

OUR FAMILY STORY

Fall 2005

Hello everyone;

Welcome to the **thirteenth** issue of our family newsletter. To reiterate from my previous correspondence, as the descendants of **Jerre' Moreland** and **Pearl Scruggs** we all share a common heritage.

A NEW FAMILY MYSTERY DISCOVERED!!!

As you are well aware Tom Peiffer and I have spent many years researching our Scruggs family surname. Up until now we felt fortunate that our Scruggs line had been so well documented by family and other researchers. We were and still are confident that the great majority of our information is sound and well verified. But a great mystery has surfaced since the last newsletter was written. Recently a close cousin of ours, Patrick Scruggs, submitted his DNA as part of the ongoing research conducted through the Scruggs Family Association. The purpose is to find out if people with this surname share a common ancestor, as well as identifying the different lines and possible points of origin for them.

When the results of our cousin's test were compared with the results of the other 12 testers of various lines we were shocked to discover that our DNA results bear absolutely **no kinship** to any of them. The analysis from the latest Spring 2005 edition of *Searching For Scruggs* Quarterly magazine produced by the SFA reads as follows, "...**Samuel S./Jane Childress Scruggs could be a totally new and different Scruggs branch, but more likely is what is called as a non paternity event. This is one of the risks run when Y DNA testing is used. Somewhere in this line a legal adoption, unannounced adoption, infidelity, or illegitimacy occurred. Some male in this line did not have a Scruggs as his biological father.**" And of course the excitement doesn't end here either.

Shortly following this news we were very pleased to discover from FamilyTree DNA that our cousin's DNA test results matched up perfectly with a John PARKER, born about 1525 in Essex England, died about 1581 in Essex England and a Samuel Parker, born Feb. 8, 1817, in Lubec, Maine, died Feb. 2, 1899 at Oak Hill, St. Stephen, NB, Canada. Currently, the two sets of results are a perfect 25 for 25 marker match with our cousin. What this means is that there is an 80-90% probability that the most recent common ancestor (MRCA) for these three individuals occurred 7-10 generations ago. Seven generations back from our tested cousin Patrick would put this event at approximately the grandparents of Samuel Scott Scruggs. And there is also a possibility that these other two DNA tests might be upgraded to a 37-marker test that would further refine these numbers. A perfect 37 for 37-marker test result would then give us a 90-95% probability that the MRCA event was 5 to 7 generations ago. This means the **parents thru great grandparents** of Samuel Scott Scruggs.

The questions at this juncture are: (1) Who is this Parker ancestor?; and (2) When exactly did this event occur? There are several different possible theories that might help us to focus our research in a way that will produce the best results. There may be other ideas that we have not thought of and we welcome any and all new ideas. The one fact

that must remain foremost in our minds with any theory is that with Y chromosome DNA there *must have been a Parker father in the line*.

We will have more on this topic in the next newsletter. If you would like to find out more about this “family mystery” contact: Tom Peiffer at retiree@rogers.com.

NEWS ON OUR FAMILY TREE AT ROOTSWEB

You are reminded you that the entire family can access our family tree on the internet. An updated version was recently uploaded to the World Connect site at Rootsweb.com. The database now has **1,929** names, which include, not only ancestral grandparents, but also aunts, uncles, and cousins. To access the database just click on the following link.



[Ancestors Of June Eleanor
MORELAND](http://worldconnect.rootsweb.com/)

You may also access our family tree by going to <http://worldconnect.rootsweb.com/>. On that page you will see on the left column a box entitled “jump to a specific tree”. Type in *jemoreland* and click on “go”, or just search for any name in the database and you will be taken to that record.

UPDATE ON PEIFFER-MORELAND-SILER WEBSITE

During the past three months Tom Peiffer and I have made some added more information to the “Moreland Family” part of our multi-family website”. We’ve updated much of the earlier information and have developed a new format that we hope will be easier to read. The Moreland portion of the site now has information about the following family surnames: *Pinnell*; *Rhodes*; and *Scruggs*.

We urge you to take some time to visit our website. You will especially enjoy reading the narratives written to describe the events in the lives of our grandparents, as well as a look at some of the places in which they lived. Space has been provided on the site for you to see photographs of our ancestors. You may also be interested in viewing images of original documents such as Civil War military records, Revolutionary War Pension applications, deeds, as well as birth and marriage certificates. In some cases documents have been written and/or signed in the hand of our fore fathers.

You are encouraged to take advantage of this family resource. Your kids can use it for a school assignment, or you may want to read some it just for pleasure and general information. Tom and I will be updating the site on a regular basis. As such you may expect it to become larger and more informative as time goes on. Therefore you should attempt to visit it frequently. We both would appreciate an email from you just to let us know that you’ve found your way to our online website.

Directions for Accessing the Website:

Go to Rootsweb.com at <http://www.rootsweb.com/>. In the center column you will see “WEBSITES” click on [Websites on RootsWeb's Freepages](#). Select the letter “P” click on it and scroll down the page to the website entitled:

[PEIFFER - MORELAND - SILAR FAMILY ARCHIVES](#) by tqpeiffer

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

A QUOTE TO NOTE

The happiness of a man in this life does not consist in the absence
but in the mastery of his passions."

--Alfred Lord Tennyson

Always open for suggestions as to what you might want to look for in future issues of
"Our Family Story". Best Wishes to all!!

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