



Buried Treasures
Central Florida Genealogical Society, Inc.
P. O. Box 536309, Orlando, FL 32853-6309
Web Site: <http://www.cfgs.org>
Editor: Betty Jo Stockton (407) 876-1688 Email: bjstock@cfl.rr.com

The Central Florida Genealogical Society, Inc. meets monthly, September through May.
 Meetings are held at the **MARKS STREET SENIOR CENTER** on the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m.
 Marks Street Senior Center is located at 99 E. Marks St,
 which is between Orange Ave. and Magnolia, 4 blocks north of East Colonial (Hwy 50).
 The Daytime Group meets year-round at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday afternoons bi-monthly (odd numbered months.)
 The Board meets year-round on the **fourth Tuesday** of each month at 6:30 p.m.
 at the **ORLANDO PUBLIC LIBRARY**.
 All are welcome to attend.

Table of contents

President's Message.	50
Thoughts from your editor.	50
I Never Knew....	51
A Week At Samford - June, 2007.. . . .	52
The Settlers of The Lake Howell Community.	53
A Summer of Research.. . . .	55
Where Was the First Thanksgiving?.	57
Passengers on the Mayflower September 6-November 9, 1620.. . . .	58
Mayors of Orlando - Major Mathew R. Marks.	61
The Thrill of the Chase - Searching for Mathew Marks.. . . .	62
Tears to Shed: Vosgan Aaron AVAKIAN.. . . .	64
State Census - 1885 Orange County, Florida.. . . .	68
Index.	70

Contributors to this issue

Pat Allen
 Jane Austin
 Rollin Clayton
 George Eastman

Paul Enchelmayer
 Marcelle Hobbs
 Sharon Lynch
 Betty Jo Stockton

President's Message

"Ve grow too soon oldt und too late schmart". Many of us with German-born grandmothers have heard or seen this old expression somewhere in her home when we were kids. Mine had it on a little plaque in the kitchen. I always thought it was cute because that was the accent she spoke with. I later learned what it actually meant, that sometimes we realize, usually too late, that we wish we had done something differently.

In my genealogy pursuits, I berate myself for not having asked a grandfather this or my aunt that; or if only I had taken pictures of a certain place, or searched for the old notebooks of my great-uncle, the inventor, before it was too late. But maturity has also taught me that dwelling on regrets is not very productive. We have to work with what we have, and search for possible new clues and proofs to aid our research.

While searching for family history information, and trying to organize it so someone can follow my work when I'm long gone, I have to remember to include stories about myself, my family, my kids and grandkids. My family history, the family I created through marriage and having children, is as important to a future researcher as that which I seek about my ancestors. This moment is not only an opportunity to get the story told, but as a genealogist, it is a responsibility and a duty. I am convinced that if more of my ancestors had been interested in genealogy my work would be a lot easier, and the family story a lot richer.

I joined our genealogical society when I was in my forties; I'm now in my sixties and feel I have only scratched the surface of my genealogy project ("too soon oldt"). Yes, I've collected data and items about relatives and ancestors and am happy to show off what I have done thus far to anyone who's interested. However, I have not included enough about my own generation.

I know I need to get more of my own recollections down on paper, but there are only a couple relatives still alive of my parents' generation, and debilitating illness has begun among some contemporary family members and cousins. If I ignore them in my chase after ancestors, I might be missing a critical opportunity to get my own family's story from their perspectives. So, if I am sure to include living relatives in my genealogy work I may avoid being "too late schmart."

Paul

Thoughts from your editor

This issue of *Buried Treasures* may confuse you, since it is dated June-August, but has Thanksgiving items in it. Those of you who receive the CFGS sister publication, *Treasure Chest News*, are aware that the Stockton household became a medical facility in mid-July when my husband Glenn had a stroke while training for a marathon. A few weeks later, my 94-year-old Mom developed blood clots in her lungs and, while recovering from that, fell and shattered her elbow. So between the two of them, we've had six hospitalizations since July. I'm glad to say that everyone is recovering now and I'm finding time to get back to some of my own endeavors.

So, part of this issue (that which was completed before July 15) is geared toward the theme of "what I did this summer", while some is Thanksgiving and autumn-related.

Marcelle's story of her grandfather's journey from Armenia to the US made me wonder "could I have done that?". Jane's recounting of her classes at Stamford has me looking up class offerings and considering whether that might be in my future. Ron's "summer of research" has me very envious. He says his relatives fall out of the woodwork – I think mine must be embedded inside stone.

The troubles at my house this summer have made me realize just how much I have still undone – pictures to be labeled, files to be organized, stories to be recorded and books to be written. At the same time, I realize just how fortunate I am to have another chance to record some of those wonderful stories that Mom tells and that Glenn is well enough to be living an almost normal life (he still has aphasia, so we have a ways to go yet.)

So, I'll cover all the bases by wishing you each a rewarding summer, a bountiful Thanksgiving and best wishes for the holidays and New Year.

Betty Jo

I Never Knew...

By Patricia Patterson Allen

I never knew that there was a glass factory, let alone three (3) or more glass factories, in my family until I became an “amateur” genealogist. My research led me to Steubenville and Tiffin Ohio, as well as Columbus, in documenting my descent to become a member of the First Families of Jefferson County, Ohio.



I learned that my great grandfather, Alexander J. BEATTY, bought a plant in 1852 and stepped up glass production until 160 glass workers were employed producing 36,000 tumblers a day, according to Doyle's “History of Steubenville and Jefferson County” published in 1910.

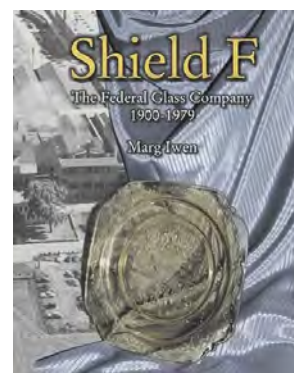
During and after the Civil War, the Beatty Glass Works led all others in the United States in glass tumbler production. It was said that Beatty “tumbled” the tables of the world. It became possible for Americans of modest means to buy glassware which had formerly been hand-crafted and quite expensive. At Alexander's tragic death as the result of a train accident in 1875, his sons, Robert J., 23; George, 21; and daughter Mary Gill BEATTY, 19, my grandmother, were plunged into full-time glass-making.

Many years later, Mary described in detail how the untimely death of her father affected the family.

“A heavy burden fell upon my brothers who were very young and boyish in appearance. Due to the business depression that had affected the glassworks, it was decided that Robert should go on a business trip at the earliest opportunity. In that case, someone should be in the office with brother George. Since they wished no outsider to know the state of their affairs, I suggested that they allow me to take that place. For 18 months, I was there constantly and during a large part of that time, Robert was on the road. We went to the factory very early in the morning, stopping for mail on our way. After building a fire in the stove and thawing out our fingers in the cold weather, George would go out to the factory and I would open mail, laying the letters upon his desk ready for him and copying all the orders myself into the order book. After that, I made out the invoices for what was shipped the previous day. Also, I made out the payroll, my brothers impressing upon me the necessity of accuracy in the slightest detail. After my brothers read over the letters and invoices, I copied them all in the old-fashioned way in a letter press, and placed them in envelopes, and addressed them. After this, if there was time left, I would go into the sample room, wash, rub, tag and mark samples. I remember very clearly the puzzled and incredulous look on the faces of elderly businessmen from large cities when they were assured that this boyish, beardless young man of 21 (George) was the sole proprietor of the establishment in the absence of older brother, age 23 (Robert). No one but the three of us ever knew to what financial extremes we were reduced at the time. But years after, when we were together, we sometimes talked it over in subdued tones. Robert confided many things to me, and I know he felt perfect confidence in the trust imposed in me.”

My research took me to old factory sites in Washington, Pennsylvania; Steubenville and Tiffin, Ohio and I still plan to visit the home of their Federal Glass factory in Columbus, Ohio. A friend has recently written a book: **Shield F—The Federal Glass Company 1900-1979**, which tells the story of the BEATTY family. I helped the author with glass patterns, letters and photographs and am glad to have this memento of that family line. I have been able to buy some of Beatty's 100 year old patterns on eBay and proudly show my family and friends what my great grandfather and his children made so many years ago.

Who knew?



A Week At Samford - June, 2007

by Jane AUSTIN

I signed up for a basic course at Samford University's Institute of Genealogy and Research (IGHR) at the encouragement of long-time friend (and former CFGS member), Jan Dean, who, by the way, now lives in Ft. Worth. I thought it would be a great opportunity for me to brush up on some basics, visit with a good friend, and not have to do any cooking for a week! The experience was everything I anticipated, and I hope to return next year and take another course.

Samford is in Birmingham, Alabama, and I arrived early Sunday afternoon, caught a shuttle directly to the campus for registration, then settled into my dormitory quarters. My friend and I shared a suite, with each of us having a private bedroom and bath with shared living room and kitchenette. The bedrooms are set up with two beds each, but we chose to each have a private room. Cost for tuition, room and board was about \$700 which I felt was an excellent value. Many students stay off-campus at near-by motels; Samford provides a free shuttle from the motels to the campus. The campus is very walkable, but a campus shuttle is also provided.

The week began Sunday afternoon and ended at noon on Friday; it was a packed week, with classes all day and electives every evening. The Special Collections Room, Samford's depository for genealogical research, was also available to us, day and evening, and I spent quite a few hours there as two of my family lines, the **CROOKS** and the **EDWARDS**, lived nearby in the 1800's. I was able to find some local sources that were quite interesting as well as surprising (a newspaper abstract told about a murder, which probably led one family to high-tail it to Texas!). The IGHR staff was available and attentive which was helpful in making our stay enjoyable. The cafeteria's food provided variety and was plentiful (especially the dessert table!).

The course I took, *Techniques and Technology*, was coordinated by Pam Porter, and she taught about half of the classes in the course, with other instructors coming in to teach their specialties. The instructors were all very experienced and well qualified, and for the most part, I greatly benefited from the various classes. Overall, the classes were interesting, helpful, and hand-outs were abundant, so I've been continuing to use the information and resource material I received at Samford.

Looking toward next year, Samford's 2008 schedule will include:

Basic Techniques and Technology
Intermediate Genealogy and Historical Studies
Research in the South, Part I
Advanced Methodology and Evidence Analysis
Advanced Library Research: Law Libraries &
Government Documents
Writing and Publishing for Genealogists

Virginia's Land and Military Conflicts and Their
Effect on Migration
Land Records: Case Studies
Advanced Military Research III: Mexican War,
Civil War
Irish Genealogical Research
Researching African-American Ancestors: Military
Records

These courses are listed at the Samford IGHR web-site (below). Registration usually opens in October or November, and many of the classes close out by March, as space is limited to about 30 students.

The web address is: <www.samford.edu/schools/ighr/courses/2008.html>

One of the really good things about Samford is that it has classes for all levels; I am definitely on the beginner end of the scale, but there were many intermediates, genealogical librarians, and professional genealogists there as well. Many participants go back year after year, getting re-acquainted with old friends and making new ones, so the atmosphere at Samford is friendly and open. If you have any specific questions about it, feel free to call me at 407-423-5741, or e-mail at <jaustin2005@yahoo.com>.

The Settlers of The Lake Howell Community

By Sherman Adams (abt 1901) - transcribed for CFGS by Sharon Lynch

The people of Orange county at this time (1866) were raising considerable quantities of cotton, but gins for the separation of the seed from the cotton were scarce. W. H. Holden and John R. Mizell, being largely engaged in raising this staple, determined for their own convenience, and that of their neighbors, to build a mill. The only available water power in this section was on Howell creek, near Lake Howell, in the center of section 28, township 21, R. 30. They therefore bought forty acres of land here of the government, the first land purchased in this section, and made a contract with Hugh G. Parton to build a cotton gin, saw and grist mill on the same, which he did, being a capable mechanic, and had charge of it for several years.

But why should the creek and lake bear the name Howell? Tradition says that in the early days a counterfeiter of that name had his habitation and manufactory of counterfeit money in these wilds, and thus his name was impressed upon the locality. Thus it is, every active man leaves his impress upon his surrounding or his field of labor, whatever his occupation.

In January, 1867, the Parton family moved from Lake Conway and built a log house on the southeast fourth of the southeast fourth of section twenty-nine, township twenty-one, range thirty, just west of the north and south line dividing it from section twenty-eight; the two story frame house which he build a few years after a little to the southeast, now owned and occupied by Josiah Denning, being in the southwest fourth of the southwest fourth of section twenty-eight. This location is about a half mile southwest of the ruins of the old mill.

The family now being permanently and satisfactorily located, they were joined by those left at Indian River and all went to work in earnest to secure a livelihood by the cultivation of the soil, raising cattle, hogs, etc. They also set out orange trees, adding to the number year by year. Each son and son-in-law selected his own location, choosing what they considered the choicest tracts and occupying them as "squatters" for several years, when there began to be trouble in various parts of the surrounding country from the entering of homesteads by the increasing numbers of new comers, some "squatters" losing their places. The Parton family had succeeded in their endeavors to secure a good livelihood, and made all secure by homesteading.

Hugh G. Parton, the father, homesteaded in the south part of sections 28 and 29; James B., his present place just to the east in sections 28 and 33; Henry S., the place two miles east in section 26, now occupied by A. T. Swinhoe and T.F.A. Tufts; Robert C., the place at Maitland owned by B. F. Swoope; Stephen C., the Lawrence place between Maitland and Winter Park; Hugh Gilmore, the place about four miles southeast, now occupied by Mrs. Mathers; John T. a place beside him, also owned by Mrs. Mathers, Isaac R. Hull, who married the younger sister, Temperance, located just to the southwest of her father's place in section 32, and John J. Redditt, the other son-in-law, two miles to the east, in section 35, some township and range. Thus they occupied the land, nine homesteads in all, and mostly within two miles of the parental headquarters. All have been industrious and self-supporting from the soil, and all have prospered and are prospering, and all continue residents of Orange county.

Hugh G. Parton lived until September 12, 1878; his wife still survives. Isaac R. Hull, the husband of Temperance Parton, died in 1876; with these two exceptions, all of the original family yet live and forty-four grandchildren. Two have died at Lake Howell and four in other parts of the county, out of the fifty grandchildren in all.

Facts like these certainly speak well for the healthfulness of Orange county. There is no physician within several miles, and if one were to locate here, he would have to depend upon his garden and his orange grove for his livelihood. It would be an excellent location for a well educated physician who desired but little practice.

In January, 1868, F. M. Canada, of Georgia, squatted a half mile to the east of the Elder Parton's place, but in 1870 sold his claim to James Tucker who sold to Chas. Newton who homesteaded, and who has greatly improved it and sold portions to Chas. Ellsworth, J. R. Curry, E. J. Cox , Jno. A. Ford, -- Goodwin and H. S. Kedney, all of whom have fine young groves.

In 1870 or 1, Hugh G., and his son James B. Parton, homesteaded their lands to prevent any possible contention, and the members of the family soon ____d likewise. In '71 Benj. ___ell entered a homestead a mile to the east; he has since sold and now B. J. Self, A Moreman, W. R. Taliaferro and John Ellsworth have homes and orange groves and reside on these lands. E. J. Cox also has a lovely five acre lake front which he will soon improve that was a portion of the same tract.

In '73 Richd. Pound and V. Lidler, both of Georgia, each located homesteads between one and two miles to the northeast, while Allen Lun, a Sweede, took a homestead to the west of H. G. Parton's, but not complying with the law, sold his relinquishment to Mr. Walker of Conn. He did no better, and sold to Burt R. Clark, of Osceola, who in due time commuted for the same. Geo. Stackhouse, of Mississippi, also entered a homestead to the southwest which was contested and won by T. J. Adams, of Ills., about '76 or '77.

A State "forty," half a mile to the west, had been purchased about '72 by Isaac R. Hull and now occupied by Jno. S. Parton.

Chas. H. Simmons, of Boston, Mass, in '75, located a homestead about a mile to the north, in the northwest part of section twenty-eight, and has made fine groves. This completed the homestead entries in this section until the present, decade, when Mrs. E. T. Ellis, in April '83, located a homestead in the edge of the flat wood, about a mile to the southeast, and about the same time __ LeVesque, Kentucky, also secured one about two miles to the east of the Parton place.

Quite a number of other parties have secured wild lands in this vicinity, but these are all the homesteads of which I am informed, except that located about '75 by J. T. Beeks about two and a half miles to the east, in the southwest fourth of section 26; a portion of it is now owned and occupied by Daniel Hazen, of Vt.

The various homesteads have been considerably subdivided to suit purchasers, into five, ten and twenty acre lots. The prospects are that the subdivisions will continue, as this is a very healthful and attractive section of country, while five or ten acres is enough for the use of any family. It is, in fact, so favorably situated in every respect that the population seems destined to increase rapidly.

Sent to *Buried Treasures* by Sharon Lynch, who says, "Here is an newspaper old article I found in my records, and tried to transcribe. There is no date listed but I think it was before 10 March 1901 as that is when Hugh G. Partin's wife died.. Note the spelling of the last name of Partin is listed as Parton. The article was titled *Squatters and Location of Homesteads* By Sherman Adams; Chapter III.

Hugh Partin is an ancestor of several CFGS members - Sharon Lynch, Mary Phillips and Carrie Boswell; Debbie Redditt's husband is as well. There may be others that your editor is not aware of.

A Summer of Research

by Rollin L. Clayton

Plans for a 3 ½ month research trip to Indiana began when I decided to attend my 50th high school reunion in Fort Wayne and my daughter said she would not renew her lease in Florida because she wanted to move back north – she has this fixation with snow. Since I have been making a 4-6 week research trip in July-August the past three years, I got to thinking "Why make two trips?" I talked my daughter into staying at my condo after her lease expired and on 10 May 2007, I loaded my car trunk with genealogy materials on several families, supplies, laptop computer, etc – and, yes, some clothes – and headed north. My main objective was to identify unknown aunts, uncles and cousins in my grandson's various lines with roots in Randolph County, IN. I did not plan to take any lines further back than I already had.

My first stop was two days in Shelbyville, IN, where I obtained birth, death and marriage records, plus obituaries for my Morgan/Worland ancestors who had settled near there before 1840. I was able to obtain the needed proof that links me to Thomas Worland, who moved to Shelby County in the 1820s. My application to the Society of Indiana Pioneers (SIP) had been denied because of confusion about my great grandfather, Thomas Lawrence Morgan [the son of William Morgan who married Susannah Worland]. He sometimes was noted as Lawrence and other times as Thomas, so the genealogist for the SIP was unable to prove my submission. I also found that Thomas Worland, Susannah's grandfather, had donated the initial land for the St. Vincent's Catholic Church and cemetery a short distance east of Shelbyville.

My next stop, on my way to Ft. Wayne, was in Connersville, IN to get the obituary of Agnes Blanche (Nunn) Morgan Smith, my grandmother. I found the obituary for a person matching information found on the internet, only to learn that she was not my grandmother. My grandfather, Charles Francis Morgan, had divorced my grandmother in 1920 in New Castle, IN. My mother was raised in a foster home in Winchester, IN by the daughter of a great aunt. Being raised in a "don't-ask, don't-tell" environment, all I knew about my mother's family at the time of her death on 1 Apr 2003 was that she had a younger brother. I knew the names of her parents from her birth certificate. After her death, I learned that also she had a sister, Mildred Morgan.

My next stop was in Fort Wayne, where I spent two days researching at the Allen County Public Library. They are now located in their new facility which has all the modern conveniences. The first day, I looked for family histories on my main surnames. My major find was a book edited by a daughter of my 3rd cousin twice removed, Leroy Thornburg, that had data on his descendants through the mid-1970s. The most interesting thing about this was that each of his children contributed a sketch about their lives, which gave the 100+ page book more value than just names, dates and places. The second day I reviewed county histories to find biographical sketches and also to determine what books available from Higginson Book Company that I may want to order. In the afternoon, I made a CD of images from the Randolph County Agricultural Census records for 1850. These records are only available at limited repositories and are not available through the Family History Library.

The entire following week was spent in Muncie, IN obtaining copies of marriage records for my grandson's Clevenger, Cline, Helm, Holloway and Thornburg ancestors who lived in Delaware County. Most of these records are available on microfilm at the Muncie Local History and Genealogy Library. They also have the archive of original marriage records up to 1990 (the Delaware County Clerk only has microfilm). I also obtained several obituaries on the Holloways. The library has a microfilm bride-and-groom index of 3x5 cards for marriage records from 1920 through the mid-1990s. I listed all marriages for the surnames of interest and can order the copies at 10¢ per copy plus about \$7.50 per research hour.

The balance of my trip was centered in Winchester, IN. I usually spent Monday, Wednesday and Friday in the Clerk's office and Tuesday and Thursday at the Randolph County Historical-Genealogical Society Museum. At the courthouse, I reviewed every marriage record from 1845 through August, 2007. I had copies made of those that had my family surnames so that I didn't have to spend time adding data to my Personal Ancestral File (PAF) at the courthouse (that's what nights and weekends in the motel were for). After 1882, when applications were

also required by state law, I checked for the names on the bride's and groom's parents. This is when I learned that the surname index for brides with more than one marriage are usually indexed under her last husband's surname. Beginning with the 1930 records, I checked surnames in my PAF files, so that I could find records for daughters of my major surname ancestors, and that of their daughters, etc. This resulted in copying over 3,000 marriage records, some of which I am still in the process of entering into my PAF - -at this writing I still have about 200 left.

At the museum, I added the data from my 1st cousin five times removed, Jesse Holloway, based on data prepared for a 1964 family reunion. This family centered in the Fairmount area in Grant County, IN and many descendants are still there. I also reviewed files submitted by individuals in 1990 when a Randolph County Pioneer Society was created in conjunction with the publication of the most recent county history. I also located a book on Thornburgs in Jay County, which I can tie into my **THORNBURG** line and copied it for future reference. I also copied pages from a 1990's book on the **ADDINGTON** family that had data on my **TOWNSEND** and **CHALFANT** lines. I also wanted copies of a few birth and death records which requires finding the book identification from an index at the museum before taking the request form to the Health Department. Older birth and death records from 1882-mid 1900's were maintained by towns and not the county, so knowing the place of death is very helpful.

While in Winchester, I attended a GenFest at Marion, Indiana, where I learned how to get large copies in Richmond, Indiana (they have no Office Depot or Staples) which allowed me to obtain a copy of the First Annual (1890) **THORNBURG** Family Reunion Statistical Report. This document was located last year in the Friend's Collection at Earlham College in Richmond. It is a three foot by two foot document showing the living and deceased descendants of my 4th great grandparents, Isaac and Rebecca (**HODGSON**) **THORNBURG**. While at this GenFest, I found additional material on some of my **HOLLOWAY** and **HOGGATT** cousins, providing information as late as the early 2000's.

About every two to three weeks, a **THORNBURG** cousin and I would take a research day trip to a surrounding county. At the Friend's Collection at Earlham College, I found the membership book for the Farmland Friends Church which many of my cousins attend today. I had a copy made for my personal library. At Marion, I found material on the **ARMFIELD** family--my 5th great grandmother Nancy Ann Armfield married Joseph **THORNBURG** in Pennsylvania and later moved to Guilford County, North Carolina. This information gave me access to two generations of her ancestors plus descendants thereof. There was also contact information for a newsletter on the family. At the Jay County Genealogical Society, we found some additional information on **HOLLOWAY** and **THORNBURG** families. A trip to the Allen County Public Library located a book on the **HITE** family which has descendants of my grandson's 1st cousin 7 times removed, Margaret **HELM** who married Conrad **HITE**. The descendants of this marriage comprise pages 140 through 285, which I also copied for future input into my PAF. One day while at the Randolph County Museum, a fellow brought in a book on the Stanley family and I was able to locate my 4th great grandparents, William H. and Sarah (**STANLEY**) **HOLLOWAY** Sr. This book traced my **STANLEY** ancestry back three more generations. There is a National **STANLEY** Family Association which is working on a proposed 23 volume set on the Stanley descendants. I have contacted the president of the organization and plan to join as well as order some, if not all, of the books. They also hold an annual convention in different locations. The 2008 convention is planned for Guilford College near Greensboro, NC, which will allow for some Quaker research at the Hege Library, the North Carolina repository for Quaker records.

Other "discoveries" during my trip were : (1) spending a day with my mother's sister's grandson who contacted me via e-mail from my RootsWeb submission shortly after my arrival in Indiana. We exchanged much information and I learned that my mother unknowing lived within five miles of her mother and sister

continued on page 67

Where Was the First Thanksgiving? by Dick Eastman

Where was the first Thanksgiving held in North America? If you guessed Plymouth, Massachusetts, guess again. In fact, that probably was not even the second or third Thanksgiving.

On April 30, 1598, Spanish nobleman Don Juan de OÑATE and a group of settlers traveling northward from Zacatecas, Nueva España (now Mexico), reached the banks of El Rio Bravo (Rio Grande). The first recorded act of thanksgiving by colonizing Europeans on this continent occurred on that April day in 1598 in Nuevo Mexico, about 25 miles south of what is now El Paso, Texas.

After having begun their northward trek in March of that same year, the entire caravan was gathered at this point. The 400-person expedition included soldiers, families, servants, personal belongings, and livestock. Two thirds of the colonizers were from the Iberian Peninsula (Spain, Portugal, and the Canary Islands). There was even one from Greece and another from Flanders. The rest were Mexican Indians and mestizos (mixed bloods).

Pauline Chavez BENT has written an interesting account of this first Thanksgiving, which you can read on the New Mexico Genealogical Society's Web site at: <www.nmgs.org/art1stThanks.htm>

Many Americans mistakenly believe that the Pilgrims were the first to settle in this new land. However, the following all preceded the Pilgrims of 1620:

- * Several settlements and temporary villages were established by the Vikings and possibly by the Irish more than 1,000 years ago. None of the settlements survived. In 1559, Tristan de Luna y ARELLANO led an attempt by Europeans to colonize Florida. He established a settlement at Pensacola Bay, but a series of misfortunes caused his efforts to be abandoned after two years.

- * Pedro Menéndez de AVILÉS arrived in 1565 at a place he called San Agustín (St. Augustine, Florida) and established the first permanent European settlement in what is now the United States.

- * Spanish settlers mentioned earlier settled in what is now the western tip of Texas and New Mexico in the 1590s.

- * In 1604, Samuel de CHAMPLAIN, along with Sieur de Mont, established what is now known as the first Acadian settlement on the North American continent on the Isle-of-St.-Croix, at St. Croix River near Calais, Maine. After experiencing a harsh winter and extreme cold on this small island, they moved their settlement into the rich agricultural area of the Bay of Fundy, which subsequently became known as Acadia. The permanent French colony of Port Royal was established in 1605.

- * The islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon were colonized by France in 1604. The colony survived and still exists today on these tiny islands ten miles south of Newfoundland, Canada. The islands still belong to France. Many people today are unaware that France still has territory in North America.

- * In 1607, some 100 men and boys sailed from England and landed in present-day Virginia and founded Jamestown. They found a hostile environment that probably would have destroyed the colony but for the resourcefulness of Captain John Smith, who managed to organize and motivate the settlers and save them from starvation.

- * In 1608 Samuel de CHAMPLAIN established what is now known as Quebec City.

With several colonies already established prior to the Pilgrims' later arrival in 1620, one can assume that others also celebrated an occasional thanksgiving feast. The only surviving record of such a feast, however, is the one in 1598 by Don Juan de OÑATE and his group of Spanish settlers

Note: The Texas Society of Daughters of the American Colonists claim "that the expedition of Francisco Vázquez de Coronado in May 1541 celebrated the first feast of Thanksgiving in Palo Duro Canyon." <www.texasalmanac.com/history/highlights/thanksgiving>

The preceding article is from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter and is copyright 2007 by Richard W. Eastman. It is re-published here with the permission of the author. Information about the newsletter is available at <http://www.eogn.com>.

Passengers on the Mayflower September 6 - November 9, 1620

"Ten percent of the U.S. population are descendants of the 102 Mayflower passengers.. It is not a rarity to be a Mayflower descendant." says Pat **HUPRICH**, lieutenant governor of the Western Reserve Colony of the Ohio Society of Mayflower Descendants. # Left known descendants.

Pilgrim Families

- # **ALLERTON**, Isaac. Tailor and merchant, about 34-years old, probably from Co. Suffolk, England.
 - # Mary (Norris) **ALLERTON**, wife
 - Bartholomew **ALLERTON**, son
 - # Remember **ALLERTON**, daughter
 - # Mary **ALLERTON**, daughter , the last survivor of the Mayflower company
- # **BRADFORD**, William, Husbandman, fustian-weaver during his time in Holland. Later governor of Plymouth. From Austerfield Co. Yorkshire, England, about 30-years old.
 - Dorothy (**MAY**) **BRADFORD**, wife (Wisbech, Cambridge)
- # **BREWSTER**, William. Postmaster of Scrooby. Personal secretary to William Davison, Secretary of State under Queen Elizabeth. Publisher and printing press owner. Plymouth Church Elder. From Scrooby, Co. Nottinghamshire, England, about 54-years old.
 - # Mary **BREWSTER**, wife
 - # Love **BREWSTER**, son
 - Wrestling **BREWSTER**, son
- CARVER**, John. Church deacon and Plymouth's first governor. His age and English origins remain unknown, though he was likely in his 40s.
 - Catherine (**LEGGETT**) (**WHITE**) **CARVER**, wife
- # **CHILTON**, James. About 64 years old, from Canterbury, Co. Kent, England, a tailor who later moved to Sandwich, co. Kent. He was likely the oldest Mayflower passenger.
 - # Mrs. Susanna **CHILTON**, wife
 - # Mary **CHILTON**, daughter
- # **COOKE**, Francis. About 37-years old, perhaps from around Norwich, Co. Norfolk, England.
 - # John **COOK**, son
- COOPER**, Humility - baby daughter of Robert **COOPER**, in company of her aunt Ann **COOPER TILLEY**, wife of Edward **TILLEY**
- CRACKSTONE**, John. About 45-years old, from Colchester, Co. Essex, and Stratford St. Mary, Co. Suffolk.
 - John **CRACKSTONE**, son
- # **FLETCHER**, Moses. A smith, about 55-years old, from Sandwich, Co. Kent, England.
- # **FULLER**, Edward. From Redenhall, co. Norfolk, England, the son of a butcher, about 45-years old.
 - # Mrs. Edward **FULLER**, wife
 - # Samuel **FULLER**, son
- # **FULLER**, Samuel (brother to Edward). From Redenhall, co. Norfolk, England, younger brother of Edward **FULLER**, about 40-years old. A say-weaver in Leiden; Plymouth's doctor and a church deacon.
- GOODMAN**, John
- MINTER**, Desire. A young girl, perhaps in her early teens, servant to John **CARVER**, from Norwich, Co. Norfolk, England.
- # **PRIEST**, Degory. About 41-years old, a hat-maker.
- # **ROGERS**, Thomas. From Watford, Co. Northampton, England, about 48-years old.
 - Joseph **ROGERS**, son
- # **SAMPSON**, Henry - child in company of his uncle and aunt Edward and Ann **TILLEY**. From Henlow, co. Bedfordshire, England, 16-years old.
- TILLEY**, Edward. From Henlow, Co. Bedfordshire, England, 32-years old.
 - Ann (**COOPER**) **TILLEY** wife of Edward and aunt of Humilty **COOPER** and Henry **SAMPSON**

TILLEY, John. From Henlow, Co. Bedfordshire, England, 49-years old.
 # Joan (**HURST**) (**ROGERS**) **TILLEY**, wife
 # Elizabeth **TILLEY**, daughter
TINKER, Thomas. Wood sawyer, perhaps from Thurne, Co. Norfolk, England.
 Mrs. Thomas **TINKER**, wife
 boy **TINKER**, son
TURNER, John
 boy **TURNER**, son
 boy **TURNER**, younger son
WHITE, William
 # Susanna (Unknown) **WHITE** , wife
 # Resolved **WHITE**, son
 # Peregrine **WHITE**, son (born in Provincetown Harbor)
WILLIAMS, Thomas, 38-year old from Great Yarmouth, Co. Norfolk, England.
WINSLOW, Edward
 Elizabeth (**BARKER**) **WINSLOW**, wife
WINSLOW, Gilbert, brother to "Pilgrim" Edward **WINSLOW** but not known to have lived in Leiden. 20-year old from Droitwich, Co. Gloucester, England.

Planters recruited by London merchants

BILLINGTON, John. From near Spaulding, Co. Lincolnshire, England, about 40-years old.
 # Eleanor **BILLINGTON**, wife
 John **BILLINGTON**, son
 # Francis **BILLINGTON**, son
BRITTERIDGE, Richard
BROWNE, Peter. From Dorking, Co. Surrey, England, 25-years old, and probably a weaver.
CLARKE, Richard
EATON, Francis. House carpenter from Bristol, Co. Gloucester, England, 24-years old.
 Sarah **EATON**, wife
 # Samuel **EATON**, son
GARDINER, Richard. Seaman, perhaps a 38-year old from Harwich, Co. Essex, England.
HOPKINS, Stephen. From Hursley, co. Hampshire, England, about 42-years old. Minister's clerk and shopkeeper.
 Elizabeth (**FISHER**) **HOPKINS**, wife
 # Giles **HOPKINS**, son by first marriage
 # Constance **HOPKINS**, daughter by first marriage)
 # Damaris **HOPKINS**, daughter
 Oceanus **HOPKINS**, born en route
MARGESSON, Edmund
MARTIN, Christopher)
 Mary (**PROWER**) **MARTIN**, wife
MULLINS, William. Shoemaker from Dorking, Co. Surrey, England, about 48-years old.
 Alice **MULLINS**, wife
 # Priscilla **MULLINS**, daughter
 Joseph **MULLINS**, son
PROWER, Solomon
RIGSDALE, John
 Alice **RIGSDALE**, wife

STANDISH, Myles. Soldier (rank of lieutenant) and militia captain from co. Lancashire, England, about 33-36 years old.

Rose **STANDISH**, wife

WARREN, Richard. From Great Amwell, Co. Hertfordshire, England, about 35-years old.

Men hired to stay one year

ALDEN, John - considered as a ship's crewman but joined settlers. Cooper (barrel-maker) from Harwich, Co. Essex, England. About 21-years old.

ALLERTON, John, was to return to England to help the rest of the group immigrate but died in the winter, may have been relative of "Pilgrim" **ALLERTON** family

ELY [**ELLIS**], --?--, hired as seaman, returned to England after term was up

ENGLISH, Thomas, hired to master a shallop but died in the winter

TREVOR{**E**}, William, hired as seaman, returned to England after term was up

Family servants - 13 of the 18 people in this category were attached to Pilgrim families.

BUTTEN, William, age "a youth", servant of Samuel **FULLER**, only person who died during the voyage

CARTER, Robert, age unknown, servant or apprentice to William **MULLINS**, shoemaker.

--?--, Dorothy, maidservant of John **CARVER**, married Francis **EATON** within two years of arrival

DOTY, Edward, age probably about 21, servant to Stephen **HOPKINS**

HOLBECK, William, age likely under 21, servant to William **WHITE**

HOOKE, John, age 13, apprenticed to Isaac **ALLERTON**

HOWLAND, John, age about 21, manservant for Governor John **CARVER**

LANCEMORE, John, age under 21, servant to the Christopher **MARTIN**

LATHAM, William, age 11, servant/apprentice to the John **CARVER** family

LEISTER, Edward, aged over 21, servant to Stephen **HOPKINS**

MORE, Ellen, age 8, indentured to Edward **WINSLOW**

Jasper **MORE**, brother, age 7, indentured to John **CARVER**

Richard **MORE**, brother, age 6, indentured to William **BREWSTER**

Mary **MORE**, sister, age 4, indentured to William **BREWSTER**

SOULE, George, teacher of Edward **WINSLOW**'s children

STORY, Elias, age under 21, in the care of Edward **WINSLOW**

THOMPSON, Edward, age under 21, in the care of the William **WHITE** family, first passenger to die after the Mayflower reached Cape Cod.

WILDER, Roger, age under 21, servant in the John **CARVER** family

There are millions of Mayflower descendants living today, but very few descendants actually know it. Eight U.S. presidents are known to be descended from Mayflower passengers, and a number of other famous people including astronauts, poets, politicians, actors and actresses, directors, inventors and others are descendants as well. Many of these lineages were originally published by Gary Boyd **ROBERTS** of the New England Historic and Genealogical Society, who regularly publishes new discoveries and article on his Notable Kin website. <<http://www.notablekin.org>>

Sources:

Mayflower History <www.mayflowerhistory.com>

Famous Descendants of Mayflower Passengers <www.mayflowerhistory.com/Genealogy/famousdescendants.php>

Mayflower <www.mayflower.org>

The Mayflower Society <www.themayflowersociety.com>

Mayflower Families Genealogies through Five Generations [RG 369.124 MAY at Orlando Public Library] - OPS has many other books on Mayflower descendants

Mayors of Orlando - Major Mathew R. Marks
Mayor for 3 terms 1889-1890



M. J. Marks
1869

This is the first of a series on the mayors of Orlando - in no particular order. If any of our readers are descendants of or knowledgeable about any of the mayors, your input would be welcome. Since CFGS meets at the Marks Street Center, it seems appropriate to begin with Maj **MARKS**, for whom Marks Street was named.

Mayor Mathew R. **MARKS** is best known for initiating the program to plant shade trees throughout Orlando. A bronze marker was placed on the south side of Lake Lucerne reading "In memory of Mathew Robinson **MARKS**, Mayor of Orlando, 1889-1890, through whose vision the planing of our magnificent shade trees was inaugurated. A. D. 1925."

During his term of office:

The Orlando Polo Club was formed

The first Arbor Day was celebrated in Orlando.

The first wooden sidewalks were laid in Orlando.

Name placards were placed at street corners.

The sewer system of Orlando was begun.

Lamp posts were placed on the streets.

He was so proud of his honesty that he offered a reward of \$5000 to anyone who could prove him to be dishonest.

One of the first appointments after his election in December, 1888 was G. W. **PAPOT** as street commissioner. Mayor **MARKS** appropriated \$500 to line the streets of Orlando with shade trees. Soon thereafter, the city council objected to such extravagance with city monies – and dismissed one policeman, cut the salary of the street commissioner and stopped all work on the streets. The ordinance requiring shade trees was then repealed, but many trees were already lining the streets of Orlando.

During his term of office, the city decided that there was too much distance between saloons downtown - 400 feet at that time - and approved additional applications so that saloons would be only 200 feet apart.

Mathew Robinson **MARKS** was born in Georgia in October 1834¹. He was the son of Richard T. and Jacinthe E. (**DAWSON**) Marks. His father, Richard T. **MARKS**, was a Presbyterian minister in Alabama and Georgia. He came to Central Florida in 1869 and was one of the first land agents in the area, with an office on Orange Avenue. He married Mary Frances "Molly" **PARRAMORE** on June 30, 1875. Molly was born in Florida in 1848 and was the sister of James E. "Buck" **PARRAMORE**, mayor of Orlando from 1897-1902, and for whom Parramore Street is named. Mathew **MARKS** died in August 1911 in Jacksonville, where his sons were living. He is buried in Evergreen Cemetery there.

Mathew and Molly had two sons: Richard Parramore **MARKS** was born about 1877 and married Kathryn Eclair **SLEMONS** (of another Orlando pioneer family) in Dec 1907. They had a daughter, Kathryn. He was a lawyer in Jacksonville and died in 1942. Samuel Reynolds **MARKS** was born about 1885 and was also a lawyer in Jacksonville and died in 1973. He married Helen ?. They had children Sam Jr and Helen L.

Major **MARKS** was in the 2 Alabama Cavalry during the Civil War, entering as a Captain and was discharged as a Major. He retained his love of horses and had a team of Kentucky horses which he drove each day on the sand roads from Formosa to the stable, a mile away.

Mayor **MARKS** was described as "the truest type of Southern Gentleman, courteous, educated, always polite, diplomatic in his approach, always ready to resent or avenge an insult, direct or implied, to himself or those about him, open hearted, open-handed, he would divide his last dollar with anyone who asked it."³

¹according to the 1910. Other census give conflicting date and place of birth.

³O'Neal, William R. *Memoirs of a Pioneer*, 1932.

The Thrill of the Chase - Searching for Mathew MARKS

by Betty Jo Stockton

I've hit the inevitable brick wall on my own ancestors; it's rare than I'm able to locate anything new on them. So I enjoy researching other folk's families where I can actually have some success. It always amazes me just how much information can be located using only the sources available on the Internet. In less than a week, I've been able to flesh out the man who was mayor of Orlando in 1889-1890, using only home sources and the internet. I've also found leads to other resources that will tell more - but not in time for this issue.

As I began the article on Major Mathew R. MARKS for this issue, I had very little information. There's a paragraph or two in each of the local history books I have here at home. They list the date he came to Central Florida, a bit about his military service, the fact that he died in Jacksonville, the first names of his two sons and some of his accomplishments while Mayor of Orlando.

First I contacted (via email) the Genealogy Department at Orlando Public Library to ask if there was a vertical file on Major Mathew MARKS, who was Mayor of Orlando in 1889-1890. I was seeking more information and an obituary, in particular. They replied that there was no vertical file folder for Marks, and sent snippets from the local history books. I then requested that they request the obituary from the [Jacksonville] *Florida Times Union* via InterLibrary Loan. Since I have only a month and year [August, 1911], this is a long shot. I also requested a lookup in the *Orlando Sentinel*, but without an exact date, I'll probably need to go downtown and search through the microfilm myself.

So on to Ancestry.com for census records. Gore's *History of Orlando* stated that "Marks came to Orlando from Columbus, GA in 1869". I normally start with the earliest census date that I'm sure where someone is, then work both ways. So I ought to be able to find Mathew on the 1870 census of Orange County. I've now searched every permutation of his name and scanned the census line by line - and there is no Mathew Marks to be found. His mother, Jacintha, and younger brother, Richard, are both in Mellonville, Orange County... but no Mathew. Mystery number 1! Later census records show him Orange County and as a land agent, but his age is inconsistent and birthplace is both Alabama and Georgia. In 1900, he is in New York City and listed as a promoter. Though the local histories say that he died in Jacksonville in 1911, he still shows up in New York in 1910 as a "real estate operator". Another mystery?

Having found this much, I then tried to find him on earlier census records to determine his parents and siblings. The 1860 census of Meriwether Co, GA shows Mathew MARKS as a 25 year old hotelkeeper. Two houses away are R. T. and Jacintha E. MARKS with their children R. H. and M. L.. Living with them are H. C. DAWSON, 70, and next door is Margaret ROBINSON, 72. Since Mathew's middle name is Robinson, there is probably a link there. R. T. MARKS is listed as a minister. So on to the 1850 census of Negro Hill, Harris Co, GA, where we find R. T., a Presbyterian minister, his wife J. E. and children Mat R. Marks, 15, Richard H., 11, and Margaret R., 7. This connects our Mathew with parents and siblings. In 1850, Mat ROBINSON and wife Margaret, 61, were also living in Harris Co, GA, which strengthens the possibility that these are Mathew Robinson Marks' grandparents. There is an Henry C. DAWSON living in Muscogee Co, GA, which is next to Harris County and a county that had been split to form Harris County. Furthermore, Columbus is the capital of Harris County - we'll be hearing more about it later. Henry DAWSON, 64, is shown with Sarah, 62, and 2 children, Sarah and Henry C. PARTON. This might be Jacintha's parents, but is as yet unproven.

A global search on WorldVitalRecords led me to Google Books, *Southern Letters and Life in the Mid 1800s* by Susan Lott CLARK, which had several references to Mathew R. MARKS. This Google book has only "snippets" of the book, but one of these mentions that he was Mayor of Orlando, so it is definitely the right man. I found that, by using a variety of search terms, I could access different "snippets". This didn't give enough information to suit me, but did refer to Jacintha E. DAWSON marrying Richard T. MARKS in 1829. So there is the maiden name of Mathew's mother. I've requested this book through the library's InterLibrary Loan program.

A Google search on the name Mathew R. **MARKS** turned up only a bit on his Civil War records, but a search on his father Richard T. **MARKS** was much more successful. One of the books located was the *History of Columbus, Georgia*, which has been digitized by the University of Georgia and is fully searchable. Richard T. **MARKS** was one of the original settlers of Columbus, GA and appears throughout the book. He was the first clerk of the newly formed town, owned a half interest in the local paper, and in 1847 was elected senator from his district. He was also a charter member of the Presbyterian Church. Henry C. **DAWSON** was proprietor of a hotel in Columbus in 1828.

I also used the census records to determine the parents and siblings of Mary F. “Molly” (**PARRAMORE**) **MARKS**. In 1870, Mary F. **PARRAMORE** was still in Madison Co, FL, living with her widowed mother Mary E. and brothers Phillip J. and Redding W. In 1860, Mary A. was head of household, but more of her children were home - James B., Isaac B, Redding W., William L., Mary and Phillip. Living next door was J. W. **REDDING** - a family connection? But still no father’s name for Mary, so back another 10 years. Here we find Reddin W. **PARRAMORE**, 50, as head of house with Mary Ann, 26. She must be a second wife or eldest daughter since she is too young to be mother of the older boys. With them are sons Henry, Smith, John, and the rest of the children named on the later census records. Mary F. was 3 years old in 1850. It is her older brother James B. “Buck” Parramore who was mayor of Orlando for a record six terms. A family website on Rootsweb⁴ (not documented!) shows Mary Ann **TOOKE** marrying Redden Wallace **PARRAMORE** on 28 Oct 1839 in Thomas County, GA. Redden had been married before and the oldest two boys were from that marriage.

Later census records allowed me to follow the sons of Mathew and Mary F. **MARKS**. Both were in Jacksonville for the 1920 and 1930 census. Richard P **MARKS** had married Kathryn **SLEMONS** in (which appeared in the CFGS *Orange County Marriages*) and Samuel R. **MARKS** married Helen _?_. Both were lawyers in Jacksonville. Richard had a daughter Kathryn M., born about 1917. Samuel had children: Sam, Jr., born about 1917 and Helen, born about 1920. Samuel Reynolds **MARKS** registered for the World War I Draft in Jacksonville, listing his occupation as lawyer and was employed by Marks, Marks and Hott. He was 32, born 17 Nov 1885, and listed his wife Helen L. Marks as nearest relative. Richard Parramore **MARKS**, born 3 Jul 1876, was listed in the WWI Civilian Draft Registration Index.

The Florida Death Index on Ancestry shows that Richard Parramore **MARKS** died in 1942. Samuel Reynolds **MARKS** died 16 Jul 1973 at age 87. Kathryn S **MARKS** died in June 1964.

Online Sources:

Ancestry.com - US Census 1840-1930
Ancestry.com - FL State Census 1885
Ancestry.com - Civil War Collection
Ancestry.com - Florida Death Index
Ancestry.com - World War I Draft Records
Google Books - <<http://books.google.com>>
WorldVitalRecords.com
Rootsweb.com
Orange Co Library System <www.ocls.info>

Local History Books

CFGS, *Marriages of Orange Co, FL 1869-1909*
Bacon, *Centennial History of Orlando, V. 1*
Gore, *History of Orlando*
O’Neal, *Memoirs of a Pioneer*

⁴<<http://freepages.family.rootsweb.com/~mkblewett>>

Tears to Shed: Vosgan Aaron AVAKIAN

as told by his granddaughter, Marcelle Avakian HOBBS

The old, bald-headed man with a warm smile headed straight toward my dad and me. This was the first time in my ten years that I was to meet my paternal grandfather. He had just flown in to Los Angeles from Chattanooga, Tennessee along with one of his sons, Quentin, for a visit. His face radiated kindness.

“Oh my Got,” he exclaimed. “De las time I saw you, you were no bigger dan a pistachio nut. Look how you have grown into such a pretty girl.”

I beamed. Excitedly, I planted a big kiss on my dear Armenian grandfather’s cheek. Once he rested and acclimated to Pacific coast time, I wasted no time asking him one question after another about his life. At times, tears flooded his eyes and his words were incomprehensible as he told the story of his life.

The young man stared in disbelief. Harput, the only city he had ever known was in shambles, the city that dated back to ancient times, the city that was the cultural center in this mountainous region of Turkey, the city on the upper Euphrates River.

Vosgan Avakian’s eyes glazed over from the horrors he had witnessed for the past few days. Through his tears he saw the remains of his Armenian Church of the Virgin Mary, the Byzantine fortress and several ancient mosques. As he thought about this situation, it should have come as no surprise. For the past two and a half years beginning in 1893, heavy taxes had been imposed. Many of the Christians (Armenians) he knew had been arrested and were enduring the most atrocious abuses carried out by the Ottoman Turks. These Armenian civilians were thrown into Turkish prisons, stripped of their clothes and tortured relentlessly.



Harput

As a student, twelve year old Vosgan had focused on his studies. He was alarmed when the Turkish government required the word “Armenia” struck from every book. The Turks and Armenians had lived peacefully for over 600 years. How could his world be turning upside down? It was even becoming more and more difficult each day to worship at his beloved church. In fact, many of the stone churches had already been converted into mosques and devoted to Moslem worship since the Turks could not burn them down. Other churches suffered all sorts of defilement and their sacred books were torn in pieces and cast on “dunghills”. The priestly garments used in celebration of the Mass were used to dress Turkish prostitutes. To add insult to injury, priests, laymen, women and young children were forced to become Moslems. White turbans were put atop the men’s heads and they were savagely circumcised. The Christian women were forced to have their hair cut just like the

Moslem females and to attend prayers at the mosque.

After having watched the barbaric murders of his family with the exception of one younger brother, Garabed, Vosgan knew in his heart he had to leave this uncivilized country as soon as possible. He and Garabed gathered their few belongings and started out on foot through the rugged terrain. Traveling by night was safer but far more treacherous for all of the rocks and uneven paths. This did not deter Vosgan from his plan to walk to Greece. The brothers made their way at a snail’s pace. The altitude in excess of 7,000 feet was not such a deterrent as were the large boulders and minimal paths. They also had to be careful for snipers, thieves and Armenian head hunters. The further west the young men hiked, the less hazardous the mountainous terrain became.

Days turned into weeks and weeks turned into months. The brothers grew weary of living off the land, scrounging for food and sleeping on such rough terrain. The twinkling stars above comforted the young brothers. At long last, the pair was finally overlooking the Black Sea when Vosgan said, “I am sure, as sure can be, that our devoted parents would have blessed this decision we have made, Garabed. What do you think?”

“Since you are now head of the family, I will continue to follow you. Once we leave Turkey, our situation will be greatly improved. Mom, Dad and our brother and sisters would rejoice knowing that we survived and can

carry on our Armenian traditions elsewhere.”

Six days later the brothers arrived in Istanbul, Turkey’s capital and largest city. “Do you realize the importance of this place, Garabed?” asked Vosgan.

Nodding his head from side to side, Garabed muttered, “No.”

“Istanbul,” lectured Vosgan, “is one of the oldest cities in the world. It used to be called Constantinople and is the only city that is partly in Europe and partly in Asia.”

Garabed yawned, definitely not interested in the least.

The brothers stayed in Istanbul only long enough to purchase passage on a boat headed to Athens. While in Greece, they did odd jobs since their funds were dwindling quickly.

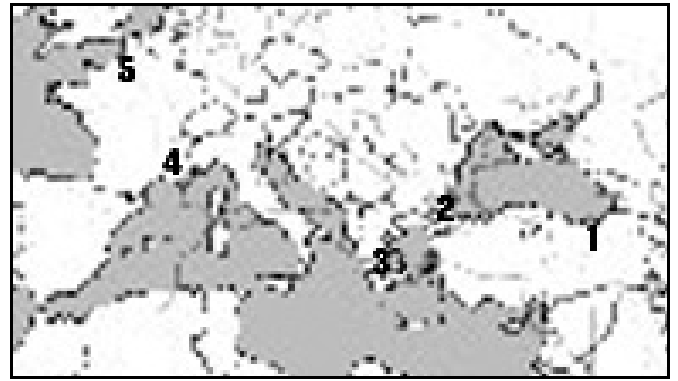
“I like this place,” Garabed exclaimed. “The people are similar to us and their food is not too different from ours.”

Vosgan, seemingly, was lost in thought. “Yes. I agree.”

“Garabed, I want to read you this poem I have written. Let me know what you think. It is entitled *To My Mother*.”

*The smile you gave when first I saw the light
Remains the emblem of all tender care;
The warmth you cast about me day and night,
Delights me still when else I would despair.
Your gentle voice, your cradle-song, your prayer:
My cherished memories of yesterday.
Your charge against each dangerous, subtle snare
Still guides me when my feet incline to stray.
Until we meet again, your words shall lead the way.*

*Your perfect skill to loose my lisping tongue;
And when I stumbled, your assuring hand—
I still remember, and my heart is wrung,
Recalling all I could not understand.
Your mother-love which answered each demand
Has given joy and peace to heart and mind;
Your sacrifices, showing you had planned
My future well, disclosed true womankind;
This I would say though I were dumb, and see,
though blind.*



1 - Harput; 2 - Istanbul;
3 - Athens; 4- Marseilles 5 - Le Havre

*Your constant watches at a child’s sick-bed,
And your companionship when heartache came,
Your mother-insight, never once misled,
Exalt you; put ingratitude to shame.
Your light excuses when I was to blame;
And praises for small virtues I had shown
Reveal the pride in which you held my name;
It was enough that I was born your own;
A selfless love like yours is, ah, how rarely known!*

*And so I bow in reverence to you
For this and how much more, you did for me;
Your faithfulness has served to keep me true,
Your love sets every precious memory free.
Throughout my life shall filial fondness be
The bond that links your deathless soul to mine;
And in your fixed, unfailing constancy,
I shall see, mirrored, Heaven’s bright design,
For you were in His image made, Who is divine.*

Garabed could not control his tears. They were flowing down his flushed face. He could not utter a sound. He was too wrought up in his feelings.

His older brother put down his writings and went over to Garabed. They hugged each other both crying uncontrollably. This outbreak of emotion was the first they had allowed themselves since the young men had watched as their family members were slaughtered. They also realized as Armenians, their lives were no longer in threat. They were in a country most sympathetic to the “starving Armenians”.

As time passed, Vosgan focused on his ultimate plan...getting to America, the land of opportunity for all. Garabed was not so sure he wanted to follow his brother, but since Vosgan was all the family he had, he

reluctantly traveled to southern France with him. They settled in Marseilles, located right on the Mediterranean.

Vosgan was fortunate to find a job as an interpreter. Even though he had quite a thick foreign accent, his French was impeccable as well as his English. He enjoyed his work, and life once again began to have meaning.

Garabed apprenticed with a local barber and he too became quite comfortable with his position in town. The brothers thrived and life was good.

Garabed was caught completely off guard when Vosgan announced in August 1908, "It is time, my dear brother. I need to continue my plan and go to America."

Because Garabed was happy and had no desire to pick up and move again, he was stunned by his brother's statement. He wanted to establish roots and Marseilles was perfect. The climate nourished his soul, the citizens warmed his heart and the countryside could not be more perfect.

"I am happy for you to go to America, but I will not follow. I am so content here and have no desire to travel so far...so far for what? Why must we be nomads always moving?"

At a loss for words, Vosgan felt he had been punched in the stomach. He had not counted on his brother not traveling with him to America. "Little Garabed, I love you with all my heart but I must go. I will be traveling to Le Havre and wait until I can get passage to America. If you ever change your mind you know where I will be."

A month later, Vosgan boarded a train for northern France. His heart was heavy but he knew he was making the right decision.

Life in Le Havre did not compare to that in Marseilles. Vosgan was not able to find a good job and did whatever work he could to earn money and keep busy. The weather was not nearly as agreeable, and he missed Garabed more than he thought possible.

Getting passage on a ship was much more difficult than Vosgan ever imagined. Time crept on until one day a letter arrived. It was addressed to Mr. Vosgan Aaron Avakian and stated, "The *SS Bretagne* will be sailing from Le Havre, France to New York City, United States of America on October 9, 1909. Please have this letter with you when you arrive at the dock."

Vosgan could hardly contain his conflicting emotions. On one hand, this is what he had waited for so patiently for so long; however, on the other hand, he might never see Garabed again.

With tears streaming down his cheeks, my grandfather held my hand almost squeezing it too tightly. "I set foot in America on October 18, 1909. I don't believe der was one passenger who did not kiss de soil once we arrived. But, my little one, we must never dwell on de past. Today and tomorrow are where we need to focus our attention."

A week later, this dear, compassionate man had a fatal heart attack. Many questions were left unanswered. A budding relationship bloomed no more.

The rest of the story: Marcelle says, "After leaving Marseilles, Vosgan went to Le Havre in northwestern France to emigrate. Once he arrived in New York, he stayed there for a short time until he was able to go to Baltimore, MD. It was here he attended and graduated from the University of Maryland, earning his MD degree. He was a boarder in a home while attending school. My grandmother-to-be lived in this home with her aunt and cousin. She was told to stay away from this "foreigner" which, of course, she did not. Soon after my grandfather graduated, they married and moved to Chattanooga, TN where they raised seven children. My grandfather was a gynecologist and helped deliver babies at their homes, rather than in a hospital."



Harlan, Lewis, Vosgan, Kermit, John, Quentin

The Family:

(Grandfather) Vosgan Aaron AVAKIAN, born 13 Jul 1886 Harput, Turkey, died 27 Jul 1960 Torrance, CA. Married 13 Jun 1912 to Anna Elizabeth BATES born 1893 Columbia, SC, died 23 Oct 1958.

(My Dad) John Vosgan AVAKIAN, born 29 May 1913 Baltimore, MD, died 19 Jan 1975 Torrance, CA. Married 31 Dec 1939 to Suzanne Yvonne REYNOUD, living, born Paris, France.

(Me) Marcelle (AVAKIAN) HOBBS

A summer of research continued...

prior to their deaths. (2) In trying to locate someone who could give me the relationship of names mentioned in the *Winchester News-Gazette* who attended a Harris reunion, I got in touch with a person who loaned me a book published in the mid-1990's, which I copied, that has genealogical and biographical data on several generations of that branch of the HARRIS family. (3) I met with a MYERS cousin who I had located through his mother's obituary about a year ago. We sat at his dining room table one day from about 2:00 p.m. until almost midnight, with a short break for supper, going through a box of material his mother had collected. This provided me copies of some family pictures, two books of family history, plus numerous longhand pedigree charts and newspaper clippings, one of which proved my Aunt Kathleen CLAYTON died on 23 Feb 1920, not 2 Feb 1920 as stated on the death certificate obtained last year. There was a notation in the death record book that the doctor had treated Kathleen until 23 Feb but the date recorded was 2 Feb. I have since obtained a corrected death certificate. This episode also taught me that the original birth and death records are filed with the state vital records department and are transcribed to a book before being sent. (4) At the Randolph County 4-H Fair, I reviewed the genealogy displays and found a submission that tied into information I had on my PAF. A call to the girl's father disclosed that his mother was the genealogist in the family. It turned out that she descended from my THORNBURG family in Randolph County and her husband descends from the marriage of James L. LUMPKIN and Sarah E. THORNBURG in about 1816 in Wayne County, Indiana. She does not use a computer, but a visit to her home disclosed numerous books and charts on both families. She has prepared plat maps of two Randolph County townships showing the original purchases in the 1820-1830s from the U. S. government. I plan future correspondence with her when I get the data already acquired entered into my PAF. And (5) I met a person from Yuma, Colorado at the Randolph County courthouse who was researching the CHANDLER family. I mentioned I have Chandlers in my file and a quick check on my laptop disclosed we are cousins through both the HOLLOWAY and THORNBURG families. She has sent me a Family Tree Maker file and given me contact information for two other Thornburg descendants, one in California and the other in Oregon.

Upon my return to Altamonte Springs the weekend before Labor Day. I had acquired 17 4-inch binders, four 1-inch binders and five 1/2-inch binders of material, much of which was not entered into the PAF during my trip. Data entered during the trip did increase my RootsWeb submission from 44,000 names to over 56,000 names. Another update will be made about the end of the year, after all marriage records copied are entered and I anticipate that will increase my RootsWeb file by another 20,000 names. In the future my trips will be shorter in duration so that I have more time to enter the data and will be in a better position to pose follow-up questions to people who provided me with data.

State Census - 1885 Orange County, Florida
(Film M845 Roll #10 at Orlando Library & Archives; #088971 at Family History Center.)

53	505	GREEN, Moses	B	25 M	Head	M	FL/FL/FL	Laborer
53	505	Green, Julia	B	22 F	Wife	M	FL/FL/FL	
53	505	Green, Ida	B	3/12 F	Dau	S	FL/FL/FL	born Apl
53	506	ARRINGTON, John	B	24 M	Head	M	VA/VA/VA	Laborer
53	506	Arrington, Lucinda	B	25 F	Wife	M	FL/FL/FL	
53	506	Arrington, James	B	7/12 M	Son	S	FL/VA/FL	born Dec
53	507	HAWKINS, G?. W.	B	49 M	Head	M	FL/NC/NC	Minister
53	507	Hawkins, Emma	B	50 F	Wife	M	FL/NC/NC	
53	507	Hawkins, Ella	B	18 F	Dau	S	FL/FL/FL	
53	507	Hawkins, George	B	15 M	Son	S	FL/FL/FL	
53	507	Hawkins, Amos	B	14 M	Son	S	FL/FL/FL	
53	507	Hawkins, Rebecca	B	12 F	Dau	S	FL/FL/FL	
53	507	Hawkins, Joshua	B	8 M	Son	S	FL/FL/FL	
53	507	FISHER, Mary	B	1 F	Gr-Dau	S	FL/FL/FL	
53	507	MEDLOCK, Abram	B	14 M	Boarder	S	GA/GA/GA	
54	508	DANIELS, Margt	B	28 F	Head	W	FL/FL/FL	Washerwoman
54	508	Daniels, George	B	11 M	Son	S	FL/FL/FL	
54	508	Daniels, William	B	9 M	Son	S	FL/FL/FL	
54	508	Daniels, Matthew	B	6 M	Son	S	FL/FL/FL	
54	508	Daniels, Emma	B	2 F	Dau	S	FL/FL/FL	
54	509	COLE, George	B	25 M	Head	M	FL/FL/FL	Laborer
54	509	Cole, Ann	B	20 F	Wife	M	FL/FL/FL	
54	509	Cole, Adie	B	1 F	Dau	S	FL/FL/FL	
54	510	SALE, George	B	30 M	Head	M	FL/FL/FL	Laborer
54	510	Sale, Delia A.	B	20 F	Wife	M	FL/FL/FL	
54	511	McCree, Margt	B	20 F	Head	W	FL/FL/FL	Washerwoman
54	511	HENDERSON, John	B	5 M	Nephew	S	FL/FL/FL	
54	511	Robertson, Wm	B	40 M	Uncle	W	FL/FL/FL	Laborer
54	511	Robertson, Margt	B	18 F	Cousin	S	FL/FL/FL	
54	511	Robertson, Will ^m	B	13 M	Cousin	S	FL/FL/FL	
54	512	Reece. Abram	B	40 M	Head	M	AL/AL/AL	Laborer
54	512	Reece. Charity	B	30 F	Wife	M	GA/GA/GA	
54	512	BELLAMY, Emma	B	18 F	Boarder	S	FL/FL/FL	
54	513	WILLIAMS, Geo. S.	Mu	43 M	Head	M	NC/NC/NC	Carpenter
54	513	Williams, Marg _t	Mu	20 F	Wife	M	GA/GA/GA	
54	513	DEMPS, Willis	Mu	24 M	Boarder	S	FL/FL/FL	Laborer
54	513	Demps, Edw ^d	Mu	21 M	Boarder	S	FL/FL/FL	Laborer
54	513	Williams, Chas	Mu	30 M	Boarder	S	FL/FL/FL	Laborer
54	514	DANIEL, W. A. I?	W	27 M	Head	M	FL/FL/FL	Carpenter
54	514	Daniel, M. J.	W	20 F	Wife	M	FL/FL/FL	
54	514	Daniel, Katie	W	2/12 F	Dau	S	FL/FL/FL	Born May
54	514	MCKENZIE, A. J.	W	18 F	Sis-in-law	S	FL/FL/FL	
54	514	Starboard, A. D.	W	61M	Boarder	S	ME/ME/ME	Carpenter

54	515	WINEGARD, Isaac	W	68 M	Head	M	NY/NY/NY	Planter
54	515	Winegard, Mary	W	58 F	Wife	M	GA/GA/GA	
54	515	Winegard, Laura	W	25 F	Dau	S	FL/NY/GA	
54	515	Winegard, Mary	W	22 F	Dau	S	FL/NY/GA	
54	515	Winegard, Florida	W	12 F	Dau	S	FL/NY/GA	
54	515	Winegard, Nora	W	1 F	Grand Dau	S	FL/NY/GA	
54	516	HOLLEYMAN, E. A?	W	33 M	Head	M	SC/SC/SC	Clerk
54	516	Holleyman, H. V.	W	25 F	Wife	M	SC/SC/SC	
54	516	Holleyman, Wm	W	2 M	Son	S	SC/SC/SC	
54	517	WHITE, J. A.	W	38 M	Head	M	GA/GA/GA	Farmer
54	517	White, Sarah A.	W	35 F	Wife	M	GA/KY/FL	
54	517	White, Jefferson A.	W	11 M	Son	S	GA/GA/FL	
54	517	White, Geo E.	W	7 M	Son	S	FL/GA/GL	
54	518	Crawford, G. W.	W	45 M	Head	M	TN/NC/TN	Farmer
54	518	Crawford, Sarah C.	W	37 F	Wife	M	FL/GA/GA	
54	518	Crawford, Jas E.	W	6 M	Son	S	FL/TN/FL	
54	518	Crawford, Geo C.	W	2 M	Son	S	FL/TN/FL	
54	518	MOZELLE, Mary C.	W	81 F	M-in-law	W	GA/GA/GA	
54	518	HENDERSON, Martha	W	16 F	Servant	S	GA/GA/GA	
54	518	RUSS, Tilman	B	17 M	Servant	S	FL/FL/FL	
54	518	BIRD, Ivy	W	16 M	Servant	S	FL/FL/FL	
54	519	SYKES, J.	W	35 M	Head	W	Eng/Eng/Eng	Farmer
55	520	BROOKS, Homer	W	46 M	Head	M	GA/GA/GA	
55	520	Brooks, Ann	W	35 F	Wife	M	GA/GA/GA	
55	520	Brooks, Ann	W	3 F	Dau	S	FL/GA/GA	
55	521	FERGUSON, Jas	W	34 M	Head	S	GA/GA/GA	Farmer
55	521	SCOTT, Mary	W	55 F	Head	W	GA/GA/GA	
55	521	Scott, Needham	W	30 M	Son	S	GA/GA/GA	Farmer
55	521	Scott, Henry	W	25 M	Son	S	GA/GA/GA	Farmer
55	521	Scott, Burrell	W	23 M	Son	S	FL/GA/GA	Farmer
55	522	AVERY, Mary	B	57 F	Head	W	GA/GA/GA	Washerwoman
55	522	Avery, Wm.	B	24 M	Son	S	FL/GA/GA	
55	523	MARTIN, Abram	W	52 M	Head	M	GA/SC/GA	Farmer
55	523	Martin, Mary	W	43 F	Wife	M	AL/SC/GA	
55	523	Martin, Esther	W	21 F	Dau	S	GA/GA/AL	
55	523	Martin, Letithea?	W	17 F	Dau	S	GA/GA/AL	
55	523	Martin, Catherine	W	15 F	Dau	S	GA/GA/AL	
55	523	Martin, Saml	W	9 M	Son	S	GA/GA/AL	
55	523	Martin, Chas	W	7 M	Son	S	GA/GA/AL	
55	524	RENDELL, M. C.	W	44 M	Head	M	GA/GA/AL	Planter
55	524	Rendell, M. E.	W	33 F	Wife	M	TN/TN/TN	
55	524	Rendell, Anna	W	17 F	Dau	S	AR/GA/TN	
55	524	Rendell, May P.	W	15 F	Dau	S	AR/GA/TN	
55	524	COUSINS?, Chas.	W	21 M	Boarder	S	Eng/Eng/Eng	
55	524	BRANFORD, Isaac	B	22 M	Servant	S	GA/GA/GA	Laborer

Index

Adams.	53, 54	Ellsworth.	54	O'Neal.	61, 63
Addington.	56	Ely.	60	Papot.	61
Allerton.	58, 60	English.	60	Parramore.	61, 63
Arellano.	57	Ferguson.	69	Partin / Parton.	53, 54, 62
Armfield.	56	Fisher.	59, 68	Phillips.	54
Arrington.	68	Fletcher.	58	Porter.	52
Austin.	52	Ford.	54	Pound.	54
Avakian.	64, 67	Fuller.	58, 60	Priest.	58
Avery.	69	Gardiner.	59	Prower.	59
Bates.	67	Gilmore.	53	Redding.	63
Beatty.	51	Goodman.	58	Redditt.	53, 54
Beeks.	54	Goodwin.	54	Reece.	68
Bellamy.	68	Gore.	63	Rendell.	69
Bent.	57	Green.	68	Reynoud.	67
Billington.	59	Harris.	67	Rigsdale.	59
Bird.	69	Hawkins.	68	Roberts.	60
Boswell.	54	Hazen.	54	Robertson.	68
Bradford.	58	Helm.	55, 56	Robinson.	62
Branford.	69	Henderson.	68, 69	Rogers.	59
Britteridge.	59	Hite.	56	Russ.	69
Brooks.	69	Hobbs.	64	Sale.	68
Browne.	59	Hodgson.	56	Sampson.	58
Butten.	60	Holden.	53	Scott.	69
Canada.	54	Holleyman.	69	Self.	54
Carter.	60	Holloway.	55, 56, 67	Simmons.	54
Carver.	58, 60	Hooke.	60	Slemons.	61, 63
Chalfant.	56	Hopkins.	59, 60	Smith.	55, 57
Champlain.	57	Howell.	53	Soule.	60
Chandler.	67	Howland.	60	Stackhouse.	54
Chilton.	58	Hull.	53	Standish.	60
Clark.	54	Huprich.	58	Stanley.	56
Clarke.	59	Kedney.	54	Starboard.	68
Clayton.	55, 67	Lancemore.	60	Story.	60
Clevenger.	55	Lawrence.	53	Swinhoe.	53
Cline.	55	Leggett.	58	Swoope.	53
Cole.	68	Leister.	60	Sykes.	69
Cooke.	58	LeVesque.	54	Taliaferro.	54
Cooper.	58	Lidler.	54	Thompson.	60
Coronado.	57	Lumpkin.	67	Thornburg.	55, 56, 67
Cousins.	69	Lun.	54	Tilley.	58
Cox.	54	Lynch.	53, 54	Tinker.	59
Crackstone.	58	Margesson.	59	Tooke.	63
Crawford.	69	Marks.	62, 63	Townsend.	56
Crooks.	52	Martin.	60, 69	Trevor.	60
Curry.	54	Mathers.	53	Tucker.	54
Daniel.	68	McCree.	68	Tufts.	53
Daniels.	68	McKenzie.	68	Turner.	59
Dawson.	61-63	Medlock.	68	Walker.	54
de Avilés.	57	Minter.	58	Warren.	60
de Mont.	57	Mizell.	53	White.	59, 60, 69
de Oñate.	57	Moreman.	54	Wilder.	60
Demps.	68	Morgan.	55	Williams.	59, 68
Denning.	53	Mozelle.	69	Winegard.	69
Doyle.	51	Mullins.	59, 60	Winslow.	59, 60
Eaton.	59, 60	Myers.	67	Worland.	55
Edwards.	52	Newton.	54		
Ellis.	54, 60	Nunn.	55		