



McVicker, Moreland, Pinnell, Scruggs; and allied families



A Family History Newsletter

Genealogy is Hereditary



My ancestors did WHAT?

Genealogy is Hereditary



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WELCOME

Hello Everyone;

Welcome to the **Fall 2010** issue of the *McVicker, Moreland, Pinnell, Scruggs* (MMPS) family newsletter. We've included you on my mailing list because you are someone who shares a common interest of searching for information on the surnames associated with our maternal family line. We hope that some of the topics addressed within this newsletter will assist you with your genealogical endeavors.

This issue's **Feature Article** is about the story behind assertions in the Scruggs Family History that Samuel M. Scruggs had received war medals for honor and bravery while serving as a Cavalry man in the Confederate Army.

News of Interest to the Family Historian contains an article about family activities for October which is Family History Month. We've also included an article about "TinyURL" a worthwhile addition to your genealogy tool-kit.

A quarterly accounting of the **MMPS Database** at the *RootsWeb World Connect Project* indicates the addition of two new direct ancestral family lines, as well as 21 new individual records.

Take time to look at the new and revised web pages and image galleries recently uploaded to the **Maternal and Paternal Ancestors Website** at *RootsWeb's Freepages*. Included here are pages containing worthwhile information about individual surnames, and ancestral locations, as well as special topics such as military units, our genealogy reference book library, and historic American roads.

You are reminded to check out the **Research Connections** to see if anyone else is researching your family or a similar surname.

The **Vanderford** surname is featured in the **Surname Search** section. "Surname Search" displays matches of a surname in our database to the huge resources found at RootsWeb.com.

As always we will attempt to keep the newsletter brief but informative and hope you will enjoy reading it. If you do not want to remain on our mailing list please let us know and we will stop sending to you. To read our previous newsletters, see the link in the **Contact Information** section of this issue.

Fred & Tom

A QUOTE TO NOTE

To forget one's ancestors is to be a brook without a source, a tree without a root.

FEATURE ARTICLE

Samuel M. Scruggs' Civil War Medal: the story of a Family Heirloom

It all started with the following statement attributed to Samuel Monroe Scruggs' involvement in the War Between the States, "Samuel M. was wounded in his left arm and was thereby disabled for further service. He received medals for honor and bravery now in possession of John Eldridge Scruggs".

This information was originally derived by us from a manuscript entitled "History of the Scruggs Family" that was most likely written circa 1971 by Jewel Margaret Coulson a Grand Niece of Samuel Monroe Scruggs. This document has been copied and passed around our immediate family for the past 35 years by our mother June Eleanor Moreland and her brother Floyd Eldridge Moreland. Up until our recent research, this was our primary, if not only, source of information about our Scruggs lineage.

We've always wondered about whether Samuel's war medals, a worthy family heirloom to be sure, had survived the passage of time. Because the aforementioned history stated that the medal was in the possession John Eldridge Scruggs we tended to believe that this historical item had been indeed lost to time. As John Eldridge is our great-grandfather our initial supposition was that it would have been passed down through his children. Being direct descendents of this Scruggs line we certainly felt that we would have had some knowledge if it's whereabouts if our grandmother Pearl Scruggs, Uncle Harry Scruggs, or Aunt Doris Scruggs had taken possession of it.

During these past 10 years we've been able to uncover much new information regarding the experiences Samuel M. Scruggs and his six brothers as cavalry troopers during the War. Narratives of their stories were presented to our readers in the Spring 2010 issue of this newsletter. This article included an image of a Confederate war medal but we were not sure if indeed this was the type of medal awarded to our Uncle Sam. Subsequently we were contacted by our cousins Pat and Sue Scruggs with information that the precious family heirloom had survived and was now in the possession of their son Samuel Dixon Scruggs.

According to our cousin William Patrick "Pat" Scruggs, son of Samuel Roy Scruggs, he first saw the

medal sometime around 1958 when his father had shown it to him as part of a discussion about his family history. About a year later Samuel Roy gave it to Pat and his wife Sue to hold for their son Samuel Dixon Scruggs who was born in September, 1959. Around

1975 Pat placed the medal into a small frame and it hung on a wall in his home.

It was then passed on the Samuel Dixon when he purchased his own home several years later.



So where had the medal been during all these years? Pat Scruggs states that he can't recall Samuel Roy telling him how he had come into possession of the medal, but he had always assumed that Samuel Monroe who had given it to his father, before he left California and returned to his home state of Virginia. We do know that Samuel M. and his wife Susan (Oaks) Scruggs moved west from Virginia to Tulare County, California around 1885. As Samuel and Susan never had any children they became quite close to their nieces and nephews, the children of Samuel's brother, and our ggreat-grandfather, Albea Scruggs. In 1911 Samuel M. and Susan returned to their native Virginia. Samuel Monroe Scruggs passed away in 1913 at the age of 77 years. We believe that Susan Scruggs made her first visit back to California in 1915, probably to attend the wedding of her niece Fay Scruggs. As Susan had no children of her own she would most likely pass the medal on to one of Albea's children. The most likely candidate would have been Albea's eldest son William Joseph Scruggs who was about 39 years old at this time but William was still a bachelor without any off-spring of his own. Thus she chose the next eldest son the aforementioned John Eldridge Scruggs who then at age 37 had a family of four children. It is noted that Samuel Roy Scruggs would have been 24 years old at this time and would not become married for another eleven years. Thus if the family history account is accurate the medal probably came into the possession John Eldridge Scruggs in 1915 or thereafter and remained with him until his death in 1945 where upon it came into the possession of his younger brother Samuel Roy Scruggs.

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When Samuel Dixon Scruggs was 19 years of age he filled a mission for the LDS church in Washington, DC. On a free day he visited a museum that had a large display of Civil War medals, among them was the same medal that hung in a frame on the wall in his home. This encounter aroused the interest of his mother Sue to find more information about the origin of the medal and the Daughters of the Southern Confederacy. Research shows that during the Civil War there were not any Confederate medals awarded to soldiers for heroism, valor or acts above and beyond the call of duty. Although the Confederate government did authorize a "medal of honor" in 1862 none were made due to the shortage of metal. The medal awarded to Samuel M. Scruggs was provided by the Daughters of the Confederacy, and is referred to as the "Southern Cross of Honor." It is most probable that Susan Scruggs was a member of this organization, and that she would have been instrumental in acquiring one for her husband who from his war record would certainly have been eligible for this type of award. The idea of the idea of bestowing the Southern Cross of Honor on Confederate veterans was conceived by Mrs. Alexander S. (Mary Ann Lamar Cobb) Erwin of Athens, Ga., while attending a reunion of Confederate veterans in Atlanta in July 1898. Mrs. Erwin and Mrs. Sarah E. Gabbett of Atlanta are credited with the design of the medal. Mr. Charles W. Crankshaw of Atlanta was chosen to manufacture the Crosses, but the first order was not given until the UDC had secured a copyright on February 20, 1900. During the first 18 months of the Cross's availability, 12,500 were ordered and delivered. Only a Confederate veteran could wear the Southern Cross of Honor, and it could only be bestowed through the UDC. Money could not buy the Cross; they were bought by loyal, honorable service to the South and given in recognition of this devotion.

Samuel Dixon Scruggs provides us with the following description of the medal that was presented to his great-grand Uncle Samuel Monroe Scruggs, "The medal appears to be made of copper and is suspended from a bar etched or stamped with Samuel's name. One face of the medal is marked "Southern" "Cross"

"of" "Honor" (on the four sides, respectively, of what I



believe is generally referred to as a Maltese Cross), with laurels at the center, further marked "Deo Vindice". I believe this to mean "God will vindicate" or "God our vindicator". The other side of the medal is marked "United" "Daughters" "Confederacy" "To the U. C. V." on four sides of the cross, respectively, and has been etched or stamped on three of the sides with "Co. K" "2d VA" "CAV." The center is marked with the Stars and Bars flag, surrounded by laurels".

In conclusion we return to the original statement as written into the family history, "He received medals for honor and bravery now in possession of John Eldridge Scruggs." This statement seems to exemplify that in most family stories there is some truth, and some assumptions which may in the end distort what is real. We are now sure that a medal does exist but it is not one of several issued by the Confederate States of America as is inferred by the previous statement. We now know that Samuel Monroe Scruggs, veteran of the Army of Northern Virginia, did indeed receive it for his "loyal and honorable service" to the Confederacy. Although the provenance of our family heirloom is still not completely clear to us it is most likely that John Eldridge Scruggs was at one time the caretaker of the our Uncle Sam's war medal. And finally we can now be assured that the family heirloom rests in capable hands and as such will be continued to be handed down through the Scruggs family.

NEWS OF INTEREST TO THE FAMILY HISTORIAN

October is Family History Month

October is Family History Month, a time when we and our families should celebrate our family heritage. This means sharing information about our ancestors and commemorating their lives and accomplishments. Most of all, this should be a family affair, and with that in mind, I would like to suggest a project for you and your family for Family History Month.

Family photographs are excellent reminders of people, times, and events. Most of us, however, probably have loads of loose photographs in boxes or drawers that need to be labeled and organized. A great project for Family History Month involves getting your family together, sitting down with your photographs, and working together to organize them. Find a place where you can spread out your materials—make sure it accommodates the group. Examine photographs, and label them as appropriate. Passing around the photographs and sharing stories about the people, places, and events helps involve everyone in the project.

Discuss and agree upon an organizational scheme that allows you to sort the photographs and then place them in some order. This project may take several sittings, depending on the number of photographs you have. However, it can be an enjoyable experience for every member of the family, and it can also promote good preservation skills for everyone.



An event such as the photograph project is a great way for involving your family and celebrating Family History Month and it is as relevant now as they ever were. Family and family values are timeless, as every genealogist knows. With a little work, like this newsletter, we can start a groundswell, grass-roots effort to celebrate family and all that is right with it. I hope you will join "the family."

Best FREE Web-sites for USA Researchers

Overwhelmed by the number of family history-related Web sites popping up? The folks at FamilyTreeMagazine <<http://tinyurl.com/re5ryu>> have taken the time to sort through them to bring us the best. As a result they have recently identified the following worthwhile websites:

Maine State Archives <<http://tinyurl.com/2bxlc6a>>

A new interactive feature lets you search online databases such as the marriage index (1892 to 1967 and 1976 to 1996), then order copies of the records you find. Don't miss the primer on Maine genealogy or the link to the Maine Memory Network www.mainememory.net, which holds more than 12,000 pieces of history from 180-plus museum and other archives.

Bureau of Land Management General Land Office Records <<http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov/>>. This is the place to start exploring land records, including more than 3 million federal land title records for Eastern public-land states (1820 to 1908) and images of serial patents issued from 1908 to the mid-1960s. Images of field notes and survey plats, dating to 1810, are being added on a state-by-state basis. Searching is fast and powerful, and you'll find plenty of help for understanding the records you locate.

Florida Memory Project Indexes link to digitized originals Spanish land grants, Confederate pension applications and WWI service cards. The Florida Photographic Collection at <http://tinyurl.com/27nnwep> shows off the state's past in 143,000 online images.

New Land and Revolutionary War Records at Ancestry.com

U.S. County Land Ownership Maps, 1860–1918



Find your ancestor in this collection of maps and you'll get a good look at the old homestead, or even the city block. Maps include drawn outlines of individual plats, each with the property owner's name. The latest improvements

make all 6.9 million names fully indexed and searchable at, <http://tinyurl.com/28vz9vp>.

Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files, 1800–1900

Includes an estimated 80,000 application files from officers and enlisted men who served in the Revolutionary War in all branches of the American military. Applications cover pensions and land claims offered as an enticement to serve during the Revolutionary War.

“TinyURL” a Worthwhile Addition to Your Genealogy Tool-Kit

Are you sick of posting URLs in emails only to have it break when sent causing the recipient to have to cut and paste it back together? Then you've come to the right place. By entering in a URL in the text field below, we will create a tiny URL that *will not break in email postings and never expires*.

Here is an example

Turn this URL:

http://www.amazon.com/Kindle-Wireless-Reading-Display-Globally/dp/B003FSUDM4/ref=amb_link_353259562_2?pf_rd_m=ATVPDKIK_X0DER&pf_rd_s=center-10&pf_rd_r=11EYKTN682A79T370AM3&pf_rd_t=201&pf_rd_p=1270985982&pf_rd_i=B002Y27P3M

into this TinyURL: <http://tinyurl.com/KindleWireless>

Which one would you rather cut and paste into your browser? That's the power of TinyURL!

Enter a long URL to make tiny:

Make TinyURL!

Custom alias (optional):

<http://tinyurl.com/>

May contain letters, numbers, and dashes.

FROM THE EDITOR: We have been using TinyURL for many years for the creation of this newsletter. If you quickly browse through this issue you can readily see where we've taken advantage of this worthwhile publishing tool. And most importantly it is FREE.

If you have any ideas, and or information you might have regarding ways to enhance our researching experiences. Send them to me at silrem@comcast.net.



Database Updates



Coble, Dillowe, Goffe, Greenland, Rapalje, Raynsford, Shute, Sprague, Stahlin, and Vergoose direct ancestral surnames added to the database.

Our Moreland-Scruggs Family Line database at *Ancestry.Com* currently contains the records of **3,149** persons. The database can be viewed by all Ancestry subscribers. This tree will change every three months as we edit, remove, or otherwise modify the data therein.

An updated version of our MMPS Database was recently uploaded to the, open to all, World Connect site at RootsWeb.com. **21** new records have been added over the past three months. We now have information on **3,017** persons. Since we update the database quarterly to coincide with the publishing of this newsletter our readers are all reminded to take a look at what is new with our family history research. If you do

check out the website 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.

The Database at Roots.web free for all to use. It is located at: <http://tinyurl.com/4z3ky6>. You may also access our family tree by going to: <http://worldconnect.rootsweb.com/>.

The Database at Ancestry.com can only be accessed by subscribers. It is located at the Home Page <http://www.ancestry.com/> in the “Search” pull-down button under “Public Member Trees”.

Please know that we would always welcome any new information that you may have on our common ancestors.

WHAT'S NEW AT THE WEBSITE??

Our Maternal and Paternal Ancestors: 350 Years of History in America

Four New State Pages added to Our Library

Since we usually update our website several times between the publishing of this newsletter you are reminded and encouraged to periodically review what is new with regard to the family information and genealogical resources contained at, [Our Maternal & Paternal Ancestors 350 Years of History in America: An Archive of Genealogical Information](http://tinyurl.com/3lbrly). To access the site's Home Page use the following link: <http://tinyurl.com/3lbrly>.

Over the past three months **eight** new or revised surname pages, and **twenty-four** source documents and images have been uploaded to the **MMPS Subsite**. The surname pages now include two new research topics. The first is "Migrations of An American Family" which includes a narrative and corresponding map of that family's migration in the United States. The other new topic area contains maps and information about where the surname is distributed in the United States as well as the European country of origin for that family.

At our **Ancestral Locations** sub-site **ten** new or revised web pages have been created and added. Pages for all of our ancestral states have now been completed as well as all counties with the exception of a few in Virginia which we hope will be finished by the end of this year.

The scope and volume of the various sub-sites created for our **Special Topics** continued to increase since the last issue of this newsletter. We have continued to upgrade and increase the number of volumes within our [Genealogy Reference Library](#). During this quarter we've added separate pages for our ever growing collections of books for Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, and South Carolina. Most of these books are fully searchable and can be downloaded to your computer. In addition text may

be cut & pasted directly to your family tree software or other document. Readers who have an interest in [Historic American Roads And Migration Routes](#) should take a look at the new updated page that addresses routes taken by pioneers to settle in the Northeastern U.S. states such as New York and Pennsylvania. We also posted some new images and maps that pertain to the Bay Path, Boston Post Road, and Great Genesee Road. The following new and revised military information can be accessed through our newly revised [War Veterans](#) sub-site home page. If you have ancestors who served in the York County Militia during the American Revolution be sure to take a look the Muster Rolls for the First, Second, Third Battalions. This is an ongoing project where our goal is to transcribe, from the Pennsylvania Archives, the Muster Rolls for all eight of the York County Militia Battalions. Also we've found an online digital copy of the "History of the 110th Infantry Regiment". Anyone interested in this topic will find all of the information they will ever need about this military unit through the link provided at the webpage. We've revised our [Research Tools](#) webpage by creating links to the many forms, worksheets and letter formats offer for use at the "Family Search" website. We are especially pleased about the complete overhaul of our "Source and Citation Formats" webpage. We believe that it will be beneficial to our readers who truly believe in citing their sources.

As with the database you may find some new information that will enhance your own research or you may want to advise us of some new information that we can include at the site. Either way we would appreciate an email from you just to let me know that you've found your way to our online website.

NEW AND REVISED "MMPS" SURNAME PAGES

To these pages follow this link <<http://tinyurl.com/56odpr>>.

MMPS SURNAME INDEX: Christman; McVicker; Parker 1; Parker 2; Robertson; Royston; Wright; Yarborough

MMPS SOURCE DOCUMENTS: McVicker; Parker; Pinnell; Robertson; Wright; Yarborough
Bennett Gen-sites Guilford Co., NC; Christman Gen-sites Guilford Co., NC;

PICTURE GALLERY ARCHIVES: Bennett Gen-sites Guilford Co., NC; Christman Gen-sites Guilford Co., NC;
SPECIALTY PAGES:

NEW & REVISED "ANCESTRAL LOCATION" PAGES

To access these pages follow this link <<http://tinyurl.com/5rcafv>>.

UNITED STATES: States – Maryland; Counties – Chester Co., PA **NEW**; Greenville Co., SC **NEW**; Highland Co., OH **NEW**; Kent Co., DE **NEW**; Lancaster Co., PA; New York Co., NY **NEW**; Northampton Co., PA **NEW**; Talbot Co., MD **NEW**; Union Co., SC **NEW**

GERMANY:

UNITED KINGDOM:

NEW & REVISED "ANCESTRAL LOCATIONS" PHOTO & IMAGE ARCHIVES

To access these pages follow this link <<http://tinyurl.com/nczbsj>>.

UNITED STATES: Chester Co., PA; Greenville Co., SC; Guilford Co., NC; Highland Co., OH; Jackson Co., AL; Kent Co., DE; Lancaster Co., PA; New York Co., NY; Northampton Co., PA; Queen Anne's Co., MD; Sedgewick Co., KS; Talbot Co., MD; Union Co., SC; Cemeteries, Johnson Twp., Maries Co., MO

GERMANY:

UNITED KINGDOM:

"SPECIAL TOPICS" NEW & REVISED PAGES

To access these pages follow this link <<http://tinyurl.com/3lbrly>>.

GENEALOGY RESEARCH LIBRARY: General Reference Collection; United Kingdom Reference; United Kingdom Locations; France Reference; Germany Reference; USA Reference; USA Locations; Maryland **NEW**; Massachusetts **NEW**; New Jersey; New York **NEW**; Pennsylvania; South Carolina **NEW**; Virginia

HISTORIC AMERICAN ROADS AND MIGRATION ROUTES: Northeastern Migration Routes; Mohawk Turnpike

RESEARCHING OUR WAR VETERANS: 6th Special NCB (WWII); 110th Infantry Regt. (WWI); War Veterans Research

OTHER: Research Tools; Source and Citation Formats **NEW**; Immigrant Ancestors Research

"SPECIAL TOPICS" NEW & REVISED PHOTO & IMAGE ARCHIVES

To access these pages follow this link <<http://tinyurl.com/3lbrly>>.

HISTORIC AMERICAN ROADS AND MIGRATION ROUTES: Bay Path **NEW**; Boston Post Road **NEW**; Great Genesee Road;

MILITARY Image Galleries: Pennsylvania Militia of York County (Rev. War), First, Second, Third Battalion Muster Records **NEW**; 6th Special NCB (WWII)

OTHER:

RESEARCH CONNECTIONS

Since the first issue of this newsletter was created its distribution list has grown significantly. Along the way we have interacted with many genealogists that have expressed an interest in one or more of the family lines contained within our MMPS database located at Roots Web. Because networking is a key to the success of any family historian we feel that it is important for this newsletter to help in making that connection. Below is a listing of several subscribers and the common family lines they are researching.

Who	Researching Surname(s)	Who	Researching Surname(s)
Debbie Johnson angellady862@hotmail.com	Warnock, Dowdle	Savannah Jordon lakegirltyler@yahoo.com	Moreland, Jones of Missouri and Oklahoma

Vanelle Mangers grandmagers@gvtc.com	Bishop, Hardy	Sherry Veith NONAMELDY52@aol.com	Bennett
Susan Norton nortoncrew@cablone.net	McVicker	Randy H. Schmidt peshewa@comcast.net	Thomas Holeman (1675-1723) m. Mary Moreland
Mary Flegel maryflegel@cablone.net	Johnson	Jody Logan dlogan1@wi.rr.com	Richard William Ross b. 1823, m. Susan Lease.
Luann Seamons lubose@plmw.com	Green, Bracken of New Castle County, Delaware	Jerry Deatherage jerryditdotdeatherage@yahoo.com	James A. Deatherage born c. 1825 in Tennessee
Gay Edens Carrigan gaedcar@xipline.com	Peter Eades, born ca 1773-79, Albemarle Co., VA, m. Sarah Henderson Sandridge, 1803	Kasey Hart angelkcp23@angelic.com	Peachee family of Burlington, Co., & Salem Co., NJ

If you would like to be included on this list or if should any of the above named persons would like their information deleted or revised contact Fred at silrem@comcast.net.

SURNAME SEARCH

“Surname Search” features matches of a direct ancestral surname from our database to records that can be found at RootsWeb.com that may be useful and hopefully rekindle your own research into this family as well as other topics at RootsWeb. To view what information we have uncovered on this family surname follow the links to our Website at <http://tinyurl.com/3lbrly>. and Database at <http://tinyurl.com/4z3ky6>.

Search RootsWeb.com

First Name

Vanderford
Last Name

By Keyword

To access the databases listed below
Follow this address:

<http://searches.rootsweb.ancestry.com/>.

At the Rootsweb Home Page type this or any other surname into the “Last Name” box and click “Search”.

Vanderford Surname

Featured Databases	Matches	Vital Records	Matches
WorldConnect	11,014	Kentucky Death Index	4
Social Security Death Index	788	Kentucky Marriage Index Husband	2
Vital Records	Matches	Kentucky Marriage Index Wife	1
California Death Index	98	Other Searches	Matches
Texas Death Index	63	Web Site Search	1,027

CONTACT INFORMATION

“McVicker, Moreland, Pinnell, Scruggs and allied families” is a family-history newsletter published quarterly by Frederick G. Siler, 889 Dante Court, Mantua, New Jersey 08051. It is available both in print and online. Print copies may be obtained through written correspondence that includes an SASE. The online version is sent as an attachment via email. Issues are also posted in our Newsletters Archive at <http://tinyurl.com/4eld8o>. Submissions of articles, photos, documents, etc., are strongly encouraged. Please email to silrem@comcast.net.



Someday you'll be an Ancestor too!

