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From the Editor pro tem

John A. Ewing (+1-260-704-1392, johnewing2003@msn.com)

Please allow me to introduce myself. As the new Editor pro tem of this journal, I present myself to you with great humility. My name is John A. Ewing, and I have been a resident of Fort Wayne, Indiana for most of my adult life. Having grown up as the oldest child of Raymond and Lela Ewing in northwest Ohio, I eventually attended Ohio State University where I received a bachelor's degree in English with a minor in journalism. Some of the fondest memories of my college days include the days that I spent writing for The Ohio State Lantern, the student newspaper.



Perhaps it was for this reason that I consented to accept the challenge to follow the successful path forged by the late Editor, William Ewing Riddle. As most of you know, Bill left behind an amazing legacy. The quality of his work attests to his high standards of excellence. The tributes for Bill that follow on pp. 44-46, are well deserved and appropriately express the respect and admiration that many of you had for him.

My adult life has taken me to Zanesville, Ohio, as a high school English teacher, and to Helmand Province, Afghanistan, where I served as a Peace Corps volunteer teaching English to young male Afghan students. Upon returning to the U.S., I worked as a college administrator for nine years, then as a hotel manager, changing my career aspirations in 1990 to help my father wind down our family nursery business after my mother suffered a debilitating stroke. From there I served as a Field Service Rep with the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), and, most recently, I have passed my insurance licensing test and am now an agent team member for State Farm Insurance. And all in one lifetime!

My family consists of my wife Denise Schutz Ewing, who works as an Executive Assistant for a regional health care provider, three grown daughters, Sara, Jamie and Chelsi (our family history/poly sci graduate). We also have four granddaughters. You're probably beginning to see a pattern here.

I would say that Denise and I are empty nesters at this point except that we're really not. We are entertained daily by our two beagles, Darcy and Kegan, littermates who were given Celtic names by Denise. We believe that these merry little hounds actually bark at all the neighborhood rabbits in Gaelic. The rabbits seem unamused.

Acknowledging the challenge at hand, I promise that with your help and contributions, I will do my best to keep the EFA Journal vibrant, informative and of the highest quality.

To that end, I simply say – Audaciter!

John A. Ewing

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One American Family – Part IX

Wallace K. 'Wally' Ewing (*WKEwing1@gmail.com*)

A few years ago I prepared a biographical sketch of my grandmother, Carlotta Parthenia 'Lotta' Walkley.¹ It soon seemed only fair to give her husband Alvin Enoch 'AE' Ewing equal attention. As an offshoot of this work, I prepared an article about their honeymoon at the 1893 Columbian Exposition based on narratives from Lotta's diary.² Another spin-off was an article about a 1914 family 'walking adventure' by my father, Burke McKendree Ewing, and his brother, Walkley Bailey Ewing.³

Putting together information about the separate and joint lives of AE and Lotta soon showed the need to get as close as possible to the family's beginnings in America. Of course, Carlotta's father, Dr. Wyllys Seamans Walkley, had to be a part of the history. AE's ancestors had to be included as well. And so I kept going farther and farther back to collect and sort out information about the lives and times of my ancestors.

This has resulted in a multi-article series discussing the lives of my parents and their ancestors. This is the ninth article in the series. It concerns my life. The previous eight articles appeared in recent issues of this journal.^{4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11} Collectively, these articles provide a saga of 'One American Family'. Although AE and Lotta came from very different backgrounds and were remarkably dissimilar in personalities, their love was enduring and so was their marriage. This is primarily their story, written so

¹ She was born Carlotta Parthenia Walkley, the third daughter of Wyllys Seamans Walkley. When her father decided to go to medical school rather than return to the farm after the Civil War, he 'gave' Carlotta as a foster child to Freeborn Bailey and his wife. Carlotta was about two-and-a-half years old at the time. Her foster parents were generous and loving, and she adopted (not legally) their family name and, after her marriage to Alvin Enoch 'AE' Ewing, she referred to herself most often as Carlotta Bailey Ewing.

² Ewing, Wallace K. Honeymooners at the 1893 Columbian Exposition, *Ewing Family J.*, Vol. 17, No. 4 (November 2011), pp. 18-20

³ Ewing, Wallace K. The Long Walk of 1914: Grand Haven to Mackinaw City, *Ewing Family J.*, Vol. 17, No. 4 (August 2011), pp. 8-16

⁴ Ewing, Wallace K. One American Family – Part I (James Ewing of Pocahontas County), *Ewing Family J.*, Vol. 18, No. 2 (May 2012), pp. 21-26

⁵ Ewing, Wallace K. One American Family – Part II (Pocahontas James Ewing's Children), *Ewing Family J.*, Vol. 18, No. 3 (August 2012), pp. 16-22

⁶ Ewing, Wallace K. One American Family – Part III (Life and Times of Enoch Ewing, Grandson of Pocahontas James), *Ewing Family J.*, Vol. 18, No. 4 (November 2012), pp. 13-21

⁷ Ewing, Wallace K. One American Family – Part IV (Enoch and Susannah Ewing's Family), *Ewing Family J.*, Vol. 19, No. 1 (February 2013), pp. 17-27

⁸ Ewing, Wallace K. One American Family – Part V (Alvin Enoch 'A.E.' Ewing: A Man of Possibilities), *Ewing Family J.*, Vol. 19, No. 2 (May 2013), pp. 1-33

⁹ Ewing, Wallace K. One American Family – Part VI (Wyllys Seamans Walkley: The Family Doctor), *Ewing Family J.*, Vol. 19, No. 3 (August 2013), pp. 9-21

¹⁰ Ewing, Wallace K. One American Family – Part VII (Carlotta Parthenia 'Lotta' Walkley: A Woman of Probabilities), *Ewing Family J.*, Vol. 19, No. 4 (November 2013), pp. 1-21

¹¹ Ewing, Wallace K. One American Family – Part VIII (Jerry and Buster: Two for the Road), *Ewing Family J.*, Vol. 20, No. 1 (February 2014), pp. 1-36

that each of the segments can be read and understood separately. However, since one part supplements the others – as in life AE and Lotta complemented each other – reading the parts in sequence perhaps provides a better understanding of their whole story, a sense of their heritage and the balance they maintained for more than fifty years.

These articles are based primarily on the journals, diaries, and plentiful correspondence that Jerry and Buster, their families, and their friends maintained over the decades.¹² None of these articles would have been possible had it not been for AE's amazing diligence and tireless correspondence. I am thankful that he was such a prolific writer, threw nothing away, and catalogued and indexed everything.

In addition, much credit goes also to my sister, Nancy Ann Hank Ewing, whose intensive research and monumental genealogy of the complete Pocahontas James Ewing family¹³ is astonishing and irreplaceable. It is sad that Nancy died in 1987 before her work was finished. Had it not been for Barbara (Ewing) Powell's generous commitment to see Nancy 's work completed, it would remain a mass of notes and half-finished narratives, inaccessible to most of us.

The End of One Story Marks the Beginning of Another

Several years ago one of my grandsons posed an intriguing question: What would I do differently in life, if I could live it again? After considerable thought I responded, "Nothing." Certainly it would be gratifying to undo a word or action, but any change in one part of my life would alter other parts. Choices I made during my early decades led me into a happy marriage, four daughters, a varied career, and the contented life I now lead with my wife, Jane. All of life's important matters – family, friends, education, and career – trace the story of how I arrived at this happy moment in my life. Along the way, I made some wise decisions, took several missteps, and celebrated a few strokes of luck. There were consequences for each decision I made, but at the same time each decision opened a new vista.

Matters beside family have been an important part of my life, too. I cannot remember a time when I wasn't reading or writing, or at least pretending to do one or the other. When I was five, I sat on my grandpa Ewing's lap and plunked out on his office-size Underwood typewriter my first letter, addressed in my unique language to him and appropriately enclosed in an envelope and stamped. It was addressed to "tttttttyy43tuu," which AE interpreted as "Wallace to Grandpa—July 29, 1938." The letter itself was in the same strange code, but clearly signed by me, Wallace K. 'Wally' Ewing.

More important than my typing were the stories AE would tell of our earliest American ancestors, especially Pocahontas James, who was born in northern Ireland about 1720, and his sons, Swago Bill and Indian John, the first of my ancestors to be born in the New World. I am sure I absorbed my commitment to history and to genealogy from those sessions on AE's knees.

¹² Material taken from primary sources follows as closely as possible the original. I have inserted [bracketed] information for purposes of clarification or elaboration. Misspellings and grammatical errors have been accurately transcribed.

¹³ Ewing, Nancy Ann Hank (ed. Barbara (Ewing) Powell). *James Ewing – Pioneer*, Self Published, 1994. Available online at www.EwingFamilyAssociation.org/books/Document_JamesEwingOfPocahontas.html.

When I was fourteen I decided to write a comprehensive history of the United States. I meticulously printed the text by hand, starting with 1453 and the fall of Constantinople [Istanbul], which closed off European trade routes to Asia and led to Columbus's 1492 sea voyage. My comprehensive history made it to 1620 and Plymouth Rock, when more important concerns came into my life, such as baseball and girls. My resources were inexpensive history books, from which I freely lifted facts, figures, events, and pictures. I guess I am still working on that project, nearly seventy years later, only now I focus on local history and do not adopt other people's words.

The next year, at age fifteen, I wrote my first autobiography, complete with misspellings, grammatical infelicities, and triteness. Its brevity reflected the scant fifteen years I had experienced, and it revealed a self-deprecatory view that is typical of many teenagers. But that 1947 sketch emphasized some of the focal points that continue to define my life: mobility, love of English language and literature, a sense of humor, and the irresistible attraction of Grand Haven, Michigan, as a place to call home. Over the next decade I started journaling several times, but it didn't become a regular habit until late 1961. I have kept at it consistently ever since.

AE was a devoted record keeper, genealogist, historian, politician, and attorney. It was he that saved the family's Civil War letters, kept copies of almost every letter he wrote, and filed many that he received. He and his wife, Carlotta, started a journal in 1893, the year they were married. After AE's death in January 1945, I inherited his Underwood typewriter, the one I used to punch out my first letter, and I used it steadily in high school and my first year in college until I received a Smith Corona for my nineteenth birthday. AE's typewriter was a black, heavy, cast iron machine, dating to the early 1900s, and it used replaceable ink ribbons. The Smith Corona was portable, light gray, and much quieter. I still had to buy replacement ink ribbons, however.

My line of Ewings might best be described as peripatetic. Pocahontas James migrated from Ireland to the mountains of western Virginia, then moved further west into the future state of West Virginia. In 1810 his sons, Swago Bill and Indian John, gave up the mountains for the more modest rolling hills and arable soil of southern Ohio. Swago's son Enoch was fifty-four years old when he left Jackson County, Ohio, and started to till the land in southern Michigan. The itch to explore new sites skipped a generation, but caused Enoch's grandson and namesake, AE, to push farther north and west into Michigan. His son, Burke, had a curiosity about geography that wouldn't ease up; he and his wife, Marjorie, moved elsewhere and everywhere at the drop of a hat – or at the hint that a tam¹⁴ might be dropped.

It shouldn't be a surprise that I, too, had to scratch a similar itch from time to time. I wasn't content with roaming the fifty states; I added overseas sites to my itinerary. Ask my four daughters, and they will tell you about each sojourn abroad.

¹⁴ tam-o'-shanter (Wikipedia): A tam o'shanter is a bonnet that was first worn throughout northwestern Europe during the 15th century. It is made of wool and has a toorie (pom-pom) in the center. It also has as a main hallmark the clan tartan woven right into its woolen threads. This distinguishes it from other bonnets such as the beret. Although brimless, the Tam O'Shanter, like all Scots bonnets, has an external hatband.

I was born in Grand Rapids, Michigan, at the height (or depth) of the Great Depression. In a preceding chapter, focusing on *Jerry and Buster: Two for the Road*, I mentioned that in 1931 Burke ('Buster'), at the moment unemployed, moved with Marjorie ('Jerry') and their three children from Chicago to the Wilderness, a collection of cottages situated on 199 acres of wooded sand dunes along the Lake Michigan shoreline, four miles south of Grand Haven. They stayed in Burke's parents' pleasant but poorly-heated and uninsulated cottage during the winter of 1931-32 and into the summer. It was in this cottage where in 1938 I typed the letter to my grandfather. The Wilderness, comprised of acres of beach, dunes, and woods, is the sanctuary that I still consider home, even though no Ewing owns an inch of land there anymore. Fortunately, as the last remaining Ewing in the Grand Haven area, I was given lifetime permission to visit this 'paradise enow'.

When it came time at the end of the summer of 1932 for Marjorie to deliver me, her fourth and final child, the family relocated again, this time moving into Carlotta's and AE's home in Grand Rapids at 347 Charles Avenue, thirty-five miles east of Grand Haven, so Marjorie and her newborn could enjoy comfort and care at Blodgett Hospital for fourteen days, the standard stay at that time. I let out my first earth-bound cry at 2:40 on Sunday morning, September 11, 1932. Burke and family left Carlotta and AE in peace the following May and began an involuted series of moves that is fully recorded in previous installments of this series of articles.

Two major historical events had a lifelong and deep influence on me: the Great Depression and World War II. When I was born, Burke had no regular employment and instead traveled by train to Chicago, where he earned some money by selling old gold and doing odd jobs nearer home. He brought home enough cash to keep food on the table and gas in the car.

Despite our nomadic life style, despite our lack of money, and despite Dad's frequent job changes, I have no recollection of suffering from want of anything during my boyhood years. I didn't know what I lacked, so whatever was available seemed natural and sufficient. Toys were few, but books were plentiful. My Christmas stocking typically was stuffed with a tangerine, some walnuts, and a couple of small playthings, such as a top or yo-yo, and a book or two (but no lumps of coal!). I might have received a "Big-Little" book, those small editions for children with large-print text on the left side and

black and white line illustrations on the right. Books that I read voraciously in these early years were the *Hardy Boys Series*, by Frank Dixon, and the *Jerry Todd Series*, by Leo Edwards. The Hardy boys were teenage sleuths, the male version of Nancy Drew. Jerry Todd was a boy about my age. He lived in a small town in Illinois and I enjoyed his enthusiasm, optimism, and ready wit that helped him survive perilous adventure after perilous adventure. In my high-school years I did admire Edgar Allan Poe's poetry (and his prose, too). The poems of Robert Service are less well known today, but two of my favorites that I can still recite were *The Cremation of Sam McGee* and *The Shooting of Dan McGrew*. When a sophomore in high school I purchased a cheap, one-volume edition of Shakespeare's collected plays. The print was exceedingly small and the language difficult to understand, but I plowed on my own through a sampling of his major plays, including *Hamlet* and *Romeo and Juliet*, but neither of those brought me closer to the Bard. Understanding and enjoying Shakespeare required a maturity of mind that I didn't possess at that time, but when I later studied his



At Age Nine

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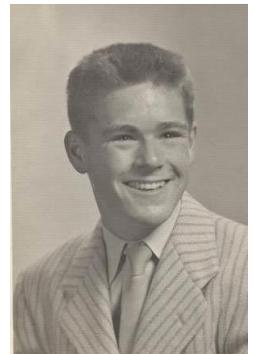
works under the tutelage of a knowledgeable professor at the University of Wisconsin, I gained an appreciation of his remarkable use of language, terse plots, and vivid characterizations.

Everyone huddled around the console radio to hear news of Pearl Harbor on Sunday afternoon, December 7, 1941. I doubt that I comprehended the full significance of that event, but I had a sense from the adult reactions that it was important. The next year my sister, Ann, enlisted in the WAVES, and the year following my brother Mac joined the Navy, the same military branch Dad had served in during World War I. I followed the progress of the war by reading *Newsweek*, *Time*, and local newspapers. To my young mind, it was something like a football game, with the good guys gaining a few yards here and losing a few there, but ultimately winning the game. The death, destruction, and chaos engendered by war did not penetrate my consciousness until later.

World War II seems to be the last war that united Americans in a common patriotic cause. Everyone was called upon to participate in some way. Youngsters saved the tin foil wrappers from chewing gum packages and pieces of old rubber and donated them to the scrap metal and rubber drives that were held throughout the country as part of the war effort. When we visited my mother's parents in Boston, I experienced 'brown-outs', when window shades were pulled down in an attempt to conceal targets from enemy planes and submarines. Gasoline was rationed. We had an 'A' sticker, allowing us a mere four gallons of gas per week. Before rationing began, Dad filled two ten gallon tins with gas and buried them in the sand for emergency use. That emergency never arose, evidently, and after the war he dug them up, only to find rusted scraps of tin. The gas had leached out long ago. Similarly, he brought home in the early years of the war a large roll of cellophane tape – Scotch tape – which was in short supply. We were not allowed to use the tape for ordinary needs, because we might need it for an emergency someday. Apparently that was another emergency that never developed. By the end of the war the roll of tape, pretty much the same size as when it was purchased, had turned into a worthless glob of brittle cellophane and sticky glue. Meatless Tuesdays and Fridays led us to the discovery of Spam, which worked as an occasional meat substitute. Butter was in short supply, so oleomargarine took its place. I didn't suffer from that deprivation, either, since I couldn't tolerate butter and didn't care for oleo and Spam was tolerable.

In the summer of 1945 my parents sent me to camp for a month. Called Hayo-Went-Ha, the YMCA camp was situated on Torch Lake, in the northern lower peninsula of Michigan. I and a few of my friends from Grand Haven took the Pere Marquette train north to a town near the camp. While at camp, I and my mates made a day trip to Mackinac Island, which instantly appealed to my innate appreciation of history. It is a place that has remained one of my favorite vacation spots ever since. It was also during my time at Hayo-Went-Ha that a U.S. Army bomber crashed into the Empire State Building, the first atomic bombs were dropped, and Japan gave signals that it would surrender.

The next year, 1946, I started high school in Grand Haven. A few weeks into the fall term, we moved to Ogden Dunes, Indiana, on the shores of Lake Michigan with Chicago's skyscrapers visible across the water. I spent my freshman year in a consolidated school. Twelve months later we were in Marion, Virginia. There, in the spring of 1949, I was elected president of the student body. I felt honored to be elected, but I dreaded getting up in a



general assembly and addressing my classmates. Fortunately, I only had to do that one time, since we moved to Chicago at the start of my senior year. One of the benefits of being a class officer was attending Boys' and Girls' State, which was held that summer at Virginia Military Institute in Blacksburg. The week-long gathering was a memorable and educational experience. I was awarded the Eisenhower Medal for "good citizenship," a memento I continue to cherish.

There were several teachers in Marion whose influence has endured. Cornelia Anderson, my Latin tutor, was the one-time wife of the author Sherwood Anderson [Winesburg, Ohio], who owned and edited two local newspapers. Anderson passed away in 1941 and was buried at the Marion cemetery. His gravestone read, *Life Not Death Is the Great Adventure*. He and Cornelia were divorced in 1914, but Mrs. Anderson remained in Marion. Since advanced Latin was not offered at the high school, I met at Mrs. Anderson's apartment to study the 'dead' language with her on a one-to-one basis. We got along well despite our substantial age difference, and we discussed a variety of topics, including how to improve my signature, which she thought looked cramped. Her suggestion has lasted a lifetime. She died at the age of ninety in 1967.

The faculty at Marion High School had differing views of my scholastic performance. My English teacher, Josephine Buchanan, wrote on my report card, "Full of life and energy, Wally keeps his English class from becoming dull." Al Mitchell, who taught government, penned a series of notes, one ending with this: "I am surprised and likewise discouraged at Wally's accomplishments in Government this six weeks. His inattention in class and nonchalant attitude will continue to bring his grades down if he doesn't snap out of it and apply himself. I want to see Wally do just that!!" Mother replied on the same report card that Mr. Mitchell would see a change in Wally during the next marking period. Then she added, somewhat forlornly, "I hope."

Following her service in the WAVES, my sister Ann moved to Washington, D.C. Her first job was as writer for *Science News Letter*, a fledgling magazine intended primarily for high-school libraries. She is credited with being the first to write about 'black holes', a reference to that phenomenon in outer space. Her article appeared in the January 18, 1964, issue of the science magazine. I visited her at her office several times and was always greeted warmly by her co-workers and friends. On one memorable occasion Ann and I had dinner with Herb Block [1909-2001], a well-known political cartoonist. He was fun to be with, looking quite professorial in his Tattersall shirt, knit tie, and Harris Tweed sport coat. I relished his cartoons then and still do.

My parents and I followed different routes for our move to Chicago in the fall of 1949. Ann picked me up in Marion on September 6th that year. We drove to Washington, D.C., where I stayed with her for a week or so. I then took the Greyhound bus from Washington to Chicago, where I arrived on September 18th, the day after my parents finished moving our furniture into temporary housing until we finally settled in a second floor apartment at 9330 Longwood Drive in Beverly Hills, not far from Morgan Park. In the meantime I had enrolled at Morgan Park High School, the same school from which Ann and Nancy had graduated. Mac stayed behind when Marjorie, Burke, and I moved to Barberton, Ohio, in 1942; he was a high school senior that year and wanted to graduate from Muskegon Senior High School. He enlisted in the Navy not long after graduation.

In my senior year I became a writer for the high-school newspaper, *Empehi News*, as my sisters Ann and Nancy had done some years earlier. One day I and two of my friends from Morgan Park, Ed Sabel

and Clark O'Halloran, cut school to go to the Museum of Science and Industry near downtown Chicago. I forged my mother's name on a note to excuse my absence and got caught. Mom, being informed of my gaffe, said she would have been glad to write a legitimate excuse for me if I had told her our plans. Going to a museum, after all, was not a bad thing to do. Despite a low grade in trigonometry, I maintained above average grades and graduated in the top one-quarter of my class. That seemed to be a notable achievement for a student who attended four different high schools during those precarious teenage years.

A summer job kept me from attending graduation ceremonies in late June, 1950. John Owen and I drove his Model A to Grand Haven and stayed in my parents little white cottage at the south end of the Wilderness. With us was John Seaman, a childhood playmate and another graduate from Morgan Park High School. Dad had built the isolated cabin around 1938, and various members of the family – usually Mom, Dad, and I – had spent many summer vacations there. It had neither electricity nor plumbing. My two friends stayed a few days and then returned to Chicago, while I resumed my job at Erickson's Super Market as a stock and bag boy. My wages had risen to 75 cents an hour.

I started my three-year stint at the University of Wisconsin in the fall of 1950. The previous spring I had taken an examination for a scholarship offered through the NROTC (Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps). I am not sure where in Chicago the exam was administered, but I believe it was at the Illinois Institute of Technology on Navy Pier. There was a large group of young men competing for the full scholarships. It was a long exam, and we broke for lunch about noon. Apparently we were a bit too eager to get to the cafeteria. As we young men jumped from our seats and the hum of conversation began to fill the hall, a Navy officer shouted forcefully, "Stand fast!" I'm sure none of us had heard the term "stand fast" before, but his tone of voice made his intention clear. We "stood fast" by plunking right back down in our seats and remaining silent until the officer had made his announcements. I learned that body language and tone of voice can convey more meaning than the words themselves.

I passed the exam and was accepted into the Naval Reserve program. The Navy paid my tuition, provided me with text books, and gave me \$50 a month stipend. That increased to \$75 a month while on active duty. I had my choice of fifty-two colleges and universities throughout the country, and chose the University of Wisconsin because it was close to Chicago and it had a good academic reputation. In return the Navy required me to take Naval Science classes and to be available for active duty for the three ensuing summers. Following graduation I would be commissioned as Ensign and serve three years.



**Navy Publicity Photo
Summer 1952**

In September 1950, I took the Milwaukee Clipper across Lake Michigan from Muskegon to Milwaukee, and hitchhiked from there to Madison to look for student housing. I found a room at 347 Randall Street, close to the University of Wisconsin campus and not far from a couple of inexpensive restaurants.

There was a wringer-washing machine in the basement, where I could wash my bedding and other items. I didn't iron. I wore slacks and shirts until they wore out, then replaced them.

Shirley Oltman and I had started dating in the weeks following my high-school graduation. She was the daughter of Paul and Betty Oltman, who owned a cottage in the Wilderness just below Carlotta's and AE's. I had tried making my summer home in our little white cottage, but it was too isolated, too rustic. There was no electricity and no plumbing, and my nearest neighbors lived on the other side of a broad, sandy expanse. To keep food cool, I buried canned goods in the sand close to the frigid waters of Lake Michigan. The next morning the cans were scattered along the beach, all the labels washed off. I never knew what I was going to open, so I ate some interesting if lonely meals. Happily, after only a few days of isolation, Carlotta invited me to sleep at her cottage. I planned to ride my bike to and from work – a good idea in my head, not so good in practice, and I tired of that before long, too. Mr. Oltman agreed to transport me to town when possible. He had just bought the Addison-Baltz Department Store in downtown Grand Haven, not far from Erickson's grocery store.

Shirley graduated from Grand Haven High School in the spring of 1951 and enrolled at Ripon College in Wisconsin, the same school that my sister Ann had attended. Shirley and I became engaged in February, 1953. I plundered my meager savings and bought her a diamond engagement ring for \$75. We planned to get married the following September, just before classes resumed, a week after my return from six weeks of training with the Navy.

In 1951 and the two succeeding summers I was obligated to spend six weeks on active duty with the Navy. The first summer I was assigned as a midshipman to DD-864, H. J. Ellison, a destroyer that dated from World War II. Our fleet left Norfolk, Virginia, and sailed to New York City, the Panama Canal Zone, Guantanamo Bay (Cuba), and back to Norfolk. Not long after leaving our home port, I saw my first dead person, a pilot whose plane had crashed into the ocean. He was pulled aboard the Ellison and placed on the deck for a while, fully clothed and shod, looking more like a sleeping Navy pilot than a dead one. The impact of that dreadful sight has never left me.

Next year my summer was divided between learning the techniques of amphibious warfare at Little Creek, Virginia, and the basics of aviation at the Naval Air Station in Corpus Christi, Texas. While in training there, I flew as a passenger on a small trainer and a larger PB-Y4. The pilot of the trainer asked me what acrobatics I would like to experience, and Responded, "Loop the loop!" He complied, and so did my stomach. I never suggested aerial stunts again.

My final cruise, in the summer of 1953, put me aboard DD-679, *McNair*, and a stormy voyage across the North Atlantic to Edinburgh. I learned that the North Atlantic can be wildly turbulent. While riding through a storm our destroyer was dwarfed by immense waves that towered over us. From Edinburgh a group of us went by train to London for a tour of the city. We returned to Edinburgh and continued east to Oslo, Norway, where the Winter Olympics had been held the previous year. We had time in Oslo to marvel at the midnight sun and trek up a mountain or two before returning to Norfolk to disembark.

These were the years of the Korean War, and although I was never assigned to that combat zone, we midshipmen were instructed in the elements of Naval battles, navigation, and engineering, subjects far removed from my English literature frame of mind. Loading and firing the 40-mm anti-aircraft guns aboard ship was a particularly daunting assignment.

After the *McNair* returned to Norfolk in early September and the midshipmen were dismissed, I hitched a ride with another Navy cadet who lived in southern Michigan and found myself in Grand Haven a few days before September 12th, the date of my impending wedding. Shirley and I exchanged vows at St. Mark's Chapel in Grand Rapids, and an elaborate reception was held at the University Club immediately afterward. A close friend from the NROTC, Tom Anderson of Washburn, Wisconsin, was best man. John Owen, from Morgan Park High School, and Shirley's brother, Paul, were ushers.

As noted earlier, making a different decision at an early point in my life would have altered the chain of events that brought me to my present contented state. That decision, made within a few weeks of our arrival in Madison, was for Shirley and me to end our marriage. She returned to Grand Haven, and I soon resigned from the Navy with an honorable discharge, left the University of Wisconsin, and hitchhiked to Lansing, where I intended to take classes at nearby Michigan State University. I canvassed the stores in downtown Lansing, hoping to find a job.

Marianne Nash, secretary in the Personnel Department at the Arbaugh Department Store, hired me as a clerk in the Men's Department for the pending Christmas rush at a dollar an hour. After a brief stay with a young family on Stanley Court in Lansing, I rented a room at 1308 Snyder Road in East Lansing, where I met my roommate and ultimately life-long friend, Noel Todd, an ex-Marine. He and I had kitchen privileges, which he used more often than I could fry an egg and open a can of soup with some confidence, but anything fancier than that was beyond my culinary skills.

After withholdings, my dollar-an-hour wage at the department store yielded \$32 a week. Out of that net I was obligated to pay \$10 a week for the next six months to cover legal fees related to my divorce. My room cost \$8 a week, and the remaining \$14 barely covered food and transportation. A fried-chicken dinner for \$1.25 was a luxury I rarely indulged in, and riding the bus between home and work occurred only when the weather was unforgiving. Since I would be selling menswear at the store, I needed more appropriate clothing than I had brought with me. The manager at Household Finance Corporation thought I appeared responsible enough to be trusted with a \$50 loan to buy a pair of slacks, a couple of shirts, and a sport coat. That gave me another financial obligation to pay out of my meager take home. Somehow I made ends meet.

My temporary job at the department store turned permanent after Christmas, a change that put more cash in my pay envelope. In 1954 I was promoted to Assistant Buyer in the Menswear Department. The head buyer, Ivan "Mickey" Maguire, had served with the Army in Italy during WWII, and now he had a wife and two children. Although he was only ten years older than I, he treated me like a son. We had a strong and positive relationship throughout our years of working together. He was an early mentor and model.

Clerking in the nearby women's wear department was Nancy Lee Kendall Armstrong, a divorced mother of two daughters. I conflated her first and middle names to 'Nancilee' to distinguish her in conversation from my sister Nancy. We started dating in early fall 1954, fell in love, and were married the following February 19th. Two life-long friends were witnesses: Noel Todd and his wife, Sara, whom he recently had married. Within a year or two I was able to legally adopt Nancilee's two girls, Deborah Sue, born on February 10, 1951, and Teresa Kay, born on August 5, 1953.

Nancilee, born in Lansing, Michigan, on March 9, 1932, was the daughter of Lawrence and Ilah Mae Kendall. Nancilee had two siblings: an older brother Larry and a younger sister, Mary Lou. Larry married Delores 'Dayl' Rice in 1947, and Mary Lou married Carl Gallagher a year before Nancilee and I made our commitment.

The pragmatic need of supporting a family of four did not immediately stop my philosophical ramblings, Nor did the addition of a third baby in September, although my journal entries clearly decreased in number in that first full year of family rearing. Nancilee gave birth to two more daughters: Sandra Lee, who made her debut on September 10, 1956, and Kathy Lynn followed on June 13, 1960. All four were born at Sparrow Hospital in Lansing. Our family was complete.

In the first thirty years of our married life, Nancilee and I and our children changed addresses twenty-six times. We lived on Fenton Street a matter of months before moving to a nicer residence at 616 Berry Street, across the street in Lansing from June and Veryl McCuaig. June was Carl Gallagher's sister. Next we rented Carl and Mary Lou Gallagher's home at 1231 Warwick Drive, part of a subdivision of inexpensive houses just off Logan Street, near Jolly Road. It was a circular drive, the north half called Warwick Drive, the south half Pompton Circle. Nancilee's aunt and uncle, Harold and Olive Kendall, lived in the same complex. Also living nearby was the Arbaugh Shoe buyer, Harry Hoppman and his family. Carl served with the army from 1955-1957, and he and Mary Lou were living in Kentucky with their baby, Cheri, born in late 1954. Larry and Dayl Kendall rented the Gallagher's house for a short time, before moving to Denver. When they vacated, we left our home on Berry Street and lived in the Gallagher's place for a short time.

When Mary Lou and Carl returned to Lansing and reclaimed their home, we bought a house at 1204 Pompton Circle from Bob and Sally Stump for \$7,700. We gave the Stumps \$1,400 cash that we borrowed from the Arbaugh Credit Union and took over the Stumps' mortgage with National Homes Acceptance Corporation. Our payments were \$51 a month, including taxes and insurance. We moved into the 750 square-foot structure on February 1, 1957, and called the place home for more than two years. On May 1, 1959, we moved into our newly-constructed house at 1621 Peggy Place in Lansing. Local contractor Don Hodney built the home for us at a cost of \$14,100, including the cost of the lot. It had 1,020 square feet, three bedrooms, a bath and a half, a dining area, a full basement, a built-in birch bookcase in the living room, and a pass-through opening between the kitchen and the living room, Nancilee's innovation. Don assumed ownership of the Pompton Circle house as partial payment on the new one, setting the price at its FHA mortgage value of \$9,700. We were building equity.

When my supervisor, Mickey Maguire, left to manage Hevenrich's Men's Store in Saginaw, Arbaugh made a series of management changes, including promoting me to buyer of the basement store in the spring of 1957. My new responsibilities included clothing for men, women, and children. I needed to become an expert merchandiser quickly.

Toward the end of 1961, I decided to maintain a journal on a regular but periodic basis as an outlet for my discontent at work and with life in general. Mankind was, as I expressed it to Bill Van Brug, "catapulting through space on a collision course with disaster." That glib phrase was a melodramatic but accurate reflection of my feelings of 'angst' that bothered me for several years, including the international problems of the Cold War, the need for bomb shelters, and preparing to meet enemies around the world. The Vietnam War exacerbated the anxiety. My journal included daily events, as well,

and gradually those mundane occurrences became the journal's dominant theme and entries were made more regularly, not just when I felt the impulse to write.

We joined the Presbyterian Church in Lansing about this time. Nancilee and I became immersed in its ministry and social activities, and we six were baptized there. Our special friends were Judy and Nile Harper. Nile was Assistant Pastor. They left Lansing and moved to New York City, where Nile taught at Columbia University. Through the church we met a number of other couples about our age, including Len and Chris Lunau, who were interesting and charming, but Len was an alcoholic, trying to recover, and Chris had numerous medical problems. She died in 1969, a year after her husband, at the age of forty-five. For the most part, though, these were happy family times for the Ewings, although I was not satisfied with my career in retailing.

In 1961, I was appointed buyer of men's and boy's wear for Arbaugh's and its sister store in Grand Rapids, Wurzburg's. At first I commuted between Lansing and Grand Rapids, spending a few nights a week at the YMCA. Bill and Phyllis Van Brug made a room in their house available, too. Bill was a buyer at Wurzburg's. He and Phyllis had four daughters about the same ages as ours. When school was out we leased our house on Peggy Place and moved to a rental home at 1766 Silver Street SE in Grand Rapids. It was a conservative Dutch neighborhood. Mowing the grass on Sunday was frowned on. Despite restrictions, we felt comfortable and made friends with some other young families, including Richard and Mary Peter. Retailing was changing considerably. Discount outlets were popping up everywhere, including Grand Rapids, where Atlantic Mills sold goods out of crates, offered little or no service, and cut prices deeply. Our stores succumbed to midnight sales and dawn sales, and began to offer lower-quality goods in order to reduce prices and regain lost business. I continued as buyer for both stores, and my trips to Chicago and New York became monthly rituals.

The frequent buying trips, the constant pressure to find 'hot' items at sale prices and the long days at the store led to doubts about my capacity to happily survive a lifetime in the retail business. I had taken courses from time to time at Michigan State University, but still had not earned sufficient credits to qualify for an undergraduate degree. Nearly twenty-eight years old, I decided to resign from my job as buyer and to complete at long last the requirements for a bachelor degree, majoring in English. I needed to devote one term to fulltime study, but I soon decided to add another two years and pursue a master's degree. Not many years after I left retailing, both Arbaugh's and Wurzburg's were out of business.

Management at the department stores was disappointed to hear of my decision, but supported the change by appointing me Assistant Store Manager at the Arbaugh's in Lansing. For a year I worked nights and Saturdays at the store, balancing life on campus with life at home. We leased the Peggy Place house, and the six of us lived in a two-bedroom apartment on the Michigan State campus: 1626 D Spartan Village. For \$90 a month the university provided us with a furnished two-bedroom apartment, telephone, trash pickup, water, heat, and light. Nancilee's part-time job at a nearby grocery store was an immense help.

After one term of undergraduate study, I received my bachelor degree in December 1961, and the next month entered the master degree program, again in English and again at Michigan State. My original intent had been to teach English at the high-school level, but teacher certification required a series of

courses in education, and they were all far removed from my interests. No such courses were required to teach at the college level, and courses in English were considerably more attractive.

In the spring of 1962 my graduate advisor alerted me to a teaching-assistantship opportunity in the American Thought and Language Department. I talked to Ben Strandness, who gave me the job on the spot, saying that although the announcement had been out a few weeks, I was the first one to apply and deserved to have it. It paid \$2,000 over two semesters, a significant sum in 1962. The additional income allowed me to leave the retail business for good, while I continued to pursue a master degree on a fulltime basis.

The next year I learned about a need for teachers of English as a Second Language at Michigan State. Again, I applied and was hired. That opportunity introduced me to the world of linguistics, applied and theoretical. Literature was great, but language was even more fascinating, more challenging. Transformational Grammar and its application to language learning were especially intriguing.

Within a few hours of our arrival at Spartan Village we met Jean Vaccaro and her four children, who lived a couple of doors from us on the same street. Later that evening we became acquainted with Lou, her husband. He was pursuing a Doctor of Education degree at Michigan State. Other friends in the Village were Sam and Sara Oakland and their infant son, who lived a few doors from us in the other direction. During the summer of 1963 I delivered the University's morning newspaper to various married housing apartments and earned a few additional dollars for bread and milk.

On a wintry morning just after Christmas 1963, Sam and I boarded his poorly-heated VW bus. We left Spartan Village well bundled but shivering, since the vehicles rear-mounted engine just couldn't provide enough warmth to the seats upfront. An hour or so outside Chicago we used a service station rest room to change into clothes more in keeping with the meeting of the Modern Language Association, held annually at this time of year in the Windy City. In addition to some interesting seminars related to literature and teaching, the conference was a marketplace for new graduates to find teaching positions. I had several interviews and a few job offers, but the one that seemed most alluring was with the English Department at Iowa State University in Ames. I was interviewed by Dr. Albert Walker, Department Chair. We had a strong bond from the start, and he became my advisor, mentor, and friend. The starting wage for a new assistant professor was \$6,000, but because of my experience teaching English to foreign students at Michigan State, I was given an additional \$300 per year in lieu of being reimbursed for moving costs. The position was contingent upon my receiving the Master of Arts Degree in English, which I accomplished in May 1964.

Additional Information

Several genealogies have been prepared about Pocahontas James Ewing's family and his father, John Ewing of Carnashannagh:

- *Ewing in Early America*, by Margaret (Ewing) Fife, is a basic source of information about many immigrant Ewings.¹⁵

¹⁵ Fife, Margaret (Ewing) (ed. James R. McMichael). *Ewing in Early America*, Family History Publishers (Bountiful, Utah), 2003. Available from www.HigginsonBooks.com and online at www.EwingFamilyAssociation.org.

- My sister's book, *James Ewing – Pioneer*,¹⁶ reports on the life, times and descendants of Pocahontas James Ewing.
- William W. Sproul III's articles^{17,18} concern three early James/Joshua Ewing settlers of Augusta County, Virginia, including Pocahontas James Ewing.
- A genealogy of John Ewing of Carnashannagh, prepared by James R. McMichael, is available in the Ewing Genealogy Documentation material provided on the Ewing Family Association's Web Site.¹⁹



Wallace K. Ewing's grandfather, A.E. Ewing, bequeathed him the family genealogy gene. Some of Wally's earliest memories are of sitting on AEs lap listening to stories of their early Ewing ancestors: Pocahontas James, Swago Bill, and Indian John, among a host of others. AE knew how to tell a story and how to make history personal and exciting for even a five-year old. 'More than seventy years later,' Wally says, 'my pulse still quickens when I read or hear about another Ewing, and if that Ewing is remotely related to me, my heart beats even faster.' A retired teacher, Wally has delved deeply into the history of his hometown as well as his family genealogy. He can be reached by Email at WKEwing1@gmail.com.

A Scots-Irish Saga: Part III – Discovering Kin in Ireland **William Skidmore Ewing (*W.Ewing421@btinternet.com*)**

About ten years ago, my ten-year-old grandson persuaded me to buy a computer. First mistake! I'm a nuts and bolts, hammer and chisel, Commodore 64 sort of person. This contraption had me tearing my hair out even after reading many manuals and getting lessons from both my grandsons, one of whom was five years old at the time.

I joined a programmer called *Friends Reunited*. Second mistake! I received an e-mail message: "Hi! I believe you are my Uncle Billy," and so it all began. David Crawford, my niece's husband got me interested in researching my heritage by supplying me with copies of birth and death certificates for my family. To me, this was a revelation. Prior to this, I hadn't even known my grandparents' Christian names.

All these data weren't enough for me, I wanted more. Third mistake! I started communicating with friends in the U.S. and Canada and discovered a group called Clan Ewing in America (now the Ewing Family Association). Big findings here - a treasure trove of information, kinsmen with the same bug,

¹⁶ Ewing, Nancy Ann Hank (ed. Barbara (Ewing) Powell). *James Ewing – Pioneer*, Self Published, 1994. Available online at www.EwingFamilyAssociation.org/books/Document_JamesEwingOfPocahontas.html.

¹⁷ Sproul, William W., III. The Early Ewing Families of Augusta County, Virginia: Part I, *Ewing Family J.*, Vol. 15, No. 3 (May 2009), pp 27-29. Available online at www.EwingFamilyAssociation.org/documents/Sproul/Sproul_Part_1.html.

¹⁸ Sproul, William W., III. The Early Ewing Families of Augusta County, Virginia: Parts II to IV, *Ewing Family J.*, Vol. 16, No. 3 (May 2010), pp. 16-37. Available online at www.EwingFamilyAssociation.org/documents/Sproul/Sproul_Part_2.html.

¹⁹ www.EwingFamilyAssociation.org/EGD_Project/Document_JohnOfCarnashannagh.html

called genealogy. My life was totally changed, I became a fantasist and a dreamer wanting more and more information. I visited Ireland many times and covered most of Scotland, all in my quest for my ancestors.

OK, what was my fourth mistake? Well, it's simple. My spouse, Margaret, likes things nice and tidy, and I know that at the first opportunity, she will clear my computer room of all my notes. So just to keep things tidy, I decided to coagulate my untidiness into a document. Yes, computer technology is amazing, and I have taken advantage of it.

Up front, I thank David Crawford, Karen and Richard Childs and everyone involved with the running of the Ewing Family Association. Please accept this contribution as my appreciation to you all.

The first two installments of my story about my life and Ewing heritage appeared in previous issues of the *Ewing Family Journal*.^{20,21} This article continues my story.

Married: Discovering Matthew 1 In Ireland

This is it. To get down to the nitty-gritty, I've been confused by dot com up to now. Don't kid yourself.

I'm just starting to heat up. Decision time - are you the adventurous type? Why don't you take up the challenge? Believe me, it's worth it. Put my story aside and enjoy discovering it for yourself. I'll even give you a starter. Check out the 1851 Census for Lanarkshire. I hope you can afford it. Getting info can be expensive.

As I've said on numerous occasions, I intend to write as I talk, which means you'll be required to think really hard. If you intend reading on, be prepared to be completely bamboozled. Also, because I'm telling my story in the vernacular, i.e., from way back to the present day, I will have to throw in some relevant material which will be proved later. Honestly, I'm not doing it intentionally, it comes naturally. Good luck.

The 24th September 1962, the day my life changed completely, I was transformed from a boozing carefree, who don't-give-a-hoot, selfish arsehole into a caring, delightful, wonderful and awesome work-all-the-hours-in-the-day, even more perfect arsehole.

On that day, I married Margaret McChesney, a lady I did not deserve. We worked hard together to improve our lot and to make our marriage work. There is no doubt Margaret succeeded in what many believed impossible. She completely changed me – William Skidmore Ewing. Things were difficult in those early days. A basic wage barely covered the bare necessities and 'wee meal out occasions' were pretty rare. Our first abode was in Annathill Miners Rows just up the road from ma mammy, sharing a toilet with our next door neighbour. Having only cold water, was also certainly something of an inconvenience. Let it be said though, we had some happy moments in our Room and Kitchen and managed to have our wee parties and annual caravan holiday in Scarborough or wherever. Fortunately,

²⁰ Ewing, William Skidmore. A Scots-Irish Saga: Part I – The Beginning, *Ewing Family J.*, Vol. 19, No. 4 (November 2013), pp. 40-51

²¹ Ewing, William Skidmore. A Scots-Irish Saga: Part II – Irish Roots and Kinsmen, *Ewing Family J.*, Vol. 20, No. 2 (May 2014), pp. 1-13

we only had a few years in the Miners Rows and we certainly got a taste of how our ancestors had existed.

By the way, just think about it. Even today, when we have all these computer things, people are still living in homes with fewer facilities than the Romans had two thousand years ago.

Enough of that. As I said, Margaret was the highlight of my life and I was determined to do my bit to better ourselves. I worked as much overtime as I could get and studied every spare minute. A lot of my studying was done underground in the darkness of Bedlay Colliery. It would take me about ten years of day release and night school to obtain an Honours in Engineering. In 1964, Alan, our son, was born and the following year we moved to our present home 27 Campsie Place, Muirhead. I was back to my favourite pastime. At last I had someone with whom to play cowboys and Indians.

I don't know whether it's a Ewing trait or whether it's just me, but I find it very difficult to join in a group conversation. I always seem to get beat before saying something. I find I am slower to answer than everyone else. Even with Margaret and any of our sons, when I go to say something I am lucky if I get a word in. No doubt you're saying, what's that all about? Well, it's just a little admission so you don't think I'm perfect.

Back to finding my family in Ireland. My goal was to discover my great³-grandfather Samuel's father. Unfortunately genealogy investigations prior to 1820 are just that little bit more difficult, nowhere more so than in Ireland. There are no informative Census's or Birth/Death Certificates, and a lot of documents have been lost or destroyed. A lot of detective work would now be required. Things weren't going to be easy.

How did we manage all those years ago without the Internet? Just put a name put into hyperspace via the search engine, Google, and you're in business! What a result – unbelievable. My previously inconspicuous family turned into thousands of potential relatives all over the world. America, Ireland and Britain have Samuel Ewings galore. I found a wealth of information and finally had a base from which to work.

As I said earlier, my only clues initially were from my great²-grandfather Mathew's death certificate. It stated he was born in Ireland in 1808, was a coalminer, died in Kilwinning, Ayrshire in 1870 and married a Mary Davidson. His father was Samuel (a soldier) and his mother was Emilia (surname Blaney or, more likely, Blayney). I also knew Mathew had come over from Scotland around about 1812.

Ok, first finding out my ancestors came from Ireland was a bit of a shock. Knowing nothing about Irish history, my first thoughts were, "Jesus, don't tell me my ancestors were Roman Catholic". Was I going to be included in some of those Irish jokes? Pat, Mick and Billy, the Undertakers, went into a Chemist and asked for something tae stop their coffin. My God, ma old father would be turning in his grave. Enough of that, let's be serious.

To be honest it would have been the sensible thing to admit I was up against the proverbial brick wall. No way! I was just stubborn enough to continue researching. I had gathered so much.

Just to digress for a moment, my 'fallout shelter' of a desk was more like a bomb site - with paperwork.

I searched all Censuses, QPR's and church records for Scotland and Ireland, all to no avail. Samuel and Emilia were untraceable. They had simply vanished. I believed it highly probable that great³-grandfather Samuel, being a soldier, was off fighting in one of the many wars at the time. In fact, the 74th Foot were desperately recruiting and taking on local militia in Ireland to fight in the Peninsular War at the time. There is also the probability that my great³-grandfather was a soldier and his name would be Mathew, following the father-to-son tradition of having the same trade. It was also traditional for first sons to be named after their grandfathers. Around 1809, the 74th Foot left Ireland to fight the French in Spain. It may have been the case that great⁴-grandfather went off with Samuel and Emilia and the army to fight the war against the French.

Ok. Now I was looking for a Mathew Ewing. I was gathering a lot of clues, a lot of innuendos and I was hoping something would come up, so I kept trying. Emilia, surely I'd get something from her name, not being a common Christian name, I really went for it. Again, searching the lot in Ireland and Scotland - not a dicky bird. I found no record of it under Blaney (Emilia's maiden name) or Ewing. Where her husband Samuel's Christian name was conspicuously prevalent, hers was the opposite, not a one.

One very interesting find though, was that Blaney had the honour of having the County of Castleblaney named after it and her namesakes had been peers of the realm. In fact, a John Blayney (Blaney) was among the officers who swore to defend the city of Londonderry in 1689 and fought for King William. Blaney was also a name prominent in County Monaghan and is today, mainly in Counties Antrim and Down.

Again, old faithful, Google, came up with a bit of interest which gave me some inspiration. I discovered a piece of information which definitely merited some future investigations. A James S Rotramel in Franklin County, Illinois, who died in 1893 at age sixty-nine, had been married to an Emilia Ewing. Her father was a Col. Elijah who fought for the Confederates in the American Civil War. Col. Elijah's family were descended from the Ewing's in Southern Illinois. Could this Col. Elijah Ewing have been a descendant of my great³-grandmother? I think it is highly probable that there was a connection somewhere. As I said, Emilia was a very, very rare Irish name and for another Ewing to have had it maybe a couple of generations later, was a bit much to be coincidental.

It has to be appreciated that in those days, there were no doctors or nurses and soldiers depended on their wives for tending to their injuries. I don't know why, but I feel a certain strange sympathetic closeness to my great³-grandmother, Emilia. I just get this very weird and wonderful heart tingling feeling when I think about her. Of course, as I said earlier, I don't believe in the supernatural, paranormal heebie-jeebie stuff - nothing like that. It's just that I feel something very wrong happened to her for her to part from her infant son, Mathew. Some of the stories from the period regarding soldiers' wives are horrendous. I'll talk more about that later.

Honestly! I spent a helluva lot of time looking for Mathew, my great⁴-grandfather. The result was years and years of nothing, until one day, a breakthrough. I contacted a girl, Tammy, from Canada whose ancestor was, believe it or not, a Mathew Ewing, married to an Ann Kelly. Tammy gave me the proof I had craved for. Can you imagine my excitement? I was over the moon! It was almost as good as having a game of cowboys and Indians.

Then I had a genealogist's dream-of-a-find, a handwritten simple document compiled by a lady called Enola Ewing in 1930 and brought up to date by her sister, Anna (Ewing) Ranns who brought it to light in 1991.

I cannot say enough to praise this writing, remembering that this was researched not from the computerised world we live in today, but from discussions with elderly family members, writings in bibles and visits to graveyards. The time and effort which must have been put into it, in itself, proves a character worthy of the Ewing name, Anna Ewing Ranns. Anna, I congratulate and thank you very much.

Rather than show the whole document, I will quote parts and explain their relevance to my own assumptions. Unfortunately, only part one is available. (Copy of the document can be viewed at <http://ripandrevmedia.ca/files/>)

And I quote:

"Facts of births and deaths are obtained from family bibles and graveyards. The cemeteries are in Pike River, Bedford, Mystic and Dunburn (all in Quebec). The following item was written by my sister, Enola in August, 1930. Enola wrote this in my autograph album that I circulated at the time of my marriage August, 1930."

She then reveals a copy of a letter describing the origins of the Ewing name and how they were affiliated to the McLachlan Clan and how their grandfather came from Muirkirk.

I further quote:

"Our own Grandfather John Ewing came from Muirkirk in the county of Ayr and the ancestral home of the Ewing family is still standing there, a substantial stone house."

Of course, the mention of Muirkirk was the first part that excited me, I knew it had had a very small population during the early 1800s and assumed anyone moving from as far away as Ireland, must have had connections in the area.

Also, in this quote, she mentions an ancestral house, again appropriate to my findings, considering my discovery that a James Ewing set up the beginnings of one of the largest ironworks industrial sites, of its day, in Scotland around 1786. It is feasible that James accumulated some wealth and was willing to share his good fortune with his family by bringing them over from Ireland to work for him. Also, remembering the famine and poverty which were rampant in Ireland at the time, it would have been further incentive for the family to move to Muirkirk.

The next piece is probably the most significant of all, and I quote:

"Mathew Ewing married Ann Kelly.

They had at least three sons and a daughter. The eldest son was killed in the war under Wellington, who defeated the French at the battle of Salamanca in Spain in 1812. The youngest son settled in the USA and his son fought in the Civil War. The daughter married a Mr. Lang. The middle son, James Ewing, was born in 1785 but died in 1876. He ran away from home in County Tyrone, Ireland and went

to Scotland during the Bonaparte Wars. James and his wife, Jane Percy, came from Scotland to Pike River, Quebec, Canada in 1822 with their three children."

Ok, let's digest this little lot. There you are now. Mathew and Ann were the Christian names I had deduced to be my great⁴-grandparents. From them came three sons and a daughter. The eldest child, a soldier, was killed at Salamanca. My great³-grandfather had been a soldier and disappeared near that time. I discovered from records that a Lt . Ewing was killed at Salamanca.

I found James and his wife, Jane, on Register IGI for Ayrshire, having christened daughters, Anne, on 18th, July 1819 and Margaret, on 12th, March 1816 in Muirkirk .

Also, confirmed on the Ayrshire QPR for marriages, an Anne Ewing had married a John Lang on the 28th, September 1823 in Muirkirk. A very interesting point is the fact that my great²-grandfather, Mathew, named one of his children, Agnes Lang Ewing.

The youngest son must have been Robert, who as I have previously stated, lived in Muirkirk and had registered the christening of a daughter, Anne, on March 31, 1822 on the Ayrshire IGI for Muirkirk. Robert's son, Joseph, distinguished himself by fighting through the whole of the American Civil War.

Having established the identities of three of Mathew and Anne's siblings and proving the relationship between them and my established family, I must believe, categorically, that the eldest son who was killed at the Battle of Salamanca, was Samuel Ewing, my great³-grandfather.

Also, I had previously found that a Lieutenant Ewing belonging to the 74th Regiment, had been killed at Salamanca. It is, of course, possible that Samuel was not an officer. In that case, there would be no record of his death.

I don't think we need to be a Sherlock Holmes to put all the pieces together and come to the inevitable conclusion. There is no doubt in my mind that Mathew Ewing and Ann Kelly were my great⁴-grandparents. Robert and James were my great³-grandfather Samuel's brothers, and Ann was his sister. Another significant factor was the presence of the corresponding names in their families. Mathew was in every one of their descendant trees. Of course, there is still a small doubt as to whether the Lieutenant Ewing I mentioned was my great³-grandfather, Samuel, as no Christian name was given in the report, but I am pretty sure that the document of Ann Ewing Ranns is authentic and that Samuel was killed at Salamanca.

There is a lot more to the document and I only wish I could get a hold of the second part. It has been one of the highlights of my time, which might shed light on the trail of my ancestors. With a little bit of luck, I may be able to contact some present day descendant of the writers. I am still trying.

I appreciate that I have given out a lot of data and it probably is open to a lot of conjecture. Actually, I put forward my conclusions to American friends, Dick and Karen Child, who found it difficult to believe. They sent me a DNA kit which, when checked, proved, categorically, that I was related to the Ewings in their family.

Anyway, I believe I have substantiated my belief that Mathew Ewing and Ann Kelly were my great⁴-grandparents. My next move must involve what I know about my great³-grandparents Samuel Ewing and Emilia Blaney.

First, here's a summary:

Great⁴-grandfather, Mathew Ewing, born 1760 in Ireland, married Ann Kelly.

They had three sons: 1 - My great³-grandfather, Samuel, born in 1787, married Emilia Blaney.

2 - James Ewing, born 1789 in Ireland.

3 - Robert Ewing, born 1800 in Ireland.

They also had one daughter, Ann Ewing, born 1791.

Finally, I will end this piece by stating a little more about myself.

Bedlay Colliery, my place of work, was 1200 feet down in a coalface, 2 or 3 miles from the pit bottom. The coal was only 2 feet thick and was worked by the smallest shearer in Britain. The machine was a revolution of hydraulics and brilliant at doing what it was supposed to do - cut coal. My contribution in all this was to carry out the maintenance and repairs during its operation. I worked seven days a week, six of them, twelve hour shifts, underground, on the faceline.

Of course, almost ten years in the pit merits more than a paragraph. I could give you a book based on my underground experiences. One that comes to mind would have made an exciting movie. I was awakened one Saturday night by my father banging on the door. His statement put the fear of death into me "I'm going down the pit. Will you come with me? There has been a major burst of water into the South West Eight faceline. I'm gathering men who can install pumps and pipelines".

One of the major fears to Colliers was flooding. Can you imagine the fear involved being in a labyrinth of tunnels 1200 feet underground when suddenly, without warning, the equivalent of a river of water burst out of the strata into the pit. I did not underestimate the danger going into that pit under those circumstances. It was the closest you could get to committing suicide. Thinking back, I must have been crazy. I went down that night knowing I could be killed. When the cage landed on the bottom, we stepped into 3 feet of water. The first incline was literally a river and we struggled to get through it. Fortunately, the level on the pit bottom was being maintained due to overspill into old workings and the standby pump was working. Parts of the return airway tunnel, where it dipped, were flooded almost to the roof. If it was blocked by water, there would be no air getting to the coalface which would cause a buildup of gas. Pumps and pipelines were required urgently. This information was phoned to the surface and it wasn't long before workers were on site and teams were installing. It took us a good hour to reach Southwest 8, the source of the water. Looking onto the road head which is normally 10 feet high, was terrifying, to say the least. The water was coming into the pit from a hole about 100 feet above the coalface and had washed itself a path big enough to take a bus. Did you see the film the Titanic where the water breaks into the main hall? Well, that was a bit like our break in. I got home on Monday, having been up and down the pit I don't know how many times, installing pumps and pipes all over the place. The water was, thankfully, brought under control; I continued to work in the pit for another 8 years and all the while, the water never abated one little bit.



William Skidmore Ewing has lived in Lanarkshire Scotland for seventy-two years. He worked as a Mechanical Engineer, both as a Collier and Steelworker. He acquired an Honours with the Association of Mining Electrical Engineers and reached Section Engineer management status in the Ravenscraig Steelworks. He has been married to his spouse Margaret for fifty-two years, and they have two sons and two grandsons. He loves golf and has played many different courses in Scotland including Gleneagles and St. Andrews. He and Margaret have visited Ireland often in search of their roots.

Charles and Robert Ewing: Part II – Charles Ewing Alicia (Ewing) Towster (aet@louisiana.edu, atowster@lusfiber.net)

This is the second of a three-article compilation of information regarding Charles Ewing (~1715-1770) and Robert Ewing (~1718-1787). The compilation integrates information from diverse sources: published abstracts and source records; family traditions; the work of family historians for the Ewings and for related/intermarried families, both published and posted on the Internet; local histories; and some original or digitized records, including extensive use of the U.S. census. I have made use of original, contemporaneous source records mainly for my own line of descent: Robert Ewing (~1718-1787) to Chatham Ewing (1768/9-1839) to Robert Ewing (1798-1853).

This multi-article compilation is only a starting point for research by others. I have tried to identify each individual's timeframe and places of residence, to aid further research that anyone wishes to do. I have shortened lists of honors, military services, and public offices held by various family members, as this information is available elsewhere. My exploration of Charles's and Robert's known associates may seem extraneous, but I believe that these may reflect relationships that pre-date their arrival in America and may also provide insight into their swift translation from fugitives to prosperous and respected citizens.

The first article²² set the stage, identifying Charles and Robert. This second article focuses on Charles. A third article will, in the future, focus on Robert.

Charles Ewing (~1715-1770)

This Charles Ewing married, about 1744 and probably in Amelia County, Virginia, Martha Baker, daughter of Caleb and Martha Baker. Nine children were living at the time of his will, but these children had few children themselves. Because the names of Charles's children were popular Ewing names, because there were fewer descendants to pass on their family's history, and because some of his sons moved to frontier areas at an early date, information on his family is sparse and somewhat uncertain.

1. William (~1745/49 - April 1810)

As he was named executor in his father's will of 1770, he was probably the oldest son, born no later than 1749. He served as a Lieutenant in the Revolution.²³ He is said to have been a

²² Towster, Alicia. Charles and Robert Ewing: Part I – Introduction, *Ewing family J.*, Vol. 20, No. 2 (May 2014), pp. 14-21.

²³ The pension application of James Percy/Piercy states that he was drafted from Bedford County, Virginia, not long before the Battle of Guilford and served under Lt. William Ewing. William's widow, who had remarried Christopher Dormire and moved to Preble County, Ohio, filed a pension application on William's service after her second husband died, but had insufficient information on his service to be granted one. Her application states that William was a "Sargent [sic] of Infantry" in a Virginia Regiment who enlisted in October/November of 1780 and served for upwards of eighteen months.

lawyer, and his name appears several times as surety/recorder of parental consent on Bedford County marriage bonds. On 26 February 1805, in Bedford County, he married Anna Cotrell (1772->1860), a daughter of James Cotrell and Lydia Cash. William and Anna had no children. William left a will, executed and probated in 1810, and some of his property and his library went to his nephew Mitchell, Caleb's son, whom he had raised. His will also leaves twenty shillings each to his brothers Charles, George, and David, as well as his sisters Mary and Martha. Finally, his will charges Mitchell Ewing to pay \$200 each to Caleb's daughters Polly and Betsy, all in Kentucky; this money apparently represents legacies from their father.

2. Caleb Ewing (1747/53--1780)

His wife's name is not known, but his son's name suggests a Mitchell connection.²⁴ He was in Bedford County in March of 1779 when he contracted to buy land from Robert Irvins of Pennsylvania. He died soon after, probably killed by lightning.²⁵ Caleb had three children:

2.1. Mary 'Polly' Ewing (1774 - 3 December 1829)

She married, on 22 October 1794 in Mercer County, Kentucky, Richard Berry, Jr. (1769-1843). She and an Elizabeth Ewing served as witnesses to the will of John Berry in 1795; as her sister Elizabeth was too young to act as witness, this may have been her mother.²⁶ Richard Berry was cousin and guardian to Nancy Hanks; she and Tom Lincoln were married in his house in 1806, so Mary (Ewing) Berry was certainly present for this event. The Berrys resided in Washington County, Kentucky. In the 1820s they and at least some of their children migrated to Callaway County, Missouri. Among her older children were Elizabeth Ewing Berry and Caleb Ewing Berry.²⁷

²⁴ It may also be significant that his oldest daughter, Mary, and perhaps his widow, were living in Mercer County, Kentucky, in the 1790s, the same county to which some Mitchells, children of Robert Mitchell and his wife Mary Enos/Innes, from Bedford County, Virginia, had moved. I have not been successful in finding any clear connection to this family, however.

²⁵ The research of Martha Berry Nichols (mbnichols@mail.com) has located biographical material on Caleb's grandson, John Allen Gano, published in 1857 (*Ladies Christian Annual*, October, 1857, Vol. VI, No. 10, James Challen, Publisher (Philadelphia), 1857, pp. 305-310; online at www.bible.acu.edu) which states that his mother's father was struck by lightning. The memory of this dramatic event also underlies a probably confused account in a letter, dated April 1, 1915, from W. H. Ewing of Meherrin, Prince Edward County, to Matt Hall of Marshall, Missouri: "... there has been a Mitchel[!] Ewing in every generation since down to Mitchel[!] Ewing 4th who is now living in Richmond Va. Mitchel[!] Ewing 1st was killed by lightning near the natural bridge in Rockbridge Co Va while he was on his way to see his fiancé. His silver shoe buckles were partly melted, and they are held by the present Mitchel[!] Ewing of Richmond Va." W. H. Ewing (1841-?_) was a rather distant cousin of the Bedford County Ewings, being a great-great-grandson of Nathaniel, and I believe he has probably attributed this story to the wrong man, as well as confusing how many Mitchells there really were. The "fiancé" is puzzling, as both Caleb and Mitchell were married – but possibly Caleb's wife had predeceased him. However, the detail of the shoe buckles is quite vivid, and, since these were in common use when Caleb died and had pretty much gone out of style by 1820-30, when Mitchell died, I believe this story is more likely to refer to Caleb's death.

²⁶ However, a tradition passed down in her sister's Gano family states that her mother died in Virginia. See Perrin, William Henry. *History of Bourbon, Scott, Harrison and Nicholas Counties, Kentucky*, O.L. Baskin and Co. (Chicago), 1882, p. 570.

²⁷ The information on Mary 'Polly' (Ewing) Berry and her family is from the research of Martha Berry Nichols.

2.2. Mitchell Ewing (~1777-<1830)

A chancery action,²⁸ initiated in Bedford County in 1783, apparently by his uncle Charles, refers to Mitchell as an infant son and heir of Caleb Ewing, deceased. Mitchell married twice; first, in December 1797 in Bedford County, Phoebe Cox "of Pennsylvania," with consent of William Ewing, so he must not have been of age; secondly, 25 March 1805, to Nancy Beard (~1780->1850), probably a daughter of Samuel Beard and Mary Mitchell. He died sometime between 1820 and 1830. An 1830 suit to partition his estate named these children: Mary 'Polly', Caleb, Robert M., William, Elizabeth Jane, Samuel E., James David, Charles Henry, and Albert Mitchell.²⁹

2.3. Elizabeth 'Betsy' Ewing (1779-1812)

In 1797, in Franklin County, Kentucky, she married General Richard Montgomery Gano (1775-1815), son of Rev. John Gano and [Mary?] Sarah Stites. Baker Ewing, her father's cousin, gave consent.³⁰ She is said to have died from consumption in 1812, but left descendants, including several ministers the Confederate General Gano and Howard Hughes, the billionaire.

3. Mary Ewing (~1750 ->1790)

She is probably the same Mary Ewing who married, about 1770, Alexander Handley (1737/40-1781) of Botetourt County.³¹ Alexander served as a Captain in the Revolution and is said to have died as a prisoner of war. His will was probated in 1782 and named his wife Mary and her brother William Ewing as executors. Mary is thought to have gone to Washington County, Kentucky, about 1788 along with other Handleys, and may have remarried, in 1790, Colonel Benjamin Gibbs (~1752-?_) of Nelson County.

3.1. John Handley (1771 - 13 May 1816)

On 25 February 1796, in Lincoln County, Kentucky, he married Phoebe Underwood (<1782->1830). They resided in Washington County, Kentucky. He was a judge.

3.2. Martha Baker Handley (~1773-?_)

²⁸ chancery action (Wikipedia): The Court of Chancery was a court authorized to apply principles of equity, as opposed to law, to cases brought before it in England and Wales. This court followed a set of loose rules to avoid the slow pace of change and possible harshness (or 'inequity') of the common law. The Chancery had jurisdiction over all matters of equity, including trusts, land law, the administration of the estates of lunatics and the guardianship of infants.

²⁹ Two of these sons also had sons: William had sons William E Ewing (~1853-?_) and Samuel McLean (~1852-?_) who moved to Nebraska, raised families that included sons; Albert Mitchell also had sons, and one of them, Albert Hughston Ewing (~1875->1930) moved to Richmond, Virginia, and raised a family that included sons. If any of these male lines have continued, they would be the only possible source for a Y-DNA study of Charles' line.

³⁰ This is puzzling, as she had several uncles living in Kentucky by 1787, and they seem more likely guardians. However, Baker Ewing was in Kentucky by 1779/80. If Elizabeth 'Betsy' Ewing was in Kentucky this early, Baker may have been her nearest Ewing relative in the area and might have been named guardian. However, he did not marry until 1784, so she may have lived in some other relative's household.

³¹ This information from Norma (Ewing) Young of San Rafael, California.

On 3 March 1791, in Greenbrier County, (now West) Virginia, she married Grigsby Foster. In 1810 they lived in Monroe County, Virginia. She's said to have gone to Butler County, Ohio.

4. Charles (1750/53 ->1808/10 in Kentucky)

He is probably the same Charles Ewing who is mentioned in the Draper Manuscripts³² as going on a hunting expedition in Kentucky with frontiersman Henry Skaggs in 1771.

His activities during the Revolution included: 11 April 1781, carried a message to Governor Jefferson about Bedford militia movements; 1782, compensated for loss of a bay mare in public service; and 1783, obtained a Continental soldier rifle from Robert Ewing.

About 1787, this Charles moved to Kentucky. There were at least two men named Charles Ewing in Kentucky at this time, so caution in interpreting records is necessary. I think the Charles Ewing in Nelson County and adjacent Washington County is likely the correct one, because this is the same area to which Mary (Ewing) Handley had migrated, as well as a Samuel Ewing who may be their younger brother.

He served as a Nelson County Militia officer until June 1789. In May 1790 he took a flatboat to Natchez,³³ in company with Samuel Ewing. In 1792 he was Justice of the Peace for Washington County. From 1792 through 1807 he surveyed and obtained grants for numerous land claims in Washington and Nelson Counties. There is no evidence of any marriage in his early years, but on 14 February 1805, in Washington County, he married Henrietta (Cole) Hayden (1754 – 1836), widow of Basil Hayden, and apparently a mother of twelve children. This was not a happy marriage, and Charles soon moved out and began living with Mary/Margaret Flint. Henrietta sued for divorce, which was granted on 3 February 1808. In the meantime Charles had married, on 3 February 1807, Mary/Margaret Flint in Nelson County. They apparently moved away, and possibly the 1810 census entry in Garrard County, Kentucky, for Charley Ewing is their household. There are no known children.

5. Robert Ewing (~1753-<1810)

There is no known marriage or children. In 1774 he served in the Bedford County Militia under Captain Buford.³⁴ He is not mentioned in his brother William's will of 1810, so he is presumed to have predeceased him.

³² Lyman C. Draper (1815-1891) collected information on America's first frontier and its notable figures and events, such as Daniel Boone, George Rogers Clarke, and The Battle of King's Mountain. Draper's papers include a treasure trove of information on the frontier settlers of the Carolinas, Virginia, Kentucky, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, and Pennsylvania. The original papers are held at the Wisconsin Historical Society. The collection includes thousands of handwritten letters of correspondence comprising nearly 500 volumes of information, not available anywhere else, about the pioneer settlers of the trans-Allegheny West.

³³ Potter, Dorothy Williams. *Passports of Southeastern Pioneers 1770-1823*, Gateway Press (Baltimore), 1982, p. 31. (In Natchez records he appears as "Carlos" Ewing.)

³⁴ Bockstruck, Lloyd DeWitt. *Virginia's Colonial Soldiers*, Genealogical Pub. Co. (Baltimore), 1968, p. 153. This entry must refer to Charles's son Robert (who was then about twenty) rather than his uncle Robert (who was then about sixty) or his cousin Robert (who would have been fourteen).

6. Samuel Ewing (~1755/60-<1792)

There are several Samuel Ewings in early Kentucky; the one in Nelson County seems most likely to be this Samuel. In 1787, in Nelson County, Kentucky, he paid taxes for himself and two horses. On 17 April 1790, in Nelson County, he executed a will to secure his debt to Jacob Yoder, prior to his trip down the Mississippi with Charles Ewing.³⁵ In 1792, in Nelson County, Samuel's estate settled the debt to Jacob Yoder. Samuel had no known wife or children.

7. George Ewing (1765/69-1838)

On 31 October 1797, in Wayne County, Kentucky, this George Ewing married Elizabeth Woods Wallace (1777-1857), a daughter of Andrew Wallace and Catherine Parks. Because she was a great-granddaughter of Caleb Baker and his wife Martha, she was his first cousin, once removed. George and Elizabeth lived in Wayne County, Kentucky, and had two daughters. The 1820 census also records the presence of a young male in the George Ewing household. He was the right age to be David Ewing's son.³⁶

George and Elizabeth are buried in the Bartleson Family Cemetery – together with Carters, Berrys and Haydens – in Wayne County, Kentucky.³⁷

7.1. Mary Ewing (~1798-<March 1839)

She married Braxton Carter (1798-1865) on 26 March 1817. They resided in Wayne County, Kentucky, and had two children.

7.2. Catherine P. Ewing (18 February 1810 – 8 June 1839)

She married Leo Hayden³⁸ on 3 October 1833. Whether or not they had children is unknown.

8. David Ewing (~1765/69--1811/20)

In December 1809, probably in Green County, Kentucky, he married Hannah Todd, probably a daughter of Samuel Todd, who had left Bedford County, Virginia, in 1807 to move to Jefferson County, Kentucky. David and Hannah lived in Wayne County, Kentucky. The census of 1810 shows a male child under ten in their household. Hannah is said to have remarried to a Mr. Miniatt/Minatt/Mynatt and moved to the Knoxville area. There's no further information, but her son may have been living in George Ewing's household in 1820.

³⁵ Yoder is credited with building and piloting the first flatboat to travel from Pennsylvania and down the Mississippi, in 1782.

³⁶ African-American Ewing researchers may be interested to know that a free black family is associated with the George Ewing household. In 1820 and 1830 they were enumerated with the white Ewings. In 1840 and 1850 they were in their own household. The husband of this African-American – Sye? or Li? Ewing – was born about 1779 in Virginia. His wife – Judia Grais Ewing – was born about 1800 in Virginia. They had several children who had moved elsewhere by 1850

³⁷ *Kentucky Ancestors*, vol. 4, #1: 31.

³⁸ He appears to be some connection of Basil Hayden, whose widow was briefly married to Charles Ewing; Hayden researchers differ on just how he is related.

9. Martha 'Patsy' Ewing (~1766->1810)

On 25 August 1792, Bedford County, she married Reuben Rowland, said to be the son of Henry Rowland and Penelope Clark, with Martha's brother William as surety. They are said to have gone to Kentucky and William's will of 1810 indicates that she still resided there at that time. Many have assumed that the Reuben who died in Caldwell County, Kentucky, in 1806 was her husband, but this was actually her husband's kinsman of the same name, who had married Anna Blalock. The 1812 tax list of Robertson County, Tennessee, adjacent to Logan County, Kentucky, includes a Martha Rowland, possibly Reuben's widow.



Alicia (Ewing) Towster holds a degree in mathematics from Radcliffe College, and has also studied linguistics and computer science. After living in several other parts of the U.S., she settled in Lafayette, Louisiana, where the food is excellent, and she has never had to shovel snow out of the driveway. She is a retired computer analyst and university administrator. She resides with her companion of thirty-five years, a retired teacher and Cajun musician, Raymond François. A son, Robert, lives in Houston and is a computer administrator for Methodist Hospital.

Our 2014 Homecoming

Karen Avery (BKAvery2@comcast.net), Beth (Ewing) Toscos (+1 260.432.4538, MBToscos@comcast.net), Jane Weippert (JaneWeippert@windstream.net)

We three cousins – (Ewing Family Association Genealogist) Karen Avery, (EFA Chairwoman) Beth (Ewing) Toscos and (EFA Board of Directors Member) Jane (Ewing) Weippert – have continuously shared information about our common heritage and collaborated on expanding it. A couple of years ago, we decided to travel out, as a team, to explore and pin down the details of our farther-back ancestors. Our first research-trip 'outing' was a research trip to Connecticut, pursuing the genealogy of the Alexander Ewing Family in Ashford, Windham County, Connecticut.³⁹



**Genealogy Group of Three:
Jane, Beth and Karen**

After the Alexander of Ashford research trip to Connecticut, the team – the Genealogy Group of Three – decided to take a further step and visit Scotland and Ireland. For Karen and her spouse, Bob, Beth and her spouse, Michael, and Jane, this represented a once-in-a-lifetime adventure. With age being a deciding factor, we chose not to wait any longer.

Planning for a Spring 2014 team research trip was in the works when word came of a Ewing family-related Derbhfine (Family Convention) to be held in Clydebank, Scotland, on the 6th of June 2014. This felt like a remarkable coalescence of timing. After offering to 'observe' the Derbhfine, Beth found herself

³⁹ Toscos, Beth (Ewing). Planning and Conducting a Journey Into the Past: Researching the Alexander Ewing Family of Ashford, Connecticut, *Ewing Family J.*, Vol. 19, No. 4 (November 2013), pp 57-61

drafted into the EFA's Clanship Committee with an assignment to represent the EFA's interests before the Derbhfine. The wheels had begun to turn.

So ... As a second research-trip, the Genealogy Group of Three decided to make a two-week trip to Ireland and Scotland, May 27 to June 12, 2014. This article reports on our trip and our genealogy-related events and discoveries.

Travel Highlights

The team chose to fly round-trip to Belfast and spend the first week in Northern Ireland and County Donegal. A quick flight to Glasgow would take us to Clydebank in time for the June 6th Derbhfine.

Belfast

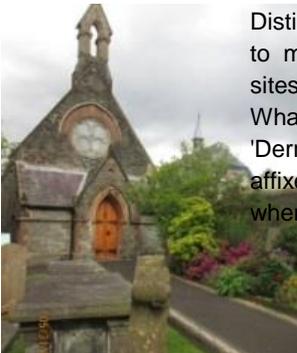
Our stay in Belfast was in the Titanic Quarter on the east side of the River Lagan. This is where the ill-fated Titanic was built and as local craftsmen say, "she was alright when she left here." Our hotel was directly across the street from the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) which holds the majority of vital statistics from our period of interest (1690-1715). We knew that most of the discoverable information had been found by earlier Ewing researchers, but had nothing solid on Alexander of Ashford. We thought it was worth a look. PRONI is vast and highly organized. The Staff are friendly and helpful, but, of course, we were three among many. We were unable to find anything else that would lead us to believe one of the innumerable Alexanders was ours. We believe our on-going search in New England is our best chance of locating our immigrant ancestor.

Downpatrick

We took a side trip to County Down. Karen was interested in looking for her Murphy family's last known Irish address, County Down. The librarian in Downpatrick suggested we look at PRONI. She also explained that the most abundant and therefore the most difficult names to pin down in Ireland are Kelly and - you guessed it – Murphy! We stopped at the Saint Patrick Visitor's Centre, and saw the exterior of the Cathedral where a memorial stone marks the purported gravesite of Saint Patrick, patron saint of Ireland.

Londonderry

Our next stop was Portrush where we visited the Giants' Causeway, an interesting and visually stunning geological formation, and the Old Bushmills Distillery founded in 1608. Anxious to move on to more known Ewing sites, we traveled to Londonderry. What a fascinating city. Called 'Derry' by the locals, 'London' was affixed in the early 17th Century when the Plantation began.

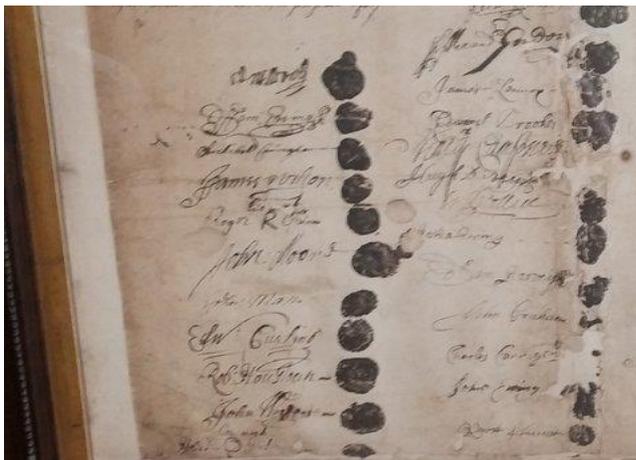


Giant's Causeway

Londonderry was built as a fortified city. Guild workers were imported from England (the Trade Guilds of the City of London), and the native Irish were essentially shut out.⁴⁰ We knew, of course, that the Ewing family was represented in Derry and immediate surroundings early in the 17th century and that some – if not all – participated in the 1689 Siege of Londonderry. While the forces of the Catholic King James II attempted to break the will of the protestant inhabitants of Derry, William of Orange attempted to get supplies and reinforcements into the city which eventually succeeded, thus saving the Derry inhabitants. Our walking tour guide told us that the Presbyterians came in from the surrounding territory and were therefore protected. Many who stayed outside the city walls were slaughtered by the Jacobite forces.

We visited three churches – St. Augustine's, which is a small ancient church, the Presbyterian Church and Derry Cathedral (St. Columb's). Inside the Cathedral we were aided by a very helpful gentleman who took us into a small Chapter House Museum and pulled out an original register (housed in the cathedral's vaults) to show us a few entries of Ewing births, deaths and marriages from 1642-1702. Our Alexander would have been in yet another volume (1703-1715) which was – most unfortunately – at PRONI. The good news is that the particular volume covering our time period of interest is at PRONI for digitization. This is very good news, because there is every possibility that this volume will be available online in the not-too-distant future.

Another interesting bit of history leapt off the cathedral museum's wall at us. There is a framed parchment listing 275 men of Derry who had suffered losses during the Siege of 1689. They were requesting one-sixth of any compensation obtained from King, Parliament or the Irish Society.⁴¹ Interestingly, we immediately spotted three Ewing men who had signed the Agreement and apparently stamped the document with their thumb-prints. In the image, you will see Ewing signatures in column 1, second position, and in column 2, positions 8 and 12.



**Parchment Listing Derry Men Suffering Losses
During the Siege of Londonderry**

⁴⁰ *The Legacy of the Plantation in Derry and Donegal*, Donegal County Museum & Derry City Council Heritage & Museum Service, 2011.

⁴¹ Note affixed to Museum display: "Agreement made between the citizens of Derry (275 in number) who had suffered loss in the Siege, and three of their number, Robert Rochford, Recorder, David Cairnes, M.P., and John Moggeridge, Town Clerk, promising them one-sixth of any compensation they would receive from King, Parliament, or Irish Society for the damage and losses of the City in the Siege."

The Londonderry Guild Hall (also called City Hall) has an excellent exhibit focused on the origins of the Plantation. Since we know that our Ewing family moved as part of the Plantation, and specifically as tenants of the Undertakers, this was very interesting. The Guild Hall is a lovely piece of architecture built in 1890. It currently houses the Derry City Council, in addition to the exhibit mentioned here.

Donegal

We traveled beyond Derry into Donegal with a driver/guide who assisted us in choosing where we could visit that would be most meaningful. Beth insisted on a trip to the Grianan of Aileach. This ancient hilltop fort, purportedly dating from 3000 BC, provided us with spectacular views of Counties Donegal, Derry and Tyrone. It served as the citadel of the northern Ui Neill from the 5th to the 12th centuries.⁴² We were able to see Inch Island. The climb was challenging, but we were determined to get to the top. With a little man-handling from Michael and Bob, we were able to make the summit.



Grianan of Aileach



Climbing the Aileach: Karen, Beth & Bob with Our Guide



Inch Island As Seen from Grianan of Aileach, County Donegal

A further drive took us onto Inch Island, a beautiful, bucolic area separated from the mainland by a causeway. We passed a church at Burt, clearly a much later structure than the one associated with our reputed 17th Century Burt Congregation Ewings. After a return train trip to Belfast, we prepared for a flight to Glasgow on June 4th. Ireland is a lovely island, temporary home to our pre-American Ewing family, and possibly the original locale of the blood-line. However, Scotland is a special place for Ewings because it was there that the Ewing progenitors lived for perhaps a thousand years before the diaspora during which they were forced to flee to calmer lands. It is also the place where the Ewing surname came into existence, which alone sets them apart from other Scots. We know that we are fortunate to have had such hardy and successful ancestors, and we were standing on their ground when we arrived in Scotland.

Glasgow and Loch Lomond

We stayed at Erskine Bridge, a short train ride from Loch Lomond, Balloch and Bonhill. After a boat ride on beautiful Loch Lomond,



Our trip to Balloch and Bonhill brought us face to face with the tombstone of William Ewing, d. 1885. Not the William who died in 1600 (Ewing arms engraved on stone) but a Dumbarton Ewing nevertheless.

⁴² en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grianan_of_Aileach

we visited Bonhill in search of the legendary 1600 stone of William Ewing. Although we knew it was a long shot, we were not disappointed at not finding it. Plenty has been written about the stone, bearing the Ewing *Audaciter* arms.⁴³ It has plainly gone the way of many old stones – either weathered and illegible or buried in the lichen of the kirkyard. Among the monuments, we found one belonging to a later William Ewing, tutor of Edgar Allan Poe.⁴⁴ And we walked where our ancestors walked, worshiped and are buried.

The Ewing/MacEwen Derbhfine

The 6th of June 2014 will remain a very special day in Ewing history. It is the day the Ewings and McEwens were given the opportunity to participate in a Derbhfine – a Family Convention. The Convention had been in the making for quite some time. The EFA and the Clan Ewen Society (CES) had worked together to establish an agreement, facilitated by the Honourable Adam Bruce, Marchmont Herald of Lyon Court, Scotland's heraldic authority for all matters relating to Scottish Heraldry and Coats of Arms. At 2:00 p.m. on Friday, June 6th, the Beardmore Hotel and Conference



(l. to r.) Adam Bruce, Gregor Ewing, Thor Ewing, Bruce McEwen, Anne-Marie Ewing (Thor's wife), Karen Avery, Margaret and William Skidmore Ewing, Jane (Ewing) Weippert, and (in front) Thor's Children, Gwendolyn Rose 'Gwennie' and Caradoc



The Honourable Adam Bruce (Marchmont Herald, Lyon Court), Sean McCuin, CES, and Beth (Ewing) Toscos, EFA, prepare to get down to business.

Centre on Clydebank, Scotland near Glasgow, hosted this very rare occasion. Representing the Lyon Court was Adam Bruce. Representing the Clan Ewen Society was Sean McCuin, and representing the Ewing Family Association was Beth (Ewing) Toscos.



John Thor Ewing comments on the way forward for Clan Ewing.



Sir John McEwen (Commander of Clan MacEwen), Beth (Ewing) Toscos (EFA) and Sean McCuin (Chair of the Clan Ewen Society)



William Skidmore Ewing and his Wife Margaret of Muirkirk Chryston near Glasgow

⁴³ Ewing, E. W. R. *Clan Ewing of Scotland*, Corben Publishing Co. (Ballston, Virginia), 1922. Chapter VIII. Available online at www.EwingFamilyAssociation.org/resources/books and for purchase from www.HigginsonBooks.com.

⁴⁴ Scobie, William. *The History of Bonhill Parish Church*. Available online at: www.valeofleven.org.uk/docsBonhillParChBSfinal/1111.pdf.

The wheels of heraldry move slowly. However, the Family Convention actually moved very quickly. Pre-planning, negotiation and a well-defined agreement had all worked to create the opportunity to move swiftly through the required agenda. Preliminary negotiations had occurred over a period of months between the CES and the EFA, headed by Sir John McEwen and David Neal Ewing, respectively. CSE and EFA representatives read prepared statements regarding the need for a chief for the remnants of Clan Ewen of Otter. Part of the agreement reached before the Derbhfine allowed for the petition to Lyon to request that two distinct clans be recognized – Clan MacEwen and Clan Ewing. The representatives nominated their respective choices for Commander. Sir John McEwen was nominated for Commander of Clan MacEwen and John Thor Ewing was nominated for Commander of Clan Ewing. Sir John and Thor spoke to the nominations, a vote was taken by the assembly and the nominations passed by acclamation, and the Family Convention was concluded. The Petition and Agreement were to be forwarded by Adam Bruce to the Lord Lyon. Mr. Bruce indicated that he thought a fairly quick turnaround was likely. As of July 8th the Lyon Court indicated they were in the process of authorizing Warrants naming Thor Ewing as Commander *ad interim* of the 'Honourable Clan Ewing'.

Following this remarkable Convention, the attendees spent the remaining afternoon and evening in fellowship, concluding with a dinner that served as the opening of the 2014 Clan Ewen Society Gathering.

The Genealogy Group of Three bid farewell and left to move to the next site of their visit, having thoroughly enjoyed the event and the opportunity to meet a number of Scottish kinfolk.

Stirling

Reverend Ellsworth Samuel Ewing, the founder of the organization which became the EFA, felt strongly that his Ewing ancestor had lived in Stirling. The burgh of Stirling is approximately thirty miles from Loch Lomond – not so far that a group of Ewings might not have spread themselves



View from Lady Hill Showing 'The Valley' Cemetery, the Likely Site of the Original William Ewing House



Slezer's Sketch of Stirling, Showing William Eweine's House

over the countryside. An interesting piece of information came to light when the EFA engaged the Stirling-based historian/researcher John Harrison to undertake a search to find the man we have come to know as "I think his name was William (?)". In his original report dated January 3, 1992, Harrison points to 'William Eweine in Raploch (1612)' as the owner of land in the Castlehill area of Stirling.⁴⁵

⁴⁵ Harrison, John G. *A Web of Kinship: The Ewing Family in the Stirling Area in the 17th Century, Report for Clan Ewing in America*, 1992. Available online at www.EwingFamilyAssociation.org/research/documents/ReScotland.pdf.

William Ewing, eldest lawful son and inheritor of William in Raploch, may have sold his lands to his brother Thomas and left Stirling about 1629.⁴⁶ The William Ewing house in Castlehill is purportedly pictured in a sketch made by John Slezer in 1672⁴⁷ (see figure above). This house was referred to as one of the limits of the beats patrolled by the elders as 'the house of William Ewing in Castlehill'.⁴⁸ Although we knew that this house was long gone, we had a strong desire to attempt to place it in the landscape surrounding Stirling Castle.

While in Stirling, we stayed at the Portcullis Hotel (built 1787 as a boys' school) which sits in Castle Wynd at the foot of Stirling Castle. A discussion with the owner of the Portcullis sent us around the corner of the Hotel and into a kirkyard. As we explored the area from the vantage point of Lady Hill (the large dark rock in forefront of Slezer's sketch), we began to feel fairly certain that we were in the immediate area of William Ewing's house. Two Stirling Castle walking-tour guides happened past (one of whom we recognized as the guide from our walk around Stirling Castle the day before). They were promptly consulted, recognized the Slezer sketch immediately and pointed to the adjacent kirkyard (fittingly the Presbyterian kirkyard known as The Valley Cemetery – see <http://www.stirling-lhs.org/valley-cemetery.html>) as the most likely spot for the house to have stood. Once again, we walked where our ancestors walked and worked hundreds of years ago. This was a particularly gratifying moment and one we won't soon forget.⁴⁹

Edinburgh

We took the train to Edinburgh later that day. The search for our Ewing ancestors was essentially complete with regard to the Lennox Ewing group. A three-day stay in the capital city was a treat that punctuated our Scottish heritage tour. We stayed in very comfortable apartments on The Royal Mile. We were in the middle of the very lively center of Edinburgh. We visited Edinburgh Castle, the Palace of Holyrood House and everything between. A brief stop at the main historical repository, The National Records of Scotland, convinced us that the EFA and Thor Ewing's current affiliation with Diane Baptie, genealogical researcher, will very likely provide us with the necessary information to move our ancestral search even further back in time.

Summary

2014 is Scotland's 'homecoming' year (see www.homecomingscotland.com). There are many events, both cultural and political, planned for the year. The sense of excitement is palpable. In September, the people of Scotland will vote to determine if it's time to become a nation independent of England. For the first time since 1707, Scotland's people may choose to go it alone. We'll be watching to see how this referendum plays out. We suspect that 'all things Scottish' could become an even more intense movement for the people of Scotland and those Scots living throughout the world.

⁴⁶ Ibid. p. 12

⁴⁷ Ibid. p. 13

⁴⁸ Ibid.

⁴⁹ Read more about William Ewing of Stirling in John Harrison's article *King of the Castle: Stirling Castle's Landscape Setting* at stirlingcastlepalace.info/publications/pdfs/L4%20king%20of%20the%20castle.pdf.

The Genealogy Group of Three is thrilled to have been able to participate in this Scotland-wide activity making 2014 our personal homecoming year. Not only were we able to visit specific sites we knew would have special meaning for us as Ewings, we were also able to meet and enjoy the fellowship of other Ewing family members, some of whom we had met before and others who were newly discovered kin to us. The Derbhfine was a rare occasion. We feel honored to have been intimately involved with this process, along with the other Ewing family members present on June 6th.

Meeting William Skidmore Ewing – who calls himself 'auld stir it' – and his wife Margaret was a special treat as we have communicated with William via EMail on numerous occasions. Although some of us were expecting a crusty old Scot, William is a fine and kind man (perhaps held to rein by Margaret) whose views have been widely shared through the EFA Forum site and his series of Ewing Family Journal articles, the latest appearing on page 13. We were delighted to have dinner and drinks with William and Margaret and hope they may make the trip to America and Canada to meet more crusty old Yanks! We were able to spend the better part of the day and evening with them and thank them for their warmth and hospitality.

It was also a special treat to link up with Gregor Ewing, a newly found member of the Ewing family. Gregor – who appeared at the Derbhfine in full Scottish regalia – is a native Scot and resident of Falkirk. He is an avid outdoorsman, having climbed all the Munros. He embarked on a six-week, 530 mile walking journey (accompanied by his sheepdog, Meg) following in the footsteps of Bonnie Prince Charlie's post-Culloden escape route. This resulted in the book '*Charlie, Meg and Me*' published, as an EBook, by Luath Press Limited,(Edinburgh) in 2013.

We had met Thor Ewing before at the Uniontown Gathering in 2010, but now we have met and spent time with Anne-Marie, Thor's lovely wife. The Ewing children, Caradoc and Gwendolyn Rose (Gwennie) were both delightful and a handful (of Ewings, of course!). Should Thor achieve full Chiefship of Clan Ewing in five years, Caradoc will become the potential Chief for future generations. One noticeable difference in our groups is age. There were several other children among the participants at the Clan Ewen Gathering. It was good to see youngsters and even better to consider their roles in the future of Clans Ewing and MacEwen. There is a strong bond between the two clans, as both look to Kilfinan and Clan Ewen of Otter as their 'spiritual' home. We think it is a fine home.

We encourage others who have not made the trip to our Homeland to consider doing so. The Ewings have a fairly clear picture of their "stomping grounds" in both Ireland and – thanks to on-going research by Thor Ewing – in Scotland. Careful pre-planning in advance of a trip to the Ewing Homelands will get you to the sites that are memorable within the clan.

The Genealogy Group of Three has covered quite a lot of ground in the past nine months. We have additional ground to cover in America in search of our elusive Alexander of Ashford. More research trips will hopefully uncover his origins. Since Alexander's descendants are a direct match with Y-DNA Ewing modal haplotype 2, we are pretty sure he covered one of the same routes to America as the other Scots-Irish immigrants. We look forward to finding him.

We felt privileged to have had the opportunity to make this homecoming trip. The highlight was – undoubtedly – our attendance at the Derbhfine. Such a unique and significant event will have set the stage for a future and lasting legacy for the Ewing family worldwide. *Audacite!*



Karen began genealogical research in 1995. Soon thereafter she discovered and joined Clan Ewing in America (now known as the Ewing family Association (EFA). Her mother's Ewing family ancestry had long eluded numerous researchers until Karen discovered possible ancestors residing in Ashford, Connecticut in 1732. In 2008 Karen began serving on the EFA Board of Directors. She also has served as the EFA Genealogist since 2009 and keeps a personal Ewing database containing more than twelve thousand Ewing-born individuals. Karen will be happy to search her data base in order to help others in their search for ancestors. Born and raised near Fort Wayne, Indiana, Karen is the wife of Commander Robert Avery, USN, Retired. Duty stations during twenty-four years of military service included tours on both the East and West Coasts, the Gulf of Mexico, Guam and Hawaii before the family retired to Northern Virginia in 1984..



Beth (Ewing) Toscos has been a member of the Ewing Family Association since 2004, a Board member since 2006, EFA Secretary and now Board Chair. A recently-retired human resources professional, Beth studied theater at Miami University of Ohio and the Drama Studio, London, England. She received a B.S. from Purdue University. She coordinated the Ewing Family Association's 2014 Gathering in Fort Wayne, Indiana, along with Daniel C. Ewing and Jane (Ewing) Weippert. Beth's personal genealogy odyssey began in 1971 on the lonely McEwen promontory near Kilfinan on Loch Fyne, Cowal Peninsula, Scotland.



Jane (Ewing) Weippert and her husband, William, live in rural Cecil, Ohio where they raised three daughters. Jane worked for over thirty years as an office manager for her Ewing-family landscape business that her father started in 1952. A grandma of five, Jane now enjoys spending time with her grandchildren. Jane has been interested in genealogy since the early 1990s and has been a member of the EFA since 2004. She served as the EFA Treasurer from 2008-2012. Jane's dad (deceased) is participant RC in the Ewing Surname Y-DNA Project.

Ewing Digital Library

This section of the *Ewing Family Journal* provides various genealogical tidbits – obituaries, will abstracts and transcriptions, abstracts and transcriptions of other primary-research documents (deeds, administration papers, guardianship papers, etc.), newspaper articles, etc. After publication in the *Journal* these tidbits are posted to the Ewing Family Association (EFA) Web Site. The long-range intent is to gradually create an online repository, hosted on the EFA Web Site, of genealogical data and/or anthropological or sociological information regarding the lives and times of Ewing ancestors.

Most of these items have been contributed by EFA members and others. Some have been extracted from various sources including: *Rootsweb*, the EFA's Forum⁵⁰ and dialogues resulting from messages to this *Journal's* Editor, the EFA's Genealogist and other EFA members.

Some information is presented with no analytic or evaluatory commentary; some has been rather extensively analyzed. Sometimes, the information is annotated with various comments and data. In no cases has the Editor – or others – verified the information presented here.

⁵⁰ groups.google.com/group/EwingFamilyAssociation

Minutes – General Membership Meeting

Minutes of the General Membership Meeting
EWING FAMILY ASSOCIATION
September 20, 2014
Fort Wayne, Indiana

The General Meeting of the Membership of the Ewing Family Association was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by Chancellor Wallace K. Ewing. A quorum of 21 members was present for the meeting.

The first order of business was the approval of minutes of the last General Membership Meeting. Copies were provided to meeting participants. David Neal Ewing moved that the minutes be approved, seconded by Christine Corrigan and approved by the membership. The minutes will be entered into the official Minutes book of the Association.

The Treasurer's report was given by Jane Ewing Weippert. As of August 31, 2014, Cash on Hand is \$21,062.50, income year-to-date is \$5,295.00 and expenses are \$4,714.49. Approval for inclusion in the minutes was made by the membership.

Bylaws – Jane Ewing Weippert moved that the membership accept the new bylaws as presented. Martin Ewing seconded. Discussion followed including David Neal Ewing's explanation that the re-written bylaws reflect necessary changes required in the State of New Mexico, our state of registration.

Martin Ewing expressed concern regarding the requirement for annual meetings of the membership. They will likely become electronic meetings except for years in which a Gathering is held. Martin also pointed out that the new Bylaws make it very clear that the Board of Directors is responsible for changes to amendments. Consultation with the membership may occur at the discretion of the Board, and final approval is requested from the membership. This can be done by electronic ballot/comments. A vote to accept the Bylaws was unanimously approved by the membership.

Election of Board Nominees - The election of the new Chancellor and Board of Directors took place. Wallace K. Ewing was nominated for Chancellor along with Board of Directors candidates Martin S. Ewing, Daniel C. Ewing, Beth Ewing Toscos, Jane Ewing Weippert, Karen Avery and Linda L. (Lynn) Ewing Coughlin. Nominations from the floor included Walter E. Ewing and Terry Ewing Schulz. Virginia Okie moved that the nominations be closed and approved. Leslie Bagwell seconded. The motion carried.

New Business - Wallace K. Ewing asked if there was any new business. David Neal Ewing asked the membership to consider Roger Settlemire's motion to change the name of the organization to 'Clan Ewing Society', and asked whether the motion should be referred to the Board of Directors for action. Martin Ewing noted that this motion was out of order in accordance with the new bylaws and should be removed from the table. Martin Ewing then moved that the Board of Directors re-examine changing the name of the organization from Ewing Family Association to Clan Ewing Society. David Neal Ewing seconded. The motion was unanimously defeated.

Wallace K. Ewing stated that the EFA will support the work of Clan Ewing by establishing a Clan Ewing Committee. The committee will work to find activities that prove mutually beneficial to the clan and the EFA.

Wallace K. Ewing asked the membership for ideas about potential future Gathering venues. New England and Georgia were noted. This information will be taken under advisement by the Board of Directors as they select a site for the 2016 Gathering.

Martin S. Ewing made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Christine Corrigan. The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Ewing Toscos, Past Secretary

Chancellor's Message

Wallace K. 'Wally' Ewing, Ewing Family Association Chancellor

Memories of the details of our Gathering in Fort Wayne are fading, but not its essence. These are highlights that echo in my mind: cousins greeting one another in the lobby of the motel on Thursday evening, the impromptu voyageur skit, the private tour of the archives in the Allen County Public Library and Genealogical Center, the spontaneous folk dance during the banquet, the solemn homage of pertinent poetry and bagpipe music at Lindenwood Cemetery, and meetings where significant decisions were made. We are grateful to Beth Toscos, Dan Ewing, and Jane Weippert for organizing and implementing the 2014 Gathering.

The membership considered, debated, and ultimately endorsed the revised Bylaws, as developed by the Bylaws Amendment Committee and earlier approved by the Board of Directors. On the evening prior to the Saturday morning General Meeting, 21 of us attended a special session to discuss the name of our organization. After two and a half hours, it was the consensus of the group to affirm again that our name shall remain Ewing Family Association. That consensus, made into a motion, was unanimously adopted at the General Meeting. There were, of course, other issues that came before the membership, such as the election of the chancellor and board members. Those proceedings are included in the minutes of the General Meeting. Activity Coordinators, new and continuing, are listed elsewhere in the *Journal*.

As one Gathering ends, planning for another begins. Although specific dates and place have not been made, it is our intention to meet in the summer of 2016 possibly near Ann Arbor, Michigan, to tie in with the Highland Games that take place there yearly. I will chair the planning committee, consisting of two other Michigan residents, Terry Schulz and Walter (Major) Ewing. Details of the 2016 event are to be decided, but, as always, your ideas and assistance are important. Please email your thoughts to me, Terry, or Walter.

We were saddened by the passing of EFA stalwart, Bill Riddle. This November issue of the EFA *Journal* is a hefty testimonial to his dedication to the EFA and to the extended Ewing family. His imprint will endure. Thanks to David Neal Ewing for traveling to Santa Fe to access Bill's computer, with the

family's permission, extricating the rough draft of this *Journal*, and forwarding it to Beth's brother John A. Ewing, a new EFA member. We wholeheartedly thank John for editing this issue and his wife, Denise, for assisting him. EFA progress entails teamwork, and we are in debt to those who have stepped forward to help.

Wally

Board Chair's Message

Beth Ewing Toscos, Ewing Family Association Chairwoman

As the newly elected Chair of the Ewing Family Association Board, I am humbled by those who have gone before and made this association such a successful family organization. My membership began in 2004 when I discovered that it was not essential to have a pre-Revolutionary War immigrant in order to be part of the group. I'd like to take a moment to review the progress of the Ewing Family Association in recent months.



In June of this year, I was very fortunate to be able to attend the Family Convention in Scotland which led to the re-instatement of Clan Ewing. Thanks to the exceptional efforts of Thor Ewing and the Ewing Family Association Clanship committee, we can now officially proclaim our heritage as a Scottish clan. The genealogical study of our ancestors remains a large part of this association's essential purpose, but so, too, does the celebration of our ancient Scottish roots. The next several years will see a movement in the direction of this celebration – from discovering our immediate family lines and stories to discovering our Scottish ancestors' trip through history. Join me in congratulating John Thor Ewing on the granting of the Commission naming him as Commander of Clan Ewing by the Lyon Court.

If you haven't taken the opportunity to log on to ewingfamilyassociation@googlegroups.com and <http://www.clanewing.uk/forum>, please visit both. The Ewing Family Association and the Clan Ewing websites are now linked. We hope to be able to keep in contact with as many interested Ewings as possible worldwide. The EFA continues to advance our study of Ewing history and genealogy. We also celebrate our family by meeting from time to time at Gatherings and now, more than ever before, on the internet at forums created for just such interchanges.

Please join me in welcoming new Board members Terry (Ewing) Schulz and Walter E. 'Major' Ewing. Their biographical information can be found on p. 37. Both Michigan residents, they bring renewed enthusiasm for our working "team", adding new ideas and experiences.

As Wallace K. Ewing noted in his Chancellor's message, we are suffering the loss of Bill Riddle as our cousin and friend and as the editor of our exceptional *Journal*. We will continue to publish the *Journal* going forward. The Board is discussing possible alternatives for the future, but with the excitement and the growth of Clan Ewing it is more important than ever to provide the kinds of articles we have become used to through Bill's inestimable contributions. New generations of Ewings will find the *Journal's* information both interesting and useful as they travel through the Ewing forest.

Beth Ewing Toscos

Audaciter!

New EFA Board Members



Terry (Ewing) Schulz

Terry (Ewing) Schulz found Clan Ewing of America back in the late 90's when she began her genealogy journey. In 2010 she officially joined the Ewing Family Association in high hopes for breaking through her "brick wall". She is searching for information on Joseph or Samuel Joseph Ewing married to Mary Ann Pinkerton around 1860, and their son Harry Eugene Ewing born 1865 in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. Terry hopes that submitting a DNA test for her 88 year old father, Eugene Allen Ewing will reveal a connection to the larger Ewing family. She attended her first EFA Gathering this year and has joined the Board of Directors and will serve on the Membership, Gathering and Clan Ewing Committees.

Terry and her husband Tom have lived in Waterford, Michigan for most of their 44 years of marriage. They have 2 children and 3 grandchildren. Terry worked for GMAC Mortgage Corporation until GM's demise in 2008. She was a nationwide corporate trainer for Operations and Sales.

Walter E. Ewing

Walter E. Ewing goes by the nickname of "Major" as a result of his passion for Living History and the Rendezvous name he was given. Major was born in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan in 1957, the son of Walter Lavern Ewing and Isabel Maria Perea-Urdaz.

Major currently teaches Science at Quest High School in Fremont, Michigan and works with at risk students. He lives in Canadian Lakes, Michigan, with his wife Rachel (also an educator). Major's two sons are also military veterans living in North Carolina and Germany. Major is a proud Grandpa of one grandson.



A world traveler (his father was in the U.S. Air Force), Major graduated from Central Michigan University with a BS (1979) and MS (1980) in Outdoor Recreation and Field Biology. Part of the Orienteering Team, Major was commissioned a 2nd Lt in the Army through CMU's ROTC program. He was a career Army officer from 1979-1995, retiring in 1995 as a Major. Major has a passion for performing/conducting Living History Programs and re-enacting the Great Lakes Fur Trade era - canoeing the Great Lakes with a group of Voyageurs in a replica 34 ft. Trade Canoe.

A new Ewing Family Association Board member, Major looks forward to being active with the EFA and interacting with newly found relatives. He will chair the Membership Committee and serve on the Clan Ewing and Gathering committees.

Membership News

Jill (Ewing) Spittler, Membership Coordinator (+1 330.464.6378, JEwingSpit@aol.com) and Jane (Ewing) Weippert, New Member Coordinator (+1 419.399.2073, JaneWeippert@windstream.net)

New Membership Coordinator

Beginning with the next issue of the Ewing Family Journal, we will welcome the new Membership Chair and Coordinator, Walter E. 'Major' Ewing. As Major embarks on his new mission to enhance, enlarge and invigorate the EFA membership, please give him your support. Jill Spittler and Jane Weippert remain on the Membership committee along with new committee member Terry Schulz.



Jill Spittler

New EFA Members ... Welcome Aboard!

Randall Ewing (Member #1166) and his wife **Judy** live in Denver, Colorado, and can be contacted at Ewing.Randall12@gmail.com. He reports:

James Ewing, Pioneer, was my grandfather x 6 who settled in what is now known as Bath County, Virginia. I am the son of William Merlin Ewing who was born in 1883 in Illinois. A lot of my ancestors are buried in Ohio at the Ewing Cemetery. My interest is to find as many of my blood relatives everywhere.



Jane Weippert

Response by Karen Avery, EFA Genealogist (BKAvery2@comcast.net)

Welcome to Ewing Family Association! It looks like you do have lots of cousins since you seem to belong to a large group who also descend from James (1721-1801). We call this man Pocahontas James.

If this is the man you think is your 6th great grandfather, then perhaps we are not speaking of the same man. If this is the correct man, I show you are his 4th great grandson - not 6th as you mention. You say he was born in what is now known as Bath County, Virginia, but others say he was born in Carnashannagh, County Donegal, Ireland.

Diana Baker Sears (Member #1167) and her husband, **Calvin** live in Yukon, Oklahoma, and can be contacted at ds0198@cox.net. She reports:

My 6x Great Grandmother is Ann Ewing, daughter of Samuel. She married Abraham Hillis in 1763.

My great Grandmother is Effie Hillis who married Edgar Sylvester Baker in 1902.

Response by Karen Avery, EFA Genealogist (BKAvery2@comcast.net)

I wonder if you could give more of your direct ancestry so that I may follow your lineage to include you. I do have Abraham Hillis, Sr. and his wife, Anna Ewing. I have their children, but

don't know how to connect to further. I notice this is also the line of Myrtle Armstrong Roe whose genealogical research papers were given to EFA.

Further response from Diana Baker Sears:

Thank you so much, Karen. I have only been doing my family genealogy for about a year and boy was it like Christmas when I started up the Hillis line. And to think that my Great Grandmother Effie led me to this. She was a wonderful woman, from what I remember, and no bigger than a minute!

I am extremely proud to be included in the EFA as well as Clan Ewing.

John Alan Ewing (Member #1168) and his wife **Denise** live in Fort Wayne, Indiana, and can be contacted at johnewing2003@msn.com. He reports:

As a new member of the Ewing Family Association, I have been intrigued with my Ewing family history for years. I have always thought that knowing who we are has so much to do with who we were. Fortunately, I have been blessed to have two sisters, Jane Ewing Weippert and Beth Ewing Toscos, who have been active in the EFA for a number of years along with first cousin Karen Avery. As the only son of Raymond C. Ewing and Lela (Bainbridge) Ewing, I was born in Fort Wayne, Indiana. My father, before his death in 2012, was a participant in the yDNA project (Participant RC-2b) which helped prove that our family line comes through Alexander Ewing of Ashford, Connecticut.

New member, Walter (Major) E. Ewing and I share the same lineage through John Ewing II. I'm very pleased to join Walter and other new members of the EFA in this genealogical journey.

Response by Karen Avery, EFA Genealogist (BKAvery2@comcast.net):

John is my first cousin. We share Grandfather Albert A. Ewing, Great-Grandfather William A. Ewing, G²Grandfather John Ewing III, G³Grandfather John Ewing II, and G⁴Grandfather John Ewing I. Our 5th Great-Grandfather is Alexander Ewing of Ashford, Connecticut.

Welcome to the Ewing Family Association, John! We truly appreciate you stepping up to take the Editor Pro Tem position for the *Journal*.

Christine Corrigan (Member #1169) a resident of Atlanta, Georgia (IndyDelta@gmail.com), and her cousin **Siobhan Stevens** (Member #1172) who lives in Grove City, Ohio, (Chevysas@gmail.com) were gifted with EFA memberships by their Aunt Roberta Marks (EFA Member #420).

Genealogist Karen Avery reports:

They descend from the lines of John Ewing (c. 1648-1745) of Carnshanaugh, County Donegal, Ireland and Frederick County, Virginia. What a thoughtful gift from their aunt!

Walter E. Ewing (Member #1170) and his wife **Rachel** live in Canadian Lakes, Michigan, and can be contacted at *Wallygator57@gmail.com*. Walter goes by 'Major', a rank he held in the U.S. Army and the name his fellow canoeists/re-enactors call him on the waterways of Michigan.

In recent years, Major's career-path has moved him from the military to teaching high school science, incorporating strategies such as: Field Labs, Experiential and Challenge Based Learning, Service Learning Projects, and Cooperative Learning Groups. He has coached Cross Country and sponsored Drum Lines. He currently teaches Science at Quest High School in Fremont, Michigan.

Major is a nephew of Earl Norman Ewing (EN-2b in the Ewing y-DNA Project) with whom he matches perfectly genetically. Major's family line is:

5th GGF Alexander Ewing, I (c. 1708-1782) & Jean (?) (c. 1710-aft. 1782), Ashford, CT
 4th GGF John Ewing, I (1739- aft. 1800) & Rhoda Badger (1741-Aft. 1800)
 3rd GGF John Ewing, II (c.1769-1813) & Lucy Williams (1784-1856)
 2nd GGF George Samuel Ewing, Sr. (1805-1883 & Deborah Ann Parsons (1812-1883)
 (GGF) Lyman Otis Ewing (1855-1942) Emma Louise Phelps (1857-1915)
 (Grandfather) Earl Howard Ewing (1892-1955) & Laura Adrianna Hubbard
 (Father) Walter Laverne Ewing (1931 -) & Isabel Maria Perea-Urdez (1936 -)
 Walter Earl Ewing born 2-3-1957 (He is WE4-2b in the Y-DNA Project)

S. Jane Lee (Member #1171) can be contacted at *GaelicJenny@gmail.com*. Her affiliation with the EFA began with this enquiry:

Ancestor: Samuel Ewing c. 1743

Query: My aunt, who is a genealogist, insists that Samuel Ewing was Irish. My grandmother always told me he was a Scot. We believe Samuel died in Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania. Martha Ewing may have been born in Teboyne, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania and died in Antis, Blair County, Pennsylvania. I have been trying forever to figure out what Samuel's parentage and connections to Ireland or Scotland may have been. There are several Martha Ewings, too. I've found one statement that Martha "intermarried" with Thomas Kinney but can't find any other information about her. The daughter of Martha Ewing and Thomas Kinney married Isaiah Cooley Lytle (b. 1814). I would very much like to join the clan if my association with it is legitimate. If you require more information, please let me know.

Response by Karen Avery, EFA Genealogist (*BKAvery2@comcast.net*):

Jane, you are definitely a legitimate member of the Ewing family/clan. Welcome!

I will share with you a copy of a long article written by Cheryl Ewing and husband Richard

Jonsson about this Ewing line as published in the *Ewing Family Journal* (Vol 20, No. 1 February 2014). See pages 43 through 72. They believe they have this line figured out! Unfortunately Cheryl died January 26, 2014. This is the Richard Jonsson about whom

David Crane mentions in the Gen Forum post dated 4-27-2010. Cheryl and Richard also published an earlier article in the EFJ, but made corrections in the February 2014 issue.

Karen Avery, EFA Genealogist

Peggy Ewing Ashley (Member #1173) lives in Casper, Wyoming and can be contacted at echamb@live.com.

(My brother) was tested by Family Tree DNA and his information was linked with the Ewing Y-DNA Project. His name is Francis Marion Ewing, same as his grandfather, gr grandfather and 2 gr grandfather. Before that we don't know. The Y-DNA Project is how I got the connection to William Ewing. My dad's generation would never talked about it, and they are all gone now. I would appreciate any help you can give me.

Response by Karen Avery, EFA Genealogist (BKAvery2@comcast.net):

I had your Dad and his siblings in my data base, but do not have you or your brother. It would be great if you can share for inclusion in my very large Ewing data base (over 12,000 Ewing born people).

As a co-administrator of the Ewing Y-DNA project, I have found your brother's results and that is good! What we like to do is make a personal direct lineage chart for him like those of other men in the Y-DNA project. You may include siblings in each generation or not - whatever you are comfortable showing.

Michael Dale Ewing (Member #1175) lives in Nettleton, Mississippi, with his wife, Kortney, and can be reached at IrishEwing@gmail.com.

Michael is an active participant on the Clan Ewing Facebook page. His reports his known ancestry is as follows:

(Father) Charlie Etau Ewing 02/04/1947 to 05/20/1994

(Mother) Margaret Franks 06/30/1953-

(Grandfather) Jack Winston Ewing (Cherokee County, Alabama) 06/14/1920 to 06/23/2011

(Grandmother) Reba Johnson 02/26/1932 to 10/22/1994

(Great Grandfather) Allen Josephus Ewing

(Great Grandmother) Hattie Ophelia Yarbrough

Sadly this is all I have and thank you for any information you may be able to share

Karen Avery, EFA Genealogist (BKAvery1@comcast.net) responds:

You mentioned you looked some on Ancestry. I notice there are several trees with your lineage, but the ones I looked at did not include your grandfather, Jack Winston Ewing. It appears that Jack was born about six months after the 1920 census was taken on January 2, 1920. In 1930 he is listed as Jack, age 10. This in Cherokee County, Alabama. He is listed as J.W., age 19, in April 1940 in Itawamba County, Mississippi.

Do you have dates of birth for Jack and Reba's children? I would like to list them in chronological order in my data base. Approximate dates are fine. As you have time, should try to find proof for each fact for each person. Of course, that is often not possible, but do look for birth, marriage and death records.

Here is what I think I know about your lineage:

Allen Josephus Ewing (1882-1961) married in Cherokee County, Alabama, 1-4-1910 to Hattie Ophelia Yarbrough (1891-1961). They are buried at Mt. Gilead Cemetery, Itawamba County, Tupelo, Mississippi.

Thomas W. Ewing (1857-after 1-28-1920) married in Cherokee County, Alabama, about 1876 to Nancy Kathleen Reeves (1857 - 1918). I don't have a date of death for Thomas or where he is buried. Nancy is buried in Myrtle Cemetery in Ennis, Ellis County, Texas. Her death certificate is posted online.

William E. Ewing (1829 - 1913) married about 1853 (unknown where) Rhoda MANN Shirley (c. 1835-after 1870). Further study needs to be done on Rhoda. On the 1850 census she and brother Whitfield are both given the surname Shurly, but I suspect their surname is MANN. William is buried in the Fairview Methodist Church Cemetery, Centre, Cherokee County, Alabama, according to Find-A-Grave website. I don't know more about Rhoda. Parents of William are: Green Berry Ewing (1802 - 1869) who married Rhoda Martin (1805 - 1886) on July 31, 1830 in Newton County, Georgia. Green Berry died in Colbert County, Alabama, and Rhoda was buried in Tates Chapel Cemetery, Centre, Cherokee County, Alabama.

The line previous to this gets a little iffy, but many think it is as follows: William Ewing, Sr. (1770 - before 2-20-1827 probably in Newton County, Georgia) married Hannah Whaley (1780 - after 8-4-1860). Hannah is buried in Old Ewing Chapel Baptist Cemetery, Gwinnett County, Georgia. Three of the sons of this couple are part of the Ewing Y-DNA Project and the results of the testing place four living men as very closely related. You may view the personal lineage of each man here: http://www.ewingfamilyassociation.org/DNA_Project/SiteMap_YDNA.htm. Click on the initials of SA, ST, RF, and RD2.

When you have a chance you will want to view *Ewing in Early America*. This book was researched and written by Margaret Ewing Fife and published in 2003. You may find it on our web page here: http://www.ewingfamilyassociation.org/books/Document_Fife.html

Unfortunately the index is not yet included online, but look at Chapter 43, '*The Ewings of Georgia - Our Ancestors*' (pages 398 - 432).

It is known that Mrs. Fife made a mistake in her early lineage and connected to the wrong ancestor. I have not yet attempted to sort out exactly what is correct and what is not.

- 1 Green Berry Ewing b: Abt. Aug 1802 d: 1869
- .. +Rhoda Martin b: Dec 20, 1805 d: Mar 23, 1886
- 2 William E. Ewing b: Apr 15, 1829 d: Mar 19, 1913
- +Rhoda Mann b: Abt. 1834 d: Aft. 1870
- 3 Thomas W. Ewing b: Jan 01, 1857 d: Aft. Jan 28, 1920
- +Nancy Kathleen Reevis b: Apr 04, 1857 d: Oct 29, 1918
- 4 Allen Josephus Ewing b: Dec 24, 1882 d: Apr 22, 1961
- +Hattie Ophelia Yarbrough b: Jul 27, 1891 d: Jan 27, 1961
- 5 Jack Winston 'Dub' Ewing b: Jun 14, 1920 d: Jun 23, 2011
- +Reba Johnson b: Feb 26, 1932 d: Oct 22, 1994
- 6 Charlie Etau Ewing b: Feb 04, 1947 d: May 20, 1994
- +Margaret Franks b: Jun 30, 1953
- 7 Michael Ewing

Passings

With sincere and heartfelt condolences to their family and friends, we note the passing of the following:

In Loving Memory



William Ewing Riddle, a resident of Santa Fe, New Mexico passed away on September 26, 2014 due to complications from a recent fall. Bill died peacefully at the Christus St. Vincent Regional Medical Center surrounded by the members of his immediate family.

Bill was born to Helen Fleck and Harvey Washington Riddle in Guilford, Connecticut on August 5, 1942. He graduated from Cornell University with a Bachelor and Master's of Engineering Physics in 1966. He subsequently attended Stanford University, receiving his Ph.D in Computer Science in 1972. He was a member of the faculty in the Computer Science Departments of the University of Michigan and the University of Colorado, where he mentored many students. In 1986, he became Chief Technical Officer and Executive Vice President of the Software Productivity Consortium. He subsequently founded and served as President of Software Design and Analysis, a software consulting firm and was also the founder and Director of the Rocky Mountain Institute of Software Engineering, which provided workshops and conferences related to software engineering technology. He was a Fellow in the Institute of Electrical and Electronics

Engineers and was active in the American Association of Computing Machinery, receiving a Distinguished Service Award from that organization in 1999.

In addition to his professional endeavors, Bill was a student of the arts with a love for music, opera and culturally significant art and cuisine from the many places he lived, worked and visited in the United States, Europe and Asia. He was an avid photographer, bird watcher and genealogist and was always careful to document and file the knowledge he stewarded with precision and care. In his later years, Bill devoted much of his time to genealogical research. As the webmaster for the Ewing Family Association and editor of the Ewing Family Journal, he contributed greatly to their ongoing efforts. His warm presence and gentle spirit found friendship everywhere he went.

Bill is survived by his former wife, Margaret Ward Riddle of Boulder, Colorado and their daughters Jeannette Riddle Flynn of Cottonwood Heights, Utah, and Ellen Riddle Taylor of Larkspur, California; granddaughters Jessica Ellis Flynn, Brittany Alexander Flynn, and Erin Lynn Taylor and grandson John William Taylor; sister, Mary Elizabeth Riddle of Vermont; niece, Susan Harrington of Washington; nephew, Paul Schmidt of Alpine, Wyoming.

He will be dearly missed by all.

In lieu of flowers, donations are graciously welcome to the National Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Society, 12121 Scripps Summit Dr #190, San Diego, CA 92131

http://main.nationalmssociety.org/site/TR?px=3266648&pg=personal&fr_id=24616&et=u0KW5I9jCMxmivMKNR22rQ

TRIBUTES TO WILLIAM EWING RIDDLE

From Wallace K. Ewing, EFA Chancellor, Sept. 28, 2014

I am saddened to report that Bill Riddle died in a Santa Fe hospital on Friday, September 26. He fell a week ago today and injured his neck. He had surgery on Tuesday to relieve the trauma, but failed to recover. His daughter Jeanette said he died peacefully, surrounded by family, who were comforted knowing that Bill had a full and productive life. His multiple contributions to the EFA are beyond count. A service was held Friday night for the family, and another service will be offered this evening for Bill's friends in and around Santa Fe. Jeanette suggested donations be made in Bill's name to the Multiple Sclerosis Foundation in lieu of flowers.

He already is missed in so many ways.

From David Neal Ewing, Past EFA Chancellor:

Wally is right when he says that Bill's contributions to the *Ewing Family Association* are "beyond count," but I want to enumerate at least some of them. Before Bill retired, he was a college professor of information technology. Afterwards he continued to work as a consultant on hugely complex corporate websites, and for the last ten years or so he volunteered hundreds upon hundreds of hours of this expertise and experience to the *EFA*. I would not be surprised to learn that Bill contributed more volunteer hours to the *EFA* than all of the rest of us put together.

- As editor of the *Journal of Clan Ewing* and the *Ewing Family Journal* he virtually singlehandedly established a standard for the *Journal* that allowed us to win the National Genealogical Society award for the best family journal in the country in 2008. Bill would demur and insist that the contributors are due most of the credit. Indeed, he never sought personal credit for his efforts and only reluctantly allowed me to enter our *Journal* in the NGS contest.
- As *EFA* webmaster he expanded our initial efforts at establishing a website into a state of the art website with internal and external links to an almost unimaginable number of resources for genealogical and historical researchers.
- As sponsor of the James Ewing of Inch *Ewing Genealogy Documentation* project he set the standard for what an EGD genealogy can become.
- As chair of the Bylaws committee he saw to it that our bylaws were finally brought into compliance with all of the applicable laws and IRS requirements.
- He volunteered to head the committee that organized the Uniontown, Pennsylvania, Gathering in 2010. He had done a tremendous amount of work until a serious illness prevented him from completing the job or attending the gathering. (A tip of the hat is due J. David Ewing, who stepped up to the plate at the last moment and saved our bacon at Uniontown.)

This is certainly not a comprehensive list. Bill was my cousin (well--fifth cousin, twice removed), my teacher and my friend. His support and counsel was crucial during my tenure as chancellor. Karen Avery has told us that this was also true for her and I have an idea that is true for many others in the *EFA*. Maybe this quiet support was the most important of his accomplishments. We will all miss him sorely.

From Martin S. Ewing, EFA Board Member:

Bill Riddle has left us, and he has left us a challenge. We must find a way to continue Bill's work as Editor and Publisher of the *Ewing Family Journal*, which for me, more than any single other activity, defined the *EFA* in recent years. His standards of excellence in promoting good writing about our family history, in producing wonderful genealogy resources, in carefully working out our new Bylaws, and in promoting electronic communications for the Association will be hard to live up to -- but we must try!

I have only known Bill for about 6 years, since the Winchester Gathering, which was probably the last he was able to attend. We hit it off a little uncertainly at first, but came to have a productive relationship as he graciously gave the web site over to my care. We visited in Santa Fe a few times and shared phone conversations and innumerable emails.

Bill helped us get onto a great path. Unfortunately, *EFA* may need 2 or 3 people to begin to replace him if we are going to keep up his standards. That will be hard, but it is a worthy challenge.

From Larry Ewing, EFA Member:

I first met Bill at our gathering in Winchester in 2008. I am saddened to think that it was the one and only time we actually saw each other in person. I have submitted many inputs to the Journal over the years and Bill has always taken the time to fine tune them making them far better than the original.

He was especially supportive of the recent Pioneer James Memorial Project and added his flair and expertise and without him it would not have happened for many years to come, or possibly not at all.

He will be sorely missed by me and many others.

The EFA has truly lost a very special guy.

Early Ewing Jr. (1921 - 2014)

Benoit, MS

Funeral services for Early Cunningham Ewing, Jr., 92, of Benoit will be at 2 p.m., Saturday, February 8, 2014 at Benoit Union Church. He died February 5, 2014, after a brief illness. Arrangements are under the direction of Boone Funeral Home, Greenville.

Mr. Ewing was born November 30, 1921, in Scott, MS; an alumnus of Benoit High School, Mississippi State University and Cornell University. He served in the [Army](#) Air Corps with the 307 Bomber Group of 13th Air Force in the Pacific. After [WWII](#) he returned to Scott becoming a noted cotton breeder with Delta & Pine Land Company and the company's Vice President of Research and later working for Desert Seed Company, a Division of ARCO.

After leaving D&PL, he moved to Benoit where he served two terms as mayor and was an active school board member for 17 years.

Mr. Ewing was active in the Benoit Methodist Church, the Benoit Lions Club, and an active Boy Scouts of America leader for over 50 years serving Troop 1 in Benoit and later Troop 50 in Greenville.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Early and Emma Bell Ewing; and a brother, Battle Bell Ewing. He is survived by his wife of 69 years, Margaret Patterson Ewing; son, Early Ewing, III (Kay) of Madison, MS; daughter, Jane Ewing Stephens (Lester) of Benoit, MS; brother, Thomas C. Ewing of Benoit, MS; grandsons, Hubbard, Dudley, Walter, and Matthew Stephens, and B. Early Ewing, a great granddaughter, and loving nieces and nephews.

The family will receive friends one hour prior to services at the church. Memorials may be made to the American Red Cross, Chickasaw Council of the Boy Scouts of America, or the Benoit Union Church.

Published in Clarion Ledger on Feb. 7, 2014

Archives Report

Daniel C. Ewing, EFA Archivist (DC.Ewing@frontier.com)

At the Ewing Family Association Gathering in Gallipolis, Ohio in September of 2012, a decision was made to move the EFA Archives to the Allen County Public Library (ACPL) for storage and digitization. The digitization process, which has been underway for some time on other materials, would thereby enable certain EFA materials to be available to Genealogy Researchers, to Ewing Family folks themselves, as well as the interested public, via the internet using the ACPL website. The Ellsworth Ewing Collection of about four Banker's boxes of material was delivered to the ACPL at the conclusion of the 2012 meeting.

Since then, the James Roland McMichael Collection has been moved from the Smith County Historical Society (Texas) to the ACPL. This was an even larger collection of about ten boxes of various types of materials. Then followed the Margaret Ewing Fife Collection of about five boxes and then followed two boxes of Myrtle Armstrong Roe material, delivered to Fort Wayne by Mary Gosline. Finally, as of this moment in time, the William Ewing Riddle Collection of both his family records as well as other Ewing related materials (for example, a complete set of the EFA Journals) has been delivered to the ACPL and is being reviewed and cataloged. All of this material was reviewed, cataloged and indexed by Beth Ewing Toscos and Daniel C. Ewing, before delivery to the ACPL. As mentioned earlier, the digitization process continues, November 2014.

The digitized material will be made available to on-line users in "batches", with different release dates. The schedule of these events has not yet been made.

In a separate and simultaneous program, our own Wallace K. Ewing of Grand Haven, Michigan, has delivered to ACPL many items of his personal research and his Ewing Family records. Some of his material is on-line now.

As the EFA Members become more familiar with the ACPL arrangement, the Archive Committee welcomes others to contribute personal Genealogy collections to this facility. The Archive Committee can act as your representative in having early discussions with the ACPL.

The ACPL storage area for the EFA materials is worthy of a brief description. The storage area is in the sub-basement of the main Library building. The storage area is just that—there is no public access to the area and normal Library activity is not performed in the room. The room is temperature and humidity controlled and is fire-proof. In the event that heat, smoke or a flame is detected, an alarm sounds giving a person who might be in the area, 15 seconds to vacate and the fire doors close. After that time, a gas is released in the room that combines instantly with the oxygen in the air, to deprive any flame from oxygen. Without oxygen, the flame is instantly gone. Water is not used for fire extinguishing, with the usual water damage to documents.



Celebratory Poetry

Poem by: *Steve Ewing, September 2014*



Chancellor Wallace Ewing reads 'Clan Song' by Steven Craig Ewing at the Ewing Memorial in Lindenwood Cemetery, Fort Wayne, Indiana, September 21, 2014. This moving tribute was presented on land once owned by the Fort Wayne Ewing family, which subsequently became the historic Lindenwood Cemetery.

Clan Song

Raise your voices
in sweet greeting
Raise your spirit
to our name
Raise your mind
to noble meaning
Raise your heart in
highland strains

Sing in memory
of our family
scattered ore
the briny seas
Sing the song
of lovely Scotland
where we'd all so
long to be

Bless the hills and
lochs and mountains
Bless the forests
And the glens
Bless the honor
of our homeland
Bless it's soul
my bonnie friend

Let the magic
of our legends
Let the dreams that
we all share
Bind our spirits to
each other
Lift this song high
in the air

The song of dim
horizons
The song of ancient
bonds
The song of clans
and kinship
Sing it clearly
sing it strong

May our family name
of Ewing
Forever be so
blessed
May it share it's long
lived story
May all the clans
attest.

May they hold us up
as equal
May we share a vote
with pride
May our history and
Its meaning
ride forward side
by side

May our chief with
humble wisdom
bravely shine the
light of truth
May he represent
our honor
as he gains us
what we're due

May the best of us
be blest
as equal to
the least
May the heart of the
true kindred
be revealed to
all we meet

May the future rise
before us
for we've chosen
the straight track
The road we're on
leads homeward
there'll be no
turnin' back

Poem by: *Michael Ewing, September 2014*

A resident of Peaceful Valley, Mississippi, Michael says he is new to his roots and proud to be Scots-Irish. He was inspired to write this poem in celebration of the re-birth of Clan Ewing: The 42-year-old, son of Charlie Ewing, grandson of Jack Winston Ewing, says it took him about ten minutes to compose the poem, and the dream of his heart is “to see the lands of my fathers”.

My Heart's Dream

My heart belongs in a land far away,
I'll dream of its shores both by night and by day;
The lands of my fathers, the isles which I seek
Where with Gaelic inflection my kinsmen do speak,
From Glasgow, Fort William to blessed Dundee,
Londonderry, Belfast and Dublin to see,
With the pipes and the pints and articulate clogs,
I'll go search the Highlands through Moors and through bogs,
For I long to be in the country so fair,
To breathe in the scent of that sweet Celtic air,
My quest so compelling cannot have an end,
Till I hear the fond greeting, “Welcome home, friend!”



I am honored to be a part of the most incredible Clan on the planet! A mighty thanks to our Chief Thor Ewing and all involved in the Ewing Family Association. I have always felt alone in this world, I now have an amazing sense of purpose. To all my kinsmen, God Speed & AUDACITER!!!!

New Member Michael D. Ewing (#1165) can be reached at IrishEwing@gmail.com.

Clan Ewing Commission Officially Granted

Commander Thor Ewing (Thor@historicalarts.co.uk)



I recently received the Commission from the Lord Lyon King of Arms appointing me as Commander of Clan Ewing "in order to preserve the spirit of clanship and kinship and the traditions of the said clan". I believe this is the first official document to recognize the clan for more than four hundred years, signed and witnessed in Edinburgh on the "Thirteenth day of October in the Year of Our Lord Two thousand and fourteen".

This is a great achievement for the clan, and marks a significant moment in our history and in the journey to restore our proper place among the clans. Many of you will know that for me, the restoration of Clan Ewing has been an important vision for some years and became a matter of urgency in early 2011, when plans were announced which would have led to inclusion of Clan Ewing as a sept within an entirely separate clan. My appointment as Commander is an enormous privilege for me personally and I feel tremendously honoured to be entrusted with this position, but it is the importance of the Commission for us as a clan that is most significant. This Commission acknowledges our continuing independence as one of the traditional clans which originate in medieval Scotland.

There have been many people who have helped make this possible, and some have given a great deal of time and effort to accomplish this. I'm very grateful to everyone who has contributed in whatever way, and to everyone who attended our Ad Hoc *Derbhfine* or Family Convention in Glasgow earlier this year. If I try to list every name I'm sure to leave someone out, but it's fair to say that the list would overlap a great deal with the list of officers of the EFA, including the late Bill Riddle who would have relished the opportunity to publish this announcement. I must however mention the special dedication which David Neal Ewing has given over the past three years. It was David who initially nominated me as Commander and, without his continuing help, it is uncertain whether we would have reached this point at all. It has also been important to hear from so many people who have been supporting our efforts - it is your involvement which makes this worthwhile. This achievement is for us all. Thank you all for your help and participation.

As you know I'm fascinated by our history, but our clan is more than just the dry historical record. Unlike history, our heritage is a living thing which must be allowed to grow or it will wither and die. As George Orwell wrote, "We must add to our heritage or lose it, we must grow greater or grow less, we must go forward or backward." I believe that this Commission forms an essential part of such growth for the future, ensuring that the Ewing Clan does not slip into history to become a thing of the past. Over the next five years, I hope our sense of clanship will grow stronger still.

Clanship is about the bonds that hold us together. I know that everyone expresses their Ewing identity in their own way but, traditionally, a clan's identity is symbolised in the clan tartan and in the clan crest badge. So I'm pleased to report that our first bolt of Ewing tartan is soon to be woven by Lochcarron of Scotland, and should be ready by January 16th 2015. Lochcarron is probably the best known tartan weaver in the world, and is certainly second-to-none in terms of quality. The first order is for 60 yards woven in "Braeriach" 13oz tartan which is the lighter of the two kilt-weight tartans and is, I'm told, more widely used in America because of the warmer climate. This weight of fabric can be made up not only as kilts, but also as scarves, waistcoats, skirts and even neckties.



If there is sufficient interest, I can also order a lightweight 10oz tartan which might be preferred for skirts, neckties etc. and which is also suitable for ladies' sashes.

Please contact me if you're interested in ordering a garment in Ewing tartan. Most items will be made to order, so will be based on the measurements you supply. Further details should soon be available online and in the next issue of the *Ewing Family Journal*. I think the Ewing Family Association might also stock a variety of ready-made items in Ewing tartan as EFA merchandise.

Also in the making are Clan Crest Badges and Kilt Pins from Gaelic Themes, the leading supplier of these products. The Clan Crest has been specially redrawn for this purpose by Romilly Squire, Herald Painter to the Court of Lord Lyon, Deputy Secretary of the Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs, who is among the finest heraldic artists of his generation. I'm expecting a 3D mock-up of the clan badge for approval very shortly.

For readers with internet access, please do check out the new Clan Ewing website at www.clanewing.uk There were several reasons why a separate website for the clan was needed, not least so that the EFA website could keep its established format. The two websites are complementary, and it is easy to navigate from one to another. The new website has already served to attract new interest in the clan, and our Clan Ewing Facebook group has swiftly grown to more than a hundred members and is (to my surprise and delight) currently the most active and dynamic forum within the clan. I'm also pleased to announce that our clan now appears on the popular Electric Scotland website, and I'm hopeful we'll soon have our own Wikipedia entry for "Clan Ewing."

The reaction from outwith the clan has been positive too. People seem genuinely pleased to know that an ancient clan is reborn. However, one expert did caution that in his view we're not a "proper" clan until the appointment of a new chief. Personally, I feel we always were a "proper" clan and the Commission simply recognises this, but the note of caution is probably wise to raise at this point.

Lord Lyon's Commission recognizes and confirms me as Commander of Clan Ewing "*ad interim* for a period of five years." The Latin phrase *ad interim* means "in the meantime," so my appointment as Commander is a temporary measure taken in the absence of a hereditary chief, and my tenure as Commander is strictly limited to a period of five years from the date of the Commission. This interim period of five years is to allow the knowledge and spirit of Ewing clanship to spread and grow, and to allow time for a respondent to emerge if anyone believes they can prove a hereditary claim the Ewing chiefship through right of primogeniture. It also allows for the possibility that evidence might be brought forward by another clan that we belong under their chiefship and authority.

This means that we must look forward to an Ad Hoc Derbhfine or Family Convention in 2019, at which to make our clanship permanently recognised. At this meeting, in the absence of a qualified respondent, the Derbhfine will be asked if the clan approves my appointment as chief, which will open the door to permanent recognition for Clan Ewing through the Court of Lord Lyon. If after the period of 5 years is up, we fail to take the next step by recognising a new permanent chief, it is possible that the clan could slip back into the morasse of uncertainty from which we have just emerged, and that MacEwens and MacLachlans could once more debate which of them has the right to claim chiefship over us.

That however is a setback we can easily avoid and, *ad interim* at least, there is no longer any question what clan we belong to. We are Clan Ewing!

AUDACITER

COMMISSION by the Lord Lyon King of Arms in favour of
JOHN THOR EWING
 as Commander of the Clan Ewing

UNTO ALL AND SUNDRY whom These Presents Do or May Concern, **WE**, Joseph John Morrow, Lord Lyon King of Arms send Greeting: **WHEREAS** it has been represented to Us that the Hereditary Chiefship of the Clan Ewing is dormant; **THAT** the dormancy of the Chiefship of the said Clan has created difficulties in maintaining the well-being of the said Clan and of its Branches and Houses at home and overseas; **THAT** in order to preserve the spirit of clanship and kinship and the traditions of the said Clan, a Commander ad interim should be recognised to rally the members of the said Clan, to convene meetings thereof and to preside thereat during the dormancy of the Chiefship; **THAT** the Principal Men and Women that now are of the Clan Ewing have, after due consideration by way of Clan or Family Conclave, otherwise known as *derbhfhine* selection, selected and recommended to Us John Thor Ewing, residing at Langdale House, Bucknell, in the County of Herefordshire, as a fit and proper person to be recognised as Commander ad interim of the said Clan; **NOW** Therefore We, after due consideration and investigation, being well satisfied as to the good qualities, abilities and loyalty of John Thor Ewing, and of his fitness for the said Office, do by These Presents Recognise and Confirm the said John Thor Ewing as Commander ad interim for a period of five years from the date hereof of the Clan with power and commission to him to do and perform all acts and functions proper to the Commander of the said Clan in the personal absence of the Hereditary Chief thereof, in the same manner and to the same effect as if he had been specially appointed and instructed by such Hereditary Chief; **AND** We direct These Presents to be recorded in the Books of the Lyon Court (Probative Writs Section); **IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF** We have Subscribed These Presents and the Seal of Our Office is affixed hereof at Edinburgh this Thirteenth day of October in the Year of Our Lord Two thousand and fourteen before this witness Elizabeth Ann Bruce or Roads, Snawdoun Herald of Arms.

Elizabeth Roads
 Snawdoun
 (Witness)



Joseph John Morrow
 Lyon

COMMISSION by the Lord Lyon King of Arms in favour of
John Thor Ewing
As Commander of the Clan Ewing

UNTO ALL AND SUNDRY whom These Presents Do or May Concern, WE, Joseph John Morrow, Lord Lyon King of Arms send Greeting: WHEREAS it has been represented to Us that the Hereditary Chiefship of the Clan Ewing is dormant; THAT the dormancy of the Chiefship of the said Clan has created difficulties in maintaining the well-being of the said Clan and of its Branches and Houses at home and overseas; THAT in order to preserve the spirit of clanship and kinship and the traditions of the said Clan, a Commander ad interim should be recognized to rally the members of the said Clan, to convene meetings thereof and to preside thereat during the dormancy of the Chiefship; THAT the Principal Men and Women that now are of the Clan Ewing have, after due consideration by way of Clan or Family Conclave, otherwise known as derbhfine selection, selected and recommended to Us John Thor Ewing, residing at Langdale House, Bucknell, in the County of Herefordshire, as a fit and proper person to be recognized as Commander ad interim of the said Clan; NOW Therefore We, after due consideration and investigation, being well satisfied as to the good qualities, abilities and loyalty of John Thor Ewing, and of his fitness for the said Office, do by These Presents Recognise and Confirm the said John Thor Ewing as Commander ad interim for a period of five years from the date hereof of the Clan with power and commission to him to do and perform all acts and functions proper to the Commander of the said Clan in the personal absence of the Hereditary Chief thereof, in the same manner and to the same effect as if he had been specially appointed and instructed by such Hereditary Chief; AND We direct These Presents to be recorded in the Books of the Lyon Court (Probative Writs Section); IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF We have Subscribed These Presents and the Seal of Our Office is affixed hereof at Edinburgh this Thirteenth day of October in the Year of Our Lord Two thousand and fourteen before this witness Elizabeth Ann Bruce or Roads, Snawdoun Herald of Arms.

Ewing Family Association Joins COSCA

The Ewing Family Association has joined COSCA (Council of Scottish Clans & Associations).

The following is a narrative description of COSCA's mission:

"The COUNCIL, through its officers, receives correspondence from persons of Scottish ancestry inquiring about their status in any given clan, inquiring about addresses where information about their ancestry and clan or family can be obtained, the address of any clan association representing their family. Correspondence is returned promptly giving the desired information. In addition, where no clan association exists to represent the family, written instructions are returned to them specifying steps to be taken in order to set up such a society. Names of interested persons are forwarded to the officers of the respective Clan Associations when these exist."

COSCA was founded in 1976 by Dr. Herbert MacNeal and others interested in the following goals:

- strengthening the Scottish American community by bringing individuals together with their Scottish clans and families
- supporting our member Scottish organizations with training and resources
- providing education and learning opportunities in Scottish fields; and
- building relationships with Scotland and the global diaspora.

As of November 10, 2014, the Ewing Family Association is listed as a Member organization. See the COSCA website at www.cosca.scot/

COSCA meets annually at the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games in Linville, NC



Pocahontas James Memorial: Status Report

Pioneer James Ewing, Lost But Not Forgotten

Larry E. Ewing (rkt88ll@earthlink.net)

Descendants dedicate memorial to Pocahontas pioneer

As written by Geoff Hamill, [Pocahontas Times](#), October 1, 2014



Two descendants of Pocahontas County pioneer James Ewing were in Marlinton last week to help dedicate a memorial to their storied ancestor. A stone marker was placed on high ground at Marlinton's Mountain View Cemetery, overlooking the Greenbrier River Valley.

Larry Ewing, of San Jose, California, is James Ewing's great-great-great-great-great grandson. Larry is descended from James Ewing's son, "Indian John." Ann-Adele Lloyd, of Asheville, North Carolina, is James Ewing's great-great-great-great granddaughter. Ann-Adele is descended from James Ewing's son, "Swago Bill." Both descendants arrived in town last week and gave remarks at a dedication ceremony last Wednesday afternoon.

Larry Ewing talked about the illustrious and exciting life of his pioneer ancestor.

James Ewing was a hunter, trapper and a farmer, who made many expeditions into the western mountains of Virginia in the mid-1700s. Ewing and several other intrepid settlers applied for and received a 50,000 acre land grant from the King of England. The land lay in unsettled frontier across the Alleghenies in the area of Knapps Creek and the Greenbrier River. Knapps Creek was originally named Ewing's Creek, in honor of James Ewing. One of the first settlers in what is now Pocahontas County, James found a wife, raised a family, and lived his life in the area now called Frost, hunting, trapping, fending off Indian attacks and trading. Following his death in 1801, all but a few of the Scotch-Irish Ewing clan continued migrating westward, mostly into Ohio.

Ann Adele told a story explaining why a flintlock rifle is inscribed on the Ewing Memorial. One day, while James was away from home, a pair of n'er-do-wells asked for and received a meal from James' wife,

Sarah Mayes, which was customary hospitality at the time. When the ruffians departed the Ewing homeplace, they absconded with James' prized flintlock rifle.

James Ewing borrowed a shotgun, chased down the thieves and shot one dead. James then fought a vicious hand-to-hand battle with the other thief, and managed to cut his throat with a hunting knife. James returned to his cabin with his flintlock in his hand.

The Ewing Memorial is located near the mausoleum at Mountain View Cemetery. More Ewing family history can be found at EwingFamilyAssociation.org.



From left is the past mayor of Marlinton, Gail Hyer, Pocahontas Co. PR lady, Mayor Joe Smith, Larry Ewing, Roger Orndorff, Bill McNeel, Ann-Adele,

Steve Ewing to Receive Creative Living Award

Monday, September 29, 2014 - 5:05pm

In his role as Edgartown poet laureate, [Steve Ewing reads poems at the annual town meeting at the Whaling Church](#). He wears a kilt and marches in the Edgartown Fourth of July parade as one of the founding members of the Martha's Vineyard Scottish Society. As the owner and founder of Aquamarine Dockbuilders, most docks or moorings on the Vineyard bear his imprint.

This month, Mr. Ewing will be honored for his many talents with the Creative Living Award. Mr. Ewing is the 32nd recipient of the Creative Living Award, which is presented by the Permanent Endowment for Martha's Vineyard.

The annual award is given to members of the community who embody Ruth Bogan's spirit by loving the Vineyard and making significant contributions to the Island's quality of life.

Mr. Ewing grew up in Edgartown and is the owner and founder of Aquamarine Dockbuilders; Mr. Ewing has probably worked on most docks or moorings on the Vineyard. Beyond his role as a charter member of the Martha's Vineyard Scottish Society, he has also served on the Martha's Vineyard Commission, the Edgartown marine advisory committee and the Edgartown conservation commission.

"I'm just a local kid who likes to write," Mr. Ewing told the Edgartown selectmen after he was named the town's first poet laureate.



He lives in Edgartown with his wife Claudia. They have two sons, Niko and Arno.

The Creative Living Award ceremony will be held Thursday, Oct. 16, at 5:30 p.m. at the Grange Hall in West Tisbury. The public is invited to attend, and the evening will include a drawing, with the winner awarded the chance to donate \$1,000 to the Island nonprofit of their choice. The drawing is made possible by the 11 members of the Permanent Endowment Board, to demonstrate commitment to philanthropy on the Vineyard.

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Information Exchange

This section of the *Ewing Family Journal* provides members with transcripts of dialogues initiated by queries or offers of information sent to the EFA Genealogist, the *Journal's* Editor and others. Including these items here is intended to entice others to join the dialogues and help respond to the queries or amplify the provided information.

Ewing-related requests for information and offers of information are often posted to various Internet web sites including:

- EFA's Forum at groups.google.com/group/EwingFamilyAssociation,
- EFA's Facebook Page at www.facebook.com/ewing.family.association,
- Ewing Family Genealogy Forum at genforum.genealogy.com/ewing, and
- Rootsweb's Ewing Message Board at boards.rootsweb.com/surnames.ewing/mb.ashx.

Readers should periodically view and search these sites to find queries and offered information related to their Ewing-related genealogy research.

Paul Vogt (kpvc@cox.net):

Query: Writing about **Dr. Fayette C. Ewing II** born 1862. Could you share info about him with me and do you know what happened to Mrs. Ewing (Martha Francis Mac Donald) 1st wife after their divorce in 1914? Thanks

Karen Avery (BKAvery2@comcast.net) responds:

Dr. Ewing was born 7-21-1862 and married Martha Frances MacDonald in Washington, DC on 10-21-1885. They had Fayette Clay (1887); Ephraim MacDonald (1889); Presley Kittredge (1891); and Donald MacDonald (1895). I don't have a death date for either of them, nor do I know what happened to Martha after their divorce in 1916. He married to a long time neighbor from Kirkwood, MO, Miss Rowena Clarke, in 1924.

Ben Everett King (KingBE97@gmail.com)

Ancestor: **Alexander Ewing, born Oct 3, 1656**

Query: My father is listed in the Alexander Ewing (1676/7-1738), Ireland to America in 1727 book compiled by James R. McMichael. His name is Robert Ewing King {749}. How can I find out more about our clan? Who should I contact? My phone number is (512) 897-7171. Thank you

Karen Avery, EFA Genealogist (BKAvery2@comcast.net) responds:

I do not have any further information on your father, Robert Ewing King, as given in James McMichael's book.

There are exciting recent happenings in Clan Ewing! If you haven't lately visited the

Ewing Family Association web site, I suggest you visit it for all the latest news. If you are on Facebook, I've given you the links to them also.

<http://www.ewingfamilyassociation.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/ewing.family.association>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/clan.ewing/>

Leslie Applegate (LeslieApplegate1@live.com)

Ancestor: **Mary Francis Copeland Applegate**

Query: my grandmother is the daughter of Lois Ewing, grandmother (Mary) had several children: Fred Applegate, Shirley Applegate (Gill), Jack Applegate, Rick Applegate and Mick Applegate. I have many photos if you are interested(of Ewings).

Karen Murphy EFA Genealogist, (BKAVery2comcast.net) responds:

We would be delighted to be able to put a face on some of the Ewing folks of your line as contained in Jim McMichael's book, *Alexander Ewing (1676/7-1738) & Descendants*. Much of Jim's work is housed at the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

We publish *Ewing Family Journal* quarterly. The Journal would be the perfect place for you to share your family pictures. We would ask that you tell us about any anecdotes, myths, impressions and known stories about these people to accompany the pictures.

Greg Lovelace (Greg@part-of-the-tree.com)

Ancestor: **William Milton Ewing**

Query: Greetings, Karen.

I am working for a client, trying to determine if David Ewing, found in the 1820 (age 26 and under 45) and possibly the 1840 (age 50 and under 60) census of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, is the father of William Milton Ewing of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, b. 1 December 1811 and died 5 December 1897 in the same place. His descendants are in Ironton, Lincoln County, North Carolina. The tree my client pointed me to is on Ancestry.com at the link below. Any help you can offer would be welcome. If anyone else is researching this family, I would appreciate their contact information. Thank you in advance for any help. Sincerely, Greg Lovelace

Karen Avery, EFA Genealogist, (BKAVery2@comcast.net) responds:

My records for the family of William Milton and Mary (Richardson) Ewing of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina do not show the parents of William. As a matter of fact, I had very little information on this family line.

I've researched a bit and do find that this appears to be a large line.

I found other trees on line but do not know if they are correct.

Does your client have a male representative in the Ewing Family Y-DNA project? If not, it would be worthwhile to have a man join the project. The results of the test could help narrow down where the line might fit among the known groups. Find information about the project here:

<http://www.ewingfamilyassociation.org/genealogy-and-history/y-dna-project>

Greg Lovelace comments:

Attached is a copy of the will. I got the image from FamilySearch.org and a photocopy from the North Carolina Archives. David lived in the area of Mecklenburg County which became Union County in 1842. His will is dated 1860, and probate was in 1865. David is buried, along with his wife Eliza (maiden name unknown) in Tirzah Presbyterian Church cemetery in Waxhaw, Union County, North Carolina. Images of the grave markers are on Find-A-Grave.

Karen Avery, EFA Genealogist, responds:

Thanks for the copy of the will. It is great that David Ewing thoroughly names his relatives! I followed the line in the 1850 and 1860 census. I discovered that he was called 'Maria' in the 1850 census in Union County, North Carolina. I added a change to the records so that others may easier find him in the future. The son, William, is a puzzle. Do you know his approximate date of birth or anything else about him?

The new lady I am corresponding with did not have this particular David in her database, but I am thrilled to have another new line to follow.

Greg Lovelace comments:

I found David in the census records in Mecklenburg County in 1820, 1830, and 1840. He lived in the section of the county (Waxhaw) was changed to Union County in 1842, so he is there in 1850 and 1860, as you know. His will entered probate in the fall of 1865, so he had died by then.

I have William Milton Ewing born 1 Dec 1811, died 5 Dec 1897. I'm attaching a photo of his grave marker from Find-A-Grave. I have a deed showing him purchasing land on the waters of Long Creek in Mecklenburg County in 1840. Portions of Long Creek are near the church where he is buried. I also have William Milton's will, dated 1890 in Mecklenburg County and proved there in 27 Oct 1897. So the date on the grave marker is wrong.

William was a wealthy man, with real estate valued at \$12,000 in 1860, which I think is the reason he only received \$100 from his father's estate. He just didn't need it, and David was taking care of his daughters. This is assuming, of course, that this William is in fact the son of David. Everything points that way, but I'd really like to be able to show a firmer connection.

Anyway, William Milton is found through the 1880 census. I think I found him in the 1840 in Mecklenburg listed as Elam on the same page as David. No other Elam Ewings show up in North Carolina until the 1930s that I can tell.

Any help you might be able to offer will be welcome. Let me know if you need any of the documents I've found.

Karen Avery, EFA Genealogist, comments:

With regard to William Milton Ewing being wealthy in 1860, it is interesting that by 1870 he wasn't nearly as rich.

I transcribed David's 1865 Will. I would love to also see his son William's Will. I am hoping William named his descendants as nicely as did his father. I've done quite a bit of census work and am still trying to figure out if William, son of the David you note, is the same as William Milton Ewing. Have you established an approximate date of birth for William Milton Ewing?

Gilda Pope Dixon descends from William Milton and is eager to work with us on this line. You may see her tree:

<http://trees.ancestry.com/tree/100759/person/6982749955> Her email address is: cdixon4@carolina.rr.com She names parents for David, but I'm not sure of her source for this.

I am also sending this to the EFA Journal Editor. When we get a bit further in our research and have more confidence in the results of same, he will work with us to prepare an article for the Journal.

Kent M Gossman EMail: gman4keeps@gmail.com

Ancestor: **John of Carnashannagh**

Query: I'm one of the silent members that put my research aside for a while since life got in the way. Recent events prompted me to ensure my database is at least intact, so I'm paying a professional database guy to combine all my PAF, and GEDCOM files I've collected over the years. After many of the EFJ researchers predominately agreed on the relationships of the descendants of John of Carnashannagh (am descended via Joshua of Little Levels, I was wondering if anyone actually entered any of this data into a software program that would keep track of these relationships with all the intermarriages. I would like to get a GEDCOM from someone that I can pull my lines from so I can ensure I have it correct and accurate with all these changes. Really wanted to get to Gallapolis since it's my ancestors stomping grounds, hopefully there will be another chance someday. Any help or guidance would be greatly appreciated. Thank you. Kent Gossman, Renton, WA.

Karen Avery (BKAVery2@comcast.net) wrote:

This is a quick follow-up to let you know that the August, 2014 issue of the EFA Journal did not contain your request. Due to special circumstances, the Journal was shortened. With the recent death of Bill Riddle, Editor Supreme, several others are now working on the November, 2014 issue and will include your query in it.

You speak of being a descendant of Joshua Ewing. I am assuming this is Joshua born about 1734 and died December 4, 1810. From information I have collected, I show several sources. I suspect you are aware of each of them. Many are accessible on the EFA web pages. I would be very interested to add your direct lineage into my Ewing data base. Also, I have never seen the maiden name of Joshua's wife Eleanor. It is correct that this couple had ten children?

Kent Gossman wrote:

Thanks for the response. It's OK that the query didn't make it into the Journal. I think I already have found my answer and I think on the website or sent to me by Jeff (been a bit). Anyway I got a GEDCOM that appeared somewhat inclusive of what I was seeking. As far as the DNA project, I actually paid for a distant cousin's son to be included in the group and he was apparently the first of his generation to enter the study. Yes, my line of Joshua on Little Levels matches with those years, and I was the person who initiated a legal challenge of the man who owned the cemetery where Joshua was buried when I found he was running his cattle on the public burying ground and they were knocking down stones. The same cousin I mentioned above who lived in Dunbar, WV paid for the legal part of the court costs (I was in the Navy and didn't make much money). We were able to get him to fence in the cemetery when all was said and done. That was of course our common ancestor.

As far as your mention of Joshua, you are correct that he had 10 children and his wife's maiden name is unknown. No one seems to know that. I would be happy to share his info in GEDCOM if you want it. I was the one who submitted all his descendants to Margaret Ewing Fife and got it included in her republished book before she passed. Just let me know how much data you want included, I have over 40K people in my database now, but some lines are pretty deep in other branches. Thank you for the response.

Karen Avery, EFA Genealogist, responds:

This story is so very interesting. Congratulations for making things happen. Are you willing to share it in the EFA Journal? Or perhaps you already published it in an earlier Journal?

I must admit that I don't know which cemetery you are speaking about nor the man who represents you in the EFA Y-DNA project.

I don't ever combine another GEDCOM into my data base. I would love to have you send the one you have especially if it has good sources so that I can do some comparisons.

Upcoming Events

Events in Scotland: An exceptional source of information about genealogy-related happenings in Scotland is Visit Scotland (www.ancestralscotland.com). They periodically distribute a newsletter by EMail; you can sign-up for their EMail mailing list by making a request via their web site:

www.americanancestors.org/home.html.

2014 November 22-30: Homecoming Scotland 2014 – St. Andrews Food & Drink Festival

Events in the U.S.

2014 December 5-6: Scottish Christmas Walk in Historic Alexandria, Virginia.

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Ewing Family Association
1330 Vaughn Court, Aurora, Illinois 60504

The *Ewing Family Association* fosters interest in the Ewing family; promotes gatherings of its members; publishes a journal with biographical, genealogical, and historical information; encourages identifying the relationships among Ewing families; and encourages genealogical research and the sharing of results.

Membership is open to all persons with the surname of Ewing or who are descended from anyone with that surname; to anyone who is, or has been, the spouse of such a person; and to anyone who otherwise supports the organization's purposes. To join, send a membership form to Ewing Family Association, 1330 Vaughn Court, Aurora, Illinois 60504

Forms are available at www.EwingFamilyAssociation.org. Annual dues are \$25.00. Membership includes the quarterly *Ewing Family Journal*.

Publication of the ***Ewing Family Journal*** began in 1994. Through 2008, the publication was titled *Journal of Clan Ewing*. The first two issues were published in August and November 1994. They were not designated with a Volume and Number. The February 1995 issue was designated as Vol. 1, No. 4, as it was the third issue of the *Journal*. The *Journal* is currently published quarterly in February, May, August and November.

We welcome contributions to the *Journal* from Ewing Family Association members and others. Electronic copy is preferred and should be sent to the Editor at johnewing2003@msn.com. Hardcopy submissions should be sent to John Ewing, 7910 Moss Grove Place, Fort Wayne, IN 46825. If you would like to discuss a potential submission, please call John Ewing, +1-260-704-1392.

