

Ballentine Branches

Family Newsletter For Ballentine, Huxford & Connected Families

Volume 1, No. 1

September 1, 1997

First Edition Of Our Newsletter!

What Will Each Issue Contain?

This is the first edition of our newsletter. I would like to publish 6 issues per year and make information about our family available to our family. I want it to be much more than a list of names, dates and locations. There are already enough databases in the world. But I cannot do it without your help. I need you to send me interesting stories that the entire family can share. I also need you to notify me of marriages, births, deaths and accomplishments that would interest the whole family. I have the ability to scan and include pictures and documents.

I would prefer to keep copies of pictures and documents. Having to return items will increase the cost of publishing our newsletter, but I will return any that you want returned.

There are many interesting stories and facts that I, and others, have uncovered in our quest to document our family's past. There are also many other happenings that occur daily that most of us rarely hear about.

We no longer live in a close-

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John J. Ballantine, 1781-1859

Who Were Rulaney's Parents?

The picture above is from a tintype photograph owned by Ruth (Ballantyne) Elsom. After her death it was passed to her nephew, Jim Ballantyne, Jr. who lives in Durham, North Carolina.

John J. Ballantine was born in St. James Goose Creek Parish, South Carolina, probably about 1781. About 1812, he married Rulaney. She was born there probably about 1792. They had seven children.

All attempts to determine

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1997 Reunion Was Another Success

For those of you who did not make it to the family reunion in July, you missed a good time with plenty of visiting and lots of good food. A heartfelt thanks goes out to Elaine (Brown) Roberts and Brenda (Brown) Gunter for their planning and organizing of another successful get-together.

During dinner everyone was asked to stand and identify themselves and tell how they fit into our family tree. It was soon obvious that there are a great many branches to our sturdy old tree. Aunt Ellen (Huxford) Bobbitt informed the gathering that she no longer has any living relatives as close as first cousin. She has out-lived them all! All of her second cousins had better start living right!

Our reunion has been held on the 3rd Sunday in July for a number of years. However, some have expressed a desire to change the date because of conflicts with other reunions. The last Sunday in July is being considered. Everyone will be notified of the new date well in ad-

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Rulaney

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Rulaney's parents have been futile. Some suggest that her family name was Fultz. That is possible, but I believe that misconception is based on the fact that her daughter, Rulaney, married John Enos Fultz.

The only other occurrence of the name Rulaney that I have encountered is a recent contact with a lady on the Internet. She is researching her Droze/Drose line in the Charleston area and says the name Rulaney occurs in her family of that time. Another of Rulaney's daughters, Rebecca, married James Droze from Sumter District. At least this is a possibility. I will keep you updated on the search.

Issues

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knit family in one little area of South Carolina as in the past. We now have spread across the entire nation and overseas. This separation means that events go unnoticed by most of us most of the time. These are the happenings that "make" a family and, in the past, were shared, grieved and celebrated by the entire family. Maybe our newsletter can bring our family back together — at least for a short while, once a month.

Need to contact me with a story?

Drop me a note or send email to:

georgeball@link.com

Reunion

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vance of next year's reunion.

If you have not attended a reunion in a while, plan to attend next year. I hear 1998 is going to be a special reunion, so come on out and spend a couple of hours once a year with your kin-folks.

Did Samuel Huxford Die At Sea?

For many years it has been thought that Samuel Huxford, the progenitor of the Huxford line in America was lost at sea. The History of Martha's Vineyard says "family tradition is that he was the master of a transport out of London." He married Esther Norton, daughter of Nicholas Norton, about 1682 in Edgartown, Massachusetts. Samuel apparently settled his family on Martha's Vineyard and continued to practice his seafaring trade.

Possibly thinking that Samuel had been lost at sea, Esther remarried to Jonathan Dunham about 1691.

Samuel and Esther had at least three children. The oldest, Samuel, is the ancestor of our Huxford line in South Carolina today. He married Mary Harlock, daughter of Thomas Harlock.

Mrs. B. F. (Huxford) Brokaw is an avid genealogist and has done much work on the early Huxford lines. Buddie, as she is known, went to England and made some rather startling discoveries. She found court

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St. Stephen's Episcopal Church



*St. Stephen's Episcopal Church,
Established 1754*

This church was originally established as a wooden Chapel of Ease to St. James' Church in the early 1700's. As the congregation continued to grow, it became unavoidable that they become a parish in their own right. In 1754 they petitioned "his Excellency James GLEN, Esq., Governor-in-Chief and Captain General in and over the Province of South Carolina" for autonomy. On May 11, 1754, the petition was approved and St. Stephen Parish saw its beginning.

A quick visit to the St. Stephen's Episcopal Church Cemetery reveals many grave sites dating back to the early 1700's. Anyone interested in the Ballentine, Huxford or related families can find a wealth of genealogical information on the markers there.

Peter Huxford (Jr.) and his wife, Lydia Ann (Calvitt) are both buried there. Charles Packer Ballentine and his wife, Minnie Esther (Huxford) are buried there. Many of the early members of the Ballentine family are buried at Wassamassaw Baptist Cemetery in the Wassamassaw.

This Issue's Coat of Arms



The **Ballentine** coat of arms illustrated is documented in Burke's General Armory. The arms (shield) are as follows:

"Ar. on a cross betw. four mullets az. a sword erect of the first, hilt and pomel or."

When translated the description reads: "Silver, on a blue cross between four blue stars, a silver sword erect, handle gold."

Above the shield and helmet is the crest (*not shown*) which is as follows:

"A demi griffin sa. wings endorsed erm, in the dexter claw a sword erect, as in the arms."

When translated the description reads: "A black half griffin, ermine wings back to back in the right claw a sword as in the arms."

Although Burke's says that no family motto is recorded, I have seen it as "*Nec Cito, Nec Tarde*", which means "Neither Fast Nor Slow".

Heraldry is fun and fascinating. It is a romantic art dating back to the days of the great Gothic cathedrals and knightly

tournaments.

According to Tracing Your Roots, Consumer Guide, 1977, coats of arms began to appear in 12th-century England. They were used to identify knights in armor on the field of battle and at tournaments. Beginning as a form of personal identification, it became a mark of ownership. It was used to label the knight's horse, his silver, and even his wife. A woman, except for a reigning sovereign, traditionally used the arms of her father or her husband displayed on a lozenge or diamond shape.

It is unethical, and in some parts of the world, illegal to use an existing coat of arms. Having the same surname as the rightful owner does not entitle one to use another's arms. It is said that a coat of arms is as personal as a toothbrush and used only by those close enough to the owner to use his toothbrush. Irish coats are exceptions and everyone with the same last name can use the family coat.

Information for the coat of arms illustrated is authentic and officially documented in the reference given. For any given surname there may be many different arms to be found. I will include the oldest that I can locate.

Coats drawn in black & white utilize lines and shading to indicate colors.

Next Issue:
Huxford

Samuel Huxford

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records that show that Samuel was not lost at sea. Instead, he was detained in England by court disputes with fellow ship masters over monies due them. It would seem that by the time he did return to America he found Esther had remarried. Perhaps understanding the situation and not wanting to cause problems, he returned to England and also remarried.

The records that Buddie found indicate that he had at least one child by this marriage, Mary. Nothing further is known of this line.

Samuel's name finally disappears from court and public records and nothing further can be found about him. Buddie is still working on this situation and will find the answer, if there is one to be found.

We Are On The Internet, Too!

<http://www.n-link.com/~georgeball>

If you have access to the Internet take a minute and check out "OUR" website at the URL (address) above.

I created and maintain the site and am in the process of updating all the time. There are pictures of some of our ancestors, but I have many others to add as time permits.

If you view the site and want to make a suggestion or correct any family information, please email me. I consider all suggestions and you will get a response. Limited space is available to me for storage.

Finding The Day of The Week

Here is a formula for determining the day of the week for any date. It appeared in The Genealogist's Companion and Sourcebook, Emily Croom, 1994, page 177.

Example 1 - December 25, 1848

Step 1. Begin with the last 2 digits of the year	48
Step 2. Add 1/4 of this number, disregarding any remainder.	12
Step 3. Add the date in the month	25
Step 4. Add according to the month:	
January	1 (leap year: 0)
February	4 (leap year: 3)
March or November	4
April or July	0
May	2
June	5
August	3
September or December	6
October	1
Step 5. Add for the century:	
18th Century:	4
19th Century:	2
20th Century:	0
21st Century:	6
Step 6. Total the numbers.	93
Step 7. Divide by 7. Check the remainder against the chart to determine the day of the week.	$93 / 7 = 13$ remainder = 2 Monday
1 = Sunday	2 = Monday
3 = Tuesday	4 = Wednesday
5 = Thursday	6 = Friday
0 = Saturday	

Was J. W. Brownlee Killed At Manassas?

The History of South Carolina, vol. 4, 1934, states that both of (Sheriff) Charles Packer Ballentine's grandfathers "served in the Confederate Army during the War Between The States, his maternal grandfather being killed in the battle of Manassas, Virginia, while his paternal grandfa-

ther, who served the entire duration of the conflict, was severely wounded." When I read this bit of information, I was off with my pad and pencil to document my Civil War ancestors.

There are a number of "mistakes" in the article. This is a demonstration of errors and

exaggerations that occur even in official records and state histories.

His paternal grandfather, John James Ballentine, did indeed fight in the Confederate Army and was wounded severely. Enlisting on September 1, 1863 (not the entire duration of the conflict) he served with Company D of the 2nd South Carolina Cavalry. Two of his sons, Lewis (enlisted February 7, 1862, Company D, 4th Battalion, South Carolina Cavalry) and Andrew (enlisted December 23, 1864, Company D, 3rd Palmetto Battalion, South Carolina Light Artillery) served along with him. John James Ballentine "received severe burns to both hands and face from powder explosion at Battery Anderson [at Ft. Monroe, VA] 1 January 1865." He was furloughed for 60 days to Summerville and, apparently, never returned to service. The war ended in April 1865.

His maternal grandfather, J. W. (James Wesley) Brownlee was not killed at Manassas. He served in Company G, 11th South Carolina Infantry. In June of 1863 he was sent to the guardhouse for disobedience of orders. His commander wrote a letter to General Beauregard's headquarters asking that the charges be withdrawn "as I think he has been punished sufficiently." The return letter from Henry M. McIver, Beauregard's Judge Advocate General at his McPhersonville, SC headquarters indicated "the Court Martial had disposed of the case mentioned & adjourned sine die before this paper was received."

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Joseph Huxford, 1850 - 1928



Ida Diggs Wilder, 1865 - 1927

Joseph & Ida Diggs (Wilder) Huxford

Joseph Huxford was born on October 8, 1850 in South Carolina. He was a son of Peter (Jr.) and Lydia Ann (Calvitt) Huxford. He married Ida Diggs Wilder on February 22, 1880 in St. Stephen. Ida Diggs Wilder was born on December 15, 1865 in Effingham, South Carolina, the daughter of Richard Spencer and Mary E. (Chandler) Wilder.

Their 14 children: 1. Peter Calvitt died as an infant, 2. Joseph Diggs married Alice Ledford, 3. Samuel Wilder married Elizabeth Brance, 4. Minnie Esther married Charles Packer Ballentine, 5. Lillian Ruth died as a child, 6. Lenora Elizabeth married Lanneau Samuel Crawford, 7. Claudius Barnabus, died young unmarried, 8. Stella Carrick married first Simon Tyler Russell, Jr., second Arthur Leonard Grady, third Folks Huxford, 9. Harlock Chandler, killed during World War I in France unmarried, 10. Alice Elizabeth married Frank Albert Price, 11. Benjamin F. died as an infant, 12. Dorothy Ellen married

Robert Edward Bobbitt and lives in Pineville, South Carolina.

Joseph Huxford died on December 28, 1928 in Russellville. His death certificate gives his cause of death as influenza contributed to by pneumonia. He died at 3 p.m. that day after being sick for 23 days. Ida Diggs (Wilder) Huxford died on January 12, 1927 in Kingstree. Her death certificate gives her cause of death as chronic nephritis. She also died at 3 p.m. after having been sick for 12 months and under the care of her doctor from August 1926 until her death. They are both buried in St. Stephen's Episcopal Cemetery in St. Stephen, South Carolina.

Aunt Ellen (Huxford) Bobbitt related an interesting story to me that I want to share. She said that when her father, Joseph Huxford, died the family had no money for a big funeral. Their homesite was near where Ernestine Huxford lives now but a little more toward Russellville. It burned when Aunt Ellen was a

child. Her brother, Campbell Huxford built a casket and had it lined. They were going to bury him within 24 hours without embalming to save money. Another brother, Wilder Huxford, who lived out of state, contacted them and said he wanted to attend the funeral. Campbell then contacted a funeral director to embalm their father so they could wait until Wilder arrived to hold the funeral.

Aunt Ellen recalls that the funeral director came to the house and embalmed him there. She said that as he left he poured her father's blood in the ditch.

Wilder arrived and the funeral was held on December 31, 1928. Since Campbell actually handled the burial duties, he is listed on his father's death certificate as the undertaker.

Joseph and Ida Diggs (Wilder) Huxford are survived by a great number of ancestors and many of us owe our existence to this union.

What's In A Name?

An Etymology Dictionary of Family and Christian Names, William Arthur, M.A., 1857:

BALLENTINE. local. A place where BAL or BELUS was worshipped by the Celts; from BAL and TEINE, fire.

WILDER. A traveler, foreigner, or pilgrim, the same as WALLER, from the Saxon WEALH, a traveler, or one who inhabits the forest or grounds uncultivated.

HARVEY. (Sax.). From HERE, an army, and WIC, a fort.

Manassas?

(Continued from page 4)

The term *sine die* is underlined in the records, apparently by an historian who contributed to the 1934 South Carolina history. He seems to have mistakenly interpreted it to be *since died*. The Latin term actually means *without future time specified, indefinitely*. Private J. W. Brownlee was released and continued his service in the Confederate Army well after the battle of Manassas. He died on July 15, 1864 at No. 3 Jackson Hospital.

According to the Roll Of The Dead, South Carolina Troops, Confederate States Service, he did not die of wounds received in battle, but of disease contracted in the trenches at Petersburg, Virginia.

Both men served the Confederacy honorably - one severely wounded, the other paying a soldier's ultimate sacrifice. Although not killed in battle, J. W. Brownlee, Private, Company G, 11th South Carolina Infantry fell victim to the greatest taker of lives during this conflict — disease.

The intent of this article is to show that information uncovered during genealogical research, regardless of the source, may not always be correct. It may give excellent clues to guide the search, but must be verified to be accepted as fact.

Revolutionary War Soldier

Harlock Huxford was born in Craven County, North Carolina. His father left Martha's Vineyard, settled for a time in North

Carolina and finally settled in South Carolina. Harlock's Revolutionary War service is well

14.2 No. 40,
 Mr. Harlow Huxford
 his Acct. of 53 days
 Militia Duty in
 1782.
 Am. to £ 3. 15. 8 1/2
 Three Pounds, fifteen
 Shillings & eight
 Pence half Penny
 Sterling.
 Ex. do
 26 : 9 : 11
 5, 29
 3.
 J. W. Brownlee

documented and serves as the basis for family members to join the Sons or Daughters of the American Revolution.

Harlock married Judith Jones. They had six children and will be featured in a later issue.

A Case of Assault & Battery

In A Genealogical Collec-
 tion of South Carolina Wills and

Records, vol. 1, compiled by Miss Pauline Young in 1955 is found the following interesting article.

It is referred to as No. 6 Pack 165 - ASSAULT & BTRY.

On Nov. 14, 1879 James Peak made oath that in the town of Central on the 14th November 1879 one William K. Powers did commit an assault with a base ball bat by striking Frank McCorkle on the head. John H. Ballentine says, "Mr. McCorkle was at his place of business. I heard the first lick and saw him fall. I saw the second lick, it was with a base ball bat. I do consider it a deadly weapon."

The town of Central is in Pickens County. There was, and still is, another group of Ballentines in that area. They are from the Walhalla and Anderson area. I am confident that there is a connection between our Ballentines and them, but have not been able to make the connection.

Sons Of Confederate Veterans

I am a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans and belong to a camp in Texas. I had hoped to wait and join a South Carolina camp someday, but I guess I am in Texas now to stay. I have had the information necessary to document our Confederate ancestry for quite a number of years.

Several family members have contacted me and received

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copies to support their applications into the SCV. Anyone interested in joining can contact me for the necessary information. Even if you are not descended from one of our ancestors I think we can do the work to document your ancestors. Of course, you have to have a Civil War ancestor and he would have to be a member of the right army.

The SCV is an organization dedicated to preserving our Southern Heritage. Projects include cemetery cleanups, documentation and request for government markers to mark our Confederate ancestors' graves, patriotic parades and just about anything that helps to insure our heritage will survive. Other projects on a national scale are being contested in the courts. We are fighting to keep the Confederate battle flag flying.



Many people think that the SCV is a group of Civil War re-enactors and, therefore, are not interested. Quite the contrary.

We do have people who are re-enactors but they are another group altogether. No interest in re-enactments is required to want to support the preservation of our heritage and keep alive the memory of our Confederate ancestors.

There are groups that are making a concerted effort to erase that period from our history books. They will not be satisfied until everyone associated with the Confederate cause is branded as a traitor and dishonored. If, like myself, you think this is wrong, then perhaps you might want to consider membership in an organization dedicated to preventing this from happening. The South lost one war -- we cannot afford to lose another.

Were You There in 1990?



l-r Georgie (Ballentine) Blume, Ida (Ballentine) Feagin, Annie (Ballentine) Beckham and Richard B. Ballentine, Sr.

Marriages

None reported.

Births

None reported.

Deaths

None reported.

Accomplishments

Summa Cum Laude

Keith T. Ballentine, son of George & Deborah Ballentine, was selected as the Valedictorian of his Tarleton State University graduating class August 16, 1997. Receiving his Bachelor's of Science in Chemistry, he graduated Summa Cum Laude. He attained a grade point average of 3.953 out of a possible 4.0, graduating a year early.

Keith was also married May 20, 1997 in Ft. Worth, TX, to Amanda Jean Gode, daughter of Robert David and Elizabeth Faye (Hallenberger) Gode. Amanda is an Animal Science Pre-Veterinary major and is returning for her junior year. Keith has accepted a position as an Assistant Instructor for the upcoming academic year at Tarleton and will pursue a second degree in Mathematics.

**Old genealogists never die;
they just lose their census.**

Coming Next Issue!

1st cousin, twice removed???

The Family of John James &
Mary E. (Huxford) Ballentine

The Huxfords of Martha's
Vineyard

... and much more.

**Remember to submit
your articles in time
for the next issue. If
you want to see
something in your
newsletter - ask!**

WE NEED DONATIONS TO CONTINUE

In order to continue publishing our newsletter we need donations for postage and printing expenses. I have been advised that a donation system never works. But, I think we can do this without charging a fee. All monies donated will be used only to produce our family newsletter. If someone chooses not to donate for any reason, they will continue to receive the newsletter as long as the group continues to support it. I see nothing wrong with family taking care of family.

I will feature a column in each newsletter recognizing people who have donated to keep our newsletter alive. This is not intended to embarrass any-

one, but to acknowledge contributions. This issue, consisting of 8 pages, costs about \$65 for 100 copies. That represents the cost of printing and postage only. I am gladly donating my time and equipment but we need donations to cover the printing and postage costs. If the donation system does not work, then I will have to consider going to a yearly subscription rate or discontinuing the newsletter.

Please support our newsletter and send donations to:

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