

# *Ballentine Branches*

**Family Newsletter For Ballentine, Huxford & Connected Families**

Volume 3, No. 5

September / October 1999

## **THE BALLENTINE-MURRAY CONNECTION**

**Shirley Delane (Murray) Roberts**

**Arthur H. Murray** was born on May 4, 1849 in the Murrayville Community, Charleston District, South Carolina. He was the son of **George Edward Allen Murray** and **Elizabeth Olive Grooms**. His brother, **Arnold Murray**, was South Carolina's last living Confederate Veteran, dying at the age of 104 in November 1952.

**Arthur** married **Mary Jane Winter** on February 19, 1845. She was the widow of his brother, **James R. Murray**. She was born in St. James Goose Creek Parish, South Carolina to **Hugh L. Winter** and his wife, **Louisa**. **Arthur** and **Mary Jane** were members of Appii Methodist Church in the Murrayville Community.

**Arthur** was a farmer. He served in the Confederate Army in Company D, 5th Regiment, South Carolina Cavalry. He was assigned to the horse detail and was last paid on Feb 2, 1864, by **Captain Green**.

They had six children, three of which married into the **Ballentine** family. They were: (1) **George Washington Murray** (June 15, 1874 - August 30, 1917) married **Ethel Gertrude Ballentine** on November 21, 1912, the only daughter of **John James Ballentine, Jr.** and



**Susan Julia Saulsbury**. (2) **Lewis May Murray** (August 21, 1876 - April 14, 1957) married **Essie Nettles** on November 8, 1909. (3) **Orpha Susan Murray** (March 20, 1878 - February 16, 1914) married **Ellison Judson Ballentine** on January 17, 1901, a son of **John James Ballentine** and **Mary Elizabeth Huxford**. (4) **Pate Mouzon Murray** (August 18, 1880 - December 12, 1960) married **Mary Emmaline Jones** on December 10, 1902. (5) **Mary Minerva "Minnie" Murray** (January 12, 1882 - June 28, 1958) married **James Ellie Weatherford** on December 20, 1903. (6) **Anna Lee**

**Murray** (December 18, 1863 - July 23, 1961) married **Clarence Emory Ballentine** on April 4, 1907, a son of **Andrew Ballentine** and **Catherine Wood Harvey**.

**Arthur H. Murray** died August 26, 1901. **Mary Jane**, his wife, died November 11, 1908. Both are buried in the Appii Methodist Church Cemetery in the Murrayville Community.

For many years, **Shirley** has been trying to find her grandmother, **Mary Emmaline Jones Murray's** family. **Mary's** mother was **Susan Barbara Ballentine**, a daughter of **Isaac Ballentine** and **Mildred Taylor** of St. James Goose Creek Parish, South Carolina. After **Isaac** died in the War Between the States, **Mildred** placed her children, **Susan B.**, **Fannie Irene** and **Daniel Joseph Ballentine** in the Charleston Orphan Home. Their records con-

(See MURRAY on page 3)

### **NOTICE**

This is not an original source document. Please do not quote this document as the source for any genealogical information on these families. Some of the information may not have been verified for accuracy. Commercial use of this information is strictly prohibited.

## THE FAMILY OF MANKIND or GENEALOGY FOR DUMMIES

by W. Robert Chapman

Have you ever noticed how most of us like to say that we are descended from a single ancestor, say a **Ballentine**, a **Huxford**, a **Fultz**, or a **Harlock**? If pressed, we'll usually admit that we're also descended from our other parent, and maybe we'll even mention that yes, we do indeed have two other grandparents, but that's about as far as it goes.

In truth, of course, we're descended from a lot more people than most of us can imagine. That's really not all that surprising when you consider that ancestry is exponential. You start with two parents, each of whom also had two parents, etc. Five generations back, each of us is descended from 16 second great-grandparents (fewer if there was intermarriage among cousins, a not-uncommon practice prior to the twentieth century).

Each of us is ten generations removed from 512 seventh great-grandparents. By the time we are 16 generations removed, we are descended from 32,768 thirteenth great-grandparents.

To put this into perspective, five generations back editor **George Ballentine** (I'm using **George** as an example because of the **Ballentine** connection) can trace his lineage to only half of his second great-grandparents: **John James Ballentine** (1827-1887) and **Mary Elizabeth Huxford** (1825-1894), **James Wesley Brownlee** (?-1864) and **Elizabeth J. Packer** (?-?), **Peter Huxford, Jr.** (1822-1896) and **Lydia Ann Calvitt** (1825-1884), and **Richard Spencer Wilder** (1832-1881) and **Mary E. Chandler** (?-?).

Another five generations further back and only four of **George's** seventh great-grandparents could be found: **Samuel Huxford** (1660-1692) and **Esther Norton** (1662-1724), and **Thomas Harlock, Jr.** (1659-1744) and **Sarah Marchant** (1661-1728/9). Which means that 508 of his seventh great-grandparents have not yet been identified.

**George** can trace his ancestry back sixteen generations to only four of his thirteenth great-grandparents, out of a possible total of 32,768: **Simon Mayhew** (1455-?) and his unidentified wife, and **John Bridmore** (1456-?) and his unidentified wife. Who were the other 32,764?

Since many of us share some or most of **George's** ancestry, that's about as far back as we can confidently trace our own ancestries.

What does this all mean? For the statistically inclined, it means that it's very likely that each of us is probably related to a lot of strangers, possibly including the folks next door or the person we took to the prom (giving new meaning to the term "kissing cousins"!).

The likelihood of our being distantly related to a neighbor greatly increases with each generation as we spin off new branches, particularly in societies that—unlike our own—were relatively stable and homogeneous, such as fifteenth-century England, seventeenth-century New England and nineteenth-century South Carolina.

In colonial Massachusetts and the Antebellum South, where I have done a fair amount of family history research, it was not at all unusual for marriages to knowingly take

place among cousins. One of my great-grandfathers, **John Enos Fultz, Jr.**, married twice, each time to women descended—through different lines—from **Thomas Harlock, Sr.** of Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts (**Sarah Elizabeth Ballentine** was his first cousin; **Anna Maria Winter** was his first cousin once removed).

Family trees work both upward and downward. If going back sixteen generations means that each of us is descended from 32,768 different people, think of how many descendants each of those ancestors was responsible for!

(See MANKIND on page 4)

## THE LANGSTONS



(l-r) Ewart "Dixie" (Langston) Tomb Brown, Ira Wright Langston, III and Iras V. (Langston) Bensen, children of Grace (Locklear) and Rev. John James Langston. This photograph was taken in 1930.

## RECIPES AND A FAMILY COOKBOOK

The idea was brought up at this year's reunion to include some family recipes in our newsletter. It was mentioned that all of those great recipes that we enjoy each year could be shared with others.

If anyone would like to share their recipes with other kinfolks, please send them to me and I will place them in the newsletter as space permits.

When we get enough recipes collected, perhaps we can organize them into a Family Cookbook. Recipes that have not made a showing at a reunion are welcome, too. The cook's name and hometown will be listed with each one published. Okay, let's get those recipes cooking.

## HOW'S THAT MISTER?

In the seventeenth century in England, only ministers, physicians, lawyers, and successful merchants were entitled to call themselves "Mr." and their wives "Mrs."

Only twelve of the passengers on the *Mayflower* had the title of "Mr." or "Mrs." Persons below that status were called "Goodman" or "Goodwife."

Thanks for all trivia facts in this issue to The Joy of Trivia by Bernie Smith, 1976, Bell Publishing, New York.

## MURRAY

(Continued from page 1)

firm this fact.

If anyone has any information on the **Jones-Ballentine-Murray** families, please contact **Shirley** at (843) 553-5976 or email at [srobe94198@aol.com](mailto:srobe94198@aol.com).

## JOSEPH & IDA (WILDER) HUXFORD



This photograph was taken in 1926. **Ida Diggs (Wilder) Huxford** died the following year on January 12, 1927. **Joseph Huxford** died December 28, 1928. The parents of fourteen children, they have a great number of **Huxford** descendants, many of whom live in Berkeley County, South Carolina.

## MINISTER OF WESTFIELD

This information is extracted from the Journal of **Rev. John Ballantine**, Minister of Westfield, Massachusetts, 1737-1774.

**June 20, 1774** - Was at Ensign Parks lately returned from Boston. Regulars camped on the Common in Boston.

**June 24, 1774** - Was at **Captain Mosely's** returned from Court which was dissolved last Saturday. Congress agreed on Commissioners chosen - Honors **James Bowdoin**, **Thomas Cushing** Speaker **Samuel Adams** **John Adams** **Robert Treat Pain[e]**. Governor refuses to concur, to Sign a warrant to get money out of Treasury. Recommended to Several Towns to raise 500£ to pay by 15 August.

Westfield's part of it forty shillings.

**June 30, 1774** - It was proposed that this Day should be kept as a Day of fasting and prayer on account of the Difficultys we are involved in by the late oppressive Laws. It having been recommended by house of Representatives as Seasonable. Governor declined issuing

(See MINISTER on page 4)

## ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS

### Volume 3, No. 3, Page 4

The following corrections need to be made to the article and photograph in column three. I apologize to **Louise (Cross) Caison** for implying that the errors were hers. I inadvertently listed the grandparents of **Robert Lewis** and **John Gordon Fultz**. The parents should be corrected to read **Lewis Gordon** and **Annie Eliza (Haynes) Fultz**. When it rains, it pours. The two boys on the left were also reversed. **Robert Lewis Fultz** is the taller boy and **John Gordon Fultz** is the shorter.

### Volume 3, No. 4, Page 2

The following clarification has been requested for the article "**Genealogy of the Huxford Tribe**." That article contains some known errors in names and events. It was printed as an historical document, not as a genealogical document. Please refer to the **NOTICE** on page one of each issue.

### Volume 3, No. 4, Page 3

In the article "**Balentine-Holt Family Reunion**" the name **Ann (Balentine) Wisely** was incorrectly listed. It should have read **Ann (Wisely) Blythe**. **Ann** is a **Balentine** descendant.

## MINDING THE STORE



This photograph taken in September 1953 shows **Lenora Eliza (Huxford) Crawford** outside the store where she worked in Pineville, South Carolina. She was born April 11, 1890, the sixth child of **Joseph and Ida Diggs (Wilder) Huxford**. She married **Lanneau Samuel Crawford** on December 25, 1907. They had seven children. **Aunt Lee** died January 13, 1986 at the age of 96 and is buried in the St. Stephen's Episcopal Cemetery in St. Stephen, South Carolina.

## MINISTER

(Continued from page 3)

a proclamation. Though desired by both houses the house did not pitch on a Day - but left it with Ministers. Boston Ministers having proposed July 14<sup>th</sup> to be kept as a Fast and published their proposal. For the sake of union when we came to know of their proposal we postponed our Fast to that Day.

*September 13, 1774* - At tended the Funeral of **Jonathan Fowler** who had just completed his 89<sup>th</sup> year. He was a virulent opposer of Ministers disliked from every and he made a great deal of Disturbance

(See MINISTER on page 5)

## HUXFORD FAMILY HOLDS REUNION AT ST. STEPHEN

In Vol. 3, No. 2, page 6, I pictured the nametag worn by **Aunt Ellen (Huxford) Bobbitt** to this reunion in 1950. Below is the article that appeared in the Berkeley Democrat after that event. **Aunt Ellen** also sent me this article and points out the one mistake; **Peter Huxford** was born in 1822, not 1882.

The descendants of **Rev. Peter Huxford**, 1882-1896, and his wife, **Lydia Calvitt Huxford**, 1825-1884, late of Berkeley County, held a reunion on Thanksgiving Day in St. Stephen. There were about two hundred present. There were descendants present from the following children of the old couple: **Joseph Huxford**, late of Berkeley County; **Benjamin Huxford**, late of Wayne County, Ga.; **Calvitt Huxford**, late of Clinch County, Ga.; **Mrs. Sallie Huxford Newton**, late of Berkeley County; **Mrs. Amarintha Huxford Ballentine**, late of Berkeley County; **Mrs. Minnie Huxford Locklear**, late of Clinch County, Georgia.

The get-together was had at the American Legion Home in St. Stephen, where a very bountiful Thanksgiving Dinner was served by the local descendants. Supper was served that evening at the home of **Mr. and Mrs. Robert Locklear** in St. Stephen, for those who could remain longer than the others.

It was a most happy occasion. Many cousins met, some for the first time, others for the first time in varying lengths of time up to forty years. The one who came the furthestmost to attend was **Mrs. Elsie Huxford**

Shreve of Greenville, Texas. Other states represented were North Carolina, Georgia, Florida and Alabama.

**Mrs. Edith Huxford Conger** of Tifton, Ga., was elected president and **Folks Huxford** of Homerville, Ga., was made secretary, and it was voted to have the occasion annually on Thanksgiving Day.

## MANKIND

(Continued from page 2)

In researching only one line from my wife's family, I have uncovered over 1,500 people descended either by blood or marriage from a sixteenth-century Englishman named **Thomas James**. Assuming he's representative of most heads of Elizabethan English families, multiply those 1,500 descendants by the 32,768 people representing thirteen generations of your ancestry, and you are faced with the possibility of being related to over 49 million people. Ergo, you could well be distantly related to a friend, a neighbor, a co-worker, or that cute young thing you've been working up the courage to ask out on a date!

Maybe now the term "family of mankind" makes a bit more sense!

*W. Robert Chapman, a thirteenth great-grandson of Simon Mayhew and at least 32,767 other people, is a reference librarian in Hartford, CT and an occasional contributor to Ballentine Branches.*

## WHO'S ON FIRST ?

"Light Horse Harry" Lee, father of **Robert E. Lee**, was the author of the immortal tribute to **George Washington**: "First in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen."

## ANDREW BALLENTINE



In *Ballentine Branches*, Vol. 3, No. 1, page 3, I did an article on **Andrew Ballentine** and his family. At that time I did not have a photograph of him to place with the article.

Thanks to **John Willson** and **Frances (Gasson) Ballentine**, of Wassamassaw, I now have a picture to show the family. **Willson** and **Fran** allowed me to copy a number of other pictures that will appear in future issues. I hope others will follow their lead and send me copies of their ancestors' photographs. If I don't have pictures of your side of the family, I can't publish them.

## MINISTER

(Continued from page 4)

in his Family for some years past by his provoking tongue. His wife & Son have impatiently waited for his Death. He lived undesired and dyes unlamented.

**October 21, 1774 - Parks**  
Student of Harvard College here - a Sergeant had been broke. Plotted to destroy the Magazine of the Army - discovered - Sentenced to be whipt

## DONATIONS

Thanks to all who made donations since last issue. If you enjoy the newsletter and have not made a donation, please consider making one to keep our newsletter coming. Donations go only to the costs of printing and mailing the newsletter.

### SOUTH CAROLINA

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Please send donations to:

George H. Ballentine  
2714 Phyllis Dr.  
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## Don't Forget ! September 12<sup>th</sup> is Grandparents Day

2000 lashes.

These are the last entries in **Rev. Ballentine's** Journal that pertain to the events of the times. The Journal ends abruptly after the November 9, 1774 entry. The missing pages may be discovered, but are probably lost forever.

## Births

### CAMPBELL

**Amy Feagin (Grunsky)** and **McGregor Heath Campbell** of Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina would like to announce the birth of their second child, **Johnathon Trevor Campbell**. He was born August 7, 1999 and weighed 8 lbs. 2 oz. **Amy** is the daughter of **Francis Rolin** and **Ida Long (Feagin) Grunsky** and **Heath** is the son of **Robert Neal** and **Karen Elizabeth (Smith) Campbell**.

## The Children Are Back In School

## Watch Out For Those Busses!

## WE ARE ON THE INTERNET, TOO!

Webpage:

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

Email:

[georgeball@n-link.com](mailto:georgeball@n-link.com)

If you have access to the Internet, take a moment and check out **OUR** website above.

I created and maintain the site and am always updating. There are pictures and information about different branches of our tree. I will add more as time permits, so check back often.

## ANOTHER GREAT REUNION IN 1999 !

This year's reunion was another success. Our special thanks go out to all the folks who work each year to organize and conduct this event without any problems.

This year we had 100-125 people present. There were some new faces and some folks that we see every year. We look forward to seeing them all next year, and hope for other new folks to join us. We also thank the Russellville Christian Church for letting us use their facility each year. It is perfectly designed for a reunion with its serving line and large seating area. The air conditioning is also very welcomed that time of year.

The photographer moved us all over to the front of the church building prior to dinner for the panoramic photograph. During the reunion **Jessica Roberts, Stacey Roberts**, daughters of **Elaine (Brown) and Eddie Roberts**, and **Lydia Callaway**, daughter of **Marilyn (Brown) Callaway**, set up a face painting table for the children, and at least one adult. Right, **Sandra**? The ones who came the longest distance to be with us this year were my brother, **William Wayne (Butch) Ballentine, Jr.**, and his youngest son, **Glenn Calvitt Ballentine**. They came in from Colorado Springs, Colorado. This was the first time in about fifteen years that the three of us, with our sister, **Deborah (Ballentine) Waters**, of St. Stephen, had been together as a group. We had other states represented. Some folks came from as far away as Virginia and New Jersey. We had another piñata this year. The children enjoyed it and **Tyler Murphy**, grandson of **Brenda (Brown) Gunter**, was the one who delivered the fateful blow

that sent candy flying in all directions. Several other people were surprised to find that they had won a bag of potpourri. **Elaine** announced that everyone needed to check under the seat of their chairs for their prizes. The bags of potpourri had been randomly placed there before everyone started to arrive.

A good time was had by all and the food, as usual, was great. On Saturday a number of people came by to update records and bring pictures and stories for the newsletter. I hope to have a second day again next year and get even more people out to help me update their family history records. Thanks to those who did participate this year.

The reunion next year will be the same weekend in July. It's never too early to start planning to be there. Your cousins and I are eager to see you again, so plan now to be with us next summer.



**John Westley (1874-1982) and Martha Jane (Henry) Balentine (1876-1960).** He was a son of **Samuel D. and Mary Adeline (Shelton) Balentine.** **John** was born in Cypress Inn, Wayne County, Tennessee, and settled in Wister, Leflore County, Oklahoma.

## FAMILY REUNION 1999



(back, l-r) **William Wayne Ballentine, Jr.**, his son, **Glenn Calvitt Ballentine**, **George Hugh Ballentine.** (front, l-r) **Adam Benjamin Waters**, **Deborah (Ballentine) Waters**, **April Elizabeth Waters**, children and some grandchildren of **William Wayne and Geneva (Meares) Ballentine, Sr.**

## McCANTS

by Robert S. Dunbar

The original settlers in Williamsburg County, Carolina Province, came from England, Ireland, Germany, Holland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and the northeastern states. They were all about the same class of men. They were people who were non-conformists as to the state-church religion, and nearly all of their families had lost their property in the religious conflicts of the seventeenth century. The greater number of them had lived in Ireland for many years before coming to the Colonies. Many had migrated from England and Scotland to Ireland on account of fair promises on the part of the King. These fair promises failing them they sought refuge in America.

From 1732-1737, a great many settlers came to the new township of Williamsburg on the Black River in Craven County (now Williamsburg County) and practically every acre of land was taken up within a year after the township was surveyed. Every man settling there was granted a one-half acre town lot and fifty acres of land in the township for himself, his wife, and for each of his children.

In 1800 the original plat of the town of "Kings Tree" was re-surveyed and the original lots as laid out in 1736 in the town listed heirs of **Patrick Lindsay** owning lot 341, heirs of **David McCants, Sr.** owning lot 368, and heirs of **Thomas McCants** (son of **David**) owning lot 43 (**Thomas McCants** was not an original grantee of this lot).

The heads of families who settled there up to 1737 included **David McCants**, **James McCants**, son of **David**, and

**Patrick Lindsay**.

On January 19, 1742 **Patrick Lindsay** and **Adam Strain** were two of many who signed a petition to the Crown for relief and assistance in resolving problems in the distribution of lands in Williamsburg County. The lands were being re-surveyed and issued to others after they had already been issued.

The first of the **McCants** to arrive in the Colony was **David** and his wife **Elizabeth**. It is said that they may have come directly from County Down, Ireland near Newtonnords between 1720 and 1730. Some of their children who may have accompanied them were **David, Jr.**, **James**, **William** and **Samuel**.

With the help of wills, court actions, letters, land grants, genealogy files in the South Carolina Historical Society and the Carolinianna Library, a reasonable pedigree chart for the first three generations of **David McCants** in Williamsburg District can be constructed. I believe **David** and his wife came to the Colonies with their sons **James** and **John, Jr.** and their remaining children were probably born in the Williamsburg Parish.

When **David McCants, Sr.** died in 1759, **John** and **James McCants** had the responsibility of disposing of **David's** property. This lends credence to the fact that they were sons of **David**. When **William McCants** died in 1733, **John** and **James** were appointed appraisers of his estate by the deceased's wife, **Isabelle**. Note the memo dated January 15, 1734, "Personally appeared before me, one of his Majestys Justices, **John Wilson**, **James McClelland** and **John McCanse** being three of the apprizers appointed to apprais the goods and chattels of **William**

**McCanse** deceased." The memo was signed by **Wilson**, **McClelland** and **John McCants** on January 18, 1734. It was later that same year that **Isabelle** requested that **John** and **James McCants** be appointed appraisers of her husband's estate. This would indicate a brotherly relationship between **John**, **James** and **William McCants**.

On March 24, 1772 a citation was granted to **John McCants, Jr.** of Prince George's Parish, Williamsburg County, to administer on the goods, rights, and credits of **John McCants, Sr.**, late of the same Parish, as next of kin. This establishes his death date as in 1772.

The children of **David McCants** and his wife **Elizabeth** were: (1) **James** (before 1713-1772) married first, **Agnes McNealy** in Prince Frederick's Parish; married second, **Martha Jean (Scott) Jackson** in 1760 or 1761; married third **Agnes Donnelly** in 1770; (2) **John, Sr.** (?-1772) married **Dorothy Commander**; (3) **David, Jr.** (?-1772) married **Catherine Unknown**; (4) **William** (?-1733) married **Isabelle Unknown**; and (5) **Mary** (?-?) married **Joseph Roper** of Windyah, Craven County on May 22, 1753.

**Dorothy Commander** was the daughter of **Samuel Commander** on June 2, 1748. **John** and **Dorothy** later conveyed to **Elisha Scriven**, Gentleman, 488 acres of land on the Black River in Craven County, being the land conveyed to **John** in 1739.

**William McCants** died in 1733 leaving a widow and probably no children.

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*Happy  
Halloween*

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## *Coming Soon!*

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Contributed articles from  
family members

Rev. John Ballantine,  
Minister of Westfield

... and much more

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If you know of someone who is not receiving our newsletter, please send me their address and I will get them on the mailing list. They will receive the newsletter and be guaranteed of family reunion notification.

## BERKELEY HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATING CLASS OF 1925



Pictured is the graduating class of Berkeley High School for 1925. Second from the right is **Georgie Stroble (Ballentine) Blume**, daughter of **Charles Packer** and **Minnie Esther (Huxford) Ballentine**. Third from the right is her aunt, **Dorothy Ellen (Huxford) Bobbitt**, daughter of **Joseph and Ida Diggs (Wilder) Huxford**. Also pictured on the far right is **Victoria Edens**, fourth from the right is **Mae Hyrne**, and third from the left is **Bertha Brenner**. Can you identify any of the others?

## *Ballentine Branches*

Family Newsletter For Ballentine, Huxford  
& Connected Families

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