1842, OH – 1924, CA) (Represented) m. Charles Reid Ganow (1840, OH – 1924, CA) 1864, Scotland Co., MO, ten children. There is a possibility that Clarissa may be related to the Robert-Thomas Line through Elisha (07T1660) Parks and Sarah Blair, Lineage Key T, Chart 13. This line may also be reflected under the Lineage Key BW, except that the spouse entry does not match, and no second marriage is shown.

**Source Materials:** Lineage papers and correspondence of descendant member.

**Children:**

**Charles William Ganow** (1884, OR – 1950, CA) married Myrtle Maud Hansbrough (1889, OR – 1942, CA) 1907, El Dorado Co., CA, five children.

Nancy Ganow, nothing further known

Robert Judson Ganow (1866, MO – 1929, CA), never married.

Harrison B. Ganow (1869, CO – ??), nothing further known.

Mary Frances Ganow (1872, CO – 1942, OR) married Albert R. McMillin (1859, ?? – ??) 1895 in Sacramento Co., CA, two children

Minnie May Ganow (1873, CO – 1958, CA) married Arnold Wilson Lyles (1868, MO – 1941, CA) 1892 in Sacramento Co., CA, seven children.

Saulmon Van Buren Ganow (1878, CO – 1937, CA) never married.

Nora Jane Ganow (1877, OR – 1964, CA) married George Herbert Lattemore (1879, MN – 1931, CA) 1904, El Dorado Co., CA, six children.

Charles Ganow, born presumably around 1888, OR, died in infancy.

Jacob Elmer Ganow (1879, OR – 1950, CA) married Laura Louise Flint (1904, CA – 1971, AK) 1918, El Dorado CO., CA, at least one child.

(PS#785R [no active members on this line])

**VV** See Double Letter Lineage Keys.

**WV** Not currently in use. Formerly used to describe 01WV1 Richard Parks (b1784, NC – 1844, KY), m Nancy Jane Kindred (ca. 1787, KY – 1829, KY) 1805 in Madison Co., KY, and is now classified as 05K48 in the Roger of West Jersey Lineage.

**XV Robert Parks** (1784, SC – 1853, SC) (Represented) m. (1) Mary Crosby (1789, SC – 1826, SC), 1808. Chester Co., SC, seven children; m. (2) Mrs. Nancy (Cook) Robins, widow of Obediah Robins (1784, SC – 1853, SC) 1828, Chester Co., SC, no issue.

**Source Materials:** Lineage papers and correspondence of descendant members.

**Children:**

**Vincent Parks** (1809, SC – 1860, SC) married Rachel Robins (c 1820, SC – bef 1882, SC) ca 1838, Chester Co., SC, eight children.

James C. Parks (ca. 1811, SC – 1869, SC) m1) Nancy Robins, no issue; m2) Mary Feemster, two children.

Robert Parks, Jr. (1814, SC – ca. 1844, SC) married Nancy Robins (? , debated) (1855SC – ??) 1835 in South Carolina, no known issue.

David B. Parks (ca. 1816, SC – 1849, SC) married Martha D. (Unknown), one son Drayton Parks.

Thomas C. Parks (ca. 1819, SC – 1878, SC) married Harriet Cornwell, two children.

Margaret Parks (ca. 1820, SC – ??) m1) Richard Brandon (1812, SC – 1846, SC) no known issue; m2) (unknown) Mayfield (ca. 1815, ?? – ??), no further information.

Nancy Parks (??, SC – bef. 1853, SC) m. William Cornwell, one child surnamed Cornwell as attested by Probate court proceedings.

Beware of searches that point to a Nancy Parks (1822, SC – 1896, SC) who married Joseph Land and then Lewis Rush. We believe this to be a conflation of data. The above referenced Probate proceeding We believe is definitive in the identification.

(PS#793R, [no active members on this line])

**YV** **John Parks**, dates unknown, may have been born in Rhode Island (Represented); m. Mary Lyman, dates unknown, perhaps born in Rhode Island;

only one child is known to this couple; data is very slim.

**Source Materials:** Lineage papers and correspondence of descendant member.

**Children:**

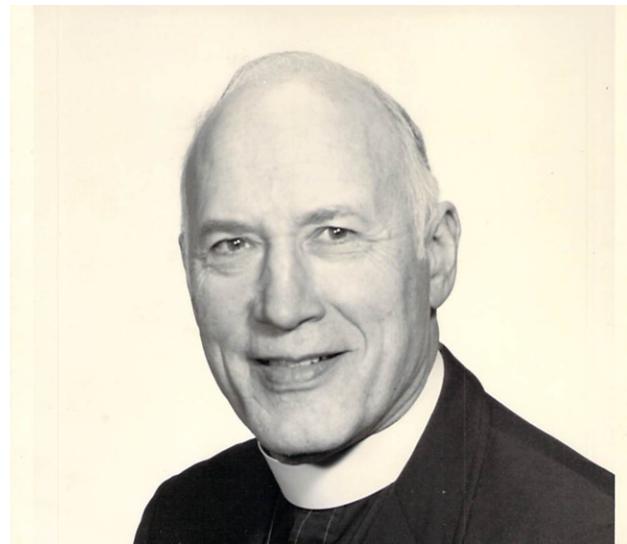
**Horace Parks** (1811, NY – 1894, NY) married Mary Kinsey (1814, England – 1854, NY) date and place of marriage unknown but perhaps Oneida Co., NY, three children known.

(PS#800D, 827R (sisters) [no active members on this line]).

**ZV** Not currently in use. Formerly used to describe 01ZV1 James Dixon Parke (1765, NJ – 1840, NJ ), m. Phoebe Filthian (dates unknown, b. NJ) 1787, in Cumberland Co., NJ, and who is now classified as 04K35.☞

## Congratulations!

Turning 100 is not something a whole lot of us can look forward to. More do today than in past decades. But still it is quite an achievement, and when that event does happen it is well worthy of a celebration.



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## Congratulations!

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Just such a celebration took place on October 1, 2016 when The Rev'd. John Holbrook Parke celebrated his 100th birthday, at Reeds Landing, Springfield, MA, in the company of twenty-six members of the family from as far away as Texas, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Virginia, as well as many from Massachusetts. Sons Richard Cole Parke, David Cole Parke, and Robert Cushman Parke, as well as daughter Emily Vera (Parke) Chase and their respective families were all in attendance. His wife Eleanor was a wonderful host and they spent a fine time visiting and reminiscing about events in John's and the family's life.

Fr. John, following graduating from the Kent School, Princeton '38, General Theological Seminary (New York City), '42, was ordained Deacon in June, 1942, and Priest in February, 1943; he celebrates 73 years of priestly ordained ministry. He served parishes in California, Arizona, Virginia, and his native Massachusetts. Over the years, he has been active in the healing ministries, being at one time the National Warden of the Order of St. Luke, the Physician. He has published two highly respected books on the healing ministries of the Church.

He is the only remaining child of The Rev'd. Hervey Coke Parke (also a Priest) and Ethel Margaret (Cushman) Parke. Sisters Mary Allerton (Parke) Fairfield, PS#61 (wife of a another priest), Priscilla Cushman Parke, PS#41, and brothers Hervey Cushman Parke, PS#162 and David Livingston Parke, #13 have all passed away in recent years.

Those wishing to send greetings to Fr. John Park, may send cards and notes to The Rev'd. John H. Parke, 213 Reed's Landing, Springfield, MA 01109-2055, or by email to [parkeplace@aol.com](mailto:parkeplace@aol.com).

Got something to share?

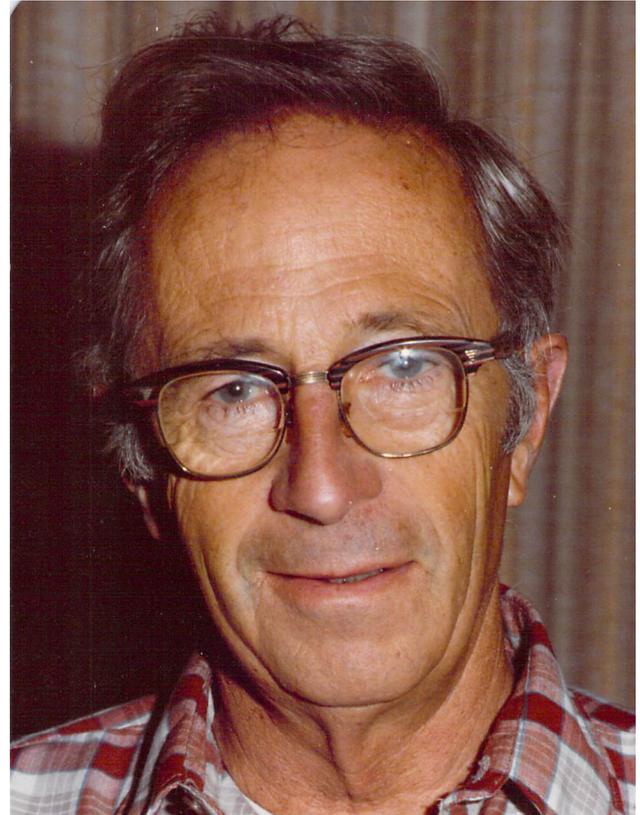
Write it up and send it to

[parkenews@parke.org](mailto:parkenews@parke.org)

## In Memoriam

We note with regrets and sympathy to the surviving families the following members who have passed away.

Longtime Member William Asher Barnard, PS#491, of Seatac, Washington, passed away on 8 November 2013 at the age of 93.



William was born in University, Missouri on 10 August 1920, the son of Pierce Butler and Keturah Alice (Asher) Barnard. He attended Westminster College and Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, Class of 1938.

The rest of his life was spent flying for Northwest Airlines for 38 years, 36 as Captain. The last ten years ending in August 1980 was flying the Boeing 747. At one time or another he flew all the routes between New York and Hong Kong. He married Frances Marian Berggen in 1943 in Seattle, Washington.

After his forced retirement at the age of 60 (commercial pilots had no choice but to be turned out to pasture at that age) he spent

most of his time chasing his ancestors. His main interest were the Barnard Lines, and was publishing a magazine called The Barnard Lines. In 1966, he also privately published All Asher Families. Later in life he discovered the Parke Society, and his Parke ancestry.

He was survived by his wife Frances, sons William Arthur and Rand Butler Barnard, and daughters Terry Ann (Barnard) Meehan and Marcee Leigh Barnard. He was predeceased by his parents, a sister, Alice Barnard Hasler, and a brother, Pierce Butler Barnard.

William Asher Barnard was researching a Park/e/s Fragment line starting with a Nathaniel Parks, born circa 1785 in North Carolina who married a Rebecca (surname unknown) also from North Carolina. Hence to Eliza Parks who married Beverly Shannon, to Permelia Alice (Shannon) Asher, Keturah Alice (Asher) Barnard, to member. Fragment LK=GZ.

The Society recently learned of the death of Dennis Lee Lorensen, PS#1185, late of Lead, South Dakota, on 4 May 2015 in Deadwood, South Dakota, at the age of 71 years.

Dennis was born on 24 June 1942 in Akron, Iowa to Leslie John and Dorothea Wilma (Taylor) Lorensen. He attended school in Akron, Iowa and the University of South Dakota at Vermillion, where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in Speech.

He served his country during the Vietnam War as a member of the US Air Force. On 4 February 1968 he married Beverly Kaye Frank of Sioux Falls, South Dakota. His life's career was with the US Postal Service as a Postmaster in several small cities in South Dakota

He is survived by his wife Beverly, a brother Larry Lorensen, nieces, grand nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and one nephew.

Dennis Lee Lorensen was a 13th generation descendant of Robert Park (MA, 1630), LK=T,

through his son, Thomas Parke, thence to Thomas Park, Deborah Parke who married John Clarke, to Deborah (Clark) Benjamin, Joseph Benjamin, Samuel Clark Benjamin, Polly (Benjamin) Burnett, Evaline F (Burnett) Taylor, Josiah Taylor, Llewellyn Francis Taylor, Dorothea Wilma (Taylor) Lorensen to member.☺



## Some genealogical proverbs

- Life is lived forwards, but understood backwards.
- Genealogy: tracing yourself back to better people.
- Genealogy: a hay stack full of needles. It's the threads I need.
- Genealogy: collecting dead relatives and sometimes a live cousin!
- Genealogy: where you confuse the dead and irritate the living.
- Genealogy is not a hobby: it's an obsession.
- Genealogy: tracing descent from someone who didn't.
- Genealogists are time unravelers.
- Old genealogists never die, they just lose their census.
- Genealogists live in the past lane.
- Only a genealogist regards a step backwards as progress.
- Whoever said "seek and ye shall find" was *not* a genealogist
- Theory of relativity: If you go back far enough, we're all related.☺

## WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

### 1652 William Oliver Parks II

Geneva, IL

Lineage is a new Fragment Line commencing with a Robert<sup>1</sup> Parke (ca. 1792, IRE – ca. 1850, ONT), married Elizabeth Hood, (ca. 1802, IRE – ca. 1897, ONT), LK=IN. Thence to William<sup>2</sup>, to William Oliver<sup>3</sup>, Willis Fletcher<sup>4</sup>, to member<sup>5</sup>. It is believed that this Robert may be related to the Arthur Parke line, LK= A, connection yet to be determined.

### 1653 Susan T. Van Allen

Haverford, PA

Lineage is Robert of Massachusetts, LK=T, Chart 6. Line is Robert<sup>1</sup>, Thomas<sup>2</sup>, Thomas<sup>3</sup>, Thomas<sup>4</sup>, Mary<sup>5</sup> (Parke) Kimball, Asa<sup>6</sup> Kimball, Lucy<sup>7</sup> (Kimball) Tyler, Guerdon Kimball<sup>8</sup> Tyler, Frank Kimball<sup>9</sup> Tyler, Frank Rivers<sup>10</sup> Tyler, Phoebe Kimball<sup>11</sup> (Tyler) Corney, Robert Tyler<sup>12</sup>.Corney, to member<sup>13</sup>.

### 1654 Kathryn Clifford-LaBelle

Saint Johns, FL

Lineage is the Fragment Line LK=DN, commencing with Nathaniel Parks (ca. 1740 — bef. 1790) who married Lydia Talmadge (1743, CT – 1798, NY) before 1775, thence to Nathaniel<sup>2</sup> (1781 – 1847, NY), to Joel<sup>3</sup>, Albert Eugene Harford<sup>4</sup>, Seely Frank<sup>5</sup>, Annie Eleanora<sup>6</sup>, (Parks) Ireland, Anna Kathryn<sup>7</sup> (Ireland) Clifford, to member<sup>8</sup>.

### 1655 Darryl Wayne Parks

Anna, IL

Lineage is the Fragment Line LK=NW, commencing with Samuel Parks (1759, NY —1847, IN) who married Mary Doughzenbery (Dusenbery) (1761, NY – 1825, KY) 1786, Dutchess Co., NY, thence to Henry<sup>2</sup> (1815, NY – 1873, NY), to Walter<sup>3</sup>, Oscar<sup>4</sup>, Walter Donald<sup>5</sup>, to member<sup>6</sup>.

There appears to be evidence that this Fragment Line is connected to the Lt. Richard (O2Q1) lineage; yDNA will soon confirm that connection.

### 1656 Ms. Whitney Park Irwin

Leverett, MA

Lineage is Richard of MA, LK=R. Line is Richard<sup>1</sup>, Thomas<sup>2</sup>, Jonathan<sup>3</sup>, Jonathan<sup>4</sup>, Jonathan<sup>5</sup>, Moses<sup>6</sup>, John<sup>7</sup>, George<sup>8</sup>, George Arthur<sup>9</sup>, Halford Woodward<sup>10</sup>, Halford Woodward II<sup>11</sup>, Cornelia Dabney<sup>12</sup>, to member<sup>13</sup>.

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