

# POLLEY POINTERS

A periodic newsletter dedicated to the furtherance of genealogical research on the surnames Polley, Polly, Polleys, Poley, Pauley, Pauly, Pawley, Pelley, Pooley, etc.

Vol. 2, No. 1  
ISSN 1075-5519

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June 1995  
\$2.50

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## Editorial

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As we go to press, stepping off into our second year of publication, there are a few announcements and policy changes that have to be addressed. First, the previous policy that provided for a free subscription renewal for a published by-lined article has been suspended. **POLLEY POINTERS** can no longer afford such largesse. Subscription extensions previously earned by several authors will be honored, however.

Secondly, as a matter of record, **POLLEY POINTERS** and its current publisher has not in the past and does not now recognize or otherwise endorse any product, publication or service that may be offered for sale, outside the pages of **POLLEY POINTERS**, purporting to the contrary to have such endorsement.

Thirdly and last, we've tried to make the transition of publishers as painless as possible to our subscribers. However it can be expected that something will "fall through the crack" somewhere and someone will be disappointed or upset. Please let me know whatever the "beef" is about and we'll do our best to make it right.

*Dick Randt*

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## Polley Profile

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This quarter we have the distinct pleasure of presenting some insight into the life of one of the grand masters of Polley genealogy, Mr. Joseph Polley Paine. Joseph comes from a family so rich in the history of America that his ancestry simply cried out to be committed to paper. Fortunately he was up to the task and devoted over 25 years to assembling the story of his Polley line, from George of Woburn, MA, to Jonathan the Revolutionary War soldier of Whitehall, NY, to Joseph Henry, who was one of Stephen Austin's band of 300 who settled in Texas.

Actually Joseph's interest in family history goes back even further. He recounts in a 1973 letter to John E. Polley, that as an art student in 1938, he traveled to New York City to study at the Art Student's League. His aunt Josephine had given him the addresses of some distant cousins in the New York area and encouraged him to look them up. Josephine Polley Golson,

would herself author a book, in 1950, on her Texas family history called Bailey's Light. The title came from Joseph's rather famous great-great-grandfather James Britton Bailey who was the father-in-law of Joseph Henry.

Joseph somehow never forgot meeting his New York relatives and probably caught the genealogy bug at that point in his life. Further encouraged by his aunt's publication, he began in earnest to piece together the long Polley history that would ultimately lead back to 17th century New England. As a professor of art, Joseph spent his free summers "on the road" traveling from one library or archive to the next, eventually setting foot in every town where his Polley ancestors ever resided.

Some of the principal sources he drew upon were the New England Historic Genealogical Society, the state libraries of Connecticut and New York, as well as the Library of Congress. Also, the University of Texas Archives houses about 14 inches of family letters and documents of Joseph Henry. There was a steady stream of correspondence between Whitehall, NY, and Texas between 1821 through the 1930's.

Joseph is the namesake of his grandfather, Joseph Benjamin Polley, 1840-1917, who was born in the Republic of Texas. He was a veteran of the Civil War, a lawyer, legislator, and author of two books. For nearly five years he edited and wrote an historical section for the San Antonio Express concerned with Texians and the Confederacy. Mr. Paine is quick to point out that early colonists called themselves Texians, not Texans. His interest in things historical is apparently inherited.

Joseph recounted to **POLLEY POINTERS** that the lone star seal used by the State of Texas today, was first used at the home of Joseph Henry near Brazoria on the Brazos River. In 1846 Joseph Henry undertook building his family a large house on the Cibolo, about 25 miles SE of San Antonio. The house, commonly referred to as the "Polley Mansion" was named Whitehall in honor of Joseph Henry's origin in New York.

In August of 1978, Joseph and his sister, Peggy Paine Wood organized and hosted a family reunion at Whitehall. On Sunday, 6 August, seventy-three family members from Texas, Arizona and New Mexico turned out to the



gathering at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar W. Linne, the then current owners of the dwelling built by Joseph Henry and Mary Bailey Polley. The festivities of the day included a short resume, by Mr. Paine, of the origins of the Texas Polley clan as well as highlights from the life of James Britton Bailey. The event was documented in a genealogically rich article in the Floresville Chronicle-Journal, Thursday, 17 Aug 1978, p. 6.

Although now retired, Mr. Paine still keeps his hand in Polley genealogy, mostly in observer status, occasionally setting some newcomer back on track. He, like each of us, has a persistent problem somewhere. The one he would like most to solve is the parentage of Hannah, wife of Matthew<sup>3</sup>, mother of Jonathan<sup>4</sup>.

**POLLEY POINTERS** would like to publicly thank Joseph Polley Paine for his contributions that have benefitted many of our subscribers over the years. We also wish him a Happy 83rd Birthday coming up on 25 July. rcr

### Polley Periphery

We continue with the first hand account, by John H. Polley, 1835-1922, of life as a New York City policeman. In the last episode, Officer Polley had just locked up a shady politician named Dutchy O'Brien!

#### THE LIFE AND ADVENTURES OF JOHN H. POLLEY

Shortly after, I caught a man named Murphy picking pockets in Center St. He had no friends to intercede for him. He was given 5 years at Sing Sing at General Session by the Judge.

While in the 14th Precinct, Thomas Hyer, the man who licked Yankee Sullivan, struck a man in Broom St. I was sent after him. I found him and told him he was under arrest. He replied, all right officer, let me wash myself. He walked into Pendergrast Saloon in Broom St. The tenor singer in Bryant's Minstrels Saloon in Broom St. passed to the back of the room, took off his silk hat, hung it up, washed his face and hands, combed his hair, put on his silk hat and said, all right officer, lead the way. I took him to the 14th Precinct Station. Hyer at that time lived in 35th St. between 2nd and 3rd Avenues.

I also escorted another pugilist who was accused of stabbing Officer Davison of the 8th Precinct. Joe Coburn received a sentence of 5 years in Sing Sing. The saying was Han Drake was the one that done the stabbing. The story goes that he told Coburn to plead guilty and he would get him out, which he failed to do.

Shortly after, I was transferred to the 21st Precinct, 35th St. between 3rd & Lexington Ave., Capt. Burdick in command. Boundary of Precinct, 14th to 42nd St.

from 6th Ave. to East River. We gave the patrolmen strict orders not to allow people to congregate on corners. One day on going the rounds visiting the men on post, I reached the corner of 33rd St. and 3rd Ave. I noticed a number of men on the Southwest corner. I immediately ordered them to disperse, move on. I was assaulted by the gang, receiving a pistol ball in my cheek, another ball hitting me in the hip (which is still there) also a cut by some sharp weapon cutting above my right eye (scars still showing at the present day). By that time I had my revolver drawn, shooting James Spencer, alias Jigger, one ball striking him in the groin, another in the left side over the heart, another ball striking John Mahan, alias Bull Mahan in his thigh as he was getting away. There was one other man hit - name unknown. They all belonged to 12 Engine Company located in 33rd St. between 3rd & Lexington Ave. The whole crowd fled to the Engine House, passed out of the back door. I sent for the reserves from the police station. When they arrived, we searched the Engine House and found no one there. James Spencer was in the hospital 4 months short 5 days. I was so badly injured, Dr. Ramsdale volunteered to attend me.

The next day I was arrested for shooting with intent to kill. I was taken to Essex Market Court before Judge Mansfield. I demanded a hearing. The case was put off some two weeks. In the meantime before my case would be called again, I began to look over the records or blotter at the station house to get the characters of my complainants. I found a very hard criminal record against a number of my assailants. Someone in the station house informed them of what I had been doing. When I appeared at the Court for a hearing, Judge Mansfield stood up, saluted me and said, Sergeant Polley your case is indefinitely postponed. I saluted the Judge, raised my cap, thanked him and walked out of Court. I have not heard from the case since. I remained in that precinct a couple of years and was again transferred to the 20th Precinct, 35th St. between 8th & 9th Aves., Capt. Curry in command.

When fall Election came, it was quite a lively time. A mob was going from polling place to polling place, preventing legal voters from casting their votes, except as the mob desired. The Captain received word from 9th Ave. and 31st St. that the rioters were there. Sergeant Van Hagen was sent with 8 men to disperse the mob. We had reached the vicinity of the crowd when a pistol was shot, the ball striking the pavement and glancing up hitting the Sergeant on the upper lip. The Sergeant turned and fled to the station house. Seven men following him. I was left alone to battle three or four hundred of the rioters. I backed into a doorway. A lady residing therein opened the door and begged of me to come in. I thanked her, but refused to enter. I stood and looked at the crowd a short time then told them I was going to the station house to clear a passage for me. I started and, as I got clear of the crowd, a stone struck my cap knocking it from my head but did not hurt me. I turned back and looked at the



crowd. I told them if they would show me that man I could and would lock him up. As there was no move made to show him to me, I marched to the station. Capt. Curry put me in command of a platoon of police and we started out to disperse and arrest. When we got through, we had arrested 54 that we could identify. A short time after who should make his appearance but the big Judge Sullivan who opened court in the station house. He discharged a number of the prisoners. At last he got one of my prisoners and asked what charge I had against him. I replied, Your Honor, I have no complaint to make here, but if he was on the bench in the morning, I would bring him before him. He replied, I will discharge him without a complaint. I said, you will if you have force enough to take him away. The Judge threatened me with contempt of court. All right, I said, my time goes on. That ended the trials at the police station. The next morning I took my prisoners to Jefferson Market before Judge Quackenbush, who gave each of the 11 I believe I had, 4 months to Blackwell's Island.

I believe I was the first man of the Metropolitan Police to oppose a Judge holding Court at a police station. The old Judge and I were at odds for a number of years, but at last buried the hatchet.

At the time Walt Hammell and Jim Brown rowed the boat race at Newburgh, I was sent up there in command of 38 policemen by John A. Kennedy, then Supp. of the Metropolitan Police, who gave me a letter of introduction to Mayor Clark of that city. On my arrival at the office of the Mayor, I presented my letter to the Mayor. He read the letter, then turned the policing of the city over to me. The authorities had appointed and sworn in some 150 men to act as policemen to keep order. There was a large crowd of people there from New York City and other cities along the line. They came by cars, steam boats and all other kinds of vehicles or transportation. There was more or less liquor drunk, and some of the visitors were a little unruly. The men sworn in for the day began to use their clubs a little too freely; and to properly keep order, I had to have them all dismissed and police the city with the New York policemen. Thieves were plenty. To save the valuables from changing hands, I caused all the light-fingered gents to be locked up until the race was over, Then they were escorted aboard the different conveyances and sent home. There was one tug boat captain that had had a fight or a number of them on the boat while on the way up, and one man had been knocked overboard and lost his life. The captain of the tug would not leave the dock to return unless I would send police with him. I picked out 4 officers and detailed them to return with the tug. I took them aboard and instructed them in the hearing of the crowd that if they had to use their revolvers, to shoot to kill. The captain was satisfied and started. There were a few fights on the return trip. The officers did their duty and locked a number in the coal hole for safety. The thieves gone from Newburgh, quiet and

happiness prevailed once more. I was allowed to call in my men and depart for home.

Shortly after, John Morrissey and John C. Heenan made arrangements to fight somewhere on York Island, place not designated. There were about 200 policemen started out to prevent the fight and to arrest the principals. We scoured the upper part of the city nearly all day without finding the pugilists. About 4 P.M. we were dismissed and started for our home or precinct. I started for home. When I arrived at Striker's Bay Hotel, I saw a large crowd in the bar room, and among them was John C. Heenan. I rushed in, catching Heenan by the collar of his coat, telling him he was my prisoner. Revolvers came out in a hurry. When things looked bad for me, a wagon load of police came to the door and began to pile out. The revolvers went out of sight quicker than they were drawn, and I captured Heenan, who was locked up for the night - which ended the fight, and the crowd dispersed not having the pleasure of seeing the battle.

While I was a member of the 18th Precinct, Sgt of Police Ellis' gift concert company gave an entertainment in the Academy of Music. There was quite a rowdy element that caused more or less trouble. I was there in command of a section of police. When the rough element got a little boisterous, we would put the men out that caused the trouble. There was a special policeman that traveled with the company. He would bring in the ones that caused the disturbance. At last I told this Special, named Merriam, if he brought in anymore after my men had put them out, I would lock him up. Shortly after, I caught him bringing in one that we had put out, and I arrested Merriam. He resisted arrest. I picked him up in my arms and started with him for the door. As we were passing through the door, Merriam caught hold of the ticket-taker (a Mr. Coe that belonged to the Board of Education). I took both outside and handed Merriam to a cop that was there, and I ordered the officer to take Merriam to the station house situated in 22nd St. between 1st & 2nd Aves., Sgt Banfield in command. He allowed Merriam to remain out of the cell until I returned. When I came in, I found Merriam sitting inside the railing at the end of the desk. I made complaint against him and took the keys from the doorman to lock the prisoner up. Merriam caught hold of the desk. In pulling him away, he fell to the floor. I had to draw him to the cell to lock him up. In the morning I took him to Jefferson Market Court. He was fined three dollars, paid it and left. A few days after, I was notified that Merriam had been to the Police Commissioners and made complaint against me. I was tried by the Commissioners. I produced Mr. Coe as a witness, He told the Commissioners of what he saw, and the case against me was dismissed. Shortly after, I met one of Merriam's witnesses on 6th Ave. I asked him if he knew Sgt. Polley. He replied, Sergeant let that drop and go into that store, get what you want and I will pay for it. Merriam had formerly been a member of the Metropolitan Police.

-{To be Continued...}-



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## Past Polleys

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By way of review, and as a way for new subscribers to catch up, we look back at the researchers, now gone, who have contributed so much to our knowledge of the Polley family history. We began the series in our premier issue, June 1994, with a nineteenth century researcher, Charles A. Hesson, a Canadian. His mother, Margaret, was a Polley from the Woburn line. His great-grandfather was Alpheas Polley, son of Matthew. He left some letters that provide insight into several Polley family groups, as he tried to sort out what he knew and what did or did not apply to his particular line.

In September 1994, we discussed the work of Alvin H. Polley, Jr., 1913-1970. His widow, Dorothy, is counted among our subscribers. Al studied Polleys, as well as the other branches of his and his wife's heritage for well over 30 years. He was also from the Woburn line, his 5GGF being Ebenezer Polley of the third generation after George of Woburn. Al's work is summarized in his 1968 compilation, List of Ten Generations of Antecedents of A.H. Polley, Jr., available at the Library of Congress. An untimely death precluded additional publication. However, Al did inspire many researchers and assisted them in getting started in the right direction. He was one of the first to formally recognize the existence of the variant spellings and the need to not overlook data on those spellings.

In the December 1994 issue, we featured Gerald Polley, 1913-1980, one of the most prolific Polley researchers to date. Copies of his letters turn up everywhere. We number among our subscribers, Gerry's sister, Mrs. Dorothy Manley who, because of Gerry's enthusiastic genealogical interests, still feels a need to keep up on Polley research progress. Gerry, operating out of his paint store in Scranton, PA, with his trusty typewriter, and backed up by several oak file cabinets full of Polley information, managed to piece together large chunks of family groups, regardless of their basic clan. Although Gerry was of the Woburn line himself, his 5GGF being Matthew Polley of the third generation after George of Woburn, he would handle data on any unidentified Polley and attempt to place the person in some sort of orderly family structure. Consequently he made stunning progress in piecing together the early Roxbury structure although he himself was "not related." [We all know that's not a phrase to be bandied about casually in this business!] Gerry is probably best

remembered for organizing annual Polley family reunions in the Hollisterville, PA, area.

Last issue, March 1995, we looked at the work of Raymond L. Jackson, 1908-1978, whose mother was a Polley of the Kentucky/Virginia clan. Ray published a key Bible record detailing his early Polleys and apparently his work has been made available in some local libraries in Indiana. Ray was also a prolific correspondent and much of his work is detailed in letters that turn up from time to time. One of the "theories" that Ray could never prove, was one that was based on an old aunt's recollection of inscriptions in a family Bible that "was lost in a fire," that said his Polleys emigrated from Ireland and settled in South Carolina in the 17th century. Several of our subscribers are of the same line as Ray.

The foregoing "Pillars of Polleydom" are ones whose work is known to your editor. There are undoubtedly others, perhaps equally as prolific and tenacious in their quest for their roots, or even more so. If any reader knows of a particular Polley researcher of the past, whose work deserves to be recognized, please let your editor know and we will publish a Past Polleys feature highlighting their life and contribution to Polley research.

Not to be neglected are those Polley descendants who, although they may not be remembered as researchers *per se*, had an above average appreciation for family history and had the foresight to somehow write it all down or otherwise preserve whatever genealogical knowledge they may have collected.

One who comes to mind is Delilah Polley Glenn, 1844-1919, a Woburn descendant and lifelong resident of Massena (St. Lawrence Co.), NY. She married Daniel Glenn on 27 November 1866. He ran a shoe store. They had no offspring of their own, which may account for her intense interest in the births, marriages, and deaths among the other members of her family. Her line is: George<sup>1</sup>, George<sup>2</sup>, Ebenezer<sup>3</sup>, Joseph<sup>4</sup>, John<sup>5</sup>, Ira<sup>6</sup>, Delilah L.<sup>7</sup>.

Delilah wrote lists of names and dates on just about any piece of paper that was handy. One of her lists is done on a seed order form from W. Atlee Burpee & Co. of Philadelphia. The form is pre-printed with the year 1887 in the place for the date. The form is probably a collectable on its own. Another is on note stationery from her husband's business. He was a "Dealer in Boots, Shoes and Rubbers." The form has a pre-printed date line with a partial year, 189\_\_.



Also attributed to Delilah are three (presumably draft) letters to her fifth cousin, once removed, Charles A. Hesson, inquiring about family history matters. Unfortunately the replies, if any, have not been uncovered. Delilah's work, her notes and the letters, are preserved at the Historical Society Museum in Massena, NY. Did Delilah really contribute to our base of Polley knowledge? The answer is certainly a "yes" in that some of the dates she recorded are the only source for that information. However, when it comes to credit for preserving such information, perhaps the person who should get the most credit in this case is the anonymous individual who saw to it that Delilah's notes and letters were placed in an archival institution. That is the person who made it possible for us to draw on Delilah's material.

One other preservationist of Polley history that comes to mind is a person very close to one of our subscribers. Because of her, the researchers studying the line of David Polley and Hannah Purdy of New York City have had virtually all the descendants handed to them. She is Elmira Cross (Polley) Sterritt (1885-1965), mother of subscriber Graham M.P. Sterritt of Evergreen, CO. She was the *de facto* family historian for many years.

Elmira's mother, Barbara Ida (Kohart) Polley, before her, had begun recording the names and birth and baptismal dates of her children on the inner blank space of her folded wedding certificate, dated 1879. After entries for herself and her husband, and seven children, the blank space became filled. To continue the record, the certificate was glued into the first page of a pre-printed "Family Record" book. The entries in the book were apparently kept initially by Barbara Ida Polley and later were taken over by Elmira. The book was kept current until about four years before her death in 1965.

The copyright date on the book is 1891, which gives a rough starting point for the inception date of this valuable family record. It contains dates ranging from 1852 to 1961. As one scans the entries, distinct changes in the handwriting can be observed, it becoming shakier with the onset of advanced age. Elmira was very meticulous in recording the births, deaths and marriages within her family, including her four sons and their families as well as all the families of her brothers. Elmira was the only girl in her family.

Other family correspondence indicates Elmira was looking into the origins of David Polley as late as 1930. In that effort she was not success-

ful. However, her sense of history, family and record preservation stayed with her over the years. It was her handwriting, on the back of many of the photographs lent to us by a son, the late George Sterritt, that identified the subjects and dated the scene, making them useful genealogical records.

In 1916 she corresponded with a cousin, Caroline C. (Polley) Taylor, obtaining a list of birth, death and marriage dates for all the offspring of David and Hannah. That particular data forms the cornerstone of the New York City Polley family history, tying together geographically divergent branches in New York and Brooklyn as well as Kansas and Washington, DC. The source of that data appears to have been a Bible record but the original has not (yet?) been discovered. However, the important thing is that the data was preserved! The Randts hold that original letter through the good fortune of having found cousin Graham Sterritt who dutifully held on to it at the behest of his mother, who had the foresight to plan for the day her family's history could be committed to paper.

It is also fairly obvious that Elmira made a lot of input into a 1917 biographical sketch of her grandfather, Grahams Polley, that was published as a 16-page pamphlet. It was this pamphlet that provided the most insight into the character and unfortunately short career of Grahams Polley.

For her efforts and perseverance in preserving her family history, Elmira (Polley) Sterritt deserves the thanks of at least six **POLLEY POINTERS** subscribers. Your editor and his wife have decided to dedicate their own personal Polley historical work (whenever it might be printed) to the memory of Elmira Polley.

Thus we bring to a close this series dedicated to some of the folks who, by their actions, have made our task easier. Now it is up to us to make the task even easier for our children and grandchildren. With modern methods of preserving data and publishing your findings through use of a computer, there should no longer be any reason for not passing on your work. Even if everything you have ever written or collected is just handwritten in pencil, it can be scanned and converted to a computer file that can be passed on and read by Polley researchers of the 21st Century and beyond, not subject to the chemistry of the paper it's written upon. You do not have to be a professional genealogist or a computer scientist to make an impact on the Polley family history; just be caring and concerned and plan for the disposition of your work.

rcr



It is with great sorrow we have learned of the passing of subscriber Alma Exley on 6 March 1995 from the effects of cancer.

Mrs. Exley was born Alma Louise Spiegel, 22 December 1942, in Sharon (Mercer Co.), PA, to Leo Joseph Spiegel, Jr. and Helen Kautzman. She grew up in the town of Sharpsville, PA, also in Mercer Co. She held a Bachelor's degree from Slippery Rock, PA, University and a Master's degree from Westfield, MA, State University and taught English for several years at a number of different junior high schools. She married Elwood Louis Exley, Jr. She and Woody celebrated their thirtieth year of marriage on 4 October 1993.

Alma had been employed by the Connecticut State Department of Education for the past 15 years, most recently managing state-wide teacher development and recognition programs.

Alma's Polley heritage began in Woburn and ran to her 3G-grandmother: George<sup>1</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Matthew<sup>3</sup>, Jonathan<sup>4</sup>, Jonathan, Jr.<sup>5</sup>, Abner Hubbard<sup>6</sup>, Emmaline<sup>7</sup>. Emmaline Polley (1833-92) married William Shell. Their daughter, Margaret Ella (1859-1931), married William Wood Gilliland. From the Gilliland children came one of Alma's great-grandmothers, Anna Bell (1881-1954) who was one of a set of twins. She married Herbert Miles Patton on Christmas day of 1901. Their daughter, Alma Clarabelle, was born 28 September 1903. She, in turn married Leo Joseph Spiegel, Mrs. Exley's paternal grandfather.

Alma Exley was a strong supporter of the concept of **POLLEY POINTERS** as an information exchange forum from the outset, and was in fact our very first paid subscriber. She contributed a very thought provoking article on her 6G-grandmother, Prudence DeWolph Polley Stowe, for the September '94 issue. Her research was very detailed and professional in every respect. She made a significant discovery in the fall of 1992 that tied the Osgood Bible record to the Polleys of Whitehall, NY. That work was reported in the June '94 issue.

Alma is survived by her husband and two children, a son and a daughter, Zack, 25, and Alexandra, 21, as well as her parents of Sharpsville, PA. Also surviving are a sister and two brothers and numerous nieces and nephews. Alma's grandmother, Alma Clarabelle Spiegel, survived her but sadly, passed away on 19 March 1995 in her 92nd year.

Interment was on 11 March at Fairview Cemetery, West Hartford, CT. A memorial service was held Saturday afternoon at the Bushnell in Hartford where the family received friends.

Alma will be sorely missed in the genealogical community. Belated condolences may be sent to the family at 131 Garfield Rd., W. Hartford, CT 06107-2909. Memorial contributions may be made to the New Britain Foundation for Public Giving, 29 Russell St., New Britain, CT 06052 for the Alma Exley Scholarship Fund, which will promote diversity in the teaching profession.

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## RIPLEY'S— *Believe It or Not!*

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Subscriber George F. Polley submits a clipping that appeared in the San Antonio Light 12 Aug 1969. It was a Ripley's "Believe It or Not!" feature that highlighted a Polley Civil War soldier. It read:

### THE SOLDIER WHO CARVED HIS OWN EPITAPH

Sergeant Major George F. Polley  
of the 10th Massachusetts  
Regiment, Union Army,  
on the day before he was  
killed near Petersburg, VA,  
carved his own epitaph on  
a wooden grave marker-

He was buried in the field under  
the headboard he had prepared (1864).

From military records on file at the National Archives, Washington, DC, we find George F. Polley, Private, Company C, 10th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment. His residence at the time of his enlistment was Williamsburg (Hampshire Co.), MA. He was 21 and his occupation was that of a silver-plater. He enlisted and mustered in on 21 June 1861; he was later appointed Sergeant (date not given); he was then appointed Sergeant Major on 7 Feb 1863 from First Sergeant. He reenlisted on 21 Dec 1863 and was commissioned a 1st Lt. on 6 May 1864 but did not muster. He was killed on 20 June 1864 near Petersburg, VA as a Sergeant Major.

Based on the place of residence and the time frame, it is believed that Polley's parents were Amos Polley and Jerusha Sawyer. They are of the Woburn line. His line is George<sup>1</sup>, George<sup>2</sup>, Ebenezer<sup>3</sup>, Joseph<sup>4</sup>, Peter<sup>5</sup>, Amos<sup>6</sup>, George F.<sup>7</sup>.

If your editor is correct, the Civil War soldier is a 5th cousin, twice removed to his namesake submitting the item.

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### Paulley Profile

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Among our active researchers is a man who is simultaneously a member of a large group as well as a distinct minority. Don Bosley Paulley has traced his roots to Kentucky, and as the Subscriber Stats feature in this issue points out, that puts him in a major research group. On the other hand, as far as he can determine, he has almost a monopoly on the spelling of his surname. Note the double-L. Although they continually check phone books during travel, he and his wife Bonnie have found only a few other Paulleys and none that are related, except for a brother in Arizona and a cousin in Cheyenne.

Don's great-grandfather James is believed, based on family tradition, to have been born in Kentucky in 1828. He was married to a woman named Susan. James and Susan migrated to Indiana where James earned his living as a farmer in Mt. Pleasant (Perry Co.) raising livestock and grain. [It is only about ten miles, across the Ohio River into Breckinridge Co., KY.] They had seven children.

Robert Theodore Paulley, one of the seven, b. 16 Nov 1871 was to become Don's grandfather. His first marriage was to Effie Lasure Gordon on 14 April 1895 at Cross Plains, IN. They had five children together before she died of tuberculosis at age 31 in 1908. Robert remarried, his second wife being Grace R. Reed who raised his children as her own. She had one girl herself that died as an infant.

The family moved to Terre Haute after Robert's second marriage where his health began to fail. He died in 1918. Grace Paulley died the following year at age 27.

The oldest child, Byron Roswell, b. 24 Jan 1896, went off to serve in WWI. He was sent to France on 11 Sep 1918. He returned the following May. He went off to Wyoming with his younger brother Gordon arriving there 8 Aug 1919. He settled in Casper where he married Bessie Ellen Bosley and established his family.

It was here in Casper that Byron R. Paulley founded Polly Oil Company as an oil jobber handling Amoco (then Standard Oil) products in August 1938. He operated the company until he retired 31 Dec 1960. Don Paulley subsequently purchased the company and operated it until 1989 when market conditions forced the formation of an alliance with two former competitors, now called Quality Petroleum. Don's son Dale is now the Paulley part of the company with one other person.

The story behind the original name of Polly Oil was that Byron Paulley saw the possible need for a company symbol, to identify an independent

brand, and had envisioned a "Polly Parrot" had it become necessary. [Ed. Note: This is not very satisfying genealogically for those expecting a documented tie-in between two surname variants, but is nevertheless a fascinating story.]

Don Paulley, now retired, was born 9 July 1929 in Casper, WY. He attended Casper Jr. College, then Woodbury College in Los Angeles where he majored in Sales Management, receiving his Bachelor of Business degree in May 1950. In December of that year he enlisted in the Air Force serving four years. He first married in 1951 Helen Mary Witt. Together they had four children. A second marriage to Bonnie Lee (Bond) Murphy produced two more Paulley sons. Additionally two children were adopted as Paulleys. After discharge from the service, Don returned to Casper and worked for his father, purchasing Polly Oil Company upon his father's retirement in 1960.

When they first subscribed to **POLLEY POINTERS**, the Paulleys sounded a bit hesitant about offering their family story for fear that it might not be interesting or complete enough. Far from it. The Paulleys have begun their family history quest in the classic way. They are working with what they know, organizing family pictures, news clippings, family stories, etc. and committing them to paper. Now that they are "published," so to speak, they more than likely will be contacted by one or more persons within the next two to three years seeking, or offering, information. We hope it will be the latter and soon.

rcr

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### Polley Progenitors - Virginia

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Attempting to get a handle on the Polley origin in Virginia, I approached the problem by sorting through the set of available Virginia Polley references, limiting them to 17th century references only, to see what fell out.

The first individual one finds is John Pawley. In Isle of Wight Co. land transaction records, Book A, p. 517 we read: "John Pawley to Edward Wilmot 13 May 1644, 100 acres land which said Pawley took up for said Wilmot for trans. 2 servants. Said Pawley sell all overplus [surplus] land adjoining unto Wilmot for 700 lbs., tbc., beginning at ... Pat. to Pawley 18 June 1639." Another reference from The Edward Pleasants Valentine Papers, Vol II, p. 614 reads: "Richard Hardy of Newport Parish, Isle of Wight Co., deed to John Driver of same county and parish. 178 acres in Surry Co. at the head of Lawnes Creek, ..., being part of a patent for 600 acres granted unto Jno. Pauly, June 18, 1639, and by said Pauley sold to Thos. Webb Aug 28, 1644 ..."

-{Virginia Progenitors continued on p. 11}-



## Welcome Aboard



**Mrs. Gwen Boyer Bjorkman** - Mrs. Bjorkman is researching her husband's Polly line that traces back to Kentucky and Virginia. The line she has developed is: Edward<sup>1</sup>, David<sup>2</sup>, Edward<sup>3</sup>, James Andrew<sup>4</sup>, Sarah<sup>5</sup>. Sarah<sup>5</sup> married Elijah Baker 31 Aug 1826 in Perry, KY. Edward<sup>3</sup> is the Revolutionary War veteran who married Mary Agnes Mullins in 1784 in Pittsylvania Co., VA. Mrs. Bjorkman seeks correspondence with researchers working on related lines in the VA/KY area. Since subscribing she has already helped subscriber Susan Jurban as they apparently have a common line. **Address: 4425 132nd Avenue S.E., Bellevue, WA 98006**

**Mrs. Julia Healey Dean** - Mrs. Dean is a seventh generation descendant of Bowman's Station, KY settler, Peter Polley. His daughter Margaret, 1783-1855, is Julia's 3GGM. Margaret married Robert Brown and they had nine children. Julia is married to Don Murray Dean and they have five married children of their own. **Address: 37163 Camarillo, Barstow, CA 92311.**

**Ms. Mary Lou Foret** - Mary Lou adds to our growing list of descendants of John Polley of Roxbury, MA. Her line is from Mary, one of the daughters of John Polley and Susannah Bacon, b. 2 Jun 1650. Mary married John Perrin, ca. 1670 and had ten children. Mary Lou would like to find other Polley/Perrin descendants to exchange information. **Address: 2148 Shady Place, Las Cruces, NM 88005.**

**Mrs. Dorothy (Polley) Manley** - Mrs. Manley had a particular interest in our Dec '94 issue in that it featured her late brother, Gerald Polley, and his research efforts that have been passed down to us. Dorothy has always maintained an interest in the origins of the Polley clan and watched carefully as Gerry probed further and further back into the family history. She particularly enjoyed the numerous Polley reunions organized by her brother in NE Pennsylvania. Her line is George<sup>1</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Matthew<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>4</sup>, Amos<sup>5</sup>, Amos<sup>6</sup>, Horace<sup>7</sup>, Herbert E.<sup>8</sup>, Harold Killam<sup>9</sup>, Dorothy<sup>10</sup>. Dorothy, as a widow, maintains a home in Beltsville, MD. Although not an active researcher, she joins us in "interested reader" status. She continues to encourage her son Gary and her nieces in the preservation of their Polley history.

**Mrs. Martha K. Polley** - Martha is an experienced genealogist who had already written family histories on her side of the family. When she finally tackled the surname of her late husband, Lee Polley, she could not imagine the expanse of time and geographic area the Polley name would eventually encompass for them. They found Lee

was from the Woburn line as follows: George<sup>1</sup>, Samuel<sup>2</sup>, Samuel<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>4</sup>, Joseph<sup>5</sup>, John<sup>6</sup>, Hiram<sup>7</sup>, Edwin Franklin<sup>8</sup>, Guy Earnest<sup>9</sup>, Lee Ernest<sup>10</sup>. John<sup>4</sup> who married the widow, Jemima Nichols, took his family from Malden, MA, in 1760 and headed for Nova Scotia. They were one of the families solicited by the British government to go north and repopulate the area from which the Acadians had been forcibly ejected. On-site research in Nova Scotia pieced together the balance of John's and Jemima's family. One of their sons, Joseph<sup>5</sup>, reentered the colonies and fought on the side of the Americans during the Revolution. He gave rise to a family that spread itself over New York State, Connecticut, Ohio, and finally Iowa, where Lee was born. Martha continues the search for detailed data on John<sup>6</sup> and a wife in upstate New York. **Address: 617 Vernon Dr., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858.**

**Mr. Wesley E. Polley** - Wes is another senior Polley who joins our subscriber list as an "interested reader" rather than as an active researcher. He is the father of subscriber Adrienne Reeves. If you recall, when Adrienne was introduced (Sep '94), we said she had a dual Polley line of descent. We have since received clarification on the identities of the two Polley antecedents. [See Research Progress, this issue.] For Wes Polley the first line is: George<sup>1</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Matthew<sup>3</sup>, Jonathan<sup>4</sup>, Jonathan<sup>5</sup>, Joseph Henry<sup>6</sup>, Mary Augusta<sup>7</sup>. The second line, which gives him his surname, is: George<sup>1</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Matthew<sup>3</sup>, Jonathan<sup>4</sup>, Jonathan<sup>5</sup>, Benjamin A.<sup>6</sup>, Joseph Egbert<sup>7</sup>, Joseph Egbert, Jr.<sup>8</sup>, Joseph Egbert III<sup>9</sup>, Wesley Egbert<sup>10</sup>. So, technically Wes is, like many of us, related to himself. Specifically he is his own fourth cousin. [At least he's not his own grandpa!] Wes is a lifelong resident of Bisbee, AZ, and the weather there seems to have agreed with him all these years. He has a brother and sister, as well as three of his four children, who are also residents of Arizona. There are a total of 13 grandchildren and 27 great-grandchildren. Wes was one of the attendees at the 1978 reunion sponsored by Joseph Polley Paine at the Texas Whitehall Mansion. [See Polley Profile, this issue.] He was accompanied at that event by his brother Arthur Marvin, as well as his daughter Adrienne and his son Alan K. Polley and their respective families. A couple of interesting anecdotes about Wes: He holds the distinction of being the oldest practicing lawyer in Arizona who never attended law school. In fact, because of marriage at a young age, he was not allowed to graduate from high school. Through a diligent self-study program, Wes was able to pass the Arizona Bar Exam and was admitted in 1936. He worked for a time in the State Attorney's Office and was Cochise County Attorney for ten years. Although he earned his living in his legal practice, his real



love and interest has been in ranching. He participated in many rodeos and roping contests and was great at team tying, he being the heel roper. No doubt his Texas roots are strong!

**Mrs. Kathryn Polley Shilling** - Mrs. Shilling joins us on the recommendation of subscriber Brenda Beattie-Schwartz. She is from the Woburn line, a great-great granddaughter of Abner Polley of Transfer (Mercer Co.), PA. Her line is George<sup>1</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Matthew<sup>3</sup>, Jonathan<sup>4</sup>, Jonathan<sup>5</sup>, Abner Hubbard<sup>6</sup>, Benjamin Franklin<sup>7</sup>, etc. **Addresses:** (1 May-31 Oct) 437½ Halley St., Erie, PA 16511-1135; (1 Nov-30 Apr) 1101 S. Hillcrest Ct. #315, Hollywood, FL 33021-7874.

**Mr. Richard Switzer** - Mr. Switzer joins the ranks of **POLLEY POINTERS** subscribers who are researching the Virginia and Kentucky origins of their Polley heritage. His 4GGM, Elizabeth Polly, was born in TN ca. 1790 to James W. Polly and his wife Sylvania \_\_\_\_\_. James died ca. 1865. Elizabeth married Isaac Shipley in Monticello (Wayne Co.), KY, 16 Jul 1809. See Queries. **Address:** Box 374, Gambier, OH 43022. **E-mail:** switzer@kenyon.edu

**Ms. Patricia J. Zagata** - Patty is relatively new to the business of chasing ancestors and is seeking help from other subscribers who may have related lines in the Kentucky area. She believes her line is: Peter<sup>1</sup>, William L.<sup>2</sup>, James Madison<sup>3</sup>, Marshall L.<sup>4</sup>, Nora Jean<sup>5</sup>. Nora Jean was Patty's name before a legal change. James Madison<sup>3</sup> was a son of the first marriage of William L.<sup>2</sup> to a Frances Wallace. In turn, Marshall L.<sup>4</sup> is a son of the second marriage of James Madison<sup>3</sup> to Queen Lillian Farmer. Marshall L.<sup>4</sup>, who was born 14 Aug 1909, died in 1972 when Patty was a teenager. Circumstances were such that she had little contact with her immediate family and consequently is starting her genealogy at a distinct disadvantage. Perhaps one of our readers can set her on course. **Address:** 5398 Greenbrier Dr. Riverside, CA 92504. **E-mail:** hv cv79a@prodigy.com

#### Correction

**Ms. Dorothy (Amburgey) Griffith** - The December issue incorrectly gave the name of Dorothy's publication. She is the editor and publisher of Adams Addenda. We regret the error.

#### Queries

**Judith M. Hull** - Seeks par. of Isaac Polley, b. ca. 1815, ME; m. Mary Hatch, b. ca. 1817, ME; both known to be res of Boston in 1850.

**Evelyn G. White** - Seeks mar. & ch. of Josiah Polley b. 16 Aug 1746, Dudley, MA, son of John Polley (1711-1750/1) and Mary Hatch. Also seek any info on par., mar., or ch. of a Josiah

Polley who came to live with Dea. Thos. Buckminster, Framingham, MA, on 6 Jun 1781, age 11 at the time.

**Esther L. Walter** - Seeks anc. of William Polly, b. 1776, VA; d. 1847, Darke Co., OH; m. 1799, Greene Co., KY, Jemima Kelso (1779-1840), dau. of Robert K. Wm. & Jemima had 13 ch.

**Joan Reed Miller** - Seeks documentation to confirm birth & par. of Miriam (or Marian) Polley, said to be b. Jun 1856, Dedham, MA, to Porter & Elizabeth P.

**Shirley S. Gilbert** - Seeks par., DOB, & POB of Hilliard Jonathan Polley, m. Sally S. Hill, 28 Sep 1876, Gonzales Co., TX.

**James L. Polley, John E. Polley, and Susan M. Randt** - All seeking anc. & POB of David Polley, b. 4 Sep 1786; d. ca. 1834, NYC; m. 1 Jan 1811, Hannah Purdy, b. 1 Apr 1795, VT.

**Susan M. Jurban** - Seeks info on James and Sally Polley (possibly Pauley) of Floyd Co., KY. He died there ca. 1816. He was possibly a bro. of David Polley (m. 1785, Pittsylvania Co., VA, to Elizabeth Justice) & Edward Polly (m. 1784 Pittsylvania Co., VA, to Mary Mullens). Both David & Edward were in Floyd Co., KY in the 1810 Census. Were James, David & Edward all sons of David Polley, d. ca. 1785, Pittsylvania Co., VA?

**Jack C. Thompson** - Seeks info re John Wesley Pawley, Sr. He m. Margaret Briscoe in 1785 in Nelson Co., KY. He d. 1837 in Hardin Co., KY. Need par., POB, DOB, etc.

**Ruth E. Curtis** - Need par., DOB, POB, POD, & DOD for Charlotte Polley of "Cobscook," who m. 15 Dec 1800 Joseph Garnett, son of Daniel Garnett, Jr. and Hannah Sherman. Mar. recorded Eastport, ME. Thirteen ch. betw. 1801 and 1823, all recorded Dennysville (Washington Co.), ME. Family res. Pembroke (Wash. Co.), ME.

**E. June Alviso** - Seeks par. and other particulars on John Polly, b. ca. 1830, KY; m. Mary Voris, 22 Feb 1855 in Switzerland Co., IN. They had twelve ch. John believed to be a Union vet, but no specifics to uniquely identify records in Nat. Arch.

**Richard W. Switzer** - Seeks par., DOB, POB, of James W. Polly who m. Sylvania \_\_\_\_\_. He d. ca. 1865. Had dau. Elizabeth, b. TN, ca. 1790, who m. Isaac Shipley, Monticello, Wayne Co., KY, 16 Jul 1809.

**James Albert Polley** - Seeks probate info for John Polley and/or Mary Taler whose 1 Apr 1795 marr. is documented in Halifax Co., VA, as well as probate info for John Polley and/or Mary White whose 28 June 1796 marr. is documented in Shelby Co., KY. His John and Mary were both b. 1775 and d. 1849 and are believed to have d.



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**POLLEY POINTERS** is a genealogical newsletter dedicated to research on the surname POLLEY and all its variants.

Edited by:

Richard C. Randt

9146 Winding Way

Ellicott City, MD 21043-6446

U.S.A. Subscription price: \$10.00 for 4 issues.

**Who Was Clayton L. Polley?**

We set forth a bit of a challenge to the readership last quarter, to come up with some identification for one Clayton L. Polley. One subscriber, Joan Reed Miller, although not connecting him to a specific line, sends information further identifying him. She is a great-great-granddaughter of Bartlett Lincoln Chapman and Martha Wheeler Glidden. From a published genealogy, The Descendants of Charles Glidden of Portsmouth and Exeter, New Hampshire, Comp. by Geo. W. Chamberlain, Ed. by Lucia Glidden Strong, Boston, MA 1925, p. 305, Mrs. Miller provides the following:

Mae Esther Glidden, dau. of Frank Morell Glidden and Ella J. Osborn, was b. 1887, prob. vic. Panama, NY. She m. 15 Dec 1909, Clayton L. Polley, son of Eugene E. Polley by his first wife. Clayton and Mae had two daughters: (1) Luella Glidden Polley, b. 9 Oct 1911, and (2) Alberta Polley, b. 4 Nov 1914. The family resided [ca. 1925] in Lakewood, NY.

Can anyone else add a piece to this genealogical jigsaw puzzle?

**POLLEY POINTERS** is published by:

Richard C. Randt

9146 Winding Way

Ellicott City, MD 21043-6446

FIRST CLASS MAIL

TO:



Zahler, Mr. Warren	2302 Walther Ct. Columbia, MO 65203	bcwarren@muccmail. missouri.edu	(314) 445-1986	Woburn 1/2
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### Subscriber Stats

As of this writing **POLLEY POINTERS** has 64 total paid subscriptions from individuals. In addition we send each issue to 18 different genealogical libraries and/or historical societies or other archival institutions. Of our subscriber base, 55 are active researchers. More important than grand total is the distribution of active researchers with respect to the major POLLEY clans. The pie chart above shows this distribution at a glance. One can see that the Virginia/Kentucky group, among active researchers, is now tied with the Woburn group. One might conclude that the subject matter of articles appearing in **POLLEY POINTERS** should be in proportion to the readership distribution. However, one should consider the relative availability and organization of documentation found for the Woburn Polleys against the sometimes chaotic records of the Virginia/Kentucky clan. The bottom line is that Woburn is easier to work and therefore will result in more articles. However, we shall try to keep the southern cousins appeased, but we need all the help we can get.

Classification of subscribers as non-active researchers has in some cases been the result of your editors's deduction regarding subscriber wishes. If you have been so classified erroneously, drop us a card and let us know. We'll fix it.

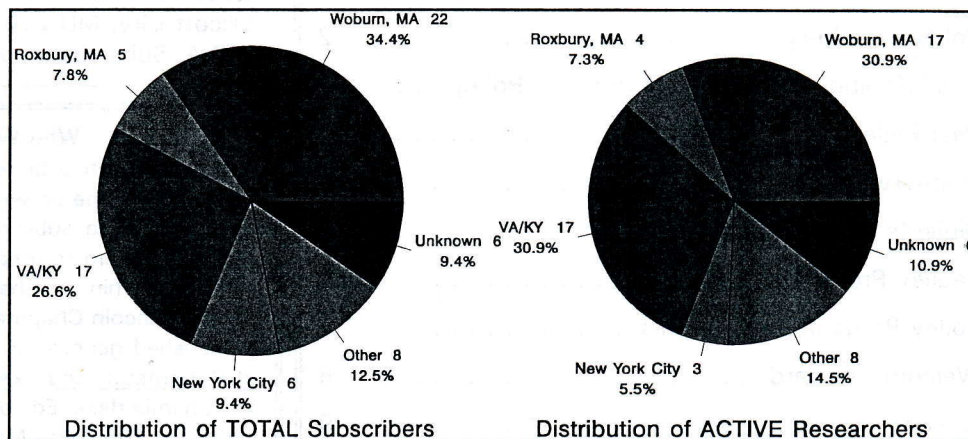
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### Library Line

For those readers who may be curious as to where we send archival copies of **POLLEY POINTERS**, we present the list below. We will consider nominations for other repositories but may not be able to implement them until a later date.

New England Historic Genealogical Society

Allen County Public Library  
Fort Wayne, IN



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Detroit Public Library

Woodstock Historical Society  
Woodstock, CT

Cortland County Historical Society  
Cortland, NY

Historical Society of Whitehall  
Whitehall, NY

Genealogical Periodical Annual Index (GPAI)  
Heritage Books, Inc., Bowie, MD

Society of Descendants of Bowman's Station  
Settlers, Lexington, KY



Polley, Mr. John E.	1320 Baycliff Drive Virginia Beach, VA 23454	-	(804) 481-0106	NY City 1/1
Polley, Mrs. Martha K.	617 Vernon Dr. Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858	-	(517) 773-4017	Woburn 2/1
Randt, Mr. & Mrs. Richard C.	9146 Winding Way Ellicott City MD 21043-6446	cjtp10a@ prodigy.com	(410) 995-5516	NY City 1/1
Reeves, Mrs. Adrienne (Polley)	6942 E. 4th St. Tucson, AZ 85710	-	(602) 296-5703	Woburn 1/2
Richmond, Ms. Betty (Green)	1246 W. Hwy 101 Port Angeles WA 98363-9423	-	Unknown	Unknown 1/3,4
Rider, Mrs. Audrey Claudine (Baker)	1505 Baxter Street Johnson City TN 37601-3307	CompuServe ID: 73663,3612	(615) 928-4241	Unknown 1/3
Sarvay, Mr. James H.	43 W. Court St. Cortland, NY 13045-2526	-	(607) 756-5955	Unknown 1/3
Beattie-Schwartz, Ms. Brenda	221 N. Melendres Las Cruces, NM 88005	-	(505) 523-4481	Woburn 1/2,4
Shilling, Mrs. Kathryn (Polley)	437½ Halley St. Erie, PA 16511-1135 (1 May - 31 Oct)  1101 S. Hillcrest Ct. #315 Hollywood, FL 33021-7874 (1 Nov - 30 Apr)	-	(814) 455-5893 (1 May - 31 Oct)  (305) 989-4408 (1 Nov - 30 Apr)	Woburn   2/1
Smith, Ms. Carolyn G. (McCrary)	10778 Westgate Overland Park, KS 66210	-	(913) 469-8828	VA/KY 1/3
Stephens, Mr. Larry V.	8303 W. Crum Rd. Bloomington, IN 47403	CompuServe ID: 76247,3633  Internet: lvs@rmgate. pop.indiana.edu	(812) 825-4441	Unknown  1/2
Stewart, Mrs. Helen (Cassidy)	4160 Jade St.-#86 Capitola, CA 95010-3920	-	(408) 462-3876	Woburn 1/2,3
Switzer, Mr. Richard	Box 374 Gambier, OH 43022	switzer@kenyon.edu	(614) 427-5121	VA/KY 2/1
Thompson, Mr. Jack Carl	3670 Scott Dr. Carlsbad, CA 92008-3625	-	(619) 729-0604	Pawley KY 1/3
Tolley, Ms. Emelie	245 East 72nd St. New York, NY 10021	-	Unknown	Orange Co., NY 1/2
Walter, Mrs. Esther L.	Box 158 Allenspark CO 80510-0158	-	(303) 747-2256	Ohio 1/2
White, Mrs. Evelyn G.	10422 S. 47th St. Phoenix, AZ 85044	-	(602) 893-3690	Roxbury? 1/2
Zagata, Ms. Patricia J.	5398 Greenbrier Dr. Riverside, CA 92504	Prodigy ID: hvcv79a  Internet:hvcv79a@ prodigy.com	(909) 684-7906	Kentucky 2/1



Glenn, Mrs. Mary Elizabeth (Webster)	8641 Plantation Drive Texas City, TX 77591	-	(409) 938-1503	Bowman's Sta., KY 1/3
Griffith, Ms. Dorothy (Amburgey)	9514 Minerva Ave. St. Louis, MO 63114-3912	-	Unknown	VA/KY 1/3
Higgins, Mrs. Michael (Diann)	1304 Autry Lane Crowley, TX 76036	-	(817) 297-2356	Prussia 1/2
Hintz, Mr. David L.	4116 87th Lane NE Circle Pines, MN 55014	dhintz@cdc.com	(612) 784-2648	Roxbury 1/2,3
Hull, Ms. Judith	507 Melrose, Box 36 Wall Lake, IA 51466	-	(712) 664-2132	Maine 1/2
Iseler, Ms. Alta E.	4424 Huron City Rd. Port Hope, MI 48486-9732	-	(517) 428-4352	Roxbury 1/3
Jurban, Ms. Susan Marie (Hobbs)	14844 Rivercrest Drive Sterling Heights MI 48312-4455	Prodigy ID: jwnr21c	(810) 977-2938	VA/KY 1/3
Kennedy, Patricia (Wilcox)	2416 Edgemont Dr. Medford, OR 97504-8214	-	(503) 779-6090	Pauley Orange Co., NY 1/3
McDermott, Mrs. Esther M.A.	199 Eley Rd. Hartwood, VA 22406-4724	-	(703) 752-2444	Woburn 1/1
Miller, Ms. Joan Reed	56 Jean Lo Way York, PA 17402-8710	-	(717) 757-4523	Unknown 1/2
Neubauer, Mr. & Mrs. Walter K.	7327 Highbridge Rd Fayetteville, NY 13066	CompuServe ID: 70731,772  Internet: 70731.772@ compuserve.com	(315) 637-5553	Woburn  1/1
Neumaier, Ms. Mary June (Grober)	1633 Wiltshire Blvd. Biloxi, MI 39531	-	(601) 432-7228	Woburn 1/3
Paule, Mr. Marvin	2548 Valais Ct. Dayton, OH 45458	-	Unknown	Unknown 1/2
Pauley, LTC Donald Clarence	7026 Valley Brook Drive Charleston, WV 25312	-	(304) 984-0768	VA 1/4
Paulley, Mr. Don Bosley	2200 West Odell Casper, WY 82604	Prodigy ID: cwfn62a	(307) 234-5914	Kentucky 1/2
Plambeck, Mrs. Phyllis (Cramer)	270 Fillmore Way Reno, NV 89509	Prodigy ID: pgjn62b	(702) 747-1319	Woburn 1/2
Polley, Mr. Daryl L.	33 Newman Ave. Ft. Thomas KY 41075-1412	-	(606) 781-5770	VA/KY 1/3
Polley, Mr. Dick T.	1214 Westview Dr. Fredericksburg, VA 22405	-	(703) 373-0163	Woburn 1/2
Polley, George F.	12112 Lochwood Blvd, Dallas, TX 75218	-	(214) 341-0038	Woburn 1/2
Polley, James Albert	7909 NE 51st St. Kansas City, MO 64119	-	(816) 453-7105	KY 1/4
Polley, Mr. & Mrs. James L.	2605 Cottage Cove Drive Richmond, VA 23233	cindap@aol.com	(804) 360-0659	NY City 1/1



## Researcher Listings

## TABLE OF ACTIVE POLLEY RESEARCHERS

THIS TABLE INCLUDES THOSE SUBSCRIBERS INTRODUCED IN WELCOME ABOARD (W/A) IN PREVIOUS ISSUES, INCLUDING THIS ISSUE. PLEASE SAVE THIS TABLE AS IT WILL NOT BE PUBLISHED AGAIN UNTIL JUNE 1996. AN UPDATED TABLE MAY BE OBTAINED BY ANY PAID UP SUBSCRIBER AT ANY TIME FOR AN SASE. PLEASE INFORM YOUR EDITOR PROMPTLY REGARDING CORRECTIONS, ADDITIONS OR DELETION OF ITEMS OF DATA. THE NUMBERS IN THE LAST COLUMN INDICATE THE ISSUE (VOLUME/NUMBER) IN WHICH THE SUBSCRIBER WAS INTRODUCED.

NAME (Maiden)	ADDRESS	E-MAIL Address	Phone No.	Line & W/A
Adams, Mrs. Wanda Lee (Polley)	130 Osborn Lane Madisonville KY 42431-9765	-	(502) 821-7189	Bowman's Sta., KY 1/3
Alviso, Ms. E. June	40 N. G St., Portersville CA 93257-3406	-	(209) 784-5756	VA/KY 1/3
Bjorkman, Mrs. Gwen Boyer	4425 132nd Avenue S.E. Bellevue, WA 98006	-	(206) 746-4425	VA/KY 2/1
Bucknum, Mrs. Shirley (McElroy)	8217 N. Foss Ave. Portland, OR 97203-3613	-	(503) 285-4726	John of Fairfield, CT 1/2
Como, Mr. Timothy	1190 18th Ave. NE Hickory, NC 28601	-	(704) 322-7451	Woburn 1/2
Curtis, Ms. Ruth E.	14802 Bothell Way N.E. #112 Seattle, WA 98155-7620	-	Unknown	Unknown 1/3
Davisson, David C.F.	23 East Second Ave. Columbus, OH 43201-3523	dcdavisson@aol.com	(614) 291-7427	Woburn 1/4
Dean, Mrs. Julia H.	37163 Camarillo Barstow, CA 92311-1704	-	Unknown	Bowman's Sta., KY 2/1
Defenbaugh, Mr. Terry & Mrs. & Isabel	HQ V Corps Engr. CMR 420 - Box 1364 APO AE 09063	-	01149-6221-761170	Woburn 1/4
Ebnetter, Ms. Grace (Custer)	107 Whitfield Run Peachtree City GA 30269-3313	-	(404) 487-0782	Pauley Pittsylvania Co., VA; Kanawha Co., WV 1/3
Eoff, Ms. Shirley M.	3143 Old Tunnel Rd. Lafayette, CA 94549-4116	-	Unknown	Unknown York Co., PA 1/3
Everts, Mr. George Bert	7018 Marisol Houston, TX 77083	-	(713) 879-1134	Woburn 1/2
Featherston, Ms. Mary Lou (Polley)	3600 Normandy #8 Port Arthur, TX 77642	-	(409) 963-1997	Woburn 1/3
Foret, Ms. Mary Lou	2148 Shady Place Las Cruces, NM 88005	marypat@taipan.nmsu.edu	(505) 523-9664	Roxbury 2/1
Gilbert, Mrs. Shirley S.	1001 McCoy Irving, TX 75062	-	(214) 252-9583	Texas Polleys from GA 1/2



Society indicated, however, that the Crouch murder case (as it is known in that area) has been studied and analyzed at length over the years. We have purchased a 1983 back issue of their quarterly publication that was totally devoted to this case. [Sorry, we bought the last one available.] The issue is chock full of information about this rather famous or infamous case, depending on your point of view. However, it appears to treat poor Moses as the unfortunate stranger from out of state. We think there is more to be mined out of the large array of news articles and court proceedings related to this case that was indeed never officially solved. We are attempting to make contact with the researcher who did the work in 1983 to see if she can supply any additional material. We anxiously await the arrival of her reply in our mailbox. rcr

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### Polley Tools

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**POLLEY POINTERS** is pleased to announce the availability of a genealogical research aid, designed to assist you in preparing your family histories with increased accuracy. Now, know the exact day of the week an event occurred with the help of an easy to use Perpetual Calendar. This calendar, with a range of years from 1583 to 2349, is computer generated and arranged for ease of use by anyone. The calendar is prefaced with an informative article, prepared by the editor of **POLLEY POINTERS**, that gives a brief history of the development of our present calendar, examples of how to convert from Old Style dates to New Style dates, and detailed instructions on how to employ the Perpetual Calendar.

The Perpetual Calendar, 12 pages in 8½ x 11 format, is available from **POLLEY POINTERS** for \$2.50 per copy, post paid. A quantity discount for ten or more, for club sales tables, etc., is available. Write or phone for details. Send check to **POLLEY POINTERS**, Attn: Perp. Cal., 9146 Winding Way, Ellicott City, MD 21043-6446.

### -{Virginia Progenitors continued from p. 7}-

We find another reference to the same land transaction. Early Families Along the James River, James City County - Surry County, VA, comp. by Louise Pledge Heath Foley, Vol III, Gen. Pub. Co., 1990, provides the following: p. 28-29, "John Pawley, Chirurgion [surgeon], 600 acs. James City Co. June 18, 1639, p. 651. Above the head of Lawnes Cr., N. upon Thos. Stamp, E. upon Mr. Newland ..." Also on p. 29, "John Pawley, Chirurgion, 500 acs. James City Co., July 20, 1639, p. 661. Binding E & N upon Justinian Cooper, N.E., upon land formerly grant-

ed sd Pawley & S.W. above the head of Lawnes Cr. ..."

These first three records have the same thread throughout, a 600 acre block of land patented on 18 June 1639 to a man named John who apparently had a profession as a doctor, whose last name was Pawley, Pauly or Pauley or perhaps something like that! He apparently owned it until 28 Aug 1644.

In Lancaster Co., VA we find in Cavaliers and Pioneers, Abstracts of Virginia Land Patents and Grants, 1623-1666, by Nell M. Nugent, Gen. Pub. Co., 1934, p. 254: Patent Book Nr. 3, p. 73, records a transaction on 26 Dec 1653 in which a William Polly was a participant. The details of the transaction are not clear.

In Nansemond Co., VA there is recorded the findings of a jury of twelve, dated 12 Aug 1669, regarding a dispute over a parcel of land. Two of the jurors were Jno. and James Polley. The document containing this information is found in the manuscript collection called Virginia Miscellany at the Lib. of Congress filed under Foreign Business and Inquisitions 1665-1676, p. 108. Its transcription is found in John Granbery of Virginia, comp. & ed. by Julian Hastings Granbery, privately pub. by Alice Granbery Walter, NY City, 1964, p. 173.

The next individual we find is in Marriage Records of Richmond County, VA, 1668-1853, comp. & pub. by George H.S. King, 1964. We find on p. 160 a marriage between Joseph Polley and Joanna Ken on 4 May 1677. From the North Farnham Parish Register.

Lastly, we find in Henrico County Virginia Deeds 1677-1705, comp. by Benj. B. Weisiger III, Richmond, VA, 1986, p. 30, an agreement on 23 August 1685 in which Samuel Polly of Henrico County and Parish indentured his son Nicholas Polly for nine years to William Harding of Westover Parish, Charles City Co. Page 40 reveals that he made a similar agreement on 2 January 1686 with John Porter regarding his daughter Mary Polly, the term being ten years. Among the Virginia wills and administrations records for Henrico County, we find Samuel Polly died in 1692. In 1694 Nicholas the son was released by the court from his indenture but remained under guardianship of William Harding until he turned 21. His release is documented in Henrico County, Va. Orphan's Book, 1677-1739, comp. & pub. by Pauline P. Warner, 1963. There is no record on Mary.

Short of discovery of a new cache of never before seen records, it seems unlikely that any specific progenitor of a Polley line emanating from Virginia will be identified before the 18th century. rcr



in Breckinridge Co., KY. Attempting to link correct John and Mary to son Joseph W[HITE?] Polley, b. 27 May 1799, d. 20 Sep 1878, m. Elizabeth Huff, 10 Sep 1820.

Also seeking contact with other living descendants of James Clark Polley, Sr. whose children were: Benjamin A., Banner, James Clark, Jr., Ellender or Ellenora, and Rolla or Rolly.

**Patricia Zagata** - Seeks record/documentation of 1st marr. of Marshall L. Polley, son of James Madison and Queen Lillian (Farmer) P. He was b. 14 Aug 1909, possibly Webster Co., KY. His SSAN was 405-01-7555. Second marr. believed to be with Mildred Polley.

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### Research Progress

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In the March '95 issue we related the existence of an 1846 letter from Mary Augusta Polley in Texas to her father-in-law (and uncle), Benjamin A. Polley, in Pennsylvania. The subject of the letter was the revelation of the death of her husband (and first cousin), Joseph Egbert Polley.

The letter has been transcribed to a computer file and can now be reproduced at will. We would like to thank subscribers Adrienne Reeves, Helen Stewart, Esther McDermott and Joseph Polley Paine for their efforts in verifying the transcription and the search for the original. Unfortunately the location of the original remains hidden. We attempted to back track through all known and suspected holders of photocopies of the letter to determine who might hold the original of this genealogically valuable document. However, we ran into a dead end. We will file this case in the "Some day we might get lucky drawer!"

A bit of serendipity did happen though during the search for the Mary Augusta letter. When we queried Warren Zahler about knowledge of the letter (simply because he lived in Missouri and that is where Benjamin A.'s family moved to) he replied in the negative but offered four other letters written to his ancestor, Rebecca (Polley) Martin. The letters are written to Rebecca over the span of years 1820-1864 by two sisters and a brother. Although not of great genealogical weight, the letters are nevertheless interesting and do provide some insight into the general educational backgrounds of the writers as well as tidbits of information about the various family members mentioned. Ironically, one of Warren's letters mentions the death of Joseph Egbert Polley. These letters have also been transcribed to computer files.

In some future issue we shall try to run the transcriptions of these snapshots in time. If anyone else has any family correspondence that they would like transcribed to computer files send in photocopies and we'll do our best with them. No originals without prior arrangements, please!

Dick T. Polley sends us copies of 1917 newspaper clippings from Salinas, KS recording the death of his great-uncle, David Clark Polley. The articles are genealogically rich in that they mention many of the relatives including Dick's grandfather, William H. Polley and where he lived at the time. Another clipping from 1879 documents the death of his great-grandfather, Joseph, in a severe storm at Wakefield, KS.

Another item that appeared in the mail was a package from subscriber Esther McDermott who sent along copies of some 1883 newspaper clippings from the Mercer Co., PA papers. The clippings contained stories about the untimely death, on 21 November, of Moses Polley who was a resident of Transfer, PA.

It seems Moses had traveled to Jackson Co., Michigan, as was his annual practice, to purchase some breeding stock from farmer Jacob D. Crouch. Moses was staying at the Crouch residence. In the middle of the night, a person or persons came into the house and murdered the farmer, his daughter and her husband, as well as the buyer from Pennsylvania, poor Moses Polley. The motive was not clear but apparently there were large amounts of money in the house. The means was gun shot, at close range, while the victims were asleep.

The investigation went on for months and from what we have been able to piece together to date, it looks like the crime was never solved. Authorities appeared to be trying to "pin it" on either the house boy or the maid, but they seemed to have alibis that held up. On the other hand, one of Crouch's sons had a large cloud of suspicion around him.

Research-wise, we have written to the Mercer Co., PA Historical Society and obtained a few more clippings from local [PA] papers and a reference to the headstone inscription for Moses. It reads:

Moses M.  
son of B.F. and Eliza Polley  
Assassinated Nov. 21, 1883  
age 23y 4m 29d

The inscription is recorded in Mercer County Cemetery Inscriptions, Vol 10, p. 165. Additional correspondence to Jackson Co., MI brought the information that a death certificate was never issued for Moses, neither in Michigan nor in Pennsylvania. The Jackson Co. Genealogical