

## OUR FAMILY STORY

### Winter 2006

*Hello everyone;*

Welcome to the **fourteenth** issue of our family newsletter. As the descendants of **Jerre' Moreland** and **Pearl Scruggs** we all share a common heritage. It is my desire to pass along to you and your families some of the chronicles that I am collecting on our ancestors. I hope that you will share it with your children so that they can also understand how firmly rooted we are into the history of our country.

### WELCOME GEN-COUSINS

Sometimes good ideas are slow in coming. Just recently it dawned on me that it would be a good idea to share my quarterly newsletter with all of you who have taken the time to assist me with my research of my maternal family line. During the past year my brother Tom Peiffer and I have begun posting our databases online, and have also initiated a website online. Since we update both sites quarterly to coincide with the publishing of this newsletter I thought it would be OK to remind my Gen-Cousins to take a look at what is new with our family history research. If you do check the websites out you may find some new information that will enhance your own research or you may find some errors in ours that we need to know of!!

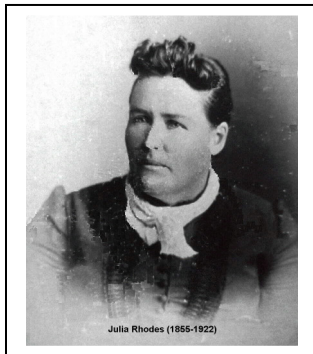
### ANCESTOR PROFILE

#### Julia Rhodes

Julia Rhodes was just two years old when she and her family left Texas and crossed the great plains toward California. Julia, her parents, and four siblings were members of a party that narrowly missed being massacred by Mormons and Indians near Mountain Meadows in Utah.

In 1857 Julia and her family settled at San Bernardino, where they lived for about two years. Around 1860 they all moved on to Tulare County locating near the present site of Farmersville.

In 1872 17-year-old Julia Rhodes married Thomas Turner. Turner only lived a short



time. She had one child by him, Sarah Belle, born in 1873. Julia married Albea Edgar Scruggs in 1875. Around this time she and her husband moved to the homestead 6.5 miles west of Porterville. Julia and Albea had 9 children, (7 males and 2 females). Her boys Samuel Roy and Daniel Ray were twins. Soon after Albea's death in 1906 Julia moved to 504 Mill Street in Porterville, California. Later, Julia broke her hip and was in a wheel chair for the rest of her life. At the end, she suffered a paralytic stroke. Julia passed away in her home in 1922. She was 67 years old at the time. Julia Rhodes Scruggs was laid to rest next to her husband Albea in the Porterville Cemetery (Plot D-199-5) on 11 October 1922.

## UPDATE ON THE SAMUEL S. SCRUGGS DNA PROJECT

Recently, another of our close cousins performed a DNA test in conjunction with the ongoing DNA testing with the Scruggs Family Association. The results of this recent test are back and they match perfectly with the first test performed. This means that the non-paternity event likely occurred *before* Albea Scruggs. Currently there is one other DNA test being performed on a male descendent of Samuel Scott Scruggs Jr. brother to our Joseph C. Scruggs and sons of Samuel Scott Scruggs Sr. The results of this current test are extremely important assuming it matches the first two tests because it will tell us if this non paternity event occurred *before* their father Samuel Scott Scruggs Sr. At the moment though we can only speculate on what little circumstantial evidence we have. With all of the research attempted on not only the Scruggs surname as a whole but within this family specifically, there has been absolutely no gain made to who the parents were of Samuel Scott Scruggs Sr. Neither do we know whom his paternal grandfather was. We do believe that his paternal grandmother was a Susannah Carter b. abt. 1720 in Henrico County, Virginia. She named Samuel Scott Scruggs Sr. as her executor and sole heir in her will. It is in this “black hole” that we believe lays the non-paternity event. Also, we still match a John PARKER, b Abt 1525 Essex England, d Abt 1581 Essex England and a Samuel Parker, b. Feb, 8, 1817, Lubec, ME, d. Feb. 2, 1899, Oak Hill, St. Stephen, NB, Canada. With the results of this second test we can assume that the non paternity event *did not* occur with the Albea Scruggs family line in California as was one of several possible locations of a Scruggs – Parker union. Assuming the third test is a match with the first two then we can assume a Scruggs – Parker union specifically in this “black hole” time frame.

## NEWS ON OUR FAMILY TREE AT ROOTSWEB

An updated version of our database was recently uploaded to the World Connect site at Rootsweb.com. We now have information on **1,935** persons, which include, ancestral grandparents, but also aunts, uncles, and cousins. To access the database just click on the following link:



**[Our Maternal Ancestors: McVicker; Moreland; Pinnell; Scruggs and allied families](#)**

You may also access the database 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.

## WHAT’S NEW AT THE WEBSITE??

### **Our Maternal and Paternal Ancestors: 300 Years of History in America**

A new name for our website is among the many developments during the past three months. In addition, the Website has a new homepage and several other pages have been revised and up-loaded. Tom Peiffer and I have also added more information to the “McVicker; Moreland; Pinnell; Scruggs and allied families “ sub-site. New family location pages have been constructed for the states of South Carolina and Tennessee, as well as the counties of Anderson, SC, and McMinn, TN. A new surname page about our

Douglass family has also been added. The most important new addition is the **MATERNAL FAMILY IMAGE ARCHIVES**, which contains 64 images of persons or places with the family surnames of *Bishop, Dickson, Douglass, McVicker, Moreland, Pinnell, Rhodes, and Scruggs*.

You are encouraged to take advantage of this family resource. We will be updating the site on a regular basis. 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 "O" click on it and scroll down the page to the website entitled:

[\*\*Our Maternal and Paternal Ancestors: 300 Years of History in America\*\*](#)

**DID YOU KNOW?? !!!**

That our direct ancestors i.e. grandparents have lived in at least 20 of the 50 states. This figure is based upon locations where they were either born married or died.

**A QUOTE TO NOTE**

A great flame follows a little spark."

--Dante Alighieri, 1265-1321

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

If you do not wish for me to send you this Newsletter please let me know.

Best Wishes for a Happy New Year to all!!

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