

Letter from the Editors

In the History of Guilford County, North Carolina by Sallie W. Stockard, on page 97 in the Guilford County Genealogical Society republished history of 1983 it says that William Armfield had three daughters; one daughter married a Fields, another a Macy and a third a Barnet. No records of the daughter who married a Macy or of a third daughter have been found. Mary Armfield (1759-1827) married Jacob Brown and daughter **Nancy "Ann" (1771-1839)** married William Fields. A third unknown female is alluded to being born in 1764, but no credible source has been found to support this. In William's will of 1804 only daughters Mary Brown and Ann Field were mentioned. William's son William Jr. had a two daughters who married into the Macy family, Rachel and Mary and this may be where the confusion came in.

The Field family is as complex, confusing and large, as is our Armfield family. The two families appear to have known each other and appear together in many early records. Some researchers have the surname as Fields, however, in reviewing early census records, recorders often put an "s" behind the family surname to indicate a family.

We also have featured guest writers who submitted stories for this issue. Very interesting reading and we do appreciate their contributions.

Connie & Joyce

Nancy "Ann" Armfield and William Field

A Field history compiled by Sueanne Field with Nancy Maxwell appeared in The Guilford Genealogist, a quarterly journal of the Guilford County Genealogical Society in Greensboro, NC. In Vol 20, No 3, Spring 1993, No. 61, p 171 there is a brief paragraph of William Field and Nancy/Ann Armfield.

"William died in 1815, Guilford Co; mar. Nancy/Ann ARMFIELD in Guilford Co, dau. of William and Mary (HAMILTON) ARMFIELD, Sr. Her father called her Ann FIELD in his will. The executors of William FIELD'S will (written 24 Mar 1815, pro. Aug 1815) were his wife and brother-in-law William ARMFIELD. Witnesses were his sister's husband Nathan ARMFIELD and Jeremiah FIELD. William was listed in 1800 and 1810 Guilford Co. census. In 1820 and 1830 census, Nancy FIELD was head of household. Children of William and Nancy (ARMFIELD) FIELD, born in Guilford Co: 1) Jane, 2) Jeremiah, 3) Jonathan, 4) Nancy."

"Guilford County, North Carolina Will Abstracts 1771-1841" by Irene B. Webster

A: 128 - WILLIAM FIELD - 24 Mar 1815 - Prb. Aug 1815

Wife Nancy - third of land during widowhood, negro woman Leah,

Dau. Jane Hannah - twenty shillings

Son Jeremiah - negro woman Dinah that Jesse Hannah had

Son - Jonathan - two thirds of lands, farming tools. 2 cows, hogs,

Dau - Nancy negro girl Beck, two beds, 2 cows, horse & saddle
Exrs: Bro-in-law William Armfield & Nancy Field
Wits: Nathan Armfield, Jeremiah Field

This is all we have on Nancy "Ann" Armfield. Variations of her name as found in records and histories are: Nancy Ann, Mary Ann(e) and Ann. In his estate papers Jonathan Armfield refers to his sister as Nancy Field. When William Field died she was referred to as Nancy. There is a bond and marriage record for "Mary An Armfel and William Feld" dated 5 Apr 1791 in Guilford County, with bondsman Aron Phipps.

According to the above cited Guilford Genealogist article on the Field Family, the children of William and Nancy were: Jane, Jeremiah, Jonathan and Nancy. Jane born about 1791 married Jesse Hannah sometime before her father's will was written in 1815. It is uncertain if the Jeremiah who married Susannah Walker on 18 Mar 1813 in Guilford County was in fact the son of William and Nancy Field born about 1793. Jonathan born about 1795 married Jean Green 30 Sep 1815. Nothing is known of daughter Nancy. No records to prove Nancy "Ann" Field died in May 1839 have been found.

DNA Projects - The Short - Armfield Mystery Continues

by Linda Wells, July 2011

I am a descendant of Jonathan Milton Short of Guilford County, who just recently, through the miracle of DNA, was proven to be an Armfield. Why his mother, Thankful Bland (who later married Robert Armfield, the father), chose to name Jonathan Short, Jr. as the father of Jonathan Milton may never be known.

There is more to the story and perhaps someone who reads this can provide some missing pieces to the puzzle. First of all, background on some of the people involved:

1. I believe the father, Robert Armfield (in his 19th year when he married in 1827), to be the son of Isaac Armfield (1781) and Mary Stevenson, not William "Sheriff Billy," as stated in the June newsletter.
2. Robert, the son of "Sheriff Billy" was born about 1812 and married Deborah Lovett in 1840.
3. Robert Franklin Armfield (1789), son of William "Little Billy" (1746), married Thankful Bland's older sister, Margaret. They had five sons: William Nelson, John T., Robert Franklin, Alexander and Morehead. Robert Franklin Armfield and Margaret both died between 1840 and 1850.

The rest of the Short-Armfield mystery. The divorce document states that Robert Armfield and Thankful Bland had two more children in addition to Jonathan Milton Short. By the time of the divorce Thankful had left for "parts unknown" with Gorrell Forbis. Robert Armfield went to New Orleans at some point afterwards. From the best that I can tell, both parents abandoned all three of their children to the care of relatives. I know from my Short research that Jonathan joined his mother in Cincinnati after he came of age. As a result of further research, I believe the other two children to be Betsy Ann Armfield (b abt 1834) and Mary/Maria Armfield (b abt 1835), but I still seek more conclusive proof. The clues I have:

1. Robert Franklin Armfield and wife Margaret appear in the 1840 census with 7 children in their household; 5 boys and 2 girls. It is well-documented that they only had 5 sons, no daughters.
2. A Robert Armfield (b abt 1812) appears in the 1850 census with 4 children: Betsy Ann (16), Maria (15), Alexander (12) and Morehead (8), the latter 2 being the two youngest sons of Robert Franklin and Margaret Armfield. I don't know if this is the Robert, son of "Sheriff Billy," because his wife Deborah is not listed. I do know it is not the Robert Armfield of the divorce, because he is found in the New Orleans census in 1850. From Guilford County marriage records: Betsy Ann married Joshua H. Cummings in 25 Mar 1856 and Mary/Maria married Thomas F. Hoskins on 21 Jun 1862.

If anyone can help me to link Betsy Ann and Maria to their parents, I would appreciate hearing from you. I can be contacted through Connie Stenhjem.

With many thanks from your oldest new Armfield cousin,
Linda Wells (Inman, SC)

A 110 + Year Family Mystery Solved

by Lee Barber, July 2011

My mother's maiden name was Annie Lorene Armfield b. March 10, 1923; d. Dec 23, 1994. She had one brother, George Jackson Armfield b. Nov 6, 1920; d. Feb 14, 2009. Their father was Paul Ramsey Armfield b. Aug 3, 1894; d. May 9, 1984.

Everything including family birthdays, Christmas, holidays, etc. revolved around my mother's family, the Armfields; Paul Ramsey Armfield and his wife (my grandmother) Opehlia Connell Armfield. Though my father's last name and my name is Barber, we all considered ourselves Armfields. We knew of no other Armfields in the Birmingham/Jefferson County, Alabama area. We knew nothing of the Armfield family, their history, or where our name came from. This is because my grandfather Paul Ramsey Armfield knew very little about who his father was. His father died when my grandfather Paul Armfield was only a little boy.

His father was Hance G Armfield. He was married to Martha Victoria Pearson. There is an entry in her family Bible that Hance G Armfield was born July 17, 1844. I have a copy of the 1900 Federal Census that states his birthday as July 1847 age 52, birthplace North Carolina. The 1900 census states that he and Martha Victoria Pearson had been married for 7 years which would have been 1893. My grandfather was born the next year in 1894. The 1900 census also list Clarence Armfield born July 1897. Baby Clarence died Nov 1900 and grandfather's birthday was Aug 3, 1900. My grandfather said it was due to something he ate. My grandfather was 6. Baby Clarence and grandfather's father Hance G were the only two Armfields my grandfather ever knew in life. After baby Clarence died, another tragedy occurred.

One of the family stories told was that Hance G Armfield died while in Mobile, Alabama. All we know is what my grandfather's mother Martha Victoria told us. She said that he did contract work for the federal government. Occasionally he would be contracted by the federal government to go out and arrest/capture someone that was wanted by them. While on one of these trips in Mobile he was shot. After several months of not knowing what

happened to her husband Hance G, Martha Victoria received a letter with a newspaper clipping that her husband had been killed. It is said that she was very saddened by this and cried and cried. This left her a widow with only one child to raise, my grandfather Paul Ramsey Armfield. Martha Victoria remarried a man named George W. Bone. There is a conflict for his place of birth. In the 1920 Bham/Jefferson County census it has him born in Ohio. The 1930 census for Bham/Jefferson County states his birthplace as Georgia and the birthplace of both his parents as Georgia. He did have a sister who lived in New York. He was a wonderful step-father to my grandfather. My grandfather loved him very much and for a short time changed his last name to Bone (not officially), but changed it back to Paul Armfield just before he served in the tank corp, in Paris, France during World War I where he was a tank mate with Thomas Edison's son.

My grandfather Armfield, his mother Martha Victoria Armfield, my mother Annie Lorene Armfield and her brother George Jackson Armfield knew so little about who Hance G Armfield was or anything about the Armfield family. We just liked the name and how it sounded. Then, this last July 2011, while surfing on the internet, I typed in the name Hance G Armfield. I was sent to Volume 3, Number 2 of the Armfield newsletter. In just a brief few moments a 110 + year family mystery was solved. If I am reading things correctly, I, Bernard Lee Barber, whose mother was Annie Lorene Armfield, whose father was Paul Ramsey Armfield, whose father was Hance G Armfield were descended from Robert Armfield and his wife Deborah Lovit (Lovett). I was further amazed that Robert Armfield's father was William Armfield (Sheriff Billy) the son of Issac Armfield, Jr.

To go from not knowing anything other than Hance G Armfield (1844/1847) to going back 7+ generations, coupled with the Quaker and American Revolution stories is so incredible. Wow, the Armfields are truly amazing. We knew that there was something so special about the name, we didn't know why, but now we know that we came from England, were maybe in America in the late 1600's, were Quakers, in the middle of the American Revolution and the founding of our country and the settlement of Greensboro Guilford County, NC and descended from Sheriff Billy. My grandfather, mother, and brother would have loved to have known this story. One last thing, the G. in Hance G is for Green. A name tribute to his family intermarrying with the Greens.

Hance Green Armfield & Stepsons

By Lee Barber, July 2011



The marriage of Hance G. Armfield to Martha Victoria Pearson produced two children, my grandfather Paul Armfield and his baby brother Clarence that died at age 2. My grandfather also had two step-brothers. Their names are documented in Martha Victoria's Bible. The first step-brother was listed as Addie Marthey Armfield born April 22, 1884. A second step-brother was listed as William Worthy Diffie born July 5, 1888. Besides the Bible documentation my grandfather mentioned throughout his life that he had two step brothers. Nothing is known about Addie Marthey or what happened to him. Most interesting is that my grandfather stated to me personally and other members of the family that while they lived in Birmingham, William Worthy Diffie, sometime circa early 1900's, ran away from home. My grandfather was just a little boy, but he said that he followed William Worthy to the train

station. William Worthy would have been a very young teen. Throughout his life, grandfather always wondered whatever happened to his step-brother William Worthy Diffie.

We can only assume that Addie Marthey Armfield, since he was listed as a step-brother, may have been a child from a previous marriage of Hance G. Armfield. William Worthy Diffie was listed as a step-brother, but his last name was not Armfield, so we do not know if he was Hance G's or Martha Victoria's from a previous marriage or relationship.

In the 1900 census only Hance G. Armfield, Martha Victoria Armfield and their two children Paul and Clarence were listed. Addie Marthey Armfield and William Worthy Diffie were not listed there, but in Martha Victoria's Bible. The 1900 federal census is for Birmingham/Jefferson County Alabama, Roll # 20, Supervisor's District # 5, enumeration district # 93 (I believe the 3 in 93 is a 3 -h rd to decipher).

I had mentioned that my grandfather Paul, son of Hance G., served in the tank corp in France during WW I with Thomas Edison's son as a "tank mate" of his. This is documented in a book my grandfather had on "The Great War". On a front page, in my grandfather's handwriting, he wrote about Edison's son being his "tank mate". I have his medals from his tank corp service.

I understand how important documentation is as opposed to family hear-say. What I have presented to you for submission in the Armfield Newsletter is documented through the 1900 Birmingham census, Martha Victoria Armfield's family history, an entry in a book on WW I and from what my grandfather told me. All the events concerning the marriage of Hance G. to Martha Victoria occurred in Birmingham during the 1890's until his death in the early 1900's. After Hance Green's death Martha Victoria, her 2nd husband George W. Bone and her son Paul created a new life for themselves. They became very close to Martha's side of the family the Pearsons which is another story in itself. Martha's father was William Marion Pearson, born 1818 in Scotland and died in Hokes Bluff, Alabama in 1925 at the age of 106 years and 10 months.

I noticed in the Armfield Newsletter that sometimes you tell of families that the Armfields married into such as the Browns, Greens, etc. Hance G. Armfield, son of Robert Armfield, son of Sheriff Billy, married into the family of William Marion Pearson. Thanks so very much for letting me share my Armfield story with you. Most importantly, thank you for helping me solve our 110 year+ family mystery. Thank you so very much, to the ladies that publish the Armfield Newsletter.

Lee in Alabama Buggyride2@aol.com

Lee has been rummaging through family boxes full of unknown treasures. He wrote; "I was really floored when I found a hardboard card, like old photos were printed on, from the funeral home service for Clarence Armfield. It states he died Nov 28, 1900 at age 2 years 5 mos. I was further floored to find attached to the bottom of the card the actual newspaper obituary. I'm amazed it has survived 111 years. It reads; "Clarence, the little son of Mr and Mrs Armfield of 110 Tenth Street, died yesterday, aged 2 years and 5 months. The funeral occurs this afternoon interment at Elyton cemetery.

Lauda Newlin

1902 - 1981

Ronald Clair Jennings contributed this athletic history of his mother Lauda Newlin Jennings Cone, who he and his siblings nominated for election to the Crimson Club Hall of Fame (2008) at the University of Utah. Lauda Aileen Newlin was born on 16 Oct 1902 in Newcastle, Weston, Wyoming. Her father was Ira Crawford Newlin (1869-1960) and mother Anna Elizabeth Armfield (1875-1948). Anna was the daughter of Thomas C Armfield (1837-1911) and Mary Catherine Short (1854-1883). This Armfield line comes down through William Jr. (Little Billy), Jacob, Isaac "Ike" and to Thomas Cranor son of Isaac "Ike" (1814-1886) and Margaret Ann "Peggy" Riley.



Lauda Newlin

Track

Lauda Newlin Jennings Cone, one of the true pioneers in women's athletics, played a prominent role in some of the first sporting events for females, including track & field, at the University of Utah.

Newlin was born in Newcastle, Wyo., and later moved with her family to Cheyenne, where she became involved in high school athletics.

Since the University of Wyoming didn't have a women's athletics program, Newlin chose to attend the University of Nebraska. When her father took a position with a banking company in Salt Lake City in 1922, Lauda decided to transfer to the University of Utah before her junior year.

At the time, the U. offered only intramural competition for females organized by the Woman's Athletic Association (WAA), which was a new entity across the nation. Lauda became one of the founding members of the WAA at the University of Utah, and was elected its president the following year.

In May 1923, Utah participated in its first "Telegraphic Track Meet." Schools across the nation organized a series of track events on their own fields and telegraphed the results to an individual who compiled them. Newlin led Utah to a fourth place finish in the meet, placing first in five individual events and taking part in two winning relays. Later that spring, Lauda was one of five honored when the University awarded its first athletic sweaters to women.

In January 1924, Newlin did a presentation to the U.'s entire female population through the Woman's League, encouraging women to become interested in sports. That April, Newlin served as the University's first representative at the WAA national meetings. Her goal was to have Utah start participating against BYU and Utah State in preparation for competition at the national level.

Newlin also starred in an on-campus women's basketball tournament that spring. When Utah competed in its second telegraphic track meet in May, Lauda won every event she entered and set a collegiate record in the high jump of 4 feet, 6 and inches.

Lauda was also a member of the U.'s chapter of Phi Delta Pi, a national sorority of women physical education majors. In 1924 she was awarded the first Silver Cup as the outstanding woman athlete at the University of Utah. She graduated the same year with a bachelor's degree in physical education.

Newlin then entered the U.'s graduate program for two years. After the WAA sent a petition to the Dean of the Department of Physical Education requesting trained leadership in sports, Lauda was appointed the first Women's Athletics Director for the University of Utah in 1924.

Two years later, Lauda became a physical education teacher at Brigham City High School. She eventually returned to Salt Lake City to marry Ralph Jennings, and the couple had three sons. After Ralph's untimely death, Lauda returned to teaching physical education in the Salt Lake and Granite school districts.

She later married Bill Cone and added four step daughters to her family. Lauda maintained a program of physical fitness until she passed away on July 4, 1981. rrmjennning@aol.com

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

A Tribute to Anita L. Short, 1938 - 2009

Linda Wells wrote she; "...was very fortunate to have had the assistance of the late Anita Short, a certified genealogist who married into the Short family. She contributed so much to the Short genealogy, even working with Rick Saunders (of the Short DNA project) to learn more about the VA Shorts, from whom our Guilford Shorts descend. I wonder what Anita would have thought about the fact that the Shorts are actually Armfields! Anita spent a lot of time on the Armfields with me, without knowing at the time that she was married to one. Before that, she was the one who located the mother of Jonathan Milton Short and the rest of the story that unfolded."

Obituary

Anita Louise Bowers Short, 71, of Arcanum (Ohio), died Tuesday, December 15, 2009 at Hospice Of Dayton. Beloved wife of Donald R. Short for 53 years was born in Richmond, Indiana on September 24, 1938, the daughter of the late Otho Dale and Zelma Ruth (Hoover) Bowers. She was an active self employed Antique Dealer and Genealogist. Anita authored many publications including "Gateway to the West", many genealogical record books, and articles for the Arcanum Historical Society. Mrs. Short was a member of D. A. R. serving as a Regent and Vice Regent. She was preceded in death by her parents, daughter Danelle Ann Short, and a brother Richard Bowers. Mrs. Short is survived by her husband Don R. Short; daughter Dana Sowry and husband Duane of Arcanum; Granddaughter Dwana Hughes of Columbus; Great Grandson Nick Hughes of Greenville; Sister D. June Ellison of Orlando, FL; and 2 nephews Brandon Ellison of Florida and Wildon Ellison family of Copley, Ohio. Private Family Services will be held at the Kreitzer Funeral Home, Arcanum with Pastor Steve Short officiating. Burial will follow in Abbottsville Cemetery.

In April, Anne, another Short family researcher, wrote that Anita had done so much for her helping her with her Short family research. She said, "Though I never personally met her, I think about her all the time when doing this. She was so kind to me."

Ruby Osborn Ellwanger, July 31, 1912 - July 9, 2011

Ruby's mother, Lucille Armfield (1892-1990), was the daughter of Joseph William Armfield (1850-1923) and Samantha Chandler (1857-1905). Her Armfield line comes down through Solomon, the son of William Sr. and Jane/Jean Hamilton and then his son Calvin Armfield (1821-1910), the father of Joseph William.

Obituary

CHRONICLE-TRIBUNE---MARION, INDIANA

MONDAY---11 JULY 2011---PAGE A5, COL. 1

INDIANAPOLIS---Ruby Osborn Ellwanger, 98 , passed away on Saturday.

She graduated from Union High School in 1931 and married Carl Sherman Osborn in 1931 and had two children, Dwaine Osborn and Sharon (Osborn) Glass.

In addition to raising her children, Ruby also worked outside the home and retired from Delco Radio after over 20 years.

After her husband, Carl, passed away in 1950, Ruby married Dale Land (1953-1973), Dorman Matthews (1976-1978), and Neil Ellwanger (1982-1989)

She was active in bridge, euchre and bunco clubs and enjoyed dancing, gardening and entertaining. She was a member of the Speedway Christian Church, the Eastern Star-Swayzee Chapter and Senior Citizens of Indianapolis. Survivors include a son, Dwaine Osborn and his wife, Margaret; a daughter, Sharon (Osborn) Gross and her husband Phillip; a nephew Daniel Gress; granddaughters, Susie Siefertman, Teresa Canterbury and Tammi Masiongale; grandsons, Chris Gross and Shannon Osborn; great-granddaughters, Casey Siefertman, Danielle Gross, Taryn Masiongale and Shelby Canterbury; great-grandsons, Evan Smith, Christopher Gross Jr., Chandler Gross and Bobby Masiongale. Ruby was preceded in death by her parents, Clarence and Lucille Mae (Armfield) Gustin.

Funeral services for Mrs. Ellwanger will be held at Flanner and Buchanan Funeral Center-Speedway on Wednesday, July 13, 2011 at 10 a.m. Visitation will be Tuesday evening from 4 to 7 p.m., also at the funeral home. Burial will take place in Thrailkill Cemetery in Swayzee

Obituary contributed by Betty Reynolds, Marion Library, Marion, Indiana.

Family Lines & Queries

Patricia Hartley wrote that her great uncle by marriage is William Franklin "Frank" Armfield, Jr. of Florence, Alabama. "Uncle Frank was born in 1921 in Bonifay, Florida, to William Franklin Armfield, Sr. and Minnie Hickman. He had one sister, Eva Ann Armfield, who was born in 1922 and died in 2003 (never married). Uncle Frank mentioned to me today that he never met any of his aunts and uncles and that he thought his family was from North Carolina and originally from Germany." Patricia is hoping that someone might help connect Uncle Frank and his family to his Armfield line so that she might share this information with him. He is 90 years old and this would be a wonderful thing to share. Any help will be greatly appreciated. pbhartley@aol.com

Jennifer M. a descendant of George Parsons asked if her Lady Catherine Weatherby is really a Weatherly. Lady Catherine married John Parsons. Jennifer is interested in the connections between any Weatherlys, Swaims and Greens. jenamenze@gmail.com

Genealogical Networking

William Armfield, Sr. has been verified by the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution. His patriot number is A003041.

William Ballenger has been verified by the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, patriot number A005570. His lineage connects with the Armfields when Margaret Ann Riley married Isaac Armfield in 1835. She was the daughter of Nathan Riley and Ann/Nancy Settle Ballenger, the daughter of William Ballenger and his first wife Elizabeth Bartley.

For assistance or more information contact cstenhjem@gmail.com

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