

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

Floyd Bruce "Red" Parks: A Hero at Midway

BY BRYAN DEAN PARKS PS#1571

After watching a rerun of the epic 1976 movie about the Battle of Midway, I became interested about a Major in the US Marine Corps who was killed while defending a tiny atoll in the Pacific Ocean during World War II. I had no reason to believe there was any familial connection, but little research appeared to have been done into his family history, and in the continuing effort to trace my own, it soon became apparent that there was only a very distant relationship between us.

Another descendant of Robert Parke (01STW1)

Working back in the accepted manner of one generation at a time produced no surprises about the lineage of Floyd Bruce "Red" Parks. His family line was easily traced from his father, James Bruce Parks, to Robert Parke (01STW1), who came to Massachusetts from the British Isles in 1630.

James Bruce Parks was born on 13 November 1874, in Missouri, the only son of

George William Jonathan Parks (09T20984) and Susan Ann (Grimes) Parks (1849-1939). According to the 1900 Census, he married Emma J. Clark in 1898. She was born on 9 September 1878, in Moberly, Randolph, Missouri, the daughter of James Clark (1839-1910) and Sarah A. Hammond. James Bruce and Emma J. Parks had two children: James Clark Parks (14 October 1901-February 1970), who married Esther Frances (Smith) Parks (1905-2001), and Lois Gene Parks (25 December 1903-2 March 1904).

Emma J. Parks died on 5 January 1904, and on 11 September 1906, James Bruce Parks was remarried to his second wife, Elizabeth Ann "Bess" Bowman (21 October 1881-9 October 1961). She was the daughter of William David Bowman (1848-1913) and Narcissa Jane (Lepper) Bowman (1850-1906).

Early life in Salisbury, Missouri

James Bruce Parks and his second wife had at least two sons. The oldest, Floyd Bruce Parks, was born on 16 January 1911, in Salisbury, Chariton, Missouri. A younger brother was born in 1921, but other than growing up with his siblings, little appears to be known about the childhood of Floyd Bruce Parks. His father, James Bruce Parks, died on 3 February 1924, but his mother apparently never married again. "Bess" Parks died on 9 October 1961, in Moberly, Missouri.

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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
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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.

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MEMBERSHIP: Send questions concerning Parke Society membership, requests for membership packets, and all application materials to our Registrar at registrar@parke.org.

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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.

Floyd Parks: A Hero at Midway

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Marriage and his military career

It's unknown if he acquired the nickname "Red" in Missouri or with the military, but in 1928, Floyd Bruce Parks enlisted in the US Navy. For the next two years, he served on destroyers, and was in Norfolk, Virginia, during the 1930 census. That same year, "Red" Parks was appointed to the US Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland, where he graduated with the Class of 1934. After choosing to continue his career with the Marine Corps, Floyd Parks was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant on 1 June 1934.

By the summer of 1935, Muster Rolls show 2nd Lieutenant Parks was with the Marine Detachment on the USS Astoria in San Pedro, California, but in 1936, he started flight training at Pensacola, Florida. "Red" Parks became a naval aviator on 12 June 1937, and in August, he reported to the Naval Air Station in San Diego, California.

Margaret Elizabeth Murray was a native of El Paso, Texas, and when her mother remarried, Margaret Murray also became known as Margaret E. Crisler. In 1938, a year after divorcing her first husband, Mrs. Margaret E. (Murray/Crisler) Grant and Captain "Red" Parks were married in San Diego.

In June 1940, Captain Parks returned to Pensacola as a flight instructor, and in May 1941, he started training as a dive bomber pilot in Quantico, Virginia. By then, ultra-nationalist factions who hero-worshiped the Emperor had gained political leadership in Japan, and from 1931-1941, their military forces rampaged across Manchuria and China. In July 1941, this aggression extended into French Indochina, and on Sunday, December 7th, six Japanese aircraft carriers launched their planes in a surprise attack against the US Pacific Fleet lying at anchor in Pearl Harbor on the island of Oahu in Hawaii. Afterwards, there was fear that a follow-up attack would not only lead to an invasion of the Hawaiian islands, but possibly the west coast of the American mainland as well.

Midway Atoll consists of two islets surrounded by a coral reef and it is only 2.4 square miles in size. Located at the northwest end of the Hawaiian Archipelago, with Oahu about 1150 miles to the southeast, Midway was called America's sentinel in the central Pacific. It was hoped any further advance by the Japanese toward Hawaii could be stopped there. In August 1941, the Midway Islands became a Naval Air Station, and after the attack on Pearl Harbor, military forces were rushed in to bolster defenses there.



Photo: Capt. Floyd B. Parks (March 1942)
From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Part of this build up included Marine Fighting Squadron 221, better known as the "Fighting Falcons," and in March 1942, Captain "Red" Parks left San Diego for the Midway Islands. On 8 May 1942, he was promoted to Major, and at the same time, also became Squadron Commander of the "Fighting Falcons."

Battle of Midway (4-6 June 1942)

The Japanese decided to attack Midway four months after Pearl Harbor, but this decision was hastened by the well-known bombing of their home islands called the Doolittle Raid

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(18 April 1942). The Japanese plan called for an invasion of Midway on June 5th, but their principal aim was to draw the remainder of our Pacific Fleet into a decisive battle. In one of the military intelligence triumphs of World War II, code breakers had worked for months to decipher Japan's naval communications. As a result of those efforts, Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, Commander in Chief of the Pacific Fleet, seized the offensive and deployed the Enterprise, Hornet and Yorktown – all three of our aircraft carriers that had escaped the attack at Pearl Harbor. They were to lie in wait near Midway and surprise the enemy first.

At daylight on June 4th, search planes soon reported approaching Japanese aircraft that had just taken off from their aircraft carriers. Among those sent out from Midway to attack them were Major "Red" Parks and his "Fighting Falcons." However, they were flying F2A-3 Brewster Buffaloes, a stubby-winged plane that was unstable, overweight and obsolete. It had been surpassed almost a decade earlier by Japan's top-line fighter, and these fighters who were escorting the Japanese bombers that morning quickly shot down 17 American planes. Among them was Major "Red" Parks. Over half of the pilots in his squadron had just finished flight training, and later on, other Marine Corps pilots would derisively refer to the Brewster Buffaloes as "flying coffins."

A 20-minute air raid was the only Japanese attack on Midway. For two more days, aircraft carriers waged back-and-forth attacks on each other and Japanese troops never set foot on the tiny atoll. It was a victory for the US Navy, and since then, the Battle of Midway has been heralded as a strategic turning point during the war in the Pacific.

After the Battle of Midway

For his "extraordinary heroism," Major "Red" Parks received a Purple Heart and was posthumously awarded the Navy Cross, our country's second-highest decoration for valor in combat. The Navy Cross was presented

to his widow, and later, a destroyer was also named in his honor – the USS Floyd B. Parks (DD884). His widow was also the ship's sponsor when it was launched on 31 March 1945.

The National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific has 34,000 graves plus the names of 18,095 veterans from World War II inscribed on eight cenotaphs known as the Courts of the Missing in Action. The cemetery lies within Punchbowl Crater, an extinct volcano in Honolulu, and besides Major "Red" Parks being added to the Courts of the Missing, his name was also engraved on his father's gravestone in Salisbury, Missouri. Major Parks and his wife had no children. Mrs. Margaret Parks died on 9 September 1963, in El Paso, Texas.

The Park/e/s lineage

History tells us Robert Parke came across the Atlantic Ocean on a ship called the Arbella, which belonged to John Winthrop, the "Puritan lawyer" who wanted to escape religious persecution in England. Robert Parke was a friend of John Winthrop, and in what's now known as the Winthrop Fleet, the Arbella and 10 other vessels left the Isle of Wight on 8 April 1630. After a five-week voyage, over 700 migrants landed near present-day Salem, Massachusetts, and founded the Massachusetts Bay Colony—the third colony in America "after Jamestown and Plymouth."

As mentioned at the beginning, Major Floyd Bruce "Red" Parks was an 11th generation descendant of Robert Parke. Using Family Group Sheet numbers from the Parke Society, his family line can be traced as follows:

- Robert Parke (01STW1)
- Thomas Parke (02T1)
- Nathaniel Parke (03T4)
- Joseph Park/s (04T31)
- Daniel Parke (05T195)
- Daniel Parke (06T1378)
- Benjamin Marvin Parke (07T1746)
- Jahiel/Jehiel Parks (08T6988)
- George William Jonathan Parks (09T20984)
- James Bruce Parks (1874-1924)
- Floyd Bruce Parks (1911-1942)

For more about the lineage of Robert Parke (01STW1), one should consult Genealogy of the Parke Families of Connecticut, which was compiled by Frank Sylvester Parks from 1906 to 1934. Our Executive Director, Fr. Michael (Tad) Parks (PS# 425H), provided a good background about this publication in the "Historian's Corner" of a 2014 Newsletter (Vol. 51, No. 1), and as pointed out by President "Ken" Parks (PS#1406) in Vol. 52, No. 3 of our Newsletter in 2016, the Genealogy of the Parke Families of Connecticut can be read or downloaded online.

Notes

1. The writer has been a member of the Parke Society since 2011, LK=AN. While preparing this article, it was coincidentally discovered that he was a descendant of Robert Parke (01STW1) too, through his maternal lineage—not his surname line.
2. Further research needs to determine if she may be the same as Sarah A. Hammond (27 November 1846-23 January 1905). See Memorial # 77809046, www.findagrave.com.
3. The USS Astoria (CA-34), a heavy cruiser, also saw action at the Battle of Midway. After being lost during the Battle of Savo Island (9 August 1942), it became the namesake for the USS Astoria (CL-90), a light cruiser commissioned on 17 May 1944.
4. There are two memorials for Floyd Bruce Parks on www.findagrave.com (# 125582822 and # 55927160). The citation for his Navy Cross is part of Memorial # 125582822.
5. El Paso Herald-Post, El Paso, Texas, 10 May 1943 (Page 1).
6. The National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific is maintained by the American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC), and names on the Courts of the Missing in Action can be found on <https://abmc.gov>.
7. Memorial # 55927160, www.findagrave.com.
8. Memorial # 103865601, www.findagrave.com.
9. Banks, Charles Edward. *The Winthrop Fleet of 1630*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1976.☞

Got something to tell?
Write it up and send it to
parkenews@parke.org

From the President's Desk

by Ken Parks, PS #1406

As I write this, we are experiencing a lovely snowfall, amounting to a few inches that the snowblower should easily handle later. I hope by the time you read this I will have put the snowblower away for the season, but winter has a way of lingering here in the Catskills a bit longer than we might like. I hope Mother Nature has been kind to all of you this winter, no matter where you live.

The 2018 Corporate Meeting

We will once again be meeting at the Country Inn Suites, Harrisburg@Union Deposit Rd., 1025 Peiffers Lane, Harrisburg, PA. The meeting will be held in September, with the exact dates and times to be announced in our next newsletter issue. This is our required annual corporate meeting to discuss Society business, as well as elect officers and trustees for the upcoming year. All members are welcome to attend. Information about room rates and how to reserve a room will appear in the next issue as well as on our website.

State/County Project

I'm pleased to say that we had a very good response to our call for volunteers to help with this project, which is beginning with the 1850 census. To date we have at least eight members on board and they have already begun to send in transcriptions of all Park/e/s individuals found in a particular county in the 1850 census. Though we're just getting started, it's good to see some forward progress on what is an ambitious project, identifying each Park/e/s individual in every US census from 1790 to 1940. Once a certain level of content has been amassed, look for this information to appear on the upcoming Members Only section of our website, along with other content such as abstracts of all Park/e/s Revolutionary War pension files. It is my hope that the Members Only section will be up and running by the time our next newsletter arrives, and you will find information there about how to access it.

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From the President's Desk

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Dues renewal

As of this writing most of you will have sent in your dues for the coming year. To all of you, we thank you for your continuing support. Many of you have also included donations above your basic dues, and for that we also express our deepest appreciation. Though we are a volunteer staff for the most part, we do rely on member dues to pay expenses, which in large part consist of the publishing costs of the newsletter and maintaining the website. If you've forgotten to mail in your dues, please take the time to do so, as every member's contribution is valuable and needed!☺

From the Executive Director: Society Business

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

Dues renewals – again: why should I?

Oh yes, it is that time again; time for the dues renewal envelopes. We send these notices to all active members, annual dues payers as well as Life members for three reasons. First, of course is to collect the annual dues which support our efforts in Park/e/s genealogy. Secondly, it gives members an opportunity to update us on any changes to addresses, USPS or e-mail, phone numbers, and their personal status. Sometimes this is the only way we learn of members having gone into Assisted Living or Memory care units, or even having passed away. Finally, if members so chose, it gives them a vehicle to give us donations to help further our work.

We certainly appreciate member's prompt attention to these renewal notices, as it saves us the effort of having to send reminders. At the end of the first address line on the envelope this Newsletter arrived in you will see your current dues status, as of the printing of the label itself. We have a little timing problem in this instance as the labels themselves are created a few weeks before you actually get the Newsletter in hand. As of

this writing, we have posted the receipts for December and January, but not yet for February. If it says something other than 2018 or Life, and you haven't just recently sent in your check, then perhaps you need to hunt down that renewal envelope and take care of it right away. Take this gentle reminder and do it today.

Just why should I renew?

I know that each year as I receive subscription or membership renewal notices, I ask myself why should I be renewing. It's a good question to ask oneself. Sometimes I have been receiving a magazine which once had usefulness to me, but now hardly ever gets looked at. Perhaps it's time to say good bye to that subscription. Perhaps you are asking yourself the same question about continuing on with The Parke Society. Obviously, I think you should, but let's put some reasons behind that answer.

First, remember that the Parke Society is an organization dedicated solely to the collecting, coordinating and recording of information concerning all the Park/e/s lines that have come into North America since the 17th century. That is all we are about. Sometimes we get criticized for not following the female lines down to the present day, but let's face it, people come to us for answers and help on their Park/e/s lines. That is our scope as defined in our By-Laws. And to be frank, we just do not have the resources to go further. (It should be noted that should you send in female line information it is usually recorded in any FTW file that we maintain, and the data is stored in your membership folder. However, the female line information is not indexed.)

Our biggest expense is for the production of our thrice annual society newsletter. The purpose of the newsletter is twofold. It keeps our membership abreast of what is going on in the society in terms of research, data collection, data security, and tips as to help all of us do our research. The secondary purpose of the newsletter is to signal to all concerned parties, that the society is still here and functioning. Which is one positive aspect of being in hard copy format; you get

something that you can hold in your hands, proof positive of our existence.

Producing the newsletter is not an inexpensive proposition. It has been suggested that perhaps we should go to just an on line version of the Newsletter and save a lot of money. Currently we do offer the option of receiving the PDF version of the newsletter (which reflects any colored pictures in the issue). It is sent to requesting members as an attachment to an email. We have been doing that for a couple of years, but even with strong encouragement, less than 9% of our active membership has chosen that option. (Let us know if you're interested in taking this option.)

Our most important task of course is to collect, collate and record any and all Park/e/s data that is made available to us, and in turn to re-distribute in the form of pamphlets, articles and in individual correspondence with members. A number of different people are involved in this effort, and there are expenses incurred there also. Binders, paper, ink cartridges for the printers, postage (though that is a much smaller expense than in the past) all cost money, the ordinary and necessary expenses of an on-going concern.

Continuity as an on-going concern is an important aspect of the Society. Being the only dedicated resource for Park/e/s information is one very good reason for us to keep solvent by having members renew. Yes, if the society were to fold (heaven forbid), our collections are supposed to go to some other genealogical organization. But here is the sticking point. Nobody has to accept our collection, and if they did they would probably be looking for some sort of financial wherewithal to support keeping it. At that point in our life, that might be questionable. And further access to the materials would probably be greatly reduced. We might just be one small piece of their total collections.

Here's the other positive benefit of being an active member of the Parke Society: the Lending Library.

You have access to our private library of books and manuscripts about various Park/

e/s lineages, most of which is available for loan to members. The contents of the Library are viewable at our website (www.parke.org> DNA/Research> PS library). Contact the custodian of the Library to see if the items you wish to borrow are currently available for a small rental fee.

So is it worth it to renew? I think it is. Your dues help us to help you and others who are working on the Park/e/s lines. We are YOUR resource. Sometimes we may be slow about getting back to you, but never fear, we are working diligently to be the best Society we can be. None of us have this as our full time occupation. I hope you will consider these things as you wonder, should I renew.

We consider ourselves to be rather frugal in how we spend your dues. And we do always appreciate donations to the Society. We work on a cash basis, Receipts is when we get the money in hand, and expenditures is when the money is spent. We do not have inventories. We do create financial reports which are made available at our Annual Meetings. If you would like to see how we spend your dues, these reports are available to you on request. Contact the Executive Director should you desire a copy of them.

Scanning projects

As mentioned previously the initial scanning of the Lineage Application Binders has been completed, and we are working on some of the cleanup stuff: missing forms, or members who never actually sent in all of their materials (yes, that has happened).

For the past several months we have been working at digitizing the LDS Group Sheets which we received with the help of the late Stuart Nye Park, PS#19 back in 1982. This came to over 300 pages of information. We are about 35% complete with the scanning of these pages, but only about 5% complete with the review. We want to make sure that all appropriate pieces of data have been entered into the Givenname Index. This collection will then be distributed electronically to Core Staff members so that they will have this resource at their fingertips, just like the

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From the Executive Director

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digitized Lineage Application Binders. The decision to destroy the hard paper copies will then be passed to the Board for a decision.

The next project will be to review the membership folders of deceased members. Once we have "closed" the file following the death notification, there should be nothing else going into them, so they could be archived by scanning the contents into a digital file. There are some details yet to work out on that but at least we are thinking about it. Will we be destroying these physical files once digitized? That will be another question for the Board to decide.

New books of interest

I am addicted to books! I always need to stay away from books sales and book stores. However, I am always on the lookout for genealogical how-to books, for myself and to recommend to others. Here are a couple of recent acquisitions that you might want to consider buying.

Greenwood, Val D. *The Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 2017. Softcover, 778 pp., indexed.

This is the fourth edition of this especially useful work. In two parts the first half is called "Background to Research" and covers the basic how-to's of doing genealogy. It covers use of computers, computer programs and doing genealogy with access to the Internet. Part two is called "Records and Their Use, and covers all of the various types of records that you would be using in doing your genealogical research. It has a number of illustrations and charts that are very helpful in explaining some of the mysteries of doing your research. It gets good reviews, and as one commentator said: Val Greenwood is a genealogist's genealogist and he proves it by writing the definitive book on the subject.

Two other books that I have recently picked up which may be of interest to genealogists. Their common problem is that technology

and web sites change rapidly, so that parts of these books may be out of date. Nevertheless, it gives you starting points which I find at least way better than the on-line helps that are usually available.

Cooke, Lisa Louise. *The Genealogist's Google Toolbox*. San Ramon, CA: Genealogical Gems Publishing, 2015. Softcover, 203 pp.

Cooke, Lisa Louise. *Mobile Genealogy*. San Ramon, CA: Genealogical Gems Publishing, 2016.☺

Park/e/s DNA Project

By Ken Parks PS#1406

Though our project is, and always will be, primarily about tracking the various Park/e/s lineages using the Y-DNA test from Family Tree DNA (FTDNA) to identify the male Park/e/s lineages, more and more people are joining the project when ordering an autosomal DNA (atDNA) test. I thought it might be helpful to explain a bit about how that type of DNA test works and how it can be useful to your Park/e/s (and other lines) research.

The atDNA test is sold by various testing firms. We're all familiar with the TV, radio, and print ads by Ancestry, 23andMe, MyHeritage DNA, as well as FTDNA's version, the Family Finder test. One of the reasons testing firms promote these tests so heavily is that, unlike a Y-DNA test which only males can take, anyone can take the atDNA test, thus creating the broadest possible market for them. However, as affordable as these tests have become, and as easy as they are to take, making sense of the results in terms of your genealogy is not that easy. Knowing this, many firms focus their ad campaigns on the ethnicity estimates with their easy-to-understand pie charts. Knowing one's ethnic composition may make for interesting cocktail party talk, but in terms of helping solve your family history questions, only by understanding how to assess your matches and determine how you are related to them can you get the most out of this type of test.

A game of marbles

Our nuclear DNA is made up of 23 pairs of chromosomes, with one half of each pair inherited from each parent. Briefly, your atDNA is found in the 22 pairs of chromosomes you inherit equally from both parents. The 23rd pair, known as the sex chromosomes, consist of the X and Y chromosomes and determine the sex of the individual.

The way the atDNA from each parent recombines makes your atDNA individual to you. Unless you are an identical twin (or triplet, etc.) then even your siblings will have a different, though very similar, mix of atDNA from your common parents.

To help explain why this is so, let's use a simple illustration. It's not the most scientific way to explain the process, but when I first heard it, it seemed to make the concept more accessible.

For purposes of our illustration, let's picture a bowl of 100 blue marbles, representing the atDNA you might inherit from your father. Likewise, we'll add a bowl of 100 pink marbles to represent your mother's atDNA. Each of those 100 marbles is numbered 1 – 100.

When you were conceived, you inherited 50 blue marbles from your father and 50 pink marbles from your mother from those bowls. On the blue side, you may have inherited marbles 1 – 5, 7, 35 – 38, 53, 76 – 79 and so on until the total number of blue marbles added up to 50. Likewise, from your mother you inherited a different mix of pink numbered marbles adding up to 50.

This mix of pink and blue marbles represents the atDNA from your parents. When one of your siblings was conceived, they too inherited 50 blue and 50 pink marbles from each of your parents, but it wasn't the same mix of numbered marbles from each bowl that you received. Chances are you will share roughly 50% of the same numbered marbles, but it most likely will not be the exact same set of pink and blue marbles, again, unless you are an identical twin.

Going back another generation

So far, so good. Half of our atDNA came from each of our parents. Since they, in turn, inherited half of their atDNA from each parent, doesn't that mean that we have inherited one quarter of our atDNA from each of our four grandparents? Not necessarily.

While the amount of atDNA we inherit from each grandparent is going to be approximately 25%, there is a range in the actual amount due to the way atDNA is passed along. Let's go back to the marbles.

Taking our father's 100 blue marbles, we know that 50 of those blue marbles (numbered 1 – 100) came from each of your paternal grandparents. However, when you got your random inheritance of 50 blue marbles from your father, you may have inherited slightly more of the marbles he inherited from his father, and slightly fewer of those he inherited from his mother. The same is true on your mother's side. You may have inherited more of your maternal grandmother's atDNA than your maternal grandfather's. Thus, the amount of atDNA you inherited from each of your four grandparents might be something like this:

Paternal grandfather: 28% (28 of your blue marbles)

Paternal grandmother: 22% (22 of your blue marbles)

Maternal grandfather: 19% (19 of your pink marbles)

Maternal grandmother: 31% (31 of your pink marbles)

As you can see, you still have 50 blue and 50 pink marbles from each parent, but within those 50 your grandparents are not equally represented.

Taking it further back in time

Repeating this same process with each generation we move back, the percentages of atDNA we inherit from each of our great grandparents and on back in time begin to vary, and those grandparents whose atDNA

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Park/e/s DNA Project

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we inherited less from will in turn contribute less atDNA from their preceding generations. Over time, due to the random nature of this process, after several generations it's quite possible that none of the 50 blue and 50 pink marbles you inherited from your parents contain any significant atDNA from a particular ancestor further back in your family tree. This doesn't mean they're not your true ancestor because you didn't happen to inherit any discernible atDNA from them. While that particular ancestor is certainly on your family tree, we say they are not part of your individual genetic family tree.

Again, since your siblings inherited a slightly different mix from each parent than you did, it's possible they inherited atDNA from a particular 4th great grandparent while you did not, or vice versa. This is why it is advisable to have as many close family members participate in atDNA testing if you're really interested in getting the most out of it. Parents, siblings, aunts, uncles, and cousins of various degrees all help to sort out how you may match someone else in the database. I have been fortunate to have my father and two of his siblings test, and there are many cases where two of the three siblings match someone else on the same segment, yet the third does not. On another matching segment, a different combination of the three siblings may match someone else with another left out, or all three may match someone else on the same segment, vividly illustrating how the mix is different for each sibling.

Finding your genetic cousins

If we think of those above-referenced marbles as segments of atDNA, then what we're looking for among our matches are people who share some of those same marbles. Sometimes those marbles may be "stuck together" to form a longer matching segment passed along, and the more total marbles we share in common with someone, and the longer those "stuck together" segments are, the closer we are likely related to that matching person.

With Ancestry, the testing firm does not allow you to view which "marbles" you share in common with someone, nor how many total "marbles" you share. Instead, they do a calculation based on that information and predict your range of relatedness, i.e. first through third cousin, second through fourth cousin, etc., and look for common surnames or common ancestors in the family trees which both participants have, hopefully, posted on their website. This approach may appeal to many folks who don't want to immerse themselves that deeply in the details of how they match someone, but for many of us that approach is frustratingly inadequate.

Other testing firms, as well as a free third party forum, GEDMatch, allow you to view those matching segments on something called a chromosome browser. It's basically a graphic showing the 22 chromosomes and highlights the matching segments you share with someone else on each chromosome. You can compare several people who match you at the same time, allowing you to ascertain, in some instances, where several people share the same segments of atDNA. By then comparing the common family lines of everyone involved, it may be possible to identify certain segments as having been inherited from a particular ancestor in your tree, or at least the ancestral couple. Over time, and with enough matching participants, it can be possible to begin to map a certain ancestor's atDNA profile, at least to some extent. Once a certain segment has been thus identified, anyone matching you on that segment in the future can be assigned a common ancestry through that particular ancestral line with a fair degree of certainty.

Breaking down those brick walls

While no kind of DNA test available from these testing firms can prove an exact relationship with certainty, results can become an important part of building a strong circumstantial case for overcoming a brick wall problem. For instance, in my own Parks family research there is a Jacob Parks who I have always suspected is related to my third great grandfather Henry Parks, and most likely as a brother. To date, no direct male descendant of this Jacob Parks has been

found and may not exist, so Y-DNA testing is not an option at this point. However, someone who descends from one of Jacob's daughters has tested and is a match to me, my father, his siblings, as well as various other cousins related to me only through our common Parks line. From researching the various family lines of this Jacob descendant and our own, it strongly appears that this common atDNA is almost certainly through our Parks lines, thus genetically connecting us, even though it doesn't prove that Jacob and Henry were brothers. However, the DNA evidence, combined with other circumstantial evidence (common location during the same time period, close age range, only one Parks male in the area old enough to be the father of both, etc.) helps build a case where direct documentary evidence is lacking.

Knowledge is power

If this rudimentary explanation of how atDNA works and how it can help solve family questions hasn't caused you to lose your marbles by now, hopefully it has piqued your interest enough to learn more. Here are some excellent sources to explore this topic in more depth:

Book: Bettinger, Blaine T. *The Family Tree Guide to DNA Testing and Genetic Genealogy*.

Available in hard copy and kindle version. Excellent guide to all types of DNA tests, and well worth the modest price.

Online: The best starting point online is the Autosomal DNA page on the ISOGG (International Society of Genetic Genealogy) wiki:

https://isogg.org/wiki/Autosomal_DNA

Good basic information here, as well as a link to a video tutorial by my friend, Dr. Maurice Gleeson, and a number of links to articles for further reading.☺

The next editorial due date is
June 1, 2018

Historian's Corner

by (Fr.) Michael (Tad) Parks+, PS #425H
Emergencies, Evacuations, And Being Prepared

This piece goes a bit beyond the normal topics covered by the Historian/Society Genealogist. But in view of some of the recent emergency situations that have occurred in the US over the past several months, I as both a CPA (formerly in tax practice) and a parish priest, feel that it is a timely subject to cover. Just consider this a little "Value Added" service from me to you.

Emergencies and how to deal with them

Emergencies happen and sometimes we need to leave, *in a hurry*.

We usually think of "emergency situations" as being external in nature. Like wild fires, earthquakes, tornadoes, hurricanes, mud slides, or flash flooding, often as a secondary result of a dam failure or enormous rains.

But there can be other types of emergencies. Home fires, explosions (usually attributable to a gas leak), flooding due to not only water ways overflowing, but sewer backups; the list goes on and on. The key thought here is that things can happen, and perhaps we need to consider how we can be prepared when they do happen. Often in these cases, you don't have much time to gather anything, let alone your genealogy work. So what do you do?

Recently a lot of people in California have had this very experience. Not only with the wild fires, but also the subsequent mud slides resulting from heavy rains, denuded hill sides, and the water saturated earth. In some cases people had only five minutes to get out and to get to safety. For Californians, "Fire Season" used to be late summer to early fall, but now it seems that fire season is a year round concern.

The problem becomes one of complacency. We may entertain the thought that things can happen, and perhaps we should do something to prepare for the "just in case", but all too often that gets pushed off to "tomorrow", which of course never comes.

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Here are a few thoughts on safety in emergencies and what to take, genealogy and otherwise.

Personal safety

Of course the most important thing to consider is your own and your family's safety. When it comes time to move out, that should be your first concern. If you have been advised that there is a voluntary evacuation, you really need to take it seriously. Get your loved ones together, figure out what you would need to have in hand should the worse happen, pack it in, and follow the instructions given you.

In case of mandatory evacuation, you probably have little time to do anything but gather your family together and go. This is where preplanning is essential. In either case, personal safety is the uppermost concern. You can live without your stuff. It may be difficult, but one way or another you can patch things together and move ahead with your lives.

Proper documents

Some years ago I gave a seminar to my fellow CPAs entitled "What should I be doing; and What do I do now?" The main intent of this seminar was how my fellow CPAs might advise clients on end of life affairs. I have always made it a part of my client tax work to ask them if they had various legal papers in place like wills, durable POAs, and final instructions. If they answer in the negative, I urge them, in the strongest possible terms to start taking care of those things now.

One item that is really important is the "Advanced Directives." These are formalized, written and witnessed instructions to medical providers about your wishes should you become incapacitated. You may remember the Teri Schiavo case from 2005 where the husband (and legal guardian) and her parents got into a legal dispute about disconnecting the life support. The problem? There was no written Advance Directive as to her specific wishes. Recently our Parish Nurse

held a workshop with our parishioners on how to complete an advanced directive, and why it is important to have one. This should be important to you as well. The last thing you want is to have a family dispute about your supposed end of life circumstances.

The Go-Box

The next step in my presentation was to discuss the Go-Box. It's just that, a box that is packed with important papers and documents, in a place known to everyone in the household and which can be picked up and carried out at a moment's notice.

It doesn't have to be fancy or of any particular construction. A well-constructed bankers box as can be purchased at your local office supply store will work just fine. It doesn't necessarily have to be fire proof as it is intended to go with you, not to stay behind. On the other hand if you are away when something happens, being fire-proof of pretty sturdy construction, might not be a bad idea. However, you also want it to be transportable by a single individual.

Here's what you should put into that Go-Box.

1. A list of emergency contacts: for immediate family and other extended family, close friends: names, addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses.
2. Your own version of the Yellow Pages: your local hospital, physicians, pharmacy, close neighbors, baby sitters, auto repair shop, electrician, plumber, veterinarian, coworkers, poison control, 24 hour medical care line, and utility companies. You may not have any other source for these numbers in an emergency.
3. Vital Statistics: copies (or scans on the thumb drive) of important life documents, keeping the originals elsewhere (in a bank safe deposit box). Any document that would help you to re-establish your life as before the emergency. Social Security card, passports, birth certificates, licenses, for each family member
4. Medical Info: Include copies of your health insurance and prescription cards. Having

record of your medical history, immunizations, medications you take, and allergies is especially helpful for anyone who with a chronic condition or health risks.

5. All insurance accounts: ideally your home, whether you own or rent, is insured. Make an inventory of personal items for your insurer if disaster strikes (and keep it up to date). This can be in the form of a written list, video, or photos. And keep it up to date. Keep a list of your accounts, and customer service phone numbers to readily access all of your insurance policies, medical, auto, home, disability and life.
6. All accounted for: along with copies of any credit or debit cards, keep a dossier of bank, investment, and loan accounts including institution names and contact phone numbers.
7. Keep flush in a flood: an envelope with a few dollars, blank checks, traveler's checks, or an emergency prepaid cash card could be helpful if you can't immediately access your regular bank accounts.
8. In case someone's missing; stash up-to-date individual, family and pet photos. A physical description (perhaps accompanied by fingerprints) may be quite helpful if a love one goes missing. Note in the physical description such things as tattoos, information about dental work, or scars on the body. These may be key to identification if worse comes to worst.
9. End of Life care: these are the documents we referred to above: wills trust, durable POA, Advance Directives. Funeral arrangements and organ donation preferences should also be specified here. By the way, at least here in Wisconsin, cremation is subject to approval by next of kin should that be your wish, and you die. Make sure your next of kin knows your wishes and is willing to go along with them. More than once I have had a funeral held up because of this issue. What you want, can be overruled by your next of kin.

This may seem like a lot of stuff to have to gather up, just in case of an emergency, but think of the grief and anguish it would save if something were to happen.

The instruction that everyone in the house should understand is that should you be told to evacuate, this is the prime item to grab. Keep it in a closet close to the primary exit door, and make sure everyone understands its importance. You may only have minutes or even seconds to move out!

Personal items

Before we get to your genealogy, let's take a moment to talk about preparedness of family members. Again you need to realize that time will be a premium, and you may need to leave in a really big hurry. A smaller box, kept someplace where it is handle would be very useful in the event of an emergency. If you take medications, keep them all in one place, so you can sweep them into that box. Your wallet, ID pack, and stuff like should always be in a place well known to you; sweep those into the box. If there is time, take a few of your essential jewelry, watch, rings, etc. Forget the rest. If it is important enough to you that you wouldn't under any condition part with something, keep it readily accessible to you and yours, to be sweep into that box. Keys, and control fobs are another thing to keep handy to sweep into that box.

Clothes? Dress in such a way that you won't need a suitcase, and that you could survive for at least a couple of days without changing. Dress for the weather. It's more important to have vital items than extra changes of clothing. Sometimes the idea of a daily shower and clean set of clothes is really frivolous in an emergency.

Genealogical concerns

For many years now my main computer has been a laptop, not a desk top. The reason is simple. I can grab that and run in a moment's notice. If you aren't working with a laptop, and you are contemplating getting a new computer, go for a laptop. There is no reason not to do that. You can do everything you need on a laptop and more than on an

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old tower computer. And get a chill pad of some sort for the laptop always to sit on. Heat is a killer of laptops, and I can attest that my laptop which is now over 6 years old, continues to run like a top, thanks to always having it being cooled by a chill pad.

Know what you need to use it should you be driven out of your residence. Does it have an external power pack? Do you have an extra battery? For that matter do you keep the laptop computer charged at all times?

Backing up

I have harped about this time and time again. Back up your computer regularly, at least once a week, and perhaps daily. Back it up using some reliable third party service. And perhaps also back it up locally to an external hard drive or thumb drive that you can take with you in an emergency evacuation. Back up your data sets. Software can be reinstalled. Your personal datasets can't be. If you don't know what I mean by "your datasets" find a computer savvy friend to explain it to you. When I get new software or download new versions, I always download and save to a special directory on my computer. It happens to be called "Software.bkp" and I do the install from there.

Important papers

I have already covered this under the Go-Box topic. Some say scan all these documents and upload to the cloud. If you do scan them, put them also on a flash or thumb drive to be taken with you. I am reluctant to store them in the cloud, unless the security is air tight and encrypted.

Genealogically important papers

If you have original documents, that cannot be replaced, have them stashed in a place or box that can be easily grabbed and taken. Such things as Diaries/journals, photographs, Letters of correspondence from ancestors, awards, recognition, original naturalization, military or other papers. When packing stuff, ask yourself what cannot be replaced.

Heirlooms

This can be a real test. If you have to evacuate just how much room are you going to have in your mode of transportation to take stuff. Your great-great-grandmother's dining room table might not be feasible. But small heirlooms like an ancestor's wedding gifts, or your mother's sterling silver table service might be. I know for me, it would be my great grandmother's music box, and her husband's recently restored violin.

Genealogical work

For myself, I have five ring-binders into which everything concerning my own genealogical work has been stored. They are all together, and easily grabbed and taken. That together with what I have on my computer will allow me to be able to continue my work on the family tree without having to start from scratch.

You may say, well, why don't you just put everything out there on line, like using Ancestry. I am reluctant to do that. Too much information that could be used inappropriately. Plus, I am not terribly happy with their terms of usage. As I understand them, once it is out there, it is theirs to use as they see fit. I lose control. I am not happy about that.

What if number two.

All of these comments have been built on the premise that you are at home and alert, not being awakened at 3 in the morning for a 5 minute mandatory evacuation order.

What if all of your family are away from the home either at work or traveling? Circumstances can vary, and you will have to evaluate just what is feasible. You may or may not be able to get back home. Traffic in any emergency situation is generally terrible. And you may be risking your life needlessly.

It's one thing to have things scanned and in the cloud (all of those documents and papers we have talked about earlier in this piece), but it is another thing concerning heirlooms and precious memories that could be lost.

When I was a child, whenever our family took an extended trip, my mother would box up

various precious items and take them down to our local family bank and store them in their bank vault, to be retrieved when we got home. That was just a little value added service that they provided their customers. Of course, that was over 50 years ago. I doubt that happens anymore, but it was useful to us.

Conclusion

The purpose of this column has been to get you thinking about what to do in the event of an emergency. Life can throw all sorts of curves at us, and we need to be able to handle them and to bounce back from them. You don't need a scouting merit badge, but you do need to be prepared.

The final note here is this. Once you have gotten your preparations completed, keep them up to date. Schedule a self-review at least once a year on a date that is personally important to you, maybe even semi-annually. Outdated information is better than nothing, but up-to-date information is immeasurably better.☺

LINEAGE KEY CATALOG—PART 20

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 keep track of the various Park/e/s lines by assigning them individual lineage keys consisting of one or two letters like A, or JJ or RX. When new members join the Society, we try to match their Park/e/s ancestry with an 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-ZV (Vol. 51.2, 51.3, and Vol. 53.1), AU-CU (Vol. 53.3). Further Lineage Keys will appear in subsequent issues of the Newsletter.

DU Charles (01DU1) **Parks** (1779, ?? – 1850, NJ) (Represented) m. Amelia (Unknown) (c. 1787, ?? – 1868, NJ), date and place of marriage unknown. One child known. This line may connect to 03KY5, Charles m. Amelia, but child David is not found under the KY Lineage Key.

Source materials: lineage papers and correspondence of descendant members.

Child:

David H. (02DU1) **Parks**, (1822, NJ – 1900, NJ) married Elizabeth Quick (1822, NJ – 1899, NJ) 1851, Warren Co., NJ. Had two known Children: Charles Wesley (3DU1) Parks (1855, NJ – 1938, NJ) and Abraham J. (3DU2) Parks (1851, NJ - ??). Both married and had issue.

(PS#1528, 844D)

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EU Peter (01EU1) **Parks** (c. 1759-64, SC – c. 1849, KY) (Represented) Married and had issue. Name of spouse, date and location of marriage not known. At least two children known. Information is thin on this lineage.

Source materials: lineage papers and correspondence of descendant member.

Children:

Quinton (02EU1) **Parks**, (c. 1805, ?? – ??), married Margaret Shown (no date or location) 1826 in Ohio County KY. Had at least four children.

Daniel (02EU2) Parks. Nothing further known.

(PS#794D [no active members on this line])

FU Joseph (01FU1) **Parks**, (??, Ireland – 1810, VA), (Represented). Married and had issue. Name of spouse, date and location of marriage not known. At least seven children known. Information is thin on this lineage.

Source materials: lineage papers and correspondence of descendant members.

Children:

Joseph (02FU3) **Parks**, (1768, VA – 1823, KY m. Elizabeth “Betsy” Davisy (1770, VA – 1844, ??) 1795 Augusta Co. VA. Seven perhaps eight children known.

Thomas (02FU2) Parks, died in 1808, had three known children.

Ann (02FU6) Parks, married a Wilson.

Rebecca (02FU7) Parks, married a Finley.

For the following three children nothing further is known: James (02FU1) Parks, William (02FU4) Parks, David (02FU5) Parks.

(PS#692R, 1089D, [no active members on this line])

GU Col. Robert (01GU1) **Parks**, (c. 1740, MD – 1810, NC) (Represented) m. Mary Molley Fuller (c.1745, MD – 1816, NC) 1761, St. George Parish, Baltimore, MD. There were 12 or more children, but the list is a little confused. Shown here is the general consensus of the issue of Robert and Mary. There have been some guesses as to Col. Robert’s heritage, the most probably being that his ancestry hails from Ireland. This line has now been traced back one further generation than originally recorded.

Source materials: lineage papers and correspondence of descendant member.

Children:

Robert Gola (02GU9) **Parks**, (c. 1775, NC – 1833, TN) m. Mary Polly McClary (1783, NC – 1845, TN) 1803, Caswell Co., NC. Perhaps a total of 9 children, although there is some confusion with names in many lists.

Information is very limited on siblings. Given here is whatever we know: Susannah (02GU1) (1762-a1815); Sarah (02GU2) (1762-a1815); Hiram (02GU3) (c. 1765, MD – 1835) m. Lucy Vaughn; Laban (02GU4) (c.1767, NC – b.1815); William (02GU5) (1769 – ??); Elizabeth (02GU6) (1775, NC – ??); Rachel (02GU7) (1770, NC – 1830, TN) m. Nimrod Browning, had issue; Joseph (02GU8) (1772 – ??); Jephthah (02GU10) (c. 1774, NC – 1813, NC) m. Libbie Culberson, served (and perhaps died) in the War of 1812; Celah (02GU11) (c. 1784, NC

- 1840, TN); and Alfred (02GU12) (1790, NC - 1842, NC) m. Mary Polly Nelson, 1806, NC, had issue.

(PS#1176)

HU **Abial Carringer** (01HU1) **Parks**, (1795, NC - 1870, TX) (Represented) m. Elizabeth Bowers (Bauer) (c. 1798, NC - 1874, TX) 1821 in Ashe Co., NC. Three children known. As yet unproven, his parents might have been Thomas Parks, III and Sarah Carringer.

Source materials: lineage papers and correspondence of descendant member.

Children:

John Bower (02HU2) **Parks**, (1826, TN - 1893, TX) m. Lydia J. Edgings (1829, TN - 1891, TX), 1844, Wright Co., MO. Nine children.

William S. (02HU1) Parks, (1822, TN - 1876, TX) m1) Minerva Ann Holcomb (1829, TN - 1864, TX), c.1843, Carter Co., TN. Nine children. m2) Martha Ann Robinson (1835, SC - 1890, TX) widow of Lewis Garrett Holcomb, 1865, Cherokee Co., TX. Three children.

Alfred Douglas (02HU3) Parks, (1823, TN - 1899, TX) m1) Sarah Windham (1824, TN - ??) b. 1845, Cherokee Co., TX. Two children. Possible other wives and children.

(PS#854D, [no active members on this line])

IU **James** (01HU1) **Park**, (1784, PA - 1857, PA), (Represented) m. Jane Watson (1795, PA - 1863, PA) c. 1816, in Pennsylvania. Total of nine children known. Very possibly James is a son of James (3A24) and Fanny (Kerr) Park of the Arthur line.

Source materials: lineage papers and correspondence of descendant member.

Children:

William Matthew (02IU9) **Park**, (1840, PA - 1929, MA) m. Emma Elizabeth Harmon (1842, PA - 1923, MA), in 1864, place unknown. Seven children.

David William (02IU7) Park, 1834, PA - 1916, PA) m. Isabella "Bella" Watson (1844, PA - 1926, PA) date and place unknown. Four children

Seven other children about which little is known, all born in Pennsylvania: Robert (02IU1 b.1816; Frances "Franny" Kerr (02IU2) b. 1826; James (02IU3) b. 1828; Martha (02IU4) b. 1829; Sarah (02IU5) b. 1832; Rachel (02IU6) b. 1834; and Joseph (02IU8) b. 1837.

(PS#1177L)

JU Lineage Key currently vacant, and not in use. Formerly, This key was used to describe 01JU1 Linsfield Parks, (c. 1810, NC - ??) m. Arminda (Mindy) Barns (c. 1815, ?? - ??) 1838, Union Co., GA, and is now classified as 05C353 in the Thomas of Virginia lineage, LK=C

KU Four siblings, **John** (02KU1), **Weldon E.** (02KU3), **Caroline** (02KU2), and **Anna** (02KU4) **Parks** constitute pretty much all that we know of this Lineage Key. The two descendant members report their father as "Old Major Parks of Philadelphia" (marked as 01KU1 in our lineage system) who married Jane, purportedly a "black woman" (the 1850 Census defines her as mulatto. No other information is known about them. The children's birth dates range from 1814 to 1832 so a good guess would say that the Old Major married sometime around 1813-1814, and perhaps was born in the time period of maybe 1764 to 1794. As for Jane one might guess that she could not have born before

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say 1792. No yDNA has been done on this line which would be extremely helpful. (Represented)

Source materials: lineage papers and correspondence of descendant members;

Children:

John (02KU1) **Parks**, (1814, NC – 1863/4, NYC) m. Elizabeth Charnock (1822, SC – 1907, PA) c. 1843, Philadelphia, PA. Eight children.

Weldon E. (02KU3) **Park**, (c. 1831, NC – ??) m. Agnes Harmon (c. 1831, ?? – ??) date and place of marriage not known. At least one child.

Caroline (02KU2) Parks (c.1828, NC – ??). Nothing further known.

Anna (02KU4) Parks (c. 1832, NC – ??). Nothing further known.

(PS#863R, 1240R, [no active members on this line]).

LU **Joseph** (01LU1) **Parks**, (c. 1826, NY – ??, WI) (Represented) m. Sarah (unknown) (c. 1830, NY – 1894, WI). Date and place of marriage unknown. Three children known. There is a distinct possibility that this Joseph may be a descendant of Robert Parke Of Massachusetts (Lineage Keys STW).

Source materials: lineage papers and correspondence of descendant member;

Children:

Ann Eliza (02LU1) **Parks**, (1850, NY – 1928, WI) m. William Charles Zimmerman (1839, Prussia – 1921, WI) c.1869 Tauchedah, WI. Five children.

Hannah (02LU2) Parks (c. 1851,

WI – 1934, WI) m1) Leverett George Bishop (1848, WI – 1879, WI) 1870, Gravesville, Calumet, WI. No issue known; m2) Thomas Dygart (1852, WI – ??) 1882, Charlestown, Calument Co., WI. One child. .

Nathan (02LU3) Parks (1853, WI – 1866, WI). Died at age 13.

Frank Elijah (02LU4) Parks (1867, WI – 1961, WI) m. Lorena “Rena” Baxter (1869, WI – 1952, WI) 1891, Spencer, Marathon Co., WI. Five Children.☺

Make sure your membership is current!

Check the envelope this Newsletter arrived in. At the end of the first address line you'll see your current dues status. If your membership is about to expire, send in your annual dues.

Don't miss the next issue, which features a fascinating and provocative story about a Park/e/s ancestor and his role in the Underground Railroad.

In memoriam

The Society recently learned of the death of **Charles Owen Johnson**, Esq., PS#1388. Mr. Johnson, age 90, of Alexandria, passed away at his residence in Alexandria, Louisiana, on Friday, August 11, 2017.

Charles Owen Johnson was born in Monroe, LA, on 18 August 1926, the only child of Clifford Uriah Johnson, MD and Laura (Owen) Johnson. On graduation from high school, Mr. Johnson received a B.A. from Tulane University, being elected to Phi Beta Kappa.

Later he received a LL.B. from Harvard Law School, a JD from Tulane Law School and a LL.M. from Columbia Law School.

Mr. Johnson, was a member of the Louisiana State Bar Association and the Federal Bar Association and enjoyed a successful career in law in Louisiana and Washington D.C. Mr. Johnson served for twenty-four years in the Tax Court Litigation Division of



the Chief Counsels Office, Internal Revenue Service, and as Chief of the Court of Appeals Branch, the last eleven years of his service. He was in the Army of the United States from 1950-1952, during the Korean Conflict, and was an overseas veteran the last year. Mr. Johnson resided in Arlington, VA, and Palm Beach, FL (his winter home), where he was active in the hereditary community.

Mr. Johnson served as the first editor of the Hereditary Register of the United States of America, under the President and General Editor, John Griffin Richardson Rountree. He was also chairman of the editorial committee. Mr. Johnson was also a member of the English-Speaking Union of the United States, the Harvard Club of the City of New York and the Harvard Club of Washington, D.C. He

was active in a number of Fraternal Orders and was a Perpetual Member of Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22 AF&AM in Alexandria, Virginia, of which George Washington once served as Worshipful Master. He was also a member of the Harvard Club of Boston, Massachusetts; the Round Table Club of New Orleans, Louisiana; and the Army and Navy Club of Washington, D.C. He was a member of Saint Gregory the Great Orthodox Church (Western Rite) in Washington, DC.

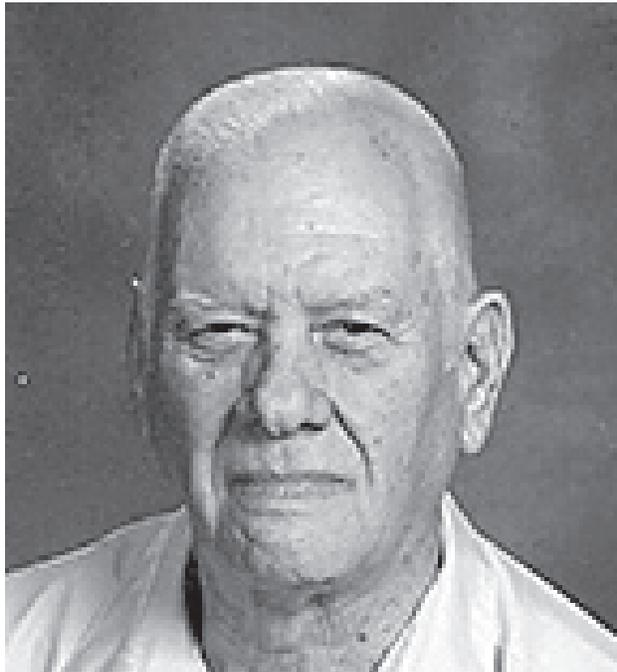
Mr. Johnson has memberships in numerous genealogical and patronal organizations, besides the various fraternal organizations mentioned above, often serving as chief officer, well over 50 of them including, The Society of the Cincinnati, Society of Colonial Wars, The Order of the Crown of Charlemagne, General Society of the Sons of the Revolution, as well as the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, The Huguenot Society, St. Andrew's Society, Military order of the Loyal Legion, and The Order of Founders and Patriots of America to name just a few.

I had the distinct pleasure of meeting Mr. Johnson at the 39th (2002) Annual Convocation of the Parke Society which was being held at the Crown Plaza in Arlington, Virginia, his home territory. In style and demeanor, he was the classic Southern Gentlemen and we had a wonderful time talking about genealogy and taxation (my specialty as a CPA). It was exciting to hear about his adventures as the Chief Counsel of the Washington, DC, Tax Appeals Court.

Charles Owen Johnson is a 12th generation descendant of Robert Park (MA, 1630), LK=S, through his son, Samuel Parke, thence to Elizabeth Park who married John Bennett, to Samuel Bennett, Jane Bennett who married Thomas Parker, to Elisha Parker, Phoebe Parker who married Henry Briggs, to Michael Parker Briggs, Henry Delos Briggs, Sue Sophronia Briggs who married Jason Uriah Johnson, to Clifford Uriah Johnson to member.

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In memoriam
cont'd from p. 35



Gaylord Keith Parks, PS#1470, passed away on July 30, 2017 at his home in Placerville, California.

Mr. Parks was born 15 June 1929 at home just outside of Fresno, California, the son of Ralph Albert and Vivian Thelma (Becker) Parks. He was the eldest of the family with two brothers.

Mr. Parks, served in the Marine Corps during the Korean war. He graduated from Oregon State with a bachelor's degree in forest engineering and subsequently work for the US Forest Service for 34 years before retiring. His whole career was in one way or another about trees and forests, starting out in high school working as a laborer clearing brush, along with the assembling and planting culverts for road construction. He worked at one time or another most of the national forests along the west coast. After a short stint in the Job Corps, he ended up working on the Regional Tree Improvement program within the Forest Service near Placerville, California doing genetics work on various tree breeds.

Often times he found himself climbing up trees to 150 feet, to collect cones, scion wood pollen and pine "flowers" to breed seeds of known parentage. They used special paper bags to isolate the "flowers" from contamination all while swaying in the gentle breezes in the tops of trees.

Following his retirement he and his wife, Phyllis, spent several years traveling via their RV throughout the United States mostly along the west coast and Colorado, with one journey east of the Mississippi where it rained long and hard, convincing them to head and tour the west instead.

He is survived by his wife of more than 62 years, Phyllis Marie (Walling) Parks, a son, Donald Keith (Kristin) Parks, and daughters Catherine Louise Parks, and Carolyn Gay (John Timothy) Parks-Davison. He is also survived by a brother Stephen Earl (Margaret) Parks, He is also survived by three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, and his brother Robert Vern Parks.

Gaylord Keith Parks was researching a Park/e/s Fragment line starting with a John Park, Sr., born circa 1780, place unknown, who married a Susanna Poole (1784, MD – 1874, PA) circa 1805, Centre County, PA, to son John Park, Jr., William Henry, Charles Custer, Ralph Albert, to member. Fragment Lineage Key NP.☞

The next editorial due date is
June 1, 2018

WELCOME, NEW MEMBER!

1673 Elizabeth A. Jeddelloh

Plymouth, MN

Lineage is the Roger line, LK=K. Line is Roger¹, Roger², Nathan³, to Charles⁴, Charles⁵, James Quick⁶ Park, Guilford Benton⁷, Overton⁸, Ira Perrin⁹, Buster Roosevelt¹⁰, to member¹¹. ☞