

Letter From the Editors

Joyce and I are at a crossroads with our newsletter. Since the first issue of the Armfield Family Newsletter came out in September of 2005, we have published it four times a year without a lapse. We have seen it grow from two pages to an average of eight pages, have seen our readership grow, have had the newsletter placed in several libraries and historical societies across the United States, have an Armfield Family Newsletter website and saw the development of an Armfield page at Facebook, *The Armfield Family - History and Genealogy* managed by Diane Armfield Austin. There were also a couple of Armfield DNA projects started which, to date, have not been very active or informative due to a lack of participants.

In that first September issue we stated that our goal was to provide a forum for family researchers that would aid them in the tracing of their roots. We wanted to correct erroneous information and expand on the early work of Sallie W. Stockard; *The History of Guilford County, North Carolina* published in 1902, "Sketch of the Armfield Family" republished by the Guilford County Genealogical Society, 1983, chapter 12, pp. 96-107. Over the years several of our readers have connected with their ancestral lines and have made contact with new found cousins. We are satisfied that we have achieved our goal to the best of our ability. In truth, we both feel somewhat frustrated that even though we have added to our rich Armfield family history from our early North Carolina ancestors to the present, we have not been able to climb over those proverbial brick walls in Virginia, Pennsylvania and "across the pond." We hope others will begin to or continue to follow in our quest and eventually discover the story of our immigrant ancestors and our European connections.

Beginning with this issue, the Armfield Family Newsletter will be published twice a year. Please continue to write, send your family lines and share your challenges and discoveries with us and the other researchers. Thank you, Gay Carroll, for your contributions in the last two newsletters. *Connie + Joyce*

Colonial Virginia Research

Gay Carroll, a long time reader, researcher and friend, wrote after our last newsletter that she was glad that we devoted an issue to Daniel Armfield. He has been one of her pet subjects of research for many years. She is hopeful that with all of the researchers we reach with the newsletter that this puzzle will be solved. So are we, Gay.

Gay noted that In 1663 in Gloucester Co., VA the first major slave rebellion in colonial America took place. In view of this event and the whipping of Gervaise Dodson, she wonders if William Armfield was a Quaker and if he may have sold his land and moved to a safer place for Quakers, i.e., PA. On 18 Feb 1688 the Quakers of Germantown, PA made the first formal protest against slavery in the Western hemisphere. It may be worthwhile to look for any records that exist for this event.

In an attempt to build a picture of the people and events at the time William Armfield arrived in VA, Gay shared her thoughts on Gervaise and Daniel. There are records of land transactions and people who lived near William Armfield, but no more clues that pertain directly to him. There is, however, a lot of information published on Gervaise. He was one of the largest land owners in VA at that time, owning 11,400 acres of land. He was a surveyor which allowed him to patent land before anyone else could get to it. He patented two whole Indian villages while the tribes were still living in them. It appears he was a land speculator. In order to keep this land it had to show some signs of occupancy, a few cut trees and a crude shelter may be put on it, with no one actually living there.

Gervaise married twice, first to Mrs. Gervaise Dodson shown in the records and second to Isabel Salsbury, widow of Thomas Salsbury. He had a daughter Katherine who was born in 1649 and married Henry Boggess. Henry Boggess sold 100 acres to Elizabeth Hughlett; land given to him by Gervaise Dodson. Elizabeth Hughlett was left a "sowe" in the will of Thomas Salsbury. Gervaise had another daughter Alice who married John Hughlett. One record cited that William Flowers may have been a Quaker sympathizer since he associated with known Quakers Gervaise Dodson and Thomas Salsbury. The record mentioned in the last newsletter "Quakers, Gervase Dodson, David Cussin, Robert Lambdon, John Smith and Thomas Shields met at a house of David Cussin contrary to law . . . to receive 20 stripes apiece on their backs. . . ." There is a birth record for a Gervais Dodson c1620 in Nottingham, England, but this may not be the subject of this piece. There were several unrelated Dodson lines in England and more research is needed. Gay wonders if there are muster rolls for the English army listing Dodson. There was the Irish Rebellion of 1641 which may be the service Dodson wrote of in his letter requesting a pardon. Charles I was beheaded in 1649 and Dodson arrived in America in 1650.

In Colonial Soldiers of the South 1732-1774 by Murtie June Clark, p 197 is this entry for Danil Armfield; "*Gooch's American Regiment, 1739-1741 - His Majesty's Ship Rippon Muster Book: -Supernumeraries Belonging to the First Battalion of Colonel Gooch's Regiment of Foot, borne for Victuals only by order of Sir Chaloner Ogle, Rear Admiral of the Blue, February 1740 through January 1742.*"

NR	Rank	Name	Remark
12	Soldier	Armfield, Danil	D(discharged) 12 Jun 1741

In Virginia's Colonial Soldiers by Lloyd DeWitt Bockstuck, p. 195 is the entry; "*Petition of Daniel Armfield who in or about 1740 in the expedition to Carthage received several wounds and is now disabled from his livelihood. 5 Dec. 1769*". This record appears in the journals of the House of Burgesses.

As regards Daniel Armfield, a record referred to Daniel as "servant," not a slave. He was taken to court in 1738 for being absent for a year and fifteen days. Would a slave have been taken to court for this? This may indicate that Daniel was indentured. If so, who placed him in an indenture? The court probably added more years to his indenture for being absent. Around 1740/41 Daniel enrolled in Gooch's American Regiment. Could Daniel have enrolled in his master's place and ended his indenture by serving in the military? It was common practice among the more wealthy then to send another person to fill one's military obligations. So any of our readers have any thoughts on this? We would appreciate your comments and conversation about these Virginia men.

Time Line for Daniel Armfield

Birth: Abt. 1715 (prob VA)

Residence, age 23: 21 Feb 1738, Essex County, VA - "Mullatto" servant of Robert Stubblefield when his master brought him before the Essex County court for absenting himself from his service for one year and fifteen days [Orders 1736-8, 217].

Military, age 25: Abt. 1740 Carthagena (Virginia's Colonial Soldiers)

Military, age 26: 1741 Date discharged, Soldier. Colonel Gooch's Regiment of Foot, borne for Victuals . . . (Colonial Soldiers of the South)

Marriage: Bef. 1743 Elizabeth Unknown

Residence, age 28: 20 Jun 1743 York County, VA

Tax Record, age 31: 19 Jan 1746/7, age: 31, York County, Virginia 1746/47, Did not list his wife (www.freeafricanamericans.com - York County, Wills & Inventories 1740-6, 301, 314,4861).

Birth of Son, age 31: 1746 Bruton Parish, James City County, Virginia, He, a "free negro" and his wife Elizabeth registered the birth of their son Matthew.

Petition, age 54: 5 Dec 1769 Virginia, House of Burgesses journal entry; "*In the expedition to Cartagena received several wounds and is now disabled from his livelihood*" (Virginia's Colonial Soldiers).

Wikipedia's definition of a mulatto; "A mulatto is a term commonly used in the United States to refer to a person who is born from one white parent and one black parent, or more broadly, a person of any "mixed" ancestry . . ." It can include Native Americans.

Sources:

A Journal of the Expedition to Carthagena, with Notes: In Answer to a late Pamphlet: Entitled, An ACCOUNT of the Expedition to CARTHAGENA, edited by J. Roberts (Londres), London: Printed for J. Roberts, in Warwick-Lane.

A free EBOOK at <http://books.google.com>

http://www.amazon.com/Journal-Expedition-Carthagena-Notes-ebook/dp/B005LXKDIK#reader_B005LXKDIK

D Heinegg, Free African Americans of VA and SC. If the source is not identified, most of the notations have come from this. http://www.genealogy.com/genealogy/12_heing.html

Reviewing Pennsylvania Research

As with the Armfield families of Virginia, we also have those mysterious Armfields in Pennsylvania. We have spent several hours brainstorming and researching the PA families including the Armfields and those families that always seem to have been in the same areas

with them. Isaac Armfield (Stockard's John) was to have had three daughters who stayed in PA, but we are not aware of any records that have proven this. In early PA tax lists Isaac was listed as a landowner, but these land records have not been found and possibly they have been lost.

Gay Carroll wonders if Jacob Armfield might have been a brother of Isaac, Sr and not his son. It is curious that Joseph B., the source of the oral history for the "Armfield Family Sketch" didn't mention Jacob. He can be found in records in PA and NC. If Jacob had died before Joseph was born, he may not have been aware of him. If you read through the "Armfield Sketch" you will also notice that Ann wasn't mentioned as a daughter of Isaac either. Joseph B. only mentioned three unnamed daughters. Ann and Jacob are found in an entry in the "Inventory of Samuel Reynolds, Storekeeper" in Cumberland Township, York, PA, 26 May 1750. We know that Jacob was a chain carrier for Moses Short in the Granville District, NC on 8 Apr 1754. Sometime between 1750 and 1754 Jacob left PA and went to NC. Jacob disappears in NC records after May of 1761 when he was involved in a property dispute with Hugh Foster. We know Ann Armfield was received on certificate in Cane Creek MM in Orange (now Alamance) County, NC. So if the Ann in York County is the same as this Ann, she left PA after May 1750 and was in NC by Mar 1752. We have no proof of the birth dates for either Jacob or Ann. We know Isaac Armfield began appearing in records in 1724 in PA and he is in Rowan County, NC where he received 640 acres in a Granville Land Grant on Russell's Creek, St. Lukes Parish issued on 30 Nov 1753. We do not have any primary source records or proofs for any of the births of any of the Armfield children.

We still have the mystery as to why William Armfield made a trip in Aug 1768 to York County, PA. Before he left Guilford County he got a Power of Attorney from George Hodgson to conduct business in York County for him. We still haven't found answers as to why William was going to York County in the first place. Was it Armfield family business or some business concerning his wife's family? Gay has a number of records on the Hodgson/Oldham business William Armfield was hired to take care of and suspects he combined business with pleasure and possibly visited relatives there.

Collateral Families

Some of the families who frequently appear with the Armfields and who, hopefully one day, may provide a breakthrough to our past include the Cooper, Green, Field, Moore, and Brown families, to name a few. Gay Carroll has been researching the Cooper/Armfield connection for many years. Her following Cooper family research notes were submitted for publication in this newsletter.

Cooper

In 1768 in York Co., PA Thomas Cooper and his wife Mary Abercrombie had a daughter whom they named Armfield. Why they gave her this name is a mystery. The usual naming pattern of the time was to name children after family members. Were the Coopers related to the Armfields? In order to answer that question I have been researching the Cooper family. More work needs to be done on this family and related names.

John Cooper was born 1689 in Kendal, Westmoreland, England and immigrated to Baltimore, MD ca 1720. He purchased land in York Co., PA from Elisha Perkins on 19 Jan

1721 (Maryland grant from Lord Baltimore to Elisha Perkins 19 Dec 1719). On 23 Oct 1722 he married Alice Gill, daughter of Steven (Stephen) Gill and Elizabeth Hubbard. Alice Gill was born 1692 in Baltimore Co., MD; John Cooper died Oct 1759 and Alice Gill Cooper died unknown. Both were buried in York Co., PA. Their eight children: Elizabeth born ca 1723, married John Boyd; Priscilla born 17 Oct 1724, died 29 Dec 1724; Alice born 8 Jul 1726; John born 29 Nov 1728, died 5 Jul 1774, married Hannah Wheeler; Thomas born 23 Mar 1731; Stephen born 13 May 1733; Nicholas born ca. 1734, died 1799; Alexander born ca 1736.

Thomas, second son of John Cooper, married Mary Abercrombie 14 Feb 1764 in Lancaster Co., PA. Mary was born 11 Jan 1736 in Scotland to James Abercrombie of Scotland. They settled in York Co., PA. Their nine children: James born ca 1765, died in infancy; Isaac born ca 1766, died in infancy; ARMFIELD (a daughter) born 25 Aug 1768; Alicia born 1770; Duckett born 15 Aug 1775; Stephen Thomas born 29 Aug 1777; Eccy born ca 1779. Thomas Cooper died 18 Sep 1798; Mary Cooper died 18 Dec 1822. Both were buried in the Cooper Graveyard, Peach Bottom Twp., York Co., PA.

If anyone is interested, Gay has a lot more information on the extended family of the Coopers. She has tried to trace each of John Cooper's children to determine whom they married, etc. Thomas Cooper gave several of his daughters unusual names: Armfield, Duckett, Eccy. Duckett is the only one, so far, that Gay has had any luck with. John Cooper, older brother of Thomas married Hannah Wheeler daughter of Thomas Wheeler and Susannah Duckett. The Boyd family also intermarried with the Duckett family. Elizabeth Cooper, sister of Thomas married John Boyd. The Armfield/Cooper connection is going to be something like the Duckett connection, very frustrating!

Among those listed in the 1733 tax list for Talbot Co., MD was: Arthur Rigby, Philip Armfield, John Newman, Negroes: Trummel and Daphny/5. Arthur Rigby married Mary LeCompte whose brother Moses married Elizabeth Wheeler.

On a related note the ancestral home of the Thornburys was near Selsad, Westmoreland, England near Kendal, where John Cooper was born. Some of the Thornburys went to Ireland to escape religious persecution for becoming Quakers. From there (and from England) they immigrated to VA and MD as well as PA. The family intermarried with the Wheeler family. Maybe we also need to look more closely at the Thornbury family in PA. Gay Carroll gcaerbhail@gmail.com

Green, Moore, Gest/Guest

Regarding the Green, Moore, Gest/Guest families, we know that Isaac Armfield received a payment of 7 shillings from **Henry Gest/Guest** in 1738 in Concord Township. It is supposed the Moore, Green, Gest/Guest, Armfield families knew of each other and were in the same places at the same time. Some researchers note that **Thomas Green** along with the Moore and the Guest families were in Philadelphia in 1686. The Moore and Green families first settled in a part of Burlington Co., West Jersey that became Gloucester County in Sep 1686. Court and land records put the Green and Moore families in Burlington County as late as 1692, but the movement to Chester County, PA began around 1689. By 1693 members of the Thomas Green and **Richard Moore** family had relocated from West Jersey to PA. Margaret Green, wife of Thomas Green and mother of Mary Green Moore,

named her cousin Henry Guest in her will of 1708. (This was probably Henry Guest Jr. (Gest) a passenger on the 1686 ship with the Green & Moore families.)

Juanita Kellerman, a long time researcher and contributor sent some notes she found while cleaning out her files. She received a letter written 17 Jun 1964 from the Registrar of the Paul Revere Chapter DAR who was assisting in the research of a Moore line for a prospective member. The letter contained notes on **Thomas R Moore** of Hillsville, Carroll, VA and Jane Babbitt/Bobbitt who went to Elwood, IN from Crab Orchard, Lincoln, KY. The following was taken from a letter of 1964. *"In Madison Co., Hist. it states that Thomas and Jane Moore came from VA and were early Madison Co., Ind. pioneers . . . In the 'Atlas of Madison County, Ind.' 1902, I found this information on page 206 of M. D. Moore (grandson of Thomas and Jane Moore), as follows: M. D. Moore was born in Hamilton Co., Ind. On Mar. 12, 1861. His father was William J. Moore born in Rockingham County, Virginia on June 22, 1830. Married Alcinda V. Armfield, who was born in Madison County, Ind. in 1844. Grandparents were early pioneers of Madison County. This William J. Moore was a son of Thomas R. and Jane (Babbitt) Moore. They may have been in Rockingham Co., Va then moved on to Carroll Co., Va and perhaps to Crab Orchard, Ky then Madison County, Ind."* There apparently is a Moore family Bible, but it's owner and location are unknown.

Family Lines & Queries

Richard Warner of Winston-Salem, NC is the great grandson of Celeste E. Reich sister to Leana R. (Reich) Armfield. He is looking for information on *"Julius Lafayette Armfield (c1858-c1899), particularly where he is buried and any living descendants who might know something about him. He is a family mystery. He was a pillar of the community and then suddenly he wasn't there. I remember asking my great-grandmother (his sister-in-law) about him and being told 'We don't talk about him'."* Julius was born in Guilford County, NC and is found in census records up until 1880. On 14 Oct 1884 he married Leanna Reich (1853-1956) in Forsyth County, NC. In the 1900 census Leanna was recorded as widowed. Leanna continued to live in Forsyth County until her death on 20 May 1956 in Winston-Salem. Julius and Leanna had a son Claude Clark Armfield (1888-1975). Julius comes down the line through William Sr. & Jr. to Robert to William Nelson Armfield. If you have any information on Julius or could assist him in his research, please contact Connie at cstehjem@gmail.com

Odds & Ends

In an entry in the Genealogical Society of Rowan County, NC; John Poer and his sister Nancy Poer Lamar sold their interest in the estate of Edward Poer (c1757-1827) to Solomon Armfield. Edward Poer was buried in the Old Union Cemetery, Greensboro, Guilford, NC. There were two Solomon Armfields in the area at this time.

Early church recordings of the surname Armfield as cited at www.surnamedb.com include: Alice Armfield who married John Radcliffe 2 Oct 1562 at Rotherham, Yorkshire; Thomas Arnefeld who married Ursula Hubbard 17 Sep 1588 at Rotherham, Yorkshire. There was a British medieval village probably spelled Earm-feld that has been lost to history. It is believed to have been located in Yorkshire County.

Penny Cates sent a copy of "The Gunmakers of Jamestown." The author is the late Jack L. Perdue and the article was published in the Guilford Genealogist - Volume 22, No. 5 - Fall 1995 - # 71. The work was passed on to her while she was researching for Letitia Lovett's family. There is a map that shows old gunsmith shops that appear to have been drawn on a newer map; several of the highways shown probably did not exist in the 1800s. Penny believes the person who drew the map was trying to give us an understanding of where the shops would be if they existed today. pcates@catesconsultinggroup.com

The following is the response from Gay Carroll in 2010 to an original posting on a message board in 2002, "**The surname Armfeldt in Sweden**" by Carolus Rosenlew. Some Armfield records can be found in York, England. "Some of the Armfields in that area had unusual names such as Edvardus, Emanuclis, Johannes, Tryinsare. I wondered about the origins and consequently found the Swedish Armfeldt, but could not make any connections. I thought maybe these were Viking-Norse names since I only found them in York, where the Norse had invaded and settled England. Another possibility for the name in Sweden could be a transplant from England to Sweden. I was never able to come up with any thing other than speculation, though. Most of the York records were very early - the 1600's. I also found one entry where a Maria Armfield married Carolus Crowshaw 6 Feb 1695 in York. In my family there is a Gustavus line. I have wondered if their original country of origin was maybe Sweden. They married Vardemans and finally Armfields. It's very interesting and I would like to know more about this Swedish line."

Carolus Rosenlew, post of 2002; "The Armfelt family (in the earlier days spelled Armfeldt) originates in Jämtland in Sweden and Erik Larsson was knighted in 1648 by the king of Sweden. He was an officer in the Swedish army and rose to the rank of captain lieutenant. He was given different estates in Ingermanland (now the area around St. Petersburg in Russia). He died after 1659 in Kurland in the Baltic (then belonging to Sweden). Among others he had a son Erik Johan who changed sides and still lived in Poland in 1663, but disappeared after that. There were several highly ranked officers including generals in the family during the years to follow. One member who was the protégée of the Swedish king Gustavus III moved to Finland after Finland was separated from Sweden. He was appointed Count in 1812 by the Czar of Russia. I have in vain tried to locate one of his descendants the Countess Wava Armfelt (1801-1881) who was the daughter of Count Gustaf Mauritz Armfelt (1757-1814) Vilhelmine, the Princess of Sagan (1781-1839). Wava Armfelt was married to her cousin Magnus Armfelt in 1825. Before her marriage, or during that marriage, she had an affair with a Finnish doctor and professor, Sten Edvard Sjoman, which resulted in a child, called Gustaf Edward, who was first adopted to Belgium and later on to England where he was given or took the name Armfield. He is accordingly born after 1817. According to family tradition, he earned his living as an artist, but presumably he was supported by his, in those days, a very wealthy mother. Wava had four children with her husband and it is from this lineage I descend. A relative of mine is currently writing a book about the family and this is the reason why I am trying to track down distant relatives."

Research Links & Resources

<http://familyhistorydaily.com> <http://www.ourblackancestry.com>

http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans_online_genealogy

<http://www.civilwartraveler.com> <http://randymajors.com>

<http://www.genealogytoday.com>

FamilySearch.org also has a FamilySearch User Newsletter.

Gone But Not Forgotten

Phyllis Leedom a longtime member of the Madison County Historical Society in Indiana and known to Joyce and me for many years passed on the 12 Nov 2012. Phyllis was chair of the Genealogy Committee of the Madison County Historical Society. Phyllis was always willing to assist me with my Indiana research and she will be missed. Her sister-in-law wrote on her facebook page; Phyllis Hart Leedom, her husband Jerry's sister. *"I have some very sad news. Phyllis passed away early Monday, November 12. Services will take place Friday, November 16, 2012. Visitation from 12-2 and Services at 2:00 PM at Rozelle-Johnson Funeral Home, 229 South Rangeline Road, Anderson, Indiana. She will be greatly missed by family and friends. Her vast knowledge of Family History will be especially missed."*

From Diane Armfield Austin we learned that her only brother **Roger Lee Armfield** (1955-2012) passed away on the 3rd of Nov. Diane and Roger were close in age and close in friendship and he is terribly missed.

Final Thoughts

We truly believe there is much more to be discovered about our Armfield family. It is as though since the Stockard History was written, all research on the very early family has come to a halt. This is somewhat confusing for those who have spent many hours and dollars on trying to find "the rest of the story." We have run through most of our records and research finds of the early Armfield family. We believe there are two areas that need to be focused on from here on: DNA and research in Virginia and Pennsylvania.

The DNA project has been disappointing. Until we have more participants and have the expertise and participation of someone who has the skills to interpret the results and offer suggestions and guidance, we won't know any more than we do now. As Joyce, Gay and I believe Daniel Armfield of Virginia may hold a clue to our early history, we think it is essential that any of his living descendants step forward, have a DNA test and contribute their results to one of the Armfield projects. It would be wonderful if we had a fund we could use to attack the lack of participation in the DNA projects by offering to purchase DNA kits for those who would like to participate, but are financially unable to do so, or to contract with professional genealogists in those areas of Virginia and Pennsylvania where we are having difficulty unearthing records.

Again a big thank-you to Gay Carroll and Juanita Kellerman for their continuing contributions to our Armfield family research and to our newsletter. Also a thank-you to all of you who have sent us material, have shared your stories and finds and have written us encouraging notes. If we haven't used your contributions in a newsletter yet, we plan to do so in a future newsletter.

Copies of all Armfield Newsletters are available at www.armfieldnewsletter.com

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